

H94-13-16

ORAL HISTORY BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

NAME: ELLEN PANEOK  
(first) (middle) (last)

(NICKNAME: ) \_\_\_\_\_ (MAIDEN NAME: ) SAME

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 876207 WASSILLA, AK 99687  
(city/state/zip)

DATE OF BIRTH: 10-17-59 BIRTHPLACE KOTzebue  
(city/state)

SPOUSE: NO

MARRIAGE DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ PLACE: \_\_\_\_\_

CHILDREN: NO

ALASKAN RESIDENCY: YES

OCCUPATION/PROFESSION: PILOT

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT IN RELATION TO ORAL HISTORY:

Ellen Paneok has much in common with early Alaskan bush pilots. She flies out of Barrow to outlying villages such as Pt. Lay, Wainwright, and Barter Island under the most severe climatic conditions in the world, challenged as her pioneer predecessors with sudden whiteouts, plummeting temperature and heavy winds. She, too, has had to improvise repair jobs on her airplane, stranded miles from civilization in her experiences flying in many different regions of Alaska.

Paneok has owned and flown antique aircraft from the 1930s era. A pilot since the age of sixteen, she has become immersed in many aspects of aviation, successfully competing in this predominantly male occupation. "I fly for the love of it. No other reason," she says.

INTERVIEWER: Margaret Van Cleave

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