

INTERNATIONAL

# FLYING FARMER

January/February 2017

Volume 71, Number 1



**2016-17 IFF Woman of the Year, Barbara Leis  
and IFF Man of the Year Phil Peterson**





# 2017 Calendar of Events

## February 2017

**10-12** – Heartland Convention - Roadway Inn, 420 Broadway, Holdrege, NE -  
Phone: 308-995-2793 or 800-800-8000

## March 2017

**3** - IFF Duchess Day during Iowa/Missouri Convention

**3-5** – Iowa/Missouri Convention - Wild Rose Casino and Resort, 777 Wild Rose Drive, Clinton, IA 52732 - Phone: 800-457-9975

**10-12** – Kansas Convention - Goodland, KS

## April 2017

**7-9** – Alberta Convention - Olds, AB

**9-11** – Wisconsin Convention - Appleton, WI

**21-22** – Manitoba Convention - Canard Inn Portage LaPrairie, 2401 Saskatchewan Ave W, Southport, MB R0H 1N1 - Phone: 204-857-9745

## June 2017

**9-11** – Tri State Convention - River Lodge & Grill, 6 Marine Dr NE, Boardman, OR 97818 - Phone: (541) 481-6800

**10-11** – IFF WOY DAY - Greenville, OH

**18-21** – Minnkota Convention - Thunderstick Lodge, 24931 Thunderstick Rd, Chamberlain, SD 57325 - Phone: 800-888-1601 (IFF Queen's Day on June 21)

## July 2017

**31-August 4** – IFF Convention - Radisson Blu Mall of America, 2100 Killebrew Dr, Bloomington, MN 55425 - Phone: 952-881-5258

## September 2017

**13-16** – Region 3 Convention - Marriott Courtyard Lansing, 2710 Lake Lansing Rd., Lansing, MI 48912 - Phone: 517-482-0500

If you have an item to be placed on the Calendar of Events, please send the DATE, NAME OF EVENT, PLACE WHERE THE EVENT WILL BE HELD, and CONTACT PERSON WITH PHONE NUMBER to the magazine email ([flyingfarmersmagazine@hotmail.com](mailto:flyingfarmersmagazine@hotmail.com)) or mail to the IFF Office at P.O. Box 309, Mansfield, IL 61854

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FLYING FARMERS**

January/February 2017

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## Official Reports President's Report

*By Zelda Thorp Lewis  
Illinois Flying Farmer*

and leave with my heart overflowing with warmth and thankfulness for each of our members. Check the IFF website for the details for these upcoming events.

service where Titusville is located for our Ag tours. Thanks to Larry and Diane Dahl for the recommendation. Thanks also to Don and Sally Apple for doing some investigating for me as well!

Hope 2017 is treating you real well so far!

Make plans for being a part of the IFF Panama Canal Flying Tour that will leave in March. Thank you to Matt Cole for being our IFF rep for this trip with Caribbean Sky Tours. Details are on the IFF website. Contact Matt Cole or Caribbean Sky Tours.

Alaska is calling my name so I am going on a land tour/cruise with Holland American, August 29-September 12 through AAA if any of you wish to join me. I apologize already that it interferes with school bus drivers and the Ontario Chapter Convention. All I can tell you is the price was right! If you want more details email me!

I am looking forward to seeing you in Yuma January 15-19!

In regards to IFF business, any suggested IFF By-Law changes should have already been submitted to George Conard, Don Leis, Diana Billheimer or Dale Bohrer. If there are any suggested changes those changes will be presented at Workshop and they will be printed in the March 2017 IFF magazine and voted on at our 2017 IFF Convention in Bloomington, MN in August.

IFF Workshop 2018 ground work has begun. I am looking into Titusville, Florida. Titusville is the home of Cape Canaveral/ Kennedy Space Center which was the carrot to start here. I for one have never visited there and still am an avid space travel fan. I have asked for January 14-18, 2018 if at all possible with a tour of the Cape. I have been given hotel bids and plan to commit to one at the end of February. I am in contact with the Agricultural advisor from the University of Florida at the Brevard County Extension

Visit your local chapters! Get reconnected with your fellow IFF members! You will not regret it!

Take care of yourself and others, and be careful in your travels!

Travel to chapter conventions will begin to pick up starting in February. It is so worth the effort to attend these chapter conventions. I for one feel blessed with every one I attend

Happy Valentine's Day!







*Official Reports*  
**Queen's Report**

*By Gloria Reed*  
**Minnkota Flying Farmer**

Greetings from South Dakota!

Our harvest was completed on November 10. We dried every bountiful kernel. With fog, rain, drizzle, and 62 degrees, not enough sunshine for it to dry down on its own. The equipment is cleaned and tucked in for another season and the tillage is complete.

And how time passes - Thanksgiving is over. It is such a special holiday - time to stop for a moment in the busyness of our lives and thank God for all He has given to us and for all He has helped us do. Let's always be thankful.

Gene Payne planned our Christmas party December 9 at Willmar, MN at the Assembly of God Church, which holds 1,000 people and is served by eight pastors. The program was a Christmas musical, "Shepherds and Kings". A half hour before

the performance, two of the pastors entertained the audience. One of the pastors scanned the audience and asked if there were any groups present. I spoke up and said that the Minnkota Flying Farmers are joining you this evening. Then my husband, Kenneth, piped up and said that they were honored to have the International Flying Farmer Queen here tonight. The pastor jumps off the stage, puts the microphone in front of me, and asks me if I am the queen. Then he said that we needed to come on stage. We put IFF on the map that evening - a lot of laughs.

I hope you had a wonderful Christmas celebration with family and friends. Kenneth and I went to Kenneth's brother's family a mile and a half from us on Christmas Day. Early morning it started to rain. By 2:30 p.m. we had 50 mph winds, driving rain, thunder and lightning, and the electricity went off. It came back on at 9:30 p.m. This was a Christmas we won't forget for a while.

Happy Moo Year! The only resolution that Ken and I have made is to pack and go to every IFF event that the Lord allows us to attend. See you in Yuma!

**SAVE THE DATE:** On **June 21, 2017**, in Pipestone, MN at **1 p.m.** your IFF Queen invites you to her party. Tours, supper, and entertainment will be provided by Kenneth and me. We will party 'til the cows come home. Motel rooms can be reserved in Pipestone. More information in the next issue.

Have an "Udderly" wonderful day!



Say not that honor is the child of boldness, nor believe that the hazard of life alone can pay the price of it; it is not the action that is due, but the manner of performing it. You got all that? Me neither!



A high tide lifts all boats, except those with a big gaping hole in the bottom.



Never underestimate your ability to overestimate your ability.



## Official Reports

### Duchess's Report

*By Sharon Harrison  
Iowa/Missouri Flying Farmer*

Meanderings from your IFF Duchess Sharon!

How can it already be a NEW YEAR?? It is impossible to write this article several weeks before actual publication, without referring to the busy holiday seasons of Christmas and the New Year! The ability to multi-task multiple projects at once has diminished greatly in the past few years, so I find myself preparing for our family's Christmas get-together in January, as we have the previous three years. It is simply impossible to get the 'tribe' together in the month of December; so when New Year's celebrations are past, we are ready to relax, visit, and enjoy each other (and play with the babies!) At the same time, comes the preparation for the Arizona Convention and the IFF

Workshop. After that, comes the lesson-planning and packing for our mission trip to El Salvador in February.

The snow and freezing rain has postponed many of the festive activities planned for this weekend, including the youth group Christmas caroling and party, as well as the Christmas cantata and children's music programs. The ice & snow looks beautiful outside, IF I can stay *inside* looking out!

One of our grandsons is leaving December 18th for a year of military duty overseas. We 'hitched a ride' last evening with our son-in-law and his family to enjoy a meal and a much-too-short-a-time with grandson and his dad who also risked 'life and limb' to make the trip on icy roads. The journey would normally take an hour to drive to Macon, but took both vehicles twice that long to creep along the icy Interstate 36. It is so much easier to give a joyful 'Welcome Home' HUG than it is to give a 'Goodbye.' Austen has

a four month old daughter staying with her mother & grandparents, so Skype will truly be a blessing! (That modern invention wasn't available when my 'sailor' husband was overseas or twenty years later when our son was also in the Navy.)

Plans are progressing for the Iowa-Missouri Chapter Convention in Clinton, IA, March 3-5, 2017. The IFF Duchess party is being planned for the evening of Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Will be looking for 'you all' soon! In the meantime, Arizona—here we come! We hope to be FLYING!

Please note: My email address is: [rosieohday@hotmail.com](mailto:rosieohday@hotmail.com). Robert's email is in the IFF directory, so if I need to see an email, please send it to the above address. Electronic communication is speedy but sometimes male-female/hubby-wife communication is not always quite so effective—(57 years and continuing!)

HAPPY NEW YEAR to you and your loved ones!



*Official Reports*

**Farmerette's Report**

*By Gracious Harris  
Kansas Flying Farmer*

Happy New year everyone. I can't believe it's already 2017. The year went by so fast. Hope you all had a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas. My grandma came to our house for Christmas. The day after Christmas we loaded our things and went home with her. On Tuesday we headed

west to Albuquerque to our aunt's to have Christmas with her. Grandma treated us to a shopping spree which was our gift. I was able to stock up with all the sales everyone was having. I really enjoyed my time there. I went to my first college basketball game. It was so much fun. On January 1st, after attending church, Grandma took us to Great Bend to meet Mom to go back home.

School starts back on the 4th and I am looking forward to getting back into the routine of

the school activities. I am first chair alto sax in concert band this year which I enjoy. As you know I decided to join the wrestling team, and I absolutely love it!!! I won my first match and placed 4th. I got a medal and got to stand on the podium. Our next meet is on the 7th at Shawnee Mission.

Sending you all the best for the New Year and safe travels for all your upcoming events with Flying Farmers. Until we meet again.



Pizza Balls

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 lb. refrigerated pizza dough                    | 1 tbsp. thinly sliced basil    |
| 7 Mozzarella sticks                               | 1 tbsp. chopped parsley        |
| Egg wash (1 egg white whisked with 1 tbsp. water) | 1 tbsp. chopped rosemary       |
| ¼ cup melted butter                               | Marinara, warmed (for serving) |
| ½ cup finely grated Parmesan cheese               |                                |

Preheat oven to 450° F. Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper.

Cut Mozzarella sticks into 1" pieces. On a floured surface, divide pizza dough into two pieces. Stretch and roll each piece of dough into a long rectangle, then cut dough into 2" squares. Wrap a dough square around each piece of Mozzarella, forming a tightly sealed ball. Place balls seam-side down on the baking sheet in whatever shape you choose (For Christmas it could be in the form of a tree; for Valentine's it could be in the shape of a heart, etc.). The balls should be touching. Brush egg wash on dough balls and bake until golden 15-20 minutes.

Meanwhile, whisk together melted butter, Parmesan and herbs. Brush on baked pizza dough balls. Serve warm with marinara for dipping.

## Minnkota Flying Farmer Christmas Party

By Marilyn Arneson  
Minnkota Flying Farmer

December 9, 2016 members and friends of the Minnkota Chapter met in Willmar, MN to celebrate Christmas. First we enjoyed a lovely meal and visiting at McMillan's restaurant. Following the meal, we traveled over to the Willmar Assembly of God Church to enjoy their Christmas play and entertainment. Our own queen, IFF Queen Gloria and Red Cap Ken became part of the pre program entertainment as they were called up with another couple to participate in a game of charades. The program was awesome, as it always is. The play was superb with a meaningful message for the season. Their music was of professional quality.

Following the program, we traveled back to McMillan's for pie and coffee. Some attendees traveled home then. Some of us were treated to viewing an incredible Christmas light show at a nearby farm. The farmer, Chad Koosman has started this show "Celebrate the Light of the World" to raise money for the Salvation Army. He is trying to outdo the best bell ringer for the Salvation Army in Willmar. As



Standing L to R: Ann Ellefson, Kenneth Reed, Darleen Higgins, Brian Gehris, Erwin Winter, Glenn Kinneberg, Earle Geide, Marilyn Arneson, Brent Klamar, Gloria Reed, Jerome Arneson. Seated L to R: Kim Payne, Leland Krueger, Norma Engebretson, Carol Winter, Mildred Klamar. Not Pictured: Robert & Arlene Voecks.

of 2014, he had used 45 miles of LED lights; 7 miles of extension cords and 15,000 zip ties. The show has gotten bigger since then. His website is celebratethelight.net.

visiting over breakfast at Perkins. We had a great time as always, missing greatly those who could not come but enjoying much the visiting and the events.

The next morning, the remaining group enjoyed



Breakfast at Perkins Left to Right: Jerome Arneson, Brent Klamar, Kenneth Reed, Darleen Higgins, Kim Payne, Brian Gehris, Earle Geide, Leland Krueger, Gloria Reed, Mildred Klamar, Marilyn Arneson



## Rosella Bjornson: Celebrating Women of Aviation

*By Jack Vandervalk  
Alberta Flying Farmer*

Merry and I teamed up with Ron Wright and went to the Alberta Aviation Museum in Edmonton. I was shocked to see that the museum is about all that is left of the airport that I knew in downtown Edmonton. Once inside the building it was nice to see the well restored airplanes of times past. This proved to be a very nice setting to honor Rosella Bjornson.



Rosella was the first Canadian woman to pilot a jet airliner and first woman to serve as captain on a Canadian airline. As far as a female captain goes, she was probably first in America. Rosella is President of the Alberta Chapter of International Flying Farmers.

The Alberta Labour History Institute (ALHI), the Alberta Aviation Museum, and Elevate Aviation (an organization to promote women in aviation) were the three groups responsible for the event. I was really impressed with how many

different organizations and Government officials spoke and gave her tribulation. It was also interesting to hear some of Rosella's stories. She did an excellent job talking about some of her experiences. We also saw small excerpts from a new video made to tell of her achievements in the aviation world.

If you go to the Alberta Labour History Institute's web site and click on photos and then click on Rosella Bjornson: Celebrating Woman of Aviation you will find 47 pictures of the event that appear on Facebook. There are

some very nice pictures there. I am also including a picture of Bill and Rosella standing in front of the Avro Anson Aircraft in the Museum.

.....  
The CEO was scheduled to speak at an important convention so he asked one of his employees, Jenkins, to write him a punchy 20-minute speech. When he returned from the big event, he was furious. "What's the idea of writing me an hour-long speech?" he demanded. "Half the audience walked out before I finished."

Jenkins was baffled. "I wrote you a 20-minute speech," he replied. "I also gave you the two extra copies you asked for."

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*Special Feature*

## IFF Woman of the Year Barbara Leis, OH

*By Barbara Leis  
Ohio Flying Farmer*



Doris for sponsoring the bowl. I will cherish it very much.

Now a little bit about our family. We have three children and 10 grandchildren. Son Darrell and Karen farm with us and they have 3 sons - Darrek farms; Darren sells real estate; and Tyler farms. Daughter Kim and Tim have 4 daughters and 1 son. Kim is in real estate; Tim farms and drives a semi hauling pigs; Shelby and Justin farm; Savannah and Clay farm; Sydney is a junior in high school and a cheerleader; Tyler farms and is a mechanic; Brooke is a 4<sup>th</sup>

grader and loves sports and plays fast pitch softball and basketball. Dustin and Ashley have two sons. Dustin is in real estate and Ashley runs a rental business. Their son Zachary is a junior in high school and plays sports and is in the orchestra and plays viola and Joshua is 5 years old and keeps them busy.

Don owns the real estate business and has been in business for 43 years. Dustin now manages the business. The company is now a three generation company with Don, our son Dustin, daughter Kim,

Springfield, IL Convention is over and it will be one I will remember. It was such a shock when they announced me as the new IFF Woman of the Year. It is such an honor to represent this organization as your new IFF WOY. It was a great pleasure to receive the crystal bowl from a very good friend and past IFF WOY Margaret Bunger. Thank you Virgil and



*Doris Shultz presents WOY crystal bowl to Barbara Leis*



*Leis Family L to R: Ashley, Dustin, Don, Barbara, Karen, Darrell, Kim, Tim*

## Special Feature

and grandson Darren all being active working in the company. We also have 25 other committed sales associates who make up the sales force.

We live on a 130 acre farm with a 2500 foot runway. We own 1300 acres and farm a total 4000 acres along with our son Darrell and two grandsons Darrek and Tyler. Our main crops are corn and soybeans.

I stay busy with mowing the 2 acres of yard and keeping a small garden. I also play tennis twice a week and play Mah-jong once a week. We try and go to all of our grandchildren's sports - soccer, fast pitch ball, tennis, basketball, concerts, and cheerleading activities.

We attend the First Church of God where I have taught children and been on several committees. We have been in the IFF organization for 52 years

and have had several fly-ins at our homes in Ohio and Florida.

I have held the office of Secretary and Treasurer of the Ohio Chapter for several years. I was Queen in 1976 and again in 2002, then became IFF Queen, which was another surprise to me and an honor. I was also Ohio WOY. Don has held all offices in the Ohio Chapter, has been Ohio MOY and IFF MOY, and has gone through the offices of the IFF. He has been Chairman of two IFF Conventions, both being held in Dayton, Ohio. Don has led several snowmobile tours to Yellowstone which I have been on and our children have gone on over the past years. IFF Conventions have been our vacations with our three children as they were growing up. They have seen and done many things they would not have been able to do and made many friends.

If you are ever in our area in Ohio or Florida just give us a call and we would love to have you stop by or stay with us. Flying Farmers are our very special friends, we love you all.



### Baked Crab Rangoon

- 1/8 tsp. garlic salt
- 1/8 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1 small green onion
- 4 oz. imitation crab
- 3 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 14 wonton wrappers

Cut up the crab and mix it with garlic salt, Worcestershire sauce, chopped green onion and cream cheese. Spoon into wontons. Bake at 425° F for 8-10 minutes or until golden brown.



Leis Grandchildren L to R: Tyler Overholser, Daren & Kimberlee Leis, Clay & Savannah Stickley, Tyler Anderson, Sydney Anderson, Brooke Anderson, Joshua & Zachary Leis, Addie & Darrek Leis, Shelby & Justin Rowland

### How to Cut a Recipe in Half

Recipe Uses	To Halve
¾ cup	6 Tbsp
2/3 cup	1/3 cup
½ cup	¼ cup
1/3 cup	2 tsp + 2 Tbsp
¼ cup	2 Tbsp
1 Tbsp	1 ½ tsp
1 tsp	½ tsp
½ tsp	¼ tsp



*Special Feature*

## IFF Man of the Year Phil Peterson, WI

*By Joan Sanstadt  
Sister-in-law of Phil Peterson*



*Peterson farm with airstrip 15WI and hangar on the left*

Wisconsin's Flying Farmer Man and Woman of the Year in 2016 are Carol and Phil Peterson of Oregon, Wis. Phil is also the IFF Man of the Year.

Any time you can attach words such as "flying" or "farmer" to a couple it's more than likely they are members of the International Flying Farmers (IFF), as well as



*L to R: Jack Jenkinson presents MOY plaque to Phil Peterson*

members of a state Flying Farmer organization.

Phil and Carol were recognized for their 25<sup>th</sup> year of membership in IFF last July during the organization's annual meeting held in Springfield, Ill.

But to tell the story of Phil Lee Peterson and Carol Dupont Peterson, one has to go back to November of 1950 when the Dupont family moved from their farm in Northwestern Minnesota's Red Lake County to a farm near Oregon.

They met at Oregon High School where Phil was a sophomore and Carol, a freshman. High school activities for Phil meant playing alto saxophone in the high school as well as playing football, basketball and baseball. As a member of the OHS Future Farmers of American, he served in various offices during high school. Those ag classes allowed

him to graduate from the normally two-year UW-Madison Agriculture Short Course in a single year. Carol played trumpet in the high school band and was salutatorian of her class.

With military service looming, Phil decided to enlist in the army in 1955 where he became part of the Headquarters Company of the 87<sup>th</sup> Regiment, 10<sup>th</sup> Division. He was stationed in Aschaffenburg, Germany. Carol joined him in Germany where they were married. Their son Mark Nels Peterson was born in nearby Frankfurt.



*Phil on Winter Army Maneuvers in Germany in 1956*

Housing for married couples was not available on the base, so



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## *Special Feature*

Carol and Phil rented rooms from German families during the next few years. Although WWII had ended more than 10 years earlier, Carol and Phil had friendly experiences with their landlords, as well as a few that were less-than-friendly.

She has many stories about living in a German city on a private's salary, and having to learn a new language. Sometimes heat came only from "a little coal stove in the bedroom-living room. Both the kitchen and bathroom were cold and the bathroom had only a toilet."

Returning home in February, 1958, Phil began farming with his father, Arba, on March 1, 1958. The farm, located at 5387 County Highway CC, Section 10, is in the Town of Oregon. It is also the same area where his grandfather, Nels Peterson, settled in 1880 after emigrating from Denmark

Before long, breathing problems and a dramatic weight loss almost derailed Phil's farming career. "I had to sleep in a recliner because I couldn't breathe when I was in a prone position. Carol and my dad were doing the milking," Phil said.

Treated first for allergies, there was little improvement. The request for a second opinion, Phil was ultimately referred to Dr. Helen Dickey, head of pulmonary research at UW Hospital. Her specialty was Farmers Lung Disease. Her

research drew funding from a grant by the U.S. Institutes of Health. "I still have the letter she sent recommending I get out of farming as soon as possible," Phil said.

That recommendation was devastating to both Phil and his father. Scrutinizing the letter, "we saw Dr. Dickey had identified mold in silage, hay and in the straw being used for bedding as the culprit," Phil explained. "Dad and I decided to see what we could do to improve the situation before I had to start looking into another career."

The first change they made was to replace straw in the bedding with sawdust. "Since there was no available medication, the cure was to stay far away from the mold that was causing the allergic reaction. Within six months, I was up and functioning again," Phil said.

Dr. Dickey wanted to follow up on how Phil was doing. "So I became a guinea pig for the Pulmonary Function Lab. I was part of their team for a number of years and would go back in for tests on a regular basis," he recalled.

With the disease under control, Phil and his dad decided it was time to expand the farming operation. "So we hired help and I tried to stay away from mold as much as possible," he added. The farming operation grew to

780 acres. Crops grown included corn, wheat, soybeans and alfalfa hay. The dairy operation consisted of milking Holstein cows at three locations with a total of over 200 cows.

Meanwhile, Carol, armed with some accounting classes at Madison Area Technical College, went to work for the Dane County Highway Department after dropping Mark off at a baby sitter. She became adept at preparing meals at night for the next day, and then coming home to a sink full of dirty dishes and more meals yet to prepare. She also helped with work and bookkeeping on the farm. Often the extra help stayed with them in the farm home.

Son Mark, who had earned a degree from UW-Platteville in ag economics, left his job with Vita-Plus to join his dad in the farm business. While he participated in all facets of the operation, Mark's focus was always on herd health. Mark, his wife Betty and their daughter, Kelle, lived at one of locations where cows were kept. Betty worked full time in Madison at CUNA Mutual Group.

But Carol and Phil still found time and energy to be involved in other organizations and activities.

Somehow during this busy period, Phil found time to take flying lessons and become a licensed pilot. "It's the only time I used the GI Bill benefits," he said.

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## Special Feature

Phil was active in many civic and farming organizations, including service on the Board of Directors and as President of the Morning Glory Region of Associated Milk Producers, Inc. (AMPI). He also served a 15-year stint as a director and then vice chair of what was then known as the Wisconsin Federation of Cooperatives (now Cooperative Network). He was elected to the Oregon Consolidated School Board, where he served as president and to the Oregon Town board where he again was elected chair. Phil was elected to the Board of Directors of the Bank of Oregon and also to the Middleton Insurance Company, where he served 28 years as president. He also served on St. John's Lutheran Church Council.

Carol still found time to be active in the Jaycettes, in the Wisconsin Farm Bureau and other farm organizations.

In the 1980s Phil was asked by the UW System Acting President Katherine Lyall and LaVerne Ausman, secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) to chair a 31-member Dairy Task Force charged with developing a comprehensive strategy to maintain and further develop a profitable and viable Wisconsin dairy industry for the future.

Today's popular Wisconsin June Dairy Month Breakfasts, sometimes called Breakfast on

the Farm, took a different turn in 1970 when a Madison Radio Station Host Clyde Coffee at WISM, thought it would be a good idea to broadcast directly from the dairy barn as a way of calling attention to June Dairy Month. "All I had to do was clean out the box stall and white-wash the barn," Phil related. "We had different farm supply groups stopping every day. 4-Hers and FFA members brought dairy treats for the visitors. It was so successful that the station came back the next year for another week of broadcasts."

But their lives, activities and plans for the future all changed on June 17, 1992. That's when a tornado destroyed the dairy operation. It struck at the farm where Mark and his family lived and where the livestock were kept. Not only did it wreck the milk house, the major portion of the barn and two silos, it blew away all of the outbuildings, demolished the garage and blew the house partially off its foundation.

Now it was time to make decisions about the future of the Peterson farming operation. If they were to continue milking cows, "we knew we would have to expand," Phil said. Yet at the same time, houses were being built near their farmland and it was becoming more difficult to find extra help. With the hand-writing literally on the wall, the decision was made to sell the

cows. The entire herd was sold to a farming operation near Whitehall, owned by two brothers. Phil decided he needed to have another look at that herd, so he flew up to Whitehall and the brothers picked him up at the airport and took him out to the farm. "Their sons are still milking on that farm today," Phil said.

The farming enterprise continued raising crops until January 2001, when the equipment was auctioned off and the land was rented to others.

Mark decided to go back to school – this time to Edgewood College in Madison, where he earned a nursing degree and went to work in the dialysis unit at St. Mary's Hospital in Madison.

During his 25 years of IFF membership Phil made sure he found time for flying. His plane, a four-seater 1996 Piper Archer-111, is kept at the airstrip on the farm. Its official name is Peterson Field (15WI). He participated in the Angel Flight program and has been a regular visitor to what was first called the Experimental Aircraft Association meeting in Oshkosh every summer.

In 2001 Phil went to Australia on a three-week IFF-sponsored trip that included 10 U.S. members and 3 from Canada. The remainder of the 40-member group were Australians. All went well until

## Special Feature

weather in Eastern Australia forced the flyers to land their planes at Forest, which is half-way between Perth and Sydney. "Because of this forced landing, we really got to know the group well," Phil said. "Only 2 people and a dog lived in a railroad maintenance depot where the airstrip was maintained as a fuel location for the Flying Doctors organization. It was the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and here I was at a crossroads in Australia sleeping in an old railroad car."

Even while they had the dairy operation, Phil and Carol found opportunities for travel within the U.S. Many of those trips coordinated with farm organization meetings. Their first extended overseas trip was to China. Before leaving Phil decided to order business cards and have his name printed in Chinese on the back of the card.

"We were visiting the site where the Terra Cotta Warriors had been unearthed by two brothers who were digging a well on their farm some years earlier. One was there signing his book about the discovery. As I went to get my book signed, I handed him my card. His interpreter read it and asked, 'you are a farmer?' When I said 'yes', the man stood up, came around from behind the table and gave me a big hug. "Here we were, half a world away and two farmers could recognize their common bond," Phil said.

Their travels have taken them to every continent, except for Antarctica. Lately, they've been taking the whole family with them on their overseas adventures. This includes Mark and Betty, both recently retired, and their two daughters, both students at Madison colleges. Kelle, who already has an undergrad degree in chemistry from the University of Minnesota, is studying nursing at Edgewood College and working at UW Hospital. Michelle, is a junior at UW-Madison, where she is working on a degree in zoology. She is a licensed pilot and last July was awarded the IFF Memorial Fund Scholarship.

Last spring the Peterson family went to China and Tibet. In

2015, their destination was Tanzania. An earlier trip was to Italy, where Kelle's friend Karin Keller, a high school foreign exchange student from Switzerland, joined them in Tuscany. During Karin's foreign exchange experience in Oregon, Phil saw to it that she got a ride in his airplane. "She even had her picture in the EAA Young Eagles Magazine," Phil said. "We have enjoyed our foreign family trips and we are still talking about them long after we get back home," Phil added.

A highlight of Phil's flying experience occurred on Sept. 30, 2001, when both he and Mark had a ride in a P-51 piloted by the late Bob Odegaard. The event was part of a fund-raiser to benefit the new Fargo N.Dak. Air Museum.



*Peterson family on the Great Wall of China in June 2016 - L to R: Mark, Beth, Michelle, Carol, Kelle, Phil*





*Phil's P-51 ride with past pilot Robert Odegard, September 2001*

Another highlight was an Aug. 24, 2012, ride in *Overcast*, the aluminum B-17 owned by EAA, which flies around North America giving rides, for a fee, to keep the public informed about our mighty Air Force in WWII. "I got my ride with the press, as a guest of the MIDWEST FLYER Magazine," Phil said.



*Phil's ride in the Aluminum Overcast B-17, August 2012*

### *Special Feature*



*Carol & Phil in front of hangar at 15WI with their Archer III*



*Phil in front of his farm sign with the farm and his "office on wheels" behind him*



**Ernest Thorp will be celebrating his 96<sup>th</sup> birthday!**

**February 3, 2017**



**He loves getting cards. His address is (note there has been a room change):**

**Ernest Thorp  
Hawthorne Inn  
1 Park Lane West, #518  
Clinton, IL 61727**



For those of my generation who do not and cannot comprehend why Facebook exists: I am trying to make friends outside of Facebook while applying the same principles.

Therefore, every day I walk down the street and tell passers by what I have eaten, how I feel at the moment, what I have done the night before, what I will do later, and with whom.

I give them pictures of my family, my dog, and of me gardening, taking things apart in the garage, watering the lawn, standing in front of landmarks, driving around town, having lunch, and doing what anybody and everybody does every day.

I also listen to their conversations, give them the "thumbs up" and tell them I like them.

And it works just like Facebook. I already have four people following me: two police officers, a private investigator, and a psychiatrist.



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# RETURN OF 'BEST AND BRIGHTEST' IDEAS FOR 2017 EDITION OF EAA FOUNDERS' INNOVATION PRIZE COMPETITION

*Winner to be chosen at public presentation at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2017*

EAA AVIATION CENTER, OSHKOSH, Wisconsin — (December 29, 2016) — The doers, dreamers, and innovators who are ready to change the way people fly are again invited to submit their best ideas for the 2017 Founders' Innovation Prize competition sponsored by the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA).

The second annual competition again welcomes ideas to counter loss-of-control accidents in amateur-built aircraft. Entries are now being accepted through June 15, 2017. The top five entries will be invited to showcase the innovation at a "Shark Tank"-style public presentation at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, next July. The top innovation will be awarded \$25,000, with additional cash prizes for second and third place.

The inaugural competition in 2016 drew more than 140 entries from well-known aviation designers to those who had never submitted ideas for a design contest previously. Ihab Awad of San Jose, California, earned the 2016 top prize with his entry named "Airball," which continually synthesized flight data so a pilot could quickly understand the current flight state of an airplane.

"Just as EAA has drawn from the ideas and abilities of its members through its first 65 years, the Founders' Innovation Prize allows a pathway for these creative ideas in flight safety," said Sean Elliott, EAA's vice president of advocacy and safety. "We no doubt will build on the originality, practicality, and imagination shown in the competition's first year in 2016, and we encourage individuals, groups and educational institutions to all get involved in our ultimate mission – improving flight safety by reducing loss-of-control accidents."

The Federal Aviation Administration and National Transportation Safety Board have identified loss-of-control scenarios as one of the leading causes of general aviation accidents. As part of EAA's widely praised efforts to improve safety, the Founders' Innovation Prize was created to encourage ideas from every source that could help reduce such accidents.

Complete entry information and rules are available at [eaa.org/prize](http://eaa.org/prize). That website also includes the finalists and champion from the 2016 Founders' Innovation Prize competition.

## **About EAA**

EAA embodies the spirit of aviation through the world's most engaged community of aviation enthusiasts. EAA's 200,000 members and 1,000 local chapters enjoy the fun and camaraderie of sharing their passion for flying, building and restoring recreational aircraft. For more information on EAA and its programs, call 800-JOIN-EAA (800-564-6322) or go to [www.eaa.org](http://www.eaa.org). For continual news updates, connect with [www.twitter.com/EAA](http://www.twitter.com/EAA).

## The Capitol Ornament Lady

Nelda Laney created the fundraising program for Capitol historic preservation

*Submitted by Kay Riggan  
Kansas Flying Farmer (from Texas)*

*This article appeared in the November 2016 issue of Texas Co-op Power and is reprinted with permission of Texas Electric Cooperatives. For more information about Texas Co-op Power magazine, please visit [www.texascoopower.com](http://www.texascoopower.com)*

*The article was written by Tom Widlowski and the illustration is by John Wilson who have both given permission for their works to be reprinted*

By Tom Widlowski

Nelda Laney's influence reaches many corners of the Texas Capitol, and it reaches many branches, as hundreds of thousands of Texans hang her iconic Christmas ornaments every year. "I've always said, 'That's what I want on my tombstone—the Capitol ornament lady,'" Laney told the *Texas Bar Journal* in 2013.

Laney created a program in 1996 selling Capitol Christmas ornaments that have become collectors' items and the source of immensely successful fundraising that has supported preservation and beautification projects at the Capitol. She



*Illustration by John Wilson and is reprinted with his permission*

designed the first seven editions of the ornaments herself.

For years, she was an ebullient and persuasive presence around the Capitol corridors. Her husband, Pete Laney, was a longtime representative in the Texas House, including five terms as speaker. This put her in the company of power brokers in Austin, and when the state needed funds for Capitol

preservation, Nelda Laney had the inspiration to sell ornaments.

Over 21 years, 1.1 million ornaments have been sold and \$8 million raised for preservation of the majestic 1888 statehouse. The money has paid for repainting of the Capitol dome, conserving historical paintings and developing free curriculum guides for fourth- and seventh-grade students.

## Special Feature

As sales of the 2016 edition of the Capitol Christmas ornaments continue, Laney's legacy becomes especially poignant. She died August 24 at the age of 73.

Nelda and Pete Laney come from Hale Center in the Panhandle. They are cotton farmers, fiercely loyal to rural Texas and keenly aware of how electric cooperatives revolutionized life some 75 years ago. Their daughters, KaLyn and Jamey, attended the Government-in-Action Youth Tour coordinated by Texas Electric Cooperatives and later served as chap-erones. They also have a son, J. Pete.

Nelda Laney turned to *Texas Co-op Power* to help get word out about her ornament idea in 1996. It was tough going at first. "I literally sold them out of the trunk of my car," she said. But after the magazine ran a small item in the November 1996 issue announcing that the first edition of the ornaments was on sale, she couldn't thank readers enough for the boost in sales.

The 3 million people in Texas who receive their electricity from co-ops might not realize it, but they have lost a good friend in Nelda Laney, says Mike Williams, TEC president and CEO. "She was very passionate about rural interests," he says, remembering how much she loved Texas and the Capitol. "She was sweet, genuine, homespun, authentic.

People are drawn to people like that."

People also are drawn to her distinctive ornaments, each edition accentuating an exquisite feature of the pink granite Capitol, such as door hinges, the rotunda and the finials that adorn the wrought-iron fence around the 22-acre grounds. Each ornament is finished in 24-karat gold. The 2016 ornaments, which sell for \$20, are replicas of the decorated Texas pines that grace the Senate and House chambers every Christmas.

Laney left the Capitol project after 2002, but she continued as an ornament ambassador. She created ornaments to raise funds for Texas Tech University, and a collectible series has helped the Keep Texas Beautiful campaign raise close to \$1 million.

Christmas trees soon will sparkle with ornaments of her creation. In two months, the Capitol will be abuzz as the 2017 Legislature holds its biennial session, and the building's grandeur will reflect her zeal.

"Nelda was a woman of incredible wit and spirit who was completely committed to the Texas Capitol and all who work there," Speaker Joe Straus posted on the Texas House website in August. "It is largely because of her dedication that

today the Capitol is more beautiful and welcoming than ever."

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*Tom Widlowski is the Texas Co-op Power associate editor.*

.....  
*Note: Nelda Laney was the IFF Queen in 1973-74*



*Nelda died on August 27, 2016 after a courageous battle with an inoperable brain tumor.*





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## 2017 IFF Memorial Scholarship Award



### OPPORTUNITY FOR COLLEGE COMPLETION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 31, 2017

The IFF Memorial Scholarship award is made each year to one student who will be entering his/her junior year at a college of his/her choice. The award funds four semesters of studies predicated upon the maintenance of a "C" or better grade point average. The scholarship recipient will receive \$1,000 per semester up to a total award of \$4,000.

The IFF Memorial Scholarship Fund for college completion was established as an IRS 501(c)(3) charitable organization and is administered by Past Presidents of the IFF to benefit lineal descendants of an active\* IFF member.

The student to receive this award will be selected from the group of applicants who submit their applications by March 31<sup>st</sup> of the applicant's **sophomore** year in college. The applicant must be related to and recommended by an IFF member of the International Flying Farmers, who is currently in good standing. The recipient of the scholarship award is chosen from the applications received by an experienced professional selection person having no connection with IFF, any of its members or employees.

The Fund has assisted twenty-eight (28) students since it was originally established. The Fund is perpetuated by contributions made to the Fund in memory of IFF members who have contributed so much of their time and talent to benefit the IFF organization. Contributions to the Memorial Scholarship Fund are fully deductible for U.S. income tax purposes.

Applications for the Memorial Scholarship Award must be **received** by March 31, 2017. The student receiving the award is notified in May and the award is presented at the International Flying Farmer Convention that summer.

Applications are available from the IFF website: <http://www.internationalflyingfarmers.org> (left side of homepage)

**Students:** Mail completed application packets to:  
FF Memorial Fund Scholarship Award Committee  
c/o James (Jamie) Sossaman  
19105 E. Ocotillo Rd.  
Queen Creek, AZ 85142



\***Denotes:** a member of the International Flying Farmers who has paid dues for the current year



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## IFF Memorial Scholarship Fund History

The IFF Memorial Scholarship Fund was organized to commemorate IFF members who have given much of their time, talent and resources to ensure continued success of the IFF organization. Donations made to the Fund are utilized to provide an annual college completion scholarship award to a deserving student who must be a lineal descendant of an active IFF member and meets other qualifications as outlined on the scholarship application form.

Donations to the fund are encouraged and serve as a memorial for IFF members who have given so much of their personal time, talent and resources for betterment of the IFF organization. The fund is an IRS 501(c)(3) charitable organization and donations made to it are fully deductible for income tax purposes in the U.S. Canadian members should consult a tax practitioner for tax deductibility north of the border.



Contributions made to the IFF Memorial Scholarship Fund should be mailed to Don Leis, Treasurer, 5315 Horatio Harris Creek Rd, Greenville, OH 45331-9332.

Please Note: Total contributions of at least \$150 in memory of any IFF member will ensure that person's listing on an IFF Memorial Plaque. The plaque is located among artifacts of the International Flying Farmers in the Aviation in American Agricultural Exhibit at the Mid-America Air Museum in Liberal, KS.



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## Gift of Flight Award II

This flight incentive scholarship is offered annually by the late Tom Ruble and his family of Oklahoma in memory of the late Polly Ruble and the late Broneta Evans. Both were experienced, proficient pilots and active members of IFF.

### Eligibility Requirements:

1. The award is for females of any age who are current IFF family members. Previous flight instruction is acceptable.

### General Provisions:

1. This award is to be used for initial flight instruction or advancement of a flight rating in the amount of \$1200 and will be paid directly to the instructor/flight school upon IFF's receipt of the instructor's/flight school's invoice.
  2. Application for this award is to be sent to the IFF Office Manager. Upon receipt he or she will notify the applicant of receiving the application.
  3. The applicant is asked to provide a brief explanation describing her interest in flying, what if any flight instruction she has had so far and why she wants to pursue an additional and/or initial flight rating.
  4. An award committee appointed by the IFF President shall consist of 3 members at large. The IFF Office Manager will forward all applications to this committee by May 1 of each year.
  5. The Award committee's final decision will be announced by IFF by June 15 of each year.
- 

## GIFT OF FLIGHT AWARD II ENTRY FORM

NAME OF APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_

IFF Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ Years of IFF membership: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

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APPLICANT'S BIRTH DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ On the back of this application please explain your interest in learning to fly or to continue your instruction. Explain what flight instruction you may have already had, if any, and why you are interested in pursuing flight training.

Applicant's

signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## NOMINATION GUIDELINES

### IFF Man of the Year & IFF Woman of the Year

**Eligibility:** Persons to be considered may be active or associate members in good standing who have contributed to the organization both in their local chapter and on the international level in the areas of interest, time, participation and service. A person who has outstandingly helped to promote the values and standards of the IFF is a likely candidate. This person does not have to be the local chapter Man or Woman of the Year; many of these worthy members are not active on the international level. This should remain a chapter honor. Nominations for the same person may be submitted in successive years.

**Procedure:** Forms may be obtained on the IFF website or from the IFF office. Chapters are encouraged to submit nominations. Individual members may also make nominations. Nominations will be received, reviewed and selected by the IFF Executive Committee. Nominations may only be made on an official form. All forms must be signed by their senders. If forms are emailed or faxed to the IFF office, they must be followed up by a formed mailed at the postal service.

**Completed forms are DUE IN THE IFF office by May 31<sup>st</sup>.**

## NOMINATION GUIDELINES

### IFF AIRPORT OPERATOR OF THE YEAR

**Eligibility:** Chapters should submit written resumes of airport operators they feel are deserving of recognition. Nominations should be made of those airport operators who have been of service to their communities and the general public.

**Procedure:** Written resumes and any supporting documentation must be received at the IFF office by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Nominations will be reviewed by the IFF Executive Committee and a selection will be made. The award is presented at IFF Convention.

**Completed forms are due in the IFF office by May 31<sup>st</sup>.**



## Flight Achievement Awards Upgrading & Landit

Persons who have completed an UPGRADING course or LANDIT since June 1, 2012, should fill out the following questionnaire and return it promptly to the IFF office. Please use a separate form for each award.

### I have earned my:

- |  |               |  |               |
|--|---------------|--|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landit            | _____         | <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial          | _____         |
|  | Date Received |  | Date Received |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Solo              | _____         | <input type="checkbox"/> Instrument Rating   | _____         |
|  | Date Received |  | Date Received |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Private License   | _____         | <input type="checkbox"/> Multi-engine Rating | _____         |
|  | Date Received |  | Date Received |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Night Endorsement | _____         | <input type="checkbox"/> CFI or CFII         | _____         |
|  | Date Received |  | Date Received |
| <input type="checkbox"/> APT               | _____         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Ratings       | _____         |
|  | Date Received |  | Date Received |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State/Province, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Instructor's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
License Number

**MAIL BEFORE MAY 31<sup>st</sup>**  
**To: International Flying Farmers**  
**P.O. Box 309**  
**Mansfield, IL 61854**





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## IFF Officers and Royalty 2017 Chapter Visitation Schedule

Arizona	January 14 (Chandler, AZ)	IFF Duchess Sharon Harrison
Florida	February	IFF President Zelda Lewis
Heartland	February 9-11 (Holdrege, NE)	IFF Queen Gloria Reed
Kansas	March 10-12 (Goodland, KS)	IFF Queen Gloria Reed
Iowa/Missouri	March 3-5 (Clinton, IA)	IFF Past President Wayne Wilderman
Alberta	April 7-9 (Olds, AB)	IFF Vice President Alex Knox
Manitoba	April 21-22 (Southport, MB)	IFF Treasurer Clément Dion
Wisconsin	April 21-22 (Appleton, WI)	IFF Queen Gloria Reed
Mid-Atlantic	May	IFF Secretary Harry Bartel
Tri State	June 9-11 (Boardman, OR)	IFF Vice President Alex Knox
Minnkota	June 18-21 (Chamberlain, SD)	IFF Secretary Harry Bartel

## Sheathelm's January Delight

*By Laurene Sheathelm  
Michigan Flying Farmer*

Here I am again cuddled up to this pot bellied wood stove just soaking up the heat and looking out at all the snow.

Harold has also put in a wood furnace in the basement and that really feels good too. There's nothing that's any warmer than that type of heat.

The weekend of January 20<sup>th</sup>, our Michigan President, Charles Briggs, Alta Mae and we were headed to Ohio's Convention. Briggs left beautiful sunny Akron, only to arrive at our house with snow flurries in the air. Called the Grubers, only to find out Ohio is full of snow and Convention cancelled. What a letdown! Suitcases all packed and no place to go.

So – we visited and had a leisurely lunch – when we all had a bright idea. Let's visit our new Flying Farmer member! Into the car and away we drove to Laingsburg to see that new baby girl named Rachael Dryer. She's really a cutie and looks a lot like the boys. It's obvious

she's well taken care of with lots of lovin' too.

Harold and I talked the President and his wife into staying with us all night. Our disappointment ended up in having a good time after all!! Briggs headed home to sunny Akron on Saturday morning and we ended up cutting wood all afternoon.

Of course, that next week was the big snow. Harold jumped in the four-wheel drive tractor with snow blade on it and headed for Dansville. Tried to keep a few streets clean in case of fire, but was hopeless. About 5 pm he called from the city's only grocery to see if we needed anything (other than milk), and that someone was bringing him home. A call later told me he was bringing the tractor home – no other vehicle could get through.

We all started watching for him. A while later we could see him coming around the curve. He looked real effective for the fire department had given him a

flashing red light to use. Suddenly I saw two little lights coming behind him. Oh no, I don't believe it! A car was following him, the first one we'd seen in 24 hours.

In a hurry I yelled, "Get things picked up girls – we're having company." Harold finally got the driveway plowed out and in the drive bombed a little green Volkswagen just like it was the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Tom and Linda were real nice and we really did have fun. After two nights of visiting, we all became well acquainted.

Well, we did get through our first month of 1978 – one never really knows what to expect next.

Hey, Harold! I know – let's pack the girls up and fly to Florida!

*Note: This article appeared in the January 1978 Michigan Newsletter and is edited and re-printed with permission of the author, Laurene Sheathelm.*



*By Tina Wharton  
Delmarva Flying Farmer*

On Saturday, November 19th, Delmarva met at the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster, Pennsylvania to see "Samson". We met at Hershey Farm for a Smorgasbord dinner before the show and for a time of fellowship and a little shopping in the Gift Shop. Attending from Pennsylvania: Keith and Kathy Vogt, Bob Knoll and Joe Mast. Attending from Delmarva: Dave & Janice Tranberg, Bob & Ruth Carmean, Steve & Cindy Applegate, Joel & Tina Wharton and kids, Jay & Amy Yoder with



*L to R: Joel Wharton, Joe Mast, Robert Knoll, Erin White, Beth Wagner, Alec Sanvidge, Jillian Whaeron, Bryce Wharton, Tina Wharton, Travis Wharton, Amy Yoder, Jay Yoder holding grandson.*

## *'Round the Regions*

sons and grandson. Charlotte and Evan Lapp joined us for dinner. Everyone had a wonderful time.

On December 3rd, Ryman Herr had his annual Christmas Party. We couldn't attend this year but we heard that he had a good turn out and everyone enjoys his Black Cow ice cream floats.

On December 4th, Bob & Ruth Carmean, Dave & Janice Tranberg and Joel attended an Annual Fly-In at Massey's Aerodome in Maryland. About 120 planes were at the fly-in luncheon. Delmarva set up a table promoting the Flying Farmers. Hope to see you all at Workshop.



*By Glenn Kinneberg  
Minnkota Flying Farmer*

The Manitoba chapter had their Christmas bowling party on November 26th. No reports of the high scores!

The Wisconsin group had their Christmas gathering at Perkins Restaurant in Watertown.



AOPA's Great Lakes Ambassador Andy Miller joined the Wisconsin Flying Farmers for their Christmas lunch meeting held at Watertown (RYU) on November 30. Andy updated the group on several high profile aviation



*Andy Miller speaks to Wisconsin Flying Farmers*

topics including Third Class Medical Reform, the FAA's new compliance policy, no-lead AvGas alternatives, and several recent regulation changes. He also talked about AOPA's "You Can Fly" Program, which has a number of initiatives all focused on getting more pilots flying.



Minnkota chapter met December 9th at Willmar, Minnesota as they have done for many years to attend the Christmas Concert at the Assembly of God church. They had a dinner and meeting before the concert and pie and coffee afterwards for more socializing. At that time we celebrated the 93rd birthday of Leland Krueger.



## 'Round the Regions



*By Dale Bohrer  
IA/MO Flying Farmer*

As 2016 draws to a close I wish everyone a great New Year.

Flying Farmers is starting the year with a great workshop in Yuma, AZ. Hope that everyone attending has a wonderful experience.

On November 12th, the IA/Mo Chapter had a meeting in Palmyra, Missouri. Lunch was had at the Stone House which is a 108 year old stone house converted to a restaurant. After lunch they toured a sand pit. I hear it was a very interesting tour and some took home some geodes.

The Heartland Chapter had a great Christmas party on December 3rd. Burl and Cathy Scherler hosted the event at the Claremont Inn in Straton, Colorado.

Region 6 has some upcoming conventions. February 10-12th

the Heartland Convention will be in Holdrege, NE. March 3-5 is the IA/MO Convention which will be in Clinton, IA. March 10-12 is the Kansas Convention in Goodland, KS. These all promise to be conventions you won't want to miss. Check the magazine Calendar of Events for information regarding lodging for each convention.

I want to pass along the information for the IA/MO Chapter convention March 3-5. This year's convention will be in Clinton, Iowa. We will be staying at the Wild Rose Casino and Resort. The room rate is \$49 plus tax and the phone number is 800-457-9975. Tours planned are Timken Bearing Chain Plant, a Sawmill Museum with working sawmills and a lumber baron's mansion built with exotic woodwork.

Duchess Sharon Harrison will be having her Duchess Day on Friday, March 3rd. This is in conjunction with the IA/MO Chapter Convention. We will get more information out as it is available. Come help Sharon celebrate her year as IFF Duchess.







## 'Round the Regions

than expected in December in Eastern Washington.

John and Audrey Ledgerwood started out on what was going to be an escape from this harsh winter when the 5<sup>th</sup> wheel they were pulling jack-knifed on snow outside of Mountain Home, Idaho and they returned home in a rented u-haul truck. The good news is neither was injured. Being faithful flying farmers, they still plan on being at Workshop via a commercial flight.

Several of our members attended a 100 year old birthday party for past member, Dorothy Hoffman, in Walla Walla, Washington. She still has many good memories from International Flying Farmers. Allen and Dorothy were still inviting our group into

their home well into their 90's. Allen has passed and Dorothy now lives in an assisted living home. She greeted each one calling them by name. Her party included a live band and dancing. Bob and Chris Clinesmith, Jerry and Nina Richardson and Sheila Slinkard gave glowing reports that it was quite a party.



### Driven to Distraction

I was driving to the office one morning when I got a phone call from my boss. "You've been promoted," he said, and I was so surprised that I swerved.

A few minutes later, I got another call. "You've been given a raise." I was so excited that I swerved again.

Later I got a third call. "You've been made CEO." And I swerved again and ran into a tree. As I was waiting there, I saw a policeman. "What happened?" he asked. "I careered off the road."

My wife claims I'm a baseball fanatic. She says all I ever read about is baseball. All I ever talk about is baseball. All I ever think about is baseball. I told her she's way off base!

*By Colene Sager  
Washington Flying Farmer*

Eighteen flying farmers met at Andy and Sheila Slinkards in Mesa on November 12 for a meeting and turkey dinner. Sheila fixed the turkey, potatoes and gravy and the rest of the dinner was well put together with dishes from the other members. We had a delightful time.

The Christmas Party was postponed and then cancelled. First the hostess was ill with bronchitis and then the weather set in for a much harder winter



Back row L to R: Andy & Sheila Slinkard, Burgess & Maxine Lange, Larry King & Jenny Harris, Ron O'Hair, Mel Hood, Colene Sager. Middle Row L to R: Barney & Gerianne Buckley, Debby & Stan Dammel, Art Sager, Audrey & John Ledgerwood. Front L to R: Nina & Jerry Richardson

Chapter Supplies Available through IFF -- New Prices!

Queen's Tiara	\$45.00	_____
Trophy	\$55.00	_____
WOY Pin	\$15.00	_____
Queen's Pin		
(w/year guard)	\$50.00	_____
Year Guard	\$22.00	_____
	TOTAL	\$ _____

Additional Info:

Send check for the amount of supplies ordered -- indicate year for the trophy and pin under "Additional Info". Please allow 6 weeks for the trophy, tiara and pins, and 3-4 weeks for the WOY pin.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Prov: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip/Postal: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail check and order form to:  
 International Flying Farmers  
 P.O. Box 309  
 Mansfield, IL 61854



## New Magazine Calendar Deadlines

**IFF Correspondents:** Make note of the following deadlines for upcoming issues of the International Flying Farmer magazine.

Issue	Deadline
January/February	Jan. 1
March/April	Mar. 1
May/June	May 1
July/August	July 1
September/October	Sept. 1
November/December	Nov. 1

## NOTICES



*Your announcement could go here*



*This space is available*



**If you submit an article that has been published in another publication, you must also submit permission from the publication in which it appeared as well as permission from the writer of the article. These permissions must be in writing or the article cannot be printed in the IFF magazine.**



# NOTICES

## IFF Memorial Scholarship Fund Donations

All contributions are fully deductible for IRS tax purposes since the IFF Memorial Scholarship Fund is a 501 (c)(3) charitable institution. They should be sent to:

**IFF Past Presidents**  
c/o Don Leis  
5315 Horatio Harris Creek Rd  
Greenville, OH 45331-9332

## NOMINATIONS FOR IFF WOY, MOY & Airport Operator ARE DUE MAY 31, 2017!

Any active IFF member can be nominated and does not have to be a current chapter MOY and WOY.

The nomination form MUST be submitted AND signed by an active IFF member. If it is submitted by email to IFF1944@hotmail.com, then a copy MUST BE MAILED to IFF, PO Box 309, Mansfield, Illinois 61854, postmarked before May 31, 2017 and received at the IFF office by May 31, 2017, to be considered for the 2017 award.

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last First Middle Birth date Pilot ratings/total pilot hours*

**SPOUSE** \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last First Middle Birth date Pilot ratings/total pilot hours*

**CHILD** \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last First Middle Birth date Pilot ratings/total pilot hours*

**CHILD** \_\_\_\_\_  
*Last First Middle Birth date Pilot ratings/total pilot hours*

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE** \_\_\_\_\_ **CELL PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

**OCCUPATION** \_\_\_\_\_ **PRINCIPLE CROP** \_\_\_\_\_

**AIRCRAFT** \_\_\_\_\_  
*Year Make Model N-number*

**LANDING STRIP** \_\_\_\_\_  
*Length-direction Direction from town*

**Who told you about IFF?** \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions or gifts to IFF are not tax deductible as charitable contributions.



**IFF New Member DUES:**  
**\$50 as an introductory offer**

Includes enrollment for pilot, spouse & all children living at home.

**Make checks payable to**  
**International Flying Farmers**

**Mail to:**  
INTERNATIONAL FLYING FARMERS  
P.O. BOX 309  
Mansfield, IL 61854

### IFF Liability Disclaimer

The International Flying Farmers (IFF) and its representatives hereby make notification they have no authority and take no responsibility or control for: 1-the safety of members or guests, 2-the qualifications of individuals to operate aircraft or other forms of transportation, 3-the situations when individuals should or should not fly, and 4-the type of transportation or manner of transportation in which members or guests choose to use. Members and guests are solely responsible for their own safety and the safety of their families. No liability is assumed or implied by the IFF, its Officers, Directors, or Chapter Officers.

### **HISTORY**

International Flying Farmers is an organization of families with a mutual interest in the promotion and use of airplanes in agriculture. The organization, founded in 1944, consists of state and provincial chapters throughout North America. While originally founded by farmers and ranchers who owned aircraft, the membership now consists of individuals from all walks of life, from storeowners and factory workers to bankers and lawyers. Direct involvement in agriculture or aviation is not, in and of itself, a requirement for membership.

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the organization is: To create and maintain a compact representative and centralized organization with a spirit of cooperation and mutual helpfulness among its members; to explore and emphasize the importance of flying and the use of the airplane in agricultural production, including the breeding, raising and feeding of livestock; and to engage in research and extension service, including publishing magazines or other periodicals to disseminate among its members information pertaining to the purposes of the organization.

