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The University of Texas at Dallas
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Eugene McDermott Library, History of Aviation Collection
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The Air-Log is the newsletter of the History of Aviation Collection (HAC). It provides news about developments at the HAC and previews of upcoming lectures and programs.

Hours
Monday - Friday
9 AM - 6 PM
Second Saturday of the month
9 AM - 1 PM or by appointment

Special Collections Department

AIR-LOG

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The History of Aviation Collection at Eugene McDermott Library

The Admiral Rosendahl Collection

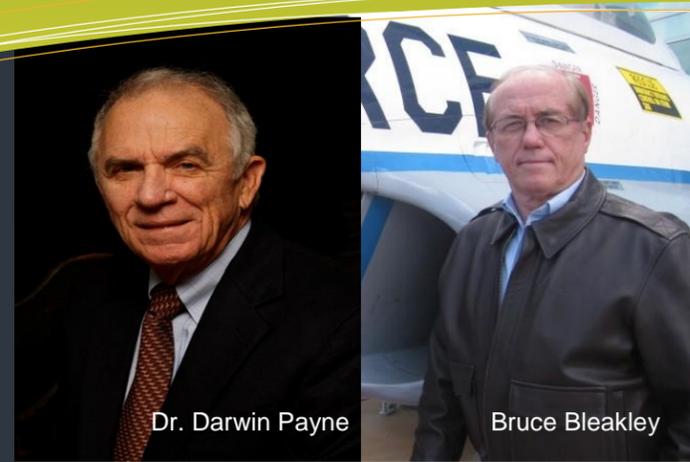
The James H. Doolittle Library

The CAT/Air America Archive

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Dr. Darwin Payne

Bruce Bleakley

2015 Jalonick Lecture Scheduled July 11

The DFW Struggle for Aviation Supremacy

This year's Jalonick Lecture will focus on aviation in Dallas and Fort Worth and how the rivalries between these two cities led to the development and construction of the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport.

For years, Dallas and Fort Worth were fierce competitors in just about every arena including business, architecture, and entertainment. Aviation was no exception. As commercial flight grew in prominence in the 1950s, both cities worked to lure businesses in the aviation industry to their respective cities by building bigger and better airports.

Eventually, the Federal Aviation Administration refused to invest more money in separate Dallas and Fort Worth airports. The government threatened to choose a site if both cities could not come to an agreement. Officials decided on a location for a new regional airport. Construction began in 1969. The result was the formation of DFW International Airport.

The beginning of aviation in the Dallas/Fort Worth area up to the present is a fascinating

history which parallels the development of aviation. Just as fascinating is how both cities came together to build one of the largest and busiest international airports in the world.

Our featured speaker, Dr. Darwin Payne, who co-authored with Kathy Fitzpatrick, *From Prairie to Planes: How Dallas and Fort Worth Overcame Politics and Personalities to Build One of the World's Biggest and Busiest Airports*, tells this story. Where Dr. Payne's book ends, Mr. Bruce Bleakley, author of two books on local aviation history, *Dallas Aviation* and *Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport* picks up with an update on where DFW International Airport is today.

The lecture will take place in the Alexander Clark Center on July 11, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. Following the lecture, both authors will be available to sign books and the UTD book store will have copies available for sale. There will also be a reception with light refreshments. Check the UTD website for registration information, a campus map and directions.

<https://alumni.utdallas.edu/jalonick>

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William A. Rooney Collection on the *Enola Gay*

by Ally Boland

The William A. Rooney Collection on the *Enola Gay* contains unique information and perspective on an important crossroad in aviation history.

In 1995, the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum (NASM) created an exhibit to feature the *Enola Gay*, the B-29 bomber that dropped the first atomic bomb in warfare. The initial exhibit was controversial in its nature, with veteran groups claiming that the revisionist historical attitude was omitting the truth behind the reason to drop the atomic bomb and sympathizing too much with the Japanese. Veterans groups and others became involved in campaigns to display the *Enola Gay* proudly and have the Smithsonian redesign their exhibit to respectfully display the airplane. Consequently, the original plan was eliminated and a more straightforward historical exhibit of the *Enola Gay* was put in its place.

William A. Rooney, a WWII veteran, was part of the community who helped change the NASM exhibit through letter writing campaigns and published articles in local papers and magazines. The collection contains a variety of materials. The collection is open for research. For more information, contact Paul Oelkrug, CA, Special Collections Coordinator, at Oelkrug@utdallas.edu.

HAC Participates in Panel Discussion on Braniff Airway's Legacy

by Dr. Thomas J. Allen

In May of 2015 the Society of Southwest Archivists held its annual meeting in Arlington, Texas. The conference provides opportunities for archivists to meet, talk about their institutions and their projects, and learn about new trends in the archival field.

Staff of the History of Aviation Collection (HAC) participated in a panel discussion at the conference titled "Archivists and Curators Working with the Braniff Family to Build a Collective Public History." The panel examined how several Texas area archives and museums have been working with former Braniff employees and their family members to document the history and legacy of this important Texas airline.

The panel was moderated by HAC Coordinator for Special Collections Paul Oelkrug, CA, and included Dr. Thomas Allen, a curator with the HAC, who spoke about how the HAC has been working with the Braniff Preservation Group by providing support for tours of historic Braniff buildings, as well as symposia and lectures on Braniff and its impact.

This has allowed the HAC to showcase one of its unique collections and build relationships of support for the Braniff material in its care.

The panel also included presentations by Bruce Bleakley, with the Frontiers of Flight Museum and Abra Schnur, with the Flying Voices Oral History Project. The panel was well attended and provided an opportunity for the participants to spotlight their collections, and expose their materials to a new audience.



This year the Air America Association Reunion was held in Scottsdale, Arizona the first weekend in June. The weather was unusually cool and wet as a result of a tropical disturbance that blew in from the Pacific.

The association planned two tours this year. The first one was to the Pima Air and Space Museum in Tucson and included a guided tour of the Boneyard, the base where the Air Force stores decommissioned aircraft. The second excursion, which included a reception and dinner, was at the Commemorative Air Force Arizona Wing in Mesa.

The highlight of the reunion was the donation of the tail boom from an Air America Huey helicopter. The boom was in surprisingly good shape and all of the members present signed the boom. The donor will clear coat the area where it was signed and will deliver it anywhere free of charge.

The Association voted to provide \$1300 in funding to purchase a new scanner and two members each gave \$2000 and \$500 respectively to be used for special projects related to their collections. We very much appreciate the generosity of the individual members and the association

Wineburgh Philatelic Research Library to Host Lecture



This is the first lecture hosted by the Wineburgh Philatelic Research Library (WPRL), located in the Special Collections and Archives Department of the Eugene McDermott Library. This year's speaker, Mr. Ken Lawrence, is a noted philatelic author and researcher. His topic is *FAM 22, 1941-1945: The World's Longest and Most Important Air Mail Route*. While this lecture is sponsored by the philatelic library, the topic has a broader appeal to anyone interested in aviation.

The lecture is scheduled for August 1, 2015 at 2:00 p. m. in the Clark Center Auditorium. A reception will follow in the lobby. This lecture is free and open to the public. Parking is next to the Clark Center in Lot I at the intersection of Drive A and Drive H.

SUPPORT THE COLLECTION Planned Giving

Planned gifts give the History of Aviation Collection the opportunity to plan for future growth. These gifts may take the form of a bequest, charitable gift annuity, life insurance, or other beneficiary designations.

The Legacy Society

The Legacy Society recognizes any individual who has made a planned gift commitment to UT Dallas. Your membership allows us to thank and honor you for the plans you have made, and we hope it will inspire generosity in others. Benefits include an annual recognition event, invitations to special events, and information on tax-saving measures for you and your family.

Charitable Gift Annuities

If you are over 55 and want to support the HAC, consider a charitable gift annuity (CGA). With this type of planned gift, you make an investment of at least \$10,000 and we send you a payment for life either quarterly or annually for 4-8% of your contribution, depending on your age. A CGA can provide a greater return than many assets in your retirement portfolio. Plus, CGAs give you an immediate tax deduction. To learn more, please visit www.utdallas.plannedgiving.org.

The history surrounding both CAT and Air America is extensive. If you're interested in learning more about each organization, please consult the finding aids and our digital archive, **Treasures @ UT Dallas**. You can also go to our website (utdallas.edu/library/), click on 'Special Collections', then click on 'The History of Aviation Collection' and then 'The CAT/Air America Archive.'

Any inquiries regarding donations should be made to Paul Oelkrug, CA, Coordinator for Special Collections.

He can be reached at Oelkrug@utdallas.edu or 972-883-2553.