

GOVERNOR'S REPORT
INTERNATIONAL SPRING BOARD MEETING
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA
MARCH 12-13, 2010

Once again I had the pleasure of attending the spring board meeting at Headquarters, and once again I am impressed at how hard these ladies work for us. As with all women, they have many other things to keep them busy - yet they freely and gladly give their time to the 99s. We are truly blessed! Here is my report:

Directors:

Virginia Harmer has mostly finished the very large project of getting the past member files in alphabetical order and filed. There are only a couple of drawers left to merge with the rest. She spent the rest of '09 on local 99 activities including a reception and screening of the "Legend of Poncho Barnes and the Happy Bottom Riding Club" . Virginia also attended the International Board Retreat, hosted by Jan and David Oreck of the New Orleans Chapter. She reports the members put in two very full and constructive days of work on 99 issues.

Joan Kerwin was assigned to contact lapsed members. After much frustration, she feels we should try to reach new members after a few months to ask them how we're doing and what we can do to help. Joan also has been dealing with JH Promotions to obtain giveaway bags for trade shows. This is a blue bag with compass rose, our name, phone number and email address printed in white. Cost for 300 bags was \$288 with \$44.03 for shipping. Joan was also instrumental in getting Amelia's watch on the Soyuz launch.

General Counsel:

Cecile Hatfield reports there is no litigation either against or on behalf of our organization. She has been busy giving legal opinions on bylaws, standing rules, charitable giving procedures and suggested bequest language, and insurance issues.

Treasurer

Kris Irvin-Herron reports we still need \$3000 in donations to finish the water intrusion repairs which is the last of the critical repairs needed to the headquarters building. We have received \$10,801 to date for the compass rose tiles. Professional fees were above budget as we had to accept a much higher bid for our annual audit and had to pay an appraisal fee \$1000 to renew our line of credit. Dues are slightly under budget as membership has declined. While the good news is that we borrowed from ourselves for the roof replacement and air conditioning units thus avoiding interest, the bad news is that we may have to access the line of credit for operations in the near future.

Headquarters:

Laura Ohrenberg, office manager, says Lesley Niblett, receptionist/secretary, is working out very well. Laura has received many compliments from members on her demeanor on the telephone. The tenant building remains unoccupied. A new leasing agreement has been signed with Price Edwards. The property is listed on the Internet and flyers have been passed out to agents. The carpet in the tenant building and the FAA weather office has been replaced.

Construction done to date has made a marked improvement on utilities for the building. Laura reports an \$800 decrease in the gas bills this year even though this winter was much colder in Oklahoma. Membership Directories and CDs are in members hands. Online renewal continues to grow in popularity. There are still issues with duplicate payments and Academic renewals, but not in the numbers they were in the beginning. With the assistance of the Technology Committee, they will be performing a transition to a SQL Server Database for our membership.

Laura has started a new project - Email renewal forms to replace paper mailings to those members who elect this option. This will save postage as well as manpower hours in HQ. Membership continues to drop because of the economy, but HQ has received a request for a new chapter charter application for the West Virginia area.

2010 International Conference Report:

At the time of the Board meeting, there were 169 members and 69 guests, registered for the Conference; 493 rooms picked up, 237 tours pickup.

There will be a cash box-type lunch after Annual Business Meeting. There will also be First Timers and Under 35 group meetings, plus a seminar on Leadership Skills. Partial Ocean View rooms have been added, but rooms are not big enough for 2 beds and a cot.

Trusts:

Endowment Fund - The Trustees agreed to put a virtual plaque on the Endowment Fund web site. Those who are on the Wall of Honor at HQ will be on the virtual plaque for other members to see. Don't forget - Good Search and Good Shop donate to our fund when used.

Museum of Women Pilots - Carolyn Smith reports safety code concerns has caused the Museum to be closed to the public. This has resulted in a loss of revenue. Carolyn's primary concern is that due to the duration of the repairs, they are losing any gains they have made in the public's recognition of the Museum and its availability.

The Museum is working with museums in Connecticut, Arkansas, Washington, and Oklahoma to assist them in exhibits they are developing; some items from our Earhart collection are on loan to Museum of Flight in Seattle, WA, photos and biographical info. have been sent to other museums. We will be part of a new exhibit in the Tulsa International airport featuring aviation museums around Oklahoma. Bylines crediting the 99s Museum of Women Pilots in all of these exhibits will help to keep our Museum in the public's eye. Probably the biggest event to try to reestablish our recognition will be a grand reopening. Amelia's scarf will be returned from the shuttle flight.

AEMSF:

Approximately \$180,000 will be awarded this year to deserving 99s. Of the 26 scholarships/awards given at the International Conference in July, 2009, most have completed or are well on their way to completing their scholarships. Those who have not get regular encouragement and support from our Trust members. As of February 2010, our fund is doing well. We attribute our solid performance and minimal losses to the early Trustees rock solid resolution and the excellent financial advice of our investment counselor.

AE Birthplace Museum

New Email Address .aemuseum@att.net. The Museum reports they not only had visitors from the USA but internationally as well. The pilot helmets sewn by Fran Postma have been a very good sales item. Many requests for Educational packets for students and teachers. The Museum is entering into the contest of The 8 Wonders in Kansas. A donation of a Laptop Computer and Laser Printer, donated by Sandra Hawkins, Mid-Atlantic Governor, was greatly appreciated. Donations are needed as well as two new Trustees.

Committees:

Airmarking:

Ellen Nobles-Harris reports answering requests on paint colors, minimum temperature for painting, orientation of compass rose, airmarking manual, spreadsheet that calculates compass rose areas for paint quantity, info on writing an article on our airmarking program. Ellen also referred 8 requests for airmarkings to various chapters.

EAA:Rita Adams - Great plans are underway for Oshkosh 2010. NIFA representatives will be sharing the tent with their impressive display.

The 99s Tent will again be the home base for the WASP. Special exhibits are planned. The 99s Breakfast will be on Thursday July 29 in the Tent from 8:30 - 10:30. Once the assignment of our site is received, it will be posted in the Dispatch. More volunteers are needed to man the site.

International Forest of Friendship:

Laurie Probst reports that in January an email was sent to all chapter chairs including a short article about the Forest of Friendship that they could incorporate into a chapter newsletter. Two chapters did send an electronic copy of the newsletter showing they had included her article. Received little response on getting some networking going between chapter IFOF committee persons. Laurie will continue to seek more opportunities to reach out and spread the word about the Forest.

Membership:

Fran Strubeck (International Director)- Recruitment, Retention and Revitalization are key words for the 2010 membership program. With this in mind, she had developed a top-down program, listing the resources and responsibilities for each level of the Membership Chairs in the organization. This plan has been submitted to an Advisory Committee and upon completion of this process, the Guidelines and Tools for all 99s Membership Chairs will be submitted to the International Board of Directors for approval.

New members and associate members are being contacted 2 months after their membership starts to assess their participation in the chapter activities and to survey their interest in various activities. The responses have been very positive.

Interest cards used at trade shows to recruit now comes with a duplicate copy. Duplicate form is to be sent directly to Chapter Membership Chairs so that personal contacts on the local level can be made as soon as possible. Forum Guests are contacted by email with brief information about the Ninety-Nines organization and an invitation to the 99s during their 3-month trial along with info on

how to post to the forum. An information packet from HQ is sent to them as well as those making out Interest Cards.

High Profile Recruitment letters have been sent to notables whose names have been pointed out to us.

Statistics: New members by years: 2004 - 174, 05 - 179, 06 - 194, 07 - 250, 08 - 299, 09 - 452.

International Liaison:

Catherine Houghton - The ranks of the Nepal Section, newly revived, have tripled with signups from nearly a dozen new young woman pilots and the return of most of the old ones. The French Section continues to thrive and grow. The Norwegian Section is back up to five members. The Far East and Israel Sections have each gained a new member while the German Section has lost two. Mexico is faltering again with most of its members in lapsed status. Catherine has written more than 100 e-mails to stay in contact with 99s and prospective 99s from around the world. Also Marin County and Santa Rosa 99s helped host an aviation delegation from China. A reverse visit to China is in the works.

NIFA:

Lois Erickson and Carolyn Carpp - Top priority this March is to encourage members to donate to NIFA. Donations have been falling in recent years to the degree that monetary awards named for the 99s had to be supplemented by the NIFA Foundation. The NIFA Foundation will no longer contribute funds toward awards that are presented in the name of The Ninety-Nines, Inc. (The Women's Achievement Award) Last year all the award recipients were 99s. Contributions comply with the 99s Mission Statement in two specific areas: Promote and Provide. Both Virginia Harmer and Jody McCarrell are NIFA judges and can give you information on judging. Please consider making a donation to NIFA and encourage other 99s to do the same.

Publications Committee

Donna Crane-Bailey - On the decision to place the 99s on the public portion of our web site - making the magazine available online helps combat the perception that The Ninety-Nines is one of the best-kept secrets in aviation. The magazine is one of our most professionally produced sources of information. Unfortunately, due to the current financial climate, we must put constraints on what can be included.

Trade Shows:

Fran Strubeck, International Director, Int. Trade Show Chair : AOPA Summit - November 11-13, 2010 will be held in Long Beach, CA. Ninety Nines Resource Database will be developed with information gathered on the membership renewal form. Access to this database will be limited to International Board of Directors, International Membership Chairman and Section Governors. New legal Release Form for Photographs & Biographical Statements will be available on the Ninety-Nines web site under the Forms tab.

Technology:

Maureen Kenney - Requested permission to automatically add new 99s to 99s Network forum. Request tabled pending further information on process for opt-out options. Small glitches have been addressed on the new website. A new seminar is being developed to address requests from the Chicago meeting regarding mobile telephone applications of interest to pilots. A version of the Ninety-Nines Directory that is mobile-phone-friendly is under development.

Sandra A. Brown, Governor
New York-New Jersey Section 99s