

# 99 News

The Official Magazine of the International Organization of Women Pilots

July/August/September 2011



See back  
cover for more  
scholarship winners!





99 News

To list your 99s events on this calendar page, send information to:

**The 99 News**

4300 Amelia Earhart Dr  
Suite A  
Oklahoma City, OK  
73159-1140

Email:  
[news@ninety-nines.org](mailto:news@ninety-nines.org)

Online Form:  
[ninety-nines.org/  
99newsreports.html](http://ninety-nines.org/99newsreports.html)

Please indicate the name and location of the event, the contact name and the phone/fax/email.

## On the Covers

*Twenty-four outstanding women have won Amelia Earhart Scholarships this year. The scholarship winners are truly international, representing not only those in the United States but also Brazil, Canada, Nepal and Russia. The women were honored at a luncheon during the International Conference in Oklahoma City.*

*The cover photo was taken from the top of Mt. Scott during the pre-Conference Discovery Trail tour, where those who chose to brave the 112 degree heat were treated to views of bison, Texas longhorns, coyotes, and prairie dogs.*

*Cover photo by Dean Bailey.*

# PERPETUAL CALENDAR

## 2011

### SEPTEMBER

- 1 **Due date for 99 News submissions** for the October/November/December 2011 issue.
- 15-17 **Northwest and West Canada Sections Joint Meeting**, Vancouver, BC, Canada. Contact Betty Lee Moore, [bettylee@shaw.ca](mailto:bettylee@shaw.ca).
- 17 **Chicago Area Chapter Proficiency Air Derby**, DeKalb Airport, Illinois (KDKB). Open to all pilots. Cash prizes. Rain date September 18. Contact [goodmanrachael@gmail.com](mailto:goodmanrachael@gmail.com).
- 22-24 **AOPA Aviation Summit**, Hartford Connecticut. For more information, visit the AOPA website at [aopa.org/summit/](http://aopa.org/summit/).

### OCTOBER

- 14-16 **North Central Fall Section Meeting**, Pleasant Prairie Wisconsin, Radisson Hotel. Contact Kristy Brooke, [kristykrsty72@aol.com](mailto:kristykrsty72@aol.com).
- 20-22 **South Central/Southwest Fall Joint Section Meeting**, Durango Colorado. Visit [scs99s.org/DROMeeting.htm](http://scs99s.org/DROMeeting.htm) for more information.
- 31 **Deadline to file Intent to Seek Election forms.** Intent packages should be either postmarked or e-mailed by this date to be eligible for the main election. Instructions are available in the Members Only area of the Ninety-Nines website.

### DECEMBER

- 1 **Due date for 99 News submissions** for the January/February/March 2012 issue.

## ELECTION 2012 — SEEKING A FEW GOOD WOMEN!

BY KRIS IRVIN-HERRON  
Nominating Committee Chairman

The 2012 election is just around the corner with a deadline for filing your intent forms of October 31, 2011. Do you have a zeal for all things Ninety-Nines? Show it by running for the International Board or for a position on one of the Trusts.

The intent form and information is available in the Members Only Section of The Ninety-Nines website. Be sure to check the eligibility requirements and mark the check-off box giving permission for publication of your intent form on the Members Only part of the website.

Candidates are now able to file with the Nominating Committee electronically. However, remember to also send a copy to Headquarters. The arrival date of the documents will determine a candidate's position on the ballot. The point at which a Ninety-Nine filing for office actually becomes a candidate is the date that her eligibility is verified by Ninety-Nines Headquarters staff.

Get an early start, be thorough and get those intent forms in the mail or emailed ahead of the October 31 deadline. For more information, contact any member of the Nominating Committee: Kris Irvin-Herron, Linda Mae Draper-Hivert, Sandra Hawkins, Frances Postma or Barbara Strachan.

## CORRECTIONS

### MASTER PILOTS MISSING

In the sidebar accompanying the article about Master Pilot Elizabeth Dinan, page 14, the list of Ninety-Nines receiving Master Pilot Awards from the FAA was incomplete. Bernice Barriss, Gene Nora Jessen, Jean (Sunny) Schiffmann and Janet Davis (deceased) are recipients of this prestigious award. The list appearing on the FAA's website is inaccurate, so if you're a Ninety-Nine and a Master Pilot, please let us know so we can update our own records.

### DIRECTOR, NOT CHAIRMAN

In the Pro 99s article on page 6, Deena Sveinsson was not a Chapter Chairman but rather a Director for the Colorado Chapter.

### MARION JAYNE WITH A "Y"

On page 7, in the last line of the photo caption, the name Marion Jayne was spelled incorrectly.

The Official Magazine of The International Organization of Women Pilots

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## THE NINETY-NINES MISSION STATEMENT

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

### EDITORIAL AND PHOTO GUIDELINES

We encourage submissions for publication in the 99 News. Furnish author's name, email address and phone information. We reserve the right to edit for space and/or clarity. We accept both original photographs and high-resolution digital photos (at least 4X6 at 300 dpi). We cannot use photos from the following sources: camera phone, newspaper, home printer, photocopies or copied from the Internet. Include caption information with all photos and your contact information. Please email photos as separate attachments.

For additional submission guidelines, log on to [ninety-nines.org](http://ninety-nines.org) and click on 99 News magazine. Submissions should be emailed to [news@ninety-nines.org](mailto:news@ninety-nines.org). Deadlines for submissions are listed in our calendar on page 2. If you have any questions, please email us at [news@ninety-nines.org](mailto:news@ninety-nines.org).

### EDITORIAL POLICY

*The opinions expressed in the articles presented in this magazine are those of the authors and shall not be construed to represent the policies or opinions of The Ninety-Nines Inc.®*

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## Conference Snapshots



Susan Larson and Joan Kerwin with keynote speaker astronaut Shannon Walker and her mother Sherry Walker, also a Ninety-Nine.



Mary Wunder in her Wonder Woman costume and Virginia Harmer add some humor to the Endowment Fund presentation during the Annual Business Meeting.



Ventura County Chapter members present a \$40,000-plus check toward the perpetual scholarship for Emergency Maneuver Training in honor of Vicki Cruse to the AEMSF.

### IN EACH ISSUE

- 5 President's Page
- 17 Careers/Pro 99s
- 24 Training Milestones
- 28 New Members
- 29 Touch & Go
- 29 Grass Roots
- 35 New Horizons

# 99 News

July/August/September 2011

**6** *Fly Home to Oklahoma City*  
Ninety-Nines International Conference  
by Pat Theberge

**16** International Forest of Friendship  
Inducts Ninety-Nines  
by Laurie Probst

**18** Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarships  
by Madeleine Monaco

**26** Women Military Aviators: From the Beginning  
by Barb Garwood



Ninety-Nines attend the 2011 Forest of Friendship induction.



Violet Cowden,  
one of the first  
women military  
aviators.

# President's Page

BY SUSAN LARSON, International President

During introductions at this year's Annual Business Meeting in Oklahoma City, it was so very clear to everyone in the room how many individuals it takes to keep The Ninety-Nines operating well as a member-driven, all-volunteer non-profit community of women pilots. Unlike other aviation organizations with a large paid staff, The Ninety-Nines relies heavily on women who willingly offer their skills and their time.

For example, the Technology and Publications Committees each operate in true committee format, each member with a specific skill set that contributes to the end product. Other committees also have numerous members: Membership, Pilot Careers and Bylaws/Standing Rules. The Chairmen of all these committees are always looking for Ninety-Nines with skill sets that fit the committees' needs.

On your membership renewal form there is a box called Member Resource Database Information where you can indicate your areas of expertise and knowledge. Your participation is what makes our organization strong, and any advice or hands on help you provide is very valuable.

At the Annual Business Meeting alone, 33 women volunteered for roles on the Reference Committee, Credentials Committee, Sentinels, Floor Tellers, Timekeepers and Photographers. Another 59 were introduced who serve as Committee Chairman or elected Trustees, Governors or members of the Nominating Committee.

Each of these individuals has found her niche and is able to contribute to the mission: *The Ninety-Nines is the international organization of women pilots that promotes advancement of aviation through education, scholarships, and mutual support while honoring our unique history and sharing our passion for flight.*

Whether your interests lay in our history (Museum of Women Pilots, Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum), education (Aviation & Space Education Committee) or communication (Technology, Publica-

tions, Trade Shows, Membership, Public Relations), there is a place for you. Do not hesitate to contact a Committee Chairman to offer your time, or you may contact any member of the International Board of Directors. If you have an interest in running for the IBOD or a Trust position, contact any member of the Nominating Committee and file an Intent to Seek Election package by October 31.

During my travels this year to visit many of our members and volunteers throughout the U.S., extreme weather has accompanied me. It began with a monumental snowstorm in Reno during WAI, followed by an F1 tornado attacking The Ninety-Nines luncheon tent at Sun 'n Fun. There was near flooding during the Forest of Friendship ceremonies in Atchison, Kansas, and, most recently, straight line winds and record heat hit Oklahoma City just in time for the International Conference. Attending these events is a joy, but if you invite me, be prepared for the unexpected!



Susan Larson with Fran Bera at the 2011 International Conference. Fran recently learned that she is the recipient of the prestigious 2011 Katherine Wright Award bestowed by the National Aeronautic Association (see page 29).



Sun 'n Fun Chairmen Barbara Sierchio and Nancy Wright visit with Susan Larson at The Ninety-Nines building in Lakeland, Florida. While the weather looked peaceful at the time this photo was taken, an F1 tornado swept through the event, toppling The Ninety-Nines tent where the luncheon honoring the WASP was being held.

# Fly Home to Oklahoma City

## International Conference 2011

BY PAT THEBERGE  
International Vice President

The International Board of Directors welcomed members to this year's International Conference, *99s Fly Home 2011*, at our home base, Oklahoma City. Weather was on everyone's mind, from the searing heat to the range of storms that seemed to blanket the country as we traveled, but everyone made it safe and came together for an international and inspirational event.

The Open House at our Headquarters and 99s Museum of Women Pilots allowed everyone to see the results of the building improvement work that has been done over the last few years. Members of the Building Maintenance and Board of Directors and Museum were on hand during the event to show attendees what a great place it is.

The newly installed tiled Compass Rose between the two buildings is the culmination of much work that will ensure our building will be sound for the coming years. A lively auction led by Jody McCarrell, Past President and current South Central Section Governor, sold one of the last remaining central gold tiles and some of the blue and white ones as well. There are more available if you would like to own a portion of the compass. Visit

Conference Photos By  
Lilian Darling Holt and Dean Bailey

the Ninety-Nines website for more details.

One of the highlights of every Conference is awarding the Amelia Earhart Scholarships. This year at the luncheon, 24 scholarships were announced. Members from the Russian, Brazil, British, Nepal, East Canada, West Canada, South Central, Northwest, Southwest and New England Sections all received awards. A truly International representation, each winner is an inspiration, and our best wishes and congratulations go out to them.

We were fortunate to have astronaut and Ninety-Nine Shannon Walker as our keynote speaker Friday afternoon. She gave a terrific presentation to a full audience about her mission to the International Space Station (ISS). Shannon spoke of her training with NASA and with the Russian Space Agency, her launch on the Soyuz rocket TMA-19 on June 16, 2010 for her long duration mission through November of 2010. She showed us video clips and gave insight into life on the ISS. Washing your hair on the ISS is a feat unto itself! She graciously answered all of the questions we had that ran the gamut from personal issues onboard the ISS to the future of Human Space Flight.

Attending the Annual Business Meeting were 164 delegates

*Background photo: Penny Nagy admires the new compass rose at Headquarters. Photo by Lilian Darling Holt.*



*Board of Directors, back row, Joan Kerwin, Director; Frances Luckhart, Secretary; Corbi Bulluck, Director; Martha Phillips, Treasurer; Jan McKenzie, Director; Marjy Leggett, Director; seated: Susan Larson, President; Pat Theberge, Vice-President*



*Members display flags of their home countries, from left, Kathy Fox (E (West Canada Section), Michaele Serasio (Monterey Bay Chapter), Niv Prajapati (Nepal Section), Margaret-Anne Thomas (Australian Section), Je*

representing the membership. Organization business, as prescribed in our bylaws, was discussed. Mid-Term elections were held, and President Susan Larson announced the results of the balloting. Congratulations to the following: International Directors Corbi Bulluck and Marjy Leggett; Endowment Fund Trustees Mary Wunder and Barbara Harris Para; AEMSFS Trustee Debby Cunningham; Museum of Women Pilots Trustees Bonita Ades and Elaine Regier; and the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum Trustees Ruth Seck and Ann Shaneyfelt.

Two Standing Rules amendments were approved by the membership, both are housekeeping items to make the Standing Rules more concise and will have no impact on operations. The meeting ran smoothly, and new officers were inducted into their positions. All of the Conference documentation is posted on the Ninety-Nines website. The Museum of Women Pilots reports that the Smithsonian institution has requested the loan of Amelia



*Timekeepers Cathy Wappler, Greta Moore and Kristen Tarabetz.*



*Pat Gregory (East Canada Section), Cindy Pang (West Canada Section), Karen Bailey (India Section), Sabina Shrestha (Nepal Section), Monica Jennifer Graham (Australian Section) and Doris Gerech (German Section).*

Earhart's pilot certificate for a yearlong exhibit at the National Portrait Gallery. New educational kiosks are also being installed to add to the educational experience at the Museum.

The Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum reports that attendance and interest is increasing at the Museum. "Wonder" Woman, Mary Wunder, reported that the Endowment Fund is growing and the iPad raffle was a great success in raising funds.

Seminars — historical, educational and inspiring — were part of our afternoon post-business meeting. The seminars were all presented by Ninety-Nines, showing what wealth and breadth of knowledge we have and are willing to share. Thanks go to Gene Nora Jesson for relating her involvement in the introduction of the Beech Musketeer; Margot Cheel for giving us a better perspective on aerial photography; Dr. Penny Hamilton for leading us to help more women fly; the AEMSFS Trustees for giving insight into the scholarship process; Terri Donner for sharing her success at Girl Scout events; and Kitty Houghton and Monica Prajapati for again sharing their experiences flying in Nepal.

Wrapping up the Conference, the Annual Awards Banquet gave us a chance to honor and thank those who have done so much for The Ninety-Nines and aviation. Awards presented were: the Award of Achievement for Contributions to The Ninety-Nines to Lisa Cotham and Mary Wunder; the Award of Achievement for Contributions to Aviation to Emily Howell Warner; the Award of Achievement for Humanitarian Efforts to Danielle Aitchison; the Award of Inspiration to Terri Donner; the Award of Merit to Jerry Clubb; and the George Palmer Putnam Award to Gail Mesa Norman. Finally, the President's Award was presented to the staff at Ninety-Nines Headquarters, Laura Ohrenberg, Lesley Niblett, Nancy Thompson, Kymberly Hazlett and Ninety-Nines volunteer Carol Sokatch.

We came home to Oklahoma City to renew long-standing friendships and make new friends that will continue on with Ninety-Nines from all around the world. We look forward to seeing you all next year, July 11-15, in Providence, Rhode Island, "New England - Amaze, Inspire, Discover, Evolve, Learn."



*Pat Gregory and Donna Crane-Bailey confer with Lesley Niblett at the Headquarters reception desk.*



*Ninety-Nines enjoy conversation and food at the Hospitality Suite. In foreground, Ellen Nobles-Harris, Cecile Hatfield, Jody McCarrell, Pat Prentiss, Lisa Erickson.*



*2011 Conference attendees gather around the new compass.*



*Amelia Earhart Scholarship recipients, back row: Cindy Pang, Alexandra Kindrat, Hillary Carl. Front row: Monica Prajapati, Nicole Vandelaar, Julieann Silora.*



*Award of Achievement recipient Emily Howell Warner, Lilian Darling Holt, Wally Funk and speaker Shannon Walker, astronaut.*



*Past Presidents of The Ninety-Nines, from left, Elaine Morrow, Jody McCarrell, Lu Hollander, Lois Erickson, Joyce Wells, Pat Prentiss and Gene Nora Jessen.*



*At the end of the Annual Business meeting, Glenna Blackwell, Peggy Loeffler and Hillary Carl draw the winning name for a night's lodging at the 2012 Conference in Providence, Rhode Island.*



s rose at Headquarters.



Credentials Committee Joyce Wells, Carol Andrews, Thelma Cull, Dorothy Robinson, Alanna McClellan and Kathy Walton.



Mary Wunder and Pat Prentiss.



Sentinels Debra Plymate, Pat Ohlsson, Kaye Coombs Moore and Debbie Origer.



Oklahoma Chapter members, from left, back: Jody McCarrell, Carol Sokatch, Wyvema Startz, Janis Love, Rita Eaves, Jan Perry. Front: Charlene Davis, Elaine Regier, Suzanna Roberts.



Nan Gaylord, Pat Knox and Barbara Schultz at the Fly Market.

Background photo: Bricktown Water Taxi by Dean Bailey.



*Pat Prentiss gives a presentation in the Board Room on Headquarters improvements overseen by the Building Maintenance Committee.*



*Peggy Doyle with Scholarship winner Nicole Vandelaar at the Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship luncheon.*



*Jen Cress demonstrating the flight simulator to a Conference guest.*



*Past President Pat Prentiss installs Bonita Ades, Elaine Regier, Debby Cunningham, Mary Wunder and Barbara Harris-Para while President Susan Larson observes.*



*At the Welcome Reception, Jody McCarrell auctions the last remaining gold tile in the new Compass Rose. From left, Janice Pelletti and husband Patrick, Martha Phillips, Pat Theberge, Jody and Fran Bera.*



*A "future woman pilot" greets visitors at the entrance to the 99s Museum of Women Pilots.*



Willy Mattocks felt on top of the world on Mt. Scott, the second highest in the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Reserve.



Donna Crane-Bailey, Michaela Serasio and Alice Talnack in front of the Headquarters Building in Oklahoma City.



The FAA facilities tour included a large area of crashed airplanes that are used to help train accident investigators.



Nepal Section members Sabina Shrestha and Monica Prajapati.



Ninety-Nines visit one of the barracks at Ft. Sill on the Wednesday Discovery Trail Tour.



A side view of the Headquarters Building with the 99s Museum of Women Pilots upstairs.



Just so there's no confusion...

Background photo: Myriad Botanical Gardens and Crystal Bridge Tropical Conservatory by Lilian Darling Holt.

# AWARDS 2011



## **Award of Achievement for Contributions to Aviation** *Emily Howell Warner*

When Emily was still a teenager she received an invitation from two pilots to take a ride in the jump seat of a DC-3. This ride sparked the interest in aviation that, fueled by Emily's determination and drive, eventually led her to the first airline captain's seat ever awarded to a female pilot.

While working as a receptionist at a Denver flight school, Emily put most of her salary into flying lessons, earning ratings along the way that moved her from the receptionist's desk to the role of chief flight instructor for the school. Watching many of the young men she taught go on to airline careers increased her own determination to advance in a field which, at that time, was still dominated by males.

Emily triumphed in the field of aviation, becoming "the first" in many achievements: first woman hired by a commercial airline, first female airline captain, first woman to lead an all-female airline crew and the first woman member of the Airline Pilots Association.

Emily has been inducted in the Living Legends of Aviation, the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame and the National Women's Hall of Fame. Her captain's uniform is on display at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum.



## **Award of Achievement for Humanitarian Efforts** *Danielle Aitchison*

When Danielle was furloughed from her position flying for a regional airline in New Zealand, she decided to embark on an adventurous path that eventually placed her in the middle of a war zone. After flying in Angola for a year, she accepted a position with the United Nations World Food Programme (UNWFP) in Afghanistan. Based in Kabul, Danielle flew humanitarian workers to numerous different locations to fulfill their roles. Flying a Beech 1900D, Danielle faced daily challenges posed by weather, mountainous terrain and military conflict.

During this time, Danielle was interviewed by photojournalist Roger Arnold, who published an article about her experiences in a war zone, including an incident in which she and her crew decided to continue working after surviving a suicide bomb attack.

After finishing two tours in Afghanistan and Pakistan, Danielle went to Chad for a contract with UNWFP that involved flying aid workers into the Darfur region. She also flew weekly operational flights in Cameroon for the UNWFP as part of a short-term humanitarian effort to help stabilize the region.

After contracting malaria on her last flying contract in the Comoros Islands, Danielle returned home to New Zealand to pursue her jet type rating.

## **Award of Achievement for Contributions to The Ninety-Nines** **Lisa Cotham**

A member of The Ninety-Nines for 23 years, Lisa has never allowed the 80-mile distance from her home Chapter of New Orleans to prevent her from holding nearly every Chapter office and Committee Chairmanship and taking on a leadership role in all Chapter projects. She organized the first Wings Weekend ever held in Louisiana, started the Flying Buddy seminar for non-pilot right-seaters and assisted in Girl Scouts Day, airmarking projects and numerous other projects that have earned funds and recognition for the Chapter.

Lisa has also served twice as the Governor of the Southeast Section. She was elected to the first Board of Trustees for the 99s Museum of Women Pilots in 2000, and as Board Chairman in 2003, she wrote a successful grant application through the National Endowment for the Humanities.

In 2005, Lisa was elected to The Ninety-Nines International Board of Directors, where over the course of two terms she led such major projects as the creation of the 2007 Women Owned Aircraft calendar, the design and publication of new membership brochures and updating the SOPs related to public relations.

After her term on the International Board ended, Lisa continued taking the lead in major projects, including facilitating The Ninety-Nines partnership with the FAA Safety Team whereby The Ninety-Nines became the first industry partner in the FFAST program.

Most recently Lisa served as the Southeast Section Chairman for the joint meeting with the South Central Section in Lafayette, Louisiana in May.

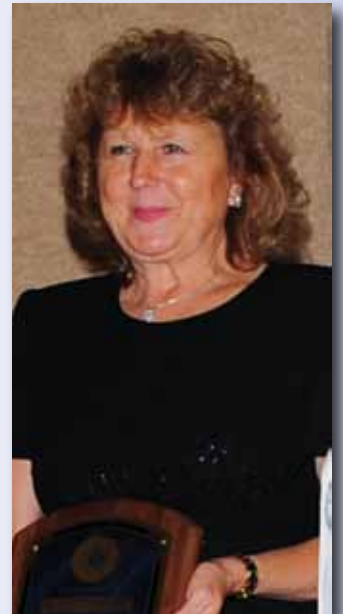


## **Award of Achievement for Contributions to The Ninety-Nines** **Mary Margaret Wunder**

Mary's aviation experience includes numerous pilot ratings as well as a long career with the FAA as an air traffic controller in some of the nation's busiest airspace. While working as a Philadelphia Approach Controller, Mary facilitated tower tours for fellow Ninety-Nines, school groups and other aviation organizations. She always encouraged better understanding and cooperation between controllers and pilots, as well as promoted careers in aviation for women. The FAA awarded Mary a Special Achievement Award in 1992, and she continued to work on special projects for the FAA until her retirement.

A member of the Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter since 1981, Mary has served in many Chapter positions and was instrumental in fundraising for the Chapter's scholarship program. She tirelessly promotes general aviation, offering a free flying lesson to participants in the Chapter's annual Pennies-A-Pound fundraiser, organizing Flying Companion Seminars and offering free rides from her home airport to new members, new student pilots or anyone who expresses enthusiasm for aviation.

Mary served on the International Board of Directors from 1997-2002, holding the offices of Director and Secretary. Her current passion is the Ninety-Nines Endowment Fund, for which she serves as the Chairman. Recognizing that future growth for The Ninety-Nines requires a dependable source of income, Mary is working tirelessly to meet the Endowment Fund's million dollar goal.





## Award of Inspiration

### Terri Donner

Terri Donner, Kentucky Bluegrass Chapter Member and the 2011 winner of the Award of Inspiration, is an amazing source of inspiration to women pilots everywhere and particularly to The Ninety-Nines.

Terri joined The Ninety-Nines at 18. After earning her private certificate, she completed her instrument, commercial and CFI certificates and ratings while attending the University of Wisconsin. At 20, she was hired by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation as the state airport inspector, flying throughout the state for four years. During this time, Terri received an AE Scholarship, enabling her to complete her multi-engine rating.

She and her husband moved to Louisville, Kentucky where their first son was born in 1984. Shortly thereafter Terri became a flight instructor. She was named Flight Instructor of the Year in Kentucky and the Southeast Region in 1986.

Hired by United Parcel Service as a flight engineer on the B727 in 1989, 18 months later she upgraded to first officer and six years later to B727 captain. When the B727 fleet was retired, Terri transitioned to the A300, an aircraft she loves and hopes to fly until she retires. Soon after Terri began her career with UPS, she presented a proposal that UPS direct some UPS Foundation funds to the Amelia Earhart Scholarship program. As a result of Terri's proposal, UPS has donated to the AE scholarship every year since 1990.

Throughout her career, Terri has shared her love of flying with young people. In addition to serving as an inspiration to her own children, Terri has mentored dozens of girls and women. In 2009 she conducted a week-long aviation camp for 15 girls, exploring every facet of aviation. As recently as February, Terri provided tours of her Airbus for the Boys and Girls Club. In March, Terri conducted the 7th annual Junior Girl Scout Aerospace Badge Day, with 200 girls earning their badge. Terri continues to find joy in working with Ninety-Nines at the grass roots level, serving in Chapter offices and planning Chapter activities.

Over the course of a distinguished career and 33 years of membership in The Ninety-Nines, Theresa Marie Donner has become an inspirational role model for the pilot community and for The Ninety-Nines.



## George Palmer Putnam Award

### Gail Mesa Norman

The George Palmer Putnam Award honors an individual who is not a member of The Ninety-Nines for his or her support of The Ninety-Nines.

It was her late husband, John Norman, who sparked Gail's interest in general aviation when he earned his private pilot certificate. A longtime community activist, writer and event coordinator, Gail has used those skills to promote general aviation and The Ninety-Nines in the Maryland area for many years. In 1994, she appeared before the Frederick city and county governments urging their support of the Wings of Freedom Air Show. She became the event coordinator and chief fundraiser for the first air show, working closely with aviation organizations to recognize and celebrate the sacrifices of military pilots. She went on to become known as an outspoken advocate for the recognition of women's contributions to aviation.

When the Sugarloaf Chapter was asked to host the terminus of the 2010 Air Race Classic in Frederick, Maryland, the Chapter turned to Gail for assistance. Gail spent the next 15 months on the project, enabling the Sugarloaf Chapter to provide a hugely successful and memorable ARC terminus. When Gail learned that Heather Taylor was working on the documentary *Breaking Through the Clouds*, she immediately contacted her and encouraged her to have it ready to present at the ARC terminus. She also commissioned artist Fran Duval to create a series of original art depicting both current and pioneering women race pilots.

Gail assisted the Sugarloaf Chapter in raising approximately \$17,000 to reinvest in the community, benefitting at-risk youth via aviation programs, supporting aging aviators through hospice and offering aviation scholarships for women. Gail continues to support The Ninety-Nines through frequent public appearances in the Frederick area.

## President's Award — The 99s Headquarters Staff

The 2011 President's Award is conferred on the staff members at our Oklahoma City Headquarters for their impressive and inspiring commitment to each and every member and facet of The Ninety-Nines. They work as a team, supportive of one another and are determined to do everything in their power to champion our mission.

They work nights, weekends, arrive early, check the property after storms and meet special guests for museum tours at unpredicted hours. They live, breathe, walk and talk all things "Ninety-Nines."

Four employees and one volunteer 99 comprise the staff: Headquarters Manager Laura Ohrenberg, Receptionist and Membership Assistant Lesley Niblett, Accounting Clerk Nancy Thompson, Accounting Coordinator Kymberly Hazlett and volunteer Carol Sokatch.

Laura, a native Oklahoman, began her employment in 2006, first in the role of Accounting Coordinator, subsequently as membership assistant and in 2007 was promoted to Headquarters Manager. She responds promptly to all inquiries and serves as a member of the Building Maintenance and Publications Committees and as Trade Show Chairman. Laura has a degree in accounting and shares her exceptional talent for all things technological with The Ninety-Nines, managing our Facebook pages, serving as Webmaster and now developing an SQL database in anticipation of converting from Lotus Notes.

Lesley, hailing from Massachusetts, started with The Ninety-Nines in September 2009. In addition to her reception and membership duties, she escorts visitors to the Museum of Women Pilots, books tours and works directly with members regarding their membership. Hers is the friendly voice you are sure to hear first when calling our Oklahoma City Headquarters.

Nancy is our Accounting Clerk, working part-time and handling accounts receivable, accounts payable and payroll while also handling the caretaker reports for the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum and Museum of Women Pilots. Originally from Arkansas, she has an Associate of Customer Service Designation through the Life Office Management Association.

Kymberly has a B.S. in Accounting and a Masters in Education. She had a connection to aviation prior to joining our staff, teaching elementary principles of flight at the Sooner Flight Academy in Norman, Oklahoma. Kymberly first began working for The Ninety-Nines in 2002, spearheading the overall systematic cleanup of our accounting records, focusing on consistency and accuracy.

Carol is a professional volunteer, not only for The 99s but also for the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum, Whiz Kids and her church, all in just this year alone. Carol joined The 99s in 1982 and has been a regular volunteer at our headquarters for over 10 years, unhesitatingly doing whatever is asked of her.



Laura



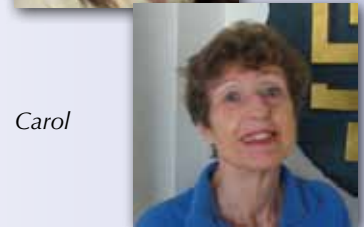
Lesley



Kymberly



Nancy



Carol

## Award of Merit

### Jerry Clubb

The Award of Merit recognizes a significant contribution to any facet of aviation made by an individual who is not a member of The Ninety-Nines. Jerry Clubb is recognized this year for his outstanding technical excellence in the field of spacecraft avionics development and operations, bringing about significant advances to America's human space flight and exploration programs, including Saturn, Skylab, Space Shuttle, International Space Station and the Hubble Space Telescope. Many of the advancements in spacecraft avionics pioneered by Jerry have had applications to military and civilian aircraft operations as well.

Jerry is recognized in the space flight community as one of the world's leading software, hardware and integration experts. He was responsible for the avionics interface between the solid rocket boosters and external tank on the orbiter and redesigned the flight instrument system for the external tank that resulted in significant cost savings.

As a NASA employee, he was the recipient of three Exceptional Service Medals. It is extremely rare for an individual to receive two, and unheard of to receive three. In addition he received the Outstanding Leadership Medal. The astronauts presented Jerry with the Silver Snoopy Award for designs that directly contributed to their safety. He was also awarded the Gagarin Medal during his nine years as resident NASA avionics manager in Moscow.

Jerry is now with ATK Space Systems lending his expertise to the development and integration of avionics systems for the Ares I launch vehicle that will lift future space crews into orbit.



# International Forest of Friendship Inducts 99s

BY LAURIE PROBST  
Ninety-Nines Representative to the  
IFOF Committee

In June, inductees and supporters gathered at the annual International Forest of Friendship (IFOF) celebration in Atchison, Kansas, birthplace of Amelia Earhart. What started as a stormy morning became a delightful, sunny day as the festivities were off and running.

Ceremonies began with the Parade of Flags, followed by a color guard, invocation and then the reading of each inductees accomplishments. As the audience enjoyed the cool breeze, Linton Wells, IFOF Co-Chairman, read an impressive list of the countless hours and efforts of those who were being honored with their name engraved on a stone in the Forest.

This group, as well as many before them, was being recognized for what they had done to help keep aviation alive and well and growing strong. From designing a living museum at Teterboro to flying in international air races to starting their own aerobatic company, each of the honorees has given time and talent so that others could share in this passion we call flight.

Two female honorees, Capt. Sangita Kabra Bangar and Capt. Manisha Mohan Puri, traveled from India to participate. They have had to surpass many boundaries to follow their dreams but worked hard to accomplish them. Families of those receiving awards posthumously gratefully received the award on their behalf, a testimony to their loved one's memory and legacy. It is hard to summarize all of the speeches and touching moments. A couple of paragraphs hardly do it justice. I encourage each Ninety-Nine to visit the Forest at least once to see it for themselves.

I feel fortunate to make the journey each year as representative on behalf of the IFOF committee for The Ninety-Nines. After receiving the award on behalf of my own Ninety-Nine Chapter's honoree Marie Hight, who could not make the journey herself, I walked along the winding paths of the Forest. Each state has its own tree and



2011 honorees inducted into the 2011 International Forest of Friendship are: 1-Kenneth Luedke; 2-Charlie Lamb (99); 3- Capt. Sangita Kabra Bangar (99); 4- Susan King (99); 5-Patricia Jayne Keefer (99); 6-Marilyn Ann Bedford; 7-Jean Scibetta (99); 8- Capt. Manisha Mohan Puri (99); 9-Stephenie Roberts (99); 10-Nelson Krueger; 11-Carol Kirsch; 12-Alicia Kirsch; 13-Fran Postma (99); 14-Jerry Ann Jurenka (99); 15-Judy Masura (99); 16-Dennis McGinn; 17-Jim Morrison; 18-Kenneth Godfrey; 19-Laurie Probst (accepting for Marie Hight – 99).

area where honorees' names are engraved upon a stone in the walk. Some states have a lot of representation. Some have a smaller number, but what surprised me was that some had none, even though the Forest has existed since 1976. There sat a lonely tree, a stone telling the state's name, but nothing on the walkway. One goal, according to Linton Wells, board member for the Forest and the son of the late Fay Gillis Wells, is to try to encourage Chapters to recognize inductees from these states so that those who have contributed to aviation will be represented.

Two states that stood out as having no representation were West Virginia and Wyoming. Certainly if there is an aviation hall of fame or museum in the state, then there must be somebody who has contributed to aviation that deserves to be

represented in the IFOF. If your Chapter has not nominated someone in a while, it might be time to revisit the topic. You can check the list of inductees on the Forest of Friendship website to see who was inducted from your state/Chapter and then go from there.

If funds are tight, sponsorships can be shared by organizations. For example, if someone you wish to nominate has done a lot for The Ninety-Nines and her EAA chapter, both organizations can split the cost and co-sponsor. A goal for the future is to increase inductees, especially before they pass on into history.

We would also love to see more Ninety-Nines visit the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum, also in Atchison. It truly is a gem, and our organization is so fortunate to have it.



# PILOT CAREERS: The Gold Medal Process

BY DONNA MILLER  
International Careers Committee

**W**hat can a pilot learn from a swimmer? When the teacher is John Naber, the answer is, plenty! John is one of America's most successful Olympic champions. He was our country's most highly decorated Olympian at the 1976 Games in Montreal, earning four gold medals in swimming, each in world record time. So what can we, as pilots, learn from his experience? John teaches what he calls The Gold Medal Process, and hearing him present it was nothing less than inspiring.

When John talked about having a dream, he was adamant about how feelings count. It's not the *thing*, the gold medal, it's the feeling you have, the sense of accomplishment you feel as it is placed around your neck. We know that feeling from our first solos. Your feet didn't really touch the ground for days!

John spoke about having faith and asked the question, "Why not? Why not me?" We have to have the faith that we can succeed. We wouldn't go for the interview if we didn't think we could get the job, right?

He also spoke of having a concrete goal. As pilots, we know that if we want to get to a destination, we have to know where it is. When we deviate around weather, we have to know how to

get back on track to arrive at our destination. He also spoke of the strategy to reach that goal and the steps to get there. For John, he knew he had to decrease his time in one race by five seconds. But he had four years to do it before the next Olympic Games. That's one-fifth of a blink of an eye *every day* that he needed to improve. And that's what he did to win the race in world record time.

For hard work, John uses the Coke bottle analogy: No Deposit, No Return. All the work you do ahead of time will prepare you for the race, or in our case, the checkride. It doesn't work to cram the day before the final. The work you put in ahead of time will come back in a calm confidence that you are ready on the day of the checkride. You have prepared as well as you possibly could have and are ready for the test. The next step in John's Gold Medal Process is willpower—overcoming obstacles. In aviation, they are everywhere. We know that. It is our challenge to overcome them, using all the resources we have.

The final step in The Gold Medal Process is courage. With courage, we can perform under pressure. When the day comes to be tested, think of all you did to prepare. Think of all the hours you studied, all the sacrifices you made to be in that room on that day. You deserve to be there. You are ready. Let the games begin.

## PRO 99s PROFILE: Michelle Bassanesi

BY BETSY DONOVAN, International Careers Committee

**I**n 1999, at age 38, Michelle Bassanesi was invited on a friend's "long cross country" across the USA in a C172. She returned to Italy, took leave and moved to California for six months, where she achieved her private pilot certificate and instrument rating in a C172RG. She now has her FAA and JAA commercial multi/single certificates. She has flown in Italy, France, Spain, UK, New Zealand and the USA.

A part-time FAA and JAA flight instructor at the Rome Aero Club, Michelle flies out of Rome Urbe airport. "I love the opportunity of teaching what I love most and watching my students grow and achieve their wings." She has been a Ninety-Nine since March 2000 and is a member of the Ambassador Chapter. Michelle won an Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship in 2007 for her instrument instructor rating.

Michelle's advice: "Stick with it. Perseverance. Resilience. Consider any obstacles you encounter as opportunities for leader-



ship. Impossible is only a stepping stone to success. Never accept no for an answer. Be careful of what you wish, it just may come true! Prepare, prepare, prepare. Age is not a factor. Nothing happens by chance. Share successes and failures, we don't make it on our own. The road is not a straight one, at times the journey may be more exciting or more important than the destination."

# Twenty-four Women Awarded 2011 Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarships

BY MADELEINE MONACO  
Co-Chairman, AEMSF



Twenty-four outstanding women have won Amelia Earhart Scholarships this year. They come from all around the globe and are pursuing a great variety of aviation goals. They are from large cities and small towns. They are Ninety-Nines of a wide variety of ages. What they all have in common is their strong support of The Ninety-Nines, their need for financial aid and their individual endeavors to accomplish their goals.

The hard work they have put into their flying and learning to date and the strong efforts that they have put into their scholarship applications have netted them the privilege of being AE Winners for 2011. We congratulate them all!

The foresight shown by our Ninety-Nines sisters in 1940 has allowed this fund to become stronger and more viable every year since. So many have benefitted — and these 24 Ninety-Nines join a great list of members who won in the past.

Thank you to everyone who participated, by donating, by serving as Scholarship Chairmen and by helping to do the work that makes this all happen.

## AEMSF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



### **ANNA JO ANDERSON, ATP**

Devils 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 North Dakota. After years of giving flight instruction, I took a job flying a Dash 8 on the East Coast. I later drove up to Alaska to fly fishermen and bear viewers, and 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 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 a dream of mine.

### **ASHLEY BAKER, COMMERCIAL MULTI-ENGINE**

Tucson Chapter, Southwest Section

I've been excited about flying all my life. At 18, I took my first airplane ride, and since then I've been immersed in aviation! From then to now, I've earned multiple endorsements as well as my private certificate and multi-engine rating. 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 that will help me complete my multi-engine commercial rating so I can make flying my career. My ultimate goal is to become an MEII and run a flight school to 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 Ninety-Nine who has come before me, is one now, and who will belong in the future, for their inspiring tenacity, guts and sense of adventure.





**STACEY MARIE BUDELL, AG PILOT TRAINING**

Idaho Chapter, Northwest Section

Stacey Budell, an Idaho Chapter member since February 1993, earned her private certificate in 1992. At the time, she worked 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 finance her first airplane and soon became a licensed broker. She has her commercial certificate, instrument rating and CFI certificate and currently instructs in Caldwell, Idaho, with Hinkle Aviation. She continues to sell real estate and works for Farmers Supply Co-op 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 three years before getting her Cessna 182 in 1995. She has donated many flights over the years to promote aviation to anyone who showed interest, especially the Aviation Career Exploration (ACE) Academy sponsored by the Idaho Department of Transportation.

**HILLARY CARL, COMMERCIAL**

Connecticut Chapter, New England Section

I began flying in January 2007 and joined The Ninety-Nines that November. I fly at Berkshire Aviation in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. I graduated from college with a fine arts degree, never imagining I would become a pilot. Flight has expanded both 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.



**EMILY CRITTENDEN GROS, ATP**

Alaska Chapter, Northwest Section

I am a pilot, a mother, wife and a Ninety-Nine. I am a Caravan captain for Empire Airlines. I began flying for Empire three years ago as first officer in the ATR 72 and transitioned to the C208 after a year and a half. I am based in Anchorage, Alaska, where I was raised and learned to fly, earning my private pilot certificate in July of 2003.

I grew up around the corner from Lake Hood, and I always wanted to fly. 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 also hoping to earn my SES rating this summer.

I received the Amelia Earhart scholarship to earn my ATP certificate. 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 at the Santa Barbara Airport and received her private certificate and instrument rating while in college at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

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 completing graduate school, she moved to San Francisco and transferred to the Bay Cities Chapter, where she currently serves as Chapter Vice Chairman. 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. She 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 obtain her commercial certificate and get her one step closer to achieving her dream.



**ALEXANDRA KINDRAT, ACADEMIC, MASTER OF SCIENCE 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. 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 Chapter

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 at the 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 a two-year old son, I moved to Salt Lake City, Utah. I was hired by SkyWest Airlines and have been working for them since. Thanks to very encouraging colleagues, I started to work on my private pilot certificate in June 2008, and in three months I had my first airman certificate in my possession. Nine months later I added an instrument rating, and now I am looking forward to getting my multiengine commercial certificate soon!

**TERESSA LAU, ACADEMIC, B.S. IN AERONAUTICAL SCIENCE**

Ambassador Chapter, South Central Section

First of all, I would like to thank The Ninety-Nines for the financial assistance and support of females pursuing 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 pilot. I received my associates 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 earned my commercial certificate and have an internship with a fellow Ninety-Nine who has shown me that aviation has endless opportunities and possibilities. It has been through encouraging female role models that 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 encourage other women find their passion.



**NICOLE LORDEMANN, ACADEMIC, B.S. IN AERO TECH**

Greater Kansas City, North Central Section

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 dream 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 am also proud of my membership with the Greater Kansas City Chapter, whom I cannot thank enough for their support and friendships. I am honored to be a part of an organization that offers such resources to women.

**MANAMI MARUYAMA, INSTRUMENT**

San Diego Chapter, Southwest Section

I obtained 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 certificate, I had a new goal, obtaining an IFR rating. To achieve that goal, I came back to the United States from Japan in 2005 and resumed my training in 2007.

I applied for the AEMSF for my IFR training three times and finally won it this year. After obtaining my IFR rating, a commercial and CFI certificates 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 six 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!

I'm looking forward to this summer when I will be studying abroad in Australia and interning in France with Daher-Socata. I am ecstatic to start my CFI training 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!

**KELLY ANN O'DEA, KING AIR B200**

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. Economic setbacks along the way have delayed my progress, and if it were not for the AEMSF, 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 am 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.



**CINDY PANG, INSTRUMENT**

British Columbia Coast Chapter, West Canada Section

I am truly honored 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.

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 wanted to have control and pilot the airplane.

My first lesson was in July 2003. I obtained my private pilot certificate in 2005 and commercial certificate in 2006. As of now, with the help provided by this scholarship, I can continue with my passion of becoming a professional pilot, undertaking the best schooling available to gain further experience and knowledge in the aviation world. My most recent accomplishment was a cross-Canada solo flight in a Cessna 150.

It is a great honor to be amongst an elite group of women pilots in this great organization, The Ninety-Nines.



**MONICA PRAJAPATI, DORNIER 328 TP**

Nepal Section

Born as a daughter of Dr. Indra Prajapati and Rupa Prajapati in 1984 in Kathmandu, Nepal, I have always dreamt about flying. Sharing normal childhood with my siblings Iru and Ijendra, I completed my schooling at Gems High School, Nepal. After completing my bachelor's in Computer Engineering, I realized my dream was not to be confined within a chair and write code. I wanted to fly, and inspired by my dream, I headed for the flight training in the Philippines in 2008.

After completing my training, I started my flying career in October 2009 with Air Kasthamandap as the first single engine woman 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 regions 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 so far.

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 smiles to hundred of faces waiting for the flight to land and bring food to their home. That makes me feel blessed and fulfilled.

**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.

Although I'm based in Atlanta, I live in Seattle. 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!



**AMBER SENN, ACADEMIC, B.S. AEROSPACE**

Blue Ridge Chapter, Southeast Section

I am 19 years old. I earned my private pilot 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. My grandfather, the very first passenger I had 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 lifelong dream was to fly professionally, the journey began once she realized she had the opportunity to earn 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 and a commercial pilot certificate with instrument and multi-engine ratings. 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 Chapter and is looking forward to utilizing her scholarship to receive her CFI, building time towards her ATP and teaching other aspiring woman pilots.





### **JULIEANN SIKORA, COMMERCIAL**

San Fernando Valley, Southwest Section

I am an active San Fernando Valley Chapter member. 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 Information Technology, 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.

### **NATASHA STENBOCK, INSTRUMENT**

San Diego Chapter, Southwest Section

Natasha earned her private pilot certificate in 2008 and joined the San Diego Chapter 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 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**

Brazil Section

When I was eight, I made my first flight and have been an aviation enthusiast since then. As soon as I finished high school, I was accepted to attend aeronautical science college. However, my family was never 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 my college graduation. Today I am preparing to be a flight instructor because I feel I will love to teach others to fly. Winning this scholarship for my multi-engine rating is extremely important to improve my training. By being able to fly multi-engine aircraft, I can become a more complete flight instructor and also advance my career much sooner. I greatly appreciate all the support and full confidence that The Ninety-Nines have placed in me. I intend to share with all my future students this amazing aviatrix fellowship!

### **ANNA TSIMBAL, RETRAINING CERTIFICATION R-44 PIC**

Russian Section

At age 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 I worked at a Moscow Airclub. Then "Perestroika" started, and many airclubs reduced staff. 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. Then 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 Ninety-Nines' 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 wine region of northern California.

Nicole 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.

**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 hometown studying at the College of Alameda (California) for an Airframe and Powerplant certificate. I am also enjoying my summer days building flight time toward a commercial helicopter add-on rating in a Robinson 22. One day I hope to fly a Sikorsky Skycrane.



**FREE EVENT INSURANCE AND GOLD COMPASS ROSE TILE**

The Endowment Fund Board is excited to announce that you still have time to take advantage of Free Event Insurance for your fun, flying activity providing that 50 percent or more of the proceeds are donated to the Endowment Fund. Hurry, this limited time offer ends on November 1, 2011.

And because we women pilots love a challenge, the Chapter or Section that makes the largest donation to the Endowment Fund between May 1, 2011 and November 1, 2011 will be awarded a Gold Compass Rose Tile.

Please send your donations to: Virginia Harmer, Endowment Fund Treasurer, 8627 Banyan Street, Alta Loma, CA 91701.

— Mary Wunder, Chairman, The 99s Endowment Fund

**TRAINING MILESTONES**

**Risa Altman** – Solo  
Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter

**Carol Andrews** – Wings Basic, Level 12, Sutter Buttes Chapter

**Ruby Bowen** – Private Pilot  
Intercollegiate Internet Chapter

**Debby Cunningham** – Citation X Type rating, Santa Clara Valley Chapter

**Betsy Donovan** – Citation X Type Rating, San Joaquin Valley Chapter

**Sandra Feliciano** –CFII  
Sugarloaf Chapter

**Amy Gardiner** – Solo  
New York Capital District Chapter

**Marcia Gitelman** – Wings Advanced, Level 4, Finger Lakes Chapter

**Christine Hollingsworth** – Private Pilot, Greater Seattle Chapter

**Maureen Kenney** – Instrument  
San Fernando Valley Chapter

**Marybeth Martin** – Private Pilot  
Ventura County Chapter

**Susie McWilliams** – Commerical Rotorcraft  
Ventura County Chapter

**Gabrielle Palmas** – Multi-engine  
Phoenix Chapter

**Danna Park** – Private Pilot  
Blue Ridge Chapter

**Jennifer Phillips** – Solo  
Michigan Chapter

**Peggy Thompson** – Instrument  
Santa Rosa Chapter

**Mini Zabala** – Private Pilot  
Ventura County Chapter



## AEMSF Judges Are an Impressive Group

The Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship Fund Trustees thank this year's group of non-Ninety-Nine semi-finalist judges. Throughout the scholarship's history, we have had a stellar group of people volunteer to perform this very important task. This year is no exception. As the scholarship fund and the awareness of its value continues to grow, we are gratified that these leaders of aviation and industry don't hesitate to participate as judges.



### TRISH BECKMAN

As a child inspired by the American space program in the 1960s, Trish Beckman soaked up all the math and science courses offered by her schools. She enlisted in the U.S. Navy at age 18 and took advantage of many aviation-related education opportunities for the next 28 years, including learning to operate and maintain flight simulators, completing flight training as a Naval Flight Officer, graduating from U.S. Naval Test Pilot School and earning a Bachelor's degree in Aerospace Engineering and a Master's degree in Aeronautical Engineering.

As a Naval Flight Officer she flew in 67 types of military aircraft. Commander Trish Beckman, U.S. Navy (retired), currently flies for Boeing Test and Evaluation at Boeing Field in Seattle, Washington, as a System Operator for production test flights of the Boeing 737 and as a Flight Navigator for ferry flights and engineering test flights. She has now logged over 5,600 flight hours in 72 aircraft types. Trish is currently the only woman in the U.S. to be FAA certificated as a Flight Navigator. In 2009, the United Kingdom's Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators awarded Trish a Master Air Navigator certificate in London, England.



### JANICE WALL ELROD

Janice began her aviation career as an aircraft mechanic for the Air Force Reserves. In 1983, she was hired by the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) as a Quality Assurance Representative to assure parts and products met the Department of Defense specifications.

In 1989, Janice accepted a position in California with the Federal Aviation Administration as an Aviation Safety Inspector (ASI). She was involved with many facets of the aviation manufacturing industry for large aircraft. In 1991, her next assignment was at FAA headquarters in Washington, D.C., writing and revising rules and regulations for ASIs. Not only did she write new rules for the maintenance of aircraft, she negotiated with other countries to standardize forms and procedures.

In 1992, she was approached by her manager, "about some women in aviation conference thing." He thought it might be a good idea if someone from the office attended, and since she was the only woman, she was it. After attending the conference held by Parks College in St. Louis, Janice had the privilege of helping to found the organization now known as Women In Aviation International (WAI). In 2003, Janice retired due to health problems, but she still enjoys her involvement with WAI and all her aviation friends.



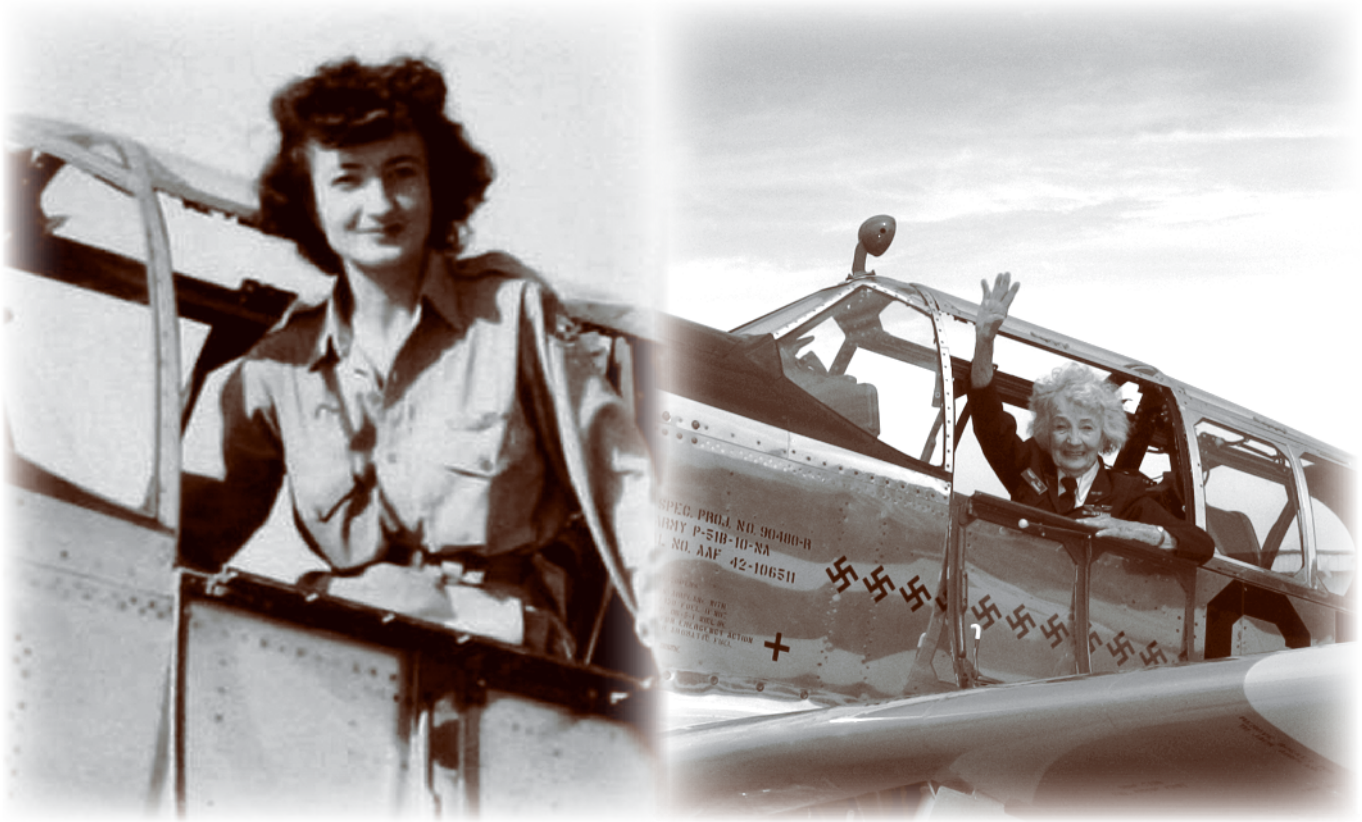
### ED MCCRACKEN

Ed McCracken received his BSEE from Iowa State University and his MBA from Stanford University.

He held several management positions for Hewlett-Packard from 1968 until 1985. From 1985 until his retirement in 1998, he served as president and CEO of Silicon Graphics. He served on several boards, including 3M, SatMetrix, U.S. Advisory Council on the National Information Infrastructure, California Children's Health Project and, currently, the Board of National Semiconductor.

He has received several awards, including the National Medal of Technology and Executive of the Year.

Ed is involved in several education ventures related to the support of math and science programs. He resides in Menlo Park, California and Angel Fire, New Mexico. He is an instrument rated pilot with more than 1,100 flight hours.



*Vi Cowden, 1944, in the cockpit of a P-51 Mustang.*

*Vi, back in a P-51 again, co-piloting at age 89.*

# Women Military Aviators: From the Beginning

BY BARB GARWOOD  
Military Internet chapter

**T**wenty-nine years ago on September 2, 1982, my recruit Karen Daneu and I, both Air Force T-38 instructor pilots, flew T-38A tail number 1952 (my birth year and favorite T-38) on a boondoggle four-day cross country from bases in Phoenix to Oklahoma to Kokomo, Indiana and landing in Cleveland-Hopkins Airport, Ohio to attend the Cleveland National Air Show at Burke Lakefront Airport over the Labor Day weekend.

How could our Ops officer say no? We were to attend a Women Airforce Service Pilot (WASP) convention, which was happening the same time as the air

show, and were going to be introduced to the 400 former WWII women pilots gathered there (and of course see the air show, Blue Angels flying A-4F Skyhawks and much more)!

Karen and I were forming a new organization of active duty Air Force women military pilots and were anxious to offer membership to the first pioneer American women military pilots. Our new organization evolved to become the Women Military Aviators.

Across the country, Karen and I had the usual comments from controllers: “Are you the pilots? You mean there are

two of you, and you’re flying the jet?” and the usual gawks from the men marshaling our aircraft to parking areas when we shut down and upon removing our helmets and skull caps, our hair fell out in sweaty locks.

Yes, Karen and I thought we were pretty hot stuff back then, jet pilots and all. There were only 50 women AF pilots when the Air Force started pilot training for us in the ’70s. There were so few female T-38 instructor pilots, you could count them on two hands. And no one had ever seen or heard a woman military pilot on the radio or seen one in a flight suit and in a military aircraft.

## OR HAD THEY?

Violet (Vi) Cowden, born Violet Clara Thurn on October 1, 1916 in a sod house on a farm in Bowdle, South Dakota, was one of four children. Her father was born in Odessa, Russia and her mother was born in Java, South Dakota. In *Wings of Silver: The Vi Cowden Story*, a documentary film by Christine and Mark Bonn, Vi was dreaming of the sky at a young age.

She said, "I can remember, I was about 6 or 7 years old, and a hawk would fly over. I used to watch him just floating around up there. And I thought if I could just do that, if I could be like this hawk."

About her youth, Vi said, "Growing up on a farm, I think that the women were just as important as the men, and when I was in high school, I don't think that I ever had the feeling that I was different from the guys, because I loved to play basketball and do all the things they did, and I almost always felt equal."

She attended Black Hills University and became a first grade teacher. One day she just decided to learn how to fly. She asked the pilot and owner, Clyde, at the Black Hills Airport, if he would teach her to fly, and he said, "Come on, I think you'll make a damn good pilot."

Vi continued taking flying lessons, spending \$10 to \$12 dollars a month on flying out of her \$110 monthly teacher's salary. She earned her pilot certificate before her driver's license, which was why she had to ride her bike six miles to the airport for lessons. "The bug hit me, and I could not think of anything else," she said. Despite her small 5-foot, 90-pound stature, Vi never let society or male resistance stop her from doing what she wanted to do.

When the attack on Pearl Harbor drew the U.S. into WWII, Vi applied for the Women Airforce Service Pilot program. In 1941, almost all the male pilots fit to fight the air war were overseas, and there simply were not enough qualified male pilots at home to ferry new planes to bases, test aircraft leaving the factories, tow targets, conduct avionics testing missions, pick up and deliver parts and do many other noncombat flying missions.

Formed from two separate organizations, the Women's Auxiliary Ferry Service (WAFs) led by Nancy Love, and

the Women's Flying Training Detachment (WFTD) led by Jackie Cochran, the WASP were certificated pilots recruited in the U.S. From 25,000 applicants, 1,830 women were accepted and 1,074 completed the six-month intensive training course at Avenger Field in Sweetwater, Texas, and served the country as pilots.

At 26 years old, Vi graduated in WASP class 43-W-4, the third class to graduate. She was selected as one of only 114 WASP during her service to fly pursuit (fighter) aircraft, including the P-39, P-40, P-47 and P-51.

In *Wings of Silver*, Vi recalls memories of flying the heavy and cumbersome P-47. At graduation, a fellow pilot in training revealed to her that he had called in sick prior to P-47 training because he was afraid of the aircraft. It was only after he saw the top of Vi's curly head as she taxied by that he conquered his fear. Vi related, "You're doing your job, and you never know when you're an inspiration to someone else. I certainly didn't know I would ever be an inspiration to anyone flying this airplane."

One of her greatest memories of that time was the very first flight of an untested P-51 Mustang in which she was the first pilot to fly the aircraft. Her feelings about flying were how "free and wonderful it is."

The WASP program was disbanded on December 20, 1944 when male pilots started returning from war. Vi went home, at her own cost, and was very disappointed, as were all the WASP. It took until 1977 for the WASP to get their veteran status.

There were very few jobs for women pilots in 1944. Vi worked as a ticket agent for TWA in New York for a while, hated that and then eventually owned a ceramic business in Lynwood, California, where she met her husband. She had a daughter. She was active in her community and was a former president of the WASP organization.

Not to be grounded, Vi exemplified a flying spirit by skydiving at age 76 and again at age 89 with the Army's Golden Knights. She commemorated flying the P-51 Mustang during her WASP duty by co-piloting the "Betty Jane" P-51 in 2010 from San Bernardino to Orange County.

Last March, Vi was featured in the educational documentary *Second to None*

written and directed by Randy Rice, National Manager Education Programs, Farmers Insurance, in the episode on aviation history. I was honored to be in the film as a historical narrator of the WASP story.

Why me? Because, like all women military pilots who have followed in the pioneer path of the WASP, we have a unique bond and common struggle to take our place in the sky.

I met Vi again, 29 years after our first meeting in Cleveland, at the premiere of the film on March 16 in Los Angeles. My daughter and I escorted her from the reception to the theater when it was time to show the film. In her WASP uniform, at 94 years old, she was still a petite 5-foot woman who barely met the weight requirement for duty back in 1943.

As we moved through the crowd, one large man said to her, "You're adorable!" After he passed us, she said to me, "Adorable? What's that supposed to mean?"

That was Vi.

Vi passed away on April 10, 2011, and many family members and people she touched, like me, will miss her. A celebration of her life took place May 21, 2011 at the Yanks Air Museum in Chino, California.

*Special thanks to Chris Bonn on Vi's quotes and stories in this article. Mark and Christie Bonn received Director's choice at the Sedona Film Festival for Best Short Documentary for "Wings of Silver, the Vi Cowden Story."*



"Adorable" Vi at the screening of her documentary.

# Welcome New and Returning Ninety-Nines!

## Welcome Back Members

**ANDERSON**, Stephanie, Cook Inlet  
**BLUNK**, Holly (A), Oklahoma  
**BONNAR**, Jean-Marie, Fresno  
**CONNERS**, Gayle, Montreal  
**COPELAND**, Marsha E, San Antonio  
**CRAIK**, Evelyn, Las Vegas Valley  
**CUNNINGHAM**, June G, San Luis Obispo Co.  
**FORD-BARBER**, Leo, Virginia  
**GRAHAM**, Nicole (A), Eastern Pennsylvania  
**HAYASHI**, Jessica V, New York Capital District  
**JOHNSON**, ReAnn R, Alaska  
**KAMP**, Micaela L, Sedona Red Rockettes  
**KEEL**, Jacquelyn K, Idaho  
**KOZAK**, Elma, British Columbia Coast  
**LAWS**, Robyn, Kansas  
**LEBLANC**, Anne-Marie, Las Vegas Valley  
**LEE**, Sunny Kyungsun, Embry-Riddle Daytona  
**LEOTA**, Nancy Lee Lucky, Intermountain  
**LLEWELLYN**, Susan D (A), Ventura County  
**MARINA**, Toni M, Keystone  
**MCGREGOR**, Elizabeth A, Utah  
**MEINERS**, Alice Marie, Carolinas  
**MONTOYA**, Nora, Long Beach  
**MOORE**, Gracie, Colorado  
**MOSELEY**, Betty H, Kentucky Bluegrass  
**PARKS**, Patricia L, Ambassador  
**PECK**, Kirstin Nasali, Ambassador  
**PEMBERTON**, Melissa, Mid-Atlantic Section  
**PHILPOTT**, Glenda, Australian Section  
**SEELEY**, Lisa, Oregon Pines  
**SLOTSKY**, Ilana Ruth, Florida Goldcoast  
**SMITH**, Edith Baugh, Tucson  
**SPANGLER**, Kandi Marie, North Central Section  
**STAMOLIS**, Christina M, Cook Inlet  
**SYMONETTE-JOHNSON**, Vena, Florida Gulf Stream  
**TANTON**, Elaine, Alberta  
**TYLER**, Laura R., Bay Cities  
**VALDEZ**, Rebecca A, Orange County  
**WATSON-MEINKE**, Peggy, Ventura County  
**WILDMAN**, Belinda D., Coyote Country  
**WORTHY**, Starr Nicole (A), Rio Colorado  
**WYATT**, Susan E., Florida Suncoast  
**ORTEGA**, Sonia, Washington DC

## Welcome New Members

**AHMAD**, Basmah Bani, Arabian Section  
**AHMADZADE**, Ashieh (A), British Section  
**AL-ALAWI**, Zubeida Eva (A), Washington DC  
**ALKIN**, Marisa Elaine (A), Phoenix  
**ALLEN-BAFFOE**, Chanda (A), Member at Large  
**ALSABER**, Dima Omar, Arabian Section  
**APPLEGATE**, Emily Jo, Colorado  
**ASATO-SABANOVICH**, Emiko, Santa Clara Valley  
**BATHALTER**, Michelle, San Gabriel Valley  
**BECKER**, Jan, Australian Section  
**BECNEL**, Ann, New Orleans  
**BLANDINO**, Diane M, Hampton Roads  
**BLEYL**, Mary Beth, Tucson  
**BOROZNY**, Erin, Western Washington  
**BUBYNINA**, Irina, Russian Section  
**BUCHTA**, Jessica, Antelope Valley  
**CALHOON**, Andrea Marie, San Diego  
**CALLIHAN**, Lindy (A), Ambassador



*New member Barbara Peter (left), Chicago Area Chapter, joins a sing-along with WASP Dorothy Swain Lewis at Oshkosh.*

**CANEPA**, Christine (A), San Gabriel Valley  
**CARDOZA**, Kristen, Tennessee  
**CASIER**, Lara, Dallas  
**CORBELLO**, P Anne, New Orleans  
**CRANFILL**, Elizabeth Caroline (A), Santa Clara Valley  
**DAUSCHER**, Jillian G (A), Reno Area  
**DAVIS**, Elizabeth, Sacramento Valley  
**DECKER**, Laura, Mt. Shasta  
**DELION**, Charissa V, British Section  
**DODGE**, Joanne Louise, Sacramento Valley  
**DOWLEARN**, Melody Lynn (A), Placer Gold  
**DULSON**, Katherine, Santa Barbara  
**ELKIN**, Kimberly Ann (A), Alaska  
**FLAHERTY**, Natasha M, Ambassador  
**FORSYTH**, Marie, San Gabriel Valley  
**FOUT**, Patricia Trish (A), Florida Suncoast  
**GARWOOD**, Barbara, Military Internet  
**GAZZAZ**, Rotana A H, Arabian Section  
**GENTRY**, Karen (A), Minnesota  
**GIST**, Sydney Nicole, High Country  
**HADFIELD**, Robin, First Canadian  
**HARRIS**, Betty (A), Florida Spaceport  
**HARTY**, Kimberly (A), San Fernando Valley  
**HENDERSON**, Megan, Greater Kansas City  
**HERSHBERG**, Esther, Alaska  
**HODGES**, Katharine, Greater Seattle  
**IBRAHIM**, Julie W, Blue Ridge  
**IBRAHIM**, Manaal, Idaho  
**IVERY**, Donna Yvette (A), North Jersey  
**JAY**, Heather, Mt. Shasta  
**JEFFREY**, Alyson, Manitoba  
**JOHNSTONE**, Jennifer (A), San Joaquin Valley  
**JONES**, Lisa M (A), Colorado  
**JUSTICE**, Jacqueline Morgan (A), Hampton Roads  
**KAPLAN**, Melissa, Idaho  
**KILPATRICK**, Kimberly, North Jersey  
**KIMBALL**, Deanna, Minnesota  
**KLINE**, Nysa Wong (A), Marin County  
**KNAPINSKY**, Sonya (A), Long Island  
**KUNZMAN**, Toni Penny, Greater Kansas City  
**LACHHIRAMANI**, Anita, Santa Clara Valley

**LEHTINEN**, Joy, Inland Empire  
**LIDDELL**, Melody (A), Orange County  
**LINES**, Elissa, Wisconsin  
**LOMBARD**, Heather, Utah  
**LOWE**, Kayley (A), Colorado  
**MAANS**, Mercia Marlene, Member at Large  
**MACHADO**, Michelle (A), Fullerton  
**MACKELL**, Jen, Las Vegas Valley  
**MAHONEY**, Mikaela Joy (A), Minnesota  
**MARBACH**, Tressa (A), Dallas  
**MARR**, Kathleen Mary (A), Wisconsin  
**MCCARVILLE**, Katherine (A), Iowa  
**MCCHESENEY**, Chelsea, Ambassador  
**MCCOY**, Heather, Reno High Sierra  
**MCNIVEN**, Jane M, Mat-Su Valley  
**MELNIKOVA**, Olga, German Section  
**MEREDITH**, Jessica Lynn (A), Orange County  
**MILDICE**, Aria (A), Hampton Roads  
**MOHAMMED**, Yasmeen Fraidoun, Arabian Section  
**NAHHAS**, Adil, Arabian Section  
**NELSON**, Amanda, Alaska  
**NIEMI**, Tiina, Finnish Section  
**OGDEN**, Ashley Melissa, Orange County  
**OLSEN**, Lydia B (A), Greater Seattle  
**PALAGI**, Lauren W, Military Internet  
**PARK**, Barbara, Oregon Pines  
**PELS**, Jennifer MacDonald, San Diego  
**PETER**, Barbara S, Chicago Area  
**PRUSSIAN**, Katherine, Intermountain  
**RABADI**, Carol, Arabian Section  
**REARDON**, Veronica (A), Kitty Hawk  
**RIKKINEN**, Sirpa, Ambassador  
**RODRIGUEZ**, Kristi (A), Pikes Peak  
**ROHRER**, Alya Stevens, San Gabriel Valley  
**ROMAN**, Kim, Reno High Sierra  
**RUKAB**, Joline, Arabian Section  
**SAMOODY**, Delbar, Arabian Section  
**SAUNDERS**, Kelly, Embry-Riddle Daytona  
**SCHULTZ**, Joni L, Houston  
**SEARLES**, Tammie Ray, Santa Clara Valley  
**SHAW**, Judy, Old Dominion  
**STAMPER**, Sharon M (A), Mount Tahoma  
**STANGER**, Dianna, Houston  
**STEPHENS**, Vicky (A), West Virginia  
**STEVENSON**, Kasey (A), Reno Area  
**SULLIVAN**, Nicole (A), San Diego  
**SUPORNPAIBUL**, Nadege, French Section  
**SWEGINNIS**, Teri (A), Yavapai  
**TAYLOR**, Alison, Tennessee  
**THORSEN**, Ashley (A), Kitty Hawk  
**TORUNO**, Nastassia, San Gabriel Valley  
**UMBA**, Vanessa, Arabian Section  
**VEILLEUX**, Sophie, Eastern Ontario  
**VISSER**, Jeneanne, Iowa  
**VOLK**, Allison (A), Sacramento Valley  
**WHEATLEY**, Courtney, Ambassador  
**WHICKER**, Marilyn D, Kitty Hawk  
**WOOD**, Ellen, British Columbia Coast  
**WORTMAN**, Natasha D, Military Internet  
**WRIGHT**, Lisa, Washington DC  
**YATES**, Mary Jo, Colorado  
**YATES**, Michelle, Florida Goldcoast  
**ZAPOTOK**, Kirsten (A), Delaware



Royal Jordanian flight number 132 landed on October 18 at Queen Alia International Airport, returning from Athens.

### ALL-WOMAN CREW ON ROYAL JORDANIAN

Royal Jordanian flight number 132 landed on October 18 at Queen Alia International Airport, returning from Athens. The plane was commanded by Captain Carol Rabadi and co-pilot Hadeel Khamash and also had an all-woman cabin crew, thus recording a first for Jordanian and aviation history. Since the establishment of Royal Jordanian, only one other woman was awarded the rank of captain but flew with male co-pilots.

Carol said her first flight as captain, together with co-pilot Khamash, will be a landmark in her life and the airline's history where women play a major role. She praised the support and training Royal Jordanian gives its women employees who work in all the departments, including the operational and engineering sectors.

— *Alia Twal*



*Ann Marie Radel.*

### ANNE MARIE RADEL RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP

The San Fernando Valley Chapter announced that Anne Marie Radel was one of four recipients of the Universal Weather and Aviation, Inc. scholarships for the FAA Dispatcher License Training and Certification Course.

This program enables candidates to learn all aspects of flight planning for commercial aircraft. Anne Marie finished

her course at the company's training center in Houston, Texas and subsequently passed the FAA practical exam with the Designated Aircraft Dispatch Examiner and was awarded her Aircraft Dispatcher certificate on April 1, 2011.

— *Lilian Darling Holt*

### FRAN BERA TO RECEIVE 2011 KATHARINE WRIGHT AWARD

The National Aeronautic Association (NAA) announced that Fran Bera will receive the prestigious Katharine Wright Award for "a lifetime working in aviation, setting records and mentoring young people; at 86, she is still flying and encouraging young pilots to attain their aviation goals."

"Fran has broken through every ceiling imaginable to become an icon for all women who pursue an interest in aviation," noted Ninety-Nines President Susan Larson. "The 99s is so proud that she is a 62-year member."

Bera began flying in 1940 at the age of 16 and has been flying continuously ever since. Going on to advanced ratings, including her Airline Transport Pilot license, Fran was one of the first women in the 1940s to be designated as a Federal Aviation Agency Pilot Examiner, a role which continued for more than 25 years during which time she had licensed over 3,000 pilots.

With more than 25,000 hours, Fran has been a chief pilot for various aviation firms, a charter pilot, flight operations manager, and has owned and operated her own flight school and aircraft sales business.

The award will be presented at the NAA Fall Awards Banquet on Monday, November 7, 2011, at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Virginia.

— *NAA Press Release*

## GRASS ROOTS

### FLORIDA SUNCOAST CHAPTER

The Florida Aviation Historical Society honored Astronaut Nicole Stott, a member of Discovery's STS 133 crew and Clearwater native, at the St. Petersburg Museum of History in June. The mayor of St. Petersburg presented her with a plaque declaring June 5th Nicole Stott Day. Nicole took Florida Suncoast Chapter's patch, a Benoist pennant and various photographs into space and presented them back to each organization at this event.

— *Marilyn Shafer*



The Florida Suncoast Chapter was represented by members, from left, Sophia Payton, Chapter Chairman Marilyn Shafer, Marie Grein, Nancy Wright, Barbara Sierchio, Astronaut Nicole Stott and Mary Fletcher.



*Evelyn Bryan Johnson with Laurenn Prater Barker at the unveiling of a sculpture of Evelyn at Moore-Murrell Airport Terminal.*

### TENNESSEE CHAPTER

Tennessee Ninety-Nines joined the community of Morristown and the State of Tennessee in a Tribute Dedication to Evelyn Bryan Johnson. A bronze sculpture honoring the 101-year-old ‘Mama Bird’ was unveiled May 10 in its permanent location at the entrance to the new Moore-Murrell Airport Terminal. Evelyn is manager of the airport, a position she has held since 1953.

Lauren Prater Barker, a California sculptor and a former student of Evelyn’s, donated her time to complete the sculpture. Organizations and individual donations paid for the materials. In addition to unveiling the sculpture, Governor William Haslam of Tennessee appointed Johnson as an Honorary Colonel.

Both the mayor and vice-mayor of Morristown were on hand to introduce dignitaries and speakers. Former Tennessee Chapter Chairman Adele McDonald and current Tennessee Chapter Chairman Martha Miller were featured speakers.

Following the program, attendees were invited into the new terminal to view a display of many of Evelyn’s 51 awards. ‘Mama Bird’ is honored in the following Halls of Fame: Women in Aviation, National Flight Instructor, Hamblen (County) Women, Kentucky Aviation, Tennessee Aviation, and National Aviation. She is also named in the Guinness Book of World Records, having logged 57,635.4 flight hours.

— Janice Pelletti

### IMPERIAL SO-LO CHAPTER

Our Chapter was invited by the Imperial Historical Society president to make a presentation about our organization. The Imperial So-Lo Chapter received our charter on April 16, 1976 with 16 charter members. We were pleased that five of our charter members could attend this presentation. They were Sarah Talbot, Bobbi Bemis, Phyllis Westcott, Faye Douthitt and Marilouise Hurley. Sarah was our presenter.

— Marilouise Hurley

### GREATER SEATTLE CHAPTER

Greater Seattle presented a Flying Companion Seminar at the Whidbey NAS CPO club in Oak Harbor in May. Eleven companions attended.

The Greater Seattle Chapter is pleased to announce Christine Hollingsworth as the winner of this year’s \$2,000 Flight Training Scholarship. Christine was born and raised in Las Vegas, Nevada. She is currently studying computer science and English at the University of Puget Sound and attending flight school at Northwest Aviation College. At the university, she is a member of the clarinet section of the Concert Band.

Her flight instructor at Northwest Aviation College, Jesse Roberts, wrote in his recommendation that Christine “displays one of the most important qualities (he) seeks while training new pilots: aeronautical decision making.” Her proudest moments in an airplane to date have been the four times she’s landed at KSEA. She recently passed her private pilot checkride.

Her current dream job is to be a flight instructor and in the future play with bigger toys like the 787 Dreamliner. Congratulations, Christine!

— Marian Hartley

### YAVAPAI CHAPTER

The Yavapai Ninety-Nines visited Embry Riddle Crash Laboratory in April. We also joined with the Sedona Red Rockettes to enjoy a joint simulated venture into space to intercept an asteroid at the Arizona Challenger Space Center.

— Joyce Hilchie



*Yavapai Chapters members visit the Embry Riddle Crash Laboratory with guide Josh Migdal. From left, Barbara Davis, Joyce Hilchie, Anne Badger, Teri Sweginnis and Virginia Seaver. Not show is Marilyn Schey taking the picture.*



Girl Scouts don flight suits at Evergreen Aviation Museum.

### COLUMBIA CASCADE/ OREGON PINES CHAPTERS

Two groups of Ninety-Nines in Oregon continue to strengthen their partnership through joint tours, fly-ins and aviation education events.

In March, Columbia Cascade and Oregon Pines 99s visited Lightspeed Aviation, met the headset engineers, toured the laboratory and tried out the latest headsets in the sound room.

Oregon Girl Scouts were blessed with two Aerospace Badge training opportunities in April. At Salem Airport, they learned about aerodynamics, weather and communications with indoor activities, as well as visits to the control tower and the weather observatory where they participated in a radiosonde balloon launch.

The two Chapters also hosted Women in Aviation Day with Evergreen Aviation Museum where Girl Scouts made and flew styrofoam airplanes, went on educational scavenger hunts, tried on flight suits and met women in aviation, including WASP Elinor Fairchild Stebbins.

Oregon Ninety-Nines started the fly-in season with flights to Twin Oaks at Hillsboro and Independence airports in May. On Memorial Day, Ninety-Nines joined with the Independence Airport community and military, state and congressional representatives to host the 18th Annual Pilot Memorial Tribute including fly-bys, speeches, flag ceremonies, music and a hangar party. One of the pilots honored was WASP Enid Fisher, who ferried P-39, P-40, P-47, P-51 and P-63 aircraft during WWII and took her final flight on June 24, 2010.

— Debra Plymate

### INDIANA DUNES CHAPTER

The Indiana Dunes Chapter and Eagle Aircraft Flying Companion Seminar was held in March. We had 10 participants, all eager to learn more about the flying they do with husbands and friends. They began with learning some of the whys of preflighting an airplane and then went on to five different learning stations. Two of our Chapter CFIs and two instructors from Eagle Aircraft, Valparaiso, Indiana, taught them about emergency procedures, reading charts, radios, GPS and actual time in a simulator. Several of them seemed interested enough to start flying themselves, and we plan to invite them to participate with their pilot companions in our next air rally.

— Lynn Pergher

### RIO GRANDE NORTE CHAPTER

Rio Grande Norte 99s love to GO! We flew to Gallup, New Mexico in February, Las Vegas, New Mexico and Pagosa Springs, Colorado in March, and Vaughn and Farmington, New Mexico in May.

In April, 14 people in five aircraft and a Saab landed in Sedona, Arizona for a laughter-filled weekend of hiking, eating, gabbing and touring the sights. Tailwinds over 50 knots brought us home quickly.

In the midst of all this flying, we conducted an aviation workshop for teenage girls as part of the Expanding Your Horizons conference in Los Alamos, New Mexico, and presented it again for a local Girl Scout troop who also toured our airplanes.

On May 19, we volunteered for Santa Fe airport's mass casualty exercise for emergency responders. As "victims" of a simulated commercial jet catastrophe, we sported bumps and bruises, broken bones and theatrical blood, wailing and whining (or napping, for those who were "unconscious,") through triage and in ambulances all the way to the hospital.

— Elizabeth Hunke



View of the triage area from the aircraft fuselage of the KSAF "Busted Bird" exercise.

### KATAHDIN WINGS CHAPTER

In recognition of International Women's Day in March, fellow Ninety-Nine Mireille Goyer encouraged all women pilots to honor women in aviation of the past and the present and reach out to introduce girls and women to the opportunities that aviation has to offer during the first annual Women of Aviation Worldwide Week, March 7-13, 2011.

Katahdin Wings Chapter members Mary Build and Lori Plourd answered the call to "Share Your Wings." Western Maine Aviation at Eastern Slope Regional Airport in Fryeburg, Maine was the setting, and the weather was cooperative with a high overcast, warm late winter temps and not a breath of wind. Mary and other good friends of The Ninety-Nines shared their aircraft and were able to introduce a dozen women and girls to the excitement and challenge of aviation with a free intro flight.

— Lorena Plourd



*Dodie and Harlan Jewett.*

### LAKE ERIE CHAPTER

On February 20, 2011 Delores (Dodie) G. Jewett, charter member of the Lake Erie Chapter, and her husband, 49½ Harlan Jewett, were honored by the mayor of Medina with a proclamation for their many hours of volunteer service to the Lake Erie Chapter, United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, United States Army Reserve Corps of Engineers and other service organizations. The Lake Erie Chapter presented them with a personalized Crystal Cube and a beautiful cake to commemorate their accomplishments.

Dodie joined the Coast Guard in 1979 and has flown more than 500 mission hours for the Guard. She holds the rank of Lieutenant Commander. She graduated with a National Coast Guard Certification for Aircraft Search and Rescue. She was one of the 100 women recently honored by the International Women Air and Space Museum based at Burke Lakefront Airport.

As a member of the Lake Erie Chapter, Dodie has served as Chapter chairman many times as well as held other offices.

Dodie and Harlan have been married over 50 years have two children and four grandchildren.

— Evelyn Moore

### CHICAGO AREA CHAPTER

The Chicago Area Chapter hosted its annual Girl Scout Aerospace Badge Day recently at Lewis University Airport southwest of Chicago. The Harold White Aviation Center at the University, named for 49½ of the late Eva White, was abuzz with about 120 Girl Scouts with their parents and troop leaders.

Each girl earned her Aerospace Badge by rotating through seven different stations with presentations by Chapter members: Physics of Flight – Cynthia Madsen and Sue Nealey; Charts & Navigation – Ruth Frantz and Sue Hillman; Aerospace – Joan Kerwin and Diane Cozzi; Careers – SWA 737 Captain Carol Skiber; ATC Communications – Pamela Brophy and Vickie Sze-wczyk; Pre-Flight – Ellen O’Hara. The seventh station was a tour of an actual 737 based at the campus presented by Ninety-Nine Rae Goodman and UA 737 captain Dr. Randall DeMik. Each 15-minute presentation was given seven times to accommodate girls in groups of 15 to 20.

Greeting the girls at registration were Rita Adams, Mary Panczyszyn, Marlene Winters and 49½ Grant Prellwitz. Donna and Wayne Klein took on hospitality while 49½s Wayne and Ralph Madsen handled security.

— Diane M. Cozzi



*Future pilot in cockpit of Lewis University's 737.*



*San Diego Chapter members Heather Gamble, Natasha Stenbock and Jean Landis.*

### SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

The day after Memorial Day, the Allen Airways Flying Museum in El Cajon, California, hosted a VIP reception for old and new friends of Air Group One and the Wings Over Gillespie air show June 4-5. The San Diego Chapter of The Ninety-Nines assisted with hospitality that included an award-winning documentary film *She Wore Silver Wings*. The screening was accompanied by the subject of the film, WASP Jean Landis from El Cajon.

San Diego Chapter Members Natasha Stenbock, Tracy Ramm and Heather Gamble, who flew in the Wings Over Gillespie Air Show, dedicated their flight to the WASP. This is their second year flying in the air show at Gillespie Field, which was expected to attract 8,000 visitors.

— Natasha Stenbock



### ALAMEDA COUNTY CHAPTER

In April, Alameda County Chapter members Ann Pescatello, Judy Barker and her daughter Valerie, Lynne Allen, Billie Sposeto, Gen Woods, Gen Solorio and San Joaquin Chapter member Andrea McCarthy gathered to paint a compass rose at Livermore Airport (LVK.) The results are beautiful. Be sure to fly into LVK to check it out!

The Alameda County Chapter also organized a yard sale in May. Members Ann Pescatello, Judy Barker, Lynne Allen, Billie Sposeto, Gen Woods and Gen Solorio all joined in the fun and raised over \$500 for the Chapter's aviation scholarship.

— Liz Sommers

### MONTEREY BAY CHAPTER

The Monterey Bay Chapter awarded Jennifer Hastie a scholarship to complete her flight instructor certificate. The scholarship was presented during a luncheon held at the Watsonville Airport. Jennifer formerly was a Mesa Air pilot flying Canadair Regional Jets. Along with passenger jets, she has also flown an Extra 300L. At the end of March, she passed her CFI certification, and Watsonville Airport-based Ocean Air immediately offered her a job.

The Monterey Bay Chapter of The Ninety-Nines awards a \$2,000 scholarship each year to help women attain their pilot or advanced ratings.



Jennifer Hastie, left, and Monterey Bay Chapter Chairman Alice Talnack.

### FLORIDA SUNCOAST CHAPTER

In April, Angela and Kristen Inderwiesen and Linda Kaufman represented our Chapter at the First Annual Gator Fly-In, Gainesville, Florida. Our booth featured digital photos running continually, highlighting Chapter activities and many of our members and their airplanes. This free event offered static displays, education symposiums, vendors, food simulators, discover flight kids activities and two competition for cars and planes. They enjoyed getting the word out about The 99s

Our Chapter sponsors two Space Camp Scholarships a year, and one of this year's winners was Sarah Alzamora from Valrico, Florida. She is in the 5th grade and will attend the Space Camp. The second winner is Michelle Burkland, who is in the 6th grade and will attend the Space Academy. Michelle's mother is a Ninety-Ninety, and Michelle was born into our Chapter. I think she has attended more meetings than many Ninety-Nines.

— Sophia M. Payton

### FULLERTON CHAPTER

The Fullerton Chapter came together to share their creative ideas for a display case that was recently hung in the Fullerton Airport Administration Building, which is at the base of the Fullerton Tower. The display case cannot be missed, as it is hung to the right of the restaurant and next to the candy machine. Come see our case on your next Fly-in to Fullerton Airport. The restaurant "Flyer's Diner" (formerly Tartuffles) is a great place for breakfast or lunch.

— Kim Ernst



Fullerton Chapter members, back row from left, Denise Jennings, Heide Aguirre and Kim Ernst. Front row, Pat Savage, Jean Gurnee and Vicky Mena.

### ARABIAN SECTION

The number of women pilots within the Arabian Section has grown enormously within the last two decades. When I first took over the Governorship, there were just seven members and these were women pilots in Saudi who worked with their husbands in Aramco. When they left and went back to the States, they stayed loyal to the Section and to this day still remain members.

The new Section Governor, Captain Alia Twal of Jordan, has done wonderful things with recruitment, bringing the Arabian Section numbers up to 27.

In Bahrain, the latest recruits include Shruthi Santhish, the youngest commercial pilot in the Gulf who is now fully rated and going on to do a type rating. Yasmeen Fraidoon Mohammed and Vanessa Umba are senior officers with Gulf Air, flying the 330/340 fleet.

In Jordan, Alia has been busy recruiting senior commercial pilots in the area to enhance the bond of friendship in the flying world. Alia Twal flies with Mideast Aviation Academy as a flight instructor and has been officially accepted with Royal Jordanian Airlines. Captain Mavis Al-Uzaiz is the third, rated female pilot in Jordan, flying with Royal Jordanian Airlines for nine years and now working at Mideast Aviation Academy as a flight instructor.

Captain Basmah Bani Ahmad is the first female glider pilot in the Middle East and started her flying in 2005. Bassmah was only the second flight instructor in Jordan, and currently she is the chief pilot for the Royal Aero Sports Club of Jordan

Captain Carol Rabadi is the second, rated airline captain in Jordan and started in 1999 with Royal Jordanian Airlines. She is now an Embraer captain. Adil Nahhas is a first officer on the Airbus 320 for Royal Jordanian Airlines. Deema Alsaber is a first officer on the Embraer with Royal Jordanian Airlines. Samar Oran is the second, rated female pilot in Jordan and has been flying since 1976. She joined Royal Jordanian in 1978 and is the first Muslim Arab pilot to cross the Atlantic.

— Yvonne Trueman



German Section members gather for their spring meeting.

### GERMAN SECTION

We chartered our Section in 1997 with five members and now, 14 years later, we are 46 women pilots between the ages of 19 and 76 years. This includes members from Latvia and Netherlands. We hold ASEL, ASES, AMEL, private and commercial licenses. We fly helicopters, balloons, gliders and microlight planes, as well as a range of General Aviation aircraft and commercial jets. Our past Governor Andrea Amberge is captain of a Lufthansa A-140.

In December, we usually celebrate our annual meeting in my home in Troisdorf. After the official business meeting, we listen to the latest flying adventures of our members, illustrated by impressive pictures. This past year Heike Kaeferle flew in Italy, and Doris Gerech and Ingrid Hopman were in Papua New Guinea as members of a crew of pilots. Lisa Stahl got her bush pilot endorsement in Alaska. In the afternoon we had an interesting visit to Air Lloyd's helicopter facility at the 100-year-old Bonn-Hangelar Airport (EDKB).

Our spring meeting in April was arranged by Christina Schaper and Lisa Stahl in Nordhorn, Emsland. Fourteen of us flew in rather gusty wind to Lelystad, Netherlands in seven planes. There we had a guided tour around the "Early Birds" museum, viewing planes built in the early days of aviation.

We German Ninety-Nines are in close contact with our national women pilots association, the VDP, Vereinigung Deutscher Pilotinnen. Thirty of us are members and five of us will be participating in the convention of the Federation of European Women Pilots (FEWP) in Rome in early July. We expect both FEWP and The Ninety-Nines in Europe to grow. — Waltraut Moog

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## NEW HORIZONS

### LOIS PORTER CHALMERS

#### Life Member, Florida Goldcoast Chapter

It is with heavy heart that we bring you news of Lois Miller Porter Chalmers' flight to New Horizons on July 19, 2010. She was 90.

Lois was born on December 29, 1919, in Plainfield, New Jersey. In World War II, Lois enlisted as a Navy WAVE and served as a radioman. After leaving the Navy, Lois married and learned to fly, becoming a private pilot on January 12, 1963, and worked her way through all the airplane instructor ratings to airline transport pilot.

Lois joined the Florida Goldcoast Chapter in 1965 and held many offices including Chapter Chairman. Lois will be remembered with love and good cheer.

— *Becky Ritter and Ursula Davidson*

### AMANDA MICHELLE (YOUNKIN) FRANKLIN

#### Arkansas Chapter

Amanda Michelle (Younkin) Franklin, 25, of Neosho, Missouri, flew to New Horizons at the Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas on May 27, 2011, due to complications from burns received in an aviation accident.

She and her husband Kyle were performing a wing-walking routine at Brownsville-South Padre International Airport when the engine of their Waco biplane lost power.

Amanda was born on March 14, 1986 in Springdale, Arkansas. She learned to fly at the age of 16, became an accomplished multi-engine and tailwheel pilot and was proficient in over 15 different types of airplanes.

— *Leslie Day*

### LT. COL. ALICE FAYE NOBLE, CAP

#### Kentucky Bluegrass Chapter

Alice soloed in 1978 at the Hazard, Kentucky, airport, received her private pilot certificate and joined the Kentucky Bluegrass Chapter in 1979. Alice was a member until she unexpectedly "Went West" on June 4, 2010.

She was an active member of CAP and the Mountain Pilots Association. When she retired from teaching at Hazard High School, she had more time to be involved in her love of aerospace education. She wrote the grant for NASA to put the Challenger Center for Space Science Education and Challenger Learning Center of Kentucky at the Hazard Campus of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System. She was awarded the APOLLO 8 medallion and 2006 Teacher of the Year.

— *Kaye Combs Moore*



*Alice Noble.*

### ELEANOR MCCULLOUGH ODORICO

#### Spaceport Chapter

The Spaceport Chapter is saddened to learn that life member Ellie Odorico passed away on May 6, 2010. She was 91 years old.

Ellie was born in Phillipsburg, New Jersey, on January 15, 1919. She learned to fly in 1946 and joined The Ninety-Nines in 1961. She was Chairman of the Greater New York Chapter, Governor of the New York/New Jersey Section and was Founder and First Chairman of the Long Island Chapter. She also served as International Historian.

Ellie logged 450 hours air racing and flew in seven Powder Puff Derbies. She held an ASEL license with a commercial certificate and instrument and glider ratings.

— *Mary Jane Law*



*Ellie Odorico with her 'Schatzy.'*

### DOROTHEA RITTER

#### Carolinas Chapter

Dorothea Helen Elsener Ritter was born on August 17, 1928 in Mount Kisco, New York. She passed away on January 30, 2011, at 82 years old in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

She loved to fly. She became a Ninety-Nine in 1965. She was not only a pilot but also an instructor. She took every opportunity to fly. In the past year alone she flew in the Good Year Blimp, a WWII B-25, a float plane in Alaska, a helicopter to a glacier in Alaska, a small plane over Provincetown, Cape Cod and many flights with her Grass Hopper and Ninety-Nines friends.

— *Ursula Davidson*

### SHEILAGH FARMER WAGNER

#### Kentucky Bluegrass Chapter

Sheilagh Farmer Wagner passed away unexpectedly at the age of 66 on February 28, 2011 at her home.

In 1960, Sheilagh began learning to fly. After marrying and having five daughters, Sheilagh obtained her private pilot certificate at Spirit of St. Louis Airport. She later flew with Sophia Payton when they won first place in the 1997 Air Race Classic.

— *Kaye Combs Moore*



*Sheilagh Wagner.*

### HAROLD HENRY MALKMES

#### 49½ of Joyce Malkmes

#### Long Island Chapter

# Congratulations 2011 Scholarship Winners!

*For more about the 24 award  
winners, please see page 18*

