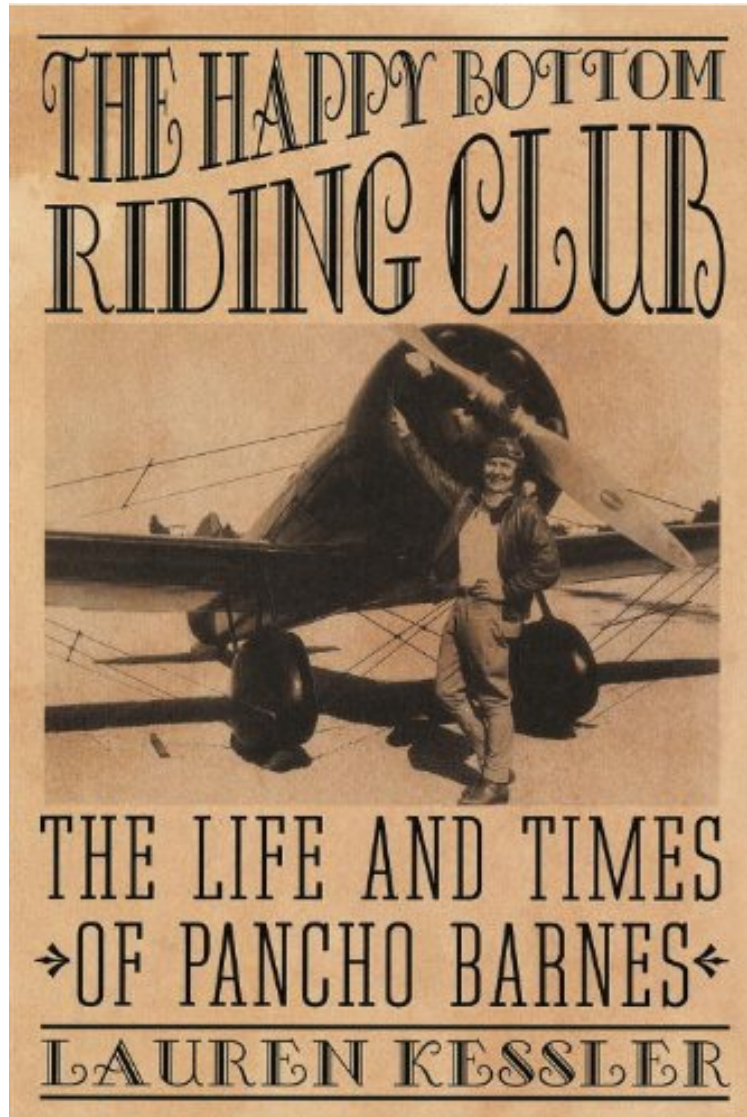


(Read now) The Happy Bottom Riding Club: The Life and Times of Pancho Barnes

The Happy Bottom Riding Club: The Life and Times of Pancho Barnes

Von Lauren Kessler

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Von Lauren Kessler : The Happy Bottom Riding Club: The Life and Times of Pancho Barnes before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Happy Bottom Riding Club: The Life and Times of Pancho Barnes:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. One Wild Woman !Von G. P. RobertsI saw the author one evening on BookTV and I immediatly went out and got the

book. If you like aviation history, stories about wild parties, riches to rags stories, or tales about oversexed, hard drinking, foul mouthed women then this is a must read! I give credit to the author for her detail and for her ability to tell the story of a character like Pancho Barnes and keep the content at a PG-13 level (for the most part). This story is a great lesson on what can happen to a rich child who is not taught the value of a dollar. For those of us who can only read about the rich and wonder what it would be like to be rich and have a good time; well, let me say you will not be disappointed in this read. Pancho is one of those people that you would like to know but (hopefully) not be like. I also learned a lot about the early history of Edwards AFB (even how the name was changed to Edwards). I had read Chuck Yeager's Biography years ago and this book ties in and gives the reader a view of life off the base. Read it, you'll have fun.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Wild Woman of the Sky Von Jill Bailey

What I was asking myself upon reading this book is: How is it that I had not heard of Pancho Barnes before? I am so glad this book fell into my lap! I was riveted by her story from page one. She outflew Amelia Earhart, outdrank the Mexican Army, and partied with the likes of Jimmy Doolittle and Chuck Yeager (ya know the test pilot that broke the sound barrier). She flew as a stunt pilot in movies. She knew all the Hollywood people and was responsible for quite a few successful careers. You know John Wayne? Well so did Pancho. She lived wild and created her own rules for living. You won't believe this story. What ever happened to Pancho Barnes?

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What I want to know is how I have made it this long without knowing who Pancho Barnes is? I am so happy this book fell into my lap. From page one I was riveted by the extraordinary tales of a woman who outflew Amelia Earhart, partied with the likes of Jimmy Doolittle and Chuck Yeager, and put John Wayne in his place. She lived hard and fast and when it comes to wild women, Pancho was the best. She grew up rich, lived her life with her own rules and disappeared into obscurity for years. What happened to Pancho? Read and find out!

Kurzbeschreibung Pancho Barnes was a force of nature, a woman who lived a big, messy, colorful, unconventional life. She ran through three fortunes, four husbands, and countless lovers. She outflew Amelia Earhart, outsmarted Howard Hughes, outdrank the Mexican Army, and out-maneuvered the U.S. government. In *The Happy Bottom Riding Club*, award-winning author Lauren Kessler tells the story of a high-spirited, headstrong woman who was proud of her successes, unabashed by her failures, and the architect of her own legend. Florence "Pancho" Barnes was a California heiress who inherited a love of flying from her grandfather, a pioneer balloonist in the Civil War. Faced with a future of domesticity and upper-crust pretensions, she ran away from her responsibilities as wife and mother to create her own life. She cruised South America. She trekked through Mexico astride a burro. She hitchhiked halfway across the United States. Then, in the late 1920s, she took to the skies, one of a handful of female pilots. She was a barnstormer, a racer, a cross-country flier, and a Hollywood stunt pilot. She was, for a time, "the fastest woman on earth," flying the fastest civilian airplane in the world. She was an intimate of movie stars, a script doctor for the great director Erich von Stroheim, and, later in life, a drinking buddy of the supersonic jet jockey Chuck Yeager. She ran a wild and wildly successful desert watering hole known as the Happy Bottom Riding Club, the raucous bar and grill depicted in *The Right Stuff*. In *The Happy Bottom Riding Club*, Lauren Kessler presents a portrait, both authoritative and affectionate, of a woman who didn't play by women's rules, a woman of large appetites--emotional, financial, and sexual--who called herself "the greatest conversation piece that ever existed." From the Hardcover edition.

A more unlikely minister's wife could hardly be imagined. Yet Florence Lowe Barnes (1901-74) was in fact married to an Episcopalian rector when she began training horses and flying stunt planes for Hollywood studios. As it turned out, however, the hard-drinking, hard-living, primarily male camaraderie she found there suited her far better than the well-mannered lifestyle of her affluent parents and undersexed husband. She acquired her nickname during a roistering 1927 trip to Mexico, and "Pancho" Barnes became legendary as a pioneering female pilot and a world-class party thrower with lovers to spare. (She was no beauty, but many men found Pancho's gusto and humor irresistible.) In the mid-'30s, past her prime as a pilot and looking for a business to support her free-spending ways, she set up as a Mojave Desert rancher near a tiny encampment of the Army Air Corps. Military and test pilots like Chuck Yeager flocked to Pancho's place--whether it was called Rancho Oro Verde, Pancho's Fly-Inn, or the Happy Bottom Riding Club--to savor her openhanded hospitality with food and booze, and to enjoy earthy stories about her past. Readers intrigued by Tom Wolfe's thumbnail sketch of Pancho in *The Right Stuff* will relish Lauren Kessler's full-length narrative of her adventurous life.

--Wendy Smith.com

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