

# The L-T-A Society

## 65th Annual Banquet

### Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017

- **Social hour 5 p.m.**
- **Dinner 6 p.m.**
- **Program 7 p.m.**

Please join us as The Lighter-Than-Air Society celebrates its 65th annual banquet Saturday, Oct. 14, 2017, at the Greek Community Center, 129 S. Union St., Akron, Ohio 44304. Our guest speakers are Joe Kindling and Paul-Helmut Kindling, sons of airship pioneer Paul H. Kindling.

Paul H. Kindling was one of the many individuals involved in the transatlantic collaboration and aviation experimentation of lighter-than-air in the 1920s and '30s. His sons, Joe and Paul-Helmut, will speak about their father's lengthy career at Luftschiffbau-Zeppelin and Goodyear-Zeppelin during these decades, including work on the LZ 126 USS *Los Angeles* and the LZ 127 *Graf Zeppelin*.

Drawing upon personal photos from their dad's collection as well as his logbook, they will recount Paul Kindling's adventures aloft as a helmsman on the *Gra*'s 1928 crossing of the Atlantic to America. His 1930-1935 contributions to the design and development of the rigid airships *Akron* and *Macon* will also be discussed. Returning to Germany, Mr. Kindling would eventually join Goodyear Aircraft Corp., and was a key player in post-World War II projects such as the Vee-Balloon before his 1965 retirement.

The Brothers Kindling, both born in Germany, followed their father's path not only in a geographical but also an aeronautical sense, emigrating to the United States as children and later taking up flying for fun. (Young Paul saw the LZ 130 *Graf Zeppelin* in 1938.) Joe became a mechanical engineer and Paul a cardiovascular surgeon. The two men's respective children have now carried the first Paul Kindling's aerial tradition into a third (and soon-to-be fourth) generation, but the brothers will take us back to the Golden Age of passenger airships with tales of how both Germans and Americans built and operated these giants of the sky.

The program also includes presentation of the Ren Brown Lifetime Achievement Award and a selection of airship artifacts on display – and guests are invited to share items from their collections, too.

The banquet will also feature two silent auctions, one consisting of items from a private collection, plus a silent auction of items with proceeds directly benefiting the Society.

**Reservations must be received no later than Friday, Oct. 6.** Cost is \$35 per person. Menu entrée options are **beef** shish-ka-bob, **chicken** breast stuffed with spinach and feta cheese, or **vegetarian** platter. Use the **registration form on the back of this page** and mail, with checks payable to LTAS.

**To make a reservation:** Print out the reservation form on our website, fill it out and mail it to the address indicated on the form, or email it to [ltasohio@gmail.com](mailto:ltasohio@gmail.com)

We hope you can attend!