



THE SOUTHWESTERLY

Quarterly Newsletter of the Southwest Section Ninety-Nines
Arizona • California • Hawaii • Nevada • Utah

January – March 2014



Pat Prentiss, Jeanne Pierce,
Lois Erickson, and Penny Nagy

A big “thank you” to Fullerton, San Gabriel Valley, and San Fernando Valley for hosting a great Section Meeting in Ontario. You ladies did a wonderful job and it was a great example of multiple chapters putting on a section meeting. I was really pleased to see all of the “first timers” and Associate Members in attendance. I sure hope that this was the first of many meetings that you’re planning to attend.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Ventura County for agreeing to host the 2015 Winter Workshop, and Coyote Country and Palomar for hosting the 2015 spring meeting in Temecula. You do have your work cut out for you since you only have a year to prepare, but I know that you’ll do a great job.

Our section had nine out of seventeen spring “Fly Now Award” winners. Congratulations to the following women and their mentors:

Joanna Moore (Bay Cities)
Carolyn Davis (Marin County)
Cheryl Cotman (Orange County)
Paris Clement (San Diego)
Thao Nguyen (San Diego)
Lisa Fusano (San Fernando Valley)
Kate Stuart (Santa Barbara)
LaDonna Burns (Tucson)
Dale Summersille (Ventura County)

The fall award information will be available in July. I hope we have many more recipients in October. We have five Amelia Earhart Scholarship applications that were sent on to the final judging. I have not yet received word on any winners. Let’s keep our fingers crossed for all five.

Delegate slips were mailed out to the chapter chairmen in April for the New Orleans International Conference. If your chapter has a new chairman it is imperative that she receive these delegate slips before the conference. If no one from your chapter is attending, the slips can be given to a member from another chapter or sent to the Governor. We want to make sure that every chapter has a vote.

If you are going to be in the vicinity of the Chino Airport on September 20th, why not consider helping out at the 99s Booth at the Regional AOPA event this year. Please contact Pat Prentiss to put your

name on the list. This event replaces the AOPA Summits of the past.

I want to congratulate all of the incoming Board and the members of the Nominating Committee. I know that you’ll all do well. Thank you all for allowing me to serve as your governor for the last four years. It has not always been easy, but it’s been a lot of fun and I’ve grown so much as a person. I know I sound like a broken record, but when a nominating committee member knocks on your door, please don’t automatically say “no”. Give it some thought. I’m sure that you’ll enjoy serving the Section almost as much as I have. Last but not least, I want to thank the members of my Board(s) and my committee chairmen and members. You’ve all been a great help to me the last four years and I could not have done it without you.

I hope to see you all in New Orleans!

Penny Nagy

REMEMBER

Please send your
chapter news to
southwesterlynews@gmail.com

by the
May 15th deadline !!

Section Officers

Governor:

Barbara Crooker – Mt. Shasta

Vice-Governor:

Alice Talnack – Monterey Bay

Secretary:

Jeanne Pierce - Reno Area

Treasurer:

Felicia Hoppe – Sutter Buttes

Immediate Past Governor:

Penny Nagy – Sacramento Valley

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Jeanne Fenimore - San Fernando Valley
Lynn Meadows – Reno High Sierra

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Jan Gageby – Reno Area

Nominating Committee:

Elaine McCain - Bakersfield
Candace Harding – San Joaquin Valley
Michael Serasio – Monterey Bay
Willa Young - Sutter Buttes

THE SOUTHWESTERLY

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Reno Area Chapter

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Southwest Section Committee Chairmen and Board Liaisons 2012-2014

Mission Statement: *to promote world fellowship through flight*

Flying Activities:

Airmarking	Lynn Meadows, Reno High Sierra
NIFA	Virginia Harmer, San Gabriel Valley
Young Eagles	Pat Forbes, Santa Clara Valley
Flying Activities	Lisa Erickson, Fullerton

Mission Statement: *to provide networking and scholarship opportunities for women and aviation education in the community*

Education & Chapter Development:

Aerospace Education	Sue Kerr, Mt. Shasta
Fundraising	Susan Liebeler, Ventura County
Membership	Kim Ernst, Fullerton
Associate Members	Lynn Meadows, Reno High Sierra
Sister Sections	Open

Communication:

Southwesterly Editor	Jeanne Pierce, Reno Area
Southwesterly Layout	Janet Cote', Sacramento Valley
Public Relations	Connie Charles, San Diego
SWS Website	Maureen Kenney, San Fernando Valley

Awards:

Awards Chairman	Alice Talnak, Monterey Bay
AE Scholarship	Lori Parker, Ventura County
Other Scholarships	Dorothy Norkus, San Diego
WPOY	Linda Mae Draper-Hivert, Reno Area

Pilot Careers:

Kristen Mansel, Bay Cities
Liana Hart, Las Vegas Valley

Mission Statement: *to preserve the unique history of women in aviation*

History:

Historian	Anita Lewis, Rio Colorado
Photographer	Lilian Darling Holt, San Fernando Valley
Oral History	Pat Chan, Bay Cities Dorothy Robinson, Bakersfield
Forest of Friendship Scrapbook	Mari Hurley, Imperial So-Lo Open

Administrative:

Tax	Barbara Crooker, Mt. Shasta Lianne Oakes, Orange County
By-Laws	Pat Prentiss, Orange County
Nominating	Maureen Kenney, San Fernando Valley
Insurance	Open

sws99s.org

Letter from the editor

Life does some very, unexpected things to us sometimes. I'd like to apologize for the lateness of this newsletter. My life took a very difficult path recently and I'm not sure how long the recovery will be, if I will ever recover. But this isn't actually about what happened to my Joe; it's about us women. Most of us in the 99s are very independent women, as am I. Joe and I have been together for fifteen years. I've been married before and didn't feel the need or desire to do that again as I got older. We shared ourselves with each other and kept bank accounts separate. There never seemed to be a need to make plans for the end of our lives, as Joe was 59 and I am 60. We were looking at many years together.

Alas, life's unexpected things... My Joe went to Carson City, as we often did, to run errands. I was helping a friend with an event in Yerington or I would have made the trip with him. We sent texts back and forth about the event, and about what we needed in Carson. It was Saturday afternoon, March 8th. I arrived home at 10 pm and he wasn't home. A long night and day followed. The wreckage of his Cessna 120 was found in the Pine Nut Mountains southeast of Carson City while a friend and I were out in her C182 searching for him. The sheriff was at the house waiting for me when Lucy and I taxied up. Joe was one of the most knowledgeable and competent pilots I knew, and most people who knew him felt the same. It was a scenario that would never be anticipated.

What followed is going to go on for a very long time. Nothing but a portion of the house is in my name. The only documents found were that trust document for the house and a very old will from 1993. We made no provisions for each other in the event of a disaster.

So, I need to say that we need to be smart about our independence and autonomy. Maybe we don't need to be married to be connected to someone in a significant way, but we do need to take care of each other to make the bumps in the road ahead a bit smoother and less disruptive to our lives should something happen to one of us. I would like to encourage all of you, married or not, to make very clear provisions for everyone in your life. If something happened you certainly wouldn't want to make life any harder than your abrupt exit will make it. It seems morbid to plan that way, but now I realize that it's practical and considerate. Please do it. As some of you know, just going on without your partner or someone you love is challenge enough. It's strange how strength and independence disappears when you suddenly find yourself without your life partner.

I do want to say that the 99s have poured out kindness to me in so many ways over the past weeks, proving to me, once again, what a very special organization of women we truly are. Thank you so much for the continued love and support.

Jeanne

Ratings and Accomplishments

Nancy Bradshaw (Antelope Valley)
Instrument Rating

Lynn Gawell (Antelope Valley)
Commercial Glider

Arlene Martinez (Antelope Valley)
Instrument Rating

Sarah Spy (Reno High Sierra)
ATP rating for Skywest Airlines

Calendar/Activities 2014

May 31st

[Show and Shine](#)

Eagle's Nest Airport, Lone, CA

June 14th

Reno Area Chapter
50th Anniversary Luncheon
Gold Dust West Casino Hotel
Carson City, NV

July 8th – 13th

[International Conference](#)

New Orleans, LA

July 12th

[Truckee Air Fair](#)

July 24th – 27th

[Hayward Air Rally](#)

Flying from Hayward to Oshkosh

Sept 5th – 7th

[The Great Reno Balloon Race](#)

Sept 5th – 7th

[Fall Section Meeting](#)

Reno, NV

Sept 10th – 14th

[Reno National Championship Air Races](#)

CHAPTERS ON THE MOVE

Bay Cities Chapter

Bay Cities has been very busy with winging parties to Columbia, Schellville, Half Moon Bay, Lodi, and Santa Fe. They had a tower tour, attended Oakland's dedication of Bessie Coleman Drive, and a tour of Beale AFB. Educational potlucks are a regular activity for these pilots and they have attended the Biggest Little Airshow at Hiller Aviation Museum in San Carlos, Planes of Fame airshow in Chino, as well as Warbirds, Wings, and Wheels in Paso Robles.

Fullerton Chapter

The Fullerton Chapter had a Fly in to Murph's in Bermuda Dunes, went to Fullerton Airport Day and gave airplane rides. If that isn't enough, they were one of the Chapters hosting the Spring SWS meeting in Ontario. They attended "A Tribute to WASPS", the Cable Airport Airshow, the Lake Havasu Balloon Festival. Working on the WASP float for the Rose Parade was a big job for them this year. They will be celebrating their 40th anniversary in September.

Reno Area Chapter

This Chapter is updating their chapter records, working on the SWS Fall section meeting in Reno in September, and planning their 50th anniversary in June. They gave an Advanced Rating scholarship, have been giving Girl Scout programs, attended Pathways to Aviation at UNR, and brought treats to the FBO and tower.

Reno High Sierra Chapter

Some of these pilots worked at the Winnemucca Airport Day, attended Pathways to Aviation at UNR, and toured the Reno tower. They are helping in Elko for the Air Race Classic. Denise Kowal received an AEM scholarship to pursue her instrument rating and Tammy Augustin was the 61st woman to win the Australian Women Pilots Association "Gertie" trophy for air reliability. The chapter is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

Sacramento Chapter

They are having their annual flying companion seminar June 28. Some members attended a Sutter Buttes meeting and attended the Rancho Murrieta Airport Historic Aircraft Day.

San Diego Chapter

This chapter is always busy with aviation safety seminars. They had a Young Eagles event at Gillespie, as well as a Historic Aircraft Display Day at Gillespie. A meeting with a documentary presentation about Jessica Cox who became a pilot after being born without arms was a highlight recently. They gave scholarships again this year.

San Joaquin Valley Chapter

The Chapter is very busy with the Air Race Classic.

San Luis Obispo Chapter

SLO has been hosting FAST Team safety seminars, practicing instrument approaches at Santa Barbara, and participating in a Santa Inez fly-out. They always work the Oceano Airport Day. There was a Poker Run this year and they were very proud to receive the SWS Small Chapter Air and Space Award.

Sutter Buttes Chapter

What an unusually nice winter from a flying standpoint for the Sutter Buttes Chapter! February's chapter meeting was a joint affair with ladies from the Sacramento Valley and Placer Gold chapters attending. We enjoyed a great turnout of 99s and their family members interested in learning more about one of our area's more unique and historic aircraft, the U-2. Laura and Sarah, two female pilots from Beale AFB (and members of the Sutter Buttes chapter), spoke about what makes the Dragon Lady so difficult to fly and its interesting history. They even brought out one of the full pressure suits that U-2 pilots wear up at those extreme altitudes. It was a great learning experience not only for the ladies of the chapter, but also the presenters as they are preparing to speak at this year's Women in Aviation Conference in Orlando.

The Sutter Buttes ladies are proud that one of their own is helping to promote Women of Aviation Worldwide Week. Jacquie B served as keynote speaker providing motivation and inspiration to pilots and aspiring pilots. She followed up by providing introductory flights through the Fly it Forward program.

Jacquie B also kicked off her 2014 season with a performance at the Yuma Airshow where she prevailed despite challenges which included an aircraft malfunction during practice and extreme crosswinds during her performance. What an amazing lady! We're so proud to have her as a member of the chapter.



*Jacquie Boyd
getting her airshow
season off to a good
start*

125th Annual Pasadena Tournament of Roses

Fullerton Chapter assists with WASP float décor

By Kim Ernst



“Fullerton Strong” group has done it again. An opportunity to work on the Women Air Force Service Pilots (W.A.S.P.) float for the 125th Annual Pasadena Tournament of Roses Rose Parade came up and we jumped at the chance right away. Seven of us carpoled to a warehouse in Irwindale, California for this wonderful and amazing experience (Vikki Mena, Eleanor Westerlin, her daughter Roxanne, and son Craig, Denise Jennings, Pat Savage, and Kim Ernst).

The float was built by Fiesta Floats, who is one of the most well-known float builders. It was quite an experience to see the progress that we and other volunteers made in such a short time. The floats are designed months in advance, then the framework is built, followed by the volunteers that arrive 3 days before New Year’s Eve. Even though we just started on Saturday December 28, the float had to be completed by Sunday night (December 29) in order to be ready by Monday morning for judging in Pasadena. “We would not have wanted our quadrants to appear as pieces flying off on national television, so

we glued and pressed flowers, seeds and leaves onto the float like there was no tomorrow!” Materials for project were: lots of glue (like an Elmer’s), parsley flakes, shreds of coconut, poppy seeds, black rice, bird seeds, pine tree branches, eucalyptus pedals for the bar to the airplane, roses, and several other types of flowers or natural resources.

The whole experience will not be forgotten. While enjoying the parade, we all watched the rewards of our accomplishments and said to others around us, “We did that!” It was an experience that we would love to partake in again. As it turned out our float won the National Award. Congratulations for the WASPs for such a beautiful entry.



This photo is of our group, as we were finishing for the day.

Top row: Leo (who was our float instructor), Denise Jennings, Kim Ernst, Roxanne Westerlin, Vikki Mena

Bottom row: Craig Westerlin, Eleanor Westerlin, and Pat Savage

WANTED: A Few Good Men

Many of us have joined our significant others as they enjoyed the company of their fellow 99s at their semi-annual Section Meetings, some of us have never had the pleasure. It is time to stir things up. I propose that we, our 99s’ greatest supporters, take on the challenge of hosting a Section Meeting. We need to make it different, exciting, and a standard by which all future Section Meetings will be measured.

Initial planning as to a venue, activities, etc. will need to be set. Then we will need to get into the details: hotel, meals, sponsors, registration, hospitality, along with other particulars. What is needed are dedicated, results oriented, follow-through type men who will take on this event like their lives depended upon it.

If you are up for a good time, have skills of any kind, and be willing to put on an exciting and worthwhile weekend, email me at mitch_cooney@yahoo.com (there is an underscore between “mitch” and “cooney”) and I’ll start to put together the cadre to coordinate the greatest party known to man (or woman). Hope to hear from you soon.

Promotion and Publicity for the Ninety-Nines

By Connie Charles, SWS PR Chair

Promoting the Ninety-Nines to the general public is an ongoing and challenging task. It requires **imagination, insight, and some skill**, but it doesn't take a professional.

Imagination comes in seeing the significance of the activity the chapter is involved in to someone who may not be familiar with what women pilots are all about. Coming up with a "hook" that captures people's attention which is a little different from the usual, is the challenge. It's been said that public relations is about telling the story "man bites dog" instead of the usual "dog bites man."

Insight is figuring out what it is that people know that may be incorrect or incomplete and offering a better, larger picture of what is. It's about overcoming stereotypes — in the case of Ninety-Nines the fact that women who fly both do and don't follow the stereotype of women.

The **skill** is in telling the story in the cleanest, clearest way so that editors, assignment desk people, and reporters understand and are motivated to pursue the lead.

It's not easy, but it is doable—and FUN!—for those whose imagination catches the spark.

And there's help. The Southwest Section website has a lot of it. To access it go to sws99s.org > Members Only > User ID: sws99s Password: 1929airace > Public Relations Award Center. There you will find resources, samples, and tips to make your job easier.

Annual Public Relations/Publicity Award

The deadline for mailing a submission is August 15, 2014. All the forms and requirements are available on the SWS section website: sws99s.org > Members Only > User ID: sws99s Password: 1929airace > Public Relations Award Center.

"The competition focus is on the chapter's ability to inform people inside and outside the Ninety-Nines about chapter and section activities and to improve the image and visibility of both."

Entries must be for activities completed between June 1, 2013, and May 31, 2014. Entries must be in these three categories:

1. Chapter Public Relations Program
All chapter public relations activities
2. Specific Event or Service Publicity
One public relations event or publicity program
3. Promotional Communications
A chapter's communication program to promote the Ninety-Nines (A chapter may enter Category 1 only, Category 2 only, Category 3 only or Categories 2 and 3 with different material entered in each).

"Chapter size is not considered in the judging, and chapter programs are not compared with each other. Each entry is rated on content rather than appearance, and the quality of the public relations program rather than the amount of material submitted."

I know that several chapters have done some special things in the past year that should be recognized, so I hope those who have produced them will consider their accomplishments and make them known.

If you have questions, feel free to contact me at concharles@yahoo.com or (619) 322-9666.

Would You Like to Get More Involved
with the SW Section?

We are looking for a layout/design
editor for the *Southwesterly*

Please contact [Janet](#) for more information

Reno Area Chapter



1964 - 2014

The Reno Area Chapter of the Ninety-Nines

Invites you to attend our

50th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, June 14, 2014 at 11:30 am

At the Gold Dust West Casino/Hotel

2171 East William St (Hwy 50) Carson City, NV

Sandwich/Salad Luncheon

\$25 per person

If flying in to Carson, you may call the Gold Dust West for transportation to the hotel.

YES, I/we would like to attend the Reno Area Chapter's 50th Anniversary Celebration on June 14th.

Name(s) _____

99s Chapter _____

e-mail _____

Telephone _____

CHOOSE: CHEF'S SALAD CHICKEN SALAD SANDWICH

\$25 PER PERSON = AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Reno Area 99s

c/o Linda Law 2509 Bohr Rd Carson City, NV 89706

RESERVATION DEADLINE JUNE 4, 2014

Hale Bennett, 49 ½
Reno High Sierra Chapter
March 17, 1920 – March 9, 2014

The 49 ½ of Reno High Sierra Chapter member, Kay Bennett, passed days before his 94th birthday. Hale flew B-26 Marauders on 68 combat missions over France, Germany and the Low Countries as part of the 386th Bomb Group, 9th Air Force. On D-Day they flew the final bombing runs over the Germans on Utah Beach as our troops were landing from the sea.

After the war, Hale set up the new data processing center for the DMV in Carson City, was later Director of the Data Processing Dept., and interfaced with the state legislature numerous times. He was also on the Board of Trustees for the Carson-Tahoe Hospital for many years.

Kay and Hale married in 1987 and in 2000 they moved to Silver Springs to manage the Silver Springs Airport.

A memorial gathering was held at on April 26th at the Silver Springs Airport. Donations to the EAA Young Eagles may be made in Hale's name at any Wells Fargo bank as "The Memorial Fund for Hale B. Bennett."

Dan Kenney, 49 ½
San Fernando Valley Chapter
October 25, 1946 – March 5, 2014

Dan died on March 5, 2014 after a short battle with lung cancer. He passed from this life at home, with his wife of 47 years, Maureen Kenney, by his side. He is survived by his wife Maureen, their longtime companion Roy Kenney, and two sons - Thomas Kenney and Sean Kenney as well as a brother, two sisters and numerous nieces and nephews.

Dan worked for GTE/Verizon for 37 years before he retired in 2003. He led an active retirement, tending to his vegetable garden and his ranch in the Sierras.

Dan was an avid supporter of the Ninety-Nines. He supported Maureen in all of her Ninety-Nines related activities. He attended chapter social gatherings as well as section meetings, and frequently volunteered to help out. Dan delighted in telling people that his wife was a pilot, and he was always thrilled to be able to explain the Ninety-Nines to men and women alike. He enthusiastically supported Maureen in her flying endeavors, including air racing.

Dan enjoyed attending aviation events such as AirVenture and the Reno Air Races, and also enjoyed traveling with Maureen by automobile or commercial flight. He is desperately missed.

Dan's ashes were buried at Flying Cow Ranch, his favorite spot, on March 29. He rests under an Aleppo pine that he planted about 20 years ago.

Submitted by his wife of 47 years,
Maureen Kenney

Joseph James Miceli, Jr. PhD, 49 ½
Reno Area Chapter
November 15, 1954 – March 9, 2014

Joe was born in Brockton, Massachusetts on November 15th, 1954 to Joseph James Miceli and Martha Mary (Zukas) Miceli. He grew up in Needham, Massachusetts with his sister, Martha. Friends and family called him the "mad scientist" because he would have many experiments and electronics projects underway; much like his own father.

In 1973 he graduated from Needham High School, and moved to Worcester, Massachusetts to pursue a bachelor's degree in physics from Worcester Polytechnic Institute. As a college junior, he met the neighbor's three sons, Shawn, Keith, and Brian Mahan. They introduced him to their mother and his future wife, Dolores (Johnson) Mahan.

After graduating from college in 1977, he, Dolores and the three boys moved to Rochester, New York as Joe entered graduate school at the University of Rochester. During his five years there he also started flying private planes, obtained his pilot's certificate, and began his ham radio hobby. Joe and Dolores were married in his last year of graduate school.

With his Ph.D. in optics, Joe began work in 1982 for Kodak's optical storage division, and moved the family to Walworth, New York. In 1984, he and Dolores gave birth to their daughter, Tia. Joe continued to move up in Kodak to lab management, project management, and finally general manager. During this time, he would fly the family to visit Massachusetts and to vacation in the Carolinas, Florida, and the Bahamas. Joe continued to earn pilot ratings, achieving his commercial, and instrument rating. In 1995, his wife fell ill with a rare bone cancer, multiple myeloma. For the next two years of her life Joe fought fiercely for doctors to provide her with the most cutting-edge treatments. She passed in 1997 from an infection.

In 1998, Joe, Keith, and Tia moved to Saratoga, California. Joe served as VP for Read-Rite's optical division, and shortly thereafter became a consultant for many high-tech companies in the San Jose bay area. At

this time he earned his multi-engine rating to purchase a Piper Seneca twin to safely fly the family over the Sierra for trips to Reno, Alaska, Mexico, and back east to Massachusetts.

In 2000 he purchased a home in a fly-in community in Wellington, Nevada where he later moved with his partner, Jeanne Pierce. He bought a Cessna 150 and convinced her to learn to fly. Joe retired from the high tech industry, and began buying and selling houses around the country, particularly in Nevada. Joe became a flight instructor, earning his single engine instructor, multi-engine instructor and instrument instructor licenses. He always supported flying endeavors, providing technology, knowledge and hands-on assistance to anyone who needed it, particularly Jeanne. He was so proud of her flying and her involvement in the 99s.

He continued to be a mad scientist throughout his life. His home has many towers for his ham radio antennas, as well as solar panels, alternative solar heating devices for water and air, and a shop to work on his own planes, cars and whatever else he collected.

Joe was the "go to guy" for business, radio work, mechanics, real estate, investing, and aviation. He will be missed by everyone who knew him.

His final flight was a short routine trip running errands in nearby Carson City from which he never returned home. He will continue to soar in our hearts and spirits forever.

Doris Jean McPherson Ritchey

San Diego and El Cajon Chapters
December 06, 1928 – January 12, 2014

Doris was born in Pueblo, Colorado to Samuel and Isabel McPherson, the oldest of three children. Doris was predeceased by her husband Frank of 49 years in 1998. She is survived by three children - Cheri Black (husband Andy) of Tucson, AZ, Keith Ritchey (wife Michele) of San Diego, and Glen Ritchey (wife Karen) of La Mesa. She is also survived by 9 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren, with a thirteenth expected in September.

Doris and Frank moved to San Diego in 1960. She received her teaching credential and Master's degree from SDSU and taught for almost 30 years before retiring in 1994. She also taught "The Science of Flight" in summer school and the Young Astronauts program at the Ruben H. Fleet Space Theatre. Doris was always fascinated by airplanes and got her pilot's license as a teenager. She received a scholarship to Stevens College in Columbia, MO and worked to pay for flight time along with her degree.

Doris was a very active member of the San Diego and the El Cajon Chapters of the 99s. Doris was a racer in local and Air Race Classic races, and was invited to watch missile launches at both Kennedy Space Center and Vandenberg AFB. She was sent moon rocks to display in her school. She was #1 pilot on search and rescue and reconnaissance missions for the Civil Air Patrol for 40 years, attaining the rank of Major. Her flight experience enabled her to fly a Navy jet in 1962 and she was a finalist for NASA's Teacher in Space Project. Doris and Frank enjoyed Elder Hostel trips and helping with their grandchildren.

Doris moved to Tucson to live with her daughter Cheri in 2004 due to increasing dementia. Services were held on March 9th.

Beverly Catherine Romero

Mount Shasta Chapter
1942 – November 23, 2013

Beverly Romero, age 71, of Redding, passed away peacefully into the arms of her Heavenly Father on Saturday, November 23, 2013, in Fresno, California. She grew up in Kentucky, and attended college at the Indiana University School of Medicine where she received a Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology in 1963. She moved to California working as a medical technologist at a San Francisco hospital then took a position in Redding at Memorial Hospital where she remained for thirty years. She retired as director of laboratory services.

She was an active member in the community, holding positions, including president, in Soroptimist International of Redding, and chairwoman for the Mount Shasta Chapter of the Ninety-Nines where she spearheaded a program to have compass roses painted at both Benton Airpark and Redding Municipal Airport.

Helping others was Beverly's passion and pleasure. She served as treasurer of Ident-A-Child and helped oversee and organize the fingerprinting and videotaping of more than 2400 children in the north state. She earned the Woman Pilot of the Year award from the Southwest Section, as well as the Woman of Distinction Award from the local and regional levels of Soroptimists.

Beverly was a go-getter and known to repair her cars and airplane. Her surviving family members are numerous. A memorial service was held in Redding on December 20th.

Doris "Jeanne" Williams
Bay Cities Chapter

Doris "Jeanne" Williams passed suddenly on Jan. 12, 2014, at the age of 72. She was with friends planning yet another travel adventure.

Treasured husband, Jim, and her parents, Norman Malick and Muriel Drew, preceded her in death. She was survived by her extended family the Prestons: Ben, Curtis, Debbie & Eric, who will greatly miss her and always referred to her as "Mom" and "Grandma".

Jeanne's work life began as a clerk for Joseph E. Seagram & Sons, Inc., in south San Francisco. She retired from Seagram's as a production manager. After "retirement," she did accounting for several local entities. She was President for the Sonoma Skypark board for several years, then director and most recently was the CFO and bookkeeper, as well as bookkeeper for the local volunteer fire department.

Her love for adventures included flying antique aircraft; giving air shows in her Marquart Charger bi-plane, camping, extensive traveling, horses, motorcycles and singing in the Sonoma Valley Chorale.

Jeanne lived her life to its fullest, was passionate about all the things she did, was sincere, charismatic, had a great sense of humor, a quick and inquisitive mind, and was generous and giving in life.

She knew that the true wealth in life was friends and she treasured each one. Her ability to keep in contact with them all worldwide was amazing. Jeanne always gave a warm hug and smile. Her laugh was contagious. She never hung up the phone without saying, "love you!" She joined the Bay Cities Chapter in 1966.

She and her husband "Big Jim" were original owners at the Skypark. They had owned a Piper Cub, which they wore snugly together when they would fly it. Later they owned Stearman Champ (which Jeanne just sold last year), a 180 and a Marquart MA Charger. Jeanne had an aerobatic and low level endorsement and she and her husband would fly during Fleet Week for several shows. They also participated over the years in other local aeronautical shows and events. They had hangars at Schellville Airport in Sonoma, as their home was closer to that airport. Big Jim died from Parkinson's disease about ten years earlier, and Jeanne was with him to the end.

She had a massive heart attack while dining with friends at their home and planning her next trip to Ireland. A memorial and Missing Woman Fly-Over was held for Jeanne on March 1st at the local fire department a mile from Skypark.

Worlin Urquhart "WUG" Gray 49½
Reno Area Chapter
November 7, 1916 – February 3, 2014

Worlin U. Gray, "WUG", passed peacefully in his home on February 3, 2014. Preceded in death by his parents, James and Agnes Gray, WUG was an only child, born November 7, 1916 in San Francisco, California. He grew up in the wilds of Yosemite after his father became the Water Master for the Hetch Hetchy reservoir system. After graduating with a mining engineering degree from Berkeley where he lettered in football, enjoyed Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, track and field and rugby, he joined the military and served as a Marine pilot in the South Pacific during WWII. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross by Admiral Halsey for outstanding valor in the face of heavy enemy fire. He returned home and began flying for Pan American World Airways in 1946, and met the love of his life, stewardess Kathy Cook in Fiji.

He is survived by his wife Kathleen Cook Gray, and children Richard (Katherine), Leslie Manning (Scott), James (Charissa), Allen (Dee Dee), David (Venetia), Doug (Laura), as well as many grandchildren and great grandchildren. "WUG" loved his family, flying, building a prodigious vocabulary, coaching youth sports and instilling character and lifelong values in young people. He retired as a 747 pilot with Pan American in 1977, began working full time for the aerial mapping business he had founded in 1958, and continued working in his own business every day until age 96.

A service celebrating his life was held at Mountain View Mortuary in Reno on February 15, 2014. Donations can be made to Wounded Warriors, the Pan Am Historical Foundation (Pan Am Historical Foundation, Inc, 1275 Fairfax Ave. Suite 747, San Francisco, CA 94124) or your favorite charity.



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