

SQUAWK 99

APRIL 2010

NEW ENGLAND SECTION 99S

INT'L ORG OF WOMEN PILOTS



Georgia Pappas, Sara Hayden, Trish Sauve & Christine Micke (R) Lois Auchterlonie



*Above - Betty Brown & Sara Hayden
Right - Betty & Ron Brown*



WASP Receive Congressional Medal of Honor

Governor's Message *Georgia Pappas*

Congratulations to Sara Hayden (ENE), Lois Auchterlonie (ENE) and Betty Brown (KW) who were honored at the WASP Congressional Gold Medal Ceremonies on March 10, 2010.

The Women Airforce Service Pilots of World War II were more than flyers. They were pioneers. An inspiration for generations of girls who looked to the sky. Congratulations to all WASP on being awarded the Congressional Gold Medal!



Over 25,000 women applied, and 1,830 were accepted into training. Of those, only 1,074 earned their silver wings. They

were the first women in the history of America to fly military aircraft.

The WASP flew every type of aircraft - both trainers and bombers - and flew as instructors and test pilots, ferried personnel, delivered aircraft and towed targets. WASP flew over 60 million miles during their service to America.

Despite General "Hap" Arnold's statement that America would never forget them - they did. WASP were unceremoniously deactivated in 1944 without benefits and with little or no thanks for their service. Once disbanded their records were sealed and marked "classified" or "secret" and filed away for 33 years. In 1977 WASP received Veteran status, and in 2010 Congress finally honored the WASP's service with the awarding of one Congressional Gold Medal which will be on display at the Smithsonian.

The ceremony was attended by over 1,700 WASP, friends and family, and was the largest gathering ever held in Emancipation Hall at the U.S. Capitol.



Trish Sauve, Christine Micke and I attended the festivities, along with Mary Build & Brenda Thibodeau from KW. It was an honor to share this beautiful occasion with our WASP 99s.

AIR RACE CLASSIC JUNE 22-25, 2010 FT MYERS, FL TO FREDERICK, MD

Judith Snow (ENE) may be racing this year, and Mary Build has been asked to serve as a judge.

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NE Section Website

www.womenpilotsnewengland.org/

*The web address will connect
to the Section Facebook page*



WASP gathered at the US Air Force Memorial to honor the 38 WASP who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country during their service. The 20th Fighter Wing performed a “missing man” formation.

(R) Brenda Thibodeau & Mary Build prior to the ceremony at the US Capitol

