



FAM 14

SPECIAL CENTENNIAL
OF FLIGHT EDITION

Prepared by the SAN FRANCISCO AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY

President's Message Spring 2003

MEETING OUR MISSION ON THE CENTENNIAL OF FLIGHT

In this, the seventh edition of *FAM 14*, it is a pleasure to report on the activities of the San Francisco Aeronautical Society. This Special Centennial of Flight Edition celebrates the 100th year of powered flight. Orville and Wilbur Wright's success at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, on December 17, 1903, remains a defining moment of the modern age. The many achievements of aviation that helped to shape the twentieth century can be traced back to the inventive perseverance of the Wright brothers and their wonderful "aéroplane."

As we prepare for the Society's 2003 annual reception, we look back at highlights from last year's successful event. These include the Achievement in Aviation Award; the first induction of Society fellows; and the presentation of historic artifacts to the San Francisco Airport Museums. The reception was followed by another Society milestone when R.E.G. Davies delivered the first "Spirit of Flight Lecture."

Sadly, we report the passing of Jerry O'Donnell, founding member of the Society board of directors and our great friend. Jerry's accomplished career and generosity of service to the aviation community is recalled elsewhere in this issue.

In other board of directors' news, we enthusiastically welcome our newest member, Jean Kaye Tinsley. Well known among aviation professionals, she is the international executive director of the International Organization of Licensed Women Helicopter Pilots, which is just one among her many other affiliations and accomplishments. We look forward to working with her and to the benefit of her experience and expertise as we continue to build a strong organization for the San Francisco Aeronautical Society.

Sincerely,

Louis A. Turpen
President

Board of Directors

Louis A. Turpen, Patrick A. Murphy, Athena Tsougarakis, Angela G. Gittens, William K. Coblenz, George Doubleday II, Zoe Dell Lantis Nutter, Jean Kaye Tinsley, Mrs. G. Wilkinson Wright

Hon. Dianne Feinstein, Honorary Member

SFO Aviation Library and Museum Receives Metropolitan Transportation Commission Award for Excellence

The San Francisco Airport Commission Aviation Library and Louis A. Turpen Aviation Museum received a 2002 Excellence in Motion Merit Award from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.



2002 MTC trophy

The MTC—the San Francisco Bay Area nine-county governmental agency responsible for planning regional transportation—presented awards to twenty-one individuals and organizations in a ceremony held on October 23, 2002. Selected for innovative and successful programs that have made transportation safer and more efficient for the region's travelers, the award winners represented agencies, employees, news reporters, and private individuals that have made a difference.

The aviation library and museum at SFO was singled out for capturing the Bay Area's role in aviation history. As MTC Public Information Officer Ellen Griffin stated, "By providing such a stunning facility in a location that is widely used by millions of people, the San Francisco Airport Commission has preserved for future generations a sense of how the past is a part of the present and future with respect to air travel."

OUR MISSION AND GOALS

The mission of the San Francisco Aeronautical Society is to support the San Francisco Airport Commission Aviation Library and Louis A. Turpen Aviation Museum by:

- Seeking donations to the collection
- Raising funds for acquisitions to the collection
- Promoting scholarly research within the collection
- Producing educational publications, lectures, and seminars
- Identifying subjects for oral histories
- Sponsoring special exhibitions

The goals of the San Francisco Aeronautical Society are to:

- Create a volunteer group of aviation professionals and enthusiasts to provide broad-based support for the promotion of the San Francisco Airport Commission Aviation Library and Louis A. Turpen Aviation Museum
- Establish a San Francisco Aeronautical Society general membership

FAM 14 is the abbreviation for the world's first transoceanic Foreign Air Mail route, which originated in San Francisco and linked the East and West by air. The FAM 14 masthead photograph was taken by Clyde Sunderland and shows Pan American Airways' China Clipper over the City of San Francisco on November 22, 1935, departing on the first transpacific commercial flight to Manila. Courtesy of Pacific Aerial Surveys.

SOCIETY RECEPTION AN EVENT TO REMEMBER

Program of Awards, Fellowships, Museum Donations, and Silent Auction Make A Successful Evening for Members, Dignitaries, and Guests

The 2002 Annual Reception of the San Francisco Aeronautical Society was an acclaimed success on all fronts. Guests were treated to an evening of warm conviviality at the San Francisco Airport Commission Aviation Library and Louis A. Turpen Aviation Museum. Society Director Angela Gittens emceed the exciting program of events.

Stanley J. Hiller Jr. was presented with the Society's 2001 Achievement in Aviation Award medallion for his outstanding career in aeronautics and his dedication to preserving aviation history. The Society also bestowed its first fellowships upon five individuals who were recognized for their great contributions to our aviation legacy.



Society President Louis A. Turpen presented a collection of historic aviation artifacts that were acquired with society funds for donation to the San Francisco Airport Museums. A silent auction and raffle were conducted throughout the evening, and heated rounds of bidding attested to the caliber of items offered. Prizes and auction items included round trip tickets to destinations such as Hawai'i and London.

Left: Honored guest Stanley J. Hiller Jr., center, was presented with the 2001 Achievement in Aviation Award by Society Directors George Doubleday II, left, and the late Jerry O'Donnell.

Above left: The five distinguished individuals inducted as Fellows of the San Francisco Aeronautical Society for their accomplishments in the field of aviation, pictured with Society board members, are from left to right, Capt. Moon F. Chin, R. E. G. Davies, Capt. Kenneth V. Beer, Society Director Angela Gittens, Thomas A. Northrop accepting on behalf of Fellow Fred Nott, Society Director Zoe Dell Lantis Nutter, and Capt. William G. Frisbie.

Above right: Aviation pioneer and Society Director Jean Kaye Tinsley with World Wings International members Gail Callan and Mary De Vries in their c. 1960s Pan American World Airways uniforms.

Glory Days of the Flying Boats Recalled

Society Gifts to Museum Include Rare Artifacts of Early Pacific Aviation

In continuing its commitment as the affiliate support group of the aviation library and museum, the San Francisco Aeronautical Society recently acquired several important artifacts for donation to the San Francisco Airport Museums. At the May 3, 2002, reception, Society President Louis A. Turpen presented Airport Commissioner Linda S. Crayton



and Airport Director John L. Martin with a vintage "house flag" from Pan American Airways. These flags were flown at the remote island bases along the airline's trans-Pacific route from San Francisco to Asia. The famous *China Clipper*, a luxurious, Martin four-engine flying boat, inaugurated the five-day scheduled service in 1935.

Among the other artifacts donated that evening was a hand-fashioned souvenir globe from Pan American's Midway Island base. Such globes were made with the blown glass net floats often found along beaches in the mid-Pacific and set into Chinese-style export display bases with hand lettering. These charming keepsakes were sold to "clipper through" passengers as mementos of their trans-Pacific journey in the romantic era of the flying boats.

Left: Society President Louis A. Turpen presents Airport Director John L. Martin and Airport Commissioner Linda S. Crayton with a c. 1940s Pan American Airways house flag donated by the Society to the San Francisco Airport Museums.

Right: An early 1940s Pan American Airways souvenir globe from Midway Island, made from a carved wood base and a blown glass net float, was also included with other donations made to the San Francisco Airport Museums by the Society. These historical artifacts were acquired for donation from the collection of the late E. Spencer Garrett.



VOLUNTEERS—MAKING THE DIFFERENCE

San Francisco Airport Museums' Volunteers Honored for Generous Contributions of Time and Commitment to SFO Aviation Library and Museum

Many of the San Francisco Airport Museums' sixty volunteers, along with family, friends, and staff, attended the second annual appreciation ceremony on December 18, 2002. The evening reception was held in the San Francisco Airport Commission Aviation Library and Louis A. Turpen Aviation Museum. Food and drink was enjoyed amid a festive program of recognition for those who contribute so much to the successes of the library and museum.

In 2002, our wonderful volunteers, who have given so generously of their time and skills, provided a total of 2,882 hours of volunteer service. The public continues to enjoy the benefits that the volunteers provide. Their information services add great value to the experience of the library patron and museum visitor alike, and the Airport continues to receive many positive comments on their work.

The San Francisco Airport Museums 2002 Volunteer of the Year, Edward A. Badt, second from right, recently celebrated his ninetieth birthday with library and museum staff, from left, Administrative Assistant and Volunteer Coordinator Sandy Kwan, Library Assistant Kirsten Hall, Curator in Charge of Aviation John H. Hill, and Librarian Christine Harris.



Welcoming remarks at the reception by Blake Summers, San Francisco Airport Museums Director and Chief Curator, were followed by John Costas, Airport Chief of Staff, who expressed the Airport's thanks and awarded each volunteer a certificate of appreciation. Volunteer of the year honors went to Edward A. Badt. Special recognition was given to Thomas G. Dragges and Dr. Frank Norick, and honorable mention was bestowed upon David Coen, Howard East Jr., Thomas Northrop, Wasson Quan, and Julianne Ward-Northrop.

San Francisco Airport Commission Aviation Library Louis A. Turpen Aviation Museum 2002 Volunteers

David A. Abercrombie	Howard T. East Jr.	Frank Norick, Ph.D.
James H. Abrams	Brad J. Elwood	Thomas A. Northrop
June A. Armanino	Cary C. Fong	David F. Nyeland
Roma M. Auerback	Lorraine A. Forster	Aaron A. Ortega
Kenneth J. Austin	Pauline S. Glen	Samuel A. Owens
Edward A. Badt	Dorene T. Goad	Paul M. Pindea
Nathan M. Bertman	Robert S. Harmon	Gerald J. Pipinich
Irene P. Bluth	Fred R. Hoffman	Herb E. Pohlman
Janice J. Boelke	Arleen M. Johnson	Wasson Quan
Richard J. Borger	Edward L. Johnson	Denis F. Quinn
Colman Chan	Theodore C. Johnson	Thomas V. Reilly
Brigid L. Chappelone	Denise A. Joseph	Willie Robinson
James O. Clifford	Ululani M. Jung	Barbara F. Sharfstein
David G. Coen	Kyong Suk Kim	Megumi Shichi
Eva G. Condy	Betty L. Krahn	Luz L. Sobejana
Carol V. Crown	David Laudenat	David H. Stringer
Charles D. Cutting	Larry Marks	Angela C. Sumner
Teresa C. Damgaard	Reuben O. Martinez	Julianne Ward-Northrop
Evelyn R. David	Robert P. McCrory	Alan Widdicombe
Thomas G. Dragges	Edward J. Murtha	Barbara L. Zelinsky

SOCIETY PRESENTS FIRST OF ITS SPIRIT OF FLIGHT LECTURE SERIES

R.E.G. Davies Delivers Inaugural Talk



R.E.G. Davies at SFO

A large audience attended the first "Spirit of Flight Lecture" series that was presented by the San Francisco Aeronautical Society on May 4, 2002. They were treated to a rare West Coast appearance by R.E.G. Davies. The Curator of Air Transport at the National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Mr. Davies has authored over twenty books, including the indispensable *Airlines of the United States since 1914*.

Mr. Davies gave two lectures. His morning talk, "Directions of Air Travel in the 21st Century: Lessons from History," provided a detailed analysis as he examined trends and challenges in the aviation industry. Well known as an advocate of high-speed rail as a means of relieving an overburdened short haul air transport system, he convincingly demonstrated the lack of such rail systems in the United States. That afternoon, his second lecture,

"The Comet: World's First Jet Airliner," presented an historic overview of the development of jet age travel. The de Havilland Comet—introduced fifty years ago almost to the day—had a brief success as the first passenger jet. The important contributions, the setbacks, and the ultimate demise suffered by the Comet project were clearly set forth in this insightful lecture.



Two well attended talks and slide presentations were given by R.E.G. Davies at the first San Francisco Aeronautical Society "Spirit of Flight Lecture." His morning lecture, "Directions of Air Transport in the 21st Century: Lessons from History," was followed by an afternoon talk on the beginning of the commercial jet age entitled, "The Comet: World's First Jet Airliner." After each lecture Mr. Davies graciously signed books.

IN MEMORIAM

Jerry O'Donnell 1916-2002



Jerry O'Donnell in 1948

SF-Art Club of the Port of San Francisco in memory of George B. Pottorf Jr.

The Board of Directors of the San Francisco Aeronautical Society was deeply saddened by the loss of fellow director Jerry O'Donnell who passed away on June 17, 2002.

As a founding member of the board, Mr. O'Donnell's contributions to the Aeronautical Society go back to its inception in 1997. His experience, skills, and personal warmth all greatly enhanced the Society's ability to gather support, and he worked effectively

in bringing the Society to the attention of many organizations in the aviation and travel community. These liaisons have created partnerships that will long serve the Society well.

A native New Yorker, he began his distinguished career with United Air Lines. After serving with the Navy in the Pacific as a transportation officer during World War II, he joined Pan American World Airways working closely with Juan Trippe and Charles Lindbergh to open the Pacific routes. He rose to vice president and was based in Hong Kong for twenty years, where he was well known as Pan Am's ambassador to the Pacific. He was a founding board member of the Mandarin Hotels and chairman of the Pacific Asia Travel Association.

Upon retirement, he became president of the Hong Kong Tourist Association and consulted on air travel and tourism to the Kenyan and Chinese governments. Mr. O'Donnell gave generously of his time as a volunteer board member to many organizations, including the International Rescue Committee, Project Hope, and the Pan Am Historical Foundation.

The Board of Directors of the San Francisco Aeronautical Society extends its sympathies to the O'Donnell family.

Thanks to Our Supporters

AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY PATRONS

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NEW AERONAUTICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS' BENEFITS: DISCOUNTS AT SFO RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS

INTERNATIONAL TERMINAL
Aviation Inc. 20% off (except magazines)

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Osho Japanese Cuisine 10% off all purchases

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Simply Books 20% off all purchases

TERMINAL 3
Compass Books 10% off all purchases

Destination San Francisco 20% off (except cashwrap candy, gum, mints, bagged candy/snacks, magazines, newspapers, tobacco, alcohol)

Simply Books (two locations) 20% off all purchases

Discounts are subject to change without notice. Present your Aeronautical Society membership card and save!

CONTACT! For Society General Membership and other programs, please use the following contact information:

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San Francisco, CA 94125-0250

Tel: (650) 821-6720 Fax: (650) 821-6721

E-mail: SFAS@sfoArts.org

The San Francisco Airport Commission Aviation Library and Louis A. Turpen Aviation Museum is located at San Francisco International Airport, International Terminal, Level 3. It is open Sunday through Friday from 10:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. The telephone number is (650) 821-9900.

For additional information and to learn about volunteer opportunities, please contact the San Francisco Airport Museums at (650) 821-6700, or e-mail curator@sfoArts.org. Please visit our website: <http://www.sfoArts.org>



San Francisco Aeronautical Society

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