

# FLIGHTLINE

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## SouthEast Section News- letter

Governor: Judy Bowser

Skylanegirl@gmail.com

Vice Governor: Terry Carbonell, godusty@hotmail.com

Secretary: Ursula Davidson  
Uflyway2@aol.com

Treasurer: Hanna-Mari Salo  
HMSalo@hotmail.com

Immediate Past Governor:

Lisa Cotham Pizani

Lisacot@earthlink.net

## Governor's Corner Happy Holidays!



As we make ready for the upcoming Holiday Season, I want to express my appreciation to all of you, in the Southeast Section, for all you do for this great organization. Without you there would be no 99s! Our section is growing, but we need your help to make it grow more. Can you imagine if everyone of us brought in a member, in the next 6 months, how



fast we would have grown, and what an awesome group of ladies we would be? That is all it takes, just each of us bringing in a lost member, or finding a new one. Our present membership, as of 30 Nov, is 491, up from Oct.

Chapter Chairs, we need to make sure we keep our members. It can be in your hands. Keep your meetings fun! We are all in this as a "hobby" and if we make work of our gatherings, no one likes that, including you. So let's lighten up, if you have not, and make 99s a fun organization to meet with. Remember our mission statement of "promotes advancement of aviation through education, scholarships, and mutual support while honoring our unique history and sharing our passion for flight."

I have sent the paperwork to the IRS, again, and our agent is looking at it, to determine if we can obtain our group exemption. If you have any questions regarding this subject, feel free to contact me. I will be happy to answer your questions to the best of my ability. My email address is: skylanegirl@gmail.com, my home phone is: 239 772 5431. If I am not there, leave a message and I will get back with you as soon as I can. If anyone has a need or a question about anything in 99s, please, I am here for you! Call or email me, please!

If you are trying to find a unique gift for one of your friends or family, consider purchasing a tile for our Headquarters Compass Rose in their name. Even though the Compass Rose is completed, some of the tiles are available to purchase until they are all bought. See the 99s website for further details.



Until next time, have a very Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, and a great and prosperous New Year!

*Judy :-)*



## **Blue Ridge Chapter**

The Blue Ridge Chapter 99s completed an air-marking project at the Anderson SC airport on November 12th. They were assisted by some members of a local EAA chapter that Chapter Chairman, Lori Irvin-Connorton belongs to. The group completed the project in a fairly short amount

of time due to the fact that the

ladies made letter templates out of Tyvek prior to the event. 99s member Danna Park even brought her two children to participate. The kids loved the idea of getting to paint on a "real life" taxiway. They also thought it was fun getting to drive in their car across a runway with their hazard lights on! The Blue Ridge Chapter 99s next air-marking project will be at the Spartanburg, SC airport in 2012.



## **FL Suncoast Chapter**



The month of November was a busy one for Chapter Chair, Marilyn Shafer, as she taught with Jeanne Burklund and Barbara Strachan, at the Girl Scout IP College, on November 5<sup>th</sup>. She represented the chapter at NIFA (National Intercollegiate Flying Association) in Melbourne on November 10 and 11, and followed this event by participating in the creation and painting of the Compass Rose, November 12, at Sebring Regional Airport.

The **Girl Scout Interest Patch College** kept us busy with a paper airplane flying contest, using the Microsoft Flight Sim X and iPads, researching women aviators for end-of-the-day presentations, and learning all about the forces of flight and controls. The day flew by and started us thinking about having a half-day program such as this with the entire chapter involved and using it as a fundraiser.

**NIFA** is an experience that each of you should put on your aviation list of activities at some point in your fu-future. The seven colleges represented, sent teams to this competition, who participated in all facets of flying and were judged on every leg of their pattern; from takeoff through landing. I was able to experience the judging of Message Drop, Power Off Landings (judging their turn to base and base leg), and Spot Landings. John Lawler was the chief judge and organizer of this week long event and had it planned down to the minute. Judges were treated to reduced rates at the Hilton Rialto Place, a complimentary full breakfast, lunch each day, the awards banquet on the final day, and as royalty throughout the day with water and transportation services. A judges' briefing each morning, set the tone for the day and allowed time for all judges to get to know one another, as the pairings for events changed with each event. It was wonderful to be surrounded by so many aviation enthusiasts. You won't be disappointed if you are able to give a day or more to support our



The **Compass Rose**, at Sebring Regional Airport, was spearheaded by Laura Sherwood, from the FL Spaceport Chapter. Members came from FL Spaceport, FL Suncoast, and Paradise Coast Chapters. As you can see, it turned out beautifully. Besides those pictured below, there was an additional five participants who were unable to stay until the bitter end. This group began working around 8am and completed the Rose by 4:00pm. John Yeninas worked tirelessly with Laura in laying out each measurement for the Rose and the beautiful 99 in the center. The rest kept plugging along, with the edging and paint fill, as the Rose took shape. FL Spaceport's Laura really had her act together and came well prepared with rollers, roller covers, newspaper, brushes, chalk, yardstick, protractor, a 99 template, and lots of expertise. The complimentary lunch at the FBO restaurant was delicious and plentiful. If you need another \$100 ham-



burger location, Sebring Regional offers much more than hamburgers to tempt your taste buds along with their reasonable prices. If you like a mini-trip back-in-time, try a night at the Kenilworth Lodge, in Sebring, which was built in 1919. A relaxing place to stay. It was a windy, but pleasant day on the tarmac and Marilyn says her legs are just now getting back to normal after hours of bending. But she stated she'd do it all again, for the outcome and the fun they had with 99s from across Florida.

## **Meet your Board of Directors**

I thought you might like to get acquainted with your SE Section BOD members. This month I am featuring our Secretary, and FL Goldcoast Chapter Chair, Ursula Davidson.

When Ursula learned to fly, while living in the Bahamas in 1973, she did not expect it to change her life, but flying opened up a wonderful new world and started her on an exciting new career. Ursula, her husband and son had gotten “sand in their shoes” while vacationing in Freeport and moved there from Washington, D.C. to develop a condominium complex in 1967. They loved the islands and flying a small plane was a great way to enjoy them.

Circumstances changed, but moving to Miami, getting a divorce, and having to start over financially, didn't keep Ursula from flying. With a commercial certificate and a multi-engine rating she flew charters for a small corporation. She got a job teaching ground school at Opa Locka Airport. Then the Ninety-Nines came to her rescue and awarded her an Amelia Earhart Scholarship to get her flight instructor certificate.

She flew 1,000 hours during her first year as a freelance flight instructor. Fran Sargent, a fellow 99 and college professor, suggested Ursula teach part-time at Miami-Dade Community College. With a Master's degree from her previous career as a journalist and her increasing aviation credentials, she was soon teaching full time. Ursula coached the flight team to win the Southeast Regional NIFA (National Intercollegiate Flying Association) competition. She has served on the NIFA Council and continues to judge SAFECON events.

Ursula moved to Broward Community College to become the first woman to head a collegiate aviation department. While there, she developed the Aviation Institute with its own building, hangar and ramp that linked the campus with North Perry Airport. She secured FAA certification for a new aircraft mechanics school and expanded the flight program. Ursula is most proud of the many students she helped with their careers.

For her contributions to aviation education, the University Aviation Association honored Ursula with United Airlines' William A. Wheatley award. She received the Glenn Curtiss Award from the Greater Miami Aviation Association. The Florida Goldcoast Chapter awarded her its first Griner Memorial Scholarship for her Airline Transport Pilot certificate. Ursula was inducted into the Forest of Friendship in 1999.

Retired in June 2000, Ursula has been enjoying life with her partner, John Archibald, who is also an aviator. They both enjoy writing and traveling by commercial or private planes and motor home. When they aren't traveling they divide their time between homes in Miami and Valkaria, Florida. Originally from Cincinnati, Ohio, Ursula has a son, daughter-in-law and 10-year-old grandson in Washington, D.C.

Always active in the Ninety-Nines, Ursula was recently installed as Southeast Section secretary and has taken on chairmanship of the Florida Goldcoast Chapter for the third time. She has filled various roles for the Grasshoppers, Florida's female flying club.

Throughout her aviation career Ursula always found time to teach flying and to fly many different aircraft for business and pleasure. She has over 6,800 flight hours with close to 4,000 instructing. No longer teaching formally, Ursula enjoys flying Young Eagles, helping inactive pilots get back in the air and keeping Ninety-Nines connected.



Last month found us celebrating/remembering our Veterans. Our gals who were WASPs and WAFS are remember best by the books about them. Powder Puff Pilot celebrated last month with a collection of books available for purchase from the website. Many of the titles are: **Daughter of the Air: The Brief Soaring Life of Cornelia Fort** , by Rob Simbeck; **Flight from Fear**, by Sarah Byrn Rickman; **Nancy Batson Crews, Alabama's First Lady of Flight**, Sarah Byrn Rickman; **Flying for Her Country: The American and Soviet Women Military Pilot of World War II**, by Amy Goodpaster Strebe; Nancy Love and the WASP Ferry Pilots of World War II, by Sarah Byrn Rickman; **"Sharpie" The Life Story of Evelyn Sharp, Nebraska Aviatrix**, by Diane Bartels; **She Flew Bombers: From the Factories to Bases in World War II**, (a story about Violet Willey) by Jeane Slone  
Any of these books would be a great Christmas Gift for yourself or someone else. See [www.Powder Puff Pilot.com](http://www.PowderPuffPilot.com) for these and other great gifts.

## **New Horizons**

By Sophia Payton

Florida Suncoast Chapter: WASP: Leonora (Nonie) Horton Anderson passed on 8/20/11 at age 95. Leonora was a member of the WASP class: 43-7. After the war, she settled in Washington DC where she was a Physical Education teacher and a flight instructor. Throughout her lifetime, she held various jobs such as: selling Cessna planes, public relations writer and photographer for Fairchild engine, assistant editor for Shell Oil Company, writer for TWA Airlines, traveling all over the world. In 1977, Nonie retired from the Air Force as a Lt. Col. and was awarded the Meritorious Service Award for her national publicity programs at the Pentagon. In her later years she continued teaching. She joined the Florida Suncoast Chapter in 2001, at the age of 86. She attended several WASP luncheons at Sun'N'Fun. Previously a member of the New York Chapter, she was predeceased by her husband, Alex Anderson, a Navy Ace. (Information was provided by her niece: Laura Brunson, 8015 Conservatory Dr., Sarasota, Fl. 34243)



## FL Spaceport Chapter

By Bobbi Lasher

**JOINT VENTURE:** November 12<sup>th</sup> was a **v-e-r-y** long day. Four members of our Chapter left home before 5 am to drive to Sebring (Mary Anne Demmer, Verba Moore, Laura Sherwood and Bobbi Lasher). There we started laying out a new compass rose. We were joined by Marilyn Shafer, Barbara Yeninas and her 49 ½, Don, and Dominique Mellow from the Suncoast Chapter; Ellen Herr and Terry Carbonell from the Paradise Coast Chapter; Carol Ann Scanlon and her 49 ½, Donald Goldberg, from the Gold Coast Chapter. We all discovered muscles we forgot we had. The Rose was laid out and all of the white was painted when we went to JR's Runway Café for lunch, courtesy of the Airport Authority. After lunch we painted the blue and then black inside the center circle. The Work was finished about 4pm. We all had a good time and enjoyed getting to know some members of the other Florida Chapters.



Laura Sherwood, Ellen Herr, Verba Moore, Barbara Yeninas, Terry Carbonell, Bobbi Lasher, Marilyn Shafer and Mary Anne Demmer showing that they really did get their hands dirty!

## Alabama Chapter

**AMELIA EARHART LUNCHEON - Saturday, January 7, 2012, Birmingham YWCA - 11:00 AM.** Cost is \$30 with \$15 being considered a donation to the AEBM, a 501(c)(3) organization. This is our annual luncheon with the Birmingham Zonta Club with the profits going to the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum in Atchison, KS. Please make your reservations with Nancy Miller-Borg at [alabama@aol.com](mailto:alabama@aol.com) or 256-538-2672 no later than Jan. 2. This is always a fun event with silent auction items and a raffle. It is open to family and friends and would be a wonderful event for young girls to meet Cheryl who is a great role model. We can arrange transportation if you wish to fly. Our speaker will be *Cheryl Sterns*, an aviator and the most successful competitive skydiver in the world. She has made over 18,000 skydives, the most of any woman in the world. A few of her many accomplishments - Wiley Post Commission's 2005 Wiley Post Spirit Award

recipient. This annual award recognizes an aviation innovator and pioneer who does not receive government or large corporation's funding. A specially created Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI) Centenary Medal awarded to her for her significant personal contribution to the development of air sports and aviation (October, 2005). Diplome Leonardo da Vinci, the world's highest award in aerospports, for her unique achievements in skydiving. Two-time Women's Overall World Champion in style and accuracy parachuting (1978, 1994) A total of 30 world records in parachuting. At one time held four different world records simultaneously: a feat no other parachutist, man or woman, has matched. Being the first female member of the Army's elite parachuting team, The Golden Knights. Check out more information at <http://cherylstearns.com>

## **Mississippi Chapter**

By Maryke Houben

The first IF women arrived at 9.15AM and there was a steady flow until 10.00AM. We had 26 women show up and they were all eager to meet with us and hear our stories. Maryke welcomed the group and introduced the MS 99's where after Inga took over to conduct a little IF meeting. New members were welcomed and everybody needed to introduce themselves and tell us where they were from. What a diverse group of women! Just awesome!!!

We decided to split the group up in 4 subgroups which would rotate from one station to the next to the next and to the last.

Station 1: Rachel Morris and Crystal Harris talked about what it takes to become an ATP. Which career path you need to walk before you can be a Captain on a Boeing 737 or so.

Station 2: Janet Miller talked about her experience participating in the Air Race Classic this summer. She showed them the route and told her about the rules, participants and everything else.

Station 3: Movie about the Nepal 99's.

Station 4: Maryke Houben showed every group the different airplanes at the Madison airport and told the ladies everything they wanted to know about them. She also showed her airplane.

We all went to lunch afterwards at Biaggi's and had a wonderful time. At the table we would answer all the questions the women still had. Some were very inspired by us and wanted to come out for an introductory flight.

Thank you Rachel, Crystal and Janet for your great presentations. I heard a lot of the IF say that it was their best meeting in years! We can be proud of ourselves ladies!

Way to go girls!

Submitted by Barbara Harris-Para, Carolinas Chapter

### **FOREST OF FRIENDSHIP 36<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

The 36th anniversary ceremonies at the International Forest of Friendship will be held in Atchison on [June 15 \(Fri\)](#) and [16 \(Sat\)](#), 2012. Come join us to make new friendships, renew old ones, and have a great time. Honorees will be inducted to join the nearly 1400 individuals who are enshrined along the Forest's pathways.

The Forest's overall theme is "World Friendship through Flying." Candidates for induction can be anyone who has contributed, or is contributing to all aspects of aviation and aerospace. Honorees need not be pilots. In 2012, the specific focus is on: "Flying, Forests and the Future." Candidates are particularly encouraged who:

- have contributed to the promotion of aviation and aerospace, or who
- have helped preserve or explore forests and natural habitats through aviation and aerospace (support of state and local units fighting forest fires, aerial resource surveys [domestic or overseas], environmental work, etc.)
- One of the 2012 themes is to emphasize achievements by younger honorees, so candidates who are under 35 are preferred, but this is not mandatory.

There will be a special ceremony to honor Dr. Wangari Maathai, who graduated from Mt. St. Scholastica College (now Benedictine College) in Atchison in 1964 and who passed away in [September 2011](#). She founded the Green Belt Movement, an environmental non-governmental organization focused on the planting of trees, environmental conservation, and women's rights. In 2004, she became the first African woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize for "her contribution to sustainable development, democracy and peace."

The Forest would very much like to strengthen its ties with the Ninety-Nines in 2012, and hopes to induct twenty-five honorees sponsored by Ninety-Nines chapters. More information about the Forest, as well as sponsorship, registration and lodging information, is at the [www.ifof.org](http://www.ifof.org) website.

We look forward to seeing you in Atchison.

## **Carolinas Chapter**

BY ALICE THOMAS

Special to The Pilot

At the age of 6, Barbara Para first became aware of aviatrix Amelia Earhart.

"My grandmother owned Amelia Earhart luggage, and I asked her why they had named it after a woman," Para says. "My grandmother told me that she was a world traveler who went missing years ago."

Although Earhart famously disappeared in 1937 while attempting to fly around the world, she set



numerous aviation records during her lifetime.

In 1932, she became the first woman to receive the Distinguished Flying Cross after she flew across the Atlantic alone, setting a new trans-Atlantic crossing record of 13 hours, 30 minutes.

Today, as a pilot and flight instructor, Harris-Para often uses Earhart's legacy as inspiration.

"When I am flying solo and get worried about the weather or whatever, I say to myself, 'Amelia had a lot less items to depend on in the cockpit, and if she could do it, then surely I can, too,'" she says.

Harris-Para and fellow pilot Eileen Malan want to introduce Amelia Earhart to another generation of youngsters who may not yet have heard of her daring exploits.

On Thursday, Nov. 17, at 5:30 p.m., they will do just that at the Family Fun Night program at Southern Pines Public Library.

"Family Fun Night is open to kids in grades 3-5 and their parents, and a free dinner will be served, courtesy of the Friends of the Library," says a library spokesperson.

Both Harris-Para and Malan are members of the Ninety-Nines, an international group of female pilots. The organization got its name from the original 99 pilots who were the founding members in 1929, and Earhart acted as the group's first president.

"Amelia was light years ahead of her time," Harris-Para says. "She flew planes at a time when most women didn't even drive and had only been allowed to vote for a few years."

Harris-Para also volunteers locally in the Young Eagles program, which was launched in 1992 by the Experimental Aircraft Association in order to give young people the opportunity to go flying in a general aviation airplane.

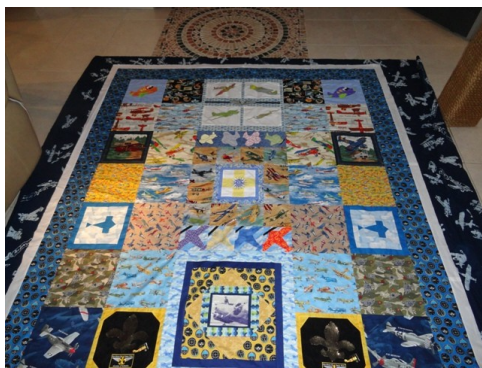
"By getting the kids into the cockpit of a plane, we spark an interest," Para says. She has personally taken more than 375 kids on free Young Eagles flights. Para and Malan hope that by doing programs like the Family Fun Night, they are helping to keep Amelia Earhart's memory alive. They want children to know that Earhart paved a path for bravery and dedication that anyone, male or female, can follow. "She was an adventurer," Para says. "And so many wonderful things can happen when you go 'outside the box,' as she did."

## **Southeast Section's Next Raffle Update**

Vice Governor, Terry Carbonell has been diligently working on our quilt, in her spare time, and Past Governor, Lisa Pizani's sister-in-law has agreed to stitch the quilt together on her special quilting machine for us.

Terry has sent the quilt to her and sent me the pictures to share with you. It will be a King sized quilt with two pillows

when completed!  
Thank you to all who contributed squares!



Quilt Front



Left—Pillows  
Above—Quilt Back

**\*\* MARK YOUR CALENDAR \*\***

**2011-2012**

**December 16-17** - International Conference of Women in Civil Aviation, Mumbai, India

**December 20** – Deadline for AEMSF application submittal to Section AE Chairmen

**December 31** – Deadline to submit Bylaws and Standing Rules proposed amendments

**January 17** – Deadline for submission of nominations to the International Awards Committee

**March 1** – **Due date for submissions to the 99 News for the Apr-Jun 2012 issue**

**March 23-24** – Spring International Board of Directors meeting, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

**April 27-28** – North Central Section Spring meeting, Dayton, Ohio

**April 27-29** – South Central Section Spring meeting, Durant, Oklahoma

**May 4-6** – Southeast Section Spring meeting, Pinehurst, North Carolina

**May 4-6** – Southwest Section Spring meeting, Studio City, California

**May 25-26** – East Canada Section Spring meeting, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

**June 1** – **Due date for submissions to the 99 News for the Jul-Sep 2012 issue**

**August 23-26** – Northwest Section Fall meeting, Walla Walla, Washington

**Future International Conferences**

**July 11-15, 2012** – Providence, Rhode Island, USA

**July 2013** – Bozeman, Montana, USA

*Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, and a Happy New Year to  
each and everyone!*

*Thank you for your contributions this month!*