

Highlights From the 2003 Lindbergh Award Event



From the left: Jim Fowler, Kristina Lindbergh, Erik Lindbergh, Reeve Lindbergh, Harrison Ford, and Dr. Sally Ride, pose for a formal photo before the Event began.

In an event like no other the Foundation has held in its history, three outstanding individuals were honored for their dedication to Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh's vision of a balance between technology and the environment. The event was held in the spectacular San Diego Aerospace Museum, with the din of commercial airliners roaring overhead. It seemed appropriate, though; almost as if Charles and Anne were there with us celebrating the accomplishments of our esteemed honorees, as well as the centennial of powered flight.

A crowd of more than 500 traveled from across the nation and around the world — from as far away as Japan and England — to acknowledge the great work being done on behalf of the environment and exploration by Jim Fowler, Harrison Ford, and Dr. Sally Ride; and to hear the inspirational message of balance supported by the Foundation.

Following the reception and tours of the museum, guests were invited to take their seats and prepare for dinner. Music filled the Pavilion of Flight, which had been transformed into a tranquil garden setting beneath the grandeur of such aircraft as an original Ford 5-AT-B-Trimotor, Consolidated PB5Y-5A

Catalina; MiG-17, and F-4S Phantom II. It created a splendid visual representation of the often-cerebral idea of balancing technology and the environment. After a sumptuous dinner, the award presentations began.

The ceremonies began with an introduction of the 2003 Lindbergh Grant recipients and a description of their projects. Three of this year's grant recipients were in attendance. They traveled from Sri Lanka, Colorado and Pennsylvania to participate in the Foundation's most important event of the year. Dr. Wijaya Godakumbura, Dr. Michelle Sauther, and Shalini Vajjhala were introduced and descriptions of their important projects were shared with all those in attendance. Certificate of Merit recipient Karine Viaud,

from San Diego State University, attended the event as well as two past grant recipients, Brian Dubow and Tierney Thys. *You can read about this year's Lindbergh Grant projects on pages 6-7.*

Several "Firsts" in Foundation History

For the first time, two special family commendations were awarded. "In these two people we see the pioneer and the future leader," said Foundation President Reeve Lindbergh. "Both of whom embody the Lindbergh legacy." The first commendation went to 94-year-old Miriam Rothschild for her longstanding work in science, on behalf of balance. An acclaimed research scientist, one of the world's foremost experts on fleas and butterflies, she also supported and sustained natural habitat throughout Great Britain, through the Rothschild Reserves. "You are not here with us tonight in person," Reeve said, "but you are certainly here in

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Flight Lines

It's hard to believe that 100 years have flown by since that cold, windy, December day at Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina, when Orville Wright made aviation history by flying 120 feet in 12 seconds. From this small start the Wright brothers and their *Flyer* sparked a fascination with flight that has never lost its fervor. Their tiny miracle of flight opened the skies to a new world of travel and exploration that ultimately grew to distances never before dreamed possible. In commemoration of this extraordinary accomplishment, celebrations are taking place around the country. Here are a just a few.

Wright Flyer Comes to the Mall of America

A group of about a dozen dedicated volunteers from the Flight Expo, Inc., spent nearly a year building a Wright *Flyer* reproduction, which is making several stops around Minnesota this year in celebration of the first century of flight. This reproduction debuted at the Air Expo at Flying Cloud Airport on July 19 and was displayed at the Mall of America from August 23 – 29. At the State Fair, the MN DOT-Aeronautical Division had displays about the *Flyer*. In addition, there are plans for a static display of the *Flyer* in Duluth at their air show in September. In between times, the plane can be seen at the American Wings Museum in Anoka County – Blaine Airport (Janes Field). Check it out!

San Diego “Spirit” Soars Again

The San Diego Aerospace Museum's replica of the *Spirit of St. Louis* took to the sky for the first time in 24 years on Saturday, August 16, 2003, at San Diego International Airport's Lindbergh Field. The flight was the highlight of a joint observance of the Centennial of Flight and the 75th anniversary of San Diego's Lindbergh Field. The airport was dedicated in Lindbergh's honor on August 16, 1928, and a large crowd came out to celebrate.

The *Spirit* replica commemorating these historic anniversaries is the only flying replica known to exist. It was built in 1979 under the watchful guidance of three craftsmen who worked on the original *Spirit of St. Louis*: Ed Morrow, John Van Der Linde, and T. Claude Ryan.

Roger Baker, a retired United Airlines Captain, piloted the prized plane on this special occasion. Afterward he remarked that his 30-minute flight compared to Lindbergh's 33- 1/2 hour flight, increased his respect for Col. Lindbergh mightily.

For a list of many more 100th anniversary celebrations, visit www.centennialofflight.gov.



San Diego Aerospace Museum

Moundsville West Virginia Honors Lindbergh



Dr. Robert Durig stands next to the Historic Marker commemorating the date and location of Lindbergh's only visit to West Virginia during his 48-state goodwill tour with the *Spirit of St. Louis*. This marker was dedicated in Durig's honor.

Since the 75th anniversary of Charles Lindbergh's transatlantic crossing and subsequent tour of the United States to promote commercial aviation, cities nationwide have celebrated their part in the history of aviation in many ways. Earlier this year, Moundsville, West Virginia, commemorated Lindbergh's visit to their town with an historic highway marker located near the site where Lindbergh landed at Langin Field on Aug. 4,

1927. Local historian Thomas James led the effort to obtain permissions and raise the funds for this project, spending nearly a year gathering stories, photographs, and eyewitness accounts of Lindbergh's landing at Langin Field. During the ceremony that followed the unveiling of the marker, James placed a time capsule in the pole that supports the historical marker. A photograph of Lindbergh was presented to Dr. Robert Durig, 88. He was just 12 years old when he witnessed Lindbergh's landing in West Virginia, at the only federally approved airfield in the state at the time. In honor of his many years of involvement in aviation and for sharing his knowledge, the new historic marker was dedicated to Dr. Durig.

A special thank you to Thomas James for donating a collection of framed photographs representing this occasion to the Lindbergh Foundation.

Lindbergh Exhibit Arrives at EAA

The Lindbergh exhibit produced by the Missouri Historical Society in honor of the 75th anniversary of Charles Lindbergh's transatlantic flight last year is now traveling the country. It will be on display at the EAA AirVenture Museum in Oshkosh, Wis., until early October. This is the largest traveling exhibit ever brought to the museum, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. The exhibit explores the life of Charles Lindbergh and includes hundreds of artifacts drawn from Lindbergh's personal collection, many on public view for the first time in decades. Among the items included in the exhibit are: Lindbergh's flight suit and other gear from his historic transatlantic flight; the Orteig Prize proclamation and medal; his Congressional Medal of Honor plus many more documents, souvenirs and other objects attesting to Lindbergh's worldwide popularity. Items once belonging to Anne Morrow Lindbergh are also included in the exhibit.

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spirit. As a beloved friend to the earth and its creatures for almost a century, and as a kindred spirit to Anne Morrow Lindbergh, we salute you.”

Peter Borden, a 12-year-old scientist, who has conducted research on how oil from the Neem tree can be used as an environmentally friendly alternative to chemical insecticides also received a special commendation. His work on this project has earned him several awards, including an Argonauta Award from the Earth Shine Institute, a supporting organization of the Lindbergh Foundation, and fourth place in the Environmental Science Junior Division at the State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida. “We salute Peter tonight for his initiative, his perseverance, his inspired hard work ... and his leadership of tomorrow,” said Reeve.

Continuing the theme of “firsts,” the Anne Morrow Lindbergh Award was created in honor of an extraordinary



woman, who was also a pioneer, pilot, parent, adventurer, and author. It was presented for the first time to Dr. Sally Ride, an equally extraordinary woman, pioneer, adventurer, author, scientist, and

role model. In bestowing the Anne Morrow Lindbergh Award upon Dr. Ride, “we honor her not only for her outstanding achievements in the past, but also, and perhaps even more significantly, for her tremendously positive ongoing contributions to the future, for our children and for our world,” remarked Reeve. As Dr. Ride took the stage, Reeve Lindbergh unveiled the newly created bas-relief of Anne Morrow Lindbergh, created by sculptor Don F. Wiegand.



“Critical” is a Common Theme

Following a standing ovation, Dr. Ride said, “It’s a very special honor for me to be the first recipient of the Anne Morrow Lindbergh Award. The Foundation’s commitment to the balance between technology and nature is critical to our future.” As a child, Ride dreamed of flying in space and her dream came true when she entered space in 1983. All these years later she says she still can hardly believe her accomplishment. Now Dr. Ride is dedicated to empowering young women to reach for the stars by studying science – a field that has been largely dominated by men. Summing up her response she said, “Organizations like the Lindbergh Foundation, that

through creativity, commitment, hard work, and dedication, make it possible for thousands of young men and women from around the world to reach for the stars and achieve their dreams, too.”

Kristina Lindbergh, chairman of the Award Selection Committee and granddaughter of Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh, introduced Harrison Ford and Jim Fowler, who, again for the first time in Foundation history, each received a 2003 Lindbergh Award. “Both of them, in different ways, represent important facets of my grandparents’ vision of balance, the concept they believed would be our one shot at keeping life on Earth not merely sustainable but as awe-inspiring and amusing and spiritually enriching as it always was for them,” stated Kristina.

With a clever analogy of Ford’s hit movie “Raiders of the Lost Ark” Kristina shared how she sees the symbolism of Ford’s movie play out in his environmental work. “What is the ark but an ancient and resonant metaphor of hope, a promise of renewal?” Kristina said. “To my mind, the ‘ark’ that must now be saved is our respect and care for nature and an understanding for what my grandfather called ‘the wisdom of wildness.’ That is *exactly* what the real Harrison Ford has been spending his intelligence, energy, and skills ‘raiding.’”



Another standing ovation ushered Harrison Ford to the stage. “I am very honored to be in the company of Dr. Ride and Jim Fowler, and pleased to be able to help bring attention to the work of the Lindbergh Foundation,” said Ford. “The balance between nature and technology has reached a critical point. Technology has driven pressure on the environment The pressures of population, the need for development in those areas that are most threatened, needs to be met by an equal and opposite force that can show economic alternatives to sustainable development that can help the people ... think of another way of valuing their environment. We have the opportunity, because of our luck of where and how we live, to be able to influence that, and we have at our disposal technology that never existed before to help accomplish those purposes. And we also have the moral obligation to preserve our biotic legacy for those who come after us. I am very pleased to be able to work along with the Lindbergh Foundation and Conservation International in that worthy ambition.”

As Kristina introduced Jim Fowler she referred to him as a “man who taught us more about nature and wildlife over our Sunday Dinner TV trays than all of those gray old science teachers put together.”

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Key Messages — Communication and Quality of Life



Upon taking the stage during a third standing ovation, Fowler shared some charming stories from his work with Marlin Perkins, and Johnny Carson, but got right down to business when he said, “We are in a bit of a serious situation. I think the challenge for this century has got to be a change in our message. We need to tell people *why* we need open space, wildlife, and woods,” he said. “We need to reconnect people with the natural world.” And we need to do this in such a way that people understand the benefits of preserving our natural environment.

A good place to start tackling this challenge is to begin educating the public on the laws of nature. Fowler says these laws are certainly not controversial. They are not complicated. These laws include such things as: The sun is the fuel for everything on earth; and how we treat the oceans affects our oxygen. “Our respect for the laws of nature affects our human welfare, our security and our quality of life,” said Fowler. And, he believes conservation organizations must also start talking about what defines “quality of life.” Does it have to do with the existence of the natural world, or golf courses and shopping malls? Sadly, it seems more and more people are choosing to spend their leisure time in a shopping mall rather than enjoying and appreciating nature by visiting a local zoo, or a park reserve. “The fact is, less than 5% of the American public spend more than 1/2 hour a year thinking about the natural world.”

One effective way of bringing the message of conservation into the hearts and minds of all people is by developing admired and respected spokespeople for the natural world. Jim Fowler is certainly one of the best.

A revered and fascinating storyteller, Fowler instantly captures the attention of young and old alike by bringing the message of conservation into terms everyone can understand. Still working for Mutual of Omaha making television and other public appearances, Fowler finds speaking to school groups to be great fun. “How many people in the room would like to hear me talk about biology and conservation?” he’ll ask a group of fourth-graders. “Or would you like to see some animals? The sound is deafening,” he said. “They want to see the animals!”

In keeping with tradition, Fowler arranged to bring three animals to excite and educate the audience. The first animal to take the stage was an African serval, a cat designed for jumping. A long and lean bird hunter, these cats



African caracal.

can jump 15 feet straight up in the air allowing them to catch their prey in mid-air. The second animal was another highly adapted creature, the endangered African caracal or African lynx, named for the long hairs on its ears. A surprise guest, a Heinz 57 black lab mix, came on stage next. He was a friend of the last animal to be featured during Fowler’s presentation — a cheetah. As the fastest animal on four legs, miraculous adaptations in the cheetah’s nose help it breathe when he is running at top speed of 60 miles per hour. And the black streaks beneath its eyes help cut the glare of the intense African sun. “These animals have the right to represent themselves,” said Fowler.

“We have a challenge ahead of us and communication and quality of life are the most critical.” If we are to succeed at preserving our fragile earth for future generations, conservation messages should focus on words like ‘sustainability’ “That’s what the Lindbergh Foundation is all about.”



A crowd gathers in front of the museum in beautiful Balboa Park, taking advantage of a splendid evening outdoors prior to the event.

Right: Many guests enjoyed the reception in the Rotunda of the San Diego Aerospace Museum, home to the only known flying replica of the “Spirit of St. Louis.”



Below: The crowd gathers for dinner, a live auction, and program. It was an eventful evening.

