

# Southeast Section Meeting

**October 15, 2011, Fort Myers, Florida**

The meeting was called to order by Governor Judy Bowser at approximately 0915. Introductions were made by the Board of Directors, Past Governors and International Director Corbi Bulluck. First timers introduced themselves.

Secretary Ursula Davidson took the roll call and announced 36 members present, representing 9 chapters out of 16 in the Section and comprising a quorum (40% required). Four chapter chairs, representing Florida Goldcoast, Mississippi, Paradise Coast and Florida Suncoast were present.

Carolinas	4 members present	Kitty Hawk	3 members present
FL Goldcoast	6 members present	Mississippi	3 members present
FL Spaceport	2 members present	New Orleans	3 members present
FL Suncoast	4 members present	Paradise Coast	10 members present
		Tennessee	1 member present

## Minutes of Previous Meeting

Karen Weldon, New Orleans, moved that the minutes be accepted as published. Motion seconded by Nancy Wright, FL Suncoast, and passed.

## Reports of Officers

**Governor:** Judy Bowser reported on the International Convention in Oklahoma City in July. Mary Wunder won a \$500 bet for the Endowment Fund by appearing in her Wonder Woman costume. The iPad2 raffle was very successful; \$4,285 was collected. Expenses were \$1,000. At next month's International Board of Directors Meeting the New Orleans bid to host the 2014 International Convention will be submitted.

**Vice Governor:** Terry Carbonell is working on the SOPs for treasurer and committee chairs. She is making a quilt for our next raffle fund raiser. Terry had requested two blocks of fabric from each chapter. She showed what she has received. She will accept additional fabric until mid-November.

An aviation motif fabric custom designed by Androsia in the Bahamas will comprise the back of the quilt. Terry will put the design on the website. Her goal is to complete the quilt by the end of December and to have the drawing at the International Convention in July 2012.

**Secretary:** No report by Ursula Davidson.

**Treasurer:** Hanna-Mari Salo reported that the Certificate of Deposit that just matured was renewed for 24 months at 1.41% APY. The principal is \$4,083.36; \$1,000 from the old CD was added to the operating fund. The Section's assets including CDs, savings and checking accounts total \$8,218.08. The complete financial report is in all attendees' packets.

The Section paid the \$3,000 application fee to the IRS for our group 501.c.3 exemption. Tennessee has contributed \$300 and Alabama \$100. Karen Weldon announced that New Orleans would contribute \$450 toward the application fee.

**Past Governor:** No report by Lisa Cotham Pizani

## **Committee Reports**

**Bylaws:** Marie Grein, not present, no report.

**Flightline:** Editor Judy Bowser requested members send information of chapter activities and individual accomplishments to [Skylanegirl@gmail.com](mailto:Skylanegirl@gmail.com). She emphasized that the purpose of *Flightline* is to communicate.

**IRS Section Group Exemption Status:** Judy Bowser resubmitted the Section 314-page application to IRS in Ogden, Utah with the \$3,000 filing fee in April 2011. She later learned from IRS agent Terry Miller that the application had been lost. Judy will submit the application again on November 1. This will give chapters who have not submitted their documentation an opportunity to be included.

**Ways & Means:** A chairperson and committee are needed for fund raising. Barbara Harris-Para, Carolinas, cautioned that use of the Ninety-Nines logo must be approved by the international trademark committee. Commercial vendors must pay a fee as well, but Sections and Chapters just need permission. Lisa Pizani, New Orleans, suggested that we get a table at International for selling raffle tickets and other items. Nicole Williams, Paradise Coast, volunteered to be on the committee.

**Membership:** Chairman Eileen Malen, Carolinas, reported that at the end of September there were 488 members in the Southeast Section, compared with 534 last Fall. We have lost 46 members in a year. We need to find new ways to recruit and retain members. Fran Strubeck, international membership chair, is a good resource.

Judy proposed the SE Section Board recommendation that we have a Chapter Membership Challenge. The chapter that has the greatest percentage of increase in membership from September 30, 2011 to March 31, 2012 would win. The Board requested a budget amendment to provide \$100 for a prize. Barbara Strachan, FL Suncoast, made the motion that Section budget be amended to provide \$100 for a prize for the chapter that wins the membership challenge. Barbara Harris-Para, Carolinas, seconded the motion.

A discussion ensued whether the membership increase should be based on percentage or actual numbers. Members voted to base the increase on actual numbers. The budget amendment passed

unanimously. Eileen will determine the winner based on which chapter has the greatest numerical increase in membership. Send ideas for the prize to her at [Eileen99s@yahoo.com](mailto:Eileen99s@yahoo.com).

**Scholarship:** Chairman Carol Knight, Mississippi, was not present. Judy Bowser gave Carol's report, which included a request that all chapter scholarship information and deadlines be sent to the website and kept up-to-date.

Lisa reported on the Bonnie and Archie Gann Scholarship. It was set up by the families after Bonnie, a past SE Section Governor, and her husband Archie were killed in an airplane accident. The scholarship has not been awarded for several years, but one \$1,000 scholarship for a CFI or CFII certificate will be awarded to a male or female at the Spring Section meeting. The Section helps to publicize the scholarship, but does not administer nor fund it. There is currently over \$11,000 in the fund. Applications and information will be on the Section website and sent to all chapter chairs. Vicki Sherman is a permanent trustee and Lisa is treasurer.

**Website:** Webmistress Terry Carbonell will post information, but others must supply it. She wants to create a page for each of the following: Scholarships, new ratings, job opportunities, quilting and fabrics, flying buddies, sharing space to Section meetings (car, plane or room) and events. Send items to [godusty@hotmail.com](mailto:godusty@hotmail.com) and note that it is for [www.sesection99s.org](http://www.sesection99s.org). Sonia Bortolin, FL Goldcoast, suggested that Terry add a blog page.

**Chapter Reports:** Representatives of the nine chapters present gave brief oral reports. Detailed reports are in the attendees' packets.

**International Representative Report:** International Director Corbi Bulluck, Kitty Hawk, said that a Board representative attends each Section meeting and they are careful to share the same information with each Section. She feels that the most important part of attending Section meetings is to bring local input back to the Board. Corbi reported that 32% of the 99s members completed the online survey. As surveys go that is a good return. Results will be announced later.

The e-mail network is an important tool for disseminating information and Corbi encouraged members to use it. Experimental aircraft that participate in 99s events are now covered by our insurance. There is no longer an extra insurance charge when children are involved in a 99s activity. Purchasing tiles for the compass rose at headquarters is a good way to honor someone.

October 31 is the deadline for application to seek office. Corbi encouraged members to get involved in the rewarding experience. "You get back ten-fold what you put into the 99s." January 15 is the deadline for 99s awards nominations. Information is on the international website. The printed directory will be available in November at a cost of \$15; the annual CD directory is sent free to all members. Breaks in membership can be forgiven if they are not the member's fault. In November six Ninety-Nines will be in China for the International Aviation Convention.

The next 99s International Convention will take place in Providence, RI, July 11-15, 2012. There is a new section in Ghana. The first officer of the commercial flight that went down in Katmandu was a member

of the Nepal Section. Corbi read the beautiful letter of sympathy that 99s President Susan Larson sent to the Governor of the Section. Barbara Harris-Para has interesting DVDs about the Nepal Section for sale.

Corbi invited all members to call her with questions or concerns. She assured us that the International Board of Directors do care and are approachable. Contact board members with questions regarding membership. Breaks in membership can be forgiven if they are not the member's fault. Cecile Hatfield, International General Counsel, FL Goldcoast, added that we could contact her with any aviation legal questions.

**New Business:** Tamra Sheffman, FL Goldcoast, invited everyone to attend a gala weekend in Freeport, Bahamas, for the opening of a new FBO there during the first weekend in December.

Lisa Pizani proposed an addition to the International Bylaws regarding bridging breaks in membership for returning members. Tamra Sheffman seconded the motion. The amendment prescribes how the member would pay for her lapse in membership in order to create a continuous membership. After discussion the motion passed unanimously by the 34 members present. Lisa will work with Section Bylaws chairman Marie Grein to finalize the wording of the proposal and submit it to the International Board by December 31, 2011.

**Endowment Fund:** Barbara Harris-Para, Endowment Fund second vice- chairman, reported that the fund total was \$580,000 last month. The amount goes up and down, depending on the market. She encouraged members to use the services that benefit the fund. They include Goodshop and Goodsearch, Dine to Donate, free insurance for non-flying part of poker runs, credit card club to donate, microfiber towel sales and contribution cards of six for \$50. The contribution cards make good thank you gifts.

Pins representing donations of \$500, bronze, to \$5,000, diamond, are available. Mary Wunder is working on getting a 99s credit card. Barbara is doing bequeaths. It is better to leave a set amount rather than a percentage of an estate. We need to reach \$1,000,000 so we will be eligible for grants and then can also use the interest earned on the principal.

**Raffle Drawing:** Eduardo Colon of Philadelphia won the iPad2. Barbara Harris-Para sold the ticket.

**Adjournment:** Governor Judy adjourned the meeting at 1210. The next Section meeting will be in Pinehurst, NC, May 4-6, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Ursula Davidson

Secretary, Southeast Section 99s

