



99s: Women Pilots of Eastern New England

New ENE Chapter Board International Conference Recap Upcoming Events

Welcome to the New ENE Chapter Board:

In each of the next few newsletters, we will feature brief bios for the new Board members.

Toria Socolosky (Chair) - Toria joined the 99s at Oshkosh in 2023 as a student pilot. Since then, she has earned her private pilot certificate and instrument rating and has over 300 hours. You can often find her flying a blue Mooney out of KLWM (Lawrence) and the Piper Warriors at KBVY (Beverly). She currently spends the workday as a fraud investigator but is working hard toward becoming a professional pilot. Some of her favorite parts about the 99s are getting to meet so many accomplished and inspiring pilots and being able to talk about airplanes with folks as much as she wants.



Julia Lindow (Vice Chair)

Holly Intravia (Secretary)

Sue Benua (Treasurer)

Merle Poulton (Webmaster)

Rachel Betlinski (Social Media Manager)



What We've Been Up To

The Ninety-Nines International Conference Highlights

Hospitality - Behind the Scenes

by Julia Lindow



Thanks to a major team effort, our New England themed hospitality suite was a great success! In fact, we were so well prepared, we even had leftovers. Very special thanks to the Hospitality Committee (Glenna Blackwell, Beth Young, Sherry Grobstein, Arlene Meyers Alexander, Rachel Betlinski, Holly Intravia, Christine Micke, Lori Plourd, Arianna Strand).

People raved about the homemade baked beans, mac 'n cheese, pies, the various cookies, the brown bread, and the peanut butter & jelly sandwiches, to name a few. All were prepared with love and skill that was taste-able.

However, I want to give a special mention here to the clam chowder and the whole operation behind the scenes that brought this classic New England dish into people's soup bowls. Glenna Blackwell had secured a generous chowder donation from Blount Fine Foods (Fairhaven, MA), and the soup pickup is a story in itself, involving a giant freezer warehouse, workers dressed like polar explorers and an oversized palette delivering the soup donation. Per Beth Young, "Candie and I took the road trip to Fall River and picked it up. I put my mathematics degree to serious use calculating cubic volumes of freezer space I needed to acquire from friends to hold the donation for 1 week before we traveled to Burlington." Approximately 100 pounds of frozen soup travelled in various coolers to Burlington! Surprisingly enough, they arrived still frozen solid, which was great, but also provided the first soup challenge for our hospitality team, who had to turn those oversized chowder

squeezes into hot soup. In order to separate the bags, we first showered the icy block, then bathed the individual bags in the sink and got them up to temperature in a hot pot. It was quite the operation in the little bathroom adjacent to the hospitality suite. At times it felt like a steam room, with all sorts of food smells mixing in the busy air of preparation.

Once we had established a routine, chowder prep worked like clockwork: a total of 22 bags went from the cooler to the sink bath, then 20 minutes in the hot pot, then decanted into the jug for transportation to the crockpot in the main suite, where the chowder was eagerly awaited by our hungry guests.

Uncountable sandwiches were prepared on an ironing board turned countertop and baked beans heated up in a crock pot on the nightstand.

Many hands, creativity, a bit of patience and a good system made the hospitality room a huge success, but I will admit, I am not craving clam chowder anytime soon!

Voting by Rachel Betlinski

3 proposed amendments to the bylaws were up for vote at the Annual Business Meeting on July 12th.

The 3 amendments up for vote were as follows:

Amendment #1: Definition of Women

Amendment #2: Definition of Pilot

Amendment #3: Dues Increase (Further Amended Below)

Amendment #3a: Students Excluded from Increase

The document with further information that was sent to all members prior to the meeting for review is available here:

https://cdn-s11.ssmedia.com/ck_20250508070515/ninety-nines/userfiles/file/Bylaws/2025ProposeBL-SRAmendmentsFinalWithCoverLetter20250428.pdf

There was much spirited discussion around each of these amendments, with 10 minutes allowed and used per issue. Our New England Section members very much represented and supported our fellow members

throughout the discussions.

**Amendment #1 Definition of Women was NOT ADOPTED.
100 FOR; 85 AGAINST; 7 ABSTAINED**

**Amendment #2 Definition of Pilot was ADOPTED.
129 FOR; 55 AGAINST; 8 ABSTAINED**

Amendment #3 Dues Increase was further amended. The additional amendment excluded dues for student pilots from increasing for 2 years. If they remain student pilots beyond 2 years, they will be subject to the rate listed on the supporting documents. The members present voted on this amendment, which needed a simple majority to pass.

Amendment #3a No Student Increase ADOPTED 92 FOR; 88 AGAINST; 12 ABSTAINED

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AMENDED Amendment #3 Dues Increase without Student increase was ADOPTED

164 FOR; 17 AGAINST; 11 ABSTAINED

Fly Market

Shout out to **Candie Oldham**, who oversaw the Fly Market for the conference AND brought in record sales for the ENE Chapter Ways and Means!

International Awards by Jann Clark

Three International Awards of Achievement are presented each year to members of The Ninety-Nines. This year, two of the awards went to New England Section members. The President's Award also went to a New England Section member.

The **Award of Achievement for Contributions to Aviation** went to ENE member **Beth White**, in recognition of her efforts to involve young women in aviation, particularly as airplane mechanics. Beth's organization, Habitat for Aviation, provides an apprenticeship program for young women ages 9 through high school to work along with adult mentors in learning to service conventional and electric aircraft.



The **Award of Achievement for Contributions to The Ninety-Nines** went to **Lori Plourd**. (Lori belongs to the Katahdin Wings Chapter, but attends almost every ENE meeting, so is an honorary ENE.) Lori has been a Ninety-Nine for 24 years and has held almost all Chapter and Section offices. She has been the International Publications Committee Chair since 2017. She was nominated for this award "because of her passion for bettering and promoting the members of The Ninety-Nines and for the positive spirit in which she has made the contributions she has made."



The **President's Award** also went to **Lori Plourd**, "whose unwavering commitment as Chair of the Publication Committee has profoundly

impacted our organization. The 99s magazine has flourished, consistently delivering content that informs and unites our community of women pilots. Lori's editorial vision and meticulous attention to detail have elevated the publication, ensuring it reflects the excellence and spirit of The Ninety-Nines."

Margot's Birthday



We celebrated Margot Cheel's birthday with a cake, and Ben and Jerry's supplied ice cream!

A Visit to Habitat for Aviation By Arlene Myers Alexander

An after-convention delight was a visit to Franklin County State Airport in Swanton, Vermont, home of Beth White's dynamic project, Habitat for Aviation. 99s Arlene Myers Alexander and her husband Jack from Massachusetts, Casey Raymond from Maine, and Elena Moffly and her son from Connecticut all enjoyed seeing the building operation in person, toured Beth's colorful hangar, and watched Beth being

interviewed by the local TV station for a clip on the nightly news.

Beth was in a swirl of multiple activities that day as the airplane building progressed, visitors were shown around, several of the young ladies were skydiving, and the local airport EAA was having a fabulous barbecue with an award ceremony for graduates. Whew!! So much joyous activity! It was wonderful to be a part of it all.

The night before at the 99's International Convention, Beth received the prestigious Award of Merit for contributions to aviation.

Thank you, Beth, for all you do with such skill, grace and enthusiasm.





2026 International 99s Conference will be in San Diego and 2027 will be in Australia!



June ENE Chapter Meeting



In June, ENE had a meeting at KLWM (Lawrence). Girls from ATP stopped by and chatted. We had nice weather, so some people flew in. We had a big lunch at Casa Blanca.



Upcoming Events



Flying in - Park on the main ramp and walk to the hangar via the short access road next to (south of) the maintenance hangar. Stay off the taxiway.

Driving in - Navigate to Westerly Airport. Upon entering the airport, stay to the right of the Westerly Police station, drive up to the access road (the second to last right turn, see map) and turn right and pass through the open gate. When you emerge from the tunnel of trees to the hangar ramp, make an immediate right turn to Lauren's hangar. Park in the grass facing the hangar.

Please share this flyer at your airport and flying groups! All are invited!

We are looking for volunteers!

Please sign up to work a shift at our cookout. We need confirmed volunteers in order to advertise this fundraiser. Lauren will provide breakfast, hot dogs & hamburgers. Please bring a side

dish for lunch, or chips or dessert. Sign up at the link below. Even if all the slots get filled, please come - many hands make light work! Looking forward to seeing you there and having a great scholarship fundraiser! Rain date is Sunday 8/24.

Sign up link: http://volunteersignup.org/9FQJ3_

This event is a scholarship fundraiser.

Donations are voluntary, but please give what you can. Lauren is guaranteeing a dollar-for-dollar match up to \$1,000 for the Scholarship Fund. This is the kick-off event to raise \$1,000 from our Chapter members. You can donate through Cheddar Up here:

<https://my.cheddarup.com/c/chapter-challenge/items>

August 9 - Katahdin Wings Chapter has invited us to join them at an **overnight camping** event at Brenda Thibodeau's hangar at **Tib Airfield** (40ME on Sectional).

September 20 - Women in Aviation Nor'easter Chapter running **"Girls in Aviation Day"** at **Plymouth Airport (KPYM)** - 99s table or volunteer opportunities - details to follow.

September 27 - Women in Aviation Boston Chapter running **"Girls in Aviation Day"** at **Signature Aviation (KMHT)** and **the New Hampshire Air Museum** - 99s table or volunteer opportunities - details to follow.

October 24-25 - ENE is hosting the **Fall Section meeting**. Location: New Bedford Harbor Hotel.

March 21, 2026 - **ENE Scholarship Luncheon** will be renamed the March Chapter Luncheon - always a great program and a great time. We are brainstorming themes for this luncheon, so please think of some ideas and let us know.

