

## Ex-Del Norter brings her book to town

Written by [Kelley Atherton, The Triplicate](#) December 22, 2010 09:09 pm

### '69 grad of DNHS profiles pilot who flew the president



Jackie Boor and her new book.  
Submitted

Former Del Norte County resident Jackie Boor, is returning to her hometown to sign copies of her new book, "Inside the President's Helicopter."

Boor, a 1969 graduate of Del Norte High School, co-authored the book with Lt. Col. Gene Boyer, who flew Army One, for several presidents in the 1960s and 1970s.

From noon to 4 p.m. Thursday, she will be at Del Norte Office Supply to sign books, read a few of her favorite passages and answer any questions people might have about the book.

Books will be on sale for \$18 for paperbacks and \$25 for hard covers (price includes tax).

"Inside the President's Helicopter" could appeal to veterans, those interested in history, the military, aviation or just a good story, Boor said Tuesday in a telephone interview.

"It has a compelling story about a remarkable man," Boor said.

She started her writing career as the teen correspondent for the then-Del Norte Triplicate and Times-Standard while also serving as the editor of the DNHS newspaper from the ages of 16 to 18.

Boor is now a freelance writer for Valley Community Newspapers in Sacramento, where she has lived since 1975, and also works as a mediator for groups.

Boyer was looking to write his memoirs in the 1990s and found Boor through a professor in the Sacramento area where both were living.

"He knew he had a special story to tell," Boor said.

They worked on the book for a while, Boor said, until Boyer became ill and moved out of the area.

About 4 years ago, she searched the Internet to see if Boyer was still around and found a Chicago Sun Times article about him restoring a helicopter. Boor got in contact with Boyer and the two finished the book.

"Inside the President's Helicopter" was published by Cable Publishing in November and will be widely available in January.

"The story is the memoir of one of the most remarkable pilots to fly for the White House for 11 years," Boor said. "It's a story that really reflects character, personal determination and carefree interest in exploring new things."

Boyer learned how to fly helicopters while in the U.S. Army in the 1950s because he liked adventure and a challenge, Boor said.

He was assigned to fly Army One for the White House in 1964 and flew for presidents Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford until 1975.

Boyer's most famous flight took Nixon away from the White House after he resigned in 1974. He also flew Nixon and his wife into a combat zone in Vietnam and on a trip to Egypt.

Boyer took former President Dwight Eisenhower and CBS Anchorman Walter Cronkite to Normandy on the 20th anniversary of D-Day.

He flew Sen. Robert Kennedy, numerous foreign leaders and American icons John Steinbeck and John Wayne.

The book also includes history on how both the Army and Marines flew helicopters for the White House at that time, Boor said. What day it was determined whether Army One or Marine One flew the president and dignitaries, she said.

"When we see the (president's) helicopter flying, we very often don't think about the human beings flying that machine," she said.

"An objective for me as a writer was to make sure I captured his voice and to help people recognize the human element of that job."

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