

NINETY- NINES



NEWS LETTER

April 15, 1947

DEADLINE - 5TH OF EACH MONTH

NINETY-NINES
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN PILOTS
Affiliated with the National Aeronautic Association
1924 CONNECTICUT AVENUE WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

I told you so - "Spring and Robins!" but the old March lion must still be on the loose to cause all these rains, floods and snows at this Easter time. And you can't make me believe that such torrential April showers are necessary to bring out the May flowers.

I had the good fortune to attend two very special events during March which went a long way toward putting the NINETY-NINES before the eyes of the public in a most favorable light.

Jean Howard, chairman of the Washington, D. C. Chapter, engineered a joint banquet at the Mayflower for NINETY-NINES, Wasps and Women Flyers of America most successfully with such notables as Mr. Ballanca, Commander Tom Davies, WAVE Commander Edith Stallings sitting at the speaker's table. Blanche Noyes, a favorite member and a most charming toastmistress, introduced Gloria Heath for the Wasps, Vivian Nemhauser for the Women Flyers of America, yours truly for the NINETY-NINES, and Jacqueline Cochran as the guest speaker.

And then, the Florida All-Women Air Show in Tampa! What a show! Nary a dull moment. Events popped off so fast Sunday afternoon that the judges' heads are still spinning from the effort of keeping up with the whirlwind program. Beverly Howard, Aviation's "Man of Distinction" - Yumey Yum.

Now back to business:

EXCHANGE OF CERTIFICATES - Inquiries have come to me of just what is necessary for the Exchange of Certificates required by CAA before July 1, 1947. I reply, "Very little." Just present your Airman's Certificate, Rating Record and current Medical Certificate to your local CAA inspector. He will fill out your certificate and rating record on new forms and return them to you with your current medical certificate. That is all. Easy, isn't it? However, CAA is anxious that you take care of this at once so they will not be swamped on the last day.

NOMINATIONS - If you have a spring Section meeting before you receive the call from the Nominating Committee, please include in your order of business the question of the candidates your Section will submit for 1947-1948 National officers and one name for the Amelia Earhart Scholarship Committee and one name from your Section for the Nominating Committee. Then you will be prepared to answer the call without delay when it comes in the May issue of the NEWS LETTER.

AMELIA EARTHART SCHOLARSHIP FUND - Be prepared for the July round-up of your contributions to the Fund. During this tenth year in memoriam, the goal is set to top the \$5000 mark.

1947 ANNUAL MEETING: If possible, keep a few days of your vacation time free to apply on time to attend the 1947 Annual Meeting. The Executive Committee is now working on the dates and location and we expect to have some definite general details available by the end of this month.

Jeannette Lempke Sovereign
Your President

MIDDLE EASTERN SECTION

EASTERN PENN CHAPTER

By Marie Bowers Miller
R. D. #2, Reading, Penna.

The Eastern Penn Chapter was invited by the Q. B.'s of Reading, Penna. to have dinner and a meeting at the Angelica Kennel Club, on Wednesday evening March 19th.

After a delicious dinner our business meeting was held. Bettie Townson told us of a list of libraries where interesting movies on aviation are obtainable, including one of Amelia Earhart which can be procured from Kunz Motion Picture Service, Phila., Penna. The Film Library at State Teachers College, Indiana, Penna. has 16 mm. sound aviation films, and the Museum of Modern Art, Film Rental Library, New York City has a collection of early films. Anyone interested should write to the libraries for a list of films available.

Tentative plans for our next five meetings were made with the following results; Dot Leh will hold the next meeting at her home in Allentown, Penna. On April 27th with Wm. Anderson as guest speaker. The girls from Delaware plan to have the May Meeting. In June we plan to go to the Poconos, in July a swimming party at Marie Miller's, and in August we have been invited by Peggy Jane Betten to come to Vetnor, New Jersey for a beach party. Sounds great. Doesn't it! Hope that we will have all our members at these meetings. They really sound like lots of fun.

Mrs. Janet Davis, of Easton, Penna., has a new 24 3/4er, named Carol Marie, who arrived on March 20, 1947.

The following members were present at this meeting: Grey Allison, Irene Blasdel, Lois Cutler, Marjorie Deacon, Vi Delp, Ethel Evans, Betty Fisher, Helen Jones, Jessie Jones, Dot Leh, Jane Morris, Leona McIlroy, Frances Nolde, Georgiana Sees, Bettie Townson, Mildred Zimmerman and Marie Bowers Miller.

WESTERN PENN. CHAPTER

By Juanita Pritchard
634 Miller Ave., Clairton, Pa.

Finally, I think things are beginning to level off for the Western Penn Chapter. Let's hope the hotel strikes and a few other strikes are over for a while and we can get back to our meetings again.

Speaking of meetings, we really had a good one last month - same evening the Penn. Pilot's Council met at the Schenley Hotel. We had our meeting first, also a lovely dinner, to congratulate our new officers. Betty Warnock is our new chairman, Ruth Kunkle, vice chairman and Frances Lutz, secretary-treasurer.

I don't think we have ever had a better meeting, especially with the Penn. Pilot's Council. They had some very interesting speakers. I think they really mean business about the air markers for Western Penna. Looks like flying is going to be more fun than ever this summer girls and no excuse for not dropping in on us.

Oh yes, was nice having Thresa James with us again after such a long time.

WASHINGTON, D. C. CHAPTER

By Rose Wasil Jespersen
5117 N. 25th Place, Arlington, Va.

Due credit should be given to Jean Howard, our chairman for this regime of our March event as yours truly was unable to attend.

This was the First All Women's Aviation Banquet sponsored by the Washington, D. C. Chapter of the 99's, WASPS and

Women Flyers of America and was held Monday evening, March 10 at the Mayflower Hotel.

Mr. Donald Webster, manager of the Washington office of Aero Insurance Underwriters was host at a reception preceding the banquet and Blanche Noyes, Air Marking Specialist of the C.A.A., officiated as Toastmistress and introduced our guests of honor. Jeannette Lempke Sovereign, President of the 99's, came all the way from Michigan to attend and she spoke briefly of the history of the 99's and of our aims in aviation. Gloria Heath, Chairman of Public Relations for the WASPS, told of the WASP organization and stressed their work in cooperating with the NAA Safety Campaign.

Vivian Nemhauser, Vice Chairman of the Women Flyers of America, told of that organization and its primary purpose to interest women in aviation. Vivian is also an ex WASP. Both she and Gloria Heath came from New York for the banquet. Next were two Navy representatives, Commander Edith Stallings, Chief of Naval Operations, WAVES, and Commander Tom Davies, Pilot of the Truculent Turtle. We'd hoped to have Major Frances Sue Cornick, Director of Air WACS and Colonel Hank Meyers, Pilot of the Sacred Cow, but at the last moment they couldn't come. Mr. Bellanca, President of the Bellanca Aircraft Corporation, complimented the three groups on staging this First All Women's Banquet. He hopes others throughout the country will combine on similar projects.

Grant Stetter, Chairman of the Washington Aviation Planning Council, of which the three groups are members, told of the Council's plan for aviation development for the Nation's Capital, the first project is a downtown flight strip.

Lastly the main speaker, Jacqueline Cochran. Miss Cochran spoke of the WASPS - how it is pretty well accepted now that women can and will fly anything from Cubs to heavy bombers and fighters. She then stressed the need of air power in National Defense - cut the budget - yes, but not the budget for National Defense.

The banquet was attended by 175 air-minded guests, representatives from the Aero Club of Washington, the Air Transport Association, National Aeronautic Association, Aircraft Industries Association, Pennsylvania Central Airlines, the Soroptomist Club, the Transport Group, the press and members of the three groups were there. We were indeed honored to have the National Treasurer of the 99's, Marjorie Davis, come from New York and Lucille Wright of the Jamestown, New York Chapter was there with her 49er.

Large insignias of the three groups decorated one wall of the East Room of the Mayflower Hotel.

We all felt that joint meetings are worthwhile and after our Spril business meeting we are planning a joint breakfast flight for the end of May.

NEW ENGLAND SECTION

NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

By Alma Gallagher
16 Messer St., Laconia, N. H.

The newly formed Northern New England Chapter was off to its second meeting March 20 with a supper and discussion at King's Grant Inn, neighbor to the Laconia, N. H., airport.

Only member flying in for the evening meeting was Lucille Dingley who manages the Auburn-Lewiston, Me., airport and made the trip over and night flight back in her new Bellanca Cruisair. She has invited the girls to her field for their April get-together.

Two new members, Eileen Hutt and Frances Wright who are on the office staff of Bowman Flying Service at Keene, N. H.'s municipal airport, were welcomed by Chairman Ruth Hamilton.

Ruth will again this year be in charge of flight operations at Merrimack Bay Airpark at Fenacook, N. H., come spring and summer.

Vice Chairman Betty Condict gave a history of the 99's and the girls considered possible projects to promote flying and increase interest in aviation among women in northern New England.

Colored slides of planes, scenery and four seasons of flying were shown by Lillian Putnam. Betty and Lillian have a new super Cruiser which they plan to put on floats as soon as the ice is out of Blaisdell lake where their Bass Point Seaplane base is located.

Lois V. Smith, editor of Plane Torque, N. H. aviation newspaper was a guest at the meeting.

SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

By Mildred E. Morey
Sunset Road, Marblehead, Mass.

Our Chapter held a meeting, March 11th, at the Sheraton Hotel in Worcester. Catherine Hiller brought two guests - Mrs. Mildred Simenson, student pilot of Barre, and Mrs. Charles Crathern, private pilot of Worcester. Ann Cutler drove up from Boston with Marion Tibbetts, Maurine Thomas, and Rose Crowley Abbott.

During the business meeting Ann Cutler was voted Chairman of the Southern Chapter. Other Chapter officers will be voted in at the April 20th Sectional "fly-in" meet to be held at Hills Grove Airport, Providence. A large classroom at Wiggins' will be used for the meeting. The "Wingettes" of Providence, a group of women pilots, have been invited to attend the meeting.

May 17th has been decided upon as the date for our May meeting. This will be held at Westfield Airport and Eve Sathory will be official hostess to the gang. As editors of the Barre (Mass.) Gazette, Catherine Hiller and her 491'er, Fred, were taken for a flight on the Navy's Jet Assisted Take-Off (JATO) Privateer during the races at Miami. Catherine writes that it didn't seem possible that such a huge ship as the Privateer could take off in such a short run.

Moya Mitchell had been getting rumors that Spring had come to Nantucket Island. She accepted Jean Adams Cook's invitation to hop across the Sound for a weekend of flying. "The wind she blew" and the season's worst blizzard descended upon Nantucket, tying up boats and grounding planes until Monday afternoon, but Moya reports that Nantucket Island gets her vote as "the best island to get marooned on".

NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY SECTION

By Vivian Hoffman
39 Glenwood Avenue, Leonia, New Jersey

March 10, and the "Wearin' of the Green" in the form of tiny shamrocks for each of us; also, a touch of spring with jonquills gracing the tables of Schrafft's Men's Grill, exclusively ours for the evening thanks to Amy Andrews our hostess.

Much interesting chatter from Selma Cronan concerning the details of her recent European trip. Selma made quite a picture clothed from head to foot in the latest of Paris fashions.

The evening was developed especially as an enticement for 491'ers and friends--"Tibetan Odyssey"--a kodachrome sound film affording a free trip to the land of mystery with Ilia Tolstoy, grandson of the great Leo Tolstoy, who took the picture as speaker. However, Mr. Tolstoy was unable to attend and his close friend, Dr. William B. Field, member of the National Geographic Society did an excellent

job of briefing us for the trip to Tibet. The picture, an account of a two man trip into Tibet for the War and State Departments was excellent and very interesting to all.

In all 52 members, 491'ers, and friends attended. A very nice showing. Thank you for a delightful evening Amy.

News from New Jersey has it that a particularly interesting new magazine "Aviation in New Jersey" is now out and looking for interesting articles on aviation. Here's a chance to get your names into print "gals"! How about it?

At the invitation of Mrs. Jessie Chamberlain, Vivian Nemhauser, Kay Menges, Marjorie Gray, Jean Spielberg, Viola Gentry, Rosemary Kraemer, Selma Cronan and several other 99's attended a President's Tea given by the Women's International Aeronautics Association on Saturday March 22, out at Floyd Bennett Field. Everyone spent an interesting afternoon watching a Navy demonstration of carrier flying, inspecting the unusually roomy control tower, and being shown through the Link Trainer Building where many of the guests observed a Link Trainer in operation for the first time.

Many months ago we thought of having some Ninety-Nine matches made up for us. Then we decided that others might like them too. There being a profit element we felt that it would be better for a National objective rather than for individual chapters. Thus it is that the profit from these blue and gold "sulphurs" will go into the Amelia Earhart Fund as approved by the Executive Committee. The pin and "NINETY-NINES" will be on the front, and "International Organization of Licensed Women Pilots" and wings will be on the back. The National address will be on the saddle.

Letters are going out to Section and Chapter officers with further details. We don't know the exact date we'll get them, as delays have been many and unpredictable, but you might be thinking about using them at that next banquet, dance or air show. Address inquiries to Kay A. Menges, 46 Anderson St., Hackensack, N. J.

Nice to see Vivian Nemhauser's picture in the April issue of the Woman's Home Companion in connection with Girl Scouting work in America.

The March meeting went over so nicely, let's have a good turnout for our first business meeting in a long time at Leone's on April 14.

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION

FLASH NOTICE: Plans for the North Central Sectional meeting for May 24 and 25 at Detroit sound most interesting and intriguing. Circle these dates in red on your calendar and do make arrangements to be with us. I know the Michigan Chapter will show every one a grand time. Greetings to all.--Elsie Peters, Governor.

ILLINOIS CHAPTER

By Alice DeWitt
Box 216, Palos Heights, Illinois

Our March 6th meeting was held in the Transportation Building, Chicago Loop.

Members attending were: Bernice Sirovatka, Emma Schweer, Faith Buckner, Dora Daugherty, Doris Langher, Lucy Kalls, Hazel Wakefield, Elizabeth Morgan, Dorothy Hutchinson, Leah Cook and Gwen Hess.

Our guests were: Mary Beritich, Hazel Hackwith, who recently obtained her license, Lamona Goddard, and Marguerite Greene. Miss Greene is a senior member of the CAA staff and Miss Goddard is a CAA Link Trainer Instructor at the Third Regional Office. The demonstration Miss Goddard gave us was very interesting and much appreciated.

We were honored as the highlight of our meeting with a fine talk by Mr. George Vest, CAA Third Regional Administrator. He also asked that we send a chapter representative to the Regional CAA Aviation Clinic to be held at the Congress Hotel, March 19th and 20th. Mr. Vest, also, has granted us permission to use the CAA educational and instructional films on various phases of aviation. These will be shown at future meetings.

A United Air Lines film was shown at this meeting showing progress of aviation in the last twenty-five years.

Coffee and cookies were served by Lucy Kalla after the meeting.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 10th at either the Palmer House or the CAA Office.

INDIANA CHAPTER

By Ruth Colwell
3221 Kenwood Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.

We had our last meeting here in Indianapolis at Municipal Airport the 16th of March and after lunch met in one of Col. Turners classrooms for our business meeting. We had a nice attendance for such a windy day.

Betty Cull invited us to North Vernon, April 13, - 11:30. We are to have lunch at Muscatatuck State Park Inn. Sounds like it will be nice and I hope a lot of girls will go.

We discussed programs for this year and decided Air Marking would be the thing. Girls from the different towns are to visit their Chamber of Commerce and find out about their own towns and then, if they need help, we will all pitch in.

Some of the girls told about their experiences in this line and one has her husband's building marked, got up with paint brush and yardstick and did it herself. So this gave us an idea. In the towns with buildings suitable for this, we will swoop down on with our brushes and buckets and do the work ourselves. Perhaps, if we did this once or twice, we would get enough publicity to help out Air Marking all over the state.

The suggestion was made to have a booth at the Indiana State Fair to contact other flyers who we haven't met and also advertise Air Marking some more.

Girls in other towns who haven't been able to get to our meetings, do all you can on this and if you want more details write to Virginia Eberhart, 2625 N. Meridian, Indianapolis or if you want the specifications for Air Marking write to Clarence F. Cornish, 311 Board of Trade Building, Aeronautical Division, Indianapolis or call him at Fr 3405. Pitch in girls and lets have a little action this year.

Drawings were held and Panoria Apostol won the cutest note paper, Virginia Vogle of Petersburg won "Build a Plane" toy and Olive Tuttle won a set of toy dogs.

We have our meetings on the third Sunday of each month now and as we do not know far enough ahead where they are to be held, we suggest you write to Virginia Eberhart if you think you can attend and she will give you more information.

IOWA CHAPTER

By Evelyn Bubany
1230 Sixty-Fifth Street, Des Moines 3, Iowa

Pure Oil Company representatives, Herb Ridgely and Steve Woolsey, were hosts to the Iowa Chapter at a cocktail party given at the Hotel Savory in Des Moines on March 13th. The turnout was a little disappointing as far as the in-town members were concerned, but the out-of-town girls were 100% in attendance and since the weather has a peculiar way of turning sour on our meeting days, everyone

drove. Five new girls were present - Betty Seaton of Davenport, Mary Finney from Wapello and Dorothy Evans from Newton. Also Pauline Kochheiser and her guest, Phyllis Eben, both from Des Moines,

While we enjoyed Martinis and Manhattans, our able hosts showed movies - one on South America and their growing interest in aviation and two comedies both of which promoted a wealth of laughs and giggles.

A late supper at the Airway Inn brought an end to a very enjoyable evening and we want to thank Herb and Steve again for their fine company and we'd like to assure them, our flying machines will be bubbling with Pure Oil from here on out.

We were sorry the old flu bug kept Lavina Lippincott in bed that evening and hope she had a speedy recovery. Also, we're kinda' curious about that certain marriage license column in a recent paper - no secrets Lavina....

Franny Shloss has spent five wonderful weeks in sunny California and arrived back in Des Moines with a very flattering tan - understand she's been hedgehopping mountains in a BT-13. Florence Chamberlain is back after a sojourn at Sun Valley where she enjoyed a vacation of skiing - her instructor who also flies, says skiing is a great deal like flying from the standpoint of coordination. Thelma Olson has been in Hot Springs at the races for the past two weeks - said she got out to the airport twice but the weather and terrain was a little more than she wanted to tackle.

Speaking of weather....looks almost good today. Guess I'll go try out my wings.....

MICHIGAN CHAPTER

By Thelma C. Lindzay
921 Balfour Road, Grosse Pointe 30, Michigan

"In the Spring, a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love" may still be true - but in Michigan it is, "In the Spring an airman's fancy seriously turns to thoughts of airshows." So, due to conflicting dates, the Executive Committee of the ALL GIRL AIR SHOW, originally planned for June 8th, finds it advisable to post-pone the show until a later date.

The date for the North Central Sectional meeting to be held in Detroit has been set for May 24th and 25th to coincide with the opening of the Annual Michigan Aviation Week with an airshow at Detroit City Airport. Alice Hammond, general chairman to the two day session, has some grand plans to show you all a good time. A banquet on Saturday evening at the Book Cadillac Hotel will have as guests of honor and speakers some well known personalities in aviation. This banquet will officially start a week of luncheons, dinners, talks and meetings by various aviation organizations. Saturday afternoon activities will culminate in an "open house" - four to six PM - at the Lindzay's, and your reporter, as Vice-Governor of the North Central Section, here and now invites all Ninety Nines and their guests to come and meet other Ninety Nines and their guests.

Four new members are Priscilla Wunsch, Grosse Pointe-Mary Anderson, Detroit- Dorothy H. Berg and Virginia R. Spencer of Birmingham. Welcome from all of us.

Gwendolyn Walker of Byron Center is the proud possessor of a multi-engine rating- Good going Gwen.

More and more of our members are taking part in the Wing Scout Program - Faye Davies Kirk gave a lecture on Engines and Alice H. Hammond on Instruments. Yours truly had the pleasure of pinning wings on twenty-three Wing Scouts who had finished the first lap of their training, while Helen Pelto had a grand likeness in the Detroit News doing the same thing. Faye Kirk, Helen Anderson, Leah Higgins, Sue H. Wagner, Lucille Grisier and Priscilla Wunsch recently met with representatives of the Girl Scouts and the

Director of the Wing Scout Program for Detroit to make plans for further help from the Ninety Nines.

The March meeting at Mason with Mildred David and Margaret Crane was certainly a success. After a delicious ham and egg breakfast and a business meeting, we went to the airport where the David's and Margaret conduct flying operations.

The week end meeting, April 12th and 13th in Grand Rapids, with Gwendolyn Walker as hostess promises to be lots of fun--a regular Spring Round Up. May meeting in Detroit with Sectional - June meeting in Lansing with "Babe" Weyant Ruth and July in Kalamazoo with our grand group of members there.

Helen Felto flew to Florida via airlines, her own Aeronca safely out of the weather at home, to attend the ALL WOMAN AIRSHOW and following is what she had to say about it: "The Florida Chapter of the 99's, as well as participating 99's from other States, are certainly in line for sincere congratulations for the successful air show, and the entire demonstration of women in aviation they displayed at their ALL WOMEN AIRSHOW, March 15 and 16, 1947, in Tampa, Florida.

"The show was a thoroughly enjoyable affair to see. It was wonderful to watch Caro Bayley maneuver that silent sail plane into loops and spins and then make a beautiful spot landing. Attractive Jean Broadhead persuaded the skelet on of a pusher-type Curtis airplane into the air for one of the comedy acts. Then there was Dorothy Swain. Remembering the way Dot, as Ophelia Butts from Oskosh, cleverly mishandled a Piper Cub still makes one shudder. The way she demonstrated how not to fly was superb.

"These acts combined with Marge Hurlburt in her record-breaking Corsair, the races and the Aerobatic thrillers, were woven together by the excellent announcing of Verna Burke to provide a well balanced program.

"To Gladys Pennington, General Chairman of the Show, Ruth Hubert, Chairman of the Florida Chapter, and the other committee chairman go extra applause for the tremendous amount of time and effort they rendered to assure the success of the ALL WOMEN AIR SHOW of 1947, given for the benefit of the 99's Amelia Earhart Scholarship Fund".

EASTERN-MISSOURI CHAPTER

By Laura Sellinger
2956 North Prairie Ave., St. Louis 7, Missouri

Mighty and many were the crocodile tears that flowed like wine from your reporter's desk while six of our very fortunate gals winged their happy and carefree ways to the land of sunshine and the Tampa air show. And, now that they're back, they are brimful of glowing stories of the wonderful time they had -- good food, excellent hotel accommodations, wonderful hospitality, exciting air show, gay party, and so far into the night!

While Rae Sullivan, Ruth Barclay, Dorcas Stark, and Trudy DeVries flew down in a twin Cessna piloted by Trudy's boss, Lucy Drucker and Burnette McNamee braved the elements in Lucy's Ercoupe. However, it wasn't all play for Ruth and Dorcas who, as reporters on our local "St. Louis Aviation News," were busy scribbling notes, Dorcas about fashions because she is fashion editor of the "News" and Ruth about everything in general.

Judging from all reports, it's time, too, to doff our battered fedora to Verna Burke (she's a St. Louis woman, ya' know) for her very excellent handling of the show.

To depart from the glitter of our tanned Tampa travelers and settle down to the activities of two members who helped keep the home fires burning, we'd like to mention that Del Scharr, who was one of the original 25 WAFS and who now teaches school as a regular occupation, and is the busy president of an organization of student pilots, spends

her week-ends and spare (?) time instructing at National School of Aviation at Lakeside Airport, and ex-WASP Margaret Needham is now a full-time instructor at Brayton's Flying Service at Lambert Field and is doing a grand job.

The shock of a horrible and nearly fatal accident to our newest member, Dorothy Young, is just beginning to wear off as news of her improved condition reaches us. Dorothy, who had just alighted from the mired plane she and Marian Hunt had been flying, slipped in the mud and fell into the whirling prop of a plane which had come to her assistance. The accident caused severe injuries to her face and head, including the loss of her left eye, but we are mighty glad to report her condition is now considerably improved; in fact, we are even hopeful that she will be able to attend our next meeting.

ALL-OHIO CHAPTER

By Mary Louise Oetzel
256 W. Main St., Norwalk, Ohio

The All-Ohio Chapter has not been asleep at the switch, not by any means. We have been very busy working hard on Air-Marking which we have made our top-most project for the 1946-47 year. Great strides have been made throughout the State of Ohio and we hope that by the end of this year we can honestly report that Ohio leads the rest of the states as far as Air-Marking is concerned.

We had a very pleasant meeting on February 16th at Springfield, with Winnie Gebhardt acting as hostess. Old man weather played a dirty trick on us that day and we would have doubled our attendance of eighteen had more of the girls been able to fly in as they had originally planned to do. Glider soaring contests were in order with Marge Miller of Columbus doing the best job and walking away with the prize. A delicious dinner followed by the usual social meeting followed the business meeting. Mr. McLeod, of the Ohio Aviation Board was the guest speaker of the day and his talk on the workings of the board was highly enlightening and entertaining to all who were present.

On Sunday, March 16th, twenty-one members and nine guests met at the famous SKY-CLUB, Mansfield Airport for our regular March meeting. We had more discussion on the Air-Marking project, directions and directives were distributed among those present relative to the procedure on Air-Marking, and other business of the Chapter was discussed and settled. The Columbus girls acted as hostesses once again, and they do a mighty fine job of it, too. After the business meeting was closed, C.A.R. contests were held and Ann Heisler, Willard, Irene Peters, Columbus and Winnie Gebhardt, Springfield were awarded prizes for the best and lowest scores. A very fine dinner was served, after which we flew away home, to meet again on April 20th at University Field, Columbus, Ohio.

WISCONSIN CHAPTER

By Jeannette C. Kapus
2135 W. McKinley Avenue, Milwaukee 5, Wisconsin

The meeting this past month was held at the home of Mayetta Weidemann. Those present at the meeting were Dottie Christensen, Peg Fiebrantz, Margaret Bruns Sliker, Trixie Gehrung, Elsie Peters, Dora Fritzsche, Carolyn Feiling, Mayetta Weidemann, Florence Fintag, Betty Glawe, Ione Hankowitz and your reporter.

We started the meeting off with a report on our recent Valentine Dance. The dance was successful, the proceeds of which have been forwarded to the Treasurer for the Amelia Earhart Scholarship Fund. Carolyn Feiling was Chairman of the Dance and a wonderful job she did, too.

We had three prospective members at our meeting through Dottie Christensen's diligence. The three prospects are: Ione Hankowitz, Betty Glawe and Florence Fintag. The background and history of the 99's were explained to the prospective members.

Since Dottie Christensen acquired ship "73", she has been flying to Kenosha, Racine, Madison, West Bend, Waukesha, and nearby towns to interest 'petticott pilots' in those areas in the 99's. Good going, Dottie. You're a good ambassador.

Jean Reimer was heard from again. She's traveling in Mexico at present. She made a quick trip to Milwaukee and was snowed in when 'that' snowstorm paralyzed us the latter part of January.

Sorry to hear that Necia Patterson pulled a ligament and is confined to her bed. Hope to see you up and around soon, Necia. This is good flying weather!!!

Rosemary Sponner couldn't make it to the meeting because of cramming for exams. Good luck, Rosemary.

Ruth Sass had a 23 3/4'r on February 15th. The new addition is Carol Ruth. Mother and daughter are doing fine. That makes two 23 3/4'rs in our ranks.

Ruth Lembke writes from New York that she's attending a school newspaper convention at Columbia University and having a wonderful time. Hope to hear more about it when you get back, Ruth.

Peg Fiebrantz recently became engaged to Hank Mulberger after a unique proposal 3000 ft. in the wild blue yonder.

We've been missing Germaine Reback at our meetings lately. Wish you could find time between your many activities to see us occasionally, Germaine.

Be seeing you next month.

SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION

MISSOURI VALLEY CHAPTER

By Marie Wichita
2629 Harrison St., Omaha, Nebraska

Our March meeting was held the second Sunday of the month at Hotel Fontenelle. Ninety-Nines present were: from Omaha, Marjory McBride, Bea Mack, Dorothy Reed, Belle Hetzel; Cedar Rapids, Nebr., Byrdie McBride; Storm Lake, Iowa, Mildred Burt; Sioux City, Iowa, Ivah Maxfield; Crete, Nebr., Ruth Johnson; and from Blair, Nebr., our new member Teresa Reeh and prospective member Pearl Livermore. So far each meeting in 1947 has provided us with at least one new member. Here's hoping we can keep it up.

Byrdie McBride of Cedar Rapids, Nebr. and Marguerite Durbin of North Platte are planning to attend a meeting of the Nebraska Flying Farmers, to be held March 15th at North Platte, with an offer of Ninety-Nines cooperation in the interests of aviation in the state.

Crete was selected for our April meeting and fly-in breakfast Sunday, April 13. Secretary-treasurer Ruth Johnson of Crete kindly furnished each member with a small mimeographed sectional map of the Crete area. If the weather is against us we hope all our 99's and 49's will drive in and give us a big turnout.

TULSA CHAPTER

By Jewell Wolfe
6508 East 5th St., Tulsa, Okla.

Our congratulations to Mrs. Mary Logsdon whose little 24 1/2'er arrived this month. We were all in hopes it would be twins so we could nickname them "Stall & Spin".

We had a little get-together for breakfast at the Brown Airport Cafe. We steered clear of business and made this a "Hangar Flying" session entirely. Between the food and the gab we had a wonderful time.

We have added a new member. Miss Irene Carthage who

recently received her private license. She is also a Link trainer instructor.

At our monthly meeting we had breakfast at the Spartan Cafeteria and later visited the control tower. After watching the control tower operators bring in an airliner and several ships, we decided we had better stick to something a little easier--such as flying.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION

CAROLINAS CHAPTER

By Anne W. Fishburne
73 East Battery, Charleston, S. C.

We're sorry to say that no one from our chapter was able to get to the Air Show in Tampa on March 15th. Betty Morton from Columbia started out and got as far as Savannah and couldn't get any farther so she returned home.

The next meeting is to be at the home of Betty Hamilton -- 224 Hillside Ave., Charlotte, N. C. The invitation list is to include all 49 1/2'ers and women pilots of North and South Carolina who hold a private license or better and are not members. So we're hoping to stir up some interest in you lazy pilots who haven't renewed their memberships, haven't been interested enough to contact a member and join. So I guess it's going to be left up to you members to hunt around and drag out these so and so's and bring them to the meetings. After that they'll want to join our growing chapter. The more of us the better-- that way we can show the people of our states what their women pilots are doing.

Alma Tharp, a 99er from Charleston, recently won a prize at the S. C. Breakfast club when it met at Newberry. She flew the greatest distance for the meeting. Any of you girls that can get to the breakfast club please make an effort, for it really makes a good showing to have us women fly in and even the men are interested in the number that do fly. You N. C. gals make some flying trips to S. C. sometime.

I still don't know what's happening to you N. C. girls, so drop me a line. I heard from Bird Eaton, of Charlotte, and she and Paul want to come to Charleston for the Air Show and Azalea Festival starting on April 20th.

See you all in Charlotte, N. C. on April 27th at Betty Hamilton's.

FLORIDA CHAPTER

By Gladys Pennington
2963 McFarlane Rd., Coconut Grove, Fla.

The First Annual All Woman Air Show of the World, sponsored by Florida Ninety-Nines, called a tremendous success by many old-timers.

First, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every person who gave of their time freely to assist in the operation and participation of this show. The girls who flew in the events and races displayed absolute precision in flying and the sportsmanship displayed by all was superb. I do believe that the entire exhibition left no doubt as to women's place in aviation. And, most important of all, there wasn't even the slightest kind of an accident whatsoever. Yes, the girls proved they can fly ... AND HOW!!! AND SAFELY!!!

Our show was attended by many well known persons in aviation, both men and women. The very unfavorable weather conditions which seemed to settle over the west coast of Florida toward the end of the week probably kept a great many from flying in to be with us. We were very happy to have so many other Ninety-Nines from all over the country. Among the many Ninety-Nines was our own National president, Jeannette L. Sovereign; Marjorie Davis, national treasurer; Mary Ann Hobbs, chairman of the Texas Chapter;

and Mildred Miller of Austin, Texas, who is South Central Governor; Carolyn West, chairman of California Chapter; and Beatrice Medes of the California Chapter; Arlene Davis of Ohio Chapter; Helen Pelto, Michigan Chapter; and many, many others which space does not permit mentioning at this time. Blanche Noyes, CAA Air Marking Specialist, who is one of our most enthusiastic Ninety-Niners and supporters of women in aviation, was on hand to cheer us on.

The airport swarmed with members of the press and we probably will be reading about the show for some time to come if the reporters present have anything to do with it. Among many letters of comment and congratulations received since the show is one from Fred Lanter, Regional Administrator for CAA Region Two, whom many of you may know as he was prominent in the Washington Headquarters of CAA in charge of SAFETY for a number of years, until he returned to this region by popular demand. An excerpt from his letter reads "I believe that participation of women in aeronautics is going to play a major part in the development and promotion of aviation to the point where we would like to see it and exhibitions such as this certainly bring to the attention of the general public the spirit of those women who participate, as well as their competency and accomplishments. I feel that such promotional activities do an inestimable amount of good and I trust you can make this show an annual affair."

We believe that Carolyn West and Bea Medes who flew their 85 HP Ercoupe in the Transcontinental Race from Palm Springs to Tampa set a new distance speed record for that horsepower plane. They made the flight in 21 hours and 45 minutes. Carolyn as pilot won the R. S. Evans Trophy, and Bea as navigator won the Southeastern Airport News Trophy.

Marge Hurlburt of Painesville, Ohio, but a member of the Florida 99s set a new international women's speed record of 337.635 MPH over a 3 kilometer course in her 2000 HP clip-wing Corsair. Marge was sponsored by the City of Painesville and the event was sanctioned by the NAA. She was presented with a Trophy from the Florida Ninety-Nines.

Kaddy Landry who is now flying professionally with Jesse Bristow's "World Air Shows" took first place in the Aerobatic Competition with a Stearman powered by a 450 Wasp engine, winning the Airco Aviation Trophy. Betty Skelton, Tampa, placed second and won the Tyresoles of Miami Trophy, and was followed by Ruth Hubert also of Tampa, who was awarded the Amelia Earhart luggage.

The Military Pilots Assn. Trophy Race was won by Jane Page of Chicago. Kaddy Landry was second and Ruth Hubert placed third in the race over a 15 mile closed course.

Betty Skelton of Tampa won the Free-For-All Race over a 9 mile closed course flying an 85 Swift. She was awarded the Florida Aviation Corporation Trophy, sponsored by Mr. Peter Hubert, a 49¹/₂er and husband of our State Chairman. Helen Greinke of Bloomington, Illinois came in second, followed by Ruth Hubert and Marjorie Koderick of Tampa.

Carolyn Cullen of Pittsfield, Mass., won the 65 HP Handicap Race and the Florida Air Pilots Assn. Trophy. Anne Shields of Jacksonville, Fla., took second and the Morton Insurance Trophy.

The Bertram Trophy Race which was scheduled for Saturday had to be cancelled because of the socked-in weather all day long. We were unable to run this race on Sunday as the crowded program did not permit. The race was to be participated in only by members of the Florida Chapter. Mr. William Piper and Mrs. Piper have sponsored a purse of \$225.00 for this race and we hope to be able to run it in the near future. The purse will be divided \$100 first place, \$75 to second, and \$50 for third place in the race. We have around twelve or more entries eagerly awaiting the drop of the flag.

Caro Bayley of Miami and formerly of Springfield, Ohio

certainly awed the crowds of more than thirteen thousand spectators with a most beautiful demonstration of sail-plane flying. Jean Broadhead amused everyone as a little 'ole lady flying a 1910 Fabricless Curtiss Pusher only to crawl out and display a lovely "modern" lady in a bathing suit and take a ride in a modern Cub. Mildred "Duke" Caldwell was very entertaining, flying a broken-back Cub in a novelty act as a "first time up" student. Dot Swain of Daytona Beach was a sensation as Ophelia Butts from Oskosh flying a Cub by the book, which she lost on the take-off.

Marion Bertram did a wonderful job as Contest Chairman, and Verna Burke announced the Show with the ease of a professional and her expert descriptions of the events coupled with humorous remarks was entertainment in itself for the spectators. Verna and Marion worked very hard in preparation for the Show, as did all the others.

Beverly E. "Bevo" Howard of Orangeburg, S. C., won the title of Aviation's "Man of Distinction" for 1947 because of his achievements in aviation, at the Aviation Banquet and Ball given in the Palm Room of the Tampa Terrace Hotel by the Tampa Aero Club for the Ninety-Nines. Approximately four hundred persons attended and it has been stated by many that this was one of the nicest affairs they've ever attended. We do owe a lot to the Tampa Aero Club as they were grand to the 99s and all visiting pilots to our show. Jesse Bristow, director of "World Air Shows" took second place in the contest and Randolph Mai of Jacksonville was third choice as Aviation's "Man of Distinction". Bevo was awarded the beautiful 4 ft. tall Lord Calvert Award by the Calvert Distillers Corp and a case of Lord Calvert, which he used to entertain friends over the week-end. Jesse was awarded a gift from Calvert also and a Lifetime rod and reel by Walter Boone of Miami. "Randy" also received a Calvert gift as did the other contestants Dr. H. L. Anderson of Miami and E. J. Ulrich of Tampa.

We were left with quite a number of our nice souvenir programs because of weather not permitting our staging of Saturday's events. Since this was the first All Woman Air Show we are certain that many of you who were unable to be present would like to have copies. The programs are 25¢ and may be obtained by writing to our headquarters office at P. O. Box 6, Coconut Grove, Florida.

And, last but not least, we are sure many of you want to know how we made out financially on this venture. Of course you know we started out the exactly thirty-four dollars and seventeen cents (\$34.17), and from the way it looks now we are going to have a few hundred dollars to the good after contributing over \$300.00 to the Amelia Earhart Scholarship Fund and paying all our obligations incurred in the promotion and staging of the show. Prize money absolutely will be paid in the races in which it was guaranteed and we will endeavor to make up reasonable purses in the other races which we promised the contestants we would, should our financial situation permit it after we have paid all of our contracted obligations. We trust that all participants will bear with us until we can clear up all the business matters connected with the show,

In closing this lengthy report, I would like to say again to all participants and visitors, thanks a million for your perfect cooperation, which made the show the success that it was. We fully realize that there were mistakes made but this was the first time for any of us, and since our criticisms of the manner in which the show was carried out are out-numbered by favorable comment a hundred to one, we feel that it was a tremendous success. Constructive criticism is certainly appreciated as this will serve to make our show even bigger and more successful next time! The dates and place of the next show should be announced soon and we hope that every one of the 99 membership will plan to attend. Blanche Noyes, Jeannette Sovereign, and Marjorie Davis served as our Official Judges. Mrs. Curtiss Hixson, wife of Tampa's mayor was among many other prominent persons serving as Honorary Judges. Want to extend to them a special thanks for a job well done!

SOUTHWESTERN SECTION

BAY CITIES CHAPTER

By Ruth Rueckert
2037 Rivera St., San Francisco, Calif.

The March 5th and 10th radio broadcasts by Rita Hart were excellent reports on the 99's, early flying and her flying career and brought several interesting responses.

Four planes arrived within minutes of one another at Marysville on March 16th: Rita and Al Hart in their Ryan, Adele and Jules Chase in an Erco Coupe, Marjorie Fauth and Peter Verkuyl in their Cessna, and Ruth and Fred Rueckert in a BT-13. Gerry Williamson, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Williamson, and her fiancé, Charles Michelson were at the airport to greet us, drive us to Gerry's apartment, and donned aprons to cook and serve a delicious brunch.

The Bay Cities Chapter's 15th Anniversary was celebrated by a dinner dance at Uncle Tom's Cabin, San Bruno, on March 21st. As a special memento of the evening, a history of the Bay Cities Chapter compiled by Ruth Rueckert was presented to Chairman Marion Barnick. Ruth Mochan won the "Baby" prize, having the highest license number; Rita Hart won a heart set of pin and earrings for having the lowest license number; Don Felton won the "Baby Bottle" of scotch for being the latest 49½'er, and Bill Wakeman won a bottle of scotch for being the earliest 49½'er. Thirty-eight members and guests were present.

On March 29th at Moffett Field, Sunnyvale, 23 members and guests participated in a G. C. A. demonstration. The Navy was courtesy itself in seeing that all present got a flight in the R4D (DC3) and ample instruction in the ground unit. Marjorie Fauth was chairman of this event, and our hearty thanks are extended to her for giving us this opportunity.

April 20th is set for a breakfast flight and meeting at San Jose Airport with Chairman Marion Barnick as hostess.

Newsbriefs: Best wishes for a speedy recovery from his operation go to 49½'er Leo Esser. He wants to be able to pace the corridor on or about April 15th when Evelyn expects their second child. **Edna Cox and Mildred Harris are our two newest members. Mildred and 49½'er Marceil were "initiated" at the dinner dance. Edna lives in Salinas and put in her first appearance at the G. C. A. demonstration. **Letter from Ethel Sheehy, now living in Mendocino, asking to be put on our chapter's list. Welcome Ethel; Hope to see you soon at one of our meetings. **Looking forward to seeing Peggy and Charles Potter, who expect to vacation in the U. S. this summer. **Olive Bledsoe United airlining to Long Beach to attend the Republican Party Convention.

LOS ANGELES CHAPTER

By Melba Beard
1981 Meadowbrook Rd., Altadena, Calif.

Our chapter's pride in Carolyn West, chairman and Beatrice Medes, secretary, winning the transcontinental event from Palm Springs to Tampa, Fla. is exceeded perhaps only in the Florida Chapter's pride in its successful ALL WOMENS AIR SHOW. Our girls made the trip in 21:45, Carolyn flying, Bea navigating, and encountered no difficulties. On the return trip they reported bad weather and a broken fuel pump, but arrived home without further trouble.

Dianna Cyrus was prevented from starting in the other division of the race when the right engine of her A-26 wouldn't perform properly.

Carolyn and Bea are high in praise of the Show, saying it was the best they had ever seen, well handled throughout and with no annoying time lag between events. They were cordially received and entertained by the Florida Ninety Nines and say that the 4700 miles flown were very much worthwhile.

Your reporter is reminded that the only really good air show she has seen in 18 years of flying was the Women's Air Meet in 1934 sponsored by the women pilots of Washington, D. C. The show was a success from every standpoint, including the spectators and participants, and it too was a smooth running affair. Just another example that the women know how to do a good job. In case some people's eyes get big, please know that it is a tremendous job, not to be entered into lightly, but armed with every available bit of knowledge and experience.

At the March 17th dinner meeting in the Aviation Room of the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, one of the few early day pilots and inventors who is still active -- Waldo Waterman -- told the fascinating story of his development some 12 years ago of the Arrowbile, an automobile that flies. With the aid of 500 feet of motion picture film, he convinced the audience of the remarkable characteristics of this unique craft. To some of us it was a vivid reminder of the days when we actually saw it in the air and on the road.

Dick Powell, movie star, was to have spoken, but was called to Havana, Cuba before the meeting date. His place was well taken by Mr. Waterman, who, as one of the 99'ers said after the meeting, was born far ahead of his time. There were 44 members and guests present, including a representation from the W.N.A.A. and a large group of the local Order of Fifanella. Many of the former Wasps are numbered in our 99 chapter, but it was the first time we had had the pleasure of meeting such a large group of the Fifanellas, and they presented a mighty fine looking bunch of girls.

Vice-chairman Helen Hooper presided at the meeting in the absence of chairman Carolyn West, and introduced Alma Harwood and her husband, visiting here from New York in the new Stinson. Alma gave a brief account of the establishing of the Amelia Earhart Scholarship Fund and how some of the chapters had handled their contributions.

Helen repeated coming meeting dates, which are April 12-13, flight to Bakersfield for social meeting with other chapters of our growing section; April 26, get-together at Cranford Airport, Artesia; May 24-25, flight to Santa Barbara; June 14, beach party; Sept. 9, first fall meeting and election of officers

Roberta McCutcheon has been flying her BT-13 here and there Barbara London has been going on a lot of the recent breakfast flights. Betty Gillies is now home after all those months in the hospital and we hope to see her again one of these days. Jane Lawler traveled to Hollywood from Inyokern for our last meeting, and we were glad to meet our most distant member. Also present from the Mojave desert area was Bebe Story, Louise Robertson and Mrs. Harry Clayton.

Your reporter extends apologies to Betty Lambert, chairman of the new San Diego Chapter, and her genial husband Art, for having left them out of "those present" on the flight to Pancho Barnes' desert ranch in February.

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

By Betty Agan
4219 St. James Pl., San Diego 3, Calif.

San Diego 99'ers enjoyed El Pico's very popular Smorgasbord in Old Town where the March meeting was held. Business was conducted by Betty Lambert after 49½'ers adjourned to the Patio to become better acquainted. Next meeting is scheduled for April 24 at Valle's for dinner after which business will be discussed at the nearby home of Jessie Ostrander.

Plans were made for an overnight flight to Warner's Hot Springs, Thursday, April 10 to include those who cannot get away weekends. Promises to be quite a gay affair. Betty Lambert gave an account of her trip to Pancho Barnes Rancho which has us all excited about our hop to Warners, including Helen Abell and Cookie Fossan who can't possibly desert the Airport on Sunday. Sounds like lots of fun, girls.