In 1942, at the age of 17, San Francisco native Stanley Hiller, Jr. established the first helicopter factory on the West Coast in order to develop his "Hiller Copter" for the U.S. Army. In January 1949, the Hiller 360 became the first civilian helicopter to cross the United States. Hiller moved his collection of eclectic aircraft from a warehouse in Redwood City to found the Hiller Aviation Museum in San Carlos, which opened to the public in June 1998, when he was 73 years old. The collection consists of unique early aircraft, one-of-a-kind prototypes, and cutting edge test vehicles from the Hiller Aircraft Company, as well as other manufacturers. The collection reflects Hiller's participation in Northern California aviation history, where he produced innovative aircraft the world had never seen, from personal flying platforms to ramjet tipped rotorcraft. The Museum is devoted to communicating the richness of this legacy. The display contains inspiring examples of aviation technology to tell the stories of adventurous aviation pioneers. Visit https://www.hiller.org to learn more about the Hiller Aviation Museum. Pictured: Stanley Hiller, Jr. in his Hiller-Copter.

Location: Hiller Aviation Museum, 601 Skyway Road, San Carlos

The group tour, which will focus on California-based aviation, is $10.00 for seniors (age 65 plus) and $16.00 for adults. Contact Judy Van Austen by to make reservations by May 9, 2018. See final page for Judy’s contact information. Parking is available. Members may also gather for an informal luncheon after the tour at the Sky Kitchen, 620 Airport Way, San Carlos.
S. F. Westerners Posse: 2018
Sheriff: Tom McLaughlin McLaughlinThomas@msn.com
Trail Boss: Ask how you can assist us here!
Registrar of Marks & Brands: We also need help here!
Keeper of the Chips: Judy Van Austen, (510) 339-1298 vanausten@att.net
International Rep.: Gerhard Brostrom, (510) 524-5984 brost@earthlink.net
Marshal: Bob Lawhon, (415) 519-3972 westernerssf@gmail.com
Inklings: Kathryn Ayres (415) 383-9916 piscopunch@hotmail.com
Inklings Emeritus: Tom McLaughlin; Richard F. Olson; Mary Lau Lyon, HM

Mark your calendar for the S.F. Corral of Westerners’ meeting dates for 2018: June 26, September 25, October 23 and December 4.

Noteworthy events:

San Francisco Museum and Historical Society – San Francisco and World War I. Presented by Diane M.T. North on Tuesday, May 8, 7:30 p.m. World War I propelled the U.S. into the 20th century and served as a powerful catalyst for the making of modern California. Author Diane M. T. North will discuss the decisive role played by San Francisco and its citizens in the war, covering the growth of the military, changes in the economy, shipbuilding, volunteer efforts, the influenza pandemic, and major threats to civil liberties. Roosevelt Middle School, 460 Arguello Boulevard, San Francisco (at Geary; entrance on Palm). www.sfhistory.org. Admission for non-members is $10 per person or $5 for seniors, students, K-12 teachers, and persons with disabilities. Admission fees may be applied to membership dues within 45 days.

The Western Neighborhoods Project – Thursday, May 24 at 7:00 p.m. L.J. Moore and Alex Snyder on Lone Mountain Cemeteries and Discovering Edith Cook. In 2016, a backyard landscaping project at a home near Rossi Park turned up a small metal casket with two viewing windows. Inside, a young girl lay suspended in an exceptional state of preservation. In early March 2018, dozens of grave markers and cut stones were unearthed during a parking lot renovation. From the 1850s until the 1930s, San Francisco's dead rested in four large cemeteries around Lone Mountain. Why were they removed and what remains of them both above and below ground in the city? Join us for an illustrated presentation on the cemeteries and a conversation with L.J. Moore and Alex Snyder, who were part of the investigative team that discovered the identity of the little girl found 140 years after being laid to her "final" rest. 1617 Balboa Street, San Francisco. Tickets: $10. Space is limited. More info: www.outsidelands.org.

San Francisco Museum History Association – A Second Final Rest: The History of San Francisco's Lost Cemeteries. Presented by Filmmaker Trina Lopez on Tuesday, May 29 at 7:30 p.m. There are almost no graveyards in San Francisco, even though there were many in decades past. Burials are illegal here, and there are very few places to have cremated remains housed. Trina's film reveals not only why the dead were evicted, but where most of them went, and how this came to pass in the first half of the 20th century. It also offers insight into how the conflict between the living and the dead in the Bay Area continues to this day. Congregation Sherith Israel, 2266 California Street, San Francisco. Admission for non-members is $10 per person. More info: www.sanfranciscohistory.org.