

# 99 News

The Official Magazine of the International Organization of Women Pilots

July/August 2012



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more  
scholarship  
winners!

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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](mailto:news@ninety-nines.org)

Online Form:

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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

*The 2012 Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship Fund winners overlook the starting point of the 2012 Air Race Classic, Lake Havasu City Airport, Arizona. Teams departed from the airport at 8 a.m. in order of racer number. The planes taxied in groups of five towards the 8,000-foot runway. A total of 49 planes departed in about 45 minutes.*

*Shown on takeoff are Air Race Classic winners Racing Aces Dianna Stanger, Houston Chapter, and Victoria Holt in the Cirrus SR22 that they flew in the race.*

*Congratulations to both the Air Race Classic winners and the AEMSf scholarship recipients!*

*Background photo by Jasmine Gordon.*

# PERPETUAL CALENDAR

## 2012

### AUGUST

**1** Due date for submissions to the 99 News for the September/October 2012 issue.

**17-18** **The 34th Annual Okie Derby Proficiency Air Rally**, Wiley Post Airport, Bethany, Oklahoma. The rally is open to any stock airplane, single or twin plus homebuilt flown by builder of the aircraft. Contact Wyvema Startz, [ydalstar@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ydalstar@sbcglobal.net) or Charlene Davis, [cdluvs2fly@hotmail.com](mailto:cdluvs2fly@hotmail.com).

**23-26** **Northwest Section Fall Meeting**, Walla Walla, Washington.

### SEPTEMBER

**7-9** **Southwest Section Fall Meeting**, Radisson Hotel, Santa Maria, California. For online registration go to [www.sws99s.org/](http://www.sws99s.org/). For more information, call 805-925-6350 or email [smxregistration@yahoo.com](mailto:smxregistration@yahoo.com).

**8** **Mile High Air Derby – Tri State Proficiency Rally**, Ft. Collins, Colorado. For more information, visit [www.colorado99s.org/MHAD.htm](http://www.colorado99s.org/MHAD.htm).

**21-23** **North Central Section Fall Meeting**, Marquette, Michigan, hosted by the NCS and Greater Cincinnati Chapter, [www.ncs99s.org/](http://www.ncs99s.org/).

### OCTOBER

**1** Due date for submissions to the 99 News for the November/December 2012 issue.

**11-13** **AOPA Aviation Summit**, Palm Springs, California.

**19-21** **South Central Section Fall Meeting**, El Paso, Texas, Holiday Inn Express on Artcraft Road, 915-587-5885. General Aviation Airport: Dona County Airport, New Mexico (5T6). Contact Chairman, Didi Shaffer, 915-581-3866, [didishaffer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:didishaffer@sbcglobal.net).

**31** **Deadline to file Intent to Seek Election.**

### NOVEMBER

**2-3** **Fall Board Meeting**, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Contact Headquarters for additional information.

### DECEMBER

**1** Due date for submissions to the 99 News for the January/February issue.

## 2013

**JULY** **Ninety-Nines International Conference**, Bozeman, Montana.

## WANTED: OLD COPIES OF 99 NEWS!

**D**o you have old copies of the 99 News dating from 1929 to 1969?

All available copies of the 99 News will be scanned into PDFs for The Ninety-Nines website. I encourage members to donate these early copies of the magazine to document stories and photos of historical and contemporary women pilots. They will be digitized in a searchable format for future researchers.

These stories and photos are our history. I'm very happy to have the opportunity to preserve the articles and photos before they are lost. Please email me for details.

Thank you,

Bobbi Roe, [Bobbi99@comcast.net](mailto:Bobbi99@comcast.net)



*Rosemary Merims, Indiana Chapter member, was featured on the cover of the February-March 1973 issue of 99 News. She was one of the first eight women to enter Navy flight training.*



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The Ninety-Nines is the International Organization of Women Pilots that promotes advancement of aviation through education, scholarships, and mutual support while honoring our unique history and sharing our passion for flight.

## EDITORIAL AND PHOTO GUIDELINES

We encourage submissions for publication in the 99 News. Furnish author's name, email address and phone information. We reserve the right to edit for space and/or clarity. We accept both original photographs and high-resolution digital photos (at least 4X6 at 300 dpi). We cannot use photos from the following sources: camera phone, newspaper, home printer, photocopies or copied from the Internet. Include caption information with all photos and your contact information. Please email photos as separate attachments.

For additional submission guidelines, log on to [ninety-nines.org](http://ninety-nines.org) and click on 99 News magazine. Submissions should be emailed to [news@ninety-nines.org](mailto:news@ninety-nines.org). Deadlines for submissions are listed in our calendar on page 2. If you have any questions, please email us at [news@ninety-nines.org](mailto:news@ninety-nines.org).

## EDITORIAL POLICY

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Tracy Ramm formation flying in #2 spot. Photo taken by the late Doug Gilliss from the lead aircraft flown by Mike Martin on his formation lead check ride over Diamond Valley Lake near Hemet, California.



Air Race Classic winners Dianna Stanger, right, Houston Chapter, and Victoria Holt with the Cirrus SR22 they flew in the race.



Twenty-nine 99s attended the 2012 International Forest of Friendship induction: 1. Ruth Seck; 2. Evelyn Cowing; 3. Fran Strubeck; 4. Sharline Reedy; 5. Kaye Craig; 6. Meigs Adams; 7. Alanna McClellan; 8. Ann Shaneyfelt; 9. Judy Benjamin; 10. Romona Upfield; 11. Michele Stauffer; 12. Martha Phillips; 13. Susan Liebler; 14. Nancy Wood; 15. Laurie Probst; 16. Joyce Boylls; 17. Lynn Meadows; 18. Carol Voss; 19. Sunni Gibbons; 20. Holly Barr; 21. Jody McCarrell; 22. Ginny Boylls; 23. Carol Stocker; 24. Donna Tucker; 25. Susan Larson; 26. Diane Pirman; 27. Marilyn Maines; 28. Joyce Hilchie; 29. Cheryl Cooney.

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# President's Page

BY MARTHA PHILLIPS, International President

It is both an honor and humbling experience to be elected President of The Ninety-Nines. Thank you for your vote of confidence. I am continually amazed at the achievements of the members, Chapters and Sections in promoting aviation and helping each other toward our aviation goals. I feel very lucky to be able to contribute my time and attention to such a wonderful organization.

We owe a big thank you to outgoing President Susan Larson. Susan has been the first President to serve two consecutive terms since the membership changed our Bylaws in 2007. That change allows the President and Vice-President to serve up to two terms matching the term limits of the other International Board members. She has provided enthusiastic and effective leadership, working to keep the organization on a sound footing during the economic downturn, to energize Chapters by providing tools for Chapter leaders and to provide the framework for a strategic vision of where The Ninety-Nines need to be in the future. Susan will not only be a mentor as the Immediate Past President for this next term, but she has also promised to act as an ambassador for us, building on the relationships she has developed with other aviation organizations.

As Treasurer this past term, I had the opportunity to attend several Section meetings, specifically the South Central Fall 2010 Section meeting in Fort Worth, Texas, the North Central Spring 2011 Section meeting in New Harmony, Indiana, the joint Northwest and West Canada Section Fall 2011 meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia, and the East Canada Section Spring 2012 meeting in Ottawa, Ontario. At the Ottawa meeting, I had the honor of helping to install Kathy Fox, Governor, and her Executive Board. My thanks to all the Governors and meeting organizers who made me feel so welcome. During the next two years I plan to attend more of the Section meetings. Each meeting provides fresh ideas and new insights into how we

accomplish our organization's goals.

This June, I also attended the 2012 induction of aviation notables into the International Forest of Friendship (IFOF) in Atchison, Kansas. Of course, a visit to Atchison is not complete without a visit to our Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum. See more about the IFOF later in this issue.

This issue inaugurates the return to six issues per year of your *99 News*. While the reduction in the number of issues was a financial necessity for the last couple of years, restoring this benefit was a priority for your Board.

We will continue to build The Ninety-Nines as "the" international organization of women pilots. Not only do we want to recruit new members, but we must focus on retaining our current members. No one person or committee can do this alone; each one of us, along with Chapters, Sections and the International Board, has the responsibility to welcome new members and be inclusive to all current members. It takes us all. Expect to see upgrades in technology, an online application, increased public relations. Expect to be involved.

I thank you again for the opportunity to serve as President and ask for your support and encouragement for this term's International Board of Directors.



We will continue to build The 99s as "the" international organization of women pilots.

*International President Martha Phillips, far right, congratulates the new East Canada Section Executive Board, from left, Secretary Lisa Bishop, Vice-Governor Susan Begg, Treasurer Sharron Lutman and Governor Kathy Fox.*





# Congratulations to Our New Officers!

BY TRISH SAUVÉ, Elections Chairman

The 2012 election results are in and congratulations go to the newly elected individuals who were formally installed at the International Conference in Providence, Rhode Island.



Martha Phillips  
President



Jan McKenzie  
Vice President

## INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*President:* Martha Phillips, Ventura County Chapter

*Vice President:* Jan McKenzie, Colorado Chapter

*Secretary:* Cynthia Madsen, Chicago Area Chapter

*Treasurer:* Leslie Ingham, Santa Clara Valley Chapter

*Directors:* Malinda "Lin" Caywood, Sugarloaf Chapter  
and Dianne Cole, San Joaquin Valley Chapter

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Kathleen Fox, Eastern Ontario Chapter

Linda Mathias, Hampton Roads Chapter

Lisa Cotham Pizani, New Orleans Chapter

Joan Kerwin, Chicago Area Chapter



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Secretary



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## 99S MUSEUM OF WOMEN PILOTS

Georgia Pappas, Eastern New England Chapter

Dydia DeLyser, New Orleans Chapter

## AMELIA EARHART BIRTHPLACE MUSEUM

Jerry Anne Jurenka, Texas Dogwood Chapter

Beth Oliver, El Paso Chapter

## AMELIA EARHART MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Ellen Herring, Chicago Area Chapter

## THE NINETY-NINES ENDOWMENT FUND

Virginia Harmer, San Gabriel Valley Chapter

Andrea Chay, Greater Seattle Chapter

Judith Bolkema Tokar, North Jersey Chapter



Malinda Caywood  
Director



Dianne Cole  
Director

We thank you all for your willingness to serve in  
these positions and for your dedication to  
The Ninety-Nines.

## Good...what? GoodSearch!

BY SHANNON OSBORNE, North Jersey Chapter

**W**hat is that? GoodSearch is a search engine that donates 50 percent of its revenue to charities and schools designated by its users. It works just like any other search engine you use every day like Google or Yahoo, and since it is powered by Yahoo, the search results are excellent. To use GoodSearch, go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com), create an account and select your charity.

So are you making the “leap” to The Ninety-Nines Endowment Fund? By designating it as the charity you want to support, donations will add up for your searches and online purchases. You can see your ‘earnings’ right on the home page.

The Ninety-Nines Endowment Fund was established to provide future financial support for The Ninety-Nines. Income from the fund is reinvested. When the principal reaches \$1 million, the annual income from the fund will be allocated to support Ninety-Nines activities while the principal will remain intact, ensuring continued income. How do we get to that first million dollars? GoodSearch and GoodShop are two means to that goal.

The money GoodSearch donates to your charity comes from its advertisers, and their goal is to help as many nonprofits and schools as possible. Their philosophy is that “doing good” should be a part people’s everyday lives. Yes, just by using GoodSearch to find stuff online, you are earning money for your charity — a penny for every search. It is that easy. GoodShop, part of GoodSearch, is an online mall of 2,500 merchants. Shop here or at a merchant from your search results and your earnings really take off.

The North Jersey Chapter challenged its members with some friendly competition to see who could do the most searches in a month using GoodSearch. Initially it was tough to remember to use it, not to mention manually keeping count. We couldn’t imagine how it could possibly amount to any significant donation as just a few of us announced and laughingly bragged about a few cents earned here and there. But the pennies donated were real results. Several months later, it clicked when Cathy Vajtay reported a \$4.69 donation from a purchase at [drugstore.com](http://drugstore.com).

This was huge! She had found the GoodSearch tool bar. There’s a link at the bottom of the home page for downloading and

installing it. Now it was much easier to remember to use it. When linking to a participating merchant, buttons on the tool bar turn bright yellow and display what the merchant donates. The range we’ve seen is 1.5% to 10% but can be as high as 20%. Remember it’s all from the merchants and advertisers. What you buy doesn’t cost any more than a purchase directly on their website.

Then the competition really took off. Cathy’s earnings hit \$9, then \$15 and \$24. She moved into second place for Endowment Fund earnings. That lit a fire under Shannon Osborne, and the competition heated up as she started nipping at Cathy’s heels. In no time Shannon took second place as her earnings topped \$43. Cathy slipped back to third, with eight Ninety-Nines in hot pursuit.

Corbi Bulluck has held her ground in first place with a total of \$95, but Shannon is closing in with \$88. This is nail-biting excitement!

It’s easy and fun, and you can continue to buy from the companies you frequent every day, such as Staples (shop online and pick up the order at your local store), Sears, Nordstrom, Target, Bloomingdale’s, Drugstore.com, 800Flowers, Container Store, Macy’s, Hotwire, Groupon. Find your favorites from the 2,500 participating

merchants. Do you travel for business or pleasure? Search for hotel and car reservations through GoodSearch. All searches count except URLs, which are terms ending in .com, .org, .net or .edu, and searches for well-known sites like ESPN, Facebook, Gmail, etc.

We all have a cause we care about, and The Ninety-Nines Endowment Fund is one we share. The founders of GoodSearch made it easy to donate painlessly without digging deeper into our pockets. They dedicated GoodSearch to their mother who passed away from cancer and who taught them that by working together with determined dedication we can make this world a better place.

As women pilots, determination is our middle name — just what we need for the Endowment Fund Challenge. There’s a \$100 prize for whoever accrues the most in donations from April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013, along with bragging rights, of course!

So start your engines ladies! Let’s GoodSearch and “GoodShop ‘til we drop” to make that first \$1 million for The Ninety-Nines Endowment Fund!



*Cathy Vajtay and Shannon Osborne, North Jersey Chapter.*





# Flying Wingtip to Wingtip

BY TRACY RAMM  
San Diego Chapter

*Photo above: Flying out of French Valley Airport, Temecula, California, in fingertip formation with Tracy #2 and Tyler Tricky #3, taking a left turn near Hemet. Photo by Doug Gillis.*

I still vividly recall my first formation flight. It was 1997. I was in the back seat of my boyfriend's plane, flying along with other T-34s. It felt like I was watching a movie, acutely aware of the complete picture, the blue sky, the green and brown of the landscape below and the camouflage colors of the other airplanes. The first time you experience formation, it will take you to a giddy state of mind because nothing else in your life will fill all of your senses so completely.

Of course, this wasn't the point at which I became interested in flying formation myself, it was well after I received my certificate and had a couple hundred hours under my belt in the T-34. But oh, did that entice me to fall in love with that

amazing guy flying in the front seat! And, Don and I became husband and wife.

Over the past few years I've dabbled in formation training. However, a year ago I got serious and had my eye on the prize, the coveted Wingman patch. This type of flying is something that no one can talk you into, either you want it badly or you don't, and if you do, giving up is never an option. Determination becomes your constant mindset. Like flight training in general, there are good flights and not so good ones. Do you remember when you wished you could just take off? Eventually you did. I recall wishing I could just stay in position on the wing (the most basic task in formation) and, sure enough, after several flights it became easier.



One of the challenges of flying formation is getting a flight together. At first you need only one airplane to practice, that's easy enough. The farther along you get, the more planes you add. Trying to get two or three other planes, pilots and weather lined up is sometimes like nailing an egg to the wall. Patience and perseverance are the backbone of this sport. There are plenty of times when we get discouraged, but in spite of difficulties or obstacles, the most important thing is to never ever give up.

Last year I was at a T-34 fly-in and got to chatting with a friend from the March Air Reserve Base aero club about how difficult it was becoming to put a flight together for practice. He mentioned there was a newly patched wingman up at his club who might want to practice. If not for that conversation, I doubt I would be writing this article today. Fortunately, this new wingman was just as eager to fly some practice hops as I was. That was 10 months ago and, in that time, not only did we get the job done but made some lifelong friendships.

As women pilots, at some point, most have experienced discrimination in one form or another. If you haven't, then consider yourself lucky. Here is when you again rely on your patience and perseverance, as it will be tested more than a few times. Miraculously though, I landed myself in this group of gentlemen T-34 formation pilots who, remarkably, had no inflated egos and made the fine tuning portion of my training extremely gratifying. My deepest thanks to George Watson, Mike Martin, Tyler Trickey, Fred Zoltz and, last but not least, Malcolm Campbell. They spent hours and money out of their own pockets to make flights happen.

There is no time or hour requirement for training to becoming a wingman, it will be different for everyone. It took me a total of 70 hours of flying formation PIC time, with 30 of those hours being the most concentrated this past year. So if you didn't take any time off, as I did over the years, then you could accomplish this in a shorter time. Normally there is no rush to meet the goal, but you also don't want to drag it out for too long — not only will you burn yourself out but your flying buddies as well.

In the beginning, you learn hand signals because maneuvers in formation are done in silence either by hand signals from the lead formation pilot or subtle movements of the lead's aircraft to signal a position change. Flights always begin with a briefing so everyone in the flight knows what to expect, even so, you learn to expect the unexpected. There is plenty of discipline in formation flying, and you must completely buy into the fact that you're a wingman and must follow the lead's instructions. So leave your ego at the door.

Some of the maneuvers and procedures the trainee will learn are start-up, radio procedures, taxiing in formation, formation takeoffs, station keeping, wing work, turns on the inside and the outside, cross-unders, echelon, echelon turns, diamond, close trail, extended trail, lead changes, lazy 8s, pitchout and rejoins, overshoots, formation landings and post flight taxi to shut down. While formation flying is loads of fun, it is inherently dangerous, so safety is crucial to every flight.

When I was deemed ready for a check ride, we scheduled a "recommendation flight" with a qualified Lead Formation pilot. It is like a pre check-ride flight, where the lead pilot sits in your back seat



*Tracy with the T-34.*

*At a post-flight debriefing session are, from left, Tyler Trickey, George Watson, Tracy Ramm, Mike Martin and check pilot Doug Gilliss.*





*Tracy achieved her dream when the Wingman Patch was placed in her hands.*

*Below: October 2011 flight, in right echelon, on 'Initial' at French Valley airport, Temecula, California: #1 Mike Martin (photo taken from back seat by Doug Gilliss); # 2 Tracy; #3 Tyler Tricky; #4 Malcolm Campbell.*

and evaluates your flight and will recommend you for the check ride. In my case, it was a flight of four with me flying the wing positions of two and four. The lead pilot will put you through the paces of what you have learned up to this point, and you hope you will do everything satisfactorily and won't pass lead on takeoff! Fortunately all went well, and I was recommended for the final check ride.

The following weekend the flight was scheduled, and it couldn't have landed on a more turbulent day, not fun for formation, but it's where you learn to "hang in there" no matter what. And again, expect the unexpected! Planning and briefing are essential parts of a flight, but stuff happens, and you learn to deal with whatever comes your way.

The flight went well and was basically a repeat of the recommendation ride. Then, during the debrief that happens after every formation flight, I received the words I'd been waiting for from the check pilot, "Congratulations"... and handshakes all around from the members of the flight. This is the moment I have dreamed of. I knew that all I had put into achieving this goal was more than worth it.

Words just don't describe the feeling of accomplishment. It wasn't until my instructor put that beautiful red, white and blue Wingman patch into my hands that I completely realized that I was now a Wingman! He took me under his wing and taught me everything he knew. How do you thank someone who has taken you from knowing nothing about a T-34 and formation flying to being "one of them," a member of this exclusive club? I guess the only way to pay that debt is to fly good wing and to pay it forward.

Did I mention that instructor was my husband Don? You see, he had to put his training to work with patience and perseverance while teaching a newbie. Amazingly through all that, we are still happily married, now that's a miracle!

Receiving my patch and FAST (formation and safety training) card is not the end. It is the beginning of a new chapter in my life. There will be missing man flights, flybys, an occasional air show and being that flying buddy to the newbie who needs a wing to fly off of.

I'll end with this to my sister Ninety-Nines: our precious life is uncertain, so live every day fearlessly.





# Welcome New and Returning Ninety-Nines!

## Welcome Back Members

**ANDREWS**, Sandra Lance, Mid-Atlantic Section  
**BARNARD**, Janet Ann Baldwin, Scioto Valley  
**BREDIN**, Lynn, First Canadian  
**COOPER**, Ann Lewis, Crater Lake Flyers  
**CULMER**, Rhonda, Paradise Coast  
**DARCEY**, Erin, Columbia Cascade  
**DAVIS**, Heather Renee, Intermountain  
**DEAN-TODER**, Carol, Georgia  
**DEDERA**, Carla, Intermountain  
**DEVINE**, Kathleen, Eastern Pennsylvania  
**DOMBROWSKI**, Laura, Hi-Desert  
**FOLLENDER-BIRNS**, JC, Long Island  
**GIBB**, Mary, Eastern Pennsylvania  
**GOFF**, Susan, Keystone  
**HANLEY**, Cherie, Florida Spaceport  
**HORTMAN**, Paige, Eastern Pennsylvania  
**ILLIG**, Petra Andrea, Alaska  
**JARRELL**, Cathy, Military Internet  
**JOHNSTON**, Margaret, Eastern New England  
**KING**, Deanna, Eastern New England  
**KING**, Louisa, Florida Gulf Stream  
**KOPP**, Claire, San Gabriel Valley  
**LEACH**, Linda, Oregon Pines  
**LEVIN**, Tamar, Section Member  
**LOMEN**, Kelsey, San Fernando Valley  
**LUCKEY WOLLITZ**, Mary, San Joaquin Valley  
**MANN**, Jill, Chicago Area  
**MAYHEW**, Victoria, Eastern Pennsylvania  
**NEWMAN**, Judith, Mid-Columbia  
**ONG**, Karen, Bay Cities  
**O'TOOLE**, Natalee, Ventura County  
**PARTON**, Nicole, Delaware  
**PETRINA**, Michelle, Montana  
**PILRAM**, Darya, Washington DC  
**PREWITT**, Katherine, Fullerton  
**ROCKHILL**, Michelle (F), San Antonio  
**ROTH**, Sue Ann, Kansas  
**RYLOVA**, Liubov Alexandrovna, Russian Section  
**SEIDEMANN**, Erin, New Orleans  
**SMITH**, Liz, San Diego  
**SOLLARS**, Linda Langenfeld, North Jersey  
**STEPHENS**, Wanda, Lake Tahoe  
**TORRES**, Kim, Greater Seattle  
**VINSON**, Jessica, Ambassador  
**WALSH**, Janet, Placer Gold  
**WARREN**, Nancy, Indiana  
**WIEMAN**, Dianne, San Antonio

## Welcome New Members

**ALBRECHT**, Kristina, Ambassador  
**ALLEN**, Gwendolyn, Aloha  
**AMES**, Heidi, Blue Ridge  
**ANTONINI**, Anna, Chicago Area  
**BABJACK**, Pamela (F), Colorado  
**BARTHOLOMEW**, Carolyn (F), Eastern New England  
**BEGLEY**, Deborah, Bay Cities  
**BENTLEY**, Robin (F), Paradise Coast  
**BILLINO**, Gina (F), Reno Area  
**BLACK**, Catherine, British Columbia Coast  
**BOLLS**, Katrina, Ambassador  
**BRADBURY**, Daphne, Manitoba  
**BRADDOCK**, Suzanne, Iowa



*Amanda Faulkner.*

**BRADLEY**, Lauren, Alaska  
**BRANAM**, Carmen, San Gabriel Valley  
**BRANDENBURG**, Robyn, Dallas  
**BRETRAGER**, Sarah (F), Mat-Su Valley  
**BROUILLET**, Danielle, Chicago Area  
**BROWN**, Victoria (F), Dallas  
**BROWNING**, Jill, Finger Lakes  
**BURNS**, LaDonna (F), Tucson  
**BURNS**, Nancy (F), Paradise Coast  
**CAMPONOVO**, Shannon, Ambassador  
**CAPE**, Kimberlee, Chicago Area  
**CAPSTICK**, Sarah, Dallas  
**CHEN**, Jingxian (F), North Jersey  
**COLEMAN**, Jessica, Florida Goldcoast  
**COLEOPY**, Brenda, British Columbia Coast  
**COOPER**, Rebecca, Phoenix  
**COOPMAN**, Elsie, Aloha  
**CORDOVA**, Kimberly, Montana  
**CORPEN**, Courtney, Mount Tahoma  
**CORTESE**, Michele, Greater New York  
**DENNY**, Susan (F), Virginia  
**DERK**, Stephanie (F), Central Pennsylvania  
**DISANZA**, Gabrielle, North Jersey  
**DOVE**, Barbara (F), Eastern New England  
**DUNBAR**, Victoria, Florida Spaceport  
**EATON**, Jeanette, Connecticut  
**ELLINGSWORTH-MOHEN**, Dominique (F), Delaware  
**ESTEVEZ**, Michelle, (F) Paradise Coast  
**FAST**, O'Danis Neufeld, Manitoba  
**FAULKNER**, Amanda (F), Eastern Pennsylvania  
**FERTITTA**, Carol (F), Florida Gulf Stream  
**GARNER**, Jennifer (F), Monterey Bay  
**GARRITY**, Laura, Santa Clara Valley  
**GEARIN**, Meagan (F), San Diego  
**GIBBS**, Rebecca, Ambassador  
**GOLDMAN**, Sally (F), Paradise Coast  
**GRAETTINGER**, Karen, Reno High Sierra  
**GRANT**, Kim, San Diego  
**GREGORY**, Fay Elizabeth, Mid-Columbia  
**HARDEMAN**, Cynthia, Florida Suncoast  
**HARDESTY**, Cassiopia, Columbia Cascade  
**HARRIS**, Megan Adair (F), Military Internet  
**HENDRICKSON**, Donna, Paradise Coast  
**HOGAN**, Timothy, Long Island  
**HOUSHOLDER**, Jennifer, Antelope Valley  
**HOYE**, Alex, Iowa  
**HUTSON**, Cheri, Memphis  
**JACKS WADAS**, Susan, Aloha  
**JENNINGS**, Kay, Oklahoma  
**JOHNSON**, Jodie (F), Arkansas  
**JOHNSON**, Teresa (F), Monterey Bay

**JONES**, Delia, Australian Section  
**JONES**, Laura, Northeast Kansas  
**JORGENSEN**, Terra, Ambassador  
**KABER**, Charlotte (F), San Fernando Valley  
**KEIL**, Lauren, Minnesota  
**KIEVES**, Nicola, Minnesota  
**KIRMSSE**, Barbara (F), San Gabriel Valley  
**KOCH**, Kristina (F), Montana  
**LEKARCZYK**, Elizabeth (F), Michigan  
**LEMISKI**, Claire, First Canadian  
**LESSARD-NERON**, Carolyne, Florida Spaceport  
**MACDONALD**, Ashley, Indiana Dunes  
**MALOUF**, Kathy (F), Mississippi  
**MANALLI**, Abbey (F), Wisconsin  
**MARSHALL**, Valerie, First Canadian  
**MARTELO**, Carrie, Fort Worth  
**MARTIN**, Bailie, Dallas  
**MCCORKLE**, Alexa (F), Greater Seattle  
**MCGUIRE**, Amanda (F), Dallas  
**MORGAN**, Eleanor, Military Internet  
**NEDOROSCIK**, Emily, Eastern New England  
**NICHOLS**, Nohealani, Eastern New England  
**OKOREEH-BAAH**, Elizabeth, San Diego  
**OSLICK**, Rochelle, Greater Seattle  
**PASMORE**, Abigail (F), Florida Suncoast  
**PENA**, Tina, Ambassador  
**PETREMENT**, Stephanie, Montreal  
**POLLOCK**, Sarah, Montreal  
**PULASKA**, Nina Ewa, (F), Australian Section  
**RICE**, Kristin, Dallas  
**ROLFE**, Jessica A (F), Blue Ridge  
**ROSS**, Brittany D (F), San Diego  
**RUGGERIO**, Nicole, Chicago Area  
**SALMI**, Tracy, Montana  
**SCHAFER**, Kate, Pikes Peak  
**SCHNEIDER**, Franziska (F), Austrian Section  
**SCHULTZ**, Cassandra, Ambassador  
**SEATON**, Karen, Colorado  
**SEGESSENMAN**, Jennifer, Central Pennsylvania  
**SIMMONS**, Dina, Ambassador  
**SMAIL**, April (F), Chicago Area  
**SMITH-HARDAKER**, Sandy, San Diego  
**SOLDO**, Nanci, First Canadian  
**SOMERVILLE**, Amanda, Albuquerque  
**SPY**, Sarah, Reno High Sierra  
**STALLINGS**, Jennifer, Kitty Hawk  
**STEARNS**, Patricia, Dallas  
**STONACK**, GERALYN (F), Greater Seattle  
**STONER-EMBERTY**, Rachel (F), Pikes Peak  
**STROBEL**, Christina, All-Ohio  
**SUKUMOLJAN**, Naree, Ventura County  
**THOMASON**, Lori, Fort Worth  
**TRACHTA**, Pamela, Tucson  
**TRENT**, Caroline, Florida Gulf Stream  
**VAN NEST**, Kay, Ventura County  
**WEDDLE**, Katelyn (F), San Diego  
**WERNECK PEREIRA**, Krishna Etla, Far Eastern Section  
**WESOLOWSKI**, Linda (F), Eastern Pennsylvania  
**WILLIAMS**, Victoria (F), Kentucky Bluegrass  
**WOOLLEY**, Kendra (F), San Diego  
**YOUNG**, Susan, Dallas  
**ZEFRAM**, Ena (F), Bay Cities



# PILOT CAREERS: Gratitude

BY DONNA MILLER  
International Careers Committee

*"We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives." — John F. Kennedy*

Quite often as I'm flying with the beautiful scenery disappearing beneath the wing, I am filled with gratitude for this "job" that I have. I marvel that someone actually pays me to do this activity that I love so very much. Lately I've been thinking about all the people along the way who have helped me achieve this life in aviation.

It's been awhile since I tracked down my first flight instructor to say thank you for opening that first door to what has become a passion. The aviation world just lost "Mama Bird Johnson," who, at 102, probably had the highest number of primary flight students of any instructor. How many of them had the opportunity to thank her before she headed west? How many of them took the opportunity?

I am grateful for The Ninety-Nines who believed in me enough to award me a scholarship when I had no idea where my next flight lesson would come from, and for ISA+21 who, after 9/11, awarded a type rating scholarship to "one of their own" that allowed me to ease into a 737 flying job when there were few to be had. I am grateful to the individuals, many of them Ninety-Nines, who gave my resume to their companies, keeping me in the industry I love so much, not to mention the true joy of their friendship. And I cannot imagine where I would be without the

wisdom of mentors who guided me so well.

It's easy to get cynical in this difficult time in the aviation industry. It's easy to find things to complain about. But when a scheduler can work with you and make your quality of life better, isn't it worth a thank you e-mail that takes three minutes to write? Even better, a little handwritten note that might take five? When was the last time you dropped a note to a sim instructor for conducting a well-run checkride or to a good captain or first officer who made the long, four-day trip a little easier to bear for whatever reason?

In this world that seems to be spinning faster and faster, it's easy to appreciate someone's gesture but not to take the time to acknowledge it. In the wise words of William Arthur Ward, "Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it."

So I throw down the gauntlet. The next time you think about how someone has helped you take the step to the next rung on the aviation ladder, or somehow just made your life a little better, take three minutes and drop them an e-mail. Or splurge and give them five minutes by dropping a card in the mail. Can you imagine how much that small gesture would mean to them? And it's amazing how much better you'll feel too! What's not to love about that?

## PRO 99s PROFILE: Tania Alcala

BY BETSY DONOVAN, International Careers Committee

When DC-9 pilot Tania Alcala was 15 and living in Mexico, her parents gave her the choice of having a traditional Quinceañera party or a trip to the United States. She chose the trip, and the most memorable part was the flight. "Being raised in Mexico with very defined gender roles in my community, I never thought that I could ever be a pilot since I was a woman, only a flight attendant." After moving to the USA, Tania inquired about careers in aviation. She pursued her education in other areas. "Aviation was not a good career choice at that time. I regret not going for it." But when she finished her education, she started taking flying lessons in California.

A member of the San Diego Chapter, Tania has been fly-



ing for nine years as a flight instructor, charter, corporate and cargo pilot. Recently hired at Skyway, Tania will be flying the DC-9. She holds an ATP and has three SIC type ratings on the CE-500, SD-3 and the DC-9/MD-80.

Tania's advice to others: "Do not take short cuts. Find a mentor and listen to your own instincts. Do not feel rushed to do something that does not feel right inside of you."



# Ninety-Nines Again Take Top Spot in ARC!



*Air Race Classic first place winners Dianna Stanger, Houston Chapter, and Victoria Holt make their final landing of the race.*

BY DONNA CRANE-BAILEY  
Monterey Bay Chapter

One hundred three racers and 49 teams continued a tradition begun in 1929 with the First Women's Air Derby. Forty-nine teams flying in the 36th Air Race Classic departed Lake Havasu City, Arizona, on Tuesday, June 19 with 47 arriving at Clermont Airport in Batavia, Ohio, on Friday, June 22 (two dropped out for mechanical reasons). Of the 47 teams completing the race, 36 included at least one Ninety-Nine. Of the top 10 finishes, eight were accomplished by Ninety-Nines.

Finishing in first place were Dianna Stanger (Houston Chapter) and Victoria Holt in a Cirrus SR22. This is the second year that Stanger and Holt have paired up for the Air Race Classic. Last year they finished in the middle of the pack but used their experiences to improve their strategy for this race. Obviously it worked. Checking every weather resource a pilot can think of before deciding on altitudes for flight legs, winners Stanger and Holt—who fly together professionally as the crew of a Hawker Beechcraft Premier jet—managed to find tailwinds on all nine flight legs, even the segments that took them in westerly directions.

Cash prizes are awarded for the top 10 finishing teams as well as leg prizes for those who finish outside the top 10. The race route was approximately 2,700 statute miles in length, with contestants given four days, flying VFR in daylight hours, to reach the terminus. Each plane is assigned a handicap speed – and the goal is to have the actual ground speed be as far over the handicap speed as possible. Race legs were 240 to 367 statute miles with eight control stops designated for either landing or fly-by. This gave pilots the leeway to play the elements, holding out for better weather, winds, etc. The objective is to fly the “perfect” cross-country. As a result, the official standings cannot be released until the final entrant has crossed the finish line. Actually, the last arrival can be the winner.

All racers arrived at Clermont County Airport in Batavia on Friday, June 22, but had to wait until the banquet on Sunday night

to find out who had won. During this fingernail biting time, they were royally entertained by Sporty's Pilot Shop, one of the Air Race Classic's major sponsors, with a hangar party and dinner featuring musical entertainment by students from the University of Cincinnati's College Conservatory of Music, and a fireworks display.

“These air racers are a competitive bunch,” says Sporty's Founder and Chairman Hal Shevers. “Sporty's was honored to host the terminus in 2001, and we're glad to roll out the welcome mat for such a spirited group once again.”

For more information on the Air Race Classic, including finishing times for all race teams, visit [www.airraceclassic.org](http://www.airraceclassic.org).



*Air Race Classic winners Dianna Stanger, Houston Chapter, left, and Victoria Holt.*



# A New Badge for Junior Girl Scouts

BY HOLLY BARR AND JANNY STRICKLAND  
Dallas Chapter

Imagine being 10 years old with most of life ahead of you. Then imagine getting to meet a group of women pilots who open your eyes to the thrills and possibilities of working in a field relatively few women enter. This is why the Dallas Ninety-Nines love working with Girl Scouts.

In 2008, we developed an Aerospace Badge program aimed at Junior Girl Scouts (5th and 6th grades). We adhered to requirements documented in the official Girl Scout Badge Book and used ideas published on the International website by other Ninety-Nines Chapters. Since our first seminar in November of 2008, we have educated approximately 85 girls per year through small seminars of 12-13 girls and an occasional larger one.

Our three-hour seminar includes topics such as basic aerodynamics and navigation, space food evolution with space ice cream samples, tales from the days of Powder Puff Derbies, careers and visiting the tower and a GA plane at a local airport. The girls love the hands-on activities, and we feel inspired and energized after every seminar.

In 2011, the Girl Scouts moved to replace the emphasis on earning badges with completing "Leadership Journeys," which encourage girls to investigate areas they care most about while striving to make the world a better place. As part of the Journeys, the Girl Scout organization promotes programs involving the four STEM topics: Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.

In the Northeast Texas Girl Scout Council, community organizations and businesses can qualify as STEM Seal of Approval providers by completing a comprehensive questionnaire identifying how their program addresses the STEM topics. A STEM certified program must offer activities that meet a variety of criteria such as including science in the program, career exploration and building enthusiasm for the topic. Content delivery method is also important. (These requirements may vary by Girl Scout Council. Please check with your local council for specifics.) The Dallas Chapter applied for and received the Seal of Approval in 2011.

Girls who complete any STEM program qualify for a STEM patch. They are two inches high and hexagonal in shape to encourage honey-combing on the back of scouts' sashes or vests. We've designed a patch that any Ninety-Nines Chapter is welcome to use. Pricing depends on the quantity ordered. Chapters could

replace the word "Aviation" with the Chapter name if they wish to customize it.

As a STEM program provider, our workshop can remain the same or change in content, provided we continue to adhere to the concepts described in our STEM Seal of Approval application. This past April, we teamed with the Frontiers of Flight Museum at Love Field in Dallas, a Smithsonian-affiliated institution. Thanks to their larger facility, we were able to accommodate nearly 60 girls. This was a great help, as we'd had some troops on our waiting list for two years or more.

With Power Point presentations, demonstrations and speakers, we covered aerodynamic, navigation, space, careers, and Powder Puff Derby topics. An actress portraying Amelia Earhart captured the girls' imaginations. Then docents from the museum took the girls on a 45-minute tour, introducing them to planes of all ages, a space capsule and a display case highlighting women in aviation, created by one of our members.

Following every seminar, we ask the girls and leaders to complete evaluations. We use them and our own experiences to continually improve the program. Changes in venue, changes in weather and, of course, different groups of girls make each program unique. This keeps things interesting.

The one thing that doesn't change, though, is the sudden spark in a girl's eyes when her mind opens to new possibilities. We invite every Chapter to join us in helping to make that happen. Just imagine how many future airline crew members, controllers, mechanics or aerospace engineers we might inspire by working together!

For general information on Girl Scout Initiatives, visit [www.girlscouts.org](http://www.girlscouts.org). To locate the Girl Scout Council for a specific area, visit [www.girlscouts.org/councilfinder](http://www.girlscouts.org/councilfinder). To order 99s Aviation STEM patches contact Plano Pin Company, 1410 Summit, Suite 3, Plano, TX 75074, [www.planopin.com](http://www.planopin.com), 972-867-5152. For more information about the Dallas Ninety-Nines Girl Scout program, visit [www.dallas99s.org](http://www.dallas99s.org).



*Dallas Chapter members at the Frontiers of Flight Museum, from left, Jane Capstick, Brooke Franklin, Ila Moses-King, Ann Koenig, Holly Barr, Elicia Timberlake, Dorothy Warren, Romona Upfield, Martha Ann Reading, Janny Strickland, Jerry Glennie.*





## International Forest of Friendship Inducts 99s

BY LINTON WELLS, IFOF Co-Chairman (shown in above photo far left)

**T**wenty-nine Ninety-Nines attended the annual induction ceremonies at the International Forest of Friendship in Atchison, Kansas on June 16, 2012. The Forest is a living memorial to the world history of aviation and aerospace. Thirteen of the sixteen inductees were Ninety-Nines.

The induction ceremonies were held in the Fay Gillis Wells gazebo, surrounded by the waving flags of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and 36 territories and foreign countries that have trees in the Forest. The Ninety-Nines honorees, along with their affiliations, are listed below (the numbers correspond to those in the picture above).

Seven of the Ninety-Nines honorees attended the ceremony: Kaye Craig (2), Tucson Chapter; Sunni Gibbons (11), Santa Maria Valley Chapter; Susan Larson (8), Rio Grande Norte Chapter; Susan Liebeler (6), Ventura County Chapter; Lynn Meadows (7), Reno High Sierra Chapter; Carol Stocker (12), Lake Erie Chapter; Carol Voss (10), Wisconsin Chapter.

Another six Ninety-Nines honorees

were not present: Shirley Allen, First Canadian Chapter, award accepted by Linton Wells; Annelie Brinkman, San Diego Chapter, award accepted by Linton Wells; Rabia Futehally, India Section, award accepted by Linton Wells; the late Pamela O'Brien, Monterey Bay Chapter, award accepted by her husband Dale, and sons Neal and Ray (3-5); the late Laura Richter, San Antonio Chapter, award accepted by Holly Barr (14); the late Kay Roam, Yavapai Chapter, award accepted by her son Karl (13). Diane Pirman (9), Santa Maria Valley Chapter, honored in 2007, and Romona Upfield (1), Dallas Chapter, honored in 2011, were able to accept their awards. Romona also accepted for her late husband, Jim. Past International President Jody McCarrell and incoming President Martha Phillips attended as well.

Other honorees included Stephen Craig, aviation historian and restorer/flier of classic aircraft (15); the late Prof Dr. Wangari Maathai, founder of the Green Belt Movement, 2004 Nobel Peace Prize winner; and the Hon. Dr. Kathy Sullivan,

Assistant Secretary of Commerce, member of the Astronaut Hall of Fame, distinguished oceanographer and private pilot (16), who delivered the keynote address.

The International Forest of Friendship was a gift to America on the Nation's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday (1976) from the City of Atchison (Amelia Earhart's birthplace) and The Ninety-Nines. Within the acres of woodland are trees from around the world, as well as a "moon tree" grown from a seed taken to the moon on Apollo 14. Among the more than 1,300 honorees are such internationally recognized flyers as Amelia Earhart, Charles Lindbergh, the Wright Brothers, Sally Ride, Eileen Collins and Chuck Yeager.

The public is invited to the induction ceremonies, the next of which will be on June 21-22, 2013. The focus for 2013 (the Forest's 37<sup>th</sup> year) will be "Security and Solace through Flight," emphasizing military pilots, flying doctors and organizations such as Angel Flight.

More information about the Forest, and points of contact, are at [www.ifof.org](http://www.ifof.org).

# Twenty-Two Women Awarded 2012 Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarships

BY JACQUELINE BOYD  
Co-Chairman, AEMSF



The Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship Fund Trustees are pleased to announce the names of eighteen Scholarship winners, two New Pilot Award winners, one Research Scholar Grant and an award in memory of Vicki Cruse for Emergency Maneuver Training.

The recipients are from all over the world but share in common their strong support of The Ninety-Nines, their need for financial assistance and the drive and ambition to accomplish their goals. The attention to detail, perseverance and enthusiasm shown in their initial applications will serve them well as they set out on the road to achieving their goals.

The Fund has grown to over four million dollars. The foresight of The Ninety-Nines in honoring Amelia Earhart continues to benefit our membership. We thank each and every Ninety-Nine – past and present – for continued support of the Scholarship Fund.

## AEMSF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



### **RUTH ASSIS, MULTI-ENGINE RATINGS**

Israeli Section

I am honored and grateful to receive the Amelia Earhart Scholarship. I wish to build on my private certificate and instrument rating and further my studies in aviation in order to become an ATP pilot. I currently volunteer for an organization that coordinates flight activities for children at risk.

I am married with three children. I have worked as a high tech consultant, and I am currently a computer science lecturer at The Open University in Israel. Additionally, I am a recreational artist, and I exhibit my paintings in solo and joint exhibitions. In 2010, I authored and published *Sameach Bamiklat*, a children's book.

### **JOHANNA BISCHOF, MULTI-ENGINE COMMERCIAL**

North Central Section, Minnesota Chapter

I am honored and thrilled to accept an Amelia Earhart Academic Scholarship for my commercial multiengine rating. I am a second year resident in emergency and internal medicine and have been flying since 2008. I started in North Carolina and moved to Minnesota for residency, where I completed my SEL commercial in 2011. My dream is to combine my passions for aviation and medicine by serving smaller communities by air to provide emergency and primary care. This scholarship will help me achieve this goal more safely, both here and abroad. Thank you for this wonderful opportunity!





### **KIRSTEN BRAZIER, GROUP IV(HELI) INSTRUMENT RATING**

South Central Section, Ambassador Chapter

I've been involved in aviation for over 20 years, including 17 years as a professional pilot flying all manner of aircraft on wheels, floats and skis. I hold Airline Transport Licenses (fixed-wing) in Canada and the U.S., and recently I've shifted my career focus to helicopters where I intend to earn my ATPL-H. My aviation career has taken me all over northern Canada where I've gained experience as chief pilot, operations manager, business partner and aviation consultant. I actively promote and support women in aviation. To this end, I have held leadership positions with the Ambassador Chapter of The Ninety-Nines for over four years and mentored other women through the Professional Pilot Leadership Initiative (PPLI).



### **SHEILA COLLIER, INSTRUMENT ROTORCRAFT**

Southwest Section, Ventura County Chapter

I am currently working part-time as an Emergency Medical Technician out of Tarzana Hospital to gain Emergency Medical Service experience. I also work as a self-employed bookkeeper for a few local companies in Ventura, California. I am currently serving as Ventura County Chapter Treasurer. My ultimate goal is to fly helicopters for the Los Angeles City Fire Department. Obtaining my rotorcraft instrument rating will provide the knowledge and experience I'll need when flying in fire conditions with limited or no visibility.

### **LAURA FLANAGAN, A320 TYPE RATING**

South Central Section, Ambassador Chapter

I grew up in the country adjacent to a rural airport in the USA. This was no accident. My father was an avid aviation enthusiast. I always loved flying, especially practicing aerobatics with my father. I worked in education and saved my money to pay for flight training, certificate by certificate.

I got my first flying job as a Learjet pilot flying air ambulance while I was still in flight school, finishing up my CFI. I have worked for private jet charter operators and an airline. Thank you to The Ninety-Nines for helping women realize their personal piloting pursuits.



### **CELESTE HADLEY, ACADEMIC/B.S. HELICOPTER FLIGHT**

Southwest Section, Monterey Bay Chapter

In 1999, when I was seven years old, my mother bought me a toy space shuttle to commemorate the first-time a woman, Eileen Collins, commanded the space shuttle. Watching her historic flight on television was so inspirational; I knew right then and there I wanted to fly! I am a junior at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, Arizona, majoring in Aeronautical Science/Helicopter Flight Specialty with a minor in Applied Meteorology. While carrying a full load of academic courses, I also completed my private helicopter certificate, instrument and commercial ratings, and I will complete my CFI and CFII this summer.

My goal is to become a fire service aviator. I hope to eventually work for a local, state or federal fire agency as a helicopter pilot providing air support. I want to carry on the honorable tradition of the fire service from the sky!

### **LOIS HEWITT, MULTI-ENGINE INSTRUCTOR**

Southwest Section, Hi-Desert Chapter

I am a dairy farmer's daughter from the Midwest, the oldest of eight children. I have been married for over 40 years, have four children of my own and nine grandchildren. I have many interests, including sewing and was a 4-H leader for 10 years. In 1993, I fulfilled a promise to my son, and we both started flight training. It took 10 years to achieve my ratings. In 2007, I retired and opened my own flight school. We have grown from one aircraft to three, and this rating will help me offer more training.





## **CHRISTINE HOLLINGSWORTH, ACADEMIC/B.S. AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT**

Northwest Section, Greater Seattle Chapter

After a decade of attending EAA's AirVenture airshow in Oshkosh, I finally began my flying adventures thanks to inspiration from several woman pilots. I became a Ninety-Nines Associate member immediately after I became a student pilot, and since then, my fellow members have encouraged and supported me every step of the way.

While in the Seattle area, I met airline pilots, test pilots, flight instructors and air traffic controllers who fed my love of all things aviation. I earned my ASEL and instrument rating in Seattle and have recently transferred to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. I am excited to begin my commercial training, another step on the road to my goal of becoming a CFI.

I thank The Ninety-Nines for all they have done for me, and I look forward to many years of flying as a result of this scholarship.

## **APRIL KRASON, INSTRUMENT RATING**

Northeast Section, Connecticut Chapter

I have been enamored with airplanes all my life, and although I grew up in an era when women weren't encouraged to branch out into aviation, my mother instilled the idea that if you dream it, you can do it. Forty years passed before my dream of becoming a pilot came true in 2003.

I have been privileged to serve as Connecticut Chapter Chairman, and I am currently the assistant Public Affairs Officer for the Connecticut Wing of the Civil Air Patrol. With an instrument rating I will be able to fly search and rescue missions in all types of weather and continue towards my goal of becoming an instructor.



## **JASMINE NISSAN, ACADEMIC/B.S. AERONAUTICS**

Southeast Section, Spaceport Chapter

I am 27 years old from Hertzeliyya, Israel. I have been a member of The Ninety-Nines since November 2009. From the age of nine, I knew I wanted to be a pilot. I attained my private pilot certificate in Israel. In October 2009, I joined the Flight Safety Academy to continue with my flight training. There I completed multiengine, instrument, commercial and certificated instrument instructor ratings. These days I am working at FlightSafety Academy as a flight instructor.

In an effort to continue pursuing my goals, in January 2011, I enrolled in a Bachelor's degree program in Professional Aeronautics at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. I would like to thank The Ninety-Nines for the opportunity of fulfilling my dream!

## **HANNAH NORTHERN, KING AIR 300/350 PIC TYPE RATING**

Southwest Section, Santa Rosa Chapter

I took my first intro ride in 2008 and have been hooked on flying ever since. I have worked as a ramp attendant, dispatcher, safety assistant and plane washer, anything to get near an airplane. After transferring to Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, I pursued my degree while competing in various aviation events like the Women's Air Race Classic and NIFA competitions. I am currently working as a flight instructor in California and in flight operations for a corporate aviation company.

This scholarship will put me in the right seat of a King Air 350 where I look forward to learning all there is to know about corporate aviation and becoming a skilled and professional pilot. Thank you for the opportunity to pursue my dreams!







### **GABRIELLE PALMAS, INSTRUMENT RATING**

Southwest Section, Phoenix Chapter

With mentoring from the wonderful Ninety-Nines of the San Diego Chapter, I realized my goal to become a pilot and earned my private pilot certificate. I've now found my second home here in Arizona with the Phoenix Chapter members, grateful for their guidance and support through my multiengine rating.

As I turn to the next page in my aviation journey, I'm thrilled to add my Instrument rating into my logbook with help from our International Ninety-Nines and the AE Scholarship. My commercial pilot goal is steadfastly coming true. It's time to fly! A gracious thank you to you all.

### **MARLENE RASETA, COMMERCIAL**

Southeast Section, Kitty Hawk Chapter

Ever since I was a child, the sound of an airplane flying overhead would always catch my attention. I would wonder where the airplane was headed and wish that I were the one flying.

Some years later, I met someone who was a private pilot, and I had an opportunity to take a ride in a Great Lakes biplane. I decided to take a ground school course at a local community college and learn how to fly. I started meeting many wonderful people who are part of aviation and first came in contact with The Ninety-Nines. Here I found support and encouragement to complete my training.

My ultimate goal is to obtain my CFI and become an instructor with whom my students will feel comfortable and feel they have been well-trained. I want to "grow" more pilots either by directly instructing, inspiring young people, or by providing encouragement as a mentor and fellow pilot. As a single mother to a beautiful one-year-old daughter, my funds for flight training are very limited at this time, and I truly appreciate the help I am receiving from The Ninety-Nines to pursue my dream.



### **CYNTHIA SPERBERG-HART, SEAPLANE RATING**

Southwest Section, Bay Cities Chapter

Wow! What an incredible honor it is to receive the AE Scholarship. Like many of the women here, I've known I wanted to fly since childhood. However, it was a dream I never thought possible. When I finally soloed at age 31, I knew I couldn't give up. Outside of work, I spend most of my spare time volunteering. I rehabilitate wild birds, feed gorillas and assist for Angel Flight and animal transport. I am tailwheel certified, an airframe mechanic and am working on my instrument rating.

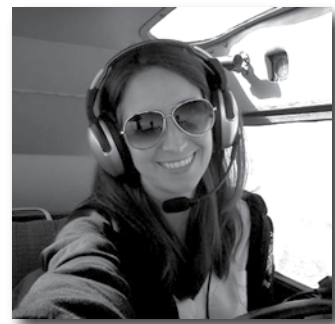
My ultimate goal is to incorporate seaplane/bush flying with my volunteer efforts in humanitarian aid and wildlife rescue. From the bottom of my heart, a huge "thank you" to all of the women of The Ninety-Nines for this amazing opportunity!

### **JENNIFER TREESE, BACKCOUNTRY/MOUNTAIN FLYING**

Southwest Section, Tucson Chapter

I feel incredibly blessed to have received the Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship! I owe a big thank you to The Ninety-Nines, which has been so generous to me over the last few years. Without scholarships, I wouldn't be where I am today. I've been interested in aviation since my first small airplane ride when I was eleven. Twelve years later I finally became a pilot, and I haven't stopped flying and pursuing new training opportunities ever since. I plan to use this scholarship for a backcountry and mountain flying course.

Flying is my passion, and I'm excited to further my skills as a pilot. My goal is to one day teach tailwheel, backcountry and mountain flying. After this course, I plan on finishing my CFI. Thanks again to the AE Scholarship judges and trustees!





### **AILEEN WATKINS, ACADEMIC/ M.S. AERO SCIENCE**

South Central Section, Houston Chapter

As a self-proclaimed aviation nut, I began my career washing airplanes. From there, with the help and enthusiastic support of my Ninety-Nines sisters, I embarked on a journey that has taken me through a career filled with adventure and promise. I fly the Boeing 747-400 and 747-8 Intercontinental for Atlas Air, based in Houston, Texas. I am married to my best friend of 27 years, Bob, and am the proud mother of two beautiful daughters, Katalin and Alianne, ages 4 and 1.

I hope to set an example for them to follow their dreams and hold close the importance of persistence and determination in building success in career and in life.

### **AMBER WHITMILL, INSTRUMENT RATING**

Southwest Section, Bay Cities Chapter

Flying snuck into my life long ago after a flight with a friend; I was hooked! I couldn't afford it then and had to wait two decades, but I finally became a pilot a few years ago. I've found powerful meaning in flying, not only for me but for others, and especially love taking friends on their first flight in a small plane. I'm active in The Ninety-Nines and Angel Flight West, and I want to give back through continued participation in both organizations and instructing. I'm excited to be able to complete my instrument rating in the pursuit of these goals.



### **KIMBERLY WINSOR, SEAPLANE RATING**

East Canadian Section, First Canadian Chapter

As a third generation pilot, I have been exposed to aviation throughout my life. I completed my commercial training in 1998 and began my career as a Flight Instructor. Currently, I fly and instruct on the Embraer 190 at Air Canada.

My love for flying and aviation continues outside my job. I fly gliders and vintage tailwheel aircraft. I also enjoy sailing and horseback riding. I have been a Ninety-Nine since 1995 and am treasurer for the First Canadian Chapter. I love the camaraderie of The Ninety-Nines and enjoy meeting others who share the same love as I do –FLYING!

I am honored to be a recipient of the Ameila Earhart Scholarship this year and will be fulfilling a lifelong dream by obtaining a Seaplane Rating.

## **VICKI CRUSE EMT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**

### **JACQUELINE MILROY, EMERGENCY MANEUVER TRAINING**

Australian Section

I am a teacher, my life's ambition. In 1997, at the age of 39, I began to learn to fly. My aim: to become a flight instructor.

Flying has become the teacher. It has taken me to some pretty amazing places. I've flown charter work and taken tourists out to Australia's famous Lake Eyre. I purchased an old Cessna 172M and flew throughout the Western Australian Pilbara region, travelling to and teaching at remote and indigenous community schools.

Now back home in Gippsland Region of Victoria, I impart my passion, hard-earned skills and knowledge as a flight instructor.





## NEW PILOT AWARDS



### **ASIEH AMADZADE**

British Section

I am currently completing my private pilot certificate in Kent, South of London, flying a Cessna 152. I also work as a safety performance data analyst for easyJet airline, which involves analysis of safety related information. My Master's degree in Aerospace Systems Engineering has provided me with a deep interest in the world of aviation. I also worked as a technician maintaining general aviation aircraft, where I achieved an even greater understanding of aircraft maintenance.

Aviation offers a variety of areas that excite me, but I wish to continue flying and deeply hope that one day I will be a professional pilot.

### **ERIN CAMPBELL**

North Central Section Greater Cincinnati Chapter

I'm 19 years old and a freshman at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, majoring in biomedical engineering. I've been flying for two years in both a Piper Tri-Pacer and Cessna 172. I hope to finish my private pilot certificate this year.

This summer, I'll be an intern at Cincinnati Children's Hospital doing research in the area of pediatric cardiology. After college, I plan to go to medical school and to work in a third-world setting on a full- or part-time basis.

Thank you to The Ninety-Nines for their financial assistance that will help me in achieving my dreams for flight.



## AMELIA EARHART RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP GRANT

### **ROBERTA BURNS ROE**

Northwest Section, Greater Seattle Chapter

Inspired by women aviatrix pioneers before her, including her own mother Edna, Bobbi captures the legends and stories about women pilots. Founder of *Woman Pilot* magazine (with her mother, a Curtiss Jenny pilot, as the logo) and current publisher for the International Ninety-Nines magazine, Bobbi is digitizing the history of The Ninety-Nines through the Amelia Earhart Research Scholarship Grant. Since the founding of The Ninety-Nines in 1929, women's achievements in aviation have been documented in print media. Now, with the Amelia Earhart Research Scholarship Grant, all of those stories will be digitized in a searchable format for future researchers.

All available copies of the 99 News will be scanned into PDFs for The Ninety-Nines website. "These stories and photos are our history. I'm very happy to have the opportunity to preserve these stories and photos before they are lost." Members are encouraged to donate their early copies of the 99 News to document stories and photos of historical and contemporary women pilots.





## Thanks to the 2012 AEMSF Judges

The Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship Fund Trustees thank this year's group of non-Ninety-Nine semi-finalist judges. Throughout the scholarship's history, we have had a stellar group of people volunteer to perform this very important task. This year is no exception. As the scholarship fund and the awareness of its value continues to grow, we are gratified that these leaders of aviation and industry don't hesitate to participate as judges.

### BEVERLEY BASS



Beverley was the third female pilot hired by American Airlines in 1976 after six years of corporate, freight and charter flying along with several years of flight instructing. After 10 years of flying the B-727, MD-80 and DC-10, she became the first female captain for the airline in 1986.

She is co-founder of ISA+21 (International Society of Women Airline Pilots) in 1978, an organization that is still going strong today in spite of the troubled airline industry.

In 2002 she was the recipient of the coveted Katherine Stinson award as a result of her experience with her crew and passengers on 9/11. They spent five days in Gander, Newfoundland after being forced to divert there on their way home from Paris on that fateful day.

Beverley reluctantly decided to retire in 2008 after 31-plus years with American. Her last 10 years were spent flying the airplane of her dreams, the B-777 to Europe, Asia and South America. She also spent 16 years of her career as a Check Airman training pilots on the B-727, B-757, B-767 and B-777.

She is a graduate of Texas Christian University in Fort Worth and currently resides in Argyle, Texas, with her husband and two children.

### MELANA A. MAXIE



Melana holds a bachelors degree in aeronautical and astronautical engineering from Purdue and is employed by Lockheed Martin Aeronautics, F-35 Weapons Integration, Advanced Development Programs Improvements & Derivatives.

She attributes her love of aviation to her father, who was a pilot. Melana has demonstrated this love by volunteering at EAA AirVenture at Oshkosh, working the flight line, driving the tram and educating youngsters in the AOPA tent. Melana has also organized Kids Fly Day events hosted out of her hangar home on Hicks Airfield (T67) in Texas. Kids Fly Day has introduced approximately 180 children to the joys of flying over the last four years. This event became a much anticipated event and an official EAA Young Eagles event for the local EAA Chapter.

Last year the event included volunteers from the local high school National Honor Society and Civil Air Patrol to support the event. Those young volunteers all went on to experience flight, some for the first time. Kids Fly Day includes interviews with military and airline pilots, as well as general aviation pilots.

### WOLFGANG SAMUEL, COL. USAF (RET.)



Wolfgang W.E. Samuel was born in Germany in 1935, immigrated to the United States at age 16 and finished high school in Denver, Colorado, two years later. He graduated from the University of Colorado in 1960 and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. He served 30 years in the USAF, flew strategic reconnaissance against the Soviet Union in the Cold War years and combat against North Vietnam. He was awarded the distinguished Flying Cross three times and received numerous Air Medals.

He obtained an MBA from Arizona State University and graduated from the National War College at Ft. McNair, Washington D.C. After retirement from the USAF in the rank of colonel, he worked for a defense contractor in the Washington area. He then retired once again to write *German Boy*, his first book, with an introduction by Stephen Ambrose.



## TRAINING MILESTONES

**Melissa Aho** – First Solo  
Minnesota Chapter

**Risa Altman** – Private  
Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter

**Peg Ballou** – CFI  
All-Ohio Chapter

**Debbie Downey** – First Solo  
Ventura County Chapter

**Debi Dreyfuss** – CFI  
Washington DC Chapter

**Patricia Gatley** – First Solo  
San Diego Chapter

**Karen Johnson** – Part 135 Longranger  
Helicopter checkride  
Ventura County Chapter

**Katelynn Kearney** – Multiengine CFI  
Central New York Chapter

**Caroline Kolasa** – ATPL  
British Columbia Coast Chapter

**Lori Ledford** – CFI, CFII  
Monterey Bay Chapter

**Kimberley Lowe** – Boeing 757/767  
Captain, American Airlines  
Florida Goldcoast Chapter

**Sylvia Manning** – Single-Engine Land  
CFII, Oregon Pines Chapter

**Bonnie Mosely** – Private  
San Diego Chapter

**Bonnie Ritchie** – Instrument  
Bay Cities Chapter

**Darci Smith** – Private  
San Gabriel Valley Chapter

**Natasha Stenbock** – Instrument  
(In completion of AE Scholarship)  
San Diego Chapter

**Sharon Vincent** – First Solo  
Ventura County Chapter

**Elisabeth Wuethrich** – Instrument  
Florida Goldcoast Chapter

**Tracy Zedeck** – Commercial Helicopter  
(in completion of AE Scholarship)  
Bay Cities Chapter



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Elizabeth 'Susie' Sewell.

### ELIZABETH SEWELL HONORED

Susie Sewell, Ninety-Nines International President 1972-74, was among the honorees on April 29 at the Tulsa Air and Space Museum and Planetarium's 2012 Aviation Ball that this year celebrated 100 Years of Women in Aviation.

The black tie event featured dinner, a live auction to benefit the museum's education programs and recognition of top Oklahoma women in aviation. Susie's photo was displayed on a large video screen while the emcee told of her many aviation accomplishments, and her photo was the first in the banquet program's listing of these special women.

— Carol Sokatch

### WOMEN IN CORPORATE AVIATION INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Women in Corporate Aviation International, a non-profit mentoring association for professionals in corporate and business aviation, will offer nine aviation-related scholarships available to members. Scholarship opportunities include:

- Aircare FACTS Training Scholarship (USD \$4,675)
- Gulfstream Aerospace Corp. Corporate Aviation Maintenance Technology Scholarship (Two at USD \$5,000)
- MedAire Management of In-flight & Illness Course Scholarship - 2-day Initial (USD \$1,040)
- Susan C. Friedenberg Corporate Flight Attendant Training Scholarship (USD \$3,995)
- Women in Corporate Aviation Career Scholarship (USD \$2,000)
- Women in Corporate Aviation Aviation Management Scholarship (up to USD \$3,000)
- Universal Weather and Aviation, Inc. Dispatcher License Training Scholarship (USD \$3,445)
- University of Southern California Viterbi Aviation Safety & Security Scholarship (USD \$2,250)

The scholarship winners will be announced at the annual WCA Luncheon at the National Business Aviation Association Meeting and Convention tentatively scheduled for October 31, 2012 in Orlando, Florida.

Those interested in applying for a scholarship can visit <http://www.wca-intl.org/scholarships.htm> for the guidelines and application. The submission deadline is September 30, 2012.

— Elizabeth Clark, Executive Director WCA

### THEY PROMISED HER THE MOON

The University of Oklahoma School of Drama presented the world premiere of *They Promised Her The Moon*, a play written by endowed artist-in residence Laurel Ollstein. The play is based on the life of Jerrie Cobb, a Norman native and Ninety-Nine. Jerry was one of the 13 women who passed with flying colors all the physical and psychological tests to be astronauts but were denied admission to the program.

The Oklahoma Chapter had reservations for 27 members and friends to attend the Friday, April 13 performance, but a tornado hit Norman mere hours before curtain time, cancelling the show. However 16 members did attend the Sunday, April 15 matinee and had the opportunity to meet the cast including the ones playing Jerrie and Amelia.

— Carol Sokatch

### COLORADO MEMBER EARNS WOLF AVIATION FUND GRANT

Colorado Chapter member Dr. Penny Hamilton was awarded a Wolf Aviation Fund grant to write an aviation textbook. The grant will be used to partially fund the production of the *Teaching Women to Fly: General Aviation Flight Instructor Communication Manual*, a book to help flight instructors increase communication skills and avoid common communication barriers.



Colorado writer Dr. Penny Hamilton with aviation pioneer Captain Emily Howell Warner.

— Penny Hamilton

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## TOUCH & GO

### EXCITING WEEK AT SUN 'N FUN

If you weren't at The Ninety-Nines building at the 2012 Sun 'n Fun Fly-In, Lakeland, Florida, you missed living legends from World War II, air show performers Julie Clark and Patti Wagstaff, and astronaut Nicole Stott, the latest Florida Suncoast Chapter member. The building provided a good viewing spot for the daily air show, including the USAF Thunderbirds.

The WASP Luncheon hosted by The Ninety-Nines featured four WASP, Dora Dougherty, one of only two women trained by Paul Tibbets to fly the B-29; Barry Vincent Smith, test pilot; Penny Halberg, ferry pilot; and Marguerite Bernhardt, instrument instructor. The lunch was slightly delayed due to Dora flying as honorary navigator in Fi-Fi — the only flying B-29 — with a Tuskegee Airman as honorary co-pilot.

Julie Clark and Patti Wagstaff stopped to visit with everyone at the building, and Patti was featured in one of the daily Ninety-Nines slots on Sun 'n Fun Radio 1510 and was gracious enough to take time for a picture with The Ninety-Nines.

Nancy Wright and Barbara Sierchio again coordinated the prerequisites necessary for a busy week at Sun 'n Fun, and Barbara and John Yeninas are in training to take over the reins. Many volunteers helped make the week memorable, including International Director Corbi Bulluck.

— Elaine Morrow



Having fun at Sun 'n Fun are, from left, Nancy Wright, Sun 'n Fun Co-Coordinator, Florida Suncoast Chapter; Thuy Pieper, Minnesota Chapter; Elinor Kline, Florida Suncoast Chapter; Jean Murry, Greater St. Louis Chapter; Marilyn Shafer, Florida Suncoast Chapter Chairman; Barbara Sierchio, Sun 'n Fun Co-Coordinator, Florida Suncoast Chapter; Patty Wagstaff, Alaska Chapter and air show aerobatic performer, Barbara Yeninas, Florida Suncoast Chapter; Elaine Morrow, Past International President, Minnesota Chapter; Mary Wunder, Endowment Fund Trustee, Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter, and Patti Sandusky, Minnesota Chapter Chairman and newly-elected North Central Section Director.

## GRASS ROOTS



*Sophia M. Payton and Mary Wunder remove the Florida Suncoast Chapter's plaque showing the Florida Suncoast patch that was taken to space.*

### FLORIDA SUNCOAST CHAPTER

Angela and Kristin Inderwiesen did a great job at our booth promoting The Ninety-Nines at the 2nd Annual Gator Fly-in on April 28 in Gainesville, Florida. The Florida Suncoast Chapter patch, which was taken to space on the Discovery STS 133 flight by Nicole Stott, was on display at our cottage all week during the 2012 Sun 'n Fun Fly-In, Lakeland, Florida. Its new home will be at The Ninety-Nines International Headquarters.

Our March Chapter meeting was held in The Ninety-Nines building on clubhouse row at Sun 'n Fun with sister Ninety-Nines from around the country. Several International Officers and WASP attended as well. Our Chapter meeting is held there on Saturday every year at Sun 'n Fun. Come join us next year!

In other Chapter news, we welcome our new members Cynthia Hardeman, Rachael Leahy, Abigail Pasmore, Julie Robertson, Christine Stanaback and Nicole Stott.

— Sophia Payton

### BAKERSFIELD CHAPTER

The Bakersfield Chapter proudly announces that our own Donna Webster was named Certificated Flight Instructor of the Year for the Western Pacific Region. Donna serves as Secretary for our Chapter and is a Designated Pilot Examiner for the Federal Aviation Administration.

She was nominated and became the CFI of the Year for the Fresno area in late 2011 and was nominated and became the CFI of the Year for the Western Pacific region, including California, Arizona, Hawaii and Nevada. Donna deserves recognition for being one of only seven regional flight instructors nominated this year and the only woman so recognized throughout the United States.

— Elaine LeCain

## FLORIDA GOLDCOAST AND FLORIDA GULFSTREAM CHAPTERS

A joint meeting of the Florida Goldcoast and Florida Gulfstream Chapters was held on Earth Day, April 22, at Broward Aviation Institute, Hollywood North Perry Airport. We heard from Barbara Ganson about her recent flight across the English Channel in celebration of America's first licensed woman pilot, Harriet Quimby. Quimby achieved her greatest aviation record on April 16, 1912 but did not get much attention by reporters because of the sinking of the Titanic the day before.

Barbara flew a Cessna 172 on March 10 across the English Channel as part of Women of Aviation Worldwide Week, which seeks to introduce women and girls to the joys of flight. Weather was iffy in the morning, which kept many of the French pilots from crossing the English Channel that morning to hear a variety of talks. Fortunately the weather cleared by midday so several of the pilots from Headcorn could take off from the grass runway and fly across the Channel, a flight which is still somewhat dangerous.

More than 100 women pilots from the United Kingdom, France, United States and Canada celebrated the 100th anniversary of Quimby's achievement.

— Barbara Ganson



From left, Elizabeth Williamson, runner up in the Women of Aviation Worldwide Week video contest, Ninety-Nine Barbara Ganson, who flew across the English Channel, and Esther French, winner of the video contest, at the Le Touquet International Airport on the French coast. The local mayor gave a speech and authorized the plaque commemorating the flight of Harriet Quimby.



Pilot Cheryl Marek (middle rear) with her three passengers during the second annual Women of Aviation Worldwide Week.

## FIRST CANADIAN CHAPTER

Hundreds of women and girls took to the skies over Peterborough, Ontario, between March 5 and 11 during the second annual Women of Aviation Worldwide Week. For all of them, it was their first flight in a small aircraft.

Flight instructor Cathy Montgomery organized a "Fly it Forward" event on Saturday March 10. Her goal was to fly 200 women and girls in an effort to make Peterborough the 2012 "Most Female-Pilot-Friendly Airport in the World." The title goes to the airport that introduces the highest number of women and girls to their first flight and aviation during the week.

Twenty-one pilots donated their time, fuel and airplanes and flew a total of 110 flights of 15 to 20 minutes each. Four of the pilots were women, almost 20 percent of the represented pilots. There were 19 airplanes, covering a wide variety of general aviation aircraft,

By the conclusion of the event, 213 very excited women and girls had received their first flight in a small plane. That was enough to put Peterborough in third place as the 2012 "Most Female-Pilot-Friendly Airport in the World" contest.

The real winners were the more than 1,100 women and girls around the world who had their first flight in a small airplane during that week!

— Lesley Page



### RIO GRANDE NORTE

In keeping with what has become a Rio Grande Norte Chapter tradition, several of our members participated in the annual Expanding Your Horizons Conference in Los Alamos, New Mexico, on March 21. Virginie Dupont, our fearless leader armed with Ninety-Nines pamphlets, New Mexico aviation maps and lots of information on aviation education and careers, particularly emphasized women in aviation.

Robin Smith, Tandra Hicks and her granddaughter Natalie assisted Dr. Dupont with various tasks, including glider assembly, labeling airplane parts on a whiteboard, demonstrating how to get the gliders the girls built to fly straight and generally throwing their two cents into the discussion at every opportunity!

The team presented two workshops to a total of 14 young women from high schools across the region. The conference goal is to inspire girls to pursue STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) fields of study.

— Elizabeth Hunke



The RGN Chapter also rummaged through its closets and drawers, easily finding enough treasures to stock a two-day fundraising sale in Albuquerque May 18-19. RGN 99s display some of the finds, from left, Susan Larson, Virginie Dupont, Michal Mudd, Lyn Bennett, Amy Ross, Elizabeth Hunke and Tandra Hicks.

### INDIANA DUNES CHAPTER

The March meeting of the Indiana Dunes Chapter took place at Porter County Airport in Valparaiso, Indiana. Associate member Natalie Turner educated us about the Civil Air Patrol, an organization with which she is very involved. Indiana currently has nine aircraft used for various activities including search and rescue and drug interdiction. Since joining CAP, Natalie was able to help in finding a missing diabetic child and has been involved in getting a new senior squadron chartered in Laporte, Indiana.

She cites giving back to the community in working with first responders as one of her favorite parts of her CAP membership.

— Lynn Pergher



JC Follender, Edith Kuzenko, Doris Abbate, Lisa Paredes, Patricia Rockwell, Nancy Neumann (Chapter Chairman) Susan Mirabel, Mae Smith and Jill Hopfenmuller celebrate Edith Kuzenko's 50 years with The Ninety-Nines.

### LONG ISLAND CHAPTER

Life member Edith Kuzenko was pleasantly surprised to be honored in recognition of her 50 years in The Ninety-Nines. She was the guest of honor at the Long Island Chapter meeting and treated to lunch at the Airport Diner located on MacArthur Airport in Islip, New York. This meant a lot to Edith and the members of the Long Island Chapter. Both Edith and Doris Abbate have been members of The Ninety-Nines and the Long Island Chapter for 50 years or more.

— Doris Abbate

### MANITOBA CHAPTER

This year's scholarship was awarded to O'Danis Fast. O'Danis grew up in an aviation family. She is an early starter, obtaining her private pilot certificate while still in high school. That is quite an accomplishment! O'Danis plans to use the scholarship towards either a night endorsement or commercial license. We wish her all the best.

— Mary Lou Milhausen



From left, Bette Holtman, O'Danis Fast and Mary Lou Milhausen, Manitoba Chapter Treasurer, award the 2012 Scholarship at the Manitoba Aviation Council Annual Gala.

## TENNESSEE CHAPTER

The Tennessee Chapter sponsored its first Girl Scout Aviation Day, April 14, at the Knoxville Downtown Island Airport (DKX). Almost 300 Girl Scouts, parents and siblings registered for the half-day event.

The spring weather was perfect for both the outside and inside displays. Tennessee 99s presented information and interactive programs. The Knoxville Tower jumped in with five Air Traffic Control Specialists who invented interactive games and presented computer information.

Civil Air Patrol pilot Linda Meese arranged for two CAP Cessna 182s, a display and cadets who helped with parking and crowd control. Lighter-Than-Air pilot Pat Roush and her crew set up a colorful balloon display area.

JROTC Cadets and Senior Girl Scouts Cassie Marrie Wilerson and Aresha Shea Robinson showed the girls, “Yes you can do it all!”

— Janice Pelletti



Expressjet Airline pilot Nancy McGinnis gives girls insights into becoming an airline pilot.



From left, Reno Area Chapter Chairman Kathy Walton and Janice Cessna Clarke.

## RENO AREA CHAPTER

The Legacy of Cessna was the title of a luncheon held in April by the Reno Area Chapter.

Dr. Janice Cessna Clarke is the granddaughter of Clyde Cessna and daughter of Eldon Cessna. Janice gave a Power Point presentation outlining her grandfather’s interest in airplanes as a little boy, his car dealership, first attempts at earning money from flying, airplane designs and the formation of the Cessna Aircraft Company. Her dad, Eldon, was called home from college to help design over 16 models of Cessna. No book can include the personal anecdotes shared at the luncheon, including excerpts from letters that Grandma Cessna wrote in the early years. Unfortunately, Janice never learned to fly.

We hope to have Janice as our speaker at the Fall 2014 Southwest Section meeting in Reno September 5-7.

— Kathy Walton

## PARADISE COAST CHAPTER

The winners of the 2012 Wings Over Paradise scholarships were honored at a reception held in May at the Page Field Base Ops FBO, Fort Myers, Florida. Since the Chapter’s founding in 2007, members have raised over \$15,000 for the scholarship fund. Michelle Estevez of Cape Coral, Florida, was the winner of our \$2,000 cash scholarship.

New this year was the simulator and CFI instruction package donated to the Paradise Coast Chapter by Jim Hendricks of Naples Flight Simulator. As his way of “giving back” to the aviation community, he donated 20 hours of instruction time using the AST 300 simulator to assist a pilot in obtaining her advanced ratings. The winner of the simulator package was Donna Hendrickson of Punta Gorda, Florida. She will be training for the single and multiengine commercial ratings, as well as her multiengine instrument rating.

— Ellen Herr



Scholarship winner Michelle Estevez, right, with Paragon flight instructor Kelsey Mulloy.



### CENTRAL NEW YORK CHAPTER

The Central New York Chapter celebrated the 100th birthday of Chapter charter member Virginia Wentzel Breed. Virginia was born at home in the small town of Richland Center, Wisconsin on May 14, 1912.

Virginia and Al Wentzel met at the University of Wisconsin and sang duets together in church. They were married in 1935. One of their dreams was to fly! On April 9, 1955, Virginia and Al flew with two flight instructors from Mid-State Flight School in Norwich, New York to Loch Haven, Pennsylvania and became the proud owners of a brand new Piper Tri-Pacer. Lessons began. Al got his private certificate in June, and Virginia got hers on July 30, 1955, after logging 50 hours.

In the next few years they made many flights until Al died in 1964. Over the next 17 years, Virginia continued to fly her own airplane.

By the end of 1968, Virginia had logged 846 hours and in early 1969 passed the "Blue Seal" flight test in Rochester, New York. She became a Ninety-Nine in 1970 and a charter member of the Central New York Chapter when it was founded in 1974. She has been very active for over 40 years, participating in Chapter, Section and International meetings.

When several of us recently visited her, she told us the secret to long life was to keep active. Her interest in life, her strong faith, daily exercise, good genes, good diet and travel are important also.

— Joanne Bolton



Central New York Chapter members Marcia Buler, left, and Mardi Drebing, right, celebrate the 100th birthday of Virginia Wentzel Breed, center.

### ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER

What better way to celebrate the freedom of ending a long teaching career than to take to the skies on an epic three-week solo trip around the United States, covering over 5,500 miles and visiting many old friends along the way? That's exactly what Orange County Chapter's Celia Vanderpool did last July in her trusty old Cessna 180 N5212D, which performed admirably. "The engine ran solid and true with never a hiccup," says Celia, "and consumed less

than four quarts of oil during the 43.5 hours of flight time." At our General Meeting on May 9, held at the home of Rene Perrigoue and attended by 15 of our members, Celia shared a PowerPoint presentation detailing her trip, along with souvenirs and photo albums for us to drool over. Those of us present were truly inspired by Celia's flying adventures and are all working on our own future escape plans.

— Carol Bennett



Celebrating a 99 at 99: Standing, Margot Plummer; from left, Marylou Pohl, Helen Pustmueller and Donna Miller.

### COLORADO CHAPTER

April 26 marked a special anniversary for a very special Colorado Ninety-Nine. Helen Pustmueller turned 99, and the Colorado Chapter turned out to celebrate her incredible life.

Helen earned a degree in bacteriology from the University of California at Berkley and worked in the Pasadena Health Department, St. Joseph's Hospital in Orange, St. Luke's Hospital in Pasadena and the Los Angeles Health Department.

Later, she and her husband John both learned to fly and had their own airplane. It wasn't until 1957 that Helen joined the Colorado Chapter, and after John's death in 1966, she renewed her interest in flying and got her commercial certificate and instrument rating. She flew in two Powder Puff Derbies, three Angel Derbies with her friend Jan Gammel in a Comanche 250 and 260, and the Dallas Doll Derby.

In 1971, Helen married Paul Pustmueller. Together they bought an airplane and Paul learned to fly. They have participated in fly-yourself safaris in South Africa, Botswana, Rhodesia, Australia, New Zealand and Hawaii, and have owned a Cessna 170, 180, Turbo 206 and a Turbo Centurion.

Happy 99<sup>th</sup> birthday Helen, from your friends in The 99s!

— Donna Miller

## GRASS ROOTS

### BRITISH COLUMBIA COAST CHAPTER

We are happy to announce that our member Caroline Kolasa recently received her Air Transport Pilot License (ATPL) and a new job as First Officer with Northern Thunderbird Air on the Beech 1900 based in Vancouver.

— Cindy Pang



Caroline Kolasa recently received her ATPL — and landed a new job.

### OREGON PINES CHAPTER

Oregon Ninety-Nines had several aviation education outreach opportunities the past quarter, including our joint *Aviation for Teens* class with the local EAA chapter at Independence Airport, the Columbia Cascade Saturday Academy Aviation Class at Troutdale Airport, and Women in Aviation Day at Evergreen Museum. Evergreen's Director of Education and Ninety-Nine Hilda Pereyo organized a panel of 11 women from all walks of aviation who shared their inspiration and insight into aviation careers.

Oregon Pines also led a class in air traffic communications as part of the Women in Aviation program and spoke to several young women about aviation. We later enjoyed a joint tour of the NWS Forecast Office in Portland with other local women pilots and learned more about common weather patterns in the Pacific Northwest. Our Chapter meetings have provided fabulous training programs, including Aircraft Engines presented by A&P Mechanic Wayne Nutsch and Aerial Photography presented by photographer Bill Origer.

Memorial Day at Independence State Airport is a special time to honor local pilots who took their last flight the past year. CAP honor guard presented the wreath donated by Oregon Pines with breathtaking decorum, and The Ninety-Nines received a very nice introduction and recognition. The audience was also very touched by the missing man formation, military salute and F-15 fly-by.

The BBQ luncheon was well attended, and handmade ice cream sandwiches by The Ninety-Nines were a big hit.

— Debra Plymate

## NEW HORIZONS

### ANNA G ENGLEMAN Michigan Chapter

Anna G 'Ann' Engleman, longtime member of the Michigan Chapter and a lifetime member of The Ninety-Nines, flew to New Horizons on April 24, 2012, at the age of 90. Anna had been both a private and a commercial pilot, although health issues grounded her many years ago.



Anna G Engleman.

Anna, along with her beloved husband, Delmar, a 49½, flew their Piper Comanche all over the U.S., the Caribbean and Central America. One year they, in the company of their friends, flew around the entire continent of South America in a Bonanza, missing only two countries.

Flying (their magic carpet) was their life. She will be greatly missed.

— Sharon Meyer



Evelyn Bryan Johnson.

### EVELYN BRYAN JOHNSON Tennessee Chapter

The Tennessee Chapter lost a beloved member and aviation icon when Evelyn Bryan Johnson passed away May 10, 2012. Born November 4, 1909, 'Mama Bird' was a fixture at the Morristown, Tennessee airport where she managed the FBO since 1953. In Evelyn's later years, Tennessee Ninety-Nines would journey to Morristown in November to celebrate her birthday.

Evelyn was born in Corbin, Kentucky. She graduated from Wesleyan College and initially taught school. She began flying in 1944 and became a flight instructor in 1947. As a designated pilot examiner, she certificated a record number of pilots. She flew well into her 90s and was named in the *Guinness Book of World Records* for her 57,635 flight hours, the most of any living person and the equivalent of seven years in flight.

She was inducted into the Women in Aviation Pioneers Hall of Fame, the National Aviation Hall of Fame, the Tennessee and the Kentucky halls of fame. Last year a bronze bust was erected in her honor at the Morristown airport.

The Tennessee Ninety-Nines will miss our Mama Bird, her sense of humor, passion for life and dedication to aviation.

— Janice Pelletti

*Editor's Note: To read more about 'Mama Bird', please see articles in the Sept/Oct 2007, Nov/Dec 2008, Jan/Feb 2009, Jan/Feb 2011 and Jul/Aug/Sept 2011 issues of the 99 News.*



## NEW HORIZONS

### PAMELA RAE AZAR O'BRIEN Monterey Bay Chapter



*Pamela O'Brien.*

Pam O'Brien, born October 13, 1949, flew to new horizons on May 4, 2012. Pam began flying lessons in the 1980s, partially to overcome her fear of flying, and she eventually became instrument rated. For the past 25 years, Pam was very active in The Ninety-Nines, holding positions from the Chapter through International levels.

She was single-minded about bringing The Ninety-Nines into the digital age. She founded The Ninety-Nines website and functioned as its webmaster for many years. She also was the long-serving moderator of The Ninety-Nines listserv discussion groups. Her contributions in this area definitely showed the world that women are a strong and positive factor in aviation. Pam received the President's Award from The Ninety-Nines in 2003 for her contributions to the organization.

Pam was one of those special people who was a gift to all who knew her. She was quietly supportive, never demanding to be in the limelight, fun-loving, offbeat, funny – a true renaissance woman. Never the person to say something couldn't be done, Pam's usual response was, "How can we do that?" And then she would proceed to do just "that," whatever "that" was. She was creative – photography, macramé, cooking, sewing – she could do it all, earning the nickname "The Craft Queen." However, her creativity extended far beyond crafts. If she became interested in an area, she made it her business to learn all she could to master it.

She is survived by her husband Dale and twin sons, Neal and Raymond.

— Donna Crane-Bailey

### LAURA JANE RICHTER San Antonio Chapter

Laura Richter was an aviation enthusiast for most of her life. She took her last flight on March 18, 2011, leaving peacefully after a battle with cancer.

Laura was a lifetime member of The Ninety-Nines. She attended almost all International Conferences and Section meetings during her 41 years as a Ninety-Nine. She was an active member of the San Antonio Chapter and served repeatedly at the International and Section levels on boards and as committees chairs.

Laura was a strong and determined woman. A teacher by trade, she went back to earn her Master's degree while raising six children as a single parent. She included aviation education in all of her classrooms over the years.

When she was a young and fairly new pilot, she experienced engine trouble and had to perform an emergency landing in a cornfield. She handled the situation with expertise, walking away

unharmful. Her spouse was unaware that she earned her ticket, only learning of it when the media aired her emergency landing.

At Laura's request, her family donated her aviation memorabilia to the Chapter. They were sold and the proceeds applied to the Chapter's aviation scholarship fund.

Laura was inducted into the International Forest of Friendship in June 2012 because of her service and devotion to aviation during her 41 years of promoting safety and aviation education in the community.

It was no surprise that Laura's headstone has a Piper aircraft engraved on it. She loved to fly and would fly with anyone at any time. She will be dearly missed.

— Gloria Blank

### BETTY RIDDLE, WASP Tulsa Chapter

Betty Riddle flew to new horizons on June 8, 2012. She was 88 years old. As a young girl, Betty was raised around the aviation industry. This quickly led to her love of flying. She soon was taking flying lessons, which led to her flying airplanes before she could drive a car.

After graduating from high school, she enrolled in a civilian pilot training program at a local junior college and worked at the airport on weekends. She applied to the WASP program and was accepted to training class 44-W9. After the WASP deactivation, she went to work for Douglas Aircraft Corp. Later, she moved to Texas and flew all over south Texas on cross-country training and charter flights, as well as instructing student pilots.

In 1947, Betty married a fellow flight instructor, Howard Riddle. She became very active in several aviation organizations and served as district director for the WASP

— Phyllis Scott, from the Tulsa World

### SANDRA STOKES Lake Erie Chapter

Sandra 'Sandy' Stokes flew to new horizons on March 26, 2012, after a six-year battle with multiple myeloma. Sandy was born in Queens, New York, on October 23, 1947, and moved to Alliance, Ohio, when she was pursuing her Ph.D. at Kent State.

Sandy earned her pilot certificate and joined The Ninety-Nines and the Lake Erie Chapter. During her many years with the Chapter, she served on many committees and was always eager to help in any capacity.

As an educator, Sandra influenced and helped train numerous future teachers, served on many committees and chaired charities. A passionate advocate of early childhood literacy, she designed a program for early education for the College of the Menominee Nation in Keshena, Wisconsin.



*Sandra Stokes.*

— Evelyn Moore

# Congratulations 2012 Scholarship Winners!

*See article on page 16 for more  
about these AEMSF recipients.*

