

# 2024 National Ercoupe Convention

## Amelia Earhart and Kansas

Ottawa, Kansas (KOWI) June 13-16, 2024

**Amelia and Toto and Ercoupes. Oh My!**

**QUESTIONS:** 2024 Ercoupe Convention Chairmen: Ercoupe N2766H  
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**Where is Ottawa, Kansas?** 50 miles southwest of Kansas City on I-35.

**Why Ottawa?** Hotels are only 3 miles away, restaurants are 2 blocks from hotels, and lots of aviation stuff nearby.

**Airport facilities?** KOWI has no control tower, a 4,500' runway, self-service gas, and an A&P. Bring tie-downs. Camp or RV at airport but no hook-ups or showers. Landing patterns are west of the runway.

**Amelia?** She was born in Atchison, Kansas. We can fly or bus to the airport (K59) named after her. The new **Amelia Earhart Museum** opened in 2023 and has Amelia's sister ship, the last Lockheed Electra 10-E.

**What else?** Fly 20 miles or bus to **McFarlane Aviation Products**. If you have been to Oshkosh you have seen their huge booth in Building C. They make a lot of airplane parts and have a huge catalog reminiscent of Sears. McFarlane has a 3,000' grass strip. I have personally flown in, bought parts, and flown home.

For those not interested in touring the facility, the bus can take you to Vinland Valley Nursery for a tour only 2 miles from McFarlane's.

**Is that all?** Of course not. **Dodson International Parts** is a huge aircraft salvage operation that we'll get to see. Better yet, Mr. Dodson owns an **Ercoupe !** We will take a bus there but anyone flying 10 miles east of KOWI can see the fuselages and warehouses. An impressive sight.

**Transportation?** There will be shuttles available to/from the hotels, buses to the events, and Ottawa has car rentals.

**Food?** Lots of fast food and real restaurants with-in 2 blocks of the hotels.

**Hotels?** Hotels are only 3 miles from the airport. The event's preferred hotel, **Holiday Inn Express**, has a great breakfast included. *30 rooms blocked until May 13<sup>th</sup>.*  
*Call 785-521-7009 Group: Ercoupe Owners Club*

**Feeding Schedule?** *Wednesday and Thursday* you are on your own.  
*Thursday* is Lifetime Member's lunch.  
*Friday evening* is pizza at the airport.  
*Saturday morning* breakfast is at the airport.  
Provided by Aviation Explorers Post 800  
(kids learning maintenance and flying). Donation Jar.  
Breakfast is open the public.  
*Saturday evening* banquet / auction held at  
Ottawa University's Conference Center.  
*Sunday morning* is coffee and donuts at the airport.

**Where are all things aviation?** Make a vacation out of your trip.  
Garmin and Bendix / King are in Olathe - 40 miles  
Buy airplane hardware from B&B Aircraft Supplies in Osawatomie - 20 miles  
(at Oshkosh, B&B has a large tent by the Fly-Market).  
See the Connie (Constellation) at the Downtown Airport in Kansas City.  
See a real DC-3 sitting atop The Roasterie Coffee Company in Kansas City.  
Combat Aviation Museum is in Topeka.  
The Cosmosphere in Hutchison specializes in spaceships. They rebuild  
stuff for NASA and have an actual SR71 hanging from ceiling to floor  
in the lobby.  
Zenith Aircraft is located in Mexico, Missouri (KMYJ).  
Cessna's are built in Wichita where there are numerous aviation businesses.

**Where are all things not aviation?**  
Everywhere – Ottawa Chamber of Commerce will be happy to help.  
Kansas City – National WWI Museum and Memorial  
Arabia Steamboat Museum  
The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art  
Union Station Kansas City  
Hallmark Visitors Center  
Country Club Plaza  
Kansas side - Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Garden  
**PLUS** lots & lots more.



Dodson's International Parts



McFarlane Aviation Parts



Amelia Earhart Museum