

FLIGHTLINE

SouthEast Section

Newsletter

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Paradise Coast Chapter Hosts 2nd Annual Sunshine Derby

In the pre-dawn hours of January 23rd stillness prevailed over the LaBelle airport. An eerie fog layer wafted across the runway as the dew hung heavy on the grass. In less than two hours, airplanes were to arrive for the start of the 2nd annual Sunshine Derby. But where was the sunshine? Would there even be a Derby today?



As time ticked on and the darkness gave way to light, the canvas of white gave hints of the vastness of blue sky above. A gentle breeze was developing and the fog bank moved steadily across the airport revealing sucker holes capable of giving up an airplane from its position of flight to its triumphant return to earth. Shortly after 0800 the drone of an engine was heard above and an airplane streaked across the sky somewhere enroute to GPS 14 approach into LaBelle. Moments later, the sounds

Grew louder but the elusive plane was nowhere in sight until it crossed the numbers on the missed approach and appeared, almost as if by magic on a downwind for 32. The south end of the runway had cleared even though the approach end to 14 was blanketed in the fog. Moments later, sunshine 9, Tamra Sheffman, and Sonia Botolin arrived at the fuel pumps. The race was on!

Slowly the remaining contestants of the Sunshine Derby all arrived and refueled before being ushered to their pre race tie down spots. Jessica Stearns, the Chief Judge and Terry Carbonell, race chair, Gave the final briefing as the pilots and the crew listened intently. The ceiling was still relatively low but flyable VFR came the reports from spotters, Janet Quinn at X36, Carolyn and Bruce Skaggs at X06 and Lynn Graham at X01. All were in place and ready to go.





Sunshine 1, Vince and Donna Minnillo, fired Up their Cherokee 140 for their 3 hours, 255 Statue flight around south west Florida. While it is typical to let the fastest plane Depart, first to avoid congestion, the length of Trip and the lateness of the start due to the Low ceiling necessitated an early depart of The slowest planes. We did want to see Sunshine 1 and Sunshine 2 back before nightfall!



With a mighty burst of speed the racers were off, disappearing to the north-west, one by one, they settled into their flight strategies with the hope of being the most precise aviators for the day.



The sunshine Derby is an annual proficiency race hosted by the Paradise Coast Chapter 99s. The object is to predict your exact time enroute and fuel consumption over the 255 mile course. This is a race about speed nor endurance, but it is about your airplane and how well the pilot can be the master over time and fuel.



As the race continued on, Those left back at the hangar Were hard at the business at Hand,; enjoying the DB Foods Bar-beque of chicken, burgers, and a host of side dishes and desserts. Spectators came by car and plane as far away as Kentucky joining the 99s and the Grasshoppers for a day of fun flying, hangar flying, good food and fellowship.





The first to return was Sunshine 4, Jim Deutch and Graham Foster. The speedy trip at 174 mph let them enjoy the best of both worlds, a quick flight at just under 1 1/2 hours, plus the fellowship and food. Other racers followed them in, the flock being spread out by distance, time and strategy until finally, Sunshine 1 came back to roost after 3 hours, 7.5 seconds. This is going to be close as many of the racers came in within *seconds* of their predicted times. The fueling was an ongoing process with the pump meter being covered while the pilots re-filled their tanks and were verified full by Judy Browser, the fuel judge. Groans and shouts of glee could be heard echoing across the field.



Finally, the moment of truth: who would follow Richard Haldeman and Steve Fort as reigning Champions? First the "bests": Best Fuel – Sunshine 4, Jim Deutch and Graham Foster, estimating their fuel within 1/10/gallon! Best time – Sunshine 2 – Terry Carbonell and Vernon Conly, a mere 7 seconds off of their estimated time. And the winners are:



First Place: Sunshine 2, Terry Carbonell and Vern Conly



Second Place: Sunshine 1, Vince and Donna Minnillo



Third Place: Sunshine 4, Jim, Deutch and Graham Foster



Fourth Place: Sunshine 11
Susan Carastro & Robin Holtisinger



Fifth Place: Sunshine 8
Gary Crittenden & Sylvia Massey

We thank all of the sponsors, volunteers, Paradise Coast 99s and to those who flew the race and those who came for the BBQ. All proceeds raised will benefit the Paradise Coast 99s "Wings over Paradise" scholarship fund.

Congratulations to Terry Carbonell for obtaining her CFI rating!

Florida Suncoast Chapter

The Florida Suncoast Chapter would like to invite you to our meeting at 10:30 followed by the Strawberry Cookoff at the Plant City Airport on February 13th. It will be held in the Pilots' Lounge (the 2nd hangar to your right as you face the FBO). Make your favorite strawberry dish and enter it in one of these categories: Appetizers, Salads, Main Course or Dessert. A panel of judges will do a blind tasting and prizes will be awarded. Lunch will be a potluck. Please bring your favorite dish to share. Everyone is welcome!

If your chapter would like to sponsor one of the W.A.S.P. attending Sun 'n Fun this year, it's not too late to contact Nancy Wright for all the information at wright99@tampabay.rr.com. Help us honor and appreciate these women who paved the way for us! A mere \$300 would cover the room cost for two members of the W.A.S.P. and ease the burden of their expenses to travel for OUR benefit.

W.A.S.P. Luncheon

Sponsored by The Ninety-Nines, Inc.

To Honor the Women Air Service Pilots for their Service



Of the hundreds who volunteered only a few remain to tell their stories. Eight plan to attend the luncheon. Be a part of living history and join us in honoring their service.

"If the nation ever again needs them, American women will respond. Never again will they have to prove they can do any flying job the military has. Not as an experiment. Not to fill in for men. They will fly as commissioned officers in the future Air Force of the United States with equal pay - hospitalization - insurance - veterans' benefits.

- * **Thursday, April 15th, 2010**
- * **Sun 'n Fun Fly-In at KLAL**
- * **11:30 a.m.**
- * **\$16.00**

THE WASP HAVE EARNED IT FOR THESE WOMEN OF THE FUTURE"
WASP Byrd Howell Granger, 43-W-1

Advanced reservations via check or PayPal must be received no later than
April 3rd, 2010.

Mail your reservation and check payable to Nancy Wright
122 Highland Road
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689
727-946-1050
wright99@tampabay.rr.com

Or use PayPal: paysc99@fpcg.net



Two-Day Accelerated Instrument Test Prep Seminar

Returning To Your Area

Hi Everybody...

Just a note to say hello and to let you know that I will be doing our celebrated two-day accelerated **Instrument Written Test Prep Seminar** in your area again in the very near future. Here's a partial list:

ATLANTA, GA - 1/23-24/10 * TAMPA, FL - 2/20-21/10

NEW ORLEANS, LA - 2/27-28/10 * RALEIGH-DURHAM, NC - 3/13-14/10

Our full posted schedule can be viewed on our website: www.aviationtestprep.com.

You are being notified as our mailing for these classes has recently gone out and these Instrument Written Ground School classes do have a tendency to fill up fast. So, if you know of anybody who might be interested in getting their FAA Written Knowledge Test out of the way, *I'd sure appreciate the referral!* ... and I'll see to it that they get in the class. Either give me their name and contact information and I'll be happy to call them or have them get in touch with me directly. Please ask them to mention your name when they call so that I know whom to thank.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RE-ATTEND A SEMINAR AS A REFRESHER, please see our **Graduate Refresher Program (GRP)** on our website at the bottom of the "Registration" page. By the way, just so you know, with a referral your re-attendance fee will be significantly reduced. You might want to check it out. You can get more information and/or register for a seminar online or, if you prefer, simply call us on our toll-free number 1 866 511-0056 (please be sure to press 1 at the prompt). The best time to call is between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. pacific time.

Please feel free to forward this email to anyone you know that might need to get their instrument written test out of the way.

This was sent to me by Mary Wunder. I thought someone might be interested.

AVIATION SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded by Central Pennsylvania Chapter, The Ninety Nines Inc., *introduced Jan 2010*

WHAT? One \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a deserving female pilot (US citizen) who has the desire to expand her knowledge and experiences in aviation.

APPLICABLE TO EXPERIENCES IN AVIATION such as...

- Air racing registration entry and expenses
- Training: aerobatic, soaring, seaplane rating, spin recognition and recovery training, mountain flying, ballooning.
- Volunteer flights e.g. Angel Flight, Pilots 'n Paws
- International competitions
- This award is not applicable for private, commercial, instrument, multi-engine, CFI, CFII, ATP certificates, licenses or ratings.

WHEN? Deadline for postmarked entries is April 1, 2010.

HOW TO ENTER? Email Margaret Duncan, Scholarship Administrator, mrd1139@aol.com for official application form. Information is also available on websites www.mid-atlantic99s.org or www.ninety-nines.org

QUALIFICATIONS: Female candidate must possess a pilot's certificate and complete and send in the application form which must be postmarked by the due date, **April 1, 2010**.

Send to...

**Margaret Duncan
Scholarship Administrator
1139 Dry Powder Circle
Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania 17050-7330**

APPLICATION: Includes resume with contact information, two (2) one page letters of recommendation from persons who have knowledge of applicant (see attached application for specifics), copies of all aviation certificates (including pilot and medical), and 150-200 word typed essay describing applicant (schooling, profession, flight experience, etc.), how the monies will be used and why you think you should be awarded this scholarship.

These are reimbursement scholarships which mean that monies will be forwarded to the winners once receipts and/or documentation is presented after the activity is completed. Special arrangements can be made available to forward monies to the flight school or business conducting the training. Contact the scholarship administrator for these arrangements.

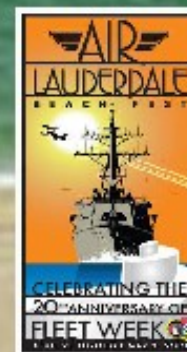
The Florida Goldcoast Chapter of the 99s, in the Southeast Section, proudly presents

Airfest on the Ocean



Join us April 23 – 25th, 2010 for the exciting Southeast Section Meeting during the Ft. Lauderdale Air Show, Directly on the beach in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Accommodations: Courtyard by Marriott, 440 Seabreeze Blvd., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316
For reservations call 1-800-321-2211 and use the code 99s
Room rates: \$129.00 per night with a 2 night min. for bayside view
\$149.00 per night with a 2 night min. for an Oceanside view.
Both rooms are available in doubles. A King suite is \$159.00.
This rate is good only until March 23, 2010 after that, if avail. \$ 259 - \$378
Parking a car will be an additional \$15.00 per day, with in and out allowed.
The hotel info can be viewed on the internet at www.marriott.com/FLLCO



Registration fees are as follows:

Registration for members (before March 15th) _____ @ \$ 89.00 _____
(after March 15th) _____ @ \$ 99.00 _____
Optional Dinner Jungle Queen Friday night _____ @ \$ 40.00 _____

Guest Tickets: (these are included in the registration fee above for 99s)

Saturday afternoon gathering by the pool _____ @ \$ 20.00 _____
Saturday Breakfast Buffet _____ @ \$ 35.00 _____

Total Registration \$ _____

Make checks payable to Florida Goldcoast Chapter of the 99s

For each 99s registering please provide us: Name _____
Nickname _____ Address _____
Email address _____ Telephone _____ Cell _____

For each guest attending please provide us with: Name _____

Saturday evening dinner: 7:00 pm at Bubba Gump Shrimp Company at the Marriott. Group seating, separate checks, order from the menu. _____ joining us.

How will you be arriving? Car Commercial Flight # _____ Airport _____ Airline _____
Private Plane _____ N number _____ FXE _____ Opanyan FBO _____ OPF – Miami Executive Station _____ FLL _____
estimated time _____ # in plane _____ Will you be renting a car? _____ yes _____ no _____

Mail Completed registration form with payment to: Becky Ritter, 77420 Overseas Hwy, Islamorada, FL 33036

To pay by credit card, go to www.flgoldcoast99s.org

Submitted by

Kitty Hawk Chapter

We had a flying adventure in December. We flew IFR up to Leesburg, VA to visit our daughter & her husband for the weekend. She was the featured artist at the Leesburg / Louden County Arts Council. It was a First Friday Downtown Leesburg event, with blocked off streets, open art galleries, antique stores, wine tastings, etc.

The forecast was for possible snow. We had made hotel reservations for only Friday night. Saturday morning it was already snowing hard, more forecast, and we were now snowed in for the weekend. We extended our hotel stay.

The kids are used to the snow, so we all went off to the Air & Space museum next to Dulles and had a wonderful day.

Sunday morning the sky & streets were clear, so we drove out to the Leesburg airport. They informed us that the airport was closed, and of course we had to have clearance before we could depart, as we were in the Dulles airport / DC restricted air-space. So we cleared snow from the Bonanza while the snow plows cleared the runway & taxiways. It was truly a beautiful day!



Margaret Moore's Bonanza at Leesburg, VA



Margaret's Bonanza in the snow



Leesburg, VA blanketed in snow



360 degree contrail taken by Margaret Moore

Blue Ridge Chapter Associate Member Solo's

I would love to tell you about my first solo. I soloed on January 22nd in the Cessna 152. It was a wonderful experience that I know I will never forget. As soon as Mrs. Orr got out of the plane, I was shaking all over. As she was leaving, I asked her where she would be, as if it made much of a difference once I was in the air. As soon as I took off for the first time, I looked out to make sure I could see her red vest watching. For whatever reason, it was such a relief to see her standing there.

As for my plans with aviation, I hope to obtain my pilot's license as soon as possible. I've been given the most wonderful opportunity to use my Wofford Interim semester to build up my hours. I hope to eventually work my way up where I can fly with my dad in his Bonanza. I know it'll take a while, but it will definitely be worth it.



Associate Member of Blue Ridge Chapter,
Kate Hendericks with her CFI Mrs. Orr



NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER

New Orleans Chapter member Jan Oreck and 49-1/2 David hosted the International Board of Directors at their farm in Mississippi for a long range planning retreat. Lisa Cotham arranged transportation to and from the New Orleans Airport with the help of Bea Desper and Margaret Jones. President Susan Larson, Secretary Pat Theberge, Treasurer Kris Irvin-Herron, and Directors Virginia Harmer, Joan Kerwin, Corbi Bulluck, and Fran Strubeck were treated to a welcoming Cajun dinner and enjoyed a farewell dinner with the Orecks. As is Jan's custom, a group picture was taken in front of their cabin.

The next chapter meeting will be Saturday, February 20, at the Louisiana Regional Airport in Gonzales, LA, half-way between New Orleans and Baton Rouge at which time we'll make a final selection of the host hotel for the Spring 2011 joint Southeast/South Central Section meeting in Lafayette, LA, tentatively scheduled for Mar 31-Apr 3.

Governor, Lisa Cotham

Florida Gold Coast Chapter has planned a super Section meeting for us April 23-24 in Fort Lauderdale. They have established on-line registration at fgoldcoast99s.org. Be sure to check deadlines for hotel reservations – this is one you won't want to miss.

Spring is the annual meeting when we receive chapter reports, so Chapter Chairmen, please prepare a report of your chapter's activities for the past year and have it to me no later than April 15. It's good to share our success stories and our not so successful stories. Section Chairmen, please have your report to me by April 15 as well. All reports will be copied and provided to each attendee.

On a sad note, a few weeks ago I learned of the death of a pilot with whom I was familiar by his reputation only – buzzing his workplace and public events, excessive climb and bank on departures, below minimum approaches – you get the picture. He leaves behind not only his family, but the family of his passenger, a co-worker whose wife had just delivered their first child prematurely and was still in the hospital.

The probable cause won't be determined for some time yet, and while we hear things like, "Oh but it's how he would have wanted to go," I'm sorry, but that's not acceptable. When we know a fellow pilot who takes unnecessary risks, we must find the courage to approach them. If our comments only plant a seed, it will be worth the effort when the fruit of that seed results in a safer, and living, pilot.

Fly safe and see you soon!

Lisa



Eileen Malan, Section Membership Chair

REMEMBER TO USE THE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS DATED AUGUST 26, 2009

The application form to join The Ninety-Nines has been modified to reflect the addition of the new 'Associate' member class. Please destroy all your old copies of the application and begin using the new one. Go to the Join Us area of the website and click on Membership Application to download the current form. Using the old form will delay the processing of new members.

Section Statistics as of December 31, 2009

Arabian 17

Mid-Atlantic 347

Australian 37

Nepal 1

Austrian 8

New England 158

Brazil 3

New York-New Jersey 232

British 8

New Zealand 15

East Canada 126

North Central 708

Far East 6

Northwest 435

Finnish 6

Norwegian 5

French 12

Russian 21

German 46

South Central 765

India 12

Southeast 526

Israeli 9

Southwest 1,530

Members at Large 16

West Canada 50

Mexico 1

TOTAL 5100

Alabama Chapter

The Alabama Chapter and the Birmingham Zonta Club held their annual Amelia Earhart luncheon, Jan. 9, 2010. This was the 14th annual event to raise funds for the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum. Our speaker was Kim Green, a Ninety-Nine from Nashville and translator of the book *Red Sky, Black Death - A Soviet Woman Pilot's Memoir of the Eastern Front*. Kim donated her time and travel to help our donation total. We sent **\$1,434.38** to the AEBM. This event is a wonderful event for the Ninety-Nines and Zontians to socialize along with other invited guests. Besides the luncheon profits, we held a silent auction and raffle to increase our donation.

Florida Goldcoast Chapter Celebrates 70th Anniversary

Based in Miami, the Florida Goldcoast Chapter was chartered on January 7, 1940 as the Florida State Chapter, the first and only 99s chapter in the state. Starting with 14 charter members it has been going strong for 70 years and currently has about 50 members representing all aspects of aviation. One of the original 99s, Viola Gentry belonged to Goldcoast until her death. The chapter now is proud to have three WASP as members.

One of Goldcoast's first big projects was the 1947 Womans Air Show, which included a transcontinental air race from Palm Springs, CA to Tampa, FL. The race evolved into the Powder Puff Derby. Two years later members organized the International Air Race, which became the Angel Derby. The air racing tradition is maintained by several members who actively race today.

In 1965 members from Florida's west coast left the "mother chapter" to form the Suncoast Chapter and members in the northeast part of the state chartered the Spaceport Chapter. The original Florida Chapter became the Florida Goldcoast Chapter and was the first in Florida and the Southeast Section to be incorporated. As the number of women pilots grew in 1975, the Gulf Stream chapter spun off to better serve the Fort Lauderdale to Stuart area.

Throughout its history Goldcoast has fostered opportunities for women in aviation through



Left to right, standing: Connie Wilds, Tamra Sheffman, Ursula Davidson, Becky Ritter, Nancy Hejde and Natalie Anton.
Seated: Chairman Pat Blasi, Sonia Bortolin and Kristen Jurn.

mentoring, financial assistance, exhibits, forums and celebrations. Since 1982 Goldcoast's main project has been providing scholarships to help women achieve their aviation goals. Formerly the Griner Scholarship, last year the name was changed to honor member Fran Sargent, who founded and nurtured the program. Two students at Florida Institute of Technology recently received \$2,000 each, bringing the total number of scholarships to 27.

Now the Goldcoast members are looking forward to hosting the Southeast Section Meeting at the Fort Lauderdale Air Fest, April 23-25, 2010.

Coming events:

Strawberry Cookoff: Feb 13 Plant City Airport 10:30

WASP Luncheon: April 15 KLAL

Scholarship Application Deadline: April 1

SouthEast Section Meeting: April 22-25 Ft Lauderdale, FL