

The Uptown News Beat

Focused on the Future—Honoring the Past

Words from our President

Please don't forget to renew your membership!!

May has flown by like the rest of the year and now we will soon install our new officers for the next year. Our Nominations Committee Chair, Glenna Haskell, and her committee members presented our membership with a slate of officers during the business meeting for May 12, 2010. We held the election of officers at our business meeting on May 26, 2010. They are very impressive choices for officers this year with two new members stepping up to the challenge. We will look forward to our new year under the guidance of the next leaders for Uptown Midland BPW.

Be sure you don't miss either of our meetings in June. Our last program meeting for our current year will be June 9th. Stacy has scheduled Michael Melson with Melson and Associates. He helps individuals preserve their assets from Medicaid Spend down. Good job, Stacy. At the June 23rd meeting, we will install our new officers. Look for details to be sent separately. Lots of good information and fun will be had by all.

Our first meeting for June, 6/9, is a program meeting and our second meeting, 6/23, will be officer installation for the New Year, 2010-2011. I hope each of you can attend. Please RSVP to Evie Adams, 2nd Vice President and Membership Chair at 570-5233 (evie.adams@bosworthco.com), or Shirley Harris, Webpage and Telephone/Email Chair at 684-4692 (shirley@tbobamthor.com). The cost of the luncheon is \$18.00 unless otherwise noted for special events. Please connect with us as we trek through this new adventure for Uptown and continue the spirit of BPW for others in our futures.

Building Powerful Women,

Debrah Gann

Uptown Midland BPW President 2009 - 2010

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**Uptown
Midland
BPW**

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Glenda Knox and Time Flies!

“Time Flies when you are having Fun”

Early this year, my 5 year old grandson was playing basketball at the “Y”.. His coach was a young man that was a senior at Lee High School working to acquire his Texas Scholar hours.

After one game, a young woman came over to me and gave me a big hug and said, “How are you Mrs. Knox.” Now not wanting to appear stupid, I simply answered her and she asked how we had been, etc. Then she said, “You know the coach of this team, is “My Baby”. Again, trying not to appear lame, I said, “Oh, yes.” We went on to talk about his upcoming college choice.

We said good bye and she walked off. As we were going to the car, I asked my son, who she was. He said, I don't know but she is one of Holly's (my daughter) friends.

I looked at him like he was crazy and said, “That can't be right, she has a son who is fixing to graduate.”

Well, the look he gave me nearly knocked me down, and in a sort of how stupid are you voice he said, “Isn't Curtis (my dtr's oldest) going to graduate this year?”

I simply looked at him and said, “Well, ----- the two of you sure are getting old, because I know I am not that old. AND I CERTAINLY DON'T REMEMBER HAVING THAT MUCH FUN.”

Where has the time gone???? Oh my, Oh my. It is true, my oldest grandson will graduate this June from Sandra O'Conner High School in San Antonio, and then be off to A & M in the fall.

Remember, Life is short, Live, Love and Laugh Often.



Curtis, Holly (Glenda's daughter with her sons) ,and Corey

Scholarship Quote

Thank you for the scholarship for this past spring semester. I am already reaping the rewards of being able to further my education. I was honored at UTPB Awards Banquet Friday night, and presented an additional scholarship from the Permian Basin Chapter of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants. Being acknowledged by both your organization and TSCPA has provided me with the additional confidence and ambition to go “all the way” and obtain my Master's degree.

Worth even more than the money, however, is the support and encouragement I have received from Midland Uptown BPW members. They are the most compassionate and generous women in our community. The tireless efforts they put in to make our community a better place is truly remarkable. I am honored to be not only a scholarship recipient but a member of and friend to this amazing organization. I owe my career, at least in part, to you all!

Warmly, Stacy Nelson 2010 Spring Scholarship Recipient

...MEMBER HAPPENINGS...

Memorial Day.....Jacqueline “Jackie” Cochran



During her aviation career, Jackie Cochran set more speed and altitude records than any of her contemporaries, male or female. She not only became one of the world's great aviatrixes but also one of the best pilots of either gender. Throughout her life, Cochran demonstrated an incredible drive; she wanted to succeed at everything she did. Remarkably, Cochran, unlike many famous aviators, did not originally show an interest in learning to fly. In fact, she obtained her pilot's license only so that she could peddle her own line of cosmetics across the country. Nevertheless, Cochran was a true aviation pioneer.

She began working as a beautician at a local hairdresser's. Because she enjoyed the work, she decided she wanted to eventually start her own line of cosmetics. In 1929, Cochran moved to New York City, where she hoped salon customers would fully appreciate her skills. She also hoped that her move would help her realize her dream of becoming a cosmetics manufacturer.

New York City was kind to Cochran. She got a job at a fashionable salon in upscale Saks Fifth Avenue and customers raved about her. Some even paid her to travel with them. She made good money and was rising well above her early circumstances. Then, while in Miami in 1932, Cochran met millionaire Floyd Bostwick Odlum. He was immediately attracted to her and would eventually ask her to marry him.

It was Odlum who first interested Cochran in learning to fly. Cochran had told Odlum of her dream of starting a cosmetics line and he suggested that she was going to "need wings" to cover the territory necessary to sustain a cosmetics business. Cochran took Odlum's advice seriously and obtained her pilot's license after only three weeks of instruction. For Cochran, flight provided an opportunity for a new life. Although she kept her cosmetics business, to her, "a beauty operator ceased to exist and an aviator was born."

After sharpening her skills at a California flight school, Cochran entered her first major aviation competition in 1934--the MacRobertson Race from London to Melbourne. Unfortunately, she and her co-pilot, Wesley Smith, had to abandon the race because of problems with their plane's flaps. Although Cochran was disappointed, she continued competing. In 1935, she entered the famous [Bendix](#) cross-country race from Los Angeles to Cleveland, but once again had to drop out due to mechanical problems. Ironically, in spite of her ambitions, it turned out that Cochran's major accomplishment of the year was the launch of her own cosmetics company.

In September 1938, Cochran demonstrated the full depth of her piloting skills by winning the Bendix outright. She flew a [Seversky](#) fighter plane to victory in 8 hours, 10 minutes, 31 seconds. Cochran finished first overall, even beating all of the men in the race. Thanks to her victory, she also received the William Mitchell Memorial Award, an honor given to the person who makes the most outstanding contribution to aviation during a given year.

When World War II began, Cochran traveled to England to observe how female pilots were helping the British war effort. She had been contemplating the idea of a fleet of women aviators who could fly military aircraft in support of general operations. The idea was to free up men so they could fight in the war, instead of dealing with such tasks as ferrying military planes and providing basic aerial training. While overseas, Cochran saw that women could effectively take on the more routine tasks of military flight, and she lobbied the U.S. government to create just such an outfit.



Jackie Cochran ò ò .continued

In 1942, Cochran got her wish. Army Air Force General Henry "Hap" Arnold asked her to organize the [Women's Flying Training Detachment](#) (WFTD) to train women pilots to handle basic military flight support. The following year, Cochran received an appointment to lead the Women's Air Force Service Pilots, or WASPs. The WASPs were essentially two groups in one--the WFTD, and another organization called the Women's Auxiliary Ferry Squadron (WAFS), a group responsible for delivering military planes to their base of operations.

The WASPs proved invaluable to the war effort. They transported planes overseas, tested various military aircraft, taught aerial navigation, and provided target towing. Under Cochran's leadership, the WASPs grew to well over 1000 members, but despite their usefulness, the organization did not last long. In December 1944, Congress disbanded the WASPs because scores of male pilots complained they were being put out of work. During their brief existence, the WASPs delivered approximately 12,650 planes and flew more than 60 million miles (97 million kilometers). In recognition of her leadership, Cochran received the U.S. Distinguished Service Medal, the first civilian woman ever to do so.

After the war, Cochran returned to racing and setting records. In 1950, she set a new international speed record for propeller-driven aircraft by flying a P-51 at 447.47 miles per hour (719 kilometers per hour). Then, in 1953, while flying a Sabrejet F-86, she became the first woman to break Mach 1, or the [sound barrier](#). Interestingly, in the late 1950s, as the U.S. human spaceflight program was getting started, Cochran was among 13 women who lobbied to become a female astronaut. The idea, however, did not come to fruition then because of the political volatility of the issue.

In the 1960s, Cochran continued to set records. Many of these new marks came while she was working as a test pilot for [Northrop](#) and [Lockheed](#). In 1961, she established a string of eight major speed records in a Northrop T-38. Three years later, she set three new speed records in a Lockheed 104 jet Starfighter. During one of her runs, she flew more than 1,429 miles per hour (2,300 kilometers per hour), the fastest a woman had ever flown.

In the 1970s, Cochran finally slowed down due to a serious cardiac condition. During the decade, she received numerous awards and honorary degrees in recognition of her outstanding accomplishments. In August 1980, after struggling with failing health, Cochran died in Indio, California.

Clearly, Jackie Cochran was an exceptional pilot and an exceptional woman. During her lifetime, she received more than 200 awards and trophies and set more speed and altitude records than any other pilot. In addition to her American aviation awards, Cochran also garnered numerous foreign honors, including the French Legion of Honor and a Gold Medal from the Federation Aeronautique Internationale. Interestingly, Cochran also excelled in the cosmetics business, which she had continued to run. During the 1950s, the Associated Press voted her "Woman of the Year in Business" two years in a row. And, as if these accomplishments were not enough, she also advised the U.S. Air Force, the FAA, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and served as a board member for museums and nonprofit organizations. In the end, Jackie Cochran, one of the world's best pilots, influenced the world well beyond aviation. From the 1930s onward, she left an indelible mark on aviation history.

Submitted by

Patti Humphrey



RENEWALS for April:
Ann Forest

RENEWALS for May:
Mary Ann Brock
Barbara Elliott

Renewal for June:
Laura Fowler-Gonzalez

Please check your e-mail for your Renewal Invoice/Notice. Any questions, please let me know. Thanks Shirley—shirley@tbobamthor.com

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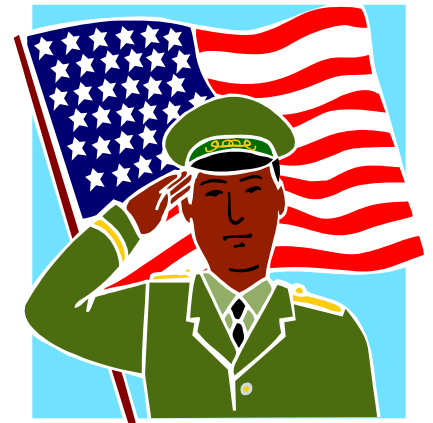
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....Shirley Harris and Gone Crazee.....

Hello to All! I agree with Glenda—where has the time gone.....cause....I haven't had that much fun. BUT we are having fun. We went to see the wildflowers last month and helped Matthews celebrate birthday #4 and this week we are off to the hill country again. Going down to the Nueces River in the Camp Wood area. We hear there were some awesome flowers there too. It is probably a little late for them, but that is ok. We will be in a cooler area and around lots of water. We'll probably take the bike so we can get out and ride in the mornings before it does get hot and then spend the afternoons lazing around. After all isn't that what vacation is for?

I would like to THANK everyone who has sent me articles and photos for the newsletter this year because that is what makes it the Uptown News Beat. So if you have anything that you want in the next one—get it to me!! I know you take vacations!

Look for a separate flyer about installation of Uptown's officers!!



Happy Birthday

6/7 Jeanette Porter

6/11 Kuohui Suchecki

6/14 Pamela Sanchez

FLAG DAY !!!

Women in History

6/7 Susan Blow 1843—1916
Opened first public kindergarten in America, 1873

6/11 Jeanette Rankin 1880-1973
Pacifist, Suffragist, first woman elected into Congress, 1916

6/14 Margaret Bourke-White
1904-1971
Photographer, First accredited woman war correspondent