

A unique, inspirational TRAVELING WASP Exhibit showcasing the captivating history of the Women Airforce Service Pilots, first women in history to fly America's military aircraft.



"FLY GIRLS OF WORLD WAR II" WASP EXHIBIT

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Summary

THE WASP

During some of the darkest days of World War II, when America was most desperate for pilots, a small group of patriotic, courageous young women pilots answered the call to serve their country, paid their own way to Texas from all over America, and entered Army Air Force flight training. After graduating, they flew every type aircraft and every type mission any AAF pilot flew, except combat. These **Women Airforce Service Pilots** put their lives at risk as they flew over sixty million miles on AAF missions within the Continental United States, which released male pilots for combat duty. WASP made a significant contribution to America's fight for freedom and proved, as General Hap Arnold said, "You have proved you can fly wingtip to wingtip with your brothers."

'FLY GIRLS OF WWII' WASP EXHIBIT

'Fly Girls of World War II' shines a light on the untold, inspirational history of this pioneering group of women pilots—the first women in history to fly America's military aircraft. These courageous women pilots are 'larger than life' in this colorful, visual history of the WASP: from the 200' x 2' WASP film strip, with the shining faces of 163 WASP, to the 7 foot tall WASP standups. Also featured in this educational exhibit: mannequins dressed in original uniforms, a visual history mural, photo collages, a 26 foot WASP timeline, a scale replica of the Stearman primary training aircraft (PT-17), and the unique WASP mosaic, which features the faces of EVERY WASP (1,102) in one amazing photo.

EXHIBIT HISTORY

First on display at the Mayborn Museum Complex in Waco, Texas (Nov, 2007- April, 2008) and currently on display at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial at the gateway to Arlington National Cemetery (Nov 2008 - Nov 2009), the "Fly Girls of WWII" exhibit was created by Wings Across America's mother-daughter team (Director, Nancy Parrish, and WASP Deanie Parrish). "Fly Girls of WWII" is curated by Nancy Parrish.

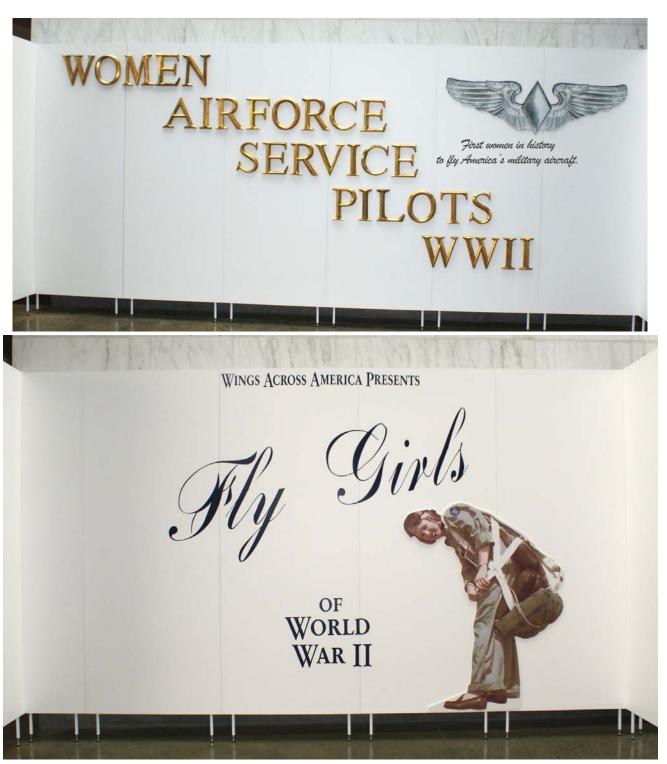
WINGS ACROSS AMERICA

Since 1998, Wings Across America has been capturing and preserving, one by one, the history of surviving WASP. This non profit, all-volunteer project, thru Baylor University, is dedicated to documenting and preserving the history of the WASP and inspiring generations through its companion WASP on the WEB and an online virtual museum. In September, 2007, the project expanded to include this unique and uplifting WASP exhibit.

Exhibits

OPENING GRAPHICS

WOMEN AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS WWII -- 30 polystone letters, each measures 12" tall with 5' wide WASP wings on foam core.



"LOGO" for the exhibit features a WASP strapping on her parachute with vinyl stick-on lettering.

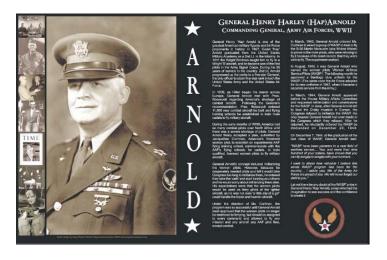
WASP TIMELINE



13 panels 2'x 6' each

Unique timeline of historical events from 1938, when Jacqueline Cochran first proposed the use of American women pilots, to 1977 when the WASP were finally granted the veteran status they had earned.





Bios of Jacqueline Cochran, founder of the women's flying training program and General Hap Arnold, Commanding General of the Army Air Force who approved the training program and named the AAF women military pilots 'WASP.'

Wings Across America's

VISUAL HISTORY

OF THE

WASP

During the early months of World War II, there was a critical shortage of combat pilots. Jacqueline Cochran, America's foremost woman pilot, convinced General Hap Arnold, the Commanding General of the Army Air Force, that women pilots, if given the same training as the male aviation cadets were receiving, would be equally capable of flying military aircraft. They could then take on some of the military flying assignments in the states, which would release male pilots for combat duty.

25,000 young women pilots applied for this experimental flight training program, but only 1,830 were accepted and took the 'oath'. 1074 graduated and, together with 28 WAFS (Women Auxiliary Ferrying Service) became WASP (Women Airforce Service Pilots), the first women in history to fly America's military aircraft.

The WASP forever changed the role of women in aviation.

WASP TRAINING

"Put God first, family next, and then do whatever you want to do, or whatever's needed. The sky's the limit. When you're needed, be there. You can do anything with God's help." Marion Hodgson, 43-5



"You either had a chance of doing it (at Camp Davis), or go home. Those who wanted transfers went home! We did what we were assigned to do, with no regrets."

Ruth Tomason Florey, 43-4



"It is natural for a person to seek happiness in life; however, I believe that this desirable aim is never achieved if one attempts to find it directly. Instead, happiness is found indirectly as a by-product from devoted service to the lives of others."

Marie Mountain Clark, 44-1

FLIGHT LINE AND GRADUATION



FIFINELLA (WASP MASCOT), FLYING GEAR, PT-17, WASP FLAG MANNEQUINS





SCALE REPLICA OF PT-17, primary training plane.





WINNING THEIR WINGS





"WINNING THEIR WINGS" includes every variation of the WASP wings, cast in silver and mounted behind glass.

"It was both an honor and a privilege to serve this country during some of the darkest days of WWII.

We did things that were dangerous, that's what it took in order to keep this country free.

I believed it then, I still believe it today, with God's help, nothing is impossible."

Deanie Bishop Parrish, 44-4

WASP DUTY BASES, MISSIONS AND PLANES



MAP of 120 Army Air Bases where the WASP were stationed across America, some of the planes they flew, types of AAF missions and AAF Commands.

values we lived by: you are responsible for your actions; there's right and there's wrong; sexual relations are for marriage; marriage is for life; and a strong faith in God. I think, if you had those characteristics, that any generation could change the world."

Ruth Daily Helm, 43-2

ARKANSAS

COLORADO

MINNESOTA

home states..

KENTUCKY

GEORGIA

WASHINGTON D.C.

INDIANA

CONNECTICUT

2 posters 36" x 44" each,

featuring the names of the

WASP listed under their

ILLINOIS

NEBRASKA

FLORIDA

MAINE

TENNESSEE

MICHIGAN

Filiane, Manuel (Mattern)

Tradey Bertha(Link)

Medies, Bratine 6.7.

CANADA

USA

IDAHO

SOUTH CAROLINA

SOUTH-DAKOTA

WEST VIRGINIA

NORTH DAROTA

MISSISSIPPI

WASHINGTON

WASP HOME STATES

CALIFORNIA

KANSAS

OKLÁHOMA

NORTH CAROLINA





10

48 STAR FLAG



WWII 48 STAR INTERNMENT FLAG--first draped on the coffin of a fallen solder, then folded and preserved for over 65 years. Unfurled in memory of those WASP who were not given the honor of an American Flag on their coffins.



Photo of plaque in the bottom of the 'Wishing Well' at Avenger Field, where the WASP trained.

Scale model AT-6 (North American) primary trainer. Every WASP and AAF aviation cadet flew advanced training in this type aircraft.



ABOVE AND BEYOND





Six foot wide tribute to the 38 WASP killed while flying for their country.

Each photo is mounted individually and when mounted side by side, form a brick wall pattern.

Right of the larger exhibit, a "FINAL TRIBUTE" by Gen. Barton K. Yount from his speech to the last graduating class, 1944, and the WASP flag.

THE FIGHT FOR VETERAN'S STATUS



The WASP' fight for veteran's status began in 1976 with the help of Col. Bruce Arnold, USAF Ret (General Arnold's Son), Senator Barry Goldwater, and Congresswomen Lindy Boggs and Margaret Heckler. Their quotes, along with photos and an enlarged copy of the final singed bill, are included on this wall, topped with an enlarged copy of the headline from the Stars and Stripes.

MEMORABILIA, DRESS UNIFORM, COLLAGES





FACES OF THE WASP



This "FACES OF THE WASP" mosaic was created so that EVERY WASP who served would be included in the Fly Girls display. *1,103 faces make up this graphic of an AT-6 taking off from Avenger Field into the West Texas sunset. The print is mounted on part of the aluminum fuselage from a 'mothballed' aircraft.

^{*1,102} WASP plus Jacqueline Cochran, Director.

WASP DISBANDED



The final panel in the "Visual History" features 3 WASP in their dress uniforms, walking into the distant horizon, along with a quote from Jacqueline Cochran and a final text panel with "The Rest of the WASP Story."

FINAL QUOTES, PHOTO COLLAGES & CREDITS



This final section of the exhibit features colorful collages of 'present day' WASP, quotes from Eleanor Roosevelt, General Hap Arnold, General Jimmy Doolittle, Brig. Gen. Chuck Yeager, Astronaut Eileen Collins and Barry Goldwater, as well as a challenge for visitors to leave their own quote.

"This is not a time when women should be patient.

We are in a war and we need to fight it
with all our ability and every weapon possible.

Women pilots, in this particular case,
are a weapon waiting to be used."

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT SEPTEMBER 1, 1942 "You and more than 900 of your sisters have shown that you can fly wingtip to wingtip with your brothers. I salute you and all WASP.

We of the Army Air Force are proud of you, we will never forget our debt to you."

HENRY H. 'HAP' ARNOLD,
COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY AIR FORCES
DECEMBER 7, 1944

"It has been 50 years since you and I and all Americans struggled together to rescue freedom from those who would take it away. Though we worked in different ways toward that common end, every effort was an important one. That is cercainly true of the Women Airforce Service Pilots. Thank you for your dedicated efforts on the home front to make our work successful on the battlefront."

J.H. D oolittle GENERAL JAMES H. DOOLITTLE, USAF, RET. JULY 15, 1993

"One of the proudest things I've ever done in my whole life was to be associated with the Women Airforce Service Pilots as you were flying in World War II."

> SENATOR BARRY GOLDWATER MAY 5, 1994

"I have the utmost respect for all members of the Women Airforce Service Pilots. They were hard working, dedicated pilots who served our country well, playing an important part during the war."

> CHUCK YEAGER, BRIG. GEN., USAF RET. TEST PILOT MARCH 26, 1997

"The WASP were and still are my role models."

EILEEN M. COLLINS, LTC, USAF NASA ASTRONAUT JANUARY 22, 1998



WINGS ACROSS AMERICA

NANCY A. PARRISH, CREATOR/DIRECTOR WASP DEANIE BISHOP PARRISH, ASSO. DIRECTOR

"My passion to share their inspirational history comes from the WASP themselves, who believe that, if it's the right thing to do with God's help, you can do anything. Sharing their service, patriotism, honor, courage and faith with America is absolutely the right thing to do."

Exhibit Pieces

Exh	ibit Pieces		
GOLD POLYSTONE LETTERS (30)	"Women Airforce Service Pilots WWII" (12" tall)		
WASP Wings cut out	2' x 6' in 2 pieces on foam core		
"First women in history"Vinyl letters	silver stick on letters		
FILM STRIPS (27)	2' x apx 7' each 10 mil laminated (250 rf)		
FLYGIRLS OF WWII	"TITLE" with vinyl letteringapx 100" x 85"		
STANDUPPARRISH	5 footleaning over w/ parachute		
WASP Timeline	13 panels 2' x 6' each (26 running feet)		
Cochran Poster	poster 32" x 24"		
Arnold Poster	poster 32" x 24"		
WASP Visual History Panels (7)	wall space: 3' x 3' x 7 (apx. 22 running feet)		
STANDUP2 TRAINEES	7 foottrainees and sign		
STANDUPHODGSON	7 footA-2 Jacket		
STANDUPPAUL	7 footLeather flying gear		
STANDUPREYNOLDS	7 footzoot suit		
PT-17 Scale Replica	wingspan 84"		
PT-17 Poster	24" x 16"		
FIFI round patch	44" x 44"		
FIFI cutout	36" x 44"		
FIFI explanation poster	40" x 30"		
photo: cattle truck	28" x 40"		
photo: auxiliary field	20" x 40"		
photo: marching	20" x 40"		
MannequinGeneral's pants	A2 Jacket (original), white blouse, saddle oxfords, khaki pants 68"		
MannequinLeather Flying Gear	jacket, pants (original), boots (original), helmet, goggles) 71"		
WASP WWII collage (4)	b&w pictures of WASP and trainees 32 x 48		
Mannequin	Eisenhower Jacket & Pants (Original WASP uniform 71"		
Mannequin, seated	Coveralls, helmet, goggles, loafers 52"		
WWII AAF Parachute	original, 28 lbs		
WWI AAF Briefcase	original		
Photo: "To the Best Pilots in the World"	28" x 36"		
photo: graduation	29" x 40"		
WASP Flag	3' x 5'		
WASP Wings cut out	2' x 5' one piece foam core		
Black box w/ WINGS	Silver class wings recreated in display 36" x 48"		
photo: wingsbishop	14" x 21"		
photo: wingsarnold	14" x 20"		
photo: wingstanner	14" x 20"		
photo: wingscolbert	16" x 20"		
photo: wingsmoore	18" x 18:		
STANDUPPARRISH	7 footDress uniform		
PosterAT-6	black 17" x 29"		
AT 6 Model Airplane RTF	wingspan: 85", Barbie Doll pilot		
Planes of the WASP	canvas hanging: 44" x 70"		

Exhibit Pieces				
WASP Duty Bases	30" x 44"			
STANDUPHELM	7 footBlue Eisenhower jacket			
photo: headline "Women Defy Death"	40" x 31"			
WASP Home States	2 piece poster36" x 44" each			
Above & Beyond	5 piece 'wall' of faces 50" x 72"			
Final Tribute poster	24" x 36"			
WASP Flag on stand				
American Flag on stand				
PLAQUES (7)	17" x 22" for individual standups			
Stars & Stripes Headline	2' x 6'			
Veteran's wall photo-steps of capitol	22" x 30"			
Veteran's wall photo-Goldwater's office	20" x 36"			
quotes: Arnold, Heckler, Goldwater, Boggs	22" x 20" + 22" x 8" + 22" x 10" + 22" x 16"			
Veteran's Bill	33" x 40"			
Mannequin	Dress Blue WASP Uniform (original) 71" tall			
PosterAmerican Flag	black 17" x 24"			
48-star American Flag	WWII era 9' x 12 'internment flag'			
Parachute seat cushion	original AAF issue			
WASP Classbooks	original			
FACES of the WASP Mosaic	Print mounted on aluminumapx. 52" x 70"			
Wings Across America WASP collage (2)	color WASP pictures from interviews 40" x 32"			
Doolittle Quote	40" x 20"			
Arnold Quote	20" x 30"			
Goldwater Quote	20" x 30"			
Collins Quote	16" x 30"			
Roosevelt Quote	20" x 30"			
Cochran Quote	17" x 30"			
Yeager Quote	20" x 30"			
photo: graduation	29" x 40"			
photo: flight line	30" x 40"			
Wings Across America Thanks	24" x 36"			
photo: WASP & crew	40" x 33"			
"Fly Girls" wood plaque	12" x 10"			
Fly Girls credit poster	32" x 40"			

Requirements

SPACE

Fly Girls of WWII is divided into a series of individual displays that focus on different aspects of the WASP history. Minimum space requirement: 250 running feet with ceiling height of 12 feet or higher. However, space requirements are approximate, as different configurations create smaller or larger requirements.

TECHNICAL

Most elements of the exhibit are posters, mounted or printed directly on FOAM CORE, which can be fixed to the walls using velcro (not double stick tape). Items with special hardware requirements include:

FACES OF THE WASP MOSAIC--mounted on wood hanger--screwed into wall PLANES OF THE WASP CANVAS -- mounted on 'quilt' hangar, screwed into wall WASP WINGS Box -- screw mount to wall GOLD Polystone Lettering: Women Airforce Service Pilots WWII -- silicone caulking & velco

MANNEQUINS are an OPTIONAL part of the exhibit, depending on receiving museum's ability to encase several of the mannequins which are dressed in original WASP uniforms.

2 VIDEOS are included as audio video elements--and can be looped and played near the exhibit. Receiving museum to provide audio visual equipment.

SHIPPING

Original display was created and installed at the Mayborn Museum complex, which was 2 blocks from the Wings Across America offices. Shipping to Arlington, VA was accomplished with a generous in-kind donation from an aviation company--who built 2 crates and packed and shipped the exhibit via Fed Ex Express.

Because WIMSA is a memorial and not a museum, the packing and shipping FROM WIMSA will need to be evaluated and coordinated with the receiving museum.

Curriculum Vitae

NANCY PARRISH

'Fly Girls' Exhibit Designer & Creator

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PROFILE

Visionary and creative designer, transforming educational information into inspirational and exciting entertainment. Extensive experience in digital media, video, music and print.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2008: Designed and created the expansion of the 'Fly Girls of WWII' exhibit, successfully opening at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial, November 14, 2008.

2007: Designed and created Wings Across America's "FLYGIRLS OF WWII", an inspirational WASP exhibit. Opened on September 15, 2007 at the Mayborn Museum Complex, Waco, TX. (Exhibit run extended twice, closing on April 1, 2008.) http://www.wingsacrossamerica.us/flygirls

2003-2006: Created and founded the National WASP WWII Museum, the WASP Museum Website, and generated over 1,000 charter members. Designed brochures, posters and flyers. Designed and created museum exhibits for the National WASP WWII Museum, created the opening Museum dedication ceremonies, flyover, parade and events honoring the WASP. Served as volunteer Museum Director 2003 - 2006.

1998-present: Created 'Wings Across America', to give every surviving WASP the opportunity to tell her story on digital video tape. Served as producer / videographer for interviews with 115 WASP in 19 states across the United States. http://www.wingsacrossamerica.us/wings

*1996-present: Created 'WASP on the WEB' website. (Comprehensive informational site on the history of the WWII WASP.) June, 1996: Website named "Yahoo Pick of the WEEK." Continuing webmaster/designer of site, which now includes over 2,000 pages, with interactive games, songs, audio and video clips, photographs, timelines, and many other primary resources on the WASP (Women Airforce Service Pilots, WWII.) http://www.wasp-wwii.org

1994-1996: Senior Producer: KCTF Public Television, Waco, Texas. (Responsible for writing, editing, talent co-ordination, grant writing and production.)

1993: Co-wrote, directed and produced a video: "How To Break Into Show Business Without Breaking Your Heart" 1995: Created Website: 'How To Break Into Show Business' http://www.showbiz101.com

*all activities since 1996 have been as a volunteer

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Bachelor of Arts in Theatre, 1976, University of Houston Master of Arts in Directing, 1980, Baylor University

BIOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND

Born in Denver, Colorado to TWO Air Force Pilots, Nancy grew up a proud 'Air Force Brat,' attending seven grade schools in five states (and 2 countries). Her colorful career has taken her around the world as a USO entertainer with the show group, Tomorrows Sunshine. She has had the opportunity to work professionally as an actor, singer, talent agent, casting director, producer, writer, song writer and web designer, Line Producer for Baylor University's High Definition Film, "Most Significant Journey," and location casting director for the feature film, "Where the Heart Is."

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

"With No Regrets" article by Nancy Parrish, pp. 86-89. Salute to Freedom, Spring 2008. Lafayette Marketing Group, Inc. http://www.uspresservice.com

"Above and Beyond With Flying Colors: Women Airforce Serivce Pilots" article by Nancy Parrish, pp. 67 - 69. USAF Founding Centennial & 60th Anniversary. Preface by President George W. Bush, Foreward by Michael W. Wynne. Introduction by General T. Michael Mosley. Times Group, 2007.

"Wingtip to Wingtip: women in aviation and the pioneering WASP" article by Nancy Parrish. pp. 69-71. One Hundred Years of Powered Flight, 1903-2003. Forward by H.R.H.The Duke of Edinburgh. The Times Group, London, 2003.

Speeches & National PR: Pentagon Channel Feature; Air Force News; Girl Scouts "Women of Distinction" West Texas Region; Zonta International; Texas Historical Foundation

RECENT AWARD

"Spirit of Cochran Award," 2008 -- given by the National WASP WWII Organization:

FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE EXEMPLIFYING THE COURAGE, PERSISTENCE, AND INDOMITABLE, PIONEERING SPIRIT OF MISS
JACQUELINE COCHRAN, FOUNDING DIRECTOR OF THE WOMEN AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS, WWII.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP & AFFILIATIONS

Veteran's History Project Women in Aviation International International Webmaster's Association ASCAP World Organization of Webmasters Baylor Alumni Association