

NEWSLETTER

The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library

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ANNUAL BOARD MEETING AND LUNCHEON



*Luncheon Speaker
Col. Martin E. B. France*

The Board of Directors of The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library held its annual meeting on May 22, 2013. President Phil Caine opened the meeting and briefly reviewed the activities of The Friends during the past year. He noted the continuing role played by The Friends in preserving Academy heritage, and commented on the significance of The Friends position as one of the key non-profits dedicated to enhancing the quality of the Academy experience. He also stressed the importance of acquiring other significant collections for the Library such as that on flight and space obtained from Hanscom AFB. The president then expressed appreciation for the work of our independent contractors, Jennifer Murphy and Travis Pollock who have been updating the catalogue of the Gimbel Collection so that it

can be used online, and who have been cataloging and organizing the collections acquired by The Friends during the past several years. Jennifer has resigned to accept a position nearer her home in Denver. She will certainly be missed, but we are pleased that we have been able to hire Melissa Robohn to take her place.

Following the President's remarks, Dr. Jim Titus discussed the award of the Clark-Yudkin Fellowships for 2013. Since the total cost of the fellowship request was less than the fellowship funding limit, we were able to award three this year. Col. Andi Biancur then summarized the impact of the Graduate Memorial Wall project and noted its increasing use throughout the Academy community. He also reviewed the challenges posed by our inability to get information from official sources for updating that project but also for the new projects involving the Jabara Award winners who were Academy graduates and those who were Distinguished Graduates. Finally, Col. Jim Gaston updated the effort to put *The Genesis of Flight* online. He showed several chapters to the Board and summarized areas yet to be completed. The Board thanked him for his dedication and hard work on this project.

The President then proceeded to old business. The first order was the reelection of members of the Board whose term expires in 2013 (Lorrie Bennett, Col. Andrew Biancur, Peggy Litwhiler, Duane Reed, and Sue Stone Woodward). All were reelected unanimously.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm sure that most of you join me in being proud of the contributions that The Friends has made to the McDermott Library over the past twenty-five years. During that time, The Friends has evolved to become one of the principal non-profit organizations dedicated to ensuring that the Air Force Academy continues to be one of the top institutions of higher learning in the United States. Over those years we have emerged as the primary custodian of Academy heritage by funding such activities as the 50th Anniversary oral history project, producing DVD's on the first fifty years of the Academy's development and on the falconry program, commissioning the writing and publication of the acclaimed biography of Lt. Gen. Hubert R. Harmon, and facilitating the acquisition, deposit, and cataloging of many collections of personal papers from important individuals in the founding and development of the Academy. Vital also in this effort has been sponsoring the collection and web presentation on each graduate listed on the Memorial Wall, the graduate POWs, the Jabara Alumni Award winners, and the Distinguished Graduate Award recipients. Additionally, we have played a major role in helping establish the Library as an internationally recognized depository for significant collections in Air Force history, such as the Southeast Asia POWs, the Doolittle Raiders, the WASPS, and the RAF Eagle Squadrons. And we have helped ensure the continued expansion and preservation of the world renowned Gimbel Collection. And this list only scratches the surface of our contributions.

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ANNUAL BOARD MEETING AND LUNCHEON *continued from page 1*

The election of officers followed. The Board unanimously approved the slate of Brig. Gen. Philip Caine, President; Brig. Gen. James Head, Vice President; Col. Andrew Biancur, Secretary; and Col. Jock Schwank, Treasurer. Treasurer Schwank gave the financial report for FY 2012. Because of the change in The Friends fiscal year to 1 July thru 30 June, the FY 2013 report was not final. The treasurer also reviewed the joint audit for FY 2011 and 2012. There were no major issues to report.

The first item under new business was the reelection of the Executive Committee: Philip Caine, Jock Schwank, Martin Daack, James Head, Andrew Biancur, and Peggy Litwhiler. (James Titus was reelected to serve until September 1, 2013.) Lt. Gen. Mike Gould and Lt. Col. Gary Howe were nominated and elected unanimously to serve on the Board of Directors. Colonel Schwank opened a discussion of The Friends finances by reporting that the transfer of The Friends funds

from the Association of Graduates to the Academy Endowment was complete. He also reported on the current status of the budget and expenses for FY 2013, and presented a proposed budget for FY 2014, which was unanimously approved. Brig. Gen. Royer voiced his concern that in order to continue our present level of services and projects it would be necessary for The Friends to initiate a more effective fundraising program as well as identify a theme or goal for such an effort. The Board agreed that the Executive Committee should address this issue and keep it informed of progress and significant developments. General Steve Lorenz, President of The Academy Endowment, made a brief presentation on the Endowment and how it can help The Friends in future fundraising efforts. Following the discussion of The Friends finances, President Caine reviewed The Friends projects for 2013-2014. Dr. Aaron Byerly, representing the Dean of Faculty, Lt. Col. Gary Howe, Vice President of the Association

of Graduates, and Dr. Ed Scott, Director of Academy Libraries, each briefly summarized issues and actions in their respective areas that might impact The Friends. Dr. Byerly's remarks included a presentation on the "Library of the Future" project. The meeting then adjourned for the Annual Luncheon.

Our luncheon speaker was Col. Martin France, Permanent Professor and Head of the Academy Department of Astronautics. He gave a fascinating summary of the many cadet programs that involve space, elaborating on cadet satellite conception and construction, and satellites presently in orbit that are used every day by the cadets. President Caine presented Colonel France a copy of *The Genesis of Flight* as a memento of his presentation. The next meeting of the Board of Directors and Annual Luncheon will be in May 2014. Watch for further information early this Spring.

NEW FRIENDS BOARD MEMBERS 2013

At The Friends annual Board of Directors meeting in May 2013, the Board unanimously appointed three new members: Lt. Gen. (Ret) Mike Gould, Col. (Ret) Martin Daack, and Lt. Col. (Ret) Gary Howe.

Mike Gould graduated with the Class of 1976 after attending the Academy Prep School. After a long and distinguished career spanning a wide spectrum of positions at all levels in the Air Force, he retired as the Superintendent of the Academy in 2013. With his knowledge and skills, he will be a great asset to the Board as we expand the services we offer the Academy.

Marty Daack, Class of 1966, retired from the Air Force as the Vice Commandant of Cadets. He then took a position with Senior Staff Consulting Services at MCI. He also worked as account manager with Compuware Corporation and with USAA prior to entering full retirement. He has remained active

in the Association of Graduates and in the Academy's Athletic Department. In addition to serving on the Board, Marty will also join The Friends Executive Committee.

Gary Howe comes to The Friends from more than seventeen years' service with the Association of Graduates where he currently is Executive Vice President. A member of the Class of 1969, Gary retired from the Air Force in 1993 and served briefly as the Executive Director, Pikes Peak Foundation of Mental Health before joining the AOG. He brings a wealth of knowledge and understanding of the various sister organizations supporting the Academy.

We are extremely fortunate to have these talented leaders join the Board. Their experience and expertise will enhance The Friends ability to provide continuing beneficial service to the Library and to the Academy

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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All of this has been expensive and, over the years, we have invested over half- a- million dollars in these activities. As you will notice in this letter, The Friends has finalized the transfer of its operating funds from the Association of Graduates to the Academy Endowment. One of the reasons for this has been to put the organization in a better position to raise the funds required to continue to serve the Academy in the same varied and dynamic way as we move into the future. In the months to come, The Friends will be working closely with the Academy Endowment to formulate a reasonable and workable fundraising plan that will ensure the viability of our essential programs in the years to come.

As always, thank you for your generous contributions to The Friends and our vital work in support of our Air Force Academy and its cadets.

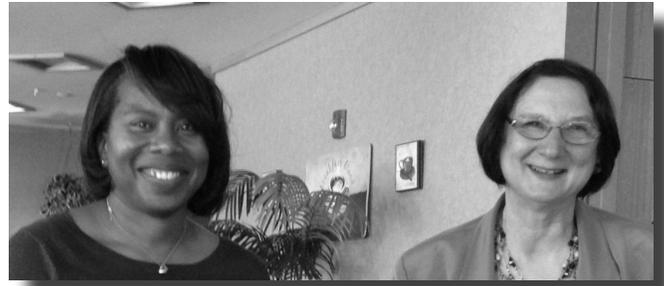
CLARK-YUDKIN FELLOWS PURSUE A WIDE VARIETY OF RESEARCH TOPICS

Clark-Yudkin Research Fellows are selected annually in order to promote serious scholarship and to increase awareness of the Air Force Academy Library's rich and varied holdings in the Clark Special Collections Branch. The Friends awarded fellowships to three scholars during academic year 2012-2013. The recipients visited the Academy at different points over the past summer and each has since reported on their research accomplishments.

Dr. Catherine L. Newell, who holds a dual appointment as a lecturer in the Department of Religious Studies and the Department of English at the University of Miami, examined a variety of primary sources in the Gimbel Collection on "early dreams of flight." Dr. Newell plans to use her research findings to support a larger study of how dreams of flight--space flight, in particular--were incorporated into American culture during the nineteenth century. Reflecting on her experience here, Dr. Newell commented, "...my week at the Air Force Academy Library gave me many, many new avenues... to research concepts of space exploration through the last several centuries."

Pursuing a markedly different research agenda, Dr. Sharon D. Raynor, an associate professor of English at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina, surveyed oral history interviews and related sources that focus on African-American graduates, particularly those who were members of Vietnam War-era classes. Dr. Raynor remarked that her research resulted in a number of "fascinating discoveries," some of which will be incorporated in *Recollecting Vietnam*, a soon-to-be-published multi-disciplinary collection of essays on the American experience in Vietnam. Others of Dr. Raynor's findings will appear in another book, *Mapping Generations of Traumatic Memory in American Narratives*, and in a planned article, "Boots on the Ground: Socio-Economic and Racial Justice during the Vietnam War."

Patrick J. Charles, an Air Force historian assigned to the 352d Special Operations Group at RAF Mildenhall, originally intended to investigate the conceptual origins of the Air Commandos, a World War II-era special operations organization that was created in 1943 for service in the China-Burma-India Theater. But his research took a new direction when Dr. Mary Elizabeth Ruwell,



Clark-Yudkin Fellow Sharon Raynor (left), with Mary Elizabeth Ruwell

Chief of the Clark Special Collections Branch, brought to Mr. Charles's attention the papers of Maj. (Dr.) Cortez Enloe, a U.S. Army Air Forces flight surgeon who served with the 1st Air Commando Group (1 ACG). Among the Enloe papers is a detailed personal account of "Operation Thursday," the code name for a 1944 operation in which the 1 ACG supported British ground forces located deep behind enemy lines in North Burma. Describing this heretofore untapped primary source as one of "immense significance" to historians of airpower and irregular warfare, Mr. Charles now plans to publish an annotated version of Enloe's memoir as the centerpiece of a book on the Air Commandos and their execution of "Operation Thursday," which was second only to "Operation Overlord" (the invasion of Normandy) as the largest airborne invasion of World War II.

Taken together, perhaps what is most striking about these three research projects is their subject matter diversity. That our Clark-Yudkin Fellows could successfully pursue serious research on three studies so dissimilar in content testifies to the remarkable breadth of the scholarly material available in the Clark Special Collections Branch. Accordingly, we are happy to report that our Clark-Yudkin fellowships are indeed serving to promote greater awareness of these rich and varied collections among civilian and military researchers.



Clark-Yudkin Fellow Catherine Newell, (bottom center), with Executive Committee Members (top left) Marty Daack, Andi Biancur, Jim Titus, (bottom left) Mary Elizabeth Ruwell and Phil Caine.



REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE AIR FORCE ACADEMY'S MCDERMOTT LIBRARY, DR. EDWARD A. SCOTT:

This year has probably been the most challenging in the 18-year tenure of the Library's current director. The Library's budget was reduced 27 percent (\$500,000), resulting in sharp cuts in book purchases and in journal and database subscriptions. Where journals were available for a lower cost electronically, those titles were moved to electronic-only subscriptions. Personnel furloughs took place over the summer and the Library remains closed on Saturdays until sequestration can be resolved. Unfortunately for FY 2014, additional budget cuts are anticipated, and existing personnel vacancies will continue to go unfilled. Meanwhile, the Library's materials security system needs upgrading (a minimum \$500,000 project), and study space needs enhancing with greater group study and electronic capabilities. An additional impact of the budget's reduction has been that plans for the "Library of the Future" project have been shelved for the foreseeable future.

As it has for so many years, The Friends of the Academy Library has stepped in to make up shortfalls and enhance the preservation of Academy and Air Force heritage. Thus, The Friends has continued its solicitation of gifts-in-kind for the Library that include rare books, artwork, memorabilia, films, and electronic media focused on aeronautical, space, and airpower themes. It has also continued to provide funds to reimburse shipping costs of major donations, an especially important contribution in light of this year's reduced budget.

Thanks also to The Friends; the Library is making great advances in its digital outreach. In 2012, the Library moved its catalog to a "cloud" server which enabled it to post images and manuscript holdings on its website. Additionally, The Friends funded two positions in the Library's Special Collections Branch: Melissa Robohn, MLIS, (former librarian at Vandenberg AFB) works with Library staff to post diaries, reports, photographs, and other primary-source documents on the Internet. Additionally, she is cataloguing the rare books transferred from the Hanscom AFB Research Laboratory and the technical library at Kirtland AFB. Her predecessor, Jennifer Murphy, MLIS, left in January for a permanent position in Denver. Travis Pollok, a recent University of Colorado, Colorado Springs history graduate, works on posting manuscript holdings on the Library's website, particularly the records of Stalag Luft III. Please log on to <http://afac.sdp.sirsi.net> to see the Special Collections holdings now available, including Gimbel prints and publications, Reade Tilley's Eagle Squadron diary, and the original photographs of the Wright Brothers from the Black collection. (The McDermott Library has the most complete set of Wright Brothers' photographs in the world.) Many of these collections are also posted on The Friends website. For example, to see Fred Hill's color photographs taken in the Pacific during World War II, go to: www.friends.usafalibrary.com.

Also on The Friends website (and currently linked to the McDermott Library website) are the interactive electronic databases containing information on the graduates listed on the Graduate Memorial Wall and those listed as Graduate Prisoners of War (both were volunteer projects by members of The Friends Executive Committee.) These databases contribute to the preservation of Academy heritage, and are useful for research inquiries as well. The Friends is now producing similar products for Jabara Alumni Award winners and the Distinguished Graduate Award. The material produced by the four projects will soon be readily available through the McDermott Library, The Friends, and the Academy's Association of Graduates.

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