

Squawk

MARCH 2018

New England Section 99s



Int'l Organization of Women Pilots

New England Section Officers

GOVERNOR

Glenna Blackwell
Connecticut Chapter
blackwells@verizon.net

VICE GOVERNOR

Margot Cheel
Eastern New England Chapter
margot@margotchheel.com

TREASURER

Georgia Pappas
Eastern New England Chapter
georgia@alongtheway.com

SECRETARY

Constance Castillo
Connecticut Chapter
constancejc@hotmail.com

DIRECTORS

Candie Oldham
Eastern New England Chapter

Sue Lin

Eastern New England Chapter

NE SECTION WEBSITE

womenpilotsnewengland.org



THE NINETY-NINES MISSION:

The Ninety-Nines is the international organization of women pilots that promotes advancement of aviation through education, scholarships, and mutual support while honoring our unique history and sharing our passion for flight.

From the Governor:

My recent trip to Oklahoma City to attend the International BOD Meeting was bittersweet... it was my last trip as New England Section Governor. The friendships I've made are very special. I began the twice yearly visits in 2011 when our Section was planning the 2012 International Conference and continued throughout my 2 terms as governor.

As I turn over the governor's gavel to Margot Cheel next month at our Spring Section Meeting, I will encourage her to enjoy the camaraderie of the hard-working board members and governors from around the world.

GOOD NEWS LEARNED WHILE IN OK:

- * The Ninety-Nines membership has been growing! We now total \$5,335 members. The New England Section was recognized for 13.5% growth in one year!
- An exciting new program is being developed! "Let's Fly Now" will be announced soon. It is designed similar to the Young Eagles Program. Watch for details.
- The 99s will be celebrating 90 years in 2019!
- Electronic voting for our current International slate is working flawlessly so far!
- The Philly Conference in July will be featuring a Professional Development and Career Progression Expo plus Hiring Expo!

*Blue Skies,
Glenna Blackwell, Governor*

Visit the *New* Section website!

www.womenpilotsnewengland.org

www.facebook.com/99sWomenPilotsOfNewEngland

www.facebook.com/pages/CT-Chapter-of-the-Ninety-Nines

www.facebook.com/Katahdin-Wings-Chapter-of-The-99s

www.orgsites.com/me/katahdinwings

www.womenpilotsene.org • www.womenpilotsct.org

Do you Twitter? Do you Tweet?

The 99s do! Join us on Twitter (@TheNinetyNines)!

TOLL FREE NUMBER AT HEADQUARTERS 844-994-1929

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- MARCH 10** ENE Scholarship Luncheon at noon
Wayside Inn, Sunbury, MA
- MARCH 18** CT Chapter meeting 11 am
Windham Airport (KIJM)
- APRIL 10-15** SUN 'N FUN Lakeland, FL
- APRIL 27 & 28** New England Section Spring Meeting
Providence, RI (*more info to come*)
- MAY 5** Compass Rose Airmarking KIZG
Fryeburg, Maine (raindate May 12)
Volunteers needed - contact
Lori Plourd piperpilot2003@yahoo.com
- MAY 12** ENE Chapter Meeting
Nashua, NH 9 am coffee, 9:30 meeting
- MAY 12** Meriden-Markham Airport Fly-In
Raindate May 19th (KMMK)
- JUNE 9** ENE Chapter Meeting
Norwood, MA 9 am coffee, 9:30 meeting
- JUNE 19-22** AIR RACE CLASSIC
Terminus in Fryeburg, Maine
Volunteers needed
- JULY 3-7** International Conference (see below)
- July 2019** International Conference Dayton, Ohio



Philadelphia July 3-7, 2018

www.99sconference.org

Hosted by the Mid-Atlantic Section

Early Bird Deadline ends March 31st



AIR RACE CLASSIC GEARS UP FOR 2018 RACE

Preparations are under way for the 42nd Air Race Classic (ARC), the annual all-women cross-country airplane race, to be held June 19-22, 2018.

This year's race will begin in Sweetwater, Texas, where the Women Airforce Service Pilots trained for military service during World War II. The National WASP WWII Museum will host the racers at the Start as they get ready to wing their way to Alva, Oklahoma; Beatrice, Nebraska; Faribault, Minnesota; Galesburg, Illinois; Auburn, Indiana; Cadillac, Michigan; Newark, Ohio; Penn Yan, New York, and, finally, the Terminus at Fryeburg, Maine.

The Katahdin Wings Chapter and New England Section are looking forward to hosting the terminus in Fryeburg, Maine!

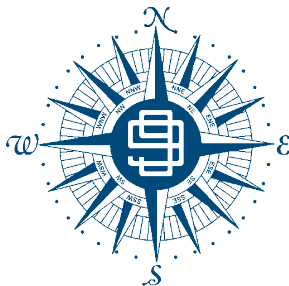
www.airraceclassic.org

Things are heating up for the Katahdin Wings as we prepare for this summer's Air Race Classic Terminus duties. We are now officially looking for more help during these winter months -- specifically in fundraising in the form of finding Sponsors. We will have a list of potential sponsors and an info sheet describing the various levels of sponsorship available.

If you signed up at the Fall Section meeting to be involved with the Air Race Classic (or if you didn't have a chance and want to be involved now) please respond to Brenda Thibodeau, ARC Terminus Chair at brenda@greenthumbfarms.com to be included on a committee.

Helping with the Sponsorships and Advertising is a great way to be involved! Email Brenda Thibodeau, Terminus Committee Chair, to find out more about those opportunities in the official race program.

Lori Plourd, Volunteer



New England Section 99s 2018-2020 Board Election Ballot

Watch for your Section Ballot soon! It will be sent by US Mail. Deadline for return: April 15th

Meet the Candidates:

MARGOT CHEEL – Governor

I am currently the Vice Governor for the New England Section and Chair of Oral/Video History for section members. I have also served the 99s as Section Secretary, Chair of the Eastern New England Chapter, Vice Chair of the ENE Chapter, Photographer at large, and Editor of Flylines (in the days of stamps & stuffing, before its online version). I have attended many aviation events representing the Ninety-Nines - Nashua, NH, Chatham, MA, Lakeland, FL, and Women Take Flight at the New England Air Museum.

I received my private pilot license in 2001 and with my love of flying and the arts, started an aerial photography business. I have published two books of my aerial photos highlighting coastal New England. This March (2018) I will represent the 99s at a Microsoft sponsored career day in Boston.

Besides flying and photographing, I can be found in my garden, on the tennis court, hiking, skiing, or traveling to visit my two daughters and 4 grandkids (ages 6-1).

MARY BUILD – Vice Governor

I've been a member of the Katahdin Wings Chapter of the NE Section and participated in many capacities including hosting the Annual New England Seaplane Safety Expo for 14 years and an annual Treasure Hunt fundraiser. I've been the Secretary, Vice Chair and Chair (several times) at the Chapter level and Treasurer and Vice Governor at the Section level.

I've met wonderful women pilots during my time of racing the Air Race Classic and then judging it for three years. I've been asked to write for the *Ninety-Nines* magazine several times and became friends with many during that period of time. I've met many talented women pilots who more than likely think they are too busy with their personal and professional lives. I hope to convince some of them they have more to offer if I am elected to this position as Vice Governor.

GEORGIA PAPPAS – Treasurer

Georgia has been a member of 99s for over 40 yrs. She is a member of the Eastern New England Chapter and serves as Membership Chair. She is also currently serving as Section Treasurer & Trustee Chair of the 99s Museum of Women Pilots in OKC. Georgia has also served as New England Section Governor (4 years), and Vice Gov. In 2011 she received Section Award of Merit.

Georgia is owner of Grumman Tiger based at KBED and has over 3,000 hours with Commercial, Instrument & Multi-engine ratings. She retired from Logan Airport, Manager of Terminals A&B, and Operations.

LAURIE STRAND – Secretary

I am a member of the Connecticut Chapter of the Ninety-Nines, currently serving as Treasurer. I received my Private Pilot's License in 1990 and Commercial SEL, MEL, and Instrument in 1991. Unfortunately, I stopped flying in 1994 and didn't fly again until 2013. I am thrilled to be back in the air and cannot imagine ever stopping again! I was a member of the Ninety-Nines in the early 90s and am so happy to again be a part of this amazing group of women. My daughter, Arianna, has also become a pilot and a Ninety-Nine.

I participate in aviation and Ninety-Nines events every chance I get and look forward to the opportunity to serve as Section Secretary.

SUE LIN – Director

Sue is a member of the Eastern New England Chapter. She joined the 99s six years ago as a student pilot member. She says, "I never wanted to fly but ended up hooked after I took my first lesson because the intro flight was cheaper than a sightseeing flight." Sue earned her Private Pilot License on her 70th birthday! She lives on the Cape and enjoys flying with other 99s from the area. Sue has represented the 99's for two years at the CQX open house, helped with a poker run and a scholarship luncheon, volunteered with AOPA at the PYM fly-in and is the current Chapter Chair for the ENE chapter.

DESIREE KOCIS – Director

Desiree Kocis has been an aviation enthusiast since childhood and private pilot since 2016. In addition to serving as Secretary of the Eastern New England Chapter of the Ninety-Nines, she volunteers as a Flight Coordinator for Above the Clouds, an organization bringing hope and happiness to children facing serious adversity through the wonder of flight. Desiree works as a Program Coordinator for the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, planning for catastrophic incidents and helping secure public safety during events such as the Boston Marathon. She has a strong passion for all things aviation, and enjoys sharing her experiences as a pilot through writing. She has published articles in AOPA Flight Training and Plane & Pilot magazines. Desiree Kocis recently relocated to Woodstock, Connecticut with her husband, Jim, and children, Jamis and Anna.

CT Chapter February Meeting

Sunday, February 4, 2018 • Home of Kathy Wadsworth • Farmington, CT

Photos by Glenna Blackwell



Thank you for hosting a wonderful winter meeting Kathy!



(left to right) Laurie Strand and Donna Shea



(left to right) Kathy Wadsworth and Denise Robinson



(left to right) Donna Shea, Constance Castillo, Kathy Wadsworth



New CT Chapter members (left to right) Alex Pagoni and Pam Berardino

The Ninety-Nines sponsor three email networking forums for women pilots:

The 99s Email Network is for the educational discussion and productive exchange of information on topics pertinent to The Ninety-Nines, including being women pilots and 99s members, flying, chapter/section innovations, and 99s events and activities. Perfect for getting more informed about and/or involved in our international organization of women pilots. (Members only.)

The 99s Flight Training Forum is for the educational discussion and productive exchange of information related to flight training, flight safety, flight currency, aviation education, and the related activities of The Ninety-Nines - ideal for finding a flight school or instructor, completing a rating, maintaining currency, and becoming a safer pilot. Moderated by 99s members who are flight instructors and designated pilot examiners. Guest registrations are welcome for a period of 90 days.

The Pro 99s Network is for the educational discussion and productive exchange of information about pilot careers and the related activities of The Ninety-Nines. This is a virtual meeting place for women worldwide to discuss the benefits and disadvantages of different pilot career opportunities, finding scholarships and jobs, balancing work and family, and being women professional pilots. Moderated by 99s members who are professional pilots in different sectors of aviation. Guest registrations are welcome for a period of 90 days.

SIGN UP TODAY! Visit Ninety-Nines.org / click the "Resource Center" tab at top of page



Mother & Daughter enjoy interacting with the 99s



Amelia Earhart joined us too!

WOMEN TAKE FLIGHT

HELD AT THE
NEW ENGLAND
AIR MUSEUM
WINDSOR LOCKS, CT

SATURDAY
MARCH 3RD

Photos by Olga Mitchell, Jann Clark, Pam Berardino



CT Chapter member Pam Berardino reaches out to a visitor



Over 500 people visited the Museum!



Paper Airplane making was popular with AJ Davis!



99s Display



Katahdin Wings member Lori Plourd



99s Volunteers being interviewed by Ingrid Centurion of VFW TV

WTF was a great event as always. We met some interesting people, young and old. One home-school young lady was Amelia Earhart's biggest fan. She was wearing a leather flight jacket, sporting a tousseled "do" like Amelia's and wanted to start flying when she is 19, just like Amelia. She came over to the paper airplane making station, took a piece of paper and wrote down AKHQQ and asked me what it says -- I said I didn't know. "It's Amelia's registration!" she said. I gave her a quick lesson of the phonetic alphabet since it was all letters.

A group of us were interviewed by a VFW television cable channel along with other presenters.

Kelly Jeffries, a 99 from Indiana (who also previously lived in New Hampshire) -- a captain for American, just happened to be on a layover. She was happy to be at Bradley Airport because she always wanted to visit NEAM. Then she found out that it was WTF day so she came in dressed in uniform.

All of the New England 99s & Friends that attended the event really enjoyed themselves and look forward to next year's event.

Lori Plourd, volunteer

Welcome

to our new Section members –

CT Chapter

Alexandra Pagoni

Tolland, CT



Alexandra began flying in 2011 when she was seventeen years old. After two lessons, she knew she wanted to become a pilot and could not wait to return to flying. After graduating college at the George Washington University in 2016 with a B.A. in International Affairs, Alexandra spent a year teaching English in Madrid, Spain. While abroad, she began working towards becoming an officer with the U.S. Air Force. Upon returning to the U.S. this past July, she went straight to Naples, Florida to work on her PPL. In September, Alexandra was selected to join the Connecticut Air National Guard as their next C-130H pilot. She heads to officer training this upcoming March and in July goes to Oklahoma to begin pilot training, followed by Little Rock, AR for C-130 school. Upon the completion of training, she will become a fourth generation Air Force pilot. With her future career as a military pilot, she hopes to one day become a pilot with a major airline!



CT Chapter

Sarah Dorina Smith-Dutton

North Stonington, CT

I promised to be a good steward of my CFI scholarship and I have been happily fulfilling that promise ever since! I can't believe I have been a practicing instructor for over 10 years! I started teaching at Windham Aviation/Freedom jets October 2007 and my first student is now in the Connecticut Air National Guard as a C130 pilot! I went on to earn my instrument instructor in 2009 and my multiengine instructor rating in 2011. 2010 was a quiet year for me because I joined the Army National Guard with the idea that I wanted to give back to my country and serve just like my dad and all of his siblings (and fly Blackhawks) but I became injured and had to recycle in Basic Training with a compound fracture in my ankle and lower leg. I roared back better than ever and graduated. I met my husband Chuck and got married in 2011. I was in OCS and developed plantar fasciitis so I elected to head off to Fort Rucker to train as a flight follower instead. We found out we were pregnant with Quinn two days before I was supposed to ship off to Rucker! What a sweet surprise! I separated from the Army on good terms. Then things started really happening fast. While I was pregnant with Quinn I started serious helicopter training here at Westerly Airport with a man who supported me through my Army injury because he too was injured in the Army and went on to fly helicopters. I took my Commercial Rotorcraft checkride a week after Quinn was born! Things got busy but I was able to keep flying and instructing after the birth of my daughter Katherine...I even took the helicopter we now own to visit EO Smith High School and Brooklyn Connecticut K-4 School!

Since 2007 I taught at Windham and then moved to Tiverton RI and helped a 50 year old woman achieve her aviation dreams at the Newport Airport as well as students from the Naval Prep School over there. I moved to Southeastern CT when I married Chuck and went to work at Coastal Air in Groton and also teach privately out of Westerly Airport. I have the chance to fly the PC12, the King Air 90 and now the King Air 350 with my husband on occasion. I went to Airbus helicopters on a H125 scholarship in 2016 which was amazing and went to two CRMI courses offered by Rotorcraft Pro writer Randy Mains. I was on the board of directors of the Whirly-Girls as a scholarship director. Now I'm off to heliexpo to volunteer at the Whirly-Girls booth. I am also set to go back to college for a change of career to Nursing! I will remain flying, I just want to nurture my passion for caring for people.



Helicopter pilot Sarah Smith-Dutton reads a story about Amelia Earhart and answers questions about being a pilot to Brooklyn Elementary School students during a visit with her helicopter.

ENE Chapter

Jaimie Rousseau Cimabue

Mendon, MA



I'm Jaimie! I'm 31, recently moved back to my hometown Mendon, MA after being in CA for the past ten years, and currently a student pilot at East Coast Aero Club at KBED. I'm a flight attendant who just had her ten year anniversary (time flies!) and am based in LAX. This transcon commute is a battle and finding time to fly on my days off has been a true struggle, but I'm slowly chipping away at it and loving every second! I've wanted to become a pilot since I was a little girl and would always tell my mum that I was going to become the first female Blue Angel. Fast forward to now: I've decided to stop letting life get in the way of my dream of flying airplanes and hope to get on the other side of the flight deck door in the near future. When I'm not flying I love hiking, camping, and recently started volunteering with Central Massachusetts Search and Rescue Team. I can't wait to get more involved with the 99s and become friends with like-minded women! Thanks for welcoming this lady into the section! *Jaimie*



ENE Chapter

Ashley Cavignano

Amherst, NH

Mary Roche

Leominster, MA

Jennifer Dettinger

East Kingston, NH

Anne Collin

Cambridge, MA



I've always been fascinated by planes, but who would have thought, even 5 years ago, that I would be starting my pilot training in Eastern Massachusetts! I started pursuing my interest for planes by getting an engineering degree in France, where I am from. I then worked for Airbus on the military aircraft program in Bremen, Germany for a year and what brought me to Cambridge MA, where I live now, is the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where I am getting my PhD in Aeronautics. During all those years, I had flying in the back of my mind, without thinking it would actually happen. There are several pilots among my peers at MIT, and one of them strongly encouraged me to start training, so here I am! I fly out of the Hanscom Field, in Bedford, MA, in a Piper Tomahawk, training for my PPL and hoping to then get IFR instruction.

I'm looking forward to meeting the members of this great organization and sharing tricks for performing the perfect forward slip!

Anne

What Have Our MEMBERS been up to?



Congratulations Emily Lukowski

CT Chapter member

Emily SOLOED on Valentine's Day
at Meriden-Markham Airport!

Flight Instructor: Constance Castillo (CT Chapter)



*CT Chapter member, Donna Shea, and her
flying partner, Tom, recently purchased a
Piper Challenger 180!*

Fun in the Snow!



*Photo shows Katahdin Wings Chapter member, Mary
Build, with her Piper Super Cruiser on skis. She recently
flew up to Moosehead Lake, Maine to celebrate her
husband Jim's 85th birthday!*

*Watch for the March EAA magazine - an article
featuring Mary and plane will be included!*

*Also, Mary was asked to be a judge for the 2018
Air Race Classic. In addition to judging, she will be
performing handicap flights.*



*Happy 90th Birthday to
CT Chapter member*

Peg Davidson

(February 26th)

**Peg is a founding member of the
Connecticut Chapter. She has guided
and inspired us for many years....**

THANK YOU, Peg!

Olga and Peter Mitchell

of ENE Chapter, were recently having a great time in Barbados visiting friends. They enjoyed a private van tour of the northern half of the island and a catamaran sail/snorkeling with sea turtles. Olga reports that they are missing their flying on Cape Cod, but look forward to Women Take Flight on March 3rd and plan to attend the ENE Scholarship Luncheon on March 10th.



**Look for the opportunity to speak
in your community!**

Margot Cheel, Microsoft Store, Boston, MA

Mary Build - Microsoft Store, Salem, NH

**Glenna Blackwell - Thursday Morning Club
Great Barrington, MA**

I had the pleasure of flying with Teresa & Bill Camp on Southwest Airlines from Baltimore to Oklahoma City last week. Teresa reported to work at Boeing the very next day! I invited Bill to attend a luncheon at the 99s Headquarters where he met the board members as well as Oklahoma City Chapter members. They are now searching for a house as well as a hangar in that area.

Glenna Blackwell

Submitted by Peggy Loeffler **CT Chapter member**

In 2017 I completed training and am now certified as a Designated Pilot Examiner at the BDL FSDO. I am currently conducting private pilot checkrides in Connecticut and western Massachusetts. Of the 23 examiners in New England, there are only two women—Mary Build and myself.

I recently had the pleasure of spending a couple of days getting to know Nicole Stott, retired NASA engineer and astronaut. Nicole was visiting Great Barrington at the invitation of The Berkshire School, a private high school near the Great Barrington Airport, where I have co-coordinated an Aviation Science class. Nicole traveled from her home in Florida to attend an interactive question and answer session with the Aviation Science students in a classroom setting as well as address the entire school assembly. Students and faculty remained enthralled by her stories and presentation of the Shuttle launch, space flight, two space walks, and life as a flight engineer on the International Space Station. Nicole spent a total of 104 days living and working in space. A graduate of Embry-Riddle University and an instrument-rated pilot, Nicole retired after 27 years working at NASA.

Nicole carried a watercolor kit to the ISS and is the first astronaut to paint in space. She combines her artwork and spaceflight experience to inspire creative thinking about solutions to our planetary challenges.

Nicole will be a keynote speaker at the WAI Conference in Reno in March, and is featured on the cover of WAI's January/February newsletter.



We have a winner!

ARLENE MYERS ALEXANDER

(Eastern New England Chapter member)

is going to Philadelphia in July!

FIRST TIME ATTENDEES:

WIN
\$500
TOWARDS YOUR TRIP

We would like to encourage all members
to attend an International Conference ...

**FIRST TIME CONFERENCE
ATTENDEES - THIS AWARD IS
INTENDED FOR YOU!**

Drawing held February 9th

\$500 Conference Surplus Award Committee: Glenna Blackwell, Georgia Pappas, Pat Theberge

Upset Spin and Unusual Attitude Training

May 3, 4, 5, 6 – 2018
June 7, 8, 9, 10 – 2018



Join us for a Unique Experience offered for the 99's!

Enhance your safety and emergency recovery skills in a safe, supervised situation. Includes upset training and unusual attitude maneuvers such as chandelles, loops, spins and barrel rolls.

Spin endorsement offered at completion, perfect for CFI Candidates.
Endorsement does not expire.

Discount Pricing for participants:

\$240 all inclusive aircraft, fuel, CFI, spin endorsement, safety parachute, briefings pre/post. (up to 1.5hr total for all) Additional time will be at \$215/hr rate, CFI \$60/hr as needed.

- Single session spin endorsement (avg 1 hr)
- Safety briefings and parachute included
- Flight schedule from 8am – 4:30pm daily
- Can be used as WINGS flight safety time
- Aerobatic CFI with over 20000+ hours
- Contact Melanie with questions or to schedule:
gearisup@gmail.com 860.305.0095

CT Chapter member Donna Shea submitted this information. She is a member of the Connecticut Flight Club, located at the Hartford-Brainard Airport. This Upset Spin and Unusual Attitude Training will be offered to Club members and is open to members of the 99s as well.

Sign Up Today!

MERIDEN-MARKHAM AIRPORT

Fly In & Public Safety Festival

Saturday, May 12, 2018

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

RAIN DATE – Saturday, May 19

213 Evansville Ave. Meriden

203-630-2878

www.meridenmarkham.com

FREE ADMISSION!

FREE PARKING!

Aircraft Judging (call 203-630-2878)

Helicopters

Meriden Police & Fire Department Vehicles

Corvettes

Jeeps

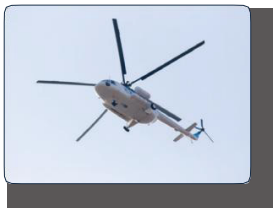
Re/Max Hot Air Balloon

Hunter's Ambulance

Helicopter Rides (additional fee applies)

Bounce House • Face Painting

Food • Entertainment • Vendors





FRAN BERA

It is with great sadness to report that aviatrix legend, Fran Bera, age 93, passed away due to complications from a stroke that she suffered February 10, 2018.

There will be a Celebration of Life held on Gillespie Field, San Diego, CA at a later date to honor the life and flying legend of Francis Bera.

Fran was an incredible mentor to so many pilots, both male and female. She was a CFII for over 50 years. She administered over 3,000 check ride exams for new pilots and advanced rated pilots. She primarily flew fixed wing and helicopters through much of her life, and later flew her pink and white (with "Kick Ass" printed under the tail section) Piper Comanche, PA 24 – 260, single engine, for the remainder of her life. Fran held many air racing records, and a record for the highest altitude in a normally aspirated aircraft (40,000+ feet in a Piper Aztec). Her list of accomplishments are too many to list here.

Some of the awards she received include The Elder Statesmen Award for Aviation, presented to her several years ago in Washington, D.C. by former Senator Bob Dole, The Katharine Wright Award for over 50 years in aviation with no aviation accidents or incidents presented by the F.A.A., Women In Aviation (WIA) award for outstanding female aviator, and San Diego Air & Space Museum Hall of Fame (2007), just to name a few.

Throughout her life, she was very active in the The Ninety-Nines (International Organization of Women Pilots). She mentored many women and helped them become pilots. Her hangar was built not only to hangar her aircraft, but to become the clubhouse for the San Diego Chapter of the 99's.

Fran has certainly left her mark on aviation and has touched many lives around the world.

**CT Chapter members Peg Davidson and Evelyn Kropp were
good friends with Fran.....she touched many lives.**

**Fran was featured in The 99s Magazine in 1999
click on link to read about this amazing person**

www.ninety-nines.org/fran-bera.htm