



Submitted Photo

Conner Prairie Alliance President, Cheri Mahoney, right, looks on after presenting Conner Prairie President and CEO, Ellen M. Rosenthal, a contribution to the Museum for the 1859 Balloon Voyage, opening June 2009.

Conner Prairie balloon exhibit gets gift

The Times

The Conner Prairie Alliance presented Conner Prairie President and CEO Ellen M. Rosenthal with a check for \$65,000 during the annual Holiday Luncheon at the Bridgewater Club in Carmel. The gift will help support Conner Prairie's upcoming 1859 Balloon Voyage, an interactive exhibit that commemorates the nation's first air mail delivery,

launched from Lafayette, Indiana in 1859.

The exhibit is scheduled to open June 2009.

It is recognized a pioneering event in aviation history and a very important part of Indiana's history. The exhibit is an immersive and interactive learning experience that culminates in a voyage 350 feet above the rolling prairie on board a tethered helium-filled

balloon.

The Conner Prairie Alliance is a women's voluntary organization dedicated to supporting museum activities and fund raising. The group manages The Apple Store, a seasonal foods and crafts shop and since its inception 25 years ago, has raised over \$1 million for Conner Prairie's programs yearly.

More information at www.connerprairie.org.