



January

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Editor, Ruth Wakeman

2821 Hillside Dr., Burlingame, Calif.

MEMBERS! After this issue the 99 News Letter will be sent only to members whose dues are paid for 1936-37. If you have neglected to pay your dues, send \$3.00 at once to your Sectional Treasurer or Governor.

NATIONAL AVIATION SHOW, January 28 to February 6, 1937, New York. The Aviation Show has allotted a booth to "Women in the Air" under the auspices of the 99's. Novetah Davenport, (Mrs. G. D. Davenport) 230 Park Avenue, United Aircraft, New York City, has been appointed Chairman of this project. 99ers, please cooperate to make this a success. Novetah asks for photographs of members for the booth; also the loan of Trophies for the duration of the Show; and any suggestions you may have for making the booth alive and interesting. If you expect to be in New York for the Show, please notify the Chairman ahead of time.

NAA ANNUAL MEETING - Representatives of all phases of aviation met at the NAA Convention in Chicago, November 30-December 2. Emphasis was on National Defense in the Air, with informative addresses by General Westover, Major General Andrews, Commander Rosendahl, Congressman Mass and others. Attention was also given Air Transport, Trans-ocean Transport, Miscellaneous and Private Flying, NAA policies for 1937. At the session on Private Flying, Mabel Britton, representing the 99's, spoke briefly for women. At the annual dinner, Casey Jones presided in his inimitable fashion. Louise Thaden was introduced among the honor guests. At the close of the dinner program, record holders of 1936 were awarded certificates, women pilots among them being: Louise Thaden, Blanche Noyes, Helen Richey, Helen McCloskey, Ione Coppedge, Annette Gipson, Helen Frigo. 99's seen at the meeting were Nancy Love, Helen McCloskey, Edith Lackner, Florence Boswell, Ione Coppedge.

- - Mabel Britton

CHAPTERS! - Let's hear what individual chapters are doing. If you have any novel money-earning schemes, constructive programs, unusual features of any nature, let's pass them along. How many are accumulating libraries, taking aviation courses, making mass aerial trips or putting on membership campaigns?

## ABOUT OUR YOUNGER MEMBERS

A good suggestion has come from Clayton Patterson, Governor of Southeastern Section, who thinks it would be interesting to hear about some of our new members. It would be a grand way to get acquainted, so whenever possible let's have a paragraph or two about new members when they join! Clayton has started the ball rolling by enclosing the following:

Congratulations go to Ruth Stilson, who received her Private License November 7th. Ruth is a Junior student of Guilford College, Guilford, N. C. This plucky young Miss just out of her 'teens is the daughter of Dr. I. B. Stilson, Orthodontist, of Providence, R. I. She has 70 hours to her credit and learned her flying from the ground up. This summer while at her home in Rhode Island, she spent her time at the airport messing about from choice with the engines of the planes at the W. E. Wiggins Airways and had the time of her life washing down motors, draining oil and testing the spark plugs. This alert young lady also acted as checker of incoming airplanes and kept an official record of all pilots and ships that landed and took off from the airport.

Ruth has had a desire to fly ever since she was 11 years old and had her first air-ride when she was 15. Her first instructor was Thurle L. Ellis, who "cracked up" when he was 26 and was one of the best pilots in New England. A book of verse compiled in her Sophomore year was a creative project in philosophy and was dedicated to him. She made her first solo flight in October, 1934, and since that time during vacations she has been able to build up her flying time and keep it up along with her college activities, which are many, as she won the Dramatic Council last year and is in the College choir, plays the piano and cello, but she is happiest when she is in a plane high up under the blue ceiling. Now that she has received her "ticket" we wish her many happy landings and a most successful flying career. Ruth is also a member of the Carolina Aero Club.

- - Clayton Patterson

## WHY I LEARNED TO FLY

Once upon a time there was an old woman. She did not live in a shoe, but she had three children, and these three children asked a lot of questions. Now this old woman also had a husband, but the poor man had been bitten by a bug whose sting is known to be fatal. And so the old woman never saw her husband on Saturday afternoons or Sunday mornings, and dinner would get cold at night while waiting for him. And so the old woman got very, very angry.

So one Sunday morning she said to her husband, "I will dress the children nicely and we will all go to the Beautiful Airport." And so they did. And now the old woman is also a pilot and gets home to a cold dinner.

- - Daisy Martin Kirkpatrick

Since it is time to go to press, and still the mail brings no more offerings on "Why I Learned to Fly", it seems that I must use my own experience as filler matter.

I was convinced that airplanes held no interest for me. In fact, to be truthful, I was scared of the things--then along came a barnstorming pilot and in exchange for some advertising our newspaper gave him, he presented us with two complimentary airplane rides. When informed of the transaction I thought it very poor business, but a Scotch instinct in me wouldn't permit those tickets to go un-used, so I finally decided to take the fateful step. During my first ride I screamed from the minute of the take-off until we landed, quite effectively I imagine, since I succeeded in making myself heard above the noise of the motor. When I was actually on the ground again, I wanted to use the other free ticket, so this time I thoroughly enjoyed the flight. From that time on I rode in anything that would get off the ground and I shudder to think of some of the crates, but it was not until the same barnstorming pilot returned with a very elegant new Stinson Detroider that I had the opportunity actually to handle the controls. Of course, those few minutes convinced me that I wanted to fly and, too, I judged that there must be big money in this flying game after seeing the barnstormer's transition from OX to 6 place Stinson in a few short years. However, it wasn't long after I learned to fly that I realized my mistake in the belief that it was a very remunerative profession, but I hadn't been wrong about the enjoyment of it. You see, the secret of the success of the barnstormer came out later when he was arrested for bootlegging.

- - Ruth Wakeman

#### NEWS FROM THE SECTIONS

SOUTH CENTRAL - Elizabeth Meyer Haywood, formerly of the Southern Ohio chapter writes, "Altho naturally, my marriage and change of residence compelled me to discontinue attendance at the Automotive Vocational Night School and teaching in the Public Day Schools, I am now learning much about aviation from actual experience. My husband is associated with Pan American Airways, and in our leisure time one can usually find us at another local airport, so you see, I haven't given up flying. I shall miss the Southern Ohio 99 meetings, but perhaps I'll be able to meet some of the girls down here.

MIDDLE EASTERN - Despite icy roads and low ceiling, the 99's of the Middle Eastern Section held an exceptionally well-attended meeting at the home of their Governor, Vee Shakarian, in Pittsburgh on December 6. Eleven pilots were present. Governor Shakarian arrived shortly before the meeting, which was preceded by a luncheon. One of the matters of business brought up for discussion was the provision in the constitution that 99's must hold their membership in the section where they maintain their legal residence. The pilots residing in the District of Columbia, of course, maintain their legal residences elsewhere, therefore, it is believed that this

part of the constitution applies to them. The Middle Eastern Section will take steps to have the status of the Washington girls with regard to their membership, clearly defined as soon as is possible. . . Plans were made for another get-together at the Camden Airport in March. . . Those attending the December meeting in Pittsburgh were: Vee Shakarian, Marge McCormick, Rae Trader of Pittsburgh; Ellen Smith of Meadville; Leona O'Shea of McKeesport; Harriet Sackett, Jo Busse, Lydia Clement, Leah Zeigler, Helen Frigo of Washington and Helen Zeth of Everett.

- - Helen Zeth

NORTH CENTRAL SECTION - Michigan Chapter - Twelve members attended the December meeting at the home of Mabel Britton on the 13th. There were Christmas decorations and joke presents and in addition members brought toys for the Michigan Children's Aid. Much merriment was caused at lunch by the amusing place cards fashioned by Dorothy Carpenter. At the business session, the Chapter confirmed appointments made by Chairman Faye Kirk of the following committees: Membership, Mary VonMach, Helen Lehtio, Jeannette Lempke; Publicity, Leila Baker; Program, Mabel Britton, Dorothy Carpenter. The program committee announced arrangements had been made for a series of talks on practical phases of flying by men and women outstanding in the profession, at Detroit City Airport the second Sundays of the winter months. Mr. George Haldeman of the Department of Commerce will talk on trans-ocean flying January 10th. 99 members in the vicinity will be very welcome at any of these luncheon programs. . . . Jeannette Lempke then gave the chapter a vivid and detailed account, showing maps and photographs, of the Chatterton Derby in which she placed second at the National Air Races. . . Dorothy Carpenter flew in the Aeronca Cruise from Cincinnati to Miami December 5-10. At Chattanooga she was reported the only woman pilot in the Cruise. . . Alice Taylor has bought a farm near Rochester, Michigan, where she promises 99's can picnic next summer.

- - Mabel Britton

Illinois Chapter - On Tuesday evening, December 7, the Illinois chapter held their monthly meeting in their club rooms at the Medinah club. This was a gala Christmas get-together. After the business meeting the gals went to the small swimming pool in the women's bath department. Those wishing to splash about plunged into the water and swam for an hour. Those not in the mermaid mood were seated at card tables around the pool and were provided with "Monopoly" and a clever game called "Flying the Air Mail." All this thoughtful entertainment was provided by Alice Ademic and Loretta Breen, hostesses for the evening. Each brought a present (we were limited to 25¢) and after our hostesses had served us with delicious sandwiches, chocolate cake and coffee, they had a grab-bag for the presents. But that wasn't all. As a complete surprise to this scribe, Dorothy Ring, who has just received her transport license, (she's our only T. P.) Helen Colton, Vi Crosbie and

Eleanor Domack were all presented with stunning 99 cigarette cases or compacts. The members had voted to present the officers with the gifts and as additional surprise, we who are without official titles, were given the beautiful cases too, "for services rendered." It was darling of our sister pilots, and we wish to take this opportunity to thank them again. Others present at Alice's and Loretta's successful party were. Helen Budwash, Ruth Haupt, June Kraft (who was receiving congratulations on receiving her Private License) Doris Langher (who's winging her way to California on United Airlines for the holidays) Jane Ray, our president, Mabel Sherman, Emma Sprague, Mae Wilson and Loucille Young. . . This chapter is caring for two poor families during the holidays. Clothing and food are being given to them by the girls. Helen Budwash is seeing that it reaches one family in Harvey, and Mabel Sherman is distributing the necessities to another family. . . The Illinois girls wish you all a Happy New Year.

- - Jane Meyer

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY - The Aviation Buffet was a grand affair with one hundred and twenty-five present. During the afternoon everyone enjoyed the turkey shoot and paper chases, after which they were entertained at Margaret Cooper's home. . . The monthly business meeting was held on December 2 at the Pennsylvania Hotel with twenty present. Plans are being made for our part in the Air Show at the Grand Central Palace starting January 28. . . Amelia Earhart Putnam and Jacqueline Cochran Odlum left Roosevelt Field in Amelia's Lockheed Electra for Dayton, Ohio. After having the Bendix Radio Compass in the ship checked at Dayton, they will proceed to the West Coast. . . Annette Gipson left Roosevelt Field in her Lambert Monocoupe for Miami to attend the races. Miss Gipson expects to spend the winter in Florida and is having her Waco F-2 equipped with Edo floats for use in southern waters. . . Members are now signing for the Link Training being given at Roosevelt Field. . . Margaret Cooper is sailing January 6 for a two months' vacation in Egypt and the Holy Land. . . New York-New Jersey welcomes Evelyn Frans Cahn of Rye, N. Y., as a new member.

--H. Lucille Boudreau

SOUTHWESTERN SECTION - Bay Cities Chapter - Janet Knight has added another Fleet, powered with a Warner 125 to her flying equipment and at the same time reports added material for the 99 club in the person of two new girl students. Janet piloted one of the many planes that flew high, wide and handsome over our new S. F. - Oakland Bay Bridge on Dedication Day, November 12th. She also took part in the night flying aerobatics with her plane equipped with Neon lights. . . Marian Trace, one of the charter members of this chapter, recently moved to Los Angeles to enter the employ of a firm specializing in interior decorating. As Marian is an instructor in art, this is right in her line. The best of luck, Marian! . . . It would appear that Marjorie Hook is preparing for big things.

She is having the body of her Kinner-Fleet recovered while the motor is in the process of having things done to it... Rita Gerry, another of our charter members, became a mother (in-law) recently. Rita says her new daughter is perfectly grand. . . Ruth and Fred Rueckert flew with Marshall George in a new Howard Special to the Santa Rosa Airshow.

- - Maude Miller

Los Angeles Chapter - had its first real Christmas Party on Monday evening, December 14, at Hotel Clark where we have our beautiful club room. The table was in a large U shape, decorated with silver candle sticks holding red candles, and at each plate alternating was a Santa Claus made of red apple as fuselage, marshmallow for motor-mount (head) and raisins on toothpicks for struts (arms). These were made by artistic Dorothy Ruether. Also there were airplanes made with peppermint stick as fuselage, gum stick as wing and "retractable landing gear" made of two lifesavers fastened with shock-absorbing rubber band. These were made by our clever Gladys O'Donnell. AND, we had a Santa Claus in the witty personage of Pat Hogan, Wing Commander of Los Angeles Junior Birdmen, who gave out the Christmas presents to every guest there. We had a lovely tree beautifully decorated in the middle of the table. The host of this lovely party was none other than the genial gentleman who is host to all aviators who come and hangar in Los Angeles or vicinity, Mr. P. G. B. (known to all his friends as "Bud") Morris, Manager of Hotel Clark. A sumptuous turkey dinner was served, preceded by sparkling refreshments. Really, it was a party which will long stand out in the memory of everyone present. "Bud" Morris, 99's again want to thank you for the beautiful first Christmas Party which we have had and hope that we will have the privilege of having him as our guest at Christmas parties to come.

The evening was made very interesting by a surprise visit from our long-absent member-at-large, Gayle Pond--alias Joan Thomas of Popular Aviation. Gayle is visiting out here from Chicago. She told of most interesting experiences while travelling and flying around Europe. She has the distinction of being No. 1 American girl to win an English Class A Pilot's License. Understand a private flyer only must have three hours' solo flying a year to retain his license, and this holds good in whatever country the flying is done. The only requirement is to send in for a renewal. What a grand way to be able to keep a license. Our own member, Pretto Bell, told us about the Aviation Fraternity, Alpha Eta Rho, which has been formed by the University of Southern California for the past seven years, and how she decided her own college, University of California at Los Angeles should have a chapter. Well, the outcome of her grand work is that she is now President of Beta Chapter at her college, and the luncheons given by this chapter, after having been formed only three weeks, have an attendance of 65, which proves that the youth of today is airminded if only given a chance to prove it. Congratulations, Pretto. Keep up the good work. . . At a joint luncheon of World Affairs Organization and Women's International Aero. Assn. on Tuesday, December 15, held at

Mission Inn, Riverside, California, several 99's were present; namely, Betty Mae Furman, L. A. Chapter Chairman, Pretto Bell, Mary Charles. Pretto gave an interesting talk, asking to encourage the college students to become aeronautically conscious. Karena Shields told of her visits, both travelling and flying around Central America and Mexico City. She says the fields are "pocket handkerchiefs" in size and are surrounded by thick jungles. The rules, when taking off for only a fifteen-minute hop around the field, are that you must take a five weeks' food supply with you, because in case of a forced landing, help could not reach you much before that time. . . Mary Charles gave a most beautiful talk at the Memorial Services held in the St. Francis Chapel at Mission Inn, for Earl Ovington, whom we all loved and admired. He, as you may recall, was the first man to fly the U. S. Mail "way back" when a few said it couldn't be done. . . Word comes to us from a "pal" that Gladys O'Donnell recently had a "forced landing", slightly damaging her "right wing" when she "ground looped" a Put-Put Skooter in Palm Springs. We still claim our airplanes are much safer than these ground maneuvers. . . Southwestern Section extends Season's greetings to all fellow 99's.

- - Hilda Jarmuth

NEW MEMBERS - NINETY-NINES - September to November 25, 1936.

SOUTHWESTERN SECTION - Bay Cities Chapter

Mrs. Aline Bielfeld	Amateur		Clarksburg, California
Dorothy E. Jones	Private	Box 308	Walnut Grove, Calif.
Esther McCollum	Private	Box 5	Loyalton, California
Evelyn Noble	Junior	C/o Inter-	
		state Service Corp.,	Chicago, Ill.
Mary C. Tressider	Private	Ahwahnee Hotel,	Yosemite National Park, Calif.

Los Angeles Chapter

Mrs. Evelyn Kilgore	Private	638 Cypress Court,	Redlands, Calif.
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SOUTH CENTRAL SECTION

Mrs. Fanny Leonpacher	Private	Box 432	Lafayette, La.
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NORTH CENTRAL SECTION- ILLINOIS Chapter

Ruth Haupt	2104 Gunderson Ave.,	Berwyn, Ill.
Lucille Young	2328 Cleveland Ave.,	Chicago, Ill.

SOUTHEASTERN SECTION

Barbara Mills	Junior	2120 Kirkwood Ave.,	Charlotte, N.C.
Nell F. Behr	Junior	West Market St. Ex.,	Anderson, S.C.

MIDDLE EASTERN SECTION

Helen M. Jones	Junior	819 Ocean Ave.,	Lancaster, Pa.
Helen J. Frigo	Private	736 22nd St., N. W.,	Washington, D.C.

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY SECTION

Ann Gordon Curie	Amateur	756 Park Avenue, New York City
Belle Heinman	Private	25 Central Park West, New York City
Mary Kerr		129 Dewitt St., Syracuse, N. Y.
Ruth E. LaFrance	Private	85 Walnut St., Binghamton, N. Y.
Olive Shaw		26 E. 63rd St., New York City
Kathryn Bragaw	Private	732 Berkeley Ave., Orange, N. J.
Patricia Thomas		531 River St., Hoboken, N. J.

NEW ENGLAND SECTION

Nancy Allen Crawford	35 Charles Field St., Providence, R.I.
F. Hyatt	

AIR BABIES, Elvy Kalep's clever book is now available to 99 members at \$1.50 postpaid.

NINETY-NINE PINS, BRACELETS, AIRPLANE INSIGNIA, may be obtained from the Secretary, Alice H. Hammond, 15011 Glenfield Ave., Detroit, Michigan, at the following prices:

<u>PINS</u> , gold, with movable propeller,	\$1.50
<u>IDENTIFICATION BRACELETS</u> with movable propeller	2.00
without propeller	1.50
Emblem on bracelet, silver; bracelet, chromium	
<u>AIRPLANE INSIGNIA</u> , without cost, to be painted on member's planes.	