

“Flight 2014”

A Centenary Celebration of the World’s First Scheduled Passenger Airline

Tampa Bay, Florida USA is the home of the world’s first scheduled passenger airline, the St. Petersburg-Tampa Airboat Line, which had its inaugural flight on January 1st, 1914.

An *ad hoc* Round Table group of aviation history enthusiasts, including museum and community representatives, has been organized to plan for and develop a year-long centenary celebration of this historic aviation milestone. In the months ahead, a more formal “Flight 2014 Centenary Planning Board” will be organized and a marketing plan will be developed.

For the next six years we will be meeting regularly and counting down to the actual anniversary date. We all agree that it is not too soon to begin planning NOW for local, statewide, nationwide, and international events that will focus attention on this historic and pioneering achievement.

We anticipate widespread participation among Tampa Bay communities, groups and organizations, and we particularly envision cooperation and involvement of the scheduled airline industry. This will include both US and overseas airlines, especially carriers serving our three major airports (Tampa International Airport, St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport and Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport).

Centenary event participation should logically be extended to all Florida and US airline destinations. General aviation involvement will also be encouraged. We plan to establish links with the National Air & Space Museum, The Museum of Naval Aviation, and the US Air Force Museum, among other museums nationwide.

Our challenge will be to encourage and sustain broad public interest in the Flight 2014 Centenary events and we hope to have a presence at as many aviation-related events as possible. Schools and institutions of higher learning will be invited to “spread the word” and educate students and the general public about our unique legacy in aviation history.

An inter-active website will serve to coordinate an events calendar and will offer reciprocal links to supporters.

Event sponsorship and underwriting will be a key component of the Flight 2014 Centenary marketing and planning. Leadership will include representation from the airline industry, aviation-related industries, airports, communities, museums, the hospitality industry and other businesses and corporations.

We invite you to become a part of our Flight 2014 Centenary Celebration.

Welcome aboard !!!