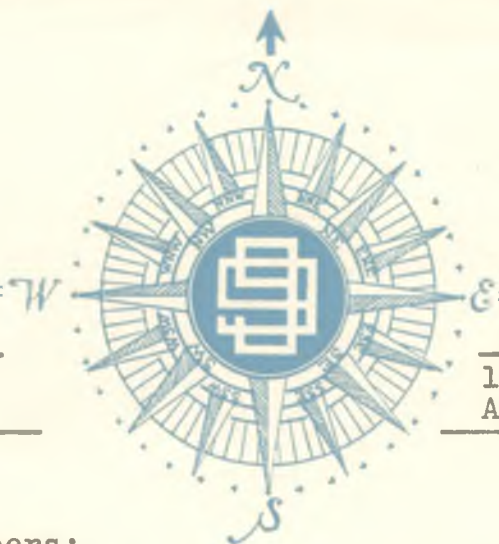


# NINETY NINE

# NEWS LETTER



May

Editor,  
Dorothy Carpenter

1939

124 S. Franklin Street  
Allentown, Pennsylvania

Dear Ninety-Nine Members:

I have had to give up my flying license, and according to the constitution I can no longer serve as your president. Betty Gillies, national vice-president, will serve in my place for the remainder of the year. She is a fine, capable girl, and I am sure you will all give her your entire support. Do everything you can to help her.

I want to thank all of you for your loyalty to me and your help. You have been grand. I have loved the work and shall miss it. I have made some fine friendships thru the Ninety-Nines. Thank you all for your loyal cooperation.

Sincerely,  
Daisy.

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I am exceedingly sorry that Daisy has found it necessary to resign as president of the Ninety-Nines. She has done a splendid job and I know that we are all deeply grateful to her for all she has accomplished. I shall do my level best to carry on for her, and only hope that I can do it to the approval of all concerned.

There is an RKO "short" moving picture being shown in New York now, called Sporting Wings. It is a grand picture and I believe well worth making an effort to see. You can probably find out thru local theatres when and where to see it. Don't miss it, it's the only picture I have ever seen that presents flying as it really is.

Betty Gillies

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Another resignation goes into effect with this issue of the News Letter--that of Editor. I shall be traveling in the West Indies and Central America for three months this summer and so will be unable to do the usual chores here. My sincerest thanks go to the reporters and many others who have cooperated so splendidly during the time I have been with the News Letter. I have enjoyed every bit of it.

The new editor is a very charming person--Jimmy Kolp of Box 326, Electra, Texas. She is the owner of a "yaller-trimmed-with-green" Cessna with two-way radio, and does a great deal of flying in it, flitting from one part of the country and back almost before there's time to tell about it. Jimmy has had considerable newspaper experience and the News Letter will be in very capable hands. Reporters should send their material to her by the usual 20th of the month, starting with the next issue.

D. C.

Harriet Isaacson of Oakland, California, has just been elected vice-president of the 99 Club by vote of the Executive Committee, to hold office until the end of this fiscal year.

Our printed cover this issue is a new Easter bonnet, the gift of Daisy Kirkpatrick. It looks pert enough to make us want to stand and preen our new good looks.

#### NEWS FROM THE SECTIONS

##### NORTH CENTRAL SECTION - Michigan Chapter

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###### Margaret Horton

The sudden death of Margaret Horton, from pneumonia following an operation, came as a shock and grief to Michigan Chapter. Ten members of the Chapter attended the final services in Flint April 24. Margaret was a dear and loyal member of Michigan Chapter from its inception. She had met illness and misfortune with a rare courage all true flyers must possess. Our sympathy goes to her bereaved mother.

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In honor of our editor and former Michigan Chapter member, Dorothy Carpenter, a party was given by Leila Baker at her home in Detroit on April 6. Most of the local girls and their husbands were there and report an excellent time. Dorothy was the guest of Mabel Britton at her home in Ypsilanti during the week of April 1. It seems awfully good to have her in this vicinity for a while as she was such an active worker in our chapter and has been greatly missed since she left. Alice Hammond and husband, John, recently returned from a trip by motor to Florida. They reported a wonderful vacation and stopped in to see Ruth Wakeman and husband in their newly established home in Atlanta. We understand they were glad to get back home, however, as little "Butch" had been left behind. Another 99 has acquired a new ship, a 45 hp Aeronca. And the lucky person is our Lansing miss, Marion Jane Weyant. The weatherman has been playing havoc with flying in the state, so Marion had to ride the air lines to the last meeting because of the strong, gusty wind. Cheer up, this can't last forever.

Jeannette Lempke reports that on March 22 she attended a meeting in Battle Creek of a group of girls who are interested in forming a girls' flying club in that city. We have our eye on them as prospective 99's. Our Chapter has engulfed another pilot; this time, Miss Margaret Haskell, Detroit school teacher and private pilot, a devotee of Taylorcraft airplanes. Her home port is Wayne County Airport. Welcome to our organization, Margaret!



Our April meeting took place Sunday, the 16th, at Detroit City Airport, with Leila Baker as hostess. The table was decorated with a centerpiece of beautiful spring flowers and with individual favors which she had very cleverly fashioned out of paper. These were little airplanes of gay-colored wings and fuselages. Mr. and Mrs. Ward Davis were our guests for luncheon. Following this, Mr. Davis, who is the Chief of the Instrument Flying Section at Wayne County Airport, gave us a very interesting talk on instrument flying.

The Ninety-Nines and the Women's Aeronautical Association of Detroit are combining their efforts in giving a dinner dance at the Lee Plaza Hotel in Detroit on April 28. It promises to be a grand affair where everyone will have a wonderful time.

For the June meeting we plan to do a little cross-country flying to Kalamazoo, where we plan a breakfast meeting. When warm weather rolls around, just try to keep us at home! So watch out, you out-of-town girls--we'll be flying in on you. We'll see you all at the Sectional Meeting, May 6 and 7, in Chicago.

- - Helen Montgomery

All Ohio Chapter - An Amelia Earhart memorial plaque was presented to our chapter by Helen G. Nakshian, Cleveland poetess, at our dinner meeting of April 17. On the same night Mr. Walling Fox gave an invigorating talk on "Airway Traffic Control." Tidbits about our members record first Grace Birge's trip to New York where she spent Easter with her parents. Florence Boswell has been quite busy giving aviation lectures, and a note in her little red book has her logged for an aeronautical talk at Purdue University very soon. Mrs. King and her husband have returned from their sojourn in Bermuda and even though it rained every day of the time they were there, they still had a "scrumptuous" vacation. Since their return she spends her time prettying up her garden and comes to meetings all tired out from a hard day's work. Early morn of Sunday, April 16, found three of our erstwhile "fledglings"--Arlene Davis, Helen Curtiss and Mary Winstanley, on their way to Akron to attend a breakfast given by the "Women With Wings" group of which Marion Coddington is president. After breakfasting, Arlene gave a fine talk on women in aviation and a resumé of her Havana trip. We are so pleased to see Marion Pease attending our meetings regularly and bringing with her our new member, Mrs. Laughlin. We wind up our aeronautical lecture series with two talks to be presented by Mr. Cole on April 17 and May 1. And now Switch Off 'till next time.

- - Ann Barillo

NEW ENGLAND SECTION - The big news of the month is that Jean Adams is back from Florida, all full of health and large plans for summer activities for the 99's. Hortense Harris did a nice job of pinch-hitting as governor in her absence. At the March meeting held in

the Wiggins hangar at East Boston airport, Inspector Glynne Jones spoke on the requirements for a private pilot's certificate and Lieutenant John Griffin, M. N. G., on the Link Trainer. After the meeting most of the girls tried flying the Trainer and were somewhat amazed at the lines drawn on their charts showing just what sort of a course they flew. The April meeting will be on the 22 at the State airport, Providence, R. I. U. S. Army flying fortresses will be there, but the reporter does not, at this time, know exactly what program has been planned. With Louise Sissons and Ruth Stilson as hostesses it is certain to be stimulating and interesting. Daisy Kirkpatrick flew to Washington twice recently. First was to represent the 99's at the National Aviation Forum and, secondly, for the Private Flying Conference on March 20 and 21. She and Mr. Kirkpatrick flew down a third time in a Beechcraft to spend Good Friday there, or at least they flew as far as Roosevelt Field and weather closed in so the trip was resumed by sleeper. On the return trip, the airlines was taken back to Newark, a bus to New York, a train to Mineola and a taxi to Roosevelt Field. And then it took just 1:16 to fly to Boston. Says Daisy, "I guess private flying is still in the pioneer stage." Nancy Love and husband flew to Detroit recently to visit Alice and John Hammond. Nancy gave a talk this month to the Aero Club of the Newton High School. Melva Doyle unfortunately has injured her eyes and has been forced to stop flying. She has the sincere sympathy of the other 99's and we hope she won't be grounded long. Our new member of the month is Ann Kenyon of Providence who owns a new Taylorcraft and spends a good part of her time in Warrenton, Virginia. Signing off for April.

- - Louise Howard.

METROPOLITAN TRI-STATE SECTION - As our part in celebrating the tenth anniversary of the 99 Club, we extend to all members an invitation to a dinner dance at the Waldorf Astoria on Saturday, November 4, 1939. We expect to have an excellent band and many original features. It is our hope to have all the charter members. Governors of Sections--please give us an idea as soon as possible of how many we may expect. We will get special rates at the hotel and expect to charge five dollars per ticket. It will be an excellent time to see the New York World's Fair for those who were planning to come out for it.

- - Margo Bain Tanner

MIDDLE EASTERN SECTION: The semi-annual Sectional meeting was held in Washington, D. C., on Sunday, April 2. Those in attendance were: Dorothy Carpenter, Elizabeth Phillips, Mary Hoch, Frances Allen, Margaret McCormick, Johanna Busse, Harriet Black, Helen Frigo, Anne McKee, Coba Overman, Katherine Delaney, Mae M. Gath, Dorothy Hope Carpenter, and Mary Campbell, a prospective member. The Washington girls had given advance notice that there would be some entertainment provided for those who would be able to make a week end visit. The visitors were royally entertained at Jo Busse's apartment with a



cocktail party Saturday evening, during which numerous amusing games were played. It was an enjoyable evening and the Washington girls proved themselves to be gracious hostesses. Elizabeth Phillips flew in from Cambridge, Maryland, Sunday morning in her Fairchild, bringing Mary Hoch along as her passenger. Anne McKee, in a new Taylorcraft, flew in from Richmond, Virginia, and reported an exceptionally bumpy trip.

The Washington girls had arranged for a sightseeing trip Sunday morning. In addition to visiting historical sites, and viewing many fine Government buildings and Embassies, we were fortunate in having the opportunity of seeing the famous cherry blossoms when they were in full bloom. After the delightful sightseeing trip the members gathered at "The Wood Shed" for luncheon. During the luncheon Elizabeth Phillips entertained us with interesting bits of information concerning her flight to Miami, Florida, with the Sportsman Pilot Cruise. The business meeting was held Sunday afternoon in the apartment of Helen Frigo. Margaret McCormick was elected to the office of Secretary and Treasurer, formerly held by Elizabeth Phillips who was recently elected National Secretary. Frances Allen was elected Vice Governor of this Section.

The Washington group invited other members to participate in an air show which is scheduled for May 7th at College Park Airport, College Park, Maryland. Representatives of each chapter were requested to give a resumé of contemplated activities for the near future. Judging from reports, all three chapters have proposed activities which should result in some exceedingly interesting days for all members.

MIDDLE EASTERN SECTION - WESTERN Pennsylvania Chapter - At the recent Sectional Meeting in Washington, D. C., this Chapter was honored by the election of two of its members to Sectional offices; namely, Marge McCormick as Secretary and Treasurer, and Frances Allen as Vice Governor. As a Chapter, we will do our utmost to be worthy of these honors and to live up to the expectations of the gals in Middle Eastern. Movie cameras were much in evidence, and there will be many Oh's and Ah's when the unsuspecting victims "see themselves as others see them."

From this meeting was born the idea of SECTIONS AND CHAPTERS EXCHANGING OUR AMATEUR MOVIE FILMS WITH EACH OTHER for meetings and get-togethers. Surely every section has at least one movie enthusiast among its members and it would be grand fun to get to know each other via the movies. This personal touch would make our 99 News even more interesting, wouldn't it? Let's show each other where we fly, what we fly, some action shots of the gals on the airport, and really get acquainted! It will take a little time to get the pictures we want most (if you are as much an amateur as this reporter, it will take three or four hundred feet to get a hundred-foot roll of really good film) but in the meantime, let's get our plans organized. We will have to arrange for a clearing house to keep your films on schedule and moving from section to section, which I will

volunteer to do if desired. I shall appreciate hearing from those of you who have cameras and will cooperate with us in our endeavor to truly make the 99 organization "one big happy family" and have everybody know everybody else. My address is 150 South Highland Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Will be looking for your letters and suggestions.

- - Frances L. Allen

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION - We have had a windy season here in the South and not very much flying activity. Jessie Woods is endeavoring to give you the flying careers of our girls and here are the first three that have been turned in:

Maxine Dunlap Bennett - One of the most interesting members of this section is Maxine Dunlap Bennett, now living in Atlanta and married to a 'Georgie Cracker', an executive of the Coco Cola Company. Husband Joe was a former football captain and an All-American tackle of the University of Georgia team in 1923 and 1924. Maxine does all the flying in the family and does it so well that even her husband flies with her anywhere at any time. At present she is pushing a gull-wing Stinson through the air with 260 horses making the prop go around. Maxine hails from Oakland, California, and attended the University of California. She was smitten with Lindbergitis in 1927 and a year later became the proud holder of private license #5894, and also was the first woman in San Francisco to receive a pilot's license. Another first was nailed to her mast when in May of the following year she became the first woman in the United States to receive a glider pilot's license; and--she had never seen a glider until a few minutes before she went up to prove her skill and power to the D. of D. In a short time she was elected president of the California Glider Club--another First achievement. She established a woman's world speed record for light planes (less than 450 pounds) at Tulsa in 1935. Her time of 76.799 still stands. She has done a lot of racing and admits that closed course racing is the salt in her flying soup. Her other hobbies are golf and deep sea fishing. The most amusing incident in her flying career happened when she made a forced landing in a rose garden. No damage was done but a crowd quickly gathered--out of the multitude a masculine voice drawled "Now isn't that just like a woman--landing on a bed of roses." Maxine has been a 99er for nine years; but she now has a grievance--she has lived in Atlanta for over a year and during that time she has not met another woman pilot nor has she received her News Letter for some time--these are very words: "If there is a 99er within sneezing distance of Atlanta, I wish she would communicate with me--I'm getting lonesome." Her address is 898 Briarcliff Road, Atlanta, Ga.

Note from Governor: I am sorry I have not been able to get to Atlanta personally. We need this criticism although it is a jolt to the ego of our world-renowned Southern hospitality. We are planning our next meeting in South Carolina so that those in Atlanta may attend.

May 1939



Nell Foster Behr - Nell Foster Behr, the jolly matron of Behr Port at Anderson, South Carolina, is the mother of two small sons and the wife of an Army Reserve Officer. The building and arranging of her attractive home on the edge of the airport and the rearing of the babies are events simply sandwiched in between her two consuming hobbies--flying and collecting antique furniture. She frankly admits she cares nothing for domestic chores and that her sons, soaring and sleuthing for antiques are her sole ambitions and desires. Any 99er straying in the vicinity of Anderson will find a warm and hearty welcome in the true Southern style at Behr Port. Nell has been flying for years and acquired that certain polish to her air-antics via Cub.

Nell McKee - A very competent job of assistant managership is held down by a Southeastern Section member in the personage of Nell McKee, at the airport of Salisbury, North Carolina. Nell's first aviation activity was suddenly nipped in the bud when the depression swooped down on the "Learn-to-fly-establishment" from which she was getting her lore, and squelched the "dualist" just before the initial solo. Her dormancy ended thru flying friends from Roosevelt Field, and in the spring of 1937, through the encouragement of her now husband, she soloed. She has a private certificate, 115 solo hours, and plans to capture an LC this summer. The swell spring weather finds her gaily cruising around in her new Luscombe 50.

- - Clayton Patterson

SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION - Congratulations are in order to Jennie Tschoep who has taken her first position in commercial flying--a goal which she set for herself just two years ago when she enrolled at Spartan School of Aeronautics, Tulsa, to take the Master Commercial Pilot and Mechanics Course. She attained the Commercial Pilot rating and has a third-class radio telephone operator's license. Recently, Jennie was sought out by the president of Aircraft Steel and Supply Company, jobbers and manufacturers of aircraft supplies at Wichita, Kansas, and she will fly that company's new 260 Lycoming Stinson. She expects to do a lot of X-C flying and hopes to make the acquaintance of 99's in many parts of the country. You will meet a slim, purposeful, blond young woman of twenty-four, about 5'-1" tall, who thinks there is nothing so worth while as flying. Jennie left Tulsa on April 16 for the new job in Wichita, following a farewell party given in her honor by the Spartan students. She expected to go to the Stinson factory soon to take delivery on the new ship, which will be full radio equipped. Let's wish her happy landings!

We had a brief surprise visit from Laura Ingalls on April 10 when she landed at Tulsa Municipal Airport for lunch, enroute to the West coast, and flying a twin-engine Barkley-Grow all-metal airplane. Laura disclosed the fact that her trip was for the purpose of testing the suitability of this ship in connection with a projected long-distance flight which she may undertake in the near future. The flight is to start from some point in the Middle West, and plans

were not sufficiently complete that full details could be given out at this time. Powered by two 450 h.p. Pratt & Whitney Wasp Juniors, the ship was specially arranged for a gasoline capacity of 1,290 gallons, giving it a range of 5,000 miles. Laura's destination on this test trip was Burbank. The past year or so she has been dividing her time between Burbank and Great Neck, Long Island, absorbed in special acrobatic flying in her Ryan St. Our best wishes go with Laura in whatever feat she may be attempting, which we know will be accomplished in her usual enthusiastic and efficient manner.

Our section has one member much in need of sympathy. Gayle Horrall, of Tulsa, after flitting with her husband in their Cessna to Florida and back, was hardly home and unpacked when she was thrown by her horse "Laddie", breaking her right arm just below the shoulder. Being laid up for six weeks in Oklahoma in the spring, our pleasantest season, is really a tragedy. Gayle almost had the pleasure of meeting National Secretary, Elizabeth Phillips, at Miami Beach. She understood Elizabeth had checked out of the Hotel Wofford the day before the Horralls arrived, according to the hotel manager, who was commenting on his flying guests.

SOUTHWEST SECTION - Los Angeles Chapter - Well, now that the April meeting is over, we have all seen each other's new Easter bonnet. Right pretty they were, too, what with posies, bright veils, ribbons and gay straws. It was a most interesting meeting, with members of the Women's Air Reserve as guests, and our member, Patricia Kelly Peed, gave a very enlightening talk about her work at the Douglas plant. She is an authority on new developments in aircraft all over the world, as it's her business to read all the airplane magazines and periodicals, keeping such data as might possibly be referred to five years from now! Another most interesting guest speaker was Dr. Emma Kittridge, who is the first woman appointed by the Bureau of Air Commerce as a medical examiner for pilots. She comes from a long line of doctors, and being a woman did not stop her, so the good work is being carried on. She told of a research now being carried on by the Bureau, to which she contributes much valuable information such as: Are women as safe pilots as men? How do they react in emergencies compared with men? When should she not fly? etc.

Evelyn Kilgore also showed the colored movies taken at the recent March Field flight, so that the members of the W. A. R. who flew, could see it. It was fun reviewing ourselves again. Pilot Melba Beard and co-pilot, William, announce the happy arrival of Master Wayne on March 20th, 4:00 o'clock Pacific Coast time. All are doing nicely and co-pilot William is reported well recovered. Sorry, but none of us out here in those hard parts have done and made any of them flying records lately, but we sure 'nough promise to do something real soon. We do have a new flying member, though, who has lots of possibilities - Helen Walker of San Diego, so here's an official "Welcome!"

Dorothy George, our poetess, recently did herself proud by composing 19 verses--a parody on "It Ain't Gonna Rain No More". Here's just two which we think very cute: They were sung at the Aviation Breakfast Club party.

May 1939



"O, we used to get in a ship and go  
Up once and come down twice.  
If we dragged a wing  
Didn't mean a thing  
Just so we patched it nice.

"And, the women pilots fly our ships,  
And God knows that ain't fair.  
When they take the cups  
We're sore as pups--  
Those gals get in our hair."

Hasta la Vista!  
Hilda Jarmuth

Bay Cities Chapter - The largest winging party ever held by the Bay Cities Chapter - it really amounted to what the newspapers called "a mass flight" - took place on February 22 when eleven planes full of 99's, prospective 99's and their women guests (some 27 gals adorned the breakfast table) made the flight to Stockton on Washington's Birthday. A most pleasant flight, good breakfast and a grand get-together and gab-fest made the party a memorable one for all who attended. We were happy to see for the first time Avis Bielefeld's brand-new baby girl, who came by car with her mother and dad. The line-up of ships on the field ranged from a Beechcraft to a pair of Cubs, with a Stinson, 3 or 4 Fairchilds, two Kinners and a Fleet in between. We were also very happy to have with us again two charter members of the Bay Cities Chapter whom we see only about once a year due to their distant residence--Lillian Anderson of Livermore and Phyllis Penfield of Palo Alto. It really was grand to see these two girls again. Those participating in this super Winging Party included: Vilma Johnston, Dolores Guinther, Ruth Rueckert, Dorothy Chamberlain, Afton Lewis, Rita Gerry, Ruth Wakeman, Olive Bledsoe, Irma Wallace, our new mombor, late of Portland, Oregon, who is doing right smart with her California cross-country; Marjorie Hook, Pat Kendall, Lillian Anderson, Eleanor Turney, Dorothy Jones, Dorothy Williams, our newest member, who flew her Beechcraft up from Palo Alto, bringing Phyllis Penfield with her; Avis Bielefeld, and Dora Mattison and Annette Gundelfinger, both from Fresno. There were some more, but I can't remember 'em all! Eleanor Turney of Lodi flew blithely home from this meeting, and shortly thereafter had the misfortune to be in an automobile accident. She is now recuperating at Santa Cruz, and expects to be able to return to her usual duties of teaching and newspaper writing at Lodi early in May. You just oughta stick to something safe, like airplanes, Eleanor!

On March 7 the Chapter held its seventh birthday party at the Hotel Leamington, and at the end of the dinner a lovely birthday cake, arranged for by Harriet Isaacson, with airplanes, hangars and what-not on it, was served to the members, after which the business meeting was called. A Winging Party was planned for March 19th, and on that date three ships bored through the overcast and arrived at the Capitola field where we were met by a very charming person, Doris Beckett, who drove us to the Rio Del Mar Country Club for a delicious breakfast. The ships on this party were piloted by Ruth Rueckert, Ruth Wakeman and Marjorie Hook. Olive Bledsoe continues to build up her time (X-C) in her Fleet, having made two flights recently to Capitola, and is now planning to participate in the flight to Woodland of the Aviation Country Club of Northern California, of which she is a member.

- Marjorie E. Hook