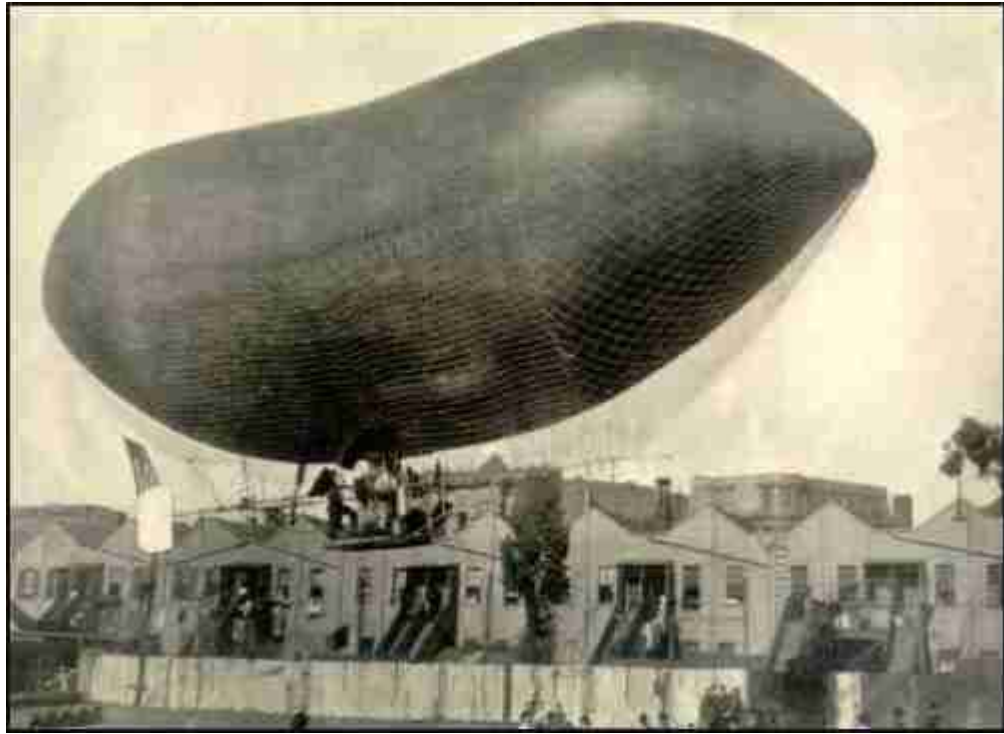
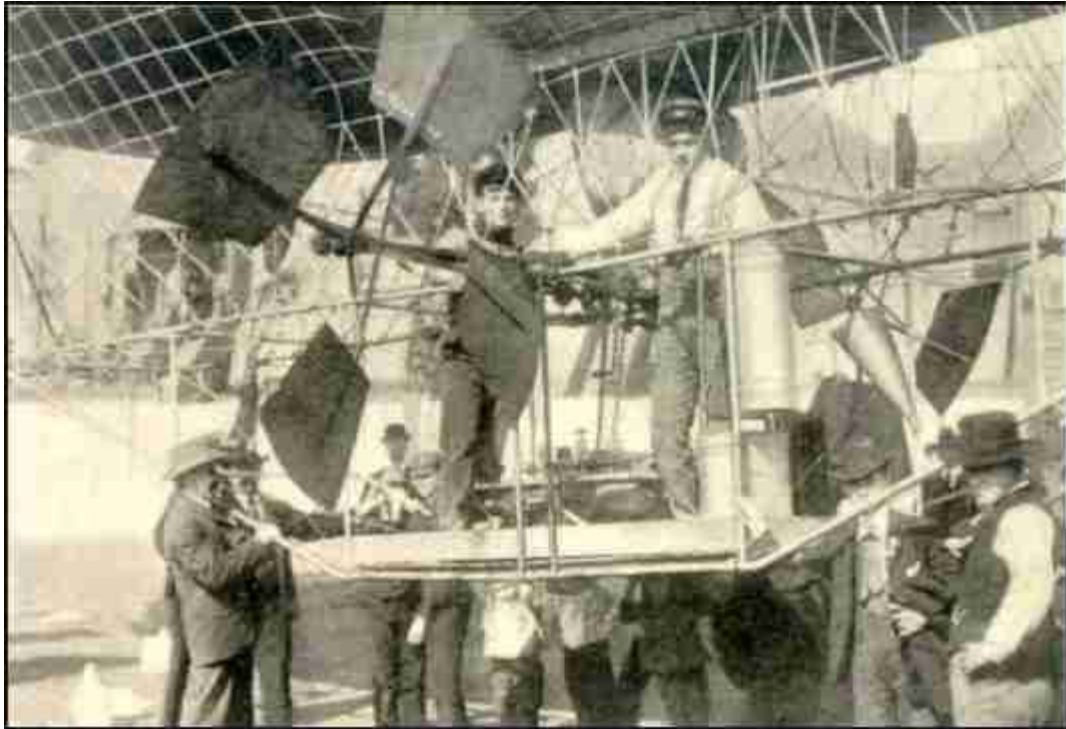


AUGUST GRETH 1881-1957



**Greth Airship, 1903.10.18
from the original Post Card
Courtesy of Jean-Pierre Lauwers**



Greth Gondola, 1903.10.18
Copy of the original Post Card
 Courtesy of Jean-Pierre Lauwers

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

via email from Regina Gaughan Gutierrez, 3-20-06

Mr. Cooper,

I was trying to research family history and came across your site. I believe August Greth is my paternal great uncle. My mom has a newspaper clipping about his dirigible flight. The story is that he came to the US with his brother Joseph (my great grandfather) from Alsace Lorraine, and a sister who died when they got to New York. Joseph ended up a doctor in Mexico and August went to San Francisco.

For your in memoriam section, I believe he died in 1957 and had one son. I found this information on the Social Security database.

Last Name	First Name	Middle	Birth Date	Mother Maiden	Father Last	Sex	Birth Place	Death Place	Death Date	Age
GRETH	AUGUST	S	03/23/1881	RUFF	GRETH	M	NEW YORK (probably where he entered the country)	SANTA CRUZ	01/25/1957	75 yrs
Wife: GRETH	BETTINA		05/13/1880			F	MICHIGAN	SANTA CRUZ	12/05/1966	86 yrs
Son: GRETH	FRANK	CHARLES	03/13/1907	PARRY		M	CALIFORNIA	ALAMEDA(01)	08/10/1985	78 yrs

If you have gotten any other information regarding August Greth, would you please share it with me?
Thank you so much,
Regina Gaughan Gutierrez



American Aerial Navigation Company

Collection of Diana Brunello, 2-3-06

These certificates were purchased by my Great Grandmother, Jennie Williams. I don't think any dollar amount a collector could come up with could match the sentimental value they hold for me. I wonder how many women in the 1900's were purchasing stock in their own name in ventures like this. She was definitely way ahead of her times and lived her life accordingly. I can just imagine her traveling from Santa Rosa, about 60 miles north of San Francisco, to see the flight herself in 1903. The certificate will remain hanging in my hallway a wonderful reminder of my great grandmother.

I want to thank you for your wonderful web site. I have been looking for information on many of these old certificates my Great grandmother had purchased for quite some time. Unfortunately, I had been unsuccessful on all attempts until I put in August Greth and came upon your site. I thoroughly enjoyed it and all the information it provided.

Sincerely,
Diana Brunello



Jennie Williams
Great Grandmother of Diana Brunello
Collection of Diana Brunello, 2-5-06

EDITOR'S NOTES

I thank Diana for sharing this precious piece of memorabilia and the photograph of her great grandmother with us. Beyond its historical value, it demonstrates the care with which these documents were produced and the attention to artistic detail which was lavished on them. The date, October 31, 1902, establishes the timeframe of the purchase. Of special interest are the signatures of J. S. Stanton and August Greth. Out of curiosity, I did search on the name "J. S. Stanton," using Google, but did not find any relevant links. So for the moment, he remains a shadowy figure in this enterprise.

ONLINE RESOURCES

If you search for "August Greth", using the Google search engine, (2-4-06), you will find about 23 links. Perhaps the most helpful are the following. You will probably want to follow some of the other links, as time permits.

The Aerodrome Forum

This forum hosts a series of messages from several fans who offer many valuable facts about Dr. Greth's activities. They also include many links to sites with more information on his exploits as well as related pioneer efforts. You can access the page by clicking on the title above. You should plan to use the FIND function on "Greth" repeatedly on the page to find all of the many entries.

THE CALIFORNIA EAGLE

by John H. Lienhard

"Two dirigibles compete for priority. The first was Dr. August Greth's California Eagle. Greth came to America from Europe with some knowledge of early French airships. He formed a company to build a dirigible in San Francisco in 1897."

This paragraph was taken from the extensive article on Dr. Greth written by John H. Lienhard. To read the entire fascinating article, just click on the title above.

In Memoriam

August Greth appears to have died in 1957.

Editor's Note:

If you have any information on this pioneer aviator please contact me.

E-mail to [Ralph Cooper](#)

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