



Suited to Fly

Mothballed in EAA's Attic is a trove of military garb that could outfit a small squadron for any season. In this collection are the uniforms worn during World War II by pilot Adela Riek Scharr (1907-1998).

One of 27 women in the WAFS (Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron), Adela wore this khaki gabardine jacket (center) from 1942-43 while ferrying aircraft from factories across the country. WAFS head Nancy Harkness Love ordered the nonmilitary uniforms from a local Wilmington, Delaware, tailor, but each woman had to pay for her own. When the WAFS merged with the WASP (Women Airforce Service Pilots), Adela wore the Santiago blue wool Ike and tunic jackets until the group disbanded in 1944.

Adela's uniforms will be on permanent display this fall in EAA AirVenture Museum's revamped Women With Wings exhibit. More details about Adela and the war years are in her books *Sisters in the Sky*, Volumes I and II.

—Kathleen L. Witman