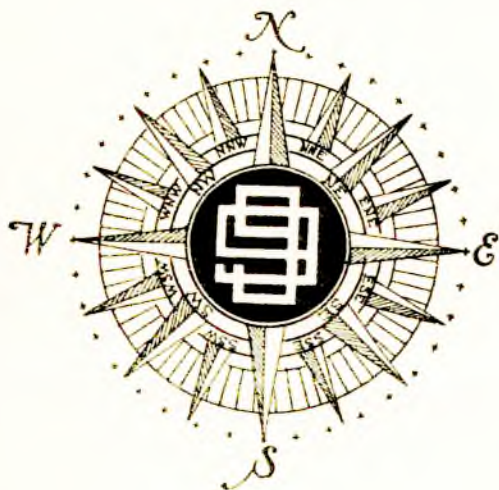


NINETY- NINES



NEWS LETTER

JUNE 15, 1946

DEADLINE - 5TH OF EACH MONTH

NINETY-NINES

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN PILOTS

Affiliated with the National Aeronautic Association

1625 CONNECTICUT AVENUE WASHINGTON 6, D.C.

NATIONAL OFFICERS

Jeannette Lempke . . . President
1111 E. Genesee Ave., Apt. 4
Saginaw, Michigan

Belle Hetzel . . . V. President
126 Drake Court
Omaha, Nebraska

Ruth A. Heller . . . Secretary
1025 Connecticut Ave., Rm. 703
Washington, D. C.

Evelyn C. McRae . . . Treasurer
P.O. Box 308, 149 South Drive
Miami Springs, Florida.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

"They are the Salt of the Earth," says I, "They are the Salt of the Earth!"
"Who is the Salt of the Earth?" asks you.
"The NINETY-NINES are the Salt of the Earth!" says I.

And I should know for I have met a lot of them during my many journeys since September 1st, 1945. Hospitality - Enthusiasm - Fellowship - East to West, North to South - you just can't beat the NINETY-NINES.

During the past few months this column has had to be devoted to more serious business so I am far behind in reporting on the chapters I have visited, but I want you to know that every visit is a bright spot in my memory. Think I shall have to write a book in order to get it all down in black and white.

Membership is increasing! We have gained more than 33% over last year's total. Next year should net us 100% gain. Let's say a total of not less than 1500 members by June 30th, 1947.

July 1st membership basis: Members taken in after July 1st get two months free membership by paying a full year's dues plus the \$1.00 initiation fee. In other words, new members joining on or after July 1st, 1946 and paying a total of \$5.50 will carry through to August 31st, 1947.

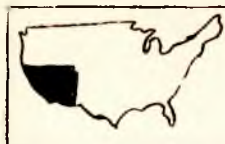
Miss Arnold resigns! Miss May K. Arnold who has been our mainstay in the NINETY-NINES Washington, D.C. headquarters office for the past several years is retiring on June 15th. We shall miss her. She was always on the job when we asked for information, and, in her quiet way, she kept the routine office work of the NINETY-NINES up to date in every way. Miss Arnold had the NINETY-NINES so much at heart, that we wonder why she never learned to fly. Perhaps she will do that during her leisure time from now on.

Our best wishes go with you, Miss Arnold, and thanks for everything!

Amelia Earhart Scholarship Fund: Are you all set to concentrate on booming the Amelia Earhart Scholarship Fund at your July meeting. The Bay Cities chapter in California have a nest egg to start on. One of their members, Olive Bledsoe, handed me her personal check for \$10.00 to start the ball rolling for them.

June 3, 1946

Cleveland - Aug 30 - Sept 2nd
Jeannette Lempke
Your President



SOUTHWESTERN SECTION

BAY CITIES CHAPTER

By Eleanor Verkuyl
1129 S. Church St., Lodi, Calif.

Our dinner meeting honoring National President Jeannette Lempke, assembled Bay Cities' members May 14th at Hotel Californian, San Francisco. Alice Hammond, co-pilot on the trans-continental trip in Jeannette's Stinson, was also a very special guest. California's fog was out in earnest to greet the visitors, so Alice's instrument rating came in mighty handy! Present for the occasion were the honoree and her "right-hand-man", and the following local lights: Dorothy Chamberlin, Olive Bledsoe, Rita Hart, Ruth Wakeman, Leah Johnson, Evelyn Esser, Flora Ferris, Florence Emig, Geraldine Williamson, Margaret Gerhard, Marjorie Fauth, Frances Grant, Beth Henning, Ruth Rueckert, Gene Shaffer, Mimi Canfield, Marion Barnick, Dorothy Fowler, Helen Kelton and your reporter. Guests of members included Kay Warren, Marthe Kilgore, and Norma Menacci. The last two girls, students of Flo Emig, recently had the fun of seeing their mother solo. Now they are trying to get their father sufficiently air-minded to make an all-aerial family. We're all for it!

Nominations for national officers were made: President, Jeannette Lempke, present incumbent; vice president, Belle Hetzel; secretary, our own sectional governor, Marjorie Fauth; treasurer, Irma Wallace. Ruth Rueckert, Bay Cities, and Carolyn West, Los Angeles Chapter, were recommended for the Nominating Committee or Scholarship Fund.

Dorothy Estep addressed a San Francisco group of Women Fliers of America on May 17th. An ex-Wasp and active 99er, Dorothy really gets around.

Most persuasive talkers in the world are the flying Harts who on a recent weekend trip to Reno talked another Ryan owner, stranger to them, into lending them his propeller to fly home on, their own having been slightly dimpled in a landing mishap. Next day 49er Al crated the borrowed spinner and shipped it home with "love and kisses".

Evelyn Esser's 10-month old Mary Lee is making satisfactory recovery after a serious auto accident in which she was thrown from the car. To the relief of all, there will be no permanent scars.

On May 17th at the Chapel of the Flowers, Vilma Johnston, long-time member of our group, was married to Henry Charles Denny. Our stately Olive was her matron of honor and 99ers attending said the gals looked beautiful! The wishes of us all go to the newlyweds for many happy years.

Flo Emig and Marion Barnick will be co-hostesses at our June 22nd meeting, to be held at their airport in San Jose. It will combine winging party, regular meeting, and a get-together for 49ers and would-bes. Barbecue luncheon is scheduled for one o'clock. The airport is Reid's Hillview Airport, San Jose. It's a right hand field and the traffic pattern is at 700 feet. We're hoping for a fine turn-out.

* * * * *

LOS ANGELES CHAPTER

By Melba Beard,
1695 Wagner St., Pasadena 4, Calif.

Our May 14th luncheon meeting was a gala affair, held at the lovely Bel-Air Country Club through member Irene Slagel who treated us to cocktails before dinner. The oc-

casion was our welcome to our President, Jeannette Lempke, and Alice Hammond. as they visited our area in their much appreciated flying tour of 99's chapters. Nearly all active members were present, coming by car and plane from as far as San Diego, Tehachapi, Santa Paula and Fontana.

We enjoyed Jeannette Lempke's talk tremendously. She admitted there was plenty of sunshine when they flew into California, the objection being that both they and the sun were above the solid overcast. However they came in on instruments to keep their schedule. Miss Lempke reported seeing only three air-marked towns on the 2300-mile trip, and pointed out that the small towns especially needed identification. She told how several states and 99's chapters had worked on the problem. She also mentioned the forthcoming national 99 meeting which will probably be at the Hotel Cleveland, August 30th, the Friday preceding the National Air Races.

Members at the meeting, other than the guests of honor were, past presidents Betty Gillies and Ethel Sheehy, Carolyn West, Irene Slagel, Mardo Crane, Dianna Cyrus, Melba Beard, Lillian Anderson, Betty Glaser, Mary Davis, Marion Mountain, Helen Hooper, Helen Powell, Elizabeth Watson, Violette Sloan Shultz, Mildred Constantine, Eileen Evans, Helen Bengier, Beatrice Medes, Betty McMillen and Helen Thumure.

On May 14th we held a brief business meeting to discuss our part in Ladies Night at the June 27th NAA meeting at Eaton's La Cienega Cafe. The 99's are doing their best to make the affair a success, especially Carolyn West who has planned a wonderful program centering around women in aviation, representing their various accomplishments and organizations. It is hoped that Jacqueline Cochran, Ethel Sheehy, Blanche Noyes, Barbara London and many others of the 99's, ex-Wasps, WNAA and other aviation groups will give brief talks.

News notes: Dianna Cyrus ferried her third Taylorcraft in six weeks and says the route is getting familiar. Ethel Sheehy has been helping Pinky Kilgore at Tri-City Airport, and flying a variety of planes. Betty and Claire McMillen, enroute to the Palm Springs breakfast last month, got way up Santa Anita Canyon under the overcast and found so many planes circling, waiting for a break, that they felt lucky to be able to turn around. Eileen Evans got through by waiting a while in a few fields. Helen Hooper and Mardo Crane are getting to be quite the old PT-19 pilots. Helen's also doing some twin-engined Cessna flying.

Anona Hansen, NAA secretary in the late 20's, dropped in at a recent meeting. We recalled our gliding days in 1929 at Palo Verde hills. Lillian Anderson has just sold a short article to Independent Woman for fall publication, and Betty Glaser revealed that she wrote three shorts for Liberty Magazine. Helen Powell plans to sell her plane and devote her time to her real estate holdings. Our new member, Mary Hammel Davis, is from Illinois Chapter. She is an ex-Wave and did lots of flying in her war work, tho not as pilot. She married a Navy pilot and they are living in Pasadena while continuing their educations in medicine and art.

Our members can get on the Aviation Breakfast Club's mailing list by sending name and address to former 99er Mabel Bull, 3657 Regal Place, Hollywood. 99'ers are reminded also to send news items as to trips taken and other doings to Carolyn West, now writing women's news for the new aviation weekly, The News Beacon.

Carolyn warned us at our last meeting that the airport and airpark situation is becoming critical. Constant adverse pressure from citizen groups make it most difficult to add the many new airparks needed in the metropolitan Los Angeles area. She urges cooperation with all individuals and groups in this common interest.

Next 99's meeting will be Monday, June 10th, at Melody Lane Cafe on Wilshire Boulevard at Detroit.



NORTHWESTERN SECTION

NORTHWEST SECTION NEWS

By Darline Thurmond,
4706 17th, N E, Seattle 5, Wash.

The highlight of this month was the flying visit of our National President, Jeannette Lempke, and Alice Hammond, who descended on Boeing Field, May 18, in their little yellow Stinson.

A cocktail party and buffet dinner was given for the two flying visitors at the lovely home of Clayton Patterson the evening of their arrival. Sunday afternoon a picnic and beach party was held at Irma Wallace's home on the shore of Angle Lake. Fried chicken and all the trimmings were served. Some of the gals had a nice swim and Jeannette and Alice completely relaxed and had a chance to meet some of the members. It was very nice meeting our President, a very charming person, and Alice Hammond who is so likeable and friendly.

The "twilight flight" to Bremerton was quite successful. Many girls turned out at the Kitsap County airport to welcome the 99's, several expressing a desire to join. It looks as though Bremerton will have its own chapter in the near future.

Some of the Seattle chapter members are turning out for their seaplane ratings now that the weather is nice. There are several seaplane schools on Lake Union and miles and miles of scenic over-water flying in and around the Puget Sound area.

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OREGON ITEMS

By Leona K. Bump,
Box 28, Newberg, Ore.

Organization of an Oregon Chapter of the 99's was launched in Portland, Ore., May 16th, when Leona K. Bump, Newberg, Ore., member of the national 99's, called a preliminary conference at the Nortonia Hotel.

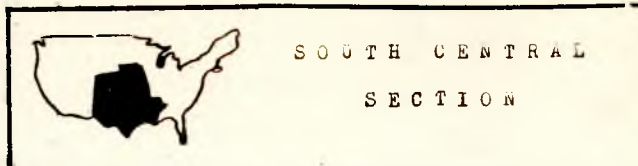
Jeannette Lempke, Saginaw, Mich., national president, and Alice Hammond, Detroit, Mich., former national treasurer, flew to Troutdale, Oregon, airport for the conference, coming in Miss Lempke's Stinson Voyager.

The visiting officials outlined the organization program which admits all women pilots holding a private license or better. Of those present, Dorothea Shultz of Troutdale, Nancy Upper, Eugene, and Leona Bump, Newberg, are already members of the national organization of 99's. Natalie Smith, Troutdale CAA office, is the newest member to join the ranks of 99's.

Other flyers attending were Arlene Baker and Audrey McClelland of Portland, and Marilyn Harris of Eugene. It is the purpose of this group to enroll them and other Oregon women flyers with the required qualifications, in the 99's and also to contact all former members and enlist their support of the proposed Oregon chapter.

All will be asked to attend another preliminary organization meeting at Troutdale airport, Saturday, June 15th at 2 o'clock.

Let's get on the beam, girls, and get together at this meeting.



SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION

COLORADO CHAPTER

By Josephine Trinder,
2235 Kearney St., Denver 7, Colorado

We Colorado 99ers were terribly disappointed that our frightful and, with apologies to our California friends, most unusual weather kept Jeannette Lempke from being with us at our last meeting. It had been an event looked forward to by all of us and we hope, Jeannette, that you can plan on being in Colorado again before long, together with Alice Hammond whom we are also desirous of meeting.

It had been about six weeks since our last gathering and it was mighty good to see all the girls. The meeting was held in a private room at the Brown Palace Hotel. We met at 7:00 P.M., Friday, May 24th, and a delicious turkey dinner was served about an hour later. In spite of rather wretched weather which kept some of our members away, we had 24 members and guests. Grand evening!

Marjorie Cramp has been back from her vacation in California for about two weeks, and looks as though the trip thoroughly agreed with her. At the last moment they decided to drive, and from her radiant look, it was an unforgettable vacation!

Donna Myers has been working for Monarch Air Lines (Ray Wilson is the owner, I understand) for about a month. Darlene Young is with Clinton-Held. Both girls report they like their work immensely. Betty Clark is back again with her "first love" - flying - working for Vest Aircraft.

Dorothy Thompson was unable to be with us. We understand her 49^{er} has been in the hospital for a time, and right now they are in the southern part of the state on a vacation fishing trip. We missed you, Dottie. Hope you caught a lot of fish and that you and Claude both return home feeling like the proverbial million dollars!

Kay Torrey and her 49^{er} are the owners of a new shiny Ercole, and Jo Trinder and her good husband hope for delivery of their new Cessna within the next two weeks. Happy landings! Incidentally, we understand Kay Torrey is now a sailplane fan! More power to you, Kay. -- but somehow I do like a motor when my feet aren't firmly planted on good old Mother Earth!

Our glamorous Pat Steele is now on tour with the Flying Tigers - parachute jumping, etc. Good luck to you, Pat. We're anxious to hear all about it - sounds superbly thrilling.

Margaret Scribner now is a working girl. She just graduated from Colorado Woman's College, and is a dispatcher for Mountain States Aviation, at Coombs Field. She says she likes it very much, and it goes without saying that every one likes "Scrib".

Jennie Tschoep just returned from Wichita - flew back a new Cessna for Clinton-Held. She brought her sister with her, and though it was a hurried trip for Jennie, she reports a marvelous time. Any time Jennie is flying, she's having a wonderful, glorious time - she simply loves it. She was mighty thrilled to meet Clare Livingston who flew through Denver recently in her BT-15. Wish you could have stayed over, Clara, for our meeting.

Barbara Oxley, president of WNAA, was our guest May 24. We were happy to have her with us and hope she comes to our meetings regularly. Their program of airmarking interested us greatly. Barbara invited all who can to attend their

June 15, 1946

next meeting. She will notify Jennie Tschoep or Darlene Young of the date.

Peg Knorr had missed several meetings and we were glad to see her. Mae Boettcher was out of town, and we also missed Fern Drapela, Jean Moeller and Irene Phillips. May 24th those present were: Jennie Tschoep, Naomi Jackson, Darlene Young, Dorothy Stackhouse, Marjorie Cramp, Donna Myers, Kay Torrey, Jo Trinder, Margaret Hughes, Jane Nettlesblad, Grace Birge, Betty Clark, Kathleen Kelly, Margaret Scribner, Peg Knorr, Marilyn Kyle, Mary Glenney, Pat Whiteman, Martha Sherman, Pat Christopher, Jane Emerson, Barbara Oxley, Marian Wurster, Thoma LeVan.

As a closing item, we have it on good authority that our chapter will boast of a 24th in the not too distant future. Diana Siddaway Richman and her good husband will be the proud parents. We miss Diana now she is living in Wyoming (Headquarters has her address as Teton City, Idaho) Best of everything, Diana, and be sure to let us know whether you have an heir or an heiress!

Bye for now!

* * * * *

OKLAHOMA CHAPTER

By Velma Woodward
Route 1, Box 100, Oklahoma City, Okla.

The May meeting of 99's from Oklahoma City and vicinity was postponed from May 12th to May 19th in order to coincide with an air show held in Shawnee on the latter date. It had been hoped that having the meeting on this date would increase the attendance. In spite of the double attraction only ten were present for the delicious waffle breakfast which Mrs. Frank Keen served in her beautiful new home.

Following a short business meeting, the group adjourned to the airport and spent an enjoyable afternoon at the air show which was under the auspices of the Shawnee Squadron of Civil Air Patrol.

June 9th the Oklahoma State Chapter of 99's will have a breakfast in Oklahoma City. Flying weather on that date should bring a good attendance from all over the state.

* * * * *

TEXAS CHAPTER

By Frankie Mae Welborn,
304 West 37th St., Austin, Texas

Texas 99's journeyed to Dallas May 25, to watch the Flying Tiger Air Show scheduled for Saturday and Sunday afternoons at White Rock and Clearview Airports. The WASPs were holding a state-wide meeting in Dallas that weekend and invited the 99's to join them at dinner Saturday night. After attending the very exciting air show Saturday afternoon we went out to Stoneleigh Courts for dinner and, later to the plantation for dancing. WASPs had their breakfast at 8:30 Sunday morning, and the 99's held their breakfast and meeting at 10 o'clock. Present for the Saturday night dinner and party were Mary Ann Hobbs, Mildred Miller, Abbie Haddaway, Janet Jordan, Frankie Welborn, Charlyne Crefer, Ann Atkelson, Vida Foster, Ava Hamm, Helen Wheeler Mary Helen Crane, Mickie Carmichael, Annie Jean Henry, Ruth Hagermann, Kay Kleinecke, Jo Myers, Leoti Deaton, Mary Jo Baker, Frankie Lovvorn, Rose Palmer, Rose Reese and Esther Stahr.

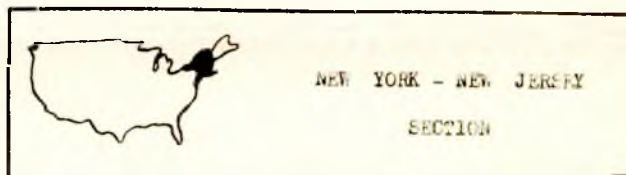
Annie Jean Henry of Texarkana, ex-Wasp, was killed May 26, in Dallas, when her Cub and a Cub flown by Mary Jo Baker collided in the air while they were circling the field during a spot landing contest put on by the Wasps prior to the Flying Tiger show. Mrs. Baker was able to land her plane without injury to herself or her passenger.

Mary Waurine (Ziggy) Hunter, an instructor since 1942, has gone into the flying business as an airport owner. She and her partner, Charles Quist, a former army pilot and brother of Mary Catherine Quist, have opened the Austin Aero Services at the St. Edwards Airport in South Austin.

Mary Catherine Quist, Austin, and Starley Grona. San Antonio, missed the Dallas meeting because of the uncertainties of May weather. They left early that week to ferry a PT-23 and a BT-13 to Austin from Union City, Tenn., but were weathered in, first at Blytheville, Ark., and later at Bryan, Texas.

Vacation plans are being announced daily by Texas 99's. Sadie Pease, Houston, got a head start on her holiday. She has just returned from a two weeks visit in Ohio. Mary Ann Hobbs is planning a trip to New Orleans this month, while Mary Catherine Quist and Ann Grothaus, Austin, plan to spend July in California. With Madge Janes and Edna Hammerman, both of Austin, considering New York for their summer trip, it looks as if Texas 99's will be everywhere but Texas for the next few months.

* * * * *



GREETINGS FROM VIENNA

Dear Ninety-Nines:

May 18, 1946

I owe you a letter and finally here it is. Time moves so rapidly in this part of the world, it scarcely is possible to keep up with it. "Never a dull moment" is a remark I could make about my entire stay in Vienna.

There won't be much about aviation in this letter. One hardly ever sees a plane overhead and if one does it is with a bit of apprehension for we are in a little cage of a country with demarcation zones and "restricted" territory encircling Vienna. Last week I drove to Linz for the opening of an Industrial Exhibit and in order to obtain permission and a coveted "grey pass" printed in four languages, the Chief of Staff had to sign it, and one made preparations for a 4-hour auto drive as if one were to be gone a month - extra gas, extra food, cigarettes as tips and all the identification one had. One officer flew down in a Cub and this was considered a phenomenal achievement.

But if there is no aviation there are other compensations and being in Vienna at this particular time is without a doubt a fascinating experience. My work is that of a Commercial Attache which means everything that pertains to business between Austria and the United States, and there is plenty to do for it looks as if every manufacturer or businessman in Austria looks toward America for future business. I interview, answer letters, talk with Government officials and attend meetings, among other things. Although not in uniform we are under the aegis of the army and that means a certain discipline.

There is very interesting social life. Last week General and Mrs. and Miss Clark gave a big reception. The street was blocked off in front of the Bristol Hotel and MP's guarded the entrance. After we shook hands with the General and his family, cocktails were served while a fine Hungarian orchestra played.

The Minister of Commerce gave a big party recently and I had the good fortune to sit with two Russians. They are not easy to meet and it is always interesting to get to know them. Most of them speak nothing but Russian and that is a rather difficult language. I am taking lessons but as I don't have time to study, probably won't ever learn it.

"Keeping house" here is very interesting and very different from at home. I have a charming little three room wooden house and a cook and a chauffeur. One has to have a

chauffeur even for a little old Ford like mine because you can't leave your car for 5 minutes alone. It would be stolen immediately. Mine already has had the top split with a razor while the chauffeur was sitting in it. And it isn't safe to drive or walk alone after dark. There are few street lights and one sees nobody on the streets. "Conditions" are very terrible for the Austrians. Their food rations are so small and they are all so poor. There is nothing to buy in the stores and business is done by "exchanges" - usually for food or cigarettes. But in spite of the poverty and hunger, art flourishes and the theater and opera and ballet and concerts are in full swing and one could go out every night for a month and not see the same entertainment twice. There are American movies for Americans, too, and now that many officers' wives have come there will probably be more home life.

When I first came the rubble and dirt and bricks were piled high on the streets. Many streets were completely blocked. During wind storms it was actually dangerous to walk near buildings because of the toppling ruins. Now the city is being cleaned up and looks better and somehow this seems to help the morale a bit and gives people, discouraged and gloomy, a bit of civil pride and makes them feel that perhaps some day they will be more normal again. It is a long process and much of the city can never be restored.

I had a wonderful week skiing in Switzerland and it was thrilling to get into a country where there are no ruins and where everybody has enough to eat and where people don't follow you on the streets picking up cigarette butts or begging you for a cigarette.

It would be fun to hear from you. I hope you are all flying and have grand jobs and having fun. I think often of you all and of our meetings and look forward to joining you in a year or so. Meanwhile if any of you can get here the welcome mat is out at "Vienna Vista" as I call the little cottage.

The very best regards to you and wishes for
HAPPY LANDINGS.

Ruth Heller
Political Section USACA, Hdqrs. USFA,
APO 777, % Postmaster, New York, N.Y.

JAMESTOWN NEW YORK CHAPTER

By Lucile M. Wright
25 Liberty St., Jamestown, N.Y.

Bad weather Gripes are nothing new for us and there is really no point in going into detail again---So---

In spite of ceiling and visibility zero, zero, six rugged 99ers met for luncheon on Saturday, June 1, at the Snack Shack at the Jamestown Airport to discuss plans for summer meetings and to welcome into our group Arlene Hanna of Forestville, N.Y. Arlene received her commercial a few weeks ago and she and her husband are the proud owners of a PT-19. We were happy to pin our 99 emblem on Arlene's coat lapel and have her a member of our chapter.

Ruth Olson, chapter chairman, has just been elected chairman of the newly formed chapter of Airplane Owners and Pilots Association in Jamestown. Congratulations, Ruth---The chapter has 29 members and lists only three women on its membership roll--- Again, Congratulations, Ruth,---if you get what I mean.

In Washington recently and paying my usual visit to headquarters I learned with dismay that our loyal and efficient chief, Miss May K. Arnold, would retire on June 15. She will be sorely missed by all but especially by those of us who know her personally. We all wish her well and hope she enjoys her much deserved rest.

At our meeting later this month we hope to present pins and welcome into our chapter Mary McCormick and Dorothy Oglesby whose memberships are already in. I am entertaining the gang for that meeting and I want to have a picnic supper. You probably have heard something about our weather before, so I can't set the exact date this far

in advance. However I can say it will be between June 15, when I return from another trip to Washington, and June 20, when I leave for Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, to attend the International Convention of my college Sorority--Gamma Phi Beta. PLEASE PRAY for CAVU weather.

NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY ITEMS

By Lois Fairbank
6298 Saunders St., Rego Park, L.I., N.Y.

May 6th found our group back at Leone's to mix hangar talk with some very loud praise of the wonderful shrimp and other savory tidbits served to us there.

An "extra special" was a quick visit from "Dome" Harwood who promised rides in his demonstration plane, now at Roosevelt Field, to any 99ers arriving there within ten days. I'll bet he did a rushing business.

Marjorie Gray introduced the speaker, our own Gloria Heath, who spoke on "Air Safety". Gloria has been lecturing at various colleges to promote a campaign for safe flying. Her speech was a most provocative one and roused much pro and con comment on the ways to safety. Regardless of the means, we all agreed that safety is an important item in the future of aviation and our pledge was, as pilots and instructors, to do our very best to keep the record good.

We had a wonderful turnout and among our guests and prospective members were Kathleen Dooley, Elizabeth Babcock, Dot Fulton, Lynne Williams, Polly Klein, Irene Fulton, Genevieve Landman, Suzanne Bane, Margaret Moore, Phyllis Crouch, Ann Fieg, and Vivian Hoffman. Sylvia Miller of the Connecticut Chapter was with us for the evening.

Our officers present were Marjorie Gray, Jeanne Oakes, Kay Menges, and Selma Cronin. In other chairs were Fleur-de-lis Loesch, Dela Schlager, Marjorie Davis, Amy Andrews, Nannette Spears, Alma Bristol, Eileen Bristol, Kay Traulsen, Margaret Dahlgaard, Mary Reifschneider, Kay Hilbrandt, Helen Somer, Amy Ahrens, Jerry Smith, Anne Evers, and your reporter.



FLORIDA CHAPTER

By Gladys Pennington,
Coconut Grove, Miami, Florida

The NEWS LETTER deadline and the Florida Air Pilots Assn. Meet in Orlando both falling on May 5th, it was impossible for the chapter to report the results of the 99's Bertram Trophy Event, one of the highlights of the entire Meet. Marion Bertram was donor of the beautiful trophy.

Our Chapter swelled its collection for the Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship Fund by \$30.00 from the \$2.50 entrance fee paid by each contestant in the event. (And a good time was had by all!) Twelve girls participated, namely, Verna Burke, Gladys Pennington, Kaddy Landry, Caryl Jones, Caro Bayley, Mildred "Duke" Caldwell, Irene Van Dyke, and Lorraine Barry, all of Miami; Marion McNeely, Ann Ross and Betty Sloan of Orlando; and Ruth Clifford Hubert of St. Petersburg. Winner of the Bertram Trophy was Gladys "Penny" Pennington, editor and publisher of SOUTHEASTERN AIRPORT NEWS; Verna Burke took second place, winning a pair of

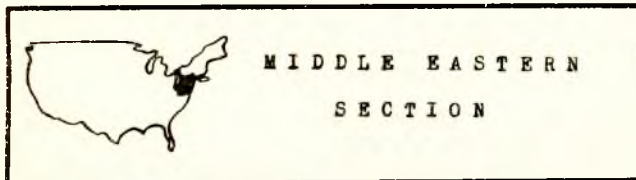
precious nylon hose; and Marion McNeely and Kaddy Landry tied for third. Winnie Wood, chapter member and author of "We Were Wasps", served as official judge at the Meet.

Several members competed for the title of "Flying Queen" which was sponsored by the Air Pilots Assn. during the Meet. The contest set a precedent by specifying that entrants must have at least an active solo certificate before they could qualify to compete for the honor. Naturally the winner was a 99er. Irene Van Dyke, new comer to our Chapter, walked away with the title and is really a "Flying Queen", holding an instructor's rating on both land and seaplanes and over 700 hours in the air, plus unusual charm and personality. Her titles did not end at this Meet. She was immediately named "Miss Florida Aviation" by the State Aviation Commission and sponsored by the state to compete for the National title of "Miss American Aviation of 1946" at the Birmingham National Air Carnival, where she placed second after giving the judges a difficult decision over a tie between her and an airline stewardess who was named the winner. Irene is well known as a professional ice skater, having appeared in productions with Sonja Heine. She goes to Hollywood in a few weeks for a screen test and possible contract.

Things back almost to normal, the Chapter held its first meeting since the Air Meet, at Marion Bertram's home in Coconut Grove. Plans were formulated to increase our membership and promote all phases of private aviation in our state. To stimulate interest among many potential members, local units are to be set up in the state's most heavily populated areas. These units will be active in their particular sections but remain part of the state chapter and attend meetings the third Tuesday of each month.

Jean Cridlebaugh's resignation because of illness, was accepted and Ruth Clifford Hubert, St. Petersburg, was unanimously elected chairman. Caryl Jones, Miami, was made secretary-treasurer to fill the unexpired term formerly Ruth's. Katherine Rawls Thompson, Belle Glade, is vice chairman. "Penny" Pennington was named general chairman of the Chapter's Air Meet activities, and Selma Alexander, Miami, was appointed publicity chairman.

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WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER

By Regina V. Cosgrove
275 Maple Ave., Welch, West Virginia

May 25th we met at Wren's Nest, Coal River, Charleston, W. Va. A delicious dinner was served the members and their guests, after which the "song of the Ninety-Nines" was sung...words and music were on the back of the attractive program. We intend to practice this song at each meeting until all of us know it by heart.

Our guests, Col. Hubert H. Stark, 49^{er}, and Mr. Fred Alley, were then introduced. Mr. Alley was host to one of the first meetings our Chapter had. Colonel Stark spoke on the importance of airmarking, which we have made our project for the future.

Ruth Austin gave a very interesting talk on Pioneer Aviatrices. Incidentally, she has joined her husband in Durham, N. C., for the summer, while he attends Duke University. We'll miss you at the next meeting, Ruth.

Chairman Beulah Stark gave a report on towns already air-marked and distributed state maps to all the girls. Each is to mark her own map as to the towns air-marked.

Mrs. Stark urges us all to write the different airport managers for lists of girls taking flying so we can contact them as prospective 99's members.

Several purchased the plaques mentioned in the last NEWS LETTER. They are very attractive, and we hope to hear from other chapters about buying some of these.

It was anything but flying weather as it rained the whole evening, and I do mean rained. Leaving Wren's Nest we were invited to the home of Colonel and Mrs. Stark on Tyler Mountain. Colonel Stark played the piano and accordion for us, Mr. Alley sang, and a grand time was had by all.

Our next meeting will be June 30th, Stewart Airport, Parkersburg, West Virginia. We hope to hear about the Pittsburgh meeting as Beulah plans to attend.

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EASTERN PENN CHAPTER

By Bettie Thompson Townson
724 N. 63rd St., Philadelphia, Penna.

I'm pinch-hitting for Reporter Helen Jones who wasn't able to make our last meeting which was held at Dot Leh's home, Allentown, Penna., Sunday, May 26th.

We had a grand turnout. Dot entertained us at her Sherwood Forest guest cabin. Before lunch she took us on a Cook's tour of her main house which is still a building (Dot's advice on building - Don't!). She has had her troubles getting even such small items as nails, and has had to use bloodhounds to trail down bath tubs and doors. (We've decided to take her advice and pitch a tent).

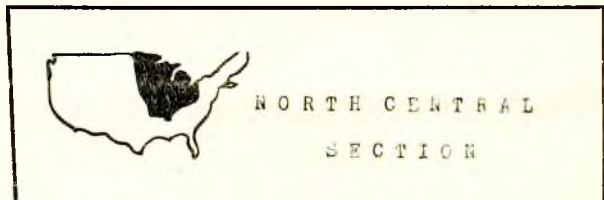
On our return to the guest cottage, what lovely food greeted us...and do our girls love to eat. They literally dove into a little stuffed piglet, chili con carne, lima beans and ham, followed by home-made pie.

After lunch we took a collection for the Amelia Earhart Fund and did some hangar flying. Plans were discussed for attending the Section Meeting at Pittsburgh, Penna., June 15 and 16, and other plans for going to the Air Races. We wondered when and where the 99's Annual Meeting would be held and hoped the time and place would be announced soon.

July meeting will probably be an evening one in the vicinity of Philadelphia, so members who can't make it on Sunday will be able to attend.

ATTENTION! Are there any new privates or commercials at your field, girls, whom you feel would be good 99's material? Please bring them to the July meeting. Remember every 99er in our Chapter is supposed to keep tabs on the girls at her field, in the hope that we will find suitable new material.

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SECTION NOTES

By Elsie V. Peters,
2735 N. Murray Ave., Milwaukee 11, Wis.

The Sectional meeting at Indianapolis was a huge success and the Indiana girls are to be congratulated for the wonderful time they gave to each one of us. If you were unable to be there, you certainly missed an exciting time.

Special business for the month of June is for all chapters to nominate their choice for Governor, Vice Governor and Secretary-Treasurer. I am sorry to have to let you know that Leah Higgins is not eligible to serve as secretary-treasurer again. She has held this office for two years. Please send your nominations to: Mrs. Dorothy Christenson, Chairman 1946 Nominating Committee, 2574

South Shore Drive, Milwaukee, Wis., so they will reach her not later than July 10th.

Other members of the Nominating Committee are: Patty Shea, Ohio; Helen Peifer, Illinois; Faye Kirk, Michigan, and Jessie Von Leer, Indiana.

We are still looking for an invitation for our Fall Sectional Meeting. The dates will be set as soon as our plans are made.

Be seeing you soon.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS CHAPTER

By Adelaide O'Brien,
1611 S. 7th St., Springfield, Ill.

We held our regular meeting Saturday, June 1, in Urbana. The weather was very sour and Kay Hall and yours truly were the only ones to fly in. Dinner was in the main dining room of the Urbana-Lincoln Hotel, where we were entertained by a very versatile guy who played the piano and organ at the same time. He played "Stormy Weather" and dedicated it to the 99's. May be some day we'll plan a 99 meeting and have good weather for it.

After dinner we had an informative talk by Mr. Roy Chumbley of Champaign, chairman of the Airmarking Committee of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce. He gave us some good tips on how to help his committee in the drive for airmarkers.

Guests present included Mr. Chumbley and Mr. Jackson Cartter, Edith's 49er. At last we had one of our own at a meeting! Prospective members present were Jean Wiersema and Jean Chase, both of the twin-cities.

Pat Willet is now due for her finals at the U. of I but will continue her instructing duties at the airdrome and cram on the side. What's gal! Esther Gillock is Er-coupe-ing these days. Her boss invested in one and now she is doing a lot of XC and on the boss's time. What a job! Florence O'Connor flew a PT19 to Indianapolis for the Memorial Day races and sports a beautiful sunburn to prove she was there. It's good to know the sun shines some place! Helen Greinke starts this week on ground school for the GI's in training at Decatur. How that gal does get around! Kay Potter has left the Illinois fold to become an airline stewardess. Some jump from a Cub to a DC3.

Our next meeting will be July 6th at Bloomington with Helen Greinke in charge of details. May be by then it will be decent flying weather and some of our neighbors will be able to come. If you think you can make it, please contact Helen at Hotel Rodgers, Bloomington, Ill. Hope to see you there.

ALL - OHIO CHAPTER

June 15, 1946
By Kay Greshauge Semrau
18405 Melville Road, Cleveland 10, Ohio.

Our meeting in Columbus on May 25 and 26 was a huge success, and I was very pleased with the way the Columbus girls pitched in to show us a good time and to demonstrate their interest in flying and in building up the 99s. This group, with Ruth Gouthey and Helen Linn who spurred the original membership drive in Columbus, includes June Wolfe, Marjorie Miller, Helen Williams, Sophie Peters, Dorothea Greene, Eleanor "Sandy" Burt, Janet Long, Reva Terry, Oby Buchanan, Sally Friedrichs, Julianna Dearth, Doris Goldstein and Joan Rodrian. They are a live-wire crowd with a great deal of enthusiasm. In other words, I think they're tops and I certainly am proud of them.

Saturday evening, May 25, we attended a dinner-dance at the Hotel Seneca. Since the affair was open to 49ers and guests, we numbered about 50 and each one was presented with a yellow paper prop for a name plate. These were designed by Doris Goldstein; ex-Wasp June Wolfe registered guests, and Oby Buchanan worried about the money. The evening closed with dancing and some super hangar flying, Ruth Gouthey telling the biggest whopper I've heard.

Sunday we met at Scott Field, from which Ohio State University students fly, had our business meeting and discussed the principles of the 99s. Every girl present plans to attend our Athens meeting on June 29-30, at which Marian Bush Reeder and Joan Rodrian will be the hostesses.

For anyone going cross-country, Don Scott Field is a beauty and the welcome mat is out to all 99ers and 49ers. The runways are paved, hangar space per night is \$1.50 with attendants on duty at all times to service transient ships.

PROP WASH: Joan Rodrian is working for her instructor's rating and hopes to have it by the end of the month. We have six more prospective members. Dorothea Greene is advertising manager for Robert's in Columbus, while Janet Long works in the Weather Bureau. Note to Colorado Chapter - we are very anxious to receive Ruth Gouthey's transfer to All-Ohio. Peg Pierce and Florence Boswell both visiting in New York, Peg with her 49er Harry, and Florence to attend the A.W.V.S. convention. The latter's son, Louis, will be married June 15 to Nathalia Anne Spence. Looks as if the Deutschman family will come up with two prospective 99ers with the twins, Patricia and Phyllis, having student pilot licenses. Work on them. Bernice!

I look forward to seeing you all in Athens where our honored guest will be Miss Jeannette Lempe, our national president. The welcome sign is out to all 99ers in the vicinity.

INDIANA CHAPTER

By Ruth Colwell
3221 Kenwood, Indianapolis 8, Ind.

Our sectional meeting is a thing of the past and while some plans didn't work out so well, most of the girls had a good time. Bad weather kept quite a few away, but a lot of brave ones flew in anyhow.

Indiana Chapter had a great loss in the death of Bertha Topping, who did most of the work for our cocktail party. She was sick less than a week, her funeral being on May 4th, so we didn't feel quite like partying. We will miss her greatly as she was most active in our chapter. Hunter Von Leer, Jessie's 49er, wrote the following tribute, most expressive of our feelings.

Gone West - Mrs. Bertha Topping,
Terre Haute, Ind., May 5, 1946,
Pilot and 99er.

Your pilot buddies salute you, and pray
A happy landing, "Bert"
On that last cross-country to the Great Beyond;
Mindful that good pilots never die,
Just fly away, taking the high road home.

Charlotte Darlington received her commercial recently. She is only 18 and the Anderson and Indianapolis papers made quite a lot of it. Best of luck, Charlotte.

Our condolences and sympathy go to Irmay Retherford on the recent deaths of both her own and also Dr. Retherford's mothers.

At our June 2nd meeting in Terre Haute we were happy to have two guests from Illinois. We hope you will come again soon. We met at the airport and went to the hotel for a chicken dinner. Thanks to Irmay Retherford we had plenty of butter. She donated some (under protest) she had collected while weathered in at Terre Haute.

Many matters were discussed at our business meeting. Dorothea Hendricks appointed Verona Ruzicka as chairman of the election committee, with Evelyn Bottema and Marie Thompson as aides. Election of officers will be held at the meeting July 21st at the Greencastle airport. We want all you girls there but be sure to let us know in plenty of time if you want anything to eat. Write to me or to the airport. Girls from other chapters, we would like to have you come to any of our meetings.

Well, that's about all but, girls, get the most out of your membership in the 99's by coming to all the meetings. See you in July.

KANSAS CITY CHAPTER

By Helen Hayward,
713 W. 46th St., Kansas City 2, Mo.

After breakfast at the Airport Terminal, our May 2nd meeting was held in "Tex" Lagrone's new offices. We're all glad he's again actively in business. Reports showed the hangar dance not only fun but a financial success.

Jerry Pruitt, a 98, a civilian after a year in the Coast Guard, is a nice addition to our group. She's taking flight instruction under the G I program. We missed Lois Heillman Schupp.

We're watching the sky for Joan Daniels and Shirley Fox's return from Texas, bringing Joan's new Swift. We hope to have a demonstration ride.

Marie Page and Betty Cox plan to fly to an airport dedication at Eldon, Mo., June 8th. Neva Ray, with five couples as guests, plans a weekend flight, spending a night at Camdenton, and then on to Eldon.

Neva is a member of the Heart of America Fliers Association, which is functioning in a big way to put sport back in aviation. The association numbers about 25 clubs operating from the Heart of America Airport. They plan a different cross-country each weekend, have good times and not only fly but fly in flocks.

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EASTERN WISCONSIN CHAPTER

By Ruth Craine,
2445 N. 37th St., Milwaukee 10, Wis.

Elsie Peters, Dorothy Christenson and myself found everything beautifully planned and every moment a happy one at the Indianapolis sectional meeting. The trip to the Experimental Airport was one of wonder and memories of most courteous people; the banquet was perfect, and the Speedway visit fascinating. It was fine to see and talk with flying friends we see only on such occasions.

Trixie Ann Gehrung off to Hollywood via airlines to invite Producer King and plane-owning and flying actors and actresses to the Milwaukee Centurama Program here in July. Leave it to Trixie!

Dorothy Christenson made fine contacts and offered 99's aid to incoming pilots at the Private Flyers part of the program. Program chairman, Mr. Ira Richard, was glad of the offer, and our chapter will act as hostesses to incoming flyers.

Caroline Feiling to Mexico and back, and in and out of the hospital ever since our last meeting. Jean Reimer says her smallest of prospective 99ers will come to our next meeting. If she's like her mother, she's a perfect doll.

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MICHIGAN CHAPTER

By B. Mae Blake,
3690 Janes Road, Saginaw, Mich.

Our Chairman suggested a Spring Roundup for the April meeting in Lansing. Babe Weyant and Helen Ashley, aided by the college girls, accomplished just that. Members, 49ers and guests, 87 in all, breakfasted at Hotel Olds. About 30 planes flew in. Col. Floyd Evans, Director of Michigan's Bureau of Aeronautics, told of coming tours and the airmarking program. Bruce Anderson, NAA member, and Burt Darling of the Lansing State Journal were present. At breakfast we wore lovely red roses, the gift of Hebert Aviation Company. Mrs. Hebert was a guest, but Mr. Hebert was busy with our planes.

Babe instructs for the Heberts and, if her students continue getting licenses and joining the 99's, she can start a chapter of her own.

We have the pleasure of meeting Mr. Wm. J. Sovereign of Bay City, our National President's fiancé, and also Mr. Wm. Anderson, fiancé of Helen Wetherill. Dr. Harry Britton (Mabel) of Ypsilanti; Harold Thatcher (Becky) of Stanton, and Wm. Anderson, Detroit, received 49er cards.

Attending the Sectional meeting in Indianapolis were

members Margaret Napierala and Becky Thatcher, Saginaw; Helen Wetherill, Leah Higgins, Lucile Grisier, Grace Gazvoda and Roxie Yaghjian, Detroit. They visited the Speedway, took plane trips, and reported that every one had a most enjoyable weekend. Many thanks to the Indiana 99's.

Helen Wetherill, chairman national nominating committee, became Mrs. Wm. Anderson, Saturday evening, May 25th, Dr. Carl Rufus officiating. The ceremony and reception were at Dearborn Inn. Helen wore traditional white satin and carried white carnations, her hat of carnations matching the bouquet. Her sister Josephine as bridesmaid wore rose crepe, carrying pink carnations. Helen and Bill are on a motor trip south. Elsie Peters, governor of our North Central Section, was an out-of-town guest. At a surprise luncheon, Helen received many shower gifts, also a sterling silver tray and matching bon bon dish, engraved with our 99 emblem.

Elizabeth Small, our former secretary, was married May 4th to Ralph H. Rowland, Jr., Toledo, Ohio, in Christ Church, Grosse Pointe. Betty wore her mother's bridal gown of filet lace and white satin, which her sister also had worn, and her illusion veil was appliqued with lace belonging to her grandmother, which also formed the cap holding her veil. Her sister, Mrs. Fred E. Harris as matron of honor, her maid of honor, six bridesmaids, flower girl and ring bearer, made a lovely procession. Betty and Ralph motored south for their wedding trip, and will return to their home in Toledo. We hope to see them at our summer meetings.

We are happy to welcome back Jean Pearson (Mrs. Mort) after a four year absence. In 1942 she joined the WASP and served there for a year. She then became a WAVE and left the service as Lt. (jg) Jean Pearson. Now she is fashion writer for the Detroit Free Press.

A new member this month is Miss Gwendolyn Walker, Bryan Center, near Grand Rapids, Mich. Graduating from Stephens College in June, with a plane as a gift from her Dad, she is majoring in aviation and will stay part of the summer to complete work for her instructor's rating. Other new members are Barbara Myers (Mrs. A. W.), Pottsville, and Elaine Jennings, Lansing, who is enrolled at Sullins College, Bristol, Va.

The Winged Spartan Flying Club, formed by Michigan State College Girls, has a Taylorcraft, and co-student Betty Panterman is flight instructor.

Betty Grohman, ex-Wasp with pursuit ship training, now at 158-17 Sanford Ave., Apt. 1-C, Flushing, L.I., N.Y. With Pan American World Airways at La Guardia Terminal, in Flight Operations, her desk is only 9 hours from Paris and in 9 more months she'll have a trip there, gratis. She flew to Saginaw for Mother's Day, and said "Hello" to Thelma Lindzey. Parachutist Gloria Lynch has a secretarial job at Central Airport, Grand Island, Nebr. Address- 603 West Charles. Jean Prins and Barbara Credit went to a plane auction in Missouri; had an article in Flying Magazine for April. Mary Clark is running a Red Cross club about 10 miles from Yokohama. Margaret Cook missed April meeting, flying a Stinson to New York. Eight Detroit 99's buying an Aeronca Chief, hope for lots of vacation flying. Ex-Wasp Ruthmary Buckley and husband running a charter service in Kalamazoo, with Fairchild 24's, doing emergency work both inter- and intra state. Congratulations to Becky Thatcher on scrapbook work.

Please return your cards to your hostess each month, even if you're not attending, and tell if you're flying or driving, thus helping solve transportation problem to and from airport.

Our June meeting in Jackson, with Barbara Credit, Alta Grill Johnson, Barbara LeJeune and Jean Prins as hostesses. 49ers invited. Breakfast at Hastings Club House on lake. Bring bathing suits if warm. Anticipating report on Lempke-Hammond western flight; understand both were able to log some instrument time.

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Just a hearty "Thank you" to 99ers for their cooperation and patience these past years. To you as individuals and as a club, come my best wishes for many happy, useful and prosperous years.

May K. Arnold.