

# Stories of Pancho Barnes by Barbara Hunter Schultz on February 1<sup>st</sup>

Potluck Dinner: Kay Meerman's Hangar at 6:00 PM



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Barbara Hunter Schultz has been a private pilot since 1978 and lives with her husband on their own airport near Lancaster, CA. Her first airplane was a 1950 Cessna 140A, which they still have along with a Beech 18 and several others. She is a member of the Ninety-Nines (an International Association of women pilots), International Women's Air and Space Museum, EAA (Experimental Aviation Association), and WAI (Women in Aviation). She has written "Pancho, The Biography of Florence Lowe Barnes", "Flying Carpets, Flying Wings" (a biography about Moye W. Stephens, his friends, and his achievements in aviation), and Wedell-Williams Air Service (a book on Jimmy Wedell and his aircraft). She also has written an article for the American Aviation Historical Society Journal on Elizabeth Ulysses Grant McQueen, once dubbed "the arch godmother of aviation".



Barbara's research and writings involve significant contributors to aviation who she feels should have their stories told. She was fortunate to be able to interview pioneering aviators, peruse their photos, and hear their stories. She feels that "to be significant, aviation history must include every facet and individual who became a part of flight".

Her presentation on February 1<sup>st</sup> will be on "Pancho Barnes". To quote the introduction in her book on "Pancho", "Every now and then, the human race produces unique, one-of-a-kind characters who become our celebrities, mentors, and the stuff from which legends are born. Florence Lowe "Pancho" Barnes was a character among characters. Born at the dawn of the twentieth century, she inherited wealth, status, and privilege from a family over-flowing with visionaries, artists, and inventors. They endowed her with a keen intellect, spontaneity, and an insatiable appetite for adventure. As a result, Pancho never passed up an opportunity due to indecision nor did she ever hesitate to voice her opinions. She lived in a world of direct action with little room for rules or conformity."

*President's Column*  
*By Lynne Orloff*

**H**appy New Year! Not sure I believe it is 2014 already and we certainly are not having weather reflective of it being winter. I know we live in "Camelot", a charmed place with gorgeous blue skies, clear, clean air and moderate temperatures, but we may need to get our group together soon for a rain dance or cloud seeding (if we get one of those) if we want water to drink! Having said that, I do hope on the weekend of our first aviation meeting, February 1st, we will have great weather for our guest speaker and our out-of-towners to fly in to PML. I know you will enjoy what Barbara has to share about "Pancho Barnes." Pancho was quite the celebrity character of her time besides being a superb aviatrix.

Eric had a wonderful group of speakers last year and set another high standard for programs at PMLA. We have worked at getting another great line-up for this year, including writers, a U-2 Instructor pilot, a NASA videographer, an adventurer/astronomer, an aviation accident investigator, and hopefully, an inspirational woman pilot or two! As in the past, we will not have a meeting in July as many of us are off visiting other places. Our block party, sponsored by Marie and Randy Barber in August, is the second Saturday, giving the pilots and aviation enthusiasts amongst us time to visit and return from Oshkosh EAA.

Dian Martin jumped right in, volunteering to be the VP of Social Affairs, and I promised her you would be there at the usual hours for set-up and clean up so please continue your wonderful support! That willingness to help sets our association apart from most...our group shares the work and has a can-do attitude! It makes our jobs on the board doable and enjoyable. Thank you, all, and happy landings!



*From the Airports Manager*  
*By Jim Thomas*

Several pilots called me during our last snowstorm and cold snap asking when the runway would be plowed and if the County was going to plow the private taxiways. I thought it would be good to let the members of the PMLAA know what the current airport procedure is for plowing at the airports.

First, the Airports Division has only one plow which gets mounted on our 4 wheel drive Dodge Pick-up truck. In order to plow effectively we install studded winter snow tires so that the truck gets plenty of traction while pushing snow. We watch the weather predictions and do our best to anticipate the need to plow. Thus we are limited by having only one plow truck but two airports. As you can guess having the Community Resources Agency's plow trucks help us out is not an option because there are many roads in the County that need to be plowed and that is their primary responsibility.

As most of you know, the main Airports office is located at Columbia Airport because Columbia Airport is much larger than Pine Mountain Lake Airport. Columbia Airport's paved runway is 4,670' long where the PML Airport runway is only 3,625' long. Also, with two aircraft maintenance facilities, a flight school, and a fixed wing charter service, Columbia Airport sees more aircraft operations than the PML Airport. If there is snow that needs to be plowed at both airports, it is advantageous and most efficient to plow Columbia Airport first and then plow the PML Airport.

We will generally wait for it to stop snowing prior to plowing. There are two reasons for this. First, for safety it is undesirable to have a plow on the runway in limited visibility and, second, we prefer to plow only once and waiting until the snow has stopped falling reduces the chance that we will have to plow a second time.

At PML Airport the approach is to only plow the runway and the south parallel taxiway. The south parallel taxiway has been identified as the County maintained taxiway because the south side taxiway runs the full length of the runway and accesses the run-up area where the north side taxiway does not access the approach end of Runway 27 nor does it have a run-up area. Plowing of the ramp area does not occur because of the existence of tiedown chains and the desire to not put a berm of snow in front of any plane in the tiedown area, especially a transient airplane. Plowing the private loop taxiway is not done because this is entirely on private property.

***Social Column***  
***By Dian Martin***

Despite the snowstorm, 76 folks showed up for the Christmas Party at Tuolumne Trails. The food was prepared to perfection! Many thanks to John and his team for doing such an excellent job. The attendees ate, danced and visited the night away. Thanks to all the members who showed up in the morning to decorate the tables- they turned out just beautiful, and thanks to all who brought toys for the Christmas baskets. There were a lot of toys and our organization should feel a great deal of pride for their generosity.

Hope everyone is enjoying the New Year. Can you believe it is 2014?? Our February 1st, 2014 meeting will be pot luck and will be held at Kay Meerman's Hangar. Setup will be at 10:00AM as usual. See you all there. If you have questions feel free to contact me at 962-6464.

***Meet Your New Board***

**President Lynne Orloff**



Flying, as noted in my picture at 2 1/2 years old, has been part of my whole life...as an Air Force Brat, and as a pilot since 1977. Small world story, the Ryan PT 22 in this picture is the very one I own today! Horses came late in my life. I am enjoying every moment in the air that I can get these days.

**VP, Airport Affairs Catherine Santa Maria**



A fulltime resident of PML since 1997, Catherine has been a private pilot for just a couple of years, training with three CFIs who are PMLAA members. She and her husband are retired bank executives from the SF Bay Area. She is actively involved in the PML Aero Club.

**VP Social Affairs Dian Martin**



Dian moved to PML in 2005 from Houston TX and Park City, UT after her husband Steve retired. She has worked for Police departments in Santa Monica, Newport Beach and Mill Valley and was an Engineering secretary at a large International oil field service company in Houston and Salt Lake City. She doesn't think any of her past work history will help with her new position but she looks forward to the challenge and experience.

**Secretary Charleen Beam**



Charleen has been a private pilot since 1995 and has lived in Groveland since 2007. She and her husband run the Cub Inn (bed and breakfast inn). Last year she acquired a 1946 Aeronica Champ painted in the colors of the Norwegian Air Force, and has named the plane "Helga".

**Treasurer Kay Smith**



A resident of PML since 1983, Kay is a founding member of our organization and a past president. She got her pilot's license in 1990, and flew for 13 years until her husband passed away. This is her third stint as treasurer for our organization.



## 2014 Meeting Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Time &amp; Location</u>
February 1	Barbara Hunter Schultz (Pancho Barnes stories)	6:00PM Kay Meerman's Hangar
March 1	U2 Instructor Pilot	6:00PM Vicky and Jeff Benzing's Hangar
April 5	TBD	6:00PM location TBD

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