



Contact :**Robert Friedrichs**, Director

702-791-3536

e-mail:robert.friedrichs@nvhof.org

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Roscoe Turner



Margaret Gee



John Parangosky



Robert A. Hoover

Announcing the Nevada Aerospace Hall of Fame Fifth Annual Induction Ceremony and Dinner

Las Vegas- -The Nevada Aerospace Hall of Fame has selected four individuals this year for induction. These individuals all have contributed significantly to Nevada's aviation history. The induction dinner is on Saturday, Nov. 8, at 6:45 p.m. at ***The Landings*** restaurant, Henderson Executive Airport, 3500 Executive Terminal Drive. A no-host social begins at 6 p.m. and dinner is at 6:45 p.m. The induction program begins at 7:30 p.m. Advance reservations and payment must be received by Oct. 31. Cost is \$75 per person; dress is business casual. The public is invited but seating is limited; corporate tables are available.

For reservations and payment, contact **Robert Friedrichs**, Director NVAHOF Director: 702-791-3536; e-mail: robert.friedrichs@nvhof.org or **Patrick Newcomb**, NVAHOF Secretary, 702.592.3766, patrick.newcomb@nvhof.org.

The 2014 NVAHOF inductees are:

Roscoe Turner has been inducted for his role in developing commercial passenger service to Nevada, demonstrating transcontinental passenger service viability, and creating the use of commercial aviation uniforms. In the spring of 1929, Turner was hired by the newly created Nevada Airlines as their chief pilot and operations manager. Nevada Airlines flights were nicknamed "Matrimonial Specials," "Line to Freedom" or "Liberty Specials," depending on the reason for the passenger's trip. After several flights with Turner, Nevada governor Fred R. Balzar made Turner an honorary aide-de-camp on his staff with the rank of lieutenant colonel. California Governor, James Rolph Jr., followed by appointing Turner to his staff but gave him the rank of full colonel. On August 21, 1929, Roscoe made a cross-country flight in a Nevada Airline Vegas carrying three passengers in 19 hours and 35 minutes. The return flight was completed in 23 hours and 59 minutes. These flights showed the practicality of transcontinental passenger service.

Margaret Gee has been inducted for her role as one of the first women in history to fly American military aircraft in defense of America's freedom while facing overwhelming cultural and gender bias. Gee cashed in her war bonds in order to take flying lessons with the hope of joining the Women Air-force Service Pilots (WASP). Since private pilots were not allowed to fly within 150 miles of the west coast, she traveled to Minden, Nevada for her lessons. Upon completion, WASP recruiters determined that she met the qualifications and was accepted into the program. She was ordered to report for seven months of training at Sweetwater, Texas as part of Class 44-W-9. Of the 25,000 individuals that had applied for the program, only 1,830 were accepted and only 1,074 graduated. 38 WASPs lost their lives serving their country including one at the Las Vegas Army Airfield. Upon graduation, Gee was assigned to the Las Vegas Army Airfield in Las Vegas, Nevada where she learned to deal with male pilots who felt that women, especially one of Chinese ancestry, had no place in the service. Gee was assigned to a training position where she instructed male pilots in instrument flying, evaluated pilots renewing their instrument ratings, and copiloted B-17s during gunnery practice using live ammunition. Gee served in this capacity until the WASP program was disbanded on December 20, 1944. Gee, like all WASPs, had to pay for her own transportation home.

John Parangosky (a.k.a. Thomas P. McIninch) has been inducted for having brought to fruition some of the world's most sophisticated aerial and space-based technical intelligence collection systems from the mid-1950s through the mid-1970s. In the mid-1950s, Parangosky joined the CIA's highly classified IDEALIST program management, where he participated in all aspects of the U-2's development, flight testing at Groom Lake and early deployments. Parangosky was the CIA's OXCART program executive officer and program manager, overseeing the A-12's first test flight at Groom Lake on April 30, 1962, its operational certification in November 1965, and deployment overseas as part of operation BLACK SHIELD. In 1967, in recognition of his performance and contributions to the A-12 Program, Parangosky received the Distinguished Intelligence Medal, one of the CIA's highest awards.

Robert A. "Bob" Hoover has been inducted for being instrumental in the Reno Air Races safe operation for three decades. He ensured the races ran smoothly and assisted pilots in trouble to safe landings. In 1962, Hoover convinced North American Aviation to allow him to use one of their most recognizable aircraft, a P-51, to promote the company at air shows around the United States. In 1964, Hoover participated in the first Reno Air Races providing aerobatic demonstrations and serving as official starter for the Unlimited-class races. The unlimited racers would line up next to Hoover's P-51 and, when the racers were in proper position, he would radio "Gentlemen, you have a race." He would then go into a vertical climb as the racers dropped toward the first turn. As the race continued, Hoover would circle overhead ready to assist any pilots with problems.

About the Nevada Aerospace Hall of Fame: The NVAHOF is a non-profit, educational foundation dedicated to preserving the legacy of the men and women who pioneered aerospace within the State of Nevada. The mission of this organization is to increase awareness of Nevada's unique aerospace history through educational programs and the Hall of Fame.

Recap -Dinner Information: The fifth annual induction dinner will be held at ***The Landings*** restaurant at the Henderson Executive Airport, 3500 Executive Terminal Drive, Henderson, on Saturday, Nov. 8, 2014. **Reception** is at 6 p.m., no host bar; **Dinner** is at 6:45 p.m. and the **Induction** program is at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$75 per person.

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