

The Outer Marker

Volume 18 Issue 10

Bonnie Gottschalk - Editor



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2022

“Important Dates”

General Meeting

October 8th

8:30 AM

Gateway EAA Chapter 1401

Merced Regional Airport

Hangar 10

Board Meeting

November 3rd

7:00 PM

Mike Bodine

2519 Sea Breeze Ct.

Merced, CA



Bonnie Gottschalk
Editor

Happy Halloween!

Hello Flight Enthusiasts!

Trip to Arizona was a success. Got there safely, missed John for a little over a week, then he came back for me. We stopped off at some friends in Oceanside on the return home. Had fun with them as always.

It looks like I missed out on a great celebration last month for Gail. Xavier said it was the best one he has ever been to. But family comes first.

Congratulations Gail! You deserve that award and so much more. God bless you sweet lady!

We will be holding a Young Eagles Event on October 15th for the Boy Scouts.

Flew with Xavier to Willows again for some of their broasted chicken. Unfortunately, the truck had none to deliver so I settled for a Hot Turkey Sandwich. Was good but was not my chicken, which was the point of the flight. On the upside I found out that Velvet Creamery in Modesto has broasted chicken but only at the McHenry branch. Usually drive there though.

Have a great fall! See you Saturday!

As always, I pray God blesses you all with good health, prosperity and clear blue skies!

Bonnie

President's Post

October 8, 2022

Gateway EAA Chapter 1401



Mike Bodine

Our October General Meeting is, Oct 8th at 8:30AM

Merced Yosemite Regional Airport, Hangar 10.

This is our regular October meeting. Linton Wollen will be the presenter with videos of aviation events.

October 15th is a special event for Young Eagles with the Boy Scouts.

Those members helping in this event are to be at the airport at 8:00AM to help setup the event, before the Scouts arrive.

November General Meeting

We are currently in the progress of identifying our guest speaker for November.

2022 Gateway EAA Meeting Schedule

Board Meetings	General Meetings	Meeting Location	Meeting Agenda and Activity
	Oct 8	EAA Hangar 10	Aircraft Display and social
	Oct 15	EAA Hangar 10	Young Eagles Event with Boy Scouts
Nov 3	Nov 12	EAA Hangar 10	Aircraft Display and social
Dec 1	Dec 10	EAA Hangar 10	Aircraft Display and Christmas party

Chapter Events

Gail McCullough Receives FAA Wright Brothers Award



Congratulations Gail McCullough

Dearest Gail,
Congratulations on
joining us as one of the
Wright Brothers Award recipients.
We are so glad we could help you
celebrate! Love Kathleen & Lynn

Bill,
you will dream
into them! Love Mary
Gail, Congratulations
on your well
deserved award!!
John & Bonnie
Congratulations!!
Kim Olson
Cindy Wallace

Dear Gail -
you have given
special meaning
to all our lives.
Thank you -
Love Always
The Whitehurst Family

Dear Gail
Congratulations
on the many years
you have spent in
aviation. It is a
privilege to know
you and to see you
so happy and successful.
We are proud of you
and the many things
you have accomplished.
Love Mary

Let's hope
they
Congrats
Gail &
Lynn

What a journey
we have had! So
much fun!
Love Doree
Congratulations
to a great
Pilot!!
Love,
Doree

Much respect!!
Congratulations
to a great
Pilot!!
Love,
Doree

Congratulations
to a great
Pilot!!
Love,
Doree

Dear Gail,
Through the years, thank
you for letting your life
lead you through the
adventures of flight
and for letting a little boy
follow. I love you!
- Scott Chastin
Congratulation
GAIL!
You're the
best!
Anne Conover

Congrats Gail!
You have earned
this!!! B. Smith

Brett Spink!

Dear Gail,
well deserved
YOKO Peggy Managum

Congrats Gail!
Didn't she have fun!!
Love,
Gail
anti

Congratulations
Joyce
Jerry & Donna

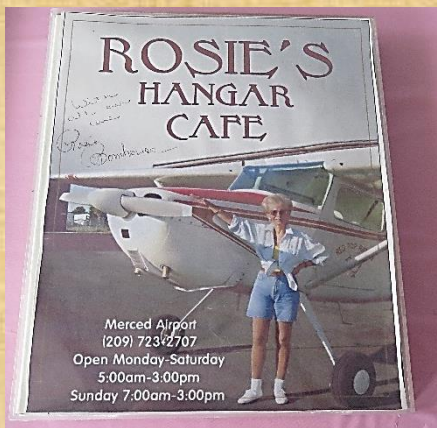
CONGRATULATIONS
GAIL LOVE
Kelly











To: Gail McCullough
From The 1974 U.S. Army Silver Eagles



Bob Smith
Sgt
Bill Hamer
Sgt
Steve
Sgt
Frank Wright
1st Wing

To Mrs. Gail McCullough
With Sincere Best Wishes, The USAF Thunderbirds



Bill Smith
Sgt
Steve
Sgt
Frank Wright
1st Wing



Gail McCullough
Training
Dive Competency Design
1 Dec 99 - 1 Dec 00
Portage, Iowa



93d Bomb Wing

Presents to
Gail McCullough
B-52 Hostess
for participation in the Seattle AFB
orientation flight program

To Gail McCullough
With Sincere Best Wishes, The USAF Thunderbirds



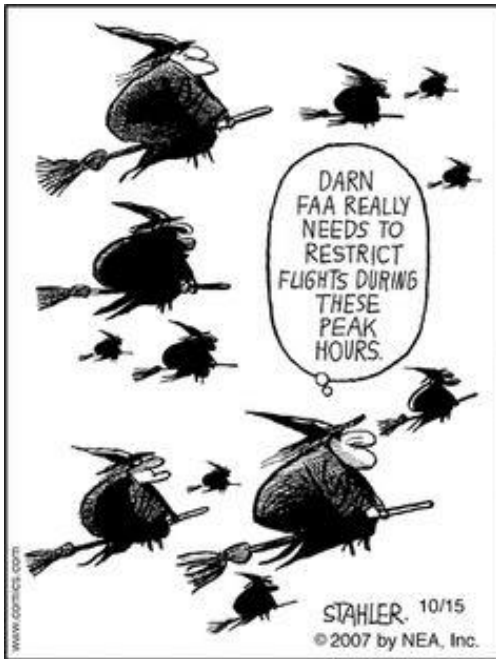
Bill Smith
Sgt
Steve
Sgt
Frank Wright
1st Wing



Congratulations
Gail McCullough

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Joey had the scariest costume on the block.



What happens when pumpkins drink alcohol?
They get smashed.



RD

HALLOWEEN FUNNY JOKES

What room does a ghost not need?

A living room.



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A BIT OF HISTORY

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Merced's Gail Flanagan McCullough received the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award — the most prestigious award the FAA issues to pilots — during a ceremony at the Merced-Yosemite Regional Airport last Saturday, Sept. 10.

The award recognizes pilots who have practiced safe flight operations continuously for 50 or more years during the course of their aviation careers. It also honors pilots for being mentors, teachers and good examples of aviation excellence.

"I'm a happy camper, and thank you all," Gail said after receiving the award from Paul Koscheka, the FAA Safety Team program manager.

About 30 friends and family members showed up to Hangar #10 at the airport to support Flanagan. They were shown a presentation on the history of the Wright Brothers and the significance of the Master Pilot Award.

Linton and Kathleen Wollen helped organize the event. Linton Wollen is also a past winner of the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award. Also, Margaret Bodine helped make sure that everything at the ceremony was properly set up.

The Flying Flanagan

Gail was born into the local “Flying Flanagan” family at Red Top Ranch — named for three daughters who had red hair. The ranch had a hanger and runway where Gail’s dad kept a Curtiss Robin.

Gail made her first solo flight on May 18, 1956, in a Cessna 170B.

Gail and her father flew many fishing trips to Baja California bringing back fish that were displayed at the Red Top Restaurant & Store. She eventually earned her private pilot’s certification on Dec. 9, 1966, and her commercial aviation designation on May 3, 1969. She became a Flight Instructor on Sept. 22, 1971 — one of the few women instructors at that time in the Central Valley.

She married a pilot Jack McCullough who had a Champ 7 AC. The Flanagan family had lots of pilots including the three sisters and other relatives.

Gail’s total flying time is 3,389 hours — almost all in tail draggers.

Many local people may know also know Gail as one of the top real estate agents in town. She would often take her clients flying over their property.

Gail was a member of the Castle Air Force Base Community Counsel and was President for several years. Because of this connection, she was offered rides in the military powerhouse planes: C-130, B-52 bomber, and KC-135 tanker. She actually has about 10 minutes in the left seat of the B-52, piloting a low-level run, and accumulated 72 hours in the tankers.

Other aircraft experiences included the following aircraft: the Breezy, Ford Tri-Motor, a Glider in Hawaii, Stearman, Marquart Charger, and a B-17 — flying in it from Merced to Hayward.

Locally, Gail was active in the Merced Pilot’s Association as President and an organizer of the Merced West Coast Antique Fly-In serving as Publicity, Director, Early Bird Dinner and Public Relations Chairman. When she was Director of the event, she organized a Reno type air race. There were eight airplanes of the Formula I type competing on a course like Reno with pylons to mark the turns.

This was the only year the race was part of the West Coast Antique Fly-in. The Merced Pilots Association put on this event for 40 years and Gail was involved with many of them.

Other aircraft experiences included the following aircraft: the Breezy, Ford Tri-Motor, a Glider in Hawaii, Stearman, Marquart Charger, and a B-17 — flying in it from Merced to Hayward.

After Castle Air Force Base closed, Gail became a member and Board of Director of the Castle Air Museum supporting its events, hosting an L-20 Beaver with her husband at Open Cockpit Days and other activities.

Gail's last flight in her beloved Cessna 170-B was January 2021 before it was sold in February of that year. Gail and her airplane had extensive time flying over the valley at over 1,000 feet scouting the area.

Gail also had the honor being Queen of the Watsonville Fly-In. She is an enthusiastic supporter of Aviation attending the Experimental Aircraft Association AirVenture in Oshkosh Wisconsin four times. In the local Chapter of the EAA, she has been an active member and officer for many years.



[Jonathan Whitaker 370 Posts](#)

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