



## Featured in this issue:

Lt. Charles B. Sands, 27th Aero Squadron

Frank Luke's SPAD XIII No. 21

Joe Wehner – Other Half of the Famous Balloon Busters

Personalities of the First Pursuit Group – Part 1

Rare Birds – Nieuport 14 ... and more!



# BETWEEN THE LINES

**Tears of Stone: World War I Remembered** by Jane Alden Stevens, Ohio Arts Council and the University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH, 2004; hardcover 12" x 9 + " ISBN 0-9743338-1-6, \$65; soft cover 11 + " x 9" ISBN 0-9743338-0-8, \$35; 40 tritone plates, 128 pp.; website: [www.janealdenstevens.com](http://www.janealdenstevens.com)

Jay Winter's scholarly analysis of the emotional impact of World War I, *Sites of Memory, Sites of Mourning: The Great*



*War in European Cultural History*, demonstrated how Europeans re-constructed their mental health and honored their millions of dead in the years following that war. Anyone who has visited a war memorial, battlefield, or cemetery, or who saw the recent ceremonies at Normandy commemorating the 60th anniversary of D-Day, does not really need Winter's book to

understand the importance of formally honoring those who have given their lives for their country or the reasons why we build memorials. But it is still valuable to express in words and pictures what we feel in our hearts and souls. Jane Alden Stevens has given us just such an expression in *Tears of Stone*.

Stevens, a professor of Fine Arts at the University of Cincinnati's College of Design, Art, Architecture and Planning, toured Europe with her camera photographing Great War headstones, statues, and war memorials and has produced a poignant collection that both honors its subjects with its beauty and screams at the futility of war. Although aviation is not a theme of the collection, by sheer coincidence one of the very few graves photographed that can be specifically identified belongs to German flier, Hans Joachim Wolff, an ace and member of the Richthofen Circus entombed at the Vermandovillers German Military Cemetery in France. The Wolff memorial includes a haunting illustration of the shrouded head of a German pilot floating in front of the grave and gazing at the camera.

The rather limited amount of text (in English, French, and German) maximizes the work's appeal, as the photos provide the central focus of the work. Together in a touring collection before being assembled into the current book, the photos are available as individual framed prints for those who might want to select a particular favorite from the 40 offered here. But to appreciate its impact, the collection should really be viewed as a whole. The reviewer came away with a renewed appreciation of the sacrifice of a generation and of the magnitude of the slaughter. This is not a book that will provide any specific information about the war, but it will help put in perspective why we continue to study armed conflict and why it is vital that we do so.

Recommended.

—J.S.