



Smithsonian Institution

Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives

Fred Wiseman Scrapbook

Extracted on Apr-23-2024 06:32:52

The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website (transcription.si.edu), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives or transcribe@si.edu

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

Old Adobe Fiesta Committee
Petaluma Chamber of Commerce
10 Petaluma Blvd. North
Petaluma, Calif. 94952

July 11, 1968

[[underlined]] NEWS RELEASE [[/underlined]]

One of the world's first airmail flights will be commemorated Saturday, August 17, when a 3 p.m. plaque dedication takes place at Petaluma's Kenilworth Park honoring Fred J. Wiseman.

Wiseman took off from the old Kenilworth horse race track in his "kite with an engine" for Santa Rosa February 17, 1911. He was forced down about 4 1/2 miles north of Petaluma and completed his trip the next day.

Included in the cargo were three letters, a bag of groceries and a bundle of newspapers.

Aviation "early birds", Bay Area fly-in groups, Hamilton Field Air Force representatives, post office officials and Yerba Buena Chapter of E Clampus Vitus will join with Petaluma and Santa Rosa in the festivities.

The event also helps kick off a two-day observance of the seventh annual Petaluma Old Adobe Fiesta and continues a summer-long centennial celebration in Santa Rosa.

Newspaper stories of 1911 said Wiseman, with associates, built "the first practical airship in California". He had been experimenting, however, with flying two years before and once said he owned three home-made machines. Which of these made the airmail flight is not known.

The Sonoma County air pioneer--also an early automobile racing contestant--erected his pianowire contraptions from pictures of the Wright Brothers' craft.

Old Adobe Fiesta Committee
Petaluma Chamber of Commerce
10 Petaluma Blvd. North
Petaluma, Calif. 94952

July 11, 1968

NEWS RELEASE

One of the world's first airmail flights will be commemorated Saturday, August 17, when a 3 p.m. plaque dedication takes place at Petaluma's Kenilworth Park honoring Fred J. Wiseman.

Wiseman took off from the old Kenilworth horse race track in his "kite with an engine" for Santa Rosa February 17, 1911. He was forced down about 4 1/2 miles north of Petaluma and completed his trip the next day.

Included in the cargo were three letters, a bag of groceries and a bundle of newspapers.

Aviation "early birds", Bay Area fly-in groups, Hamilton Field Air Force representatives, post office officials and Yerba Buena Chapter of E Clampus Vitus will join with Petaluma and Santa Rosa in the festivities.

The event also helps kick off a two-day observance of the seventh annual Petaluma Old Adobe Fiesta and continues a summer-long centennial celebration in Santa Rosa.

Newspaper stories of 1911 said Wiseman, with associates, built "the first practical airship in California". He had been experimenting, however, with flying two years before and once said he owned three home-made machines. Which of these made the airmail flight is not known.

The Sonoma County air pioneer--also an early automobile racing contestant--erected his pianowire contraptions from pictures of the Wright Brothers' craft.

Fred Wiseman Scrapbook
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers
Extracted Apr-23-2024 06:32:52



Smithsonian Institution

Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Archives

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: www.si.edu

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)