

# the RON SPRIGGS EXHIBIT of TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

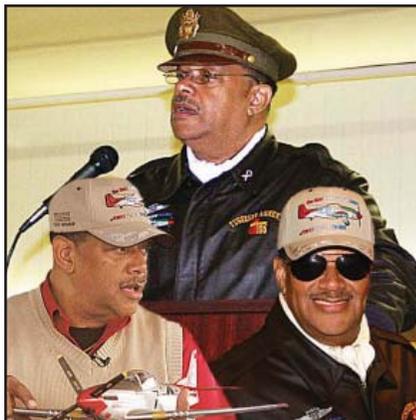


The Ron Spriggs Exhibit of Tuskegee Airmen (RSETA) was founded in December, 2002 as an independent means of telling the history and legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen. Ron is an eight year USAF veteran, a retired Manager and Advisory Business Planner from IBM.

Our origin stems from the fact that this segment of American history has received so little recognition and attention in the school system. Our humble beginnings had it's debut at the Blue Grass Airport, followed by an exhibition at the VA Medical Center in Louisville.

In the following years, our traveling exhibit has appeared in Orlando, Memphis, Chattanooga, the Underground Railroad in Cincinnati, Ft. Thomas, KY, the Rotunda in Frankfort and criss-crossing to major cities and towns throughout the state from Paducah, to Pikeville and to Williamsburg, KY.

In 2005, RSETA became a registered IRS 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt organization.



- AWARDS -&- HONORS**
- 2006 Tuskegee Airmen Outstanding Service Award
  - Paducah, NAACP Award
  - DUKE of Paducah Award
  - Alben Barkley Distinguished Citizen Award
  - McCracken County
  - FEDEX African-American Diversity Forum
  - US Dept of Energy Award
  - Kentucky Colonel
  - Key-to-the-City of Wilmore, KY
  - 2010 NABVET Image Award



- MAJOR MILESTONES**
- Thousand of students in grades 3-12 and college have received oral history from "Uncle Ron's" Powerpoint presentations.
  - Developed a traveling museum, for use throughout Kentucky and a permanent exhibit at the Aviation Museum of Kentucky.
  - Lobbied during the 2007 Kentucky General Assembly to designate Fayette County I-75 as the Tuskegee Airmen Memorial Trail. In 2010 this designation was extended to the entire KY I-75 corridor of 191 miles.
  - Presides over the only Kentucky chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen, "B/Gen. Noel F. Parrish Chapter". (Memberships are open to all interested parties, youth and military personnel).

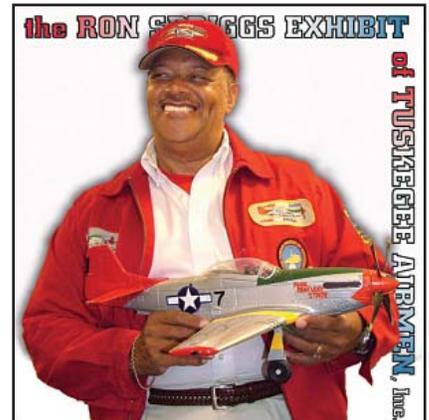
We foster the theory that *Tuskegee Airmen are not just black history, Tuskegee Airmen are American history.* We also believe that history untold - is history lost. That is why it's so important to keep a light on this subject as they over came segregation in the defeat of the Axis Powers of WWII.

As an oral historian, lecturer, speaker and curator of Tuskegee Airmen, it's my intention to continue our efforts that will illuminate these unsung "Gladiators of the Skies".

The Tuskegee Airmen were a stellar example of accomplishment and discipline during WWII as were other black units such as the USS Mason, the Triple Nickel, the Monford Point Marines, the Red Ball Express, the

Navy's Golden 13 and the Buffalo Soldiers.

All of these units contributed towards the enactment of Executive Order 9981 signed by President Harry Truman in 1949 ending segregation in the Armed Forces.



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