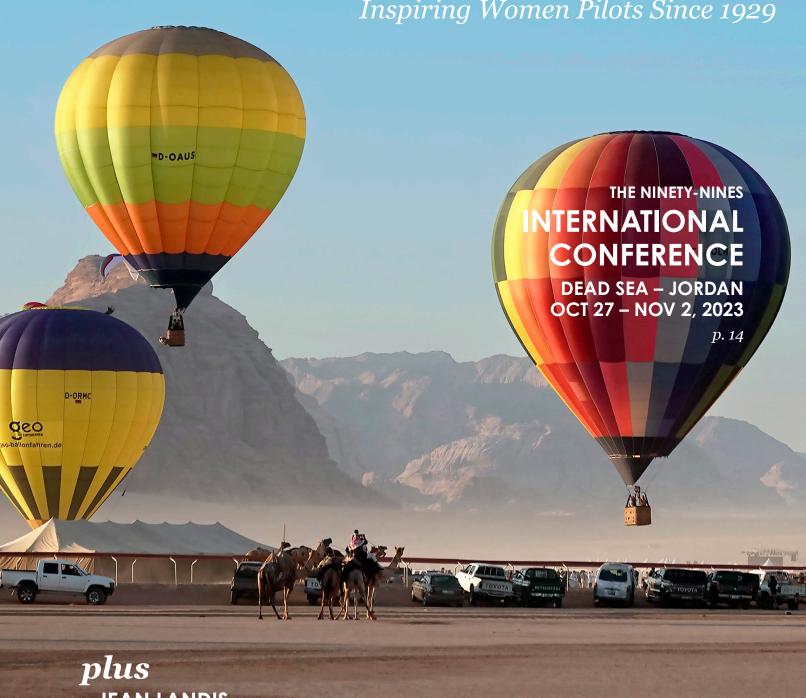
# 題 Ninety-Nines

Inspiring Women Pilots Since 1929



**JEAN LANDIS ELECTION TIME CELEBRATING EDNA** 

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**New Horizons** 

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#### MISSION STATEMENT

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

#### ON THE COVER

Hot air balloons at Wadi Rum (Jordan Tourism Board)

#### **Ninety-Nines Magazine**

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#### **Article Submissions**

Visit www.ninety-nines.org for info or email news@ninety-nines.org

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#### **Editorial Policy**

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The Publications Committee and the Publisher reserve the right to reject any material submitted for publication. Copy submitted for publication will become the property of The Ninety-Nines, Inc. and will not be returned.

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#### 2023

#### MAR

#### 8 1st Annual Celebrate Emily Warner & **Women Airline Pilots Day**

Emily Warner Field Aviation Museum ☐ GrandCountyHistory.org

⋪ Penny Hamilton, drpenny₁@earthlink.net

#### 10-11 International Board of Directors **Spring Meeting**

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

**★** info@ninety-nines.org

#### 23 Australian Section Annual Meeting

Mount Gambier (Berrin) South Australia ◀ Jennifer Graham, jjgraham.graham@gmail.com

#### 25 San Antonio Chapter Poker Run

South Texas Regional Airport (KHDO), Hondo, Texas

**L**acee Law, 210-381-7214

✓ laced828@gmail.com

#### 28 SUN 'n FUN Aerospace Expo

-April 2 Lakeland, Florida □ FlyLakeland.com

#### 31 German Section Meeting

-April 2

Hildesheim Airport (EDVM)

◀ Andrea Amberge

#### APR

1 **Deadline:** Ninety-Nines Magazine May/June Issue Submission ☐ news@ninety-nines.org

#### 1 **Deadline:** First Wings Awards ☐ Ninety-nines.org/resources.htm AEChair@ninety-nines.org

#### 14 Grand Opening, Amelia Earhart **Hangar Museum**

Amelia Earhart Memorial Airport (K59), Atchison, Kansas

✓ Vanessa M. Bonavia. Vanessa@VCommunications.LLC

#### 14-15 New England Section **Spring Meeting**

Burlington, Vermont

◀ Mary Build, mary.build@gmail.com

#### 15 AE Scholarship Awards results available

#### 15 Compass Rose Airmarking KDEQ

DeQueen, Arkansas Rain date May 13. Joint project of the Oklahoma and Arkansas 99s to honor Jody McCarrell ☐ Signupgenius.com/go/ 10c0e48a5af2baof9c16-deqcompass#/

#### APR (cont.)

#### 21 Edna Gardner Whyte's **Induction Ceremony**

Texas Aviation Hall of Fame, ⋪ Pat Keefer, pjkeefer@gmail.com

#### 21-23 South Central Section **Spring Meeting**

El Paso, Texas

◀ Tracy Short, tkeene7@hotmail.com

#### 28-29 Southeast Section Spring Meeting

St. Augustine, Florida

◀ Janice Pelletti, jopelletti@gmail.com

#### 28-30 New York-New Jersey Section **Spring Meeting**

Fairfield, New Jersey

⋪ Frances Englund, fenglund@yahoo.com

#### 28-30 North Central Section **Spring Meeting**

Clarkesville, Indiana

◀ Terri Donner, terri.donner@yahoo.com

#### **Southwest Section Spring Meeting**

Virtual only

◀ Jennifer Dezell, wanvisadezell@gmail.com

#### MAY

#### 6 Mid-Atlantic Section Spring Meeting

Hampton Roads, Virginia

◀ Linda Bangert, lsbangert@cox.net

#### 8-13 NIFA SAFECON Nationals

Oshkosh, Wisconsin

taylor.newman@nifa.aero

#### 26-28 East Canada Section **Annual Meeting**

Brockville, Ontario, Canada

◀ Annie Wen, annie.hui.wen@gmail.com

#### JUN

**Deadline:** Ninety-Nines Magazine July/August Issue Submission ¬ news@ninety-nines.org

#### 20-23 Air Race Classic

Grand Forks, Nebraska to Homestead, Florida □ airraceclassic.org

Check the online calendar for the latest information. □ ninety-nines.org/calendar.htm

#### **MAGAZINE SUBMISSION DEADLINES**

are one month prior to issue date. MAY/JUNE issue deadline: April 1.

#### The President's Message



Robin Hadfield
President
The Ninety-Nines, Inc.

president@ninety-nines.org

#### Show the world who we are!

Then those pioneering women pilots met at a hangar at Curtiss Field, Long Island in 1929, they had a vision for the future of aviation and wanted to encourage more women to become pilots. They formed our organization to support one another, turn their dreams into reality, and challenge each other to become better pilots. By joining together, they set off to become outstanding aviators and accomplish sweeping victories for aviation.

Today, The Ninety-Nines continue to set the pace for women and flight. We are proud of the legacy we have inherited. Thousands of women around the world are now a part of the history and community that are The Ninety-Nines. Yet, there are still far too few women pilots.

As Ninety-Nines, we need to continue to pursue our mission and encourage more women to shatter stereotypes and break down barriers by stepping into the cockpit.

#### What does a Ninety-Nine look like?

She looks like you — you do something that less than 1% of the women in the world can do; you are unique!

We love to see you sharing your love of aviation on social media. I encourage you to continue to help promote our mission by showing the world who we are and encouraging other women to pursue their paths! And don't forget to keep tagging us in your aviation posts to be featured on our Instagram, Facebook, TikTok or LinkedIn page!

#theninetyninesinc #99reasons







Left: When 99s members meet while going to work! The Georgia Flying Belles chapter of The Ninety-Nines Secretary/Treasurer Jeanel Wehner and Chair Kim Ewing met up in Atlanta before going on their respective flights! Jeanel is a First Officer on the A330 and was preparing for an ocean crossing. Kim is a Captain on the B717 and was getting ready to fly to Wilmington, North Carolina.

 ${\it Middle: Earlier\ this\ month,\ @skymufn\ marked\ one\ year\ since\ she\ started\ flying!\ We\ love\ celebrating\ milestones\ like\ these\ with\ our\ members!}$ 

 $Right: @quebec99s\ member\ @pilot\_y as mine\ can\ tell\ you\ there's\ not\ much\ better\ than\ chasing\ sunsets\ and\ general\ aviation!$ 

- Robin Hadfield

Are you attending Sun 'n Fun, March 28 - April 1?

Do you enjoy talking about flying and the 99s? Come hang out with your President – me, not POTUS.

I will be there all week working in our 99s booth. I would be excited to have you join us as a volunteer, to speak with women about The Ninety-Nines and how to become a member.

We're using SignUp to organize our volunteers.

- Sign up to volunteer at The Ninety-Nines booth at 2023 Sun 'n Fun here, signup.com/go/hyuEzzG
- 2. Choose the spot(s) you are able to help.

You do not have to register for an account with SignUp and they do not share your email address with anyone.

We know everyone looks forward to their *Ninety-Nines* magazine, patiently watching their mailbox every other month for delivery -- but did you know you can read the magazine before it is delivered?

Our online **digital version of the magazine** is available on The 99s website even before it goes to the post office. *Ninety-Nines* magazine is available to read in a flip-page digital format at the *Ninety-Nines* magazine page of the website. And you can even reduce your environmental footprint by choosing to have your magazine ONLY delivered digitally. Easy steps 1,2,3 and it's done!

- 1. Go to The 99s website www.ninety-nines.org
- 2. Log-in to access the Members Area
- 3. Update your Membership Information by responding "Yes" to the question "The 99s Magazine is available online, so I do not want to receive a paper copy."

Using this option also helps us save paper and postage cost. This is a great option for our International members, too.

#### Holding Short

#### SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

#### **LOS ANGELES CHAPTER WINNERS**

Submitted by Anjanisse Collins



**Eve Lopez** of the Los Angeles Chapter has been awarded three advanced flight training scholarships: Dottie Sanders scholarship in the amount of \$1,000, which Apple Corp. then doubled;

Trudy Briscoe scholarship in the amount of \$3,000 from the Orange County 99s; Pam Van Der Linden Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000 from the Coyote Country 99s.

Eve plans to use her scholarship awards to pursue a CFI rating.



The Los Angeles Chapter is proud to announce that **Karla**"Marlene" Perales has been accepted into United Airlines' Aviate Pilot Program, and is a recipient of the United

Aviate scholarship sponsored by United and Boeing, thanks to endorsement by the Latino Pilots association.

Here is a brief statement from Marlene:

"I am beyond grateful to have been selected as a scholarship recipient and awarded the United Aviate scholarship sponsored by United and Boeing through the Latino Pilots association."

Please contact Marlene for more information about this wonderful opportunity, and her future plans as an aviatrix via email peraleskarla@gmail.com.

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA COAST CHAPTER WINNERS

Submitted by Madeline Ungurain



#### **Darcie Kolomay** of the British Colum

of the British Columbia Coast Chapter was awarded the Mary Swain Memorial Scholarship from the British Columbia Aviation Council, valued at \$1,500. The funds are

being put towards instrument hours and flight test preparations for her Commercial Pilot License.



**Terra Samson** of the British Columbia Coast Chapter was awarded the Rene Cutforth Bursary from Elevate Aviation in January 2023. This bursary was named in honour of the late Rene

Cutforth who passed away suddenly on December 25, 2022. Rene was a longtime volunteer and supporter of Elevate Aviation, which introduces women to essential careers in the aviation industry. Terra is the first recipient of this award, which is valued at \$850, and is being used towards Terra's Commercial Helicopter Conversion from Aeroplane.

**Michaela Chroustova** of the British Columbia Coast Chapter was awarded the Alpha Aviation Multi-IFR Scholarship, from the British Columbia Aviation Council at the Silver Wings Industry Awards Ceremony, held at the Vancouver Convention Center in October 2022. The \$5,000 scholarship was used towards the completion of the multi-IFR rating.

Several other British Columbia Coast 99 members were in attendance and also



won awards from the BC Aviation Council. **Anna Serbinenko** was awarded the British Columbia Aviation Council's (BCAC) Environmental Award in

October 2022 at the Silver

Wings Industry Awards Ceremony. Anna's company, Canadian Flight Centre received this award for the design and construction of their new aircraft hangar in Kamloops, British Columbia. The BCAC issues this award annually within the aviation industry in BC, to an outstanding environmental initiative, program, or accomplishment in one or more areas of protection, rejuvenation and awareness.



Left to right: Colette Morin, (CFI and owner of Glacier Air, BCC 99), Rene Cutforth, Darcie Kolomay, BCC 99, Rebecca Peric, BCC 99, Michaela Chroustova, BCC 99, Anna Serbinenko, CFI and owner Canadian Flight Center, BCC 99, Marcia Strang, BCC 99, Cindy Pang, Governor West Canada Section, BCC 99, Annika Sun, BCC 99, Cathy Press, CEO Chinook helicopters.

#### The Northern Lights Aero Foundation

recently announced the CIBC Northern Lights Scholarship for Canadian women



pursuing flight training. One of the four winners was **Annika Sun** of the British Columbia Coast Chapter. She graduated from the Airline and Flight Operations Commercial Pilot

Program at the British Columbia Institute of Technology. While there, Annika was the top student in her cohort. She has completed her Flight Instructor training at the Pacific Flying Club in Vancouver, and has found her first job as a pilot, currently working as a Flight Instructor at Pacific Flying Club in Delta, British Columbia at Boundary Bay Airport (CZBB).

#### WHIRLY-GIRLS SCHOLARSHIPS WINNERS

Whirly-Girls Scholarship Fund Inc., a non-profit, educational, and charitable organization dedicated to advancing women in the helicopter aviation industry, has announced the recipients of the 2023 Whirly-Girls Scholarship Awards. The scholarships will be awarded March 5 at the Whirly-Girls Annual Awards Banquet during HAI HELI-EXPO in Atlanta, Georgia. Thanks to the support of aviation leaders, 32 scholarships will be bestowed upon deserving female aviators, the largest scholarship program in the helicopter industry.

Three members of The Ninety-Nines



received four of the scholarships:

Jessica Meiris from Colorado Springs, Colorado, Pikes Peak Chapter, winner of the Erickson & Volo Mission Vertical

Reference/External Load Training.

**Amory Harris** from Truckee, California, Reno High Sierra Chapter, winner of the Garmin GTN & Flight Display Pilot Training Course.

**Leah Murphy** from Salisbury, Maryland, Maryland Chapter, winner of the Oregon Aero CRM/AMRM Instructor Training and the Robinson Helicopters R66 Safety Course.

#### **MEMBERS IN THE NEWS**



Mary Build. Photo by Lisa Magiera.



Jann and Warren Clark on the cover of Senior Source Book.



Tammy Willits and her granddaughter Miranda Wilkins on a flight in Tammy's 1971 Cessna Cardinal.

Mary Build, a member of the Katahdin Wings Chapter, governor of the New England Section and author of Finding Muself in Aviation, has been featured in print and on television. AOPA's Aviation E-Brief newsletter featured a link to the Mount Desert Islander (www.mdislander. com/lifestyle/pilot-discovers-herself-throughflight/article 5c6ea066-8b81-11ed-9900b7ebfb625637.html) and local NBC affiliate WCSH's human interest story news show 207 interviewed her (www.newscentermaine. com/article/news/local/207/in-her-fortiesshe-became-a-pilot-it-changed-her-lifeairplanes/97-a6b46276-c126-46b5-93dbb5e31021c8d7). Through her interviews and author talks, Mary has been able to share her inspiring later-in-life journey in aviation and its positive life-changing influences.

Eastern New England Chapter member **Jann Clark**, and 49½ Warren Clark appeared on the cover of a local senior services publication, Senior Source Book. They were chosen as an exemplary example that it is never too late to pursue your dreams. Jann wrote a short essay for the publication, describing her journey of taking flight lessons later in life and sharing her flying passion with her husband Warren.

**Tammy Willits**, Girl Scouts liaison for and longtime member of the Northeast Kansas Chapter, was recently featured in two news stories, the first prompting the second, and both mentioning The 99s! Local KLWC pilot Doug Tilghman wrote about Tammy and her Cessna C400/Corvalis for the November, 2022 issue of the Cessna Pilots Association Magazine

("Tammy's Anomaly," pp. 28-33, 35). Tammy's sister sent that article to the Lawrence Journal World newspaper, and they interviewed Tammy for another story (January 10, 2023, "Freedom of Flight: Longtime Lawrence pilot hopes to spread her love for aviation" by Austin Hornbostel pp. 1A, 2A). Tammy reports the newspaper article has led to an invitation from the local Rotary Club to her to speak about women and aviation!

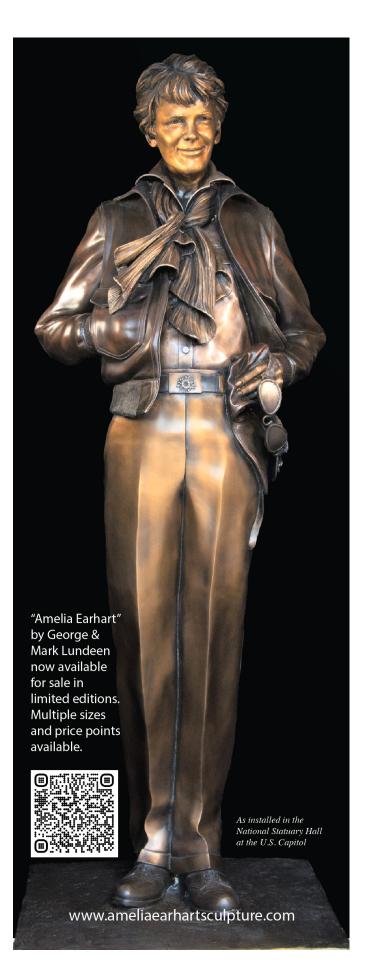


#### THREE AVIATORS AND THE JULIETT

Shannon Osborne, Greater New York Chapter member, on a recent trip to California, reports, "When passing through Napa County I could not help but stop by Napa County Airport (KAPC). When I walked into Mike Smith Aviation, I was wonderfully surprised to see three ladies in the FBO.

Student Pilot Mikayla Murphy, Mike Smith Aviation co-owner Kimberly Sanders Smith and CFI Sarah Reese of the Sacramento Valley Chapter 99s. So wonderful to walk into an FBO and meet three female aviators!"

Shannon has also added details about a trip to Seattle, Washington. She says, "Passing through the Portland International Airport (KPDX), I had the opportunity to visit the Juliett. Located in Concourse E, the Juliette is a lounge honoring historic women in aviation. To name a few others honored are the WASPs, the Night Witches, and of course Amelia Earhart! Next time you travel through PDX, take some time and check out the Juliett at the end of Concourse E."









 $Left: Jean\ Land is\ |\ Center:\ The\ WASP\ ferry\ pilots\ of\ Air\ Transport\ Command,\ Long\ Beach\ Army\ Air\ Base\ (AAB),\ Long\ Beach,\ California.\ Jean\ Land is\ in\ front\ row,\ fourth\ from\ right\ |\ Right:\ Avenger\ Field,\ Sweetwater,\ Texas.\ Jean\ Land is,\ Catherine\ Houser,\ and\ Jane\ Champlin.\ Images\ Courtesy\ WASP\ Archive/TWU$ 

# JEAN LANDIS

#### WASP FERRY PILOT

By Rebecca Burghy, Intermountain Chapter and Annelie Brinkman, San Diego Chapter

In the tumultuous year of 1918, when much of the world was embroiled in the fierce, final battles of World War I, Jean Landis was born on September 28 in the modest home her father had built on the family's five-acre farm in the quiet southern California town of El Cajon.

Several years earlier, Felix and Alice Landis had left the cold midwestern winters behind to farm in the warm and fertile California locale. Their first home had been a tent house, half wood and half canvas, purchased from the famous 'Tent City' of the Hotel Del Coronado, an early experiment in deluxe camping. Strong winds could blow the canvas top off the tent house, so Felix constructed a sturdy wooden house in time to welcome Felix Junior in 1915, Jean in 1918 and Jerry ten years later.

Jean recalls, "We had no electricity or indoor plumbing, only a water well. We made do with what we had. We lived off the land, helped each other. My parents had that pioneer spirit and we learned it from them." Jean's eyes sparkle. "I've never lost it."

The Landis family was supportive and very close. Jean remembers her parents lovingly. "They were great parents, never interfering with anything I wanted to do, while setting strict rules and giving us strong values and a good work ethic," Jean said. "My dad had three rules about anything we did: 1) It had to be of value. 2) It shouldn't interfere with others. 3) Don't give up. Give it all you have and follow it through to the end."

When just a little girl, Jean loved to watch hawks flying near their home, wishing she could soar through the air like them. She was just as fascinated by the early airplanes flying overhead, running outside to watch whenever she heard one coming.

After attending El Cajon Grammar School, Jean went to Grossmont High School where she played every sport available to girls – tennis, track and field, tumbling, softball, and especially swimming. Tall and athletic, she loved being outdoors, riding her horse to school every day, and helping her brother with his paper route on horseback no matter the weather. Even after the purchase of their first family car, a Hupmobile, Jean preferred to ride her beloved mare, Apache Maid.

Having decided to be a physical education teacher, Jean enrolled in San Diego Teacher's College. She was very popular on campus and was voted Homecoming Queen, vice president of the student's association and president of her sorority. By 1940, Jean had completed her studies and was preparing to graduate. On a warm June day, the graduating class, dressed up in their caps and gowns, were in the gymnasium on the far edge of the campus rehearsing the ceremony when an announcement blared over the loudspeaker that a Civilian Pilot Training Program was going to be offered to the first twenty college graduates who signed up at the dean's office and met the requirements. Jean could hardly believe her ears, and as soon as the rehearsal was over, she ran out the back door, down a ravine, crashing through the underbrush to arrive first at the dean's office in her torn, dirt-stained gown.

The Civilian Pilot Training Program, commonly called CPT, was a flight training program sponsored by the United States government from 1938 to 1944 intended to significantly increase the number of civilian pilots available to transition into military pilot training. Many universities, colleges, and contract flight schools offered CPT programs.

Jean's CPT application was quickly approved. At the same time, she accepted her first teaching position at her alma mater, Grossmont High School. With careful scheduling, she was able to juggle her teaching hours with her flight training hours at the local airport, where she and her fellow students filled the pattern with yellow Piper Cubs. Jean soon earned her private pilot certificate and was thrilled to be one of five students, and the only woman, chosen to move into the second-level aerobatics class. These same five students then went on to the third and final phase of training, becoming flight instructors themselves. Very few women completed all three phases of CPT training, and Jean later learned she shared that distinction with her fellow WASP BJ Erickson and Iris Cummings.

World War II was already raging in Europe and Asia when the Japanese attacked the US Naval Base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on December 7, 1941. America joined the war the next day, with young men clamoring to sign up for duty and women filling jobs in production factories and businesses. Pilots were in especially high demand, and it soon became clear that even with the CPT program, there weren't enough male pilots to fly combat overseas, much less ferry new aircraft, train more pilots and perform other necessary flying jobs at home. Experienced pilots Nancy Love and Jacqueline Cochran struggled to convince US Army Air Corp leadership that female pilots could fill these vital homefront roles, and as the war heated up, the generals agreed to experiment. Thus, Cochran took a group of women pilots to England to ferry airplanes with the British

Air Transport Auxiliary (ATA), and Love led the new Women's Auxiliary Flying Squadron (WAFS), ferrying airplanes stateside.

The women proved themselves to be excellent pilots, capable of handling any aircraft given to them, and the generals wanted more women pilots as soon as possible. In late 1942, the new Women's Flying Training Detachment (WFTD) offered women who already had a private pilot license the chance to fly for their country. Jean was thrilled at the opportunity to continue flight training, and to serve. She immediately applied, met all the requirements, and a few months later, was notified of her acceptance into WFTD training. Her orders said to 'report at your own expense at 10:00 am on March 15, 1943, to the commanding officer at Ellington Army Airfield, Houston, Texas.'

After requesting a leave of absence from her teaching job, Jean drove her car to Texas for six months of training. Flying daily, the students transitioned from primary trainers such as the PT-17 Stearman to secondary trainers like the BT-13 and on to AT-6s, an advanced trainer. They also learned instrument skills in the sweaty confines of the Link Trainer, flying "The Box."

The sheer number of women in the initial three training classes at Houston overwhelmed the available facilities, so midway through Jean's training, the whole program moved to Avenger Field in Sweetwater, Texas, with the students flying the training airplanes to their new home field. With her outstanding leadership skills, Jean was named Class 43-4's Flight Leader, and along with her 111 classmates, graduated on August 7, 1943. Jackie Cochran pinned on their new silver wings. Around this time, the WAFs and the WFTDs were combined into a single entity known as the WASP – Women Airforce Service Pilots.

Jean was immediately assigned to the Air Transport Command (ATC), Ferry Division, and stationed at Daugherty Field, Long Beach, California, under the command of Nancy Love. Initially, she delivered primary and advanced trainers up and down the West Coast, but more pilots were needed to ferry the rapidly increasing number of pursuit (fighter) aircraft coming out of the factories, and Jean was among the first group selected to go to Brownsville, Texas, for several months of rigorous training in single-engine, high-performance airplanes. These included the P-40 Warhawk, the P-47 Thunderbolt, the P-51 Mustang, and later the P-39 Aircobra and the P-63 King Cobra.

Upon returning to Long Beach, Jean's primary assignment was delivering P-51s from the Inglewood factory to Newark, New Jersey, to be loaded aboard ships and sent overseas to resupply our flight squadrons. Each pilot had to pick her own route to fly VFR, avoiding weather and challenging terrain while navigating to her destination, which for Jean's flights, was 2,500 miles away. Immediately upon delivering a P-51 to Newark, Jean found the fastest way back to Long Beach, ferrying a P-47 for a west coast delivery or taking a commercial airliner or military transport (often bumping brass or paying passengers off the flight). She would barely have enough time to grab a nap, a quick shower, and change clothes before picking up the next P-51 and departing for Newark again. The pace was grueling and utterly exhausting, but Jean and her fellow WASP did not complain. They knew every flight was crucial to America's effort to win the war.

By mid-1944, the tide of the war turned, and male pilots were rotated home with the expectation that they would resume flying duties stateside. These men wanted the very jobs the highly experienced, efficient WASP were doing every day, and they made their opinions known. Amid the ensuing political squabbles, media sabotage and military maneuvering, the women were pushed aside with barely a word of thanks and sent home at their own expense, as they had never received their promised military status. The WASP program was officially deactivated in December 1944. On her final P-51 delivery to Newark, Jean took a few moments to circle the Statue of Liberty, tears in her eyes as she said goodbye to her favorite airplane.

Jean left aviation behind and returned to teaching physical education at Park College in Missouri, West Chester State Teachers College in Pennsylvania, Ball State College in Indiana, and her alma mater, San Diego State University, where she retired as professor emeritus. Additionally, she earned a master's degree from Wellesley College and was honored with the prestigious Monty Award as a distinguished

alumni of the College of Health and Human Services at San Diego State University.

After retirement, Jean's unquenchable spirit and curiosity sent her traveling around the world and exploring the United States in her motor home. For many years, she spent summers at her place in Idaho and winters in southern California before settling in El Cajon once again.

Jean joined The 99s at the tender age of 96 and soon became a special favorite in the San Diego Chapter. Her good friend Annelie Brinkman visited Jean often and would sometimes take Jean to chapter meetings, marveling at this kind, generous woman with her unfailingly positive outlook on life, who had done so much, yet never bragged about her accomplishments.

After many years of lobbying and dogged determination, the WASP finally received official military status retroactively in 1977, making them eligible for veterans' benefits. Their remarkable service was later celebrated and honored with the Congressional Gold Medal in 2009. The WASP had flown virtually every aircraft in our military arsenal, from Piper Cubs to the B-29 Superfortress. They logged over 60 million miles flown and thousands of hours in the air, making an invaluable contribution to winning the war.

Jean did not attend the Congressional Gold Medal presentation ceremony in Washington, DC, but her family arranged to have the medal come to her, presented by Colonel Laura Scotty, USAF. That special event was made even more memorable when Chuck Hall and his P-51 Six Shooter took Jean flying in her favorite airplane one more time. They rolled, looped, and played across the sky, having a grand time together.

"What a ride!" Jean said with a wide grin when they landed. "I absolutely loved it. I felt like a bird again. I'll never forget it."

And we will never forget you, Jean.



#### **Jean Landis**

Women's Airforce Service Pilot - World War II September 28, 1918 - December 13, 2022

Each WASP is a unique, spirited woman, full of intelligence, determination, and grit, willing to take on tough challenges, and brimming with a zest for life. The years did not dim the light in their sparkling eyes. That special flame is a tremendous gift to us, the women pilots who have followed their path of silvery wings aloft to aerial adventure. Let us pick up their torch and carry it forward, sharing that flame with those yet to come, so they may find their own indomitable, soaring spirit in the challenges and accomplishments ahead.



#### **2023 International Elections - Make Sure You Vote!**

By Kathy Fox, Chair of the Election Procedures Committee

This year, members of The Ninety-Nines, Inc. will be invited to elect two (2) directors, two (2) members of the Nominating Committee, and other trust members as required.

The official ballot will be distributed on March 15, 2023 and delivered in one of two forms: electronic or paper. If you chose to opt-in for electronic voting, you will receive an electronic official ballot. If you did not opt-in for electronic voting, you will receive an official paper ballot.

The slate of candidates is prepared by the Nominating Committee in accordance with the bylaws and standing rules. Candidates for each position are listed in the order received by the Nominating Committee per the standing rules requirement. Ballots are prepared in accordance with industry standard procedures for secret ballots and are distributed using current membership records maintained by The 99s.

If you do not receive an official ballot per the schedule, please contact the HQ Manager at hqmanager@ninety-nines.org.

Electronic voting will close on May 1, 2023 at 23:59 ET. Paper ballots must be postmarked no later than May 1, 2023.

Position statements and photographs of candidates are in this (March-April 2023) issue of the *Ninety-Nines* magazine and on The 99s website at www.ninety-nines.org/election-page.htm.



#### Janet Patton Ambassador Chapter, South Central Section

It is my great pleasure to serve The 99s. Since joining in 1988, I have held many positions including most recently International Director (2021-2023) and Chapter Chair. In the past: Vice Chair, newsletter editor, event organizer, membership and scholarship committees in the Michigan and Ambassador Chapters. The 99s have been instrumental in my flying career as a scholarship recipient. I am honored to pay it forward to members through education, motivation and support.

My first year as Director had a learning curve to it and I feel like I am finally getting the hang of it. I have very much enjoyed meeting many members at Section and International meetings. I am the Board liaison for the PPLI and the AEBM. Overall, in all areas, I am excited to help continue the momentum and seeing the organization into the future as an International Director.

My three flying titles are: 777 First Officer, PA-28-180 owner/pilot, and hot air balloon owner/commercial pilot. My love of aviation includes all this and sharing that love and passion with others through The 99s.

To all 99s, it is my sincere hope you will consider re-electing me for the position of International Director. In this position, I will continue to utilize my years of aviation experience for further support of The 99s and for promoting the growth of the organization. It is an honor and privilege to serve on the board, as I am dedicated and devoted to The 99s.



#### Nivedita Bhasin India Section

My journey with The Ninety-Nines began in 1983 when I became a Commercial Pilot. The next year I became an Airline Pilot and in a career spanning 37 years and 22000 hours, I have flown the Turboprop F27, jets like the B737, A300 and A330 and the most advanced fly-by-wire aircraft B787.

As a 99, I have held the positions of Scholarship & Membership Chairs, Vice Governor and currently I am an International Director as well as the Governor of the India Section. I have dedicated my life to Aviation & Aerospace Education, visiting Schools, Colleges, giving talks and interviews on radio, TV, and sharing my aviation experiences with children. I believe, "If you can see it, you can be it" and, in the process, have inspired many young girls and boys to follow their dreams.

The Ninety-Nines have provided great support and strength to me, and I take pride in saying that I have helped put India on the world map making India the country with the highest percentage of Women Pilots.

Now is the time to 'Pay it Forward'. It will be my endeavour to make The Ninety-Nines more diverse and inclusive. My position as Director, based in India, will help inspire and encourage girls from across Asia, the Middle East as well as Far East to actively participate in all 99s activities and thus increase our visibility in the international aviation world.

I would be honoured if you would re-elect me to serve as an International Director.

CANDIDATES FOR

#### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE - VOTE FOR TWO**



#### Mae Marquet NOLA Chapter, Southeast Section

I have been a member of The 99s since 2008. I want to continue to serve but have had family issues that limit me. I believe the position on this committee is one I can manage considering family limitations. I have served The 99s in the past, particularly on the Section Board for the last eight years. I support the mission of The 99s. I hope we will continue to give the best to women seeking their pilot certificate and further endorsements. I will do my best to keep our organization strong.



#### Karissa Davan Katahdin Wings Chapter, New England Section

When I began my aviation adventure, I never expected that there was an organization like The Ninety-Nines and that I would become a part of it. Involvement with The Ninety-Nines has made made aviation more than just flying an airplane and much more fun. I have learned through aviation to be someone I never thought I could be.

In 2015, I took a float plane ride over Moosehead Lake in northern Maine that would change the way I looked at the world. I now have a Cessna 182 named Adventure and have my private pilot certificate, seaplane rating, high performance and complex ratings.

I am serving my second term as Chair of the Katahdin Wings and am a Director for the New England section. I was Katahdin Wing's scholarship chair, and planned the youth event for the ARC terminus in Fryeburg. I have served on many community boards. In my professional life, I have practiced law for three decades. I was in public service for most of my career, but in 2021 I started my own law practice and have incorporated aviation law as part of that.

I would be honored to serve The Ninety-Nines on the nominating committee. My goal for the organization would be to develop the next generation of female pilots in leadership positions. I would very much enjoy meeting female pilots and hearing the stores they have to tell.

#### AMELIA EARHART MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND TRUSTEE - VOTE FOR ONE



#### Susan Passmore Old Dominion Chapter, Mid-Atlantic Section

It was my examiner who encouraged me to join The Ninety-Nines. The day I took my private pilot practical test was the 100th birthday of Fay Gillis Wells, one of the founding members of The 99s. Learning about Fay was the fun part of my oral exam! I joined in 2009; since then, The 99s have given me some amazing aviation experiences and opportunities for new friendships all over the world.

Learning to fly led me to a career change. After almost 25 years in the computer industry, I became a program manager for the FAA. I created a multi-disciplinary research team to prototype and test new concepts to improve the efficiency and safety of the National Airspace System. I used all the skills I learned over the course of my career to solve aviation challenges.

I've supported The 99s with my volunteer time because the organization has given me so much. I served as Chair and Vice Chair of the Old Dominion chapter and as Vice Governor of the Mid-Atlantic Section. As Chapter AEMSF Chair, I witnessed the many challenges for members to complete their flight training and achieve their aviation goals. I was so excited to see my recipients and mentees complete their milestones.

Now retired, I have the time and resources to support the AEMSF Trust. I will be honored to use trust funds wisely to open doors for 99s through flight training scholarships. I ask for your vote for that opportunity.



#### Judy Shaw British Columbia Coast Chapter, West Canada Section

Hang up my headset? Not yet. It is time to give back or pay forward to an organization that has provided me with camaraderie and opportunity for over eleven years. Participation in 'Women Can Fly' community programs, fly out weekends with 99s and friends, flights up the Hudson River, four compass roses, years of Chapter and Section secretarial duties to name just a few, all have made me a better pilot. Aviation is an expensive pasttime and the opportunities made available through The 99's scholarship programs are, I believe, one of the best means to assist and promote new and current members. With years of international teaching and training experience and now time, I would welcome an opportunity to serve as a trustee for the AEMSF.



#### Helen Consolino Phoenix Chapter, Southwest Section

I am greatly honored to be nominated for the position of AEMSF trustee. As a member of The Ninety-Nines since 2011 and as a professional pilot with extensive experience spanning the USA and Europe in many facets, I feel well qualified to fulfill the role of trustee.

My career got off the ground in 2000 as a flight instructor, followed by a corporate pilot, and then to an airline pilot. My various roles have included manager of flight training and safety, examiner, captain and first officer. The trustee position will enable me to utilize the knowledge and experience that I have gained during six years as chapter scholarship chair and two years as section scholarship co-chair.

I look forward to working closely with the permanent trustees. I also look forward to increasing my involvement with The Ninety-Nines from a responsible role and to apply my experience to help maintain the philosophy of the organization.

My commitments to the trustee role include: gaining a deeper understanding of the organization, the AEMSF, the processes and regulations, seeking improvements by listening to and acting on feedback constructively, helping and supporting from the bottom up and developing ways to share clear and concise information and instructions in a simplified manner. I will endeavor to ensure the most worthy committed candidates are recommended to the scholarship judges.

It would be wonderful to gain this progression and to have an opportunity to make a difference within this amazing organization.

CANDIDATE FOR

#### **ENDOWMENT FUND TRUSTEE** - VOTE FOR ONE



#### Brenda Thibodeau Katahdin Wings Chapter, New England Section

When asked to consider an elected position, one must ask themselves if they have the skillset to fulfill the requirements of the position. Endowments are critical to nonprofit organizations such as The Ninety Nines to insure sustainability. It is the responsibility of the committee to work together to assure members that the financial needs of the organization can be met and, if not, find a solution for the lack of funds. When I received my pilots license in 2003, I joined The Ninety Nines to support women in aviation. It didn't take long for me to offer to serve in many different capacities for my local chapter, the Katahdin Wings in the New England Section. My experience as a trustee of nonprofits, a business owner, 2018 Air Race Classic Terminus Chair and Board Director, and most recently the Endowment Fund Treasurer has been rewarding. Since becoming a pilot, I have met some incredible women and have learned from them. I am happy to share my experiences and skillset to insure The Ninety Nines is in good financial health so we may continue our mission and have lots of fun along the way. When asked why I enjoy this kind of work, my answer is always to open doors for others. Supporting women in aviation is a privilege and honor.

#### **MUSEUM OF WOMEN PILOTS TRUSTEE** - VOTE FOR TWO



#### Tweet T. Coleman Daytona 99s Chapter, Southeast Section

"The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is merely tenacity" - Amelia Earhart.

I joined The 99s Aloha Chapter in March 1984, then became a life member in March 2005. I held several chapter positions over the years, which enabled me to recruit others to join in supporting and sharing aviation experiences with others.

I was a pilot for Continental Airlines, flew the Boeing 727 & 747, served 22 years with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and received a doctorate degree in Aerospace Aviation Education from Oklahoma State University. I was selected to be a member of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi.

For five years, I was based in OKC with the FAA International Division. During that time, we had several International Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) managers and inspectors taking courses at the FAA campus. One of the highlights of their trip was taking them to the 99s Museum of Women Pilots. The participants would remark on the importance of the aviation museum being inspiring and educational. Clearly, the museum is a sense of pride for OKC, women and the flying community.

Currently, I belong to EAA Chapter 534, serve as a mentor for the high school students who are in the Aviation Club. I spoke at Sun n' Fun Aerospace Expo in 2022, and volunteer with Florida Aviation Network.

I will promote the growth and development of the museum. I ask for your vote. Thank you!



#### **Dianne Earhart** Greater St Louis Chapter, North Central Section

I have devoted my life to aviation as a vocation and avocation. I believe it is vital to preserve history and blaze a trail for the future. I bring experience and vision to aviation, particularly mentoring young females. As a pilot for five decades and during which 30 years, eight months, and ten days were spent as an air traffic controller, I have a rapport with people in many facets of the aviation community. I remain active in the local aviation community as a member of several organizations, including Aero Careers NFP and as a flight instructor. I am an outspoken advocate for underserved members of the community. I am hard-working, responsible, and dedicated to any group that earns my loyalty. I strive to maintain a balance between "this is the way we've always done it" and "let's try something new." If given an opportunity, I am unlikely to let anyone down who believes in me.

CANDIDATES FOR

#### **AMELIA EARHART BIRTHPLACE MUSEUM TRUSTEE** - VOTE FOR TWO



#### **Emmy Dillon** San Diego Chapter, Southwest Section

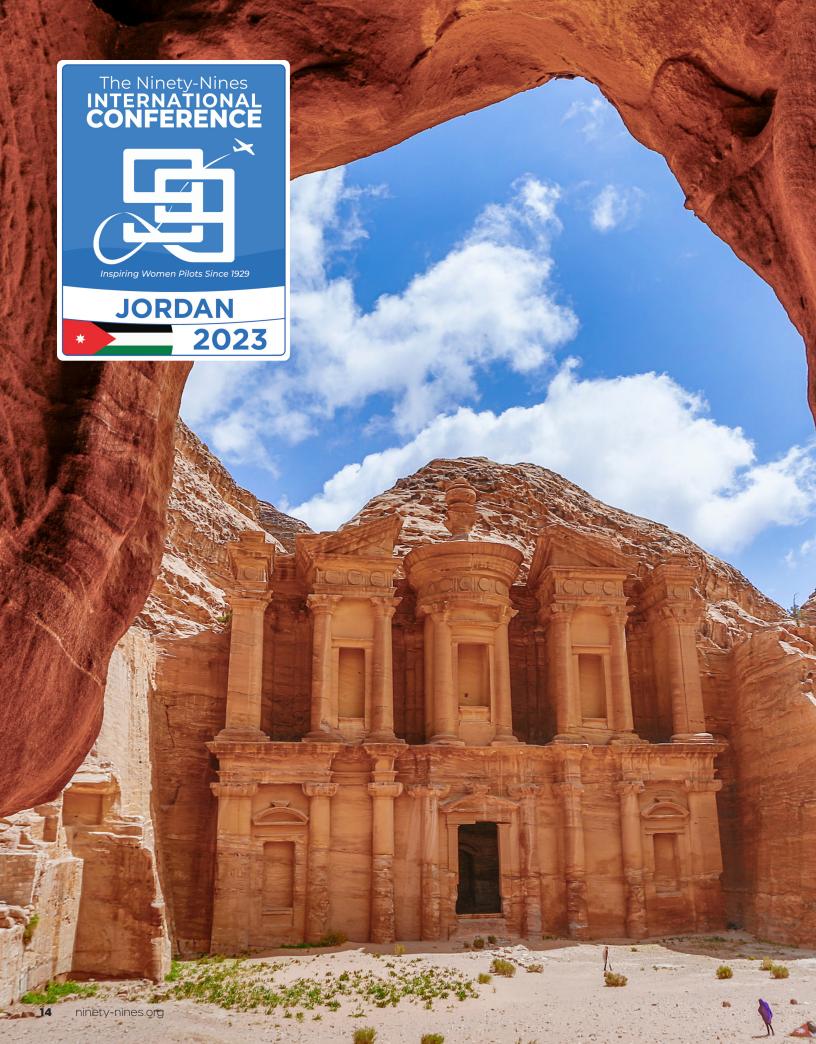
As a current member of the Board of Trustees to the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum, I can say with profound confidence that our museum has made great strides in the restoration of Amelia's home and memory and overall advancement as a museum. Over the last three years, I have served as the Treasurer; however, should I be re-elected to the Board, I would be taking on a new role within the Board. As a non-officer director, I am excited at the prospect of working on special projects with the museum staff and other Board members to continue the expansion of the museum's programs and restoration projects. Over the last 3 years, the Board of Trustees and the museum have created extensive plans, establishing a timeline of great growth and development. The established teamwork and committees amongst the Board of Trustees and museum staff have proven to be productive and innovative, continuing the focus on maintaining and accurately restoring Amelia's childhood home and legacy that is so vibrant within Atchison. Should I be elected to this new-to-me position on the Board of Trustees, I would be honored to be able to participate and help facilitate the plans that have been developed. Amelia's birthplace home will become an even greater icon than solely within Atchison or the aviation community – Amelia's childhood home will become a national icon.



#### Lindsey R. Dreiling South Central Section, Air Capital Chapter

Aerospace, aviation, and transportation is my soul. I am very passionate about serving the industry as a dedicated leader and advocate for all aviation. I thrive in environments that push the boundaries of what is possible and I love building – building teams, developing infrastructure, and designing new programs. The Ninety-Nines spirit matches mine and I am very interested in supporting growth of women in aviation career fields

As a person inspired by the future, I have the ability to envision opportunities and create a path to success. I will continue to advocate and lead innovation projects that impact the future of the aviation industry and I am very excited about the opportunity this position holds for Kansas and the aviation community. Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.





# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE DEAD SEA – JORDAN OCT 27 – NOV 2, 2023

By Minnetta Gardinier, 99s Vice President

ill you be joining your sister 99s for our 2023 International 99s Conference in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in October? Alia Twal, Governor of the Arabian Section, is looking forward to welcoming us to Jordan where we will come together at the Dead Sea Marriott Resort & Spa. We will hold our conference at the Marriott on October 27 and 28 (Fri/Sat). Once we finish our business, we can board the tour buses to explore and learn more about Jordan – visiting Petra, the Wadi Rum desert camps, Aqaba, and ending our adventure in Amman.

#### **Fun Facts About Jordan**

- 1 Lonely Planet announced Jordan among its coveted "Best in Travel" spots for 2023! It's an annual list of the Top 30 destinations world-wide it's "the ultimate place for adventure" and relaxation. Pre-COVID tourism in Jordan exceeded 5 million visitors to a country of just 10-11 million citizens. During the first half of 2022 over 2.5 million tourists visited, including a 300+% increase among visitors from the Americas over the previous year during the pandemic. Learn more: www.lonelyplanet.com/articles/top-things-to-do-in-jordan
- 2 Jordan is home to five UNESCO World Heritage sites, including Petra, Wadi Rum, Quseir Amra (8th century desert castle), Um er-Rasas (ancient Roman archaeological site), and Al-Maghtas (also known as "Bethany beyond Jordan" or Jesus' baptism site).
- 3 Looking for a hike? You can cross Jordan, walking from north to south on the Jordan Trail, in about 40 days.
- 4 If Petra and the Wadi Rum look familiar when you visit, perhaps you saw them in the movies Lawrence of Arabia, Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade, The Martian, and Rogue One: A Star Wars Story.
- Amman, Jordan's capital, is one of the oldest cities in human civilization dating back to the 13th century BC! It was once known as Philadelphia, named after Egyptian pharaoh Ptolemy Philadelphus, who rebuilt it.

## Planning Your Travel to Jordan

**Climate:** Late October and early November is the best time of year and 'high season' for traveling in Jordan. At the Dead Sea, daily high/low averages are 71°F/58°F; Aqaba on the Red Sea, 85°F/64°F. Pack your bags accordingly.

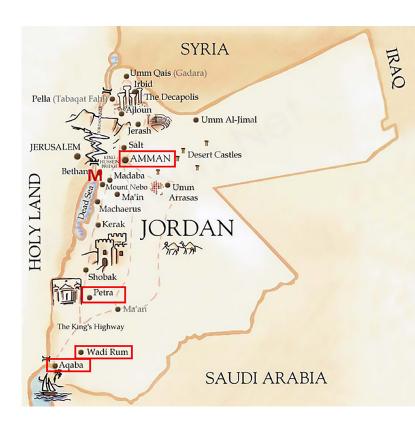
**Dress**: When considering what to pack for clothing, Jordan is relaxed compared to its neighboring countries but is still viewed as conservative by many Western countries. For comfort while traveling and to respect the culture of the country we're visiting, a good general rule is to keep shoulders, arms, and legs covered when possible. It's also a good way to avoid sunburn and insect bites.

**Safety concerns:** Jordan is one of the most liberal countries in the Middle East and considered to be very safe. Crime rates are very low and have been declining. If you research safety rankings for Jordan, you'll find that it is actually safer than the U.S. in nearly every category! Because tourism is a significant part of the Jordanian economy, the government takes tourism and the safety of tourists extremely seriously.

Passport/Visa: Make sure that your passport is valid AND that it has more than 6 months before the expiration date when you plan to leave Jordan. Check the visa requirements between your home country and Jordan. For U.S. citizens, you can obtain a single-entry visa upon arrival at Queen Alia International Airport (QAIA) and most international land border crossings. Cost is 40 Jordanian Dinars (JD), and the visa is valid for one month. In general, nearly all European, North American, and South American countries can access the same single-entry visa at QAIA upon arrival. Citizens of other 'restricted' countries will need to pre-arrange for a visa before arriving in Jordan. Check the requirements for your country and plan ahead.

**Health insurance:** Contact your health insurance provider to ensure that you will have coverage while traveling in Jordan. Most domestic policies do not cover you outside the U.S.; specifically, Medicare/Medicaid is NOT valid outside the U.S. Jordan requires that all visitors have a valid health insurance policy for the duration of their stay. Be sure to purchase travel medical insurance for coverage while in Jordan AND bring a copy with you.

**Credit/ATM cards:** Advise your card issuers that you will be traveling to Jordan. Consider bringing more than one credit card in case one is declined. Check that your credit cards do not charge foreign transaction fees. In general, bank ATMs are a good place to obtain cash. Credit/ATM cards will be accepted in resort areas and cities, but that may not be the case in areas like the Wadi Rum desert camps and Petra. Carry some local currency; smaller bills are better. Many smaller vendors prefer cash payments in JD.



# Air Travel & Arrival Information

We anticipate that most attendees will travel by air and arrive at the Queen Alia International Airport (AMM/QAIA), which is about 40 miles east of the Dead Sea Marriott Resort & Spa (one-hour drive) and 22 miles southeast of Amman (30 min drive).

Currently, nonstop flights from North America include departures from Chicago (ORD), Detroit (DTW), Montreal (YUL), New York City (JFK), and Washington DC (IAD). They are operated by Royal Jordanian Airlines (ORD, DTW, YUL, JFK) and United Airlines (IAD). Many one- or two-stop flights are also available on a variety of airlines. Royal Jordanian Airlines is a partner in the **one**world Alliance of airlines (www.oneworld.com), which may be useful when coordinating your flights.

Nonstop flights from North America will be about 11-13 hours. Needless to say, you'll want to arrive early in Jordan and give yourself time to relax and acclimate after the long flight. Consider arriving at least a couple days before the conference opens on Friday, October 27. Arrive early and give yourself time to enjoy the Dead Sea before touring across Jordan after the conference.

Upon arrival, you'll collect your luggage and clear customs. If you did not have to pre-arrange your visa, then you'll purchase your visa at QAIA. Once your paperwork is in order and you have your luggage, consider stopping by an ATM in the airport to get some JD. We expect that many 99s may arrive on the same flights into QAIA, and we'll try to arrange a spot to meet for your ground transportation. You will be able to reserve a shuttle/car for transportation to the Dead Sea Marriott Resort & Spa (details coming soon).

#### PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

	FRIDAY	11:00 - 17:00	Registration / Credentials	
	OCTOBER 27		Hospitality	
		12:00 - 13:30	Presidents / Governors Luncheon	
		14:00 – 15:00	Council of Governors Meeting	
		16:00 – 18:00	IBOD Meeting	
		19:00 – 21:00	Welcome Reception	
	SATURDAY OCTOBER 28	10:00 – 15:00	Registration / Credentials Hospitality	
	OUTOBEH 20	12:00 - 13:30	Life Members Luncheon	
		16:00 – 18:00	Annual Business Meeting	
		20:00 - 22:30	99s International AEMSF & Awards Banquet	
	SUNDAY	00:00	Checkout, Post-Conference Tour begins	
	OCTOBER 29	09:00 10:00 – 13:00	Travel to Petra	
	OUTOBER 20	13:30 - 18:00	Lunch / Explore Petra	
		18:30 - 20:00	Travel to the Wadi Rum Desert Camps	
		21:00	Dinner	
		21.00	Diffici	
	MONDAY OCTOBER 30	ALL DAY	Optional activities (including): Hot Air Balloon Rides, Jeep Tours in the Desert, Microlight Flying, Camel Rides	
		14:00	Lunch at a Desert Castle	
		After sunset	Optional activity: Stargazing	
		20:00	Dinner & Entertainment	
	TUESDAY	9:00 – 11:30	Hijazi Train – Great Arab Revolution	
	OCTOBER 31	12:00 - 13:00	Lunch	
		13:30 - 15:30	Travel to Aqaba (Red Sea)	
		16:00	Check-in at Hyatt Regency Aqaba Ayla Oasis	
		18:00 – 20:00	Reception & Charity Raffle	
	WEDNESDAY	All day	Explore Aqaba – shops, restaurants, bars, beaches/lagoons	
	NOVEMBER 1	TIME TBD	Optional activity: boat trip (snorkeling, diving, visit underwater C-130 Hercules wreck)	
		20:00 - 22:00	Farewell Ceremony	
	THURSDAY November 2	10:00	Depart for Amman	



#### Dead Sea Marriott Resort & Spa

Our conference hotel is located on the shore of the Dead Sea, the lowest point on Earth, with picturesque views of the Jordan Valley. This award-winning, 5-star resort offers a balance of soothing escape and local culture. Arrive early to unwind and relax. Conference rates are available from October 25-30, 2023.

	Deluxe Room	Superior Room	Pool View Room
Single Rate	119 JD	129 JD	139 JD
Double Rate	129 JD	139 JD	149 JD

Includes breakfast, internet, access to fitness center and outdoor swimming pool. Guests may eat at the main restaurant for 18 JD per person per meal. A web link for booking your room will be available on the conference webpage.

Members must book their rooms by **September 25**, **2023**. More info: www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/qmdjv-dead-sea-marriott-resort-and-spa/

Diver at the Hercules C-130 in Aqaba's underwater museum.



#### **Optional Tours & Activities**

Governor Twal and the Arabian Section are excited to host The 99s in Jordan and to have The 99s join them on a postconference tour of some of the most amazing and magical places in Jordan. You will be surrounded by and immersed in the beauty and history of this country that bridges east and west. We hope that everyone boards the buses on Sunday morning to share in this adventure together.

#### Post-Conference Tour (Oct 29 – Nov 2):

Governor Twal has secured generous sponsors and supporters to subsidize your post-conference travel. Your cost will be 200 JD (approx. \$280), and you will need to pay this post-conference tour fee on-site when you check in and register for the conference at the Dead Sea Marriott Resort & Spa.

The Post-Conference Tour includes:

- Bus transportation to Petra, Aqaba, and Amman (Oct 29 – Nov 2)
- Petra includes entrance fee and lunch at the Movenpik (Oct 29)
- Wadi Rum two-night stay in a desert camp; includes two breakfasts (10/30-31) and two dinners (10/29-30)
- Wadi Rum Hijazi Train / Great Arab Revolution experience (Oct 31)
- Wadi Rum lunch at a desert castle (Oct 31)
- Agaba reception and charity raffle ticket (Oct 31)
- Aqaba closing farewell ceremony (Nov 1)

**Additional optional activities:** During your stay in the Wadi Rum and in Aqaba, you can choose from a variety of experiences to make some more lifetime memories to bring home. Start making your plans!

#### **Optional Activities**

LOCATION	ACTIVITY	COST	DETAILS
Wadi Rum	Stargazing experience	20 JD	
	Hot air balloon flight	140 JD	weather-dependent
	Desert jeep ride	35 (2 hours) / 50 (3 hours) / 75 (4 hours) JD	
	Camel ride	15 JD (1 hour)	
	Microlight flight	45 JD (20 minutes)	weather-dependent
Aqaba	Boat trip / snorkeling (Red Sea)	35 JD	Includes: buffet lunch & soft drinks, marina fees, equipment, towels
	Boat trip / intro dive	60 JD	
	Boat trip / certified divers	80 JD (2 dive sites)	

#### **Hyatt Regency Aqaba Ayla Oasis**

If you are taking the post-conference tour, don't forget to book your room for the two-night stay in Aqaba. Single rate, 310 JD (two nights); double rate, 330 JD (two nights) – includes breakfast. The first 25 rooms booked by April 1 will be upgraded to a club room with access to the Regency Club lounge. Book EARLY! A web link for booking your room will be available on the conference webpage. The room block expires September 30, 2023.

Visit: www.hyatt.com/en-US/hotel/jordan/hyatt-regency-aqaba-ayla-resort/aqira

#### **Returning Home**

Our conference and post-conference tour ends in Aqaba with transportation provided back to Amman for members and guests to regroup and catch their flights home. For those spending an extra day or more in Amman, Governor Twal has suggested a stay at the Grand Hyatt Amman. It is a reasonably priced hotel located in an area with many shops and restaurants nearby. Depending on your flight times, a few may choose to simply catch dinner in Amman and catch a ride to the airport for that 'red eye' flight home.

Visit: www.hyatt.com/en-US/hotel/jordan/grand-hyatt-amman/ammgh

#### **Registration Information**

Conference information, registration forms and instructions for online registration will be available soon on the Conference website. Go to www.ninety-nines.org and click on the conference logo.



Visit our Conference Page www.ninety-nines.org/conference.htm

#### 99s Full Registration and Fees

Full Registration: Includes conference materials, access to Hospitality Suite, Welcome Reception, AE Scholarship and Annual Awards Banquet, and option to purchase post-conference tours and activities.

- Early Registration March 1 – May 30, 2023 \$250 USD
- On-Time Registration
  June 1 August 15, 2023
  \$300 USD
- Late Registration After August 15, 2023 \$350 USD

See the Conference website for registration information for Friends of The Ninety-Nines, Guests, and one-day registration options.

Cancellation Policy: If cancellation is received before September 10, 2023, a full refund less \$50 will be provided; if received September 10-25, 2023, full refund less \$100; NO refunds will be given after September 25, 2023. A \$25 fee will be charged for each guest cancellation. Substitutions will be accepted at any time.

#### **Questions?**

For conference questions, contact: Vice President Gardinier (m.gardinier@gmail.com).

For tour questions, contact: Governor Twal (twalalia@icloud.com).





here was nothing easy for **Edna Gardner Whyte** (1902-1992). With the economy of a true race pilot, literally and figuratively, Edna's autobiography with 99 News Editor Ann L. Cooper summarized her life in three words, Rising Above It.

After Edna won the 1934 Baltimore pylon race, there was a long debate about whether the prize money she earned should be given to a woman. She got the award, but the next year the race was posted as being for men only. And still, she rose above it.

We all stand on the shoulders of Edna's pioneering successes. Come celebrate her on April 21 at the Texas Aviation Hall of Fame enshrinement luncheon at the Lone Star Flight Museum in Houston, Texas. It is a taxi-up and attend location at Ellington Airport (KEFD). If you come in the night before, a block of rooms and dinner has been arranged. Having been last year, I can vouch for the superb event! It is the only place to receive Edna's custom Class of 2023 heavy commemorative coin. You will leave a more inspired person.

"When Texas bankers refused to loan her money to start her own airport, true grit got her what she wanted; she borrowed money from friends and blazed a runway across a cotton field." - Karen Di Piazza, Airport Journals.

In 1969, at age 67, Edna purchased land in Roanoke, Texas, and founded her own airport and a flight school, Aero Valley Airport (52F). When I first met Edna in 1972, she was already a Legend with a capital L. At 22, I was co-pilot to my mom, Hall of Famer Marion Jayne, at the All Women's International Air Race, a race both Edna and Mom had already won in previous years. In 1984,



Top: Edna with vintage aircraft c. 1930s. Bottom:Edna with Cherokee, 1958 Addison Airport Addison, Texas

after I received a promotion from IBM, we bought a house in Roanoke, Texas, and used the sectional to drive our car to *her airport*. I still own the hangar where my Twin Comanche was for three decades--it is one of 300 hangars today at 52F ...and to think, Texas bankers had refused to lend Edna money to build the airport. She borrowed money from friends to start it. She rose above it with another business success.

At age ten, Edna was a quasi-orphan and was raised by an aunt in Minnesota. She graduated high school and earned her Registered Nurse certificate at age 22. She used her wages from her nursing jobs to take flying lessons in Renton,

- 35,000 hours
- 4,500 students
- 125 air racing trophies
- Ninety-Nines President
- Several successful aviation businesses
- Six decades in aviation

Washington, and got her private pilot license at 26. A year later she taught her first student. Three years later, Edna received her appointment to the Navy Nurse Corps and was stationed in Great Lakes Naval Hospital just north of Chicago. As a Navy nurse stationed in Washington, D.C., in 1933, Edna was one of the country's first female flight instructors and instructed at several airports around the Washington, D.C. area. Edna received the Bronze Medal for Air Show Aerobatics from the Veterans of Foreign Wars in 1933.

In 1935, a year after the Baltimore race controversy, with just ten aircraft, Edna opened her first flight school in Louisiana. As Edna Kidd, she owned and operated New Orleans Air College, and in 1937, she welcomed her friend Amelia Earhart to town on her unannounced round-the-world attempt. Edna was featured in *Look* magazine as the top woman pilot in the late 1930s, having 2,888 hours. The pilot ranking fourth was Amelia Earhart, with 1,794 hours. Eighth place was Louise McFetridge Thaden. Louise had won the 1929 California to Cleveland race. Edna dreamed of becoming a commercial airline pilot. She flew everything with wings, became a helicopter pilot, and joined The Whirly-Girls.

During WWII, Edna trained military pilots at Meacham Field in Fort Worth, Texas, and then served in the Army Nurse Corps in the Philippines. After the war, Edna trained veterans to fly for the Veterans' Administration. She also served as a Red Cross nurse during a polio outbreak in 1949-50. In 1955-57 she served as The Ninety-Nines fourteenth President, and somewhere in there, she was a founding member of the Ft. Worth 99s Chapter. Edna had such a profound influence on the men she trained that she became an honorary member of the Daedalians, a fraternity of military pilots.

Edna won more than two dozen air races. Her last cross-country race, in 1979, honored the 50th anniversary of the 1929 race that fermented the formation of The Ninety-Nines. She raced from California to Columbus and was recognized for her trailblazing leadership by launching an hour before the rest of the race field so she could arrive first at the Cleveland Burke Lakefront Airport (KBKL) terminus.

Aerobatics, cross-country or pylon racing – if it was a competition, Edna was there. She captured the spirit of pylon racing in her book. "I loved racing. I loved the surge of power, the fight to stay low, fast, close to the pylons, yanking and banking in the turbulent air. I love winning..."

Edna kept instructing until age 88, when she had an in-air heart attack. She lived another two years and her message to others was, "Stay active until the very last minute ... Keep a passion for living in your life."

Edna Gardner Whyte's legacy lives on at Aero Valley Airport in Roanoke, Texas.





Texas Aviation Hall of Fame.

For more information about attending Edna's April 21 induction ceremony, contact Pat Keefer at pjkeefer@gmail.com.

For more information about the Texas Aviation Hall of Fame go to lonestarflight.org/hall-of-fame/

Sources: University of North Texas - Denton, Texas | 99s Museum of Women Pilots - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma | Women in Aviation International - Germantown, Ohio | Personal memories of 99 Patricia Jayne Keefer | 99s Dr Monica Randolph-Graham's submission to Historical Society | *Rising Above It* by Edna Gardner Whyte and Ann L. Cooper | Texas Aviation Hall of Fame | Lone Star Flight Museum | Addison Airport Facebook page.



#### Ask a DPE



**Julie Paasch** *Mount Tahoma Chapter* 

Do you have a question that you've always wanted to ask a DPE?

E-mail Julie Paasch at askadpe99@gmail.com

Your question may be answered in the next issue!

# Why are DPEs now taking care of some administrative functions, such as renewing CFI certificates, previously handled only by the local FSDO?

Like many organizations, the FAA has an enormous workload, much of which can be very time-consuming. In an effort to create more efficiency and better serve the public flying community, Flight Standards District Offices (FSDOs) are now training Designated Pilot Examiners (DPEs) to handle some select administrative duties.

Some of the administrative functions approved DPEs can now process include:

- · Foreign pilot conversions
- · Canadian IPL conversions
- · Renewing CFI certificates
- · Military conversions
- · Ground CFI certificates
- · Removing SOE limitations
- · SIC type ratings
- · Special medical flight tests

For added convenience and efficiency, approved DPEs can take care of many of these functions via Zoom.

Most examiners charge a fee, so ask before you make an appointment. Also, please note that not every examiner is approved to perform each administrative function, but the FSDO can refer you to an authorized administrator for your needs.

Each administrative function has unique requirements. For instance, converting a foreign pilot certificate and Canadian conversions require a lot more time to process and can be very complicated depending on which country the person wants to convert their certificate from. Prior to begining the conversion process, the person has to go to Integrated Airman Certification and Rating Application (IACRA) and get a foreign pilot verification letter which sometimes takes about a month to receive. So make sure to plan ahead.

It's also important to note that for every administrative function or checkride an examiner is tasked to complete, they must get approval at least 24 hours in advance. We need certain applicant information to ensure this approval is complete in Designee Management System (DMS). Also, some functions still have to be completed using a paper 8710 and not in IACRA. Your examiner will notify you of this.

Special medical flight tests are the newest function for DPEs to be approved to complete. An example of a special medical flight test is someone who is color blind or missing a limb and wants to qualify for a medical certificate or get a limitation removed from their medical. There are not a lot of examiners that can process these yet, and many applicants have been waiting many months to complete them. We are hopeful that more DPEs will soon be approved so we can help the public to get these tests completed.

While I am not approved to process all of these functions, I can do many of them. If you are having a hard time finding someone to process your application, feel free to send me an email. Also, please send me any questions you have always wanted to ask a DPE at askadpe99@gmail.com.

#### Milestones

#### **Carly Anderson**

Instrument - Los Angeles



**Stacey Burgess** Instrument - Washington DC



Michaela Chroustova Multi-IFR - British Columbia Coast



**Amy Crider** Multi-IFR - British Columbia Coast



Deva Ganesan Multi-IFR - British Columbia Coast



Olivia Gluck Private - Wisconsin

#### Jinelle Graves

Solo

- Orange County



Crystal Hoffman Multi-engine - San Diego



Stephanie Kight **CFI** 

- Old Dominion

#### Yelena Kozenkova Private

- San Diego



Sarah Krammen Instrument



**Sherry Ann** Ketcham E145 Type Rating - Bay Cities



Ella Kidd Solo

– Tennessee

#### **Cindy King** Private

Mississippi



Sydney Lavoi Private

- Lake Charles

#### **Eyonnie Lopez** Private

Orange County

#### **Tiffany Meredith**

- Kentucky Bluegrass

#### **Cindy Morris**

- Orange County

#### Mandi Neumann

Instrument

– Wisconsin

#### **Lauren Okimoto**

CFII

- Orange County

#### Rebecca Jean Peric

Instrument

– British Columbia Coast



Morgen Reeb Boeing 777 Captain type rating Old Dominion



Samantha (Sam) Stahl

Private

- Old Dominion

#### Annika Sun

Class 4 Flight Instructor Rating

#### **Kacy Thompson**

Instrument

- Kentucky Bluegrass

#### Lien Tran

Private

- British Columbia Coast

#### **Denise Touchstone**

Instrument

- Mississippi



Madeline Ungurain

– British Columbia Coast



Victoria Waller

Instrument - Maryland

#### Careers



Change By Donna Miller

There is a kind of magicness about going far away and then coming back all changed.

- Kate Douglas Wiggin (1856-1923)

I often think about my first solo. It's not that I went so far away, except that I went so far up alone for the first time. No doubt you've felt it too. You came back "all changed." Once you fly an airplane for the first time by yourself, you are never the same again. That is the skill and confidence you gain to venture out beyond your comfort zone, where it has been said, the magic lies. You complete your long cross country, and the next thing you know, you have a card in your wallet that says you can take friends and family with you into the magic. Some go on to teach others how to find the magic zone, and some find careers to carry others, total strangers, into the magic where they would never dare venture out on their own.

I think about world travelers who fly to a different country to see something new or to learn a new language. Their lives are never the same when they return "all changed", and almost without exception, they travelled by air. As pilots, we recognize that flying there is often the best part of the journey.

Fifty years ago, a girl named Emily realized her dream of flying and opened the door for many of us. I think of Emily Warner quite often and how she not only opened the door for us to pursue our own dreams in the sky as airline pilots, but she held the door open as we all came through. She was inspired by the WASP (Women Air Force Service Pilots) of WWII, who showed her that women could fly the heavy bombers beyond their comfort zones and into the magic.

Before the WASP, there were Harriet Quimby and Blanche Stuart Scott, Bessica Raiche and Bessie Coleman, then the early 99s: Amelia Earhart and Fay Gillis Wells, and the air racers like Louise Thaden.

I love that Eileen Collins, who has seen the earth from space four times as the Space Shuttle Pilot and Commander, was inspired not only by the WASP but also by the Mercury Thirteen, including Wally Funk and Gene Nora Jessen. How can you not be in the magic zone when you are over 250 miles from earth? Until the twentieth century, most women hadn't been 250 miles from home. How can you not be profoundly changed by that experience?

What is it that all of these women who came before us saw? What was it that they wanted to experience that they hadn't? Was it that they wanted so much to be changed that they broke down the doors? (or in Julie Clark's case, offered to put one up in the men's room that threatened to stand between her and an airline career.) How fortunate for all of us that they did.

Perhaps it was just that they wanted to experience the magicness. Whatever it was and continues to be, we can allow their bravery to inspire us to pursue our own journeys and come back "all changed."

#### **Grass Roots**

#### **ARABIAN SECTION**



Meet Our Members

My name is **Sarah Al Wasaibei** and I'm from Bahrain. My whole career has been in aviation, an industry I didn't know I was going to be a part of but love so much! After more than a decade working for an airline, I decided I wanted to venture to the operational side and pursue a flying career!

I currently work full time whilst studying. I'm super excited to graduate and represent this special community of women and see where my new career takes me.



I'm **Fayzah Al-Rabie**, from Saudi Arabia. First pilot in my family. Aviation is the oxygen to my blood, I adore each and every thing related to it. The aircraft, its sound, view, and movement deeply fascinates me and cheers my heart up.

My passion started when I was three years old, as we were traveling a lot. Year after

year, my parents realized that I have a special relationship with the aircraft, especially for the captain and the cabins. Whenever the flight attendant points to my seat, I said my seat is not there, it's inside the cabins.

My dream and I grow up together. And, by the will of God Almighty, it became a reality. Today, I'm the top student pilot in OxfordSaudia Flight Academy, and have been nominated to continue my training in Melbourne, Australia. I'm very thankful to God for granting me success.



**Ataa Alrahman** is a 21-year-old Iraqi student pilot at the Royal Jordanian Air Academy, and a new member of the Arabian Section. She says, "My passion for flying started when I was 14. I faced many difficulties due to traditions because I'm an Iraqi girl, so girls can't be in this field. Also in Iraq, we don't have academies to study

aviation, but my family supported me to achieve my dream because I found my happiness in aviation. I'm the first pilot in the family. Although I faced problems and difficulties in my study path, I have to admit that I enjoyed every single moment of my flights, especially my solo flights. Even when I was studying to finish my exams and when I was preparing for my Commercial Pilot License (CPL) it was a very stressful time but I enjoyed it because I love what I do. I can say my best part of flying is making radio calls and enjoying my view. I'm about to graduate and hopefully I will find an opportunity to complete my life path with aviation as an airline pilot. In the end I want to say that I didn't choose aviation but aviation chose me and I'm lucky because I have the coolest office in the sky."



Hi everyone. I am **Aicha El Gharbi**, a Tunisian pilot with Qatar airways. I am currently a senior first officer on A350 and excited to upgrade soon.

I graduated at the age of 23 from Royal Jordanian Air Academy and later converted my license back home.

I was lucky to participate at Qatar airways screening in Tunisia. This success took me to A320 then A350 world. I was the first pilot in the family until my little sister decided to share the same passion. My brother works at the same field too. He is an aircraft powerplant engineer.

My ride was definitely not smooth, but today I feel happy about my achievements. Plus, my five-year-old daughter makes my world look perfectly beautiful.



**Suzana Asad** works at Royal Jordanian Airlines as a Captain on the Embraer. She says, "I always knew I will be a pilot since I was a kid. I studied aviation in Jordan, finishing my studies in 2008. I was enjoying every moment of my training phase. My favorite part of the flight is in cruise, especially at sunset, as well as every landing.

"I joined The 99s when my friend, Arabian Section Governor Alia Twal, introduced me to this amazing group. I really like the idea behind of The 99s, how the organization gathers women from all over the world having the same passion."

> - Alia Al Twal Arabian Section Governor







Top left: Kay Harmon making her tandem skydive on her 90th birthday (November 26). | Top right: Kay being interviewed by KSBW news. | Bottom: Monterey Bay 99s at SkyDive Monterey Bay @ Marina Airport are Carolyn Dugger, Jeanne Sabankaya, Kay Harmon, Michaele Serasio, Sophia Taylor-Home.

#### **MONTEREY BAY CHAPTER**

Kay Harmon, a life member, decided to spend her 90th birthday (November 26, 2022) skydiving with family and other Monterey Bay Chapter members. The tandem jump was above the Marina Airport (KOAR), California, at 15,000 feet. Kay started this tradition ten years ago and has jumped every five years. Other chapter members who jumped were Jeanne Sabankaya and Carolyn Dugger, and two on the ground, Michaele Serasio and Sophia Taylor-Home.

- Jeanne Sabankaya

#### **CHICAGO AREA CHAPTER**

Our Chapter is especially proud of the work we do to educate the flying public in the Chicago and wider Midwest area with our Annual IFR/VFR Safety Seminar and Flying Companion Course. We have done this for around 50 years, and it has grown. With the support and encouragement of the FAA Greater Chicago FSDO manager Luanne Wills-Merrell and our new FAASTeam Safety Manager D'Wayne Collins, along with equipment, some funding, and the vibrant presence of our brand new bureau Chief from IDOT, Division of Aeronautics, Jeff Hurst, Chicago 99s made it another great event.

Principal funding for this event is the Aviation Expo that takes place the same day. Our vendors join us to share their products and services, and advertise their businesses in our convention space: Airports, flight schools, an engine shop, aviation artists, authors and artisans, financial planning professionals, airlines, charitable flight organizations, an ophthalmologist and WAI Chicago's Leading Edge, all exhibit in the Expo area and gain valuable face time with prospective customers/members.

With approximately 300 in attendance, including an overflowing Flying Companion classroom, we were busy. Our Chapter members participated as speakers, vendors, content creators, salespersons, receptionists, raffle tickets sales, and photographers.

- Madeleine Monaco









Top left: Ellen O'Hara and Megan McArthur selling raffle tickets. |
Top right: Yanina Belaziorava Necker (program creator) and Leire Kennedy
teaching the Companions class | Bottom left: Eva Kozlowski introducing the
many vendors at the start of the day | Bottom right:
Vickie Szewczyk, Jennifer Chance, Ceci Strom, Madeleine Monaco
and Dinah Spadoni at Reception









#### **NEW JERSEY CHAPTER**

The New Jersey 99s held our Student Pilot Forum on November 5th, 2022, at C&W Aero Services, Essex County airport (KCDW). This event highlights aviation professionals presenting their topic of expertise, followed by a Q&A.

Our distinguished panel consisted of Deanna Lawson, CFI; Scott Dittamo, Air Traffic Controller Newark Airport; Byron Hamby, Designated Pilot Examiner; Madeline Nares, Student Pilot; Dr. Jeffrey Liva, Aviation Medical Examiner; and Meenal Paul, Moderator and CFI.

There were approximately 120 participants, including five organizations for our Meet and Greet tables, the Civil Air Patrol, Mid-Atlantic Pilots Association, EAA Chapter 501, and 99s author Bev Weintraub.

The forum provided a rich learning experience and networking opportunities for all age ranges and levels of expertise, including those interested in aviation and experienced pilots.

Please see our website—go to Student Pilot Forum in our Gallery at https://www.nj99s.org.

#### **Grass Roots**

#### THE EASTERN NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

The Eastern New England Chapter continued the longstanding tradition of delivering Cookies for Controllers on December 9, 2022. Members Sherry Grobstein, Candie Oldham, and Arlene Alexander baked the delicious treats, and Sherry and Arlene delivered them to Hyannis, New Bedford, Plymouth, and Norwood.

The Eastern New England Chapter Holiday Party was held on December 11, 2023 and was well attended, with members of all three New England Section Chapters, partners, and even one pilot mom showing up to share the fun. Candie Oldham was able to attend via Zoom, which was a great comfort to all of us.

- Beth Young









Top left: Arlene Alexander with the tower controllers at New Bedford | Top right: Sherry Grobstein delivering cookies at Sandpiper Air New Bedford. | Middle: Members of the Katahdin Wings and Connecticut Chapters joined the annual holiday festivities hosted by the Eastern New England Chapter. | Bottom: Talking with Candie Oldham and the others who joined the party via Zoom



L-R Cheryl McCord, Lisa Allen, Jodi Riley, Sharki Kontra. Kneeling L-R Sam Fritschle, Kathy Hughes

#### **IDAHO CHAPTER**

Idaho 99s Support SheTech Explorer Day 2023

Idaho 99s participated in SheTech Explorer Day Idaho, held January 31 at the College of Idaho.

Approximately 450 high school girls attended the event, a hands-on conference organized by the Idaho Women Innovators (W.IN) in conjunction with the Women Tech Council (WTC). WTC is a national organization focused on the economic impact of women in driving high growth in the technology sector.

Girls and their teachers took part in a tech challenge, attended workshops, and visited booths in the TechZone. The day was an opportunity for the girls to learn more about a wide range of careers in science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEaM).

The Idaho 99s Chapter hosted a booth with the theme "Careers in Aviation." Members of the Idaho 99s chatted with the girls about opportunities and their own journeys into aviation in a way that the students could relate. The 99s provided handouts on the extensive list of careers in aviation, a resource list of local aviation activities for students, aviation support organizations, scholarships, flight schools, and a nationwide college guide. The Chapter members also offered information on The Ninety-Nines, Idaho 99s stickers, and personalized 99s business cards with an open offer to mentor and answer any questions that might come up in their exploration of careers in aviation.

We are confident we will see some of these girls go into aviation career fields and look forward to their future contributions! It was an amazing day to be able to share the passion of aviation with so many outstanding girls as well as to be together with such a remarkable group of Idaho 99s.

- Kathryn Hughes

#### **Grass Roots**

#### INTERMOUNTAIN CHAPTER

Intermountain Chapter Hosts NWS Fall Business Meeting

The Intermountain Chapter of The Ninety-Nines (Eastern Washington/North Idaho) hosted the Northwest Section Fall Business Meeting September 16-18, 2022, at the Historic Flight Foundation/Museum based at Felts Field (KSFF) in Spokane, Washington. With all the unsettling events of the previous two years, we were pleased to welcome 47 members and guests to the first in-person Fall Business meeting solely sponsored by NWS 99s since 2019!

Hosted between the two cities of Spokane, Washington, and Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, there was plenty to do and see in conjunction with our Saturday meeting and WINGS presentation by Dr. Amy Hoover. Fine restaurants and shopping, a visit to the Pemberton Hangar, Lake Coeur d'Alene Dinner Cruises, raffles for Brooks Seaplane Tour over Lake Coeur d'Alene, boat rentals on Spokane River, scenic trails for hiking and biking, and, of course, the many awesome aircraft on display at the Historic Flight Museum where we dined under the wings of those historic planes, kept our guests busy enjoying our local area. We are proud of the participation and support of our sister 99s, as donations and contributions helped raise monies for our NWSD Scholarship Fund and our new Patty Mitchell Scholarship Fund.

Our Fall Business Meeting of the Great Northwest Chapters of The Ninety-Nines had something for everyone – even the weather cooperated. Please consider this an invitation to all our 99s sisters to attend our next NWS Fall/Spring Meetings. Fly high, stay safe!

- Elsbeth Roach









Top right: Coeur D'Arlene Brooks Seaplane Tours. | Top left: Dr. Amy Hoover, WINGS presentation. | Bottom left: Enjoying the Lake CdA Dinner Cruise. | Bottom right: NWS Business Meeting.





#### **KENTUCKY BLUEGRASS CHAPTER**

The Kentucky Bluegrass Holiday Gathering was held at the Aero Club, Bowman Field (KLOU), Louisville, Kentucky, on December 3. We enjoyed the holiday season with a delicious lunch and played our gift exchange game which is always loads of fun!

Our January 14 meeting was a planning meeting at Addington Field (KEKX), Elizabethtown, Kentucky, for important 2023 Kentucky Bluegrass Chapter events – our annual Girl Scout Day to be held March 18 at the 502 Club, Bowman Field, Louisville, Kentucky, and the North Central Section Spring Meeting, April 28-30, we are hosting at the Radisson Louisville North, Clarksville, Indiana. Many thanks to Terri Donner, Committee Chair, for both upcoming events. We are inviting one and all to attend our section meeting, "The Call to the Post in Kentuckiana." Registration forms can be found at the ncs99s.org website.

#### **Training Milestones**

Congratulations to Emily Herron, Olivia Parmenter, Kacy Thompson, and Timber Dawson for passing their instrument writtens!



#### MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER

In September, Chapter members organized a tour of the 172nd Airlift Wing of the Mississippi Air National Guard. Accompanied by members of Madison Flyers, a local flight school, we were given an extensive tour of the C-17 Globemaster III. It was an incredibly informative and exciting opportunity to learn more about the base operations and the aircraft. Chapter Secretary Asia Clay has been selected for the C-17 pilot training program and has just recently begun her initial training. Member Marisa Barron, who helped organize the tour, is also awaiting a start date for the program.

In October, the Mississippi Chapter hosted a Girl Scout Aviation Badge Workshop at Bruce Campbell Field in Madison, Mississippi. Members Shelia Willis (Chair), Kellie McInvale (Vice Chair), Cheri Anglin (Membership), Marisa Barron, Cissi Herrington, and Stormi Shannon presented aviation topics as Scouts rotated through various stations to earn their Aviation Badge. In addition, members of the aviation program at a local college provided information about aviation mechanics and careers (for women) in the field. It was a fun day and an excellent opportunity to promote aviation.

- Shelia Willis

#### SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER

Remembering WASP Rosa Lea Fullwood Meek

Some years ago, during a hiatus from flying, I had an organic farm and helped create a farmers' market in Kerrville, Texas. The popular market was held on land owned by Janet Meek and her husband, Jack Holmgreen. We were often joined by Jack's dad, who had been a pilot and flight instructor in Hondo, Texas, during WWII.

I started flying again in 2015, and Janet arranged for me to meet her mom, Rosa Lea Fullwood Meek, a WASP, and avid pilot. It was a joy getting to know her. Rosa Lea's father taught her to fly when she was in her early teens. At 20 years old, she joined the WASP and served as a ferry pilot during the war. In later life, she was a very successful businesswoman in aviation, automobiles, and real estate. Rosa Lea was a very enthusiastic 99 and encouraged me to join. Rosa Lea flew west in 2016 at the age of 94, and sadly, Janet died a few years later.

In 2021, while flying my 'new' Decathlon home from Wisconsin, weather pushed me into west Texas and I stopped for the night in Sweetwater. I discovered the WASP Museum and had a most enjoyable visit. After learning they did not know of Rosa Lea, I was determined to share more about her. I called Jack and was thrilled to learn he had just uncovered a box of Rosa Lea's memorabilia. I drove to his home the very next day and reverently held her silver wings in my hand. On a memorable fall day, ladies from our San Antonio Chapter flew out to the museum and delivered that special box.

Not long ago, Jack called with the news he'd found three more boxes of Rosa Lea's items. I was so excited! I didn't waste a moment getting to Jack's home to marvel at the treasure trove containing her records, including all her logbooks, missions flown, photos, and more. Our chapter members delighted in viewing these items, so proud to have known this amazing lady. On January 8, 2023, a small group of us flew out to Avenger Field to hand these treasures into the care of the WASP Museum. I know Rosa Lea was smiling down on our flight under the blue west Texas sky.

- Andrea McGilvray



Left: Rosa Lea. | Top right: Lacee Law, Heather Aguillon, Andrea McGilvray, Olga Custodio. | Bottom right: Heather Aguillon, Andrea McGilvray.

#### **Grass Roots**



L-R: Collene Melvin, Mary McEnroe, Maki Honda, Leslie Ingham, and Diane Gaskill.

#### SANTA CLARA VALLEY CHAPTER

Cookies for the Tower

On December 17, the Santa Clara Valley 99s held its annual Cookies for the Tower at Reid Hillview Airport (KRHV). Organized by Mary McEnroe, the event was attended by five chapter members, including Diane Gaskill, Maki Honda, Collene Melvin, Leslie Ingham, and Mary McEnroe. Mary and Diane brought along their husbands, and Collene's dad joined as well. In exchange for plenty of treats, staff in the KRHV tower provided a tour to the attendees, where everyone had a chance to see how the tower operates and ask lots of questions. Everyone had the opportunity to climb out on the catwalk around the outside of the tower and watch planes land and take a few photos, which are not allowed inside the tower. It was a great opportunity to learn more about what goes on at the other end of the radio, especially for our student pilot member and those who have never toured an air traffic control tower before. As always, the controllers expressed gratitude for the treats and were happy to have the chapter and their guests visit.

- Laura Del Favero







#### TENNESSEE CHAPTER

The Tennessee Chapter met at the Marble City Market in Knoxville, Tennessee, for lunch and brought stuffed animals to be donated to a police department. The Chapter Chair Linda Quiett donated the stuffed animals to Detectives Kody Fox and Bobby Ruth at the Cleveland Police Department for patrol officers to have in their vehicles for children in distress.

The Cleveland Regional Jetport (KRZR) was the recipient of a Compass Rose on the weekend of October 22. The Tennessee Chapter, along with a couple of cadets from the Civil Air Patrol painted the Compass Rose. The airport manager, Mark Fidler, picked out the colors and was on hand to help with the painting.

- Linda Quiett



#### **DALLAS CHAPTER**

On January 14, 2023, the Dallas 99s coordinated a fly-in to North Texas Regional Airport (KGYI), with friends of our chapter. We had 50 pilots and aviation enthusiasts join us for breakfast tacos, bagels, and doughnuts in the morning at a beautiful hangar. We then had a personal tour of the working maintenance hangar at the Cavanaugh Flight Museum. We are excited to plan our next fly-in and events.

- Patricia G. Burruss

#### **Grass Roots**









#### **BLUE RIDGE CHAPTER**

The 99s Blue Ridge Chapter, in its efforts to rebuild the Chapter, has attracted the Upstate Organization GirlUpGVL regarding aviation. The 99s Blue Ridge Chapter, GirlUpGVL, and Peace Center partnered to provide education and real-life experience with aviation. Below are comments about the GirlUpGVL organization:

"GirlUpGVL is a free life enrichment program that works with middle and high school girls in Greenville County, South Carolina. Our goal is to initiate early life-changing success by empowering our girls to reach their fullest potential. We do this through an after-school program, weekly enrichment classes, a summer program, and an internship program. We currently have 25 students enrolled at our location and other students who we work with within the school system. The girls are all students in Greenville County. There is a variety of backgrounds, as each student is unique. All are amazing. Here is a recent video where you can hear directly from the girls! In general, we try to expose our students to a variety of topics and career potentials. We want them to be educated young women who have lots of experiences to build from."

- Kim Mogan, Director of GirlUpGVL.

The Downtown Greenville Airport (KGMU) generously offered the airport for this experience. There were four planes (Diamond, Cessna, Bonanza, and a corporate jet) offered for exploring and briefly learning about plane maintenance and operation. Each girl had the opportunity to sit in a plane. They visited the KGMU Tower to view the world of the Air Traffic Controller (ATC) while asking questions about their role. This was followed by face-to-face talks and questions about airport administration with Kim Bright of KGMU, and Greenville Spartanburg International Airport (KGSP) Project Manager, Katie Eleam, CFII and member of the Blue Ridge Chapter. We had three news stations at the event and a fly-over by a news helicopter. There was at least one girl interested in being on the ground crew, as she wants to direct planes.

On January 24, the Peace Center had tickets for the GirlUpGVL to attend the Come From Away play about events of September 11, 2001 in Gander, Newfoundland, Canada, where 38 planes landed with approximately 7,000 passengers to be cared for by a town about the same size. Their stay ended up being five days. This created a long-term relationship between the town and the passengers, including the establishment of a scholarship for Gander youth to attend college funded by the donations from passengers.

This play was about a book written by Beverly Bass, America Airlines' first woman pilot. The girls loved the play as it was fast-paced, with lots of dancing and singing.

- Maria Lamia

#### Our newest

#### Life Members

**Kathleen Berg** 

Sue Ehrlander

**Kathryn Arnote** 

**Melody Kelley** 

**Ann Haller** 

**Carol Voss** 

**Maria Esparraguer** 

**Beverley Hirzel** 

#### **New Horizons**

This space is dedicated to our members and 49½s who have passed on to New Horizons. We will miss them, and thank these 99s for all of their contributions to our organization.

#### **Jean Landis**

Life Member; WASP December 13, 2022 San Diego Chapter

#### **Kay Lynn Marble**

November 14, 2022 Reno High Sierra Chapter

#### Eddie Maciel Jr.

49 1/2 to Claudia Maciel December 21, 2022 Monterey Bay Chapter

#### **Donna Fulks**

December 15, 2022 Lake Erie Chapter

#### **Deborah Franceus**

January 12, 2023 Michigan Chapter

#### **Dene Chabot-Fence**

Life Member January 21, 2023 *Reno Area Chapter* 

#### **Roger Hivert**

49 1/2 to Linda Mae Hivert January 12, 2023 *Reno Area Chapter* 

#### **Jan Gageby**

January 1, 2023 Reno Area Chapter

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# Our most recently enlisted **Friends of The 99s**

#### **Chloe Clark**

Church Hill. Tennessee

#### Andrea Fishback

Albuquerque, New Mexico

#### Elise Golgowski

Los Angeles, California

#### **Tami Kapule**

Auburn, Washington

#### **Jonathan Khattar**

Redondo Beach, California

#### **Bram Kleppner**

Burlington, Vermont

#### **Alexander Lowe**

Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

#### James Prater

Columbus, Ohio

#### **Jerry Raia**

West Hills, California

#### **Penny Richardson**

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

#### Joe Trilling

Los Angeles, California

#### **Jeffrey Vaughn**

Tustin, California

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# AREYOU READY TO RACE?



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