



PREDDY MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

ANNUAL
REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1996



PREDDY MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

Board of Trustees

Rachel Preddy Harris
Honorary Trustee

Joseph W. Neidt, President

John Faircloth, Vice President

Linda Faircloth, Secretary

O. B. Teague, Treasurer

From the Triad:

Curson Barr

John R. Beaman, Jr.

Clyde Otto Gaskins

Gary L. Henbarner

Herman R. Kenney, Attorney

Maj. Gen. Hubert Leonard, (Ret)

Harold R. McCollum

Jeffrey Michael

William B. Mills, Attorney

William J. Moore

H. Bryan Nault, M. D.

Emily Preyer

Walker F. Rucker

R. R. Allen, Sr.
Fayetteville, NC

J. Fred Baumann
Sevierville, TN

Col. Bruce C. Dizard, (Ret)
Buffalo Junction, VA

Robert Huddleston
Mechersburg, PA

Cdr. C. McCoy Hunt, Jr., M.D.
Chesapeake, VA

Morton W. Lester
Martinsville, VA

Joseph J. McVay, Jr.
Springfield, VA

Van B. Noah, M.D.
Raleigh, NC

Dolph Overton III
Southfield, NC

Robert H. Powell
Atlanta, GA

W. Harding Shinn
Charlotte, NC

Samuel L. Sox, Jr., CLU
Raleigh, NC

Second Annual Meeting

Fighter Ace Speaks

Korean War fighter pilot and PMF Trustee Dolph Overton spoke at our Second Annual Meeting held May 11th at the Embassy Suites Hotel. His talk focused on a comparison of his Air Force career with that of George Preddy's. He spoke more about George than he did himself. Dolph's squadron commander was Ed Heller, a WWII pilot who served with George. Although Dolph didn't tell us this, it has been said that he and Heller flew over forbidden territory in pursuit of enemy Mig's. Dolph is officially credited with five aerial victories. Heller was shot down and taken prisoner by the Chinese who held him for over two years after the truce was declared. It has also been said that Dolph actually shot down nine enemy aircraft, but four could not be claimed because of where the fight took place.

Bomber Pilot Speaks

Allan Matthews of Greensboro told us about his experiences the day his B-24 Liberator was shot up over Germany. That was the day, 22 December 1943, George Preddy was awarded the Silver Star for aggressively attacking six Me-210s that were attacking a lone and crippled bomber. The enemy fighters immediately dispersed when they saw Preddy attacking. But one came back for another run at the bomber; Preddy pulled back up and got on his tail and shot him down. That was George's second aerial victory of the war. Matthews credits Preddy with saving his life that day.

352nd Fighter Group Pilot Speaks

Ray Mitchell flew with George on that fateful Christmas Day 1944 when George was shot down by Allied ground troops. They were involved in a wild dog fight involving many aircraft; Ray was separated from George just before the accident. George and two other pilots, Gordon Cartee and James Bouchier, gave chase to an enemy aircraft (FW-190) flying close to the ground. One of our AA groups opened fire on the enemy aircraft as it appeared over the trees; they missed the enemy but hit all three Mustangs giving chase. Preddy was killed, Bouchier had to bail out and Cartee took a tracer bullet in his cockpit.

Dedications & Donations

Trustee Fred Baumann and wife Mary donated a painting which he purchased from his son, Fred Baumann III. The painting is of George Preddy's *Cripes A'Mighty 3rd* Mustang. Unlike other paintings of George's aircraft, this one is a close up; it is outstanding. Fred and Mary live in Tennessee, but their son lives in Winston Salem. They brought their son with them to the meeting; he is now an honorary member of PMF.

North Carolina Air Museum and Aviation Hall of Fame

Morton Lester and Dolph Overton are making progress with our project to encourage the development of a North Carolina Aviation Hall of Fame. Dolph has been called upon by the First Flight Centennial Foundation to participate in a feasibility study designed to insure the success of the 100th anniversary of the Wright Brothers historic first flight, December 17, 2003. North Carolina is budgeting \$50 to \$55 million for the total program. Of that amount, \$15 to \$20 million is earmarked for an aviation museum to be constructed at a site other than the Outer Banks. The museum will focus on the 1920-1955 era and provide an aviation history center. It is here that Dolph believes we can have a North Carolina Aviation Hall of Fame. PMF's sole objective in pursuing the NC Aviation Hall of Fame is to have George Preddy be among the first to be considered for admission.

PTIA Terminal Building Exhibit

Our first project, to place an exhibit on the Preddy brothers in the terminal building of the Piedmont Triad International Airport (PTIA), is progressing. As you know, we have gained permission from the Airport Authority to do so. The concept was devised by the PMF Committee: John Faircloth (Chmn), Bill Moore, Sam Sox and John Beaman. Don Henderson of the GHM designed the plan to include non-original memorabilia in a wall exhibit case; his plan is to include silk-screen photos of George and Bill, their medals, and other memorabilia. Bill Moore estimates the cost of the case and the exhibit materials to be no more than \$8,000. Additionally, Sam Sox arranged for Jeff Foley to build a model of *Cripes Almighty 3rd* with an eight-foot wing span. The plan calls for the model to be suspended from the ceiling near the exhibit case. Jeff reports that the fiber glass model of a P-51D has been cast and will be shipped as soon as we pay for it. Our check for \$919 was mailed on September 9th. We ordered the model to be made with no landing gear; the flaps and ailerons will be fixed to the wing. And the prop and spinner will be fixed to the fuselage. Jeff estimates that it will take 250 to 300 man hours for him to complete the model (assemble and paint, etc.) making it ready to hang. We hope he will be able to spare that much time between now and our May 1997 Annual Meeting.

Preddy Brochure

We have received 50,000 copies of the brochure approved at our last meeting. They were packaged with 2500 brochures in each of 20 boxes. PMF Members Dave and Fran Brown are storing half of them in their hobby shop, The Perfect Model at 2926 High Point Road. We placed a box with the Greensboro Visitor Center who invited us to apply for a grant, another box with the Greensboro Historical Museum, and Dave Brown agreed to keep the Greensboro Library and the PTIA supplied. PMF Trustee Harding Shinn took a box for various sites in Charlotte, and Van Noah took 300 brochures for the North Carolina Historical Museum in Raleigh. PMF Member Mare Hamel took a box for various sites in and around Raleigh and has agreed to keep the Raleigh and Fayetteville branches of the Historical Museum supplied. Sam Sox took a box for Myrtle Beach and Durham sites. John Faircloth has a box to distribute in High Point, and Harold McCollum has two boxes for Winston Salem. Rachel Preddy Harris, Dolph Overton and Ray Mitchell each took a hundred. Bob Huddleston took some brochures to England. Joe Noah placed an initial supply with each of eight Welcome Centers in North Carolina, and he took some to the 352nd Fighter Group Reunion held recently in St. Louis. He plans to mail some to each of 24 aviation museums. PMF Trustee Bob Powell is taking some to the Eighth Air Force Museum in Savannah, GA. PMF Members Steve and Sue Forsberg took a box to distribute in the Washington, DC area, and PMF Member Judy Johnson will take some to the Lonesome Pine Airshow in Southwest Virginia.

Confederate Air Force Wings of Freedom Airshow

PMF Members Steve and Sue Forsberg report that the Preddys were well represented at the Wings of Freedom Airshow held at Fredericksburg, MD. There were George Preddy t-shirts, *Cripes Almighty* paintings and lithographs, and the biography and tape were being sold by vendors. They placed about 600 brochures while there.

Incorporation as a Not-For-Profit Corporation under Section 501(c)(3) of Internal Revenue Code

PMF Trustee Horace Kornegay has recently had the Preddy Memorial Foundation incorporated in North Carolina based on a motion made by PMF Treasurer O. B. Teague and approved at the 1996 Annual Meeting. Horace is preparing a set of bylaws for the new corporation; then we will hold an organizational meeting to adopt the bylaws. Once incorporated, we will be in a position to apply for grants for specific purposes.

Finances

PMF's net worth is \$33,555. We have \$2,307 in our checking account. And we have a \$900 credit with the Greensboro Historical Museum. Other assets include a \$500 donation commitment, a P-51 model valued at \$1,000, and an oil painting of *Cripes Almighty 3rd* by Fred Baumann III valued at \$500. Our investments include \$26,287 in Fidelity Investments Growth Fund and \$2,061 in their Money Market Fund. PMF's average annual return on funds invested in the Growth and Money Market Funds has been 20.1 percent. We have liabilities in the form of a commitment to GHM of \$8,000 offset by the \$900 credit; the commitment is for the PTIA exhibit and case. The brochures were paid for by a PMF donation of \$2,550 to the Masonic Home in Oxford, NC.

The Preddy Memorial Foundation was established to ensure that the Preddy brothers and their comrades-in-arms will continue to be honored for their significant contributions to victory during World War II.

PREDDY MEMORIAL FOUNDATION DONORS

December 1993 - August 1996

Ace's Club \$1-\$99

Fred M. Allison, Jr.
John F. Bracken
Earle W. Briggs
Chappell Insurance Agency
Charles R. Clark
L. Dan Denney
Louis DesJeunes
Robert W. Fox
Lloyd J. French
William B. Grossman
Marc L. Hamel
Leonard Henderson
William P. Heitman
The Hon. L. Jack Hite
Paul Holt
Cdr. C. M. Hunt, Jr., MC
Harold J. Kage
William R. Kaluta
Alex A. Karan

John T. Linton
Jerome J. Miller
William J. Moore
Michael F. Murphy
Charles P. Newell, Jr.
Hugh D. North, Jr.
The Patchwork House
Carlo A. Ricci
Robert J. Robinson
Duerr H. Schuh
Anthony S. Sklodowski
Arthur C. Snyder
Andrew Sostak
Samuel L. Sox, Jr.
Guy P. Taylor
Olin O. Taylor
Edgar P. Wilkins
Alane Wright

Double Ace's Club \$100 - \$199

Anthony B. Cristo
Donna L. Fisher
Steven H. Forsberg
Clyde "Otto" Gaskins
Jennifer C. Harris
Donald F. Herbst
H. Walter Lutterloh
C. Allan Matthews
Harold R. McCollum

Raymond R. Mitchell
Robert W. Noah
Susan L. Noah-Forsberg
Robert H. & Betty Powell, Jr.
James R. Preddy
Frank & Mary Robinson, Jr.
Charles E. Rogers
Lawrence G. Savchak
John T. Talbert, III, P. E.

Triple Ace's Club \$200 - \$499

Carson Bain
William F. Black
David & Frances Brown
Richard J. & Evelyn G. DeBruin
Col. Bruce C. Guard, AUS(Ret)
Robert Huddleston
Judy Noah Johnson
Horace R. Kornegay

James F. Lambright
Ralph C. Lester
H. Bryan Noah, M. D.
Emily & Rich Preyer
Walker F. Rucker
Glenn A. Rushman
W. Harding Shinn
Robert C. Tullius

Four-Star Ace's Club \$500 - \$999

Lee Brookshire
O. B. Teague

Joseph J. McVay

Five-Star Ace's Club \$1,000 - \$2,499

Richard R. Allen, Sr.
J. Fred Baumann
Melvin G. Kuhaneck

Morton W. Lester
Van B. Noah, M. D.

Six-Star Ace's Club \$2,499 - \$4,999

John & Linda Faircloth

Founders Club \$10,000 - \$14,999

Joe & Betty Noah

Honorary Members of PMF

Mack A. Arnold, Jr.
Fred Baumann, III
Col. J. Ward Boyce, Jr. USAF(Ret)
David Brown, Modeler
Donald S. Bryan, Ace
Harley Copic, Artist
Darrell Crosby, Artist
I. B. Jack Donalson, Ace
Susan Dusenbury
Jeff Foley, Modeler
Ned Harrison, GN&R
David Hayes, Modeler
Edwin L. Heller, Ace
Robert S. Johnson, Ace
Carl Kuklis, 49th F/G
John Lambeth, Video Artist
John L. Latham, Jr., 96th Bomb Group

James A. Laurier, Artist
Bob & Linda Morgan, Memphis Belle
Allen R. Preddy
Brenda J. Preddy
Robert W. Preddy
John Railey, HP Enterprise
James L. Roueche Jr.
Jim Schlosser, GN&R
George Schnyer
William B. N. Schultz, 49th F/G
Robert M. Senn
Walter B. Starck, Ace
James R. Starnes, 339th F/G Ace
John F. Thornell, Ace
Gerald A. Wagaman, Artist
A. Ralph Schwarz

DONATIONS MADE IN MEMORY OF/BY

Mrs. Frederick A. Yochim
Dr. Richard F. Semon

Mr. & Mrs. Robert H. Powell, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Robert H. Powell, Jr.