



NEWS RELEASE

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World War I Aviation Book Collection at the Saint Paul Central Library

Saint Paul, MN (Sept. 27, 2007) - After 44 years of collecting World War I aviation books, Don Severson donated his rare book collection to the Saint Paul Public Library. The collection will be available for reference starting Oct. 14 in the Central Library downtown Saint Paul.

Aviation enthusiasts can join Severson and the Minnesota History Center at 2 p.m., Oct. 14, at the Saint Paul Central Library for a Greatest Generation program about the early history of aviation, and its impact on the World Wars.

The books in the World War I collection came from many bookstores throughout England and Saint Paul. Some of the books had very limited publication, and one was signed by Eddie Rickenbacker, the author of *Fighting the Flying Circus*. Rickenbacker was known as the top-scoring American ace of the First World War.

Severson attributes his passion for collecting aviation books to Rickenbacker. With this collection, Severson hopes that he can inspire a child to have the same passion for collecting and flying.

For more information about the Saint Paul Public Library, please visit www.sppl.org.