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Fellow Twirly Birds:

The 2015 Twirly Bird reception will be held at the end of the first day of Heli-Expo on Tuesday March 3. The reception doors will open at 17:00 to the Lake Mizzell room of the Hilton Hotel.

Long time Twirly Bird and Whirly Girl #4, Nancy Miller Livingston Stratford, will be the recipient of the Les Morris award. Nancy received her helicopter rating in 1947. Nancy and husband Arlo Livingston were pioneer helicopter operators in Corvallis, Oregon and Juneau, Alaska.

In addition to her fixed wing accomplishments during World War II, Nancy flew Hiller 12 B's and E's in Oregon and in Alaska. When we first announced Nancy as the award winner, we heard from several Twirly Birds stating she is a great choice and certainly epitomizes the words on the Les Morris Plaque, "In recognition of her outstanding contribution to vertical flight as a pioneer helicopter pilot."

We will be honored to have Twirly Bird, Sergei Sikorsky, join us at the reception where he will remind us of the notable vertical flight accomplishments of Les Morris. Sergei will present the Les Morris award to Nancy. Twirly Bird historian Bill Yarber reminds us that Sergei's father; Igor Sikorsky and Les Morris were founding members of the Twirly Birds in December 1945.

Nancy Stratford will bring several of her books about her war time experiences as a ferry pilot in Great Britain during WWII. She will be available to autograph books for her fellow Twirly Birds. If you plan to purchase a book, please send me a note or leave a phone message so that we will have an adequate supply on hand.

The December 2014 news letter included Nancy's biography written by Twirly Bird Marty Pociask. Copies of that biography will be available at the Orlando reception.

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The Twirly Birds are also pleased to announce that Elizabeth “Libby Meade” was selected to join the Twirly Birds as an Associate Member. Libby more than qualifies having made “magnificent and significant contributions to the industry for more than 20 years”.

Elizabeth “Libby” Meade’s employment with the Helicopter Association International (HAI) spanned 20 years. She came to HAI from the Civil Aeronautics Board, where she served in administrative support. She joined HAI as an Executive Assistant in 1987. In 1992, she was promoted to Director of Administration, becoming Vice President in 1993, and Executive Vice President in 1996

Libby served three HAI Presidents in many roles. At HAI, she was responsible for a number of departments and functions, including; human resources, employee benefits, insurance, administrative support to the president, mailroom operations, HAI Gift Shop, membership, and provided support for the Board of Directors. She served as Committee Staff Liaison on a number of committees including, Economics, Flight Training, Government Services, Human Resources, Insurance, and Manufacturers Committees.

Libby was instrumental in the development of HAI’s Job Fair and Mentoring Program at HELI-EXPO. Her contributions also include her efforts to attract new talent through the HAI Human Resources Committee to address the helicopter industry’s need for future qualified aircraft maintenance technicians and helicopter pilots. The committee sponsored scholarships for helicopter maintenance Technicians and scholarships for pilots. Libby’s work on this committee was instrumental in the development of this scholarship program.

Libby also played a major role in the acquisition of the HAI building, and worked with the architect to design the interior layout of the offices and floor space. Her dynamic leadership, dedicated service and lasting contributions have advanced the goals and objectives of HAI, and the helicopter industry.

Upon her retirement Libby was awarded an HAI Lifetime membership.

In 2012, Twirly Bird and Les Morris recipient, Roy Simmons, donated \$50,000.00 to the Helicopter Foundation International Pilot Scholarships in honor of Libby.

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Congratulations to Twirly Bird Lou Bartolotta, who will receive the prestigious Bell Helicopter Lifetime Achievement award at Heli-Expo 2015. Lou began his career as an Army helicopter pilot serving in Viet Nam. After leaving the Army he joined Bristow Helicopters before joining the Helicopter Association International. Lou was hired by MBB Helicopters then moved to Agusta Aviation as the Vice President of U.S. marketing and operations. Lou retired from Agusta in 2014.

Twirly Bird Elling Halvorson, founder of Papillon Helicopters, continues to be recognized for his dynamic leadership in the Helicopter Industry. Elling was recently honored by Bell Helicopter with the Bell Helicopter Vertical Hall of Fame Award at the 12th annual Living Legends of Aviation Awards in Beverly Hills on January 16th.

Elling and Lou will be available at the March 3 Twirly Bird reception to autograph bar napkins.

Three Twirly Birds have "Gone West". Rod Kvamme, Frank Huglin, and Del Smith.

The most recent Twirly Bird to go west was Rod Kvamme. Rod was the 2005 recipient of the Les Morris award. Several members of the helicopter industry and fellow Twirly Birds traveled to Rod's memorial service February 4, in Ketchum, Idaho.



Roger 'Rod' Moody Kvamme

Rod Kvamme passed away early Friday morning, Jan. 23, after a great life and a 19-year, hard-fought battle with Parkinson's disease.

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Rod was born in Harlan, Iowa, Feb. 18, 1937, to Ruth and Trygve Kvamme. Rod's family left Iowa when he was 8 years old in 1945 and headed west to Bellingham, Wash. Raised on a farm near the Nooksack River, Rod attended Mount Baker High School. Upon graduation, he joined ROTC and attended Washington State University. He completed college with a horticulture degree and his private pilot's license. Rod then began to pursue one of his life passions, flying helicopters for the United States Army as a second lieutenant. In 1960, Rod was based in Fulda, Germany, where he heli-patrolled the border of East and West Germany.

After he met his obligation with the Army, Rod flew for Mississippi Valley Helicopters and Johnson Flying Service. Eventually in 1965, he ended up in Boise, Idaho, and co-founded Intermountain Helicopters.

In 1965, Rod was introduced to Linda Teter and they married Feb. 4, 1966, in Boise, Idaho. Keily, their first daughter was born on Jan. 10, 1970, followed by Amy, born on June 17, 1972. Rod and his family moved to Chehalis, Wash., in 1972, where he worked as a pilot for Weyerhaeuser Co. In 1977, Heli-jet Corporation was founded by Rod in Eugene, Ore. Rod became known in the industry for his competence, innovation, passion and success. This led Rod to become chairman of Helicopter Association International in 1996-1997. This was a well-deserved honor. Rod retired and sold Heli-jet in 2000, and he and Linda were able to pursue their other passions: living, skiing, and back country flying their Cessna 206 and hiking in Sun Valley, Idaho.

Rod was a very gracious and humble man known for his honesty. He leaves behind a group of people who love and respect him for all he was, and all he accomplished. He is survived by his wife, Linda; daughter Keily (Jason) Centella and grandsons, Lock, Lyon and Ladd; daughter Amy (Joe) Marx and grandsons Ethan and Abel.

Frank Huglin

Mr. Huglin was born May 21, 1929, in Redwood City, Calif., to Frank M. Huglin Sr. and Laura Barnes Huglin. He grew up in the small town of Pescadero, Calif., which he was very fond of and still has several friends there. He attended Bellarmine College Preparatory in San Jose, Calif., graduating in 1945. He graduated from San Jose State University in 1951.

He then joined the U.S. Marine Corps and became a pilot. He started with fixed wing aircraft and earned his wings. During the Korean War, he switched over to helicopters. He served in Vietnam and was a commanding officer of a medevac unit. He flew over 100 missions in Vietnam and was even shot down once. He was very proud of being a

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Marine and regularly attended Marine Corps reunions. Over the years, many men thanked him for saving their lives. He left the Marines with the rank of major.

After returning from Vietnam, he went to work for Hiller Aviation as a helicopter test pilot and salesman. As part of his duties, he traveled all over the world and had many adventures, including liberating a helicopter from the Castro government, which he flew with another co-worker to Key West late one night. He may have been the first airship repo man.

Growing up in Pescadero fostered his love for the outdoors. He traveled all over the world going fishing and hunting, from Belize to Mongolia. When he retired, he told his boss, "Now I'll finally have time for more hunting and fishing!" His boss replied, "I didn't think that would be possible!" He also loved to ski and skied until just a couple of years ago.

Early in his career, he married Lorelei Lewis. He met her when he was stationed in Florida. They had two sons, Mark and Grant. He taught his sons how to shoot, hunt and fish. They both embraced a love of the outdoors as well. He married Ruth Huglin in 1999. He and Ruth also traveled together extensively, often on ski vacations. He is survived by his wife, Ruth; sons, Mark (Renee) and Grant (Linda); grandchildren, Kendra, Julia, Luke and Mari; great-grandchild, Molly; stepdaughter, Ronda Butler; and stepson, Rocky Brooks (Cathy).

Please send us your news, and updates for this newsletter. Your fellow pioneer helicopter pilots would appreciate hearing from you.

We received a note from Twirly Bird, Mike D'Aries. While a senior at Rutgers the Army gave him the opportunity to participate in civilian flight training in return for an additional year of service on active duty. Mike soloed at Camp Wolters, TX in 1961. After three years on active duty he joined Peter Wright at Keystone Helicopters. "Working for Peter and his sons was a great pleasure." Mike retired after forty five years with Keystone.

DUES: Annual dues are \$10.00. Dues are used to pay for mailing the newsletter to those Twirly Birds who have not provided an e-mail address. Dues are also used to buy TB pins, TB certificates and partially fund the

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reception at Heli-Expo. Please send your dues to Treasurer Dennis MacBain, 4525 Leon Street, San Diego, CA 92107

The Twirly Birds have funded an endowment at the University of Texas at Dallas for the Twirly Bird Archives. Please consider sending your records, papers and memorabilia to be preserved and cared for in the Twirly Bird Archives.

Twirly Bird Archive Contact:

Paul A. Oelkrug
Coordinator for Special Collections
The University of Texas at Dallas
800 West Campbell Road MC33
Richardson, Texas 75080-3021

KEEP YOUR ROTOR IN THE GREEN!

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If you are not receiving this newsletter via e-mail please send your e-mail address to Dennis MacBain, macdennis@att.net, so that we can get you on the e-mail list.

Mark your calendar! Twirly Bird Reception, 17:00 March 3, 2015 Lake Mizzell room of the Hilton Hotel 6001 Destination Parkway, Orlando, Florida, FL 32819.