



### Special points of interest:

- Wednesday February 25—Dinner Meeting
- Tuesday March 3— Chapter Board Meeting

Volume 2015 Issue 02

February, 2015

## President's Message- - Memories of Ruth

When I joined MPA in the 1970's, one of the first members I recall meeting



was **Ruth Stafford and her husband Sheldon**. They had a private airstrip on their place at Lake Lotawanna, were friends with several others I knew from the area and Sheldon

owned, operated & maintained a fleet of trucks. My family business was large truck fleet operations and maintenance. This coincidence gave Sheldon and me quite a bit to talk about when the hangar flying slowed down. Needless to say, we became friends and Ruth became not only a mentor, but was often a guest speaker in my classes. She served as a role model for countless coeds over the years and in a couple of cases even provided room and board for prospective aviatrixes. We have shared much over the years and I have benefitted tremendously as a result.

Just in case you have lived on another planet and don't know, Ruth learned to fly as she entered middle age (OK, I'm beginning to stretch that definition as I get older) so that she could accompany Sheldon on some of his global ferry flights. That wish took on a life of its own as she began to do world wide solo flights in aircraft I wouldn't fly across state lines. She once told me that a plane sitting on its tail tie down ring was just right to do distance flying in, cause it had lots of gas to get there. I chose to ignore that concept, especially considering" what I am known for" regarding "weight & balance". Ruth cheerfully complied with my requests for help with student groups,

lectures and once even loaned me her Bonanza when I needed an exemplar aircraft for research I was conducting. A few years ago when her grandson "Mitch" was transferring to work in another state the MPA executive committee was tasked with finding someone to fill in for him as chapter president Ruth suggested asking your current president, Gary Fox said "we already asked and Fred is just too busy with work". Ruth said, "Well I haven't asked him yet". She asked, I couldn't turn her down, she knew that! And I sure will miss her! We all will!

The greatest lesson Ruth taught me was " to never regret what you haven't done in life. "

**THANKS RUTH!**

fjs

## February Presenter—Steve Quick, UCM



Please welcome **Steve Quick, UCM**, to MPA and as our honored speaker for the February Meeting.

Steve obtained his BS, Aviation/Airway Management and Operations from CMSU in 1997. He then went on to get his MS, Aviation Safety in 1998. He was an instructor at UCM for 2 years in 1999-2001

Steve is currently the Director of Aircraft Maintenance at UCM. Before coming back to his alma mater he worked at Spirit AeroSystems (Gulfstream G650 Wing), Hawker Beechcraft and Cessna Aircraft Company

He retired from the USAF as Master Sargent after 20 years in 1998.

He has been a long-time member of EAA and is now a new MPA member.



Steve is a proud owner of a 1946 Fairchild 24R-46 aircraft (N81362)



### Ruth Margaret Stafford

Ruth Margaret Haskins Stafford, 87, passed peacefully at her home in Independence on February 12, 2015. She was born September 30, 1927, in Oak Park, Illinois. Her passion for aviation led Ruth to become a licensed commercial pilot, flight instructor and airline transport pilot. Along with her parents, Ruth was preceded in death by her husband of 57 years, Sheldon; son, Reggie; and brothers, Roland and Jimmy Haskins. Survivors include her sons and daughters-in-law, Randy and Delores Stafford, Ronnie and Susan Stafford; eight grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren. She also leaves her sister and brother-in-law, Rhodanne and James Schiller; and numerous nieces and nephews.



**MEETING MENU:**Mediterranean Chick-  
enRoasted potatoes with  
vegetables

Garden Salad

Cheesecake

Fresh Fruit

Beverage

**Reservations:**

Email Terrie Jo,

[Terrie@Foxware.com](mailto:Terrie@Foxware.com)or Call 816-525-3592  
(home)

or 816-985-5406

(Gary's Cell)

by Monday **February****23, 2014****Future Meeting Dates**

February 25 —*Membership Dinner Meeting*— **HyVee— No-land Road**

March 3— Board Meeting at Downtown Airport

We are looking for suggestions of speakers for upcoming meetings. You suggest, we invite and all will enjoy

**Calendar of Events (## indicates KC local)**

**## Feb 25** Membership Dinner Meeting **HyVee—Noland Road**

**## Mar 3 (1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday )** Board Meeting—Downtown Airport—Signature

**CHECK CALENDAR AT [www.MOpilotsKC.org/calendar](http://www.MOpilotsKC.org/calendar) FOR LATEST EVENTS AND UPDATES.**

**OUR OWN WEBSITE!** The Kansas City Chapter of the Missouri Pilots Association (MPA) has its own website. Please visit early and visit often at [www.MOpilotsKC.org](http://www.MOpilotsKC.org) (capital letters not required). Updating coming soon. **Tom Eagle**

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