

FLIGHT LINES

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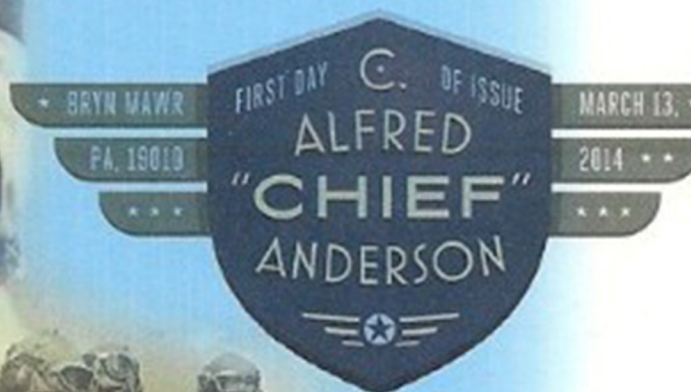
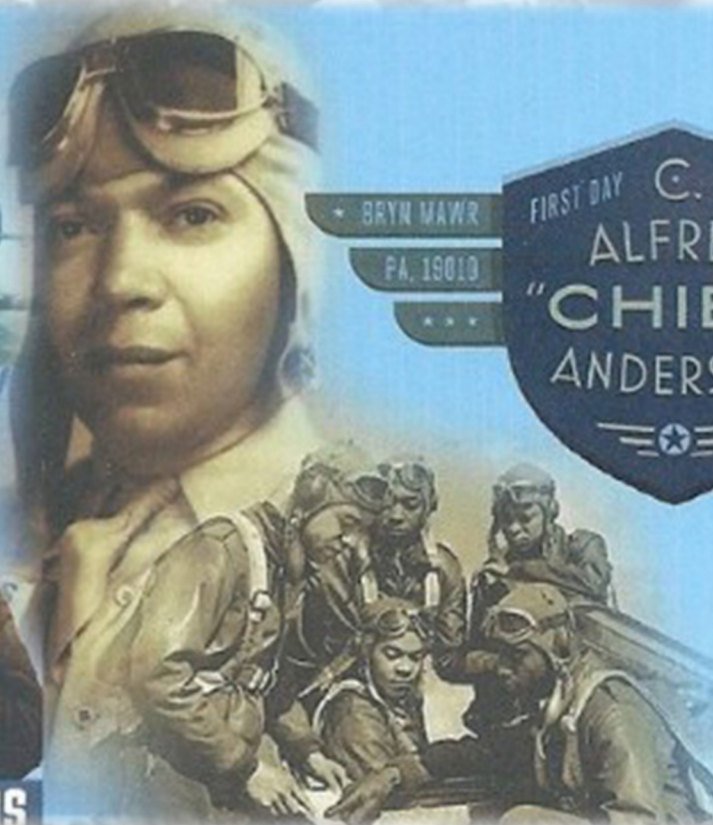
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Keep us flying!



BUY WAR BONDS



Charles A. "Chief"
Anderson
"Father of Black Aviation"



ALABAMA HAPPENINGS

Tuskegee Airmen Quarter



The silver coins for sale in the America the Beautiful Series are nearing an end. The ATB program came with 56 designs issued between 2010 and 2021. From 2010 to 2020, the US Mint issued five designs in each date mark. This makes the 2021 release with just one design, the 5 Troy oz of .999 pure silver ATB Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site Coin issued for the State of Alabama.

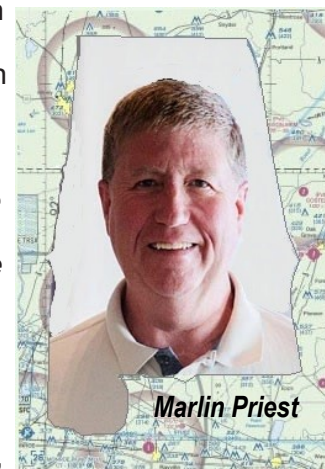
On every America the Beautiful coin is the left-profile image of President George Washington. It has appeared on the obverse of American quarters for more than 80 years now, and remains on the America the Beautiful coin series.

On the reverse side of the coin, the design depicts a Tuskegee Airman pilot preparing for a training flight during World War II with the Moton Field (Alabama) control tower in the background. The pilot looks upward with pride and confidence as two P-51 Mustangs pass overhead. The inscription *"THEY FOUGHT TWO WARS"* is arched across the top as a reference to the dual battles the Tuskegee Airmen fought – fascism abroad and racial discrimination at home.

America the Beautiful coin designs were chosen through a collaborative selection process between the U.S. Mint, the chief executive of each jurisdiction, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of the Treasury. The governor of each state or chief executive of a territory was tasked with submitting four total locations, in order of preferred location down to relevant alternatives. The Secretary of the Treasury then determined the appropriate location based upon its historical relevance, both nationally and locally.

Making AWI Happen

The impetus for a challenging new mission at the Southern Museum of Flight lies in the fact that nearly 30 percent of the current aviation technician workforce is approaching retirement age, and Boeing estimates 118,000 new ones will be needed across North American civil aviation in the next two decades. Nearly 90 percent of business aviation leaders surveyed by Aviation Personnel Int'l in 2017 felt the industry was in the midst of a maintenance shortage. *"All the buzz has been about the pilot shortage but if you drill into the real dilemma, the need is far greater for maintenance technicians and avionics technicians,"* said Marlin Priest, founder and CEO of Pioneer Aviation Management, LLC and Southern Museum of Flight Board member.



Marlin Priest

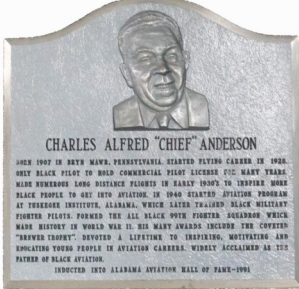
The museum is fortunate that Priest is sharing his discretionary time and expertise in the planning to bring the Aviation Workforce Initiative (AWI) to reality. *"Here in Alabama, an A&P technician cross-matches with about 16 other industries in the state for basic needs and qualifications,"* said Priest. *"They're going after our best and brightest, so if we're going to attract and retain employees, we have to do things to get them in the pipeline early."*

The median annual wage for aircraft mechanics and service technicians was \$62,920 in 2018, with the highest 10% of these technicians earning more than \$97,820.

Priest envisions the museum developing youth and scholarship programs working with the Alabama Community College System and other industry and educational partners, like the National Business Aviation Association, ATEC, and ASTM International on initiatives to advance the maintenance and avionics profession.

This new educational initiative will add great value and credibility to the mission of the museum and with forthcoming industry participation, Marlin and the Aviation Workforce Initiative Committee can look back and take pride in knowing their involvement helped bring about a new and unique approach at solving this workforce dilemma.

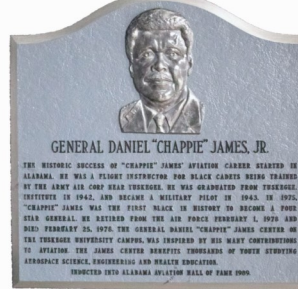
ALABAMA AVIATION HALL OF FAME



Feb 9, 1907 - April 13, 1996

Anderson. She told Anderson she had always heard that "colored people couldn't fly," but it appeared that he could. "I'm just going to have a take flight with you," she said. Anderson was not about to turn down the First Lady, despite the protests of her security detail. Upon returning 40 minutes later, Anderson's delighted passenger exclaimed, "Well I see you can fly, all right!" No doubt her experience was a boost to the Roosevelt administration, which had just established the Tuskegee Airmen Experiment to train black pilots for military service.

In 1940, Charles A. Anderson was recruited by the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, to serve as the Chief Civilian Flight Instructor for its new program to train black pilots. He developed a pilot training program, taught the first advanced course, and earned his nickname, "Chief". In March 1941, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt asked to meet Chief

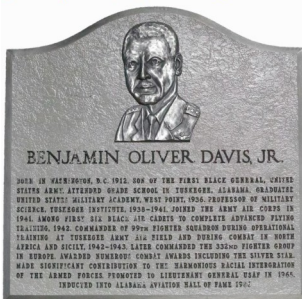


Feb 11, 1920 - Feb 25, 1978

pilots for the all-black 99th Pursuit Squadron. After completing P-40 Warhawk training and then B-25 training, James served as a B-25 pilot with the 617th Bomb Squadron. In 1975, James became the first African-American to reach the rank of four-star general in the armed forces and was assigned as commander in chief of NORAD/ADCOM at Peterson Air Force Base, CO. In these dual capacities he had operational command of all United States and Canadian strategic aerospace defense forces. During 1977, he assumed duty as special assistant to the Chief of Staff, USAF and retired from the USAF on January 31, 1978.

Daniel "Chappie" James Jr. was an African-American fighter pilot in the USAF. He received his commission as a 2nd Lt and pilot wings at Tuskegee Army Airfield, AL on July 28, 1943. Throughout the war, James became a civilian instructor pilot in the Army Air Corps at Tuskegee and trained

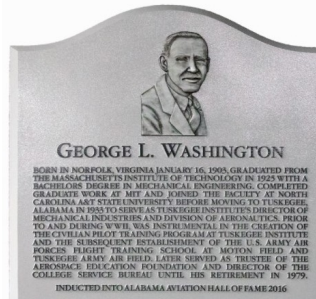
TUSKEGEE AIRMEN HONOREES



Dec 18, 1912 - Jul 4, 2002

course. In July that year, he was named commander of the first all-black air unit, the 99th Pursuit Squadron. The squadron, equipped with P-40 fighters, was sent to Tunisia, in North Africa, in the spring of 1943. On June 2, 1943, as part of Operation Corkscrew, the squadron supported the Allied invasion of Sicily. Captain Davis became the first African-American general officer in the USAF.

Early in 1941, the Roosevelt administration ordered the War Department to create a black flying unit. Captain Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. was assigned to the first training class at Tuskegee Army Air Field and was the first black officer to solo an Army Air Corps aircraft. In March 1942, he earned his wings as one of five black officers to complete the



Jan 16, 1903 - Jun 4, 1983

airplane maintenance personnel, and other support personnel, and ensured that cadets were properly housed and fed. While the Army looked at the training of African-American pilots as an experiment, Washington didn't see it that way.

George L. Washington (MIT Class of 1925 & 1930), was an engineer and Director of the Tuskegee Institute Division of Aeronautics. He was very instrumental in bringing the primary flight training program to Tuskegee. He oversaw the construction, outfitting and expansion of Moton Field, and as general manager, he hired and supervised flight instructors,



DOUBLE VICTORY

The Tuskegee Airmen At War

Lucasfilm has launched an educational initiative and social media campaign to provide resources to students and educators. The documentary -- **Double Victory: The Tuskegee Airmen at War** -- is permanently available on Lucasfilm.com and is accompanied by an all-new educational curriculum guide for grades 6-12, created by educator Vivett Dukes. Lucasfilm also released *Celebrate the Tuskegee Airmen*, a reel narrated by Leslie Odom Jr. (*Hamilton*, *Red Tails*), which spotlights the Airmen's story and legacy.

As a companion to the action-adventure *Red Tails* (2012), *Double Victory: The Tuskegee Airmen at War* is a feature-length documentary that tells the full story of the Tuskegee Airmen's experiences during World War II.

With rare archival materials and original interviews with veterans, the film originally debuted on television and is now freely available as part of Lucasfilm's educational efforts.



History has often ignored the contributions of Black Americans, leaving heroes like the Tuskegee Airmen, the first Black military pilots, overlooked. They flew nearly 1,500 missions and shot down 112 German aircraft. These men flew above prejudice, racism and hate to serve their country and drive positive change in America. Impressive performance earned them more than 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses and helped lead to the integration into the U.S. Armed Forces. *"They are among the bravest, most dignified cadre of men to ever fight for our country – even when our country did not grant them the very freedoms they risked their lives to uphold,"* says teacher and writer Vivett Dukes, author of the free downloadable "Double Victory" education guide.

"Everything the Tuskegee Airmen did had to be better, stronger, faster, and smarter," says actor and singer Leslie Odom Jr. *"Some of our greatest change agents throughout American history were very young - people in their 20s who believe in the dream, in the ideals that America told them to believe in. Young people need to soak up the story of the Airmen and make it a part of them, knowing they can grab the baton and run their leg of the race with full confidence, knowing what has been achieved before them by people not much older than them."*

The late Captain Roscoe C. Brown Jr., a Tuskegee Airmen and squadron commander, said: *"It was a time in history that we should be very proud of. It's a time in history when we helped change the world. And I think we set the star very, very high for anybody who's following us."*

Did you know...?

- First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt visited Tuskegee Institute in 1941. She flew with Charles A. "Chief" Anderson, the Chief Flight Instructor at Tuskegee's Kennedy Field. Mrs. Roosevelt helped secure funding for Moton Field.
- Moton Field at the Tuskegee Institute was the first flight facility for African-American pilot candidates in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. Pilot cadets transferred to Tuskegee Army Air Field to complete their military training with the Army Air Corps.
- Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., a graduate of West Point and commander of the Tuskegee Airmen, was the first African-American general in the Air Force.
- Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. is a nonprofit national organization dedicated to keeping alive the history and achievements of the original Tuskegee Airmen. They offer many programs for young people interested in science and aviation.
- Many women played important roles in the Tuskegee Experiment, serving as nurses and medical staff, office workers and support personnel. Several women also trained as pilots at Moton Field.



The Southern Museum of Flight's Celebrated Tribute To The Tuskegee Airmen