

THE 99 NEWS

Vol. 14, No. 7

August, 1988



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN PILOTS

RUSSIA EXCHANGE

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At left, President Barbara Sestito presents Soviet cosmonaut Valentina Tereshkova with a 99 pin. Above, cosmonaut Yuri Malyshev poses with 99s at the Soviet Space Center.



PRESIDENT'S *Message*

By BARBARA SESTITO

Where were all the pilots?

To choose one highlight from a 14 day trip to the Soviet Union would be impossible.

It was nothing like I thought it would be. So many contrasts, so many questions ... some answered, some not. Many doors were opened for us, yet there was so much we didn't see or couldn't see.

I went there looking for women pilots, hoping to exchange ideas, stories, feelings and friendship. What I found was a society of people as eager to know about us as we were to learn about them.

Our group consisted of 32 women pilots, one 49-1/2, and the brother of one member. We were representative of every possible aspect in aviation. Two women were original astronaut trainees. We had recordsetters, parachutists, pilots of

helicopters, charter and commercial pilots, instructors, race pilots, and fixed base operators.

We all had our eyes and ears open, ready to pounce on the first woman pilot we saw, and bestow upon her our many pins, medals, photographs and stories. Several times we thought we'd found one, but she would turn out to be a flight attendant for Aeroflot, or in some other aviation occupation.

The search was on. Somewhere in the Soviet Union there had to be a woman pilot, and we were determined to find her.

The object of our visit to the Soviet Union was to meet with our counterparts and to exchange ideas with people of like professions and persuasions. It turned out to be the problem; we were unique and so specialized, it was difficult to relate anyone

to us.

First, in Leningrad, a beautiful, old city of many historical and priceless treasures. Our exchange was with Soviet Professional Women in the House of Friendship. It was very exciting and interesting. We spoke freely and were answered honestly. All was nice and friendly, but we met not one woman pilot.

Then on to Tbilisi where we had the same experience. I don't want to make light of those exchanges, because they were informative and gave us one-on-one contact with educated Soviet women. But where were the women pilots we had been promised?

It had been nine days. We had toured and seen folk dancing, musicians, ceremonies, paintings and the circus. We had flown on

See *PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE* page 4.

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RUSSIA: A

By MARIE CHRISTENSEN

Glasnost! Friendship! Summit meetings! All the world is looking toward the USSR at this moment in history. What an exciting time to go to the Soviet Union.

Thirty-four Ninety-Nines and their friends waited in New York with unbearable excitement to begin the aviation exchange. In the airport's Finn-Air lounge, we met new travelers and renewed old friendships from past trips before lifting off on a night flight to Helsinki, each with her own thoughts about the adventure ahead. Flying toward the dawn, the night was barely two hours long ... but who could sleep anyway!

In Helsinki we met our interpreter, Mariatta, who was to be with us the rest

Poignant Exchange

At right, cleaning ladies from Soviet Georgia, one of the group's favorite areas.



of the way. Leningrad lay a short flight away.

We were thrilled to be there. We had plenty of time to reflect on this, however, during the next two hours in line for Immigration and Customs. Our Intourist guide, Tamara, was there, and she too was with us for the trip.

Leningrad lies just south of the Gulf of Finland and is famous for its magical "white nights." The aurora borealis bathes the summertime city in eerie white light that makes it glow with a special magic.

By foreign standards Leningrad is a young city, founded in 1703 by Peter the Great on the banks of the Neva River. Originally it was called St. Petersburg. In 1917 Lenin formed the Marxist party there, and in 1924 it was renamed Leningrad in his honor. The city has more than 250 monuments to Lenin, its hero.

We stopped briefly at the WW2 memorial, remembering that thousands of men, women and children starved to death during Hitler's 900 day siege. The Leningraders still feel the pain; they are a somber people. We also visited one of the monuments to Lenin before finally reaching our hotel on the Neva River.

Wearied and excited, we retired early, though anticipation of tomorrow and the late night light made it hard to sleep.

The largest atomic icebreakers and power equipment in the world are produced in the maritime industrial area we saw on the next day's tour of the city. Leningraders were busily preparing their city for the Saints Peter and Paul festival, and we stopped to watch men forging wrought iron decorations for the boat parade. Children were having a chalk drawing contest on the street, and local crafts and paintings were for sale.

We had packed with anticipation of cool temperatures. Wrong! It was hot and humid. Most women wore summer dresses, men were in slacks and shirts.

The morning was spent in the Hermitage Museum, a place we sorely wished we'd had more time for. It houses a fantastic collection of Western European

art. Leningrad is home to many writers, artists and ballet dancers, and their devotion to the arts is apparent. Some of us were able to see the ballet Giselle performed at the beautiful Kirov Opera House that night.

A bus ride to the Gulf of Finland gave us opportunity to see some of the country and individual residences. For the most part, the summer resort "dachas" are owned by the state and made available to members of government.

All buses to the Gulf were crowded with people trying to escape the heat. We toured the gardens of the Summer Palace of Peter I and his favorite place, a palace called Mon Plaisir (My Pleasure).

Monday was our first exchange. Though not centered around aviation, it was a gratifying exchange of ideas with the Union of Soviet Women. The site was the House of Friendship. At first it was very formal, but soon became less structured as we broke into small groups to share areas of interest such as medicine, education, science, law, etc. These women were not pilots but were highly educated, professional women. They share the same concerns for world peace and various problems about home and family.

Leaving Leningrad for the Georgian city Tbilisi that afternoon, we boarded, for the first time, Soviet built airplanes flown by Soviet pilots, naturally. Photos were not allowed in either the airport or the plane. The men on board with us were fascinated by all the American women; we communicated even without a common language. They appeared relaxed and fun-loving in contrast to the reserved Leningraders.

Tbilisi is the capital of Georgia, on the banks of the River Kura. The surrounding mountains were covered with fog when we arrived. Georgia is the "bread basket" of the Soviet Union and the food we were served was the best on the trip.

We met our city guide next morning -- a charming man named Tournica. The city tour began with a funicular ride to the top

Please see RUSSIA page 13. 3

THE 99 NEWS

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the GENERAL COUNSEL

By SYLVIA PAOLI

Notes: Mailing methods, legal status, taxes

Given the frequency with which we read of anti-discrimination suits I am frequently asked by members whether or not our all-female organization can continue to survive. Without going into great detail, you can rest somewhat easy in knowing that, to date, not one of those decisions was made on facts that duplicate our organization.

The majority of cases were decided because of business overtones in the club or organization being attacked. The group found to be discriminating was actually being used as a forum for making business contacts, or conducting business. The 99s are far more educational, charitable and service-oriented than those other groups, with no

business basically being conducted through our organization.

On a different note, I have been taken to task for implying, several months back, that in order to claim the immunity offered by a NASA report you were "required" to send that report by certified mail. So let me distinguish between an FAA "requirement" -- which it is NOT, and what SHOULD be a requirement for you as an individual, given the state of our mail service!

A certified mail receipt will never be important until you fail to get back the identification strip from your NASA report at about the same time the FAA decides

to charge you with a violation. It's always better to be safe than sorry, and thus I would urge you to consider it a personal requirement to send your reports by certified mail.

I have had recent reports of some 99s having their tax returns audited as to their 99 deductions. Our members have, as a rule, been very successful in defeating attempts to disallow any of those deductions. However, tax laws and procedures and personnel do change, so I would appreciate hearing from any of you unfortunate enough to face an audit. Your experience and input may be of some assistance to another member.

Richardson wins Palms-to-Pines

Gini Richardson won 1988's nineteenth annual Palms - to - Pines Air Race, flown in memory of Mary Sebelius July 22 and 23. Departing Clover Field in Santa Monica, California. 74 pilots in 38 planes started and finished the course in Bend, Oregon. The 752 sm race had a Modesto stop/fly-by and an RON at Redding enroute to Bend. The awards breakfast was on the 24th. -H. Glenn Buffington

Please see race results on page 16.



Gini Richardson

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Continued from page 2.

domestic Aeroflot flights twice -- an experience in itself. We had been implored to wait for the Moscow meeting; surely they would materialize women pilots for us there.

The flight from Tbilisi to Moscow was hot and humid. We were all tired and very hungry. It was 1 pm and we had been given a bag breakfast (mineral water, hard-boiled egg, bread, cheese and the ever-present cucumber) by the hotel. We had been served a single glass of juice on the hour and a half flight.

Our guide in Moscow informed us we were definitely to meet women pilots, at 5 pm at the Soviet House of Friendship. We had to be at lunch at 2 pm and then on a bus to tour the city.

What a great bunch of troopers. As hot, tired and hungry as they were, my fellow travellers jumped into their finest outfits,

gobbled down lunch and reported to the bus. We were taken to Red Square, in time for the changing of the guards at Lenin's tomb. Many of us negotiated the cobblestone in high heels. Then off to the promised meeting.

At last, Soviet women pilots! First a "Night Witch," a combat pilot from WW2. She told a fascinating story of a love affair with an American pilot. They were parted by the war and she never saw him again.

We met a parachutist and a helicopter pilot who had set many records in the Soviet Union. We all introduced ourselves and waited for the guest of honor, Valentina Tereshkova. She was as pleased to meet us as we were her. We exchanged gifts and she accepted the Ninety-Nine pin as a symbol of camaraderie with all the women pilots of the world. Meeting Valentina was the highlight of the trip for all of us. She is a beautiful, gracious lady.

This is my last message to you as your president. I have enjoyed working for you

and representing you throughout the world. Many events have happened in the last two years, and we can all be proud of our accomplishments. We will soon dedicate a beautiful, new two story building in Oklahoma City, a facility to serve as a legacy to the future of our organization because we had the foresight to do it now.

There is still much work to do. Our membership problem is turning around, thanks to Stacy Hamm, our diligent membership chairman. We need to continue her hard work, each of us reaching out to a fellow woman pilot.

But we also need to have more fun. We sometimes forget to do this and instead bog ourselves down in organizational work, becoming more and more serious about things instead of people.

We should not lose sight of the fact that the main reason we organized in 1929 was to help each other. Sometimes the serious facade we project hides the really good times we have as members of this unique organization. It's time we opened up and let others see how really great we all are.

SECTION

NEW YORK — NEW JERSEY

*...99s win top spots in '300'
...First Section fly-in held jointly with seaplane event
...Dance mixer starts good summer in NY—*

North Jersey

We finished airmarking Andover - Aeroflex Airport in June, having waited since last October when the airport name was painted, until repaving was complete this spring. Voting on next year's budget was accomplished under a tree off to one side of the runway while the first coat of paint dried.

Our annual poker run was April 30, and a great success.

Garden State

June 1 marked passage of the gavel from outgoing Chairman Diana Dade into the capable hands of newly elected Pat Valdata. Serving with Pat for the next two years will be Vice chairman Susan Kennedy, Secretary Jean Flakker, and Janet Davis, treasurer.

The Garden State 300, 16th in a row, was held June 4 with 28 airplanes taking to the skies from Allaire Airport. Racquel McNeil and copilot Steve Waldman placed second, Evelyn Kropp and her son Robert third. Jean Flakker and her 49 1/2 Mike placed eighth, Pat Valdata and copilot Robin Gaby tenth. The race was open to all licensed pilots, but four of the top ten spots went to 99s.

Other awards included a trophy for the highest fuel score with a low time crew, won by Pat, while Jean was awarded for the highest scoring team with a low time crew. Racquel won the coveted Alice Hammond Perpetual Trophy, awarded yearly to the top scoring 99. Not to be outdone, sixth place was won by 49 1/2s Jim Pifer and Joe McNeil. Thanks to superb leadership from Contest

Chairman Betty Pifer.

Jean Flakker was the 1988 recipient of the Alice Hammond Scholarship, awarded each year to a chapter member seeking an advanced rating. Jean plans to pursue her instrument rating.

New York Capital District

We hosted the first Section fly-in at the annual Speculator, New York seaplane seminar June 4. Long Island member Doris Abbate flew in to Piseco Airport for the fly-in. Harriet Bregman, Mary Wolfe and Ruth Green drove, also bringing former member Stephanie Szelwian. Central New York was represented by Dorothy Mercer.

Western New York

The Buffalo Air Field open house got our help June 26. We also provided refreshments at a safety clinic in Niagara Falls June 6, and were scheduled to have a booth at the airshow there July 16.

Central New York

New officers were elected at the June 11 meeting and are Nancy Morgan, chairman, Joanne Bolton, vice chairman, Barbara Ladd, secretary, and Marcia Buller, treasurer.

We're supporting efforts to start an Operation Skywatch program similar to that done by 99s in eastern Canada. Also, we sponsored an FAA safety seminar June 22 at Lake Oswego Airport.

Greater New York

The summer started on the right track with an informal dance mixer with the Wings Club June 8. We also scheduled a fly-in to the third annual aerobatic day with Mudry Aviation at Dutchess County Airport. Several other fly-ins are planned over the summer, although no dates are set yet.

Long Island

Doris Abbate, Mae Smith, Jill Hopfenmuller and Bozena Syska joined Orange County chapter members Elinor Todd, Barbara Ward and Kim Wilks, plus Minnesota's Gail Vail, for a tour of the tower at New York Kennedy International Airport May 26. Giving the tour was Susan Farrell, for six and a half years a controller and training specialist. Ida Van Smith and Ruth Vitaglione, Marilyn Kamp from Central New York, Eastern New England's Harriet Fuller, and Jerry Ann and Marilu Jurenka from Texas Dogwood all participated. The out of towners were onroute to Russia at the time.

Dottie Campbell and Doris Abbate joined the Aeroclub of New York in Boston to honor Edna Gardner Whyte, still a current pilot with over 35,000 hours. Doris, Ida, and Joyce Malkmes flew to Kansas for the induction of new honorees into the Forest of Friendship. Very active Governor Doris -- now international secretary -- also went to the All Canada meeting, the Southwest Section meeting in California and the New England Section meeting in Kittering, Maine.

MIDDLE EAST

*...PA pennies-a-pound good despite adversity
...Letter to FSS sparks warm feelings all around
...MD tries a new twist with sailplanes—*

Eastern Pennsylvania

Our Pennies - A - Pound encountered more problems than usual this year, but managed to turn a decent profit. By 11 am Sunday morning, the weather improved and Margot Eld started flying many waiting passengers in her Bonanza. Jim Ajamian, a

member of the NJ Pilots' Assn, joined her in his C210. Anna Daly brought her C172 from Millville, then Lynne Forbes and Jim arrived from Doylestown in their plane, and gradually the plane count went up to ten including two other members of the NJ Pilots Assn. By 4 pm thunderstorms had moved into the area so flying ceased.

Olive Krouse flew her Archer in the Delaware chapter's Poker Run, with her granddaughter and Kate Macario as passengers. Kate was impressed with the way it was run and brought home the SOP in case we want to sponsor a Poker Run sometime.

We'll soon have a new member in Ethel Bailey's student, Nancy Beck, who passed her private checkride.

Marge Pinciotti wrote in thanks to the Parkersburg FSS for their help during bad weather following the Fall Middle East Section meeting. Judy Terrana is the manager of the station and wrote to thank Marge for her letter. Judy said briefers get frustrated trying to persuade pilots to pay more attention to weather and were delighted that someone took the trouble to say thank you. She also said she had given the two briefers Letters of Commendation.

Gayle Henze and Herb, Margot Eld and Terry, Eileen Hancox and Murphy Fenstermacher all joined the Northeast Bonanza Society on a fly-in weekend to Tidewater Inn in Easton, Maryland. They met a few 99s from New England, among other interesting people.

On June 3, Gayl flew Louise Sacchi, Marge Bryant and Kate Macario to Boston to attend the Godfrey L. Cabot award luncheon at the Aero Club of New England. Edna Gardner Whyte received their award this year, and we all enjoyed her recounting of early experiences.

E.B. Weiss and John flew their Comanche to the Louisiana Air 5

Tour. Twenty planes from all over the country made the tour, enjoying canoeing, tours of NASA's rocket test facilities, an offshore housing factory, a mustang ranch, and much more.

Potomac

We held our annual banquet dinner at Amelia's restaurant in Crystal City, Virginia. Twenty of us, plus three guests, enjoyed mutual company over a delicious meal. Several announced treks to Oshkosh for the EAA fly-in. Thank went all round for support in preparing for the chapter's participation in the Aerospace and Aviation Career Day at Andrews AFB May 20.

Maryland

Seven airplanes turned out for our June meeting, a picnic at Mid - Atlantic Soaring Center in Fairfield, Pennsylvania. The idea to explore the center and take a ride in a glider was put forth and well - orchestrated by Ed Loeb and Judy Hutchinson. Those of us who took our first glider ride found a new perspective on flying.

Hampton Roads

New officers were installed at a dinner meeting June 7. They include Joan Brockett, chairman, Betty Armstrong, vice chairman, Linda Bangert, secretary, and Maria Flint, treasurer. Outgoing

in late June also.

Suffolk, Virginia airport's airmarking was completed June 11. It's beautiful -- fly over and take a look.

Western Pennsylvania

Our annual aerospace education day at Westmoreland County Airport was held May 21, with approximately 28 scouts, 12 leaders, but only seven of us attending. Even though we had small numbers, it was a great time. Charlie Green, tower chief, arranged for the state police helicopter to highlight the day with an appearance.

Washington D.C.

Lin Clayberg, Amy Leete, Hedy Jaffe, Laura Zerener and Bev Sharp attended the OX-5 dinner at the Roma Restaurant May 9. Bev talked extemporaneously about the 99s. The OX-5 club was organized in 1955 with 12,000 members who had to have owned or worked on the engine prior to December 31, 1940. Just 4000 members remain.

The Great Bland Company BBQ "N" Fly-in was such a huge success, we're going to try a campout there October 29 and 30. Peggy and Warren, Bev and Ed, Amy and Tom, Maureen and guest Anne all flew down in terrible haze to the New River Valley Airport and were met for the hour drive to R.J.'s and Dan's

The 94th Aero Squadron at College Park Airport in Maryland was the site of our annual installation banquet. New officers include Chairman R.J. McGlasson, Vice chairman Peggy Doyle, Secretary Martha Tidmore, and Holly Merrifield, treasurer.

Walt Starling, traffic pilot for WLTE radio station, was guest speaker. He described his work

Antique / Classic Division Chapter 3. We viewed some rare and beautifully restored aircraft, including a Waco RNF, 1943 Culver PQ 14, N2S-5 Stearman, Stinson 10A, a Porterfield and the incomparable Beech Staggerwing D17.

June meeting was a poker run, with stops in North Carolina at Anson County, Cheraw, Moore County and Stanley County.



CAROLINAS CHAPTER—Poker playing pilots convened at Stanley County Airport in Albemarle, North Carolina.

with an engaging presentation, remarking on the increase in women in aviation over the years. The chapter chairman's award was given to Barbara Rohde, and inscribed pins to last year's joint recognizees Joan Stalk, Betty Fisher, and Polly Carico.

Amy Leete, Barb Rohde, and Lin Clayberg flew out to a beautiful Forest of Friendship celebration in Kansas. Gerda Ruhnke's plaque is near the dogwood tree and flag of Virginia. Banquet guest speaker Jeana Yeager was much enjoyed.

Eileen Malan's pair of Jacks was the winning hand. Business meeting was followed by a buffet hosted by Sylvia Hams. picture

Florida Goldcoast

Father's Day was celebrated with a fly-in at Indiantown Airport, which holds the distinction of having the longest grass runway in the U.S. at 6300' X 250'. It was used for heavy aircraft and bomber training in World War II. All 22 attendees then went to Seminole County Inn for a buffet lunch, and after thoroughly stuffing themselves, flew home in various aircraft of a new class: Cessna 172 heavy ... Bonanza heavy ... Decathlon heavy.

Florida Spaceport

In April, the subject was "How to Fly an Air Race," which helped five crew teams ready themselves for the fourth annual Great Southern Air Race. Jeannie Ball represented the chapter at the NIFA Safecon meet in Monroe, Louisiana. Several went to the Section meeting in Perry,

SOUTHEAST

...Father's day fly-in at U.S.' largest grass strip
...Spaceport begins youth programs at Space Camp—

Carolinas

We met in May at Burlington Municipal Airport, in conjunction with the annual EAA Fly-in of the North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia



HAMPTON ROADS—This able crew turned out to airmark a compass rose at the Suffolk, Virginia airport.

chairman Rosemary Doud received the chapter's gift of a silver Amelia Earhart commemorative coin. Rosemary represented us at the International Forest of Friendship

cabin at the foot of Big Walker Mountain. Lin zoomed down I-81 direct from Hagerstown and beat them all in a Porsche, making the 300 miles about an hour ahead of the pilots.

Georgia.

May meeting took place at the newly opened Space Camp in Titusville, Florida. We toured the facilities, and starting in June, some of us will lead guest programs for youngsters attending the camp this summer.

Florida Suncoast

A poker run was held in May, with 50 participating. First prize was \$99; a member donated the \$49.50 second prize. Hostess was Doris Briggs at the terminus airport in Venice, Florida. The route of flight took planes along the beautiful suncoast of Florida. A potluck was held afterward.

The June meeting was a business meeting at Mary Bryant's home, with 30 attending.

NORTH CENTRAL

...Forty one turn out for Illi-Nines race...Chicago takes five committee awards at Section meeting ...Three Rivers honors Cochran in cut crystal—

All Ohio

We welcomed beautiful weather for the Buckeye Air Rally June 11. David Crossen and Norbert Hoffman took first place in the 201 mile course, which began at Ashland County Airport and featured three airport pylons, three mystery locations, and a fly-by over Charles Mell Dam. Mary Whitacker of Coshection, Ohio won the spot landing contest at the end of the rally. Dottie Anderson with Harold Carey and Mike Vucelic with Nick Vucelic came in second and third respectively.

Aux Plaines

Cook Memorial Library in Libertyville, Illinois featured the 99s in an aviation display during June. Created by Virginia Rabung, it highlighted women in aviation, the Illinois Air Bear program, and memorabilia.

Toni Reinhard, Johanne Noll, Mary and Carl Wedel, Margaret and Henry Biedron, Sue Johnson, and Virginia Rabung assisted at the Illi-Nines Air Race June 2-5 at Danville, Illinois. Participants

numbering 41 kept our fueling and impoundment teams busy.

A June meeting at Campbell Airport added to our treasury with a lunch auction.

Virginia attended the June 11 meeting of Silver Wings in Des Plaines, Illinois, where Verne Jobst was guest speaker.

Central Illinois

We were well - represented at the Illi - Nines Derby in Danville, Illinois, which Lynne Trupin and Jean West co - chaired. Barbara Jenison and Betty Le Compte served on the hospitality committee. Theo Sommer, Wanda Whitsitt and Rose Andrew were the transportation committee. Anita Albert was part of the fueling team. Bob West, Max and Deed Holcomb, Bob Hull, and Barbara Jenison judged pylons. George Sommer drove over 200 miles transporting people and helping with errands. Seven members and two 49 1/2s flew in the race, including Wanda, Linda Schumm, and Rose Emhoff, Marge and Don Hughes, Lou Trupin, Barbara Brusseau and Mary Waters, and Linda Hamer.

Chicago Area

Our members came home from the North Central Section Spring meeting with five first place committee awards. For aerospace education, Chairman Connie Millie - Grubberman; aviation activities, Chairman Sue Kulik; membership, Chairman Sharon Ann Schorsch, 66 membership, Chairman Pat Thomas; and scrapbook, Chairman Yvonne Warren. Gail Wenk received the Governor's Service Award for her outstanding contributions. Madeleine Monaco, who completed her multiengine instructor certification, was honored with an AE Scholarship medal.

Other goings on of note: Ruth Rockcastle was named Accident Prevention Counselor of the Year for the Great Lakes region at the General Aviation District Office 3's Accident Prevention Counselor Awards dinner. The Great Lakes Region consists of 12 districts in eight states ... Ruth Franz and Mary Panczynszyn gave

a slide presentation about women in aviation and the 99s to the White Collar Club of Elgin, Illinois ... We completed air-marking Howell New Lenox Airport, with Cynthia Madsen and 49 1/2 Ralph, Connie and Mike Miller - Grubberman and their son Chris, Ti Flentge, Jeff Heal, Sue Kulik, Ed Beaulieu, Mary Ellen Landen, and Ruth Rockcastle applying final touches ... Air activity this month featured a tour of the new FSS at Greater Kankakee Airport, given by John Bogusch and Rod McClure. Twenty two in seven planes participated.

Greater Kansas City

Installation of officers was a highlight of our June 2 meeting. The Blue Maxine Scholarship was given to Janet Mason, for completion of instrument and multiengine ratings. Janet was also honored with our chapter's member of the year award with a plaque and a pen set.

Many attended the June 18 International Forest of Friendship ceremonies, and afterward met for lunch in downtown Atchison, Kansas.

Greater St. Louis

Anna Galakatos hosted our summer swim party June 21. The water was delightful since we, like the rest of the midwest, have suffered extremely hot, dry conditions.

We sold donated items at the Gundaker Realtor's Annual Craft / Garage sale on June 25. Due to the record breaking heat, the turnout was not as good as usual, but we did add to our treasury.

Ruth Bohnert and Laura Winkelmann, our newest member, competed in the Illi - Nines Derby. They brought home the rookie pilot trophy, this being their first race.

Indiana

Highlight of our June meeting at Columbus Airport was the installation of officers and recognition of new and 25 year members, including Esther Berner, Verda Brittingham, Mid Fernandes, Ethel Knuth, Mildred Moore, Gloria Richards and Dorothy Smith, who all shared their 99 stories. New members

recognized include Dorothy Hudson, Susan Skelton, Marcia Gietz, Leann Anthony, Juanita Hull - Pollock, Sharon Pfeiffer, Patricia Schroeder, Lisa Fall, Nancy Warren, Linda Orth, Susan Sears, and Mary Shanley.

Anne Black, airmarking chairman, reported completion of two projects, one at Greenwood Municipal Airport June 4, and one at Mount Comfort Airport June 10.

Nita Hull - Pollock, Lafayette Tower Chief, will be working in the tower at Oshkosh, Wisconsin during the EAA Convention this year.

Indiana Dunes

Charlene and Walt Falkenberg and Diana Austin chaired the Indiana Dunes Air Rally this year. The event was a proficiency and a mystery race, with 30 questions. Joy Black and a friend took first place; Phyllis Petcoff and her son, second; Chris and Rawson Murdock third; and Linda Mattingly and Joy Rickel fourth place.

Charlene, Courtney and Earl Bargerhuff, Joy, and Verne and Paula Rickel represented us at the International Forest of Friendship. Courtney accepted the certificate from Faye Gillis Wells on behalf of Jane Wilson.

Our new booth made its debut at the Elkart Air Show. Joy Black did an expert job in its creation. Several chapter members were at the air show talking up the 99s and selling items for the chapter.

Kentucky Blue Grass

We're proud of our new airmarking project at the Southwest Regional Airport and look forward to the next.

Skip and Mary Jo Gumbert, Martha Kuhn, and Kaye Moore were present to see our nominee to the Forest of Friendship, John Paul Riddle, accept his certificate. Mr. Riddle is a Kentucky native.

Lake Erie

Jim and Evelyn Moore of Mentor, Ohio hosted our June installation meeting. New officers are Marg Juhasz, chairman; Sandy Stokes, vice chairman; Alice Henry, secretary; and Evelyn Moore, treasurer.

Bev Demko, a member of the Yankee Air Force, crewed on a World War II B-25 for the YAF Memorial Day activities at Willow Run Airport in Michigan.

Minnesota

We're welcoming new members Jean Leeth and Pat Koslowsky.

A basket social and t-shirt contest June 26 was the first of our flying activities this fiscal year. The event was planned by new activities co-chairmen Ellie and Bill Nelson.

Despite a large number of problems, Debbie Sorrenson and her crew airmarked a hangar roof at the airport at St. Cloud, Minnesota June 14. They were short of supplies and were relocated, but all letters were completed by sundown.

Officers were installed at a June 12 meeting, and include Chairman Liz Groth, Vice chairman Kathy Berg, Secretary Bonny Lewis, and Treasurer Liz Lanreslag.

Three Rivers

We met at Baer Field to visit the 122nd Tactical Fighter Wing of the Air National Guard in June. Bob Myers briefed us, answered our many questions, and showed us their maintenance hangar.

Our annual AE commemorative cut crystal is complete. This year it features Jackie Cochran and the Women Air Force Service Pilots. We hope to have it on display at the convention. Marcia Nellans or Linda Pulver have raffle tickets.

SOUTH CENTRAL

...Houston helps Martha Esch 'Barnstorming U.S.A.' ...Twenty try radio contest with formation flight—

Colorado

Diana Williams hosted our annual family picnic at Parkland Estates with swimming, tennis and an afternoon of fun, food, and hangar flying.

Dallas

We're putting out a chapter roster with Bonnie Tassa as editor. It will include each

member's occupation, number, names and ages of her children, grandchildren, and so on, place and date of birth, hobbies, aviation awards and flying activities, membership in flying organizations, posts held in the 99s, date she began flying and was licensed, her ratings and aircraft ownership, and home flying base.

Pauline and Jack Winthrop hosted the fly-in, drive-in, perennially perfect picnic. We had an opportunity to inspect old and new planes in the Winthrop's hangar. They've returned from flying their Waco to a biplane fly-in at Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

We've begun a program of sponsorship for 66 pilots. Each is matched with a 99 and they promise to listen to each other's flying stories. The 99s provide encouragement and share the spirit of flying. When the student passes her checkride, her sponsor is privileged to pin her as a new 99.

July 16 we began the first of a series of fly or drive lunches.

Fort Worth

We're welcoming new members Ronie Britton, Helen Houpt, and Carole Morris.

El Paso

We were pleased to have 66 Robin Weiman at the installation banquet. She's flying a Cessna 152 and has passed her private written exam. Fara Green is new chairman, Debbie Reavis, vice chairman, Guadalupe Hernandez, secretary, and Marsha Mascorro, treasurer.

Other goings on: We sold 58 breakfasts, part of our ongoing fundraising effort, at the June breakfast at West Texas ... A flying seminar for the local Girl Scouts on June 24 ... Vickie Wingett's presentation to the El Paso Aviation Assn. June 28 was reportedly excellent. She spoke on career avenues via the Air Force Academy, ROTC, and as an airline pilot.

Lubbock

It is with great sorrow we report that Gladys and Bill Harr were killed in the crash of their plane north of Abilene, Texas June 26. Their two grandchildren



DALLAS—Compass rose airmarkers (above) at McK-inney Airport are l. to r. Bonnie Tassa, chairman and her son John, and 66 Jenni Smiddy. At right, photographer Margie Carter captures the unusual method employed by Missy Tipshaw. Barbara Kurtz, Coastal Bend chapter, and a more conventional painter is in the background. Below are new El Paso chapter officers l. to r. Fara Green, chairman; Debbie Reavis, vice chairman; Guadalupe Hernandez, secretary; Marsha Mascorro, treasurer.



were also on board. Gladys was a chapter member, and she and Bill together were very supportive of the 99s. Gladys was commander of the Lubbock Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, a post that Bill had held as well.

Flying was an important part of the Harr's lives. They were well qualified pilots, both instrument rated; whatever happened up there had to be beyond their control. We will miss them very much.

Houston

Ninety - Nines here have been active in several flying activities.

Anita de Villegas and Peggy Campbell created an informal welcoming committee for Martha Esch's "Barnstorming U.S.A." journey. Martha's is a five month project, an aerial hitch-hike across the country; she accepts rides strictly in vintage aircraft. She plans to write about the adventure in a book on vintage planes and their owners, after trip completion in October. Anita, by the way, did fly Martha to LaPorte, Texas in her T-6.

A very successful airmarking was accomplished by the chapter, at the Westheimer Airpark. We did both runways

and the name.

Improvements to the pilot facilities at Weiser Airpark were attempted by a group of 20 pilots who entered a local radio station contest and flew a formation of the station's call letters. Carol Brackley, Anita de Villegas, Lois Gronau and Susie Bradley took part. Though we didn't take the grand prize, it was a true aviation experience.

Rose and Bill LePore finished second in the great Southern Air Race, coming home with cash and prizes. Incidentally, they also flew Edna Gardner Whyte back home to Texas. If anyone see Edna, ask her about the 49 1/2's landing. Cathy and Mike Wappler finished the race in the middle.

For the fourth year, Lois Gronau again drove the Sports Car Club of America Grand Prix in Copperas Cove, Texas. She finished second in the Mazda 626.

Kansas

We're welcoming Cheryl Sutton, who joined the 99s at a meeting Janet Yoder hosted in June. Helen Simmons, a charter member, drove all the way from Abilene to attend. Officers were installed, and Marilyn Copeland gave a comprehensive report on the activities at convention.

Sammy Lambrechtse has been promoted into engineering at Beech Aircraft.

Northeast Kansas

We're welcoming new member Debra Clark, who recently received her private license.

New officers installed in June are Virgene Smolik, chairman; Brooks Powell, vice chairman; Evie Aussen, secretary; and Trish Greufe, treasurer. The meeting was primarily a business planning session. Evie shared pictures from her trip to Australia and New Zealand.

Other goings on include Trish attending an airline academy in Orlando, Florida ... Marge and Jim Wahle made arrangements for the airmarking at Junction City. Others in attendance were Margie and Gene Smith, Brooks Powell, Joyce Russ, Debbie Clark, Connie Troyer, Susanne Batz, Virginia and Jack Colbert,

Evie Aussen, and Rose Whinery.

Oklahoma

Friendly faces prevail as the 10th annual Okie Derby swings onto final with Jan Perry as control chief.

Susie Sewell is coordinator of the A.E. luncheon during convention, and along with the Tulsa chapter, we're planning a presentation there also.

Other goings on include Helen Holbird and Poochie Rotzinger, recorders and gofers at the Okie Twistoff Regional Aerobatic Contest in Stillwater, Oklahoma ...

Two airmarkings were completed June 11 at Arrowhead and Fountainhead state lodges. Susie Mitchell, Poochie, Carol Sokatch, Shirley Brown and Sherry Kelly, along with 49 1/2s, were a busy bunch ... Helen Holbird has accepted the office of secretary ... Pam Jones is hosting Rosemary Jones, a Florida 99, before convention. Instead of a hotel bill, Rosemary will make a chapter donation. Wouldn't it be great to hve a 99 bed and breakfast club worldwide? ... Norma Vandergriff was honored by the Flying Farmers in Oklahoma and at the international convention in St. Louis, Missouri ... Jan and Charlie Perry, Phyl and Bob Howard, Sue and Bill Halpain, and Susie and Phil Mitchell flew to the Bahamas May 13-17.

Pikes Peak

A May installation dinner was held in Colorado Springs, Colorado. New officers are Linda "Clancey" Maloney, chairman; Cindy Wright, vice chairman; Bev Giffin, secretary; and Von Alter, treasurer. Clancey presented Phyllis Wells with a small statue of a falcon in appreciation of her organization for the Section meeting we hosted last fall. Cindy gave Clancey "the only airplane the chapter could afford" -- a balsa wood model -- accompanied by a gift certificate for an hour of flight time. The evening ended with a birthday celebration complete with a 99 - shaped cake.

Captain Michelle Atchison hosted the June meeting, where we discussed and voted on bylaw changes. Elected delegates to the

convention are Joan Boyd and Irene Wackernagel.

Safety chairman Sandra Steinmeier presented a fascinating in-depth study of the January fatal crash of one of her Peterson AFB flying club planes. One point raised was that even if the pilot is well qualified in all aspects, is the right seat passenger someone who will cause a problem in the cockpit?

We will soon lose a very active member in Major Kelly Hamilton - Barlow (USAF). She is being transferred to Grissom Air Force Base in Indiana. Though Kelly says she's glad to return to piloting instead of instructing academy cadets, we'll miss her.

Other goings on include Bev Giffin, who plans ten days in Oshkosh, Wisconsin as chairman of airplane greeters for the annual EAA convention ... Cam Stomberg and Clancey represented the 99s safety interests at the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments Seminar on regional aviation planning ... Congratulations to Tammie Williams on her new job as a reservations agent with America West Airlines ... to Clancey for passing her CFI written ... and to Joanne Wormsbacher on passing her medical, getting current, and helping pilot her Cessna 182 to Florida for a business convention.

Purple Sage

We painted a second compass rose and name at Midland Airpark, and had excellent TV coverage of the work. Chairman

Betty Jones gave individual awards to a paint bespeckled bunch.

We've created an enviable record for sponsorship of monthly FAA safety meetings, with one each month so far this year. We even delivered a portion of the program in May.

Our fourth annual Poker Rally gets bigger and bigger. It started with an old - fashioned picnic, then hands were judged. Pat Day was in first place for \$99. Second was Florence Erdmann, third Mary Vroman, and in fourth place, Harold Vroman.

Six of us flew to Denver City for breakfast in June.

AIRSHO 88 was, again, our big money maker. Though short-handed, we survived anyway at the biggest airshow in this area. Afterward, JoAnn and Steve Price held a swimming party at their home. Two C-5 pilots also came, and without much experience in small planes, were very interested in the ideas and attitudes of private pilots.

South Louisiana

The Lafayette Airshow in May was attended by Jan Phillips, Liz Stuller, Pat and Lauren Ward, Margaret Standing, and Sandra Leder.

Lake Charles members plan to airmark Lake Charles Regional in time for the September open house. They practiced by helping Jennifer Miller with the Southland Field grand opening. Airmarkers included Lisa Cotham, Glad Streen, Ziggy Novak, Deb Ransdell, Cathie

NEW RATINGS

Mary Sand, Western N.Y. chapter: CFII ... Marge Koval, Western N.Y.: instrument ... Evie Washington, Potomac: instrument ... Fran Huritz, Chicago Area: instrument ... Debra Clark, Northeast Kansas: private ... Becky Wageman, Pikes Peak: commercial and MEL ... Cindy Wright, Pikes Peak: MEL ... Kay Roam, Oklahoma: CFII ... Stephanie Stone, Oklahoma: private ... Janie Bailey, Lubbock: MEL, CFII ... Jane Bartos, Lubbock: commercial ... Margarita Martinez, Tulsa: CFII ... Tianna Ektzhorn, Tulsa: Learjet ... Susan Chapple, Santa Barbara: instrument ... Nancy Clinton, Long Beach: instrument ... Chris Emmons, Santa Barbara: instrument ... Diann Laing, Reno Area: instrument ... Lucia Malek, Santa Barbara: seaplane ... Elaine Tzetos, Long Beach: MEL and ATP ... Lee Wilkerson, Santa Barbara: CFII ... Aimee Kuprash, Willamette Valley: CFII ...

CONGRATULATIONS ALL!

Miller, Sandra Leder, Dee Wilson and Nancy Koonce.

The Hammond Balloon Festival and Airshow was helped by the efforts of Karen Milchanowski and Margie Griener. Pat and Lauren Ward, Sandra Leder, and Margaret Standing also participated.

Pat is serving on the board for the U.S. National Hot Air Balloon Championship, which will be held in Baton Rouge in 1989, 1990 and 1991. She'll be in charge of emergency medical services and air search and rescue.

Nancy Koonce is the new chairperson for the Lake Charles Airshow.

In response to anti - aviation state legislation, Louisiana pilots are forming the Aviation Assn. of Louisiana with Pat Ward as acting executive director.

Tip of Texas

Our June meeting was well attended in number and spirit. Past chairman Kathy Davis expressed appreciation to officers serving with her and congratulations to Lesa Grider and the other newly elected officers. Gifts and cards were presented to past officers, along with a beautiful book of photographs and mementos.

We accepted the invitation to manage the PX concession at the August Air Show.

NORTHWEST

...Weekend in Coeur d'Alene, Bobbi Trout made pleasant outing...Tired of poker? Fly for eggs..—

Willamette Valley

Six of us met with the Southern Oregon chapter in Ashland recently to work on the upcoming Northwest Sectional. Included in registration will be such options as a Friday evening Oregon wine tasting party followed by the Shakespearean play "Twelfth Night," and a Sunday morning Rogue River jet boat trip with a stop along the way at the OK Corral for a champagne brunch. It promises to be a memorable meeting.

In June, Jan Amundson, Verda Giustina, Mary Ellen Hobin,

Sally Plumley and past member Karen Anderson took off for the East Coast in two Cessna 172s. They had a great time and good weather while touring the New England states "just for the fun of it."

Columbia Gorge

Discussion of the use of auto gas in airplanes took place at the May meeting in Hood River. Some reported the presence of higher pressures with autogas when removing the gas cap, if fuel inside is hot.

We met the Mid-Columbia and Central Oregon chapters to discuss plans for the 1989 Section meeting in Sun River, Oregon.

Intermountain

A memorable weekend started June 24 at Silverwood in North Idaho and Coeur d'Alene. We met at Silverwood Theme Park Saturday morning, and also saw the Norton Aero Museum, general store, Main Street Theater, High Noon Saloon, Curtiss Aeroplane Factory and took a ride on the Silverwood Center Railway antique train! We met at noon at Lindy's Restaurant for lunch. Northwest Governor Pegge Blinco shared several proposed bylaw changes to be voted on at convention.

An afternoon airshow was enjoyed by all. The evening dinner at the Coeur d'Alene Resort on the Lake completed this wonderful weekend. Special guest speaker and charter member Bobbi Trout told of her many experiences as a pilot in the early years, and made available signed copies of her autobiography, *Just Plane Crazy*.

Mid Columbia

Our 4th Annual Spring Egg Hunt was from April 1 until May 14. Searching for eggs at 15 different airports, 50 members from various northwest chapters registered to participate. The awards luncheon was held May 14, with guest speaker Captain Joe Bulmer of the 1988 USAF Thunderbirds. Bulmer flies the number three aircraft in his second year as right wing pilot. We viewed a short film about the Thunderbirds, including scenes

from the cockpit during an airshow.

After the luncheon we were given free admission to the Thunderbird Airshow at the Pasco Airport.

SOUTHWEST

...Fog halts proficiency flying, so how 'bout a brewery tour instead?...AE photos, sealed 50 years, shown by photographer—

Aloha

Two chapter scholarships were given at the anniversary banquet held at Hickam Air Force Base. Student pilot Eileen Lambert was presented the Lani Read Memorial Scholarship to help complete her private license. Carol Read received the Aloha chapter Scholarship for her multiengine rating. The recognition award went to Lois Russell, for her contributions during the past year. Mimi Tomkins was also honored by the chapter. She had just returned from the mainland after qualifying for captain of the Boeing 737.

Bakersfield

We've been busy fueling aircraft and acting as hostesses for the Hayward - BFL - Las Vegas air race. Special mention goes to Maude Oldershaw for again organizing our part in the race and to official timers Judith Faulstick and Marianne Laxague. We also worked at the Minter Field Warbird Show parking planes and sponsoring a membership booth.

Bay Cities

A taco party was the highlight of our July get - together. We enjoyed good food, conversation, and especially a presentation by Pat Chan and Joyce Wells on their trip to Russia. Ruth Rueckert attended the Forest of Friendship ceremonies, and Don and Ann Keith celebrated their 42nd wedding anniversary with a trip to Africa, Victoria Falls, and Zimbabwe.

Cameron Park

"Aerospace Day for Kids," organized by Linda Swan and five others, had 500 children

involved in rocket building, astronaut training, kites, paper airplane construction, and a balloon launch. Julie Clark, appearing in her Northwest Airlines captain's uniform talked to the group, and an SR71 team from nearby Biehl AFB performed to the thrill of the crowd.

Other goings on: Esther DeYoung and her 49 1/2 flew their Cessna 182 to Idaho Falls to visit friends including Eastern Idaho chapter members ... Jeanette Bell attended the recent Flying Nurses convention in Washington, D.C.

El Cajon Valley

Goings on include the Pacific Air Race board, which completed final details for the October 1 event ... We airmarked Romona airport and plan to do Gillespie Field soon ... Over 300 elementary school children competed in our annual essay contest. The winner got an airplane ride ... Dottie Campbell represented us May 31 at the Aviation Day in National City schools ... Doris Ritchey won the Science Teacher award.

Fullerton

Goings on include these: Mary MacDonald and Kim Wilkes, of Orange County chapter, were on hand at the Forest of Friendship to accept the certificate for the late Darlene Brundage, both our chapters having sponsored her ... Joyce Ilves was named to a second term as treasurer of the Fullerton Airport Pilots Assn ... Cathy and Kevin Croy introduced their son, Christopher, to the world on July 1 ... We also welcome Kimberly, daughter of Robynn and Jim Gualtierre.

Golden West

Goings on: Yvonne Souza and Jayne Snook were each awarded scholarships toward their commercial ratings ... Our member Pat Forbes was elected international treasurer.

Las Vegas Valley

A tour of the Nellis AFB tour and radar room brought 23 attending. Special thanks to Linda Gagnon for arranging the tour.

Long Beach

Mary Pinkney donated her honorarium from the Women's Fellowship of the Neighborhood Church to our chapter scholarship fund. She spoke on her trip to Tibet, including her visit with Chinese general aviation pilots and parachutists.

Sharon Crawford flew a twin Comanche to Denver on business and managed to spend some time with Joyce Jones and Wally Funk. Connie and Bill Farmer's daughter, Jean, soloed on her sixteenth birthday. Flying since age nine, Jean is now a tenth grader, interested in music, and working part time washing aircraft.

Marin County

Going on include our Bearport booth at the Wings of Victory airshow in May, bringing in scholarship donations, new members, prospectives, and 66s

... LaVonne Boyle, Anne Silverman, Michellie Scott, Lynn Thompson, Pam LaNoue, 66s Amy Eccelsime and Jane Noble, and guests all flew to San Diego to work as volunteers at Air Space / America 88 ... Renee Adams was home from Alaska prior to the Russia trip. Said she

found landing a helicopter on an oil rig interesting and intends to return for flightseeing tours to Mt. McKinley ... June started off as busy as May, with good turnout for officer installation dinner and our first airmarking ... Elaine Bull came back from a trip to Spain ... Peggy Williams marked 1000 pilot hours on a golfing trip ... Ten of us enjoyed visiting with Australian Section member Nancy Bird Walton while here for celebrations at the Western Air Museum.

Mount Diablo

Our proficiency fly-in to Mendocino was canceled by fog, but using our resourcefulness we flew to Boonville for a warm welcome by local pilots. We were driven into town for lunch, shopping, and a brewery tour. The only disappointment was being unable to meet up with the Sacramento and Cameron Park chapters. We later discovered they made it into Mendocino VFR, but had to leave IFR.

Upcoming events include repainting the compass rose at Buchanan Field and development of a chapter slide show.

Phoenix

Phoenix is bursting with new members: Zoan Harclerade, Jo Peterson, and Lillian Rewer. Heather Horn was honored at a dinner and presented a scholarship by the Scottsdale Chapter of American Business Assn.



JUNE 1988: FOREST OF FRIENDSHIP, ATCHISON, KANSAS—Pictured l. to r. are Edna Gardner Whyte, Fay Gillis Wells, Nancy Hopkins Tier, Alice Hammond, Muriel Earhart Morrissey and her granddaughter Suzanne.

By Faye Gillis Wells

The celebration at the Forest from June 17 through 19 coincided with the sixtieth anniversary of Amelia Earhart's first flight across the Atlantic, as a passenger in the Fokker Friendship on June 18, 1928.

The anniversary of her flight triggered a silent auction of the donations given by some wonderful companies that also have endured the vicissitudes of the past six decades. And with the super cooperation of Federal Express, the donations were flown to Atchison, along with letters from Jimmy Stewart, Barry Goldwater, for Ruth Reinhold, and a beautiful proclamation from the state of Massachusetts where Amelia was discovered. Federal Express, a caring company with 50 women pilots, also arranged a special all-woman crew, for us, on one of its flights to Kansas City. 99 Janet Skliar was the first officer aboard.

Among the 45 new honorees in Memory Lane were America's first two licensed women pilots, Harriet Quimby and Matilda Moisant, Jessie Woods, John Paul Riddle, Russ Brinkley, Bob Saunders, Ruth Reinhold, charter 99 Ila Fox Loetscher, Art and Al Moey, Pauline Mallary, Sophia Payton, Harold Pitcairn, Sam Walton, James "Jimmy" Stewart and Henry Ford. Rosella Bjornsen, the first woman officer hired by

Forest of Friendship celebration brought special mix of achievers to Atchison this year; Yeager's banquet speech well-received

an airline to fly jets in North America, was accompanied by her parents and seven other enthusiastic 99s from the Western Canadian Section.

There now is a drinking fountain in the Forest, and a paved road to the top of the hill. More improvements are planned for next year.

One of our guests was Group Captain Peter Johnson, assistant Air Attache, who brought stirring messages of Friendship from Great Britain, the recipient of Amy Phipps Guest's bond of Friendship between our two countries.

Our guest speaker at the banquet was Jeanna Yeager. She looks like a fashion model, has a captivating personality and a mind like a steel trap. Jeana, a 99, with her incredible nonstop flight around the world, was an exciting climax to wind up "The Beginning of It All," as we now set our sights on the technology of today and the stars of tomorrow.

In 1989, we again may have our celebration around the middle of June -- it's cooler. Emphasis will be on Memory Lane and the Forest itself, as we seem to have celebrated most of Amelia's pertinent anniversaries over the years.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Atchison next June.

Letters

I would like to respond to the letter from Sherry Knight Rossiter (*THE 99 NEWS*, May/June 1988), of the Santa Rosa chapter. In the body of her letter she stated that "... and see that competent leaders are nominated for each elected office."

Each candidate must meet certain requirements and complete an application stating her qualifications. This application is reviewed by a committee, and if the candidate meets all the requirements, is notified of her selection. I have personally known Chanda Budhabhatti for over 12 years. Her background has been in world finance for over a decade, doing business in North America, Europe, and Asia.

There are no "tests" for "competent leaders," only their track record provides evidence of past abilities and accomplishments.

I strongly disagree with Ms. Rossiter's letter in the implication that Chanda doesn't have a "strong business background" and "understand the whole economic picture."

Barbara L. Harper
Tucson chapter

Placer Gold

Goings on include Alice Bowles, seen taking a friend and her son flying ... Marge Clinton and her 49 1/2 went to the antique fly-in at Merced and snagged the prize for best T-6 ... Pat and Bruce Tucker are off for a month of cross country in their Cessna 150, headed for Arizona, Texas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and others ... Porterville's 38th annual Moonlight Fly-in had among its attendees Pat Tucker, Marge Clinton, and their 49 1/2s. Both couples slept under the wings of their aircraft, a C150 for the Tuckers and an SNJ-6 for the Clintons.

Reno Area

Goings on: A gang of members, 49 1/2s, and 66s gathered at Yerington Airport for the air-

marking there ... We flew to Nevada City, caught a trolley and toured the city and Empire Mine ... Plans are to airmark Douglas County Airport in August.

Sacramento Valley

Goings on include a learning experience at the San Joaquin Airshow, where we tried selling coffee, donuts, and strawberries ... Bonnie Neily was honored with our service award ... Twelve flew into Harris Ranch for dinner and a night flight home ... Another fundraising inventory with Macy's was held ... Shirley Winn is recuperating from surgery June 27.

San Fernando Valley

Chapter awards were presented at our annual banquet

held this year at Sportmen's Lodge. Those honored were Coralee Tucker for Woman Pilot of the Year, Ace Nichols for the Trixie Ann Shubert Award for Service, and Judith Runyon for Rookie of the Year. Special recognition awards were given to Marcia Fuller, Marion McNiff, and Fran Slimmer for leadership and service during the past year.

A serenade by the Sweet Adelines made our last chapter meeting one to remember.

Jan Goforth did a great job as booth director at the Van Nuys Airport Expo. We sold hot dogs and soft drinks as a fund raiser and promo.

San Luis Obispo

Four planes caravanned across the county skies viewing points

of interest and broadcasting two popular KPRL radio announcers, Jim Shriver and Joe Benson. Cris Darbonne, Callie Fisher, Marsha Moore, Shirley Moore, Louise DeMore, Tina Nelson, and 66 Carolyn Corner all participated.

Santa Clara Valley

We were guests of honor as an all - woman Coast Guard helicopter crew demonstrated air - sea rescue techniques at the South County Airport. Following the event was a barbeque hosted by the Northern California Antique Aircraft Assn.

Our June meeting featured Albert Bresnik, Amelia Earhart's personal photographer. He shared movie clips and photos of Amelia that had previously been sealed for 50 years.



ROSEMARY ZANDER

Past chairman of the Greater St. Louis Chapter, Rosemary was killed when she was struck by a pickup truck as she rode her bicycle near her home on June 28. She had been an active member of the chapter and will be greatly missed.

GRACE CLARA NOBLE

A member of the Los Angeles chapter, Grace died January 14.

VIRGINIA LOEB

A glider pilot and member of the Maryland chapter, Virginia died of cancer in May. Chapter members planned a fly-by in her honor at their June meeting, which was to be held at the Atlantic Soaring Center in Fairfield, Pennsylvania.

LEAH M. WARREN

Leah died May 22, after a long bout with cancer. Originally from Newman, Illinois, she moved to St. Petersburg in 1970, and was a member of the Florida Suncoast chapter.

MARY YATES

Longtime Mount Diablo member, Mary passed away June 14 after a long battle with cancer. She was a devoted 99 for many years and will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

RUBY "DEE" KEAVENY

An enthusiastic 99 of the Aloha Chapter, Dee had been residing in Escondido the past several years. Her effervescent personality will be missed.

BONNIE RAVENSCROFT

A member of the Phoenix chapter, 24 year old Bonnie lost her life in a tragic airplane accident May 29. Cause of the crash of her Beech Bonanza, which also killed three people on the ground, is as yet unknown. Bonnie was the 1986 recipient of the chapter's memorial scholarship, awarded annually to a student of aeronautics in one of

Arizona's colleges. A private pilot with 400 hours, she participated in most chapter activities and had served as activities chairman and chapter news reporter. The petite and bubbly Bonnie will be long remembered and sorely missed by those whose lives she brightened.

Research Scholar update

By Dora Strother

Our Amelia Earhart Research Scholar program should be a source of pride for all members. The four scholars funded in eight years have significantly expanded the available literature in several fields, bringing credit to The Ninety-Nines, and newfound identity to women pilots.

Dorothy Niekamp, Indiana chapter, was the first A.E. Scholar. Her project was an annotated bibliography of women pilots. Dorothy's survey of newspapers, magazines, even movie clips resulted in a 234 page volume containing a vast number of sources.

Dorothy's research was lauded by Mr. Feulner of the Science and Technical Division of the Library of Congress as "... filling a gap in the literature of aviation." The editors of *TIME-LIFE Books* said the result of Dorothy's Amelia Earhart Research was "... invaluable in researching our book (*Women Aloft*), both to check facts and anecdotes, and to discover women pilots we had never heard of."

The second scholar was Shirley Render, Greater Winnipeg chapter, who studied Canadian women as bush and pioneer pilots. Gayle Vail, Minnesota chapter, tracked safety records of women pilots, and Dr. Claire Kopp, San Gabriel Valley chapter, conducted experimental research of how women orient themselves in flight situations.

The works of these scholars are the property of The Ninety-Nines, Inc. and may be found at headquarters.

Much work is yet to be done. The trustees of the AEMSF agree with Mr. Feulner that there are many "glaring gaps" to be filled regarding women pilots. The A.E. Research Scholar grants help to provide the missing data, and will hopefully stimulate the interest of other agencies in women pilots -- agencies such as NASA, the National Science Foundation and private sources.

Application data for A.E. Research Scholarships may be obtained by writing Ninety-Nine headquarters in Oklahoma City, OK.

RUSSIA

Continued from page 3.

of Mt. Mtatsminda. At the top we saw a newspaper with news of the summit meeting in Moscow, and though we couldn't read it, assumed things were going well by the smiles on faces all around us. Over and over throughout the trip we saw the "thumbs up" sign, and their smiles told us they were just like us.

We visited a tiny church founded in 1278 and were surprised to find hay on the floor. That afternoon we toured a Georgian art museum and were permitted to see exquisite gold and silver icons dating to the sixth century. One outstanding specimen came from the period 300 AD. The entire collection left us in awe.

The Georgian Dancers were slated for that evening in the Concert Hall, but the first half of the program was chamber music and recitations, and we began to think we had come to the wrong place. Fortunately, the Georgian Dancers performed the second half and were sensational. We had seen the Latvian Dancers in Leningrad, but our hearts belong to the Georgian.

Off to see Muxeta next, this is an ancient city built between the years 586 and 605. Its Church of the Cross is famous for being the first to have a cupola for the cross. En route we saw the remains of a bridge built by Pompeii in 65 BC. These ancient buildings made us realize the relative youth of the United States, and how much history we were experiencing in the Soviet Union.

The Union of Soviet Women of Georgia were our hosts that afternoon. They were all very strong women, and just like those we'd met before, concerned with the same things as women all over the world. Their wit and "joie de vivre" were tremendous, and the exchange was full of smiles and laughter. They thought us courageous and very strong physically to be able to fly airplanes.

Dinner was really special. We dined in the modern Palace of Official Ceremonies built by the state in 1984, and used for special events and to entertain VIPs. A wine tasting party at a 17th century winery was on the next day's agenda.

At Old Town, inside the St. Nicholas Church is a cross made of grape vines and fastened with pieces of hair from St. Nino, dating from 346 AD and still in very good shape. We stopped at a local bakery on our way back to the hotel, and met the Prime Minister of Georgia and the Minister of Coal just leaving. We took the opportunity to greet them and exchange

GEORGIA—At right, scenes from Old Town in Tbilisi, and below, workmen in Leningrad prepare wrought iron decorations for upcoming festival.



pleasantries. We also gave them delegation pins and explained our mission.

Early the next morning we boarded another Aeroflot plane for Moscow. Though anxious to see this city, we left Georgia with some sadness.

Moscow is the capital of Russia and of the USSR. It is a large, cosmopolitan city of some nine million residents and the seat of power for the entire Soviet Union. Its history dates back to 1147. The nucleus of Moscow is the Kremlin and Red Square, and this is where we began our familiarization. We were just in time to see "goose-stepping" soldiers performing a change of guard at Lenin's tomb.

Red Square was originally a marketplace. Its boundaries now are imposing ones: the Kremlin, St. Basil's Cathedral, two identical towers and Gum's department store.

Our most significant aviation educational exchange took place that afternoon at the House of Friendship, where we met the first woman in space, Valentina Tereshkova. We were also introduced to helicopter pilots and "Night Witches" -- pilots who defended Leningrad during WW2 by flying their planes "blind" (without any lights whatsoever) into combat against the German pilots.

Tereshkova arrived after introductions had been made. A national heroine to the Soviets, she is also an attractive and gracious lady. She addressed us in Russian, and through her interpreter we heard this fine Soviet spokeswoman tell about her country's space program. Tereshkova also arranged a tour of the cosmonaut training facilities for the next day.

International President Barbara Sestito presented her with a 99 pin, in thanks for her contribution to space and the inspiration she provides the world's women.

Our trip to the Cosmonaut Training Center was a pleasant ride through the



NIGHT WITCH—Looking like a couple of ordinary ladies, both were WW2 pilots of incredible courage. On the left is a Soviet who engaged German pilots in aerial combat in complete darkness, and right, 99 and former WASP Mad O'Donnell.

countryside. Neither our driver nor our guide had been there previously, and they were almost as excited as we were. Cosmonaut Yuri Malyshev, another national hero, met us and posed for pictures on the steps of the center.

Malyshev was the first Soviet cosmonaut to walk in space, and has been in space three times. He made us very aware of the camaraderie among

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EAA— 'Oshkosh'— is bi more every year

Two hot air balloons are in a pasture, ready to launch. Overhead in the distance is the Goodyear blimp. Down south are what appear as giant fireflies making their own traffic patterns. As far as the eye can see are parked airplanes. At 9 a.m. on the first day of the Experimental Aircraft Assn. (EAA) convention in Oshkosh, Wisconsin the field is closed. They have all the airplanes they can park.

The B1 bomber is here, and the Concorde is en route. Where else in the world will you find this mix of airplanes, but at Oshkosh? Here comes a helicopter, just to make the picture complete. On the grounds are warbirds, antiques, homebuilts, the ultralights, aircraft of the future and the past.

Two weeks ago this was a lazy, quiet little town with little activity at the airport. Today, it is mecca for aviation. For the next eight days you can do almost anything you want as far as airplanes are concerned. You might go to school and learn how to build an airplane or cover a wing or work on an engine. You can buy spare parts for the plane you left at home. Avionics, insurance,

hats, shirts, toys, games, videos, radios, watches, and plenty more is available for purchase. You can also join several aviation organizations, including The Ninety-Nines.

We have two spots. The friendship tent will let you sit and visit, or have a cool drink, or leave a message. Our booth in the south building will tell you all you ever wanted to know about The Ninety-Nines. Like a giant family reunion, friends are seen everywhere. Char Falkenberg is giving a forum on "flying companions." Norma Freier and Mary Panczysyn are holding forth in the freedom tent, while Edna Gardner Whyte speaks in the women's tent. Rita Eaves is talking about the women of EAA; Jane Schiek, EAA's only woman director oversees activities in the women's area. Vice-president elect Marie Christensen is speaking at the Theatre in the Woods, receiving an NAA award for a record she set, and speaking at a forum telling how to set a record. Treasurer-elect Pat Forbes is doing great in the fly market, along with Joanie Steinberger.

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er, better,

and has nothing to do with flying. It is "Operation Thirst," feeding the volunteers who make EAA tick. It takes 110 loaves of bread each day to make sandwiches. It takes 280 cases of drinks, between 80 and 100 gallons of juice, 170 cups of coffee, 995 pounds of ice, 200 pounds of cookies, and on and on. The women of EAA come back year after year to serve, and yes, we all take a turn at riding Operation Thirst. It's a great way to see the airport and a great way to help.

About 250,000 folks were on the grounds the first Saturday, and a record number on Sunday. Monday showed no sign of slowing.

The traffic pattern gets a little busy when all the warbirds take to the sky. When Verne Jobst, air show boss, was asked how he briefed them, he just shrugged.

The airshow is spectacular, and seems to get better each year. The wing walkers do a little more, and the Christen Eagles scare you more times; the whole show is one slick production with Maestro Jobst directing a symphony of airplanes from atop the airshow office. This year featured nighttime pyrotechnics, which made everyday fireworks seem a little tame. When the Concorde screams by, everyone runs to watch. The Harrier is another show stopper, this year performing a flyby with a WW2 F4U4 ... a little of the old mixed with the new.

Courtney Bargerhuff sold chances on a pedal driven Pitts Special her husband built, proceeds to go to the ways and means for North Central Section. Marcia Nellans had her armada of airplanes made of soft drink cans. She also had on an animal shirt Hazel Jones tried to buy to wear at convention, Safari to Shangri La, Oklahoma. Marti Pierce and Rita Adams, over in the friendship tent, helped registration.

The length of the list deems impossible a mention of every member who was here and needed to make Oshkosh work for the 99s. The Chicago and Wisconsin chapters carry most of the load, but 99s come from everywhere and they all pitch in to help. Susan Maule came, and brought other airline pilots, telling them they should belong to our group.

The party on Tuesday was great with both 99s and industry sitting down for dinner and hangar flying.

Oshkosh '88 was great. But then it always is.

RUSSIA

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astronauts, regardless of nationality.

The Soviet's space museum includes memorabilia from the United States, and a room devoted to Yuri Gagarin, who died in an airplane crash. Later we placed flowers at a monument honoring him and other space explorers. It was impossible not to think of the astronauts who have died in our own space program.

At the underwater training center, we saw films on cosmonaut training and were taken into a large building that houses the life-sized model of a space station. We were not allowed inside the space station, but could photograph as much as we pleased. It was an exhilarating day for all.

Sunday was the millenium of Christianity in the state of Russia and some of us attended Catholic Mass at a church in downtown Moscow. The taxi could not take us directly to it, so we walked the last couple of blocks to the church, and had a hard time finding it, because the building's exterior didn't look like a church at all.

The Mass was in Latin and at its conclusion, the Russians filed out in total silence, quite unlike our churches at home.

Later that day we toured the Kremlin and the Armory in one of the many very memorable outings of this trip. The buildings were interesting, but the art treasures inside were almost indescribable. The Armory houses the world's largest collection of gold, silver, precious jewels and Faberge eggs. The jeweled wedding gown of Catherine the Great was on display, and is priceless. A complete warehouse was filled with unbelievably beautiful golden coaches. Many were huge -- about the size of a stage coach -- and some had beautiful paintings done by famous European artists. The Soviet Czars surrounded themselves with the finest that life could offer. Their treasures were hidden behind the Ural Mountains during WW2, and are now protected behind the walls of the Kremlin underground.

With the end of our visit to the USSR drawing near, we all seemed to share the feeling that it was like nothing we had ever experienced. Their world is complex and fascinating beyond belief, but their people are like people everywhere. We had seen only a small part of the USSR,

and had sampled only some of its offerings. We all felt the want for more and that we would probably return some day.

Weather continued to be unseasonably hot and humid, so leaving the Soviet Union for a cooler Finland was something to look forward to. The flight across was not cool, however. It was cold. Frost was on everything, including the walls inside the aircraft. The captain agreed to pose with our group in front of the airplane in Helsinki -- against Soviet policy, and making our guide very nervous.

Guess what? Helsinki was hot and humid; summer had come early to Finland.

We were met at the airport by Orvokki Kuorti, governor of the Finnish Section. She and her husband Perti escorted us to our hotel. With free time to shop, we quickly discovered Finland is very expensive.

We were warmly welcomed with a champagne reception at city hall the next day. We toured the city by bus, then went to the Air and Space Museum and met more of our 99s.

Coffee was served in the conference room, and we presented gifts to the museum director, including books for the

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RUSSIA

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museum's library, then toured the facility.

Kuorti is quite a person in Finland; one whole section of the library is devoted to her and her aviation activities. Pretty neat to see one of our own so honored.

All good things must end. We had lunch in a private dining room at the Malmi Airport, and afterward the airport director took us for a tour of the only airport we'd been allowed to examine thus far. It was during this tour that we learned the impact our USPFT team and the 99s had made in Helsinki. One young man pulled a pencil from his pocket to show us he had been a part of the World Championship held there last year. He was so pleased to meet more 99s and told us of his admiration for Hazel Jones and Pat Roberts and their many contributions to the precision flying contests.

We parted with a mixture of feelings, among them that we'd once again made our own small contributions toward furthering aviation, and to better understanding between nations, and perhaps managed another tiny step toward peace in the world. Hopefully we gave the Soviets we met a better understanding of women who fly. Finally, we found it as much a thrill to sample other lands and cultures as to come home to the land of our birth. Though lands and cultures may be different, the goals, dreams and hopes of the world are pretty much the same.

PLACE #	NAME(S)	AIRCRAFT	TOTAL
1.	Gini Richardson	'81 Cessna 172P	21.762
2.	McCormack/Allen	'78 Cessna 172	21.088
3.	Romero/Scott	'78 Piper Archer II	20.148
4.	Taylor/LaMar	'71 Piper PA-28-R200	17.993
5.	Rodgers/Emick	'87 Piper Archer II	17.141
6.	Mary Rawlings	'81 Piper Warrior	16.755
7.	Miller/Sprague	'79 Cessna 172	16.707
8.	Kurrasch/Blech	'79 Grumman Tiger	16.143
9.	Schiffmann/Tarabetz	'74 Cessna 182N	15.934
10.	DeYoung/Kohler	'80 Cessna 182Q	15.775

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SCENES FROM OSHKOSH—At left, our outdoor spot was the welcome shade of a tent and the friends found beneath its cover. On the right is the booth run by members from chapters near and far, found inside one of the exhibit buildings on the airport grounds. See story by Hazel Jones, page 14.

THE 99

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