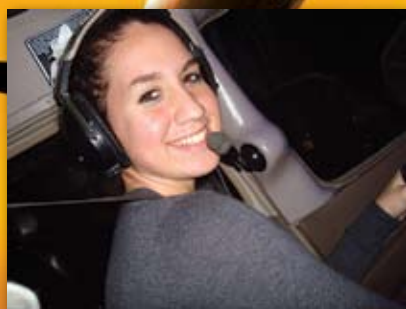


99 News

The Official Magazine of the International Organization of Women Pilots

July/August/September 2009





99 News

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

The 99 News

4300 Amelia Earhart Dr
Suite A
Oklahoma City, OK
73159-1140

Email:

news@ninety-nines.org

Online Form:

[ninety-nines.org/
99newsreports.html](http://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

This year 26 women, a record number, received awards through the Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship Fund. Twenty-one were selected to receive Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarships. In addition, four women were selected for Future Women Pilot Awards, and one pilot was presented with the Maule Tailwheel Award. The women were honored July 24 at a special luncheon at the 2009 Ninety-Nines International Conference in Chicago. We hope you'll also celebrate their achievements at your Section and Chapter meetings.

PERPETUAL CALENDAR

2009

AUGUST

20-23 Northwest Section Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Washington at the Vancouver Hilton. Jointly hosted by the Columbia Cascade Chapter and the Oregon Pines Chapter. Contact Kim Lansdon, klansdon9658@msn.com.

SEPTEMBER

1 Due Date for 99 News submissions for October/November/December 2009 issue.

4-6 Aviation and Women in 99s Europe Annual Conference, Ferrara, Italy, in collaboration with 2009 AirVenture Ferrara, 37th Italian EAA Chapter National Fly-in. Visit aweul.org for more information.

19-Oct. 4 New England Section Treasure Hunt in the Sky. Awards barbecue to be held on October 17. Contact Lorena Plourd, piperpilot2003@yahoo.com.

25-27 Southwest Section Fall Meeting, Grass Valley, California. Hosted by the Sutter Buttes Chapter.

25-27 West Canada Section Fall Meeting, Kelowna, BC Canada. Hosted by the Canadian Rockies Chapter. Contact bettylee@shaw.ca.

OCTOBER

2-4 South Central Section Fall Meeting, Fairfield Inn and Suites, Denton, Texas. Hosted by Golden Triangle Chapter. Contact Mary Wheelock, mcorkeyw@sbcglobal.net.

8-11 Silver Wings Convention and Powder Puff Derby Reunion, Oakland Airport Hilton. Come and celebrate the annual gathering of these two groups. Tour the wine country, the USS Hornet and the Oakland Aviation Museum. Contact Barbara Evans, 925-687-1912, quailr@aol.com, or Lindy Boyes, 925-943-2435, lindy@silcon.com.

9-11 Mid-Atlantic Section Fall Meeting, Stonewall Jackson Hotel and Conference Center, Staunton, Virginia. Hosted by Virginia and Shenandoah Valley Chapters. Contact Sharon Blodinger, w4npx2@earthlink.net.

16-17 New England Section Fall Meeting, hosted by the Katahdin Wings Chapter. Green Granite Hotel, North Conway, New Hampshire.

23-25 North Central Section Fall Meeting, Radisson Grand Rapids Riverfront Hotel, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Hosted by the Michigan Chapter. Contact Lynn Baginski, 248-363-8959, tlsheena@ameritech.net.

29-31 Board of Directors Fall Meeting, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Contact Headquarters.

NOVEMBER

5-7 AOPA Aviation Summit, Tampa, Florida. Experience everything general aviation has to offer. This event has something for everyone. Visit aopa.org/summit.

7-Dec 5 "Celebration of Flight," Women in Aviation Art Exhibit, 99s Museum of Women Pilots. Opening reception on Saturday, November 7. The exhibit runs through Saturday, December 5, 2009. Artist Judi Geer Kellas portrays women in aviation from 1910 to the present.

DECEMBER

1 Due Date for 99 News submissions for January/February/March 2010 issue.

99 NEWS AVAILABLE ONLINE

Current and past issues of the 99 News are available on The Ninety-Nines website. Current and past issues of the Headquarter's Dispatch are also available on the website in the Members Only area.

INTERNATIONAL ELECTIONS 2010

It is time to start thinking about which office might suit you. Yes, we know it is only the middle of 2009, but all "Intent to Seek Election" forms and accompanying photographs must be in to the Nominating Committee no later than October 31, 2009. We hope you will seriously consider serving our great organization, whether as a board member of a trust or in any of The Ninety-Nines board positions. There is a place for you.

Please check the bylaws to determine whether you qualify for a position in the upcoming general election. The updated Intent to Seek form is currently available in the Members Only area of the website.

Feel free to contact any member of the committee: Trish Hanna, Chairman, Barbara Harris-Para, Rita Adams, Martha Phillips and Sonia Bortolin.

99 News

The Official Magazine of The International Organization of Women Pilots

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OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS



Susan Larson



Donna Moore



Patricia Theberge



Kristine Irvin-Herron



Corbi Bulluck



Virginia Harmer



Joan Kerwin



Frances Strubeck



Pat Prentiss

THE NINETY-NINES MISSION STATEMENT

PROMOTE world fellowship through flight
PROVIDE networking and scholarship opportunities for women
and aviation education in the community
PRESERVE the unique history of women in aviation

EDITORIAL AND PHOTO GUIDELINES

ARTICLES

We encourage submissions for publication in the 99 News. To avoid problems importing text into our publishing software, submissions should be typed single space in Times New Roman and please avoid unusual fonts, headers and footers. Furnish author's name, email address and phone information in case we have any questions. Articles should be 500-1,500 words, and we reserve the right to edit for space and/or clarity. Spelling and proper names are proofed against the information submitted. Deadline for submissions is the first day of the month preceding the date on the magazine, for example, February 1 for the March-April issue. For additional submission guidelines, log on to ninety-nines.org and click on 99 News magazine. Submissions should be emailed to news@ninety-nines.org. If you have any questions, please email us at news@ninety-nines.org.

PHOTOS

We accept both original photographs and high-resolution digital photos (at least 4X6 at 300 dpi), the higher quality of the digital photo the better (no date stamps please). All photos submitted must be with photographer's permission. Do not send photocopied photos, newspaper photos or photos printed on a home printer. Include caption information with all photos and your contact name, phone and email. Please email photos as separate attachments. Do not include them in your text document or in the body of the email. All photos sent by mail are forwarded to The Ninety-Nines, Inc. Headquarters in Oklahoma City, OK for the archives unless accompanied by a SASE. Complete photographer guidelines are posted on ninety-nines.org. Click on 99 News magazine and scroll to the bottom.

STATEMENT OF EDITORIAL POLICY

The opinions expressed in the articles presented in this magazine are those of the authors and shall not be construed to represent the policies or opinions of The Ninety-Nines® Inc.

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Ninety-Nines mingle during the break between the Business Meeting and the AE Scholarship Awards Luncheon.



Current and previous AEMSF recipients were honored at a Conference luncheon. Also recognized were the judges and AEMSF Trustees.



The 99s Tent was a good place to find shelter from the rain at Oshkosh during the post-Conference tour.

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The 2010 International Conference will be held at the Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort and Spa on the Kona Coast July 5-9. Photo courtesy the Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort and Spa

President's Message

BY SUSAN LARSON, International President

Today, options in communication abound, all “connected” but not necessarily with a cord. Terms we hadn’t heard just two years ago are common now – blogs, podcasts, YouTube and tweets come to mind. As your President, I’ve been pulled into this brave new world of connections and communications. I can get your emails on my SmartPhone, your text messages too. Today I’m learning to tweet. It’s a challenge and an adventure, just like learning to fly.

Come along with me and take the plunge. Dabble with new technology. Become a ‘friend’ on Facebook. Sign up for one of the 99s eNetworks. Your connections and communications with other Ninety-Nines will strengthen. You will feel more connected, have access to the latest Ninety-Nines information and create more value for your membership dollar.



Director Joan Kerwin showing Amelia's watch to school children.

I invite all of you to regularly access the Members Only area of our website. As of June, about one-third of our membership had requested access to this valuable resource. Go to our web page and click on “Members Only.” Once there, you have access to many valuable tools and much information. Our online membership directory is there and updated regularly. In addition to current contact information and search functions for all members, you can quickly email your International Board members with questions. You can download any Dispatch or 99 News magazine issued in the past two years. You can even search each magazine issue using key words. Links to Member, Chapter and Section update forms are available along with insurance event forms and the Chapter Chairman's Handbook. It would be great to know that more and more of our members are accessing this resource by year-end.

Changing airspeed, congratulations to the Chicago Area Chapter on its 75th birthday. Celebrated on a wet April day at a lovely Italian restaurant with exquisite favors and décor, Chapter Chairman Elizabeth Hitchcock and her committee organized a well-attended event honoring members of more than 55 years, Marjorie Anderson, Juanita Fineman and Esther Noffke. It was my honor to be invited and able to attend.

Congratulations are also in order to all the Amelia Earhart Scholarship and Award Winners! These women are not only role models for those who pursue their dreams but also the next generation of leaders in The Ninety-Nines. They were honored in Chicago during the International Conference. Conference coverage starts on page 7.

Just as Amelia's legacy is reflected in these scholarship winners, it continues to affect us all in a myriad of ways. In May I had the opportunity of a lifetime and, along with Director Joan Kerwin and Immediate Past President Pat Prentiss, traveled to Northern Ireland to participate in the 77th anniversary events celebrating Amelia's landing at Ballyarnett, just outside of Derry. Cornshell, the field in Ballyarnett where Amelia touched down, was owned by the Gallaghers, and today their granddaughter Gille is keen to learn to fly. I think we have the first spark of a new Section in Ireland, another reflection of Amelia's legacy.

The Ninety-Nines is about connections and communication, and always about flying. Take to the skies whenever you can. Connect with another Ninety-Nine whenever you can.

Oh yes. Did I mention that my first blog was published from Northern Ireland? You can find it on our website under “President's Message,” then click on “Susan's Blog.” Be sure to read the amazing story about the watch.

Aviate. Navigate. Tweet.



From left, Pat Prentiss, Joan Kerwin and Susan Larson at the entrance to the Amelia Earhart Interpretive Centre near Derry, Northern Ireland.



Children from grade P6 at the Amelia Earhart Interpretive Centre festivities.



PILOT CAREERS: Needle Movers

BY DONNA MILLER
International Careers Committee

When you push the throttles forward in the airplane, the speed tape begins to move. The needle that had just moments ago been pegged at zero is now easing through 20 knots, then 40, and then passes through that magic speed that allows you to rotate and become airborne.

Christine Comaford is an amazing entrepreneur and author of *Rules For Renegades* who came up with the “needle mover” concept. She defines needle movers as the tangible results that you get by taking certain actions. You push the throttles forward (action) and you take off (result). She uses this as one of her business-building foundations, but I found that you can use it for everything! She suggests focusing on two or three specific things that, when achieved, will change your life.

It’s so easy to get caught up with the busy-ness of life that when you stop to assess your progress, you realize you’ve been circling in the proverbial holding pattern and are no closer to your destination. It isn’t intentional, it’s just that you haven’t defined the needle movers that keep you focused on the actions that will drive the results you want.

So what are two or three tangible results that you want to see this month that would move your career to the next level? What are the actions you need to take to attain each of those results? What resources do you need to take those actions? By creating a grid and writing it all out, you are able to track your needle movers

and are much more likely to attain your goals.

For example, say you have a checkride coming up. Here’s how you might prepare using Christine’s needle mover philosophy:

Result: Score 100% on the written. Action: Study specifically for the written exam, x hours per week for x number of weeks. Resources: Online courses, books, practice exams.

Result: Perform well on the oral exam. Action: Prepare specifically for the oral exam, x hours per week for x number of weeks. Resources: Fellow pilots to ask you questions, flash cards (for limitations, etc.) company study resources, online support.

Result: Perform well on the checkride. Action: Practice each maneuver for the checkride and chair fly. Resources: Practical Test Standards for your checkride. Ground based simulator if available, Microsoft Flight Simulator or chair.

Using this technique on specific goals allows you to stride vs. strive. Christine clarifies the difference this way: “Striving is stressful — you’re reaching for something you don’t have; you’re living in the future and won’t be happy until you’ve reached your goal. Striding, taking steps every day to come closer to your goals, is balanced, peaceful even, because you acknowledge your forward momentum daily as you move closer to the outcome you desire. When you are striding, you are more present, you are in the here and now and you aren’t suffering until you reach a fantastical goal in your future.” I don’t know about you, but I’d rather stride!

PRO 99s PROFILE: Monica Doherty

BY BETSY DONOVAN, International Careers Committee

ExpressJet Captain Monica Doherty met her husband John while both worked there. Introduced through mutual friends, they did fly together for a couple months while John was still at ExpressJet: “It was great! Everything was very professional in the flight deck, and we worked very well together, communication, leadership, etc. I was impressed at how well John maintained his captain role — keeping a sterile cockpit, running checklists as though he didn’t know me, etc. It really taught me a lot about how I wanted to be as a captain. Even if you are friends or have fun together, it is still important to be professional and hold yourself to a high standard while doing your job.”

Parents of a new baby, Monica and John are trying to balance work and family in a two-pilot family. “Before our daughter was born, we would both bid to work on the same days so that we’d



be home together on our days off. After I go back to work in November, we will probably try to have one of us with the baby all the time. We are both fortunate in having the ability to drop trips since lots of pilots are trying to pick up extra flying right now with reduced schedules. I am very grateful for the flexibility this career offers. I think lots of women are turned off to the profession because they feel like it won’t allow them to have a family life. But I think it actually works well with a family, if you’re willing to rethink your lifestyle.”



International Officers address Ninety-Nines official business at the 2009 International Conference in Chicago.

Getting Down to Business at the Conference

BY DONNA MOORE, International Vice President

Delegates representing 15 Sections from the U.S. and other countries had lively discussions about the proposed Bylaw and Standing Rules amendments and other issues. All proposed Bylaw and Standing Rules amendments were approved with the exception that the membership voted to retain the Academic member classification.

Congratulations to the renewing and new Directors who will serve on the International Board of Directors for 2009-2011: Fran Strubeck, Southwest Section and Corbi Bulluck, Southeast Section. Congratulations also to the following individuals who were elected to serve on the Trusts: AEMSF, Ellen Herring, North Central Section; Endowment Fund, Judy Bolkema-Tokar, New York/New Jersey Section; and Mary Wunder, Mid-Atlantic Section; Museum of Women Pilots, Dydia Delyser, Southwest Section, and Linda Marshall, Northwest Section.

The dynamic new Ninety-Nines website is up and running. The 99 News will be posted on the public section. For the 2009-2010 year, a CD of the Directory will be mailed to members. Members who do not wish to receive a CD are to contact Headquarters. Information about ordering a printed Directory will be included on the sleeve of the CD and will cost \$15. With the decrease in the use of fax numbers and the increase in cell phones, it was decided that home, cell and work phone numbers will be published in the Membership Directory.

Director Fran Strubeck and Sharon Blodinger will chair the Membership Committee. Board members will personally contact past members to solicit reasons for non-renewal of their membership.

The 99 News is a public relations tool and Chapters and Sections are encouraged to use the magazine at events. Publisher Bobbi Roe informed members that the magazine could be mailed

to Chapters or Sections if a request is made. Director Lisa Cotham presented the new membership brochure. Brochures are available at Headquarters for Chapters and Sections.

Susan Liebler, International Fund Raising Chairman, is focusing on raising funds for the Headquarters building and teaching Chapters and Sections the ins and outs of fundraising.

Due to the number of deserving Ninety-Nines, the Award of Achievement is being expanded to include three categories: Award of Achievement for Contributions to The Ninety-Nines; Award of Achievement for Contributions to Aviation; and Award of Achievement for Humanitarian Efforts. More information will be available on the Members Only portion of The Ninety-Nines website under the SOPs for the Awards Committee.

Future conference dates are: Kona, Hawaii, July 5-9, 2010; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, July 12-17, 2011; Providence, Rhode Island, 2012.



Ninety-Nines settle in for the start of the Business Meeting.

Wings to the Windy City

2009 International Conference

BY DONNA D. MOORE, Vice President

PHOTOS BY LILIAN DARLING HOLT AND BOBBI ROE

Ninety-Nines converged on Chicago through several routes: commercial flights into Midway or O'Hare, private airplanes and cars at Lansing airport or on the rails of Amtrak. Attendees of the 2009 conference were impressed with the third largest city in the United States. It may or may not be true that Mrs. O'Leary's cow started the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, but it is true that Ninety-Nines greatly enjoyed a city that was rebuilt, a city of skyscrapers. There may have been an attempt to "kill" general aviation in Chicago in 2003 when private crews destroyed the runway at Meigs Field in the middle of the night, but the buildings in downtown Chicago are now in Class E/G airspace allowing planes to legally fly 1,000 feet from the skyscrapers with no radio communication.

Susan R. Shea, Ph.D., Director of Aeronautics, Illinois Department of Transportation, welcomed members to Chicago, the same city that was the site of The Ninety-Nines first annual meeting. Dr. Shea also shared that O'Hare International Airport was one of the largest construction sites in North America to be directed by a woman and that Midway International Airport is managed by women. What better place for the 80th anniversary celebration of The Ninety-Nines?

On Wednesday evening, Ninety-Nines and their guests boarded the Odyssey at Navy Pier for a dinner cruise. The weather was perfect with clear skies and mild temperatures, and the view of the changing Chicago skyline was impressive. After enjoying a fountain of chocolate and dancing, members assembled on the



Ninety-Nines Officers and Directors, from left, standing: Frances Strubeck, Donna Moore, Corbi Bulluck, Patricia Theberge, Joan Kerwin, Virginia Harmer and Kris Irvin-Herron. Sitting, Past President Pat Prentiss and President Susan Larson.



A lighthearted moment at the Conference for Elizabeth Hitchcock, Ellen O'Hara and Barbara C.

observation deck to enjoy fireworks over the Navy Pier.

On Thursday, The North Central Section Conference planners offered flexibility to attendees with a bus available to take them to the Art Museum, Museum Complex and Museum of Science and Industry. Other members enjoyed the Architectural Boat Tour, a 90-minute cruise on the Chicago River that highlights historical and modern landmarks of modern American architecture. Ninety-Nines and their guests also had the opportunity to shop at the Fly Market or walk down the Magnificent Mile. Then, when the “hungries” hit, there was a long list of world-renowned dining establishments available, including Heaven on Seven, the Hancock Building and Gino’s Pizza.

The Ninety-Nines’ first president, Amelia Earhart (an impressive look-alike), joined many members for high tea at the Historic Drake Hotel. The Drake was the location of the first Conference in 1930. Since the 1920s, The Drake, located on the Magnificent Mile, has hosted the British Royal Family, heads of state, dignitaries and, now, The Ninety-Nines!

Friday’s Amelia Earhart Scholarship luncheon honored individuals who will continue to follow their dreams in aviation. This year a record number of applications were submitted, and 26 scholarships and awards were presented.

No Conference would be complete without recognizing individuals who have made contributions either to aviation or The

Ninety-Nines. This year was no exception. Saturday evening, Awards Chairman Corbi Bulluck and President Susan Larson introduced the recipients of the 2009 Awards: the Award of Achievement to Susan Liebler and Ellen Nobles-Harris; Award of Merit to Rita Creighton; President’s award to Virginia Harmer; Award of Inspiration to Colonel Eileen Collins; and Katherine Wright Award to Donna Shirley; George Palmer Putnam Award to Hampton Hotels. Please see pages 12 through 14 for more details about the award winners.

The highlight of the Annual Business Meeting was the installation of officers. Joining the International Board of Directors as Directors are Corbi Bulluck, Kitty Hawk Chapter, and Fran Strubeck, Imperial So-Lo Chapter, who was reelected to a second term. Filling the vacant Trusts positions are: Endowment Fund, Judith Bolkema-Tokar, New Jersey Chapter, and Mary Wunder, Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter; A.E. Scholarship, Ellen Herring, Chicago Area Chapter; and Museum of Women Pilots, Dydia Delyser, Southwest Section Member, and Linda Marshall, Montana Chapter.

As many Ninety-Nines said good-night and good-bye Saturday evening, others were preparing for their adventure in Oshkosh, while the Southwest Section was busy preparing for the next year’s Conference at the Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort & Spa on the Kona Coast, Kailua-Kona, Big Island, Hawaii.



Past President Jody McCarrell, Crooker.



From left, Toby Tabor, Dianne Cole, Martha Phillips and Susan Liebler vote during the Business Meeting.

International Conference 2009 Chicago



President Susan Larson welcomes attendees to the 2009 Conference.



Harpist and student pilot Sharon Crabbe with Conference Co-Chairman Ellen O'Hara at the Drake Hotel Amelia Tea.



Standing from left: Elizabeth Brock, Russian Section; Kira Klochkova, guest; Kim Green, Russian Section; Inna Frolova, Russian Section; Gretchen Jahn, New Zealand Section. Seated, Sharon Nicholson, British Section; Laurence Bonneau, French Section; Ludmila Fedotova, Russian Section.



Virginia Harmer in a skit, dreaming of next year's Conference in Hawaii.



From left, Shelley Ventura, Tamra Sheffman, Mae Smith and Debi Katzen are getting into the sway of things in anticipation of the 2010 Conference in Hawaii.



A dancer encourages the audience to try the hula.



Kris Irvin-Herron and Conference Co-Chairman Rita Adams place fresh flowers the hospitality suite.



Dotti Campbell, Joyce Malkmes and Pat Ohlsson on the four-foot glass extension in the Willis Building (formerly Sears Tower).



From left, Lianne Oakes, Nicole Vandelaar, Pat Prentiss, Kim Ernst, Pegg Nagy at the banquet.



Doris Gerech, German Section, puts a pin in the world map displayed at Oshkosh to show where she lives.



The three Ellens, from left, Ellen Nobles-Harris, Ellen O'Hara and Ellen Herring, pose with a cut-out of Amelia.



WASP President Jan Goodrum, 99 Wendy Cooper, Wendy's mother Brigitte Cooper, WASP Marty Wyal and WASP Bea Haydu at the 99s Oshkosh tent.



Thelma Cull, right, says a fond farewell after the 2009 Conference.

Awards 2009

AWARD OF ACHIEVEMENT — ELLEN NOBLES-HARRIS

Ellen Nobles-Harris exemplifies those qualities cherished in The Ninety-Nines: commitment to the advancement of aviation, mentoring fellow pilots and support to women in aviation. Her exceptional organizational skills and excellent leadership abilities have benefited The Ninety-Nines at the Chapter, Section and International levels.

A member since 1991, Ellen served as Mid-Atlantic Section Governor for two terms beginning in 2000 and is currently the Section's Membership Chairman. Serving as the Treasurer for the Delaware Chapter and the Section Treasurer, she monitored their fiscal soundness.

Ellen's contributions at the International level include her more than six-year membership on the Building Maintenance Committee and, as International Airmarking Chairman, rewriting the Air Marking Guide. Seeing a need to assist those Chapters that file tax forms, Ellen produced instructions, which are available

on the International website, for filing the IRS Form 990-N (e-postcard).

As a FAA Safety Team Representative, Ellen authored several instructional guides, including "Registering for FAA Online Courses for WINGS Credit," "WINGS Made Easy for Participants" and "WINGS Made Easy for Flight Instructors and FAASafety Team Representatives." Recognition of her outstanding work and dedication to improving safety resulted in her selection as the FAASafety Team Representative of the Year 2008, Eastern Region. Her nomination has been forwarded for national competition.



AWARD OF ACHIEVEMENT — SUSAN LIEBELER



Susan is being recognized for the originality of her ideas, her hard work, the benefit of the funds she has raised for her Chapter, Section and International, plus her willingness to share the success of these fundraising methods with other Chapters.

She initiated and developed a very successful program for the Ventura County Chapter. The Pilot Proficiency Classes cover everything from educating the non-pilot partner all the way through advanced IFR techniques. Susan also started an annual Silent Auction that the Ventura County Chapter hosts at the annual Air Expo organized by a local chapter of the EAA. No one but Susan

was sure that air show attendees would be interested in a silent auction, but with the multitude of items she procures for pilots and non-pilots alike, it became an instant hit.

Due to the success of these ventures and the effort she puts in to publicize them, the Ventura Chapter no longer needs to engage in high effort/low return activities to raise funds. The success of the classes and auction has allowed the Chapter to fund a \$20,000 AEMSF Perpetual Scholarship. Last year they raised \$40,000 in a "Raise the Roof Challenge" by matching contributions from any other Chapter or individual in the Southwest Section. This money went to repairing the leaking roof at International Headquarters in Oklahoma City. Locally, the funds have substantially increased the number and amount of the scholarships the Chapter is able to fund for women student pilots.

Susan was asked to be Fundraising Chairman for the entire Southwest Section, and several Chapters are now putting on their own series of classes or planning silent auctions.

GEORGE PALMER PUTNAM AWARD — HAMPTON HOTELS

In April 2000, Hampton Hotels launched Hampton Save-A-Landmark, a community outreach campaign dedicated to refurbishing historical, fun and cultural landmarks along our highways.

Since then, the program has provided thousands of hours and more than \$2 million toward the research and preservation of roadside landmarks for future generations. In 2006, the Save-A-Landmark program was honored with the 2006 Preserve America Presidential Award — the first hotel chain ever recognized by a U.S. president for its preservation efforts.

In 2008, Hampton Hotels' theme was Legends, and Amelia Earhart was chosen as one of the four Legends for the year. On July 24, 2008, more than 50 volunteers from Hampton Hotels' Save-A-Landmark program spent an estimated 200 hours working

at the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum in Atchison, Kansas. Volunteers worked to clean, prime, paint and repair both the interior and exterior of the landmark as well as install new stained glass windows and replace the existing roof of the museum. Additionally, Hampton Hotels contributed \$20,000 towards the refurbishment of this national treasure as well as its continued care.

After the project was completed, Hampton Hotels furnished The Ninety-Nines and employees with a hardback book of pictures taken during the refurbishment.

Thanks to Hampton Hotels' program, aviation history — and one of The Ninety-Nines treasures — was preserved.



AWARD OF MERIT— RITA CREIGHTON

Rita Creighton was an active member of the local community throughout her entire life. She was dedicated to education and was a tireless advocate for students and parents. She loved working within the aviation industry as the Community Relations Director for King County International Airport in Washington State, a position which allowed her to combine her love of aviation with her quest to ensure that the educational system provided a relevant and rigorous education for all students.

During Rita's 12-year tenure with the King County International Airport (also known as Boeing Field), she helped develop and implement a vision that is now known as Aviation High School, and her legacy is one of amazing accomplishments and benefits to both the education and aviation communities.

Rita's plan was based on her belief that students will learn when they are passionate about a subject; students need to use their heads, their hearts and their hands to solve problems that are encountered in the workplace each day; aviation is the application of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) and is grounded in the humanities; and Seattle is the birthplace of modern aviation.

Rita believed that combining the best practices of vocational education and academia in a theme-based learning environment around aviation would solve some of the challenges in education as well as in the aviation workforce.

Creating Aviation High School was a 7½-year labor of love for Rita. She and the school's principal gained \$600,000 initial funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and \$16 million

from the Port of Seattle.

Five years after opening their doors in 2004, the school has gained local, state and national recognition as a premier learning institution in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Many students are earning their pilot certificates, and members of The Ninety-Nines and other aviation-related organizations and businesses are on campus almost every day, mentoring students, assessing student work and giving feedback, serving as guest speakers and helping develop a new aviation course.

Aviation High School students are scoring in the top two percent in the state on standardized tests in reading, writing, math and science and are exceeding state and national test scores in the same areas. Students in the inaugural class are now enrolled in Embry-Riddle and other aviation-focused universities and training programs in which they are further preparing for entry into aviation and aerospace careers.

Rita passed away on March 16, 2008, four years after Aviation High School welcomed its first students on campus. Due to her impact on both the education and aviation communities, the Award of Merit is presented posthumously to Rita Creighton.



AWARD OF INSPIRATION – EILEEN COLLINS



Colonel Eileen Collins, USAF, RET., has been chosen by the Board of Directors as the 2009 recipient of the Award of Inspiration.

As a young woman, Eileen read about space flight and gained her inspiration from the Mercury Astronauts. After high school, she attended college and earned her Master of Arts degree in Space Systems Management from Webster University.

Having logged over 6,750 hours in 30 different types of aircraft, she became an astronaut in July 1991. She served as pilot on STS-63 in February 1995 and STS-84 in May 1997. She served as the Shuttle Commander on STS-93 in July 1993 and STS-114 in July/August 2005.

As a veteran of four space flights, she logged over 872 hours in space. With her shuttle mission in July 1993, she became the first female Shuttle Commander. Eileen also commanded the "Return to Flight" mission, the first mission after the Columbia tragedy in 2002.

When asked about being the first and only female Shuttle Commander, her answer was, "Hopefully not for long!" She looked forward to losing the title of the "only" female commander, and in 2007, the "only" was lifted from her title when Pamela Melroy served as Commander of STS-120.

Eileen has received the Defense Superior Service Medal, Distinguished Flying Cross, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for service in Grenada (Operation Urgent Fury, October 1983), French Legion of Honor, NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal, NASA Space Flight Medals, Free Spirit Award and the National Space Trophy.

Eileen retired from NASA in May 2006. She now serves on the NASA Advisory Council as Chairman of the Space Operations Committee and is busy as a professional speaker and consultant. She and her husband, who is a pilot for Delta Airlines, raise two children in Houston and are planning a move to San Antonio next summer to be closer to family and Eileen's current employer.

Those who have met Eileen are immediately charmed and disarmed by her down-to-earth approach to life and her interest in the world around her. A pilot, wife, mother and career woman, she continually inspires those she meets.

KATHERINE B. WRIGHT AWARD — DONNA SHIRLEY



As a child of Chickasaw descent growing up in Wynnewood, Oklahoma, Donna Shirley was fascinated by science fiction and dreamed of exploring Mars. With her parents' support, Donna started flying lessons at age 15 and soloed at age 16. Valedictorian of her high school class, Donna entered the University of Oklahoma (OU) and continued her flying. There she achieved a commercial pilot certificate with airplane, single and multi-engine land and seaplane ratings and a flight instructor certificate.

She earned a Bachelor's degree in professional writing, and her first job at the McDonnell Aircraft Company was writing specifications for the Gemini spacecraft that carried two astronauts into orbit. But a writing job didn't do it for her. Donna later returned to OU for a second Bachelor's degree in aerospace/mechanical engineering. Still space-struck and going for more, she went on to acquire a Master's in aerospace engineering from the University of Southern California.

Donna entered a fulfilling 32-year career with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, starting as the only degreed female among 2,000 engineers. She was involved in some three dozen projects and soon became the first woman to manage a NASA program as project manager of the Mariner 10 mission to Venus and Mercury.

She headed up the team that built Sojourner, the Microrover

lander of the Mars Pathfinder Project, which landed successfully on the surface of Mars on July 4, 1997. She also served as the official spokesperson for the White House Mars Millennium Project, a worldwide effort to involve children in their design of a 100-person colony on Mars.

Donna's most unique talent turned out to be the ability to gather and nurture people of inquisitive minds, technical know-how and limitless vision into a team to take this country to the planet Mars. Two books resulted from this unique talent, an autobiography *Managing Martians* and her online book *Managing Creativity*.

Donna subsequently returned to Norman, Oklahoma to serve as assistant dean and an instructor of aerospace/mechanical engineering at Oklahoma's College of Engineering. She was awarded five honorary doctorates and became a popular speaker and consultant.

As a youngster, Donna had devoured science fiction books, which came home to roost with Paul Allen's new Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame in Seattle. Donna became its first director. While serving the museum, Donna developed a brain tumor and resigned her position to tackle this newest challenge. She has recovered her health and is enjoying grandmotherhood and takes great pleasure in traveling the country lecturing, teaching and consulting.

Donna Shirley has been installed in the Women in Technology International Hall of Fame and the Oklahoma Air & Space Hall of Fame. She's also received NASA's Outstanding Leadership Medal and the National Space Society's Wernher Von Braun Memorial Award, among many honors.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD — VIRGINIA HARMER

The love of flight developed for young Virginia Harmer when she flew as a passenger in a shuttle helicopter. However, like many 99s, her dream of flying was put aside while she attended college and subsequently raised a family. Her interest in aviation was rekindled when Virginia met Sheryl Sandhagen, a broker in husband Dennis' office and a pilot. Sheryl invited Virginia to her first 99s meeting with the San Gabriel Valley Chapter. The flames fanned higher as a friend dared her to learn to fly. Dennis even offered to buy her a plane if she got her certificate. With that she was on her way without as much as a glance over her shoulder.

Virginia began her flight lessons in August, 1991 and received her private pilot certificate in May, 1992. She joined the San Gabriel Valley Chapter one month later. Joining The 99s was the start of a busy future for Virginia. She began attending Southwest Section meetings shortly after joining, holding offices at the Chapter and Section level and is currently serving her second term as a Director on the International Board. When the Museum of Women Pilots went in search of a Southern California pilot to bring historical outfits to Oklahoma City in anticipation of the 1999 Grand Opening, Virginia stepped up and offered to fly them to OKC in her Piper Cherokee. Once there, she worked tirelessly to help prepare the Museum for its big day. She has also spent countless hours

volunteering at the Oklahoma City Headquarters. Her latest project is the organization of member files, current and past. She has spent no less than three full weeks each year at Headquarters since taking on the project. She has taken widely dispersed past member records and organized them so they can be found on demand.

Virginia serves as a judge for the National Intercollegiate Flying Association, once again working tirelessly at local, regional and national Safecons every year. She serves on the Cable Air Show Committee, and is active with the Pomona Valley Pilots Association and EAA. She also flies Young Eagles and leads airport tours.

Virginia's dedication to The 99s, in particular her focus on youth in aviation and the membership files at the OKC Headquarters, makes her the perfect recipient of the 2009 President's Award.



RATINGS & WINGS

RATINGS

Lisa Erickson – Glider
Orange County Chapter

Mikel Fitterman – CFI, CFII
Florida Suncoast Chapter

Anna Cole Gutierrez – Multi-engine
Instructor
San Diego Chapter

Darlene Grant – Instrument
Lake Erie Chapter

Emily Hendricks – Instrument
Wisconsin Chapter

Samantha O'Brien – Instrument
San Diego Chapter

Kandace Rawling – Helicopter
Wisconsin Chapter

Erin Reilly – Private Pilot
Colorado Chapter

Brittany Sabol – Private Pilot
Santa Clara Valley Chapter

Jamee Wallis – Tailwheel Endorsement
Carolinas Chapter

Nancy Wood – Instrument Rating
Lake Erie Chapter

SOLO

Mahnaz Ahmadian
Ventura County Chapter

Jennifer Aleman
Bay Cities Chapter

Denny Nickerson
Ventura County Chapter

Linda Robinson
Coachella Valley Chapter

Angela Trouette
Bay Cities Chapter



From left, Carolyn Carpp with Women's Achievement Award winners Rachel Ballou, Third Place; Allie Engel, First Place; Lauren Smalkoski, Second Place; and Diane Bartels.

Ninety-Nines Take Top Three Spots at NIFA

BY CAROLYN CARPP, Western Washington Chapter

The annual NIFA SAFECON was held May 18 to May 23 at Parks College, a division of Saint Louis University, St. Louis, Missouri.

For the first time in many years, the weather was CAVU all week and all events were completed early. Many Ninety-Nines were involved, not only enjoying the great weather but were also cheering for the St. Louis Cardinals at Busch Stadium on Friday night.

International Director Virginia Harmer, who is liaison to the NIFA Committee, served as chief scorekeeper, and Elaine Morrow, Ninety-Nines Past President, ran the Communications Center.

After the judging was completed, it was revealed that all of this year's winners were members of The Ninety-Nines. Taking First Place was Allie Engel, University of Central Missouri, Intercollegiate Internet Chapter; Second Place, Lauren Smalkoski, University of Dubuque, Wisconsin Chapter; and Third Place, Rachel Ballou, Le Tourneau University, All-Ohio Chapter.

The Top Scoring Female who received

the Candi Kubric Award sponsored by The Ninety-Nines was Cassandra Nagle of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Prescott.

Other Ninety-Nines serving as judges in St. Louis were Jody McCarrell (99s Past President, Chief Judge of Judges and NIFA Council), Carol Sue Wheeler, Jerry Anne Jurenka, Fran Strubeck (International Director), Bonita Ades, Wally Funk, Trine Jorgensen (NIFA Council), Linda Schumm, Martha Norman, Sue Osborne, Linda Horn and Joey Kelly. Diane Bartels (NIFA Council) and Carolyn Carpp (NIFA Council) comprised the Women's Achievement Award Interview team.

All Ninety-Nines are encouraged to become involved in NIFA, as the students who compete represent the future in aviation. They need help and encouragement towards future flying careers.

Please consider making a donation and/or becoming a judge. You will wonder why you didn't get caught up in this enthusiasm years ago! Check out the NIFA website at NIFA.us.



Pete Souza

President Barack Obama signs a bill awarding a Congressional Gold Medal to the WASP. Flanking the President are WASP members Bernice Falk Haydu, far left, Elaine Danforth Harmon and Lorraine H. Rodgers, right. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-Fla.) is at far right. Behind the President are active duty U.S. Air Force pilots, including Ninety-Nine Maj. Nicole Malachowski, who is to the right of Rep. Ros-Lehtinen.

WASP TO RECEIVE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

July 1, 2009 was a historic moment for women in aviation, especially the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP), as President Barack Obama signed S.614, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the WASP.

The Women Airforce Service Pilots was established during World War II, and from 1942 to 1943, more than 1,000 women joined, flying 60 million miles of non-combat military missions. Of the women who received their wings as Women Airforce Service Pilots, approximately 300 are living today.

The official press release can be found at whitehouse.gov and search for Women Airforce Service Pilots.



WASP VI COWDEN REUNITES WITH THE MUSTANG

As a Women Airforce Service Pilot, Violet 'Vi' Cowden flew 19 different types of pursuit planes during World War II, including the Mustang, as she helped deliver new aircraft from factories to military bases across the nation.

Vi, an Orange County Chapter member, once again climbed aboard a P-51C Mustang after flying into Long Beach Airport with members of Wings of Freedom, a group that showcases vintage airplanes. She proudly wore her WASP uniform and said she was thrilled to be back in the cockpit of a P-51, thousands of which were built in Long Beach.

At 89, she took her first paragliding trip and her second parachute jump. And on this day, at 92, Vi was all smiles as she climbed out of the cockpit of the P-51 — and slid down the wing!

— Vicky Anderson

SUN 'n FUN — THE AVIATION YEAR STARTED HERE

It was a very successful week in The Ninety-Nines Building. We had over 400 guests, including Ninety-Nines from all over the U.S. and Canada. Five new members were signed up, and there were three renewals and one reinstatement. Information was given to a number of prospective members.

The annual WASP luncheon was held on Thursday with 60 people attending, including three WASP and Sue Plaster, the daughter of a WASP. Susan King and Bob Oehl from Wings of Dreams Aviation Museum Start Up, Keystone Airport, picked up WASP Helen Snapp and Barry Smith and flew them to Plant City on Wednesday. WASP Penny Halberg and her husband drove in on Thursday. After lunch, Ursula Davidson moderated a question and answer session with the four women. We are always amazed and entertained by their stories and appreciate that they paved the way for other female pilots. Glen Morrow did his usual golf cart taxi service for the ladies. We look forward to having them next year.

Friday was a busy day, starting with the Volunteer Workers Parade at 7 a.m. We had a wild ride in our golf cart led by local Lakeland policemen. At 9 a.m. the fifth graders from Marie Grein's My First Wings program at Skycrest Elementary School arrived by bus from Pinellas County. They were given an exciting Sun 'n Fun tour and ate their bag lunch at The Ninety-Nines building.

The Florida Suncoast Chapter held their meeting on Saturday and were surprised by outgoing Southeast Section Governor Corbi Bulluck, who flew in for the day. Jessica Alzamara, the 2008 Jesse Woods Spacecamp winner, reported on her experience at the Space Academy in Huntsville, Alabama.

AOPA hosted a tent with the theme "I Want To Fly." Several organizations participated. The Ninety-Nines included Karen Baskin, Dot Buckanin, Mercedes Eulitt, Marie Grein, Cheryl Kraemer, Doris Miller, Patti Sandusky, Thuy Pieper and Laura Zaleski-Johnson. Many volunteers are responsible for the success of the operation at The Ninety-Nines Building.

— Barbara Sierchio and Nancy Wright



Back row, Nancy Wright and Elaine Morrow. Seated from left, WASP Barry Smith, WASP Penny Halberg, WASP Helen Snapp and Sue Plaster, daughter of a WASP. Standing is Ursula Davidson, the moderator of the question-answer session.

Paradise is Calling



It's Time to Start Planning for the Next International Conference, July 5-9, 2010 Big Island, Hawaii

BY CONSTANCE CHARLES, San Diego Chapter



Hawaii is calling The Ninety-Nines: “E komo mai.” Welcome, come in. “Nou ka hale.” Our home is yours — for a wonderful week in paradise. Next year’s International Conference will be on the Big Island of Hawaii, July 5-9, at the Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort and Spa on the Kona Coast.

The dates, the first Monday through Friday of July, were selected to allow attendees the benefit of having two weekends and the Fourth of July holiday for travel and arrival, to have plenty of time to enjoy the unusual location and to afford the possibility of extending the time in Hawaii on either or both ends.

This conference will be more than the usual gathering of women pilots from around the world and their families. It’ll be a great time to play and have adventures in a most exotic place.

The theme is “Pilots in Paradise,” and that feeling is exactly what the host Southwest Section intends to make it. From the hotel, which is a destination in itself, to the sightseeing tours to the conference events, it will be a time and a place not to miss.

A destination management company, Travel Planners, Inc., is handling the reservations and travel arrangements for the committee and for the attendees. All bookings for the Conference, the hotel, tours during the Conference and pre- and post-Conference add-ons, will be taken care of by them. For further information and to register, go to ninetynines.net/hawaii2010.

The Island of Hawaii offers the widest range of things to do and see of all the islands in the chain. From coffee farms and macadamia nut plantations to Volcanoes National Park, from a 13,000-foot mountain to black sand beaches, from island cuisine and treats to historic villages and museums, there is a wealth of opportunities.

And if that’s not enough, there are additional tours before and following the Conference heading to Maui, Kauai and Oahu, as well as a post-conference cruise that visits all the islands in a week’s time.

There will be much more information on the plans and opportunities of next year’s Conference coming to entice you to the experience of a lifetime, but start making your plans and saving your money now. It’s not too soon to answer the call.



New Pilot, AEMSf and Maule Tailwheel Scholarships Recognize 26 Women

BY JOY PARKER BLACKWOOD
Chairman, AEMSf



The Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship Fund Trustees are very pleased to present the following 2009 scholarship and award winners.

With the help of a mass mailing last year to remind all members of the funding opportunities, we received a significantly higher number of applications. Regardless of the investment market downturn, we were able to provide over \$100,000 in scholarships and awards. We hope the market rebound will sustain this level of giving for next year.

So far, several of this year's winners have been unusually speedy in attaining their certifications and ratings. The weather must be cooperating!

At the Chicago Conference and on the 99s website we will be offering a list of commonly asked questions that we hope will provide an additional means of understanding the application process. Members who are contemplating applying should begin the process by asking questions at the Chapter level and then proceed up the chain if they need additional information. However, the AEMSf Trustees are always available to help and want to know if there is a snag in the communication chain so we can resolve it quickly.

Because of The 99s website, there are more women aviators, or those interested in becoming one, from many corners of the world who have been contacting us about the scholarship program and The Ninety-Nines. We hope this generates new members!

I want to personally thank all this year's winners for their dedication in providing electronic photographs suitable for this publication. I know it's a learning curve for many but you came through with flying colors!

As always, we thank our distinguished panel of judges for their invaluable time and expertise to determine this year's winners from the list of finalists.

Congratulations to all!

AEMSf SCHOLARSHIPS



EMILY BISS – Introduction to Fixed Wing Flight Testing
Greater Seattle Chapter

Growing up in the Washington, D.C. area, I spent countless weekends at the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum enthralled by all number of flying machines. I was finally able to take flying lessons in college while on an exchange program at the University of North Dakota. After graduating from Brown University with a degree in Mechanical Engineering, I worked as an engineer for Lockheed Martin. In 2001, I left to pursue a full-time flying career. I have worked as a flight instructor, maintenance test pilot and airline pilot before coming to Boeing in August of 2007 as a production test pilot. Two of my favorite planes are the American Champion Citabria (7ECA) and de Havilland Twin Otter (DHC-6-300).

KJERSTI BOE – Academic Scholarship, Master of Aeronautical Science
Minnesota Chapter

I, like many others, began my love of flying at an early age. I pursued my dream by attending the University of North Dakota to earn all of my flight licenses and bachelor's degree. Upon graduation I studied abroad for an extra year and was able to obtain a position at a flight training company in Norway. After a year and a half, I moved back to Minnesota and began flight instructing, which kept me busy until I recently began working as an Aviation Courseware Developer with Aerosim Technologies. I am currently participating in the PPLI program and looking forward to all of the opportunities The Ninety-Nines has to offer for my future career as an airline pilot.

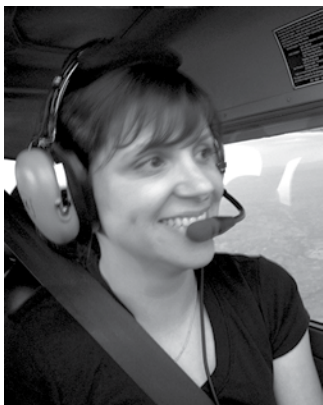


SUZANNE COLLINS – Instrument
Hampton Roads Chapter

I was born in the United Kingdom and spent my formative years in Guyana, South America. I returned to the UK to complete my studies and earned a BS in Electrical & Electronic Engineering. I later immigrated to the USA where I earned a MBA, majoring in Information Systems. I am delighted to be the recipient of an Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship and grateful for this extraordinary opportunity to realize my dream of becoming an instructor and flying for charity/charter. Earning my instrument rating is a huge step in achieving that milestone, and I'm extremely fortunate to have the support and encouragement of The Ninety-Nines, the Civil Air Patrol and many others in the community. I look forward to continuing the mission of The Ninety-Nines, helping others achieve their goals in aviation, and thank the Scholarship Chairmen, Trustees and Judges for making this possible.

NORIKO DATE – Flight Instructor Class IV
First Canadian Chapter

Noriko worked for Japan Airlines in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada for 19 years, taking early retirement in 1993 and relocating to Toronto, Ontario. Inspired by an article she read detailing an around the world trip by three Ninety-Nines, Noriko began flight training at Buttonville Airport and her passion was ignited. She received her private certificate in 1996, followed by the commercial certificate in 2000 and instrument rating in 2001. Recently, she has flown as an inspector/pilot for a major pipeline. As a part of The Ninety-Nines Skywatch program (in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment), she has logged nearly 2,000 hours to date. Noriko feels very much at home in the aviation field and pursues her love of flying at every opportunity. Her recent coast-to-coast flight will be topped when she realizes her dream of a transatlantic flight to Europe. She is very honoured to be considered for this prestigious scholarship. With the new knowledge gained from her studies, she looks forward to passing on the joy of flying to as many aviation enthusiasts as possible.



LAURA DEL FAVERO – Certified Flight Instructor
Santa Clara Valley Chapter

Laura Del Favero works in Silicon Valley as an Aviation Systems Analyst. She specializes in the modeling and simulation of operations at military airfields and training areas. A passionate flyer since 2002, Laura holds a commercial single engine land certificate, instrument rating and private single engine sea rating. She will use the generous opportunity provided by the Amelia Earhart Scholarship Fund to become a flight instructor. Laura also enjoys volunteering her time to Angel Flight as a mission pilot and to her local Humane Society providing foster care for animals.



MONICA DOHERTY – Academic Scholarship, Master of Science in Aeronautical Science, Human Factors Emphasis
Ambassador Chapter

Monica Doherty flies for ExpressJet Airlines, based in Houston. Her undergraduate degree is in psychology, and she is thrilled to have found a way to combine her love of aviation with psychology by pursuing a Master's degree in Aeronautical Science with an emphasis in Human Factors. She is very thankful for the support of The Ninety-Nines in accomplishing this goal. Monica teaches Crew Resource Management to other ExpressJet pilots and feels her graduate studies will benefit the entire pilot group. Monica had her first baby, Megan, in November. She loves watching her explore the world and discover new things every day.

LISA ERICKSON – Multiengine Instrument
Orange County Chapter

Flying, from my first introductory flight at the age of 15 through early July of last year, had always been a hobby that I loved so much and always dreamed of doing as a career. Then in August of last year, in the shadow of Mt. McKinley, I experienced very personal and spiritual moments in my life while earning my ASES and tailwheel endorsement flying in the Alaskan Range. These flights changed my life and what flying means to me. Flying is no longer just a hobby. It is part of my soul. This is symbolized by an eagle totem that I now wear around my neck when I fly.



LESLIE FINK – Airline Transport Pilot
Utah Chapter

Leslie is deeply honored to receive this Amelia Earhart Scholarship so she can further her quest to keep her head in the clouds. She has been trying to keep her feet off the ground since childhood. From flying around with her Superman cape to her first flight lesson in 1997, she has always had her eye on the skies. Whether instructing, recreational flying or professional piloting, she loves the motion of the airways and, from her home in Bountiful, Utah, aspires to cover as much of the beautiful skies as possible. She graduated with a B.S. in Psychology from the University of Utah and, like the limitless sky, she is fascinated by the limitless possibilities of the human mind. Today Leslie is more committed than ever to continue to fly as it has brought her so much joy and success in her life.

MARY GUEST – Airline Transport Pilot
San Gabriel Valley Chapter

As a KC-135 Aircraft Commander in the Air Force Reserves, I am fortunate enough to travel the world while serving my country. Whether I'm flying a KC-135 or a Cub, I get the same feeling every time the wheels lift off the ground — freedom and amazement. And, no matter where in the world I'm flying, that same feeling stays with me, every flight. The Ninety-Nines gives me the opportunity to share those experiences and learn from other women who have that same love of the sky, and I thank the organization as a whole for being an inspiration.





PAIGE HORTMAN – Academic Scholarship, Master of Natural/Applied Science, Aviation Mid-Atlantic Section

Paige Hortman comes from a family rich in aviation. She completed her certificates and ratings at Hortman Aviation in Philadelphia before accepting an athletic scholarship to Oklahoma State University, where she was also a flight instructor. She earned Bachelors in Aviation and Space and began a Masters in Aviation as well. Upon graduation in 2006, Paige became a first officer on a CRJ-200 for Comair Airlines out of JFK. Recently furloughed, Paige has been working at Flight Safety Wilmington as a Challenger second-in-command and is continuing with her Master's degree. She recently received a KC-10 pilot slot in the USAFR with the 78th ARS at McGuire AFB.

HEIDI KLEIN – Academic Scholarship, Commercial Aviation Northwest Section

In the world of aviation, this has been a very busy and exciting year for me. Since last August, I have earned my airplane single and multi-engine commercial instrument ratings. Additionally, I am also a CFI and CFII. I am really enjoying my new role as an instructor and am still very excited to take on new students. This year I joined the ranks as a FAASTeam Safety Representative. I am currently working as a Flight Operations intern at American Airlines. Civil Air Patrol and community service have always been a big part of who I am. This year marked my last year as a cadet and participation on the National Cadet Advisory Council, representing nearly 3,000 cadets. The end of my undergraduate academic degree is quickly nearing, with 127 credits total and only eight more to go. In December, I am looking to enter the job market or work towards a Master's degree at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.



AMANDA KOLBE – Instrument Sugarloaf Chapter

I'm Amanda Kolbe, U.S. Army Reservist, private pilot and proud winner of the 2009 Amelia Earhart Flight Training Scholarship. For as long as I can remember, I've been fascinated with airplanes. In 2005 I decided I had had enough of the ground and began training for my private pilot certificate, financing it with the burden of student loans. Thanks to the AE Scholarship Trustees and Judges, generous contributions to the AEMSF, the supportive members of the Sugarloaf Chapter and the women of The Ninety-Nines, I am finally able to continue my flight training and chase my dreams. Thank you all!

TRACI LEIDER – B737-300 EFIS Phoenix Chapter

I've decided my email address should be buymearolex.com. Why? Because I've always wanted a Rolex watch and promised myself I would buy one as a present when I earned my private pilot certificate. Then I realized my Rolex would cost as much as my next rating, so I opted for the rating. I pushed the Rolex watch goal back numerous times so I could pursue more flying with the monies. It was money well spent, as I am currently a Lear 60 Captain for FlexJet, proudly wearing the same Mickey Mouse watch I wore for my first checkride in 1999.





HEATHER MARCHESE – Instrument
Hampton Roads Chapter

I am 19 years old and originally from White Plains, New York. I took my first flight on Delta Airlines when I was in 5th or 6th grade. Shortly after, I decided that was what I wanted to do the rest of my life — fly. Throughout the rest of my public education, the desire to become an airline pilot never changed; in fact, it grew. I had aspirations of becoming the first person in my family to attain a college degree and make it to captain of an airliner. Now, I have one more year of college at Embry-Riddle's extended campus, and I'm working on my instrument rating. Thank you for this opportunity.

KELLY O'DEA – Commercial Multiengine Instrument
Bay Cities Chapter

Kelly O'Dea has been flying for six years and is currently a flight instructor at Palo Alto Airport. She is pursuing a career in professional aviation and is looking forward to achieving the multiengine instrument rating during the summer of 2009. She is an active member of the Bay Cities Chapter and is excited to hold the office of Director for the upcoming term. Kelly will implement programs to recruit new members and support current members with ongoing activities. Kelly strives for excellence in her performance as a pilot, a mentor and a member of The Ninety-Nines.



LAURIE PROBST – Certified Flight Instructor
Wisconsin Chapter

Once there was a young woman who loved working with children. Her part-time jobs always had something to do with kids. When her friends invited her over, she always managed to have a calming effect on even the unruliest of rugrats. Entering college, she thought she was going to be a communications major or a Russian translator. Her friends thought she was nuts. "You are so good with kids, you should be a teacher!" they remarked. Of course, this young woman was going to do what she wanted to do, and it took a while to finally sink in that yes, working with kids was a joy and teaching was a talent she truly had. Leap ahead 10 years, and this teacher took an airplane ride and fell in love with flying. She got her private certificate, mentored students. Other pilots started saying, "Laurie, you really should become a flight instructor. You'd be a good one!" Having learned the lesson from years ago, she reflected and thought, "Hmmm. Maybe they're right!" A new path has been set before her, and now she feels absolutely blessed to be able to combine her love of teaching with her passion for flight! Thank you!!

BECKY ROMAN-AMADOR – B757/767 Jet Type
Washington DC Chapter

Becky Roman-Amador has been an active member of the DC Chapter of The Ninety-Nines since 2004 and is a graduate of the Professional Pilot Leadership Initiative (PPLI) program. She is now part of the PPLI's Leadership Coordination Team helping other women realize their dreams. She holds an Electrical Engineering degree from Wright State University and completed her civilian pilot training at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Aero Club where she became a flight instructor. Becky is also a Major with the 121st Air Refueling Wing, Ohio Air National Guard (ANG) and has been selected by ANG Headquarters to represent the Women of the ANG in their new advertising campaign. Becky spends her time off visiting D.C. area schools inspiring children "to believe" and volunteering at USOs located in the D.C.-Metro Airports. Becky is currently a CRJ captain with Mesa Airlines and hopes to be with a major airline flying international routes.



KELLY SHERET – Multiengine Instrument
Canadian Rockies Chapter

Please allow me to extend my gratitude to The Ninety-Nines for having faith in me and supporting me on my career path. It is a heartwarming experience for me to be a mentor, lend a hand and support any fellow female aviator in order to help her achieve her goals. It is truly amazing to see that with encouragement and networking we can make our dreams come true. There is so much reward in this work. I get to experience the joy almost every day. My dream has come true. The new Pilatus PC 12 N/G has arrived. My flight training is complete, and I am an official first officer with V. Kelner Pilatus Center. My multiengine IFR training will begin in May. I am so excited about my life.



ELIZABETH SOMMERS – Instructor Instrument
Alameda County Chapter

I am number eight of fourteen children. My parents provided a Catholic primary and secondary education for us but were unable to provide a post-secondary education. However, they inspired us to dream and to persevere. I dream. To dream is to fly. To fly is to dream. This is my passion, this is my love: to climb, to soar and then, yes, to come down. To gently settle back to the place from which I've departed. It is my flight, our flight, and we must share it — the joy, the love, the passion. To dream, to fly, to inspire.

KATHLEEN VEATCH – Air Transport Pilot
Aloha Chapter

As a world traveler, flying has always been part of my life. After soloing, I was hooked and pursued a BS degree in Aviation and Business, minored in Aviation Safety and obtained my private certificate from Embry-Riddle University. My ground instructor's certificate was from Spain. I earned my multiengine commercial, CFI and CFII in Honolulu, Hawaii and my MEI in Long Beach, California. I started two flying clubs and was a flight instructor in Hawaii, Spain and California. I am captain and first officer on DC-3s and BE-18s. Currently I'm a captain on a Partenavia for Aspen Helicopters and flight instructor at CP Aviation. Many thanks to The Ninety-Nines!



STACIE VOURNAS – Certified Flight Instructor
San Fernando Valley Chapter

Anastasia 'Stacie' Vournas took her nine-year-old son (now 16) to a Young Eagles flight on August 17, 2002. The flight was intended to grip the aviation interest in children, but in this case it was Stacie who got captivated. Once she took the controls of the Cessna 172, she was hooked. She began ground school and flight training shortly thereafter and obtained her private certificate, instrument rating and commercial certificate. As she trained, she became active in the San Fernando Valley Chapter. She won Rookie Pilot of the Year for her Chapter in 2004, Woman Pilot of the Year in 2007 and received an honorable mention for the Trixie Ann Schubert Service Award in 2008. She also currently serves on the Chapter Board as the Corresponding Secretary. Being a Ninety-Nine is something in which Stacie takes great pride. She continues to be very active with Young Eagles and has come full circle. She now flies the children with the same enthusiasm she had on her first flight. Stacie also flies traffic watch professionally, flying radio station reporters from KNX and KFWB over traffic and news scenes.

NEW PILOT AWARDS



PAULA O'GORMAN-HARRIS – Redwood Coast Flyers Chapter

I am 23 years old, and I have many goals in life. One of the bottom steps in my ladder is to earn my private pilot certificate. I started taking lessons in 2006, and I am hooked. I live on the Redwood Coast of northern California. It is a great environment to challenge the persistence and judgment of any pilot. I am all too aware of constantly changing weather. The saying in the summertime is, "If it isn't foggy now, the fog is on its way back in." The sun is worth waiting for because this is a beautiful place to fly! I am going to continue my training, and I'd love to become a flight instructor so I can pass on the skills, knowledge and stories that others have shared with me. Much thanks to The Ninety-Nines past, present and future for inspiration and support.

CRISTI HIGGINS – Nebraska Chapter

Born in Lincoln, Nebraska, home of the Huskers, on March 10, 1975, my parents named me Cristi, spelled with no (h) or (e) or (y), apparently how you should. I grew up fast, working since I was 12 and already had my own apartment at 15. I said fast. I married Lonnie Higgins at 18, and we just celebrated 16 years together. We have a son age 14, James, and a daughter Paige, age 10. We now live in Cortland, Nebraska, population 500 if everyone is home. I have my own photography and video production studio here, and other than waitressing, that has been my occupation. Always wanting to fly, I had dreams of flying the red Arrow hanging in Lincoln Municipal airport where I grew up working with Grandpa, who was head of security, not a pilot. I spent many hours daydreaming of the military jets across the way. I was Wonder Woman for Halloween eight years in a row, and yes, I wanted to fly with Superman. Well life never opened an aviation door for me, but one day I was visiting Grandma, and she said I talked about flying a lot and asked me if I intended to just talk about it. I went directly to an airport that afternoon and said, "I want to learn to fly." My first lesson and experience in a small plane ended up being on my 31st birthday. Flying is financially difficult, but in every other way it has stimulated me. Through the AEMSF scholarship award and by refusing to give up, I soon will be a pilot.



JAMIE MICELI – Pikes Peak Chapter

A documentary of Amelia Earhart's life on the public broadcasting station was my inspiration to take a discovery flight at a local flight school. Amelia said, "As soon as we left the ground I knew I myself had to fly," and this is exactly how I feel. I have always loved to fly on commercial jets but never realized that I could be the one in the cockpit. Once I get a private pilot certificate, I will work towards an instrument rating and commercial certificate. The wonderful Pikes Peak Chapter of The Ninety-Nines has been an inspiration and help in pursuing my dream. In the future, I hope to help fellow women aspiring to be pilots. This scholarship is helping me realize my full potential. Thank you to the Judges, the Pikes Peak Chapter and my awesome flight instructor.



TERESA WOLSKI – Northwoods Chapter

I'm not the first in my family to love aviation. My great-uncle, my father and my brother have pursued their dreams as pilots, from World War II to the space shuttle. Without a doubt, I have a proud tradition to follow down the runway. I have the honor and responsibility of being the first woman in my family to fly! When I was a young girl, I was quiet, shy and obedient. Sometime after becoming a mother of five daughters and an elementary school teacher, I realized that I needed to set a much stronger, braver, more interesting example. Since then, I have focused on science-related adventures, such as traveling to the North Pole on a science expedition with the GLOBE weather program, participating in NASA Educator Workshops, sailing on the EPA's research vessel on Lake Superior and beginning my training as a private pilot. As a Future Woman Pilot, I will strive to help The Ninety-Nines chart new courses to inspire our daughters and our sisters in the sky!

MAULE TAILWHEEL AWARD

JONNIE LANDIS – Eastern Idaho Chapter

I grew up in the south living in North Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia but have lived in Idaho for many years. It was in Idaho where another anesthetist encouraged me to take up flying. It is truly one of my great joys, and I find mountain flying, whether in the back country of Idaho or in Central America on mission trips, to be some of my most memorable experiences. My involvement in the Eastern Idaho Chapter of The Ninety-Nines and the Civil Air Patrol has been very rewarding. There is always something to do, and the many friends make it even more rewarding. In the past I have owned a Varga Kachina and a Cessna 206. It is my dream to own a plane again. I am married, the mother of two grown sons and the grandmother of four. I am a Christian author and love the piano, golden retrievers and horses.



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Welcome New Ninety-Nines Members!

Alaska Chapter

KEMPTHORNE, Christina M.
(FWP)

Alberta Chapter

YING, Dominique Nikki (FWP)

Ambassador Chapter

JOHNSON, Mary Lou (ACADEMIC)
PRAIRIE, Dana M. (FWP)

Antelope Valley Chapter

MARTINEZ, Arlene (FWP)
MONFORTON, Lesli Anne

Arkansas Chapter

GILBERT, Genoveva

Australian Section

BOOTH, Rosina

Aux Plaines Chapter

ROBERTS, Joann (ACADEMIC)

Bay Cities Chapter

ALEMAN, Jennifer Lee (FWP)
HERNLY, D.C, Virginia L.
TROUETTE, Angela (FWP)
YANES, Kelley (FWP)

Carolinas Chapter

SHEALY, Laura F.

Central Oregon Chapter

SWEENEY, Jill (FWP)

Colorado Chapter

BONHAM, Loretta Frances
HILL, Marnie (FWP)

Columbia Cascade Chapter

YOUNG, Julie Wiklund

Connecticut Chapter

JACOBS, Kathleen

Dallas Chapter

MARTENS, Lori (ACADEMIC)

Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter

DECANDIA, Danielle Marie (FWP)

Embry-Riddle Daytona Chapter

LEE, Sunny Kyungsun (FWP)

First Canadian Chapter

LEARMONTH, Mary Jane

Florida Suncoast Chapter

KRIER, Sandra
LEONG, Angeline
MCDONALD, Abigail (FWP)
PEDROZA, Ana Maria (FWP)

Georgia Chapter

DILLON, Deborah



*Johanna Elisabeth Bischof, Kitty
Hawk Chapter*

German Section

KAUFHOLD, Isabel

Greater Cincinnati Chapter

EHLE, Charlie

Greater Kansas City Chapter

FOURNIER, Janet

Houston Chapter

ANDRIST, Sidney G.
KIRKWOOD, Claudia

Idaho Chapter

BOESIGER, Jamie
RICHARDS, Mary Ann

India Section

BANGAR, Sangita Kabra

Israeli Section

ADMON, Tamar Thais

Kansas Chapter

HEDON, Frederique

Kentucky Bluegrass Chapter

COX, Patricia Ann
MIVILLE, Kayla

Kitty Hawk Chapter

BISCHOF, Johanna Elisabeth
(ACADEMIC)

Lake Erie Chapter

LONGO, DVM, Karen

Minnesota Chapter

CHAYKA LEV, Rivka Irene (FWP)

New Orleans Chapter

DUNN, Leah (FWP)
MCKEEMAN, Lorna Lori (FWP)

New York Capital District Chapter

MESICK, Regina

Phoenix Chapter

BAIER, Marguerite
BECK, Cindy
GOLDEN, Kelli (FWP)
HOFFMAN, Stephanie E.
MEHRTENS, Lynn (FWP)

Pikes Peak Chapter

KRYDER, Carol (FWP)
MOONEYHAM, Danielle
Malanczuk (FWP)

Placer Gold Chapter

BARHYDT, Stacey Louise

Reno Area Chapter

REDICK, Kate Austin (FWP)

Reno High Sierra Chapter

BARCIA, Nikki

Russian Section

FEDOTOVA, Ludmila
Alexandrovna

Sacramento Valley Chapter

STONE, Sharon D. (FWP)

San Diego Chapter

FORTIN, Bonnie (FWP)
GOFF, Annette

San Fernando Valley Chapter

DARCEL, Leonora Leonie (FWP)

San Gabriel Valley Chapter

FIALA, Sarah "Fi" (FWP)

Santa Clara Valley Chapter

JOHNSON, Jan (FWP)
MEAD, Terri

Santa Rosa Chapter

MACDONALD, Mary M. (FWP)

Sugarloaf Chapter

TERKELSEN, Sandi

Utah Chapter

VAUGHAN, Collette

Ventura County Chapter

MILLEA, Michelle (FWP)
OLIVER, Erin

Wisconsin Chapter

CRYER, Druanne Maree (FWP)
MICHAELS, Tonie L. (FWP)

GRASS ROOTS — Section and Chapter reporters share their recent activities

NEW ZEALAND SECTION

The New Zealand Section is small (16 members), but 10 of those members managed to fly to Ashburton in the South Island to attend the 2009 Annual General Meeting on May 31.

The annual meeting is held in a different location each Queen's Birthday weekend, and this time it was the turn of this mid-Canterbury town with a large country airfield. Members flew themselves in from all over New Zealand. It is winter in New Zealand right now, and the glorious weather conditions at the start of the weekend showed off the fresh snow at low levels on the Southern Alps. However, the day of the meeting started with light snow and sleet as a front passed through. A roaring wood fire was the backdrop for the AGM, which had to be squeezed between flying events and seminars in an action-packed weekend organized for the New Zealand Association of Women in Aviation Rally.

The New Zealand Section is in good heart and preparing to celebrate 30 years as a Section in January 2010 with a special fly-in to Forest Field, a private grass airfield and home of Pam Collings, founding member and prime mover in the formation of this Section. All past and present members will be



From left, Rhona Fraser, Edith Robinson, Christine Dickinson, Gretchen Jahn, Sue Campbell, Thyra Blaom, Dee Bond, Pam Collings, Joan Campbell and Ena Monk. On display is the stained-glass plaque made by former member Dena Lilly.

invited to attend. Also on the horizon for next year, some New Zealand members hope to attend the International Conference in Hawaii in July 2010.

Members Dee Bond and Gretchen Jahn leave shortly for the USA to participate in the Air Race Classic. Gretchen will also attend the International Conference in Chicago in July to represent the New Zealand Section. — Sue Campbell



Wisconsin Chapter members visit the new terminal building in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Back row: Penny Werner, Elizabeth Motley, Dee Becker, Kandace Rawling, Glynis Thompson, Marcy Lange, Diane Welch, Judy Roeder, Julie Hartlaub. Front row: Laurie Probst, Krys Brown, Darcy Kulesha.

WISCONSIN CHAPTER

On April 25, Laurie Probst of the Wisconsin Chapter led Girl Scouts on a guided tour of the EAA Museum in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

In May, the Chapter met at the new terminal building in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. If you are flying in the area, be sure to check out the beautiful new facilities. It includes a huge fireplace, spacious pilot lounge, kitchen and other amenities.

—Laurie Probst

SANTA CLARA VALLEY CHAPTER

At our annual Awards Banquet, Santa Clara Valley Ninety-Nines honored Verna West with our Service Award for her years of outstanding service as a photographer and historian at the Chapter, Section and International levels. She also received a gift certificate for a ride on the Airship Ventures dirigible, Eureka.

We named Mary Ann Dach Pilot of the Year for her work as a flight instructor and mentoring new pilots and Ninety-Nines in her role as our Chapter Membership Chairman.

Kate Board was guest speaker at our banquet, and we learned how she came to be the only female dirigible pilot in the world.

On May 30, the Santa Clara Valley Ninety-Nines held a day-long Flying Companion Seminar co-chaired by Mary Ann Dach and Penny Blake and attended by 12 companions. The seminar focused on making the companions more comfortable in small planes and teaching them how to be more helpful right-seat passengers.

— Judy Stark



Verna West.

CHICAGO AREA CHAPTER

The Chicago Area Chapter celebrated its 75th anniversary with a special luncheon event held on the historic premises of the former Glenview Naval Air Station. Chapter Chairman Elizabeth Hitchcock opened the festivities by welcoming the many members and guests. It was our great honor to have Ninety-Nines President Susan Larson in attendance, along with North Central Section Governor Shelley Ventura.

Honorees with over 50 years of membership presented with anniversary certificates were former WASP Esther Noffke – 60 years; Marjorie Anderson, who modestly admitted she flew for the “first” Midway Airlines – 59 years; and Nita Fineman, who started flying a Piper Cub in 1944 and served as Chapter Chairman to Section Governor – 55 years. In addition, an anniversary certificate was also presented to Chapter Chairman Elizabeth Hitchcock who was celebrating her 5th anniversary as a Ninety-Nine.

President Susan Larson presented the certificates to all the honorees. She then gave a “Super Stars” award to the Chapter from the International Board of Directors, commemorating the 75 years of dedicated service to The Ninety-Nines.

— Diane M. Cozzi



WASP Nita Fineman with International President Susan Larson.

WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER

On April 25, Washington DC Chapter members painted an 80-foot compass rose at the Montgomery County Airpark (KGAI) in Gaithersburg, Maryland. The tireless group completed the rose in a 10-hour marathon session in the 90-degree heat!

Forty gallons of paint and a few sunburnt faces later, 11 newly-crowned airmarking experts looked upon the testament to their hardwork: a stunning compass rose in the trademark baby blue and white. We had great fun and can't wait to tackle another rose.

Volunteers included Pat Manos, Debi Katzen, Laura Takacs, Erin Gormley, Linda Litwin, Barb Rohde, Meredith Saini, Jennifer Edwards, 49½ Seth Reiners and Chapter Airmarking Chairman Julia Reiners.

— Julia Reiners



Washington DC Chapter members work on the compass rose at KGAI, having fun despite the 90-degree heat.

PIKES PEAK CHAPTER

In June, guest speaker Chick Meyers updated us at our monthly meeting on The National Museum of World War II Aviation located in Colorado Springs. This is the only museum in the world to focus exclusively on the unique story and role of aviation in World War II. The museum is scheduled to open the summer of 2011.

The Pikes Peak Chapter has developed a program to support our women military service members who are attending Doss Aviation's Initial Flight Screening (IFS) program, the Air Force's initial pilot and Combat Systems Officer (CSO) flying screening and training course that is under the command of Air Education and Training Command (AETC). Doss Aviation, under contract with the United States Air Force, conducts flight screening for up to 1,900 USAF officers annually. As the Gateway to USAF Aviation, Doss provides initial flying training to allow students to successfully transition to Undergraduate Flying Training (Pilot and Combat System Officer) at one of several Air Force bases throughout the United States. The 45-acre IFS campus is located immediately adjacent to the Pueblo Memorial Airport, Pueblo, Colorado.

The Pikes Peak Ninety-Nines, with homemade fudge or chocolates in hand, meet once a month with each class that has women students in order to offer support and encouragement. Our visits include a Power Point presentation about women military pilots and The Ninety-Nines.

In other news, the Chapter received a large collection of aviation books from the estate of Jesse “Tex” Houston.

Chapter Member Patsy M. Buchwald raised almost \$6,000 by having her head shaved as a fundraiser to help find a cure for children's cancer.

— Patsy M. Buchwald

EAST CANADA SECTION MEETING

East Canada Section's Annual Spring Meeting was held May 1-2 in St. Jacob's, Ontario. The meeting also coincided with the Maple Leaf Chapter's 40th anniversary, and what a success the entire event was!

On Friday evening, the Maple Leaf Chapter hosted a wine and cheese Meet & Greet for approximately 20, and Saturday started off with a breakfast buffet before commencing the Annual General Meeting. Governor Laureen Nelson-Boutet presided over an ambitious agenda, including reports of our many wonderful projects and activities, including the Eileen Vollick/Wiarton airport celebrations; an Operation Skywatch report; two reports on air education; Forest of Friendship inductee Dorothy Berthelet, Eastern Ontario Chapter; Gold Cup Air Rally, June 21-23, CYRO to CYAY; Canadian Award In Aviation report; and the 2008 Governor's Service Award presentation to Marilyn Dickson, First Canadian Chapter.

Other celebration presentations included Dorothy Berthelet's tribute to pioneering trailblazer Lorna deBlicqy, a presentation by Peggy Smith on 40 years of Maple Leaf Chapter and Power Point presentation by Janet Chesterfield. They were followed by a toast to the Maple Leaf Chapter.



Members celebrate the Maple Leaf Chapter's 40th Anniversary.

The gala dinner in the sunlit garden room at the St. Jacob's Countryside Inn was attended by 32 guests. After dessert, we retired to Salon A where Major Micky Colton, Deputy Flight Commander, Conversion Training Flight, 426 Squadron, CFB Trenton, Ontario, addressed the group. She has approximately 6,500 hours on the C130 Hercules. Major Colton is an instructor pilot and instrument check pilot as well as trained in flight safety in addition to flying search and rescue. She has served in Afghanistan and also flew in Saudi Arabia. Major Colton explained the resistance she encountered as a woman captain in Saudi Arabia. A question and answer period followed her screening of an exciting Canadian Armed Forces DVD featuring some of her favorite warbirds and a presentation explaining the role of Canada in today's international setting.

The Maple Leaf Chapter's 40th Anniversary cake was cut by Chairman Eva Adams, and coffee was served to complete a wonderful evening of Ninety-Nines networking.

— Patricia Crocker

MT. TAHOMA AND SEATTLE CHAPTERS

Mt. Tahoma and Seattle Chapters joined forces to airmark Shady Acres airport near Tacoma, Washington.

The crew showed up at 0800 on Saturday, June 13 and painted the segmented circle, runway centerline stripe and the name of the airport on the pavement.

The project was organized by Mt. Tahoma Chapter Chairman Meg Godlewski and Seattle Chapter's Marty Vale.

— Meg Godlewski



Mt. Tahoma and Seattle Chapter members airmark Shady Acres airport.

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER

After a week of endless rain and clouds, it was a good sign that our Saturday dawned clear and dry. Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter Chairman Carole Wyman, Ginny Fanfera, Lola Tomlinson, Kate Macario, Canivet Macario and I met as planned in the parking lot of the Township Building for a community yard sale, where we were to sell our goods to raise money for our Chapter's next Section Meeting.

We were a popular stop as people cruised the parking lot for the "perfect finds." At the end of the sale, we all worked hard to pack everything that didn't sell into boxes for either our Chapter's scholarship fundraiser auction in December or for donation to the Cancer Research Center, which was nearby.

All told, we raised 70 percent of our funding goal for the Section Meeting. Not bad for a day of having fun with your fellow Ninety-Nines!

— Mary Ellen Morris

GRASS ROOTS



SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

Krystene Zehnder (above left), San Diego Chapter member, is the winner of the Chapter's Darlene Kelly Memorial Flight Scholarship. She plans to use the \$2,000 award to get her commercial pilot certificate. Her future plans also include becoming a CFI. Krystene's career goal is to become an airline pilot.

The San Diego Chapter also congratulates Kelly O'Dea (above right), Bay Cities Chapter, winner of the San Diego Chapter's Marian Delano Memorial Flight Scholarship. Kelly plans to use the \$1,000 award to help fund her CFII. Kelly is currently an instructor at San Carlos Airport in northern California. Her goal is to become a corporate pilot.

— Dorothy Norkus

MIDNIGHT SUN CHAPTER

Ninety-Nines Lifetime Member Pearl Bragg Laska-Chamberlain celebrated her 100th birthday April 29, 2009 in Nashville, Tennessee, where she now lives with her son. For the love and respect of Pearl, the Fairbanks Ninety-Nines and her flying friends held a potluck dinner and celebration at Vicki Domke's hangar (Tamarack Air) on April 9.

Pearl calls herself a "hillbilly." Born the second of 10 children in West Virginia, she struggled to work and save enough money to fly while helping her siblings through school. She finally soloed in 1933. She served as a Navy cadet flight instructor in WWII, was a WASP trainee, Alaskan bush pilot and, in 1946, became the first woman to fly the Alaska Highway. She flew from Asheville, North Carolina to Nome, Alaska in her J-4.

In 2006 she received the FAA Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award. Her biography can be found in Sandi Sumner's *Women Pilots of Alaska*. The mayor of Fairbanks declared May 24, 2007 as Pearl Laska Chamberlain Day. Pearl held a current FAA Class III Medical Certificate until age 97 when she failed the eyesight test in one eye. Fairbanks WASP Nancy Baker (87 years young) believes Pearl is the first WASP to reach age 100.

We have wonderful memories of Pearl and thank her for her pluck, courage and energy in all that she did to lay the groundwork for us to enjoy today.

— Phyllis Tate

INDIANA DUNES CHAPTER

In May, Indiana Dunes members had the privilege of hearing a presentation by Brian Weaver of South Bend. Brian is a local businessman and has a great passion for space. Since 1981 he has aggressively collected space memorabilia and taught the history of manned space exploration. He showed a portion of his extensive collection of books, artifacts, hardware, models, autographs and items that were flown aboard U.S. and Soviet space missions.

Brian related his meetings with many astronauts and people technically involved with the program. He was present in the press facility at the launch of STS-88 from Kennedy Space Center. This was the launch of the first element of the International Space station.

— Christine Murdock

YAVAPAI CHAPTER

The Yavapai Chapter is finishing an exciting and informative year that has included the usual parties and visits to Prescott's Lockheed-Martin Flight Service Station and the Forest Service Fire Center at Love Field, Prescott. We also hosted guest speaker Dud Potter from the Prescott Soaring Club. He is a flight instructor who helps teach the annual refresher courses for the Bonanza Society.

— Joyce Hilchie



Dan Domke

Fairbanks Ninety-Nines sent a birthday greeting to Pearl Chamberlain, right, on her 100th birthday. They are standing in front of Jean Shergalis' Cessna 172 at Fairbanks International Airport.





Joye Baker.

JOYE BAKER **Colorado Chapter**

Joye (Smith) Baker passed away suddenly while at home in Northglenn, Colorado on May 29, 2009. She was born in Springfield, Ohio on March 7, 1940.

She graduated from Canon City High School in Colorado in 1958 and was involved in ROTC and band. She married Dr. John

C. Baker in 1960, and they had two children, Jill (Baker) Lafferty and John A. Baker. She was the business manager for her husband's family practice for many years.

In the '70s she earned her private pilot certificate, quickly followed by her instrument and commercial licenses. She joined The Ninety-Nines in 1972 and was very active for many years, including serving as the Colorado Chapter Chairman. She flew several air races and learned to fly aerobatics. Throughout her flying history, she flew more than 30 different types of aircraft, from a tiny Mooney Mite to a large DeHavilland Beaver.

In 1980 they moved to Ouray, Colorado, and she earned her real estate license and sold property in the area for several years. Later they returned to Denver and bought a 27-foot Norse sailboat and sailed it to the Bahamas, quite a feat for her as she was very afraid of water. She overcame that fear and took her night watches on the pitch black ocean.

She was always curious, adventurous and kind. She'll leave a huge void in our lives. As per her wishes, there was no funeral or services. A celebration will be held to celebrate her life.

DAVE LUEHRING **49½ of Lois Luehring** **Aloha Chapter**

Dave Luehring passed away suddenly on June 18, 2009. He was a wonderful supporter of the Aloha Chapter. In the "old days" he always was the "fueler" in the Apuepuelele, making sure the fuel consumption was extremely accurate. Lois has held many jobs in the Aloha Chapter, and Dave was always right there helping her in whatever capacity needed. The monthly meetings were held at their home for many years, they hosted the annual meeting at the Hale Koa and opened their lovely home overlooking Pearl Harbor and the Waianae Mountains to the Chapter for their Christmas party each year. Dave was with the FAA for many years, and when he said "I'm with the FAA, and I'm here to help you," he really meant it!

All the Ninety-Nines in our Chapter, as well as those who have passed through Hawaii and moved on to other locations, have known, appreciated and loved Dave. He will be sorely missed.

— Sue Hillman

RANDA MOHAMMED BIN LADEN, M.D. **Arabian Section**

It was with great sadness that I received word from Randa bin Laden's daughter Zain Said that her mother had passed away April 17, 2008 after a long illness with cancer.

Besides Zain, she is survived by her husband Ameer Said, sons Ibrahim, 21, and Salem, 19. Salem was named after Randa's much beloved brother, a very talented pilot who lost his life in a tragic plane crash.

Her brother Salem inspired Randa to fulfill her dream of becoming a pilot. In 1978, while vacationing in Panama City, Florida, Randa had time to get serious about her flying. Salem happened to be in Miami and encouraged her to do her first cross country to see him. Her flight instructor explained that Miami was just too far. Finally, the instructor agreed to the trip as long as he followed behind. All went well for the first hour, then he lost sight of her. All he could see was her "upside down airplane in a plowed field." Soon he saw her standing a good distance from the plane waving. Somewhere over Central Florida, smoke billowed into Randa's cockpit and, to Randa, "smoke in the cockpit" called for an emergency landing.

As a charter member of the Arabian Section and probably the first Saudi licensed woman pilot, she and her husband attended the charter dinner in Dhahran, October 11, 1989. We all were eager to hear about her flying experiences in a country where women could not even drive a car.

As a pathologist, Randa was practicing at King Faisal's Medical Center in Riyadh. Saudi men did not want to see a female physician. This did not defeat her. In 1991, she went on to receive a Master's in Immunology in London.

—Patsy Knox



Randa bin Laden.

NEW HORIZON SUBMISSIONS

Send your New Horizons articles to the 99 News, either emailing it to news@ninety-nines.org or submitting the online news form found at ninety-nines.org/99newsreports.html. Photo submissions should be emailed to the above address. Please limit your New Horizon submission to 250 words.

Congratulations 2009 Scholarship Winners!

Additional recipient photos on front cover

