The Flypaper
The Official Newsletter of the Alaska 99s
March, 2004

Alaska Chapter 99s Officers

Chairman: Angie Bledsoe 537-0215
Vice Chairman: Audrey Cole 696-3590
Secretary: Gaila Kropman 279-1500
Treasurer: Melanie Hancock 694-4594

Committees

Scholarship: Helen Sona 355-8200
Flypaper: Melanie Hancock 694-4571
Sunsational: Louise Goffman 243-5645
Flying Companion: Melanie Hancock 694-4594
Membership: Mic Jahnine 696-5500
Fly-in: Auden Goff 696-5500
Scrapbook: Auden Goff 696-5500
Announcing: Sandi Shoren 694-2000

Flypaper Facts

Deadline for the April Flypaper is March 27, 2004. If you have an article, ad, or information for The Flypaper, please contact Melanie Hancock by phone or FAX at 694-4571 or e-mail at flypillow@alaska110.net. Ads are placed in The Flypaper for members at no charge.

Subscription Rates:
October -- September = $15.00 (full year)
February -- September = $10.00
June -- September = $5.00

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 91962, Anchorage, AK 99509-1962
Website:
http://goodybites.com/ak99s/
(Website Updates/Additions: Gaila Kropman (518-1863) or e-mail: ssvedflyer@jci.net)

Chapter News

Bring your photos and a short bio or flying story to add to the Alaska Chapter 99s History. Berita Degenhardt and Lavelle Betz will be talking about the history and the types of things they would like to use in the book. Here's your chance to be part of the chapter's first 50 years in print! (As always, guests are welcome.)

More information inside The Flypaper on these and other activities:

- Remembering Bottie Magoffin
- Mat-Su Chapter News
- Scholarships
- Fly-In

Next Meeting

6:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 10, 2004
Peggy's Airport Cafe
(Across from Merrill Field)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed., March 10</td>
<td>Regular Monthly Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues., March 16</td>
<td>Mat-Su Chapter Regular Monthly Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., March 27</td>
<td>DEADLINE for items for April Hypaper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed., April 14</td>
<td>Regular Monthly Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues., April 20</td>
<td>Mat-Su Chapter Regular Monthly Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., April 24</td>
<td>Flying Companion Seminar, Wasilla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 30 - May 2</td>
<td>&quot;May Day&quot; Fly-in at Valdez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed., May 12</td>
<td>Regular Monthly Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15 &amp; 16</td>
<td>Alaska Airmen's Trade Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues., May 18</td>
<td>Mat-Su Chapter Regular Monthly Meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes from the Chair:**

It's fatalities time again! One of the dreams I had when I first got my ticket was to be able to fly along the Tread and see wild Alaska. I had a chance to go winter camping this weekend and reckoned out for fear of getting too cold sleeping in a tent in the snow! What a worry! It's a good reminder to renew the contents of your emergency gear. Would you be ready for cold weather?

The 99's and the Girl Scouts are going ahead with plans for a Flying Companion Seminar for high school girls. We're still working on a date but I'm looking for some volunteers to help out. The Girl Scouts are hoping to team with the 99's over the next year and do several aviation related events for young women to introduce them to women pilots as role models and flying as a career opportunity - and fun too!

Many thanks to Ellen Pannell who sponsored an Alaska Chapter 99's Corporate Table at the recent AK Airmen's Aviation Hall of Fame dinner where Bob Ella was the fifth inductee into the AK Aviation Hall of Fame. It's a great thing to honor those who have led the way in Alaska aviation. So who will be the first women to be inducted? Do I have any ideas?

Speaking of preserving the unique history of women in aviation, there is a group of 99's from California who want to follow up on the history of women back pilots in Alaska. They are looking for back pilots to interview. Now I know some of you who have flown in recent AK may not consider yourselves "back pilots" but you all have at least one story to tell! Don't be shy about sharing your experiences. Hangar Flying can make us all safer pilots as well as good friends. And don't forget to send your stories to Roberta Depewhurt or Leslee Bixler for our "Alaska 99's: History: The first 50 Years."

Hope to see you at our meeting next week! Safe Flying.

Angie
Special Thanks

to the Alaska Armeni’s Association and the Alaska Air Mushers (Jack and Carol Klein) for their generous donations of $350 and $250, respectively, to the Alaska Chapter 99’s 50th Anniversary Celebration. In addition to helping with the banquet expenses, the balance of their donations will be applied to costs incurred in printing the “Alaska Chapter 99’s History: The First 50 Years.”

Visiting 99 = Networking Opportunity

Dear Members of the 99’s Alaska & Cook Inlet Chapters,

I am the former Chapter Chair of Redwood Coast Flyers Chapter (Southwest Section) in Northern California who plans to do some traveling in your area of Alaska in late of August. I have a Board Meeting to attend in Anchorage Aug. 13-15th and plan to stay until Aug. 22. I was not brave enough to chance flying my Cessna 150 from Eureka CA to Anchorage so have commercial tickets on Alaska Air. I am attending the board meeting of the National Women’s Political Caucus and our meeting will have about 25-30 members from all over the USA. I am one of the four members who represent the California chapters (20) of NAWPC.

I read some suggestions about lodging in Anchorage. What are the favorite hotels to stay in? (I am not sure exactly where in Anchorage my Board Meetings will be held but I would expect somewhere in the downtown area.)

I also would like to know about any tours I should take to the Kenai Peninsula area and where to stay between the dates of Aug, 16-22. I will be travelling with my husband, John, who is a Fisheries Biologist with the US Forest Service. I am a Special Ed. Director in a rural K-12 school district in Humboldt County, CA, (1200 square miles, 7 schools, and 1000 students).

Look forward to your latest!

Sally Biggin
Redwood Coast Flyers Chapter

F. O. Box 1127, Hoopa, CA 95546
Home Phone: 530-625-4736
E-mail: sbiggin@thegrid.net
Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 16, 6:00 p.m. at the Mat-Su Evangelical Covenant Church

Come with your sleeves rolled up ready to work on several projects at the March meeting:

Project 1: Make new stencils for airmarking. BRING felt pens, t-squares, and utility knives, large pieces of cardboard.

Project 2: Make new short-field clinic signs.

Project 3: Sign-ups and planning for flying companion seminar, the flying companion seminar is next month so we need to be organized now, we will assemble packets and need to have a definite list of who is doing what for speakers, meals, distribution of flyers etc. We have no chairperson (yet) for this fund-raising event so this planning will be essential.

We will need a nominating chairman for upcoming election of officers. Consider which office you may be willing to serve as. Elections are at the May meeting.

The 49 1/2 Ceremony was a blast. After a great meal we inducted Denise’s husband, Ernie Koehrer. Ken Thorall and Jim Woodley donned their aprons to officiate and Ernie good heartedly ad-libbed parts of the oath.

Dates to remember:

Tuesday, April 19, Regular Meeting
Saturday, April 24, Flying Companion Seminar, Mat-Su Evangelical Covenant Church
Tuesday, May 18, Spring Picnic, in Talkeetna

Gayle Kase

Mat-Su Valley Chapter Officers:
Chair: Holly Sheldon (933-3866)
Vice-Chair: Judith Foster (946-0391)
Secretary: Denise Koehrer (945-5867)
Treasurer: Toni Morgan (873-6569)

Gayle Kase (946-5273)
Dottie met Jim Magoffin when she was a secretary at Maxwell Field in Atlanta and he was a flight instructor in the Army Air Corps. "I would hear his footsteps coming down the stairs and I'd run into the hall to the water fountain. He'd stop and hold the handle for me while I took a drink...every time." They married in 1946 and honeymooned on a trip up the newly completed Alaska Highway on their way to Ester, Alaska where Jim had a job waiting as a mine supervisor.

Dottie described their lifestyle in Ester: "We had a small cabin with no plumbing or running water, no electricity or telephone, not even a radio. We had a wood burning stove for heat, a gasoline stove to cook on and we used lanterns for lights. Jim was making $272 a month."

Jim soon found a second job as a flight instructor at night in Fairbanks, making more than he did in a day at the Mine in Ester. "We used our War Bonds to buy our first airplane, a Taylorcraft." Dottie said. Before their first son was born on April 19, 1947, the Magoffins moved into Fairbanks and started their own flying service. "Our house was only a block from Weeks Field and Jim didn't have a phone, so if a call for a charter came in I'd hang a red flag on the pole outside to let him know he had a customer."

Dottie learned to fly in 1955 in a Cessna 140 tail dragger, built up her hours in a tri-pacer and a super cub and got her seaplane rating in a super cub. "In 1957 I went to Fort Worth, Texas and got my commercial pilot's license and my instrument and multi-engine ratings." Dottie said, noting that she was the only woman in ground school.

"Dot" to her close friends, did a lot of VIP flying for their business. She flew passengers to Walker Lake for fishing trips, charter flights and many of their scheduled flights to Clear Air Force Station.

Eventually, Jim and Dottie Magoffin expanded their business, Alaska International Air, which played a major role in the construction of oil drilling facilities on the North Slope and the Trans-Alaska pipeline, to cover much of the free world before they retired in 1982.

We report sadly that Dottie died of pneumonia on Monday, March 2, 2004, in the hospital at Fairbanks. Services are scheduled for Wednesday, March 11, at the Lutheran Church in Fairbanks. (Dottie's husband passed away earlier this year.)

Anyone wishing to send a sympathy card to her son and family, please contact Sandi (phone: 694-2080 or e-mail: sandisummer@wiminet.att.net for the address

Photo of Dottie at Walker Lake courtesy of Sandi Summer.
Feb. 11, 2004 Meeting Minutes, Summit Restaurant, International Airport

The meeting was called to order by Chair Angie Slingluff at 6:20 p.m. Twenty-five 99s and guests present. Introductions were made.

Angie made announcements: (1) There will be a Girl Scout program in the Valley on March 6. We will try to schedule a Flying Companion Seminar for the Girl Scouts and senior high girls later in the spring. (2) Worthington Glacier Lodge would like to assume management of the Thompson Pass air strip. The lodge hopes to encourage fly-ins to the area. (3) Angie had information from Jud Miller regarding an air show fly-in to Valdez April 30, May 1 and 2.

Treasurer Melanie Hancock announced that a check for $627.40 was given to Mat-Su Chapter from the September Flying Companion Seminar. The checking account balance is $5,218.12. There should be approximately $325 available for the Alaska Chapter First 50 Years History booklet.

Petra Illig has been contacted by Liz Lundine at Headquarters regarding a Russian chapter. Petra will pass along information as it is available.

The Alaska Airmen's Association will be promoting educational outreach in the community.

Helen Jones announced that she had talked to Holly Shulsd, Chair of the Mat-Su Chapter. Holly is trying to get the city strip in Talkeetna dedicated as the "Don Sheldon Air Strip." The city wants to use it as a parking lot. She is also trying to establish an Aviation Museum at Talkeetna to honor Alaska bush pilots.

Gayle Kase, Mat-Su Chapter, reported that the 99s would again be having a Short Field Clinic and that they needed someone to chair the event. Carissa Quinnin volunteered to do this. Tentative date for the clinic is June 5.

Petra Illig presented the program on the VFR Route to Russia. She passed around some photos and talked about the flight to Providenya and some of the difficulties in communications and conditions in Russia. Of note is that all airspace is military. Thirteen planes were originally scheduled to make the flight, nine arrived in Nome, but only seven left and completed the trip.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. and many people left to view the 99s display which will hang at the entrance to the B Concourse until May, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,
Melanie Hancock for Secretary Gloria Kragness
Valdez “May Day” Fly-In 2004

The Valdez Airmen’s Association has announced the “May Day” Fly-In will take place Friday, April 30 through Sunday, May 2, 2004. Events include:

- Discover Valdez and Prince William Sound during the day on Friday.
- Friday evening Barbecue at the Totem Inn.
- A Prince William Sound Poker Run (Valdez-Whittier-Chenega-Cordova-Talkeetna-Valdez) Saturday morning.
- Flying Skills Competition Events (short field take-off and landing and low flying and flying) Saturday afternoon.
- Dinner, Entertainment and Competition Awards Ceremony Saturday evening.
- Pancake Breakfast on Sunday morning at the Valdez Airport Terminal.
- Aerial Displays and Air Show (fly-bys, aerobatics, demonstrations, skydiving and military) Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Raffle Drawings and Large Group Photo at Valdez Airport Sunday at 4 p.m.

Special Notes: 1) Valdez Airport Info. No Control Tower; Communicate on CTAF 122.9; 6,500 ft. paved Runway 6-24; Ample parking and block town; Commercial Rights daily to Anchorage. 2) Local pilots will do hourly PIREPs for Thompson Pass. 3) There will be regular shuttle bus service between Valdez and the Airport. 4) There will be raffle prizes, vendors and concession stands. 5) Aviation safety workshops by Mark Paine, Unusual Attitudes LLC. 6) Registration desk will be open Friday and Saturday at the Whitney Museum, Valdez Airport

To register for events and for more information, contact:

1) Debbie Linn, Event Coordinator, P. O. Box 97, Valdez, AK 99686; Phone 907-834-1612; e-mail: dllinn@pvsec.edu
2) Rod Hanson, Phone 907-831-0414 or e-mail: hansonr@alaska.com.

You may also check for information at: http://www.valdezalaska.org/