

MAY/JUNE 2009

FLIGHTLINE

Lisa Cotham, Governor, Southeast Section 99s

Judy Bowser, SES Newsletter, Editor



The Southeast Section officers:

Governor – Lisa Cotham
Vice-Governor – Marlene Raseta
Secretary – Judy Bowser
Treasurer – Nan Salomon
Immediate Past Governor – Corbi Bulluck

Article deadline 5th of each month

From Governor Lisa

All I can say is Wow and Kudos to immediate past Governor Corbi Bulluck and her Board of Directors for orchestrating the Spring Section meeting at Pensacola Beach. From the Friday evening beach-side reception to Saturday afternoon at the Navy Aviation Museum to the evening's banquet and virtual round-the-world flight, over 60 99s and guests celebrated our common joy of flight.

Saturday's Museum event resulted in our meeting approximately 10 women pilots and FWPs, including a member of the former Florida Panhandle Chapter, who are interested in joining The 99s and chartering a new chapter in that area. We are working with Headquarters to identify their applications and when we reach the minimum number of seven members, we'll help them through the chapter formation process. We hope that by Fall, we'll have a new chapter in the Southeast Section.

New Section Officers were also installed in Pensacola. Rounding out the Board for 2009-2011 is Vice Governor Marlene Raseta, Kitty Hawk Chapter; Secretary Judy Bowser of Florida Suncoast Chapter; and Treasurer Nan Salomon of Alabama Chapter. Corbi, who has left some Huge shoes to fill, will remain on the Board.

Stay tuned for future announcements about upcoming Section activities. See you around the Section.

Lisa

Southeast Section

At 9:15 a.m. on May 2, 2009 Governor Corbi Bulluck called the meeting to order. Governor Corbi welcomed the 99s members and said she was so pleased to see everyone and she appreciated everybody coming to the Spring Section Meeting. Governor Corbi said that "it strengthens me to be with you all!" Since there is not a 99s Chapter in the Florida Panhandle, one of the goals of this meeting is to establish a 99s Chapter in the Pensacola, Florida area. Governor Corbi said we have a tight agenda and we will try to stay on task.

The Governor asked the Board Members to introduce themselves. Governor Corbi introduced visiting International Board Member Lisa Cotham. Lisa will be installed as the new Southeast Section Governor at the Dinner Banquet on Saturday, May 2, 2009.

Report by Lisa Cotham, International Director:

There are two Buildings at our 99s International Headquarters in Oklahoma City, OK. Both buildings are in disrepair and need work. The tenant, Rocket Plane, that leased space in one of the buildings has moved out and owed back rent. This means a loss of rental income of \$35,000/year meanwhile Headquarters is looking for a new rental tenant. In order to raise money for the building repairs, a floor of inlaid tiles in the shape of a Compass Rose will be laid. Ninety Nine members will have an opportunity to purchase these inlaid tiles in their name or a loved ones. There will be a plaque at 99s Headquarters with the names of the people who purchased the tiles.

Due to cost cutting measures the 99s Magazine will now be published 4 times per year. The 99s Directory costs \$36,000/ year to publish. It is available on line for members to access, if 99 members want a printed copy of the Directory the cost now will be \$25.00/ea plus \$5.00 shipping.

With regard to the A.E. Scholarship Fund there was 4.1 million dollars in this fund last year; however, after the economic downturn the fund now has 3.2 million.

Lisa Cotham advised there was a new Section chartered in France a few weeks ago.

There is a new Bill HR2014 introduced into Congress that would award the Congressional Gold Medal to the WASP's for their valiant service to their country in World War II. Please logon to website, Wingsacrossamerica.us to learn more.

Lisa Cotham advised that all Chapter Chairs should have already received Credentials for the 99s International Convention. Please contact Thelma Call, Credentials Chairman if you have not received them.

With regard to the Proposed By Laws which will be voted on at the 99s International Convention, Lisa referred to By law #1 which encompasses the Termination, Suspension or Expulsion of a 99s member. In the current By laws there is no process in place that covers this membership area; That is why this proposed 3 step process was developed. Governor Corbi Bulluck says, "it's a way to protect the integrity of the 99s organization and to protect the membership of the individual."

Also, under Membership there is a proposed change in regard to the Future Woman Pilot (FWP). They will have 2 years as an Associate Member to get their pilot's license. After 2 years, they will pay full dues and will still be an Associate Member with no voting rights. There is a proposal that the Academic Member category be eliminated. The proposed By laws also defines Military Pilot's Membership criteria. Another By law clarifies the 99s International Board's responsibilities for employees that work for organization and not individuals.

Report by Barbara Strachan, Endowment Fund Chairman:

Barbara Strachan advised that most major organizations operate an endowment fund. The Endowment Fund is the foundation of an organization. The 99s dues alone are not enough to support our organization. The goal of the 99s Endowment Fund is to attain one million dollars and then interest only money will be used after the million dollars is attained. Last year we had \$400,000 in the Endowment account. With the economic downturn, that sum is currently reduced to \$ 330,000. However, Barbara is optimistic that the economy will recover. The Endowment Fund has no employees. Barbara explained that all donations made to the Endowment Fund go to the Endowment Fund.

It is possible to have monthly credit card deductions earmarked to the 99s Endowment Fund. Barbara advised less than 33% of 99s Chapters have made a donation to the 99s Endowment Fund. Last year

every Section had made an Endowment Fund donation. There are numerous ways to donate. If you use the search engine website, Goodsearch.com and click on 99s Endowment Fund as your choice...then the 99s will get a donation each time you do a website search. Also, if 99s use the website Goodshop.com, the Endowment Fund will get a percentage of the purchased item. Please put these 2 websites in your Favorites List and use them often.

Endowment Fund note cards are also for sale at \$10.00 each. Jaime Gonzales, New Orleans Chapter said that a member of her chapter, Mary Brown had recently passed away and that the New Orleans Chapter will make a donation to the Endowment Fund in her honor.

Report by Becky Ritter, Aviation Activities:

The Activities Form was distributed to every Chapter in the Southeast Section. Chapter members keep a log of their aviation activities and a final tally from each Chapter is submitted. Becky thanked all the Chapters (6) who participated. They were Blue Ridge, FL Suncoast, FL Goldcoast, Kitty Hawk, New Orleans and Paradise Coast. Under the Category- Highest Average Points per Member...the Winners were:

1st Place - Paradise Coast; 2nd Place – New Orleans; 3rd Place – Blue Ridge

In the Highest Total Points Category...the Winners were:

1st Place – Paradise Coast; 2nd Place – FL Goldcoast; 3rd Place – FL Suncoast

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Report by Barbara Strachan, Sun 'N Fun:

FL Suncoast Chapter has the privilege of acting as the 99s Host at Sun 'N Fun held in April at Lakeland Airport. Co- hosts Nancy Wright and Barbara Sierchio and many hard working volunteers man the 99s Building on Club House Row and welcome 99s from far and wide during the week long event. Barbara Yeninas mentioned that the 99s Club House is an oasis for 99s and their families. It's a place for them to refresh themselves, get a cold drink and do some hanger talking. The FL Suncoast Chapter had their monthly meeting at the 99s Club House on Saturday, April 25. During Sun 'N Fun there's a 99s Membership Drive to attract female pilots to join the 99s organization.

Governor Corbi referred to Chapter Reports for Activities on Pages 14 thru 22 in your Agenda handout. Since Corbi had difficulty with her computer and may not have received some of these reports, she asked if anyone would like to give an oral Chapter Report or would like to add to their report already submitted.

See Final Treasurer's report as other email attachment.

Alabama Chapter advised they were weathered out on their Airmarking plans.

Florida FirstCoast Chapter – Governor Corbi mentioned that Eileen Tonkinson, Chapter Chairman had recently past away and will be missed greatly. She asked the other 99 Chapters to help this Chapter by their moral support.

Carolinas Chapter, Liz Lee said due to airport construction problems, the Chapter's Airmarking projects in both North Carolina and South Carolina airports have been postponed.

FL Goldcoast Chapter, Pat Blasi advised their chapter had several members who were judges at the NIFA Competition. The Chapter's Greiner Scholarship Award amount was raised to \$2,000.

Florida Spaceport Chapter, Carol Gosling advised that CarolAnn Garratt was a guest speaker at their Chapter meeting in November 2008 before she undertook her Dash for the Cure Flight Around the World. Also, the Chapter had a NASA representative as a guest speaker whose topic was the Retirement of the Space Shuttle in 2010. Carol said some of the Chapter members, also worked at the NIFA Competition.

Florida Suncoast Chapter, Barbara Strachan, Chapter Chairman advised that on May 9, 2009 at their Chapter meeting there will be the Installation of New Officers. The new Chapter Chairman is Marilyn Shafer; Vice Chairman is Judy Bowser; Jeanne Burklund is Treasurer and Jane Oparowski is Secretary.

Georgia Chapter, Jean Harris said in September 2008 the Chapter had a cookout in Peachtree City. The Chapter meets every other month and has dinner together.

Kitty Hawk Chapter, Hanna Mari Salo advised six (6) Aviation Scholarships were awarded.

Memphis Chapter, Virgilea Sworts suggested there be a joint Section Meeting between the Southeast Section and the North Central Section, perhaps in the Memphis area.

Mississippi Chapter, Stacy Brooks advised that she just got her Private Pilots license and plans to get an IFR Rating. Congratulations!!

New Orleans, Jaime Gonzalez advised the Chapter has a Slumber Party every year. As a fund raiser they sold tickets for a ride in a WACO. This year she was the winner and enjoyed it. In Spring 2011 the New Orleans Chapter will host a Section Meeting in Lafayette, LA. Liz Lee won the Goody Bag from the Lafayette Convention Center.

Paradise Coast Chapter, Jessica Stearns advised she travelled to New Zealand and Australia and Lynn Graham toured Vietnam.

Memphis Chapter, Virgilea Sworts advised that "Mama Bird", Evelyn Johnson will celebrate her 100th Birthday in November 2009. The 99s are planning a big celebration for this event. Governor Corbi advised that Barbara Walters- Philips, AE Chairman said she did not have enough AE Scholarship applications this year. Corbi encouraged everyone who is interested in applying for an AE Scholarship to do so. Even if you were turned down previously, please try again. Corbi explained that you must be a member of the 99s for a minimum of one (1) year in order to apply.

Embry Riddle Chapter, Carol Gosling reported for this Chapter saying that they have gold wing pins for sale and also tee shirts. At the Valkyrie Airmarking, ten (10) members from Embry Riddle came out to help paint a 99s Compass Rose.

Unfinished Business:

Governor Corbi advised you must have Tax I.D. numbers for each Chapter if you are fund raising or have a Chapter Bank account. All 99 Chapters must have their own Tax I.D. numbers and are not allowed to use the Section's Tax I.D. number.

Governor Corbi recognized the Winner of the Outstanding Ninety Nine of the Year Award as Sonia Bortolin, FL Goldcoast Chapter. Pat Blasi was asked to read her letter of recommendation regarding the

many reasons Sonia was awarded this honor. A donation of \$50.00 will be donated to the Endowment Fund in Sonia's name.



Friday afternoon, Marie Grein shows the class how to make pop rockets



Friday evening's reception at Pensacola Beach



Saturday Night's speaker, CarolAnn Garrett, told us about her 8 day flight around the world.

FL Suncoast Chapter

The May meeting was the Installation of Officers meeting. Installed were: Marilyn Shafer, Chair; Judy Bowser, VC; Jane Oparowski, CS; and Jeanne Burklund, CT. They had a 15 year old guest interested in learning to fly. She asked many questions and they answered many ways.

The June meeting will be in Crystal River (KCGC) and hostess will be Gudi Davis, Glider pilot, speaking about gliders. Also present, will be the Aerospace winners. They plan to go to their favorite Greek restaurant for lunch after the meeting.

Marie Grien and Jeanne Burklund have been working with Girl Scout Troop 684. The final requirement was completed at their end-of-year party on May 30th. We met at Largo Central Park and had an air race with the planes the girls built at a meeting last

month. The girls had 3 chances to fly their planes. They had flags to mark their landing spots. The winners were awarded medals during our awards ceremony. The results were:

1st Place Victoria McManning

2nd Place Michelle Burklund

3rd Place Francesca Ingrassia

They thank Marie for all of her work with the girls—and thanks to the Suncoast Chapter for supporting aerospace education in their area.



The Winners

Georgia Chapter

June 9 — Social Dinner at the Downwind at PDK—7pm

Come by, enjoy dinner and meet some other 99s. Discuss upcoming events and activities. Feel free to bring new pilots or potential members. All welcome.

June 10/11 — PDK FAA meeting 7pm both days

June 13 — ATL tower tour at 10am — must RSVP to attend. Limited spaces available. Email georgia99s@yahoo.com

Subject to cancellation based on weather situation

This article was in the June issue of *Flylines*, the newsletter of the Eastern New England Chapter of the 99s. Before

moving to New England, Lucy Young was a member of the North Georgia Chapter 99s (currently the Georgia Chapter).

January 15th dawned just like any other day, on call as a reserve A320 pilot for US Airways in Boston. I was due to be off for several days on the 16th and planned to fly out to Chicago the next morning for my aunt's 90th birthday bash. I got a call at about 3:45 pm from a friend that said one of your planes is down in the Hudson, check the CNN web site. As I saw the live coverage of ferry boats nudging up against our now floating Airbus, my heart sank. The negative coverage that ensues after an airliner goes down is always difficult for an airline employee. I envisioned people drowning or freezing to death in the back of the aircraft. Memories of a previous LaGuardia mishap came flooding back. As I am the co-chair of the pilot union's Critical Incident Response Committee, I sent out a quick email to my team, packed my bags and headed to Logan where I caught the next shuttle to New York. In a matter of hours, the response was fully underway. We desperately wanted to get our crew the help that they needed.

The Critical Incident Response Program (CIRP) was developed by the Air Line Pilots Association in 1994 to lessen the psychological impact that distressing critical incidents have on crew members and accident investigators, and to accelerate normal recovery from those events before harmful stress reactions damage job performance, careers, families and health. I was trained as Peer Support Volunteer in 1996

and had assisted my fellow pilots for 13 years. We are definitely not “shrinks,” but are line pilots who can listen and offer some education about what the pilot may be going through.

Upon arrival at the designated hotel where everyone was gathering, I was gratified to see many of my fellow pilots already there to assist the pilots of flight 1549, Sully Sullenberger and Jeff Skiles. Sully and Jeff arrived and went to their rooms to relax. Later on, Gary and I from the CIRP team met with them for a defusing. We assured them that we would be there throughout to help them get through the aftermath. I

knew Sully from working together in the early 90’s so it was easy to reconnect. All of these conversations are kept confidential per CIRP guidelines.

The next day the crew was preparing for NTSB and company interviews. Gary and I put together a CIRP “debriefing” for early afternoon. More intensive than a defusing, the goal of this process is to mitigate the

negative impact of the accident and to teach crew members skills that they can put to use right away to help them cope. The premise of the debriefing is that what the crew experienced emotionally is a normal response of a normal person to an abnormal situation. A Mental Health Professional is present to lend professional expertise to the group and look for any red flags that someone might need professional help right away. The crew members, CIRP peer volunteers and the MHP were present for this group. The crew was given stress management information to take home and to share with their families, and encouraged to call any CIRP peer volunteer to answer any future questions or concerns.

I had the honor of accompanying Jeff to Chicago on United Air Lines on Saturday after he completed his interviews. Another peer volunteer accompanied Sully home to San Francisco. It was an incredibly rewarding experience to help out our crew members that had experienced this life changing event. I even made it to my aunt’s party in Chicago.

Kitty Hawk Chapter

Chapter meeting: June 6, 2009 - 11:00 AM at Michael J. Smith Airport (KMRH), Beaufort, NC

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Coming Events

July 22-25 2009 The Ninety Nines International Conference, Chicago, IL

August 2, 2009 : EAA Air Venture, Oshkosh, WI

November 5-7, 2009 : AOPA Expo 2009, Tampa, FL

July 2010 : The Ninety-Nines International Conference, Kona, HI

July 2011 : The Ninety-Nines International Conference, Oklahoma City, OK

COMING Southeast Section Meetings (note change with Fall 2010)

2009

Fall: Southeast Section/Blue Ridge Chapter, Asheville, NC

2010

Spring: FL Goldcoast Chapter Key West, FL

Fall: Southeast/NorthCentral Sections TN, Host TBA

2011

Spring: New Orleans Chapter, Lafayette, LA,
Southeast/SouthCentral Sections

Fall: Paradise Coast Chapter, TBA

The next 5 pages is the newsletter from our sister Section, New Zealand:

**The Ninety Nines Inc
New Zealand Section**



Governor: Sue Campbell
Vice-Governor Gretchen Jahn
Secretary-Treasurer Thyra Blaom

[Newsletter May 2009](#)

Dear Members,

Queens Birthday weekend is just a few weeks away. We shall soon be attending our AGM at Ashburton – I look forward to catching up with everyone.

For this issue Secretary-Treasurer Thyra has kindly given us an interesting insight into her busy life as a pilot for Air NZ, flying a B777:

[Flying Around the World](#)

“Hong Kong today, London tomorrow, a few sleeps later it’s the reverse and I’m back home, slightly dazed. Time becomes something the clock tells you. Important decisions get made after a personal assessment of how “present” I’m feeling.

The route from Hong Kong to London must rank as one of our most scenic, certainly on the long haul system. We fly over China with terrain rising above 22000’ not far to the west of track. Minimum Safe Altitudes reach up to 18500’. After a few hours, in good visibility we cross the Great Wall and turn West across Kazakhstan. After a few hours crossing Russia we feel welcomed by the Europeans as they descend us over Scandinavia and into London.

If you have a chance to cross the Atlantic, I recommend the beautiful Northern Lights on display from around the Hudson Bay eastwards. London to Los Angeles when we’re heavy and staying low (FL320 or less) to avoid hefty head winds allows for views of icebergs off Iceland and the snowy peaks of Greenland.

Nothing seems the same or “normal” in this line of work. I meet new people I’m going to spend the next 12 hours with just before we collect our paperwork. It’s difficult to be part of anything regular at home since I’m not home

every Monday or Saturday. We get very little notice for the next four weeks of work. It's good if you can sleep wherever and whenever and eat whatever and whenever. Sometimes you just accept that you're hungry for dinner but need to wait two hours for the hotel restaurant to open for breakfast.

But what job allows you to spend the morning with the kids on the beach, cross the Pacific Ocean and have another swim on the Eastern Coast now on the same day. Or perhaps I've flown to Vancouver, it's winter, and I'm up the slopes in the snow.

Narita was the first time the signs didn't tell me whether I was headed towards a golf course, the Buddhist temple garden, or the mall. I couldn't ask for directions. I couldn't tell what the food was I was eating. Fried crickets, pickled everything, I didn't get sick and I found my way back across the rice paddies.

My first flight to Beijing and first time to China, was our second service and just before the beginning of the 2008 Olympic Games. Except for a red stamp we seemed to be missing, immigration was very smooth. They even have a little button you can push to indicate your satisfaction level with their service. The brand new terminal complex is only one of the architectural marvels the Chinese managed to erect in time for the games.

The traffic was restricted to clear up the air so it seemed very peaceful. The welcoming volunteers were out in full force eager to practice their English and show off their hospitality. I opted for a tour to the Great Wall. Although it was a hot 33 degrees, I thoroughly enjoyed the views from the top. I had done some bargaining at the markets in Hong Kong but that was nothing compared to the aggressive salesmanship displayed by the Chinese. Beijing in December seemed very cold and stark in comparison to my first trip. Besides the freezing temperatures, the volunteers were gone and the traffic was back.

But public transport is easier to use than the bus system in Auckland. It's cheap, clean, and trains come every 2-4 minutes; so I explored the Forbidden City, Olympic venues, markets galore, and the old Hutong areas. These are full of interesting shops and eateries, including fried scorpion on a stick.

My favourite tour of duty is a quick trip to San Francisco. I get to have dinner with a very close friend from high school in Chicago. I look forward to weekend nights in Los Angeles because I can go contra dancing, something my dad introduced me to as a teen. I haven't spent any time overnight in Tonga, Rarotonga, Tahiti, or Nadi yet. Australia also just gets the visit to the tarmac for a post/pre-flight walk-around inspection. Every destination seems to have its perks so come book a flight with me." *Thyra Blaom*

Here are some interesting photos from Thyra:



The Gobi Desert to our north



Tian Shan Mountains, near Urumqi, MSA above 22000', airway width only 10.8NM in Chinese Airspace



Approach to 25R Hong Kong



View out my hotel window in Hong Kong, across the Victoria Harbour



Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco

Thyra also writes: "While on the 747 I flew to Narita, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Cairns, Melbourne, Brisbane, Hong Kong and London. After Oliver was born (*Thyra's youngest of three children*) the routes changed to almost exclusive London trips, one via LAX and one via HKG. These trips are 10-12 days away from home. For family reasons I switched to the 777. I enjoy both fleets. In the past year I've been to Beijing, Vancouver, Singapore, Perth, Melbourne, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Narita, Osaka, Tahiti and Rarotonga. The route London via Los Angeles gives a pretty good show of the Northern Lights sometimes, but Hong Kong-London is scenically the best. Currently the 777 is flying to LHR via HKG, and the 747 is flying to LHR via LAX."

Thanks for this insight into your world, Thyra

Members' News

I hope you have been enjoying some autumn flying. I made it to the Classic Fighters Airshow at Omaka over Easter and caught up briefly with member Jenny Gordon who had flown down in her Chipmunk. It was a wonderful air show in spectacular surroundings – I would recommend it to anyone contemplating it for next time (2011). The photos below show a Sopwith Camel (left) being readied for the practice day and the Red Baron's Fokker Tri-plane returning from a mock battle (right).



I also had an enjoyable visit from Pam Collings, who stayed with me for three nights while in Auckland partly for family reasons but also for NZAWA/Silver Wings project reasons. *Sue*

Rosie Musters writes: "In 2 weeks time, I'll be heading for Hawaii to spend a week with the US Coast Guard followed by a week of exploring. " She has made contact with some Hawaiian 99s and hopes to meet up. We look forward to hearing full details of your adventure, Rosie, plus any advance information about the Conference which will be held in Kona, Hawaii next year.

Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting is scheduled for 0830 hours at the Mid Canterbury Aero Club clubhouse on Sunday 31 May 2009. If anyone has an item of business for the agenda please let Secretary Thyra know promptly.

Sadly our Vice-Governor Gretchen will be returning to the USA mid-June and so will be unavailable to continue in her position. So members, please consider whether you would be prepared to stand as Vice-Governor for a 2-year term.

Next year it will be the 30th anniversary of our Section formation – so let's hear your ideas of a suitable way to celebrate!

Pam is arranging for our 99s plaque to be brought from the archive to the AGM – so all members will be able to view it.

See you all at the AGM,

Sue

Sue Campbell

Governor