

# 99 News



*The Official Magazine of the International Organization of Women Pilots*

January/February 2017





99 News

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**The 99 News**

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## On The Cover

Saki Chen, New Jersey Chapter member, fulfilled her dream when she became the first Chinese woman to launch a flight to circumnavigate the globe in a single-engine piston airplane.

Despite facing some time-consuming challenges, Saki and her team completed the 58-day journey that started and ended in Cleveland Ohio. The trip covered 21,119 nm.

On September 2, 2016, Saki's Bonanza was the first single-engine piston airplane, piloted by a woman, to land in China for the purpose of circumnavigation.

Saki's next goal is to promote general aviation in China.

# PERPETUAL CALENDAR

## 2017

### MARCH

23-25 **International Board of Directors Spring Meeting**, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

31- **New England Section Spring Meeting**, Red Jacket Mountain View Resort, North Conway, New Hampshire, hosted by the Katahdin Wings Chapter. Contact Glenna Blackwell, [blackwells@verizon.net](mailto:blackwells@verizon.net) or 413-329-8527 for more information.

### APRIL

1 **Due date for submissions to 99 News** for the May/June issue.

4-9 **Sun 'n Fun Air Show**, Lakeland, Florida. 99s Building open to all members. Luncheon to honor WWII WASP and Tuskegee Airmen, Thursday, April 6, 11 a.m. at the Buehler Hanger. Tickets \$20. To purchase, contact Barbara Yeninas, 813- 654-3780 or [jjybmy@verizon.net](mailto:jjybmy@verizon.net). No tickets sold at door.

21-23 **North Central Spring Section Meeting**, Indianapolis, Indiana.

28-30 **Southeast Section Spring Meeting**, Miccosukee Resort, Miami, Florida.

27-30 **Southwest Section Spring Meeting**, Oakland County Airport Hilton, hosted by the Bay Cities Chapter. Wendy O'Malley, [wendydomalley@yahoo.com](mailto:wendydomalley@yahoo.com) or visit [ninety-nines.net/sws99sBC/index.asp](http://ninety-nines.net/sws99sBC/index.asp).

### MAY

6 **South Central Section Spring Meeting**, San Antonio, Texas, hosted by the South Central Section Board and the 2017 Conference Committee.

### JUNE

1 **Due date for submissions to 99 News** for the July/August issue.

16-17 **International Forest of Friendship**, Atchison, Kansas. This year's theme, "Flying, Forest and Future." Visit [IFO.org](http://IFO.org).

20-23 **2017 Air Race Classic**, starting at Frederick Municipal Airport (KFDK), home of AOPA in Frederick, Maryland, and terminating at Santa Fe Municipal Airport (KSAF), New Mexico. Visit [airraceclassic.org/race-information](http://airraceclassic.org/race-information).

### JULY

11-16 **Ninety-Nines 2017 International Conference and Business Meeting**, San Antonio, Texas. Visit [travelplannerstexas.com/99s2017](http://travelplannerstexas.com/99s2017).

24-30 **EAA AirVenture Air Show**, Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Visit [eaa.org/en/airventure](http://eaa.org/en/airventure).

### AUGUST

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

## Correction

Due to a graphics glitch in the November/December issue, the following paragraphs were missing from the Louise Thaden story, pages 16-17:

"The race turned ugly at the sleepy little town of Phoenix when Marvel Crosson failed to arrive. She had last been seen coming up on the wild Gila mountain country. Beautiful Alaskan Marvel had not been feeling well during the race. When her airplane was found, it appeared that Marvel had unfastened her seatbelt to rise up and vomit over the side, and with the center of gravity changed, the airplane plunged to the earth.

The women got together discussing whether to abandon the race, but then, knowing Marvel so well, decided that her wish would be for them to carry on, which they did.

Louise Thaden arrived first at Cleveland and won the first Women's Air Derby, with Herb awaiting her arrival. The racers had fought the heat, weather and challenging airplanes, arriving in Cleveland a cohesive unit.

They gathered under the grandstand, eager to form some sort of club where they could support each other finding jobs in aviation. They put out a letter to all women pilots in the United States, proposing a group of licensed women pilots. When the response deadline had passed, there were 99 charter members, and The Ninety-Nines was born November 2, 1929.

Louise Thaden became the Secretary and managed the group the first two years. What about a name? All sorts of cutesy names were suggested, and it was decided to use the number of charter members. By all rights, Louise Thaden could have been named The 99s first President. However, believing Amelia Earhart's fame would benefit The 99s, she deferred to Amelia."



The Official Magazine of The International Organization of Women Pilots

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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: 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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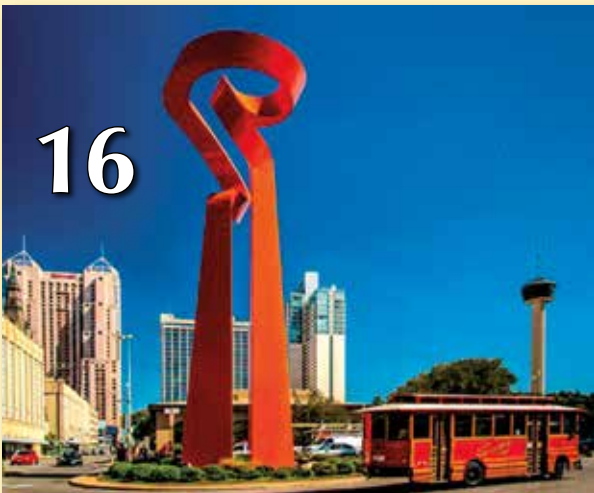
6

Celebrating Saki Chen's around the world flight are, from left, 99s Amanda Lincoln, Nancy Walters, Evonne Xu, and Saki Chen.



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*Dr. Petra Illeg discusses aviation fatigue.*



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*The city of San Antonio, Texas, will welcome members during the 99s International Conference July 11-16 2017.*

*Photo Bob Howen.*

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# President's Page

BY JAN MCKENZIE, International President

**WOW!** Do you know about all of the fantastic and interesting initiatives that are in the works for you? Grab a cup of coffee and let me tell you about a few.

- Electronic Voting. As you know, our membership passed the Bylaw to enable our organization to utilize electronic voting at the International, Section and Chapter level. *Kathy Fox* and team *Dorothy Norkus* and *Ramona Banks* investigated many vendor options. After analysis, they proposed one vendor that the International Board approved. Kathy is negotiating a contract that will be presented to our General Council and the Board. Stay tuned, we will have a vendor shortly.

- Did you know that Charter Member Faye Gillis Wells' son has requested The 99s join him in a more hands-on management of the International Forest of Friendship (a memorial to the men and women involved in aviation and space exploration in Atchison, Kansas ([ifof.org](http://ifof.org)))? We thank *Ellen Herr* for taking this on and look forward to more involvement with the Forest.

- Many Chapters and Members have

been asking for an updated brochure to help recruitment efforts. *Pat McCollum*, 99s marketing professional, is working on designing a new 99s brochure and recruiting poster. Big thanks to *Terry Carbonell* and *Marjy Leggett* for the first draft makeover.

- Need a speaker for an upcoming event? Check out the recently updated Speakers Bureau on our website at [ninety-nines.org/speakers-list.htm](http://ninety-nines.org/speakers-list.htm). Thanks to *Leslie Prellwitz* for the update.

- Have you been receiving the new *Straight & Level*? We combined the Dispatch and *On The Centerline* to provide one communication each month with the latest membership activities.

- Have you wanted to become a Life Member but felt you could not afford the lump sum payment? Good news – your International Board approved a Standing Rule change to allow monthly credit card payments over a three- or five-year period. Now we need our membership to ratify the Standing Rule at our Annual Business Meeting in San Antonio.



## Choose to fly your dreams...

- Congratulations to our new Chapter, Sarasota Ladybugs, Southeast Section! Welcome to the *only* International Women Pilots organization!

- Are you exhausted yet from all of our new exciting initiatives? Hang on, there is a major marketing proposal being reviewed by the International Board. International Director *Terry Carbonell* and team *Susan Larson*, *Joy Parker-Blackwood* and *Juliet Lindrooth* have worked with multiple marketing and media vendors. With the primary focus on recruitment and retention of members, the marketing proposal represents a comprehensive approach to marketing and re-branding The Ninety-Nines through traditional print media, digital media, and social media and by utilizing our International Conference as our major tool for recruitment of new members and energizing current members.

- In addition, *Susan Liebeler* is investigating a new e-forum host that will be free versus the current vendor who charges us monthly.

- And there are many more....

We, The 99s, have so many exciting changes coming our way! Keep watching for these changes and improvements in the monthly *Straight & Level* and the *99 News*.

Remember... *Choose to Soar! Choose to fly your Dreams!*



*Jan McKenzie presents the new Sarasota Ladybugs Chapter charter to Myra Bugbee, Southeast Section Governor.*



# Saki Chen

## The Dream Trip of a Lifetime

BY JANICE PELLETTI, Southeast Section

**S**aki Chen, New Jersey Chapter member, captured her life-long dream when she became the first Chinese woman to launch a flight to circumnavigate the globe in a single-engine piston airplane. “I cannot hold back my ecstasy,” she exclaimed. “I fulfilled my longest dream of flying into China airspace as pilot in command of a small piston engine airplane.”

Saki’s journey began in 2012 when she came to New York City for her second law degree. “I realized the USA is the best place to learn to fly. The cost of flight training is three times as much in China. Not to mention the nuances of the approval and permit procedures required for every single take-off and landing,” she explains.

With the help of a 99s scholarship and

support from fellow New Jersey Chapter members, she earned her private pilot certificate in 2013. As a busy practicing attorney, Saki had to squeeze what little spare time she had into working on the dream. In addition to instrument training, she made trips to Alaska, the Grand Canyon, Iceland, Kenya, Canada and the Bahamas to work on her international flight skills.

Saki approached over 20 flight schools with her request to rent an airplane. All were denied. Finally, with the help of 99 student pilot Amanda Lincoln, she connected with Larry Rohl and his son Richard, who run a flight school and charter company in Cleveland, Ohio. Touched by Saki’s passion, they agreed to lease their A36 Bonanza to her. Larry, a CFI, Richard,

with maintenance expertise, and Amanda, also a 99, all agreed to accompany Saki and help share in the expenses.

Obtaining an aircraft was only one of many logistical nightmares she had to overcome in search of her dream. “As a Chinese citizen, I needed to get visas in advance for almost all the countries where we needed to land. I started work on this almost a year in advance. To complicate things, some countries, like India, Russia and Japan, only allow application within three months of entry and require a precise time window,” said Saki.

“Only very rare airports in the mid-east and Asia can supply 100LL fuel. It took me more than a year to flight plan the right airports within range of the aircraft. In most



Asian countries we pumped fuel from a barrel by hand into the plane. Because the fuel is so rare, it's three to eight times more expensive than in the U.S."

Gender discrimination in some countries alerted them to the fact that trying to land in some of these countries could raise serious issues. For example, in Saudi, unmarried females are not allowed to travel with male adults who are not their family or husbands.

Another huge planning issue was the restriction to overflight and landings in China, Russia and Vietnam. "We got a permit to enter and land in Russia from their CAA. However, the airport decided to require us to carry in our own 100LL." This was an impossible weight and balance problem, and they had to abort landing in Russian airspace.

All her efforts in dealing with restrictions were rewarded with a landing in China. This was the most difficult and expensive stop. The airspace is strictly

controlled by the military and is not open to general aviation. Piloting a U.S. registered aircraft for general aviation purposes is even more difficult.

On September 2, 2016, Saki's Bonanza became the very first single-engine piston airplane, and one piloted by a woman, to land in China for the purpose of circumnavigation.

"I worked for months getting the Chinese permit. There are no regulations or rules to follow because general aviation activities in China are so rare. U.S. registered aircraft are not allowed to land at Chinese airports unless they are a designated international airport. I also had to arrange for 100LL, as Jet-A is usually the only fuel at these airports."

"On the day I entered China airspace, all the effort was paid back. It was my first time to speak with air traffic control in Chinese, and as pilot in command."

"Our entire trip was highlighted by the fact that due to our tight budget, we asked

for help with lodging around the world. We were lucky enough to receive lots of warm hospitality from family and friends in different countries."

Saki's trip lasted 58 days, starting and ending in Cleveland, Ohio. Her route included overflights and landings in Canada, Greenland, Iceland, UK, France, Spain, Monaco, Italy, Greece, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, UAE, Oman, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Thailand, Myanmar, Vietnam, China, Japan and back to the U.S. through Anchorage.

It covered 21,119 nm. They arrived back at Cuyahoga County Airport in Cleveland on September 27, 2016.

"My next goal is to promote general aviation culture in China and encourage more females to look into and study flying. I have been contacted by some news organizations in China asking me to write a book about my journey. It would include my flight training in the USA and, of course, the support I got from The 99s."



*From left, Amanda Lincoln, Laurence Rohl, Saki Chen, and Richard Rohl.*

# 99s Elections 2017

BY SUSAN LARSON  
Nominating Committee Chairman

*This year there are two positions open for Director on the International Board of Directors and two positions each on our Museums. In addition to the printed photos and position statements in this issue of 99 News, you can view their resumes and Intent to Seek Election forms in the members area of our website, [ninety-nines.org](http://ninety-nines.org). The election will take place in San Antonio, Texas, at the 2017 Annual Conference in July. The Nominating Committee encourages you to become familiar with these qualified candidates, work with your Chapter delegate(s) to the Conference to identify your preferences and thank the candidates for their willingness to serve.*

## International Board of Directors — Vote for Two



**CATHY WAPPLER  
PRUDHOMME**  
Houston Chapter

**A**lthough it has been more than 30 years since I joined The Ninety-Nines, I still recall how awed I was when I first met the women in the Houston Chapter. Many years later, and now having met members all over the world, I am still awed by The Ninety-Nines. It is an honor to invest time and energy in the organization that has given so much to me.

Despite the many changes we have encountered since our organization was founded, I know we will continue to flourish as long as we embrace the future while honoring the past; seek ways to improve services and support for our members; and remain connected through multiple means of communication.

I have served as Chapter and Section officer and on many committees, completing my term as South Central Section Governor in May 2014. I am especially excited about my current South Central Section project, serving as the Co-Chairman for the 2017 International Conference to be held in San Antonio.

Serving as Director on the International Board these past two years has been both an honor and a source of gratitude for the opportunity to give back to The Ninety-Nines. I hope to build upon that experience by serving another term as your International Director. I look forward to the continued opportunity to serve and support The Ninety-Nines at the Chapter, Section, and International levels.



**LESLIE  
PRELLWITZ**  
Chicago Area  
Chapter

**S**ince becoming an International Director in 2015, my understanding of The Ninety-Nines has taken on a myriad of new dimensions. Not only have I learned more about the organization, the experience has also deepened my appreciation for those who served before me and the challenges we face moving forward. The experience came at a time when my professional career was undergoing a significant change, and the continuity, support and projects were all welcome activities.

So far, I've been able to utilize my skills to benefit the organization in a number of capacities, the more visible of which include successfully managing the completion of the server upgrade project at Headquarters (computers and project management), working to update the Speakers Bureau portion of the website (communications and marketing/promotion), and most recently, beginning to serve on the Finance Committee (financial and analytical skills).

But the first term is only the start; there's more to be done, on these fronts and more. I ask for your vote to help me finish what I've started with my current responsibilities, and to find opportunities to give as much of my remaining business skillset in strategic planning, analytics, team building, and training/education as our organization takes on new challenges.



## International Board of Directors — continued



**PAT OHLSSON**

**Long Island  
Chapter**

Patricia Ohlsson, Realtor, Spruce Creek Fly-In Realty, Pilot Certificate since 1976, holds a Commercial Certificate (SEL, SES, MEL Glider, CFI, Ground Instructor, Tail Wheel Endorsement). Pat earned her Multi-Engine rating by receiving the Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship in 1983.

Pat's pride and joy is her Grumman Tiger owned since 1979. She is an avid air racer, competed in the All Women's Air Race Classic, Spruce Creek 100, Garden State 300, Dulles 300, Empire State 300 and Nutmeg 300. Pat is an active pilot.

Pat's dedicated service to The Ninety-Nines, Annual International Convention as Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship Chairman, Forest of Friendship, Sergeant-At-Arms Committees, Teller and International Nominating Committees. Pat served as Chairman of the Long Island Chapter and Florida Spaceport Chapter, is an active member on all levels and maintains membership in the Long Island Chapter, New York-New Jersey Section.

Patricia Ohlsson owned two successful businesses, Busy Bee Airways, Inc., an aviation charter and sight-seeing company, and an apiary in excess of 100 honey beehives. Pat's relocation to Florida presented an opportunity as realtor to participate in the operation of Spruce Creek Fly-In Realty, Daytona Beach, a remarkably thriving aviation-oriented real estate corporation in a residential air park. Her career and love of aviation is the best of both worlds.

Patricia Ohlsson seeks your support and your vote. She will seize any opportunity to give back many benefits she received to The Ninety-Nines as a member of the Board of Directors.

## Endowment Fund Trustee — Vote for One



**KRISTINE K.  
(KRIS) IRVIN-  
HERRON**

**Arkansas  
Chapter**

I received my private pilot certificate in 1988 and joined The Ninety-Nines in 1989. I have been an active member of the Arkansas Chapter since that time, serving in various offices including Vice-Chairman, Chairman, Scholarship Chairman, and I have been Treasurer since 1996.

At the Section level, I served as Director, Treasurer, Vice-Governor and Governor. I have been the Section 501(c)(3) Advisor since 1996.

As Governor, I served on the International Finance Committee and as Chairman of the International Awards Committee. I served four years as International Treasurer and am currently serving as International Tax Committee Chair on the Investment Advisory Committee and the Finance Committee. I am currently serving as an Endowment Fund Trustee.

During two terms as International Treasurer and as a member of the Finance Committee for several additional years, I have had to advise the board on making difficult budget decisions and painful budget cuts, so I know just how critical the Endowment Fund is to the future of the Ninety-Nines.

As a licensed Certified Public Accountant for over 30 years, I have worked with a variety of clients including nonprofits and business enterprises. I feel my financial background is a valuable asset to the Endowment Fund. I know from experience that a nonprofit organization must have an adequate endowment fund to survive and thrive and cannot rely solely on dues.

I look forward to continuing to help the Endowment Fund grow and to ensure the future financial health of this incredible organization.

## Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum Trustee — Vote for Two



**CHERYL  
THOMPSON**

**Northeast Kansas  
Chapter**

As a current member of the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum Board of Trustees, it would be an honor and a privilege to serve an additional term. During my term, I served in the capacity of recording secretary as well as writing thank-you acknowledgments to the many generous donors.

I will continue to do my best to ensure our museum will attract visitors and provide education and interest to all who enter! My private pilot certificate is current, I am a second term board member of our mayor-appointed Airport Advisory Board and co-chairman of our Northeast Kansas 99s Chapter. I am married, we have two grown sons and am employed, part-time, as a registered nurse.



**DEBORAH  
YARBROUGH**

**Memphis Chapter**

The Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum preserves the history of not only Amelia, but women in aviation in general. I am interested in assisting in the continued work and plans to expand and preserve this historical home.

There is a great need in this country to ensure that our descendants are educated about those who led the way in aviation. Maintaining this home with its many exhibits plays a role in accomplishing this mission. I have visited the home twice, and find it to be very informative and was impressed by the exhibits.

I am excited to hear that the gift shop is being improved, which could help financially in the preservation of the facilities. It is important to find ways to promote the museum not only as a historical attraction, but to obtain contributions and donations.

I would be honored to have the opportunity to assist in the preservation of this museum.

## Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship Fund Trustee — Vote for One



**DOROTHY  
NORKUS**

**San Diego Chapter**

The AEMSFS is the crown jewel of our organization. It makes dreams come true. As a past AEMSFS Type Rating winner, the scholarship fund is a benefit of membership I value very much. I would like to give back as an AEMSFS Trustee.

During my flight training, I applied to many flight scholarships to help fund my certificate and ratings. I kept a list of flight scholarships available to reapply each year. My list expanded, became a hobby, and turned into a database of Chapter and other association noncollegiate flight scholarships. Having won an award to fund my multi-engine rating, I can personally appreciate how important one can be in helping you achieve your next aviation goal. I am passionate about helping others to fly, so I published my database on the web to help others find money to do so.

Being a Ninety-Nine has helped me in my career, widened my professional network and made me many friends for life. I am deeply committed to the organization and have been a member for 24 years. During that time, I've held various Chapter officer positions including Scholarship Chairman for the San Diego Chapter scholarship program. My duties included application revision, award promotion, candidate review and judge selection. Over the past year, I have been an AEMSFS Trustee, having been appointed to a vacancy.

I would be honored with your vote to continue my service to The Ninety-Nines as a Trustee.

## 99s Museum Of Women Pilots Trustee — Vote for Two



**PAT CHAN**  
Bay Cities  
Chapter

**M**y membership with The 99s began in 1984. In time, I became Vice Chairman and Chapter Chairman. This year, 2016, I was elected to be Chairman of the Southwest Section Nominating Committee.

The 99s Resource Center held the 1988 Oral History Seminar in Oklahoma City. Those of us who attended were inspired by the ability to capture moments of history as related by other 99s members.

Over the years, I have been an Oral Historian for the Southwest Section of The 99s and The Ninety-Nines, Inc. Little did I know that I would continue to record oral histories to this day.

Recently I have been looking at past issues of *99 News*. Many are archived at the 99s Museum of Women Pilots. On the cover of the August 1988 issue is a group photo of us, with Cosmonaut Yuri Malyshev, at the Soviet Space Center. Memories of that day and others came alive.

We 99s volunteered, worked, laughed and cried together. Although some may have trod solitary paths, we are all connected by our aviation experiences.

Our museums, from the 99s Resource Center to the 99s Museum of Women Pilots, have striven to preserve and share the depth and breadth of The Ninety-Nines, Inc. They hold not just my history or your history, but our history.

If elected to be a Trustee of the 99s Museum of Women Pilots, I will do what I can to uphold the goals of the museum.



**JEANNIE  
WHEATLEY**  
Tulsa Chapter

**T**he history of women pilots has always fascinated me. Their drive, determination and stories were a big impact on me seeking to obtain my own wings. Their lives deserve to be remembered and preserved as much as possible. I believe the 99s Museum of Women Pilots has the resources, abilities and responsibility to make this happen for future generations.

I've been involved with museum work for many years. In the past five years, I've worked with Har-Ber Village Museum – a museum of over 100 buildings and displays – in researching, dating, categorizing and displaying numerous items. I designed, financed and maintained a store within the museum which aided in additional funding. My involvement with Har-Ber Village led me to research the museum's display of Irma "Babe" Story. This research led me to the Museum of Women Pilots.

Over the past year, I've worked at the Museum of Women Pilots assisting the current Trustees and Director with the Museum's store inventory and labeling the current displays. I believe the resources, archives and displays within the museum are a wealth of information for researchers and anyone with an interest in the women of aviation.

I would love the opportunity to serve as a Trustee to assist in the archiving of the resources and to work with the museum store with a goal to increase sales.





BY DR. PETRA ILLIG  
Alaska Chapter

# Fit To Fly

## Fatigue in Aviation

**Fatigue** is a killer in all forms of transportation and many fatal accidents have been attributed to inadequate sleep. Inadequate sleep comes from two sources: circadian rhythm disruption and insufficient amount of sleep. New brain research makes it clear that both aspects are important, and scientists are learning fascinating stuff about why we need sleep. Recent studies show that the brain washes itself with cerebrospinal fluid during deep sleep, as if to remove built up toxins that accumulated throughout the day.

Circadian rhythm is set in our brains by the pineal (master) gland which regulates the hormones that drive our sleep/wake cycles. This has been burned into our DNA: when the sun rises, it's time to get up and when the sun sets – well, except for the last couple hundred years when we've been messing with the system by turning on electric lights deep into the night.

If we speed up or slow down the day by crossing multiple time zones, the brain gets out of synch with the physical aspects of the day. Most of us have experienced falling asleep in the afternoon or becoming wide awake in the middle of the night after crossing several time zones. It takes us about one day to adjust for every two time zones crossed, making it difficult for long-haul pilots to time sleep during their scheduled rest time. Short-acting sleep aids may come in handy here, but pilots must understand which ones may be used as they all have different “no fly” times, ranging from 6 to 48 hours. For the most recent list, visit [faa.gov/about/office\\_org/headquarters\\_offices/avs/offices/aam/ame/guide/pharm/sleepaids/](http://faa.gov/about/office_org/headquarters_offices/avs/offices/aam/ame/guide/pharm/sleepaids/).

Independent from circadian rhythm, adult humans need about 8 hours of sleep every 24 hours. Recent studies showed that after 17 - 19 hours without sleep, performance was similar to someone with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) level of 0.05 percent. After longer periods without sleep, performance reached levels equivalent to a BAC of 0.1 percent, well over the DUI limit in most states. Although not a complete solution, short naps – no longer than 20 minutes – can help break the drowsiness barrier and temporarily reduce the sleep deficit. That, and a caffeinated beverage, can get you a bit farther down the road, but that's not a substitute for normal restorative sleep.

While we all know that most problems with fatigue in aviation come from crazy flight schedules and crossing multiple time zones, there are certain medical conditions that interfere with

healthful sleep. The most common one is obstructive sleep apnea (OSA), which occurs when the muscles in the back of the throat relax and block off the upper airway causing heavy snoring or gasping for breath. This results in intermittent, sometimes very serious, hypoxic events throughout the night, which is harmful to our bodies. People with untreated OSA often have hypertension (high blood pressure) and a higher risk of heart attack, heart irregularities, and stroke.

Some people naturally have OSA due to the inherent structure of their upper airway, but most obese people develop it because of the added crowding of the airway from fat deposits in the throat and neck. Nearly everyone with a Body Mass Index of 40 or a large neck circumference (17 inches in men, 16 inches in women) suffer from OSA. The risk can be estimated by a simple questionnaire:

- **do you snore loudly**
- **has someone seen you stop breathing during sleep**
- **do you wake up with a headache**
- **do you have “unexplained” daytime drowsiness**

Since yes answers indicate risk, then a full evaluation at a sleep clinic may need to be performed. The patient is studied overnight to get a baseline of severity, but treatment options are also assessed.

While some might benefit from surgery to remove large tonsils, others might benefit from a simple dental appliance that prevents the jaw from falling backwards. However, most people with serious OSA should be treated with a special face mask that keeps the airway open by providing continuous positive air pressure (CPAP). These devices contain a computer that determines how many hours a night and how often the device is used, thereby determining its effectiveness.

The NTSB has attributed at least one aviation mishap to OSA, so the FAA is requiring AMEs to screen for the risk of OSA during the flight physical. If the AME suspects the pilot has a risk of OSA but is otherwise qualified, she still receives a medical certificate, but then FAA gives her 90 days to see her own doctor about it. If a pilot is diagnosed with OSA and treatment is recommended, then she is obligated to provide documentation of and compliance with treatment, and she will be monitored under Special Issuance Authorization. For more details, please see [faa.gov/news/fact\\_sheets/news\\_story.cfm?newsId=18156](http://faa.gov/news/fact_sheets/news_story.cfm?newsId=18156).

The best advice I can give to a pilot who thinks she may have OSA is to see her doctor, because OSA treatment can be lifesaving. However, consideration should also be given to weight loss, as that might cure the problem in the first place.

It is also important to manage one's own personal stressors, develop healthy eating and exercise habits, avoid late night alcohol and develop countermeasures to fatigue.

Obviously, commercial pilots have little control over their flight schedules, but you can decline a flight if you are too tired. Don't let airline culture, peer or passenger expectations, and “the bottom line” talk you into being unsafe. However, if there is an underlying medical issue such as OSA, you can manage this with the help of your doctor and your AME so you can remain healthy and fly safely.

# International Forest of Friendship 2017 Salutes Flying, Forest and the Future

BY LINTON WELLS II, Co-Chairman International Forest of Friendship

**S**ave the Date! The International Forest of Friendship (IFOF) will hold its 41st anniversary induction ceremonies on June 16-17. The 2017 theme will be "Flying, Forests and the Future," emphasizing achievements by younger people.

The deadline to receive nominations is April 15, 2017. In addition to this year's focus on youth, all nominations will be welcome who have contributed, or are contributing, to all facets of aviation and aerospace, as they are every year.

Besides looking for honorees for June, the Forest leadership welcomes learning about achievements of young people to highlight in the upcoming editions of the IFOF newsletter. Anyone having suggestions about youth activities or achievements to include, please contact Lin Wells, [linwells@gmail.com](mailto:linwells@gmail.com).

Ellen Herr, Paradise Coast Chapter member, will be joining the Forest Committee as Vice Chairman. This is part of an effort to link the Forest more closely to its 99s roots and develop closer relationships with The 99s going forward. The Forest is working to improve its social media outreach and hopes to engage more with individual 99s Chapters using Facebook. The Forest would welcome your thoughts. Please send them to Ellen at [elherr88@gmail.com](mailto:elherr88@gmail.com).

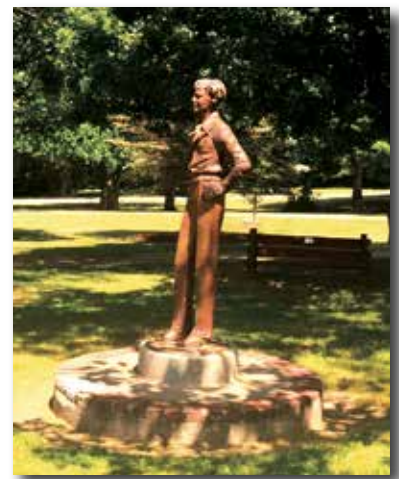
Even as the Forest prepares for 2017, they will be working to strengthen the ties forged in 2016 with international partners and

the Cosmosphere in Hutchinson, Kansas. They hope to build on recent themes to keep developing partnerships between the Forest and many other organizations. In addition to activities around Atchison, this could include ties with agriculture-based businesses, as well as other aviation and aerospace organizations in Kansas. Ideas welcome!

Located near Atchison, Kansas, the Forest of Friendship honors those contributing to the aviation and aerospace community by inducting new members each summer. Charter 99s member Faye Gillis Wells and Joe Carrigan co-founded the Forest in 1976. Trees from all 50 states and 35 countries line the paths through the Forest where granite plaques list the names of over 1,400 individuals, including many 99s.

Markers also honor aviation notables such as Amelia Earhart, Eileen Collins, and Jeana Yeager.

Please see the Forest's website [ifof.org](http://ifof.org) for more information about honoring a special 99 with a nomination for induction into the International Forest of Friendship.



*A statue of Amelia keeps vigil at the The Forest.*

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# Deep In The Heart Of Texas



The Alamo  
Photo: Sean Pavone

## The 99s International Conference



NINETY-NINES INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
SAN ANTONIO 2017  
DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS

**San Antonio, Texas**  
**July 11-16, 2017**

BY CATHY PRUDHOMME AND RENI BAKER, Conference Co-Chairman

**A**s the song goes, “The stars at night are big and bright, deep in the heart of Texas ...” And *your* star will also be big and bright when you join The Ninety-Nines at the 2017 International Conference in San Antonio, Texas, July 11–16. The South Central Section invites all Ninety-Nines and their families to join us for learning, laughter, networking, and the unique opportunity to meet members from all over the world.

San Antonio, the second-most populous city in Texas, is an enormously popular tourist destination, appealing to visitors of all ages. Children and grandchildren are welcome to accompany you! Visits to San Antonio often begin with a stroll along the River Walk, or Paseo del Rio, which is the longest urban ecosystem in the nation.

With more than 15 miles of sidewalks and paths, the River Walk meanders by restaurants, shops, museums, and historic

districts. The Westin Riverwalk, our Conference hotel, is situated directly on the River Walk.

San Antonio’s historic sites give visitors a glimpse of early Spanish colonial life in the Southwest, especially the San Antonio Missions. The Missions, now designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, are a group of five mission complexes built in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century by the Spanish. The best known of the Missions, now known as the Alamo, is located within blocks of the Westin.

With numerous restaurants, shops, and museums in the heart of San Antonio, there are many reasons to never leave the city. However, for those who would like to explore the surrounding countryside, San Antonio serves as an excellent starting point for day trips, with easy access to quaint Texas hill country towns, the LBJ Ranch, wineries, caverns, and amusement parks.

The South Central Section has planned a Conference that will





 **The second largest city in Texas, San Antonio offers both new and historic sites to visit.** Photo Sean Pavone



 **Enjoy a scenic river taxi ride on River Walk, San Antonio's famous urban waterway.** Photo Bob Howen

be educational, motivational and a lot of fun! A few Conference highlights:

Optional tours are offered Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Sunday. Several are suitable for children.

Thursday night's Welcome Reception, "A Night in Old San Antonio," features heavy appetizers, entertainment, and casual attire – the perfect opportunity to wear a Mexican shirt or dress if you have one!

Early morning walks through the historic King William District are offered Wednesday and Thursday for early risers.

The Hospitality Suite sponsored by South Central Section Chapters provides a valuable opportunity for networking and hangar flying. Our own "El Mercado" provides a showcase of items for sale that are of interest to pilots.

Maximizing "L.I.F.T." – Leading Into the Future Together – is a high-energy, interactive session in which you pick the topics that are of most interest to you in supporting the success of your Chapter or Section.

Saturday Seminars – Don't miss the presentation from a NASA astronaut!

"Our Stars Shine Bright" – Saturday night banquet and celebration honors our stars, the winners of Amelia Earhart Scholarships and Ninety-Nines International Awards.

More detailed Conference information can be found on the Conference website, [travelplannertexas.com/99s2017](http://travelplannertexas.com/99s2017). Or, follow the link on The Ninety-Nines homepage. **Early registration deadline is March 31.**

#### Arrival Information

San Antonio International Airport (SAT) is served by 10 U.S. and international airlines and is conveniently located eight miles north of the downtown area. Ground transportation is available from approved ride-sharing services (Uber, Lyft, Get Me), Super Shuttle, and taxi.

For those of you flying your own aircraft, the recommended General Aviation airport is San Antonio Aviation at Stinson Airfield (SSF), located just six miles south of downtown. Stinson Field has a rich history, founded in 1915 by Marjorie, Katherine, and Eddie Stinson as the Stinson School of Flying. Today, Stinson Airfield is thriving as the reliever for San Antonio International. Transportation will be provided to the hotel from Stinson Field.

## CONFERENCE SEMINARS

**Friday, July 14, 2:00 – 3:30**

**Maximizing "L.I.F.T." – Leading Into the Future Together**

Members will have the opportunity to participate in conversations of most interest to them, with a focus on leadership, membership recruitment and retention, and best practices for Chapters and Sections. Each table conversation will be facilitated by a leader who will share her experience and knowledge, and solicit ideas from participants. This is a fast-paced, high-energy session!

**Saturday, July 15, 1:00**

**Living on the International Space Station**

We are honored to welcome a NASA astronaut who spent extended time on the International Space Station. You will not want to miss this presentation.

**2:00 – Go or No Go? Making Safe Decisions**

Denise Pride, M.D., practicing psychiatrist and pilot, will discuss the emotional and psychological factors that impact the ability of pilots to evaluate risk and make safe decisions to "go."

**3:00 – The WASP Experience**

Step back in history and enjoy an inspirational monologue delivered through the "voice" of WASP Sandy Thomson, presented by local actress Shari Small Ansley.

**4:00 – Flying with Kids**

Liz Poepellman, member of the Alabama Chapter and Chairman of the Mommy Pilots, and Emily Brandt, member of the Mommy Pilots and the Ambassador Chapter, will share parent and grandparent time-tested tips and advice to prepare you for your flight with any age child, newborn to teen, including the information you need to keep you and your crew safe and calm should an emergency or abnormality occur.



# Optional Tours

- *Note: Activity level definitions are listed at the end of the tour section.*

## FULL DAY TOUR OF FREDERICKSBURG, WINERY AND LBJ RANCH

Tuesday, July 11 and Sunday, July 16

8:30 a.m. -5:30 p.m. \$120, Activity Level Moderate

**Fredericksburg** — During a bus ride of approximately 75 minutes, our professional guide will indicate points of interest along the way and give everyone information about the fascinating history of this beautiful hill country. We arrive in Fredericksburg, Texas, a town settled by German immigrants in the early 1800s rich with heritage. There are numerous historical buildings, restaurants and museums along the main streets. The many shops located along Main Street are in a four-block area and a delightful place to find unusual items from the Hill Country and Texas. The Nimitz Museum, full of WWII history, is part of this unique town. Guests will have the opportunity to explore and shop, as well as enjoy lunch on their own at any one of the dozen restaurants and delis which line the charming streets.

**Texas Wine Country** — The pioneers of the Texas wine industry were, for the most part, older, well-educated individuals retiring from other occupations. Having built sizable nest eggs over



the years, they financed their wineries in response to a lifelong love of wine and the opportunity for entrepreneurship. Recently, though, there's been an influx of the younger set establishing wineries strictly from an intense

love of the craft, its history and its product. The winery we will visit is one of these pioneers. We will stop at Torre di Pietra, which opened three years ago and already offers world class wines, along with beautiful views of the Texas Hill Country from their herb garden, vineyards, and secluded patios. Guests will enjoy the friendly tasting staff, as well as the option to browse unique gifts in a Tuscan-styled, romantic setting. Traditional wine-making methods produce varietals, including Sangiovese, Malbec, Petit Syrah, and other popular blends.

**LBJ Ranch** — We will take a tour through the homestead of President Lyndon B. Johnson and his wife Lady Bird. President Johnson had a deep attachment for place and heritage. The LBJ Ranch was where he was born, lived, died, and was buried. After the President's death in 1973, Mrs. Johnson continued to live at the ranch part-time until her death in 2007. Visitors can now tour the ranch at their own pace in their private vehicle and stop at sites along the way, including the President's birthplace, Johnson family cemetery, and the Johnson's ranch house, known as the Texas White House.

Tour Includes: Transportation, Certified Professional Tour

Guide, refreshments on the bus, admission fees, taxes, gratuities, and service charges. Minimum 50 persons.

## EARLY RISER WALK THROUGH THE KING WILLIAM DISTRICT

Wednesday, July 12 and Thursday, July 13

7 - 9:30 a.m. \$5, Activity Level: Moderate

King William is the first designated historic district in Texas. The neighborhood traces its beginnings to the 1860s when several prominent families, many of them German, began building their homes near the San Antonio River and downtown. By the end of the 1920s, migration to new suburbs and a flood made the neighborhood a less than desirable place to live. However, thanks in large part to organizations like the San Antonio Conservation Society, King William Association, the City's Office of Historic Preservation and concerned citizens, the King William National Historic District has become a beautiful place to live and visit. Take a stroll through its historic streets and enjoy an optional breakfast at the historic Guenther House on your own, then enjoy a shady walk back to the hotel along the Riverwalk. Approximate distance each way is a little over a mile.



Tour Includes: A guide will lead the way.

## HALF DAY TOUR OF THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SAN ANTONIO MISSIONS

Wednesday, July 12 and Friday, July 14

8:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. \$65, Activity Level Moderate

One of the country's few National Parks within an urban setting, the San Antonio Missions tell the story of the European expansion in the New World. The "Queen of the Missions," Mission San Jose, is our first stop. This site was established in 1720 and is the largest and best restored of San Antonio's five missions. We will tour the Indians' quarters that were located within the walls, as well as the Spanish soldiers' quarters. San Jose's church is one of the most beautiful in the country with its elaborate carvings on the chapel façade. As we venture to our next stop, we will view Espada Dam. It was built curving the wrong way and has withstood floods for more than 200 years.



Our second mission made its permanent home along the banks of the San Antonio River in 1731. Mission San Juan Capistrano established a trade network stretching east to Louisiana and south to Coahuila, Mexico.



Mission Espada, which was established in 1731 but was never completed, still stands as an outline of an intended church. Time stands still at Espada, which seems as remotely located today as the day it was built.

Next is the oldest unrestored mission church in Texas. Mission Concepcion was established in 1731, and the Twin Towers and beautiful cupola helped make it a construction project of 20-plus years.

Our last stop will be The Alamo, “The Shrine of Texas Liberty” and San Antonio’s first Mission. Today, it is one of the most photographed facades in the country and the most popular tourist attraction in the state. We will tour the chapel and walk the grounds as we learn about the Battle for Texas Independence. You will also have some time to wander through the wonderful gift shop.

Tour Includes: Transportation, Certified Professional Tour Guide, refreshments on the bus, admission fees, taxes, gratuities, and service charges. Minimum 50 persons.

### LEWIS AIR LEGENDS

Wednesday, July 12, Friday, July 14, and for Guests, Saturday, July 15

9-11 a.m. \$30, Activity Level: Easy



Lewis Air Legends is described as a “living, flying tribute to those who dreamed, built, supported, and flew our brilliant birds of war.” Housed in an immaculate hangar near San Antonio International Airport, this private collection includes beautifully restored

fighters, bombers, and trainers. Guides conduct tours only for small groups.

Tour Includes: Transportation, Tour Guide, refreshments on the bus, admission fees, taxes, gratuities, and service charges. Minimum/Maximum 20 persons per day.

### NATURAL BRIDGE CAVERNS AND BRACKEN BAT CAVE

Wednesday, July 12

3:30-9 p.m. \$175 per Adult, \$165 per Child, Activity Level: Active

For a high-energy activity, our bus will travel to Natural Bridge Caverns for a tour of these famous caves, recently voted to be one of the top 10 caves of the United States. Except for the lighting, walkways, and handrails, you will find the North Cave much the same as the discoverers did in 1960.

There is an incredible world of towering, majestic formations created at an average rate of only one cubic inch every one hundred years. As the constant dripping of water proves, they’re still alive and growing. Travel down the winding passages and be amazed by how the incredible and rare formations of the cavern reveal



themselves in room after dazzling room. Tour takes approximately 75 minutes.

Just a few miles from Natural Bridge Caverns is another amazing natural wonder, the Bracken Bat Flight. This is a very limited tour that offers the opportunity to witness the evening emergence of the world’s largest bat colony. Experience millions of free-tailed bats spiral out of Bracken Cave and take to the skies on their nightly hunt for insects, a truly awe-inspiring reminder of how amazing nature can be.

Everyone must wear shoes with good traction and able to climb a few steep hills in the caves.

Note: timing of the tour is based on time the bats take flight.

Tour Includes: Transportation, Certified Professional Tour Guide, refreshments on the bus, admission fees, taxes, gratuities, and service charges. Minimum 30 persons.

### AFTER-HOURS GUIDED WALKING TOUR OF THE ALAMO

Wednesday, July 12 and Friday, July 14

5:15-6:45 p.m., \$50, Activity Level: Easy

The Alamo is located just steps from the Westin Riverwalk. The Alamo will provide a private after-hours tour conducted by the curators and keepers of the Alamo. The story begins in the early 1700s when this was a mission set up by the Spanish. It was the first of the five missions in San Antonio. Santa Anna was not defeated at the Alamo but later at the Battle of San Jacinto, gaining Texas its independence from Mexico. The battle at the Alamo ended in the execution of the Texans by his Mexican forces.



Participants will then be escorted back across the plaza to the Riverwalk for dining and exploring on their own.

Tour Includes: Tour Guide, admission fees, taxes, gratuities, and service charges. Minimum 30 persons.

### HALF DAY SAN ANTONIO CULTURAL TOUR

Thursday, July 13

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., \$80, Activity Level Moderate

Our first stop is a magical space located at the source of the San Antonio River, the Japanese Tea Gardens. Newly renovated, the Japanese Tea Gardens is a public park with more than 90 years of rich history. Located near Brackenridge Park and the San Antonio Zoo, the Japanese Tea Gardens is quiet, shaded, and lush with exotic vegetation. It contains a large open-air pagoda, sprawling koi ponds, and a waterfall.

Then it is on to the Mexican Market known as El Mercado, where you will get as close to real Mexico as you can this side of the border. Don’t forget to visit the amazing bake shop that sits inside Mi Tierra. You will have some time to visit the shops that offer authentic Mexican arts and crafts shopping.





Then it's on to the King William Historic District, where prosperous German merchants who made their mark in San Antonio in the late 1800s built their grand homes. If time allows, we will take a short walk down the tree-lined streets of yesteryear and visit Steve's Homestead, which still contains some of the original pieces of the era and is home to the very first swimming pool in Texas. Guests will tour the Guenther House located on the grounds of the Pioneer Flour Mill and explore their delightful gift shop filled with surprises for guests who love to cook – or eat. Each guest will be given a sample pastry to enjoy.

Then it's a quick driving tour of downtown San Antonio, where you will drive by the Spanish Governor's Palace, a national historic landmark and considered the sole remaining example of an aristocratic early Spanish house in Texas. Next is the San Fernando Cathedral, the original church of the Canary Island settlers built in 1731 and one of the oldest churches in continuous use in the country.

Next is a drive by of the historic Menger Hotel known for its storied past and as a gathering spot for the city's ghosts. This is also the site where barbed wire was introduced into the Wild West, as well as where Teddy Roosevelt's recruitment of the Rough Riders took place.

Tour Includes: Transportation, Certified Professional Tour Guide, refreshments on the bus, admission fees, taxes, gratuities, and service charges. Minimum 40 persons.

## FULL DAY AT SCHLITTERBAHN WATERPARK IN NEW BRAUNFELS

Thursday, July 13, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

\$ TBA Adult, \$ TBA Child, Activity Level: Active

Cost of tickets and transportation will be determined at a later date when 2017 prices are announced.



Come explore over 70 acres of shared family fun, thrilling adventure, and relaxation. Schlitterbahn has been voted the World's Best Waterpark and is nestled along the beautiful banks of the Comal River in New Braunfels, Texas. It features world-famous

attractions, epic river adventures, kids' water playgrounds, and beautiful spots to relax and share a picnic.

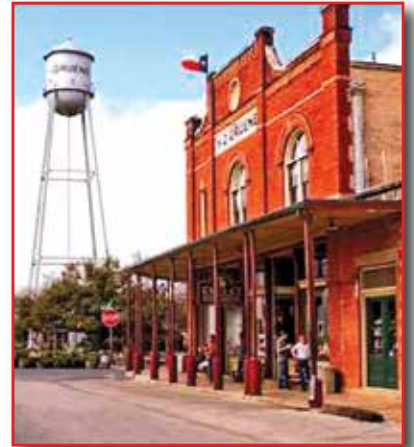
Tour Includes: Transportation, refreshments on the bus, tickets to park, taxes, gratuities, and service charges. Minimum 20 persons.

## HALF DAY SHOPPING AND EXPLORING GRUENE, TEXAS, INCLUDING LUNCH

Thursday, July 13

11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., \$100, Activity Level Easy

Located just a half hour from the Westin, guests are sure to enjoy the little hamlet of Gruene, which is pronounced "green." Once a significant cotton producing community, Gruene is now listed among the Historic Places in the National Register. Filled with antique shops, a wine tasting shop, and the world famous "Gruene Hall – Oldest Honky-Tonk in the State of Texas," and featured in the movie "Michael," where John Travolta did his memorable dance as an angel.



We will enjoy lunch at the Gruene River Grill, a beautiful property located behind the Gruene Mansion on the river. It is a charming building with a good bar area and live music and known for their excellent southern food and service.

Tour Includes: Transportation, Certified Professional Tour Guide, refreshments on the bus, lunch at the Gruene River Grill, taxes, gratuities, and service charges. Minimum 30 persons.

## ACTIVITY LEVELS

### Easy

- Leisurely walking pace with opportunities to rest at least every 15 minutes.
- Walking on mostly level ground, primarily paved.
- An occasional flight of stairs or incline.
- Occasional need to stand (such as in a line to gain entrance to an event).
- Getting on and off transportation as many times as necessary.

### Moderate

- Walking and hiking activities up to one hour that involve hills, steps or inclines of more than two flights of stairs at a time.
- Uneven ground with no paving and the possibility of small obstacles such as roots, water, ice, or rocks that would have to be traversed.

### Active

- Walking and hiking activities over one hour that involves steep inclines or climbing.
- Uneven ground with large obstacles in the path requiring agility to overcome.
- Non-walking activities in duration of three hours or more that requires balance, agility and active participation.

For your comfort, we recommend packing comfortable walking shoes so you can fully enjoy every aspect of the tours.



# 2017 Conference Hotel

## Westin Riverwalk – San Antonio, Texas

The Westin Riverwalk, located on the world-famous Riverwalk in San Antonio, is the perfect location to relax and recharge. Expect a warm welcome when you visit the best of San Antonio Riverwalk hotels.

Our San Antonio accommodations offer amenities such as the Westin Heavenly Bed and Heavenly Bath products that will leave you feeling refreshed and rejuvenated. Enjoy river or city views in one of the oversized guest rooms that are decorated in a style that is reminiscent of historic Texas. Rejuvenate your mind, body and soul at the Westin San Antonio Spa or discover the best things to do in San Antonio, all just steps from our centrally located hotel. Complimentary Internet in all guest rooms.

**Check-in: 3 p.m. Check-out: Noon**

### INFORMATION & RATES:

#### Traditional, Cityside Room - \$145

The residential Cityside Rooms are a warm and welcoming 420-square-feet with Spanish decor overlooking downtown San Antonio. Rooms feature Westin Heavenly Beds, a 42-inch LG high definition flat screen TV, elegant, over-sized marble bathrooms with luxurious bath amenities and are 100 percent smoke free. Rooms have either king bed or two double beds.

#### Deluxe, Riverside Room - \$165

Riverside Rooms are a warm residential spacious 420-square-feet with Spanish decor overlooking the San Antonio River. Rooms feature Westin Heavenly Beds, a 42-inch LG high definition flat screen TV, elegant over-sized marble bathrooms with luxurious bath amenities, and are 100 percent smoke free. Rooms have either king bed or two double beds.

Suites are available upon request and are priced at public rate.

The above rates are based on single or double occupancy and are subject to applicable state and local taxes, currently at 16.75%. Rates are effective for arrivals on Monday, July 10, 2017, to departure on Sunday, July 16, 2017. A charge of \$20 per person, per night, for the third and fourth adult in room, plus taxes and fees. Children under 18 years of age stay complimentary in

parents' room using existing bedding. Maximum of two adults/two children or four adults per room. An Early Departure Fee of one night's stay will apply if an attendee checks out prior to the confirmed checkout date.

A credit card is required to guarantee your reservation. The hotel will charge a two-night deposit, inclusive of room and taxes, to the credit card approximately 30 days prior to arrival. The balance due for room nights and taxes, as well as incidental expenses, will be charged to your account and is payable upon checkout.

Valet Parking is available for \$39 per day. There are numerous self-parking garages in downtown San Antonio for approximately \$20 per day.





## Registration / Reservation

### Ninety-Nines International Conference July 11-16, 2017 Westin Riverwalk, San Antonio



NINETY-NINES INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
SAN ANTONIO 2017  
DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Badge: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest 1 (optional)

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Badge: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest 2 (optional) – Child's Age, if applicable \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Badge: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest 3 (optional) – Child's Age, if applicable \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Badge: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Best Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternative Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

#### Please check all that apply:

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> First International Meeting | <input type="checkbox"/> Current Section Governor | <input type="checkbox"/> Trust Board                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student Pilot               | <input type="checkbox"/> Past Section Governor    | <input type="checkbox"/> 2017 AE Scholarship Winner   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter Chairman            | <input type="checkbox"/> International Board      | <input type="checkbox"/> Past AE Scholarship Winner   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Section Officer             | <input type="checkbox"/> Past Int'l President     | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member                  |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> International Committee  | <input type="checkbox"/> Member of Friends of The 99s |

## MEETING REGISTRATION

### 99s FULL REGISTRATION:

**Full Registration Includes:** Conference materials, access to Hospitality Suite and Fly Market, Thursday Welcome Fiesta, Friday First-Timers' Meet and Greet, Seminars, Saturday Breakfast, Awards Banquet, and option to purchase tours.

	<u>Deadline Date</u>	<u>Rate</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Registration	March 31, 2017	\$ 299.00 USD
<input type="checkbox"/> On-Time Registration	May 31, 2017	\$ 350.00 USD
<input type="checkbox"/> Late Registration	After May 31, 2017	\$ 375.00 USD

Awards Banquet Special Dietary Request: ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Gluten Free

### 99s ONE-DAY REGISTRATION:

**Friday One-Day Registration Includes:** Access to Hospitality Suite and Fly Market, Friday First-Timers' Meet and Greet, Option to Purchase Friday Tours and Activities.

**Saturday One-Day Registration Includes:** Access to Hospitality Suite and Fly Market, Seminars, Breakfast and Awards Banquet.

☐ Friday, July 14, 2017 \$ 100.00 USD

☐ Saturday, July 15, 2017 \$ 170.00 USD

Awards Banquet Special Dietary Request: ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Gluten Free



**GUEST (NON-99) REGISTRATION:** Guest Registration with a la carte options is required to purchase meals and optional activities. Full Registration includes same as 99s registration.

**# of Persons**

Guest Full Registration	\$ 299.00 USD	_____	
Guest Registration (w/a la carte options)	\$ 25.00 USD	_____	(Guest 12-under are complimentary)
Thursday, July 13 - Welcome Fiesta	\$ 75.00 USD	_____	(Guest 12-under are \$37.50)
Saturday, July 15 – Buffet Breakfast	\$ 40.00 USD	_____	(Guest 12-under are \$20.00)
Saturday, July 15 – Awards Banquet	\$ 100.00 USD	_____	(Guest 12-under are \$50.00)

Awards Banquet Special Dietary Request: ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Gluten Free

**HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS**

**WESTIN RIVERWALK DOWNTOWN**

Traditional, City View Room - \$145 per night, plus taxes & fees # of rooms requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Deluxe, Riverside Room - \$165 per night, plus taxes & fees # of rooms requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Check-in Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Check-out Date: \_\_\_\_\_ # in room: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

If sharing the room with another 99s member, please provide the name: \_\_\_\_\_

***HOTEL REQUIRES A CREDIT CARD FOR GUARANTEE. NO CHECK DEPOSITS ALLOWED. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> adult sharing in room are additional at \$20 per person, per room, per night. Children under 18 years of age are complimentary.***

**TRAVEL INFORMATION**

I would like to be contacted to make air travel arrangements: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Arrive in San Antonio on (date): \_\_\_\_\_ Return on (date): \_\_\_\_\_

***Arriving by***

Commercial Airline: \_\_\_\_\_ Flight #: \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Private Aircraft: \_\_\_\_\_ Airport: \_\_\_\_\_

Tail #: \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONFERENCE SHIRTS**

*The 2017 Conference Shirt is a white, short-sleeved collared polo shirt of "cool-tek" recycled polyester, designed to be cool for summer weather, with the Conference logo on the left front. Shirts are available in both Women's and Men's sizes. The Women's shirt is tapered; sizing up at least one size is recommended. The Men's shirt is a fuller cut. Cost is \$35. Shirts may be pre-ordered and picked up at the Conference.*

**Women's Polo - \$35.00 USD**

☐ Small ☐ Medium ☐ Large ☐ XLarge ☐ 2XLarge ☐ 3XLarge

**Men's Polo - \$35.00 USD**

☐ Small ☐ Medium ☐ Large ☐ XLarge ☐ 2XLarge ☐ 3XLarge

## OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

*Optional Activities are quoted in US Dollars and full prepayment is required at time of reservation.  
San Antonio is a popular vacation for families with children. Several optional activities are offered which will be especially appealing to parents with children. Babysitting may be available for a fee during some conference events; details to follow.*

<b>Full Day Tour of Fredericksburg, LBJ Ranch, and Winery (8:30am – 5:30pm)</b>	<b>\$ 120.00</b>
---	------------------

Tuesday, July 11, 2017    # of person/s    \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday, July 16, 2017    # of person/s    \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Early Riser Walk through King William District (7:00 am – 9:30am)</b>	<b>\$ 5.00</b>
--	----------------

Wednesday, July 12, 2017    # of person/s    \_\_\_\_\_

Thursday, July 13, 2017    # of person/s    \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Half Day Tour of the UNESCO World Heritage San Antonio Missions (8:30am – 12:30pm)</b>	<b>\$ 65.00</b>
---	-----------------

Wednesday, July 12, 2017    # of person/s    \_\_\_\_\_

Friday, July 14, 2017    # of person/s    \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Visit to Lewis Air Legends (9:00am – 11:00am)</b>	<b>\$ 30.00</b>
--	-----------------

Wednesday, July 12, 2017    # of person/s    \_\_\_\_\_

Friday, July 14, 2017    # of person/s    \_\_\_\_\_

(GUEST TOUR) Saturday, July 15, 2017    # of person/s    \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Natural Bridge Caverns and Bracken Bat Cave (3:30pm – 9:00pm)</b>	<b>\$ 175.00 adult / \$ 165.00 child</b>
--	--

Wednesday, July 12, 2017    # of adult/s    \_\_\_\_\_

# of child/ren    \_\_\_\_\_

<b>After-Hours Guided Walking Tour of the Alamo (5:15pm – 6:45pm)</b>	<b>\$ 50.00</b>
---	-----------------

Wednesday, July 12, 2017    # of person/s    \_\_\_\_\_

Friday, July 14, 2017    # of person/s    \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Half Day San Antonio Cultural Tour (8:30am – 12:30pm)</b>	<b>\$ 80.00</b>
--	-----------------

Thursday, July 13, 2017    # of person/s    \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Full Day at Schlitterbahn Waterpark in New Braunfels (9:00am – 5:00pm)</b>	<b>\$ TBA adult / \$ TBA child</b>
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Cost of tickets and transportation will be determined at a later date when 2017 prices are announced.

Thursday, July 13, 2017    # of adult/s    \_\_\_\_\_

# of child/ren    \_\_\_\_\_

Half Day Shopping and Exploring Gruene with Lunch (11:00am – 3:30pm)

\$ 100.00

Thursday, July 13, 2017 # of person/s \_\_\_\_\_

Governor's Reception (5:00pm-7:00pm)

\$ 40.00

*Open to present and past Presidents and Governors of The 99s*

Friday, July 14, 2017 # of person/s \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT**

Registration \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Conference Shirts \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Optional Activities \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Subtotal \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete the form and mail to:

Travel Planners, Inc.  
6111 Broadway, Suite 100  
San Antonio, Texas 78209

\_\_\_\_\_ Check enclosed payable to: Travel Planners, Inc. (Hotel Reservations REQUIRE a credit card)

Credit Card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ EXP: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**I have read and understand the cancellation policies as listed below:**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Cancellations and Refunds**

Written notification of cancellations must be received by June 1, 2017. Cancellations will not be accepted over the phone. Please send an e-mail to 99s@travelplannerstexas.com.

- A \$50 cancellation fee will be charged for registration cancellations prior to June 1, 2017; \$75 fee between June 1-15, 2017
- NO refunds will be honored for cancellation requests received after June 15, 2017
- A \$50 processing fee will be charged for hotel cancellations prior to June 1, 2017; on or after June 1, 2017, 2 night's room and tax will be charged for full cancellations
- The hotel will charge an Early Departure Fee of one night's stay if the attendee checks out prior to the confirmed check-out date
- A \$50 processing fee will be charged for tour cancellations prior to June 1, 2017; After June 1, 2017, no refunds
- Tours that do not meet the minimum requirements are subject to cancellation. All monies will be refunded in the event the tour is cancelled.



# Welcome New and Returning Ninety-Nines!

## Welcome Back Members

**Bowman**, Terry, Dallas  
**Claret**, Mary Ann, Sarasota Ladybugs  
**Erickson**, Alicia, North Central Section  
**Franklin**, Margie, West Virginia  
**Gilliam**, Frances, Las Vegas Valley  
**Hedlund**, Nancy, Aloha  
**Homuth**, Sharon, San Antonio  
**Kerwin**, Andrea, Chicago Area  
**Liddell**, Melody, Orange County  
**Pecotte**, Linda, El Paso  
**Rhudy**, Emily, San Antonio  
**Rusche**, Donna, Tennessee  
**Steele**, Carol, Florida Goldcoast

## Welcome New Members

**Amir**, Adva (F), Washington DC  
**Anderson**, Rachel, Lake Charles  
**Angle**, Jamie, Oklahoma  
**Austin**, Aura (F), Minnesota  
**Baker**, Julie (F), Greater Seattle  
**Barnett**, Baillie, Santa Barbara  
**Boettcher**, Diane (F), Placer Gold  
**Brandt**, Katherine (F), San Antonio  
**Buenaventura**, Julianne (F), Manitoba  
**Buntin**, Nobi (F), Aloha  
**Caballero**, Cabrianna, Florida Suncoast  
**Caron**, Katty, Sarasota Ladybugs  
**Carter**, Sasha, Greater Seattle  
**Cooper**, Melissa (F), Aloha  
**Dall**, Peggy, Shenandoah Valley  
**Danus**, Michele, Orange County  
**Davis**, Audree, Phoenix  
**Dirck**, Lacey (F), Long Beach  
**Doddridge**, Jean, Rio Grande Norte  
**Doering-Jones**, Jennifer, Western Washington  
**Dougherty**, Nancy, Tennessee  
**D'Souza**, Chryselle, First Canadian  
**Duca**, Elizabeth, San Antonio  
**Evernham**, Caroline, Kansas  
**Ferra**, Gabriella (F), Paradise Coast  
**Gammons**, Kelli, Idaho  
**Garcia**, Cassandra, Middle Tennessee  
**Geyer**, Suzanne (F), Sarasota Ladybugs  
**Gharbi**, Aicha, Arabian Section  
**Goebel**, Rebekah, Delaware  
**Goldmann**, Aviva, Coyote Country  
**Gray**, Linda (F), Colorado  
**Griffin**, Stephanie, Connecticut  
**Grissom**, Melisa (F), Tennessee



*Stephanie Griffin,  
Connecticut Chapter.*

**Hackler**, Tara, Central Oregon  
**Hanson-Knight**, Patricia, Reno High Sierra  
**Harlow**, Melissa (F), Montana  
**Helly**, K Diane, Southwest Section  
**Henigin**, Janeanne, Reno High Sierra  
**Hernandez-Caballero**, Ana (F), Florida Goldcoast  
**Herr**, Leslie (F), Eastern Pennsylvania  
**Hew**, Ya Yu, Wichita Falls  
**Hitchens**, Moira, Manitoba  
**Hixson**, Laurie (F), Rio Grande Norte  
**Holder**, Baylee (F), Houston  
**Holub**, Sandra, NOLA  
**Hughes**, Karen, Middle Tennessee  
**Inamasu**, Erlinda (F), Aloha  
**Johnston**, Cynthia, Military Internet  
**Keller**, Elizabeth, Tennessee  
**Kenyon**, Katia, Orange County  
**Khachikians**, Aravni, Ventura County  
**Klier**, Natalie, Santa Rosa  
**Langaker**, Julie (F), Montana  
**Lee-Barot**, Maeva, Montreal  
**Li**, Zheng (F), Maryland  
**Link**, Jane, Colorado  
**Luciano**, Judith (F), Carolinas  
**Lyons**, Caitlin, Bay Cities  
**Maheu**, Amanda, Long Beach  
**Maloney**, Elizabeth (F), Dallas  
**Mason**, Laura, Greater Seattle  
**Matthews**, Jordan (F), Phoenix  
**McInturff**, Darcy, Intermountain  
**Medsker**, Shena, Shreveport  
**Menear**, Sharon, Treasure Coast  
**Meza**, Elizabeth, Fort Worth

**Modi**, Yogini, Florida Goldcoast  
**Monroe**, Theresa, Colorado  
**Monttinen**, Taru, Finnish Section  
**Mooiman**, Brianne, Orange County  
**Moore**, Tami, Ambassador  
**Morgan**, Ashton (F), Houston  
**Nilsson**, Rhonda, Marin County  
**Noel**, Samantha (F), Wisconsin  
**Obert**, Megan (F), Alabama  
**Parchment**, Charity, All-Ohio  
**Peck**, Victoria (F), San Diego  
**Pensinger**, Susan, Tucson  
**Pesto Nee Boychuk**, Heather, Manitoba  
**Pye**, Jennifer, Fort Worth  
**Quinonez**, Tatiana, Brazil Section  
**Raap**, Kennedy (F), Minnesota  
**Raber**, Lucinda (F), Sarasota Ladybugs  
**Rafael**, Crislana (F), British Columbia Coast  
**Rhodes-Benson**, Carola, Colorado  
**Ross**, Stella (F), Connecticut  
**Rouillard**, Jenna (F), Katahdin Wings  
**Schumer**, Janice, All-Ohio  
**Shi**, Lina, China Section  
**Sieberts**, Sally, Sedona Red Rockettes  
**Singbeil**, Lisa, Canadian Rockies  
**Smith**, Jody, Florida Goldcoast  
**Smith**, Shannon (F), New Jersey  
**Smith**, Stacia (F), Indiana Dunes  
**Toth**, Louise, Western New York  
**Tracy**, Julie (F), San Diego  
**Travis-King**, Deborah, Dallas  
**Valasquez**, Veronica (F), San Antonio  
**Warren**, Lesley (F), Georgia  
**Wheless**, Mayon, Chicago Area  
**Williams**, Gabriella (F), Florida Goldcoast  
**Wolf**, Marla, Idaho  
**Worrall**, Kasha, Waterloo on the Grand  
**Wu**, Difei (F), China Section

## New Member Correction

In the November/December issue, Jessica Goetschel, Karla Mendez and Karla Perusquia, new members of the Florida Goldcoast Chapter, were incorrectly listed as being new members of the Sarasota Ladybugs Chapter.



## Pilot Careers:

# Perspective

BY DONNA MILLER  
International Careers Committee

*"I fly because it frees me from the tyranny of petty thoughts."  
– Antoine de Saint-Exupéry*

I remember learning to fly in South Korea. I'm not a city girl to start with, and living in an enormous city with millions of people and the noise that goes along with it was overwhelming. I didn't realize that, by learning to fly, I would fall in love with the solitude and quiet that came with it. There was something so calming, so freeing, about climbing above the noise and crowds and traffic that gave me a true sense of tranquility. Even when the left part of my brain was working hard to interpret the instruments in order to maintain heading, altitude and airspeed, the right side was calm and marveling at the beauty of it all.

Even now, I realize that no problem is so great that it cannot be solved by a good cross country flight. At work, I listen to the soft din of air traffic control and watch the world pass under the wing and marvel at how tiny the cars look from 37,000 feet. Even from a small airplane, everything looks like a toy.

What I realize is that the problems on the ground that sometimes seem so insurmountable are, in fact, just as small as the cars appear. From the perspective behind a puffy cloud, they are

all solvable. That mountain really is a molehill when you look at it from the sky!

Do you ever have that feeling when you're putting the airplane away after a flight that you can handle anything? You just nailed a crosswind landing like a boss, and whatever issue is still looming from before you took off is now somehow more manageable. Perhaps it is the confidence you develop from becoming a pilot. If you can handle all the emergencies they throw at you on a checkride, certainly you can figure out the latest challenge at home.

Maybe it is the realization that you are in control. Just as you are in the airplane, so it is with issues on the ground. When you realize that you are the Captain of your life, you begin to handle problems with a Captain's mindset. Whatever it may be, we are better for having learned to fly.

There is a new movie out on Netflix called "Fundamentals of Caring." It has become one of my all-time favorites for many reasons (the biggest being that my very dear friend Rob is the screenwriter and director). In one scene, the character played by Paul Rudd is driving cross country with an 18-year-old kid with muscular dystrophy. They have picked up a runaway played by Selena Gomez. Her character, Dot, says to the others, "My mom says Denver is a good place because the high altitude makes the air less complicated."

Perhaps that's what it is. After all, life does seem a little less complicated after takeoff, doesn't it?

## TRAINING MILESTONES

Marnie Alcock – 757/767 Type Rating  
Greater St. Louis Chapter

Margaret Ballou – CFI & Tailwheel  
All-Ohio

Carol Bennett – CFII  
Orange County

Susan Cafoncelli – Instrument  
New Jersey Chapter

Megan Chocallo – Instrument  
Utah Chapter

Shannon Christensen – Mokulele  
Airlines First Officer, Aloha Chapter

Marilyn Fino – Multiengine  
Michigan Chapter

Amy Froemsdorf – Private  
Aloha Chapter

Robin Giguere – Private  
Minnesota Chapter

Julia Graham – Multi-engine  
Aloha Chapter

Stephanie Griffin – Private  
Connecticut Chapter

Samantha Hansen – Solo  
Aloha Chapter

Marilyn Husser – Advanced Ground  
Instructor, Oregon Pines Chapter

Allison Irwin – Private  
Fly Now Scholarship  
Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter

Elizabeth L'Heureux – Private  
Aloha Chapter

Mayte Lillo – Private  
Ambassador Chapter

Jessica Marin – Commercial  
Florida Goldcoast Chapter

Donna Meyer – ATP  
Alabama Chapter

Natalie Mosher Smith – CFI, CFII,  
MEI

Aloha Chapter

Leah Ochs – Private  
Reno High Sierra Chapter

Mariya Reum – Private  
Greater Seattle Chapter  
Greater Seattle Scholarship

Elizabeth Sanders – Private  
Mid-Columbia Chapter

Judy Schiff – Commercial  
Fran Sargent Scholarship  
Paradise Coast Chapter

Valerie Thornton – Private  
Columbia Cascade

Send your  
accomplishments to  
[news@ninety-nines.org](mailto:news@ninety-nines.org)



## NINETY-NINE MARCIA K. GITELMAN HONORED WITH WRIGHT BROTHERS MASTER PILOT AWARD

On November 16, 2016, the Federal Aviation Administration awarded Marcia K. Gitelman of Port Orange, Florida, The Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award. She is formerly of Rochester, New York.

The Master Pilot Award is the most prestigious award the FAA issues to pilots certified under Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 61. It is named after the Wright Brothers to recognize individuals who have exhibited professionalism, skill and aviation expertise for at least 50 years. Now that the award has been issued, her name, city and state will be published to a Roll of Honor on the FAASafety website.

Marcia joined The 99s in November 1968. She was a member of the Western New York Chapter until she became a charter member of the Finger Lakes Chapter in 1973 following the terminus of the Powder Puff Derby in Elmira, New York.

In 2014, after relocating to Florida, she transferred to the Spaceport Chapter. She is a commercial, instrument rated pilot for single engine land and sea. She and 49½ Dave have owned



From left, Bob Jex, FAAST Team Program Manager from Orlando FSDO, Marcia K. Gitelman, and her husband Dave Gitelman.

their Piper Comanche since 1969.

Marcia wishes to thank The Ninety-Nines. "This wonderful organization has provided knowledge, friendship and support for most of my flying career."

— Staff

## LOUISE FOUDRAY RETIRES AFTER ALMOST 30 YEARS AS CARETAKER OF AE BIRTHPLACE MUSEUM

Almost 30 years ago, Louise Foudray of Atchison, Kansas, accepted an offer from The 99s to become the first Caretaker of the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum. Lou recalls not knowing much about Amelia at that time. Now, as she retires, she is considered the expert when it comes to Amelia Earhart history.

When Lou accepted her new position on a trial basis for one

year, little did she anticipate all the wonderful adventures she would experience. She has met people from around the world, authors who have written about Amelia and members of Amelia's family, including Amelia's sister Muriel, her husband George Palmer Putnam, and George Putnam's son. Lou even had the opportunity to go to the South Pacific where Amelia was last seen.

On November 12, the AEBM Board of Trustees honored Lou for her years of commitment to the Museum on November 12 at a retirement reception. Lou's children and grandchildren, personal friends, 99 friends, her friends from the Atchison community, and the Museum docents joined the Board of Trustees in celebrating Lou.

Lou will not be far away from the AEBM. All she has to do is look out her window from the little bungalow she purchased several years ago in anticipation of this new phase in her life.

We all wish Lou the very best in her new life style and thank her for her love and generosity over the years in caring for this world treasure in Atchison, Kansas.

— Jeannine Wyatt, AEBM Board Trustee



Louise Foudray at the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum. She has been caretaker at the Museum for almost 30 years.

Photo: Ann Shaneyfelt, AEBM Board of Trustees Chairman



### ALOHA CHAPTER

Jean White, a 96-year-old Aloha Chapter member, was honored with a quilt and pillow case from the Two Rivers Torch Club and Linda Kau of the Quilts of Valor.

Jean served 26 years in the Air Force as an A&P on AT6 planes. However, when being a mechanic was deemed "not lady-like," she became a supply officer before retiring as an Air Force



*Jean during her Air Force career.*

Lieutenant Colonel.

The Two Rivers Torch Club is a Boys & Girls Clubs of America program for 11-to 13-year-olds. Their purpose is to meet the special character development needs of younger adolescents at a critical stage in their development. The members learn to elect officers

and work together to implement activities in the community, education, social recreation, and health and fitness.

The Quilts of Valor is a non-profit Foundation with the goal of making quilts that both heal and comfort war wounded servicemen and women who have been "touched by war."

In 1944, Jean joined the Women's Army Corps (WAC) as a staff sergeant and airplane mechanic. In 1951, Jean became a



*Jean is wrapped in the quilt of honor presented to her by members of the Two Rivers Torch Club and Linda Kau of the Quilts of Valor.*

commissioned officer in the U.S. Air Force and went on to serve in Iowa, Texas, California, Virginia and, finally, Alaska. At the time of her retirement, Jean had attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and had served 26 years in supply and logistics.

Jean was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in October 2014 in Washington, D.C., for her service in CAP during World War II. Jean was also inducted into the Women's Memorial, which honors all servicewomen ([womensmemorial.org/](http://womensmemorial.org/)).

Jean joined The 99s in 1990 and volunteers every year at the Great Alaska Aviation Gathering.

— Denise Saigh

### CHICAGO AREA CHAPTER

In the early 1920s, Bessie Coleman was the first African-American woman to become a licensed pilot – and she had to go to France to get it. We were very pleased to have her great niece, Gigi Coleman, portraying Bessie at our October Chapter meeting. She was very entertaining and brought many interesting pieces of memorabilia for us to view.

Gigi has been taking her historical reenactment of her great aunt's life to many venues in the Chicago area in honor of her memory and to encourage individuals to achieve their dreams.

We held our September meeting outdoors at the Northern Illinois Air Show at Waukegan Airport. Chapter Secretary Jill Feldman was hostess. Though our tent almost blew away in the morning storm, eventually the weather cleared, and the air show was great.

Former Chapter member and 99 Susan Dacy was one of the performers. Also, on display was an F-11 that came from Chanute, Illinois, and is in the process of becoming a Veterans memorial at Waukegan Regional Airport (KUGN). Our Chapter donated to the project last fall.

Many people came by and were interested in flying and women pilots. It was still windy (and noisy) when we got to

hold our meeting, but we didn't mind because those were the sounds of warbirds and jets and beautiful planes of the past. When you can watch the Corsair's wings folding behind the Chairman's head, even the Chairman won't fault you for not hearing everything she said!

— Diane M. Cozzi



*From left, Secretary Jill Feldman, Membership Chairman Karen Ballard, Chapter Chairman Ellen O'Hara, Bessie's great niece Gigi Coleman, Newsletter Editor Cynthia Madsen, Treasurer Madeleine Monaco, and International Director Leslie Prellwitz. Cynthia is wearing her "Women Fly - Bessie Coleman" shirt for the occasion.*

### CAROLINAS CHAPTER

Happy Birthday, Carolinas Chapter! The Carolinas Chapter of the Southeast Section recently celebrated its 76th birthday at Stanly County Airport, Albemarle, North Carolina, with a review of key events in its history, individuals sharing their own flying history, and a birthday cake.

The Chapter's first meeting was on November 16, 1940, in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Chapter Charter member Mary Webb Nicholson of Greenboro, North Carolina, was also a Charter member of The Ninety-Nines International Organization of Women Pilots. Mary was the first certificated woman pilot in North Carolina, obtaining her certificate in 1929. She was killed in England in 1942 while serving as a ferry pilot for the British Air Command.

— Ann Horner



From left: Cynthia Basamania, Susan Hawes, Anne Honer, Reva Carpenter, Debby Dennis, Liz Lee, Jude Luciano, Karen McDermott, Sylvia Harris, Kim Bost, and Paula Campbell.

### GREATER ST. LOUIS CHAPTER

The East Missouri Chapter of The Ninety-Nines was chartered in St. Louis on September 19, 1941 with Del Scharr as its first Chairman. The Chapter name was not changed to Greater St. Louis until 1950.

What better way to celebrate our Chapter's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday than to have a potluck luncheon and birthday cupcakes? It was a beautiful, warm September day when 10 Ninety-Nines, including Melissa Hanthorn, Laura Holland-O'Brien, Nelda Lee, Sue Mathias, Jean Murry, Martha Norman, Libby Yunger, and former 99s Ruth Bohnert, Mary Kinnaw and Laura Million, gathered on Jean Murry's screened-in porch for food and hangar talk.

We also finalized plans for our participation in the upcoming American Heritage Girls aviation badge workshop being hosted by EAA Chapter 32 in conjunction with their Young Eagles flight program that was only two weeks away.

Laura Million is the trainer for EAA Chapter 32's aviation badge workshop, while our Chairman Libby Yunger is an EAA Chapter 32 Young Eagles pilot. She and Libby had talked about adapting her syllabus into an aviation ground school workshop

that The 99s could take to Girl Scout troops or girls clubs.

When the American Heritage Girls in St. Charles County approached EAA Chapter 32 about providing a badge program and Young Eagles flights for 40 of their high school-age members, Laura and the Greater St. Louis 99s got to work.

Laura adapted the aviation knowledge syllabus and slides from her Boy Scout badge program, Melissa Hanthorn, with assistance from Nelda Lee, developed a segment on helicopter aerodynamics, and Nelda also developed a segment on careers in aviation. On October 4, everything went off without a hitch. Nelda and Martha Norman assisted Laura with the aviation knowledge workshop. Nelda explained that a lot of rewarding jobs in aviation don't necessarily involve flying.

Jean Murry and Ruth Bohnert manned a table with information about The 99s. It was a beautiful, warm CAVU day, and Libby piloted five Young Eagles, four of whom were American Heritage Girls, in her 1956 Cessna 182. For most of the girls, it was their first flight in a small airplane.

— Libby Yunger



Jean Murry, Sue Mathias, Mary Kinnaw, Laura Million, Nelda Lee, Ruth Bohnert, Martha Norman and Melissa Hanthorn celebrate the Chapter's birthday.



A group of American Heritage Girls are eager to fly and obtain their aviation badges. Libby Younger's plane is in the background.



### MINNESOTA CHAPTER

The Minnesota 99s once again helped collect, sort and pack gifts for the Tree of Hope at the Maple Lake Airport (KMGG) on December 3.

The Tree of Hope brings toys to children in Minnesota hospitals, and this year a record number of volunteers from the aviation and local communities helped pack 115 bags of toys (approximately 2,875 toys or 25 toys per bag) and delivered them to 39 hospitals. Besides Santa Claus, over 35 airplanes flew in for the event.

Congratulations go out to Robin Giguere on receiving her private pilot certificate in October.

— Melissa Aho



Tree of Hope volunteers from left: Tracy Davenport, Thuy Pieper, Elaine Morrow, Cheryl Daml, Patti Sandusky, Chris Kocinski, Carly Gallman, Lajeane Firminhac, and Deb Thompson.

### Shop 99s Style!



**Visit the Ninety-Nines  
Logo Wear Store**

[ninetynines.qbstores.com](http://ninetynines.qbstores.com)

**Available logo options:**

- 99s logo with airplane swoosh
- Classic intertwined 99s
- Compass Rose



MacKenzie Shepherd with WASP Shirley Cruze, left, and Bee Haydu.

### TREASURE COAST CHAPTER

It's been a busy time for the Treasure Coast Chapter. Nancy Bradshaw visited the students at Boynton Aerospace Science Academy in October. She has a Masters in Aerospace engineering and is a CFI. About 20 students participated in the talk and were very interested in both the engineering side as well as the pilot side. Her talk helped them understand that with determination and hard work they can achieve anything they want in aviation.

In November, the Chapter had a booth at the Stuart Airshow promoting our organization and recruiting new pilots, young and old. Also in attendance at the airshow were two WASP, Bee Haydu and Shirley Cruze. Our Chapter member MacKenzie Shepherd enjoyed talking with them.

It was a canine fly-out in November. Chapter member Ailsa Cutting, in conjunction with her local Aero Club, set up an incredible Pilots N Paws airlift on November 19. Joining in the airlift were Treasurer Coast members Paige Attaway, Nancy Brashaw and Marcy Lannon.

Fifteen airplanes were wheels up with the sun at 7:30 a.m. from South Florida to two different airports in Southern Georgia. Loaded in the planes flying north were bags of donated blankets for the shelters in Georgia. Loaded into the planes flying south were 100 animals. These 100 animals were all saved from being euthanized, mostly puppies, moms with nursing babies, or pregnant mommies to be.

The animals were flown to either Melbourne, the West Palm Beach area or Naples, where the multiple rescues were waiting for the early afternoon arrivals. Puppies were loaded up in the trucks, given health checkups, and today are getting adopted into their forever homes. The airlift was such a success, Ailsa is planning future trips.



Two puppies wait for a ride to their forever homes.

— Marcy Lannon



### ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER

The Ageless Aviation Dreams Foundation came to Fullerton Municipal airport on October 8 as part of its program to take senior pilots from all around the United States on flights in the Foundation's vintage Stearman. Many of the seniors are World War II veterans, and the flights help recognize their service.

Two of the pilots participating that day were Mary and Vince Van Velzer. After Vince's 25-minute flight, it was Mary's turn. Once they were in the air, Mary sang and kept those famous thumbs up.

Mary has been a member of the Orange County Chapter for over 40 years. Vince is a World War II veteran and also was part of the design team for the Boeing C-17.

— Shirley McFall

*Right, Mary Van Velzer takes to the air again thanks to the Ageless Dreams Foundation.*



*Paradise Coast "witches" enjoy a Halloween fly-out.*

### PARADISE COAST CHAPTER

The Paradise Coast Chapter had a busy fall. On October 23, more than 30 Ninety-Nines "witches" and guests from five Florida Chapters mounted their prop-driven brooms for a fly-out to Bartow (KBOW) for lunch at the new Nini's Landing Restaurant. Costumes were encouraged, and many witches were quite creative in their attire.

Several of The 99s participated in a tour of Waterman Broadcasting Studio where the NBC-2 weatherman Rob Duns explained features of the station's Doppler Radar and what goes into making a weather broadcast. The 99s were learning about weather forecasting and conditions unique to southwest Florida at their Meteorology Class through Lee County Adult and Career Education.

The Chapter also participated in the annual Aviation Days at Page Field (FMY) in Fort Myers on October 29. While the weather and wind were quite blustery for southwest Florida, the members had interactive games for children and supplied membership information and scholarship applications for interested parties.

On November 12, the Paradise Coast Chapter was invited to join the Sun Coast Chapter in Ocala, Florida (KOCF) to help celebrate 99 lifetime member Blanche O'Brien's 100th Birthday. Sheltair Aviation and Tailwinds Café were extremely helpful in accommodating the large group. We

had a fantastic time listening to Blanche tell stories about flying in the '30s and '40s.

Congratulations to Ellen Herr on receiving the 2016 SE Section Governor's Award. Ellen was honored for her dedication to The 99s organization and her tireless work mentoring and encouraging other pilots.

Congratulations to Judy Schiff, Paradise Coast 99s, who was awarded the Fran Sargent Scholarship from the Florida Goldcoast 99s. The scholarship helped Judy recently earn her commercial rating.

— Lisa Hannon



*Lifetime member Blanche O'Brien celebrates her 100th birthday.*

## NEW HORIZONS

### **PAT EMBERG** **Minnesota Chapter**

Patricia Ann Emberg flew on to New Horizons on October 19, 2016, when she died in her home near Proctor, Minnesota.

While she was growing up, her father owned a small airport near Washington, D.C., and she became a pilot in her early 30s. Pat flew many types of airplanes, including float planes, and flew the Daffodil Flights for the American Cancer Society.

Pat and her husband Kermit Coke Emberg loved to travel. Pat, a skiing instructor, was still skiing at age 80. She will be missed by the Minnesota 99s.



*Pat Emberg.*

— *Melissa Aho*

### **MAYBELLE FLETCHER** **Houston Chapter**



*Maybelle Fletcher.*

The aviation world lost one of its icons when Maybelle Montgomery Fletcher flew to New Horizons on October 18, 2016, in Houston, Texas at age 92.

Maybelle began her 70-plus year aviation career when she soloed at 16. She met her co-pilot for life, Larry Fletcher, at the airport in Waco, Texas, in 1945, and was delighted to receive a Piper J-3 Cub instead of a traditional diamond ring! Maybelle joined The Ninety-Nines in 1945, served as an FAA Flight Examiner for over 30 years, and logged more than 30,000 flight hours. She founded the flight school at Fletcher Aviation in 1968, with many of her students going on to become airline pilots, military pilots, and even astronauts. In addition to instructing, Maybelle loved air racing, entering nearly every race she could. Maybelle was a consistent "Top-10" finisher, including winning the ARC in 1982.

One of Maybelle's most significant contributions to aviation was her development of the plan accepted by the FAA for Class B airspace for Houston's Hobby Airport, a plan still in effect today. In 2001, she was inducted into the Texas Aviation Hall of Fame, and in 2004, she became the first woman honored with The Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award and was also presented the Lloyd P. Nolen Lifetime Achievement in Aviation Award by Wings Over Houston.

Sadly, her husband Larry Fletcher passed away on December 2, only 45 days after the death of Maybelle.

— *Cathy Prudhomme*

### **AUDREY MARGERY SMITH SWEET** **Santa Barbara Chapter**

Audrey Margery Smith Sweet recently passed away in Newport Beach, California, at the age 89. She will be dearly missed by her family and by all those whose lives she touched. She will be remembered for her sense of adventure, her ability to live each day to its fullest and her joy in helping others.

She was educated at the Gardner School in New York, and she graduated in 1945 from the Fashion Academy in New York. She married Robert Sweet in 1950 and raised four children.

Her love of travel and adventure led her to pursue a career as a Travel Consultant for 30 years. In 1972, she earned her private pilot certificate for single engine aircraft. In addition to being a member of The 99s and the Santa Barbara Navy League, she was a Golden Eagle, or Honorary Life Member of the Wings Club, based in New York.

Audrey began her considerable volunteer work in several organizations, including the Junior League of Stamford-Norwalk, Connecticut. She was a Board Member for the Family and Children's Aid, Visiting Nurse Association, Girl Scouts, and her church and children's schools in Darien, Connecticut.

She provided her service to the American Red Cross Motor Corps in New York during WWII; Greenwich Hospital Auxiliary in Connecticut for over 10 years; New York Hospital - Special Surgery; American Museum of Natural History-Hayden Planetarium, New York; United Nations, Delegates, Hospitality Committee; and most recently Founding Member and Docent of the Santa Barbara, California, Maritime Museum in 2000.

She was a proud member of the Daughters of the American Revolution as well as an active member of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in New York City for many years.

— *Jonathan (son) and Tiffany Sweet*

### **New Friends of The Ninety-Nines**

Jenn Ashton, North Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada  
Carolyn Balickie, Cary, North Carolina  
Bob Berthelet, Orleans, Ontario, Canada  
Anna Bope, Bellevue, Washington  
Don Bulluck, Rocky Mount, North Carolina  
Martha Bulluck, Rocky Mount, North Carolina  
Pete Gelvin, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
Dolores Johnson, Santa Barbara, California  
Jeremy Kornreich, Longmont, Colorado  
Dan McGee, Indianola, Iowa  
Kimberly Moore, Naples, Florida  
Alyxandra Pelkey, South Burlington, Vermont  
Roman Szostak, Utopia, Ontario, Canada  
Lionel Ulrich, Ingersoll, Ontario, Canada  
Joseph White, Waltham, Massachusetts  
Patrick Williams, Tempe, Arizona  
Jeannine Wyatt, Lawrence, Kansas



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