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## **'WOMEN IN THE WILD BLUE YONDER' SALUTES MILITARY FEMALE PILOTS**

**ARCATA** — Female pilots in the military will be saluted on Friday, Nov. 7, when Kay Gott Chaffey presents "Women in the Wild Blue Yonder," a lecture from 7-9 p.m. in the Nordstrom (first-floor) lobby of the Humboldt State University Library.

Chaffey, a physical education professor at Humboldt State University from 1952 to 1983, served as a Women's Airforce Service Pilot (WASP) during World War II. Now a resident of McKinleyville, she is very active in WASP recognition efforts and preserving its history by profiling the women who served with the Air Transport Command.

Chaffey's latest book, "Hazel Ah Ying Lee," is about a Chinese-American WASP flyer who died from injuries in 1944 Thanksgiving Day plane crash. It will be available for signing at the lecture.

As a "ferry pilot," Chaffey delivered dozens of planes to training schools. Some trips were short, such as shuttles between Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas. Others required delivering warplanes from Dallas to Long Beach, Calif., or from Niagara Falls, N.Y., to Portland, Ore.

According to Chaffey, "Taking a pursuit aircraft right off the assembly line to fly it to some destination without its ever being test-flown meant you were the test pilot for the first 30 minutes or so, until you found the airplane 'airworthy.'"

Chaffey's presentation is sponsored by Friends of the Humboldt State Library and is free to university staff, students and faculty. A \$5 donation is requested from others.

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