

NEWSLETTER

The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library
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THE FRIENDS' ANNUAL BOARD MEETING AND LUNCHEON

The Board of Directors of The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library held its annual meeting on May 11, 2010. It was a sad occasion since it was the first at which General Clark was not present. Our acting President, Phil Caine, opened the meeting with a moment of silence not only for General Clark, but also for our former Vice President Henry Kortemeyer who passed away in May 2009, and Lucinda Reed, the wife of Duane Reed, who passed away in April 2010.

After this short pause to remember our friends, General Caine briefly reviewed the activities of The Friends during the past year. He first commented on the key role played by The Friends in preserving the Academy's heritage, emphasizing the impact of the organization's oral history program, the significance of the now completed Graduate Memorial Wall project headed by Colonel Schwank, and the publication of the Harmon biography, which has received very positive reviews. He also noted that the transcription of the interviews with members of the historic Eagle Squadrons of World War II and with the commanders of the USAFA Prep School has been completed. General Caine next reviewed the contributions made by our independent contractor, Karen Millis, to the Special Collections Branch where she has been working on materials deposited in the Library through the efforts of The Friends.

The Board then took up old business. The first order was the re-election of members of the Board whose terms expire in 2010 (Mrs.

John Bennett, Mr. Duane Reed, and Ms. Sue Stone Woodward). The election of officers followed. The slate of Brig. Gen. Philip D. Caine, President; Lt. Col. James R.W. Titus, Vice President; Lt. Col. Dona Hildebrand, Secretary; and Col. Jock C. H. Schwank, Treasurer, received unanimous approval. Following Treasurer Schwank's detailed and comprehensive report, the 2010 budget was also approved.

The Board next considered new business. It voted unanimously to eliminate the position of 2nd Vice President. It also accepted the resignations of Mr. Willis Ketterson, Mr. Hal Littrell, and Col. Elliott Converse, III, and elected all three to Honorary Board member status. It then elected four new Board members (Col. Andrew Biancur, Brig. Gen. James Head, Mrs. Peggy Litwhiler, and Col. Phillip Meilinger), as well as the members of the Executive Committee (Brig. Gen. Philip Caine, Lt. Col. James Titus, Lt. Col. Dona Hildebrand, Col. Jock Schwank, Col. Andrew Biancur, Col. James Gaston, and Mr. Duane Reed). Finally, the Board approved a change in the by-laws to provide for voting by electronic means.

After the Board had completed its old and new business, President Caine summarized the proposed Friends' projects for 2010/2011. He pointed out that these efforts would be affected by Word One's decision to terminate its oral history work with The Friends. Board member Jim Gaston, the CEO of Word One, is curtailing the scope of Word One's activities because his son,

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is indeed an honor for me to assume the position of President of The Friends; only the third President we have had in over twenty years. While I was fortunate to know both General Moorman and General Clark quite well during my nearly two decades on The Friends' Board of Directors, it was General Clark who had the greatest impact on me. He was my friend, my military role model, and my mentor in many ways that reached far beyond The Friends. I was also fortunate to talk with him at length during the months before he passed away about The Friends, the challenges we face, and the opportunities the future holds for our organization. I am firmly convinced that one of the characteristics of a great leader is to prepare those who will lead after you are gone. Certainly General Clark did that with both the entire Friends' organization and with me.

So now to the business at hand. The Friends has undergone a number of changes in the past few months. Four of our longtime Board members are gone. Henry Kortemeyer has passed away, while Will Ketterson, Hal Littrell, and Elliott Converse have decided to leave the Board for various reasons. Each played a critical role in the success of the organization over the past many years and they will be sorely missed. Their places have been taken by four very qualified and impressive individuals: Brig. Gen. Jim Head, Col. Andi Biancur, Col. Phil Meilinger, and Mrs. Peggy Litwhiler. You will find a brief biographical sketch of each in

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Matt, who was in charge of video production, equipment operation, and related activities has decided to pursue another career. Word One's association with The Friends will be sorely missed. Its work on the oral history program during the past ten years has set the standard by which future oral history programs will be judged.

Following General Caine's remarks, Lt. Col. Gary Howe, Vice President of the Association of Graduates, then briefed the Board on current activities and

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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this newsletter and I know you will agree with me that they all are superb additions to our Board. We also have new officers, all of whom are long-time members of The Friends' Board and very well qualified for their new positions. There is a short bio of each in this newsletter.

The future of The Friends is bright. Some of our focus for the past few years is changing with the termination of our very successful and precedent-setting oral/visual history program. But we see other opportunities on the horizon to take that program's place. For example, we are giving more direct support to the Library in the area of organizing and filing materials that The Friends have acquired and given to the Library. We are also exploring ways to resume our very successful lecture series that was terminated after 9/11. And there are other ideas floating around. I urge each of you to become a part of charting our future. Please let me, or any of the other Board members know if you have ideas for The Friends. I also urge you to continue your generous financial support. It is only through your help that we can continue to have such a positive impact on the Academy. You can have confidence that the new leadership of The Friends will continue to remain true to the fundamental mission laid out by our founders.

challenges that face the AOG. Col. John Andrew, the Vice Dean of the Faculty, spoke briefly about key faculty issues, and Dr. Ed Scott, Director of Academy Libraries, summarized some problems being dealt with by the Library that impact The Friends. The meeting then adjourned for the Annual Luncheon.

The focus of this year's luncheon was on honoring our President and Founding Member, the late Lt. Gen. A. P. Clark. Among the key Academy personnel in attendance were the Superintendent, Lt. Gen. Mike Gould, and his wife Paula; the Commandant of Cadets, Brig. Gen. Sam Cox, and his wife Tammy; and the Dean of the Faculty, Brig. Gen. Dana Born, and her husband Tim. A number of other distinguished guests were also present to pay tribute to General Clark. President Caine opened the proceedings with

a moment of silence to remember General Clark, former Vice President Henry Kortemeyer, and Mrs. Lucinda Reed. He then made a very thoughtful tribute to General Clark.

The guest speaker for this year's luncheon was the Superintendent, Lt. Gen. Mike Gould, who gave a very interesting and comprehensive overview of activities at the Academy, the challenges faced by the institution, and a summary of what the future is likely to hold. President Caine presented the Superintendent with a copy of *The Genesis of Flight* as well as General Clark's books, *33 Months as a POW in Stalag Luft III* and *Falconry at the Air Force Academy*.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors and Annual Luncheon will be in May 2011. Watch for the date and program in the Spring 2011 Newsletter.

FRIENDS' ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM REACHES CONCLUSION

Since 2002, The Friends have sponsored an ambitious program of in-depth interviews to capture on digital videotape the views of key participants in the formative years of the Academy. That program is now concluding with a collection of thirty-five detailed oral histories available to cadets and Academy faculty and staff in hard cover books and on DVD.

Participants have included eight Superintendents, five Deans of Faculty, five Commandants, a Director of Athletics, the first Commander of the Academy Prep School, the architect who designed the Academy, and key staff members from each of the Academy's mission areas.

Among the many priceless insights of this collection, Brig. Gen. Robert McDermott describes the origins of the academic program, Lt. Gen. Robert Warren tells how he dealt with the first major honor incident, Lt. Gen. A. P. Clark tells how he handled threats to the Academy during the Vietnam War, Gen. Ted Seith gives his rationale for moving

much of basic cadet training to Jacks Valley, Col. Lee Black tells why and how he opened the Prep School, and Walter Netsch tells how, as a thirty-four year-old architect, he envisioned the Academy.

Since giving their interviews, McDermott, Warren, Clark, Seith, Black, and Netsch have passed away. But their insights and wisdom will never be lost, thanks to the foresight and strong support of The Friends.

As we conclude this program, our thanks and best wishes go to the staff of the Library, especially those in Clark Special Collections—Duane Reed, Mary Elizabeth Ruwell, John Beardsley, and Trudy Pollok—without whose tireless work the research for this program would not have been possible. Thanks also to Jim Gaston, our interviewer, and to Matt Gaston, our videographer, who single-handedly arranged lighting, sound, and recording of the interviews, as well as transfer, programming, and production of the DVDs. Matt is now beginning a career in medicine—we salute you, Matt, and wish you Godspeed.

NEW OFFICERS OF THE FRIENDS

Since all the officers of The Friends, except the Treasurer, have changed since our last Newsletter, here is a brief biography of each.

President. Brig. Gen. Philip D. Caine, USAF (Ret.), served thirty-seven years on active duty. He flew about 5,000 hours as a pilot in various aircraft, was a Professor and Acting Head of the Academy History Department, served on the faculty of the National War College, and ended his career as the first Permanent Professor under the Commandant of Cadets as Deputy Commandant for Military Instruction. He retired in 1992 and that same year became a member of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of The Friends. When Lt. Gen. A.P. Clark became The Friends' President, General Caine took the position of Secretary, which he held until

his recent election as President.

Vice President. Lt. Col. Jim Titus, USAF (Ret.), is beginning his twenty-seventh year of service at the Academy. A former member of the History Department, he later held several leadership positions in the Deputate for Military Instruction (CWI). He currently serves as a civilian faculty member in the Department of Military & Strategic Studies. Jim has served on The Friends' Board of Directors since 2002 and has been a member of the Executive Committee since 2008.

Secretary. Lt. Col. Dona Hildebrand, USAF (Ret.), is a graduate of the University of Colorado and George Washington University. She was commissioned through OCS and served in administrative and personnel positions with the 1020th Special Activities Wing, 66 Tac Recon

Wing, Hq 5th AF, Hq 7th AF, and Hq USAFE. Colonel Hildebrand has served on The Friends' Executive Committee for a number of years.

Treasurer. Col. Jock C. H. Schwank, USAF (Ret.), graduated from the Academy in 1960 and was a C-130 pilot and an HH-53 pilot. He earned his master's and doctorate from the University of Oregon and served a number of years on the Academy faculty in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership. He culminated his career as the Commander, USAFA Prep School. He subsequently was the Vice President, Services, for the Association of Graduates and served as the AOG advisor to The Friends. Upon retirement from the AOG he was elected to The Friends' Board and Executive Committee in 2001 and became our Treasurer in 2003.

NEW DIRECTORS OF THE FRIENDS

Brigadier General James H. Head

James H. Head retired from the Air Force on March 1, 2006, as a brigadier general after nearly thirty-eight years of service. In 1964, he graduated from the University of Kansas with a B.S. in Engineering Physics, and, in 1968, with a Ph.D. in Physics. His last active duty position was as the Academy's Vice Dean of the Faculty. His career also included assignments as an Instructor of Physics at the Academy; as a European Area Specialist on the Air Staff in the Pentagon; as an intelligence analyst at the Foreign Technology Division, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio; and as Chief, Applied Technology Division, the Air Force Weapons Laboratory, Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico. In 1987, Jim became Permanent Professor and Head of the Academy's Department of Physics. He twice served as the Vice Dean, from 1994 to 1996, and from 2004 to 2006. Since retirement, he has devoted much of his time to his principal hobby, genealogy, researching family history for friends

and relatives. Additionally, Jim serves as the president of the Friends of Air Force Basketball, a non-profit booster group working with coaches and administrators in a variety of efforts supporting Air Force Academy basketball.

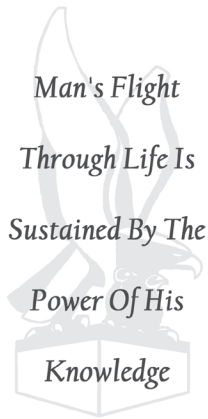
Colonel Andrew W. Biancur

The son of a WWII Army Air Forces' test pilot, Andi Biancur attended the Air Force Academy, graduated with the Class of 1960, completed a twenty-six-year career in the Air Force, retiring with the rank of colonel. According to the Academy's historian, he was the first graduate to "fire a shot in anger," in an A-26 on May 3, 1963 on his first combat mission, while assigned to the 1st Air Commandos. Among his other assignments were a tour with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, as Vice Wing Commander of a SAC bomb wing, and as Director of Training at Air Mobility Command. During his career, Andi logged over 6,600 hours in several type aircraft, mostly multi-engine. He holds advanced degrees in Aeronautical Engineering from the University of Oklahoma,

in Comparative Government from Webster University, and in International Law/International Relations from Yale University. After retiring from the Air Force, Andi was a program manager for several Air Force acquisition programs and was involved in the bid, production, and operation of the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City.

Colonel Phillip S. Meilinger

Phillip Meilinger, a 1970 graduate of the Air Force Academy, served thirty-years in the Air Force, retiring as a colonel. During his career, he served as an instructor pilot in Air Training Command and as a C-130 and HC-130 pilot in both Europe and the Pacific. He holds an M.A. from the University of Colorado and a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. His academic assignments included service in the History Department at the Air Force Academy, on the faculty of the Naval War College, and as Dean of the School of Advanced Air Power Studies at the Air University. By the time of his retirement, Phil was widely recognized as the Air



UPDATE FROM THE MCDERMOTT LIBRARY

Dr. Ed Scott, Director of Academy Libraries, and other Academy Library staff will soon be working with an architectural team from Holzman, Moss, Botino Architecture of New York (the designers of the West Point Library) to do a feasibility study for Library renovations, expansion, or a new building. The architectural team is also working with the Academy's "Library of the Future" committee and various user groups, including faculty and cadets. The initial visit is scheduled during the week of October 18th. Brig. Gen. Dana Born, Dean of Faculty, lists the "Library of the Future" as her number one project. The Friends continue to support Karen Millis and UCCS student Travis Pollok who are currently finishing a new finding aid for the collection of Lt. Gen. A. P. Clark.

The Special Collections branch has worked extensively with the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum on their new exhibit, "So Far From Home: The American POW Experience in WWII," which features the experience of Lt. Gen. A. P. Clark as well as several other prisoners of war and recognizes and honors the sacrifices of American military personnel. Lorrie Bennett (wife of deceased former POW Col. John Bennett) and Dr. Donald White, members of The Friends' Board of Directors, also helped with the content of the exhibit which uses many prisoner-of-war materials borrowed from the Academy Library's collections. The exhibit will be at the museum, located at 215 South Tejon Street, until next May. We hope you will have time to visit.

The Friends have supported a documentary project by Col. Jack Anthony, USAF (Ret.), who is currently teaching in the Department of Astronautics. He has produced a DVD about the early history of the land that became the Academy, showing the location of nineteenth-century towns and other landmarks.

Security measures still make it difficult to visit the Library if you do not have DoD identification. If you would like visit, please call Dr. Ed Scott at (719) 333-2590 or Mary Elizabeth Ruwell at (719) 333-4674.

**Visit The Friends at
www.friends.usafalibrary.com**

NEW DIRECTORS OF THE FRIENDS

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Force's leading expert in airpower theory and doctrine. After leaving the service, he was deputy director of the Aerospace Center at Science Applications International Corporation and a senior analyst in Northrop Grumman's Analysis Center. Phil's biography of General Hoyt S. Vandenberg, the Air Force's second chief of staff, was published by Indiana University Press in 1989. In 2009, his biography of General Harmon, *Hubert R. Harmon: Airman, Officer, Father of the Air Force Academy*, was published by Fulcrum Publishing under the auspices of The Friends. In 2010, Colonel Meilinger delivered the Academy's prestigious Harmon Memorial Lecture on General Harmon's life and contributions to the Academy and to the Air Force.

Mrs. Peggy Litwhiler

While attending Florida State University, Peggy became an Air Force wife. Since then, she has devoted over thirty-five years to supporting Air Force and local community activities. Her record of service is long, varied, and distinguished. It includes active participation in military wives' organizations, as a member of several boards dealing with aspects of Academy life, as a volunteer with the Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation and Cultural Activities department, and with several local school districts. She has also spent countless hours in researching and writing grant requests and pursuing other funding sources to support Junior League projects. In recognition of her extraordinary community efforts, Peggy was selected as one of the most influential women in Colorado Springs in 1984. Most significantly for Board of Directors of The Friends, she brings nearly thirty-years experience as a volunteer in the Academy Library's Special Collections branch.

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*Former Superintendent of the Academy