



NEWSLETTER

The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library

P.O. Box 188

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DR. TOM D. CROUCH

Dr. Crouch will select, annotate and discuss the historical significance of aeronautical books in the Gimbel Collection published from 1850 to



1914. Tom D. Crouch is Chairman, Department of Aeronautics, National Air and Space Museum, the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC. He was born in Dayton, Ohio and received his B.A. degree in History with Honors from Ohio University in 1966. He was granted his M.A. in History, with Honors, from Miami University (Ohio) in 1968 and in 1976 the Ohio State University granted his Ph.D. His research interests include U.S. Social and Cultural History, the History of Technology and Aerospace History.

During 1973 and 1974, Tom Crouch served as Director of the Ohio American Revolution Bicentennial Advisory Commission. His work attracted the attention of the officials of the Smithsonian Institution who were doing long-range planning for the 200th Anniversary of the U.S. Constitution. He joined the Smithsonian staff in 1974 as the Associate Curator for Astronautics and Aeronautics. In 1989, he assumed his present position as Chairman of the Department of Aeronautics.

Dr. Crouch is the author of nine books with another one in progress. The Eagle Aloft: Two Centuries of the Balloon in America published by the Smithsonian Institution in 1983 was

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DREAM COMING TRUE

Colonel Richard Gimbel, in his discussions with Academy officials and in his correspondence, expressed his desire that a printed catalogue of his aeronautical history collection be published. Now, twenty-five years after his death, Gimbel's dream in coming true. At least a manuscript is now in process and publication is possible within the next few years. The Friends assumed the project to satisfy a long-standing need to provide scholars world-wide and the general public with a published catalogue of one of the most prestigious aeronautical collections in existence. Colonel Gimbel built his collection based on the concept of man's dream of flight from earliest times to the advent of powered flight. Man's persistent efforts to achieve flight is vividly reflected in the art, books, manuscripts and the amazing array of items found among the more than 20,000 objects gathered by Richard Gimbel. The Academy Library is indeed fortunate to be the owner of this national treasure.

The Friends, in their projected book, want to create a truly unique pictorial history of aeronautics. The format will involve a balanced selection of the most important items from each category of the Gimbel Collection. The categories of the Collection are books, prints, manuscripts, medallions, ancient seals, newspapers, letters, dime novels and miscellaneous other items. Each item will be illustrated and described by its historical significance. The contents of the catalogue will reflect the knowledge and judgement of experts in each field.

NEW DIRECTOR

The Academy is in the process of implementing the Air Force policy of converting its all-military faculty to one having 25% civilians by the year 2000. As



a result, a Search Committee screened over 200 applicants nation-wide and selected Dr. Edward A. Scott as the first civilian Director of Academy Libraries. Like his six military predecessors — five held Ph.D. degrees and four held Master of Library Science degrees — Dr. Scott is eminently qualified for the position.

For the past ten years, Dr. Scott served as the Director the Library of Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina. Previously, he served as Director of Libraries at Keene State College, New Hampshire and Castleton State College, Vermont and as librarian for the Florida State University Study Center in Florence, Italy.

Dr. Scott graduated from Florida State University in 1965 and received his Masters degree in Library Science the following year from Florida State. In 1977, he was granted his Ph.D. by the University of South Carolina. He has been active in the American Library Association and has held elective offices in national and state library organizations. He is married to Monica McLean Scott.

The Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors will be on Friday, December 8, 1995 at 9:30 am in the Falcon Room, Academy Officers Club.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am gratified by the wonderful progress General Clark and members of the Executive Committee have made on the Gimbel Catalogue Project. The difficult task of preparing the Prospectus and creating three volumes of the Prototype have born fruit. We successfully negotiated with six leading scholars who will now prepare key aspects of the manuscript. Biographical sketches are included in this newsletter. Within the next months, our experts will visit the Academy Library to complete their tasks.

Special thanks and appreciation go to Mr. Edward A. Rochette of Colorado Springs for arranging with Clifford Mishler, President of KRAUSE PUBLICATIONS, INC. of Iola, Wisconsin for arranging special photographers to come to the Academy Library to photograph the 200 aviation medallions and the 15 ancient seals belonging to the Gimbel Collection. This work was Mr. Mishler's contributions to the The Friends.

Dr. Crouch

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awarded the Best Non-Fiction Book of the Year prize by the Aviation/Space Writer's Association. The Bishop's Boys: A Life of Wilbur and Orville Wright, Norton Inc, 1989 was awarded the Christopher Prize.

Dr. Crouch has written numerous articles in magazines and journals including a Special Supplement for the May 1983 New York Times Magazine entitled "Flight and the Founding Fathers." He has also written pamphlets and contributed chapters to books.

CLIVE HART

Professor Hart's task is to select, annotate and discuss the historical significance of Gimbel Collection books published prior to 1850.



Clive Hart, born 1931 in Perth, Western Australia, was educated at the Universities of Western Australia, Paris, and Cambridge. He is Professor of Literature at the University of Essex, England. In addition to publications in the field of Literature, he has written extensively about the early history of aviation. His books include Kites: An Historical Survey (1967), The Dream of Flight (1972), The Prehistory of Flight (1985), Images of Flight (1988). He has also contributed to four encyclopedias of aviation. He is a member of the Royal Aeronautical Society and is President of the Suffolk Aero Club, Ipswich, England.

DISBURSEMENTS TO THE LIBRARY

(January 1 to October 1, 1995)

General Book Fund.....	\$1000.00
Memorial Funds.....	\$2661.00
Other Services & Support.....	\$14,989.00
Grand Total	\$19,650.00

MEMORIAL PROGRAM

At present, there are 150 memorial certificates in the Honor Book. Several recent additions have come from and are about persons associated with the Stalag Luft III Former POW Association. Twenty-nine individuals were so honored by the Association and its sponsors. Another recent certificate honors the past Director of the Air Force Academy Library, Lt. Colonel James Hopkins. A framed copy of the certificate was presented to him in appreciation for his outstanding support and service to The Friends.

DR. DOMINICK A. PISANO

When the Montgolfier balloon ascended into history in 1783, it had a pronounced effect on popular as well as scientific culture. The possibilities and the implications of aerial flights by balloons were studied not only by philosophers and scholars, but by politicians, business entrepreneurs, artists, authors, satirists and even generals. Balloons also caught the popular fancy and were used as decorative devices on everything imaginable from cups, plates, postage stamps, cartoons, hand bills and watches, fans to furniture. Many of these items are contained in the Gimbel Collection. Dr. Pisano is embarked on the difficult task of selecting and describing the significance of the representative "Other Categories" of materials.

Dominick A. Pisano is a curator in the Department of Aeronautics, National Air And Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. During his eighteen years at the museum, he has been involved in numerous research and writing projects, as well as collections management, exhibitions and service to the public. He received his Ph.D. in American studies from George Washington University in 1988.

Dr. Pisano is the author of To Fill the Skies with Pilots: The Civilian Pilot Training Program, 1939-1946, published by the University of Illinois Press in 1993. He was the co-author of Legend, Memory and the Great War in the Air published by the University of Washington Press in 1992. Currently, he is editing a book of essays entitled The Airplane in American Culture to be published by the Smithsonian Institution Press. He has produced many aviation and space-related publications as well as bibliographies, encyclopedia articles, book reviews and film reviews.

(No photograph was available at press time.)

DR. HOLLY PITTMAN

Holly Pittman is an Associate Professor of the History of Art at the University of Pennsylvania where she has taught the art and archaeology the pre-Islamic Ancient Near East and Egypt since 1989. Before beginning an academic career, she was a curator in the Department of Ancient Near Eastern Art in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City for 14 years. She received her M.A. and Ph.D. from Columbia University studying under the direction of Edith Porada. Professor Pittman wrote her dissertation on the Glazed Steatite Glyptic Style, an important cylinder seal type that was wide spread along the Fertile Crescent in the early third millennium B.C. She has excavated in Cyprus, Turkey, Syria and Iraq. Currently she is engaged in the study of the seals and sealings from the late fourth millennium B.C. site of Hacınebi Tepe on the Euphrates River in Eastern Turkey.

Professor Pittman will study, evaluate and translate the ancient seals and discuss their historical significance.



EDWARD ROCHETTE

Success in retirement is often measured by the number of volunteer assignments undertaken. For Edward Rochette, former Chief Executive Officer of the Colorado Springs-based, Federally-chartered American Numismatic Association, retirement beginning in 1987, has been a form of shuttle diplomacy. Ed's schedule has taken him on assignment to Washington, DC to select designs for the U.S. Mint-issued James Madison, D-Day and World Cup commemorative coins; to Lausanne, Switzerland to prepare exhibits for the new International Olympic Committee Museum and serve as the American delegate to the newly formed Federation Internationale de Numismatique Olympique; and to Grasse, in Southern France, where he is currently cataloguing the work of the late Paul Vincze, a world renowned sculptor and medalist.

In between his overseas adventures, Ed divides his time between preparing his weekly coin column distributed by the Los Angeles Time Syndicate, serving as a numismatic consultant for the United States Olympic Committee and completing his editorial assignment of the medalions for the soon-to-be-published catalogue of the Colonel Richard Gimbel Aeronautical History Collection. He is author of The Romance of Coin Collecting 1991.

(No photograph available at press time.)

PAUL MARAVELAS

Paul Maravelas will select, evaluate and critique aeronautical prints contained in the Gimbel Collection. Many of these are balloon and early flight concepts prints. Mr. Maravelas has had extensive experience in balloon history and since 1980 has held a balloon pilot's license. He is a graduate of the University of Minnesota with B.A. and M.A. degrees in History. He also pursued course work in museum studies and the history of technology.

Since 1989, Mr. Maravelas has served as the Executive Director of the Carver County Historical Society in Waconia, Minnesota. While serving as Curator of the Aeronautical Book Collection of the University of Minnesota Libraries, he served as Consultant for the University of Minnesota Art Museum in planning an extensive exhibit depicting two hundred years (1783-1983) of balloon history. In order to commemorate the exhibit, the University Art Museum Published a colored, illustrated, annotated catalogue entitled: The Balloon: A Bicentennial Exhibition. This publication, plus a number of others, became a model on which The Friends' anticipated catalogue of the Gimbel Collection was based. The Minnesota exhibit contained a large number of items loaned from the Gimbel Collection. Donald J. Barrett, Assistant Director of the Air Force Academy Libraries and Duane J. Reed, Academy Archivist served as liaison to Dr. Melvin Waldfogel, Special Curator for the exhibit.

Paul Maravelas is an active contributor to a publication call The Annals of Balloon History and Museology. He is also in the process of compiling a bibliography of books on the free balloon.



THANKS KRAUSE PUBLICATIONS

The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library were most fortunate in securing the services of Krause Publications to photograph, in both color and black and white, the 15 ancient Babylonian seals and the over 200 coins and medals in the Colonel Richard Gimbel Collection. KP as the company is known throughout the numismatic hobby, performed their task as a donation to The Friends.

Company President, Clifford L. Mishler and Chief Photographer, Ross Hubbard, visited the Academy in July. Hubbard stayed for a full week to photo-

graph each of the seals, as well as every coin, token and medal in the Gimbel Collection.

Krause Publications, located in Iola, Wisconsin, is the pioneer publisher in the field of avocational pursuits, KP edits and prints over fifty different hobby journals every month. Chester L. Krause, founder of the company, has been picked as the "Wisconsin Small Business Man of the Year." He was also the runner up for these honors on a nationwide basis. Starting with a single employee in 1952, the company now has a staff of more than 300 employees.

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Kortemeyer, Ward.

*Former Superintendents of the Academy



A view of the new offices of The Friends. Ms. Rae Hellen, part-time secretary is at work on the new computer system financed by the Anna Keeslin Ackerman Trust.

MICROFILM OF ARNOLD PAPERS

The USAF Historical Research Agency has provided the Library's Special Collections Branch with a microfilm edition of the papers of General Henry H. "Hap" Arnold which are housed within the Library of Congress. The Collection which consists of 269 rolls of 35mm microfilm was produced by a joint microfilming project between the USAF Historical Agency and the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress. The Collection will augment the Library's

existing archival holdings on the life and military career of General Arnold to a significant degree. Readers of The Newsletter may recall that in 1987, The Friends joined with The Falcon Foundation in financing the restoration and enhancement of 240 oral interviews conducted over a 25-year period by Historian Dr. Murray Green in researching material for a biography of General Arnold.

Oh, By the Way...

Please search your personal libraries and papers and notify us of materials you may wish to donate.

We need your continued gifts of rare books, books dealing with military aviation and unit histories as well as documentary materials and collections of personal papers dealing with air-power themes and air leaders.

We also need your assistance in expanding the Academy Library's holdings on the American prisoners of war experience in all wars.

Please consider participating in our Memorial Program. Check the attached for details.

Most of all, we need your continued financial support. If you have already made a contribution in 1995, we sincerely thank you. If you have not made a 1995 contribution, please fill out the attached form and send your check today in the self-addressed envelope.