

# Spaceport 99s

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[www.spaceport99s.org](http://www.spaceport99s.org)

*Our 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.*

## Winter 2017 Happy New Year

### Meeting Schedule:

**January 14:** 11 am Holiday party- **new venue!** Sandy Parks' neighborhood, Melbourne

**February 11:** TBD

**March 11:- 10 am** Learn about drones and flying them at **Florida Institute of Technology (FIT)**, Melbourne

**April 8:** TBD

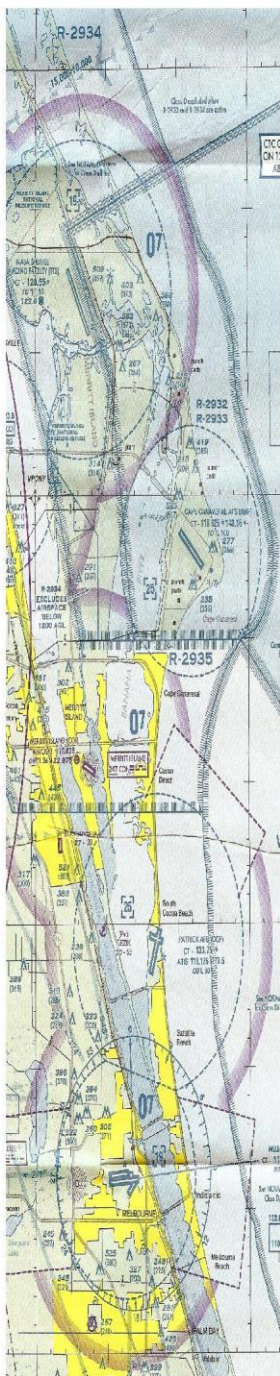
**May 13:** TBD

**June 10:** Annual meeting/Installation of officers. **Dixie Crossroads Restaurant, Titusville**

**Holiday Party: January 14<sup>th</sup>:** You are invited to the annual chapter Holiday Party, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am. We will celebrate in a **new location** this year. Sandy Parks has graciously invited us to her neighborhood where there is a large pavilion available to us. In case of inclement weather, we can adjourn to Sandy's house. This is a Pot Luck. We have many great cooks in the chapter, so the food will be delicious. Ellie Hoffman will be cooking the ham for us. Drinks, plates & utensils will be provided. There will also be a gift exchange, so bring a \$15 - \$20 gift so that you can participate. As always, husbands, significant others, and guests are welcome. Please RSVP to Sandy at [sandyparks@earthlink.net](mailto:sandyparks@earthlink.net) no later than January 11<sup>th</sup>. When you RSVP Sandy will give you directions to her house.

**Congratulations to Marcia Gitelman:** On November 16, 2016 the Federal Aviation Administration awarded Marcia K Gitelman, of Port Orange, FL (formerly of Rochester, NY), The Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award. This "Master Pilot" Award is the most prestigious award the FAA issues to pilots certified under Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 61. It is named after the Wright Brothers to recognize individuals who have exhibited professionalism, skill and aviation expertise for at least 50 years. Now that the award has been issued, her name, city and state will be published to a "Roll of Honor" on the FAA Safety website.

Marcia joined the 99s in November 1968. She was a member of the Western New York Chapter until she became a charter member of the Finger Lakes Chapter in 1973 following the terminus of the Powder Puff Derby in Elmira, NY. In 2014 after relocating to Florida, she transferred to the Spaceport Chapter. She is a Commercial, Instrument rated pilot for Single Engine Land and Sea. She and 49 ½ Dave have owned their Piper Comanche since 1969. Marcia wishes to thank The Ninety Nines. "This wonderful organization has provided knowledge, friendship and support for most of my flying career."





*Orlando FSDO rep Bob Jex, Marcia, and Dave Gitelman*

**Congratulations** to **Virginie Rolin** who passed her Instrument check ride in September.

**Congratulaions** to **Laura Sherwood** who celebrated 25 years with her current employer.

### **LAMB (leave a magazine behind)**

Put your old 99s magazines to good use – help spread the word that we are here. What do you do with your 99s magazines after you have read them? Throw them away? Add them to your recycle pile? I have a suggestion for you. Take the magazines with you to Doctor’s appointments, the beauty shop, the Blood bank, your lawyer’s office, the library, or anywhere else where you find stacks of magazines in the lobby or waiting room. Leave your magazine on one of the tables for others to read.

**BUT** first add a label that says

” SPACEPORT CHAPTER  
[www.spaceport99s.org](http://www.spaceport99s.org)  
contact Mary Anne  
MaryAnne@spaceport99s.org”

**Sept 24th: Girls in Aviation Day at Melbourne Airport.** The Spaceport 99s set up a table and talked to LOTS of young girls about Aviation. Flight simulators, building balsa planes and drones were very popular with the girls.





**Oct 24<sup>th</sup> – Larson Motorsports:** We were shown around the Larsen Motorsports facilities by Elaine Larson and her husband. Elaine drives her race car faster than we fly our planes!



*Elaine in her race car- a really snug fit!*



*Elaine and the 99s.*

**Nov 12:** The Treasure Coast 99s loaded into their airplanes and flew to Sebastian Airport X26 to attend the meeting of the Spaceport 99s for a presentation featuring Al Hallonquist - Aerospace Historian, speaking of the Mercury 13 (female astronaut program). These women trained at the same time the Mercury 7 male astronauts and had to pass all the same physical and psychological tests as the men. But during the 1960's, the world was full of prejudices, and NASA was no different, despite all their work, these women were not allowed into space. Also in attendance of this meeting were members of the Daytona Beachin' Eagles, and FL Goldcoast Chapters. (Written by Marcy Lannon of the Treasure Coast 99s. Thanks, Marcy!)

We were also pleased to have Governor Myra Bugbee join us for the day.



**Webmaster Needed:** We need someone to take over the website. It has not been updated since last Fall. If you can take over the important job, please contact Ellie. If you know anyone who would be willing to occasionally update the site for us, please let Ellie know.

**2017 started with a Thud for our chapter:** First, Nancy ElHajj fell and broke her hip. At this writing she is still in the hospital. Her email address is [nanelhajj@yahoo.com](mailto:nanelhajj@yahoo.com) if you'd like to send a message to let her know you're thinking about her.

Next, Ann Conway contracted pneumonia and was also in the hospital. Her email address is [f32br@aol.com](mailto:f32br@aol.com) if you'd like to send a message to let her know you're thinking about her.

Jane O'Connell has moved to West Palm Beach.

Laura McColm has relocated to Lafayette, Louisiana where she will be flying medevac helicopters.