

'40

415-566-8942

Marion D. Bowler  
68 Cragmont Avenue  
San Francisco, California 94116

My revered Friend, Helen Wetzell Wallace:  
I remember your name and admired you  
because our class of 1940! all looked  
up to you as a leader. I can't believe  
so many years have rushed by!

I graduated in 1940; and after the  
evening graduation party, I went down  
to Spear Flying Field, (as I had all  
semester long, with thirty five young  
men, to practice the special class,  
provided by the government, to those  
of us who passed the physical and  
mental tests, to learn about aeronau-  
tics and take flying lessons,) the  
following morning, and after the  
flight with the instructor, he  
handed me my private pilot's  
licence. My Kaleidoscopic life

Page 2  
Took off from there!

I am joyfully single, Marion  
Doernus Bowler, having squeezed  
out of 10 to 12 <sup>only</sup> engagements and  
recent marriage proposals! whee.  
I paid off two houses, and enjoy  
a panoramic view of Twin Peaks  
and San Francisco Bay in my adored  
home, in San Francisco. It's hard  
work, but surely worth it, to paint  
it inside & out myself, and  
upholster my own furniture to  
keep it sparklingly refurbished.  
(an aside, I have scaped and  
sanded the varnish from my hardwood  
floors for two days, & all varnish  
them today, on a holiday for most!)  
and re-lay my oriental rug runners,  
when the stairs are dry.) The chairs  
are feeling "heavier" & the sanding  
& painting takes time from my traveling  
& going to luncheons and parties!  
as the years go by!

Floors were done  
stair's  
other years.

Page 3 (man in D. Bowler)

I had a pleasant position for 25 years with CALTRANS where I was a draftsman drawing the directional signs for the San Francisco Bay Area.

a long the way, I had an exciting job as an air force civilian hobby center Director in Japan. The most joyous day was when Colonel Eugene Fletcher and his lovely lady, Mrs Fletcher, became Commanding officers of Yokota Air Base, Japan;

and Colonel Fletcher cut the ribbon and presided over ceremonies of the opening of the New Hobby center, which I directed. The Fletcher family and Bowler family had a pleasant association in San Diego years ago, so it was old home week!

"my" The hobby centers (two large buildings) had a wood shop, a photo lab, better than the bases, a huge model train room, an art workshop for GI's and their wives, Rooms etc.



Page 5 (man on D. Boulder)

It was a small Ice Breaker, thus allowing us to cut through ice, and 78 passengers were able to go ashore in zodiac landing crafts to see penguins, and three foreign Research stations. ~~On~~ my return from Antarctica, I returned to Buenos Aires to retrace my steps 15 years before, when I saw most of the countries of South America. The Antarctica trip was in January/February of 1993, and in September 1993, I had an eye-opening trip to Ireland, Scotland, and England, for the second time, and I still had time to give 9 parties - and go to many other people's parties! Alaska was another scenic adventure another year, and, of course, the Passion Play, in 1990 - This year, it's all USA! I had a delightful trip to Arizona & saw the very

Page 6  
Red Rocks of Sedona, plus the auctioning of  
700 classic cars in Scottsdale, having  
been associated with classic cars in the  
past. Jane will bring me new  
adventures in Northern California and  
Oregon, ending in Portland at their Rose  
Festival. In July, I hope to fly to <sup>built</sup>  
Florida again, to visit dear Tucker, 1948,  
car-owner friends; then to Boston and  
onto New Foundland, where I shall  
go aboard the same Ice Breaker, the  
MV Northern Ranger, that I traveled  
on to Antarctica! There is a descriptive  
article in the 3 A's Motor Land Magazine  
March/April issue, page 46, about the  
picturesque Labrador + New Foundland  
and the words "MV Northern Ranger" caught  
my eye! Australia is on my list for 1995.  
This rapidly scribbled "account" is for  
dear Helen's eyes only! Much too wordy  
for any publication. If you ever come to  
San Francisco, I'll love to introduce you to my  
many friends at a party! Thanks for "listening!"  
Very Cordially, Marion D. Bowler



With hearty regards to  
Helen from Mardon Boulder  
1944. This is what I  
look like when our paths  
cross!

