

SONOMA SKYPARK NEWS

FEBRUARY 2014

On Sunday evening, January 12 Sonoma Skypark lost a wonderful friend in our family of aviation enthusiast. Doris "Jeanne" Williams died suddenly at a friend's home planning a trip to Ireland in the near future. Jeanne and her late husband Jim were fixtures in the Northern California aviation scene for more than forty years.

The Williams's were some of the first individual's that said "count me in" when we were putting the current Sonoma Skypark, Inc. structure together in 1986. Soon after that they were building their hangar. Even with their ownership here they continued to be an integral part of Schellville Airport and Jeanne was a major spark plug in the "Schellville Antique Escadrille. Jeanne served on the scholarship committees of the Escadrille and Petaluma Area Pilots Association to the present time. Jim and Jeanne did not have children but she was always a supporter of any youth oriented project and you could count on her to contribute both monetarily and physically.

Both Jeanne and Jim were accomplished pilots owning a Cessna 180, Piper J-3 Cub, Stearman bi-plane and a Fleet 2 along with Jeanne's Marquat Charger. In the 1970's they both performed at Northern California airshows with low level waivers in their bi-planes. After retiring from a long career with Seagram Spirits Jeanne took on bookkeeping accounts for various organizations and associations including the Shell Vista Volunteer Fire Department and Sonoma Skypark, Inc.

Jeanne served on the Skypark Board of Directors for a number of years including a few years as President. She was our CFO and bookkeeper until her death. I will always miss her presence and sincerity when working with her. She could be stubborn and strong willed but she still seemed to have the capacity to listen to the other point of view. Rest in peace my friend. We wish you blue skies forever.

Celebration of Jeanne Williams Life – On Sunday January 26th friends of Jeanne's gathered in the airport clubhouse to share memories and stories about Jeanne. It was a bright sunny day and well over a hundred folks gathered. Light food and drinks were served; several friends spoke and songs were led by Darrel and David. At the conclusion of the day Skypark pilots flew a "Missing Women" formation. On **Saturday March 1st** at 10:00 am there is a community wide Celebration of Jeanne's life planned at the **Schell Vista Volunteer Fire Department** station at the corner of highway 12 and highway 121. We will not be serving our regular Saturday Bar-B-Que in the clubhouse that day.

AIRPORT HAPPENINGS – **John Thomason** is putting his Piper PA-18 Super Cub back together now that his RV is flying. **Debbie Presten** is recovering the wings in one hangar and **Jim Clark and Jerry Gustafson** have the fuselage in their hangar sorting out the pieces and putting it back together. John is supervising his team and keeping the enthusiasm up. This team works fast so maybe our Cub fleet will be bigger this coming summer. The rain finally started this week with 2 to 7 inches forecast for the next two days. We will have some green hills to look at.!!!!

I just learned that **Tat Tatman, Robin Tatman's** husband passed away Friday January 31st. Tat and Robin joined the Skypark family a few years ago when they bought a Cessna 140 here at the airport. Robin fly's for Delta Airlines and last year she stepped into the leadership role for Post 1268 of the Skypark Air Explorers. Tat had a long career in aviation starting with lighted airways. I know he flew test flights for United Airlines in DC-8's. Robin is planning a memorial celebration for April 1st and we will learn more about Tat's flying career then. RIP Tat.

Airport Calendar

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| February | 8 & 9 | Display days for historical aircraft. From 12 pm to 4 pm. |
| February | 9 | Young Eagle flights for youth age 8 to 17. Flights start at 9 am and continue until noon. Come to the airport and fly or help out with

Registration or ground school. |
| February | 11 | 7 pm in the EAA Chapter 1268 clubhouse. Dinner and drinks are \$6.00, everyone is invited. |
| February | 28 | Movie night. Popcorn & shorts at 6 pm, pizza & drinks at 7 pm. |

TAILWINDS Run Free

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