

# Colorado Aviation Historical Society



JOURNAL OF THE  
COLORADO AVIATION  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
SPRING 2010 EDITION

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello and Happy New Year to everyone!

I am speaking from the position of the past Vice President, to now as President of the Society. Andy Parks, our preceding President, chose to relinquish the position due to his commitment to the Lafayette museum and his direct involvement with the production of a World War I Aircraft documentary.

The present 2009 Officers and Board of Directors (BOD) have been working towards updating our methods of doing business. We had a one day workshop solely for planning future committee structure. Presently there is a dedicated and highly active committee evaluating the Society's Bylaws and Standing Rules. We will endeavor to keep the membership involved and encourage input.

In the near future we will be working earnestly towards the creation of an outreach program designed to promote interaction with other aviation organizations. We realize the past few years have created significant economic challenges for many people and organizations. Understanding and working within these boundaries will be of utmost importance.

This past year we celebrated the fortieth (40th) anniversary of the CAHS, a proud milestone. Most importantly, what makes an organization a success are the people and you as the members are our most valuable asset. Thank you for your dedication and loyalty. We have much to be thankful for, and look forward to, as we have entered into another New Decade.

It is an honor to serve as your new President, as I have been involved with CAHS since 1969. During these years I have held the office of treasurer and served on the Board at various intervals. Throughout my 55 years of involvement in aviation, I have also functioned in an official capacity in multiple aviation organizations and as Chairman of the Jefferson County Airport Authority.

May 2010 bring you much joy and be a prosperous year for the CAHS!

Dave "Doc" Callender  
President

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2010

March 28 1:00 pm Wings Lowry Room General Membership and Board Meetings Program & Election of Directors	August 1 Hall of Fame Application Deadline
April 10 Original Tuskegee Airmen salute Bessie "Queen Bess" Coleman, 1st black female pilot, see page 4	August 14 General Membership, Board Meetings Election of Hall of Fame Candidates
April 17& 18 CAHS Aviation Archeology Rocky Mountain Metro Airport North American Aviation Archeology Summit	August 28 & 29 Colorado Sport Aviation and Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport Air Show, Fly-in Fiftieth Anniversary Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport
June 5 JAA FLY-IN (Jeffco Aviation Association) Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport	October 23 CAHS Hall of Fame Banquet Lakewood Country Club

## FLOWN WEST

We are all deeply saddened by the unexpected and sad news that **Laureate George Brewer**, HOF 1996, has flown west.

We wish to express our deepest sympathy to Myrna, his widow, and to the family



**CAHS**

**Annual General Membership Meeting**

**Sunday, March 28th**

**1:00 P.M.**

(Please join us for a light lunch being served at  
12:30 P.M.)

Lowry Room

**WINGS OVER THE ROCKIES**

State of the Society Report

Financial Report

Board of Director Elections

**DAWN PATROL**

USAF Museum's Bi-Annual WWI Fly-in

The journey and making of a documentary movie

Presented by

Member Andy Parks

## CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL FOR WOMEN AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS

BY BEA KHAN WILHITE

The WASP, Women Airforce Service Pilots, received the rare and prestigious Congressional Gold Medal on March 10, 2010 in our nation's capitol, joining the ranks of the Navajo Code Talkers honored in 2000, and the Tuskegee Airmen honored in 2006, a long-awaited triumphant honor. Although Senate Bill 614 was introduced by Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (Texas) and Senator Barbara Mikulski (Maryland) and signed into law on July 1, 2009, the official ceremony required the spear-heading efforts of L/C Nicole Malachowski, USAF Pilot and former Thunderbird pilot, for it to become a reality. The late Sen. Barry Goldwater (Az) and State Rep. Lindy Boggs (La) had confronted the problem of "lack of recognition" of the WASP service and were the original sponsors of the 1977 Bill, giving Military Recognition to the group.

With the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the United States' sudden entry in WW11, the military found itself without enough qualified pilots. The recruitment of female military pilots began with Jacqueline Cochran, and officially named WASP by order of Gen. Hap Arnold. By the end of 1944 the Wasp had flown every type of aircraft in the Airforce inventory, from trainers to the B29; nevertheless, they disbanded with little fanfare and no military benefits.

The invitation to Washington D.C. for the two-day festivities did not include airline tickets or per diem allowance for hotel and other expenses, but this did not dampen the spirits of these adventurous women, most in their late 80's, some in their 90's. Its not to say there was no disappointment or hardship involved. Some, like Ruth Humphrey Brown, was unable to attend and was represented by her daughter, Darcey Brown; and Peggy McCaffrey was represented by her grand



daughter, Lisa Rediger. For some, the trip was exhausting, because Aspen was snowed-in, Betty Haas Pfister had to drive to Grand Junction for a flight to Washington D.C. via Chicago.

The Resolution bestowed Medals on 1,074 of the Original WASP. Today, there are 300 surviving, 170 attended, with the group growing to 1700 attendees, including the proud family members. The WASP honored are: Ruth Humphrey Brown, Aspen, Class 43-8; Kathryn Gunderson, Lakewood, Class 43-5; Grace Ashwell Lotowycz, Boulder, Class 44-7; Peggy Moynihan McCaffrey, Montrose, Class 44-5; Annabelle Craft Moss, Grand Junction, Class 44-2; Betty Jo Streff Reed, Dallas, Class 44-7; Betty Haas Pfister, Aspen, Class 43-5; Doris Bristol Tracy, La Veta, Class 43-5; Lucile Doll Wise, Arvada, Class 43-7; Millicent Peterson Young, Colorado Springs, Class 44-10; and Josephine Cater Robinson, Boulder, Class 44-10 (unconfirmed).

Betty Haas Pfister was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1984. The Colorado WASP were inducted into the Hall of Fame with an Organization Award in 2005. They have been generous with their time and participation, as speakers and autographing memorabilia, and they have attended every Air Show and Fly-in at Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport since 2003, when we celebrated "100 Years of Powered Flight." Speaking on behalf of the Colorado Aviation Historical Society, it is an honor and a privilege to have the opportunity to congratulate the WASP for their invaluable military service to our country as aviators, in our fight for freedom. We thank them for their enduring devotion and commitment as they represent the WASP and aviation to the youth of Colorado. The WASP Exhibit can be seen at WINGS in the Heritage Hall, with uniforms worn by Ruth Humphrey Brown and the late Mary Koth McCabe

## AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM BRIAN RICHARDSON, AVAR CHAIRMAN

Subject: Fw: A McKenna Request - Old Dive Regulators Needed

As some of you know, I am headed back to Nikumaroro Island in the Phoenix Islands of the Central Pacific as a team member of the TIGHAR expedition hoping to solve the mystery of Amelia Earhart's disappearance. We will be leaving in mid May. You can see a primer video at [www.tighar.org](http://www.tighar.org).

Part of our plan this year is to further clear the Archaeological site where we believe the skeleton of a castaway, along with a woman's shoe, water bottle, sextant box, remains of a turtle and campfire were found in 1940. We are hoping to not only find a diagnostic artifact, but possibly DNA material that we can match with a sample we already have from Amelia's family.

To accomplish this clearing operation, we are planning to use multiple pneumatic tree pruners / loppers driven with the compressed air from SCUBA dive tanks,

which are plentiful and available on the chartered boat we will be using.

We need several - up to 6 - first stage tank regulator valves with a single quick connect hose to drive the loppers. I'm seeking donations or loaners of tank valves or whole regulator rigs that we can use, so if you've got that old regulator cluttering up the basement or attic, now is the time to get it out and get rid of it.

If you have an old reg that you would like to donate (tax deductible), loan, or otherwise liberate, please contact me.

Thanks  
Andrew McKenna  
[amckenna@indra.com](mailto:amckenna@indra.com)  
720-635-1166

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

In order to assure an ongoing, growing, vibrant, and productive Society, the 2010 Annual General Membership Meeting is a "Must for Members!" We're looking forward to seeing you!

A brief social get-together with refreshments at 12:30 p.m. will precede the formal meeting.

The election of Directors for the 2010-2011 Board of Directors will be held at the Annual General Membership Meeting on March 28, 2010, 1:00 p.m. (1300 hrs), in the Lowry Room at Wings Over The Rockies Museum.

Directors whose terms are expiring in 2010 are: Peter Paul Luce, Andy Parks and Bea Kahn Wilhite.

Directors Peter Paul Luce and Bea Khan Wilhite have indicated a desire to continue to serve on the Board and are therefore up re-election. Director Andy Parks has opted not to seek re-election due to extensive time constraints.

These Directors have contributed immensely and effectively to the success and overall operation of the Society

throughout the years and the Society is collectively grateful for their devotion and continued commitment.

The Board has approved the selection of Director/Vice President Michael McRhodes to chair the Nomination Committee. Directors Ron Newberg, Secretary, and Mark Johnson also are serving on the Nomination Committee.

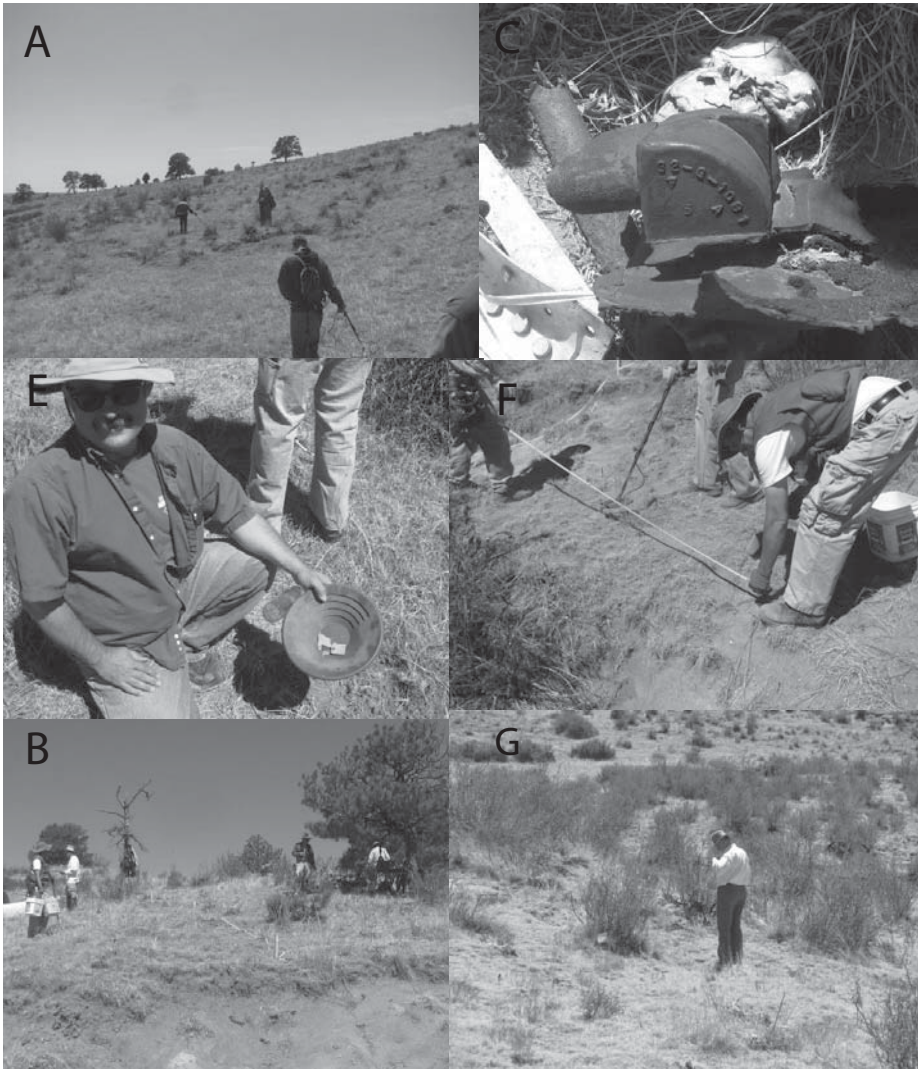
If a Member is unable to attend, the Member may assign proxy voting right to a third party, provided the reassignment is submitted in writing to Ron Newberg, Secretary, designating the transfer of the voting right.

Proxies are expressly excluded in the Bylaws for the Membership quorum, ergo... still a "Must Attend for Members!"

Please contact Michael with questions, or if you have in mind a nominee or if you wish to be considered for the slate.

Michael can be reached at 303-475-6980, or by email at [mmcrhodes@yahoo.com](mailto:mmcrhodes@yahoo.com). For proxy notification, contact Ron Newberg can be reached at 303-690-4008 or by email at [Rnew3040@aol.com](mailto:Rnew3040@aol.com).

## Steve Groth and team taking surveying transit measurements at Jimmy Camp B-24 Site



A. Team scanning the ground with metal detectors and placing flags where "hits" are found  
 B. Sample of the size of B-24 parts being surveyed, tagged, logged, and recovered  
 C. B-24 part with part number, found with other parts that piled by previous visitors  
 D. Team brings equipment to project datum location and primary survey line and stakes, L to R : Lance Barber, Brian Richardson, Bob Rushforth, and Len Wallace

E. Larry Liebrecht recovering parts in a plastic gold-panning pan after measurements were taken  
 F. Lance Barber pulling measuring tape from Bob Rushforth, and Ron Miller swing the metal detector, site are surveyed with 20ft by 20ft grids, all flagged parts are located(flagged), plotted, described, logged, and bagged.  
 G. Len Wallace analyzing the section of debris field with many flags, scattered by the original crash or by years of weathering effects of rain transport

## The North American Aviation Archaeology Summit 2010

The North American Aviation Archaeology Summit 2010 will be held at the Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport in Broomfield, Colorado, over the weekend of April 17th & 18th, 2010.

Hosted by the North American Institute of Aviation Archaeology (NAIAA) and the Northern Colorado field office of AvAr, this two day event is intended to gather serious members of the aviation archaeology and wreckchasing communities in an effort to establish guidelines for a national organization.

Focused on open discussion and workgroup sessions, the design of this conference is to maximize participation for all who attend. Rather than offering presentations of past accomplishments, attendees will be invited to contribute ideas based on knowledge and previous experiences that will lend to the development of a new, national organization of aviation archaeology.

Addressing such issues as organizational structure, mission orientation, principles of operation, educational standards, and membership criteria, along with establishment of an ethical code of conduct will be the primary focus of this Summit.

This is a truly unique opportunity to help create a national organization. What will be discussed at this conference may well shape the future of aviation archaeology for all enthusiasts. Should you wish to attend please RSVP no later than December 31st, 2009. To RSVP for this Summit please contact Brian Richardson or Matthew Hensarling of the North American Institute of Aviation Archaeology.

Daily refreshments and handout materials will be provided. A special discount rate for lodging near the facility has also been arranged for early registrants. Attending delegates will also receive a commemorative certificate of recognition for their participation in this monumental summit.

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## WE HONOR THE NATIONAL GUARD!



## ORIGINAL TUSKEGEE AIRMEN SALUTE BESSIE "QUEEN BESS" COLEMAN

You are all invited, we have a very special invitation for you: Herbert L. "Hooks" Jones Chapter, Tuskegee Airmen, Inc. presents the "2010 Excellence in Aviation Awards," commemorating Aviatrix Brigadier General Bessie "Queen Bess" Coleman, the first black female pilot. Featured speakers are: B/G Stayce Harris, USAF; Thelma Rudd, President of the Bessie Coleman Foundation; and Gina Moretto, FAA Safety Team Program Manager, NM Region,

Denver FSDO. Award recipients are: Nicole Davis, Solange Mychal Eddy, Edna Lorette Futrell, Andrea Menjura, Dominique Robnett, Jasmine Searuggs, and Madeline Winslow.

Date: April 10, 2010 11:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Location: Ritz Carlton Hotel  
Cost: \$75 Each  
Information: [www.colorado-redtails.com](http://www.colorado-redtails.com)



Board of Directors Michael McRhodes, Ron Newberg, Dan Callender, Bea Khan Wilhite, Marilyn Taylor, Dr. David Callender Missing: Lance Barber, Mark Johnson, Andy Parks, Peter Luce and Chuck Holmes, Emeritus



Laureates with Tom Kirk, Joe Thibodeau, Millicent Peterson Young, WASP, Bart Whitehouse, Lucile Bledsoe, Dave Callender, Emily Warner, Babette Andre, Dean Baird, Tom Kirk, Jack Wilhite, Norm Avery



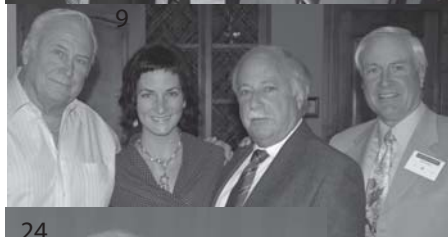
Banquet Committee: Michael McRhodes, Joe Thibodeau, Ron Newberg, Dan Callender, Bea Khan Wilhite, Marilyn Taylor, Dave Callender, Dave Kempa Missing: Skip Newberg, Peter Paul Luce

**HALL OF FAME CELEBRATES 40 YEARS  
...HAIL TO THE LAUREATES!**

The 2009 Hall of Fame Banquet was held on October 3rd at Lakewood Country Club, where the prestigious group of notable aviators and their guests welcomed the three new inductees. A Proclamation signed by Colorado Governor Bill Ritter, recognized Patsy Buchwald, Colorado Classic Balloon Festival; Dave Ebershoff, Steen Skybolt re-designer and Air Show Pilot; and Bob Resling, a decorated American Veteran and commercial Pilot, for significant contributions to aviation in Colorado. Col. Tom Kirk, Vietnam POW who spent five years in Hanoi Hilton, was the guest speaker. The Society continued the tradition to invite speakers recognized for extraordinary service to our country and for aviation contributions of great significance. Vice President, Dr. David Callender chaired the event, and he was joined by a host of distinguished guests, as shown in the photos.



*Photos compliments of  
Charters by Air Denver  
and  
Dave Kempa*





1. Col. Thomas H Kirk Jr. (USAF Ret.)
2. Patsy Buchwald
3. David Ebershoff
4. Robert Resling
5. Dody Engel, Founder
6. Lance Wilhite and Col. Jack Wilhite Founding Board
7. Norma Ravensborg
8. Lewis Entz and Chuck Holmes
9. Hank Resling, Emily Resling, Bob Resling, Rich Resling
10. Bea Khan Wilhite, Ann Kirk, Penny Hamilton
11. Daril Cinquanta
12. Maynard Shigley, Dave Ebershoff, Dean Hall, Jack Wilhite
13. Melissa Berg, Jim Huffman, Tamara Gifford-Kempa
14. Terry Barbo, Joe McGowan, Babette Andre
15. Lori and Lewis Entz, Bill Hamilton
16. WASP Milicent Young
17. Sharon Roush, Joanne Wormsbacher, Phyllis Wells
18. Norm Avery
19. Emily Howell Warner
20. Greg and Beth Anderson
21. Clark Hearn
22. Yang Siage, Blia Yang, Pazua Yang, Yang Chee, Karen Osburn (Vocal & Guitar Entertainment), Bob Resling
23. Peter Paul Luce
24. Joe Thibodeau, Banquet Co-Chair, Bea Khan Wilhite, Banquet Chair



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**COLORADO AVIATION  
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