

# AN UPDATE FROM TRIPLE TREE AERODROME



PASSING THE TORCH

MAY 2024

## PASSING THE TORCH: CELEBRATING AVIATION LEGACY AT TRIPLE TREE AERODROME

**(Woodruff, SC)** – Triple Tree Aerodrome is delighted to announce the success of "Passing the Torch," a special ceremony celebrating the mentoring of the next generation of aviation professionals.

On May 11, 2024, Triple Tree Aerodrome's 1937 Spartan Executive took part in the National Celebration of General Aviation D.C. Flyover. Organized by the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), this historic event featured a variety of aircraft showcasing general aviation's rich history over Washington D.C.'s Prohibited Area P-56, a restricted zone since September 11, 2001.

Following the flyover, the Spartan Executive returned to Triple Tree Aerodrome during Joe Nall Week, one of the world's largest gatherings of radio control airplane pilots, attracting tens of thousands of guests globally. Normally, General Aviation operations are paused during this event, but this occasion marked a significant exception. "We all realized the magnitude of this moment and were thrilled that our radio control pilots could witness this piece of aviation history," said Robb Williams, Triple Tree Executive Director.

Upon landing, the Spartan Executive was met by young participants from Triple Tree's Aviation Centered Education (ACE) programs. They were ceremoniously handed the legacy of the Spartan Executive, symbolizing their future roles as aviation leaders.

Pat Hartness, Triple Tree Founder and owner of the Spartan Executive, personally "passed the torch" to these budding aviators. This summer, a team of these young aviators will fly the Spartan Executive to Oshkosh. "I couldn't be more thrilled," exclaimed Hartness.

Williams emphasized the impact of Hartness's leadership, stating, "Pat's commitment to mentoring and trusting the next generation is exemplary. We hope others will follow his lead and help develop future leaders in aviation."

For more information on the National Celebration of General Aviation D.C. Flyover please visit <https://aopa.org/community/2024/dc-flyover> and for more details about Triple Tree Aerodrome's ACE initiatives, visit [www.tta.aero/ace](http://www.tta.aero/ace).

*Triple Tree Aerodrome (SC00) is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization located in Woodruff, South Carolina. The facility is home to many world-class radio-control and general aviation events, such as Joe Nall Week and the Triple Tree Fly-In, and operates year-round to facilitate educational opportunities within our Aviation Centered Education (ACE) portfolio. To learn more about Triple Tree Aerodrome and our efforts to support the next generation of aviators, please visit [www.tta.aero](http://www.tta.aero)*