



NEWSLETTER

The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library

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THE McDERMOTT LIBRARY

On 1 May 2003, the Academy Library was named in honor of Brig. Gen. Robert F. McDermott. Speaking at the dedication ceremonies were Brig. Gen. David A. Wagie, Dean of the Faculty, and Dr. Edward A. Scott, Director of the "McDermott Library." Born in Boston, General McDermott was educated at Boston Latin School and Norwich University before entering West Point from which he graduated in January 1943. He earned his M.B.A. at Harvard University in 1950 and has been awarded an honorary LL.D. by St. Louis University.

As a command pilot, General McDermott flew 61 combat missions and was Operations Officer, 474th Fighter-Bomber Group. He earned the Bronze Star, Air Medal (5 OLC), European Theater of Operations Ribbon (six battle stars), Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, and Commendation Medal. After the war, he served on General Eisenhower's staff in Europe and in the Pentagon.

He then spent 4 years at West Point as an Assistant Professor of Social Sciences. In 1954 he came to the United States Air Force Academy as the Professor of Economics and Vice Dean of the Faculty. General McDermott was appointed Dean of the Faculty and subsequently named a Permanent Professor. In 1959 he was appointed permanent Dean and promoted to brigadier general.

General McDermott was the Dean for the first 10 classes. He introduced the enrichment program which was the most revolutionary innovation in service academy education in modern times. It challenged each cadet to advance academically as far and as fast as he could in accordance with his aptitudes, interests,



Brig. Gen. David Wagie, Dean of the Faculty, congratulates Brig. Gen. Robert McDermott, USAF, (Ret).

and prior preparation. The program led to the adoption of academic majors beginning with the class of 1966. Under his direction, the number of majors increased to 28.

Additionally, during his tenure as Dean, General McDermott developed the "whole man" selection system for admission to the Academy. It gives recognition to the candidates' moral, physical, and leadership attributes as well as academic potential and achievements. He also initiated the cooperative masters program with participating civilian institutions.

General McDermott's leadership resulted in the Academy receiving accreditation before the first class graduated - the only such case in the history of American higher education. Many of his innovations were adopted by the other academies. Harvard Professor Samuel P. Huntington, a national scholar of the military profession, was the first of many to call him the "Father of Modern Military Education." Taken together, General McDermott's achievements established the foundations for the Academy's academic excellence today.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Friends are pleased with the acquisition of the papers of Maj. Gen. I.B. Holley, USAFR, (Ret). As noted in this newsletter, General Holley is in the first rank of military historians; his research collection is an extremely valuable resource. We are delighted to include it in the Library's Clark Special Collections Branch.

Recently we have worked on the coming 50th Anniversary of the Air Force Academy. It will be celebrated between 1 April 2004 and 3 June 2009, the 50th anniversary dates of the signing of the Academy Bill by President Eisenhower and the graduation of the Academy's first class.

Our primary contribution will be a DVD documenting the first 50 years. The project has been generously funded by the Association of Graduates. In addition, The Friends will publish a limited edition book that will be a compendium of the 38 oral history interviews accomplished by Col. James Gaston's Word One, Inc.

The Friends contributed to the purchase of a quarter-scale model of the 1903 Wright Flyer. It is on display as part of the Library's exhibit on the centennial of powered flight and in support of the symposium, "Winged Crusade: The Quest for American Air & Space Power" sponsored by the

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The ceremony was attended by the McDermott family, including his wife Marnie; his children, Patty, Bob, David, Betsy, Mark and their spouses; a host of friends and associates, including members of the Academy's faculty and staff, The Friends, the Association of Graduates, and the Falcon Foundation.

RESEARCH COLLECTION OF PROFESSOR I. B. HOLLEY, JR. ACQUIRED BY THE FRIENDS



Maj. Gen. I. B. Holley, Jr., USAFR, (Ret)

The papers of Maj. Gen. I. B. Holley, Jr., USAFR, (Ret), were acquired by The Friends for inclusion

within the Clark Special Collections Branch. In 1947, Professor Holley earned his Ph.D. from Yale and began teaching at Duke University where he is presently Emeritus Professor of History. Recognized as one of the foremost scholars of American military doctrine and planning, Professor Holley has been a Visiting Professor at West Point and the National Defense University. His research and writing on the relationship of airpower technology and doctrine earned him the position of Professor Emeritus at the Air War College. Professor Holley has also served as Chairman of the

U.S. Air Force Historical Advisory Committee and as a trustee of the Air Force Historical Foundation. The author of ten books and scores of articles and presentations on the history of airpower, his publications include *Ideas and Weapons*, now in its 4th edition; *Buying Aircraft: Materiel Procurement for the Army Air Forces*; and *An Enduring Challenge: the Problem of Air Force Doctrine*. The collection is a major contribution to the historical resources of the Library, and will be available for research by cadets and scholars.

THE FRIENDS' BOARD MEETING AND ANNUAL LUNCHEON

The Board of Directors of The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library held its annual meeting on 13 May 2003. Brig. Gen. George Fagan, after years of faithful service, tendered his resignation as Treasurer of The Friends and also as a member of the Executive Committee. Col. Jock Schwank graciously agreed to accept George's duties and was elected Treasurer of The Friends. Colonel Schwank was already a member of the Executive Committee. Following the election of officers, reelection of those members of the Board whose term expired in 2003, and election of the Executive Committee, Colonel Schwank gave the financial report. Col. Jim Gaston, President of Word One, Inc., then gave the Board a status report on the 50th Anniversary DVD and showed the working copy to the

Board which praised his outstanding work. Brig. Gen. Lindy Royer then gave a demonstration of The Friends' new web site which is up and running at www.friends.usafalibrary.com. General Royer has done yeoman's work in getting this major advancement for our organization on line and we all owe him a debt of gratitude. Dr. Ed Scott gave the Board a brief summary of issues pertaining to the Library after which Brig. Gen. Phil Caine addressed several matters of new business. The meeting was then adjourned. The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be in May 2004.

The Board meeting was followed by the annual luncheon, which was a huge success. A record number of The Friends heard Dr. Larry Schaad talk about the Academy falconry program and celebrated the publication of

General Clark's book titled *Falconry at the United States Air Force Academy*. Among those attending were Col. Hal Webster, who was responsible for the falcon becoming the Academy mascot; Mr. Tony Huston, a noted authority on falconry; Mr. Bob Baron, his wife Charlotte, and Ms. Patty Maher of Fulcrum Press who published General Clark's book. Brig. Gen. George Fagan was also honored for his years of service to The Friends. We hope that next year's luncheon will have equally good attendance.



Retired Air Force Brig. Gen. George Fagan was recently recognized for his many years of service to The Friends. Fagan, a founding member of The Friends, was the Treasurer and a member of the Executive Committee.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Department of History and held on 1-3 October.

The Friends are working with Word One, Inc. to acquire an important collection of documents, photographs, and videos relating to escape and evasion by airmen shot down in France, Belgium, and Holland during World War II. This extremely important project was funded by Mr. Ralph Patton, former president of the American Escape and Evasion Society. His papers will be a major source for an "Escape and Evasion" DVD produced for the Academy by Word One, Inc.

As one can see, there is never a dull moment with The Friends.

General Clark

COMMEMORATING THE CENTENNIAL OF POWERED FLIGHT



The quarter-scale model of the 1903 Wright Flyer on display for cadets, faculty, and staff.

The Friends assisted the McDermott Library in funding an extensive exhibit on the history of the Wright brothers and the invention of the airplane. It was developed from a collection of 150 photographs of the Wright brothers' experiments donated to the Library by Mr. Fred L. Black. During the 1930s Mr. Black was the Director of the Henry Ford Museum, Dearborn, Michigan. He worked extensively with Orville Wright during the move of the Wright family home and bicycle work shop from Dayton, Ohio and re-assembly in the "Greenwood Village" at the Ford Museum. Orville loaned Mr. Black a series of the original negatives of the only photographic record of both the glider flights and the first powered flights. In 1970, Mr. Black donated a set of the photographs to the Academy. The exhibit includes a selection of the photographs annotated with excerpts from the Wright brothers' letters, diaries, and lectures. In addition to funding a descriptive brochure for the exhibit, The Friends provided partial funding to purchase a quarter-scale model of the 1903 Wright Flyer. The quarter scale model, on display with the exhibit, is a replica of the Wright Flyer that was the world's first power-driven, heavier-than-air machine in which man made free, controlled, and sustained flight. At the conclusion of the exhibit, the model will be permanently displayed within the McDermott Library in commemoration of the centennial of powered flight, 1903-2003.

FALCONRY at the UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY "Unveiled" at The Friends' Annual Luncheon

An exciting book on the history of the Academy's falconry program was made available for purchase at The Friends' annual luncheon. To mark the event, the luncheon's guest speaker, Col. Lawrence E. Schaad, USAF, (Ret), who served as Director of the Academy's falconry program from 1981 through 1995, provided insights into the program's organization and operation.

In 1955, when cadets chose the falcon to be their mascot, they broke new ground in the history of college and university mascots. The falcon was the first collegiate mascot to perform at sports events, free and untethered. These beautiful, alert, and fierce-looking birds of prey, flying free in demonstrations or perched calmly on the fists of their cadet handlers, seem to epitomize the mission and spirit of the Air Force and its Academy.

Since its inception, the falconry program has generated many inquiries and has intrigued countless visitors to the Academy. *Falconry at the United States Air Force Academy* tells how the Academy's unique falconry program came to exist and describes the imaginative and innovative work that has produced this exciting application of the ancient sport of falconry. At the Academy, falcons are trained to fly free over stadiums filled with thousands of



General Clark presents a copy of his book on falconry to Colonel Schaad.

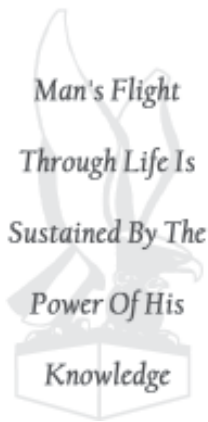
people and perform thrilling aerial maneuvers – stoops and dives in recognizable simulation of the more spectacular aspects of the mission of the United States Air Force.

The Academy's falconry program is one-of-a-kind in that upper-class cadets introduce new cadets to the program and inspire them to devote most of their spare time during their four years at the Academy to the care, training, display, and performance of these magnificent birds. This strong commitment and peer system has earned the program the status of a leadership laboratory.

During the more than forty years of the Academy program's development, the art of falconry and the meticulous aspects of the handling to these birds – their breeding and feeding, their care and training – have been significantly

advanced. Of equal importance, the cooperative way that the new knowledge and techniques have been shared with numerous local and national falconry organizations has gained recognition for the Air Force Academy and the respect of experts in the field.

Authored by Lt. Gen. A.P. Clark, USAF, (Ret) and sponsored by The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library and the Association of Graduates, *Falconry at the United States Air Force Academy* has been co-published with Fulcrum Publishing of Golden, Colorado. The book is available for purchase from the Association of Graduates, at the Academy Visitors Center, and at leading bookstores.



DISTRIBUTION OF "THE GENESIS OF FLIGHT" CD

In 2000, an accompanying CD to *The Genesis of Flight: The Aeronautical History Collection of Col. Richard Gimbel*, was provided by The Friends to the Department of History for distribution to cadets enrolled in the department's core course, Military History 202. The CD provides each Academy class with the opportunity to study the rich holdings of the Gimbel Collection. In a recent letter to The Friends, Colonel Mark Wells, Permanent Professor and Head of the Department of History, stated, "On behalf of the Department of History, I thank The Friends of the Library for your continuing support of our efforts to teach cadets their heritage as future officers of the US Air Force. 'The Genesis of Flight CD,' which the Friends of the Library made available again this year, has gone to approximately 950 cadets in the Fall and Spring 2003 offerings of History 202, Introduction to Military History. Each new crop of students is unfailingly intrigued at the



story of how humanity has attempted to conquer the air, and the extraordinarily rich holdings in the Gimbel Collection." In September, an additional 1,000 copies of the CD were provided to the Department of History for distribution to cadets during the Fall 2003 and Spring 2004 semesters. Through the financial support of its membership The Friends are able to continue this important service.

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"EXPECT GREAT THINGS": THE FRIENDS' FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY VIDEO

The Friends' ninety-minute video history of the Academy is on schedule for release during the Fiftieth Anniversary celebration beginning next year, culminating a two-year project sponsored by The Friends and funded by the Association of Graduates. In September, The Friends' Executive Board approved a full-length prototype of the video. Only two more interviews, final editing, and packaging remain before completion.

The video includes interviews with key officials who helped create the Academy and guide it through some of its most challenging moments, and with graduates whose careers were shaped by their Academy experiences.

GENERAL LEE DIES

General Robert M. Lee, USAF (Ret), died on 29 June 2003. General Lee was a strong supporter of The Friends since its inception and served as an Honorary Director.

General Lee graduated from West Point in 1931. On active duty he was an aide-de-camp, flew the mail, participated in four major campaigns with the 9th Air Force, served in Korea, and retired after serving as Air Deputy to the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe.

General Lee was a distinguished airman, exceptional commander, and a devoted husband and father. An Honor Certificate to commemorate his service to his country has been established by The Friends on behalf of his wife Mary, family, many friends, and associates.

It shows how the words of Gen. Nathan F. Twining, Air Force Chief of Staff, at the Academy's 1955 dedication, "Expect great things," have echoed through the Academy's first fifty years, urging cadets toward great responsibilities, great sacrifices, and great achievements.

Plans call for release of the video on 1 April 2004 to coincide with the fiftieth anniversary of President Eisenhower's signing of the Air Force Academy Bill. The video will then be available on DVD. Check the next issue of the Newsletter for details about the presentation and release of the video.

THE FRIENDS' WEB SITE IS UP AND RUNNING

Visit us online and see the latest on
The Friends and the Academy Library.

www.friends.usafalibrary.com