

# AMELIA EARHART MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND WINNERS

## Anna Jo Anderson

ATP

Devil's Tower Chapter, Northwest Section



Building houses with my father in rural Northeast Wyoming while growing up helped me earn money to fly. After attending the University of North Dakota I volunteered to fly through thunderstorms to increase rainfall and suppress hail in ND. After

years of giving flight instruction, I took a job flying a Dash 8 on the East coast. Then, I drove up to Alaska to fly fishermen and bear viewers. I also volunteered for the Fish and Wildlife Service in the bush of Alaska. While volunteering, I met a few pilot biologists who needed help in Kenya with a lion project. I ended up living in a tent with the large African animals and the wild Maasai people in the Kenyan bush for two years buzzing animals and locals off isolated airstrips. Now I am flying for K2 and landing on the glaciers of Mt. McKinley which has always been just a dream.

## Ashley Baker

Commercial Multi-Engine

Tucson Chapter, Southwest Section



I've been excited about flying since I've existed. At 18, I took my first airplane ride and since then I've been immersed in aviation! I've earned multiple endorsements as well as my Private and Multi-engine ratings. I'm currently learning how to fly

in the backcountry in a Cessna 140 and finishing my Instrument rating. I'm extremely grateful to receive this scholarship which will help me complete my multi-engine commercial rating so that I can make flying my career. My ultimate goal is to become an MEII and run a flight school so that I can introduce as many people as I can to my passion. An enormous thank-you goes to everyone in the Tucson chapter for incredible support and to every 99 who has come before, is one now, and who will come in the future for their inspiring tenacity, guts and sense of adventure.

## Stacey Budell

Ag Pilot Training

Idaho Chapter, Northwest Section



Stacey Budell, an Idaho Chapter member since February 1993, earned her private license in 1992 while working for the Gem County Mosquito Abatement Program, riding right seat as a spotter in a modified C182 with a belly tank and spray booms. She then became a Realtor to buy her first airplane and soon became a licensed broker. She has her Commercial, Instrument and CFI

ratings and currently instructs in Caldwell, Idaho with Hinkle Aviation in addition to selling real estate and working for Farmers Supply Coop in the Aerial Application Dept. Stacey has served multiple terms as both Local Chapter Chairman and Director of the Northwest Section. She flew Idaho backcountry for Ron's Flying Service in her Piper Tri Pacer for 3 years before getting her Cessna 182 in 1995. She has donated many flights over the years to promote aviation to anyone that showed interest, and especially the ACE Academy students.

## Hillary Carl

Commercial

Connecticut Chapter, New England Section



My name is Hillary Carl. I began flying in January 2007 and joined The Ninety-Nines in November of the same year. I fly at Berkshire Aviation in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. I graduated college with a fine arts degree, never imagining I would become a pilot. Flight has expanded my art and my life. My next steps will be

obtaining my commercial and flight instructor certificates. I work at an airplane maintenance shop apprenticing for my A&P mechanic certificate. Cross countries over mountains or near the ocean are my favorite and I love bringing others with me to encourage them to fly.

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## Emily Gros

ATP

Alaska Chapter, Northwest Section



My name is Emily Gros, a pilot, a mother, wife and a 99. I am currently a Caravan Captain for Empire Airlines where I began flying three years ago, initially as First Officer in the ATR 72 and then transitioning to the C208 after a year and a half. I am based

in Anchorage, Alaska. I grew up around the corner from Lake Hood and I always wanted to fly. I earned my private pilot certificate in July, 2003. It took me 25 years to get going, but now I'm always looking for ways to fly and learn more. After watching the float planes for years, last fall I took my first lesson with a friend in his PA-11, "a peach of a plane." I'm hoping to earn my SES rating this summer too! On April 10, my husband Sacha and I welcomed our baby boy, Remi Warren Gros. We are both pilots and we hope to share our love of flying with our little guy. I received the Amelia Earhart scholarship to earn my ATP rating. I believe that it will greatly add to my experience and when the time comes to move on to bigger airplanes, I will have what it takes. Thank you to The 99s for helping me to pursue my dreams!

## Julie Holst

Commercial

Bay Cities Chapter, Southwest Section



Julie began flying when she was 17 years old at the Santa Barbara Airport and received her private certificate and instrument rating while in college at UCSB. Once a pilot she seized the opportunity to join The Ninety-Nines. Within a short time, she was elected to the Santa Barbara Chapter Board of Directors. After graduating from graduate school she moved to San Francisco and transferred to the

Bay Cities Chapter, where she currently serves as Chapter Vice-Chair. Over the past six years, Julie has taught piano to students of all ages. While in graduate school, she taught environmental science to college students. Julie has reveled in the teaching experience and is now seeking a similar opportunity in the aviation world – to become a professional flight instructor. The Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship will enable Julie to get her commercial certificate and get her one step closer to achieving her dream.

## Alexandra Kindrat

Academic, M.S. in Space Studies

Montreal Chapter, East Canada Section



Alexandra is currently pursuing a Master of Science in Space Studies, specializing in Human Space Flight, at the International Space University, in Strasbourg, France. A pilot and Ninety-Nines member since the age of 17, she holds a Bachelor of Science in

Physiology, a Bachelor of Education in Science and Technology, as well as a Master of Science in Neurology and Neurosurgery from McGill University. Along with her current doctoral studies in Montreal, she is pursuing research at NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, and is involved in studies being conducted on the International Space Station looking at the effects of space on the human brain. Alexandra enjoys a wide variety of activities including scuba diving, surfing, and skiing, and is highly implicated in Canadian federal politics. As an educator in Montreal, and a Canadian Space Agency student ambassador, Alexandra continues to have an important role in sparking an interest in aerospace to future generations of enthusiasts.

## Lenka Kubina

Commercial Multi-Engine

Utah Chapter, Southwest Section



My best 40<sup>th</sup> birthday present came from The Ninety-Nines. After a year of stalling I will be able to start flying again! Correction: piloting again, because I have been flying as a Flight Attendant for almost 18 years now. I started working for CSA Czech Airlines in 1993 while still in University in Prague, the Czech Republic. Upon completing my Bachelors degree I got an offer to continue

my studies in Sydney, Australia, where I stayed for three years. In 2002, already married and with two year old son, we moved to Salt Lake City, UT. I got hired by SkyWest Airlines and am working for them since. Thanks to very encouraging colleagues I started to work on my private pilot certificate in June 2008 and in 3 months had my first airman certificate in my possession. nine months later I added an instrument rating to it and now I am looking forward to getting my multi-engine commercial license soon!

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## **Teressa Lau**

*Academic, B.S Aeronautical Science*  
Ambassador Chapter, South Central Section



First of all I would like to thank The Ninety-Nines for the support and financial assistance for females chasing their dreams. Growing up on a farm in Iowa I learned a lot about hard work and determination. These skills have come in very useful while on my

journey to become a female pilot. I received my associate's degree at Front Range Community College while deciding where I would pursue my dream of becoming a pilot and how I was going to finance it. I chose Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University where I major in Aeronautical Science and have a minor in Unmanned Aerial Vehicles. I am also involved in numerous groups on campus and in my community. I recently received my Commercial pilot certificate and have an internship with a fellow Ninety-Nine pilot who has shown me aviation has endless opportunities and possibilities. It has been through encouraging female role models I have found the strength to overcome the hurdles placed in my path. After I finish my flight training and schooling I would like to join corporate aviation and help to encourage other women to find their passion.

## **Nicole Lordemann**

*Academic, B.S. Aero Technology*  
Greater Kansas City Chapter, North Central Section



"When once you have tasted flight, you will forever walk the earth with your eyes turned skyward, for there you have been, and there you will always long to return." -*Leonardo da Vinci*. My love with flight began at 10 when

I received a flight from the Commemorative Air Force in a World War II trainer the BT-13. From that point on I continuously watched the sky. I wanted more and I would stop at nothing to fulfill my dreams of flying. This dream has led me to Kansas State University where I am studying to become a professional pilot, with hopes of flying for a major airline someday. This fall will be my junior year in the program. I am currently Secretary of both Women in Aviation and Alpha Eta Rho's International Aviation Fraternity on campus. I pride myself on being a member of the Greater Kansas City 99s to whom I cannot thank enough for their support and friendships. I am honored to be a part of an organization that offers these types of resources to women.

## **Manami Maruyama**

*Instrument*  
San Diego Chapter, Southwest Section



I got a private pilot certificate in 1999 at San Bernardino, California. The training fee is four times more expensive in Japan than in the United States. That's why I decided to train in the United States. I became a member of The 99s when I was a

student pilot. After getting my private pilot license, I had a next goal, obtaining an IFR rating. To achieve my next goal, I came back to the United States from Japan in 2005 and resumed my training in 2007. I tried to apply for the AEMSF for my IFR training three times and finally won it this year. After obtaining an IFR rating, Multi-engine rating, Commercial license and CFI certificate will be following. My enthusiasm to fly brought me to the United States. I love the skies in California so much!

## **Jessica Miller**

*CFI*  
Minnesota Chapter, North Central Section



I am honored once again to receive an Amelia Earhart Scholarship. Last summer I completed my instrument rating in about 6 weeks. My goal was to complete it before returning to college and my trip to AirVenture. This was a

particularly special trip because I was able to fly right seat to OSH in the DC-3 "Duggy" on the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the DC-3s. Some of you might recognize him as the big yellow Smile in the Sky! Looking forward to this summer I will be studying abroad in Australia and interning in France with Daher-Socata. I am ecstatic to start my CFI once I arrive back in the states! It will allow me to introduce flying to young people. Flying Duggy was so special because he was dreamt up to inspire kids to reach for their dreams and flying Duggy was one of my dreams. Now I hope to help others achieve their dreams of flying using my CFI!

## AMELIA EARHART MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND WINNERS

### Kelly O'Dea

*King Air B200 Type Rating*

Bay Cities Chapter, Southwest Section



Keenly focused on a career in aviation since my first flight, I am diligently advancing through the ratings. It has been a challenging and rewarding endeavor that empowers me, and strengthens my character. Economical setbacks along the way have delayed my progress and if it were not for the AEMSFS, I would not be where I am today.

Currently I exercise my commercial certificate as a

contract co-pilot in a King Air B200, am an active flight instructor at Palo Alto airport, and also a company pilot for an aerial imaging company here in the San Francisco Bay Area. I am grateful to receive the vote of confidence from the Board of Trustees and the support of my sister Ninety-Nines. I am confident to say that I am capable of performing my duties at a level of excellence that is expected in professional aviation.

### Erin Recke

*737-NG Jet Type Rating*

Ambassador Chapter, South Central Section



Enamored with airplanes since I was little, a career in aviation came as a surprise. But for the decade I've been flying not a day goes by without a deep appreciation for this extremely cool skill I've acquired. When I'm not ensconced in a CRJ-900 at work I occasionally borrow my generous friend Maureen's Bonanza to fly an Angel Flight mission for patients in need. And on those cruddy weather days I

delight in cruising along the ground in search of the next coveted geocache. I dabble in the flying trapeze, air racing, horses, and searching for the next amazing meal. Although I'm based in Atlanta, I live in Seattle with my partner Shanna, a dog, cat and two loud Amazon parrots. My friends and family are among the best people on the planet and it's with their deep love and steadfast support that I live this indescribably fantastic life!

### Cindy Pang

*Instructor Rating*

British Columbia Coast Chapter, West Canada Section



I am truly honoured to be selected for the 2011 Amelia Earhart Scholarship. As a little girl living in Hong Kong, I was first introduced to airplanes by my Father who brought home a

battery operated B747. The fascination with airplanes was always somewhere in my subconscious from that moment on. In this busy world, time came and went. I studied Fashion Design and worked as a Metal Designer in Montreal. Then after being laid off during a recession, I was hired by Air Canada as a Customer Service Agent in Vancouver. My transfer to the airport, interaction with pilots and the perpetual excitement that only the aviation industry can arouse, made me realize I needed to follow my life's interest. I do not want to be just the passenger, I want to have control and pilot the plane. My first lesson was in July, 2003 and I obtained my PPL in 2005 and CPL in 2006. With the help of this scholarship I can continue with my goal of becoming a professional pilot. My most recent accomplishment was my cross Canada solo flight in a Cessna 150. On this trip I encountered many great people who aided, guided and supported me along the way. Thank you to everyone and to my family for their support. It is a great honour to be amongst an elite group of women pilots in this great organization of The Ninety-Nines.

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### Monica Prajapati

*Dornier 328 TP Type Rating*  
Nepal Section

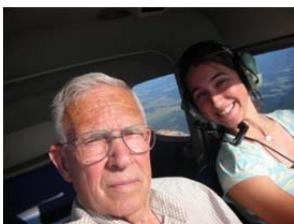


Born to Dr. Indra Prajapati and Rupa Prajapati on 15th of October, 1984 in Kathmandu, Nepal. I have always dreamt about flying. Sharing normal childhood with my siblings Iru and Ijendra, I completed my schooling from

Gems High School, Nepal. After completing my bachelors in Computer Engineering, I realized my dream was not to be confined within the chairs and write codes. I wanted to fly and inspired by the dream of mine, I headed for the flying training to Philippines on 2008. After completion of my training, I started my flying career on October 2009 with Air Kasthamandap as first single engine women pilot. On the course, I was bestowed with the ability to step on to the remote areas of Nepal which otherwise would be impossible. While flying through the far western region like Simikot, Jumla, Bajura, Rara and Dolpa, the gravel airfields made my journey more adventurous. Flying to Lukla, considered to be one of the most dangerous airports, has been one of the most exciting experiences to date. It gives a divine feeling when we transport food, especially rice, to these remote areas where flight is the only means of transportation. With each journey of mine, I realize the necessities of these areas and the purpose we serve by bringing smile on hundred of faces awaiting for the flight to land and bring food to their home; and that makes me blessed and satisfied.

### Amber Senn

*Academic, B.S. Aerospace*  
Blue Ridge Chapter, Southeast Section



My name is Amber Senn. I am 19 years old. I earned my private pilots certificate in August of 2009 when I was 18. From there, I have decided to pursue a career as a pilot. I am currently a part of the Air Force ROTC program at Middle Tennessee State

University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. My grandfather, the very first passenger as a pilot, has been my inspiration and support. He has helped me to achieve all that I have and continues to as I press forward into my future. His passion for aviation has nourished and fed my desires and passions for it just the same.

### Issra'a Sheikh

*CFI*  
Colorado Chapter, South Central Section



Traveling as an unaccompanied minor since elementary school to visit family, Issra'a has always had a home away from home at the airport. Always knowing her life-long dream was to fly professionally, the journey began once she realized she had the opportunity to receive a Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Technology. This opportunity opened many doors for Issra'a. She has since received her degree

at the age of 20, commercial pilot's license with instrument rating, and multi-engine rating. It is also how she came to know the wonderful Colorado Ninety-Nines. She is extremely grateful for having the opportunity to work with the Colorado Ninety-Nines and is looking forward to utilizing her scholarship to receive her CFI license, building time towards her ATP, and teaching other aspiring woman pilots.

### Julieann Sikora

*Commercial*  
San Fernando Valley Chapter, Southwest Section



I am an active San Fernando Valley Chapter member of The Ninety-Nines. My parents and two other relatives all worked for the same major airline, but I didn't want to be a stewardess, the socially acceptable goal then.

After several years working in IT, I began to sense a calling to fly. On a commercial flight I met a woman who was an airline captain. She encouraged me to pursue flying. The next day, a pamphlet from a local college appeared in the mail, listing a private pilot course. I signed up immediately and soon I earned my private certificate. The rapid changes in flight technology have long fascinated me. My goal is to turn my aviation interests into a career by earning my commercial certificate and becoming a UAV test pilot. I thank The Ninety-Nines and all contributors to the AEMSf for helping me as I pursue this new career.

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## Natasha Stenbock

*Instrument*

San Diego Chapter, Southwest Section



Natasha earned her private pilot certificate in 2008 and joined the San Diego Ninety-Nines to live and breathe aviation with her fellow women pilots. She studied meteorology through Mississippi State University's online

broadcast meteorology program and received the AMS (American Meteorological Society) seal of approval. When Natasha isn't flying she's forecasting the weather for local TV stations on the west coast.

Natasha is passionate about raising the level of meteorological understanding in aviation. She speaks to the aviation community about forecasting weather for flying and supports fellow female pilots through the San Diego chapter. She has assisted in Angel Flight missions in Southern California and hopes to use the instrument rating to serve in a greater capacity. Natasha's big picture goal includes becoming a CFI and teaming up with female instructors to foster flying students. She wants to create an environment that embraces multidimensional learning in aviation.

## Vivian Tosin

*Multi-Engine Rating*

Brazil Section



When I was eight I made my first flight and I became an aviation enthusiast. As soon as I finished high school I was accepted to attend aeronautical science college, but my family has never been able to afford the flight hours that were required for my

graduation. In 2008, I won a scholarship from the Brazilian government and then I was able to complete my CP-IFR and also complete my college graduation. Today I am preparing to be a flight instructor because I feel that I will love teaching others to fly. Winning this scholarship for Multi-engine rating is extremely important to improve my training. By having the ability to fly multi-engine aircrafts I can become a more complete flight instructor and also advance in my career much sooner. I greatly appreciate all the support and full confidence that The Ninety-Nines placed in me. I intend to disclose to all my future students about this amazing aviatrix's fellowship!

## Anna Tsimbal

*Retraining Certification R-44 PIC*

Russian Section



At 15 I started flying gliders ...but helicopters fascinated me. In 1984 I graduated in engineering with a specialization in the helicopter industry, but I wanted to fly helicopters professionally. I attended Pilot School, became a pilot-instructor

on the Mi-2 helicopter, and in 1988 worked at a Moscow Airclub. I got married, but later divorced. "Perestroika" started, many Airclubs reduced staff and I lost my job. To support myself and my child I started a small business. For a long time I couldn't fly. In 2008 I was hired as co-pilot on the Mi-8, a heavy 5-blade transport helicopter. But in August 2009 I lost this position following the world financial crisis. In 2010 I worked as a glider instructor. This scholarship will not only help my dreams come true, but also help other Russian women-pilots understand The 99s' dedication in helping women pursue their aviation careers.

## Nicole Vandelaar

*Instrument-Helicopter*

Santa Rosa Chapter, Southwest Section



Nicole is a helicopter pilot at Sonoma Helicopter in Santa Rosa, California. In June, 2010, she joined the company to further her career as a professional helicopter pilot and as a Consultant for Part 135 operations and business promotion. As a result of her contributions, the company has

grown substantially. She flies the Robinson R22 and R44 Helicopters. Currently, she is training for her Commercial Rotorcraft Certificate. Nicole plans to fly Corporate charter in the extraordinary wine region of Northern California. She began her aviation career in high school by earning her Airplane Private Pilot Certificate. She graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a Bachelor's degree in Business, Aviation and Communications. At present, she is pursuing her Master's Degree in Aviation at the University of North Dakota. Nicole was awarded the Outstanding Member award in 2009 and 2010 from the Orange County Chapter in recognition of her energetic contributions to the chapter. She has been a member of The Ninety-Nines since 2008.

## AMELIA EARHART MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND WINNERS

### Tracy Zedeck

*Commercial Helicopter Add-on*

Bay Cities Chapter, Southwest Section



I began flying in 2002 while attending the University of Colorado for a psychology degree. Flying provided a fulfillment like I had never experienced, and so I decided to switch career paths. My first flying job was towing gliders in a Piper Pawnee over the Rocky Mountains. In 2009 I moved to Alaska for a seasonal position as a Cessna 185 glacier pilot, and returned the following summer to work for an air taxi operation. My ultimate goal is to become an emergency medical services or aerial firefighting pilot. In preparation for this career, I am back in my home town studying at the College of Alameda (California) for an Airframe and Powerplant certificate. I am also enjoying my summer days building flight time towards a commercial helicopter add-on rating in a Robinson 22. One day I hope to fly a Sikorsky Skycrane.

