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Through Life Is

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Knowledge

# NEWSLETTER

## The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library

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VOL. IV NO. 5

SUMMER 2011

### ANNUAL BOARD MEETING AND LUNCHEON

The Board of Directors of The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library held its annual meeting on May 10, 2011. President Phil Caine opened the meeting and briefly reviewed the activities of The Friends during the past year. He first commented on the continuing key role played by The Friends in preserving Academy heritage by emphasizing the impact of our oral history program, the significance of the now-completed Memorial Wall project headed by Col. Jock Schwank, and the publication of the widely praised Harmon biography. An article in *Checkpoints* magazine (Vol. 40, No. 1) will address the significance of The Friends' contributions to the preservation of Academy heritage.

General Caine noted that the interviews with members of the historic Eagle Squadrons of World War II have been collected in seven volumes and are available in the Library's Special Collections Branch, which now houses the largest collection of Eagle Squadron materials in the world.

President Caine then reviewed the role being played by our contractor, Karen Millis, who is working on materials donated to the Library through the efforts of The Friends. He then followed with a review of the situation with respect to the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between The Friends and the Academy Endowment. Because of the change in leadership of the Endowment, he asked the Board to agree to delaying any MOU until the next Board meeting. Such a motion was made and passed unanimously.

Old business was next on the

Board's agenda. The first order was the re-election of members of the Board whose terms expire in 2011 (Brig. Gen. James Head, Lt. Gen. Bradley Hosmer, Col. Phillip Meilinger, and Dr. James Titus). The election of officers followed. The slate of Brig. Gen. Philip Caine, President; Brig. Gen. James Head, Vice President; Col. Andrew Biancur, Secretary; and Col. Jock Schwank, Treasurer was elected unanimously. Treasurer Schwank then gave the financial report. Following his detailed and comprehensive survey, the Board approved the 2011 budget.

The Board then proceeded to new business. It approved the resignation of Lt. Col. Dona Hildebrand from the Board. A motion to award her to Honorary Director status was unanimous, with the Board expressing appreciation for her more than fourteen years of dedicated service. The Board then elected the Executive Committee: Philip Caine, James Head, Andrew Biancur, Jock Schwank, James Gaston, Peggy Litwhiler, and James Titus. It also recognized the resignation of Duane Reed from the Executive Committee, and passed a resolution thanking him for his more than two decades of service on the Committee. He will remain a member of the Board.

The Board addressed a number of changes in The Friends' policies and procedures, which were approved without dissent. Dr. Jim Titus then presented the proposal to institute a research fellowship to be named the Clark-Yudkin Research Fellowship. It will provide a grant

*cont. on page 2*

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Many of you may have noticed that we have had a number of changes in officers and in Executive Committee and Board members during the past year. The Friends is over 20 years old and most of these changes are due to the passage of time and its impact on any organization. So while some of our long-term members are leaving, we are fortunate to have very qualified and equally dedicated people ready to take their place. Lt. Col. Dona Hildebrand, who has served on the Board and the Executive Committee for over 14 years as well as our Secretary for the past year has resigned from the Board and will be awarded Honorary Director status. She will be replaced on the Executive Committee by Peggy Litwhiler, who is particularly well qualified having volunteered in Special Collections. Executive Committee member, Col. Andi Biancur, (USAFA '60) will serve as Secretary. Mr. Duane Reed, whom we all know and admire, will resign from the Executive Committee after nearly 25 years. Fortunately, he has agreed to remain as a member of the Board. Brig. Gen. Jim Head, former head of the Academy Physics Department and Vice Dean, will replace Duane on the Executive Committee and also serve as our Vice-President, succeeding Dr. Jim Titus, who was forced to leave that position because of increased teaching and administrative duties on the Academy faculty. The Friends remains in good hands. We continue to pursue a vibrant program dedicated to enhancing the value and role of the McDermott Library. In closing, let me thank Duane and Dona for their years of dedicated service and each of you for your support of The Friends, the McDermott Library, and the Air Force Academy. Have a wonderful summer.

## ANNUAL BOARD MEETING AND LUNCHEON *cont. from page 1*

of up to \$15,000 to a qualified scholar, selected by the Executive Committee, to do significant research in materials located in the Academy Library. The Board unanimously approved initiation of the proposed fellowship. President Caine then summarized the projects planned by The Friends for 2011/2012, most notably inauguration of the Clark-Yudkin Fellowship.

Following the completion of new business, Lt. Col. Gary Howe, Vice President of the Association of Graduates, briefed the Board on current activities and challenges that face the AOG; Col. Rich Fullerton, the Vice Dean of the Faculty, discussed important matters concerning the faculty; and Dr. Ed Scott, Director of Academy Libraries, summarized issues facing

the Library that impact The Friends. The meeting then adjourned for the Annual Luncheon.

The focus of this year's luncheon was the Library of the 21st century. To address this topic, we were honored to have the Dean of the Faculty, Brig. General Dana Born, as our speaker. She first gave us a comprehensive summary of the performance of the cadet wing during the past year, and then briefly discussed general issues confronting the Academy. She next turned to proposals for changes to the Academy Library that are directed at making it better able to adapt to changes in student needs. Following the Dean's remarks, President Caine presented her with a copy of *Harmon*, the very well-received biography of the father of the Air Force Academy.

The next meeting of the Board of

Directors and Annual Luncheon will be in May 2012. Watch for the exact date and program in the Spring 2012 Friends' Newsletter.



*General Caine presents General Born with the Harmon book.*

## FRIENDS' BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2011



*(front row, left) Dr. Mary Elizabeth Ruwell, archivist, Dr. Richard Lemp, Mrs. Peggy Litwhiler, Mrs. Lorrie Bennett, Lt. Col. Dona Hildebrand, Col. Gary Howe, AOG advisor; (back row, left) Lt. Col. Jim Titus, Brig. Gen. Jim Head, Col. Richard Fullerton, faculty advisor, Brig. Gen. Philip Caine, Brig. Gen. Erlind Royer, Dr. Donald White, Lt. Gen. Skip Scott, Jr., Col. Jock Schwank, Dr. Ed Scott, Library Director (Not pictured: Col. Andrew Biancur, Col. Jim Gaston, Lt. Gen. Bradley Hosmer, Dr. Phillip Meilinger, Mr. Duane Reed, Ms. Susan Stone Woodward)*

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## THE FRIENDS ESTABLISH THE CLARK-YUDKIN RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

In order to promote increased awareness and use of the Air Force Academy Library's rich and varied research collections, The Friends has established a fellowship that will provide short-term financial grants to visiting scholars pursuing studies in airpower history, aviation literature, and related fields. The fellowship has been named in honor of a founder and long-time president of The Friends, Lt. Gen. Albert P. Clark, and a generous benefactor, Maj. Gen. Richard A. Yudkin.

Grants awarded under the Clark-Yudkin Research Fellowship will be in the range of \$1,000 to \$15,000, and are intended to help defray the cost of travel, housing, and per diem expenses for visiting researchers. Proposals will be judged by the relevance of the research to holdings in the Clark Special Collections Branch of the Library, the merits and significance of the project, and the applicant's scholarly qualifications. Recipients will be expected to complete their fellowship research within one year from the date of the award. The inaugural Clark-

Yudkin Fellowships will be tenable from May 2012 to April 2013. The deadline for applications is March 1, 2012.

Expected output of the Clark-Yudkin Research Fellowship will be a scholarly book, thesis, or a paper worthy of publication in a scholarly journal and possibly a presentation to an audience of Academy cadets, faculty, and staff. The Friends also are requesting a copy of any subsequent publication (article, thesis, or book) that may result. Further, grant recipients will be asked to submit summaries of their research findings for possible inclusion in future editions of The Friends' newsletter.

Announcement of the new Clark-Yudkin Research Fellowship will soon appear in such scholarly periodicals as *The Journal of Military History*, *Air Power History*, and the *Journal of War, Literature, and the Arts: An International Journal of the Humanities*. *Air Power History*, the journal of the Air Force Historical Association, has offered to publicize our new fellowship at no cost to The

Friends. The same generous offer has been extended by the editor of *War, Literature, and the Arts*, which is published by the Academy's Department of English and Fine Arts. The Clark-Yudkin Research Fellowship will also be highlighted in a forthcoming edition of the Air Force History and Museums newsletter.

Finally, we are pleased to note that the Clark-Yudkin Research Fellowship has been the subject of inquiries from several airpower historians well in advance of the official announcement of this new initiative. Those expressing interest include the Director of Field History Programs at Hq Air Force and a senior Air Force historian with an impressive publication record.

To learn more about the Clark-Yudkin Research Fellowship and the grant application process, please visit The Friends' website, [www.friends.usafalibrary.com](http://www.friends.usafalibrary.com) and open the link to "Research Fellowship."

## EAGLE INTERVIEW PROJECT COMPLETED

For the past several years, The Friends has been transcribing interviews of members of the historic Eagle Squadrons. The Eagles were a group of 245 American volunteers who, before the United States entered World War II, joined the Royal Air Force and made up the Squadron Numbers 71, 121, and 133. In early 2009, Brig. Gen. Phil Caine, author of several books on the Eagles, donated his Eagle Squadron Collection to the Academy Library. Included in

this significant donation were over 50 interviews he had conducted with the Eagles between 1987 and 2001. This acquisition, added to the previous donations by Squadron members, constitutes the largest and most complete collection of Eagle Squadron materials in the world.

After General Caine donated his Eagle Squadron Collection, the Library had the interviews bound. The final product is seven volumes totaling over 3,500 pages. These

beautifully bound books are available for research in the Library's Special Collections Branch. Eagle Squadron manuscripts from Col. Reade Tilley, Lt. Col. Bill Edwards, Lt. Col. Bill Dunn and many others are also available in Special Collections.

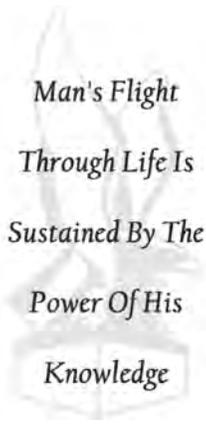
## LATE BREAKING NEWS!

The Friends Treasurer, Col. Jock Schwank, has just been notified by the Superintendent that he is the recipient of the Academy Distinguished Service Award for 2011. What a well-deserved honor! All of us who know Jock are aware of his dedicated service to the Academy, ranging from many years on the

faculty, Commander of the Academy Prep School, Chairman of the Board and Vice President for Services of the Association of Graduates, and Treasurer of The Friends. Jock has set the standard for service to his alma mater and this is a fitting recognition of his contributions. Jock is the third key member of The

Friends to be so honored. Lt. Gen. A. P. Clark was the first recipient of the award and Honorary Board member Mr. Hal Littrell also received it. Congratulations Jock!

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## RETROSPECTIVE MANUSCRIPT PROJECT

*Update from the McDermott Library, by Dr. Ed Scott, Director*

The Clark Special Collections Branch now has more than 1,500 manuscript collections donated over more than 50 years. The collections range from single photographs or videos to very extensive, world-class, multi-media collections such as those from Col. Richard Gimbel and Lt. Gen. Albert P. Clark. The current project to identify these manuscripts in national databases will make these treasures much more accessible while assuring the highest standards of archival preservation. The Friends of the Library has funded this important project for three years and continues to support it.

The Friends' visionary leadership has created a position which allows many of the Clark Special Collection Branch holdings to be listed for the first time in internationally recognized databases which will give these outstanding manuscript collections international exposure and access. As a professional librarian and The Friends' contract employee, Karen Millis not only knows all the complexities of entering these collections directly into the various databases, but she also assures the long-term preservation of many of the older and more fragile documents. When the project is complete, all the lesser-known and lesser-used, but very important, collections will be accessible through multiple databases.

Some of the lesser known collections that have been accessed by scholars from around the world include: the George Squier Collection, which contains correspondence about early radio and telegraph development at the end of the 19th century; the Haywood Hansell Collection which cadets have used for papers on U.S. airpower policy; and the Benjamin Foulois Collection that documents the Mexican Punitive Expedition of 1916.

The Friends should be extraordinarily proud of their role in helping cadets and scholars from around the world "discover" materials that create superior primary-source research and writing. Watching cadets realize that they are holding decades old, if not centuries old, handwritten diaries, notebooks, photographs, or other documentation that was written or created by a major military leader—and seeing them develop a sense of awe at how such documents were created and preserved—would not be possible without The Friends' focused dedication. The wonderfully creative initiative by The Friends to make the Clark Special Collections an exemplary collection of superior archival management, rather than a historical closet of forgotten documents, will continue to be a lasting legacy of the history and heritage of the Air Force Academy.

This is a new area of assistance from The Friends that will significantly enhance the Academy library's ability to provide world-class service to our cadets and faculty, as well as to the larger academic community. There is no way the Clark Special Collections Branch could have advanced so far, given its small staff, without this monumental contribution from The Friends.

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\*Former Superintendent  
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