FROM THE CHAIR

For those of you unable to attend the February meeting, you missed a very good program. Our speaker was Jennifer Avery, a Navy Lieutenant. Not only was Jennifer’s talk informative, it was positive and uplifting! We hope to see more of Jennifer in the future.

We also had a cake to celebrate the Chapter’s 52nd anniversary. Our original charter date was January 19, 1954. Happy anniversary to us!!!

This is the slow time of year. The days are getting longer and spring flying is about to start. Many pilots are off to the Iditarod.

Please join us on Wednesday, March 8. We will be working on our scrapbooks. If you or anyone you know has photos they would like to donate for inclusion in our scrapbooks, please bring them to the meeting. If you have photos, but won’t be able to attend, please let me know (694-4571 or flyquilt@mtaonline.net) and I’ll try to arrange to pick up the photos and take them to the meeting.

Hope to see lots of you there!

Melanie

FLYPAPER FACTS

The submission deadline for the January issue is Mar. 25, 2005. If you have an article, ad or information for the Flypaper, please contact Michelle Bartleman by phone 1-877-552-8926 or by email at michelle@loscher.ca. Ads in the Flypaper are free for members.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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<td>October—September</td>
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The subscription cost is to cover printing and mailing. You can also read the Flypaper online at ak99s.org.
ALASKA CHAPTER: March meeting

Please join us on Wednesday, March 8 at Peggy’s Café. We will be working on our scrap books. If you or anyone you know has photos they would like to donate for inclusion in our scrapbooks, please bring them to the meeting. If you have photos, but won’t be able to attend, please let Melanie know (694-4571 or flyquilt@mtaonline.net) and she will try to arrange to pick up the photos.

Women’s History Month

March is Women’s History Month and The Anchorage Museum of History & Art is celebrating by hosting “Women in Aviation: The Alaska 99s” on Sunday afternoon, March 19 at 3:00 p.m. in the Museum auditorium. Several of our members will be presenting, including Ingrid Pedersen, Ellen Paneok, Roberta Degenhardt and Sandi Sumner.

Flying Companion Seminar

We will again be offering a Flying Companion Seminar for High School age girls and Girls Scouts. Date: Saturday, April 22 at UAA from 8:30 a.m. to about 4:30 p.m. Angie is looking for 99s to join in presenting this seminar to these enthusiastic young women. Contact Angie at 271-3422 during the day or 337-0253 in eves.

2008 International Convention

A small but enthusiastic committee meets once a Month (1st Thursday) at Peggy’s Restaurant at 5:30 p.m. to develop our plans for the Convention. We will soon be coming to you for help, by networking and talking up the convention to your friends, neighbors, and potential sponsors. It’s will take some dough to throw a party for 1,000 guests. I happened to be at the PACCExhibits last week and mentioned it to several businesses and got a VERY ENTHUSIASTIC response, so I know the sponsor are out there waiting for us to contact them. More news during the meeting, or you can contact Angie at 271-3422 during the day or 337-0253 in eves.

Chapter photo albums

Are you a scrap book person? Do you remember names and faces? Can you help us identify, label and decorate our Chapter Photo Albums? We have been collecting loose photos for years and it is way past time to put them together. The Northwest Section Sponsors a recognition for the best Chapter Scrap Book or Photo Album. Maybe this is the year we should enter something! This is also away to help our Chapter History book move along too!
1) INTRODUCTIONS
There were 13 members in attendance.

2) PROGRAM
Norm Legasse - Executive Director, Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum.
For the notes of Norm’s Talk, please see the minutes online at the Alaska Chapter Web site at www.ak99s.org.

3) MEETING
A) Treasurers report
• $12,472 Scholarship CD
• $7,784 Checking
• Suggestion of moving Museum display funds to a savings account or 6 month CD.

B) Christmas Dinner
• Thank you from Janet Oxford for recognition.

C) Display Committee Report
• Met in early January.

D) Scholarships
• Get the new forms online, explanation of scholarships

E) Web site
• Looks good! Ak99s.org

F) March at the Museum Of History and Art
• Sunday March 5th - Women’s History Month. Museum of History and Art. Focus on Women Pilots.

G) 2008 Convention Report
• The official slogan is: “Aviation Fun under the Midnight Sun.”
• See the Flypaper for more information
• The Convention will be Aug 6-9, 2008 with a focus on general aviation safety, including:
  * Medallion
  * Capstone
  * Alaska Airmen
  * Cameras in the Mountains
  * Tour of the museum
• Jean White – Suggested that this is the same year that the Alaska quarter comes out and this might be incorporated.

H) Women in Science and Technology Day
• This is a Girl scout activity at UAA
• 99s have done a presentation in the past, and are looking for volunteers.

I) Spring Flying Companion Seminar
• Up coming—please keep it in mind to volunteer

J) Aviation Trade show
• Alaska Airmen’s has invited us to set up booth at tradeshow. Hopefully get a discount. Booth cost $400 without discount. The tradeshow is May 6-7, 2006.
• What do we want to sell this year? A thought is aviation type jewelry, such as earrings, necklaces, charms, bracelets
• Petra volunteered to ask for discount at the Alaska Airmen’s association board meeting.

K) Valdez Airshow
• Will be held April 28-30 (not the first weekend in May as usual).

4) ANNOUNCEMENTS
A) Petra Illig
• Tom Wardleigh – correction in the flypaper.
• Wayne Koecher - Atlas airlines pilot - Wells Fargo, donations, son died in plane crash on glacier.
• Petra is moving office and plans to have a retail supply shop and 99s shop at her new place which is in the same building as she is now located.
• First National Bank Calendar – Ruth Jefford is the feature for the month of January.

B) Norm Legasse
• Solicitations for charts or artifacts for temporary display at the museum
• Petra Illig offered charts from Russia trip
• Angie suggested air marking pictures – the Alaska chapter has done 21 air markings around the state
• Communication logs
MINUTES: Alaska Chapter meeting February 8, 2006

1) INTRODUCTIONS
There were 22 members in attendance.

2) MEETING
A) Pearl Chamberlain
• Pearl was honored as a Master pilot. Mio suggested we fill out a similar application and submit it for Ruth Jefford. Angie has already given an application to Melanie.

B) Treasurer report
• Treasurer Barb Spriggs is out of town
• $ 8367.70 checking account
• $ 1750.00 museum display (including 500$ from Rotary club)
• Museum display money – it is suggested that we take it out of the checking account and move it to a savings account or a CD. Opened for discussion. It was suggested not to move to a CD, as the committee may need something before. Angie moves to donate matching funds to museum display of what has already been donated, which is currently $1,750 (including rotary club money). Sandi Sumner reminds everyone that, with regard to the grant money we are seeking, it looks better when we show that we are willing to put our own money behind the project. The questions arises as to whether we will have enough for scholarships once money is withdrawn and matched? We have a $12,400 CD for scholarships – originally interest is supposed to pay for scholarships, but this is no longer the case. Melanie sees no problem with matching and seconds Angie's motion. All in favour, none opposed.

C) Meeting minutes
• Melanie asks for January and February minutes to be in next newsletter.

D) Museum committee display report
• Michelle reports that the success has been limited in finding video help from the university. Michelle reports that she has begun on the women pilots database, and Sandi reports status of grant application.

E) Chapter birthday
• Melanie announces that it is the Chapter’s 52nd birthday, and there is cake to celebrate.

F) Scholarships
• Everything is on the web site and up to date, including instructions and applications. The student pilot scholarship includes a current medical. The question is asked regarding how many scholarships the chapter wants to award. Mio recommends that we do what we normally do:
  • 1 advanced for $1,000
  • 1 student scholarship for $500
  • Helen motions. Angie seconds.

G) Flying companion seminar report
• The seminar will be held April 22. It will tentatively be held at the University and we are looking for volunteers.

H) Museum Event for Women’s History month
• A celebration of Women’s History month will be held on Sunday March 19. The event does not have a name or title, but has a focus on women pilots.
• We are trying to get as many people in Sandi’s book to attend as possible. Ingrid Pederson, Roberta Degenhardt and Ellen Paneok are speaking.

I) Other upcoming events:
• Mat-Su flying companion seminar
• April 8 - Seaplane safety seminar
• June 8 – FAA pancake breakfast and fly-in to Palmer and short field clinic

J) 2008 Convention report from Angie
• The committee is meeting on a monthly basis.
• They have secured a contract from the Egan center ($2,500 at signing, which would get the Egan center for the entire three days of the conference).
• Airmen’s association will take care of welcoming BBQ.
• Saturday night Banquet – Hilton will cater, but they must find off site location, looking for space to accommodate 1,000. Hilton is willing to guarantee rate for 2008.
• The theme is “Aviation fun under the midnight sun.”
• Anyone is welcome to come to the meetings – first Thursday of the month 5:30 p.m.
• Petra offered to donate seatbelt cutters for goody bags.
• Sandi suggested that we add Angie and Mio’s contact info to the Flypaper.
• The registration fees for the 2006 international conference in Washington, D.C. is $325, and we must send a delegate. Clarissa moves to pay for Angie’s registration fee. Roberta seconds. All in favour, none opposed.

K) Other business
• Tradeshow – we have paid for our booth (#185)
• Valdez Fly-in – we sent in a sponsorship for 225 $
• Palmer Pancake short field clinic – June 3 – check date?
• Vests and bags: Fleece vests – let Melanie know if you are interested. They are $35 each. Pat Benning would like one.
• Carol Klein – a 99 member involved with Hot air balloons, is moving to Switzerland and renting house – received email for flypaper – will run in March.

3) PROGRAM
Lieutenant Jennifer Avery. For the notes of Lt. Avery’s talk, please see the minutes online at www.ak99s.org
PEARL LASKA CHAMBERLAIN: Master pilot

By Sandi Sumner

Alaska Chapter 99s member Pearl Laska Chamberlain became the second woman in Alaska to receive the Wright Brothers' Master Pilot award, a new FAA award that recognizes pilots who have contributed and maintained safe flight operations for 50 or more consecutive years of piloting aircraft.

At a reception in Fairbanks, held Feb. 23, Pearl received the award alongside Urban Rahoi, Peter Merry, Douglas Millard, Warren Thompson and Charles Yerkes (posthumous). The first woman to be recognized as Master Pilot was Ginny Hyatt, well known for her work at the Safety Foundation.

Pearl was escorted to the stage to receive her plaque by fellow 99s, Phyllis Tate and Dee Rice, both active members of the chapter in Fairbanks. Once Pearl received the plaque she never let it out of her hands, even though I offered to carry both her purse and plaque to the car at the end of the festivities.

Pearl soloed in 1933 in a Kinner Fleet biplane in Bluefield, Virginia, then went on to become a WASP. She headed north in 1944 where she found a job flying for Rainbow Airways in Nome, as well as work as an instructor.

At the conclusion of the award ceremony, a pilot from Nome rushed up to congratulate her.

"Pearl, do you remember me?" he said. "You taught me to fly!"

She couldn’t stop smiling as more and more people sought her out with congratulations, telling her they had no idea about her aviation background. Pearl was also a teacher in Fairbanks.

On the prestigious plaque awarded to Pearl, which is signed by FAA Director Marion C. Blakey, were these words:

In appreciation for your dedicated service, technical expertise, professionalism, and many outstanding contributions that further the cause of aviation safety.

At the conclusion of the PowerPoint presentation about Pearl, the FAA staff member pointed out that Pearl still maintains an active medical certificate at age 96. What she didn’t mention is that Pearl continues to mentor young women seeking to take to the air.

It was an honor to be there to see Pearl Laska Chamberlain finally recognized.

Pearl Laska Chamberlain is pictured here with Mindy Grunin, Jacy Hutchinson and Mikayla Gronin at a reception where she received the FAA’s Master Pilot award. One told Pearl she planned to become a pilot, as she handed her program to Pearl for her to autograph.

The truest lengthening of life is to live while we live, wasting no time but using every hour for the highest ends. So be it this day.

C. H. Spurgeon
Aerodynamically, the bumble bee shouldn’t be able to fly, but the bumble bee shouldn’t be able to fly anyway.

- Mary Kay Ash