

NINETY NINE



NEWS LETTER

April 15, 1944

NEWS LETTER EDITOR

Bettie Thompson, 724 N. 63rd St.,
Philadelphia 31, Penna.

Deadline - 5th of Each Month

NINETY-NINES

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN PILOTS
Affiliated with the National Aeronautic Association

1025 CONNECTICUT AVENUE WASHINGTON, D. C.

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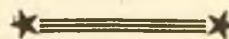
Alice H. Hammond Treasurer
70 Cambridge Road
Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich.

99's PINS

IMPORTANT — PLEASE NOTE

As wartime conditions make it necessary to use domestic silver in our pins, our Treasurer notifies us that the price of the pins, including the jewelry tax, is \$1.40 each, instead of that given in the March NEWS LETTER. This is from April 1, 1944.

99'ers, kindly remember this and remit accordingly with your orders. Thank you.



SOUTHEASTERN SECTION

CAROLINAS CHAPTER

By Bird Eaton, 1208 Johnston Bldg.,
Charlotte 2, N. C.

In checking the membership list in the January-February and March numbers of the Ninety-Nine NEWS LETTER, the lack of renewals in the Southeastern Section would indicate that there is an epidemic of some sort, or something even more serious. Let us hope that it is nothing more than an epidemic of procrastination of payment of dues.

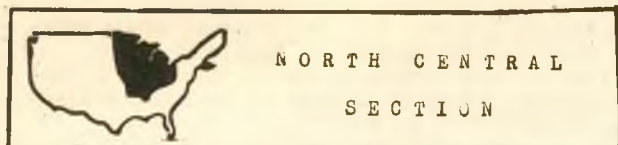
We all realize a small percentage of 99'ers, for certain reasons, remain at home instead of going into active service in some branch of the armed forces. Therefore it is imperative that we at home keep our local 99 chapters alive. No organization can remain strong and active without the cooperation of its members. This means that dues must be paid and meetings must be held.

Many WASPS, WACS, and WAVES have asked, "What are the 99's at home doing?" They want an active chapter to come home to when this war is over. What will we have to offer them?

We believe that post-war Aviation will have wonderful opportunities which all women pilots will want to share and enjoy. So, girls, it is our duty to support the largest organization of licensed women pilots in the world, the NINETY-NINES, in order to be on the aviation bandwagon.

99'er — Attend your meetings. Take a new member with you. BE ACTIVE. Send your dues to National Headquarters at once, putting yourself in good standing until September 1, 1944, and giving you a record of continuous membership.

PULLLEASE!



NORTH CENTRAL SECTION

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER

By Ruth Craine, 2445 North 37th Street,
Milwaukee 10, Wisconsin

Much has happened to keep us excited in our chapter lately. Caroline Iverson, our president ex-officio, and now assistant associate editor on Life Magazine, returned for a brief vacation in Milwaukee. During her stay Mrs. Seip, Maggie's mother, had all the 99's over in Caroline's honor. It was there that we had our chance to visit - and our only chance to see her. She flew little Cubs and Taylorcrafts at her favorite small airports and apparently enjoyed the contrast from the huge planes in which she has been scouting about the country.

Janet Hatch, now with the WASPS in Tucson, Arizona, was voted in as a new member of our chapter. An interesting letter was read from her. Janet has a commercial rating and over 400 hours of flying time. Welcome, Janet!

Dora Fritzke and Elsie Peters have both become Warrant Officers in the CAP. They rate salutes from the rest of us now. We are more than proud to give those salutes. Dora also received her red service ribbon denoting 500 hours of CAP service.

Dorothy Christenson has accepted a new position as statistical clerk in Washington, D. C. She leaves immediately. We shall surely miss her, but we don't seem able to keep her with us for very long stretches of time.

Mary Calhoun is beginning a new class in meteorology for the CAP cadets, each Thursday evening.

Vera Howe has been married. She is now Mrs. Wilfred R. Franson. The marriage took place on February 25th. Her 49¹/₂'er is from Canoga, California, and is now at Charleston, South Carolina, a private with Uncle Sam. Vera will join him as soon as she can leave. Welcome, Wilfred, to the 49¹/₂'ers!

Dora is the most liberal of pilots. She is always accommodating her friends with rides and experiments. Recently she and your reporter climbed to 5400 feet, just to see how small the things would look from over a mile straight up. We saw snow cowering ground to the South and nothing but bleak darkness in our area. She is very adept in the use of the radio which is installed in her plane. Dora is now qualified to take up passengers at night. You have a long waiting list, Dora? Who comes first?

INDIANA CHAPTER

By Dorothea E. Hendricks, 2020 Pearl Street,
Anderson, Indiana.

News of the girls is scarce this month as we have not had a meeting, but I know that all of you want to get the NEWS LETTER every month, so Indiana will try to do her part.

Our April second meeting at Terre Haute was postponed, but watch your mail box and we will get together at a later date.

Received a letter from Helen House Outcalt, Rochester, Ind., which seemed like an answer to a prayer for news. Helen is very busy, with her last instructor entering the Navy and leaving her all alone to teach others to fly in her "neck of the woods". We forgive you for not attending our meetings and hope you are training some future 99'ers.

Helen moans that she doesn't even have time to see her 49¹/₂'er who is stationed at Fairfax Field, Kansas

City, Kans., with the ATC. She invites us up for a meeting this summer, and we will certainly accept her invitation. Helen's airport is only a block from Lake Manitowish.

Why don't some of you other girls drop us a line?

The 99's were represented at the dedication of the Weir Cook Airport in Indianapolis, March 28th. I saw Bert Topping, Terre Haute, and I am sure there were others among the 550 CAP members present.

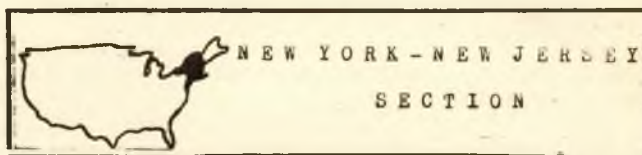
We had quite an impressive ceremony, with high ranking military officers every place. Our first CAP National Commander, Maj. Gen. John F. Curry, and our present Commander, Lt. Col. Earle Johnson, were among the speakers.

The aircraft exhibit at Memorial Plaza was the greatest of its kind in the country. Many of us had our first good look at a P-38 Lightning and a P-47 Thunderbolt. There was the nose of a B-24 Liberator from Ford's Willow Run Plant, and one look at the instrument panel was enough. It looks like a jigsaw puzzle to a 65 H.P. pilot like me. In addition to our American display, there was captured German and Japanese aerial fighting equipment.

Weir Cook was an ace in World War I, and died a heroic death in the present conflict. Indiana is proud to claim him, and we have set the pace for naming airports for our famous aviators. By the way, Anderson is the home town of Colonel Cook.

Marie Thompson is in Florida, and Bert Topping is taking off for St. Louis for a few days.

Where are the rest of you girls?????????



NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY SECTION

WESTERN NEW YORK CHAPTER

By Helen Nestell, 760 Oakwood Avenue,
East Aurora, N. Y.

For the past few months we have been studying navigation under the tutelage of Dot Mackay and are now ready to take the CAA exam for ground instructor in Navigation. Our aim is "Each member an authorized instructor in Navigation, Meteorology, and CAR". Thanks to Dot's hard work the completion of the first third of our aim is in sight.

At the December meeting Lt. Col. Bilby, at present Assistant Resident Representative at Curtiss-Wright, told us of his experiences as pilot and flight leader in the battles of Africa and Sicily.

In January, Art Nelson, who is test pilot for Bell, described the intricacies and problems of fire power on fighter planes.

Helen "Maisie" Koethen, our chairman, has been elected president of the new Quota Club in Niagara Falls. (Congratulations, Maisie!) In view of the present youth delinquency problem, they are opening a "dry" night club for high school boys and girls, calling it the "Dry Dock".

Ruth Palmer is busy as usual and has added several speaking engagements to her already heavy schedule. In December she spoke to the Eggertsville Rotary Club, and in March, to the Investigating Club of Buffalo. Her subject was "Women in Aviation".

Betty Olmsted and Dot Mackay are in charge of the 16 and 17 year old boys and girls in their CAP squadron. They are giving them instruction in military courtesy and drill and plan to carry through the regular CAP program with this group which was organized March first. Betty has joined a Cruiser Club and she and Dot are again adding to their air hours. Dot has also found time to complete her Instrument written exam.

Harriet Louise Urban has been transferred to Rosecrans Field, St. Joseph, Mo., where she is a WASP trainee, taking advanced training in larger ships. Harriet was

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"weathered in" near Buffalo, so was able to visit one Navigation class. We hope you get up this way again soon, Harriet.

The last report from Barbara Manchester at Sweetwater was very enthusiastic, and she was looking forward to graduation.

Elizabeth Mills is now stationed at Stewart Field, N. Y.

Dot Forkel has her commercial rating and was the first Rochester woman to fly on CAP missions, for which she has received official commendation and the commission of first lieutenant. At present she is kept busy helping her dentist husband who is also a pilot.

Mary Ellen Morrow, who is a pathology technician at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, still finds time to work with CAP. She is personnel officer for her squadron and is commissioned second lieutenant.

Mary Margaret Woolams and her daughter Virginia are back East again, living in Niagara Falls. Mary Margaret's husband Jack, who is experimental test pilot for Bell, has been flying the new jet propulsion plane, the Airacomet.

Joy Schell, control tower operator at Niagara Falls, had the thrill of seeing the first ship of this type land at their field. Joy was the first girl operator at Niagara Falls and has been there for a year.

Three 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ 'ers have been added to our chapter. Two, Sissy and Chardi, were acquired with our new member Evelyn Banta, and Arlene Parks Bateman has a baby girl.

The girls from New York City had planned to meet with us at Binghamton, N. Y., in April, to get acquainted. The plans were changed to May, and perhaps some of the girls near the Pennsylvania border can also plan on attending.

NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY SECTION

By Kay Traulsen, 445 West 23rd,
New York 11, N. Y.

Your reporter should have written this a couple of months ago, but each time the deadline approached, she managed to procrastinate. However, here is hoping it makes the NEWS LETTER in time, now!

Gertrude Brown was in town recently and we had a swell visit - it was about time you got in touch with me, Brownie. Gertrude has finished her training in radio control flight at Camp Stewart, Ga., and is now on her way to join the 7th Tow Target Squadron at March Field, Riverside, Calif.

Brownie also informed me that Kay Menges is with the 6th Tow Target Squadron, Biggs Field, El Paso, Texas.

Magda Tacke was in town the other day, also. She has just completed the instrument course at St. Joseph, Mo., and is very proud of her card showing test passed in a B-25!

We see by the papers that one of our members, Katherine Cerf, was married in Cairo, Egypt, the fifteenth of last December. Her 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ 'er is Lt. Comdr. John Thornley Harding, at present serving as naval attache to the American Legation in Cairo.

Congratulations are in order to the following:-- Ruth Heller of the Waves, who has been made a full Lieutenant; Marjorie Ludwigen, now a Major in the Wacs, and Wilhelmina Hanzlik, the very efficient operations officer at La Guardia Airport where the Knickerbocker Squadron of the CAP is flying Aviation Cadets and Air Wacs, who has been made a 2nd Lieutenant.

Our meeting a month ago was made extremely interesting by Teddy Kenyon, who told us all about flying Grumman Wildcats. We were all wishing we could be test pilots, too.

Congratulations to the Western New York Chapter for the splendid article in the Buffalo Courier-Express regarding the 99 organization.

We women pilots wish to extend an invitation to all visiting pilots from other countries. Just let us

know you are in town. Call our Governor, Margie White, Apt. 1501, Berkshire Hotel, New York City.

For our next meeting we hope to have with us Senhora Machado, Brazilian girl pilot, who is now taking Link instruction at Pan Am.

That's all.



NEW ENGLAND SECTION

By Miriam Vanderslice, 525 Chapman St.,
Canton, Mass.

New England 99's: Please note you have a new Reporter. Connie Sheridan has handled the news for this Section long and faithfully, and I think we all owe her a vote of thanks.

As our members are scattered almost 100% North, South, East and West, news is hard to gather unless you keep your reporter acquainted with your activities, so please keep in touch with me and help to keep this letter interesting.

Gertrude Meserve writes from Republic Aviation Corporation, "All I have been flying lately are mostly the P-47's from Farmingdale, with a few small trips in AT-6 and AT-16. The 16's are Canadian Harvards which are very similar to the AT-6." She also adds very nonchalantly "Charlie Tubbs and I are planning to be married sometime in April!" You take our breath away, Gertrude! We wish you the very best always.

Our Secretary, Florence Cates, has left us for the WACS. She is now at Fort Oglethorpe, and I hear that somewhere in her last letter appeared the letters "KP". Never mind, Florence, we know that bigger and better things are in store for you.

Marjorie Taylor, stationed at Love Field, Dallas, has had two ferry trips, New York to California. How about telling us what you think about on these long trips, Marjorie?

Mildred Morey is still stationed at Martha's Vineyard, doing her part in the War Effort. Mildred has always been one of our most enthusiastic members, and even though this section is grounded as far as actual flying is concerned, she is happy to be able to keep in touch with aviation through her work on the Island.

Congratulations to Moya Mitchell - at Marauder School, flying B-26's. We sure are proud of the girls from New England.

We have a new member, Henrietta Richmond, of Springfield. She is a member of the WASPS, and we hope to hear more about her work, which we understand is very interesting.

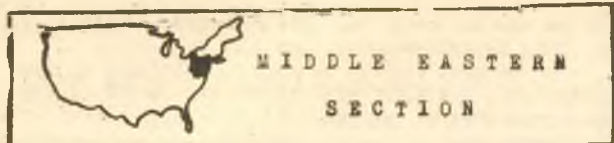
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MORE ABOUT THOSE 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ 'er CARDS!

I haven't received any letter from anyone on our executive committee regarding making 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ 'er cards legal, so-o-o-o, unless I hear from some one on the committee shortly, I guess our members will take silence for consent, in which case 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ 'er cards will be available at printing cost from Ye Ed within the next two months.

I recently received a letter from the Florida Chapter's originator of these cards, Vera Self (and hats off to her; the cards are swell.), and she says: "Thank you for bringing the matter of 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ 'er cards up in the Letter. I believe we should have an official one and have written President Ethel Sheehy, giving her information about ours in Florida Chapter." Vera also suggests under the card holder's name be the statement "Mystic realm of 0 to 360 degrees." Vera wrote their Section Governor at the time she made the first cards and it was decided that there was nothing in the constitution which prevented them for their chapter.

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MIDDLE EASTERN SECTION

EASTERN PENN CHAPTER

By Bettie Thompson, 724 North 65rd St.,
Philadelphia 51, Penna.

Special news! Dot Carpenter Salto will be up from Peru, S. A., and at 124 South Franklin St., Allentown, Penna., from May 1 to May 15. She says, "Please give my best to all the girls in case I don't get to see all of them." Sure is swell to hear from Dot again.

Our Chapter now has about 25 members; six of these are new and one a former member now in our area, namely, Mrs. Kathleen Mountz Botts, 434 Eshleman St., Highspire, Penna., (near Harrisburg). New members are:

- (1) Miss Jessie Jones, 819 Ocean Ave., Lancaster, Pa.; sponsor, Helen Jones, Lancaster, Pa.
- (2) Mrs. Frances W. Nolde, Reading, Pa.; sponsored by Leona McElroy.
- (3) Miss Marian Bradley, 110 Woodside Ave., West Lawn, Penna., (near Reading. We think Leona sponsored her, too. (Is that right, Marian?)
- (4) Miss Pauline Markle, Camp Hill, Penna., (near Harrisburg), now out West with WASPS; sponsor, Dot Leh. (Is that correct, Dot?)
- (5) Miss Sophia Reineberg, 822 S. Duke St., York, Pa., now at Sweetwater; sponsor, Betty Williams.

Whom did we miss?

Millie Zimmerman, another old member, has been living in our area. When last heard from she was in Wilmington, Dela., with her 49²er. Millie had been on WTS at Carlisle, Pa.

Also in our area, many 99 WASPS at Delaware.

Attention. Chapter Members: A meeting will be held in Philadelphia some time in late May or June. Watch your mail box for the date. It will be our first get-together for over a year, so tell your boss you have to go watch your grandmother make her first parachute jump, and come to the meeting.

Watch the mail man for the date. You'll get a letter some time in May. Check the post card you'll find enclosed and drop in a mail box.

Rapid Rabbit says 99'er Mary Sternberg, Reading, now in Africa with Red Cross, has married an Englishman. We forget who told us.

It's Captain Peggy Hoopes of CAP, now. Congratulations!

Hear Ruth Shafer, now at Sweetwater, is due home (we hope) around May 20th. How about having our meeting while Ruth is home?

Hello, Doris in Miami. Please come home, too.

To Betty Williams, formerly in our Chapter and now at Sweetwater, congratulations for sending in so many applications.

Betsy Ross — Saw your renewal. Come home for the meeting. Where are you?

So long for now. Come to the meeting, you all, and let's keep things whizzing!

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1945 - 1944

NEW (*) and RENEWAL MEMBERS

Mrs. Ruth Barclay, 8226 Brighton Way, Clayton, Mo.
Marion Bertram, 3047 Indiana St., Coconut Grove 33, Fla.
*Miss Eileen Ward Bristol, 318th AAFSTD, Sweetwater, Tex.
Dorothy Broadfield, Glenwood, Iowa.
Mrs. Doris S. Buzzard, 515 S. Wood St., Chesaning, Mich.

Virginia B. Crinklaw, WASP, 5rd Ferrying Group, Army Air Base, Romulus, Mich.

*Mrs. Bessie D. Cunningham, 317 Boulevard, N.E., Atlanta, Ga.
Rita M. Davoly, WASP, General Delivery, Randolph Field, San Antonio, Texas.

*Miss E. Helen Dettweiler, 5517 Grove St., Chevy Chase, Md.
Ellen G. Douds, Route #6, Mercer, Penna.

Mrs. Ethel Fedders, 279 Beard Ave., Buffalo 14, N.Y.

*Miss Flora Belle Fouke, 1925 County Ave., Texarkana, Tex.
Helen Vaught Gardner, 710 S. 19th Ave., Yakima, Wash.

*Mrs. Dixie Gentry, 44-W-5, 318th AAFSTD, Sweetwater, Tex.
(Home: Box 590, Bartow, Fla.)

Mrs. Betty Huyler Gillies, New Castle Army Air Base, Wilmington, Dela.

Jessamine Goddard, 48 East 73rd St., New York 21, N.Y.

*Miss Lucile Grisler, 9255 Agnes, Apt. 2, Detroit 14, Mich.

Mrs. Katherine Cerf Harding, APO 616, % Postmaster, New York, N.Y.

Mrs. Gladys C. Hartung, 858 Nottingham Rd., Grosse Pointe Park 30, Mich.

*Miss Janet C. Hatch, WASP, Marana Army Air Field, Tucson, Arizona. (Home: Box 397, Eau Claire, Wis.)

Bella Heineman, 561 S. Zurich, Tulsa 4, Okla.

Emily Heister, WASP, New Castle AAB, Wilmington, Dela.

Mrs. Martha Hughes, 7203 University Drive, Richmond, Va.

(More next issue)

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EDITOR'S DESK

Lots of the girls have written in wondering what they are going to do when WTS folds. As the army is taking most of the men, seems like the gals will have to attend to private instruction. Some already have gone back to it.

If you want us to, we'll start a column listing girls who want private work. SEND IN YOUR NAME AND MAIL ADDRESS to EDITOR, JOB COLUMN, 724 North 65rd St., Philadelphia 51, Penna.

With such a list you can go to an operator who is wondering how he's going to stay open, and say, "You want to keep your airport open? Here's a list of instructors who won't be drafted, and you also will have other 99ers to work with."

FOR THIS TO BE EFFECTIVE WE NEED YOUR NAMES AT ONCE. MAIL US YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS TODAY. NOW!!!

If your airport operator is going into the army, get a 99'er who has operated an airport, talk to the present operator, and DIG IN AND OPERATE THAT AIRPORT DURING HIS ABSENCE. NOW IS THE TIME, CHANCE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU GIRLS TO SHOW WHAT YOU CAN DO IN PRIVATE FLYING AND INSTRUCTION. If you don't help your operator keep his field open, he'll close it for the duration.

MOST WTS ENDS IN JUNE SO OUR NEXT ISSUE MUST HAVE YOUR NAMES OR AIRPORTS WILL CLOSE AND YOU WILL BE OUT OF A JOB.

NOW NOW NOW NOW NOW NOW

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- 1 SEND YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, RATINGS, area you want work in, or anywhere.
- 2 99'ers with airport manager ratings and book work experience on business workings of an airport, send your names, PLEASE.
- 3 ASK THE AIRPORT OPERATOR IN YOUR AREA IF HE
 - (a) is headed for army;
 - (b) intends to keep open on private work or close. If he's thinking of closing, tell him you'll help him round up girl instructors to keep him going.
 - (c) SEND HIS NAME AND THE ABOVE INFO TO US WHEN YOU SEND YOUR NAME.

A POST CARD WILL DO. THE POSTMAN MAY RING TWICE BUT OPPORTUNITY ONLY KNOCKS ONCE. DON'T MISS THE GREATEST CHANCE YOU EVER HAD IN AVIATION - THE CHANCE TO BE IN THE MAJORITY IN THE PRIVATE AIRPORT FIELD.

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