



The International Organization of Women Pilots

May, 2009

Chairman:

Barbara Strachan

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## Chapter Officers

### Chairman

Barbara Strachan 727-812-2437  
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### Vice Chairman

Dima Haobsh 727-482-3131  
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### Secretary

Marie Grein 727-799-1552  
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### Treasurer

Jeanne Burklund 727-216-9616  
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## Chapter Committee Chairman

### Membership

Barbara Yeninas

### Airmarking

Denise Rosenberger

### Scholarships

Denise Rosenberger

### Ways and Means

Nancy Wright

### Aerospace Education

Nancy Wright

### Newsletter/Reporter

Jeanne Burklund

### Aviation Activities/Safety Education

## Florida Suncoast Chapter

[www.fpcg.net/sc99/](http://www.fpcg.net/sc99/)

## Chairman's Message

Yesterday, April 23rd was a beautiful day at Sun n Fun. The 99s clubhouse was a beehive of activity as it usually is during this event. Nancy Wright and Barbara Sierchio did a marvelous job with both the house and the WASP luncheon as they always do. When everything goes as smoothly as it did yesterday, you know there was a lot of work done behind the scenes.

We have International Bylaw/ Standing Rule Amendments to consider this month that we will vote on as a chapter at the May meeting. Our delegates to Conference in Chicago in July will vote according to what we the chapter decide about these amendments. Please read them either in this on-line newsletter or on-line at the International 99s website. If you are coming to the meeting in May and do not have access to the web site, please get in touch with one of the Board to

mail you a copy of the amendments. We are not mailing them with the printed copy of the newsletter due to the number of pages (13), unless you are planning on coming to the meeting in May.

This is my last article as Chapter Chairman of the Florida Suncoast Chapter. The chapter is electing a new Board this Saturday at our April meeting, which is held at Sun n Fun. The new officers will be installed at the May 9th meeting at Vandenberg/Tampa Executive Airport. I will be unable to attend that meeting, so I want to wish our new Chairman and her board the very best of luck for a happy and successful term of office.

It has been a great two years for me with the Florida Suncoast Chapter. I have enjoyed getting to know everyone and taken pleasure in helping to get things done.

My Vice-Chairman, Dima Haobsh has gone out of her way to provide us with interesting programs for our meetings. She worked tirelessly for our wine tasting fundraisers, and was always an inspiration with her energy. Marie Grein, our secretary, took the job as she stepped down from being Governor of the SE Section, which shows real dedication to the chapter. Jeanne Burklund has handled our finances well as Treasurer, and also the on-line aspect of our monthly chapter newsletter, both quite a bit of work, and she has volunteered to continue doing these tasks. These wonderful ladies made my job easy. I say thank you to all of the determined workers who make the chapter a success.

Blue Skies

Barbara

## Vice Chairman's Corner

Beginnings are exciting as we anticipate the joy of new experiences, but endings can be sweet as well. As this board's term comes to a close, we celebrate the many beginnings and remember fondly our sweet endings. What a wonderful two years this has turned out to be! Great and exciting diverse trips, new friendships blossoming...we have seen it all!

Despite a faltering economy, our Club continued to celebrate the joy of flying and traveling with friends, both old and new. Laughter was our "mantra." It is said that laughter heals the soul. With all the memories and joy of a perfect season behind us, the new board members are already planning

our next season's adventures. I, for one, can hardly wait to see what next season brings.

We will have our next meeting in May at the Vandenberg Airport where we will learn a lot about Sport Aviation so please bring your own lunch bag and drink. Then the new board takes over after that in June !!

We had a great meeting on Saturday, and it was wonderful to see everyone!! The weather was unbelievable, sunny with a little breeze, couldn't ask for anything more.

We saw some really interesting planes and I sure wished I can

test fly any of them. It is never enough time to see and do all I want to do at the Sun 'n Fun; it is like the Disney of aviation for adults !!

I want to thank the current board for all their help and support, as I couldn't have done it without them. I also want to say thanks to all the members who keep coming back and supporting the 99s, without you, we wouldn't be able to continue this wonderful organization.

Looking forward to seeing you all in May!!

Dima

## Upcoming Events

### May 9, 2009

Vandenberg Airport / Leading Edge Aviation Services

6582 Eureka Springs Road

Tampa, FL 33610

813-626-1515

[www.leadingedgeaviation.com](http://www.leadingedgeaviation.com)

Speaker will be Bennett Gray at 11:30 for a 15 minute talk.

We will install our new officers at this meeting.

### June 13th, 2009

Time: 10:30

Location is unknown at this point and we need suggestions, & sponsors.

## Upcoming International Conventions

### July 22-26, 2009 :

The Ninety-Nines International Conference, Chicago, IL

### July 2010 :

The Ninety-Nines International Conference, Kona, HI

### July 2011 :

The Ninety-Nines International Conference, Oklahoma City, OK

## OTHER EVENTS

### May 1-3, 2009:

Southeast Section Meeting, Destin FL

### Jul 18,

Pensacola Beach Air Show  
Pensacola Beach, FL

### July 27-August 2, 2009 :

EAA Air Venture, Oshkosh, WI

### Oct 03-04,

Cocoa Beach Air Show  
Cocoa Beach, FL

### Oct 17-18,

Air-Space Expo  
Kennedy Space Center, FL

### Oct 17,

NAS Whiting Field's 66th Anniversary Air Show / Open House, Milton, FL

### Oct 23-25,

St. Petersburg Airfest , St. Petersburg, FL

## OTHER EVENTS—cont

### November 5-7, 2009 :

AOPA Expo 2009, Tampa, FL

### Nov 07-08,

Jacksonville Air Show  
Jacksonville, FL

### Nov 07-08,

Wings Over Homestead ARB  
Homestead ARB, FL

### Nov 13-15,

Blue Angels Homecoming  
Pensacola, FL

### Nov 13-15,

VNA Air Show-Stuart , Stuart, FL

## Upcoming Southeast Section Meetings

### 2009

Spring Pensacola/Destin  
May 1 and 2

Fall Blue Ridge Chapter TBA

### 2010

Spring New Orleans Chapter TBA  
Fall Paradise Coast Chapter TBA

## Rotary International, Group Study Exchange (GSE)

By Jess Bylsma

I recently attended a Rotary International Group Study Exchange to the Philippines. This is a one month professional exchange where the Rotary in the Tampa Bay area sends 4 professionals and a group leader to another country to learn about its culture, see what projects that Rotarians carry out in their country, and interact with professionals in each of the different team members' career fields. I just so happens that I was introduced to this scholarship opportunity by Ann Kennedy, a Rotarian who was at our 99s wine tasting fundraiser event.

The trip was an experience of a lifetime for each of the team members. We saw the

sights around the Manila Bay area. We were also able to see how great an impact just a few hundred Rotarians could make on their country. The Philippines has a struggling economy, with large unemployment and a population explosion. Many people cannot find work to feed their families and many basic government services are unavailable. The Rotarians have programs like building homes for families who live under tarps in their farmland. They also have school programs to feed malnourished children so that they can sit still and concentrate in class. I was also fortunate enough to meet members of the Philippines Coast Guard, Air Force, and Army. It was fascinating to hear about our shared challenges in flight programs, especially regarding aging aircraft and pilot retention.

I have traveled to Europe and Central and South America before, but thanks to the Rotarians who took the time to show us their country and their activities, this experience was like none other. The biggest lesson that I have taken away from the trip is the message of hope. Every time the Rotarians of the Philippines begin a project, they know that there are 20 more that could be done. For every house they build for a family squatting under a bridge for refuge, there are one hundred more people who need homes. But despite seemingly infinite need, Rotarians still continue to work towards bettering their country and their people.

I see an interesting parallel to this challenge by looking at the number of women in aviation. Only 3% of commercial pilots are women and only 6% of general aviation pilots are women. To hope that one day women will reflect the even close to the same proportion of pilots as they do the general population (somewhere near 50%) is overwhelming. But if each and every one of us holds hope that our numbers will increase, and each of us participates in the small projects that we have control over, we can know that we did our part to bump the percentage up a little bit.



**FLORIDA SUNCOAST NINETY-NINES**  
Sun 'n Fun April 25, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT: Barbara Strachan, Dima Haobsh (Sue Haobsh), Elinor Kline (Steve Kline), Barbara Sierchio, Nancy Wright (Jim Pappas), Barbara Yeninas (John Yeninas), Jeanne Burklund (Michelle Burklund), Jessica Blysm, Marilyn Shafer, Judy Bowser, and Marie Grein.

GUESTS: Corbi Bulluck, Elaine Morrow, Patricia Ohlsson, Ivonne Barkman, Coralie Stamp, and Jessica Alzamora.

Chapter Chairman Barbara Strachan called the meeting to order at 10:30 and introduced Corbi Bulluck, current Governor of the Southeast Section, and Elaine Morrow, Past President of the Ninety-Nines. The minutes, as printed, were accepted. The treasurer's report was accepted and filed for audit.

Since Barbara will not be present at the May meeting, she thanked the officers and the members for their aid during her two years as chair. Dima, the outgoing vice-chair, also thanked members for their help.

**COMMITTEES:**

Airmarking---Sun 'n Fun has requested that we repaint the compass rose and words.

Aviation Activities---Jeanne Burklund announced only 9 people sent in the forms for 2,100 points.

Education---Marie Grein, continuing to work with the youngsters at Skycrest, showed the recycled rockets which they launched April 17; reviewed the field trip on April 24; explained the work with Jeanne's Girl Scout troop.

Membership---Barbara Yeninas mentioned a woman signed to join the 99s and will be in FL Suncoast.

Scholarship---Nancy Wright announced the deadline for entries will be May 2.

Ways and Means---Nancy said Debbi Palmer had made a number of items to be sold with the money going to the chapter. Some-one suggested ideas for next year---place-mats and plastic bag holders.

**BUSINESS:**

Barbara Strachan read the proposed slate of officers for 2009-2011. Since there were no nominations from the floor, the slate was approved. Installation of the new officers will take place May 9.

International Bylaws changes are posted on line in the Members Only section of the International web site and also on the FL Suncoast site. Please read so that the changes may be discussed at the May meeting.

Nancy presented Volunteer patches to Barbara Sierchio (28 years), Nancy Wright (27 years) Elinor Kline (14), Barbara Yeninas (10), Kathy Koshian (10), and Marie Grein (10).

Barbara Sierchio reported on the WASP Luncheon. Over 60 people attended. The Panel format with Ursula Davidson as moderator was a success.

Barbara Strachan, chair of the Endowment Fund, stressed the importance of supporting the fund.

The donations are added to the fund with the interest being reinvested.

The International Conference will be held July 22-26 at the Marriott Chicago Downtown, Chicago, Illinois.

Jessica Blysm attended the Wine Tasting where she learned about a Rotary International Scholarship.

She was chosen to go to the Philippines to fulfill the 3 purposes of Rotary; 1) cultural visitations, 2) housing and feeding of children, and 3) professional exchanges.

The next meeting will be held at Vandenburg Airport, at 10:30 on May 9.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20.

Marie Grein, Secretary