

The Mary Ann



Millionaires' Unit Website Goes Live!

www.millionairesunit.org

The website for *The Millionaires' Unit: America's Pioneer Pilots of the Great War* is now online!

The largest online history of the Unit that we know of - containing personal histories, photographs, posters, drawings and video clips - is now available to explore.

The site is divided into two main areas: **FIRST YALE UNIT HISTORY** and **THE MILLIONAIRES' UNIT: DOCUMENTARY FILM**. In the **FIRST YALE UNIT HISTORY** area, you will find a page about all the members of the Unit including several extended biographies. There is also an original account by Unit member George Lawrence of his time serving at Killingholme, England. The account, along with a great picture of George "Lotta" Lawrence, was generously provided by his son, David Lawrence. Puck Purnell contributed an extended biography about his grandfather, Erl Gould.

The Timeline portrays the Unit's progress from inception to the end of the war. Photographs enhance the experience to give the viewer some visual references along the way.

The Gallery has three sections: Photos, Drawings and Posters. Each section provides insight and context to the people and the times.

On the **THE MILLIONAIRES' UNIT: DOCUMENTARY FILM** area of the website you will learn about the production of the film and see filmmaker Ron King reading an entry from the war journal of his grandfather, John M. Vorys. You will meet the filmmakers and can become a participant in the making of the film. Both the introductory film and the war journal reading are available for iPod/iPhone download.

FILM PRODUCTION BEGINS

Film production begins in June, 2009, in Long Island, New York. We are in the process of scheduling interview subjects and preparing for the shoot. Several descendants of original Unit members will be interviewed on this trip including members of the Davison, Gould, Lawrence and Vorys families. We are looking forward to being able to speak in depth to these very special people.

FUNDRAISING PHASE II

We now begin the next phase of fundraising. With the website and presentations to potential donors and supporters, we plan to raise the funds to complete the film. Please check back to the website to see what's new and get involved!

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THE MILLIONAIRES' UNIT NEWSLETTER

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Di Gates

Artemus "Di" Gates was a star athlete at Yale in football and track. One of the original Unit members, Gates and fellow member Bob Lovett were the first two ranking naval aviators from the Unit and the first to ship overseas in 1917. Gates commanded the heavily bombarded air station at Dunkirk, made a heroic water rescue under fire and was captured by the Germans after being shot down in a SPAD fighter. He became the most highly decorated aviator of the Unit.



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