

THE NINETY-NINES, Inc.
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN PILOTS

News Letter

68 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 11, NEW YORK • CHELSEA 2-5069

FEBRUARY 1955

ATTENTION!

All bids for the 1956 CONVENTION must be submitted to the President or the Secretary not later than June 15th, 1955. This was the decision of the Executive Board at their last meeting in September. Reason: To better coordinate our yearly events - AWTAR, IAR, and the International Ninety-Nines Convention - and allow ample time for planning. This end can best be accomplished by having your plans before the Executive Board when they meet at the Convention this July.

Chapters interested in sponsoring either the start or the finish of the AWTAR should commence working on their plans now. All bids for these events must be submitted to Betty Gillies not later than June 15th, 1955. This is also the date that plans for the IAR should be submitted to the President or the Secretary, stating dates, route, start, and finish. This will enable your Executive Board to coordinate IAR plans with the other major events of 1956.

All Chapters planning other activities they wish to coordinate with the Convention should also submit their plans by June 15th, 1955.

Prompt action on the above items will make it possible to announce all major 1956 events, their times places, and dates at the final banquet of our 1955 Convention. This will enable sponsoring Chapters to have more time in planning.

Too, many members will be in a better position to plan vacations far enough in advance to attend these events.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear Ninety-Nines:

Well, we've just passed by another one of those milestones we call time. And as we start this new, young, unspent year I feel the urge to say something more than "success and prosperity", rather, let me say "may time be kind and plentiful to permit realization of your goals".

In 1954 our Newsletter made great strides: News reporting increased in volume and interest...readership increased and so did the size of the Newsletter. For a matter of fact it increased a full four pages, or one-third. All of this is nothing more than the results of your reporting. So let me say "Congrats, on the wonderful job, keep it coming!". And just a few words to new reporters, shoot us anything of general interest, ie: unusual experiences, trips, people, events, oddities, births, and of course flying. If you have pictures of interest we'll try to use them - space permitting. Try to keep news items brief...not more than 100 lines, 35 characters wide.

In most cases our Newsletter is our only means of keeping pace with what other Ninety-Nines are doing. It serves to bring together some of our members in far off corners of the world. One member in Brazil writes "It is a great pleasure to receive the Newsletter" (see page 2 column 2). Other members in South Africa, Australia, Japan, Israel and many more far reaching corners of the world look forward to hearing from one another,

Last year I spent the month of November rambling about visiting with as many of you as time permitted. Thanks to all of you for the wonderful hospitality shown me. And to those of you time prevented me from visiting with may I say, I hope to see you sometime before the year is out.

Perhaps I've said it before, if so, I reiterate "I'm proud of the wonderful job everybody is doing. It's the kind of job that is a little hard to appreciate and understand at a distance - it must be seen to be fully realized. It makes me proud to be a part of this inspiring group of gals. And the more of you I meet

the more I realize how fortunate our organization is to have so many devoted members.

It is not too early to start thinking about the officers for the coming year. You will soon be receiving a notice asking for your nominations. Every Chapter should submit a list of names for the consideration of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee's job is a hard one and is a most important job. We can help them by sending in our nominations, chosen from the many qualified Ninety-Nines

Many chapters fail to choose a member from their section to be considered for the Nominating Committee. This Nominating Committee is MOST IMPORTANT. It is this group that selects the names to appear on the ballot. The person submitted by your chapter for this Nominating Committee should be chosen with the utmost care. The best qualified persons for this committee should be past International Officers; members who have served for a number of years on various International Committees; members who have a wide personal acquaintance and a basic knowledge of the history and the accomplishments of the organization, gained by being active over a period of years and by being in attendance at International Conventions. We have many such qualified people within each section. Be sure to submit a complete slate of nominees.

I wish to take the liberty to dedicate the closing of my message to the memory of Dianna Bixby. We who knew her will always remember her warmth and vitality and her love of flying. Our warmest sympathies to her Husband Robert, her children, family, and the Long Beach Chapter.

Sincerely
Gerry Mickelson

1955 Convention
Springfield, Mass.
July 7, 8, 9, 10th.



INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS

Guadeloupe 99

One of the nicest things about being a 99 is the fact that we have friends wherever we go. This was brought home to me again on our recent flight around the Caribbean. After attending a Medical Meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico, after Herm and I decided to visit the West Indies. Wishing to visit those with different backgrounds we chose Guadeloupe to represent the French since we had been told that it was, as yet, unspoiled by tourists. We landed and a girl drove out... Guess what? A sister 99 Nicole Petrelluzzi. She took us to her home for luncheon, even though they were just in the middle of rebuilding after having lost everything in a fire, then to the beach to sea bathe and finally to her uncle's resort on a cliff above the sea where, as her guests, we enjoyed a delicious creole dinner. Next morning she met us at the hotel and drove us to the airport where she suggested we have lunch before takeoff. As it was only 9:30 it seemed a bit early. But Nikky knew the ways of her island. Two and one half hours later the gas boy arrived, and as we were flying to Trinidad and would not be landing again till late afternoon we were mighty glad we had had that lunch. Nikky had been unable to secure her 99 pin since her currency is not acceptable in our country so I was very glad I had my pin with me (of course) and could present it to her in the name of all of us.

Nikky's plans are to fly in the AWTAR next summer and I know that not only will you all enjoy meeting her but it would really be something to have one of our truly international members aboard.

Many, many other fascinating things happened while we were feeling like Magellan and circumnavigating the Caribbean and sometime when Gerry and Toni are looking for something to fill up space I'd love to tell you all about them.

Incidentally, Nicole Petrelluzzi and her Cessna 170 le Moustique Flemmand "The Lazy Mosquito" in which she flies commercially taking officials to the sugar plantations on other islands, and thinks no more of "water hops" than we do of corn fields.

Deedo Heise

Brazil 99 writes

Rio de Janeiro
November 25, 1954

Dear President:

Please forgive me for being late with my answer to your nice letter of September 13. The reason is that I was waiting to receive my FAI DIPLOMA so I would be able to add this last item to my curriculum which I thought might be of interest.

There is nothing of importance to tell about my experiences after the trip from New York to Rio through Central America down the West Coast in 1951. Then I went to Buenos Aires three times and once up North to Recife. Besides that I fly around Rio, occasionally going to Sao Paulo. There is not much time for flying. I save my Navion for long trips. Every now and then I fly a PT-19 which is much more economic.

Every year I plan to go to the United States, flying the Navion, of course, and I had made up my mind of going this year to be there to attend the celebrations of our 99's Silver Anniversary. But always something comes up that makes my plans go bang! You can guess how expensive a trip like that is. Even going as a passenger on an airline. The exchange is terrible! 75 cruzeiros per dollar! Almost impossible, can not afford it. Just have to wait for better days. So I go to Argentina or Uruguay, Chile and Paraguay, keep within my economic limitations.

Last June we had in Sao Paulo a big revoadá (flyers gathering) Pilots of all America countries were invited. Two boys came from Alaska. Several planes from the States. It was beautiful to see all those planes and flags of foreign countries.

INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS

GERALDINE MICKELSEN PRESIDENT
1809 Wentworth Ave., Sacramento, California

EDNA GARDNER WHYTE VICE-PRESIDENT
Dalton Airport, 6367 Pierson Rd, Flushing, Mich

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BRONETA DAVIS TREASURER
Minco, Oklahoma

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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3310 Milwaukee Street, Denver 5, Colo.

BARBARA LONDON
624 Armando Drive, Long Beach 7, Calif.

KATHERINE LANDRY
Box 94, Eagle Lake, Florida

NEWS LETTER EDITOR

RUTH "TONI" JACOBSON
413 Sixth Street, Marysville, California

Sorry I can't write an article, it is difficult to do it in English.

It is a great pleasure to receive the News Letter especially now that it comes air mail. I read it to the last word. Makes me feel closer to you all. Makes me feel I belong, that you all are my friends. I met J. Cochran when she was here last June. I didn't expect her to recognize me although we had met three times when I was in the States. It was a great pleasure to see her and congratulate her on her achievements. I saw in the papers that she won the Hannon Trophy. Isn't it wonderful?

I am sending you four pictures of mine so you have a fair idea of how I look. Not so bad, don't you think? Also a picture of my Diploma.

Please do let me know if you received this letter and the pictures.

Looking forward to hear from you, I am, most sincerely,

Your pal from Brazil,

Anesia Pinheiro Machado

MEMBERSHIP

January 1, 1955.

1122 Members

83% renewed.

135 new Members

Our Goal 1300-

'55 AWTAR:

SCHOLARSHIP

NINTH ANNUAL ALL-WOMAN TRANS-CONTINENTAL AIR RECE

Long Beach, California to Springfield, Massachusetts.

Dates: Impounding Deadline, June 29th, 1955. Take-off July 2nd. Planes must cross finish line by 1700 EST Wednesday, July 6th. The Awards Banquet will be held in Springfield on July 7th.

The route will be 2787 miles. Designated airports are Blythe, California; Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona; El Paso, Midland, and Wichita Falls, Texas; Dayton, Ohio; Wheeling, West Virginia; Reading, Pennsylvania; both Midland and Reading will be required stops.

Write to Mrs. Barbara London, 624 Armando Drive, Long Beach 7, California, for rules and entry forms. Please enclose 25¢ to help defray mailing costs.

Betty Loufek
Director, Publicity
and Public Relations
AWTAR, Inc.

WAYS AND MEANS

Dear Ninety-Nines:

Thanks to the Fort Worth Unit for sending in their quota (\$45.00) for 1956. You might be interested in knowing how this money was raised in one cold, windy afternoon. Tony Page, one of our Fort Worth girls told us about an "Old-Timers Reunion" at Brownwood Airport, which was to be held on Sunday, December 12. We contacted Mr. Garrett, airport manager, by phone and made arrangements with him to have the Ninety-Nines operate a food and drink concession, and hop passenger rides.

The weather in Fort Worth and Dallas was stinking. Verna Burns and yours truly flew our planes, the rest left early by car. Brownwood, 120 miles southwest of here, was clear---but it was the coldest day we have had in Texas this year, which cut the crowd down to a minimum. In spite of that we cleared \$45.00. Just think, girls, you can raise your quota in one afternoon!

Margaret Callaway,
Chairman

1955 Rules
AMELIA EARHART MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP

Are you ready? Let's go!

With the approval of the Executive Board, the Scholarship Trustees have revised some of the eligibility rules which should open the competition to more 99 members. Your attention is called to the increase in the amount of the Award and the increased allowable maximum and minimum annual income of the applicant.

1. Applicant must have been an active NINETY-NINE member in good standing for at least TWO consecutive years prior to September, 1954. The records at New York headquarters are called upon to confirm this information. Remember---even though your application in one or more prior years did not reach the top, another application from you is welcome.
2. TWO HUNDRED solo hours.
3. An agreement to use the rating, certification or training acquired through the Award for at least TWO years in the field of Aviation. The scholarship is not limited to flight training only, but may be used along other lines in the field of aviation. You will recall that the SILVER ANNIVERSARY Scholarship in 1954 was for an A&E Mechanics rating. In 1948 the Award was made for studies in aeronautics and journalism for her Master's degree for teaching.
4. Applicant must be earning annually -
Not less than \$1,000.
Not more than \$3,500.
The competition is open to married members, too. Of course, the judges must consider her husband's income and her family's status and needs.

The 1955 Scholarship has been INCREASED to an Award of \$300.

Two applications will be sent to each chapter chairmen and to each section governor in time for February meetings, or you may obtain one direct from the chairman of the Board of Trustees by sending her a self-addressed stamped envelope. (#10 or larger).

Keep in mind that you will be asked:

1. To enclose a suitable photo or large solo snapshot, and
2. To have your application notarized,

and you may enclose a one-page letter of recommendation from your employer or from some other person whose status you consider will be acceptable to the judges.

POST-MARK deadline Mid-night

March 20, 1955.

Jeanette L. Sovereign,
Chairman, Board of
Trustees
2136 Center Avenue,
Bay City, Michigan.

*N.A.E.C. - St. Louis
Feb. 24th & 25th*

CIVIL DEFENSE

ATTENTION: All Chapter and Sectional Civil Defense Chairmen. Please, all of you, send me your names so that I can send Civil Defense material directly to you. Also, I would like to hear what your chapter is doing and what sort of Civil Defense program you have.

In the July 20th issue of the Wall Street Journal, a letter to the editor had this suggestion on how to alert the public to the necessity of preparing for an A-bomb or H-bomb attack. The idea was to suddenly shut off water, electricity, gas over the entire country for a week. While this seems a little drastic, it would certainly wake us up. Stop and think! Just what would you do if such a thing occurred? Would you be able to take care of yourself and your family without outside help? How would you cook, keep warm, keep clean? What about emergency sanitation? Presents a challenge to say the least. It's something to think about and plan for.

For your chapter's next flight why not plana disaster cook-out. It's lots of fun and good training for an emergency. The Saguaro Chapter tried it one Sunday morning in December and we all learned something more about primitive cooking and a good time was had by all. Try it. Ask each member to bring her own food, water, and either foil or a tin can stove. Budy burners can be used where no wood is available for fires. A Boy Scout knife is recommended but no utensils at all are allowed. You might make a contest of it and give a prize for the best "disaster cook."

Bonnie Fugitt, Chairman
International Civil
Defense Committee



NEW ENGLAND SECTION
By Barbara Cloud

Our December Air Age Education meeting was held at Worcester Airport. Attending were: Catherine Hiller, Walter Slora, Mildred Simonson, Ora Stevens, Polly Fish, Janet Bolles, Anne Crathern, Celia Lee, Joseph J. Formica, Gloria Pierce (C.A.A. Westfield), Pat Arnold, Deed Holcomb, Gladys Turcotte, Barbara and John Cloud. Joseph Formica, a winner of the "50th Anniversary of Powdered Flight" Essay Contest, from Hartford, was guest speaker and told us of the work being done in Air Age Ed. in the Elementary School level. The M.A.C.'s film "Flying Businessman" was shown to us by Walter Slora. The big news was the 1955 Convention which will be held at Springfield, Mass.

Dru Rowell just returned from the Northeast Regional Meeting of C.A.P. in N.Y. having been flown down by the Air Force and she said it was a wonderful meeting. Also our Marie Lepore (C.A.P. Major) spoke to the Worcester Chapter N.A.A. re: C.A.P. activities at Sterling Airport and Barbara Cloud received the honor of being selected W.N.A.A.'s "Woman of the Year". Pat Arnold is practically commuting via Tri-Pacer between Conn. and Virginia.



WASHINGTON, D.C. CHAPTER
By Louise Kidd

Our annual Christmas party was held at the home of Louise Kidd on December 13. Gifts of canned food, clothing and toys were donated by the members to the Salvation Army, and also small beautifully wrapped ones to be auctioned for the benefit of the treasury. Blanche Noyes, ably assisted by Lola Perkins, was an excellent auctioneer, and ended up by obtaining (at great price) a dinner bell. Dinner of fried chicken and all the trimmings was furnished by the chapter officers. Despite IFR weather, we had a good turnout, including two prospective members---Joan Jones and Eunice Janousek.

Many 99s attended the Aero Club Wright Day Memorial Dinner at the Statler Hotel on December 17. This annual dinner has become one of the outstanding social events of the season and the 1600 plates go like jets.

Thanks to Blanche Noyes and Jean Howard, the 99s' table was in the main room with a good view of the speakers' table. The Frank G. Brewer Trophy was presented to Dr. John H. Furbay for contributing most to the development of air youth in the field of education and training, and the Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy to Dr. Theodore Von Karman for public service of enduring value to aviation in the United States. Juan Trippe, President of the PanAmerican Airways, was the main speaker. Dinner music was provided by the U. S. Air Force Band.

Best wishes to all for CAVU weather and happy landings in 1955.

MEADVILLE CHAPTER
MIDDLE EASTERN SECTION
By Vega Ihsen

Sorry, I was one of the hapless creatures who failed to make last month's deadline! And to make things worse, I can't locate my original notes! But, I'll try to gather together the threads of our chapter's reorganization activities.

First of all, we're all proud of Jean Swartwood who was recently elected Governor of our section. It is a wonderful honor and goes to a very capable and deserving gal. Congratulations and good luck, Jean!

We got together last October at Harriette Mosbacher's home in Meadville to reactivate our chapter and elect officers. Harriette is our new Chairman, Jean Swartwood is vice-chairman, Marge Cook is Secretary and Membership Chairman. Yours truly is News Reporter and Treasurer. An inquisitive pet parakeet, named "Chico" fluttered about the room, helping to make the evening a most interesting one, to say the least!

On November 16th, seven of our members met at THE INN in Edinboro for a dinner meeting. Since this half way mark proved convenient for all concerned, we decided to meet there again on January 19th. See you then!



SOUTH FLORIDA CHAPTER

A dinner meeting was held in Coconut Grove, Fla. on Dec. 10th. The meeting took on a Christmas air and gifts were given out. Earlier in the month we were honored to have as our guest Eugenia Heise. We were very glad she stopped by to see us on her way out of the country.

The South Florida Chapter at this time wishes to extend its good wishes to all of you for a very happy and prosperous New Year.

CAROLINAS' CHAPTER
By Dorothy Shackelford

The girls who got to our Southeastern Section Meeting in Chattanooga still talk about the thrill of having our president, Gerry Mickelsen and T.A.R. Ways and Means Committee chairman, Margaret Callaway, with them. Girls, since Margaret Callaway told us that each chapter has a quota of \$5.00 per member as its share of the 1955 T.A.R., we had better be about our fund raising. Methods suggested were:

- (a) Subscriptions to Cross Country News;
 - (b) Sell coffee or cokes at air shows;
 - (c) Aviation dinners;
 - (d) Give your \$5.00 to your chapter, to be sent to Bea Meads, Treasurer.
- Be thinking about it until our next meeting.

Our chairman, Edith Long, 49 1/2er Odell, and all three children flew to Washington, D.C. recently for a long week-end and did the town from zoo to monument.

Maxine Walker has moved to Richmond, Virginia, where she is working for Piedmont. We're glad she likes it but hope we have not lost her at our meetings but that she will come and bring Rusty Redding, who also works in Richmond. Rusty reports very little private flying there; says she took a grand tip through the west this fall but, shame on her, went by car. She says that out West they even herd cattle with Cessnas and she'll never be happy until she lives there.

Podners, can't we rustle up a few dogies around here to chase and keep our girls at home?

Frances Miller is also back from a two-weeks trip to California. She is now working for Aircraft Sales & Service at Columbia Municipal Airport.

Aren't we proud of Louise Smith being elected to the AWTAR Board of Directors as well as being National Membership chairman?

Thanks to all those sending in their news items regularly. Please keep them coming.

ALABAMA CHAPTER By Jo Durdin

The November meeting was held in Decatur and the few who managed to brave the elements saw a sample of that white stuff you Yankees call snow. The Dec. meeting was in B'ham, at your reporter's home. Prospective members were the guests and invites were extended to the Georgia gals. But again the weather-man failed to cooperate. (Hope you all can make it another time.)

Stuff and Such: Congratu-

lations to Juanita Halstead our second "grandma". Estelle Moon, our first, has granddaughter Debbie age 3. Many thanks to Asa Rountree, State Director of Aviation, without whose interest and help the Alabama Chapter might still be a dream.



NO. CENTRAL SECTION

CENTRAL ILLINOIS CHAPTER By Florence Musser

A beautiful and very delicious turkey dinner was spread for us by our Mattoon girls at the December meeting. Held in the Mattoon Airport. Seven members, 5 guests and 5 49ers made quick work of this turkey dinner.

It was decided at a previous meeting to fine everyone not wearing their 99 pin. To everyone's surprise not a one forgot to wear their pin. Good for us and bad for the treasurer. Just goes to show you what happens when we mean business. The Mattoon airport operator gave us all a ride in the Twin Beach. Several of us had flown to the meeting in our light planes and did more up and down than forward. Flying was a big treat in the Twin. Our next meeting will be held at Ross Andrews in Champign in March. Covered dish dinner. Don't forget March 13, 1955 for the next meeting.

We had the honor of our President Mickelsen and Mrs. Davis visiting us November 13th. Dinner meeting at the Champign airport was held in their honor.

CENTRAL WISCONSIN CHAPTER By Bernie Voelker (substituting for Lois L. Joyce).

Our usual "lush" Christmas party was held on Sunday Dec. 19, at the "out-of-this-world" beautiful new home of Dr. and Mrs. Frank Dean. Gladys, the always perfect hostess, made everyone including the foreign country visitor, Capt. Buygre Kai of the Japanese Air Force, now at Sheppard Field Air Force Base in Texas, very much at home.

An excellent "pot-luck" lunch was served in the spacious gaily decorated Lake Mendota picture window room. After lunch we had gift exchange. Attending this enjoyable get-together were Ethel and Don Christensen, Grace Page, Gladys and Frank Dean, Madison, Irene Moore, Delavan, Avis Peterson, Baraboo (our newest member) Nellie Bilstad, Cambridge, Bernie Voelker, Sun Prairie and Capt. Syugre Kai, Tokyo, Japan.

Our wish to one and all--many happy flying hours in the New Year.

CHICAGO AREA CHAPTER By Harriette Magee

Our Christmas Party this year was held in the Astoria Room of the Conrad Hilton Hotel on December 10th. We were entertained throughout the evening by a quartet of girls who were with the same band that our Chairman, Sylvia Roth, toured with during World War II. While we think of Sylvia primarily as a Flight Instructor, these girls still think of her as a trumpet player first; pilot second. But in either capacity, her planning and arrangements made for a wonderful party. Instead of having a Grab Bag this year, our chapter had voted to donate toys to be distributed to orphanages and underprivileged children.

We also used this meeting to formally accept our two newest members into the chapter. Phyliss Mottier was presented with her membership pin by her

sponsor Irene Leverton while Sponsor Donna Giles presented Dorothy Vachout with her pin. Not to be left out, Dr. Vachout and Chuck Mottier were made honorary 49ers by the presentation of their 49er cards by our Chairman.

Among the new 49ers was Leonard Price, Co-owner with Ninety-Nine, Nina Price, of the "Pink Peril". In addition to his membership card he received a pink helmet---embroidered to read "Pink Peril"---to use in his pink and black Bird Aircraft. He remained a good sport and before the evening was over, was posing for pictures in his new hat.

Among our many guests who helped make our party such a success were Deane Carroll of WSEL Radio Station, Mr. Jacobs of Papermate Pen Co., Tina Vicini of the Chicago Herald American, as well as Airport Operators from Du Page County Airport, Mr. & Mrs. W. R. Donahue; Rubinkam Airport, Al Zum Mullen; and Paul-Waukee Airport, Mr. & Mrs. Vic Jacobs.

MINNESOTA CHAPTER, By Rita Orr

So much has happened since our last report that it is difficult to know where to begin.....Nov. meeting was held in Rochester. Seven members, 3 guests present. We were very pleased to have as guests Dr. Betty Clements and Jean Scheifley. Dr. Clements is a member of the Missouri Valley Chapter but since she will be at the Mayo Clinic for 3 years as a fellow in neurology, we are pleased that she will transfer to Minnesota. Chapter during that

time. Jean Scheifley received her private license this summer and we do hope that she will join us. Jane White, formerly of Chicago, is another new member we hope to have with us. Jean and Jane flew the '54 TAR in Jane's bonanza, the 2nd plane to land in Knoxville tho' didn't win one of top prizes. ...better luck next year girls. Also, in Nov. we were much honored to meet with Gerry Mickelsen and Deedo Heise which will be remembered as a high point in '54. We do hope they will come back again.

Margaret Manuel and son Ralph took to the air for an enviable trip to the Carolinas to pick up another plane to bring back to Minn. Margaret reports that Ralph (age 10) kept her on her toes with his expert navigation.

Florence Sriver has not been busy enough with being supervisor of the filter center in Minneapolis, but has taken on the job of teaching civil defense classes as well. Our hats off to you Florence.

This is late as an announcement but it will serve as a reminder...Chapter Committee

Chairmen for '55 are: Membership, Audrey Baird, Mary Jane Rice and Marion Padke; Flying Activities, Evelyn Page, Helen Murphy; Airmarking, Margaret Manuel; Civil Defense, Florence Scriver; Treasury Projects, Helen Masterton and Phyllis Schilling; Scrapbook and History, Dot Anderson; Programs for meetings, Marilyn Kvalheim, Rita Zyblicki and Marietta Sonnenberg; Newsletter, Rita Orr.

To Marilyn Kvalheim we all extend our thanks for her able service these past 2 years as our Chairman. It was our pleasure working with her. And to Marietta Sonnenberg, goes our welcome as our new Chairman.

The December meeting and Christmas party at Charles's

Cafe in Mpls. with Marilyn as hostess was a huge success as usual with 8 members, 3 guests and 5 49ers present.

Our January meeting will be held at the home of Audrey Baird ...hope to see you all there.

UPPER IOWA CHAPTER By Betty Barton

The December Christmas party was a big success. The monthly meeting was held December 19th at the farm home of Virginia Koestner. Egg-nogs were served before the wonderful evening meal. The rest of the time was spent in visiting and hangar flying.

This year rather than gift exchange the girls brought a gift to be sent to Millie Burt our member in Storm Lake. Millie has been unable to attend our meetings for some while but we all are looking forward to her being with us again soon. We received the news that Millie and her folks are taking off for Florida right after Christmas for a short stay.

Members and guests present at the meeting were Jean and Quinten Wildman, Bernie & Sylvian Hugelin and guests, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Webb, Helen Flaherty, John Monahan, Virginia and Don Koestner, Bunny and Jack Wilson guests from Waterloo.

GREATER ST. LOUIS CHAPTER By Laura Sellinger

If we were prone to make New Year's resolutions, #1 would be to send in our News Letter report regularly. It is certainly off season to write about June in January, but it has been so long since we have written, that we have no other choice.

Last June, June Walsh married Ed Evers, a former Navy pilot. Together they flew their Cessna to Miami, and airlined to Jamaica for a honeymoon at Tower Isle. And, as if that weren't enough, they flew back to St. Louis, stayed here just long enough to pick up a change of wardrobe, and flew to the Canadian northwoods for the balance of their month-long vacation.

Speaking of vacations, Mickey Clark and her 49er flew their Piper Pacer to Florida to try their luck at deep sea fishing. They haven't even the picture of a fish to show us, but it was a wonderful vacation which they ended by flying along the eastern coastline to Washington, D.C. and back to St. Louis.

Vacations also included a three-week drive around the Gaspe Peninsula, and a trip down the New England coast to New York by your reporter. Everything about the trip was perfect except the spanking and soaking we took from Hurricane Carol when we reached Saint John, New Brunswick.

Dot Young and Mike Rumsey, who each own a Cessna and are among the flyingest couples in this area, surprised all of us by getting married while on the Texas Air Tour. Loretta and Lee Slavick also were on the Tour. All four flew their planes on the international leg and came back raving about the grand time they had. Loretta and Lee flew their Bonanza to Bulport for the Armistice Day weekend.

We are sorry Gerry Mickelsen wasn't able to get to St. Louis for our Nov. 10 meeting with the NAA, as we tentatively scheduled it. It was an excellent dinner meeting held at Hotel Chase. Dr. John Victory was guest speaker and Jacqueline Cochran was our honored guest. Loretta, our chairman, took part in a luncheon "in the sky" which a local department store sponsored in connection with Jackie's visit. The luncheon was held in a DC-3, and attendance was limited to members of the press, the city's outstanding aviation personalities and a selected handful of civic leaders. The 99's played a large part in making all arrangements. We were so pleased when Laurien Griffin and Helen Vincent, Kansas City 99's, flew to St. Louis for the meeting. It was grand to have them with us.

Early in December we assisted the NAA with preparations for the Kitty Hawk meeting which honored aviation pioneers in the area. The meeting, preceded by a cocktail party at the BOQ at the Lambert Field

Naval Air Station, was well attended by 99's and 49ers. Loretta, June Evers and Dot Rumsey provided airplane rides for members of the Fenton Wing Scouts as part of their new program, and June has attended several of their meetings to give talks on aviation. Loretta has been appointed Director of Cadets for the Wing Staff of the CAP.

At the moment we are all helping with arrangements for the National Aviation Education Council (NAEC) conference to be held in St. Louis on Feb. 24 and 25. We strongly urge all teachers to attend as there will be demonstrations of actual air age education programs at primary, intermediate and secondary school levels included in the conference, and we feel sure the program will be interesting and worth while. Jackie Cochran will be one of the speakers; also, President Lamphier of the NAA. Several other notable speakers are scheduled to take part in the conference, and we extend an invitation to all 99's to be present if it is at all possible.

We have news, too, for all you girls planning to fly in

this year's TAR. We're so happy St. Louis is a designated stop that we are planning an open house and barbecue party on Sunday and Monday, July 3 and 4, at Loretta's home which will give our local pilots an opportunity to meet you. Also, you are invited to be our guests for a swim at Weiss Airport's pool which was opened last summer and attracted more 99's than our meetings! Even though we can't stand the thought of bathing suits right now, it will sound good next July.

Now for more recent news, our December meeting was an informal Christmas get-together for members and girls in the area who are learning to fly. It was held at Lydia Dunne's attractive apartment and was attended by seven of our 11 active members and seven fledglings whom we sincerely hope will continue their flight training until they are eligible for membership. Nothing would please us more. We dispensed with our routine meeting and saw, instead, Loretta Slavick's and Dot Rumsey's excellent movies and colored slides taken while they were in Mexico and during the Texas Air Tour. We understand why they raved about the tour!

INDIANA CHAPTER
By Rae Cawdell

"...since brevity is the soul of wit..." but alas and alack there is no wit here, only brevity. And the reason---a soulful tale---your reporter missed the Christmas Party.

Betty Nicholas and 49^{er} Ted were hostess and host respectively to 28 members and guests on Saturday night, December 18th in their lovely home at 125 West 82nd St. It is noteworthy that all the girls brought their 49^{ers}. To add to the Christmas spirit, came the snow in the late afternoon and I am told that the trees and the shrubs surrounding the house were a beautiful sight.

Turkey and ham, with all the garnishes and trimmings, was served buffet style. Then the gift exchange which brought many oh's and ah's as the girls and boys opened their packages

There was no business meeting ---who could settle down to business at a time like that! All pertinent matters will be taken up at the next regular meeting on January 16th at Weir Cook Municipal Airport, Indianapolis.

GREATER KANSAS CITY CHAPTER
By Betty Siggs

Let's catch up with news from Kansas City! In August we started our year of 54-55 by "railroading" Chairman Neva Rea and Vice-Chairman Marie Kuhlman back into second terms. After recovering from the shock, they got us started on a series of interesting meetings, one of the best of which was in October when we had dinner at the "O" Club at Grandview AF Base, HQ for the Central Air Defense Command. After dinner we were taken to the ready hangars where we saw the F-86-F's ready for "scramble" orders, then to the ground training building where we saw an electronic jet simulator. Several lucky girls got to fly it!

Another highlight was a joint meeting with the newly organized Aero Club held Nov. 29th. Mr. Williams (Bill) Ong and our Grace Harris have been the spark plugs and organizers in starting this greatly needed civic aviation group here. The Aero Clubs are sponsored by the NAA, and judging from present indications it should prove a valuable asset to the community.

The girls who met with Gerry on her stopover visit in December report an interesting evening. Sorry I was unable to attend. Laurien Griffin and Helen Johnson reported on

their hop to St. Louis to attend the NAA meeting. Plans for the spring sectional meeting to be held here were discussed. Looking back to that wonderful meeting in Omaha last August, I don't know how we can ever measure up to it, but we will try and Chairman Neva Rea has some very intriguing plans up her sleeve. Once the date is set we will keep you posted on arrangements.

Marie Kuhlman and "our" 49^{er} Orville hosted a lovely Christmas party at their beautiful home Dec. 15th. Egg-nog, buffet supper, gift exchange, lots of fun.

We all join in wishing Gerry and our other officers a Happy and successful New Year. See you in Kansas City at the Spring Sectional.

ALL-OHIO CHAPTER
By Edith Harmon

Thanks to all who sent Holiday Greetings. Hope YOURS were the Merriest Ever!

Ruth Thomas of Knoxville flew her Cessna 130 into Cincinnati December 27th after dropping her 49^{er} off in Hamilton on business. Ruth and I had lunch together at Lunken Airport and a real gab session. Ruth used to work for CAA at the Detroit Air Traffic Control Center. At the same time Russ Sebright of St. Louis was at the airport. He saw the 99 markings on Ruth's plane--Russ had attended the banquet at the N.C. Sectional in St. Louis last May.

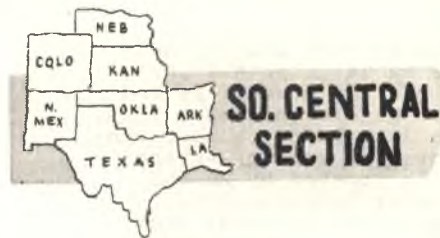
Meg Berning and her family left Christmas Day for Florida to spend the holidays with relatives. They drove the new Olds down. Mary and Art Crawley flew another couple to New Orleans in their Cessna 170 the latter part of November. Was the first time up for one of their guests.

Helen Ailes is another 99 who is a member of Civil Air Patrol. Helen belongs to the Alliance Squadron.

Your reporter flew to Chicago in the Cessna 170 the Monday before Christmas and brought my mother back with me. Hope there weren't many who had to work on Christmas Day.

Pat Comer's Taylorcraft is back in the air again. Blanche O'Brien and Marge Miller are both settled in their new homes. Bonnie Butler is back from Europe for the holidays.

Hope to have a special meeting in Cincinnati in June for all 99s!



MISSOURI VALLEY CHAPTER
By Helen Moore
Acting News Reporter for
Jan Munkres

Cheered by prospects of clearing skies, a group of Ninety-Nines held their Christmas meeting at Minden, Nebraska on December 12th. Those in the group were Helen Moore, of Beatrice, Pauline and Earl Hawks of Bruning, and Florence Dunlavy of North Platte, Nebraska. Minden attracts visitors from miles around not only to see the lighting displays at the Courthouse Square, but also those at the City Park two blocks north of the Square, those at the churches and schools and in the residential district during the holiday season.

Minden can also feel proud of its improved, lighted airport located only one mile from its business district. We were welcomed at the airport by the operator. We were served hot coffee and home baked Christmas cookies which hit the spot on this chilly December morning.

Transportation was furnished by Mr. Christenson of Arlo's Hardware in Minden and we thank him for his kindness during the busy holiday season. We enjoyed a wonderful meal at the Country Club House where we got all we could eat for \$1.50, and where we learned that they had successfully accommodated over 150 hungry visitors up to that time..

After a short business meeting we adjourned to visit the Harold Warp Pioneer Village, where the lives and achievements of America's pioneers are exhibited. Of special interest was a display of

aircraft and a display showing the evolution of farm machinery. We recommend this as one of the really interesting points of interest in Nebraska.

Our next meeting is planned for Lincoln, Nebraska February 20th with Dorothy Reed as hostess

COLORADO CHAPTER
By Donna Myers

A fine 1955 to all of you, everywhere. Starting off the holiday season with

a bang---the chapter held its annual cocktail party at the new home of Ed and Ruth Mugele, December 10th. The late buffet supper consisted of turkey---gracefully donated by Ed and Frances Tepper---ham, shrimp and all that goes with it. Everyone had a wonderful time and more than enjoyed the hospitality of the Mugeles. Ruth had the house decorated beautifully. In attendance were the Wenholz's, Bob and Mary; Jane and Swede Nettleblad; Marilyn and Harold Nordstrom; Pat Urling (Harry was out of town); Phyllis Johnston and her guest; Cricket and Andy Anderson; Thelma Thomas and her guest; Betty and Bert Stackhouse; Teppers; the Halls, who operate the airport at Boulder; Verna Christopher up from Pueblo; Phyllis and Bob McNally, sister and brother-in-law of Mary and Bob Wenholz; and the Jolliffs were able to drop in near the end of the evening.

The November rummage sale netted the chapter \$50.00 clear.

Ed and Frances Tepper had a fine trip to New York in November and Clara and Delmar Lemons attended the Flying Farmers convention in Florida and then went on to Cuba. When they returned home they bought a 180 and are now on a trip to California.

Swede Nettleblad is still hobbling around on crutches and a cast---result of falling off a ladder and breaking his heel.

NINETY-NINE WAS COLORADO'S FIRST WOMAN PILOT

A 49½R REMINISCES:

Donna Tracy Myers is 5 feet and 90 pounds of seemingly boundless energy---and none of these facets have altered in the 20 years of our acquaintance. She and all the aspects of Colorado aviation are so closely tied together that the complete story would fill many, many columns. Donna is not exactly sure what started her interest in aviation. Indirectly it was probably her father, who is still an active private pilot at 66. Directly it may have been "the boy next door" who, in 1930 was basement building a Heath Parasol. Tho but a teen-ager at the time, Donna was soon enlisted as a full time assistant on the project. By the time it was finished she was madly in love---not with the boy---but with airplanes and flying.

Incidentally, the "boy next door" is now a local 49er---which proves little except that some people did survive the Heath era.

Parental strength motivated Donna to pursue a normal education for a few years but 1934 found her an active member of the Denver Chapter of the Womans National Aeronautics Association. The summer of 1935 she enrolled in aviation ground school at the University of Colorado. She soaked up so much data that she turned the tables in the fall and started instructing classes in model aircraft building at Opportunity School.

One day, early in 1936, one of her students asked her if she was a pilot. She didn't like the "No" answer so she promptly quit her job downtown and headed towards the airports. Ray Wilson gave her a job at Park Hill Airport. Not much work then---not much pay---sometimes none---but a little flying time each week in a Curtis Fledgling, a rare type of lumbering airborne vehicle. She got her Amateur License in 1936 and her Private in 1937---Certificate No. 37930. Inasmuch as she thereupon became the first licensed woman pilot in the State of Colorado (and also the smallest) the event was given considerable publicity. The result was that by the middle of 1937 so many other girls were flying that 15 of them formed the Wings Club with Donna as President. Some of the names in that early group may be familiar---and they should be---because most of them eventually became 99's. They included Gladys Howe Hill, Jan Pinneo Norris, Winifred Rose, Letha Nell Bowman, Dora Marshall, Sybil Musil, Babe Jamellier, Viola Stevens, Leila Neff, Ann Church, Irene McKey, Eileen Reavis, Mona Higley, Dorothy Thompson, Dottie Young, Peg Bonfils, and Audrey Andrews.

As can be imagined, this group participated in every air activity that came along---and dreamed up plenty of their own. The impetus they gave to flying was felt all over the State. Inasmuch as her job at Park Hill Airport, her flying, Wings Club, and WNAA activities were not enough to occupy all her time, Donna organized the University of Colorado Flying Club. The object of the club "to promote general interest in aeronautics". She was promptly elected President and re-elected the following year---1938. The club had 50 active members and met once a month as an aviation promotion and study group.

In 1938 the wings Club spon-

sored and helped put on the biggest air show Denver had ever seen. They also raffled off a new Cub Trainer. Odly enough people flocked to the show but not too many were interested in buying a ticket on an airplane. The resultant financial hole in which the Wings Club found themselves brought about a frenzied social whirl for a few months as they sponsored dances, shows, etc., to pay for the Cub.

In 1939 a lot of big events took place---if you will recall. Civil Pilot Training got under way---Park Hill Airport (Ray Wilson, Inc.) had the first program in this area. Donna joined the 99's---the only member in Colorado at the time---and also married John Myers, a big lanky guy who was a Forest Service photographer at that time but who is now a Senior Captain on Frontier Airlines. Donna can be very persuasive!

Donna, with the assistance of Jan Pinneo and Dottie Young, ran Ray Wilson, Inc. during those hectic CPTP days. (And if you think those gals didn't run it you should have been there).

Donna did take time off, if you want to call it that, from her office duties to fly a Cub or two back from the factory at Lock Haven, Pa.; in 1941 Ray Wilson, Inc. moved to Chickasha, Oklahoma as Wilson-Bonfils Flying School to teach primary to Army Cadets. Before leaving (husband John was an instructor) Donna helped organize the Colorado Chapter of the 99's.

During the following four years she built up quite a bit of time in the Wilson-Bonfils Cub at Chickasha and in their Spartan and Twin Beech while dashing back and forth between Denver and Chickasha.

Back to Colorado in 1945 and Donna became active in the 99's again. The Colorado chapter then had 20 members. She was made Secretary in 1946 and the same year was put on the Board of Directors as Secretary of Ray Wilson's newly formed Monarch Airlines, a position she was to hold until she resigned in 1951---when she was elected National Secretary of the 99's.

Donna was the Colorado 99's Secretary again in 1947 and Chapter Chairman in 1948 and 1949.

In 1949 she helped organize and was named a Director of the Denver Aviation Country Club. She is still a Director.

As you know she served us as the 99's National Secretary from 1951 until last year---and served us well.

TULSA CHAPTER
By Eleanor Heath

The biggest news from Tulsa is that we are going to have a new Auxiliary Municipal Airport. Nearly all Tulsa Chapter members participated (either flying or serving coffee at the airports) in the fly-over sponsored by the Tulsa Aviation Association prior to the voting on the bond issue for the auxiliary airport site. A site has been picked 15 miles south from downtown and west of the Arkansas River. Anticipate a 7100' NS runway and a 3000' EW runway--- good news to us private pilots since jets and airliners are getting so thick around Municipal these days.

Big news also that the TAR is "stopping" in Tulsa this summer. We are working on getting a plane from Tulsa entered and will be on hand to greet contestants coming through. Beth Smith will be keeping vigil on the time clock.

December meeting was a cocktail party and spaghetti supper held in the home of Dorothy Rice with 49ers attending. Those present were Faye and Marvin Sullenger, Dorothy Rice, M. R. and Eleanor Heath, Peggy and Bill Snyder, Virgil and Lois Martin, Keewatin and Joe Ross, Tissie and Bob Lawrence, Anne and F. R. Keen, Cyril and Beth Smith and Faye Mefford who had just earned her private license. Everyone graciously paid for their drinks and, needless to say, our treasury received a sizeable boost and we all had a grand time. The spaghetti was delicious--- thanks to Dorothy.

KANSAS CHAPTER
By Lois Dobbin

Our Christmas Party was held at Margaret Yourdon's on December 12th. Everyone had a wonderful time, what with luscious food, Christmas cheer, and colored movies and slides of 99 activities. Helen and Buddy Chandler brought along their portable movie studio, and we'll have some good movies to show soon.

Kansas Chapter is working with the Wing Scouts of Wichita, and will present air age education in the capacity of "consultants" for the scout group. Dorothy Speer is chairman of air age education for the chapter, and will supervise the Wing Scout project.

During 1954, our chapter airmarked 42 Kansas towns, making a total of 92 airmarkers now in Kansas. So far the winter has been so mild, we plan to airmark every month.

Anne Waddell has been under the weather a little recently, but is coming along fine, and expects to be back in the air real soon. She and Lowell both checked out in night flying over Thanksgiving.

Hazel Guy and her 49er Al are saying these days "If you have time to spare---go by air." They have been trying to fly to Michigan over Thanksgiving for several year, and usually end up part way by choo choo. However, this year they ran into icing at St. Louis via the 170. After much ground and coffee time, they returned to Augusta, Kansas.

Lucille Dienst of Lakin met with Kansas Governor Arn to discuss air age education. Lucille is working on air age education in the Flying Farmers, and is quite active. She recently had the opportunity to fly both the Apache and Cessna 310, and is drooling over the twin engine airplane.

Plans are under way for a big rummage sale in March, at the same time we celebrate our "birthday", to raise money for airmarking materials. Ruby Mathis is chairman of the sale and her recently acquired station wagon will be handy for toting the loot.

January meeting will be held in Topeka, Kansas, as a joint meeting with the WNAA.

TEXAS CHAPTER--Ft. Worth Unit
By Marjorie Gray

The Dallas and Ft. Worth Units held a combined December meeting on Sunday the 5th. We met for dinner at Ft. Worth's beautiful new Carter Field.

The Dallas girls attending were: Doris Weller, Jackie Waits, Martha Ann Reading, Phyllis Nold and 24 3/4er Peggy, Janice Romanie, Carol Weiner and Marie Rushing. The Ft. Worth girls were: Verna Burns, Tony Page, Beulah Conn, Margaret Calloway, Marjorie Gray and Maybelle Fletcher. Maybelle is a former Ft. Worth and 99. these girls the Ft. Worth Unit raised their 1956 TAR quota. A special vote of thanks to Johnny and Dick, Marge and Sandra.

Verna had a mishap on her Ranch just before Christmas, involving a stubborn calf and a very large gate. The result---she landed in the hospital with a concussion. She was very lucky that the injury was no worse than it was. She's home recuperating now, and making loud noises of disgust that her Christmas plans were ruined. We're happy to report she's much better now.

Christmas was spent at home with families for most of our members. Cleve Godfrey had son Gaines home from Oklahoma University. Also her mother with her. She reports big plans ahead to catch up on the flying she missed in the Holiday rush.

We are happy to have her back with us. The day was very windy but no 99 Meeting would be complete if someone didn't fly in, so fly they did. Tony and Verna in Tony's Cessna 140 and Margaret in her 140.

It is always a lot of fun meeting with the Dallas girls. Carter Field is ideally located, as it's midway between the two cities. Let's do it again soon.

"Old Timer's Day" at Brownweed, Texas Airport, Dec. 12th buzzed with activity, mostly ground activity. The weather wasn't very cooperative for an Air Show but Corn Dog's, made by Verna's recipe, coffee cold drinks and donuts had a special kind of appeal for the crowd. Margaret, 49er Dick and 24 3/4ers Marge and Sandra, Mary Helen, Verna, and Johnny Stubbs were there selling same for our Unit. They also hopped rides which helped swell the TAR fund.

The following Sunday Rowena, Margaret, and Tony were selling more of the same at Ft. Worth's Meacham Field ably assisted by Marge and Sandra Calloway. Thanks to

TEXAS CHAPTER
ARK-LA-TEX UNIT
By Barbara Williams

Husbands were invited to our Christmas party, a dinner at Longview's beautiful new Eastwood Motel dining room. Everyone was there except Mildred and Robert Carney of Shreveport, but they sent a bottle of wonderful blackberry wine.

We met at the home of Essie Hollis in Longview before going to the restaurant and had an exchange of dime store gifts.

Attending were Marie and Marcus Barnes of Kilgore, Lorraine and Curtis Averett of Lone Star, Essie and "Doc" Hollis of Longview and their daughter Shirley, Barbara Williams of Gladewater and sons Jim and Bill. "Slush" Williams had an engineers' meeting and couldn't make the dinner.

Next meeting is set for Tuesday, January 18th in the New Airport Restaurant at Shreveport. We enjoyed having the husbands so much that we invited them to come to this meeting, too.



ALASKA CHAPTER
By Emorene "Randy" Briggs

Our November meeting was held at Helen Snyder's home. We discussed the possibilities of entering a plane in the AWTAR. A promotional committee was appointed and various possibilities of obtaining sponsorship was discussed. Helen Stoddard urged us all to submit our names for the drawing to be held on a local Television Program "Plane Facts." Each month two pilots names are drawn to receive a free course at Instrument School at Elmendorf Air Force Base. Helen's husband had won the course the month before and said it was very worth while. Much to our surprise, Helen Stoddard and I won the course on the December drawing. We attended the Instrument school December 6, 7 and 8th and received instruction on Instruments, Weather, ILS, Radio Range and Omni Range. We enjoyed it very much.

Our December meeting was held the middle of the month. Five representatives from the local CAP were present to tell us about their activities in this area. Helen Stoddard also reported that we have finally been given the go ahead signal to renovate and relocate the monument of a well known Alaska Bush Pilot, Russell Merrill. We proposed to move this monument from its present location in the weeds to the lawn of the CAA Administration Building. It was necessary to obtain permission not only of the CAA officials but the city fathers as well. Now all we have to do is to wait until next summer to complete the project.

MONTANA CHAPTER
By M.B. Shinn, Assoc. Reporter

Our December meet was at the Billings Airport, luncheon, business, and Christmas shopping, with fly-ins from all over the State. New members Eva Swarzrock of Billings and Joyce Heischy McDowell of Wisdom were welcomed.

Letters are flying back and forth to Idaho from Montana regarding co-sponsoring the May 14th Sectional.

Dorothy Dow led a lively discussion on the new proposed gas tax bill of which the 99, Civil Air Patrol,

and Montana Pilot Association are playing a deciding part.

Our Secretary Marge Rolle, told members of our thrilling visit in Billings with Jacqueline Cochran who asked all girls to say a few words over the local broadcast with her.

An "old jewelry" action was held---resulting WEALTH to help with the coming big event---Powder Puff Derby. The Air Race was brought closer thru the showing of "CLEARED FOR TAKEOFF". Our new NW Governor, Margaret Proctor and "Gini" Richardson of Yakima are to be thanked for sending us this film, which has left us all "eager"! They also delighted us with a surprise bouquet when they could not attend our Charter Dinner....believe Montana had an incomplete report on this big event.

Gerry Mickelsen presented the Charter October 15th to Norma Wingfield, Chapter Chairman. The presentation dinner at the Skyline Club was made memorial thru Gerry's joyful manner of "gathering in the new flock" and making one and all "belong". She was ably helped by a very interesting veteran pilot, Rita Hart who flew up from Sacramento with Gerry---Bellanca behaving!

Officers of the Montana Group are: Chairman, Norma Wingfield, Missoula; Vice-Chairman, Vivienne Schrank, Jordan; Secretary, Marjorie Rolle, Billings; Treasurer, Inza Riedesel, Billings, Newsreporter, Norma Kuhn, Missoula; Membership Chairman, Orpha Dann, Watkins. Other members: Gladys Kreider, Sands Springs; Vera Throssel, Billings; Eleanor Greening and Joan Greening, Laurel; Elsie Hartley, Missoula; Dorothy Dow, Billings; "Pud" Lovelace, Bozeman; Ernestine Gore, Billings; Elsie Childs, Helena; Mildred Shinn, Billings; Audrey Jordan, Billings; Mildred Lynch, Billings; Dorothy Sabo, Bozeman; and newest members Eva Swarzrock, Billings and Joyce Heischy McDowell, Wisdom.

Incidentally, two of our members are ready to takeoff on a fine flying vacation, with stops in Idaho, California, Arizona, and on to Mexico for two weeks of sun-bathing. These girls, Ernestine Gore in Bellanca and Inza Riedesel in Beechcraft, have allowed their pilot husbands to accompany them! Good luck and fun girls and guys.

IDAHO CHAPTER
By Laura Conner

Flying one flight ahead of Santa Claus we landed beside the cozy fireplace of Mrs. Gene Keith, Boise, our charming hostess of the month.

We discussed plans for a dance to be held Feb. 12th at Bradley Airport's deluxe hangar. A hearty welcome is extended to all 99's and 49ers to attend.

Chet Moulton, Director of Aeronautics, publishes a monthly magazine entitled the Rudder Flutter. He plans a story of two 99's each issue to acquaint the people of Idaho with this organization. Featured this month are Barbara Hornback, Idaho Chapter Chairman, and Fran Brown, our photographer.

Guests for the evening and all gals with flying time were Betty Sargent, Mae Eason, Rose Sinclair and Hattie Bennett. Betty and Mae have both soloed and plan to log more flying time. Rose is a private pilot while Hattie has been flying 22 years. Hattie recalls ferrying 40 H.P. cubs from Lockhaven and helping her husband operate airports at Idaho Falls and Pocatello. Later they owned and operated the famous Bennetts Dude Ranch in Idaho primitive flying area.

Barbara Hornback, the lucky lady, will ferry a Cessna 170 from Wichita the first of the year.

Francis Dear was able to fly her tri-pacer in from Hailey for our meeting. Francis lives by Sun Valley so keeps a close eye on flying weather.

Winter time doesn't daunt flying spirits here as yours truly acquired more flying students---alas the wrong sex, however, for potential 99's.



BAY CITIES CHAPTER
By Maxine Carlson

Eleanor Bjorkman flew to Hollister in a T-craft just to view the newly-marked Hollister airport. She was very pleased with its appearance. Later Eleanor went over in a commercial airliner. She said the sign "reads like a book" from 10,000 feet.

A gay Christmas party was enjoyed by about twenty people at John and Margaret Gerhardt's impressive San Francisco home.

It is a pleasure to welcome our new member, Helen Tainter, who transferred to our chapter from Salt Lake City.

Miriam Brugh enjoyed a visit in Texas over the holidays. Ann Rodgers, who is an airline stewardess based in Washington, D.C. was home for a few days. The Kitty Hawk Lay dinner at the Alameda Naval Air Station was attended by Rae Misener and Ruth Rueckert.

SACRAMENTO VALLEY CHAPTER By Coral Bloom

The annual Christmas dinner dance was held at McClellan Air Force Base this year. Our chairman, Mrs. Alfred Wagner, entertained with a lovely cocktail party at her home in Sacramento before the dinner at the Officer's Club.

We were pleased to hear from our member Dorothy Grieve recently. She is now operating an Air Service at West Riverside Airport. She lives two blocks from the field and will welcome 99s. Her new "Pride and Joy" is a Beech Bonanza. Do hop up to see us soon Dorothy!

Coral Bloom, Air Age Education representative for the Southwest Section, attended a section meeting on Training for the Aircraft Industry at the National Convention of the American Vocational Association in December in San Francisco. She will fly to Chico February 19th as a delegate of the California Aviation Education Association to a council meeting of ESSA---Elementary Science Teachers.

LONG BEACH CHAPTER By Jean Elliott

A short report from Long Beach this month, as this reporter has been so busy she hasn't had time to snoop.

The Tri-Chapter Christmas party at the Officer's Club turned out to be a very gala affair. Almost all the Long Beach Chapter attended, and many were there from San Fernando and Los Angeles chapters.

A delicious steak dinner was served and after dinner a drawing was held for the door prize. Rita Gibson was the winner. Adeline Maylen's son sang for us, and was obliged to take several encores.

There was dancing for the rest of the evening, and much visiting and hangar flying., and when it was over everyone agreed that Barbara Thisted and her committee had done a wonderful job.

P.S. I can't keep this any longer. The reason this reporter was so busy.....she was working on a commercial and got it!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Dianne C. Bixby, Long Beach Chapter crashed on a routine flight to La Paz, January 2nd. She was flying an A-20 that she was planning to fly in another around the world flight

SANTA CLARA VALLEY By Ardell Hauk

On December 16th we met at Chapter Chairman Pat Gladney's home in Los Altos for a Christmas Party, Buffet Supper. After cocktails, Pat served a delicious ham dinner which we ate while seated around a beautifully trimmed Christmas tree in the living room. By the time we had finished dinner we were pretty well caught up on our hangar flying and shop talk (children, homes, etc.), so we opened our Christmas presents midst much merriment.

To top the evening off Pat showed her colored movies of their trip to Nome, Alaska. They were really out of this world.

Members and friends attending the Christmas party were Patty Sherwood, Jackie Petty, Harriett Willson, Billie Wyatt, Lou Kroll, Marion Barnick, Barbara Hector, Clara Lou Cathey, Mary Jane Oberg, Allie Guest, Dell Hauk, Tommy Christian, Elsie Watson, Natalie Bossio, Aimee Gerlack, Dorothy Monahan, Clara Schneider Virginia Buchta, Helen Menefee Harrison, Roxana Zimmer, and hostessed by Pat Gladney.

Seems as though our chapter hasn't been very active in the air this month; however, Allie Guest reported a fine flying trip to Roswell, New Mexico for the Christmas Holiday. She and her 4^{1/2}er Murdic, and three small daughters flew the Salinas Aviation Club's Tri-Pacer on the trip.

SAGUARO CHAPTER By Juanita Newell

We combined our business and social meeting this month. Frances Wood hostessed at her home on the northwest side of the city. Our chairman, Wilma Bland announced that Gerry Mickelsen would try to be with us at our January meeting. We were all delighted with the news. We exchanged Christmas gifts and were served delicious refreshments by our hostess.

We adopted a needy family for the holiday season. We gathered clothing and food so they would have a little Christmas cheer. Carol Lowery, Alice Roberts and Wilma Bland presented them with the gifts on Christmas eve. The girls reported the family was overjoyed. Bonnie Fugitt won a Flagstaff trip by utilizing cooking know-how and ingenuity by demonstrating how she could cook on a national emergency basis at a "cookout" and mock "evacuation" held by the club at an army auxiliary field northwest of Phoenix. Bonnie cooked an entire breakfast without silverware, dishes or utensils. The airplane trip was donated by a local contracting company executive who owns and flies a 195. Incidentally girls, Camille Shapley has the word out that her grapefruit are ripe---bring your own containers.

We lost our new member, Dorothy Jenkins to the Tucson Chapter. We know Tucson will enjoy Dorothy.

We have plans for a visit to Marana Air Base at Marana, Arizona. This base trains students officers for the Air Force in T 34's and T-28's. We have been invited to inspect the base and have lunch at the student officers mess.

UTAH CHAPTER By Bobby McDonald

Ring out the old, ring in the new! The Utah Chapter's last get-together of 1954 was held December 29th at the home of Eunice Naylor. Eunice and her sister, Louise Jorgensen, served another of their fabulous dinners to June Raybould, Dorothy Allen, Bobby McDonald, Lucille Christopher-son, Margaret Loy, Jessie Carter, Ethel McDermott, and guest Chloe Robertson. Chloe, who has moved to Salt Lake City from New Mexico, holds flight and ground instructor ratings and has been working for the Christophersons at their airport in Provo.

Everyone was glad to see Dorothy Allen, who has been in California for some time. We were sorry to hear of her father's recent illness. Dorothy expects to be here for two or three weeks before returning to "The Golden State".

HAPPY NEW YEAR, everyone!

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER By Dottie Sanders

\$250.00 was the amount raised in our rummage sale! We all met at the rummage sale store the evening of December 3rd to sort and hang our merchandise, keeping out some of the better "white elephants" which our own members would like to buy, after which we met at Michael's in Lemon Grove for dinner. On December 4th we made a profit of \$89.00 on the rummage. Jacqueline Trenfel was leading sales lady due to her ability to speak Spanish. On December 11th, we combined our Christmas party with the White Elephants and cleared the balance by wearing out the voices of two capable auctioneers, Mary Ring and Betty Gillies. For chapters who have not tried this method of raising money for the AWTAR, our chapter has found it to be the easiest and "most fun" way of raising money yet. Maxine Smith and Dorothy Davis were co-chairmen of this successful event.

Claire Hale hosted the Christmas party at her home, assisted by Helen Dick and Isabelle McCrae with delicious food. Ern Stanley furnished the cleverist Christmas tree favors that she made from ice cream cones popcorn and cake decorations.

Christmas gifts were exchanged. Thanks also to Joe Stanley for his wonderful Christmas punch.

The chapter sponsored a section of seats at the Old Globe Theatre on Monday December 13th to raise additional funds and at the same time enjoyed seeing the play, "Ten Little Indians". A profit of \$9.00 was made on this project.

Our new member, Dorothy Davis, is now the proud owner of a Cessna 170. In Civil Air Patrol work, Isabelle McCrae has been promoted to Third Group of the California Wing in the position of Personnel Officer. Jacqueline Trenfel is the new Public Information Officer of the San Diego County Squadron 99 here.

We hope to be seeing more of Polly Potter Ross, whom we understand is a charter member, and who has been working in various parts of the world such as England and Australia.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CHAPTER By Trixie-Ann G. Schubert

Chairman Clara Davis issues an early invitation to Long Beach and Los Angeles chapters to join us for a tri-chapter spring dinner program.

About 80 were present at the Christmas tri-chapter meeting hosted by the Long Beach chapter, who, under the party chairmanship of Barbara Thisted provided so outstanding an evening for those fortunate enough to get there. Held at the Air Force Officers Club at Long Beach, there was dinner, an orchestra for dancing, entertainment with the

of 99 Adeline Mayle's son, door prizes, and a gift for each with the 99 emblem. Official greeters were Mayetta Behringer and Donna Evans.

Betty Glaser will show some exciting motion pictures she took on her round the world flight last summer at our February meeting at 1967 Micheltorena, L.A. This meeting also will constitute a Valentine party.

Jean Reimer, who attends meetings when she can, was grounded long enough to call California 99s and wish them a Merry Christmas. She's stewardess for North American, has been doing some deep sea diving in Florida, and mountain climbing with the Sierra Club when on this end of the country.

We've just learned that our prospective 99 member Margaret Grasso Thirkill has a son, her first. Hope to see her at meetings again.

LAS VEGAS CHAPTER By M. Moore

Our Chapter is happy to report that the year 1954 has been a successful and pleasant one. During the month of December, we had two excellent meetings plus a Christmas Party at the home of Martha Lundy.

As this year closes, it is our pleasure to wish a Very Happy 1955 to each and every Chapter all over the country. May all the Chapters be blessed with good active meetings and the fellowship that is always enjoyed between Lady Sky Skirters!

The Ninety-Nines INC.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN PILOTS

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