

# NEWSLETTER

## The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library

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### FRIENDS' ANNUAL LUNCHEON

On May 19, 2005, The Friends will hold the annual Board of Directors' meeting and general membership luncheon. As you will recall, we did not have a luncheon last year because we hosted a celebration of the Air Force Academy's 50th anniversary and the release of the DVD *Expect Great Things*. This year we will return to our usual format with a luncheon at the Officers Club. The social hour will begin at 11:00 and we will be seated at 11:30. We are very fortunate to have the new Dean of the Faculty, Brig. Gen. Dana H. Born as our speaker for this occasion.

General Born was named Dean in September 2004 and has an impressive military record. She was a distinguished graduate of the Air Force Academy, Class of 1983. Her subsequent assignments included commander of the 11th Mission Support Squadron at Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, D. C.; aide, speechwriter, and policy analyst for the Secretary of the Air Force; deputy chief of the personnel issues team for the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel; assistant director for recruiting research and analysis for the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Management Policy; exchange officer with the Royal Australian Air Force; and most recently, Permanent Professor and Head of the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership at the Air Force Academy. General Born has a master of science degree from Trinity University, a master of arts degree from the University of Melbourne, and a Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University. She is also a graduate of Squadron Officer School, the Air Command and Staff College, and the Air War College. She has exciting ideas about the future of



Brig. Gen. Dana H. Born

the Academy and the academic program. We are looking forward to her remarks.

As an added feature following this year's luncheon, Lt. Gen. A. P. Clark will be signing copies of his new book, *33 Months as a POW in Stalag Luft III*. It is the first-hand story of his years in a German prisoner-of-war camp during World War II. Many of you will certainly want copies of this exciting book.

Please fill out the enclosed reservation form for the luncheon and return it no later than May 5. We urge all the members of The Friends to attend this important affair.

**Remember to reserve your place(s) for the annual luncheon not later than May 5.**

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Friends have every right to be proud of its accomplishments since our organization was established to enhance the Academy Library as an educational, scientific, and cultural institution in October 1987. In the past 18 years our contributions to the Academy Library and indeed to the Academy as a whole, have grown in number and significance.

Our first major effort was to obtain funding from two Colorado foundations for the conservation of the Gimbel Collection against aging, wear and tear, and acidic damage. We then went on to produce *The Genesis of Flight*, the fine catalogue that describes the collection. Most recently, The Friends produced a captivating DVD entitled *Expect Great Things*. It's the story of the remarkable first fifty years of the Academy. The DVD is not widely known but it deserves national attention. We are working hard to achieve this goal.

We have other challenges ahead; to meet them we need financial support. We ask for your help in this regard, and for your ideas on how we can significantly increase our funding base. Please give us a hand. As always, thanks to all of you who have supported us through the years; we are very grateful.

# THE FRIENDS COMMEMORATE THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ACADEMY

As noted in our summer newsletter, The Friends, in cooperation with the Association of Graduates, officially began the celebration of the Air Force Academy's 50th anniversary with a reception at Doolittle Hall and the initial screening of the DVD, *Expect Great Things* on April 1, 2004. This reception was in lieu of our traditional spring meeting. Funded by the Association of Graduates, the DVD was produced for The Friends by Word One, Inc. It contains film footage obtained from the National Archives that portrays key events in the first fifty years of the Academy's history. It also includes interviews with many of those who were instrumental in building the institution and with graduates who shared their experiences at the Academy.

Following the initial presentation of *Expect Great Things*, we began actively promoting the distribution of the DVD. The Friends are hopeful that the effort will result in a nationally televised presentation of this extraordinary chronicle of the Academy's history. **Order this historical documentary from the DVD's co-sponsor, the Academy Association of Graduates, (719) 472-0300. (\$14.95 plus S&H)**

In 2003, in conjunction with the development of *Expect Great Things*, the Board of Directors of The Friends recognized the need to produce a single volume containing the transcripts of the thirty-seven oral history interviews that were conducted by Word One, Inc., in support of the DVD. Containing both extensive

interviews which cover a wide range of Academy history and shorter thematic interviews which are limited to specific topics, the compendium will be an invaluable source for institutional research.

The members of The Friends' Executive Committee have been involved in every phase of the project and the work is well underway. A book designer and editor have been contracted to prepare the manuscript for printing. The volume will be a privately printed, limited edition of the highest quality that will be deposited in the Clark Special Collections Branch of the McDermott Library and in the library of the Association of Graduates in Doolittle Hall. This important project is scheduled for completion in May 2005.

## PERPETUAL RECOGNITION FROM COMMEMORATIVE DONATIONS

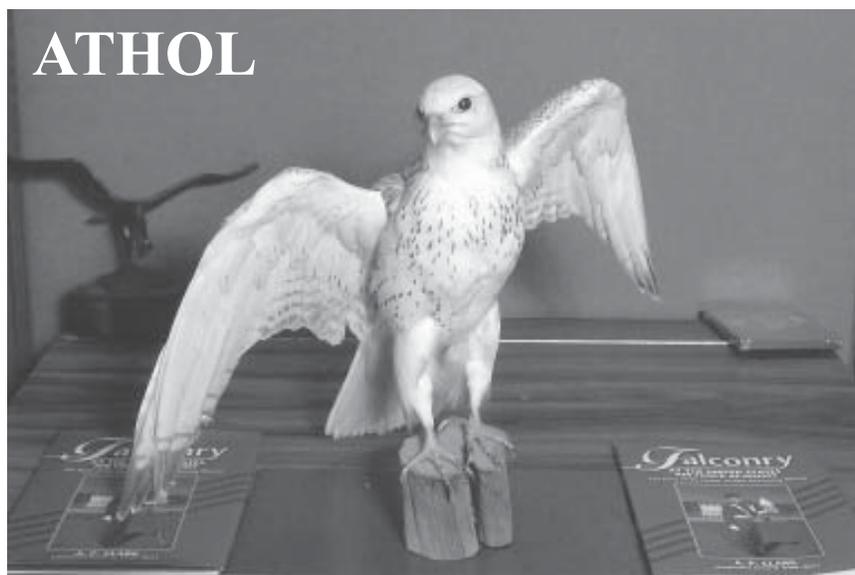
The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library offers an attractive program that has special appeal for those who wish to recognize individuals, organizations, or groups of individuals (e.g., an aircrew) in perpetuity. Honorees need not be military or deceased to be commemorated. To date more than 1,000 individuals, military units, and other organizations have been recognized with an Honor Book Certificate. Honorees include those who have fought the nation's wars and those who have served the country, the Air Force, and the Academy in other ways.

For donations totaling \$50 or more, a handsome Honor Certificate will be placed in The Friends' Honor Book. The book is displayed in a prominent location in the Clark Special Collections Branch of the Air Force Academy Library, and it is readily accessible to cadets and Library visitors. Additional information about Honor Book certificates can be requested on the enclosed membership flyer.

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As cadets and other researchers work at the research tables in the Clark Special Collections room, they are under the watchful eyes of a former mascot. Athol, who died in 1969, is on display. A white-phase gyrfalcon, he was taken from the wild at Point Athol, Greenland, with the permission of the Danish government. For the next nine years Athol was a mascot for the Air Force Academy and participated in memorable falconry demonstrations, especially at football games.

***Athol is on display in the Clark Special Collections Branch.***

With holdings dating from the sixteenth century, the Library's falconry collection is considered to be one of the most significant in the nation. The materials include books, periodical literature, pamphlets, dissertations and theses, government documents, technical reports, special studies, selected art works, novels, and poetry. Included on the Library's web page are extensive links for falconry. In addition, Doug Johnson, Library

Information Systems Manager, maintains a growing bibliography of the Library's collection of falconry materials. Copies of the 1990 bibliography are still available upon request. If you want to go directly to the Library's web page, log in to <http://peregrine.usafa.af.mil>.

Because the Library's falconry holdings are consolidated in Special Collections, it is fitting to have Athol displayed there. In addition, the wonderful book *Falconry at the United States Air Force Academy* is on display. If you are looking for a graduation present, don't forget this as a possible gift.

**FRIENDS' SPONSORED WORKS AVAILABLE**

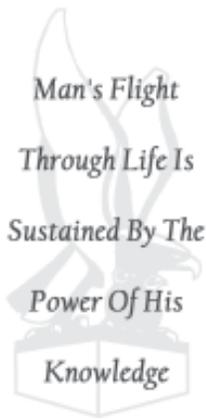
***Falconry at the United States Air Force Academy***

**By A. P. Clark, Lt. Gen., USAF (Ret)**

This book 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 an ancient sport. *Falconry at the United States Air Force Academy* is available in both hardback and paperback editions. **Order this inspiring book about the cadets' unique performing mascot by calling the publisher, Fulcrum Press, (800) 992-2908 or the Academy Association of Graduates, (719) 472-0300.**

***Evade! Evasion Experiences of American Aircrews in World War II***

This one-hour DVD or VHS features the evasion experiences of World War II airmen. It is the culmination of a two-year project undertaken by The Friends with the generous support and cooperation of Mr. Ralph K. Patton, founder and first president of the Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society. **This video can be ordered from the Society's membership and corresponding secretary, Clayton David, 19 Oak Ridge Pond, Hannibal MO, 63401-6539, (573) 221-0441. Email: [davidafe@adams.net](mailto:davidafe@adams.net).**



## UPDATE FROM THE LIBRARY

### Mary Elizabeth Ruwell, Archivist, and Edward A. Scott, Library Director

Rated as the "Number 1 Academic Library" in the nation in the *Princeton Review*, 2003, the McDermott Library continues to provide outstanding service and long hours for cadets and faculty. However, the Library, like most academic libraries, continues to be challenged by the cost of journals severely outstripping available resources. While historically library acquisitions' budgets have increased by approximately 3 percent per year, the cost of journals increases from 10 percent to 12 percent. Consequently, the Library is studying the use of current journal subscriptions with a view to further reductions, even after a 25 percent subscription cut in 1997.

A new, innovative service in the Library is the U. S. Air Force Academy Electronic Archives that provides electronic copies of all lecture series and Special Bibliography series produced by the Academy. These are now available to the wider information community on the Library's web page.

The 1:4 scale replica of the "Wright Flyer," which was purchased by the Library, the History Department, and the AOG, with help from The Friends, for an exhibit on the 100th anniversary of the Wright Brothers' first flight, has been hung from the dome at the top of the spiral staircase. Suspended so as to allow close examination, the "Wright Flyer" enhances the Wright Brothers' mini-exhibit in the sixth-floor lobby.

The Clark Special Collections Branch continues to be busy helping scholars research a wide variety of primary source materials. Since in-person access is difficult, more requests for assistance are coming by letter and via the Internet. The branch has continued to be active in encouraging cadets to understand the value of primary source materials. Capt. Wendy Williams, a History Department instructor, developed an extremely successful assignment using these sources. She asked her History 202 cadets to find an item or manuscript in Special Collections for a short (2-page maximum) report. With over 1,500 sources from which to choose, the topics selected by the cadets ranged from Hap Arnold's diaries to the flyover that broke windows in Mitchell Hall. Introductory history courses still use the CD *Genesis of Flight* with good results.

While tours of the McDermott Library and research by outside scholars are still available, increased security concerns seriously reduce visitor access. Visitors must be escorted at all times while they are in the Library and access to the cadet area without proper identification is prohibited. Thus visitors must make advance arrangements with the Library Director's office to gain access. Typically, groups of five or fewer visitors are escorted either from the Visitors Center, the Officers Club, or the North Gate parking lot to the Library.

The Library has updated its gift policy. If you are interested, please ask for a copy. We are grateful for your continued support.

### A SPECIAL APPEAL

In order to accomplish our goals, The Friends rely on continuous donations from our supporters. Our agenda for the near future is important and will provide much needed long-term enhancements for the Library. To help us carry out our mission, we ask you to increase your financial support.

Please use the enclosed membership form to provide your support.

The Friends is a tax-exempt, charitable foundation and your donation may be tax deductible.

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