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WWGC 2011 Arboga - Sweden

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**6<sup>th</sup> WOMEN'S WORLD  
GLIDING CHAMPIONSHIPS  
Arboga (Sweden) 2011**

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**ANNEX  
2011**

Supplemento al numero 335 di



la Rivista dei Volovelisti Italiani

# AERONAUTICAL CURRICULUM VITAE

## GLIDING

### Gill Van den Broeck-Gebhard

- gliding pilot since 1954
- various Belgian records solo and two-seater with Geogeo Litt in Belgium, Spain and Australia
- attending all women's gliding FAI approved competitions, as from 1973 AT the Europeans (1979 till 1999) and worlds (2001 etc)
- 1979** in Dunaujvaros (Hung) team captain of the Belgian team
- 1981** in Chérence (FR) team captain of the Belgian team
- 1983** in St-Hubert (Belg) director/organizer  
Diplome de la Fédération Aéronautique Internationale
- 1985** in Subotica (Yug.) team captain of the Belgian team and elected **President** of the Jury
- 1987** in Sumen (Bulg) team captain of the Belgian team
- 1989** in Orel (URSS) team captain of the Belgian team
- 1991** in Husband-Bosworth (GB) as **steward**
- 1993** in Ceske-Budojevice (Czech Rep) as **steward**
- 1995** in Marpingen (Germany) as **steward**
- 1997** in Prievidza (Slov) as **steward**
- 1999** in Lezmo (Pol) as **member of the International jury**
- 2001** in Pocunai Kaunas (Lith) as **steward**
- 2003** in Jihlava (Czech Rep) as **chief steward**
- 2005** in Klix (Dresden-Germani) as **member of the International jury**
- organizer of "Concours International des Ardennes" several of which were Belgian championships
- gliding articles in various aeronautical magazines and columns in Belgian newspapers and radio
- professional conference interpreter (NL - FR - E - German)

#### REPRESENTATION

of the Belgian Gliding Federation at the yearly meetings of CIVV (Commission Internationale de vol à voile) and IGC (International Gliding Commission)

- 1987** in Frankfurt (Germ),
- 1988** in Vienna (Austria),
- 1989** in Paris,
- 1990** in Paris,
- 1991** in Queenstown (New-Zealand) and in Berlin-Schöhagen (Germ)

#### INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

- 1985** Diploma FAI **Paul TISSANDIER**
- 2005** "**die Goldene Hexe**" - Aeroclub of Germany
- 2008** Honorary citizenship of Brussels town
- 2012** The Pelagia Majewska Gliding Medal

*Gill died in November 2012 after a short illness*

## GILL VAN DEN BROECK



Gill

*It has been really hard finishing the book without you, my dear Gill.*

*Last July you came to Issoudun at the Pre-Worlds to meet me, to show me what you had written about Arboga 2011, then you drove to Bailleu to meet me again, in August. No matter how long it would take to drive from Brussels, and your husband always with you, waiting for you in the car for hours and hours...*

*Always full of life, always with new proposals, always with an uncountable number of papers where you had written, noted or printed any sort of news regarding gliding competitions, whatever they were.*

*Many times, lately, you were asking me, "But who will be the one who will go on writing about women competitions if I cannot come any more to the Championships? I'm 83, I'm not eternal...."*

*I promised, together with Gillian Spreckley: "Be sure Gill, we will take it over."*

*And then, in November your call: "Margot I'm suffering from cancer, the doctor told me I won't survive more than two months" It was a shock... I could not believe it...*

*We were in touch nearly every day... "Can you believe this happening to me?"*

*Your voice was weak, but then, all of a sudden, when I started speaking about the book, the colour of the cover, the choice of the pictures, you started laughing and your voice was getting stronger and as happy as usual.*

*You were worried about Issoudun 2013: "If you and Gillian are competing, how can you write, let's think of someone else!"*

*"Be sure, Gill, we will find someone!"*

*"Thank you Honey..." this is the way you greeted me every time we spoke and then, one day, you didn't answer to my call any more...*

*Follow us from heaven, Gill and fly now with your brand new celestial wings!*

*The Babajagas are all thankful for what you did with your dynamic presence, your positive spirit, your passion for flight, your extraordinary generosity and empathy that was immediate to anyone who had the great opportunity to meet you.*



Gill and her husband

With all our love  
Margot

# ARBOGA 2011

6th FAI WOMEN'S WORLD GLIDING CHAMPIONSHIPS-SWEDEN



*June 11 - 26 - 2011 in Arboga - Sweden*

## IMPRESSIONS ARBOGA 2011

Two years ago in Hungary most of the competing pilots said goodbye “See you again in Arboga 2011”.

Of course they did not all get to Arboga, but for 37 of the 47 it was not the very first contact on this highest level. WORLD championships? Not really because all registrations were European. No more Australians, almost faithfully present right from the beginning 36 years ago (remember the silver medal of Sue Martin?), then both Lisa-girls (Trotter and Turner) in 2005 in Klix... and also last time 2009 in Hungary there was Jenny Thompson. But we did have another Australian representative, a quite mysterious lady... and I cannot resist the temptation to repeat what I wrote about her in my ‘complete’ book.



*How did Janet Hider-Smith land in Oriol 1989? It seems an incredible fairy tale. Once upon a time on a flight Hong-Kong to Frankfurt, a rich German business woman read a story in the newspaper “The Australian” on a 33 year old laboratory chemist who regretted not to be able to participate in women gliding championships on the highest level. The German lady decided to help and after contacts with an Australian Insurance Company, Janet got a very welcome double sponsorship. So up she went to Oriol (Russia) where she started on a rented Discus in standard class, whereas present USA Karol Hines could only use a modest Jantar. Of course both ladies participated “hors concours” in these still European championships. Janet finished 13<sup>th</sup>, Karol 23<sup>rd</sup>. Janet reappeared 1993 in Ceske Budejovice CZ. This time she did not have to travel all the way from Australia, now she was married to Austrian pilot Wolfgang Janovitsch. She finished 14<sup>th</sup>, got divorced, went back to Australia, where later she died from cancer.*

Japan had delegated Akemi Hirotsuma on several occasions (2003 Jihlava, 2005 Klix, 2009 Szeged), what a pity this charming Japanese lady is not here with us again in Arboga. In 2003 we had the pleasant presence of temperamental Alejandra Repicky in Jihlava where she conquered the bronze medal.. we never saw her again and do hope we do not have to wait for her till her babies have grown up. The USA was not often represented and even then only in the early years like 1973-75-77. Presently Sarah Kelly Arnold, very active and successful in USA competitions since 2006, would have been an excellent candidate for Arboga, but apparently she is saving every penny for the 32<sup>nd</sup> "all gender" world championships in Argentina (January 2013) for which she has been officially selected in the USA team.

ARBOGA 2011  
ARBOGA FLYGFÄLT 14 - 26/6 2011

VM i segelflyg  
FÖR DAMER

Invigning tisdag 14 juni kl. 17.00-22.00

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What about South-Africa? Sorry, no Jenny Bradley who had made quite an impression in 2005 in Klix. Her absence has probably also financial reasons.

And then Turkey... How well I remember Shumen 1987 where Pzun Zahilde Zuhai raised quite some attention, not only because of her frail lovely person but because of the more than unusual giant quadrangular lorry her crew used to get back her - again and again- outlanded Jantar. We never saw her again but in 2009 Turkey delegated Andrea Barna, born Hungarian, told me Turkey intended making a bid to organize one of the future women's world championships.



A rather surprising European absence: does Switzerland really not have any successors for Heidi Goetz and Yvonne Schwarz, silver medal in 2005 in Klix? Yvonne is now Swiss airline pilot and even interested again in competing, but Arboga came too soon. Christine Burki participated in 2007 in Romorantin but was not seen again afterwards. But here: Finland appearing for the first time: Eija Kujansuu. Welcome! Enough about the absent ladies in Arboga, let's look at the list of 12 countries represented by 47 pilots. No trace of Sarah Kelman in the British team: as an airline pilot – very busy in this holiday period – and with additional responsibility in the safety panel she could not get the necessary “time off” for Arboga, no more than for the 16<sup>th</sup> European Championships in July 2011 in Nitra, where she was selected as 1<sup>st</sup> British pilot.





Very big surprise also: the **German team without Katrin Senne –Keim.**

Too disappointed by her “only” silver in 2009? Health problems? Pregnancy (like various colleagues?) NO. Katrin missed a few points in the final ranking of the (too?) rigid German qualification rules, for not having competed in the German women’s championships 2008. She in fact participated in the 30<sup>th</sup> “all gender” world championships in Lüsse, where, as ruling women’s world champion she was automatically qualified to participate. No logic exception allowed?

*I am tempted to tell you about a somewhat similar case in Belgium: once the selection committee hesitantly decided on a (logic and necessary) exception in the strict rules, and never regretted this difficult decision, because talented young Bert Zegels became world champion in Waikerie in Australia in 1974. Comment of winner George Moffat: if one man could beat me, it is Bert Zegels*

From near and far 47 candidates have come to conquer titles and medals in the 3 classes. Once more the “longest traveller” to reach Arboga is Russian Nina Shalneva: Novosibirsk-Moscow 3400 km by air, 800 km to St Petersburg by ferry, 400 km to Helsinki by car, 400 km to Stockholm by ferry, 160 km to Arboga by car: addition more than 5000 km in 3 days ONE WAY.And back !  
Imagine – WOW!

The scene is set, let the games start!



*Nina Shalneva with the Director of the Competition*

## OPENING CEREMONY



Quite original, this way of presenting the VIP officials in old-timer cars, whereas the women pilots appeared also in such cars and high up



on open trailers, pulled by historical tractors, all on the way to a large white tent.





*Opening ceremony parade*



*Director Mats Lungvist*



*Steward Marina Vigorito cutting the ribbon*

After this listening to, everybody enjoyed the air meeting, a real treat! Parachute shows, flight of thundering jet...



*Triple gliding towing buy a powerful Poney parachutes shows*



*A few participating pilots were interviewed*



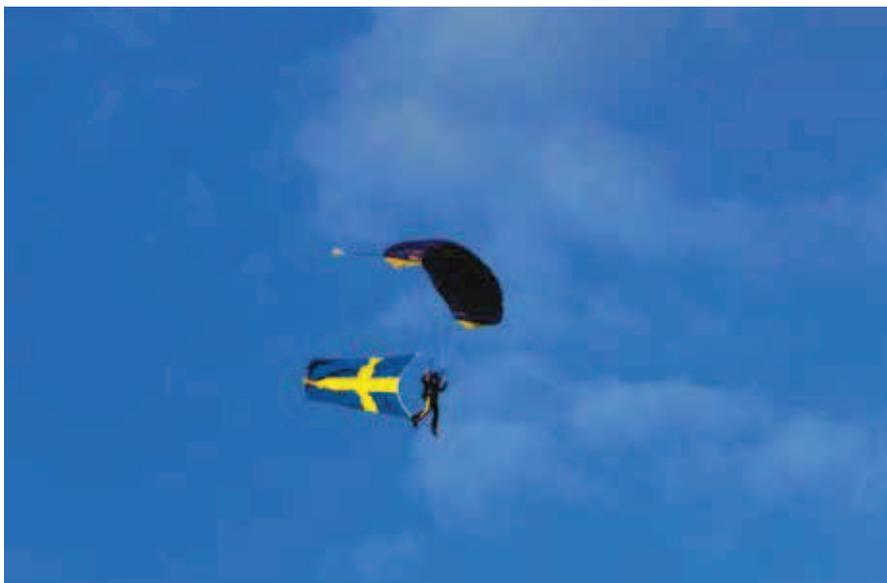
*Elegant glider aerobatics*



*Formation of 5 motorplanes in competent ladies hands*



*The French team watching the air show*



*The Swedish flag coming from the sky*