

The Mary Ann



Documentary Film Foundation Launched

This edition of *The Mary Ann* is pleased to announce the formation of the *Humanus Documentary Films Foundation*, a not-for-profit educational entity dedicated to making historically-based documentaries. *The Millionaires' Unit: America's Pioneer Pilots of the Great War* will be the flagship program of the Foundation. A board of directors has been assembled and officers appointed. With our 501(c) (3) status officially pending, we are now able to accept contributions. To date we have raised 3K in cash contributions and 7.5K in pledges from family and friends.

In mid-May, Puck Purnell, who was in southern California visiting family, stopped by to meet with us and discuss financial strategies. In early June, Ron was in Portland Oregon and had the opportunity to meet with helicopter pilot Aaron Clark, great nephew of Unit member Albert Ditman.

Our call for Unit memorabilia has also produced results, with new images, documents and records surfacing from the Gould, Lawrence and MacLeish archives. It is very exciting that

some 90 years after the original events, these archival records are being rediscovered and made available to add richness and depth to the documentary.

Finally, in late May, we had a very special experience. We witnessed first hand, in very close proximity, three authentically constructed WWI aircraft in flight. Seeing these exquisite aircraft take wing and hearing the sound of their throaty engines crack through the air truly brought history to life. We felt an excitement similar to what the Unit members themselves knew ever-so well.

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THE MILLIONAIRES' UNIT NEWSLETTER

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Robert A. Lovett

At Yale he managed the Dramatic Association and the Junior Prom. In Palm Beach he headed up the Wag crew, whose members sang heartily as they went about their work. On the war front in Europe in WWI, he developed the Northern Bombing Group and endeavored to re-unite members of the Unit to be part of his plan. In his later career he was acting Secretary of State and served as Secretary of Defense. Bob Lovett was Naval Aviator number 66.



WEBSITE : Key to getting the word out about the First Yale Unit and the documentary film project is our website. We still need several thousand dollars to produce the site. To make a pledge today, please call or email us or send your check to Humanus Documentary Films Foundation at the above address. Website launch date: September 1st.



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