



THE EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MUSEUM of EAST TENNESSEE HISTORY

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**For Immediate Release**

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July 30, 2012

**“Knoxville’s Gateway to the World – McGhee Tyson Airport after 75 Years”  
Brown Bag Lecture by Bob Davis**

**PROGRAM:** “Knoxville’s Gateway to the World- McGhee Tyson Airport after 75 Years,” a Brown Bag Lecture by Bob Davis

**DATE:** Noon, Wednesday, August 8, 2012

**LOCATION:** East Tennessee History Center  
601 South Gay Street  
Knoxville, TN 37902

**ADMISSION:** FREE | Attendees are encouraged to bring a “brown bag” lunch

Knoxville is the 130<sup>th</sup> largest city in the United States yet has an airport similar in size to those located in much larger cities such as the twelfth largest city of Indianapolis or Austin, the fourteenth largest.

In honor of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the McGhee Tyson Airport, the East Tennessee Historical Society and the McGhee Tyson Airport will present a program by Bob Davis to look at the history of airport’s establishment, the role it has played in regional growth through the years, and the important cooperation between civil aviation, general aviation, and the military. He will also highlight some of the aircraft and important visitors that have been in Knoxville over the past half century, as well as a display of models of aircraft that landed at Tyson McGhee.

A pilot who has flown over Knoxville in his own airplane since 1986, Bob has spent his retirement years conducting extensive research into the history of aviation in Knoxville and compiling numerous newspaper sources to document that history and growth. He is currently a flight instructor and designated pilot examiner.

Free and open to the public, the lecture will begin at noon at the East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay Street, Knoxville. Guests are invited to bring a “Brown Bag” lunch and enjoy the lecture. Soft drinks will be available. For more information on the lecture, exhibitions, or museum hours, call 865-215-8824 or visit the website at [www.EastTNHistory.org](http://www.EastTNHistory.org).

**End Release**