

Join Our Email List



Southeast Section 99s Women Pilots

2021 SE Section Elections

Ladies of the Southeast Section,

The 2021 – 2023 Section Election will be going live on the Election Buddy website this Saturday, March 6th. Be on the lookout for an e-mail notice to begin the voting process. It only takes a couple of seconds to complete the ballot.

For those who have not opted in to vote electronically, physical mail ballots will be shipped out this weekend, Saturday, March 6th for you to complete and mail back in. I urge each and every one of you to exercise voting in the Election.

Please read the biographies of our candidates that we have provided to get an early start on knowing who they are if you do not already. Supporting your Ninety-Nines sisters is SO important. Time, effort, and expense are put into every election and we need to make it worth our while on all grounds. If anyone has any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me or another Nominating Committee member. We will help you in any way that we can.

We have some wonderful leadership in the Southeast Section... support these ladies!

Blue skies ahead for our Section! Stay healthy and safe!

Meagan Harr
Ninety-Nines Southeast Section Nominating Committee Chair

2021 SE Section Nominees

Governor (1 Position)

Janice Pelletti

**Vision Statement:**

My mom was a pilot, so the Ninety-Nines have always been a part of my life. I grew up in a time when careers for women in aviation were limited. Fortunately, during my lifetime, I have seen the aviation opportunities for women grow exponentially. It's been exciting to see this organization change to meet the new needs of women in aviation. As Governor of the Southeast Section, it will be my honor to continue to not only lead the 99s through the inevitable

growth and change but to help preserve the unique history we share.

Biography:

My early childhood memories include Ninety-Nine meetings around mom's kitchen table. At first, I opted out of aviation as a career because the medical waiver I needed with my uncorrected 20/400 vision severely limited employment options. I earned a BA in Journalism from the University of Minnesota and I established myself as a journalist. I founded my own international business communications firm, Smith-Orr and Associates. I started flying for fun in 1976 and rapidly added aviation to my career goals, despite the waiver requirements.

I hold ATP and Gold Seal Flight Instructor Certificates. My aviation experience includes; 141 flight school chief instructor, 135 fixed-wing air ambulance, corporate, Designated Pilot Examiner, 142 Training Center Program Manager at Northwest Airlines (NATCO), and Mississippi FSDO Manager. My work at NATCO included flying all seven NWA types. I'm typed in the DC-9 and BE-300. I worked as an FAA resource, giving check rides throughout the country.

I am retired and fly my BE-A36 for fun. I volunteer with Pilots and Paws and participate in therapy dog work. I am a licensed therapy dog tester/observer and Reading Education Assistance Dog Instructor.

Leadership Experience in the 99s:

MN Chapter
NC Section Meeting Chair; Secretary
TN Chapter Chair
SE Section Meeting Chair 2014
Appalachian Aviatrixes Chapter Founder and Chair; Scholarship Chair
99s News Reporter; Southeast Section Fall 2020 Virtual Meeting Chair/Organizer
New Horizons Scholarship Trustee
Southeast Section: Nominating Committee, Bylaws Committee
International Nominating Committee, Publishing Committee, Museum of Women Pilots Trustee

Other:

FAA FAAS Team Rep
Northeast TN Aviation Initiative Committee
CAP Mission Pilot/Check Pilot
FAA - Retired

Vice Governor (1 Position)

**Lois Horne****Vision Statement:**

The members of the Ninety-Nines, Inc. are assets to be utilized to achieve the organization's missions. I have found the ladies of the Ninety-Nines to be extraordinary and able to achieve any goal set before them. By bridging the expertise across the SE Section, as Vice Governor, I can assist our chapters with achieving their goals by simply asking other members to share or benchmark their success stories. Together everyone achieves more by open communication, collaboration, and sharing our success stories,

and gathering lessons learned from those not as successful. Keeping the attendance at the SE Section meetings high is a great way of ensuring that our members learn from one another how to reach those future women pilots, encourage today's youth to consider aviation careers, and support our aviation communities to show how important a strong aviation industry is to the success of the local economies.

Biography:

Lois Horne works in the pharmaceutical industry. She is self-employed and offers consulting services

to manufacturing organizations. She enjoys improving processes to increase efficiencies. She enjoys working in teams to drive engagement to the shop floor, perform root cause analysis, and respects others for the knowledge they have in the processes. Lois volunteers her time in the community. She was a head timer for three different Air Race Classic stops, been chapter chair in Central New York and Memphis. Lois volunteered to work with the cadet program of Civil Air Patrol teaching the youth aerospace education and search and rescue. Her flying passion started first in skydiving, then transitioned to flying while obtaining her doctorate degree. She held the office of vice president in the aero club helping the organization maintain the aircraft and membership. Lois completed her flying license and went on to complete her IFR certificate. Total flying time acquired is 440 hours in aircraft such as Cessnas, Cirrus, and Pipers. She is tail wheel and high performance rated. Lois has held the office of Southeast Section Vice Governor from 2019 and was the 2020 New Horizon Scholarship chairwoman and SE Section Compass Rose committee chair.

Leadership Experience in the 99s:

Memphis Chapter Chair, Scholarship Chair, Air-Marking Chair, New Horizon Scholarship Chair, SE Section Compass Rose Committee Chair, and 2019-2021 SE Section Vice Governor

Other:

Clemson University Flying Club Secretary, Vice-President
Greenbelt Six Sigma
Chemist, QA Manager

Secretary (1 Position)



Janice McWilliams

Vision Statement:

The Ninety-Nines have given me wonderful friends, kept me in touch with aviation advances and helped me improve my flying skills. My vision is for the Ninety-Nines to continue to provide all the benefits I've enjoyed. There have been many advances for women in aviation since I joined in 1976. I look forward to working in the Ninety-Nines as we evolve and meet the needs of today's women pilots, I also appreciate the history of the 99s and the importance of preserving the memory of the women who

paved the way for the opportunities we have today.

Biography:

My father is the reason I learned to fly. My father was a pilot and when I was 14, he bought a Piper Tri-Pacer. I remember flying to West Texas with a 40-knot headwind and watching the cars on the highway pass us by. Still flying was far better than driving. I learned to fly in Hot Springs, Arkansas obtaining my certificate at age 18. Later that year my father saw a notice about a proficiency air race and encouraged me to enter saying, I was sure to be the only female contestant. When I arrived for the race every pilot there was a female. That is how I learned about the 99s. I graduated UT Knoxville and moved to Memphis, Tennessee. I joined the Memphis 99s and held all the chapter offices. I completed my multiengine, instrument rating and flew in the 1979 Air Race Classic while in Memphis. I went back to school and became a pharmacist, where I meet my husband. We moved to St Petersburg, FL in 1987. I joined the 99s in Florida and have held all the offices as a FL Suncoast 99. I fly a Mooney Mustang that we purchased in 1992.

Treasurer (1 Position)



Caroline Hodges

Vision Statement:

Continue to provide the timely and accurate financial reporting established by the outgoing Treasurer so that the board can continue to make informed decisions.

Biography:

Caroline is a Certified Management Accountant (CMA) with a Master's Degree in Accounting and Information Systems currently working part-time as an accountant for Revolution Flight. She also works as a part-time skydive and aerial survey pilot. Prior to semi-retiring, she worked as the Financial Controller for a large international consumer products company for and for the Huntsville International airport. She has been an active member of the 99's for over 10 years and has been in the Treasurer position for the Alabama Chapter for the past 4 years. Her pilot ratings include commercial SE, ME, instrument airplane, CFII/MEI with 2600 hours. She lives in Huntsville, Alabama with her husband Frank, her

three dogs, and a cat.

Leadership Experience in the 99s:

Alabama Chapter Treasurer

Directors (2 Positions)



Anita Mixon

Vision Statement:

I enjoy working with new and experienced pilots and aviation enthusiasts. I have been a FAASTeam Representative since 2019. I promote aviation, and particularly, women and youth in aviation. As Awards Committee Chair, I resurrected the 99 of Note Award in 2020. As a Director, I look forward to further promoting the award and what it represents. I bring organizational, technology, mentoring, and leadership skills that will benefit our 99s, as well as allow me to learn more about the business side of our

wonderful organization and promote growth and increased membership.

Biography:

A former bank executive, Anita now works for the largest public utility company in the United States as a Senior Compliance Analyst. She also teaches technology and business courses at Palm Beach State College. She earned her Masters in Management Information Systems from Nova Southeastern University, School of Computer Sciences. She is active in the aviation community, serving as an officer in Air Race Classic and Treasure Coast Ninety-Nines.

Anita has worked at a local flight school/charter/ maintenance business. She has participated in numerous air races, serving on the Board of Great Southern Air Race / Florida Race Pilots for several years. Anita is the former Chapter Chair and Membership Chair of Treasure Coast 99s, of which she is a founding/Charter member. Anita is currently a Southeast Section Director, also serving as the Awards Chair. In 2020, she resurrected the Southeast Section 99 of Note Award.

Anita purchased a share in a Grumman Tiger last year. She plans on completing her IFR and Commercial in the next few months and taking the IGI exam when she takes the IFR written. That will qualify her for AGI, since she is an active educator at this time. Anita holds several FAA Wings awards.

Leadership Experience in the 99s:

FL Goldcoast Chapter Secretary
Treasure Coast Chapter Charter Member, Membership Chair, Chair
Southeast Section Social Media Chair, SE Section Director

Other:

Air Race Classic - Assistant Director
AOPA
WAI
EAA
FAASTeam Representative
Senior Compliance Analyst



Michele Sonier

Vision Statement:

I am proud to be part of the 7%. As a CFI, I am part of an even smaller number. I feel a responsibility to help other women achieve their goals in both aviation and other STEM-related professions. My goal is to be an open and available leader, a good example to others, and to encourage other women to follow their dreams and to persevere despite any obstacles. My goal for the section is to provide ways to build community, enhance skill and safety, grow the number of female pilots and increase 99s

membership.

Biography:

Michele has made a career transition into aviation after spending 25 years in securities trading, sales, and finance. Since 2005, she has owned a wellness consulting practice in nutrition and alternative medicine. In the last 4 years, Michele has gone from dreaming of becoming a pilot to being an instrument commercial multi-engine rated CFI and CFII. She owns a 1969 Cessna 172K and flies a variety of high-performance and tailwheel airplanes. Michele currently serves as Vice Chair of the NOLA 99s and is a member of the SE Section Nominating Committee. She received the 99s Amelia

Earhart Memorial Scholarship in 2019 for her CFI rating. She works as an independent flight instructor and contract pilot. She is passionate about instructing women in her age group who have previously struggled with flight lessons like she did. As a member of EAA, Michele gives Young Eagle flights specifically to young girls to show them that females can become pilots too. She volunteers for Pilots N Paws and sponsors Orphelinat Joie de Vivre, an orphanage for abandoned HIV children in Haiti. Outside of flying (and COVID-19), you can typically find her biking, traveling, or SCUBA diving.

Leadership Experience in the 99s:

NOLA 99s Vice-Chair
SE Section Nominating Committee

Other:

AOPA
EAA
Pilots N Paws

Nominating Committee (3 Positions)



Jung Yeun Maria Choi

Vision Statement:

Flying alone is pleasant and relaxing. What if you have other pilot friends flying together? Asking for advice online is easy and quick. What if you have a mentor in person nearby to sit together and listen? Attending meetings and events are fun. What if you can create and organize one together with fellow 99 sisters across the states? We can make the Southeast Section the place where we support and share, widen and strengthen each member's

experience and chapter's growth.

Biography:

Jung Yeun, as known as Maria from Korea, joined the Ninety-Nines in May 2017 as a student pilot, seeking support and guidance from lady pilots. Previously, she worked as an international airline's airport operation manager for over ten years, but left her successful career and moved to the United States to pursue her lifetime dream of being a professional pilot. Maria got pilot certificates to CFI, also the AE scholarship in 2019 with encouragement from fellow 99 sisters. She is been serving the Florida Suncoast chapter as a chair since September 2019, engaging student pilot members to chapter events and mentorship. At the same time, she is also participating in Ninety-Nines' PPLI* as a mentoring coordinator/online admin. *Professional Pilot Leadership Initiative; under the Ninety-Nines' Pilot Careers Committee. Currently, Jung Yeun is an active flight instructor in Crystal River, Florida, sharing her love and passion for flying every day, a hard-working Assistant Chief Pilot in her flight school, and a Part 135 pilot flying on-demand charter.

Leadership Experience in the 99s:

FL Suncoast Chapter Chair
PPLI Coordinator/Online Administration



Meagan Harr

Vision Statement:

Being a female aviator, I am fortunate to represent seven percent of the pilot population. With seven percent being a small number, I feel the need to give over one-hundred percent of my energy to help ladies who aspire to become an aviatrix. The journey of an aviatrix is ongoing, with the opportunity to reach new heights once their wings are earned. As a Ninety-Nine, I want to be known as an approachable representative of my Section, enhance the enthusiasm of the organization, support current and prospective

members, and feed my passion for aviation by sharing my talents with others.

Biography:

Meagan is a lifelong resident of Blountville, Tennessee. She is a graduate of East Tennessee State University holding a Bachelor's degree in Education. As a former employee of Tri-City Aviation, the FBO at Tri-Cities Airport, she has been immersed in aviation. Meagan's current occupation is a 911 Emergency Dispatcher and Call Taker in Sullivan County, Tennessee. Meagan fulfills her passion for aviation flying as a private pilot. She plans to further her endorsements and ratings as a pilot. She is currently working on her instrument rating. Her goals are to become a certified flight instructor to and eventually have a management position in the aviation business. She fulfills her love of teaching by being a mentor to student pilots. Being a private pilot, Meagan has been able to share the love of flight with her friends and family that may not have had a chance to enjoy it otherwise. To her, the

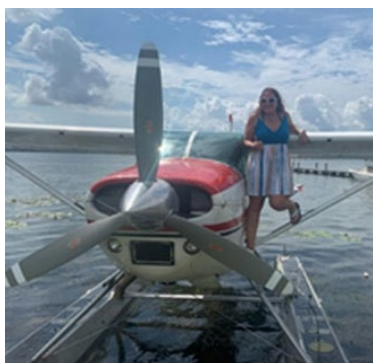
true joy of learning to fly is not just being able to say she is a pilot. The joy is from the excitement of others who are wanting to learn to fly themselves and being able to help them on their own journey of becoming an aviator.

Leadership Experience in the 99s:

Appalachian Aviatrixes Chapter Treasurer, Fundraiser Co-Chair, Aerospace Education Chair
SE Section Nominating Committee Chairman

Other:

AOPA – TRI Airport Support Network Volunteer
CAP - Aerospace Education Officer
Commemorative Air Force
Northeast TN Aviation Initiative Committee
TN Business Aviation Association



Kelli O'Donnell

Vision Statement:

My goal is to see the SE Section continue to grow, encourage ladies with the TEAM mantra, and offer Chapter collaborative opportunities to promote this. The candidate that best represents this will support mentoring to develop female pilots along with offering pairings for flight opportunities. Lastly, I look forward to the candidate realizing the full potential of the 99s by developing networking opportunities for not only those with a desire for commercial airlines but also for those who have other aspirations. Some opportunities I envision are networking/ mentorship for aviation business ownership, Parks and Wildlife aviation, and aerial firefighting.

Biography:

Kelli is the Vice-Chairman, Chapter mentor, and informational, collaborative, event planner for the Florida Suncoast Chapter. She lives in Clearwater, FL with her two daughters. Kelli began her flight training and joined the 99s in 2016. After having to put her flying on hold for a couple of years, she earned her Private ASEL in 2020. In the same year, she received her remote pilot certificate, complex and high-performance endorsements, and her Private ASES. She is currently working on her instrument and commercial requirements. She aspires to fly in her first Air Race Classic in 2021 and later opened her own aerial marine biology business utilizing seaplanes. Kelli works as a biologist for NOAA Fisheries. She is skilled in federal scholarship and grant application reviews and leading interdisciplinary planning teams for fishery management plans in federal waters off nine states that have jurisdiction across two fishery management regions involving two different Fishery Management Councils. She currently volunteers her time as a liaison with Turtles Fly Too, a non-profit that transports sea turtles, as a foster/transport with French Mastiff Rescue, and as a member of the City of Clearwater Airpark Advisory board. Kelli currently has 111.4 hours total flight time.

Leadership Experience in the 99s:

Florida Suncoast Chapter Vice-Chair, Air Marking Committee, Scholarship Committee, Social Media Committee, Ways and Means Committee, Chapter Mentor, and Chapter Event Planner
SE Section 99 of Note Award Committee

Other:

Sun 'n Fun 99s Volunteer
Seaplane Pilots Association Member

SE Section of the Ninety-Nines
www.sesection99s.org