

many accomplishments, and commend the following article to my colleagues' attention:

[From the Tryon Daily Bulletin, Jan. 25, 1995]

COL. NORME FROST: STILL FLYING HIGH AT 99
(By Bob Witty)

Today is the 99th birthday of Norme Frost, a legend in his time.

Born in another century, Jan. 25, 1896, to be exact, he has left a fascinating trail behind as he made his way from Central Lake, Michigan, to his beloved bower on Wilderness Drive.

He came out of an era when everyone started to work and contribute at an early age, out of a family where hard work was the watchword. To make ends meet in their cash-poor, small village environment, his mother "took in" washing, taught school, hung wallpaper and worked the family farm. His father was a musician, carpenter, master craftsman and inventor. It wasn't until one of his inventions, a different and progressive design for a motor boat, succeeded that things looked up for the Frosts.

Norme was the quintessential "American boy." Handy with his father's tools, always obsessed with gadgets, engines and wood-working, he tried his hand at everything that Michigan in the early 1900s afforded.

His jobs included hardware store clerk, farm hand and fishing guide, running a machine in the local factory, an attendant at the Insane Asylum at Traverse City, bellhop at a hotel, and as a conductor on the Saginaw Interurban Railway.

World War I interrupted his career as a jack-of-all-trades and he buckled down as a back private, toting a rifle and preparing to make the world safe for Democracy. That adventure was short circuited when the war ended in 1918, whereupon he returned to Michigan.

His life took a new turn when he paid an itinerant barn-stormer to take him for his first flight in a patched up "Jenny" left over from the war. That was it!

As soon as possible, he enlisted as a Flying Cadet, pawned his saxophone and arrived at Brooks Field, San Antonio, with three dollars in his pocket, prepared for flight training. A 50-year odyssey in the AirCorps/Air Force had begun.

The rickety wood and fabric flying machines of the day were mostly leftover war-planes. But it was a wondrous time for a fledgling flyer. Norme remembers with fondness his favorite: "The SE-5 was a Sopwith pursuit plane that the RAF made famous in combat. It was light as a feather on the controls and could turn on a dime. My alltime favorite."

After graduation from famed Kelly Field, he was assigned to a tactical unit, and was the 733rd officer to be rated "pilot" by the Army. His serial "733" was one number behind Hoyt Vandenberg, who was later to be Chief of Staff, USAF.

Those were the wild and woolly days of flying. Generations of pilots still thrill and marvel at Norme and his cohorts performing at air races; tiny pursuit planes dancing their mad pas de deux around the pylons on a tight course, sometimes as little as 25 feet off the ground in a vertical bank! Daring young men indeed.

In World War II, as a Colonel, he served in General Doolittle's 15th Air Force as a Deputy Wing Commander. He took part in the first B-17 strike on the sub-pens and shipping at Naples, using the smoldering Mount Vesuvius as an initial point for the run-in to target.

But all the fun came to an end, and after his 1951 retirement parade at Hickam Airfield in Hawaii, he brought "whats 'er name" back here to their Wilderness Drive woodland and built her a house—with his own

hands. There today, with bird-song at dawn and the cacophony of trilling tree-frogs at dusk, he lends his talents and energies to local activities, much as she devoted them to his flying career. He has performed so many feats of magic in lighting, photography, audio and construction for the Tryon Little Theater, The Fine Arts Center and other groups, that there is no room here to list them.

Let the words of the late Lou Perrottet as published in the Tryon Litter Theater Bulletin in 1978, speak for "Frostian" skills. "Colonel Norme Frost continues to leave his footprints on the cultural creations of this community. Not the least of accomplishments is his ability to merge technical disciplines with moments of sheer emotion and feeling."

Norme justified this accolade with his renowned production of "The Drama of Nature," and "A Place on Earth," his slide shows with music and narration.

And now, this man who saw both the automobile and airplane bow onto the world stage, has landed with both feet into the Computer Age. It would not surprise any of us if he were to become a full-fledged member of the "Fiber-Optic" journey into the future.

The 28 World War II military pilots now living in this area (the Helmet and Goggles and Scarf crowd) salute their compatriot, Colonel Norme Frost, pioneer aviator, naturalist, and gentle man. The poem which follows has become the most famous anthem to airmen ever written. It has, of course been quoted again and again, most notably by President Reagan when he addressed America at the time of the Challenger disaster. It was written by 19 year old RCAF pilot John Magee in England in 1941; he died in his Spitfire only a few weeks later:

HIGH FLIGHT

Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;

Sunward I've climbed and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds—and done a hundred things

You have not dreamed of—wheeled and soared and swung

High in the sunlit silence Hov'ring there,
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung

My eager craft through footless halls of air.
Up, up the long, delirious burning blue
I've topped the windswept heights with easy grace.

Where never lark or even eagle flew—
And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand and touched the face of God.

Happy Birthday Norme. Dominus
Vobiscum.

HONORING THE NORTH MIAMI
FOUNDATION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS'
SERVICES, INC.

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 1995

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, April 26, 1995, the North Miami Foundation for Senior Citizens' Services, Inc. will be recognizing the volunteers who have provided assistance to the area's elderly for 21 years.

In 1994, these volunteers donated 25,499 hours of chore services; 43,370 hours of com-

panionship visits; and 60,789 telephone reassurance calls. In addition, 9,931 hours of special projects were completed in conjunction with local organizations and schools. Truly demonstrative of community partnership, these volunteer hours are equivalent to 42 full-time paid positions.

As the entire Nation recognizes National Volunteer Week from April 23–29, I am sure that my colleagues will join me in thanking the North Miami Foundation and its volunteers. There is an exemplary crusade that is of tremendous value to our community.

RULE REGARDING THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT

HON. PAT WILLIAMS

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 1995

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, A couple of days ago I voted against the rule on welfare reform. The rule before us will preclude any debate on the effect of drastically altering our current welfare system on some of this country's neediest and most underserved individuals, its 1.2 million native Americans.

So much for bipartisanship. Recognizing the special government to government relationship that the U.S. Government has with the country's 533 federally recognized tribes, individuals from both sides of the aisle attempted to craft an amendment that would respect this special relationship and the tribes' treaty rights by providing native Americans direct access to the block-granting process. This rule precludes debate on the merits of this amendment.

This action signals a sad departure from the national trend toward native American self-determination and independence which was initially recognized by a Republican President, Richard Nixon. In his special message to Congress on July 8, 1970, then President Nixon articulated the right of Indian tribes to take over control or operation of federally funded and administered programs. Adoption of this rule throws self-determination out the door and signals a return to the failed paternalistic policies which have ill-served America's Indian peoples.

This rule silences the voice of the first Americans, native peoples.

THE INSURANCE STATE'S AND
CONSUMERS' RIGHTS CLARIFICATION
AND FAIR COMPETITION
ACT

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 24, 1995

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to join with the distinguished chairman of the Commerce Committee as an original cosponsor of the Insurance State's and Consumers' Rights Clarification and Fair Competition Act. This is important consumer protection and competitiveness legislation that deserves strong bipartisan support.

This legislation requires that anyone who sells, underwrites, or solicits the purchase of