Greetings and Happy New Year to everyone!

I cannot believe it is 2007. It seems only yesterday we were all worried about the Millennium Bug and Y2K, and now here we are, six years later, looking forward to an International Convention in 2008. (2008 suddenly seems a lot closer now, doesn't it?)

So, when you are done shoveling out from under the recent snowfalls, and have a quiet moment to sip a cup of tea and contemplate all that you love about this Great Land we live in, make a list of the things you would like to share with 99s who come to visit our great state. Consider which areas you would be willing to volunteer in to make Convention 2008 the best International Convention on record! This is truly a team effort and we will need all of your help, so share your inspirations!

If you cannot attend the monthly meetings, or the Convention Committee meetings, then share your thoughts in an email to Angie or Mio, our Convention 2008 Co-chairs.

In the meantime, enjoy the weather. Only 10 more weeks or so until the first day of Spring! I hope you all enjoyed the Holidays, and I look forward to seeing you soon,

Berta

Next Meeting
Wednesday, January 10, at 6:00 p.m.,
Peggy’s Restaurant, 1675 E. 5th Avenue
(across from Merrill Field)
Guest Speaker: Ellen Paneok
Guests Welcome!
## Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed., Jan. 10</td>
<td>Regular Monthly Meeting <em>(details below)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues., Jan. 23 **</td>
<td>Mat-Su Regular Monthly Meeting <em>(page 3)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Feb. 3</td>
<td>Women in Science &amp; Technology Day <em>(page 3)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Feb. 10</td>
<td>Careers in Aviation Day <em>(page 3)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed., Feb. 14</td>
<td>Regular Monthly Meeting and Valentine’s Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 15 - 17</td>
<td>Women in Aviation Conference, Orlando, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues., Feb. 20</td>
<td>Mat-Su Regular Monthly Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 20 - 21</td>
<td>The Amelia Earhart Festival, Atchison, KS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 20 - 26</td>
<td>Amelia Earhart Peak Climb 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 23 - 26</td>
<td>Northwest Section Meeting, Gillette, WY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 11 - 16</td>
<td>Ninety-Nines International Conference, Denver, CO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Note the date change for the January meeting.

## Calendar Notes

**July 20-21: The Amelia Earhart Festival**  
Tours of the Atchison, Kansas birthplace home, lectures on A.E. history, luncheon, aircraft fly-over, sponsored by Chamber of Commerce  
Contact: 913-367-4217

**July 20 - 26: Amelia Earhart Peak Climb 2007**  
Amelia Earhart Peak is hiked by The 99s every 10 years. Base camp is at 8000 ft elevation and then 4 days are spent hiking up and down the peak (11982 ft elevation) with the peak day on July 24th. Contact Lynn Meadows at: tomlynnfly@hotmail.com

For more info, check the national website:  
www.ninety-nines.org

## January Program

Ellen Paneok, a longtime 99’s member, will discuss her work with the Alaskan Aviation Safety Foundation. The mission of the foundation is to promote aviation safety through public education and research. Ellen will share information about several new training and educational programs of the foundation including an upcoming (late February) program to be held in Mat-Su.
The Convention Committee continues to meet on the first Thursday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at Peggy’s. We need to ask some of you who volunteered for committees to think about the tasks you accepted and review when you need to pull your selves together and get crackin’! We have 19 months (519 days until the event!). By Fall 2007 we will start taking registrations and the 2007 Directory will have our logo on the back. At our next meeting I will send around the committee list again looking for additional volunteers. If we all pitch in, no one needs to be overwhelmed with too much work.

Aviation Education Opportunities

We will be participating in the Girl Scouts Women in Science and Technology Day on Saturday, February 3 at UAA with session in the morning for younger girl scouts and afternoon for older girls. This is one way that we encourage youngsters to think about the joys of flying and considering aviation careers - yes they really do start to get excited early - but only if they meet women who are excited about aviation and show them they can do it too! Come share your enthusiasm with the Girl Scouts. Contact Angie to volunteer.
“Gruezi from Switzerland”

In April 2006, Carol and Jack Klein packed up their hot air balloons, left their pickled Grumman Yankee at Merrill Field, and headed to Switzerland. A friend offered them a place to stay at his family farm near Bern, in exchange for doing some fix-up work on the 100+ year old farm house.

In addition to having a great launch field right behind the house, Jack and Carol have enjoyed many spectacular balloon flights in other parts of Switzerland. If the Alps aren't interesting enough, it's just a short drive to France, Germany, or Italy, where the flying is also excellent, and so is the wine!

The Kleins are in the process of applying for Swiss residence permits, which is a slow and difficult process. They have kept their house in Anchorage “just in case”, but hope to stay in Europe as long as possible. Be sure to give Jack and Carol a call if you find yourself in Switzerland!

In January 2007 the Kleins start a 3-month stint as balloon safari pilots in Tanzania. They plan to return to Switzerland in April 2007. The can be reached at:

advanced2@yahoo.com

Carol and Jack Klein
Radelfingenstrasse 17
3270 Aarberg, Switzerland

caklein@bluewin.ch

H +41 32 392-3366
C +41 79 336-1742

Aerial view of the farm house. Most of the buildings are empty now, and the land is leased out to local farmers.

The Alaska balloon gets ready to launch from Toggenburg in the Swiss Alps.