

2002 “A Capital City Christmas” The Wright Flyer



This year's ornament, featuring The Wright Flyer is the ninth in a collectible series. On March 26, 1910, Orville Wright made the first flight to Montgomery in his bi-plane "Wright Flyer" on land that would later be a part of Maxwell Air Force Base. Thereafter, 8 to 10 flights a day were common during the successful training of five new pilots at the first school for pilots in the country. On May 25, 1910, two of the new pilots made the first night flights in the history of aviation. The Wright Brothers went back north with their flying machine, but because of their activity in Montgomery, and the existing airfield, the United States Government purchased 302 acres in 1918 during World War I and established the Aviation Repair Depot. Firmly established by 1922, the Air Depot was renamed Maxwell Field in honor of 2nd Lt. William C. Maxwell, a native of Atmore, Alabama, who died in a plane crash while on duty in the Philippine Islands.

Thanks to Mr. Joseph Stone who graciously continues to be the exclusive artist for the Easter Seals ornaments. It is with great appreciation of his time and talents that we are able to offer yet another piece in a collection series.

