

Ninety-Nines

Inspiring Women Pilots Since 1929

November/December 2019

Celebrating 99s in Africa



Ninety-Nines

Inspiring Women Pilots Since 1929

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The Chicago Area Chapter celebrated the 90th Anniversary of The 99s at the DuPage Airport Flight Center. Chapter members, 49½s, family and friends enjoyed a potluck lunch and a cake. Ellen O'Hara, North Central Section Governor, left, hosted the event.

A 1920s-themed birthday party was held on November 2 when members and guests gathered at Headquarters in Oklahoma City to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the founding of The Ninety-Nines. Dressed in the spirit of the era is Greta Moore, left, and Carol Andrews.



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On October 18-25, the African Section hosted an international celebration in Africa for Ninety-Nines and guests. The event marked the first anniversary of the African Section and the 90th anniversary of The 99s. Right, friends of the African Section, from left, Vanda Phekani, mother of Lucille, the girl featured in the poster, and Polyanna Pinto.



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On The Cover



Africa Section Celebrates

Story on page 10

Photos, top left: Ninety-Nines and their guests gathered in Africa on October 18-25 to celebrate the first anniversary of The Ninety-Nines African Section. A specially designed cake was cut at the opening gala.

Top right: After a long drive, attendees enjoyed a swim at The Club Makakola Retreat where the event was held. Bottom: The Ambassador of Tanzania, Benedicto Mashiba, came to bid farewell to departing 99s. They were then flown by Yolanda Kaunda, African Section 99 and first female pilot of Malawian Airlines, to Kilimanjaro Airport in Tanzania, the starting point for their African safari.

Akky Mansikka, left, and Mary Norman, her flying partner, participated in the East Canada Section 99s Annual Gold Cup Air Rally (GCAR) in September. Despite some bad weather and route revisions, the group had a great time and enjoyed their awards banquet in Collinwood, Ontario.



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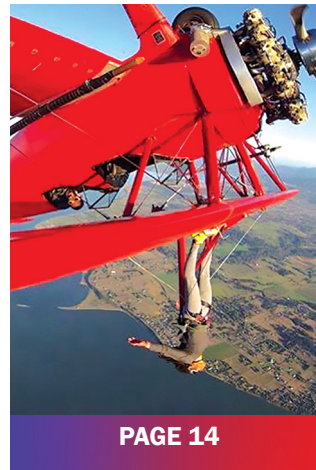
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Fifteen women were recipients of the Fall 2019 Fly Now Awards. It was a tremendous accomplishment considering that the AEMSF Trustees received 32 applications from 25 Chapters. Donneisha Smith, left, Bay Cities Chapter, was upside down with joy when learning of her award.

Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum Trustee Bonnie Johnson presented a historical reenactment of the highlights from the career of Louise Thaden at the 43rd annual Forest Celebration and Induction Ceremony September 20-21.



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The 99s Mission Statement

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

EVENTS

2020 International Conference

Mark your calendars for the July 2020 International Conference aboard the Queen Mary in Long Beach, California.

2020

JANUARY

- 31 **Deadline for 2020 International Awards Submissions.**
- 31 **Deadline for submitting Professional Pilot Leadership Initiative (PPLI) Applications** for Mentoring Spring Session. For more information, go to www.ninety-nines.org/resourses.htm or email mentoring@ninety-nines.org.

FEBRUARY

- 20 **Webinar: Bylaws.** Registration and other information will be posted before the webinar.
- 28-29 **Spring International Board of Directors Meeting,** Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

MARCH

- 31-
April 5 **Sun 'n Fun Aerospace Expo,** Lakeland, (LAL), Buehler Restoration Center. Honoring the WWII WASP. Tickets to April 5 luncheon are \$20 each and limited to 75 seats. Email Co-chair Barbara Yeninas at jjybmy@verizon.net or call 813 654-3780.
- 5-7 **31st Annual International Women in Aviation Conference,** Coronado Springs Resort, Lake Buena Vista, Florida, www.wai.org/20conference.

APRIL

- 1-5 **Australian Annual Meeting,** Broken Hill, New South Wales, Australia. Meeting in conjunction with the Australian Woman Pilots' Association.
- 18 **New York/New Jersey Section Spring Meeting,** Oneonta, New York.
- 24-26 **North Central Section Spring Meeting,** Chicago area.
- 24-26 **South Central Section Spring Meeting,** McKinney, Texas. Hosted by the Dallas Chapter.

- 30-
May 3 **Southwest Section Spring Meeting,** Los Gatos, California

MAY

- 12 **Summer Weather Refresher Webinar,** hosted by SiriusXM Aviation and The Ninety-Nines. Available for WINGs credit and suitable for ARC racers for their XC flying adventure.
- 14-17 **Southeast Section Spring Meeting,** Sebring, Florida.

- 15-16 **New England Section Spring Meeting,** Kennebunkport Maine, hosted by Katahdin Wings Chapter.

- 22-24 **Mid-Atlantic Section Spring Meeting,** Baltimore, Maryland.

- 29-
June 1 **New Zealand Section Meeting,** Christchurch, New Zealand.

JUNE

- 4 **Webinar: Bylaws.**
- 23-26 **Air Race Classic,** Grand Forks, North Dakota to Terre Haute, Indiana.

JULY

- 8-12 **2020 International Conference and Career Expo Meeting,** Long Beach, California. Hosted by the Southwest Section.

- 20-26 **EAA AirVenture,** Oshkosh, Wisconsin

- 31 **PPLI Deadline — Autumn Session**

SEPTEMBER

- 18-19 **International Forest of Friendship,** Atchison, Kansas.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a busy fall I have had! Past 99 Life member Katharine Stinson was inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame. Why? A few facts about Katharine.

- She learned to fly less than 10 years after the Wright Brothers' first flight.
- She went on to become the 4th woman in U.S. history to gain her pilot certificate.
- She crisscrossed the U.S. to fly in airshows and became a barnstormer.
- She taught hundreds of men to fly during World War I, including the Royal Canadian Air Force.

In the early 1900s, Katharine showed all women that molds can be broken, limits can be overcome, and conventions are not carved in stone. Her passion for flying lives on in every 99 throughout the decades. Her aviation pioneer attitude and spirit were shared by the 99 women who became our organization's charter members, including her sister Marjorie.



Eileen Collins presents the Katharine Stinson National Aviation Hall of Fame induction medal to Jan McKenzie.

Horne shared her new idea to promote TEAM (Together Everyone Aviates More) to inspire the Section members. Ramona invited everyone to a flyout fun weekend (no business) in Georgia next March. It is a great concept and, of course, encourages members to fly or drive and enjoy a 99-sisterhood weekend. Five women from HondaJet spoke on their experiences as women working in aviation careers. The HondaJet manufacturing plant is located at the Greensboro airport. The afternoon brought a tour of Greensboro Approach and Tower. I always learn something new and interesting on these ATC tours.



Attendees at first African Section meeting in Malawi.



Jan McKenzie
International President

I was very honored to be asked to receive the induction medal and plaque on behalf of Katharine from current Life Member Eileen Collins, first NASA woman shuttle pilot and commander.

One of the best parts of serving you on the International Board is the opportunity to visit other Section meetings and meet more of our fascinating and accomplished members. September took me to the West Canada Section meeting in Vernon, British Columbia (see September/October magazine). In October, I attended the Southeast Section meeting in Greensboro, N.C. and the first African Section meeting in Malawi and Tanzania.

The Southeast Section meeting was productive and fun. New fundraising ideas were discussed at the meeting by Ramona Banks, Governor. Vice Governor Lois



October Southeast Section meeting in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Our African Section was chartered in October 2018 with seven members. One year later, there are 30 members. Ivana Alvares-Marshall, Governor, celebrated the first anniversary by hosting a meeting and adventure in Malawi, her beautiful home country, with a few extra days of safari game viewing in Tanzania. East Canada, New Zealand, U.K., Arabian, German, Austrian and several U.S. members attended. Her entire family aided in hosting and providing logistics with the meetings, dinners and tours.

The African Section members are very inspiring, and many have overcome great odds and barriers to become commercial airline and helicopter pilots. We are so proud to call them sister 99s, and I look forward to seeing many of them soon.

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Ninety-Nines

Celebrating 90 Years Strong

*By Cathy Prudhomme
Photos by Margot Cheel*

The 1920s roared back to life on November 2 when members and guests gathered at Headquarters in Oklahoma City to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the founding of The Ninety-Nines. Were any of the charter members really flapper girls? Maybe not, but that did not keep attendees from dressing for a Gatsby-like soiree, donning fringed dresses, elbow-length gloves, and feathered headpieces.

The Headquarters lobby was beautiful and barely recognizable, thanks to the efforts of Headquarters staff Laura Ohrenberg and Starr Worthy prior to the event and to the elegance of the table décor provided by Stephenie Roberts (Texas Dogwood), with assistance in set-up and take-down from Jerry Anne Jurenka (Texas Dogwood) and Wally Funk (Fort Worth).

Six past International Presidents attended: Barbara Sestito (1986-1988), Marie Christensen (1990-1992), Lu Hollander (1992-1994), Jody McCarrell (2002-2004), Pat Prentiss (2006-2008), and Martha Phillips (2012-2016). President Jan McKenzie introduced and recognized each one with a short summary of the achievements that occurred during their term.



President McKenzie also recognized two members who had traveled the longest distance to attend the celebration – Australian Section Secretary Deborah Evans and Past Governor Jennifer Graham. The top finishers in the Aviation Scavenger Hunt were also announced: Jan McKenzie (Colorado), Myra Bugbee (Florida Goldcoast), and the First Place winner, Connie Smith (Rio Grande Norte).

As a fitting finale to the evening, Bonnie Johnson (Kansas) entertained and educated the crowd with her monologue channeling the persona of charter member Louise Thaden.



Opposite page:

From left: Corbi Bulluck, Dot Norkus, Dea Payette, Terry Carbonell, Jan McKenzie.

This page:

Top left: President Jan McKenzie, Past Presidents Martha Phillips, Pat Prentiss, Jody McCarrell, Lu Hollander, Marie Christensen, and Barbara Sestito.

Top Right: AEBM Trustee Bonnie Johnson and Mercury 13 pilot Wally Funk.

Right: Mercury 13 Pilot Sarah Ratley and NIFA Chair Jerry Anne Jurenka.

Below Left: Ninety-Nines celebrate their 90th Anniversary at Headquarters.

Below Right: Terry Carbonell and Corbi Bulluck.



HOLDING SHORT

Women Pilots Celebrate Late Summer at Pine Mountain Lake Airport



Back row, left to right: Martha Pearson, Vicky Benzing, Susie Williams, Leigh Curry, Lynne Orloff, Andrea Hake, Trudy Alt, Bonnie Ritchey, Chloe Fitzmyers, Catherine Santa Maria; Front row left to right: Jo Buchanan, Roxie Compton, Danielle Coelho, Judy Collier, Allie Johanson, Krystall Johanson, Dianne Cole, Patricia Price, Jules Thoben, Nina Jobe, Kathleen Morse, Charleen Beam, Janet Gregory, Kathryn Meermans, and Dawn Howerton. Missing from photo: Leanne Anderson, Sandy DeRodeff, Mary Fairbanks, Denise Lundquist, Suzanne McGowan, Linda Monahan, Paula Sandling, Beth Stanton, Pat Thomas, and Laura Stengel.

As we walked up the ramp in the evening light, we were all cautiously remarking that this was the first August/September we had had in years without smoke in the air or the threat of a nearby fire. Behind us are the beautiful Sierras with Yosemite's environs embracing us. We are all women pilots, six just soloed, some close to checkride, four want to learn, some took lessons in the past. Twenty-five women on our little fly-in community are certificated pilots; three are CFIs, one was a DPE,

one is a famous airshow pilot and Reno air racer, one was in the running to be an astronaut. Twelve are Ninety-Nines and most also belong to AOPA and/or EAA. Talented, fun — and great cooks! We have a very special community here at Pine Mountain Lake Airport (E45).

Many of these new pilots are flying their own Cessna 150s, definitely a challenge on a 3,600-foot-long mountain airport over 2,900 feet high and subject to high heat in the summer months. Flying off the mountain for work daily, groceries,

parts, or a day golfing and taking in a distant restaurant were entertained as a suggestion. Our last Ninety-Nines meeting was spent on a houseboat owned by one of our members. Two of the attendees were picked up by one's husband flying their Cessna 206 on floats and whisked back to Pine Mountain Lake. How cool is that! Ask any of us and I guarantee we could answer in one voice about the love we have for our airport and our passion for aviation.

— Lynne Orloff,
San Joaquin Valley Chapter Chair

Swing Your Compass!

"Royce had asked if I would join her in swinging the wet compass in her Sierra at Ramona Airport (RNM). It had been some time since I had calibrated my last compass and thought it would be fun. I was also prompted by a comment that the Compass Rose was just decorative, not a tool. We need to help teach pilots that the Rose aligns the basis of all of the instruments in the airplane, the magnetic compass.

The most important aspect of the calibration is pushing the airplane's mains into the precise positions around the Compass Rose cardinal points then noting the error. Try it someday, it's unique to aviation."

— Melissa Sliffe



"I had a wonderful time calibrating a magnetic compass recently. Although it was hot and my partner was doing all the work, I figured out which was the NS compass and which was EW. Our vertical compass was pretty much spot on, and it was a real learning experience. Also, for the first time in over 20 years of flying, the Compass Rose (artfully painted by San Diego 99s less than a decade ago) was busy. There was another airplane waiting for us to finish so they could use it."

— Royce Clifford

Mount Shasta Chapter Scholarships

Mount Shasta 99s Award Two \$2,000 Scholarships

The Mount Shasta 99s are proud to announce that two young women pilots were awarded \$2,000 scholarships for their future flight training. The recipients are Kristin Gibson of Mount Shasta, California, and Ashley Huff of Chico, California.

Kristin, while living in Mount Shasta, achieved her instrument rating with the help of the Mount Shasta 99s 2018 scholarship for \$2,000. During the last year, she instructed students at Hillsboro Aero Academy at Hillsboro, Oregon, and proudly speaks of her students' achievements. She is planning on pursuing her multi-engine rating at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, Arizona. Currently, she is rated as a certificated flight instructor with instrument rating and has a degree from Embry-Riddle.

Ashley is attending CSU, Chico, as a business major and has managed to squeeze in 55 hours of flight training, with 5 hours of solo flight in a Mooney, which is a complex aircraft. She has shown she is capable of multi-tasking, with going to college, working at a bank, and taking flight training. Her goal is to become a rated private pilot and a certificated flight instructor.

Our Chapter usually awards at least one scholarship per year to an aspiring woman pilot. Due to the generous donations of one of our charter members, Donna Taylor, our Chapter has been able to award two, \$2,000 for both 2018 and 2019.



Kristin Gibson, top right, and Ashley Huff, lower right, receive scholarship awards from Scholarship Chair Leroise Lane.



Plane Spotting with the Montreal Chapter



On October 4, Montreal Chapter members participated in their annual "Plane Spotting." Bottom left corner to right: Annie Wen, Emma Neale, Sarah Labbé, Julie Theriault, Nour Utayim, Olivia Corriveau, Jonnie Crivello, and bottom right corner, Jennifer Cion.

The plane spotting is something we do every year now to celebrate the end of the summer. We go to Montreal International Airport (YUL), enjoy a potluck picnic at a park by the airport and watch planes take off and land as we talk about our future plans and our flight training progress.

It was organized by members Chair Annie Wen, Secretary Olivia Corriveau, and myself.

— Nour Utayim
Montreal Chapter



Still Flying!

Ninety-Nines Life Member Yvonne Trueman enjoyed this year's Shuttleworth's Classic Air Show at the Old Warden Aerodrome in Biggleswade, England. Yvonne holds a current private pilot license with a seaplane rating. She is still flying at age 83.



Ninety-Nines Join African Section in Celebrating Anniversaries

By Corbi Bulluck, Kitty Hawk Chapter

Ninety-Nines and their guests gathered in Africa on October 18-25 to celebrate the first anniversary of the African Section of The Ninety-Nines. Ivana Alvares-Marshall, African Section Governor, and her husband, mother and brother, hosted us and ensured that each member of the group, totaling 68 visitors from the United States, Canada, England, Ireland, Spain, Germany, Austria, Iran, New Zealand, Egypt, Uganda, Nigeria, Tanzania, South Africa, and Malawi, received an on-ramp welcoming party at the airport upon arrival in Blantyre, Malawi. They were then given VIP treatment through Customs and on to our hotel.

Our week-long celebration was packed with activities. While in Malawi, we enjoyed an African-themed cocktail party on our first night. During the party, we mingled with several African dignitaries; visited the Thylolo Tea Estate, including a tour of the processing plant and tea-testing room; and executed the first-ever female pilot flash mob during which we performed a line dance to the African version of our 99s song, while dressed in our pilot uniforms.

The formal Opening Ceremony Gala Dinner and Dance was exquisite and attended by many more dignitaries, including the ambassadors of Germany and Egypt. Other highlights included two enchanting evenings spent at the Makakola Retreat on the shore of Lake Malawi and a day-trip to the Mua Mission to tour through the famous woodcraft shop, featuring the woodcarvings of local carvers. We also enjoyed and even participated in African cultural dances.

Later in the week, we delighted in our private Malawi Airlines charter flight, captained by African Section member Yolanda Ndala-Kaunda. We flew from Lilongwe, Malawi, to Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, and had a police escort as we traveled in safari jeeps to the luxurious Kilimamoja Resort in the hills above Lake Manyara. We spent a full day of game viewing in the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, where we spotted over 25 different animals, including zebras, water buffalo, lions, elephants, gazelle, rhinos and wildebeest. We lunched in the Ngorongoro Crater while being entertained by marauding monkeys and birds.

On our last evening in Africa, we were treated to a farewell party at Hacienda Alvares, dining under the stars and dancing to our heart's content. All too soon our African adventure came to an end, but as we departed for home, we all agreed that Ivana had made our dreams come true. We fell in love with Africa while celebrating the one-year anniversary of the African Section and the 90th anniversary of The Ninety-Nines!



Photos: Top left, dancers in Zulu warrior dress showed 99 members some native dance steps at a welcoming cocktail party.

Top right: A special lunch is served in the Ngorongoro Crater, which is a world UNESCO site.

Middle: Razieh Shams, Dawn Evans, Ivana Alvares-Marshall, Sabina Szymanska, Fabian Alvares (Ivana's brother), and Debby Eastwood at a view point before continuing to the Ngorongoro Center.

Bottom: At the Opening Ceremony Gala Night, from left, African Section 99s members Dina Dawod, Vice Governor, Josephine Kamwela, Ivana Alvares-Marshall, and guests Hannah Gwiramwendo, His Excellency The Ambassador of Egypt Mr. Hassam Ahmed Shawky, Abimbola Jayeola Mobolanie, Esther Longwe, Ninety-Nine Yolanda Kaunda, German Amabassador Jürgen Borsch and his wife Iris Borsch.

Deteriorating Weather Doesn't Put a Damper on East Canada Section's Gold Cup Air Rally

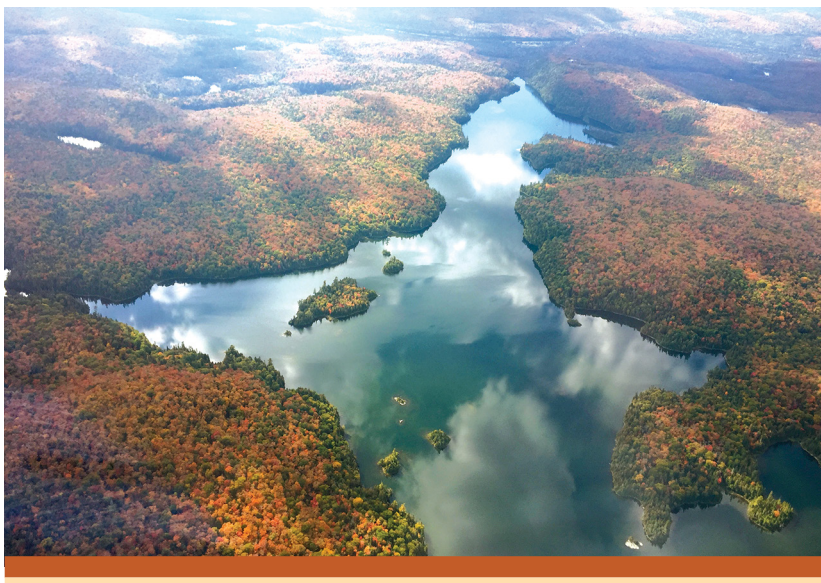


By Akky Mansikka
First Canadian Chapter

Above: Some of the Gold Cup Air Rally 99 participants (and one 99's mother) meet up at the Collingwood, Ontario, Canada airport before departure.

Below: An aerial view south of the Wawa area showcases some of Canada's most beautiful and pristine wilderness.

On the afternoon of September 18, 11 planes and 26 women gathered from as far as Prince Edward Island, Canada, the U.S., and Southern Ontario at Collingwood Airport, Ontario, for an early morning departure the next morning of the East Canada Section 99s Annual Gold Cup Air Rally (GCAR).



After doing a spot landing, the 11 planes left Collingwood for lunch in Killarney and an overnight stop in Wawa before heading for the final destination, Thunder Bay, on the north shore of Lake Superior the next day.

We met up with The 99s Sleeping Giant Chapter and a military pilot flying an Aurora and her crew. After testing skills and local and flying knowledge challenges, a weekend of fun activities was planned.

After a beautiful flight over the Bruce Peninsula and a scrumptious lunch in Killarney Mountain Lodge, the weather deteriorated. As a result, the plan was revised. We decided to stay in Killarney for the night and not proceed to Wawa. Some went hiking, some went for a bike ride, some went swimming or on a kayak paddle in Georgian Bay. Some walked through the town and relaxed in the beautiful wilderness surroundings. Dinner was fish and chips at Herbert's Fisheries, followed by a bonfire in front of our lodge.

The next morning only nine planes left for Wawa, with Thunder Bay as the final destination. One plane ended the rally in Killarney due to plane and personal limitations and returned home. One plane was grounded due to an alternator problem. However, both pilots of the grounded plane, who were also the organizers, were able to get back seats in other planes and continue on in the rally.

The flight was beautiful, with sparkling emerald lakes and colourful fall foliage carpeting the hills. We had a fuel stop in Sault Ste. Marie, where the Aurora, on its way to Thunder Bay, flew over our planes as we descended in to the airport.

On we went to Wawa, the last stop having fuel before Thunder Bay. One plane flew direct to Thunder Bay. Flying IFR the final stretch, they were able to reach Thunder Bay to join the festivities there. They also met up with the military pilot and were able to get a flight on the Aurora.

With the weather deteriorating in Thunder Bay and with no sign of it clearing, the rest of us decided to return to Sault Ste. Marie, where the weather was forecast to still be VFR the next day. We decided to return to Collingwood and have our awards banquet in Memories Restaurant there.

The disappointment of not reaching our destination was soon forgotten on the return flights flying over spectacular landscapes with the changing colours and the turquoise waters of Georgian Bay.

The dinner was superb and the laughter non-stop. The winners were announced at the banquet. Rani Tolton and Val Marshall in C-FRRA won the spot landing. Marilyn Dickson, Noriko Date and Anne Starret in C-CYTI came in third, Janet Chesterfield and Jocelyn Lecluse in C-GJVJ were second, and the grand winners were Susan Begg, Asti Livingston and Diane Stewart from Collingwood in C-FLJL.

As in all rallies, many lessons were learned, including knowing your and your plane's limitations, decision making and working with a group when things do not go as planned, safety being the #1 priority. The journey was a joy, and hopefully the destination can be reached another time.



The winning team, Diane Stewart, Asti Livingston and Susan Begg.



Suzanne Wiltshire, Jessica Buscher and Cathy Boyko enjoy some ground time.



Janet Murphy, right, with her mother.

fly now **Winners!**

15 Members Chosen for Fly Now Awards

BY JACQUE BOYD, Amelia Earhart Scholarship Fund Chairman

CONGRATULATIONS to the 15 women who have been awarded the Fall 2019 Fly Now Awards. It was a tremendous accomplishment considering that the AEMSF Trustees received 32 applications from 25 different Chapters. Those Chapters represented 10 separate Sections. The Trustees were able to cover \$74,000 for those 15 awards.

The Fly Now Awards were established in 2013 as a revision to the original New Pilot Award which began in 2008. This 11-year-process in which the AEMSF has been able to help women obtain their initial certificate has grown in scope and success. According to the Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship Fund's Resolution, the monies may be used to support members of the organization.

In order to use the Fund to support student pilots, several revisions have been made to our organization's Bylaws to make it possible. The category for Student Pilot membership status is serving us well.

We have been asked if "older" student pilots should apply. Absolutely! Out of the 192 Fly Now Award recipients, 138 of the winners have been aged 15 to 32, and the other 56 have been from 33 to 67. Needless to say, you don't have to have a career goal as a professional pilot. You do need to have a well-developed plan as to why you want to get your initial flight certificate. The better you can articulate those plans, the more successful your application will be.

The first New Pilot awards didn't include a mentor, and our success rate was lower than we would have liked. Thanks to input from the Ventura County Chapter, sharing their experiences with the AE Trustees and utilizing guidelines from one of their scholarships, we were able to develop a system that

works more successfully for the applicants. Several of the past Fly Now recipients have become mentors for newer applicants. The last group to have reached their finishing deadline had 80 percent of the recipients receiving their private pilot certificate.

Being a mentor is a position of responsibility. We've been asked if a mentor needs to be a member of the applicant's Chapter. In some cases, as with the Ambassador Chapter that is a "virtual" Chapter with no home-base, the mentor may be a half-world away. It works as long as the mentor is able to fulfill the needs of the student-pilot applicant. Guidelines for the Mentor are posted within the formal Application for the Fly Now Award. From the application: "A MENTOR can be any 99 who is willing to provide support, encouragement, and guidance to the student throughout her primary training."

The Chapter submits their Fly Now applications directly to the AE Trustees, which is a departure from the system used for the AEMSF Flight Training and Academic Scholarships. The Chapters are our most important entities. They provide the atmosphere by which most members evaluate our organization — there is a personal, grassroots approach in the setup of our organization.

The Spring Fly Now Award Application deadline is April 1 each year. Membership join date must be no later than January 1 of that year.

To be eligible, applicants must hold a student pilot certificate (or provide evidence that they meet their country's flight training requirement), have been an official Student Pilot member three months prior to the application deadline, have logged five hours in the six months prior to the application deadline and show financial need.



Angel Base

Intermountain Chapter, Northwest Section
Mentor — Melinda Denton

When I was growing up, my hometown had an annual Hot Air Balloon Stampede, and I developed a fascination for flight. Unfortunately, I was not encouraged to pursue aviation, and I gravitated in other directions. Later I became a single mom of two sons. My oldest son got into aviation but had medical history needing advocacy, so I got into aviation law. I then began flight training to better understand aviation for pilot advocacy. I'm humbled by the support of The 99s and am inspired to eventually achieve CFI to instruct and mentor women and older students obtaining their first certifications.

Grace Cooper

Fort Worth Chapter, South Central Section
Mentor – JoAnn McCorkle

I'm Grace Cooper – a 17-year-old student pilot, dual college credit high school senior, small business owner, volunteer and future airline pilot. Recently, I soloed in a Cessna 172 and am flying my cross country and night flights while studying for the written exam.

I was accepted to Oklahoma State and can't wait to continue my education and flight training. As recipient of The 99s Fly Now award, I can now successfully complete what I've started and intend to pay it forward by inspiring the next generation of female pilots.



Steisha Feiteira

Maui Chapter, Southwest Section
Mentor – Leslie Cauble

First and foremost, I am extremely grateful to be a recipient of the Fly Now award. I am a 17-year-old high school senior from Maui,

Hawaii, and I am very excited to soon complete my private pilot certificate. Currently, I hold title of Miss World Hawaii Teen, and through this platform I enjoy encouraging young women to reach for their goals. Being a pilot is more than a passion to me. My goal is to become a commercial pilot by the age of 20. Thank you to everyone who has made this possible.



Katie Harford

Bay Cities Chapter, Southwest Section
Mentor – Christine Malcomson-Young

Since my first day of kindergarten, I have wanted to be a teacher but had a hard time finding my direction. After one class of ground school, I found my calling — a flight instructor! Since that night, I have been slowly working to become a private pilot while working three jobs. Becoming a part of The Ninety-Nines and winning the Fly Now Award has been instrumental in helping my training progress and getting me closer to my dream job. I am also passionate about animal rescue and can't wait to fly with Pilots N Paws!



fly now **Winners!**



Andrea Martinez

Greater St. Louis Chapter, North Central Section
Mentor – Libby Yunger

I am 23 years old and from Colombia. I first fell in love with aviation when my family immigrated to the U.S. close to Orlando's International Airport 10 years ago. From that moment, I fell in love with every aspect of aviation and decided to pursue an aviation career. After finishing my Aerospace Engineering degree, I started working as an Aerodynamics Engineer. I expect to use flight training to enhance my aeronautical engineering skills and to influence the youth in minority groups. I thank Libby Yunger for believing in me, and I look forward to following her steps in The 99s.



Jassamine McLarty-Schroeder

Fullerton Chapter, Southwest Section
Mentor – Andrea Garcia

I love things that fly! Achieving my private pilot certificate is a goal I have been slowly working toward. Currently, I'm a freshman at Embry-Riddle (Go Eagles!) studying aerospace engineering, and I'm going to help make things fly, either in our atmosphere or up in space. While my feet are on the ground, I enjoy encouraging young girls to pursue aviation, science, and math. My goal is to be a CFI and inspire other girls to get their wings the same way the wonderful women of The 99s have inspired me.



Karen Mitchell

Eastern New England Chapter, New England Section
Mentor – Georgia Pappas

As an enthusiastic high school science and math teacher for almost 15 years, my interest in aviation has turned into a passion in the last five years. While teaching STEM Education Through Aviation activities during Aerospace Career Education (ACE) Academy summer camps in Laconia, New Hampshire, my future became clear! My goal is to complete my PPL and continue through CFII so I can continue sharing the joy of flight and the wonder of the aviation industry with the next generation. Thank you for the camaraderie and support, Ninety-Nines!

Kelli O'Donnell

Florida Suncoast Chapter, Southeast Section
Mentor – Kimberly Kessel Elsholz

Don't give up ladies! My private pilot journey first started four years ago. Aviation was always something that interested me, but it wasn't until I flew over the coral reef in the Florida Keys that I was introduced to the possibilities of using airplanes and seaplanes to help study and preserve marine wildlife. Ultimately, I plan to enhance my occupation by merging two careers, eventually becoming a commercial seaplane pilot and starting an aerial marine biology business. Thanks to The 99s and especially my mentor Kim, I am well on my way to achieving my first stepping-stone towards that goal.



Hayley O'Neil

Palomar Chapter, Southwest Section
Mentor – Melissa Sliffe

I am a 28-year-old dental hygienist who has discovered a passion for aviation and am working hard to change careers to become a commercial airline pilot. This award will help me complete my private pilot certificate and carry me one step closer to achieving a commercial certificate. I am honored to be a recipient of the Fly Now Award and am eternally grateful to The 99s and the Palomar Chapter for their support. I hope one day I will make a difference in someone's life, just as they have made in mine. Let's Fly!



Jessica Phinney

Connecticut Chapter, New England Section
Mentor – Glenna Blackwell

Growing up near a small airport, I've had an interest in aviation ever since I was a kid. After high school, I took an introductory flight and instantly knew I was hooked and have had the goal of earning my private pilot certificate ever since. I finished my college studies and became a critical care nurse, always knowing I would find my way back to aviation when the time was right. Ultimately, I would like to combine aviation with my medical background to participate in medical missions as both a pilot and health care provider. Now, with the help of this generous scholarship from The 99s, I will be able to continue to work towards that dream.



fly now **Winners!**



Katrina Plunk

Utah Chapter, Southwest Section
Mentor – Mandi Stuart

Keep flying the plane no matter what applies to flying and to life. My dream of becoming a commercial airline pilot has had ups and downs but nonetheless has been an incredible journey. I have been challenged and thrilled with the technical aspect of flying; it has ignited a passion in me like no other! Additionally, the life lessons, confidence and tenacity I've developed have allowed me to grow in unexpected ways. I'm eternally grateful to The 99s for the sisterhood and support they have shown me. I look forward to inspiring and mentoring other women wanting to fly. Thank you!



Nicole Roach

First Canadian Chapter, East Canada Section
Mentor – Wendy Cragg

Aviation has been the most rewarding educational experience. Joining The 99s has given me unprecedented support, knowledge and a wide variety of events where I see strong women encouraging others to reach their goals. My aspiration of serving local and overseas communities through achieving my goals of becoming a pilot and first responder taught me that anything is possible with hard work and dedication. I am deeply grateful and humbled by this award and want to thank The Ninety-Nines AE Trustees and the First Canadian Chapter for their continued support along my aviation journey.



Cynthia Schroeder

Wisconsin Chapter, North Central Section
Mentor – Krys Brown

I knew on my first flight that I had found my new passion and career path. Since building confidence with the aircraft, all I want to do is be in the sky. This award will bring me closer to passing my final milestones so I can then pursue my instrument rating. I am a driven, single, independent woman who learned failure is only a lesson, not a life sentence, and anything can be achieved with time and pressure. I will encourage any other young females to practice resiliency and courage as well. Thank you, 99s, for your support!

Donneisha Smith

Bay Cities Chapter, Southwest Section
Mentor – Christine Oksas

I'm a traveling occupational therapist who has been practicing in the field for five years. I currently am the secretary of the Bay Cities Chapter. I'm an adventurous person who loves the outdoors as well as traveling. I like giving back to the community and helping those in need. My goals are to work for a major airline while combining my therapy background and aviation to help as many people as I can around the world. I'm very honored to be a recipient of the Fly Now Award, and I thank The Ninety-Nines for this amazing opportunity.



Marina Varivoda

Florida Goldcoast Chapter, Southeast Section
Mentor – Jody Smith

I am extremely honored to have been chosen for The 99s Amelia Earhart Scholarship Fly Now Award. I am 28 years old, born and raised in Colorado. I crave overcoming the challenges I put in front of myself. In the summer of 2016, I bicycled from Virginia to California in 59 days by myself, with no previous training. I became a firefighter/EMT in 2014, joining a very male-dominated field. I have the desire of combining my passion for the fire service with my love for helicopters. My dream is to become a firefighter pilot and a search and rescue pilot.



**Ninety-Nines
International
AWARDS**



Do you know of a 99, Organization or non-99 that is worthy of an International Award from The 99s?

To submit your nominations for the awards, refer to the 2020 International Awards Section in the Member Area of our website or contact the Awards Chair, Awards@Ninety-Nines.org.

Every year we are looking for nominations for the following awards, among others:

- **Award of Achievement for Contributions to Aviation**
- **Award of Achievement for Contributions to The Ninety-Nines**
- **Award of Achievement for Humanitarian Efforts**



There Was Rain in the International Forest, But It Didn't Hinder the 43rd Annual Celebration



Top, 99 attendees and honorees at the banquet.
Above, Terry Carbonell, Ellen Herr and Myra Bugbee.

By Ellen Herr, International Forest of Friendship Chair

The 43rd annual Forest Celebration and Induction Ceremony was held on September 20-21 as part of Aviation Weekend in Atchison, Kansas.

A passing shower welcomed guests to the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum where the Friday evening Cocktail Party was held. Luckily, the sun broke through and we were able to have a wonderful evening of socializing with honorees and their guests on the lawn outside the museum.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation by Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum Trustee Bonnie Johnson. Bonnie presented a historical reenactment of the highlights from the career of Louise Thaden. These included her first flying job as a sales representative for Walter Beech, flying in the 1929 Women's Air Derby, and her role in the formation of The 99s. Her performance was a real treat!

Due to the threat of inclement weather, Saturday's Celebration and Induction Ceremony was held at Elizabeth's Restaurant in downtown Atchison. Built in the 19th century, the building's elegant décor is a reminder of bygone times, including a manually operated elevator to the second-floor banquet rooms.

The theme for this year's celebration was "Discovery through Flight," honoring space exploration activities in sub-orbital, earth orbit and outside of earth's orbit to the Moon and Mars. Lori Matheny, Chief of Staff at the NASA Glenn Research Center, was originally scheduled to speak at the luncheon but cancelled due to a family emergency. In her place, Chairman Linton Wells made the keynote address incorporating Lori Matheny's materials and thanks for her assistance.

Twenty-five honorees were inducted this year, including professional pilots, flight instructors, authors, educators, and aviation enthusiasts of all ages.

For the family of Honorees Marian and Daniel Hartley, attending the ceremonies was an opportunity to return to the state where their family has roots. Daughter Mary Johnson said their visit was "so heartwarming," and she planned bringing her children to the Forest as soon as she could. Nebraska native Sally Van Zandt was



Swinging at the Hangar Dance.



Elaine Morrow and Terry Carbonell.



International Forest of Friendship attendees enjoy the Saturday luncheon.

also honored. At age 92, Sally remains active with her Nebraska 99s chapter and was accompanied by a dozen members of her family.

The honorees represent an amazingly diverse group, with a wide range of hobbies and experiences outside of aviation. These include organ donation, body building, trapeze performances, women's advocacy, and electronic magazine production.

For more information, please see the biographies of all the honorees on our Facebook page.

On Saturday evening, the Dinner and Hangar Dance was

held at the AE Airport's Frank Spatz Hangar. 1940s attire was encouraged, and dancers of all ages were swinging to the big band sound of the Atchison Express. Tours of Earhart's Lockheed Electra, *Muriel*, were given at the new AE Hangar Museum that is still under construction. The new FBO building next door is expected to be completed in October 2019.

The Forest thanks The 99s for their ongoing support. Of the 25 honorees inducted in 2019, 16 were 99s members or sponsored by a 99s Chapter. Forty 99s attended the ceremony.

GRASS ROOTS

99s Celebrate the 90th!

2019 marks the 90th Anniversary of The 99s and members across the globe have been gathering to celebrate. Whether they chose to pay tribute to the birthplace of the idea for The 99s, the Women's Air Derby, or they flocked together on the anniversary of the first meeting, 99s have found unique and fun ways to recognize this milestone, bring awareness of aviation to the public and honor our unique history.



Members of the Los Angeles Chapter came together to recreate the first Women's Air Derby from its original start airport, Santa Monica, California. Today's racers honored the first racers by flying the first leg, landing in San Bernardino. Members then enjoyed lunch at Luxivair and songs from a musical based on the air race.

Los Angeles Chapter

Sunday, August 18, 2019 was the 90th anniversary of the 1929 Women's Air Derby that took off from Santa Monica, California, to Cleveland, Ohio. The Los Angeles Chapter commemorated the Derby by recreating the first leg of the race. Thirteen teams of women pilots and passengers (and one additional male team) flew from Santa Monica to San Bernardino airport. Members from nearby San Fernando Valley, Fullerton, San Diego and Bakersfield Chapters also participated. Many of the pilots and crews arrived at Santa Monica dressed in vintage-inspired clothing.

Before takeoff, controllers from Santa Monica Tower gave a briefing about the airport and noise abatement procedures. Carolyn Horton, former Los Angeles-Palms Chapter Chair, was designated our Grand Marshall. She introduced the teams with names like the Ruth-less Swallows and Marvel-ous Stargazers, in tribute of original racers Ruth Elder and Marvel Crosson. The women took off one after another, just as the brave aviatrixes did 90 years ago. The airspace was

congested with women enroute to KSBD, so much so that a SoCal controller asked what was going on. Although Carolyn didn't fly in our mock air derby, she chased us along the ground in her three-wheeled motorcycle and arrived just before the last plane touched down!

Once safely on the ground at San Bernardino, we gathered at Luxivair's very beautiful facility for lunch. It was not a formal race, though we distributed medals, including ones for best costume. We were treated to a short performance by a group that has written a musical about the 1929 air derby, called *The Powder Puff Pilots*. They sang selected songs from the musical and played on the grand piano that Luxivair had in their lobby.

Also in attendance were the local media, and each outlet produced a wonderful synopsis of the event. We were happy to bring awareness to the local community about general aviation and the history of our organization. A big thank-you to Committee Chair Arhynn Descy and the rest of the committee for organizing such a successful, fun day.

— Kate Scott



★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Installing and Unveiling a Tribute Southwest Section 99s Honor First Women's Air Derby

Yuma International Airport decided to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the 1929 First Women's National Air Derby in a very special way. Yuma was the second stop along the way of the derby. In April, five aviation-minded women were having lunch at the Yuma International Airport and looking at an old 5x7-inch postcard photo of mine showing 10 of the 20 original pilots from the 1929 Air Derby. We discussed the idea of commemorating the derby stop in Yuma with a photo-mural.

Once the photo-mural was underway, a fly-in was proposed with tie-downs at Million Air-Yuma. The airport came up with the dedication, having an unveiling, speeches, complimentary lunch, goody bags and free raffle prizes. Gladys Brown, Airport Director, and Gen Grosse, Property and Community Relations for the airport,

Left to right (upper tier) second from left, Cecelia Braithwait, Yuma Civil Air Patrol, and Cecelia's daughter; Shirley Burch; student pilot McKenna Mellon; and Monie Pease.

Lower row: Royce Clifford and Melissa Sliffe, Palomar Chapter; Joan Koblas and Bertie Duff, San Fernando Valley Chapter; Annie Fisher; and Gladys Brown, Airport Director.



Series at top shows installation and unveiling of the photo mural depicting 10 of the 20 air racers of the first women's Air Derby in 1929. At right, special guest Gene Nora Jessen spoke of her experience as a member of the Mercury 13 Astronaut Program.



really helped to make this happen. A showing of Heather Taylor's award winning documentary, *Breaking Through the Clouds*, all about the 1929 air derby, was played on a big screen television during lunch.

There were members of the local community in attendance, and 99s from nearby San Diego, Palomar, Lake Havasu and Rio Colorado Chapters flew in for the event. Bertie Duffy represented the San Fernando Valley Chapter, driving in from southern California.

The *Yuma Sun* newspaper provided wonderful coverage and support over a two-week period. Everyone got involved. Lots of photos and videos were taken, many shown on local television stations that evening and the following Monday. Heather Taylor also did a radio spot for NPR (National Public Radio).

Our biggest thrill was to have Gene Nora Jessen join us. She brought her books and captivated us chatting about her aviation background, The 99s and the Mercury 13 Astronaut Program. What a wonderful ambassador she is for The 99s and women in aviation.

— Monie Pease, Imperial So-Lo Chapter
Photos by Gene Doten Photography

GRASS ROOTS

99s Celebrate the 90th!

Chicago Area Chapter

British Section



Here is a photo of me, left, enjoying hospitality with Indian 99s in Delhi just two days before the 90th Anniversary. I am sure that Nivedita Bhasin, who could not be there, would be happy I am sharing this lovely experience of the International 99s meetings with you.

I also enjoyed a lovely lunch with Shannon Osborne and the Greater New York Chapter in August when I was in the USA.

To me these experiences epitomize what The 99s is about, and I am so happy to have had the opportunity to meet 99s on three continents this year, so far!

*Kindest regards
Dorothy Saul-Pooley, British Section Governor*



Chicago Area Chapter members enjoyed the 90th Anniversary with cake and stories.

The Chicago Area Chapter celebrated the 90th Anniversary of The 99s recently at the DuPage Airport Flight Center in west suburban Chicago. Chapter members, 49½s, family and friends enjoyed a potluck lunch and a cake decorated, of course, with airplanes.

Members were encouraged to wear 1929-era attire, and of course pearls! Ellen O'Hara, Chapter member and North Central Section Governor, hosted the event. Members were also encouraged to bring along a favorite piece

of memorabilia from past 99 events. The multitude of items filled four long display tables and included scrapbooks, T-shirts, party favors and trophies, to mention a few. Ellen provided a condensed perspective of the Chapter's long and colorful history: the Chapter was founded in 1934, and the first Ninety-Nines Conference was held at the Drake Hotel in downtown Chicago. Everyone then had a chance to contribute fun stories and favorite recollections of past anniversaries and events.

— Diane Cozzi

British Columbia Coast Chapter



Chapter Chair Jenna Forseth, left, with Margaret Coombes.

who flew in from as far as Victoria, B.C., all gathered to enjoy cake and a video made by one of our members. The video honoured the history of The 99s, including some of the local women pilot pioneers.

The celebration also displayed a silent auction that featured unique aviation artifacts and books which were generously donated by one of our members. All the money raised from the auction went directly to our scholarship fund.

—Madeline Ungurain

The British Columbia Coast Chapter 99s celebrated the 90th Anniversary of The Ninety-Nines International Organization of Women Pilots on November 2 at the Pitt Meadows Aero Club of British Columbia. The 29 members in attendance, some

St. Croix Island Paradise



The St. Croix Island Paradise included the future of aviation at our 90th anniversary celebration. These young women are being mentored as they train and prepare for SCIPC 99s membership. From left, Rochelle Sinclair, Kiana Gilbert, Vivia Lionice Webster and Lelanie Batista.

— Cenita Heywood

GRASS ROOTS

Yavapai Chapter

On Saturday, November 2, the Yavapai Chapter volunteered as aircraft loaders at the biannual Arizona Sky Kids Fly-Day in Scottsdale, Arizona. Children with special needs and life-threatening illnesses were able to earn their wings and experience the fun of flight in general aviation aircraft alongside pilots who donated their aircraft and time.

Our members had a blast meeting the Sky Kids and their families. This was the 5th consecutive Fly-Day in which the Yavapai Chapter volunteered, and we look forward to volunteering for many more!

— Leah Murphy



From left, AZ Tony Stark, Sara Newman, Felicity Beckham, and Spider-Man participate in the biannual Arizona Sky Kids Fly-Day.



New San Fernando Valley Chapter Future Woman Pilot Dana Sorensen with Chapter Membership Chair Nina Yates.

San Fernando Chapter

Dana Sorensen is our newest Future Woman Pilot member. She's an 11th grade student at William S. Hart High School with a career goal of biochemistry. One of her extracurricular activities is playing clarinet in her school marching band. In the past, she's volunteered for the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Aviation Explorers, Hart High School Marching Band and Saint Kateri Parish.

She's taking flight lessons at American Airports Corp at Whitman Airport and has logged over 17 hours.

— Nina Yates

Colorado Chapter

The Colorado Chapter continues to have a very engaging, committed and fun year. The June meeting included a fabulous presentation on weather by Ben Pinnell.

In July, five Chapter members served as delegates to the International Conference. Also in July, 11 Chapter members participated in a fly-out to KBFF in Scottsbluff, Nebraska. The Chapter has a burgeoning Collegiate Wing, as well as a terrific and active Student Pilot meet-up group.

At the annual summer picnic on August 10, Chapter members enjoyed social aviation talk and camaraderie at the home of host Sue Osborne. On August 17, the Colorado Chapter and Rio Grande Norte Chapter enjoyed a joint fly-out to Spanish Peaks Airfield (4V1) in Walsenburg, Colorado. According to Pireps, the weather was fine, the food at George's Drive-In was tasty, and the Courtesy Car was an experience!

September 14 was the day for the 5th annual Poker Run. Clear skies, light winds and exuberant energy contributed to a wonderful day. Thirty-one people flew in 19 planes to challenge skills, enjoy

aviation activity and raise funds for the Chapter's Future Woman Pilot Scholarship Fund.

— Lydia Baldwin



Colorado Chapter's airmarking at Centennial Airport (KAPA).

—Photo by Margo Plummer

GRASS ROOTS

Treasure Coast Chapter

Aviator College in Fort Pierce, Florida, hosted our Girl Scout Aviation Day on October 26 at the Treasure Coast International Airport. Thirty-four Girl Scouts attended six class sessions to earn their Girl Scout Aviation Badges and Certificates and receive their goodie bags.

Female instructors from Aviator College joined several Treasure Coast 99s to teach, influence and be examples to the girls. With one of the college airplanes, Summer Cunningham taught the girls about what makes an airplane fly on the flight line. They were able to sit in the plane, work the controls and see the results. Adva Amir, Anisa Intiaz and Nicky Goyvaerts trained the girls on three simulators.

Ofri Harel with Sam Fritschle gave the girls lessons on reading aviation charts and locating familiar sites. Becky Fruehling gave them lessons on 4 forces/3 axis. Pam Torell taught them about airplane instruments. Marcy Lannon and BeBe Owen provided the transportation to and from the tower so the girls could learn about air traffic controls and see the airplanes landing and taking off. Leah McKellar kept us all organized, along with Kaye Ebel, Debby Artman and Ruth Jacobs.

Harriet Quimby in her purple jumpsuit visited and gave the girls some information on this historical aviatrix. They also learned about her airplane, the Bleriot, and took a handmade Bleriot home.



Thirty-four Girl Scouts attended Treasure Coast Chapter's Girl Scout Aviation Day.

Special guest Cynthia Putnam, granddaughter of George Putnam, brought information on Amelia Earhart Museum and shared information on how Amelia is associated with our area.

Two Fort Pierce EAA Chapter 908 members made a presentation and offered to give the girls flights. They also supported the event with a nice donation.

We appreciate all who donated.

— Ruth Jacobs



Flying her Mooney, Candie Oldham flew from the Laconia, NH Poker Run stop to the terminus at Auburn-Lewiston Airport in Maine.

Katahdin Wings Chapter

On August 24, the Katahdin Wings Chapter completed a touch-up of the compass rose at Eastern Slopes Regional Airport (IZG) in Fryeburg, Maine. Several members gathered on a sunny summer day to paint a third coat of white and blue because the new asphalt layer bled through. We had a delightful young lady fly in with her grandpa and lend a hand with the project. The painting was complete by early afternoon, at which time members met up at Brenda Thibodeau's home for a burger and hotdog barbecue.

The Katahdin Wings Chapter hosted the 2019 New England

Section 99s Poker Run. The Poker Run was a success, though it had to be postponed a day. Due to persistent low ceilings and drizzle throughout the area on Saturday, the rain date of Sunday, October 13, was utilized. Light breezes, a high ceiling and good visibility made it a much more favorable day. This year's Poker Run stops covered five western Maine and southern New Hampshire airports.

Stops were staffed by Katahdin Wings members Mary Build and Brenda Thibodeau; Connecticut Chapter member Glenna Blackwell and Friend of the 99s Doug Stewart; and Eastern New England Chapter members Candie Oldham and Sue Lin. Katahdin Wings members Lori Plourd and Karissa Davan, with Jann Clark from Eastern New England Chapter and Connecticut Chapter member AJ Davis, staffed the terminus. Karissa treated everyone to some yummy chocolate chip cookies decorated with airplane sprinkles.

Best hand winner was Sue Lin with a three of kind. She chose the 25 gallon Avgas certificate, which she happily passed on to Candie Oldham for use in her Mooney. Eastern New England Chapter member Billie Downing had the fourth best hand and donated her prize back to the prize table.

Seventy-seven hands were sold to the general and flying public, as well as 99s members. Everyone who participated, whether staffing a stop or flying the course, had a great time and enjoyed the fabulous fall foliage of northern New England.

— Lori Plourd

Long Island Chapter

The Long Island Chapter held its September meeting in the Conference Room of Republic Airport. Two new student members, Naomi Littles and Yihe Yang, attended the meeting, along with Chair Nancy Neumann, Vice Chair Naraline Coqk, Secretary-Treasurer Jill Hopfenmuller, Mae Smith, and guest Zahia, Naraline's daughter.

Naomi Littles works for Republic Airlines and is training on Long Island. Yihe Yang is a pathologist at Long Island Jewish Hospital and is training at Nassau Flyers, Republic Airport.

The Chapter presented a scholarship award for introductory flight training to one female attending the 2019 Mid Island Aero Camp. Jill will follow up with Mid Island Air regarding previous winners use of the award.

Patricia Ohlsson thanks all 99s for electing her to the position of Endowment Fund Trustee for the next three years. "I am proud to give back to The 99s. They have given me so much over my 43 years as a member." Pat held all offices in the Long Island Chapter and received an Amelia Earhart Scholarship in 1986. After relocating to Florida in 1987, Pat has worked diligently for the Long Island Chapter, where she's still a member, and the Florida Spaceport and Florida Suncoast Chapters.

This year Pat attended the International Conference in Dayton, Ohio. During the Conference, she and her 49½ Lenny noticed an optional tour arranged by The 99s to see the Wright Flyer. They made a donation and received a very short "add the power, lift off a few hundred feet and land" flight in the Flyer. They also received a video of their flight. "It was fun and exciting," said Pat. "The 99s sure know how to plan a conference."

While on vacation in Europe last summer, Pat spotted another ad in a flyer, "Take A Flight - Fly a Simulator," which happened to be in an Airbus 330. The instructor, who spoke very little English and they, no German, asked where they were from and what airport she would like to fly into. Pat chose Cape Canaveral,



Pat Ohlsson flew the Wright "B" Flyer and became an Honorary Aviator, Flight Number 4999, on July 17, 2019 at The 99s Conference at Dayton-Wright Brothers Airport.

Florida. "He put it into the computer and off we flew," said Pat. "I landed, and it was Lenny's turn. He flew the Airbus 330 into Spruce Creek, our home base, and landed. Unfortunately, he couldn't fly out - the runway was only 4,000 feet too short for the Airbus."

In September, JC Follender, Long Island 99 and active CAP member, supervised the CAP Airmen's Leadership Academy's overnight bivouac at Bayport Aerodrome, the only public grass strip on Long Island. The Leadership Academy trains young CAP cadets for upcoming roles they might attain as they go forward. JC spends the night on the ground camping out right along with the young members.

— Patricia J. Rockwell

Mt. Tahoma Chapter

On October 16, Mt. Tahoma Chapter provided an aviation introduction event to Girl Scouts age 10 and under at Olympic Airport. Ninety-Nines members shared their own interest in aviation at an early age, and many had also been Girl Scouts.

The Scouts were given a tour of the outside and inside of an airplane, had a paper airplane contest, and were given a cockpit wall chart with explanation of the different instruments. Refreshments followed. The scouts were thrilled.

— Fran Postma



Mt. Tahoma Chapter members share their love and knowledge and flying with Girl Scouts at Olympic Regional Airport, Washington.



Photo left: Pikes Peak Chapter Secretary Christine Wall and her 11-year-old daughter, Audrey, check out the cockpit of a United Express jet in for repair at the SkyWest hangar, part of the Girl Scout Patch Day experience.

Pikes Peak Chapter

On October 12, the Pikes Peak and Colorado Chapters worked together to put on a Girl Scout Patch Day and Let's Fly Now! event at the Colorado Springs Airport complex. A good "educational" time was had by all.

Pikes Peak Chapter donated 15 copies of member Sarah Byrn Rickman's two young adult WASP biographies to the girls attending the event.

— Sarah Byrn Rickman

West Virginia Chapter

West Virginia Chapter members Evy Bryant and Donna Born, assisted by Marie Caltrider and Jean Pickering, hosted Girl Scouts from troop 1463 in Marietta, Ohio, for a tour of the Mid-Ohio Valley Regional Airport.

The Scouts toured the terminal and FBO and heard a TSA presentation. They entered airplanes and observed several take-offs and landings, including a Pilots N Paws departure.

The Scouts are preparing for a unit on Amelia Earhart.

— Evy Bryant



The West Virginia Chapter welcomed Girl Scouts for a tour of the Mid-Ohio Valley Regional Airport.



Chicago Area Chapter

Six Chicago Area 99s, Tina Thomas, Mary Lou Erikson, Kristina Leng, Katie Christensen, Kelly Jeffries and Nadine Didier, along with three student pilots, recently flew to Bessie's Diner at the Janesville, Wisconsin, airport (JVL) for breakfast. The tower controller was also a woman.

They were quite the talk of the restaurant as they climbed out of their planes right in front of the windows. Such a fun time. We will do it again as we celebrate check rides for each student.

In another event, about 40 members and friends of the Chicago Area Chapter and Chicago's Leading Edge Chapter of Women in Aviation attended a showing of "Come From Away."

— Diane M. Cozzi

Left, Chicago Area 99s enjoyed a fly-out to Bessie's Diner at the Janesville Wisconsin, airport (JVL) for breakfast.



BY DONNA MILLER
International
Careers
Committee

Celebration

The most beautiful things are not those associated with money; they are memories and moments. If you don't celebrate those, they can pass you by. —Alek Wek

I am so grateful for the people who nominated me to be inducted into the International Forest of Friendship in Atchison, Kansas. The entire weekend was beautiful, and I felt an overwhelming sense of gratitude for everyone who made it so special.

Afterwards, my friend Kerri asked me if I felt celebrated. I hadn't really thought about it like that before. I have earned things...medals for racing, degrees for studying, ratings for working really hard at something I love, but this is the first time I felt truly "celebrated," and it felt really good. My friend Becky was there; she is the reason I stayed in aviation. I met Becky

at a conference in 1995 as I was preparing to leave the aviation industry before I ever really got started.

"I see way too much passion in you when you talk about flying for you to quit," she told me. That stopped me in my tracks. I had only known her since we sat down to lunch, and dessert hadn't even arrived yet. But she saw it. She knew. And so I stayed. Even when it got really, really hard, I stayed. And my life has been enriched beyond measure because of it.

The next weekend, I went to a celebration of life service for a mentor and dear friend, Bob Gilliland. Bob was a Bigger-Than-Life-Superhero-Test-Pilot who I was seated next to at an awards dinner. He believed in me before I believed in myself.

At the service, Dick Rutan spoke about how Bob isn't really gone at all. He lives on through his family: his children and grandchildren. He also lives on in all of us. We take a part of him every day into our lives, and his impact on our lives becomes

part of who we are. The ripples in the water venture far beyond the stone.

Those two very significant events got me thinking about the impact others have on us. From an airline captain who told me, "You can't steal second with your foot on first" to the van driver who said I'd only look better in my uniform if it had a fourth stripe! The cleaning lady at the airport who said, "Good Morning, Captain!" on my very first day of Initial Operating Experience as a captain, had no idea that I would remember that almost 20 years later.

In this instant world of social media and the fast pace of the aviation industry, I started thinking about our own ripples. Are we celebrating the achievements of those around us? What impact are our ripples having on others? How can we support our sisters as they make their way in this crazy-ness that we love so dearly?

It's up to us to recognize their passion and reach out.

It's up to us to BE the Becky.

MILESTONES

Vonda Benson, Instrument, Wisconsin.

Amy Boyd, Private, Nashville.

Eleanor Brunsmann, Solo, Old Dominion.

Leslie Cauble, Instrument SEL, Maui.

Katie Christensen, Private, Chicago Area.

Meredith Datena, Instrument, Columbia Cascade.

Maria D'Amato, B737 type rating, Bay Cities.

Allison Diaz, Commercial Glider add-on, Old Dominion.

Louise Franco, Instrument, Bay Cities.

Lexi Green, Solo, Old Dominion.

Maria Harrison-Dooley, Solo, Katahdin Wings.

Jennifer Huard, Solo, Orange County.

Kerry Hahne, Commercial Helicopter, Columbia Cascade.

Elizabeth L'Heureux, Commercial Single Engine Land, Maui.

Trish Magdaleno, Solo, Orange County.

Sarah Mallon, Instrument, Connecticut.

Donna Miller, Boeing 787 type rating, Colorado.

Kelsey Moore, CL65 SIC limited ATP, Bay Cities.

Sofia Nosratabadi, Solo, Orange County.

Linda Pool, Solo, Katahdin Wings.

Jessica Phinney, Solo, Connecticut.

Ellen Quist, Commercial, Minnesota.

Jiah Sim, CFI, Columbia Cascade.

Sara Siddiqui, Commercial, Wisconsin.

Stefanie Sun, B-777 type rating, Bay Cities.

Erin Teal, Instrument, Yavapai.

Kimberly Yehling, Instrument, Orange County.



Kerry Hahne, Columbia Cascade member, with her instructor after passing her commercial helicopter exam.

Note: As room allows, we will publish Milestone photos. Please email a high resolution photo along with your Milestone information to news@ninety-nines.org.



Marcela Diaz.

Connecting Through the Professional Pilot Leadership Initiative Program

By Marcela Diaz, Eastern New England Chapter

The Professional Pilot Leadership Program is a program designed for women pilots to support other women pilots. Most women enrolled in the program are complete strangers to one another. We are a minority in the aviation industry and this fact is what brings us together.

A friend of mine, already participating in PPLI, recommended I join the day I told her I was looking to switch jobs. At the time I was working for a small FAR part 121 company in South America, and I was trying to plan my next step in my career. I applied online, and a few days later I was accepted into the program.

PPLI requires an 18-month commitment that you are able to

manage at your own pace on your own time. You connect with other women pilots through group chats, a mentoring program, great reads and activities.

My favorite part of the Professional Pilot Leadership Initiative Program was the opportunity to become a mentor. There are so many things I have learned throughout my career that I am so passionate about and want to share with other people in hopes it might help them grow and become successful. My mentoring experience transformed into a friendship that I otherwise wouldn't have if it weren't for PPLI.

We are a small group of women compared to the number of men in the aviation industry. I believe by supporting each other we can help one another become successful. As a united group, we can inspire other women and girls to dream big dreams, to encourage careers as pilots and to help leaders blossom.

I am so grateful for my experience with PPLI. I have followed a flight plan in my career that has led me to my dream job, a pilot for JetBlue Airways.

Books



By Jacqueline Boyd
Senior Book Review Editor

SO YOU WANT TO BE AN ASTRONAUT A Realistic Guide to Becoming an Astronaut at a Young Age

Author: Alyssa Carson
ISBN: 9781731357946
Self-Published • Available from the author

I love a good book, particularly when one of our members is the author. Alyssa Carson is a member of the New Orleans (NOLA) Chapter and was a recipient of the Fly Now Award in 2018. She zipped through the process and finished her private pilot certificate in November 2018.

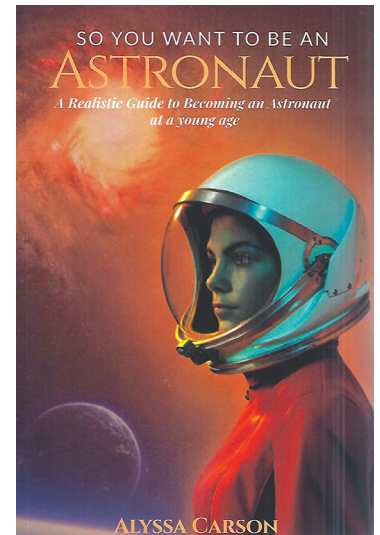
The book is a delight to read and one that would inspire any young person wanting to pursue a space career. Alyssa takes the

reader through "Eight Steps" to becoming an astronaut and gives pretty detailed advice and information at each step on the way. She's taken a lot of her own advice, and it shows. The advice she gives can be applied to any undertaking and is robust and encouraging.

Here are her "steps" to becoming an astronaut:

1. Use the interweb.
2. Take a look around you.
3. Listen to people who are already living your dream.
4. Talk about your dreams often, you never know who's listening.
5. Train yourself.
6. Help yourself stand out.
7. Forget about becoming an astronaut and find a passion that will last.
8. Never give up.

It's pretty sage advice from a 17-year-old woman. I hope she knows she's written a "plan" that would serve any and everyone well at any stage of life. I can hardly wait to see what comes next.



NOTAM

Submissions Open for the 2020 Ninety-Nines International Awards

Do you know of a 99 or non-99 who deserves to be recognized? If so, please submit the nominations to Awards@ninety-nines.org before January 31, 2020 to be eligible for the 2020 Ninety-Nines International Awards.

For more information please go to <https://www.ninety-nines.org/members/?fuseaction=Library&ViewID=412>,

Or go to <https://www.ninety-nines.org/>, click on Members Area in upper right corner, click on Library, scroll down to Forms, Lists and Guides, and you will see 2020 International Awards.

We Need Your Way with Words

The Ninety-Nines magazine is looking for talented, experienced writers to join the Publications Committee. Our features cover a wide scope of our members' experiences and adventures, and we endeavor to assign our writers articles that match their own interests. Please contact Publications Chairman Lori Plourd, 99spubschair@gmail.com, for more information. We hope to hear from you!

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NEW HORIZONS

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

Marie Gardner, June 15, 2019

Life member, Imperial So-Lo Chapter

Billie Latshaw, June 7, 2019

Greater Pittsburg Chapter

Betty DeBaun, March 21, 2019

Life Member, Indiana Chapter

Mark Izard, M.D., 49½ of Denise Robinson, July 15, 2019

Connecticut Chapter

Katharine Macario, September 6, 2019

Eastern Pennsylvania

Helen R. Sailer, November 29, 2019

Marilyn Trupin, September 29, 2019

Chicago Area Chapter, North Central Section

Mary Wheelock, December 2, 2019

Golden Triangle Chapter

*Note: There were two incorrect New Horizon dates in the May/June 2019 issue. Both **Jerrie Cobb** and **Patrica "Pat" Ward** died in 2019, not 2018 as stated. Our apologies for the error.*

For obituaries, please submit only the name, date of death and Chapter. Notices of 49½s will be listed similarly. The full obituaries and photos are now posted on The Ninety-Nines website. To submit an extended obituary, please submit a personal write-up and not a copy or a link to an online obituary. To read the full obituaries, go to www.ninety-nines.org/new-horizons.htm.



Our most recently enlisted Friends of The 99s

J Camino, Anaheim, CA

Cole Clark, Denton, TX

Larry Daily, Shepherdstown, WV

Isabella Edwards, Brentwood, CA

Dave Hubner, Frederick, MD

Chelsea Hutchings, Anchorage, AK

Steve Hutchins, Lafayette, CA

Katelyn Johnson, Loxley, AL

Avery Katz, Palm Coast, FL

Yen-Liang Lin, Prescott, AZ

Tamara Neckebroek, Wommelgem, Belgium

Devon Raisch, Rutherfordton, NC

Caroline Reuter, Chicago, IL

Daniel Silva, Aurora, CO



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WAI.org/20conference