



99s: Women Pilots of Eastern New England



Welcome to 2021!

I hope that you all had safe and enjoyable celebrations last night! Like everything else in 2020, I imagine that it probably did not look like those from years past. Maybe a Zoom call with family or friends, perhaps? Or maybe one of your neighbors put on an impromptu fireworks display in their backyard at midnight? Or maybe you attended a small gathering with your pod?

Whatever your celebration was on the last night of this crazy year, I hope we all took a moment to reflect on 2020. Not one of us has gone untouched by the events over the past many months, and all of our lives have changed dramatically. We have lived through a year of social and political events that history books are going to be challenged to understand, let alone condense down into a unit. Worldwide,

people have struggled not only with the virus itself, but with the economic fallout, social isolation, widespread exposure of long existing social issues and/or the stress from volatile political situations.

With all of this chaos happening around us I saw something happen with our group of Ninety-Nines. We adjusted. Sure – some of our events had to be postponed or moved to remote; like our scholarship luncheon, Section meeting, Let's Fly Now event, etc. But other, more frequent contact grew in its place; our weekly Zoom chats for anyone who wanted to participate, increased communication through Flylines, an amazingly successful online auction and our soon to start Zoom discussion series! We did sneak in a few in person meetings; a great time was had at Amelia Earhart's birthday party in Laconia, at the Poker Run, delivering cookies to controllers and volunteering at Above the Clouds events among others. Maybe personally we took up a new solo/home hobby, or really ramped up our interest in an existing one. At least a few of us have immersed ourselves in online language programs and found each other on those apps! Others have earned their PPL or another advanced certificate. Or even bought a plane!

Though 2020 is now behind us, we still have a long way to go before we get back to anything resembling normal. Over the next year I believe that we will slowly start to see more of our in-person events return. The lessons we have learned, however, will stay with us when we get there. (For one example, we will continue remote access even when in person meetings resume). One thing that will remain for me personally is my utter admiration for this strong, knowledgeable and resilient group of women that I am proud to have gotten to know and to learn from every day.

Thank you for everything you have done over the last year and for being the amazing people that you are. Here's to 2021!

Jessie Zuberek
Chair, Eastern New England Chapter 99s

Next ENE Meeting January 9

Our **next meeting** will be taking place on Saturday, January 9th at 10am (Zoom available at 9:30am). At

the end of the meeting we will have a special treat!
Sue Buena will be sharing a special presentation
about Gyroplanes. Don't miss it!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92550989702?pwd=RWN0ZmdXaExZN2x5S1VrRTNkamtBZz09>

Meeting ID: 925 5098 9702

Passcode: 255418

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,92550989702#,,,,*255418# US

(Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 925 5098 9702

Passcode: 255418



Beth White's Artwork

Beth has created some amazing aviation-related art during the pandemic. Here is her latest creation.

“Women Airforce Service Pilots of World War II WASPs.”

Mixed media on scrap plywood; 100+ photos of women aviators, approx 260 Women in Our Armed Services 3¢ U.S. stamps, approx 175 Jacqueline Cochran 50¢ U.S. stamps, acrylic, pen, marker, pencil.

Painted from the photograph of Frances Green, Margaret (Peg) Kirchner, Ann Waldner, and Blanche Osborn leaving their B-17 Flying Fortresses plane,

Billie Downing

Greetings to ENE 99s,

I want to let you know that Billie Downing suffered a mild stroke and is currently in rehab (info below) until January 7th. I have spoken with her, and she sounds in good spirits.

I am sure she would like to hear from you, so I have included information on the rehab.

As you know, there are no visitors allowed at this time.

Best wishes for a happy, healthy New Year!

~Georgia Pappas

Mrs. Billie Downing
C/O Encompass
Healthcare
2 Rehabilitation Way
Woburn, MA 01801

"Pistol Packin' Mamms", this piece honors the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs) who tested and ferried aircraft, and trained pilots during World War II. The 50¢ Jacqueline Cochran stamps that make up the sky honors aviation pioneer "Jackie's" vision of employing women pilots in non-combat missions to free male pilots for war. WASPs transported every type of military aircraft, towed targets for live anti-aircraft gun practice, simulated missions, and transported cargo.

Here is a link to see more of her work: <https://www.behance.net/gallery/70094523/Aviation-in-Mixed-Media>