



The Flypaper

The Official Newsletter of the Alaska 99s
March 2011



Please join us Wednesday evening at 6 p.m. at the Alaska Aviation Museum for a special showing of the film "She Wore Silver Wings." During WWII, the WASPs flew over 60 million miles. This is one woman's story of achieving her dream. As a WASP, Jean Landis ferried pursuit aircraft all over the country. Her favorite plane was the P-51 Mustang. Bring a friend with you. Finger foods will be served.

Spring is around the corner and with it the "flying" season begins. Some of the scheduled activities coming up are: 26th Annual Seaplane Seminar on April 16, the Alaska Airmen's Association 2011 Alaska State Aviation Trade Show and Conference April 30 and May 1, the Valdez May Day Fly-In and Air Show May 6-8, the Kenai Peninsula 11th Annual Air Fair on June 4 and Palmer Air Fair and Rendezvous will be Saturday, August 6 at the Palmer Airport. These are not the only activities, but this much should get you through Spring into Summer. Fly Safe!

Lani

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Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 9, 6 p.m.
Alaska Aviation Museum
4721 Aircraft Drive
Anchorage (Lake Hood)

Calendar of Events

Wed., March 9	Regular Monthly Meeting - Aviation Heritage Museum
Tues., March 15	Regular Meeting Mat-Su Valley 99s
Fri., March 18	<u>DEADLINE</u> for submitting Scholarship Applications
Wed., April 13	Regular Monthly Meeting
Sat., April 16	26th Annual Seaplane Seminar
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
Sat., Aug. 4	Palmer Air Fair and Rendezvous

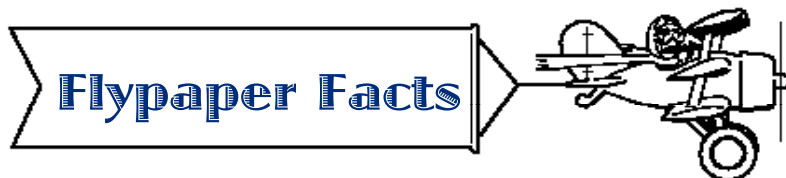


99s Online

Chapter Website (www.ak99s.org)

National Website (www.ninety-nines.org)

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



Deadline for the **April 2011** Flypaper is **April 4, 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. (Ads are placed in The Flypaper for members at no charge.)

<u>Alaska Chapter 99s Officers</u>	
Chair	
Lani Kile	696-5453
Vice Chair	
Melanie Hancock	694-4571
Secretary	
Jay Laxson	345-3639
Treasurer	
Brenda Staats	522-5330
<u>Committees</u>	
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
Aviation Museum Display	
Pat Bening	
Sunshine	
Jean White	248-6967
Fly-Ins, Airmarking & Publicity Committees need volunteers.	

NEW Subscription Rates:	Mailing Address:
Free via e-mail	Alaska 99s
Paper Copies \$15/year	P.O. Box 91962
	Anchorage, AK 99509

March Program: "She Wore Silver Wings"



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, anyone interested in aviation history and women's history, etc. and join us for the evening's entertainment. Finger foods will be served and the evening will include a short tour of "what's new" at the Museum.





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 March 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 or Phone: 719-748-8012.

Author Sandi Sumner to Visit in May

Our May program speaker will be long-time friend and honorary Alaska Chapter member, Sandi Sumner. Sandi is planning to be in Alaska for the Trade Show and stay on to speak at our meeting.

She has two new books coming out: "Wheels Up," the sequel to "Women Pilots of Alaska" and "Alaska Women's Journey," about women climbing Denali. Two of the women also climbed Everest. Both new books are about gutsy women doing what few ever attempt.

We will be inviting women from the Zonta Club (who also share a connection to Amelia Earhart*) to join us at the meeting, so we will be meeting at another location as Peggy's isn't large enough. As soon as a venue has been chosen, the information will be published.

In the meantime, keep the date open: Wednesday evening, May 11. Hope to see you there!

* In 1938 Zonta Club International established a fellowship in honor of famed pilot and Zontian, Amelia Earhart. The Amelia Earhart Fellowship is awarded annually to women pursuing Ph.D./doctoral degrees in aerospace-related sciences and aerospace-related engineering. The Fellowship of US\$10,000, awarded to 35 Fellows around the globe each year, may be used at any university or college offering accredited post-graduate courses and degrees in these fields.

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).



26th Annual Seaplane Seminar to Be Held in Anchorage

The 26th annual Alaska Seaplane Seminar sponsored by the Alaskan Aviation Safety Foundation will be held on April 16th. It will be at the AMD Building, just past CAP and The Aviation Museum on Lake Hood in Anchorage from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., registration begins at 8:00 a.m. Lunch will be provided.

Subjects will include a maintenance panel on seaplanes; how to make your first turn after takeoff NOT be your last, survival equipment for the pilot and airplane, taxiing and sailing with wind and seaplane flying techniques, and a discussion on how much risk we are "willing" to take. Dean Eichholz of the Alaskan Aviation Safety Foundation will be the moderator.

For additional information you may contact Dean at 907-262-3872 or 907-398-6228.

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 Chapter 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 recipients are as follows:

- 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.
- Eligibility: Female Alaska residents over 16 years of age.

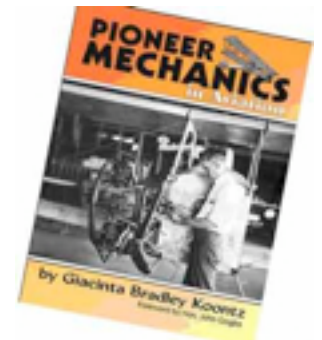
Applications must be received no later than the 3rd Friday in March (March 18, 2011). Application forms are available at: <http://www.ak99s.org/documents/2011ScholarshipBrochure.pdf>

New Items at Powder Puff Pilot

New items are available at Power Puff Pilot. Among them are new books:



fiction



non-fiction



Recorded at the Veteran's Memorial Building in Santa Rosa, California on September 19, 2009, six women relive exciting adventures of tow-targeting and flying over 77 types of aircraft to over 134 bases.

New Button Design



Logbooks for
Aspiring Aviators

For more information, go to the website: www.powderpuffpilot.com