



99 NEWS

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN PILOTS®

M a g a z i n e

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NINETY-NINES® INC.

January/February 2005





99 News

To list your 99s events on this calendar page, send information to:

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73195

Email:

articles99News@cs.com

Online Form:

www.ninety-nines.org/99newsreports.html

Please indicate the name and location of the event, the contact name and the phone/fax/email.

On The Cover

*German Section
Ninety-Nine Cecilia
Rentmeister and Rio
Grande Norte Chapter
Member Amy
Ecclesine land after
a scenic flight over
Berlin and Potsdam.
Before Amy's trip to
Germany and Spain
with her partner Hollis
Walker, she emailed
Karola Schmorde, the
German Section
president, who made
sure that the Amer-
ican visitors were
warmly welcomed
to Germany.*

PERPETUAL CALENDAR

2005

MARCH

3-5 Spring Board of Directors Meeting, Ninety-Nines Headquarters, Oklahoma City, OK. Travel days March 2 and 6.

10 - 12 16th Annual Women In Aviation International (WAI) Conference, Dallas, TX. Adam's Mark Hotel.

14 Antelope Valley Ninety-Nines Famous and Fun St. Patrick's Poker Run & BBQ, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Contact: Jennifer Solee, 661-949-8872 or email shortybjm@aol.com, registration form at www.freewebs.com/AV99s.

APRIL

1 99s News Deadline, May/June issue.

12-18 Sun 'n Fun, Lakeland Linder Regional Airport, Lakeland, FL. www.sun-n-fun.org.

22-24 South Central Section Meeting, Grand Junction, CO. Contact Kris Irvin, Arkansas Chapter, 501-470-1452, rotopup@aol.com.

29-30 Mid-Atlantic Section Meeting, Gettysburg, PA. Contact Carol Church, Central Pennsylvania Chapter, 717-774-2182, flysci@aol.com.

29-30 New England Section Meeting, VT. Contact Pat Theberge, Eastern New England Chapter, 978-682-4638, ptheberge@msn.com.

29-30 New York-New Jersey Section Meeting, Ithica, NY. Contact Dee Bowles, Central New York Chapter, 607-273-2820, bowles@clarityconnect.com.

MAY

13-15 Southwest Section Meeting, Van Nuys, CA. Contact Maureen Kenney, San Fernando Valley Chapter, 818-718-7698, mkenney@sdsio.jpl.nasa.gov.

JUNE

1 99 News Deadline, July/August issue.

10-12 North Central and East Canada Section Meeting, Ottawa, Ontario.

3-5 Northwest Section Meeting, Spokane, WA. Contact Barbara Mayfield, Intermountain Chapter, 509-447-2174, barbm@povn.com.

JULY

6-10 EAA Fly-In, Arlington, WA.

11-15, Women Soaring Pilots Association Annual Training Seminar, Air Sailing

Gliderport, Reno, NV. Contact Terry tduncan!!@sbcglobal.net.

26- Aug. 1 EAA AirAdventure, Oshkosh, WI. Ninety-Nines breakfast on Friday morning in the 99s tent. Raffle drawing.

AUGUST

1 99 News Deadline – September/October issue.

21-26 International Conference in New Zealand. Fun and Fellowship Down Under. Pre- and Post-Conference tours of North and South Island are available. For additional information go to www.ninety-nines.org.



SEPTEMBER

9-11 Aviatrix's 6th International Forum of Women Pilots, Moscow, Russia.

OCTOBER

1 99 News Deadline – November/December issue.

NOVEMBER

10-12 Fall Board of Directors Meeting, Ninety-Nines Headquarters, Oklahoma City, OK. Travel days are November 9 and 13.

2005 International Conference Christchurch, New Zealand August 21-26

CONFERENCE INFORMATION:
www.ninety-nines.org

TOUR QUESTIONS AND RESERVATIONS:

Down Under Answers: 800-968-4345

(Note that this is a new number and different from the one published in the last issue.)

Email: Ninety-Nine@DUAtavel.com

Website: DUAtavel.com

NINETY-NINES CONTACT:

Pat Prentiss

951-533-3341; patprentiss@aol.com

(See p. 27 for domestic add-on rate info)

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STATEMENT OF EDITORIAL POLICY

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99s Museum of Women Pilots

BY MARGIE RICHISON
Museum Chairman

Amelia Earhart

The aircraft carrier USS Lexington, stationed at San Diego, received its orders to proceed immediately to the Pacific to search for Amelia Earhart.



Documents relating to the search for Amelia after her disappearance have been donated to the Museum.

The families of the ship's crew heard of the schedule change when they read the newspaper headlines the following morning. Sunni Gibbon's father, Jack A. Odbert, was a navigator on the Lexington.

Sunni, a member of the Santa Maria Valley Chapter, has gifted to the 99s Museum of Women Pilots her father's papers, charts and logs from this important mission. These documents detail the extensive effort to find the lost aviator. A new display has been created at the Museum, and we thank Sunni for her generosity.

Song of the Ninety-Nines

Did you know we have an official song? In 1941, *Song of the Ninety-Nines* by Dick Ballou, was officially adopted as our song. We have several copies of the original sheet music in the museum. A copy of the music and a CD are available free. Just write to the Museum of Women Pilots, 4300 Amelia Earhart Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73159-1140. In return, a donation to the museum is most welcome.

Docent Program

Carolyn Smith, Oklahoma Chapter, is organizing a docent program for the museum. We want to expand the opportunity for visitors to explore our unique collection about women in aviation by opening our doors on Saturdays.

Carolyn has a Master's degree in Library Science. She has been Director of Library Resources at the Oklahoma State Historical Society, and she managed Library and Resource Development for AOPA. She is a wonderful, energetic Ninety-Nine, and we are pleased to have her helping with the Museum.

Many thanks to all who have made donations to help the Museum. They are so important to us, and we really appreciate every one of you.

Jacqueline Cochran

We have received another wonderful gift from a Ninety-Nine. Memorabilia belonging to Jacqueline Cochran were gifted to the museum by Mari Hurley of the Imperial SO-LO Chapter. Fran Strubeck hand-carried these treasures to Oklahoma City.

Included in this collection was Jacqueline's solo log book, her world address book, her licenses and passports, her international driving permit, log books from several aircraft and many wonderful photographs.

This is a very valuable collection, and we feel very fortunate to have it.



Jacqueline's log book.

Museum to Receive NEH Assistance Grant

BY LISA COTHAM, Former Museum Chairman, New Orleans Chapter

I am so pleased and excited to share with you some very good news. Your 99s Museum of Women Pilots was recently notified that they have been selected as a recipient of a \$5,000 Preservation Assistance Grant by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

Additionally, because of the historical value, NEH classified the collection as a "We the People" project. "We the People" is a NEH initiative that

encourages Americans to explore significant events and themes in our nation's history and culture that advance knowledge of the principles that define America.

This designation will provide additional bragging rights in pursuing other grants and increase our stature in the museum community.

The grant application, submitted in May 2004, outlined the collections, their historical significance and role in accomplishing the mission of the organization.

The funding was requested to purchase supplies and equipment to use in rehousing the collection in preparation for returning the collection to the storage room upon its completion.

This was the second time this grant was applied for; the first was unsuccessful. This is a significant event for the Museum and The Ninety-Nines. My thanks to Museum Chairman Margie Richison for allowing me to make this announcement.



Visiting at The Ninety-Nines booth at the AOPA convention in October are, from left, Pat Prentiss, Bill Dunn of AOPA, Susan Larson and Elaine Morrow.

As we change our calendars to a new year, it has been tradition to make resolutions. My wish is that you take steps this year to start working toward that next item on your dream list. And if you don't have a list of things you want to do yet, be sure to make one! I suggest getting one or more of The Ninety-Nines as your supporter(s) to help you reach your goals. Really fantastic things can happen when you start with that first step.

For example, did you know that back in 1963, Ninety-Nines in the United States saved Green Stamps to "purchase" an airplane so the Korean pilots could learn to fly? In the past, Green Stamps were issued by some grocery stores, gas stations and drug stores. Individually, people could trade in their stamps for cookware, household items, etc., but collectively, with coordination by the New York Wings Club, look what they accomplished! The Piper Colt aircraft was awarded by William Piper, Sr. to Captain Kyung O Kim at the JFK International Hotel in New York.

Since taking office, I have had a marvelous time meeting new and existing members at the AOPA Convention, NIFA Regionals and the annual Oshkosh AirVenture, plus representing The Ninety-Nines at the South Central Section, Mid-Atlantic Section and New York-New Jersey Section, where we celebrated the 75th anniversary of The Ninety-Nines. Some of the pictures are included with this article. I also represented The Ninety-Nines at the 57th annual Wright Memorial Dinner in Washington, D.C. in December.

Have you checked out the Flight Training Forum email network yet? CFIs can help other Ninety-Nines with questions about training and flying, and any member can pose a question that CFIs will answer. We also have a new Military Internet Chapter (see page 22) as part of the South-

President's Message

BY ELAINE MORROW
Minnesota Chapter

west Section, and Carolyn Carpp is working on the Coast Guard Chapter as part of the New England Section. Even though we encourage the members to join local chapters for the personal contact, someone who is in the military or has been overseas for a year can really help someone facing that assignment.

As we start a new year, try something new to encourage attendance at your Chapter meetings. Many Chapters don't realize you can change your bylaws to reduce the number of business meetings per year. For example, you can have quarterly business meetings, thereby reducing the number of meetings the secretary has to record and possibly making it easier to recruit someone for the position, but still meet monthly for activities. Please send your success stories to me (elainemorrow99@aol.com) so they can be shared with all Chapter Chairs and Governors. Have a great 2005!



Elaine Morrow

Elaine joined the New York-New Jersey Section in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Ninety-Nines. Here they gather in front of the 56th Fighter Group Restaurant at Republic Airport, Farmingdale Long Island, New York.



THE NINETY-NINES WELCOMES THESE 125 NEW 99s, ACADEMIC MEMBERS AND FUTURE WOMEN PILOTS

ACADEMIC: BOECKMAN, Lindsey Rai, Section Member, South Central Section • CORDER, Mallory Kristin, Virginia Chapter, Mid-Atlantic Section • FRANCO, Jeanette, Colorado Chapter, South Central Section • GERHOLD, Laura Ann, Section Member, North Central Section • HAESSLER, Kat, Section Member, Southwest Section • MACEN, Maximina M., San Gabriel Valley Chapter, Southwest Section • ROSS, Evelyn Elizabeth Evie, Section Member, South Central Section • SHORES, Tami D., Colorado Chapter, South Central Section • WEYBRECHT, Maria Faith, Lake Erie Chapter, North Central Section • WIXOM, Lisa Renee, Intercollegiate Internet Chapter, North Central Section

FUTURE WOMAN PILOT: ALLEYNE, Camille Wardrop, Washington DC Chapter, Mid-Atlantic Section • ASH, Julie A., San Luis Obispo Co. Chapter, Southwest Section • BARNETT, Melinda Kaye, Oregon Pines Chapter, Northwest Section • BERGMAN, Theresa Ann, Kitty Hawk Chapter, Southeast Section • BLAKE, Susan M., Central New York Chapter, New York-New Jersey Section • BRENDER, Alexandra Melati, Embry-Riddle Daytona Chapter, Southeast Section • BROTSKI, Chris Marie, Ventura County Chapter, Southwest Section • BYRNE, Amy Katherine, North Jersey Chapter, New York-New Jersey Section • CLARK, Lisa Cristina, Colorado Chapter, South Central Section • COMPTON, Mary Potter, Santa Barbara Chapter, Southwest Section • COOPER, Autumn D., Colorado Chapter, South Central Section • DILEO, Julianne Corrine, North Jersey Chapter, New York-New Jersey Section • DONNER, Amelia Jo, Kentucky Bluegrass Chapter, North Central Section • DURHAM, Randi Rene, Oregon Pines Chapter, Northwest Section • FULTON, Mary Elizabeth, El Paso Chapter, South Central Section • GARCIA, Billie D., Shreveport Chapter, South Central Section • GOAD, Leisa Allison, San Diego Mission Bay Chapter, Southwest Section • GOETZE, Sandra Terry, Reno Area Chapter, Southwest Section • HARNETT, Lenna G., Long Beach Chapter, Southwest Section • HARPER-MERRETT, Hannah, Montreal Chapter, East Canada Section • KROCHMAL, Nancy M., Maryland Chapter, Mid-Atlantic Section • LARSEN, April Ashley, Embry-Riddle Daytona Chapter, Southeast Section • LEQUA, Rachel Ann, Colorado Chapter, South Central Section • LI, Sylvia, Santa Clara Valley Chapter, Southwest Section • LOESCHNIG, Brittany Nicole, San Diego Mission Bay Chapter, Southwest Section • MAAS, Nancy Carol, Redwood Coast Flyers Chapter, Southwest Section • MARTINEK, Cheryl Ann, Minnesota Chapter, North Central Section • MC CARTHY, Lisa Marie, North Jersey Chapter, New York-New Jersey Section • MCGUAN, Mary Ann, Indiana Chapter, North Central Section • MURRAY, April, Carolinas Chapter, Southeast Section • OSBORNE, Shannon R., Central New York Chapter, New York-New Jersey Section • PHILLIPS, Joy M., Australian Section • PIERCE, Jeanne Elaine, Reno Area Chapter, Southwest Section • PRUKOP, Genevieve Helen, Las Vegas Valley Chapter, Southwest Section • RUETTIGERS, Lianetta M., Old Dominion Chapter, Mid-Atlantic Section • SAILER, Shelley Anne, Aloha Chapter, Southwest Section • SHIPP, Jean F., Greater Detroit Area Chapter, North Central Section • SIKKEMA, Caitlyn Ross, Intercollegiate Internet Chapter, North Central Section • SINGER, Karen M., Tennessee Chapter, Southeast Section • SLINGERLAND, Mary Elizabeth, Connecticut Chapter, New England Section • SNYDER, Jacqueline Leigh, Connecticut Chapter, New England Section • THEURER, Mary C., Antelope Valley Chapter, Southwest Section • THORNBURG, Chrissie Leigh, Fort Worth Chapter, South Central Section • TYSON, Elisa M., Redwood Coast Flyers Chapter, Southwest Section • VOGEL, Julie Renee, Intercollegiate Internet Chapter, North Central Section • WARNER KEEGAN, Sarah Helen, Eastern New England Chapter, New England Section • **NINETY-NINE:** ALEXANDER, Charlotte T., Santa Barbara Chapter, Southwest Section • ANWAR, Shazia, Arabian Section • ARMINGTON, Judie A., Washington DC Chapter, Mid-Atlantic Section • BAKER, Cheryl Ann, Western Washington Chapter, Northwest Section • BARNARD, Janet Ann Baldwin, Scioto Valley Chapter, North Central Section • BATT, Jacque, Idaho Chapter, Northwest Section • BAUER, Kathryn Anne, Greater Detroit Area Chapter, North Central Section • BEARD, Helen Alice, New Zealand Section • BIGBY, Diane Marie, Reno High Sierra Chapter, Southwest Section • BLAIR, Kimberly Beth, Section Member, Northwest Section • BOAKLE, Tomie Ann, Alabama Chapter, Southeast Section • BOLINGER HOWARD, Joy Misty, Section Member, Southeast Section • BREDIN, Lynn N., First Canadian Chapter, East Canada Section • BRYMAN, Shanna Blake, Phoenix Chapter, Southwest Section • BURLINGAME, Elizabeth Renee, Section Member, Southwest Section • BYLOK, Halina, First Canadian Chapter, East Canada Section • CODDINGTON, Christine Caryn, Pikes Peak Chapter, South Central Section • COLVETTE-PEPPER, Peggy Ann, Alabama Chapter, Southeast Section • CONRAD, Christie M., Western New York Chapter, New York-New Jersey Section • COZART, Anne, Fort Worth Chapter, South Central Section • DA SILVA, Flavia Padilha, Brazil Section • DATE, Noriko, First Canadian Chapter, East Canada Section • DAVIS, Barbara June, Yavapai Chapter, Southwest Section • DENNISON, Kathy S., Fort Worth Chapter, South Central Section • DURRER, Ursula Maria, Rio Grande Norte Chapter, South Central Section • EHRENREICH, Judy A., Long Beach Chapter, Southwest Section • ENGBERG, Chelsea Stein, Placer Gold Chapter, Southwest Section • ENNIS, Beth A., Long Beach Chapter, Southwest Section • FINELLI, Angela Mazzamaro, Connecticut Chapter, New England Section • FRASER, Rhona, New Zealand Section • FU, Wenyu, Aloha Chapter, Southwest Section • GANJI, Radhika, Florida Suncoast Chapter, Southeast Section • GARDY, Christine Stephanie, Austin Chapter, South Central Section • GAZIT-YAARI, Naama, Israeli Section • GILDAY, Kerri Lynn, Section Member, New York-New Jersey Section • GILES, Jolynn Mary, Section Member, North Central Section • HARRIS, Korina Marie, Section Member, New York-New Jersey Section • HEITKOTTER, Shari, Fresno Chapter, Southwest Section • HILLSTRAND, Mary Margaret "Mo", Alaska Chapter, Northwest Section • HINES, Sharon J., Colorado Chapter, South Central Section • IBBOTSON, Margaret E., Alaska Chapter, Northwest Section • ISEDA, Dareth, Florida Gulf Stream Chapter, Southeast Section • JENSEN, Karole K., Carolinas Chapter, Southeast Section • JENSEN, Marilyn Anne, Long Beach Chapter, Southwest Section • JOHNSTON, Margaret Meade, Eastern New England Chapter, New England Section • KENNEDY, Pamela A., Oklahoma Chapter, South Central Section • KILE, Lannette "Lani", Alaska Chapter, Northwest Section • KNIAS, Lorena Beatriz, Section Member, Southwest Section • LIN, Carolin Wen-Chun, Colorado Chapter, South Central Section • MAUER TONN, Kathleen Ann, Minnesota Chapter, North Central Section • MCCANN, Annamary, North Jersey Chapter, New York-New Jersey Section • MCCARTHY, Lauren Jane, Australian Section • MEILAHN, Kathleen Marie, Austin Chapter, South Central Section • MOORE, Brenda Sue, El Cajon Valley Chapter, Southwest Section • MUNOZ, Lourdes Eva, Tucson Chapter, Southwest Section • PRATT, Eleanor W., San Diego Mission Bay Chapter, Southwest Section • RAMIREZ, Christine, Colorado Chapter, South Central Section • ROSS, Andrea Jo, Florida Firstcoast Chapter, Southeast Section • SHELBOURN, Tara Ann, Colorado Chapter, South Central Section • SMITH, Carolyn Ruth, Oklahoma Chapter, South Central Section • SNAPP, Helen Wyatt, Florida Spaceport Chapter, Southeast Section • STEVENS, Jennifer E., Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter, Mid-Atlantic Section • TODD, Bridget M., Pikes Peak Chapter, South Central Section • TODD, Mary J., Texas Dogwood Chapter, South Central Section • TOLSMA, Katherine Patricia, Western New York Chapter, New 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CAREERS:

There's a CHICK Flying This Airplane!

BY JENNY T. BEATTY
International Careers Committee Chairman

Women have been flying airliners in the U.S. for over 30 years, but each flight still seems to be the "first time" for some passengers. Delight or dismay, everyone reacts, and many just can't let it go without comment. I have heard it all, from the shocked, "Oh! A woman!" (actress Sharon Stone) to the enthusiastically supportive, "You go, girl!" (many older women). One man asked if I knew how all those switches and dials worked. Um...believe it or not, I do.

Most people mean well or are attempting humor to cover their awkwardness, not realizing their remarks could be considered disrespectful or patronizing. Or maybe I am being generous, since I don't hear the worst of the comments. The female flight attendants who do take the insult quite personally.

One flight attendant told me that her reply to a questioning male passenger was that yes, indeed, a woman was going to fly him to Seattle, and not only that, a woman brought him into this world and, in case of accident, a woman would get his burning butt off the airplane.

When I last flew with another woman pilot five years ago, a flight attendant came up to the cockpit to report that a passenger had asked if he would get a discount since there were two female pilots. The captain did not hesitate: "Tell him he should pay a premium."

At the conclusion of a flight, I try to stand in the doorway to

thank our passengers for flying with us, and this is often the first time they realize that one of the pilots is a woman. I remember one elderly lady who smiled sweetly, saying, "Oh, aren't you just the cutest thing?" Then she reached up and pinched my cheek.

Recently, a large man who may be accustomed to intimidating others with his stature stopped abruptly upon seeing me in the doorway. "Don't tell me you were flying this airplane!" he said. Pulling myself up to five-feet-six-inches – this includes my hat – I replied, "Okay, I won't tell you."

As far as I know, I've never had a passenger refuse to fly with me because I am a woman. My attitude is: If someone wants to get off my flight, they should feel free to do so because my presence on board is a requirement for flight – theirs isn't.

One of the most memorable reactions was before my very first flight with a new airline. The captain and I were preparing the cockpit when a man boarding the airplane looked in and, upon seeing me, yelled loudly, "There's a CHICK flying this airplane!"

The captain stared at me, stunned. He wasn't concerned about the passenger. He was very worried about how the "chick" might react. Would she make a wisecrack? Become a nervous wreck? Snivel? Yell? Cry? Ignoring the ignoramus, I just looked him in the eye and said, "After a while, it just rolls off your back."

And, eventually, it does.



PRO 99S PROFILE: Wendy Paver

By Betsy Jordan Donovan, International Careers Committee

Wendy Paver began her aviation career as an aviation technology major at LeTourneau University in Longview, Texas.

Her parents encouraged her whenever she said she wanted to be a pilot. "They knew it was a dream of mine to fly airplanes someday, and they supported me, even when there weren't many women in the industry."

Wendy's jobs have included flight instructor, Convair 640 freight pilot, Learjet charter pilot and corporate pilot. She is a CFII and ATP with types in the Fokker 70, Gulfstream V and

Falcon 900EX.

A member of the Ambassador Chapter, Wendy was a member in four other chapters. She won an Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship in 1994 that allowed her to obtain her ATP.

Flying for Ford Motor Company in Detroit for five years, Wendy believes she is in the right place, with great colleagues and airplanes and a balanced schedule that allows her to be with her husband and three children.

Wendy's advice for others: "Give back to those who need your assistance! In whatever way it is, you will make a positive impact on someone's life."

Sharing History:

German 99s Host American Visitors

BY HOLLIS WALKER
Guest Author



*Priska Wollein with a 1938 Stamer Lippisch Schulgleiter
SG 38 at win:pro aviation at Schönhagen Airport.*

We thought we were planning what is probably a typical American vacation in Europe – three weeks in Germany and Spain. Aviation wasn't playing a role in our trip, except of course for our commercial flights: the long round trip from Albuquerque, New Mexico, the nearest airport to our home outside of Santa Fe, and one intracontinental flight from Germany to Spain.

But then Jacque Boyd, a Ninety-Nine in the Rio Grande Norte Chapter, to which my partner and pilot Amy Ecclesine belongs, told Amy to email the German Ninety-Nines Section before our trip. Jacque said she'd emailed Ninety-Nines in the vicinity of her vacations in the past and always managed to meet up with some interesting women pilots.

Amy emailed the Governor of the German Section, explaining that she and her "copilot" (I'm not licensed) would be coming to their country in late October. Would anyone like to meet for coffee?

The response was surprising. Karola Schmorde, the German Section president, promptly wrote back. "Thank you for coming to Germany. I live close to Berlin and two other Ninety-Nines, too..." She passed our email along to other Ninety-Nines, who also wrote back. One, Marion Hof, who happened to be in the States, phoned to say she'd love to connect in Spain, where she would soon be traveling.

Another, Cecilia Rentmeister, a professor of gender studies in Erfurt, told us she would be in Berlin at the same time we would, and asked if either of us were interested in attending a conference of women in science that happened to be occurring while we were there.

We wrote back, promising to be in touch. Once we arrived in Germany, and after a few jet-lagged days in Frankfurt, we made our way to Berlin, showing up at the women in science conference at the German Technical Museum. There we first met Cecilia and her friend Cristina Perincioli, a media producer. Cecilia insisted on being our tour guide to some of the city's museums the next day and said that afterward we would meet for dinner with Karola and Priska Wollein, another Ninety-Nine. The next night the five of us met for a lively dinner full of flying stories.

Cecilia's affection for flying dates to her childhood in the years immediately after World War II. During the 1948-49 Russian blockade of Berlin, Cecilia said she and her mother survived

on food provided by Americans who were part of the Berlin Airlift; the pilots flew supplies into Tempelhof Airport, which had been the Nazi's showcase airfield in Berlin.

Cecilia said she had wanted to learn to fly ever since childhood, but airspace restrictions because of East-West tensions meant one had to travel 200-300 miles away from the border of the two Germanys to take lessons, making it prohibitively expensive. When aviation restrictions eased after the 1990 German reunification, she took flying lessons at Schönhagen Airport, not far from her home in the village of Stöcken. Cecilia earned her license in 1999. She usually flies planes owned by her flight school, most often a tail-dragger '51 Piper Cub or a French four-seater Robin.

Priska, who is co-owner of a graphic design firm in Berlin, also flies out of Schönhagen. She, too, earned her license in 1999. She and her boyfriend Mathias co-own a Stemme motorglider and are also part owners of a Lehrmeister, a 1960 wooden glider built in East Germany.

"Only 101 of them were built, and they destroyed them all to prevent East Germans from escaping to the West," Priska explained.

Two other surviving Lehrmeisters are in museums, but Priska's is the only one flying. It survived because the East Germans had given it to an Austrian Communist flying club in 1962. When she and her boyfriend saw it for sale online, they got into a bidding war with another potential buyer, only to discover through a few phone calls that the other bidder was a Berlin flying club. The solution? They and the club now share ownership of the historic plane.

Ninety-Nines get to know each other over dinner in Berlin: from left, Amy Ecclesine, Rio Grande Norte Chapter, USA; Hollis Walker, article author; German Section Governor Karola Schmorde; and German Section Ninety-Nines Cecilia Rentmeister and Priska Wollein.





German Section Ninety-Nine Priska Wollein shows her Lehrmeister to Amy Ecclesine. It is one of only three Lehrmeisters in existence.

Several years ago, Karola, who works in economic development for Teltow-Flaeming County (known for having the longest continuous inline skating path in Europe – 170 kilometers!) was assigned the job of developing an airfield for her county. “I said to myself, ‘I have to develop an airfield, so I’d better learn something about it,’ ” she said. She began taking flying lessons, and like Cecilia and Priska, she earned her license in 1999. She flies a single-engine 172 owned by the Berlin Bears, the flying club to which she belongs.

The women also told us about the German Section, which formed in 1997 with five members. The group now has 20 members who meet three times a year at different cities throughout the country.

Amy was struck by the fact that German women pilots face challenges quite different from those that she faces. In northern New Mexico, where Amy does much of her flying, air traffic is very light, and the skies are clear about 320 days a year. In contrast, Germany is under cloud cover much more often. And greater Berlin — like much of the country — is densely populated. A number of busy airports, including American and Ger-

man air force bases, mean numerous airspace restrictions. Karola said she often flies into Czechoslovakia and Poland, where the restrictions are fewer, and she has learned how to fly over the Alps and deal with their tricky cloud banks, which can obscure the mountains.

The German pilots also must pay 4 to 5 euros (about \$5 to \$6.50) per landing at most airports. That’s a deterrent to keeping in practice. “It’s a security issue, in my opinion,” Priska said. Hangar costs also are much higher than in the United States and some other countries, they said, which is a deterrent to owning a plane. Therefore most of the pilots they know, including women pilots, are members of flying clubs that buy planes together and share costs of hangars and maintenance. They also said getting a pilots license is expensive, averaging about 10,000 euros (\$13,000).

Our interactions with the German Ninety-Nines didn’t end with dinner, though we had to finally call it a night. The next day we drove to meet Cecilia and Priska at Schönhagen Airport. Cecilia took us up in the Robin, whose Plexiglas cockpit offers spectacular visibility comparable to a helicopter. She received airspace clearance over Berlin, and we had the joy of flying over the

sights we had seen the day before, plus seeing the famous Tempelhof Airport from the air. "We were only 2,000 feet above ground, which gave us a really clear view of everything," Amy recalls. "The flavor of the history, the fact that it had been forbidden for so long — it seemed like an incredible privilege to fly over it."

Back on the ground, we found Priska and her boyfriend with both their gliders. Mathias took up the Stemme, while Priska and some helpers prepared the Lehrmeister for a flight, ultimately towing it to the end of the runway with her Audi wagon. Both got airborne, but alas, the potential of joining her in the Lehrmeister was dashed by weather, and they decided to tow the glider to Tegel Airport and hope for better weather for a later flight there. But for us, an unexpected tour was in store. The manager of the flight school, win:pro aviation, took us on a walk-through of their facilities, including the Charles Lindbergh Lounge, the equivalent of a posh country club bar, complete with Lindbergh and other aviation memorabilia.

That day, the flight school's hangar (so spotless we joked that it had been *licked* clean) held four Cirruses, the '51 Piper Cub and a primitive open-air German wooden glider, a 1938 Stamer Lippisch Schulgleiter SG 38.

We spent a pleasant afternoon at Cecilia and Cristina's home, and Karola joined us later with an *apfelkuchen* (apple cake) she'd made with apples from her own trees. Later the five of us drove to Potsdam and walked across the famous Glienicker Brücke, the "freedom bridge" over the Havel River that separates Potsdam from Berlin and on which spies were exchanged between East and West during the Cold War.

We stayed the night with Karola and her husband Ecki in the beautiful home they restored themselves in the village of Rangsdorf, in what used to be East Germany. (Although Ecki isn't a pilot, he and Amy quickly discovered another love in common — motorcycles.)

The next day our trip resumed, but our Ninety-Nines experience wasn't quite over. Toward the end of our vacation, we met Marion Hof in Valencia, Spain, where she was taking Spanish lessons in an immersion program. Marion, though German, actually lives most of the time on her farm in Kent County, England. As an aviator, she is quite well known internationally. In 1990, with her friend Dr. Angelika Nachinek, she flew an ultralight seaplane into Burry Port, Wales in a quasi-reenactment of Amelia Earhart's 1928 transatlantic flight. She also wrote the first book in

German on Earhart, *Amelia Earhart: First Woman to Fly the Atlantic*. We spent a pleasant evening walking through Valencia, eating tapas and visiting the home where Marion was living during her Spanish tour.

Later, as we told friends about our trip, Amy and I found ourselves time and again talking about our marvelous interactions with the German women pilots — which seemed to outstrip all of our sight-seeing experiences.

Amy has a theory about this: "In life, I think we all belong to a lot of different 'tribes' like our families, our professional groups, our sports teams. The tribes that are hard-won, that are difficult to get into because you have to put a lot of effort into it in the first place, tend to be the ones in which you have more instant connections with people," she said. "Think about those women: all of them have followed their dreams. No one becomes a female pilot by accident. The very nature of The Ninety-Nines is wanting to share that dream, to help other women get there. Going to another country and seeing how they do *their* Ninety-Nines is another extension of that."



Author Hollis Walker, left, with German Section Governor Karola Schmorde and her husband Ecki at their home in Rangsdorf.

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Elections 2005

The 2004-2006 Nominating Committee has evaluated the following individuals' Intent to Seek Election information and found them to be eligible as candidates for the 2005 election. Candidates are listed by the postmark on their Intent to Seek Election Forms.

Elections in this odd-numbered year will be held at The 99s International Conference 2005 during the Annual Meeting on August 24 in Christchurch, New Zealand. After a short speech by the candidates, a ballot vote will be taken, after which the new directors and trustees will be announced.

DIRECTOR — TWO POSITIONS OPEN

DIRECTOR

LISA ANNE COTHAM
New Orleans Chapter
Southeast Section



A member for 17 years, I currently serve as the International Public Relations Chairman, on the Building Facilities Committee and as Section and Chapter Scholarship Chairman. I am Past Chairman of the New Orleans and South Louisiana Chapters. I received an Amelia Earhart Scholarship in 1992 for a Multiengine Instructor rating. I served as Trustee of the 99s Museum of Women Pilots and as Chairman for 2003-2004. I was Southeast Section Governor from 2001-2003 and chaired the 2003 International Conference.

Over the last four years, I've attended the International Board Meetings and understand the need of the organization and trusts: additional funding. As our responsibilities increase with our mission to "promote, provide and preserve," our efforts to meet these demands must also expand. We must focus beyond the membership, increase our visibility and find those who will believe in us and assist us in providing for the future of our organization. I am committed to making this happen. We must also continue our success in improving member services and headquarters efficiency.

I have experience in business management and working on a board. I've had specialized work-related training that applies to everyday life and the way we process information, make decisions, work in partnership or take risks: Human Factors, System Safety, Facilitator Training and Labor-Management Relations. I will gather and examine the facts, listen to the members and make the best decisions so we can succeed and grow. I offer my dedication, experience and enthusiasm to The 99s and would appreciate your vote.

DIRECTOR

JOAN KERWIN
Chicago Area Chapter
North Central Section



I n February 2005, I will have been a proud Ninety-Nine for 35 years. This has been an exciting, fulfilling time of learning new responsibilities, meeting new people and traveling. I have worked with all levels of membership from Chapter to Section to International, serving as Chapter Chair in one of the largest Chapters in the organization. I was Governor of one of the largest Sections, initiating and serving as International Legislation Chairman for 11 years, Bylaws/Standing Rules Chair for four years and Nominating Committee Chair for two years.

I have attended at least 30 International Conferences and 68 Section meetings, of which at least four were outside my own Section. I have had the privilege to meet and to know Ninety-Nines from all over the world. Attendance at International Board meetings for the last several years has given me insight into what is required of your officers and directors. Membership, finances and public relations are all aspects that require the Board's attention, and I have had experience in all of them, both in my private life as well as in my volunteer activities.

Speaking with and listening to the grassroots members of any organization is essential but more so in a fully volunteer organization such as ours. I feel that my volunteer activities both in The Ninety-Nines and other volunteer organizations, such as church groups, hospital auxiliary and aviation organizations all requiring cooperation and communication, will make me an asset to our organization as a director.

DIRECTOR

CONSTANCE WILDS
Florida Goldcoast Chapter
Southeast Section



When I learned to fly in 1958, the first thing I did was set about to find a woman's flying group. I can't remember who suggested The Ninety-Nines, but I have been eternally grateful to that person. The friendships spawned over those decades have been an integral part of my life.

In 1991, I was elected Governor of the Southeast Section, which gave me the opportunity to become a member of the newly formed Council of Governors and the privilege of sitting in as a silent observer of the three annual Board of Directors meetings. This inspired me to run for and be elected to the International Board of Directors in 1993 and 1995. Due to my husband's declining health and eventual death in 2001, I have been unable to serve until last year when approached by the Board of Directors to fill an unexpired term of a Director who resigned. I have done this with pride and renewed enthusiasm to continue to serve this tremendous organization and to assure that fledgling women pilots have a financially strong group of like minds with a 75-year history of dedication for their mutual support.

I am so proud to be a Ninety-Nine and will be most proud to serve as your Director on The Ninety-Nines Board of Directors. The Ninety-Nines have accomplished so much. This year the Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship Fund obtained its one million dollar goal providing scholarships from future investment income. The Ninety-Nines Endowment Fund, although in its infancy, has aspirations of following the lead of the Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship Fund to provide an even sounder financial base for future generations. Let us not forget the AE Birthplace Museum given to The Ninety-Nines in 1984 and restored to its former splendor. It now stands as a popular tourist attraction in Atchison, Kansas, portraying the life of Amelia and other women pilots. The 99s Museum of Women Pilots, which occupies the second floor of our headquarters building, is another asset of which we can be very proud.

It is now my fervent desire to "give back" a small portion of the benefits I have derived by continuing to serve on the Board of Directors and respectfully request your vote in New Zealand.

AMELIA EARHART MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND — ONE POSITION OPEN

AEMSF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MARGARET (PEGGY) DOYLE
Old Dominion Chapter
Mid-Atlantic Section



I am currently serving as Secretary for the AEMSF Board of Trustees. I have served the Board for three terms. It has been an honor and a privilege to do so. My experience sitting on the Board, being a part of a creative, knowledgeable body of exceptional women has given me a thorough understanding of the function, goals and responsibilities of this Fund. I have a deep respect for the commitment required of each Board member who has been entrusted by the Membership for the prudent distribution of the Fund. I have a comprehensive understanding of the qualifications required of an applicant to successfully complete a scholarship and have served as a resource for potential scholarship recipients across the country.

I have been a member of The Ninety-Nines for almost 20 years. I was awarded the Scholarship in 1990 for my CFII certificate and have taught continuously since 1989. This active participation has helped to keep me current with changes in the flight instruction industry. In addition, I have been an active member at the Chapter and Section level, having served as Chairman at the Chapter level, International Conferences. I am dedicated to the fine work of this Trust and am honored to be considered for another term of service.

ENDOWMENT FUND — TWO POSITIONS OPEN

TRUSTEE/TREASURER ENDOWMENT FUND

FRANCES STRUBECK
Imperial So-Lo Chapter
Southwest Section



After reading a biography of Amelia Earhart when I was 10 years old, my love of aviation began with a developing awe of flying and accomplishments of women pilots. At the first Section meeting I attended in 1996, presentations were given about the Ninety-Nines Museum and about the Endowment Fund. Both presentations emphasized the importance of preserving the legacy of the women in aviation who had come before us. We all realize that is important to protect the contributions of our most recent past to assure the continuance of our rich history. The goals and achievements of our current members demonstrate the need to provide for the history of today and tomorrow as well.

I believe to preserve, protect and provide, it is paramount our organization reaches the one-million-dollar goal that has been set for the Endowment Fund. We are well on our way. With support of every Ninety-Nine, this can be done. I want to be part of the process that will help to make this happen.

As a Trustee/Treasurer of the Endowment Fund, I will do everything I can to insure that we will reach this goal so that The Ninety-Nines will maintain our wonderful history and continue to grow and prosper in the years to come.

TRUSTEE/TREASURER ENDOWMENT FUND

ROSELLA BJORNSON
Alberta Chapter
West Canada Section

99s MUSEUM OF WOMEN PILOTS — TWO POSITIONS OPEN

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 99s MUSEUM OF WOMEN PILOTS

PHYLLIS SCOTT
Tulsa Chapter
South Central Section



Our museum is a rare gem, preserving what women have accomplished in the field of aviation. It is important that we preserve and maintain this memorabilia, not only for our members but all of the aviation community. We need to find ways to let people know about the museum and to promote and make it an attraction that people will want to come see. I would like to be a part of this process.

I am a charter member and volunteer at the Tulsa Air & Space Museum, which has been preserving Tulsa's aviation history for the past six years. Because of this experience, I feel that I can be an asset to our Ninety-Nine Museum Board. Since Tulsa is a short driving distance to the Museum, this would enable me to be an active member and help as needed.

I have been a member of The Ninety-Nines since 1980. Since joining, I have served our local chapter in all the various leadership positions. I'm active at the sectional level by attending the spring and fall meetings. I have also served the Section as a director in different areas, including flight activities, SOP revisions and, currently, awards.

Before I retired, I worked in the accounting field, and because of this I understand the importance of fiscal reasonability. I look forward to helping maintain and promote the legacy of women pilots for future generations.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 99s MUSEUM OF WOMEN PILOTS

VEE GORDON
Kansas Chapter
South Central Section



The Ninety-Nines Annual International Conference

Christchurch, New Zealand
Sunday 21 – Thursday 25 August 2005
Hosted by the New Zealand Section

Welcome to New Zealand

It will be 27 years since The Ninety-Nines Conference was last held in the Southern Hemisphere. We look forward to seeing you in New Zealand in 2005 for Fun and Fellowship Down Under.

New Zealand is made up of three main islands (North, South and Stewart) with a huge variety of landscape and activity packed into a relatively small area.

New Zealanders are independent friendly people, affectionately known as Kiwis (after the country's flightless national bird). There is nothing we enjoy more than welcoming overseas visitors to our part of the South Pacific.

Wherever you go, you can be guaranteed a warm "Kiwi" welcome – in English, or in Maori (the language of New Zealand's indigenous people) – Tena koutou katoa: Welcome!



Christchurch

Founded over 150 years ago by English planners with a desire to build the 'brave new world', Christchurch is one of the few cities of this age to have benefited from the foresight of careful, well-planned city design.

It has been praised as a very English city, the friendliest city in the world (1998) and the garden city of the world (1997). These accolades accurately describe the city of Christchurch.

Christchurch is bordered by hills and the Pacific Ocean. On the edge of the Canterbury Plains, which stretch to the Southern Alps, the city is at the centre of an area of tremendous geographical contrast.

The city offers superb shopping, fine restaurants and lively nightlife, with a compact easy-to-walk-around city centre.

August is late winter in New Zealand. The average daytime temperature is 12°C (54°F) dropping to 5°C (41°F) overnight. We recommend bringing layers of clothing and a warm jacket.

Christchurch's beautifully restored trams (street cars) travel a 2.5 km loop around central Christchurch. A 4-day tram pass is included in your Registration Fee.

Venues

The Crowne Plaza Hotel is a top-class establishment situated in Victoria Square beside the Avon River. The Christchurch Convention Centre is a modern purpose-built Convention Centre, which is connected to the city's Town Hall and the adjacent Crowne Plaza Hotel by a pedestrian airbridge.



Crowne Plaza Hotel



Christchurch Convention Centre

Programme

Sunday 21 August	1.30 - 4.30 pm	<i>Half Day Conference Tours</i>	
	2.00 - 6.00 pm	Registration	
Monday 22 August	6.30 am - 5.30 pm	Registration, Tour Desk	
	6.30 am	<i>Hot Air Ballooning</i>	
	7.45 am - 4.30 pm	<i>Half and Full Day Conference Tours</i>	
	6.00 - 8.00 pm	Welcome Reception	International Antarctic Centre
Tuesday 23 August	7.00 am - 6.00 pm	Registration, Credentials, Tour Desk	
	7.45 am - 4.30 pm	<i>Half and Full Day Conference Tours</i>	
	9.00 am - 12 noon	Board of Directors Meeting	
	6.30 - 9.30 pm	Food, Flight and Fellowship	Air Force Museum
Wednesday 24 August	7.00 - 8.30 am	Registration, Tour Desk	
	7.00 - 8.30 am	Credentials	
	7.30 - 8.30 am	Breakfast	
	8.00 am	<i>Half Day Conference Tours and Golf Tour for guests</i>	
	8.30 am -12.00 noon	Annual Business Meeting	
	12.00 noon -1.30 pm	Lunch	
	1.30 - 5.00 pm	Seminars and Afternoon Tea	
	6.30 - 10.30 pm	Amelia Earhart Scholarship and Awards Banquet	Christchurch Convention Centre
Thursday 25 August	6.30 am	<i>Hot Air Ballooning</i>	
	8.00 - 10.00 am	Board of Directors Meeting	
	10.30 am - 4.15 pm	New Zealand Aviation Day	Forest Field

Seminars

A variety of interesting and educational seminars will be presented for your benefit and enjoyment on Wednesday afternoon. More details will be given in a later issue.

Social Events

Welcome Reception

International Antarctic Centre, Monday 22 August

The International Antarctic Centre recreates the atmosphere of Antarctica and provides the visitor with an exciting, interactive experience of this Southern Continent. Christchurch is New Zealand's aerial gateway to Antarctica. Besides being the base of Antarctica New Zealand, it is also the home of the US Antarctic Program.

The Welcome Reception includes cocktail food, transport and entry to the Antarctic Attraction (including the Snow and Ice Experience).

Food, Flight and Fellowship

Air Force Museum, Tuesday 23 August

The Air Force Museum is located at Wigram airfield, which was the main training base for Royal New Zealand Air Force pilot trainees, navigators and other aircrew, as well as a myriad of ground trades, until 1995. To commemorate the history of the RNZAF, the Air Force Museum was opened at Wigram in 1987. Currently the Air Force Museum has 28 fully restored aircraft displayed. This event includes a 3-course meal, transport, entertainment and entry to the Aircraft Hall and museum exhibits. Cost: NZ\$115.00 per person.

Amelia Earhart Scholarship and Awards Banquet

**Christchurch Convention Centre
Wednesday 24 August**

This combined banquet event will honour both the Amelia Earhart Scholarship winners and recipients of other Awards.

New Zealand Aviation Day

Forest Field , Thursday 25 August

Forest Field is a grass airfield with adjacent olive groves situated on the Canterbury Plains with a backdrop of the spectacular Southern Alps. Experience a unique blend of aviation and New Zealand country atmosphere. There will be aviation activities that demonstrate aviation in New Zealand, a country market, and a Kiwi farewell lunch. Cost: NZ\$75.00 per person.

Conference Tour Options

Hanmer Springs 8.30 am - 4.30 pm Monday 22 and Tuesday 23 August

Visit the naturally picturesque setting of Hanmer Springs nestled in the mountains. Enjoy the excitement of a jet boat ride at Thrillseekers Canyon. After a light lunch relax in the hot pools of the Thermal Reserve or explore the township. On the return journey a stop is made at a North Canterbury winery where a wine tasting has been arranged for your enjoyment. Cost: NZ\$175.00 per person.

TranzAlpine 7.45 am - 4.30 pm Monday 22 and Tuesday 23 August

Travel by road across the Canterbury Plains to board the TranzAlpine train at Springfield. View alpine scenery through panoramic windows on the journey to Arthur's Pass. Lunch in Arthur's Pass is included, with time to explore the alpine village. On the return coach trip, a stop is made at a working sheep farm (afternoon tea included). Cost: NZ\$245.00 per person.

Akaroa 8.30 am - 4.30 pm Monday 22 and Tuesday 23 August

Travel by road to Akaroa via the Port Hills. A stop is made at Hill Top to experience the panoramic view of Akaroa Harbour. At Akaroa explore craft shops and French colonial buildings and take a harbour cruise to see dolphins, penguins and seals. Lunch at a waterfront restaurant is included. On the return journey, sample New Zealand cheeses at a local cheese factory. Cost: NZ\$130.00 per person.

Hot Air Ballooning 6.30 am - 10.30 am Monday 22 and Thursday 25 August

Watch as the parks, rivers and buildings fade into the distance, making way for the patchwork farmland of the Canterbury Plains. View the Southern Alps to the west and the endless blue of the ocean to the east. Taking off at sunrise allows you to enjoy the beginning of your day in an original and memorable way, and still be able to fit in the rest of your busy itinerary. Cost: NZ\$220.00 per person.

Gondola + City 9.00 am - 12.00 noon 1.30 pm - 4.30 pm

Sunday 21 (afternoon); Monday 22, Tuesday 23; Wednesday 24 August (morning)

The tour covers the central city highlights, the seaside suburb of Sumner, the Port of Lyttelton and the Christchurch Gondola where you will be treated to breathtaking 360 degree views of the city, Canterbury Plains and Banks Peninsula. Cost: NZ\$50.00 per person.

Willowbank + City 9.00 am - 12.00 noon 1.30 pm - 4.30 pm

Sunday 21 (afternoon); Monday 22, Tuesday 23; Wednesday 24 August (morning)

The tour starts at Willowbank Wildlife Reserve which contains a variety of animal and bird life, both native and introduced. View the Kiwi in its natural habitat and feed and pet the animals throughout the reserve. Following this, the tour covers central city highlights, Mona Vale gardens, Riccarton House and bush, and the University of Canterbury. The final stop is Sign of the Takahe, a historic building overlooking the city. Cost: NZ\$50.00 per person.

Walking Tour 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm Monday 22 and Tuesday 23 August

Enjoy a personal guided walking tour around the city visiting some of the landmarks, including the Anglican Cathedral, Canterbury Museum, Christ's College and the Arts Centre. Cost: NZ\$10.00 per person.

Golf Tour 8.00 am - 1.00 pm Wednesday 24 August

Spend the morning at Clearwater Golf Course, one of New Zealand's finest. All equipment is provided, including high quality golf clubs (graphite), bag, tees, balls and golf shoes (if required) and a motorised cart. Cost: NZ\$199.00 per person – 18 holes.

Please note: Limited numbers are available on each of these Conference Tour options. All Conference Tours are exclusively for The Ninety-Nines and friends.

Pre and Post Conference

For a full itinerary and costs of the Pre and Post Conference Tours check the websites www.ninetynines.org or www.duatravel.com.

Down Under Answers are offering some special airfare deals with Air New Zealand for conference attendees. They are for varying lengths of stay in New Zealand for travel via Los Angeles to New Zealand.

Contact Brooke or Carole at **Down Under Answers**.
Tel: 1 800 968 4345 (toll free for the US and Canada).
E-mail: NinetyNine@duatravel.com.

Conference Clothing

A warm polar fleece vest and jacket, embroidered with the Conference logo, may be ordered and will be available to pick up at the Registration Desk on arrival. The garments have a zip front and feature contrasting trim, and will be ideal for adding that extra layer on colder days.

Vest Colours: Black, Forest Green, Navy, Red
Unisex Sizes: XS, S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 5XL

Jacket Colours: Black, Bluestone (denim blue), Charcoal, Pumpkin
Ladies' and Men's Sizes: XS, S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 5XL

Accommodation

Crowne Plaza – The Official Conference Hotel



Bureau Room	(One Queen bed)	NZ\$175.00 including GST
Double Double	(Two Double beds)	NZ\$175.00 including GST
Club King	(One King bed)	NZ\$242.00 including GST

Club Room includes access to the Club Lounge daily for a light breakfast and drinks for an hour in the evening. Club Rooms are situated on the higher floors of the hotel.

Check in: 2.00 pm Check out: 11.00 am

Web: www.christchurch.crowneplaza.com

The Conference has secured a block booking at the Official Hotel. Rooms will be allocated on a first-in basis as long as there are rooms available. Bookings should be made either as part of the online registration process or on the registration form and faxed or posted to Conference Innovators. Accommodation bookings must be guaranteed with a credit card. The credit card will be used as a guarantee only and no charges will be debited prior to check-out. On check-out, your accommodation costs may be settled with cash, eftpos or credit card. **Please advise Conference Innovators of any change to a reservation rather than contacting the hotel direct.** If you cancel your accommodation booking prior to 01 June 2005, no charges will be incurred. After that date, refunds are subject to cancellation charges levied by the hotel.

Registration Fees

	Early Bird by 01 May 2005	Regular by 01 June 2005	Late after 02 June 2005
Full Registration	NZ\$495 (US\$335 estimate)	NZ\$580 (US\$395 estimate)	NZ\$685 (US\$465 estimate)
Accompanying Person	NZ\$395 (US\$265 estimate)	NZ\$395 (US\$265 estimate)	NZ\$395 (US\$265 estimate)

Registration Fee in NZ\$ (all fees include 12.5 % Goods and Service Tax)

Full Registration includes:

- Name badge and printed material
- Welcome Reception
- Breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea (Wednesday)
- Annual Business Meeting and Seminars
- AE Scholarship and Awards Banquet
- Access to Hospitality Suite
- 4-Day Tram Ticket

Accompanying Person Registration (non-99s only) includes:

- Name badge and pocket programme
- Welcome Reception
- Seminars and afternoon tea (Wednesday)
- AE Scholarship and Awards Banquet
- Access to Hospitality Suite
- 4-Day Tram Ticket

Register Online - www.ninety-nines.org

You are able to register online for The Ninety-Nines International Conference via the above link. On submission of your registration an automatic summary is sent. You will be able to access your details using a personalised access key, including the option to download a tax invoice. Amendments or updates can be made until 1 July 2005. Payment can be made online using Visa, Amex or MasterCard (please note this is a secure site).

Register by Fax or Post

Complete the registration form in this magazine and keep a copy for your records. Your registration fee must accompany the completed registration form. Payment can be made by direct debit, Amex, Visa, MasterCard and New Zealand bank draft. Completed registration forms and fees should be sent to the Conference Administrators. A letter of confirmation and a tax invoice will be sent upon receipt of your registration form and fees.

Cancellations

Should you need to cancel your registration, you may reassign your registration to another person. Please notify the Conference Administrators. If you are unable to arrange a replacement, a full refund less an administration charge of NZ\$100 will be made providing notification is received by 1 July 2005. After that date refunds will be at the discretion of the Organising Committee. If, for reasons beyond the control of the Organising Committee, the Conference is cancelled, registration fees will be refunded after deduction of expenses already incurred.

Conference Administrators

If you have any queries about the Conference arrangements or require assistance registering online, please contact: Arna Wahl Davies, Conference Innovators Ltd, PO Box 13 494, Christchurch, New Zealand, Tel: +64 3 379 0390, Fax: +64 3 379 0460, Email: arna@conference.co.nz



REGISTRATION FORM

Tax Invoice - GST Registration Number 89 220 057

Please complete this form, take a copy for your records and forward it to:

The Ninety-Nines International Conference 2005

C/- Conference Innovators Ltd

PO Box 13 494, Christchurch, New Zealand

Facsimile: +64 3 379 0460

Full Registrant

Surname _____ First Name (for namebadge) _____

Postal Address _____

City _____ State / Province _____

Country _____ Zip / Post Code _____

Telephone (____) _____ Facsimile (____) _____

Email _____

Chapter _____ Section _____

Special requirements e.g. dietary, disabilities, etc. _____

Please check all that apply:

☐ International Board Member

☐ Past President

☐ Int'l Committee Chairman

☐ A.E. Scholarship Winner, 2005

☐ Board of Trustees Member

☐ Current Governor

☐ Chapter Chairman

☐ First Conference

Board Name _____

Accompanying Person (non-99 only)

Surname _____ First Name (for namebadge) _____

City _____ Country _____

Registration Fees

	Early Bird Register by 1 May	Regular Register by 1 June	Late Register after 2 June	
Full Registration	NZ\$495.00	NZ\$580.00	NZ\$685.00	NZ\$ _____
Accompanying Person	NZ\$395.00	NZ\$395.00	NZ\$395.00	NZ\$ _____
Sub Total of Registration Fees				NZ\$ _____

Optional Events

Tuesday 23 August: Food, Flight and Fellowship – Air Force Museum

No. of tickets _____ @ NZ\$115.00 NZ\$ _____

Thursday 25 August: New Zealand Aviation Day – Forest Field

No. of tickets _____ @ NZ\$75.00 NZ\$ _____

Sub Total of Optional Events **NZ\$ _____**

Additional Tickets

Monday 22 August: Welcome Reception – International Antarctic Centre

No. of additional tickets _____ @ NZ\$75.00 NZ\$ _____

Wednesday 24 August: AE Scholarship and Awards Banquet – Convention Centre

No. of additional tickets _____ @ NZ\$110.00 NZ\$ _____

Sub Total of Additional Tickets **NZ\$ _____**

Conference Clothing

Vest Number: _____ Colour: _____ Size: _____ @NZ\$60.00 NZ\$ _____

Jacket Number: _____ Colour: _____ Size: _____ @NZ\$70.00 ☐ Ladies' ☐ Men's NZ\$ _____

Sunday 21 August

Cost per person

<input type="checkbox"/> Willowbank + City	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon	NZ\$50.00	NZ\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Gondola + City	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon	NZ\$50.00	NZ\$ _____

Monday 22 August

<input type="checkbox"/> Hot Air Ballooning	_____			NZ\$220.00	NZ\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> TranzAlpine	_____			NZ\$245.00	NZ\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Hanmer Springs	_____			NZ\$175.00	NZ\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Akaroa	_____			NZ\$130.00	NZ\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Willowbank + City	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Morning	<input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon	NZ\$50.00	NZ\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Gondola + City	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Morning	<input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon	NZ\$50.00	NZ\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Walking Tour	_____			NZ\$10.00	NZ\$ _____

Tuesday 23 August

<input type="checkbox"/> TranzAlpine	_____			NZ\$245.00	NZ\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Hanmer Springs	_____			NZ\$175.00	NZ\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Akaroa	_____			NZ\$130.00	NZ\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Willowbank + City	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Morning	<input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon	NZ\$50.00	NZ\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Gondola + City	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Morning	<input type="checkbox"/> Afternoon	NZ\$50.00	NZ\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Walking Tour	_____			NZ\$10.00	NZ\$ _____

Wednesday 24 August

<input type="checkbox"/> Golf Tour	_____		NZ\$199.00	NZ\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Willowbank + City	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Morning	NZ\$50.00	NZ\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Gondola + City	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Morning	NZ\$50.00	NZ\$ _____

Thursday 25 August

☐ Hot Air Ballooning _____ NZ\$220.00 NZ\$ _____

Sub Total of Tours NZ\$ _____

Accommodation

Crowne Plaza – Official Hotel. Room type required (please indicate your preference; rooms will be allocated on a first-in basis):

☐ Bureau (NZ\$175.00) ☐ Double Double (NZ\$175.00) ☐ Club King (NZ\$242.00)
☐ Smoking ☐ Non-smoking ☐ Other (please specify): _____

Date of arrival: _____ Expected check-in time: _____ Date of departure: _____

If you are sharing the room please give the other person's name(s): _____

A credit card number must be given below before accommodation booking will be guaranteed. Accommodation costs can be settled with cash, eftpos or credit card on departure.

Payment Summary

Method of payment (please circle): Credit card NZ Bank Draft Direct Credit 06 0821 0447045 00 Swift code: NBNZNZ22

Registration Fees	NZ\$	_____
Optional Events	NZ\$	_____
Additional Tickets	NZ\$	_____
Conference Clothing	NZ\$	_____
Tours	NZ\$	_____

Total (Inclusive of Goods and Services Tax) **NZ\$** _____

Credit Card Authorisation for Accommodation and Registration

Accommodation bookings must be guaranteed with a credit card. Please tick if you wish your Registration Fee to be deducted from this card. ☐ Yes, deduct my credit card for my Registration Fee.

Please tick the card to be charged: ☐ MasterCard ☐ Amex ☐ Visa

[illegible]

Cardholder's Name _____ Cardholder's Signature _____ Date _____

Please make bank drafts payable to 99s International Conference 2005.

Privacy The information supplied on the registration form will be shared and used by The Ninety-Nines Annual International Conference. Unless you advise in writing to Conference Innovators Ltd, your name will be included in the list of conference participants distributed to delegates.

Is it possible to combine a love of aviation, a natural ability to run a business and a desire to help others into a successful lifetime career? These three attributes have guided Ninety-Nine Patsy Buchwald for the past 20 years, and her success has been recognized by the community of Colorado Springs with many awards and accolades.

Early events in Patsy's life helped shape her into the person she is today. Growing up, she and her four sisters were included in discussions of the family budget, and she learned the importance of financial responsibility. This was reinforced with a degree in accounting. After being married only four years, she lost her husband to cancer and became the sole support for their son Brian. A temporary job at the Peachtree-DeKalb airport in Atlanta led to flying lessons and a Private Pilot certificate. Leaving the comfort and support of her extended family in Georgia, she decided to move to Colorado in 1984.

Once settled in Colorado Springs, she opened her first business, The Aviator's Mart. Located near the airport, the shop became a "must stop" for pilots. It was stocked with the usual necessary pilot items like charts and headsets but also carried an impressive assortment of aviation art and an extensive library of aviation related books.

Wanting to share her enthusiasm for aviation and help non-profit organizations, Patsy sponsored the first Space and Aviation Fair in Colorado Springs, focusing on sharing aviation with the general public. Local non-profit groups were invited to use the event as a fundraiser. Children built and flew paper airplanes, launched rockets and learned about careers in aviation.

As the years went by, Patsy began helping with another popular local event, the Colorado Springs Balloon Classic, where hundreds of colorful balloons take to the air. When the original organizer decided to retire, he asked Patsy if she would take over. Like the Space and Aviation Fair, she saw the Balloon Classic as a way to give back to the community. This event, held over Labor Day weekend in Memorial Park, is open to the public at no charge.

Patsy sold the Aviator's Mart and channeled her energy and expertise into The Balloon Classic. For the past 18 years, she has fine-tuned the event and the organizational structure that makes it possible. She now serves as the sole owner, president and CEO. The business has an office building, a paid staff and a dedicated Executive Committee. Between 800 and 1,000 volunteers are available as needed throughout the year.

Patsy Buchwald: Pilot and Entrepreneur

BY PHYLLIS WELLS, Pikes Peak Chapter

Patsy believes that the event should continue as a venue to raise money and awareness for nonprofits, because, as she says, "I may never make a million dollars, but I can certainly touch a million lives." It is no wonder the spectacular event has been named one of the Top 100 Women Owned Businesses in Colorado; one of the Top 100 Events in the USA by Event Media Network for 2003 and 2004; and one of the Top 100 Events in North America by the American Bus Association.

To have an event gain such recognition and be so well supported by the community is a tribute to Patsy's business acumen and concern for others. Her contribution to Colorado Springs has not gone unnoticed. She was named Executive of the Year in 2001; Small Business Person of the Year in 2002; and in 2004 she received the Athena Award, which is given to honor individuals for business and professional excellence, community service and support of leadership for women.

Patsy has the qualities that make a person successful. She advises others to "remember who you are, where you came from, where you want to go and then plan the steps to get there. Surround yourself with positive people who are organized and willing to take responsibility." When asked what qualities are important, she is quick to respond, "High energy, self motivation, balance, a positive attitude and high goals. I have always believed that 'the sky is not the limit.'"

Pikes Peaks
Chapter Member
Patsy Buchwald
combines her
love of flying
with business
acumen and
philanthropic
principles.

Local dignitaries surround Patsy Buchwald, third from left, as she cuts the ribbon to celebrate a name change from the Colorado Springs Balloon Classic to the Colorado Balloon Classic. The change was made because this popular event draws spectators from all over Colorado, the U.S. and the world.



MIC:

The New Internet Chapter

BY CAROLYN CARPP
Internet Chairman

With 15 Charter members, the newly formed Military Internet Chapter will provide support for women who serve in the military.

Elizabeth Scott with her husband Capt. Christopher Scott at Charleston AFB, South Carolina.

In November 2004, the International Board of Directors announced they have chartered a third Internet chapter, the Military Internet Chapter, Southwest Section. The MIC, as it will be affectionately known, follows the Ambassador Chapter, South Central Section, chartered in the late 1990s, and the Intercollegiate Internet Chapter, North Central Section, chartered in 2003.

The Military Internet Chapter was designed to appeal to women pilots who are away from home or find themselves in locations where there are no local Ninety-Nines chapter. The purpose of this new chapter will be much the same as the other Internet chapters: to communicate regularly with other Ninety-Nines who are in similar situations and provide support for each other while serving in the military. The 15 charter members consist of Ninety-Nines who were either not affiliated with chapters or those who were inactive in chapters throughout the country and wished to transfer to this unique group.

The officers for the new Military Internet Chapter are: Co-Chairman USA, Elizabeth Scott; Co-Chairman Overseas, Cheryl Beineke; Secretary, Sandra Stienmier; Treasurer, Patsy Schumacher; and Membership Chairman, Jackie van Ovost. Since members are stationed both overseas and in the United States, it was determined that the concept of co-chairs might work best for this unique chapter.

Long-range plans will be to include military members from other countries as well as to encourage future women pilots serving in the military. However, at present, the emphasis will be to recruit non-member women pilots serving in the military to join The Ninety-Nines and to develop tools of communication.

Pam Saylor, International Membership Chairman, is working on a website for the MIC at www.mic99s.org, and Carolyn Carpp, Internet Chairman, is focusing on the formation, charter and recruitment. The charter members of the Military Internet Chapter are an exciting group of pilots with varied experiences. Here is your opportunity to meet the officers:

Co-Chairman Elizabeth Scott was born in Lodi, California and grew up in Healdsburg, California. Her parents had a Cessna when she was very young. "My father now has a Bonanza and just got back from flying his plane from California to the Bahamas. I took my first "real" lessons when I was in high school from a friend of the family and soloed in 1995 in Cloverdale, California. I left for the University of Arizona before I finished my license. I was on an AFROTC scholarship at the University of Arizona, where I graduated with a degree in Chemical Engineering.

"The Air Force paid for me to do initial flight training (IFT) out of Tucson International, where I finally received my Private Pilot certificate. I was at the doctor's office waiting to get my flight physical when the Chairman of the Tucson Ninety-Nines approached me. I joined The Ninety-Nines my senior year of college and was active with the Tucson Chapter until I left for the Air Force, but I have not been active since 1999."

From July 2000 to July 2001, Elizabeth attended Air Force Joint Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training at Vance AFB in Enid, Oklahoma. "My first assignment out of pilot training was T-38 Instructor Pilot. I haven't had any time to fly civilian. The plane I mostly fly is the T-38. A typical day is a one-hour flight two to three times a day. I enjoy flying any type of student sortie, whether it's a low-level, instrument or four-ship formation flight. My most memorable stu-



dent cross-country was with an Italian student. His accent and lack of navigation skills made for a challenging but humorous weekend. At Vance, I have had the opportunity to train American, Italian, Japanese and Pakistani students. Another exciting cross-country was to do a fly-over near my hometown at the Santa Rosa airport for the Wings Over Wine Country Airshow.

Elizabeth and her husband recently received a joint assignment to McChord AFB near Seattle, Washington, where they will both be flying the C-17.

Co-Chairman Cheryl Beineke was born and raised in St. Marys, Ohio. Her first solo was in August 1985 at the age of 17 in a Cessna 152 at the Mercer County Airport (CQA). She received her private privileges ASEL in March 1986, and her first passengers were her parents. Cheryl's civilian flying activities tapered off when she entered the U.S. Air Force Academy and then USAF pilot training.

She attended USAF pilot training at Reese AFB in Lubbock, Texas, and her first jet solo was in February 1991 in a T-37. Cheryl received her USAF pilot wings in November 1991 after completing the curriculum in the T-37 and T-38. She has been stationed at Robins AFB, Georgia as a KC-135R pilot.

"I was able to see air refueling from both ends during this assignment. In addition to flying the 'tanker' platform, I also was qualified to accomplish receiver air refueling. I was 'dual qualified' during this assignment." She flew the T-37 as part of the old Strategic Air Command's program to get its copilots extra training. At Charleston AFB, South Carolina she was a C-17A Instructor Pilot and Flight Examiner.

She then went to Altus AFB, Oklahoma as a C-17A Instructor Pilot and Flight Examiner and then to Maxwell AFB, Alabama where she was a student at Air Command and Staff College.

Cheryl is presently stationed at Osan AB, Republic of Korea, where she is a C-12J (Beech 1900C) Instructor Pilot and Flight Examiner. "I have found that flying a turbo-prop can present challenges that I wouldn't have considered when I flew multi-engine jets."

In December 2000, Cheryl and her husband bought a 1967 Mooney M20F, and her civilian flying picked back up. Her ratings now include commercial privileges ASEL and a multi-engine ATP, and her next goal is to complete her CFII.

"I didn't get around to joining The Ninety-Nines until spring 2003. I must admit that I had not really heard much about the organization



Cheryl Beineke, right, with Florene Miller Watson, Chaplain for the Women Airforce Service Pilots.

before that, even when I was living less than 80 miles from The Ninety-Nines Headquarters in Oklahoma City. I joined The Ninety-Nines for the opportunity to meet more women who enjoy aviation and for the opportunity to educate young people, especially young girls, about aviation."

Secretary Saundra Stienmier started flying when she was a teen but developed rheumatic fever and could not receive a medical. After years of listening to Saundra talk about flying, her husband encouraged her to fight the FAA for her medical. At the time, rheumatic fever was labeled a heart disease, and a medical was out of the question. Saundra started flying at Hamilton Aero Club at Hamilton AFB, California, in 1971.

Saundra reports that flying was a lifelong dream. "My mother kept drawings I had made as a child of planes flying over Cinderella or Jack in the Beanstalk. Dad would take me to the airport to see the planes and would show me the ones piloted by the WASP pilots. My first solo was in my wagon that I had added wings and a tail to. I flew it off of a ski jump at the age of 7.

"I soloed a week after I finally got my medical at El Paso, Texas in 1972 and joined The Ninety-Nines soon after that. I wanted to be around people who shared my love of flying. I was a member of a couple of aviation clubs but was tired of the good old boy attitude."

Saundra especially loves cross-country flying and seeing new places. She likes to go into small airports and meet the people. "I got my husband hooked a few years ago, so we have flown from Colorado to Alaska, to both coasts

Long-range plans will be to include military members from other countries as well as to encourage future women pilots serving in the military.

The Military
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Nines chapter.

and in between. The flying competitions are great fun, and after our last Powder Puff Derby I went to Europe and competed in some of their events."

Saundra's husband was an Army doctor, and they were stationed at various bases over the years. They have been at Peterson AFB, Colorado Springs, Colorado for nearly 24 years. For the past 27 years, Saundra has managed Air Force Aero Clubs, which really are FBOs/flight schools under control of the Air Force.

"I have had many wonderful experiences flying, but during the last Powder Puff Derby, on July 4, 1977 over Cross City, Florida, the T-41B was struck by lightning, the cockpit filled with smoke, and I diverted to the closest airfield, which was under a few inches of water. That is not why it is my most memorable flight! We all had great weather briefings, but we all know about weather briefings of yore. There were about 250 in the race. It was the women who made my flight memorable. Jerry Cobb was responsible for vectoring 11 aircraft to safe airports with her airplane, Big Bird. Jerry had radar (unusual in 1977) and safely guided people around the storms. I have never forgotten the flight or the women I met. They were all magnificent!"

"Aviation safety is one of my strong interests. I served on NATA's Flight Training Committee as Chairman of Safety for three years. Also, I am a safety counselor and was surprised to receive recognition from the FAA a couple years ago. Presently I do not have a medical; three years ago I was in a car accident and am taking medi-

cations that are prohibited by the FAA. I always tell people that in over 30 years of flying I have torn my clothing, broken fingernails, gotten grease on my clothes, but driving to work on a sunny day I was smashed up. Flying is safer!"

Membership Chairman Jackie Van Ovost's father taught her how to fly, and she had the opportunity to solo on her 16th birthday and earned her ASEL and AMEL licenses on her 17th birthday. She picked up a CFI/MEI on her 18th birthday. "How was I so fortunate? My parents owned an FBO in Ft. Pierce, Florida, and I would rush home from school to service and fly the aircraft. I joined The Ninety-Nines before I entered the military, but my membership has been on and off due to frequent moves." Jackie now has an ATP and plans to take time to work on her water ratings.

She has flown the C-141B (Charleston, South Carolina), C-17A (Edwards AFB, California) and just came off a KC-135 tour (McConnell AFB, Wichita, Kansas). Jackie also spent two years in Montgomery, Alabama attending Air Command and Staff College followed by Air War College four years later. She was also stationed at the Pentagon for two long years and is now at Scott AFB, Illinois working for Transportation Command in the Operations Directorate.

"It is not a flying position; however, I do get out and fly our airplane to make up for it! I enjoy getting out and talking to folks about flying and have participated in 99s-sponsored pinch-hitter courses, spoken at schools, airshows and at the 2003 Air Race Classic kickoff in Pratt, Kansas."



Jackie Van Ovost with her father Hans.

The Long Island Chapter hosted a gala Fall New York-New Jersey Section meeting in October in Ronkonkoma, Long Island to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of The Ninety-Nines' first meeting where it all began.

"Sadly, this is the first year we must celebrate without even one of our beloved Charter Ninety-Nines," lamented Long Island Chapter Historian Doris Abbate, who, as luncheon speaker, provided a backward glance at Ninety-Nines' history that began on NY-NJ Section turf.

On November 2, 1929, 26 licensed women pilots flew, drove, took a train and walked here to Valley Stream, Long Island for that memorable meeting and their first photo in a hangar at Curtiss Field. Serving tea from a delicate teapot and cookies on a spare parts wagon were Fay Gillis Wells, in her helmet and flight suit, and Viola Gentry, with a bouquet of mums presented her as she left the hospital after a plane crash while attempting an endurance record. *"The women are going to organize...we don't know what for,"* a skeptical columnist bluntly observed.

The Long Island Chapter, as host of the Fall Section meeting, reenacted that first Ninety-Nines meeting dressed up as the Charter 99s for a photo-op as President Elaine Morrow cheered on, just as they did in 1982 as host of the Fall Section meeting at the Cradle of Aviation Museum. That photo of the Long Island Chapter Ninety-Nines in their Charter gear made it to the cover of the December 1982 issue of the 99 News.

Elaine, along with Past Governor Linda Scully, installed the NY-NJ leadership team: Governor Mary Sullivan, Vice Governor Barbara Harris-Para, Secretary Martha Anne Hull, Treasurer Shirley Onacilla and Directors Joanne Campbell, Diana Dade and Sandra Brown. She joined in congratulating the Long Island Chapter on its 75th Anniversary celebration immersed in Long Island heritage.

The event was held during the banquet held at the Sayville Inn, the site of chapter charters for both the Long Island Chapter and the Garden State Chapter on October 10, 1965. Other highlights included a 56th Fighter Group Sunday Brunch surrounded by the aviation history of WWII; a trip to the Air Power Museum at Republic Airport in Farmingdale, featuring Long Island memorabilia from WWII, WASPs and lunar space; and finally a climb to the top of the Old Republic Airport control tower.

Elaine thanked the NY-NJ Section for hosting the memorable 75th Anniversary Convention



Where It All Began...

BY DORIS ABBATE
Long Island Chapter Historian

held in Atlantic City, New Jersey. It has become a Ninety-Nines tradition that the NY-NJ Section host the International Conventions where it all began on each 10th anniversary in years ending with a "9" and always highlighting our living Charter Ninety-Nines.

The 20th and 40th anniversary Conventions and formal dinner dances were elegantly held at New York City's Waldorf Astoria Hotel. The 50th Anniversary was held in Albany, New York. The 60th Anniversary was celebrated at New York City's Broadway Marriott Marquis in 1989.

On the 50th Anniversary, November 2, 1979, NY-NJ hosted a multi-media event with NBC's Chuck Scarborough in Valley Stream at which the Long Island Chapter presented a photo-etched bronze plaque of that first meeting honoring the Charter Ninety-Nines. It was placed at the site of the first meeting.

Charter 99 Neva Paris wrote in December 1929, "With such splendid response for membership, we feel sure our organization is destined to accomplish meritorious service." And Amelia Earhart stated, also in 1929, "If enough of us keep trying, we'll get someplace." And how!

On this 75th Anniversary, no doubt the Charter Ninety-Nines, as well as some of the skeptics, look down on us with pride. We'll always miss those first courageous Ninety-Nines women. We're proud to renew our vow to carry the torch inspired by our mentors.

The NY-NJ Fall Section Meeting commemorates the 75th Anniversary of the First 99s Meeting in Valley Stream, Long Island, NY.

Photo above: The Long Island Chapter recreates the first Ninety-Nines meeting held on November 2, 1929. From left, sitting, Dorothy Campbell, Joyce Malkmes, Mae Smith, Doris Abbate, Pat Ohlsson, Carol Levine. Standing: Bozena Syska, Christina Fry, Jill Hopfenmuller, Nancy Neumann, International President Elaine Morrow and Governor Mary Sullivan.

ROSE MARIE BURKETT

San Antonio Chapter

This is to inform you that my loving wife of 63 years, Rose Marie Burkett, flew to greater heights on October 9, 2004.

She was a lifetime member of The Ninety-Nines, initially active with the Austin, Texas chapter and then Shreveport, followed by the San Antonio Chapter. Her last years were as a Member At Large. Her moves to Shreveport and San Antonio resulted from her Air Force husband being transferred.

Rose Marie did not take up flying until she became a grandmother. Then, in short order, she earned her Commercial, Flight Instructor and Air Transport ratings. While flying for the Hawaii Country Club of the Air, she instructed in flight simulators to keep airline pilots current.

The first airplane she owned was a Piper Cherokee 180 that she picked up at the factory in Florida and then several Bonanza models including the A-36. She was an exceptionally talented pilot but also a loving wife and mother.

—Wally Burkett, 49½, Colonel USAF Retired

LOTFIA EL-NADI

Arabian Section

Former Ninety-Nine Lotfia El-Nadi passed to new horizons on December 23, 2003 in her beloved homeland of Cairo, Egypt. She had been a member of the Arabian Section before her retirement.

Patsy Knox, Southeast Section member, informed Headquarters of El-Nadi's passing. Patsy and Lotfia had known each other and shared a common birth date. Patsy said she usually called around the time of their birthdays, but last year she missed making her yearly call. When she phoned this year, she spoke with El-Nadi's grandniece who told her of Lotfia's death the previous year.

El-Nadi was awarded the Award of Achievement from The Ninety-Nines in 1992. As her award write-up states: "Lotfia El-Nadi was the first Arab woman to throw off the veil and learn to fly. She took flying lessons in 1933, soloing in a Gypsy Moth out of Cairo, Egypt, receiving her Private Pilot's license (Egyptian pilot license number 34) that same year.

"It was considered a dishonor for Egyptian women of a certain class to work, but Lotfia would not tolerate subjugation. The first and only flying school in that part of the world had opened just one year earlier. Lotfia worked for the school as a secretary and took all of her wages out in flying time."

Lotfia competed in many air races on the African continent, earning the respect of others involved in the aviation community. She had planned for flights from London to Cairo and Cairo



Lotfia El-Nadi

to Tokyo. Although she had the backing of the director of the Royal Aero Club, financial difficulties prevented her from completing the plans. She eventually retired from active flying and served as secretary for the Aero Club of Egypt.

She was awarded the Order of the Republic (Egyptian), the Order of Merit from the World Aerospace Education Organization and was honored by EgyptAir as the "first lady" of the aviation community in Egypt.

—Jacqueline Boyd

MARTHA CATE TAYLOR

Michigan Chapter

Martha Taylor, member of the Lake Erie Chapter, went on to new horizons on September 15, 2004 in Austinburg, Ohio after a brief illness. Martha was born on January 14, 1944 in Nashville, Tennessee, graduated from Tuscaloosa High School and earned her teaching certificate from Kent State, Ohio, with graduate work done in Kent State, Youngstown and Lake Erie colleges in Ohio.

She married Bob Taylor in 1964 in Tennessee, and they moved to Austinburg, Ohio. She taught in the Geneva and Austinburg Elementary Schools for 30 years and had recently retired to spend more time flying her airplane, riding her motorcycle and enjoying her family and friends.

Martha was an active Ninety-Nine for many years and served the Lake Erie Chapter in many ways, always willing to chair committees, attend Section and International meetings and serve as an officer many times. She was recently elected to the North Central Section Board.

Martha also belonged to the Coast Guard Auxiliary and flew many missions for them with her husband. She belonged to many social organizations, holding offices there also. She will be missed by the many friends she made and by her former students. She is survived by her husband Bob; parents Jesse and Martha; brothers Jesse (Susan) and Ben (Rosemary); and nieces, and nephews.

ROBERT TROVER, 49½

Minnesota Chapter

The Minnesota Chapter was saddened by the sudden death on October 23, 2004 of longtime 49½ Robert Trover.

Bob was not only a major cheerleader of his wife Jan Trover in her flying activities, but he was also an enthusiastic supporter of the Minnesota Chapter. If we needed help with committee work or Daffodil Days, or needed a fundraising auctioneer, delivery man, master of ceremonies, financial support or just plain storytelling, Bob was always a willing volunteer.

He was known as a "soft sell" at a used book table. One time he took home 18 hardback and paperback books from a North Central Section Meeting. Sincere sympathy is extended to Jan Trover.

—Lajean Roy Firminhac

NEW HORIZONS

HELEN HEATH WRAY Shreveport Chapter

Shreveport Chapter has lost another very valuable member with the death of Helen Wray on August 29, 2004.

Helen was an instrument instructor, and a very active one, until Alzheimer's disease took her away from us. As our Chairman, she was a firm believer in safety clinics and had our Chapter sponsor so many that we received an award from the FAA Southwest Region for our contributions to safety.

She and her husband Charlie owned a Comanche, and she attended many Section and International meetings, always taking some Ninety-Nines with her.

She insisted we read and understand the bylaws, and when a change was forthcoming at International, she would go over every word in it and help us understand what would or would not happen as a result of the change. She always went by the *Robert's Rules of Order*, and as a result we were a very successful Chapter.

Helen decided to pursue her educational skills later and received a Master's Degree in speech. She obtained her Private Pilot certificate in 1964 and continued her ratings up to instrument instructor. She then taught ground school at Louisiana Tech in Shreveport. She pioneered an aerodynamics class at Captain Shreve High School in Shreveport and taught English there as well. She was awarded the Zonta Club's Amelia Earhart Award for her contributions to aviation.

Charlie, Helen's 49½, preceded her in death several years ago. Her daughter Betty Wray Anderson, two granddaughters and one great-granddaughter survive her.

She was a highly successful leader of our Chapter and will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

—Mary Jo Voss

RATINGS & WINGS

RATINGS

Angelee Conroy – CFII, MEI
Ventura County Chapter

Linda Erlich – Private Pilot
Ventura County Chapter

Amy Drake Lynden – Private Single Engine Seaplane
Santa Clara Valley Chapter

Benita Morris – Private Pilot
Fresno Chapter

Fran Pettito – Commercial
Women With Wings Chapter

Torea Rodriquez – Commercial Single Engine Seaplane
Santa Clara Valley Chapter

PROFESSIONAL RATINGS

Laura Smith – CL-65 Type Rating, SkyWest Airlines
Utah Chapter

WINGS

Ellen Nobles-Harris – Phase XIV
Delaware Chapter

Kathie McNamara – Phase V
Fresno Chapter

Benita Morris – Phase I
Fresno Chapter

Twyla Rogers – Phase II SeaWings
Katahdin Wings

Laurie Siers – Phase III
Women With Wings

Patti Uncaphier – Phase V
Michigan Chapter, North Central Section

CONFERENCE TRAVEL UPDATE: The Ninety-Nines Add-On Rates



Do you need a domestic U.S. add-on flight to make your International Air New Zealand flight from Los Angeles to Christchurch, New Zealand? United Airlines is the main carrier that works directly with Air New Zealand. United Airlines will help make your international flight connection smooth from many U.S. gateways.

If United Airlines connecting flights are not available for the international flight you choose, or if you prefer a different carrier, you can also book your connecting flight with either U.S. Airways, Delta or Northwest, depending on the specific route needed.

The following will give you an idea of the price per person for a particular traveling zone.

DOMESTIC U.S. ADD-ONS:

Zone 1) \$125; Zone 2) \$300; Zone 3) \$375; Zone 4) \$440;
Zone 5) \$560; Zone 6) \$125.

States included in each zone: Zone 1) CA, AZ, NV; Zone 2) OR, WA; Zone 3) CO, ID, KS, MT, NM, OK, TX, UT, WY; Zone 4) AL, AR, CT, DE, DC, FL, GA, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, NE, NH, NJ, NY, NC, ND, OH, PA, RI, SD, SC, TN, VT, VA, WV, WI; Zone 5) AK; Zone 6) HI (When departing from Honolulu rather than Los Angeles).

If arranging your own U.S. domestic flight to Los Angeles, please allow at least three hours connecting time for Air New Zealand.

BUSINESS CLASS UPGRADES:

The upgrade will be an additional \$4,000 to any quoted economy airfare. Nearly \$7,400 is the regular published business class fare round-trip to Christchurch. This is quite a savings to The Ninety-Nines.

Contact Brooke Ericson at Down Under Answers at 800-968-4345 or Pat Prentiss at 951-533-3341 for further information.



OLD DOMINION CHAPTER

Members of the Old Dominion Chapter and 49½s visited the new Potomac Consolidated Tracon facility in October. It was a wonderful opportunity for pilots to get an appreciation for what happens on the other end of the mike! Our host, Anthony White (tallest in photo), did a terrific job making time for us, showing us the site and answering our questions.

Potomac Consolidated Tracon is located in Warrenton, Virginia. Within the facility are the approach and departure control centers for Washington Dulles (now called Shenandoah); Baltimore (now called Chesapeake); Washington Reagan (now called Mt. Vernon); Richmond, including Charlottesville (now called James River); and Andrews. The new facility is very impressive, and Anthony is very pleased with the capabilities of the new systems.

— Margaret M. Shaffer

INDIANA DUNES CHAPTER

The weather frowned on North Central Ninety-Nines trying to get to the October North Central Section Meeting in South Bend hosted by the Indiana Dunes Chapter. As a result, most drove.

After a buffet supper, we were entertained by a talent show, with Aux Plaines member Shelley Ventura leading the singing all evening. In spite of the late

night, early the next morning we were at the Chapter Chairmen's breakfast and then at the Committee Chairmen's meeting. A very informative business meeting followed. We were honored to have International Vice President Pat Prentiss and International Secretary Donna Moore as visitors.

After lunch our speaker was John Ronez, one of the designers of the Voyager and involved with the recent shot in



Registering for the North Central Section meeting in October are Margo McCutcheon, East Canada Gov.; Joy Valek, Ind Dunes; Marilyn Horvath, Ind Dunes



Guess Who? From left, "Amelias" Deb Kirshner, North Central Treasurer; Donna Moore, International Secretary; Pat Prentiss, International Vice President.

space that won the \$10,000,000 prize. Charlene Falkenberg was seminar speaker in the afternoon and delighted all with her talk about 75 years of women in aviation.

The afternoon was spent seeing the many interesting parts of South Bend, while the banquet was held that night. Our former Governor Nelda Lee kept us spellbound with her talk, "Mom, I want to be an Engineer," recounting her experiences as an engineer for many

years with Boeing.

Our traditional silent auction was held, with funds raised going towards the North Central Section's goal to fund a perpetual scholarship for the AEMSF. The NSC gals accumulated another \$2,000 toward that goal. A \$1,000 donation was also made to the endowment fund.

— Charlene Falkenberg
and Janice Welsh

NORTH JERSEY CHAPTER

For the ninth year in a row, the North Jersey Chapter awarded flight training scholarships to New Jersey pilots. The purpose of the Dodie Riach Memorial Scholarships is to promote general aviation in New Jersey, particularly in the North Jersey area, and to ease the path for pilots in their flight training endeavors. This scholarship is offered to all pilots, male or female, who show enthusiasm and desire to complete their training.

The recipients of \$1,800 flight training awards for 2004 are Ninety-Nine Amy Byrne of New Providence, Thor Smith of Hampton and Michael Westervelt of Nutley.

Amy is a student pilot working towards her Private Pilot certificate at Sky Blue Aviation Academy at Morristown Airport. She is an honor student at New Providence High School, secretary of the Student Council and a member of the cross country team. In addition to her very busy academic schedule, Amy has been baby-sitting full time to save money for her flight training. She is a Future Woman Pilot member of The Ninety-Nines and a member of AOPA. She is working as an intern at her flight school and plans to get an Instrument rating and Commercial license on her way to becoming a professional pilot.

The North Jersey Chapter has awarded 25 scholarships totaling \$38,800 in the eight years of the program.

The Scholarship Committee welcomes contributions to the fund in memory of Dodie Riach, a North Jersey Chapter member who, along with her son, perished due to carbon monoxide poisoning aboard their aircraft. Checks can be sent to Barbara Feldman, Scholarship Chairperson, at 703 South Branch Drive, Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889.

— Mary Sullivan

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CHAPTER

Southern California is home to so many aviation activities that our members are constantly on the go. Every year at Edwards Air Force Base, there's a grand party and barbecue celebrating the birthday of local legend Pancho Barnes, and a busload of our members attended the event. In addition, Thermal Airport was renamed the Jackie Cochran Airport in honor of another legend, and several members attended the dedication.

Whiteman Airport, home airport for many of our members, needed its markings repainted, so the San Fernando Valley chapter, under the direction of Jennifer Miller, airmarked the airport. December came, along with our annual "Cookies to the Tower," our thank-you to local towers and ground personnel. Virtually thousands of cookies and goodies were delivered with our appreciation. Our yearly holiday "Aerotique," where we turn our December meeting into a holiday bazaar to raise money for the Chapter, was a huge success.

Last but not least, under the inspired direction of member Lisa Hineman, the chapter raised \$2,000 for the drive to find a cure for breast cancer. We are always very proud of our accomplishments, but we are particularly proud of this achievement.

—Jaye Howes



The Idaho Chapter celebrated its 50th anniversary on October 9 with a dinner, auction and historical fashion show.

IDAHO CHAPTER

On October 9, the Idaho Ninety-Nines celebrated the 50th anniversary of their charter. The celebration was held at the Warhawk Air Museum in Nampa, Idaho where our member Sue Paul is the executive director.

We were fortunate to have Idaho Chapter Charter Member Claire Justad in attendance as well as Lucille Taylor, a 48-year member and still active. It was great hearing about flying in the 1950s, and oh, those photos with the "hair" and cat's eye glasses!

After dinner, 49½ Tim Peterson auctioned off some gifts of fine wines and a one-year membership to St. Alphonsus Life Flight. Following the auction, we were treated to an historical fashion show inspired by Anita Lewis and written and introduced by Gene Nora Jessen. A Sweet Adelines quartet featuring member Briana LeClaire provided fabulous background music. The fashion show began with Louise Thaden (Pat Jenkins) and featured other famous women aviators. Of special delight was the appearance of Pancho Barnes portrayed by New Orleans Ninety-Nine Lisa Cotham. The show took us up through present time and featured Idaho Ninety-Nines and Air Force A-10 pilot Kathy Hughes and Idaho Air National Guard Crew Chief Tara Neruda. Other models included Susan Harper, BJ Carter, Tawni Swann, Karen Marchbanks, Sue Ranney, Mary LaMoy and Pat Vance.

Special guests attending were Northwest Section Governor Trish Hanna, Ninety-Nine Anita Lewis from Utah, Idaho Aeronautics Administrator Bob Martin and wife Bonnie, Idaho Aviation Hall of Fame President Dr. Harry Sauerwein and wife Anita, and Larry Taylor, our pilot friend who graciously volunteered to videotape the festivities.

I wonder if 50 years from now they will be saying, "Look at that hair!"?

— Jan Peterson

MARYLAND CHAPTER

A Grumman Albatross was moored in the lagoon of the Martin State Airport at the doorstep of the Maryland Ninety-Nines booth as we participated in the First Annual Waterfront/Airfest Festival on October 2.

Donna Suwall, Betty McSorley, Joan Niles, Barbara Feader, Ginny Carlin, Lin Caywood and Karen Davis manned the booth. We had display boards and a tabletop simulator, gave a total of 83 "rides" on the simulator and introduced a lot of children to the thrill of the cockpit and flying. Parents leaned over and listened eagerly, too.

As a result of several requests from educators at the event, Donna will be going to three schools for both Aerospace Education and Career Day programs.

Barbara Feader had her book, *Self Flying The African Bush*, at the event for signings, and her laptop was set up with pictures from her flying adventure.

All of this was watched over by The Ninety-Nines founder, Amelia Earhart — in her 5½-foot cardboard version!

—Donna Suwall



Author Barb Feader, left, with her video and book signing area and Donna Suwall, booth designer, at the Airfest festival.

VENTURA COUNTY CHAPTER

The Ventura Chapter greeted over 100 Girl Scouts and Brownies at our second annual Girl Scout Aviation Day at Camarillo Airport. Carol Vautin spearheaded the day, with many



Ventura Chapter Girl Scout Day.

of our chapter members taking part. The girls heard about the history of aviation and The Ninety-Nines. Marian Nauman and her crew of "controllers" took each group to the different stations, where they listened to a professional airline pilot and an acrobatic pilot to learn about careers in aviation. They sat wide-

eyed at the demonstration of how airplanes fly, and they toured the Commemorative Air Force hangar with a step-up to board the Constellation. The day ended next to a Cessna 172 for a photo to take home.

Ninety-Nines and 49½s visited Point Mugu NAVAIR to view the new facility that houses the Missile History Preservation Society artifacts. Our newest FWP Christine Brotski's father Bill Cunneen, Retired Naval Commander, gave us a history of the Naval Air Station which has been an important testing and development facility.

—Marie Fasano-Ramos

WOMEN WITH WINGS CHAPTER

The October meeting of the Women With Wings Chapter (3W) was a combined "chili social" and a crafts work session for the upcoming "Santa Fly-In" at MAPS aviation museum. Members put together folders for the photos we take of the children with Santa.

We were pleased to have as a guest and future 3W member Dian Bohner, who recently relocated from Seattle, Washington.

MAPS Hanger at CAK was the destination for our November meeting. Lunch was graciously provided by Gaye Wohlin.

Donna Moore is to be congratulated for her efforts to launch the first Fly for the Breast Cancer Cure. It is through her organizational skills and enthusiasm to promote this Ninety-Nines event that it was a tremendous success. Way to go, Donna!

Donna Moore and Diane McCort attended the Mid-Atlantic Section meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Ellen Pretorius continues her outreach to future women pilots by talking with students from various area high schools. Recently, one such trip was to Garfield Heights High School where she had a chance to speak to a group called the Glass Ceiling Group, a group of girls headed for non-traditional careers.

— Diane Thomas McCort

GRASS ROOTS — Section and Chapter reporters share their recent activities

ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER

Fifteen members of the Orange County Chapter attended the Southwest Fall Section Meeting in Solvang, California in October. We were delighted by the banquet on Saturday night when we were honored to receive the Public Relations Award for 2003-04 for large chapters. A great big thank you goes to all those chapter members who participated, and big kudos also go to Marie Hofer, our PR Chairman, for gathering all the data and submitting it to Section for consideration.

Chapter Member Patty Murray graciously opened her home to us for a very successful Membership Night event on October 13. Since some of the attendees were prospective FWPs, our members were asked to introduce themselves and give a brief bio on their aviation activities and backgrounds. After much hangar talk and networking, the evening culminated with a presentation on Patty's plasma screens of all the spectacular sights we will see on our trip to New Zealand for the 2005 International Ninety-Nines Conference in August 2005.

— Mary Van Velzer

EASTERN IDAHO CHAPTER

The destination for this year's annual Fall Fly-In for the Eastern Idaho Ninety-Nines was Ely, Nevada. Several members and their families made the trip in September. The flight was awesome, with a slight head wind going down but not nearly as bumpy as we anticipated.

The group stayed at the Nevada Hotel in downtown Ely and all enjoyed the unusual room designs. The fly-in was attended by Chapter President Jacqueline Gregory and husband James, Sandi Bills, Kathleen O'Neill, Joy McDonald and husband Chuck, Billy and Patty McDonald, Lou Jones and Jack Jones.

In May, the Eastern Idaho Chapter presented *Basics for Pinch Hitters* flying companions seminar.

— Sandra W. Storhok

SANTA CLARA VALLEY CHAPTER

Santa Clara Valley Chapter celebrated their 50th birthday celebration this past July. To commemorate the event, many of the chapter members worked hard to create a chapter History Book of the last 50 years. The History Committee merits the credit for the majority of the work: Chairman Verna West, Mayetta Behringer, Nancy Rodgers, Susan Tilley, Marjorie Johnson and Judy Williams Stark. They created both a hard copy print and a CD-ROM version of the book. It was a lot of fun, and we all learned a lot about our chapter in the process. There are some really amazing stories in this book!

—Torea Rodriguez

GRASS ROOTS SUBMISSIONS: Please include information of interest to the general readership, omitting items such as future event announcements, new officers, etc. Also, we cannot use photos that are inserted into a Word document, so please email the digital photo separately. Thank you!



Winners of the Annual Chicago Area Chapter Air Meet are, from left, Elizabeth Hitchcock, Cynthia Madsen, Joan Kerwin, Ralph Madsen, Chuck Herring and Ellen Herring.

CHICAGO AREA CHAPTER

The Chicago Area Chapter held its 55th Annual Air Meet, which is a fun and educational activity designed to increase pilot proficiency and safety awareness using basic pilotage skills under VFR conditions. The rally route encompassed 167 nautical miles. Contestants answered questions about places seen along the way and terminated with a flyby at Poplar Grove.

Winners of this year's air rally were: First Place – Peter Kerwin, pilot; Joan Kerwin, copilot, in a Cessna 172; Second Place – Cynthia Madsen, pilot; Ralph Madsen, copilot, in a Piper PA28-140; Third Place – Ellen Herring, pilot; Chuck Herring, copilot in a Cessna 172. Winners of the rookie trophy were Kristy Brooke and Elizabeth Hitchcock, and Peter Kerwin won the spot landing contest. All winners received trophies, and the rally winner was also awarded the Joan and Walter Kerwin perpetual trophy, to be engraved with the winner's name and displayed in her/his home for the next year.

The group enjoyed lunch, followed by the September Chapter meeting. Many thanks to everyone who helped, and particularly to Ninety-Nine Tina Thomas and the staff at Poplar Grove Airport for sharing their facilities with us for this fun event, and to 49½ Bob Frantz for doing the scoring. Organizers for this event were Nancy Haraldson, Ellen O'Hara and Mary Panczysyn.

—Diane M. Cozzi

FLORIDA SUNCOAST CHAPTER

Marie Grein, Dima DeLuise and Barbara and John Yeninas set up our booth at the Albert Whitted Air Show in July promoting The Ninety Nines.

The Chapter had a successful Wine Tasting Party and silent auction in October to raise money for our Aerospace and Education Activities. It was hosted by Dima DeLuise, future 99, Mary Fletcher and Marie Grein.

—Sophia M. Payton

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