



# The Flypaper

The Official Newsletter of the Alaska 99s  
February 2011



## Notes from the Chair

We hope that you will be encouraged to invest a couple hours of your time in coming months and come away with some information or knowledge that will help you as a pilot. We will be featuring a series of "refresher programs" that enhance your piloting skills.

The first is a review of the Flight Review (BFR to the old timers) which will be February's program. Justin Essian of Artic's Air Academy will tell us how to prepare and what to expect at your next flight review. For those attending the Feb/March and April meetings, your name will go into the hat for a chance to win a free BFR from Artic's Air. The more meetings you attend the more chances you have to win!! Drawing will be held at the April meeting.

This will be followed up in future months with additional topics such as what to do when you lose a flight instrument, and other emergency preparation.....what you can do to help CAP and RCC better help you.....let us know if there is something in particular that you would like to see covered.

In March, the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held at the same time (6:00 p.m.) but a change of venue. The Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum on Lake Hood has graciously provided us with the use of their auditorium for the screening of the WASP documentary "She Wore Silver Wings". It will be followed with the opportunity to see highlights of new Museum exhibits. Be sure to join us (and get your name in the hat for the BFR).

Make time for and with us...you'll get a lot in return!!

Lani

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### Next Meeting

Wednesday, Feb. 9,

6 p.m. at

Peggy's Restaurant

across from Merrill Field

# Calendar of Events

Wed., Feb. 9	Regular Monthly Meeting
Tues., Feb. 15	Regular Monthly Meeting, Mat-Su Valley Chapter
Feb. 24-26	22nd Annual Women in Aviation Conference, Reno, Nevada
Wed., March 9	Regular Monthly Meeting - Aviation Heritage Museum
Fri., March 18	<u>DEADLINE for submitting Scholarship Applications</u>
April 30-May 1	2011 Alaska State Aviation Trade Show & Conference
May 6 - 8	Valdez Air Show and Fly-In
Sat., June 4	11th Annual Kenai Peninsula Air Fair
July, 2011	International 99s Conference, Oklahoma City, OK



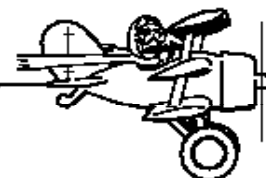
## 99s Online

**Chapter Website** ([www.ak99s.org](http://www.ak99s.org))

**National Website** ([www.ninety-nines.org](http://www.ninety-nines.org))

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

### Flypaper Facts



Deadline for the **March 2011** Flypaper is **March 1, 2011**. If you have an article, ad or information for The Flypaper, please contact Melanie Hancock by phone at 694-4571 or e-mail at [flyquilt@mtaonline.net](mailto:flyquilt@mtaonline.net). (Ads are placed in The Flypaper for members at no charge.)

#### NEW Subscription Rates:

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#### Mailing Address:

Alaska 99s  
P.O. Box 91962  
Anchorage, AK 99509

#### Alaska Chapter 99s Officers

<b>Chair</b>	
Lani Kile	696-5453
<b>Vice Chair</b>	
Melanie Hancock	694-4571
<b>Secretary</b>	
Jay Laxson	345-3639
<b>Treasurer</b>	
Brenda Staats	522-5330

#### Committees

<b>Scholarship</b>	
Helen Jones	222-9977
<b>Flypaper</b>	
Melanie Hancock	694-4571
<b>Flying Companion</b>	
Angie Slingluff	337-0253
<b>Membership</b>	
Mio Johnson	696-3580
<b>Scrapbook</b>	
Lavelle Betz	243-1898
<b>Aviation Museum Display</b>	
Pat Bening	
<b>Sunshine</b>	
Jean White	248-6967

Fly-Ins, Airmarking & Publicity  
Committees need volunteers.

## February Program

Justin Essian graduated from Western Michigan University College of Aviation with a Bachelors Degree in Aviation. He has a little over 1000 hours of flying, 700 of which are Alaska hours. Justin started his professional career as an aviator in 2009 and has not looked back since. Justin has a passion for flying, learning, and helping others do the same. The aviation road is a tough road to travel, but it is well worth it once everything falls into place. Hard work, respect, honesty, and humility are all key factors that play a major role in end.

Justin is currently employed at Artic's Air Academy. He will be talking about what's involved and what you need to know to get your BFR (biennial flight review). Bring a friend and join us on Wednesday, February 9.

## March Program: "She Wore Silver Wings"

Our March program will be held at the Aviation Heritage Museum at International Airport. We will be showing the film "She Wore Silver Wings." We will have a short tour of the new features at the Museum and finger food will be served.

In the 1940's flying was still a man's game. But when Pearl Harbor was attacked by the Japanese, the military's need for more pilots became essential. That's when young women pilots stepped up to the call. For the first time in the history of the United States, women pilots were recruited to volunteer their services by ferrying fighter planes, test flying new and repaired planes, and towing targets in the air for live artillery practice.

Of 25,000 applicants, 1,800 met the strict requirements for military flight school and just over 1,000 made it through training. Though some of these women were wives and mothers, no exceptions were made, they trained like the men yet had to meet higher standards to be eligible. They were paid less and had NO military benefits, NO medical insurance and NO burial benefits. Thirty-eight women died while serving their country in this capacity, yet the WASPs had to take up collections to send their sister's bodies and clothes home. There were NO flags on the coffins and no gold stars in their windows. Many believe that some of these deaths were due to sabotage within the military and although there was hard evidence (rudder lines cut, sand in carburetors and sugar in gas tanks) official investigations were never launched.

These women still held true and were dedicated to the cause--proud and motivated to do what they could to help. Then one sad day, after having flown over 60 million miles, the WASPs were disbanded. It was less than two years into the program. It happened just like that. She Wore Silver Wings tells the whole story from the beginning to the abrupt end, through interviews and memorabilia of WASP, Jean Landis, as well as original photos and footage. It's a subject that is still not well known but in 2009 President Obama signed a bill to award the WASPs The Congressional Gold Medal. On March 10th, 2010 a ceremony was held in Washington D.C. honoring the WASP for their service. There are approximately 300 WASPs living today who are in their late 80's and early 90's.

Please bring your friends, spouses, etc. and join us for the evening's entertainment.



The regular monthly meeting date for the Mat-Su Valley Chapter 99s is the third Tuesday of each month. At this time, there is no information available about the February 15 meeting. To check for information, please contact one of the officers listed below.

### Mat-Su Chapter Officers

**Chair/Vice Chair:** Patty Livingston  
746-2919  
**Secretary/Treasurer:** Toni Merrigan  
373-6569



### **Women Pilots of Alaska**

*by Sandi Sumner, author and  
Honorary Member of the Alaska  
Chapter of the 99s.*

*The first biographical history of women pilots in Alaska, this book explores the challenges faced by women as they pursued roles in aviation in the Last Frontier. Beginning in 1927 with Marvel Crosson and reaching to the present day, 37 adventurous and personal tales are included in this "must read". Contact Sandi Sumner at: [sandisumner@att.net](mailto:sandisumner@att.net) or Phone: 719-748-8012.*

## **Alaska Chapter Officers for 2011-2012**

It is once again time to select a slate of officers for the 2011-2012 operating year (June 2011 - May 2012). Positions to be filled are: Chapter Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. There are also Board of Directors positions open.

If you are new to the Chapter and would like to help out, the Board of Directors meets once a month, usually on the Monday in the week prior to the regular meeting which is held on the second Wednesday of the month.

A brief description of the officers' duties follows:

- **Chair:** Leads meetings (regular membership meetings and Board meetings) once a month. Represents the Chapter in the community.
- **Vice Chair:** Assumes responsibilities of Chair when necessary and arranges programs and speakers for the meetings.
- **Treasurer:** Keeps track of the Chapter's finances, income and expenses. Maintains a balanced checkbook and follows the chapter budget.
- **Secretary:** Responsible for keeping minutes of the membership meetings and board meetings and handles any correspondence required for the Chapter.

In addition to the officers, committee chair positions are available as listed on page 2. If you are interested in chairing one of these committees, working on a committee or running for one of the officers or directors openings, please contact Lani Kile or Melanie Hancock (info also on page 2).

## Scholarships Offered by Alaska and Mat-Su Valley Chapter 99s

Scholarships for women student and private pilots are being offered by the Mat-Su Valley and the Alaska Chapters of The Ninety-Nines. They are:

- \$1,000 Student Private Pilot Scholarship (Mat-Su Valley Chapter)
- \$1,000 Student Private Pilot Scholarship (Alaska Chapter)
- \$1,500 Advanced Rating Scholarship (Alaska Chapter)

Criteria for scholarship applicants are as follows:

- Eligibility: Alaska Chapter 99s and Mat-Su Valley Chapter 99s scholarships are open to female Alaska residents over 16 years of age.
- Applicants for the Private Pilot must have already soloed.
- The scholarship winner must agree to complete the goal for which the scholarship will be used within 18 calendar months of award. The Scholarship monies will be sent to the recipient's flight school or instructor. If for some reason the Scholarship monies are not used, they will be returned to the awarding 99s chapter.
- The scholarship winner will also be required either to attend a 99's meeting to report on the progress toward her goal, or to submit a written report if unable to attend.
- Scholarships will be announced at the April Alaska Chapter 99's meeting; meetings are always the second Wednesday of the month.

Application forms are available at: <http://www.ak99s.org/documents/2011ScholarshipBrochure.pdf>

Applications must be received no later than the 3rd Friday in March (March 18, 2011).



The 22nd Annual Women in Aviation Conference will be held at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, Nevada February 24-26, 2011. All of the following, including detailed descriptions for everything the conference has to offer, can be found on the WAI website at [www.wai.org/11conference](http://www.wai.org/11conference).

- Browse and shop an extensive exhibit hall
- Meet with human resources professionals from dozens of companies, some of which are accepting resumes
- Take part in hands-on clinics, seminars and workshops
- Have an opportunity to meet several of the Women Airforce Service Pilots, designers of today's newest aircraft and aviation enthusiasts from around the world.
- Hear the Chief of Naval Operations, CEO's of aviation companies and humorous aviation speakers.
- Choose from dozens of educational seminars, all of which are approved for training for FAA employees
- Take advantage of a sightseeing tour of Lake Tahoe and Virginia City
- Network with thousands of enthusiastic aviation lovers just like you.