

NINETY NINE



NEWS LETTER

May 15, 1941

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P. O. Box 432, Lafayette, La.

NINETY-NINES INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN PILOTS

Affiliated with The National Aeronautic Association

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N A A AFFILIATION

Our affiliation agreement with the N A A will expire on August 31, 1941. In a letter to our President, Betty H. Gillies, dated April 18th, Col. Larner, General Manager of the N A A, expressed the willingness of the Board of Directors to renew the affiliation for another year under the same terms.

The affiliation was originally entered into on September 1, 1940, under a one-year agreement. It was to be an experiment. During the eight months which have gone by since September 1st, we have had office space at N A A Headquarters in Washington and have had the services of an extremely capable secretary to handle all our routine correspondence and filing. The staff of the N A A have helped us in many ways with very valuable suggestions. In addition to publishing our News Letter, they have given us a page for Ninety-Nine news in their monthly magazine "NATIONAL AERONAUTICS", and each one of our members has received a membership in the N A A. Of course, the Ninety-Nines have paid well for all this service and the question is---could we do as well, or better, on our own? Write your views to our President.

The question of whether or not this affiliation agreement should be renewed will be put to each individual active member for vote along with the regular ballot for National Officers. The votes will be counted at the annual meeting in July, which will make it possible for future plans to be fully discussed during the Convention.

When considering the question, it must be realized that because of the tremendous increase in membership, it is imperative that the 99's have a central headquarters and a paid secretary to satisfactorily handle the vast amount of office work involved in efficiently running the 99's. Please give the matter your most careful consideration before you vote.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NINETY-NINES

The Annual National Meeting of the 99's will take place in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on the 4th, 5th, and 6th of July. Further details of the meeting will be released in the June issue of the News Letter. Make your plans now so you will be able to attend. Let's make it the best meeting ever!

--- Betty H. Gillies, President

One bran' new 99 DECAL is enclosed with this News Letter. Put it on your airplane or automobile windshield or your luggage and order additional decals from Headquarters for eight cents each.

NORTHWEST SECTION

By Irma Wallace

The Washington Chapter was invited to join the Oregon Chapter on April 2 in Portland for a dinner honoring Jacqueline Cochran. Clayton Patterson and Irma Wallace flew down from Seattle in a Stinson 105, and Frances Sherley and Grace Johnson from Tacoma in an Aeronca Chief. We were so impressed with the activities of the newly formed Oregon Chapter that we are sending this on for the NEWS LETTER, feeling the Oregon girls are too modest to write about themselves.

Bessie Halladay, their Chairman, has her own school of flying at Swan Island Airport, and also has her own group of CPTP's from Albany College. How one little person can possess so many fine qualities is something! Attractive, pleasant, firm, quiet, and lots of vitality! Admired and respected by everyone--at the airport and away from it.

Edith Foltz Stearns is their membership chairman. Edith is a charter member of the 99's, and I'm sure everyone has heard and read of her various activities--She was one of the first three women to receive a commercial license in the U.S., has participated in many cross-country races to Cleveland, barnstormed, and many other flying activities. Edith is instructing at Swan Island, and also does considerable charter flying. It has been said "Beauty is without brains", but that's all wrong--just meet Edith!

Evelyn Burleson and her 49¹/₂er have a flying service at Albany, Oregon, and are both instructing in the CPTP. Leah Hing is the Secy-Treas for the Section and also for the Oregon Chapter. She has her own ship and has been flying for years. We were her guests after the dinner, and she took us down into Portland's old Chinatown, where we were honored by being taken to one of the old Chinese "Societies" (club rooms.) These rooms were magnificently decorated with anciently hand-carved figures. These were beautiful beyond description. After having our fortune read "a la Chinese", Leah whisked us down to a quaint little place for a bang-up Chinese dinner. After hearing Leah speak in her faultless English, it was lots of fun hearing her order dinner in Chinese. This was all a rare treat, indeed, and one we will never forget.

Anabel Turner, Marian Hagley, Patsy Canada and Janie Othus are the newest 99'ers there. The Oregon girls are right in there pitchin! Let no one say that women's flying activities are lagging in that part of the country! Portland is known as the City of Roses, but we say "ORCHIDS TO THEIR WOMEN PILOTS!"

● WASHINGTON CHAPTER

By Irma Wallace

Our April Chapter meeting was held in Tacoma at the home of Frances Sherley, where we were served a delicious luncheon. Clayton Patterson, Alyce Pashburg and Irma Wallace flew down from Seattle in a Fairchild 24. At this meeting, the following Chapter officers were elected: Grace Johnson, Chairman; Clayton Patterson, Vice-Chairman; Dora Skinner, Secy-Treas. As our guest we had Marcia Wood of Tacoma, who planned to go up for her private the following day. We're all set to have Marcia as a new member.

We were all delighted over Rita Sutherland's new private. She is very active in the Aerial Nurse Corps, but not too much so to take an active part in the many plans we have for the coming year.

Barbara Erickson is a very busy little lady these days--what with continuing her University Studies, working at a seaplane base in Seattle, sandwiching in flying time, and working for her instructor's rating.

Our May meeting will be in Yakima on May 8, SO, more news to follow next month!

● OREGON CHAPTER

By Anabel M. Turner

You might be interested in knowing that we are doing some work in cooperation with the State Aeronautical Board regarding establishing emergency landing fields in pertinent spots throughout Oregon.

SOUTHWEST SECTION

● BAY CITIES CHAPTER

By Rita Gerry

Harriet Isaacson bought a Stinson 105, DeLuxe Voyager with all the trimmings. She will take delivery shortly after May 1. Happy days ahead!

Marjorie Hook sold her Fairchild. We certainly hated to see that ship leave Bay Airdrome. It was always loaded to full capacity with carefree passengers and purred contentedly over many miles of these United States. Ruth Rueckert went touring a week ago. She took in Monterey and the Fort Ord country. Helen Ashley is building up hours in the Fleet.

The gay event of the month was the Aviation Breakfast Club meet at Palm Springs on April 26-27. Three ships went from the Bay area. Ruth Wakeman, Ruth Rueckert, and Marjorie Hook were pilots, with Mrs. Dean Hammond, Margaret Campbell, Harry Sham, Fred Rueckert, Dr. and Mrs. Lindner, and Harry Wade as passengers. Marjorie Hook took off from Oakland at seven-thirty Saturday morning. She had to turn back on account of fog, so took an hour out for breakfast, while the weather cleared, then off once more. Ruth Rueckert also left about seven-thirty from San Francisco, had carburetor trouble, and had to land at Tranquility. That delayed her, consequently she landed at the next point, Fresno, about the same time Marj landed. They had "scup scoof" with Dora Madison at the Fresno field. They met again at Bakersfield, then crossed the desert via Victorville and Old Woman Springs to Palm Springs. Ruth Wakeman took the same course, but did not tarry on the way, and landed at Palm Springs an hour ahead of them. First thing on the program was the greeting of 99'ers from different sections. Al Norton, manager of the Belmont Field, convoying two Stinson Voyagers from the factory to Los Angeles, was stopped by fog in the pass, and had to sit down at Palm Springs. He joined the party. Clema Granger had arranged for a spaghetti feed at the Roger Ranch. Dancing and cowboy orchestra. Sunday, swimming, put-put scooters and bicycles until 10 a.m. Breakfast at the Tennis Club, which is one of the swanky spots of the desert country. Some of the guests--Bessie Owen, Elizabeth Hayward, Hal Foster, Ethel Sheehy, Dorothy George, and Hilda Jar-muth. Ruth Wakeman and Marjorie Hook made the take-off for home at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday. Ruth Rueckert stayed over an extra day and took the bow on the radio for the Bay Cities group. Monday afternoon at 1:30 she crawled under the fog into her home port, Mills Field. And that's that, from ye desert rat correspondent.

Georgia Benter, formerly of San Diego, has become a Florida citizen after having changed her name to Williams. Details of the affair are meager.

Genevieve Brown is now happily ensconced in the secy's chair at a flying school in Bremerton, Wash., working her way through a commercial and having lots of fun ferrying ships, overhauling motors, and such.

Eurith Louise Howard of Santa Paula celebrated the anniversary of her acquiring her pilot's license by roaming about in the troposphere for six and one half hours at one sitting.

Welcome new members of this Chapter are: Dorothy Drunse of N. Hollywood, Eileen Evans of Los Angeles, and Maxine Burch of Culver City. They were at the last meeting, held at the Alexandria Hotel.

Reinette Porter and Jean Beltz of Memet drove up for the meeting, returning home the same night. Leah Johnson of San Diego was another long-distance commuter. Pat Pied was one of the speakers at the vocational conference held at George Washington High School recently.

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION MEETING

We get word that the Section held a bang-up meeting in Des Moines with forty members present! More next month.

• ILLINOIS CHAPTER

By Jerry Truesdell

Doubtless you are all waiting with bated breath to hear all about our Dawn Patrol Breakfast flight which was held on Sunday, April 20, at Ashburn Airport. Well--the breakfast was lovely, served by American Airlines on cute little trays, just as they are served aloft on the Flagships. But to get back to the flight--there wasn't any. Unless you can call one Stinson that struggled in with Fran Anderson and a male companion a "flight". You see, the wind whipped up to about 40 m.p.h. with narsty gusts, and the only things that could venture beyond the hangar doors that day were the airliners (and that one brave Stinson that flew--or lurched--over from Elmhurst airport.) But, somehow, about twelve of us got to Ashburn in automobiles and ate the breakfast which had been prepared for 20 people. There were scrambled eggs, Canadian bacon, grapefruit, toast and coffee and mighty good, if we may say so (and we should say so--we ate so many breakfasts ourself.) So we all sat around the stove swapping flying yarns and hangar flew for several hours. The trophy so generously contributed by the Illinois Air Pilots Association for our Spot Landing contest, is being held until we can really compete for it.

Spring has finally come to the great Middle West. Buds have popped and the birds are knocking their throats out with song. And the 99'ers are going at their flying hammer and tongs for the first time since the ice began to break. Really, by the next issue, we should definitely have some nice meaty flying notes of interest. If we don't, we will give up and just tell a few jokes (which this may be, at that.)

Fay Gillis Wells requests that 99 members send her as soon as possible all available information on formation of the individual Chapters, for inclusion in the "99 History."

Although 2½ year old son, Wayne, has flown thousands of miles in airliners, he has never had a ride with mother, Melba Beard, Charter member of the 99's. So on her recent vacation in California she took him for his first small-plane hop. He was very nonchalant about the whole thing, she reports.

Three of our group, Dorothy Bryant, Eleanor Camburn, and Dorothy Cretney, are completing the CAA secondary ground course, in spite of the fact that Eleanor and Dorothy have been barred from the flight program because of the new ruling.

May 18 is the date, Madison the place. The occasion--a 99 guest dinner to meet and encourage prospective members. If any of you nearby members would like to join us, just drop us a card and we'll draw up an extra chair.

Mary Ahlstrom addressed the assembly of the Jr. High School of the LaCrosse State Teachers College Training School, during her recent spring vacation. Her subject, "Learning to Fly." Mary, incidentally flew a Stinson 105 back from Chicago recently.

Marion Albright, Melba Beard, and your reporter represented this Chapter at the North Central Section Meeting at Des Moines, May 3 and 4. Marion flew down with her 49½er in her new Stinson 105. Our only plane owner, she now has two planes. The other is a 40 Taylorcraft. Melba Beard and I flew down in a Cub 65. It was a grand meeting. The Iowa girls are certainly to be complimented.

• MICHIGAN CHAPTER

By Sara Winn

Michigan Chapter met again at the Detroit-Leland Hotel for its April meeting. After lunch we adjourned to the Aviation Room of the Hotel where our winter series of lectures was wound up with a terrific explosion. Cass Hough, lecturer par excellence, was Old Professor Quiz in person and Floyd Pearson of the Detroit Weather Bureau was judge and jury in one. The questions on meteorology were based on the preceding lectures and some of them were toughies. Messrs. Hough and Pearson were astounded at the knowledge displayed and agreed they had had their eyes opened. Such phrases as "Not only charming, but so intelligent too" came from the amazed gentlemen.

A welcome guest for the meeting was Dorothy Carpenter who hadn't visited these parts for over a year. It was a farewell tour as Dorothy leaves soon for Peru where a 49½er-to-be is anxiously awaiting her. Dot visited Mabel Britton and during the week the Britton Fairchild brought both of them to Saginaw for lunch with Jeannette Lempke and down to Indianapolis for a day.

By next meeting, Alice Hammond and 49½er, John, should be back from Guatemala where they are cruising in the winter sunshine. Alice has to be back soon as there is a little matter of a birthday for Master John to be celebrated. Speaking of birthdays, Mary Jane Stephenson attended the last meeting with lovely flowers on her shoulder.

Your temporary reporter is still a little breathless at the thought of having her commercial ticket and Instructor's rating--a recent acquisition. It was quite an event in this flyer's life--still don't remember getting home after the Inspector shook hands and said, "Send down some good students now."

● MISSOURI CHAPTER

By Diana Rutherford

Last month Marie Page flew a Culver all day on Junior Chamber of Commerce State Tour. She saw Sue Woodruff in Springfield. This weekend she is in Des Moines for the North Central Section Meeting. Helen Hayward flew a Luscombe to the Southwest Aviation Conference in Wichita and was a guest of the South Central Section as were Virginia Garst and Jewel Stanton. 15 petticoats organized a club here with Maybelle Hill, Pres. Leah Shepherd has her instructor's rating. Kay Rutherford broke into print with a flying article in the May GLAMOUR magazine.

★ MISSOURI VALLEY CHAPTER

By Ivah C. Maxfield

On April 25, Gwen Hess, Betty Green, Bea Mack and Dorothy Broadfield drove to Wichita to attend the South Central Section meeting. Comments on the meeting are found elsewhere.

S. W. Rampe, Meteorologist at the Omaha Airport, gave a very enlightening talk at our March meeting. The radio sonde, which Mr. Rampe brought with him, proved very interesting.

Dorothy Broadfield has successfully completed the written examination for her Instructor's rating. She is now working hard on her flight work and by the next NEWS LETTER, we hope to report a full-fledged Instructor in our group.

At this writing, Belle Hetzel, Bea Mack, and Betty Green are on their way to Des Moines, Iowa, to attend the North Central Section Meeting. Other girls expecting to attend are Dorothy Broadfield, Gwen Hess, and Ivah Maxfield.

SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION

By Fanny Leonpacher

The first member of the 99 Club in Arkansas since Louise Thaden, formerly of Bentonville, moved to Penna. is our new member Dorothy Jeanet Wilcox of Jonesboro. Welcome to the organization, Dorothy. We also welcome new members Jane H. Best of Denver and note that Cornelia Fort, formerly of Tenn. is now in Denver. Give us your new address, Cornelia, so we can include you in our Section Communications.

● SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION MEETING

By Bea Mack

The South Central Section held its meeting at the Allis Hotel in Wichita, Kansas, on April 25, during the Southwest Aviation Conference. Jennie Tschoep of Wichita was in charge of arrangements and did a good job of it. At a women's luncheon, Fanny Leonpacher, Governor, gave an excellent talk on "The Ninety-Nine Club and National Defense."

Considerable business was transacted at the business meeting, presided over by our Governor. Announcement of a new Kansas Chapter was the surprise of the day. The doubling of our membership, besides our growing from 2 chapters to 6, since the last of November, made us feel highly elated.

Reports were made by Chapter Chairmen, of their representatives as follows: Gwen Hess, Chairman of the Missouri Valley Chapter; Abbie Hadday, Chairman of the Texas Chapter; Gayle Horrall, Chairman of the E. Oklahoma Chapter; Jennie Tschoep, Membership Chairman for the new Kansas Chapter; Fanny Leonpacher, speaking for the Louisiana Chapter; and a report from Virginia Cutter, Chairman of the New

Mexico Chapter, which included an invitation to Albuquerque for the Annual 99 Club Meeting.

The Conference Banquet, at which our own Ruth Nichols was one of the principal speakers, and the dance of the Conference that evening made an enjoyable close to the day's activities.

● NEW MEXICO CHAPTER

By Harriet Nye

New Mexico 99'ers have had a busy month, both in the air and on the ground. Since winning her license last month, Virginia Cutter has proved that she intends to use it; already she has added up about 30 hours, which is pretty good time for a non-commercial pilot. Trips to El Paso, Las Cruces, and Santa Fe, added to a taxi service between airports in Albuquerque, have piled up hours. On the Las Cruces trip she had as passenger the National Pres. of the WNAA on the mission of organizing a new unit. A Santa Fe jaunt had the help of a co-pilot, a new 99'er, Mary Elizabeth Parker. Helen McClendon also exercised her Aeronca on a weekend trip to El Paso. We hope that the prominence in our report of that city on the Mexican border doesn't give our friends the wrong impression--its shopping facilities and the diverting Mexican town of Juarez do attract us, and its distance (300 miles) makes an easy trip by air what would be a very tiring weekend by car.

On April 15, Maxine Nordhaus was married to Bigelow Chaplin. After their honeymoon they will be at 26 W. 9th, New York. (N.Y.-N.J. Sec. note.)

The Chapter has helped in the entertainment of the national convention of the WNAA. Bad weather in our usually arid State prevented most 99'ers from attending, but Jennie Ostrander from San Diego came through in her Rearwin. We had a breakfast which brought together visiting and local 99'ers, and most of the present CPT students who are due to receive licenses soon.

We are all in a dither in the hope that the Annual 99 meeting will be held here!

● More NEW MEXICO News

By Helen McClendon

Something different by way of meetings was enjoyed by members of the newly-formed New Mexico Chapter of the 99's when Virginia Cutter, Chairman, opened her lovely, unique home at the West-Mesa Airport to them on the evening of April 23, for a combined educational, business and social meeting.

The first part of the evening was devoted to the exhibition of films based on meteorology, traffic rules, the advancement of aviation, etc., after which a discussion was launched regarding the proposed convention of the 99's in Albuquerque. Highly interesting plans were formulated for the entertainment of visiting pilots, and await only the final touches for a schedule which promises much for both local and visiting flyers.

Maxine Nordhaus (now Mrs. Bigelow Chaplin of New York City) was missed at the meeting, as were Helen Comstock and Frances Vaughn, who live in Santa Fe and were unable to make the trip down on account of inclement weather. Helen Comstock flew to El Paso over the weekend of April 26-27; Frances Vaughn plans a cross-state hop for the weekend of May 3-4.

Now that spring, warm weather and longer days are upon us, we're really getting the urge to try our wings and look forward to cluttering up the sky with lots of light and some not-so-light ships.

See you upstairs--!

● TEXAS CHAPTER

Jimmie Kolp, active Membership Chairman for Texas is signing up new members right along. The latest include: Mrs. Burlayne McCollum Guyger, Midland, and Mrs. Hazel Rowles, Dallas. Jimmie and Abbie Haddaway, Chairman, represented the Texas Chapter at the Section Meeting. This meeting replaced the Texas Chapter meeting for this month.

● EAST OKLAHOMA CHAPTER

By Virginia Nordlund

Hello 99'ers! Invitations to our next meeting are being sent to all women pilots in Okla. We expect all Oklahoma 99'ers to be there to help us entertain. In case we fail to reach any of you, our meeting will be a luncheon at the Mayo Hotel, Tulsa.

At an aviation broadcast recently, Gayle Horrall, Mabel Sherman, Margaret Ann Hamilton and Virginia Nordlund enjoyed being the guests of KTUL in their new dining-room studio. The room and the table appointments were impressive, yet there was an informal atmosphere cleverly created, I suspect, to put us at ease. Soon after we had been served we were put on the air in an "Information Please, 99'ers." There was no flight plan. The questions were poured to us by the announcer, Jack McElroy, who mixed a lot of fun with his fuel. Even without practice, the girls handled the questions with ease and enjoyed themselves immensely. From the reports our audience not only enjoyed it, too, but the broadcast also resulted in a number of serious inquiries from women who wanted to fly.

Gayle Horrall, our Chairman, is just back from the Southwest Aviation Conference and the South Central Section Meeting with interesting things to tell and a lot of new ideas. Gayle had intended to fly to the meeting in the Ercope, but bad weather closed in. She also reports new members, Veda Mauk Blackwell and Mrs. Lee Armstrong, Oklahoma City.

● KANSAS CHAPTER

Yes, it's a reality. 14 women pilots gathered in the room of your Governor in Wichita and a Kansas Chapter came into being! Many of the girls were not prepared to sign up on such short notice, so a meeting has been called and by the time this NEWS LETTER goes to press the officers will have been elected, and other details done. Temporarily, Jennie Tschoep was appointed Chairman, and the meeting will be held at her home.

Those signing up include Adaline B. Farrell and Helen Massey of El Dorado; Ruth Peterson, Salina; Fredrica Hutto, Winfield; and Patricia Ann Davies, Independence. Welcome to the 99's!

● LOUISIANA CHAPTER

By Marion Schorr

The Louisiana Chapter is in a dither over the Louisiana Air Meet which will be held in Lafayette, the home of our Governor, May 17-18. 99'ers are prominent on the program, as Marguerite Blair, also of Lafayette is on the social committee, and we intend to hold our regular monthly meeting while there. In the CPT competition a certificate will be awarded by Governor Sam H. Jones of La., one by the N A A, and one by the South Central Section of the 99's.

News trickles in from Okla. that Janet Ficken Harris, formerly of New Orleans, is now a member of that Chapter.

MAY 15, 1941

NEW ENGLAND SECTION

By Constance M. Sheridan

Hello, 99'ers. Maybe its the sudden onslaught of summer weather but for some reason news from N.E. this month is "patchy" at best.

Our Governor, Ruth Hamilton, in addition to the heavy schedule she carries in the CPT program has completed the course in Meteorology that she has been giving for 99'ers interested in earning ground instructor ratings. On May 5 she begins a course in Navigation for the same group.

Quite by chance we learned that Nancy Love got her instrument rating last fall! Nancy does a great deal of interesting flying all about the country. Marjorie Davis has been adding to her flying hours, besides stirring up enthusiasm amongst us 99'ers for the many excellent First Aid courses offered by the local Red Cross Chapter. Dorothy Monro has used a Cub 65 for several business trips to N.E. states. Carol duPont and her 49^{er} flew down to Florida in their Cessna for the International Motorcycle Races. Carol is editor of the "Indian Cycle News" and was timer at the races. She has invited all N.E. 99'ers for an overnight visit at her attractive home "Thundertop" built on one of Wilbraham's highest mountains. On June 1 Carol plans an air meet and motorcycle race for benefit of "War Relief." Can't some of you fly on for the day? Write her for particulars.

Florence Cates is now part owner of a Luscombe hangared at Ruth Hamilton's flying field, "Riverside," Revere. Ruth Granger, enthusiastic private pilot working for A.A. at the Municipal Airport in E. Boston has a daily treat we'd like to share—picnic lunch on the seaplane ramp, sometimes accompanied by Jean Adams. Jean has been grounded for the past three weeks by illness and can't wait to be about again and duplicate a thrilling flight she had to her beloved Nantucket early in the month, contacting on her radio the S.S. Kungsholm at sea.

Our monthly meeting and dinner, all held this year at the Oxford Grill in Cambridge, was well attended. Vida Watson and Mary Goodwin came in from Maine; Carolyn Cullen from Pittsfield; and Nancy Kinsley from Grafton. Mary Goodwin and Nancy Kinsley (who flies her own Taylorcraft) are working hard to get a commercial rating and Carolyn Cullen is studying for a Commercial Refresher course at Albany.

There must be many interesting things going on in N.H. and R.I. We'll have news of them next month.

P.S.—Where are the aviation pictures for Louise Howard? Correction! Marianna Wadsworth received her Instrument rating from Northeast Airlines.

Editor's Note: We learn from Margaret E. Lennox, Box 1089, Providence, R.I. that she is proud possessor of Commercial #9803 with an Instructor's Rating and works for Wiggins Airways. Good work!

★ Proposed CONNECTICUT Chapter By Dorothy R. Levy

Barbara Southgate Parker and I are working on formation of a Conn. Chapter. We have a lovely group within a 30-mile radius of Bridgeport and hope to make it our headquarters. My 49^{er} operates the Bridgeport Airport and we literally live aviation.

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| ★ | The Library of Congress advises that their | ★ |
| ★ | bulletin, "References on Women in Aviation" | ★ |
| ★ | is available, free, to all members of 99's. | ★ |

MIDDLE EASTERN SECTION

● WASHINGTON CHAPTER

By Betty Strieff

Hallelujah! The Washington Chapter is "on the beam" and approaching its NEWS LETTER deadline on time for the second consecutive month.

Our May meeting was a picnic in Rock Creek Park--and the fried chicken was delish! An interesting hangar-flying session followed at the country home of Mrs. Mary Benson. Guests of the Chapter were Evelyn Dent, Betty Plummer, Leona McKinnen, and Mary Lou Colbert.

Evelyn Dent is the capable Secretary at 99 Headquarters who took over so ably where Cecile Hamilton left off. Incidentally, the illustrations in the NEWS LETTER were her idea. Delightfully amusing, Evelyn.

Lu Lu Shank, President of the Washington Chapter, has recently added an Instructor's license to her long list of accomplishments, which already includes a commercial license, an instrument and a 2S rating. Lu had hardly tucked the Instructor's ticket in her log book before she received approval to take the Instructor's secondary re-rating course and she is flying the wings off a Fairchild trainer preparatory to proving her ability to the CAA inspectors. We've no doubt of the outcome.

Mary Benson struck out for New York by her ownsome in a Cub the second week in May and plans to spend part of a month's vacation logging hours in a variety of ships on Roosevelt Field where her brother, Chuck Foley, operates a flying service. Hangar F, Mary asserts, is her vacation hideaway.

Cecile Hamilton, whose home these days is where she hangs her hat, recently completed her first lecture tour, speaking in many cities throughout the midwest. Her subject was the air power of the United States in relation to the national defense program and we can think of no one better qualified or informed on the subject than Cecile. She is distinguished today as having visited and observed more defense laboratories and plants than any other woman in the U.S. Cecile has left us again this month to tour more industrial defense works and speak to other civic groups. Success is crowning her lecture tours, for which we are proud.

New members of the Washington Chapter are: Evelyn Wyatt, first girl in the District to receive the advanced CPTP training course--and, of course, she sailed right through it; Pauline Cain, pretty southern lass who has a private license; Perry Robinson who owns a Cub and has logged nye unto 150 hours solo in slightly over a year's time; and Jeanne "Becky" McSheehy who also proved her flying ability by mastering the advanced CPTP course.

Transfers from other sections to this chapter have been Helen Curtis from Cleveland, Ohio; Mrs. Ruth Hurst from Lincoln, Nebraska; and Betty Strieff from Des Moines, Iowa.

The June meeting will find the Washington 99'ers flying to Fredericksburg, Va. for breakfast on the second Sunday of the month. Don't you envy us those sizzling eggs and the crisp bacon we will enjoy after our early morning flight?

★ We want to get the June News Letter--with full ★
★ details of the National Meeting--to you in time ★
★ to plan your trip. So, NEWS REPORTERS---send ★
★ your news in early---the deadline is June 5. ★

SOUTH EASTERN SECTION

● CAROLINAS CHAPTER

By Betty Hamilton

The Carolinas Chapter held their April meeting in Anderson, S.C. at the home of Nell Behr. Nell has a lovely home across the road from the airport. The garden at the back of the house slopes down to a marvelous stream with picnic tables and outdoor oven on the bank. We had a grand picnic lunch there. Charlotte Frye, Governor of the Southeastern Section and Ann Johnson, Treasurer of the Section, were special guests up for the meeting.

We had our May meeting at Rocky Mount, N.C. May 2 in connection with the Carolina Aero Club meeting and the Rocky Mount Gallopade. The combination of the air show, banquet and coronation ball made it quite a full day. Jessie Woods flew over from Rock Hill, S.C; Lucile Brockenbrough, Bird Eaton and Betty Hamilton flew their ship in from Charlotte. The rest of the crowd either caught a ride or came over by car.

All in all it was a grand meeting and really showed the tremendous interest of Carolinians in aviation. We found several interesting prospective members for the 99's. Watch our dust, girls, the Carolinas Chapter is going to town.

● FLORIDA CHAPTER

By Marion Bertram

Well, here we are again with so much news your reporter hardly knows where to begin. First, we want to present our new members, and Chairman Vera Self is fairly popping buttons off her vest, because the Chapter membership has just about doubled in the last six months. We are happy to welcome Elsie Moore, St. Petersburg; Dorothy Ellen Eversbach, Tampa; Irene Haworth and Dorothy Julian, Ft. Lauderdale; Ellis Dunsford and Nancy Colyer, Jacksonville; and Barbara Lindner, Ocala; and Georgia Williams formerly of San Diego, now living in Jacksonville. Georgia has been a 99'er for some time, and Calif's loss is our gain. Elsie, Irene and Dorothy Eversbach have their own ships, and Dorothy Julian and Nancy Colyer belong to clubs that own ships. Barbara Lindner is U.S. weather observer at Ocala, and Nancy is deputy trial clerk in the county circuit court.

During the pageant of Sara de Sota, the Chapter was privileged to hear Brigadier General Clarence L. Tinker, commanding officer of MacDill Field, Tampa, and Col. Melvin Asp, also of MacDill Field, who were speakers at the 99 luncheon at the Sara-sota Terrace Hotel. General Tinker spoke of the opportunities open to women flyers in the event of war, and told the Chapter that "What you girl flyers do in the future with your knowledge of aviation will depend entirely on how hard you are willing to work." The luncheon motif was patriotic, the place cards representing army tents and the 99 centerpiece of red, white and blue sweet peas. 17 were present for the luncheon, and 15 for the 99 breakfast at the beautiful McClellan Park home of Mrs. Charles McEachern. The girls all enjoyed a cozy breakfast before a big open fireplace,--and thanks to Chairman Vera who arranged these two lovely events. Jessie Woods flew down from her home in Rock Hill, S.C., to spend a short vacation, and arrived just in time for the pageant, as did Ruth Nichols, who flew over from Miami where she had been engaged in Relief Wings activity.

We have a very interesting letter from Helen de Bustamante of Cuba. Helen has a Silvaire, and has just returned from a cruise around Cuba. She reports the airports good and the scenery beautiful, and she visited cattle ranches and sugar mills where there were private landing fields. Write to us again, Helen.

Katherine Rawls Thompson went up to Wichita and brought back a Culver Cadet for the Thompson School of Aviation--then turned right around and went to Lock Haven for a Cub Cruiser. On the way back she stopped in Tallahassee to call on Irene Fremd, who is attending the Florida State College for Women. Katherine will probably have her Commercial before another NEWS LETTER is out.

Evelyn McRae is doing some experimental radio work in her new Rearwin Cloudster for Eastern Air Lines where her 49^{er} is head of the communications department. Evelyn was a "ham" operator long before she learned to fly.

We are sorry to lose Betty Young to the New York-New Jersey Section, and hope she will visit us often when she is in Florida.

Ellen Smith, Chairman of the Northwest Penn Chapter, is flying her Stinson 105 from Eastern Air Lines field, and doing a lot of fishing in Biscayne Bay. Any fish stories she carries back to the Penna. girls may be verified by coming down to try your luck.

Lorna Simpson, our indefatigable secretary, got the Ft. Lauderdale girls together for an impromptu luncheon the other day, so that the new members could meet Chairman Vera Self. Besides Lorna and Vera, there were Irene Haworth, Dorothy Julian, Helen Dooley, Virginia Roach (a prospective member) Katherine Thompson, and from Miami, Evelyn McRae and Marion Bertram, who landed at the airport in time to get an invitation. Lorna, by the way, has just about completed work on a 13-week radio serial story with an aviation background--we are looking forward to hearing it over the air. Best of luck, Lorna.

On April 27, the Chapter was entertained at an aviation breakfast given by the Sarasota Aero Club at the Delido Beach Casino, after which they met at the Miramar Hotel. Vera Self, Elsie Moore, Dorothy Eversbach, Georgia Williams, Lorna Simpson, Dorothy Weber (another prospective member) Evelyn McRae, and Marion Bertram were present. Evelyn as delegate and Vera as alternate will represent the Chapter at the National Meeting, and next meeting will be at Jacksonville on May 31, at the start of the Florida Air Cruise to Louisville.

We have talked with the Air Maneuvers officials about a closed course race for women over about a five-mile course, for the next Air Races, and we would like to hear from any of the girls who are interested. Your reporter asks visiting 99'ers to drop her a card--916 N.E. Second Avenue, Miami.

Tis spring time in Tennessee's hills and her hill billys are getting the fever. Weather's ideal for lazy flying and lazy pilots are taking advantage.

Last month we didn't have a new member to report, but did mention a prospective one. This month we have THREE. They are Gene Slack of Johnson City, Ruth Stanford of Chattanooga, Laura Perritt of Florence.

This Chapter met in Nashville last Sunday for a regular meeting. Lorraine Buttrey was hostess for the day. Our Chairman, Pearl Brock, and her 49^{er}, flew over in their Luscombe. Your reporter flew over in a Luscombe, but she went early with a couple of CPT students doing a cross-country. The two students landed, gassed, and flew their planes straight back, but she stayed until late afternoon. Billie LeVan brought Ruth Stanford up as guest and she decided to join us. Laura Perritt spent the weekend in Nashville visiting some school friends.

Jane Gump is refreshing for a instructor's rating. By the time this NEWS LETTER reaches the press she will probably have it. Cornelia Fort is in Denver, instructing. Ruth Wolfe Thomas was elected to represent this Chapter at the Annual meeting with Lorraine Buttrey as alternate.

Pearl Brock ought to be on the honor roll. She has her bank filled, and I do mean filled. Louise Carson is using a parasol Heath in her CPT class instruction. Ruth Bowler says she is certainly doing her bit for the Defense Program. She works in the office at the Aluminum plant. This Alcoa Plant is the biggest in the U.S., and a million dollar addition is now under way.

The Chattanooga flyers do a lot of dawn patrolling. Millie Ownby, Ruth Stanford, and Billie LeVan went on one before leaving for Nashville last Sunday. Our next meeting will be here in Knoxville. C. B. Moore (Q.B.) airport manager is giving this Chapter a lot of valuable help in planning ways of raising money to send delegates to the National Meeting.

We have thirteen members and think we are very lucky. Don't you?

WOMEN PILOTS IN THE U.S.

April 1940	January 1941
86 Commercial . .	113
29 Limited Comm. .	27
508 Private . .	1,803
473 Solo	202
1,096 Total	2,145

No reason why we can't double our membership--the pilots are there!

MEMBERSHIP IN 99's NOW TOTALS . . . 584

NEW AND RENEWAL MEMBERSHIPS

Adelmann, Mrs. H.J.-1118 Bryan, Joliet, Ill (P 94158)
Armstrong, Mrs. Lee-1721 N.W. 33rd, Okla. City, O. (P64088)
Asner, Esther L.-2808 Campbell, Kansas Cy, Mo. (P 75606)
Best, Jane H.-4331 E. 18th, Denver, Colo. (P 82582)
Cavender, Mrs. Gladys-6415 E. 12 Ter., Kan. Cy, Mo. (P73472)
Cole, Anne-515 Woodlawn, Greensboro, N.C. (P 92823)
Danford, Mrs. H.B.-620 Columbia, Springfield, Ill (P57762)
Dougherty, Dora-Cottey College, Nevada, Mo. (P 32040)
Dranse, Dorothy-10854 Morrison, N. Hollywood, Cal. (P56892)
Freeman, Lola-62 Macon, Asheville, N.C. (P 92748)
Guyger, Mrs. Burlayne-Box 1390, Midland, Texas (P 95204)

Haddaway, Mrs. Abbie-4234 Holland, Dallas, Tex. (P 15498)
Hamilton, Joan-Newberry Residence, Ann Arbor, Mich (P40027)
Harter, Betty-66 College, Greenville, Penna. (P 17337)
Hoye, Anna-Woman's College, Greensboro, N.C. (P 92827)
Johnson, Mrs. Joan-2730 Main, Buffalo, N.Y. (P 13875)
McCubbins, Frances-704 Lee, Gastonia, N.C. (P 92746)
McSheehy, Jeanne-6001 Wilson, Bethesda, Md. (P 18881)
Meuser, Marjorie-814 N. Raynor, Joliet, Ill. (C 94955)
Raines, Hazel-Cochran Flying Sch., Cochran, Ga. (P 42777)
Sweet, Virginia-Box 394-College Sta, Durham, N.C. (P7640)
Westcott, Wauneta-Cottey College, Nevada, Mo. (P 42313)

May 1941

FOREIGN NEWS

Helen R. deBustamante, Paseo No. 452, Vedado, Habana, Cuba, writes "My American solo will expire in May, I believe, and I have just taken my private pilot's test here in Cuba on April 6, which I successfully passed. (She also sends a newspaper picture of herself beside her plane which carries the title "The First Woman Pilot in Cuba.")

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AMELIA EARHARTMEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

By Alma H. Harwood

The news for the NEWS LETTER this month is rather thrilling, first one to send in word her bank is filled is Pearl Fancher Brock of Knoxville, Tenn. Rumors have been heard that many are nearly filled, but this is the first notice that one actually is, and to think I figured one year and in five months one is ready to be counted!

The application blanks are coming in and I am working hard to get them in order for the awarding judges. I have written (with Betty Gillies approval) and asked four outstanding men in aviation to give us their valuable time. They will not even know the names of the applicants so there will be no criticism after the winner is named. The winner will be announced at the National Meeting.

Please, applicants, if you receive letters asking for more information, send it in to me at once. It is only to help clear the work for the judges, and I will have nothing to do with the judging, nor will any other 99'er. It will be only in some case where a clearer picture is needed that they may ask for more data. So be prompt!

Banks that are filled by the month of May,
Show that 99'ers can make their way.

* * * *

AERIAL LIFE SAVING

By Ruth R. Nichols

The world has had an all too impressive demonstration of the destructive qualities of aircraft, and often loses sight of aviation's power to advance civilization. Yet everywhere are vital needs for aerial life saving.

Relief Wings has the obligation to furnish and to extend aviation's humanitarian capabilities. We ask you to help in accomplishing this task.

With so many men now being drafted for military service, experienced women pilots will be needed in ever-increasing numbers to carry on an efficient humanitarian air service for disasters to civilians resulting from flood, hurricane, fire or possible ravages of war. Ruth Nichols, Executive Director of Relief Wings, Inc., therefore hopes that women pilots will obtain instrument and higher airplane ratings as soon as possible.

H. Q. CORNERON SALE AT H.Q.

NEW 99 Decal Emblems08
99 Gold Insignia pins	1.00
Membership Booklets25
Four silver bracelets, movable prop . . .	1.75
Three silver bracelets, stationery prop. .	1.70
Promotional Booklets	free

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NEW SECTION AND CHAPTER OFFICERSNORTHWEST SECTION:

Governor: Irma Wallace
Vice-Governor: Frances Sherley
Secy-Treas: Leah Hing

EASTERN IOWA CHAPTER:

Chairman: Margaret Swendson
Vice-Chairman: Marjorie Smith
Secy-Treas: Winifred Eno

KANSAS CHAPTER:

Acting Chrm: Jennie Joan Tschoep

WASHINGTON CHAPTER:

Chairman: Grace Johnson
Vice-Chairman: Clayton Patterson
Secy-Treas: Dora Skinner

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RECENT VISITORS TO HEADQUARTERS

Bird Conley Eaton of Charlotte, N.C.--requesting more application blanks for the Carolinas Chapter.
Katherine Rawls Thompson--using H.Q. facilities to make out CAA reports for instructor 49²er.
Alma Harwood--in and out making arrangements for awarding the Amelia Earhart Scholarship.
Bessie Owen--in the East, making arrangements to have her book published.
Arlene Davis--using H.Q. pull to get hotel room.
Jeannette Eastman--veteran model flyer, talking things over with the Academy of Model Aeronautics.
Mrs. Peggy Pierce--wanting latest news to carry back to other 99'ers in Cleveland.

VISIT H.Q. WHEN IN WASHINGTON

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HIGHER LICENSES - NEW RATINGS

PRIVATE LICENSES: Ruth E. Colwell, Ind. #75328;
Helen deBustamante, Cuban Private #182.
COMMERCIAL LICENSES: Margaret E. Lennox, R.I., #9803; Marjorie Ludwigsen, N.Y., #27772.
INSTRUMENT RATING: Nancy Love, Mass.
INSTRUCTOR'S RATING: Leah Shepherd, Missouri;
Margaret E. Lennox, R. I.; Lu Lu Shank, D.C.