

POPS TBM
13way
22Dec 2018
Arizona record

At: - Skydive Arizona, Eloy, AZ

Video by *Taff Clarke*: https://youtu.be/OB428oNY_FE

Jumpers:

Lori Kraemer Clark Lori Zito Jennifer “JLo” Pierce Alice Hicks
Yvonne Oweyong Bekie Thompson Carol Jones Sandy Holland
Tracy Davis
Beth Bryan Ginger Kuhlman Anna Clarke Christine Howard

(Photos by: Bruce Griffith)









TBM records, 22 Dec 2018, Eloy, AZ Parachutists article
 “Winter Hot Flashes”

The temperature was chilly but the smiles and hearts were warm, as the ladies of POPS racked up FIVE new records, to include a new TBM POPS WORLD record making a 5point 12way!

During the Skydive Arizona Christmas boogie, on Saturday 22 December 2018, Lori Kramer Clark brought together over a dozen hard hitting female rock stars of the POPS organization. While POPS stands for Parachutists Over Phorty Society, some of these ladies were also members of Skydivers Over Sixty (SOS) and even Jumpers Over Seventy (JOS). They certainly showed the locals and spectators that neither gender nor age matters when it comes to making it happen in the sky! The category for these ladies’ records is called TBM – Tiny Broadwick Memorial, in respect for Georgia Broadwick, a female pioneer in parachuting. Weighing only 85 pounds and standing 5 feet tall, she was nicknamed “Tiny”.

While the ladies ended the day making five records, after they made their first record, on every successive jump they continued to break their own records, so they really made more than five records, all in one day! On the first try of their first jump, they effortlessly put together three points with ten ladies. As the day went on, more ladies AND more points, continued to be added.

The day started on a CHILLY but clear blue sky Arizona morning, so all the ladies were bundled up both outside and underneath their jumpsuits. They weren’t comparing high heels and dresses, as skydivers, these ladies were comparing and discussing what undergarments kept them warm in freefall. The Top POP and records administrator, James “Guido” Davis, came out to root the ladies on, handle any administrative details, and even got in a couple jumps with the ladies. The Top POP noticed one of the warming layers had a light flashing on it, apparently it was a heated vest. The lady wearing the vest, JLo, said it let her know the heater was working. Guido replied, so if it’s hot, it flashes, so you’re having hot flashes. The ladies all laughed and thought that since they were all mature women, that would be a good name for their merry group, so throughout the day, you would hear manifest calls for “Hot Flashes”.

After easily making a 3point 10way on their first jump, in true big way fashion, they each critiqued their own performance and made gear changes that they felt would set them up for even more success on the next jump. Without blinking an eye, they knocked out a 5point 11way, and then on the following jump, broke that record with a 5point 12way. They finished the day completing a 13way formation. All this was filmed and photographed (to include a picture of the ladies with Santa) by Taff Clarke, the husband of one of the ladies, Anna Clarke. Anna and Taff were both from Israel and Anna was one of the two ladies that had just signed up for POPS there at the boogie. Bruce Griffith was on the ground for the boogie and captured some photos of the ladies as well.

The cast of ladies included: Lori Kraemer Clark (organizer & jumper), Lori Zito, Jennifer “JLo” Pierce, Alice Hicks, Anna Clarke, Yvonne Owyong, Bekie Thompson, Carol Jones, Sandy Holland, Beth Bryan, Ginger Kuhlmann, Susan Evans, Tracy Davis, and Christine Howard.

During the day, Guido, the Top POP, signed up two ladies that got in on the fun. At the end of the day he reminded everyone about the upcoming annual POPS events, the next event being SpringFest 3-7 April 2019 at Lake Wales, FL which will be followed by POPS Nationals 2-6 Oct 2019 at Spaceland Houston, TX. The Nationals will also share the weekend with Marian Sparks and her JFTR – Jump For The Rose group. In support of JFTR, it is going to be required for the traditional and always last event of the boogie, the Hit N Rock, that all competitors wear one of Marion’s (or bring your own) iconic pink bras. Both groups are planning to join forces and make a big way formation on Sunday and all participants coming for JFTR are welcome to come a few days early and join in the POPS fun. In 2020, POPS will have its biannual World Meet, this time to be held in Dunkeswell, England. There will be team training 5-7 Aug 2020, with competitions going from 8-15 Aug. At both SpringFest and Nationals in 2019, POPS is bringing back 4way FS TEAM competitions, so start getting your teams together, or use these events to train up for the World Meet. For those that don’t have teams, there will still be a 4way FS Scrambles competition. In 2018, the US won First Place in 4way FS TEAM competition at the World Meet, let’s keep that tradition going!

By the time this article hits the newsstands, after MANY years, on New Years Eve POPS launched a NEW website: POPS-USA.com

POPS is going green by making all correspondence, records, forms, and even applications ONLINE, however, there will still be the option to print forms out and mail them in. On the new website, there are also “help” videos that walk you through many helpful tips which include filling out an online form and showing you how to send a video through email. After analyzing all the costs to run the organization, after 52 years, POPS is making their first increase in application costs, it is now a ONE time \$30 application fee (for both US and overseas new members) and you are a member for LIFE, with NO annual fees!

The original thepops.org site was originally developed by UK Top POP Pete Shew and the UK site was spun off several years ago when Pete turned over the site to Cheryl Whitford. She kept the USA, UK, and EU flags on the page, and for a few years the EU supplied information for that section. In 2018 Belgium joined the POPS organization, bringing the total to 28 POPS countries. If all POPS foreign members can contact Guido so he can update/add your site’s respective information to the new webpage as well.

Remember to REFRESH the page EVERY time you come to the site as it is CONSTANTLY being updated.

On the FIRST day of launching the new website there were already THREE new members who had signed up using the new ONLINE application and TWO existing members who used the form to UPDATE their information.

- Top POP USA James “Guido” Davis