

## Florida and all the One Percenters - March 6, 2016

Flying in Florida during the winter season is always an eye opener for me. While most of the airports that I frequent are the smaller out of the way fields with good restaurants, some are a bit larger, catering mostly to corporate aviation and the "one percenters". And there are **A LOT** of 1%'ers here in Florida during the winter. One of the more informative apps that I have on my I-phone is an FAA aircraft **N#** registry where I can find the year, type and ownership of any airplane in their database. It is always interesting, while at an airport eatery, discovering just who owns the 25 million dollar Gulfstream that just pulled up. On a recent week end I flew my plane over to Page Field, Ft. Myers, where I saw an awful lot of those 1% corporate jets parked on the ramp.



On the ramp at Page Field with the private jets



Les Quick's Challenger private jet, N100QR in front of its Farmingdale, NY hanger

Some years ago I had the opportunity to examine one of those mega-jets up close & personal. My fiancée was working, as a personal assistant, for Leslie Quick, Sr., a multi-billionaire wall street broker at his Palm Beach Florida office. One time, when he was here at his winter home, she was asked to take a few of his personal effects to the Palm Beach International airport for the jet's pilot, who was then scheduled to fly him and his stuff over to Bermuda where the

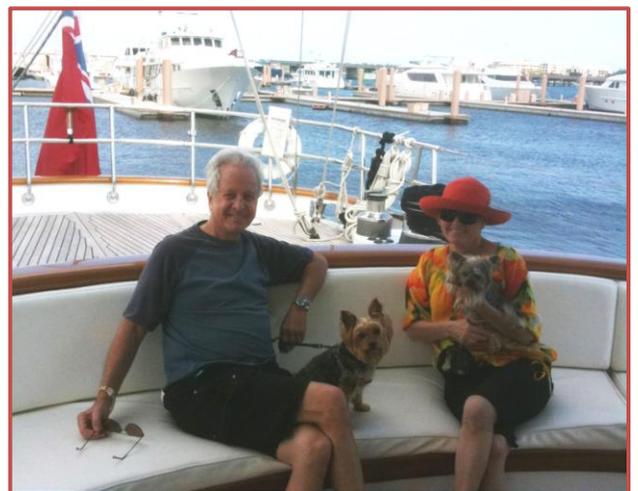


A photo of me, circa 1995, sitting in the pilot's seat of the Challenger

financier's sail-boat was awaiting clearance for a cruise to Ireland. Just a couple of weeks before we were aboard that same 122 foot long motor sailor as it was being outfitted for the trans-Atlantic journey, from its West Palm Beach port, and we had the opportunity to tour the boat, visit with the crew, and take a couple of photos on that gorgeous vessel. And while we certainly weren't one of them, it was always fun acting as if we were part of one of those 1 %'ers.



The 122' long Motorsailer, Parlay, at its W. Palm Beach birth



Miriam, me and our Yorkies on the outside salon