



THE MILLIONAIRES' UNIT
*America's Pioneer Pilots
of the Great War*

CHALLENGE MET

Greetings! Thank you to all of our generous donors! Last November we announced that Humanus Documentary Films Foundation was awarded a \$100,000 grant from the Louise H. and David S. Ingalls Foundation for the production of *The Millionaires' Unit* documentary. \$50,000 of the grant was issued in the form of a challenge grant to be released when Humanus had raised \$50,000 in matching contributions. We are pleased to announce that as of April 18th, the film's producers have raised the matching funds and been informed by the Ingalls Foundation that the challenge grant funds will be released by the end of May. This fundraising success is a significant milestone, and the proceeds will enable us to continue film production and post production through the summer. Special thanks to producer Harry Davison who hosted fundraising screenings last December and February in New York. This strong showing of support has inspired us to prepare for our next fundraising hurdle which is to secure the remaining \$400,000 of the film's budget. We invite you to join the mission by making a contribution. Please make checks payable to Humanus Documentary Films Foundation and mail them to:

Humanus Documentary Films Foundation
11165 Barman Ave.
Culver City, CA 90230

Please visit our [website](#) for a link to our secure PayPal site if you wish to donate online.

Screenings Announced



For the past several months the film production team has been hard at work shooting interviews, conducting research at Yale University, the National Archives, the Library of Congress, the New York Historical Society, the New York Public Library, the National Naval Aviation Museum, the Naval History and Heritage Command and the Palm Beach Historical Society. Filmmaker Darroch Greer has discovered spectacular, rarely seen imagery at these archives which greatly enhance the visual resources for the film. Filmmaker Ron King has shot interviews and captured new HD video from locations including Wall Street, Yale University, Lakeville, CT, Norfolk, VA and Palm Beach FL. Editor Brian Derby joined the post production team and has edited three major segments of a shorter version of the film, which will be screened as a preview at major venues beginning in May.

This shorter version, targeted to the museum and education market is titled, *The First Yale Unit and the Birth of Naval Aviation*. We are very excited to share this new work as our contribution to the celebration of the Centennial of Naval Aviation in 2011.

Screenings announced to date are:

May 4-6 - National Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola, Florida. Film will be screened in the LITTLE THEATER on each day during the Naval Aviation Symposium.

May 7th - Planes of Fame Museum in Chino, California, for their "Living History Day" dedicated to WWI aviation. We are appearing as member/guests of the League of WWI Aviation Historians.

May 24 & 26 - Dolby 88 screening room in NYC. This is a fundraising event, so please join us and help fill the theater. A great venue to see the new film material in HD with pristine Dolby sound.

July 23-31 - Air Venture Museum at Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Screenings include Navy Day on Wednesday, July 27th. This is the largest air show and meet in the United States with over a half million attendees and international press corps.

September 21-22 American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) Centennial of Naval Aviation Forum "100 Years of Achievement and Progress" in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

October 13 & 14 League of WWI Aviation Historians Seminar in Monterey, California.

We anticipate participating in more screening events to help celebrate the Centennial of Naval Aviation and will keep you posted as more screening dates are announced.



Download the NNAM screening [poster](#).

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John M. Vorys Naval Aviator #73

One of the original group of friends invited by F. Trubee Davison to join the Yale Unit, John M. Vorys shipped out with Al Sturtevant, and together they served overseas at Felixstowe, England, where they flew in "spider web" patrols over the North Sea. At the war's end, Vorys was flying experimental aircraft at the Philadelphia Naval Aircraft Factory.

Read more about [Vorys](#) on our [People](#) page.

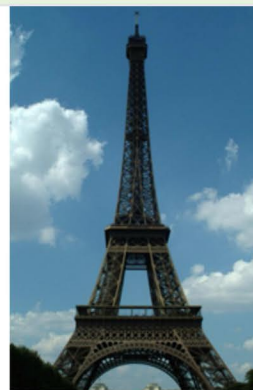


Photo courtesy [FreePhoto.com](#)

Production Plans 2011

Even as post production continues on a shorter version of the film designed primarily for the museum market, the filmmakers are busy making plans for their next round of interviews and shoots to cover important points in the story, including filming a Curtiss A-1 Triad replica in flight. A major goal is to film in Europe at some of the key locations in the *Millionaires' Unit* story. They plan to film a Sopwith Camel in England, locations in France and Belgium and extensive work in archives in those countries as well as Germany. We will inform you as specific production plans are scheduled both in the U.S. and overseas.



The Millionaires' Unit: America's Pioneer Pilots of the Great War is a production of Humanus Documentary Films Foundation, a 501(c)(3) Educational Nonprofit company dedicated to producing documentary films about historically significant people and events.