



Squawk

New England Section 99s

International Organization of Women Pilots



Greetings!

Here it is May, and we've made it through another winter. Did any of you get a new rating this winter? We want to hear all about it.

Congratulations to **Sherry Grobstein**, Eastern New England Chapter, for

receiving the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award for 50 years of safe flying!

Our **Spring Section Meeting** is coming up on May 22. I'm looking forward to seeing you. For now, we will have to look forward to our hugs in the fall when we can meet in person.

The **Poker Run** will be flown this year on September 18 (rain date September 19)! Great news for all of us who look forward to it every year. Candie Oldham will tell you all about their hard work of putting it together at our meeting. Participating airports will be Fitchburg, Orange, Southbridge, North Central and Mansfield (terminus). Finally, a social event!

Eastern New England's itinerant pilot/photographer, **Margot Cheel**, shares her recent Oregon adventures in words and pictures, below.

Following is a wonderful account of the recent **Airmarking at the Danbury Municipal Airport (KDXR)** in Connecticut. What a privilege it was to introduce the 99s and work so professionally with the Boy Scouts!

Our sister 99s in the New Jersey Chapter asked us to share information about their spring fundraiser. Sounds like fun, if you are able to fly in New Jersey in May.

See you on Friday evening, May 21 for a social and then the Spring Section Meeting on Saturday, May 22 from 9 am to 12 noon.

Sincerely,

Mary Build, Governor
New England Section of the 99s

Compass Rose Project



From Jake Windas to The Ninety-Nines International Organization of Women Pilots

Hello everyone. This is Jake Windas, and I am an Eagle Scout from Troop 52 Danbury, CT. My Eagle Project was to paint a compass rose onto the airstrip at my local, regional airport in Danbury, CT. I could say that the 99s helped me in completing this project. In reality, though, the 99s and I shared this project from start to finish. The journey of planning towards the painting was a long, intricate and complicated one, but in the end, when we pulled together as a group, we ended up making a masterpiece symbol of aviation.

It was last April when Fredrick Rogers, my Eagle Project advisor, first told me about the Ninety-Nines International Organization of Women Pilots. I had chosen the compass rose as my Eagle Project in part considering my own background in aviation (both of my parents were Lieutenants in the U.S. Navy: my mom flew helicopters and my dad flew fighter jets and currently flies through

United Airlines) and my interest in one day pursuing an aeronautical engineering degree. Even though Mr. Rogers did not know anyone in the 99s personally, he spoke highly of them, telling me of their previous work air-markings especially compass roses. Mr. Safranek, the administrator of Danbury Airport, seconded this opinion on the 99s, saying that he knew one of the 99s, Ashley Harrison. Mrs. Harrison and I made contact later that spring and we started to actively communicate pretty quickly. Before I knew, she had invited many other 99s to the email chat, including Celeste Pearce and Donna Shea.

We had one zoom meeting later during the summer, where I got to learn more about not just how the 99s make their compass roses, but why. They are symbols of art and work of aviation and piloting. The 99s not only expressed experience in keeping this tradition alive; they also had a passion for flying. They had stories of all sorts to tell, and they were very interested in hearing about my project.

After receiving approval from the airport and city council and securing all the donations through the generosity of local businesses while in the midst of the Covid pandemic, the winter stalled our plans for a few months, but we got right back at it during this year's spring. We had some setbacks and delays with the surveying, but once we got all of the reference points coordinated, we set our eyes on April 10. After hours of careful planning and preparation, the day turned out to be a huge success. Not only did the weather turn out, so did the 99s workforce. Over a dozen volunteers consisting of Scouts, friends and 99's sacrificed their time during the weekend to drive and fly from all over to help with our project. All of the planning paid off and we ended up easily finishing the project by the end of the day.

I will always remember the date April 10, 2021, because it was the day when I was able to meet and work with a new group of people that were passionate about what they were doing and worked hard to finish this community service project. I am truly grateful for the support of the 99s and how they boosted my effort, making my project stand out from the other Eagle Projects. The individual 99s I met were hardworking, kind, and were a pleasure to work with. I hope the 99s continue to spread the art and tradition of aviation air-marking all throughout America.







Poker Run

Planning for the Poker Run on September 18 is in full swing. Recently, several ENE 99s visited Mansfield Municipal Airport (1B9) to assess its suitability for the terminus of the Poker Run. Below, Olga Mitchell, Sue Lin, Linda Moody, Sue Benua, and Sherry Grobstein. Candie Oldham took the picture.



Oregon Again!
Story & Photos by Margot Cheel

I had the pleasure of a return trip to Oregon this spring to see my kids and grand-kids, with vaccinations completed. And lucky enough to arrange a photo flight with my previous pilot.



We met at Sisters Airport in Central Oregon, a small GA airport I had discovered last summer. There was still just one lone plane on the ramp.



The rural countryside was the same, but the mountains were strikingly different with their snow covered peaks. They were our photo destination.



We circled this part of the Cascade Mountain range at 10,000 ft.



And flew over Mt Bachelor where our family had skied the day before. I hadn't realized how much

more of the mountain ascended beyond the ski area!



The backside of Mt. Bachelor is undeveloped and holds views of volcano pockets, high range lakes, and other peaks heading north.



In the foreground is Oregon's Mt. Washington (locally known as Martha Washington). PInt size to the eastern Mt. Washington, even if at a higher elevaton.



Circling Martha, we discover bowls fanning out from the top.



At lower elevations in the area, small volcanic pockets are in view as well as trees scarred by recent wildfires.



On final for Sisters, we are out of snow and back to the rural countryside.

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER FLYOUT

NJ99 SPRING SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

May 1 - 31, 2021

The Spring Flyout Challenge is about doing one of the things you love most: flying! We've chosen 10 airports in and around NJ along the Northeastern seaboard. Your challenge is to fly as many of these airports as you can during the month of May, collecting points along the way. Points go toward entries to win prizes. Don't forget to follow us on Instagram and Facebook! @springflyoutchallenge #springflyoutchallenge

To sign up or for more information, visit <https://springflyout.square.site/>

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