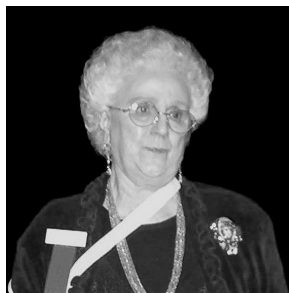




WAHF FLYER

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
WISCONSIN AVIATION HALL OF FAME



Marie Towle Schuette

Photo by Tom Thomas

Six Inducted Into WI Aviation Hall of Fame

For the first time in its 18-year history, the Wisconsin Aviation Hall of Fame inducted a father/daughter team at its annual investiture ceremony at the EAA AirVenture Museum in Oshkosh on October 25. Marie Schuette and Archie Towle received the honor for over a half-century of commitment to Wisconsin aviation.

Archie Towle was manager and fixed base operator of the Wausau, WI airport from 1931-1945. A barnstormer who gave aerobatic exhibitions throughout the state, Towle promoted aviation with such enthusiasm that 16 members of his family became pilots. After his death in an airplane crash at age 45, his Towle Flying Service business lived on, managed by daughter and son-in-law, Marie & Lyle Grimm.

At 22, Marie was already an accomplished pilot. She soloed in an Aeronca C-3 at age 16 and became the country's youngest female pilot on her 17th birthday. She passed advanced aerobatic courses in a Waco F-2, was a charter member of the WI 99's, and won several awards for her aviation achievements.

Like her father, she served on numerous state aviation committees. The Grimm's managed the Wausau airport for over 25 years as Grimm Flying Service with one of the state's largest flight schools. Marie continues her father's legacy with the establishment of the Archie C. Towle Aviation Scholarship.

It was a \$1 airplane ride at age 8 that led to a love of flying and induction of Lt. Col. Robert Goebel for his outstanding service to his country. Goebel became an ace in July of 1944 and a double ace by August. After flying 61 missions, the Racine, WI native returned home in Sept. '44 with several medals, including the Silver Star and the Distinguished Flying Cross w/Oak Leaf Cluster. Once home, he earned a degree in Physics while serving as CO of the WI Air National Guard, then returned to active duty to work in the Gemini Space program. Retiring from the USAF in 1966, Goebel wrote a book entitled, *Mustang Ace, Memories of a P-51 Pilot*.

In 1932, Eau Claire, WI native Charles Wood built a primary glider while still in high school. He earned a glider rating (to pg. 2)

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100% Renewal Rate Goal

WISCONSIN AVIATION HALL OF FAME MISSION STATEMENT

To collect and preserve the history of aviation in Wisconsin, recognize those who made that history, inform others of it, and promote aviation education for future generations.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Expect a new name and new look in the March 2004 issue

SEND NEWSLETTER IDEAS & COMMENTS TO:

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Maggie Flood: 2003 Scholarship Recipient

Marjorie "Maggie" Flood, Waukesha, a student in the Airframe & Powerplant (A&P) program at Milwaukee Area Technical College is the Wisconsin Aviation Hall of Fame's 2003 recipient of the Carl Guell Memorial Scholarship.

The 43-year-old mother of two enrolled in the program after the loss of her husband in 2002. At that point, Maggie said, "I needed to start my life over again. I began to think of careers I would enjoy and decided on a mechanical line of work. A friend suggested A&P School, and after some research I decided that of all the different mechanical work, being an A&P offered the most diverse opportunities for me." Indeed, Flood had a lifelong interest in things me-



Maggie Flood

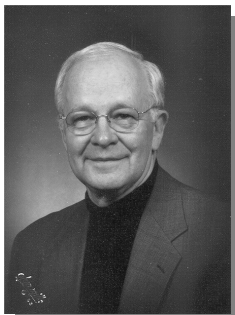
chanical; her parents said that her favorite thing to do once she could walk was to sneak into her dad's machine shed to play in the tools and grease.

Ms. Flood's first year of A&P School has had its challenges and rewards. The sole woman in her class, she has found only encour-

agement and support from her classmates. The challenges have been on a personal level; losing her husband in 2002, and her father in January 2003. Her sons, Ben, 13, and Jack, 15, are adjusting to mom's busy new schedule but continue to encourage their mom in her goals. "I continue to hear how proud my sons are of me," she said. (to pg. 3)



President's Message... By Keith Glasshof



Keith Glasshof

THANK YOU - to those of you who were able to attend the WAHF investiture banquet. I am certain the inductees, past and current, are very grateful for your show of support as demonstrated by your attendance. At the same time I wish to thank you for your support of our scholarship program by your participation in the silent auction. While the details of the auction are set forth elsewhere in the Flyer, let me simply say that your efforts generated over \$2,000 in support of the scholarship program.

CONGRATULATIONS - to the six current inductees. Each of you was selected for induction into the Hall of Fame because of your unique and outstanding contributions to the field of aviation. We are grateful for all that each of you has done to advance the state of aviation. At the same time, I wish to congratulate Maggie Flood as the

recipient of the 2003 Carl E. Guell Scholarship award. We salute you for your accomplishments, and we know that you will be a fine addition to the ranks of aviation.

MEMBERSHIP - the heart and soul of the WAHF is its membership. The organization's membership drive is nearing success; we stand at 81 new members in our goal of 100. Encourage a friend to become a member. Likewise, as the heart and sole of the organization, your active participation is greatly encouraged and welcomed. We need your counsel, your presence, and your financial support. Your participation will help the organization be all that it can be.

Member Spotlight: Gary Dikkers

If you are a WAHF member and have interesting news to share with our readers about your aviation activities, please contact the WAHF FLYER at 608-836-9840. We look forward to spotlighting you and the successes you have achieved in aviation.

Board members of the Wisconsin Aviation Hall of Fame aren't the only people sharing stories of Wisconsin's rich aviation history. For the past year, new WAHF member Gary Dikkers, an Airspace Specialist with the WisDOT Bureau of Aeronautics, has been writing aviation history articles for the WisDOT Employee Bulletin. Distributed weekly to over 3500 state employees, Dikkers' stories included several WAHF inductees, such as Fritz Wolf and Sam Johnson. He also wrote about Arch Hoxsey, the second pilot to fly in Wisconsin and the first



to crash an airplane here.

"I started the series to keep WisDOT employees aware that this year is the centennial of powered flight, and to make them familiar with the importance Wisconsin has played in the development and history of aviation," he said.

Dikkers' own history is worth writing about; he is an Air Force Academy graduate who flew a combat tour in Vietnam as a Forward Air Controller (FAC). He was also an instructor pilot in the T-38, and a fighter pilot flying the F-4 Phantom II.

'03 Inductees (from pg. 1)

in Poland just prior to WWII, and then came home to earn his instructor ratings. He was a CPT instructor, and he also trained British pilots in AT-6's. Returning to Eau Claire after the war, he was instrumental in establishing the Eau Claire airport at its present site. Wood died in August '03; his son Guy accepted the plaque honoring his father and remarked, "I accept this honor in Dad's memory with great pride. He was excited about coming to Oshkosh for this event."

The Hall of Fame also recognizes aviators who made contributions prior to 1927 in its Pioneer category. 2003 recipients are Thomas Hamilton and Melvin Thompson. Hamilton, a pioneer pilot, designer and manufacturer, laid the foundation for the aviation industry in Wisconsin. He built his first airplane in 1910 and was the first person to fly in Washington State. In 1917 he moved to

Milwaukee to design and build propellers and pontoons for the war effort. In '26 Hamilton designed and built his first all-metal monoplane, which carried passengers and mail for Northwest and other early airlines. Hamilton acquired property on Layton Avenue in Milwaukee that later became Mitchell International Airport.

Melvin Thompson began flying in 1918 and quickly became a Texas barnstormer by rebuilding a JN4D Jenny. He returned to Wisconsin to continue barnstorming, build airplanes and train pilots at Green Bay's first airport, Blesch Field. In 1928 he moved to the Kohler Airport and became Governor Walter Kohler's personal pilot. He remained active at the Kohler Airport until 1961, then moved to the New Holstein Airport where he restored airplanes and operated the FBO until his retirement in 1968.



Lt. Col. Robert Goebel

Be sure to check the WAHF Website to see more photos from the 2003 Banquet and the new inductees' Hall of Fame pages!



Thomas Wins Membership Drive Contest

Aviation history supporter Tom Thomas, Madison, WI, was the Grand Prizewinner of the WI Aviation Hall of Fame's 2003 "100 for 100" Membership Drive Contest. Thomas recruited 9 new members into the Hall of Fame, and continues his efforts. Said Thomas, "Please know that I am not done yet and that I will continue my efforts to help reach 100 new members in this centennial year." The contest ended on Oct. 1.

Thomas received a collection of Wisconsin Aviation History books, including, *Forward in Flight, the History of Aviation in Wisconsin* by Michael Goc; *Wings North, Wausau's Aviation History* by Robert Wylie; and several other books, along with a lifetime membership in the WI Aviation Hall of Fame and two tickets to the 2003 Investiture Ceremony. The grand prize was awarded for recruiting the most new members into the organization during the contest dates.

In the drawing for all those who recruited new members, first place went to Joel Thompson,

Reno, Nevada; second place to Cliff Tomas, Madison, WI; and third place to Jeff Taylor, Verona, WI. Place winners received a varied set of aviation history books, donated by the authors.

Bill Baker, Monroe, WI, and Scott Nolinske, Madison, were winners in the "New Members" drawing. Baker, Nolinske and all those who joined the organization during the contest were entered into a separate drawing. Baker received an EAA gift package; including two passes to the AirVenture Museum and other EAA gifts. Nolinske won the book, *Forward in Flight*.

The Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Aviation Hall of Fame would like to congratulate all of the new members who joined in 2003, and thank all those who helped spread the word about the organization by encouraging their friends to join. Your support and enthusiasm is necessary to continue the work we do and to meet the goals our organization is striving for. Thanks also to the EAA and all who donated prizes.



With a bit of humor, Tom Thomas said of his win, "Well Roger Ramjet, it is both exciting and humbling to have won the WAHF Membership Drive Contest."

Over \$2000 Raised For WAHF Scholarship Fund

Thanks to the generosity of its members and the fine business people who generously donated cash and merchandise, the WI Aviation Hall of Fame Carl E Guell Scholarship Fund has grown. Over \$2000 was raised at our first Silent Auction, held during the social hour preceding the annual investiture banquet in Oshkosh. The auction was popular among those in attendance.

The event was a collaborative effort to increase awareness of the program and raise much needed funds. The scholarship program is a key endeavor of the group. Several individuals were instrumental in establishing the scholarship,

most notably Earl Pingel, former WAHF President and Chairman of the Board. His tireless scholarship research and financial support outreach efforts before he died were vital in awarding the first scholarship in 2002. Pingel also gave the scholarship fund an immense boost with his own generous financial contributions to the program.

With Earl's loss, the organization continues to seek scholarship funding ideas like the Silent Auction. Year end tax-deductible contributions can still be made; see the contribution panel on our membership application.



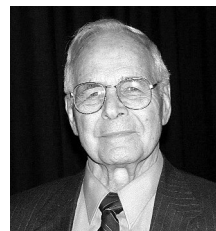
Dave Duax, Eau Claire, completes last minute shopping at the 1st Annual WAHF Silent Auction. Check the WAHF Website for links to the businesses that donated items.

Maggie Flood (from pg. 1)

Amid personal hardship, Flood holds a 3.76 GPA and is respected by her fellow students and instructors alike. Instructor Ken Mischka said of Flood, "Her dedication and desire to succeed is of the highest caliber. When assigned tasks which require diligence and perseverance, she always rises to the occasion and exceeds our goals." Instructor Jon Pribyl said, "Her quality of work and dependability sets a standard that can be used to measure others by. Maggie would be a great asset to any aviation company she decides to work for." The WAHF Board of Directors congratulates Maggie on her outstanding achievements.

Wylie Retires

Robert Wylie, Wausau, WI, WAHF Board Member since 1998, is retiring from his board position effective December 30, 2003. In his five years of service to the WAHF, Bob was chairman of the WAHF Nominations Selection Committee and vital in organizing the nomination packages. Bob is also the author of *Wings North*, a look at Wausau's aviation history. With a debt of gratitude for all he's done, the WAHF Board extends their sincere best wishes to Bob and his wife, Grace.



Book Corner

Recommended Reading:

On the Wing, Jessie Woods and the Flying Aces Air Circus,
by Ann L. Cooper

A personal look at the life of wing-walker Jessie Woods and both the adventures and anguish of her air circus lifestyle.



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P R E S E R V E
W I S C O N S I N ' S
A V I A T I O N H I S T O R Y . . .
J O I N T O D A Y !

It's that time of year again, time to renew your membership in the WI Aviation Hall of Fame. Maintaining the 100 years of flight theme, we're setting a goal of a 100% renewal rate. A renewal application is enclosed, please fill out and return to Duane Esse at the address to the right. **If there is a colored dot on your address label, your membership dues are due by January 30, 2004.** WE PROMISE to continue working hard to preserve Wisconsin's aviation history and acknowledging those who are making significant contributions to the aviation industry.

As President Glasshof mentioned, the 2003 "100 for 100" Membership Drive is still going on. Though the Membership Drive Contest ended in October, the drive itself continues, and we're on target to reach our goal of 100 new members by Dec. 17, 2003. As of December 1, we need just 19 more members to reach our goal! Tell your friends about our organization and the significant programs we're involved with. Make a copy of the enclosed application and give it to a friend, or call Duane Esse at 608-849-9872 for more info.

Attention all members! In order to save postage costs, we need your e-mail address. Please send your address to: flyer@aviationhalloffamewisconsin.com. Thank you! (We will not give your e-mail address to others.)

The book, *Forward in Flight* is now on sale for just \$35. What a great Christmas gift! See enclosed order form.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your family from the WAHF Board of Directors!

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