

Spaceport 99s

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www.spaceport99s.org

OUR MISSION — The NINETY-NINES® INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN PILOTS® promotes advancement of aviation through education, scholarships, and mutual support while honoring our unique history and sharing our passion for flight.

Established in 1929 by 99 women pilots, the members of The Ninety-Nines, Inc.®, International Organization of Women Pilots®, are represented in all areas of aviation today. And, to quote Amelia, fly "for the fun of it!"

Summer 2022 End of the Year Wrap up

Exciting news! In April we received a very generous donation to our scholarship fund. Sandy Michelson, a long time member of the Zonta Club of the Melbourne area gave Ellie her personal check when they were attending the United Way luncheon. Our two chapters have shared meetings over the past years. Zonta is the only other club that Amelia Earhart ever was a member of. **Thank you, thank you, Sandy!**

More Exciting News! An early member of our chapter, Mary Blackwell Joehrendt, has been included on the Wall of Honor at the National Air and Space Museum, at the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, which is in Virginia. Our chapter scholarship is named for Mary. Following is the information that is displayed about Mary.

"Mary Blackwell Joehrendt became a licensed pilot in 1958 and in 1960 became a licensed flight instructor. She had logged more than 11,300 flight hours (450 of them in a prop jet) and had an additional 4,800 flight hours as a flight instructor.

She was an FAA designated pilot examiner and in 1973 received the FAA's First District "Flight Instructor of the Year" award. Mary held an airline transport certificate and was also a member of the International Association of Women Pilots (the 99's), the Organization of Women ATR Pilots, the Airplane Owners and Pilots Association and the National Association of Flight Instructors. She was listed in the 1972 edition of Who's Who of American Women.

Tragically, she died in an airplane crash in 1973, while giving instructions. The Florida Spaceport chapter of the 99's established a scholarship named after Mary Blackwell Joehrendt and Anne Walker, honoring two early members of their chapter who were killed in aviation accidents.



September meeting: We welcomed our new Chair, Judi Oswald. She flew in the Air Race Classic this year. We toured the American Space Museum in Titusville.

December: We again met at Merritt Island Airport and enjoyed the Toys for Tots pancake breakfast. The price of breakfast was a new unwrapped toy which was then donated to the local Toys for Tots campaign. Many kids got to have a gift for Christmas and we got to have a good breakfast together.

STEM Program at Valiant Air Command: Isabel and 4 other special members, Karen Brun, Sommer Rovira, Diana Agiular, and Robin Hollinger presented a STEM program at the Valiant Air Command in Titusville on Oct. 9th. There were 11 local kids attending.



January: is our normal meeting for our holiday party, but COVID was threatening again so we postponed to a later date.

February: we met at Sebastian airport and learned about sky diving. It was a great day to be outdoors.



March: we celebrated the Holidays with our traditional pot luck dinner and gift exchange at Sandy Parks' house. Lots of fun and good food.

April: we met at FIT Aviation on the Melbourne Airport. Jade Chien told us about many fun places to fly to in Florida; airports with great restaurants on the field or close by, fun places to visit near airports, and airports with good fuel prices.

May: Lindsay Niles, Senior Launch Engineer at SpaceX told us about her journey to this special job. Lindsay and her husband are the owners of the Flying Club at Valkaria Airport.



This year has seen many accomplishments by our members: Here is a list – I hope I've included everyone. If I missed your accomplishment, let me know! We all want to share in your success! Congratulations to each and every one of you. Your chapter is proud of you.

Diana Aguiar earned an AE Fly Now scholarship to get her Private Pilot's License.

Leah Murphy earned an AE Academic Scholarship.

Sharon Dhillon was accepted into the PPLI program.

Yuko Query was accepted for a First Officer position with SkyWest Airlines.

Yuko Query was awarded a scholarship thru Delta Airlines to use for her ATP CTP training.

Sharon Dhillon, new CFI at Palo Alto Airport, soloed her first student on July 14th.

Amber Brierly - earned her PPL on July 27th 2021, and is now working on her instrument rating.

Jenn Datz –earned her PPL in Sept.

Yuko Query obtained her ATP CTP certification in Dallas on January 12th. On the 14th, she passed her MEI (Multi-Engine Instructor) check-ride. On Monday, January 17th, she flew to Denver to begin training with Skywest Airlines on the ERJ 175.

Sharon Dhillon has been accepted to Embry Riddle Worldwide into the Master of Science in Aeronautics program. She will be starting in the Fall.

Ellie Hoffman is now the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Serene Harbor, a safe house for abused women and children and their pets. Ellie has been a member of their BOD since she retired from Rockwell Collins.

Ellie Hoffman helped the local Zonta chapter celebrate Amelia Earhart month by speaking at their January meeting.

Diana Aguilar passed her check ride and became a Private Pilot in January. It's taken a long time because of COVID, but Diana never gave up her dream.

Leonia Hunt has been hired and is now flying for Republic Airways since last October.

Yuko Query has passed her checkride to become a First Officer with SkyWest Airlines. She is now waiting patiently(?) for her first assignment, which should be forthcoming in about a week or two. Her homebase will be Salt Lake City, but she will be commuting from Vero Beach for a while.

WEBSITES OF INTEREST:

FEMALE AVIATORS STICKING TOGETHER [Home page - Female Aviators Sticking Together \(fastpilots.org\)](https://fastpilots.org/)

Female Aviators Sticking Together (FAST) is an established international network of female pilots. From young girls to retiring pilots, we want to touch the lives of female aviators at every stage. FAST partners with some of the world's leading airlines, such as United Airlines and Alaska Airlines, to provide scholarships and support our growing community of female aviators.

Become a member to gain access to exclusive member benefits such as scholarships, corporate discounts, and community support.

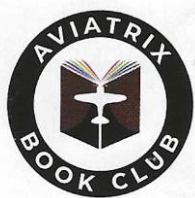
The following is an article copied in full from the Ninety-Nines News, March/April issue.

Holding Short



Our Shared Experience Through Books

By Liz Booker - Florida Goldcoast Chapter



2021 was an incredible year of connection through stories written by and about women in aviation. I started the Aviatrix Book Club in November 2020 with this very goal in mind, but I never imagined just how wonderful the experience would be — and 2022 promises to be even better.

I retired from the Coast Guard in 2019 to write young adult novels that feature young women learning to fly. But by the end of 2020, I was feeling isolated from my aviation community. As a writer and pilot, I thought, what better way to reconnect than through books featuring women in aviation? I reached out on Facebook and was welcomed with overwhelming enthusiasm, so I started the Aviatrix Book Club and had 1200 members in the first month. When I searched for books, I was amazed by how many there were and disappointed by how difficult they were to find. That's why I created the Aviatrix Book Review website, www.aviatrixbookreview.com, to serve as a central source to find our stories. A few of the book club members and I brainstormed how to create a small book club feel with so many members, and we established virtual book discussions throughout each month that anyone can host and join. I also reached out to the authors and created the Aviatrix Book Review podcast where we talk about these books and writings.

So much magic has come from this – from books spanning diverse aviation experiences across the past century of flying to connecting with hundreds of women from all over the world at every phase of their own flying journeys. I've learned so much about various types of flying and aviation careers that I never knew before. And, most importantly, I've begun to weave my own web of connection with my fellow book club members, and to the women who came before us. Accessing aviation history, and history more broadly, through the lens of women's experiences has given it deeper meaning to me personally. It has helped me understand my place in our history and has revealed how few degrees of separation there are between me and our early aviatrix pioneers.

Ninety-Nines have been an integral part of this community. Arhynn Descy, Chair of the Los Angeles Chapter, hosts book discussions at 1 p.m. EST on the last Sunday of every month. This meeting time allows European participants to join, facilitating even richer and more diverse conversations. As travel and Covid-19 restrictions eased, the experience transitioned from exclusively virtual to in person opportunities. In October 2021, Florida Goldcoast Ninety-Nines celebrated the launch of "Women Pilots Write Poetry," which features poems from Ninety-Nines dating all the way back to Louise Thaden and Amelia Earhart. Chapter members also came out for a book signing in December with Cecilia Aragon, author of "Flying Free: My Victory Over Fear to Become the First Latina Pilot on the US National Aerobatic Team." Meanwhile, Arhynn Descy met up with European book club members to fly a Spitfire simulator at White Waltham Airfield in the United Kingdom where many of the British Air Transport Auxiliary pilots flew during World War II!

Just as I'd hoped, my own creativity has been fueled by this experience — but it has also offered me much more. I've made what I know will be lifelong friends and enriched my understanding of what it means to be a woman pilot. We have another great reading list for 2022 and we'd love any Ninety-Nines or 49^{1/2}s to join our conversations or for any Chapter to synch up with us anytime in the year to read and host a discussion. You can find me in the Aviatrix Book Club Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/aviatrixbookclub, on social media platforms @literaryaviatrix, or you can e-mail me at aviatrix-bookreview@gmail.com for more information. For the women writers (and aspiring writers) in aviation, please join us in the Aviatrix Writers group at www.facebook.com/groups/aviatrixwriters.

Blue skies, and happy reading!