



The Flypaper



The Official Newsletter of the Alaska 99s
March 2008

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Airmarking

Melanie Hancock 694-4571

Aviation Museum Display

2008 International Convention

Angie Slingluff 337-0253

The Sunshine, Fly-Ins, Museum Display and Publicity Committee Chair positions are currently vacant.

Notes from the Chair . . .

I thank Melanie Hancock for being so patient when it came to getting this info from me, and I hope you all understand why the newsletter is getting out a bit late – mea culpa.

Our February speaker, Fred Hirschmann, did a wonderful presentation on the Aurora Borealis, and his photos of the 59 photos NOT selected for the US Postal Service first class stamp were so beautiful we could not understand why any one of them was not selected, until we saw the one that WAS selected. I tried to get a few more sheets of the stamps that were printed in honor of the International Polar Year, but the Post office said they were out. We'll keep you posted (no pun intended) if they are reissued.

February is my favorite month in Alaska, the days getting longer, the snow not melting yet, and it turned out I had a lot of free time this month, which was important when it came to Ellen's situation. As you probably know by now, Ellen died, peacefully and gently, at 1135 pm on Sunday March 2, 2008 at the Alaska Native Medical Center. While I will miss her friendship daily, I am glad that her suffering has ended and that she is free to fly on her own wings, to chase clouds and soar with the stars.

March will be bringing the Iditarod results, and if anyone is flying the trail PLEASE take pictures! We would love a presentation on your adventures.

As well as Iditarod, March brings the mess of breakup, but the hope and anticipation of spring flying. Let's make plans!

Berta



P.S. Take a moment and make that call you have been putting off – tell a friend, or someone you love, that you are thinking of them and that you care. There truly is no time like the present.

Calendar of Events

<i>Wed., March 12</i>	<i>Regular Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Sat., March 15</i>	<i>Memorial Service for Ellen Paneok, Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum 7 p.m.</i>
<i>Tues., March 18</i>	<i>Mat-Su Chapter Regular Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>March 28 & 29</i>	<i>FAA Aviation Career Education (ACE) Academy</i>
<i>Wed., April 9</i>	<i>Regular Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Tues., April 15</i>	<i>Mat-Su Chapter Regular Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>May 3 & 4</i>	<i>Alaska State Aviation Trade Show and Conference</i>
<i>May 9, 10 & 11</i>	<i>May Day Fly-In and Air Show, Valdez</i>
<i>Wed., May 14</i>	<i>Regular Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Sat., May 17</i>	<i>Kenai Peninsula Air Fair and Poker Run, Soldotna & Kenai</i>
<i>Tues., May 20</i>	<i>Mat-Su Chapter Regular Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Sat., May 31</i>	<i>Flying Companion Seminar, Mat-Su Valley</i>
<i>Sat., June 7</i>	<i>Annual FAA Pancake Breakfast, Palmer Airport</i>
<i>Sat., June 14</i>	<i>Short Field Clinic, Palmer Airport Youth Aviation Adventure Event, Palmer Airport</i>
<i>June 28 & 29</i>	<i>Arctic Thunder Air Show, Elmendorf Air Force Base</i>
<i>July 11 & 12</i>	<i>Tentative date for Dawson City Memorial Fly-In</i>
<i>Aug. 6 - 9</i>	<i>2008 International Conference, Anchorage</i>



99 ONLINE

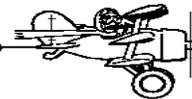
Chapter Website (www.ak99s.org)

For website updates and additions, e-mail Caren della Cioppa at: habataku@att.net

National Website (www.ninety-nines.org)

The national site includes news updates, scholarship opportunities, mentor connections, applications & more.

Flypaper Facts



Deadline for the **April, 2008** Flypaper is **April 1, 2008**. If you have an article, ad or information for The Flypaper, please contact Melanie Hancock by phone or FAX at 694-4571 or e-mail at flyquilt@mtaonline.net. (Ads are placed in The Flypaper for members at no charge.)

Subscription Rates:

Oct. -- Sept. = \$15.00
Feb. -- Sept. = \$10.00
June -- Sept. = \$5.00

Mailing Address:

P. O. Box 91962
Anchorage, AK 99509



Flying Companion Seminar



The Mat-Su Chapter's March meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 18, 2008, at 6:00 p.m. at the new AT&T Sports Center, 1507 N. Double B Street. It is on the Palmer-Wasilla Highway about one mile west of the intersection of Trunk Road and the Palmer-Wasilla Highway.

This will be a business meeting to discuss 2008 conference support. We agreed to "dress" a bear for the Amelia Earhart Banquet "Bearhart." Judy Foster has the bear and will take it to the meeting to get ideas. We also need to discuss the Flying Companion Seminar that will be May 31. There were only three members at our February meeting, and we need more participation to make commitments and plan events. Please make every effort to attend.

NOTE: *The Mat-Su Chapter will be holding its March, April and May meetings at:*

*A T & T Sports Center
Conference Room
1507 N. Double B Street
Palmer, AK 99645*

Mat-Su Chapter Officers

<i>Chair</i>	<i>Gayle Kase (746-5273)</i>
<i>Vice Chair</i>	<i>Judy Foster (746-0991)</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Patty Livingston (746-2919)</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Toni Merrigan (373-6569)</i>

The spring Flying Companion Seminar is scheduled for Saturday, May 31. The Mat-Su Chapter is asking for our help in putting on the FCS. If we do not have enough volunteers it will be canceled. You need not be current to volunteer. Most of the topics have been scripted so we'll even tell you what to talk about. REMEMBER: It's a great refresher to get ready for summer flying!

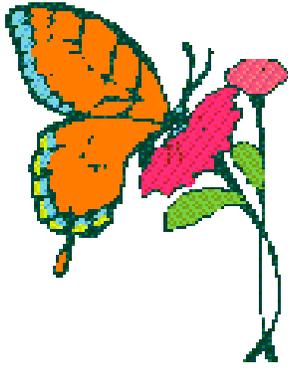
Contact Judy Foster (746-0991) or Angie Slingluff (337-0253) to volunteer.

Youth Aviation Adventure Event

This event will be held on Saturday, June 14. Working with Jane Dale at Palmer Airport and the Air Carriers Association the FAA (i.e. Angie) is organizing a four-hour aviation event for kids grade 4 and up. The Forestry Service has offered their hangar at Palmer Airport.

We will set up 9 or 10 stations and route the kids through each. Need volunteers for this one, too. (Contact Angie at 337-0253 if you are interested in assisting with the event.)

This is also in conjunction with Colony Days. Jane is trying to highlight PAQ Airport.



New Horizons

Ellen Evak Paneok

October 17, 1959 - March 2, 2008

A pioneer of Alaskan Aviation, noted artist and author, public speaker and community activist/volunteer, and friend, Ellen died at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage. She was 48 years old.

The first native woman bush pilot, Ellen went on to fly over 15,000 hours. She then worked for the FAA as an Inspector, and for the Alaska Aviation Safety Foundation as the Statewide Aviation Safety Coordinator.

Known to all of us as a longtime member of the Alaska 99s, Ellen also volunteered her time and served on the board of numerous local organizations including the Alaska Airmen's Association, the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum, Big Brothers Big Sisters Alaska, the Alaska Historical Commission, and Challenge Alaska.

Ellen has been published in Alaska Magazine, AOPA Pilot, and other magazines, and her article "With Trusting Eyes Behind Me" was included in "The Last Frontier" a collection of the best of Alaska Magazine. Featured in numerous books on women in aviation, Ellen was also recognized by the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum's permanent exhibit "Women and Flight."

This past year had been one of struggle and suffering for Ellen. Giving up her independence was probably one of the hardest things she ever did, but in the end it was the thing that helped her learn that she was not alone in the world, and that she was loved as well as admired.

While in her life she was faced with many challenges, and overcame great obstacles, her passing was one of peace. If there was one gift I could have hoped to give my dear friend after all the pain of this past year, it was to help her pass gently, unafraid and surrounded by love. I believe we succeeded.

A memorial service, celebration of life and potluck will be held on Saturday, March 15, at 7 p.m. at the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum. Her sister Tina, her nephew Gunnar and her father Ron will be attending. I hope we can all share some of the wonderful "Ellen Stories" that she so loved to tell and hear.

In Lieu of flowers donations may be made in her name to one of the following organizations:

Alaska 99s "Ellen Paneok Scholarship Fund;" Alaska Airmen's Association; Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum; Big Brothers Big Sisters Alaska; or an alcohol recovery program of your choice.

Of you ave any questions regarding the service, wish to bring items for the display of her life's accomplishments, or regarding the potluck, please feel free to contact Roberta Degenhardt at: 907-274-518 or bertahome@gci.net

*One of Ellen's favorite quotes from Leonardo da Vinci:
"Once you have tasted flight you will walk this earth with your eyes turned skyward.
For there you have been and there you long to return."*

Submitted by Roberta Degenhardt



*"Surely Ellen Paneok is one of the brightest stars among the Northern Lights."
Sandi Sumner, from [Women Pilots of Alaska](#)*

Miscellaneous Items

Alaska Chapter 99s Name Tags

If you don't have a 99s name tag, here's your chance to get one. Contact Melanie Hancock at 694-4571 or flyquilt@mtaonline.net and let her know you're interested. Be sure she gets the correct spelling of your name. An order will be placed in mid-April. Current cost of the name tag is \$10. Payment in advance would be appreciated. Checks can be made payable to: Alaska 99s.



Please plan to order your name tags. They come in handy at meetings, events AND especially for the 2008 Conference!

LOOKING FOR A ROOM TO RENT

Alaska 99 Audrey Cole is doing Penn Air ground training and has met to women pilots in training who are looking for a room to rent in Anchorage. If you can help these ladies out, please contact Audrey at:

audreylcole@earthlink.net

"My grandfather once told me that there were two kinds of people: those who do the work and those who take the credit. He told me to try to be in the first group; there was much less competition."

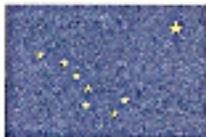
Indira Gandhi, prime minister of India

Jacquie Biloff, a member of the Mat-Su 99s, has a website called borntoflygraphics.com on which she sells her note cards and various other things, including some of the aviation fabric things that Judy Foster sells. Proceeds from Judy's sales benefit the Mat-Su Chapter 99s. Be sure to check it out when you need these items.

Judith A. Foster

Aviation-Themed
Fabric Crafts

6860 E. Beechcraft Rd
Wasilla, AK 99654
907-746-0991
jfoster@mtaonline.net



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Alaska Chapter 99s - Meeting Minutes, February 13, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Chair Berta Degenhardt. Introductions were made. There were 10 guests in attendance, including Fred Hirschmann, our speaker.

Fred Hirschmann presented a program consisting of a short talk about the "northern lights" and his photos of the aurora--mainly the 59 photos NOT selected for the postage stamp. The choice of which one to use was a particularly difficult one as all the photos were more than worthy of the honor.

Angie Slingluff covered some of the events coming up this spring:

- 1. Spring Seaplane Pilot Seminar, Saturday, April 12 at the OAS Hangar, lake Hood Seaplane Base*
- 2. Alaska Airmen's Alaska State Aviation Trade Show & Conference, Saturday & Sunday, May 3 & 4 at the FedEx Hangar at Ted Stevens International Airport*
- 3. Elmendorf air show, Arctic Thunder, Saturday & Sunday, June 28 & 29, at Elmendorf Air Force Base*
- 4. FAA Aviation Career Education (ACE) Academy, March 27, 28 & 29*
- 5. Spring Flying Companion Seminar to be presented in the Valley on Saturday, May 31. Judy Foster asked for additional helpers and instructors in order to move forward with this event.*

Convention meetings are still being held every other Monday at 5:30 p.m. at Stewart Title on Denali Street. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

The subject of name tags was brought up. Melanie Hancock will check for current prices and put a note in the Flypaper on how to order them.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Melanie Hancock
Secretary*



2008

International Conference

Hotel reservations have been pouring in! The Hilton Hotel is just about sold out. There are still rooms at the Downtown Marriott. I have been told some people have had trouble with the online reservations system. The Marriott was only 35% booked as of the last report, so if you have a problem call Poppy Szekeres at (907) 792-2119.

Is anyone willing to serve as a Transportation Committee Chair to help work out some of the options for getting people from outlying hotels into the Hilton? That means finding out which hotels have shuttles, how much a taxi costs from mid town, possibly finding a volunteer willing to pick up people from Merrill Field. Contact Angie (907-337-0253) if this is something you might like to do.

FAA Aviation Career Education (ACE) Academy

This event is scheduled to take place on March 28 & 29. The Ak Chapter 99s is again co sponsoring this event. We need adults to be group leaders and accompany the students throughout the day. For more info contact Angie at 271-5228.

Short Field Clinic

The Short Field Clinic is scheduled for Saturday, June 14 at the Palmer Airport (in conjunction with Colony Days). We need a volunteer to head up the effort - i.e. gather volunteers, make flyers, help out with marking the gravel strip, measuring and recording take-off and landing distances, cleanup, etc. More information will be available in the next few months, but please put the date on your calendar and reserve some time to help out.