



The Flypaper



The Official Newsletter of the Alaska 99s
February 2009

Alaska Chapter 99s Officers

Chair	
Gloria Tomich	279-1560
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Mio Johnson	696-3580
Secretary	
Melanie Hancock	694-4571
Treasurer	
Brenda Staats	522-5330
Committees	
Scholarship	
Helen Jones	222-9977
Flypaper	
Melanie Hancock	694-4571
Flying Companion	
Angie Slingluff	337-0253
Membership	
Mio Johnson	696-3580
Scrapbook	
Lavelle Betz	243-1898
Airmarking	
Melanie Hancock	694-4571
Aviation Museum Display	
Pat Bening	
Sunshine	
Jean White	248-6967
Fly-Ins, & Publicity Committees need volunteers.	

Notes from the Chair . . .

Calling All Ninety-Nines for the February 11, 2009 Meeting

Please plan to attend our regular monthly meeting, February 11, at the UAA Aviation Technology Complex Room 245 at 5:30 PM. We will be introducing ourselves to women students and Patty Livingston will give a presentation about the 99s and all the things we do as an organization. Brenda will talk about the scholarships for this year and applications will be distributed. Then we will enjoy pizza and sodas while socializing with the students. Any member planning to attend must RSVP to me ([HYPERLINK "mailto:gtomichak@yahoo.com" gtomichak@yahoo.com](mailto:gtomichak@yahoo.com)) or to Mio's email announcement of this event so that we assure enough food for all. This event is open to ALL women student pilots, not just those at UAA. If you know of any, please bring them along.

If you have time to volunteer at the Alaska Air Carriers Association Annual Conference March 4 – 6, their organizing committee would be very grateful. There are many jobs to be done for a conference and even a short amount of volunteer time is helpful. Don't forget to contact anyone that might be interested in our Flying Companion Seminar on Tuesday, March 3rd. Flyers are on the 99s website and on the AACA website. Spread the word!!

I would like very much to see any and all 99s at the February 11th event.

Gloria



Next Meeting
Wednesday,
February 11,
at 5:30 p.m. in
Room 245 at the
UAA Aviation
Facility

Calendar of Events

Wed., Feb. 11	Membership Drive, Pizza Party at UAA
Sat., Feb. 14	Alaska Aviation Museum Valentine's Day Fundraiser
Tues., Feb. 17	Mat-Su Valley Chapter Monthly Meeting
Mon., March 2	DEADLINE for submitting articles for the March Flypaper
Tues., March 3	Flying Companion Seminar
Wed., March 11	Regular Monthly Meeting
Tues., March 17	Mat-Su Valley Chapter Monthly Meeting
Fri., March 20	DEADLINE for submitting Scholarship Applications
Wed., April 8	Regular Monthly Meeting
May 2 & 3	Alaska Airmen's Aviation Trade Show & Conference
May 8 - 10	Valdez May Day Fly-In



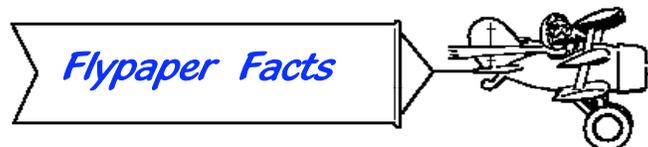
99 ONLINE

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.



Deadline for the **March 2009** Flypaper is **March 3, 2009**. 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

Scholarships Available



Two scholarships are being offered by the 99s: a \$1,000 Student Private Pilot Scholarship (Mat-Su Valley Chapter) and a \$1,500 Advanced Rating Scholarship (Alaska Chapter). The application form is available on the website at www.ak99s.org.

Both scholarships are open to female Alaska residents over 16 years of age. Applicants for the Student Private Pilot Scholarship must have soloed prior to submitting the application.

*Applications should be mailed to the Alaska Chapter 99s, P. O. Box 91962, Anchorage, AK 99509-1962 and must be **RECEIVED** no later than Friday, March 20, 2009.*

Winners will be announced at the Alaska Chapter meeting to be held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 8, 2009.

The Mat-Su chapter will meet on Tuesday, February 17 at 6:00 p.m. at the AT&T Sport Center, 1507 N. Double B Street, 3/4 mile west of Trunk Road off the Palmer-Wasilla Highway.

For questions or information about the meeting, please contact Toni Merrigan at 373-6569.

Mat-Su Chapter Officers

*Chair Toni Merrigan
(373-6569)*

*Vice Chair C. J. Glasser
(746-7358)*

*Secretary Elaine Base
(357-1545)*

*Treasurer Patty Livingston
(746-2919)*

20th Annual International Women In Aviation Conference

*The Conference is scheduled to take place
February 26 - 28 in Atlanta, Georgia.*

*For more information check here:
www.wai.org/09conference*

Flying Companion Seminar



When: Tuesday, March 3, 9 am – 4 pm

Where: Alaska Air Carriers Association Conference at the Hotel Captain Cook

This seminar is designed for the spouse, friend, or frequent passenger who would like to learn more about flying to make them a more relaxed, helpful passenger, especially in an emergency situation.

Men, women, and mature teenagers are welcome to attend.

Course fee: \$75.00

Participants will receive instruction in the following areas:

Basic navigation and navigation instruments, basic flight controls, use of aircraft radios and terminology, emergency procedures and survival.

In addition participants will receive hands-on experience with a flight simulator and hand-held radios.

All instructors are licensed local women pilots with both instructional and flying experience.

A certificate of completion will be presented at the end of the course.

Proceeds from the seminar help fund scholarships for women pilots in Alaska.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Seating is limited to 25 participants.

Registration Deadline February 20, 2009.

Register online at www.alaskaaircarriers.org or mail registration slip AND check (payable to Alaska Chapter 99s) to: Alaska Chapter 99s, PO Box 91962, Anchorage, AK 99509-1962

(Checks are not cashed until after the seminar.) For more information call:

Angie Slingsluff, 337-0253, or Alaska Air Carriers Assoc., 277-0071

Alaska Air Carriers Association to Hold Annual Convention in March, 2009

The Alaska Air Carriers will be holding their annual convention March 2 - 7 at the Captain Cook Hotel. Kathie Anderson, Membership & Marketing Coordinator, has requested volunteers to help with registration, badges, handing out gift bags, selling meal and seminar tickets, etc.

This year's convention is during the Fur Rondy and the Iditarod starts Saturday, the 7th. If you are considering spending time in downtown Anchorage, this is a great opportunity. If you will be available to assist in any way, please contact Kathie at 277-0071 or kathie@alaskaaircarriers.org.

Looking for something different to do
on Valentine's Day?

Check out the Alaska Aviation Museum's fundraiser!

ATIA

Let Your Heart
Take Flight

2009 Valentines Day Fundraiser
Saturday February, 14, 2009
At the
Alaska Aviation Museum

Appetizers, beer, wine & live music!
6:00pm-9pm/Speed dating at 6:30

For More Information call: (907) 248-5325 or
email: marketing@alaskaairmuseum.org

Nancy Bird-Walton: Aviator

Nancy Bird-Walton, widely known as "Nancy-Bird", was a trailblazing aviator in Australia. She was, at the age of 19 in the early 1930s, the youngest woman in the Commonwealth to qualify for her commercial pilot's license; she was the first female commercial pilot in Australia, she set up an airborne medical service, and she founded the Australian Women Pilots' Association.

She started her flying career as a barnstorming pilot, flying to air shows and country fairs to provide joy rides, before pioneering an air medical service for outback New South Wales. Despite the challenging flying conditions of Australia's outback, she never had a crash.

Nancy Bird was born in 1915 in Sydney, one of six children. Her father ran a general store in the country town of Mount George in NSW. Like many children in the Depression, she left school early to work in the family business.

Her father had wanted her to take over the running of the store, but she had always wanted to fly. By the age of 14 she had saved enough to buy a leather helmet, goggles and a book on flying. She also attended air shows. At one she met a barnstorming pilot, Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith, who had become the first man to fly across the Pacific, from the US to Australia, in 1928. He offered to give her lessons even though he disapproved of women flying, and in 1933 she became one of his first pupils at a flying school he opened near Sydney. Being only 1.50m tall, she needed to sit on cushions so she could see out of the cockpit.

She could not afford to maintain her passion for flying purely as a hobby, and at the time there were no jobs in aviation for men, let alone a woman. Nevertheless, she managed to raise the money to buy a fourth-hand Gypsy Moth, which had been rebuilt after a crash. Her barnstorming work involved flying from one air show or race meeting to another looking for work. Many of her clients were nervous first-time fliers who needed to down a few whiskies before taking off.

She was hired to operate a medical transport service, the Far West Children's Health Scheme, in 1935, ferrying medical staff and patients. She used her own



Gipsy Moth for the work, carrying out some of the first medical evacuations in regional NSW. She found it to be rewarding but lonely work.

Bird-Walton also took part in air races: In 1936 she achieved the fastest time out of all entrants in the Melbourne



to Adelaide leg of a Brisbane to Adelaide race, which was eventually won by the pilot Reg Ansett, who used his prize money to set up the (now defunct) Ansett Airlines. She won the Ladies' Trophy.

She moved to Europe in 1938 to do promotional work for a Dutch airline company and returned to Australia in 1940, after meeting and marrying an Englishman, Charles Walton. With the outbreak of the war all female pilots but one were forced to stop flying. The exception, according to Bird-Walton, was a pilot from Melbourne who flew her Moth to provide target practice for the Beaufort gunners.

Bird-Walton became a commandant of the Women's Air Training Corps voluntary service in 1940-45. In 1950 she set up the Australian Women Pilots' Association, and was its president for four decades. She returned to flying in 1958 after a 20-year absence after receiving an invitation to fly in the Powder Puff Derby in the US, where she came fifth.

*She was appointed OBE in 1966 for her charity work, and in 1977 was appointed a Dame of the Knights of Malta. In 1997 she was named a Living National Treasure by the National Trust in Australia. Her autobiography *My God, It's a Woman*, was released in 1990. In 2008 Qantas named its first A380 Super-Jumbo in her honour.*

Towards the end of her life, Walton spoke of the thrill she got from flying: "The freedom of the air. The freedom of the flight," she told an interviewer in 2006. "And you completely remove yourself from the world."

Nancy Bird-Walton, AO, OBE, aviator, was born on October 16, 1915. She died on January 13, 2009, aged 93. Bird-Walton will receive a state funeral. She is survived by her daughter and son.

Girls With Wings

Lynda Meeks of Girls with Wings (www.girlswithwings.org) believes that girls need flight plans not fairy tales. Lynda believes we can educate girls while we entertain them and so she is embarking on a new line of aviation themed dolls for girls.

Similar to the American Girl dolls but unlike them because they will represent diverse cultures and aviation careers.

Her first creation is Penelope Pilot. Penelope means "weaver" in Greek and so she is the individual that interlaces them together.

Penelope will be followed by a helo pilot, a mechanic and many more, each with her own unique culturally selected name and attire.

Watch for more of Girls With Wings or visit the website.

Begich Middle School Build-A-Plane Project

Nicholas Begich Middle School in Anchorage is starting on a Build A Plane project that has a special connection with the Ninety-Nines. Arlene Walsh of Santa Fe was a Future Woman Pilot member of the 99s. She had begun building an Aerial Pietenpol, an open cockpit bi-wing, wood and fabric aircraft that she wanted to use for educational purposes. Unfortunately, Arlene died in a car accident last year and her project was sold to an EAA homebuilder in Texas.

When 99 and FAA regional Aviation & Space Education Coordinator, Angie Slingluff, learned that Begich Middle School wanted some kind of aviation project, she immediately thought of Build A Plane. Angie began asking around if anyone knew of a plane in Anchorage that was damaged, or a kit plane someone had started and was not going to finish that could be donated to the school. She talked to Rob Stapelton, local EAA chapter member and pilot who put a query out on the internet.

It was a project that is meant to be. Within 24 hours of the query, we had the offer of this plane, but we would have to get

it from Los Alamos, NM to Anchorage. Rob had a contact with Carlisle Trucking and they offered to haul it up gratis if we could get it crated up. Angie knew that Susan Larson lived in Santa Fe, and it turns out was very good friends with Arlene. She put us in touch with the EAA chapter members there and they volunteered to built a crate for it.

The Applied Technology teacher at Begich, pilot Dan Carey, has volunteered to be the project manager. We pulled together a Steering Committee that includes Dee form the Alaska Airmen, and Norm Lagasse from the Aviation Heritage Museum. The principal, Jeanne Fischer and several teachers are on the steering committee. An Alaska Airlines pilot who is also a CFI and an A&P has volunteered, along with Rob Stapleton who was building a Pietenpol himself and has experience with it.

The Alrmen have invited the school to display the plane at the Trade Show in May so everyone will get a chance to see it. Arlene's family is very pleased that her dream of a plane for education is going to soar after all.

Alaska Chapter 99s

January 14, 2009

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was an icy road treacherous night with only 11 brave pilots in attendance. The meeting was called to Order by the Chair, Gloria Tomich, at 6:05 pm. The minutes of the November meeting were approved with Mio Johnson moving for approval and Brenda Staats seconding the motion. Since the December meeting was a "social" meeting without business being conducted there were no minutes for December.

Mark E. Madden, Associate Professor at UAA Aviation Technology gave a PowerPoint presentation on the subject of vertical separation, i.e., altitude selection, along the Anchorage – Palmer Corridor.

The Alaska Air Carriers Association Conference is March 2-7. At their invitation the 99s will hold a modified Flying Companion Seminar on Tuesday, March 3rd from 9 am to 4 pm at the Captain Cook Hotel. Angie Slingluff is Lead in organizing this seminar. The Air Carriers are also asking for 99s volunteers to staff their Registration Desk, etc.

Other venues/areas that have expressed interest in having the Flying Companion Seminar are Bethel, Bettles and Homer. There was discussion thinking we could also morph it into a "learning to fly" introductory seminar utilizing AOPA materials with their permission. It was discussed that the Valdez Fly-In might be a good venue for a Flying Companion Seminar

Upcoming events are: The Airmen's Association Aviation Trade Show will be May 2nd and 3rd this year and the Valdez Fly-In is May 8-10. The date of the Kenai Peninsula Air fair and Poker Run is yet to be announced. There will be a Super Cub

Seminar at the Loussac Library Saturday, Feb. 7. Also on February 2nd is the Girl Scouts "Girls with Wings" program. March 27th will be the Science Fair and they are looking for judges; contact Angie if you are interested in volunteering for this event or for the "Girls with Wings".

We will have a booth at the Aviation Trade Show and a sign-up sheet was sent around to volunteer to staff the booth.

Brenda Staats, our Treasurer reported that an anonymous donor has given our Chapter \$10,000. Fifty percent of this money will be designated for our scholarship fund and put in a CD but we will place fifty percent of monies in the operating fund for the purchase of things the Chapter needs at this time and for scholarships for the next couple of years. Proposed purchases are: a laptop & projector, and DVD player to be used at meetings and at Flying Companion Seminars. Buying another simulator for Flying Companion Seminars was discussed since one of ours is unreliable. Last fall we bought one on Craig's list for \$250 (plus \$250 shipping) a maintenance manual for those we have, and totes for Flying

Companion materials. To qualify the simulators for validated IFR training the simulators need to be approved annually by the FAA. Costs for the proposed purchases will be researched and there will be a confirming vote to purchase at the next meeting.

Angie, who had brought her laptop and projector, demoed a world wide internet flight following map illustrating the flights through out a 24 hour period.

Angie reported that Carlisle Trucking is bringing up an Aerial Pietenpol biplane from the States that was donated to Begich Middle School for a Build-A-plane project. It will have an O-290 Engine that UAF Aviation Maintenance students will build. The Arlene Walsh, a teacher who started to build the plane was a 99 who passed away last year.

Gloria encouraged everyone to submit articles of interest to Melanie Hancock for the Flypaper.

The February meeting was discussed. It will be at the UAA Aviation Technology Complex with the purpose of acquainting the female students there about the 99s and our scholarships. Sample flyers were passed around for posting. For a program, Patty Livingston will give the PowerPoint presentation that she gave at the Fairbanks Aviation North Expo last fall which presents the history of the 99s and specifically the how to's of Air Markings. Because pizza is being brought in we will ask people to RSVP. Gloria will bring the pizza and Brenda will bring some of the bottled water left over from last summer's International Conference. Several others will bring soft drinks.

The International Cospas-Sarsat System will cease satellite processing of 121.5/243 MHz beacons from 1 February 2009. Petra Illig said the Pilot Shoppe is willing to sell the new 406 ELT's at cost to encourage pilots to purchase them. It is not a REQUIREMENT in the USA yet, but you risk not being found. Eventually all aircraft will be required to have a 406 MHz device. Petra's willingness to sell at cost to permit safety was lauded.

Proposed Bylaw changes for our Chapter have been submitted to Cecile Hatfield International 99s General Counsel for review.

At 8 pm Sarah Lochner moved to adjourn and Jean White seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

A reminder was made that all interested in attending our Board business meetings the first week of the month, Mondays at 5:30 pm at Stewart Title are welcome to participate.

*Submitted by Mio Johnson
for Melanie Hancock, Secretary*

If you are going to be able
to look back on something
and laugh about it, you may
as well laugh about it now.

Marie Osmond