



# Austin Hill Country Ninety-Nines News



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September 2022

## Officers

Chapter Chair: Sarah Wendt  
Secretary: Marian Queern  
Treasurer: Carol M. Foy  
Membership Chair: Becky Smith  
Education Chair: Desiree "Dez" Staffeldt

## Chapter Update

Business meeting success! On Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> the Gillespie County Airport Terminal was buzzing at 10 AM as members and guests of the AHC chapter made their way to the conference room for our third quarter business meeting. We had nine members in person, two members on

Zoom and two guests (Joseph Queern and Lisa Halvorson) in attendance.

The Chapter Chair Report began with a warm welcome to our new Education Chair and Secretary, followed by a recruiting call to those with a knack for fundraising or social media. A consensus exists to give back to our aviation community, but the group acknowledged the first step is to build funds in our account before we can start donating to foundations and providing scholarships. Many fundraising ideas were discussed including how some of the other large chapters fundraise. The jury is still out for who will lead our social media efforts. As of now, it is a group project. Next, the Ninety-Nines Magazine was passed around the room for all to view an article written by Lauren Spohn representing our AHC chapter at the Amelia Earhart statue unveiling in D.C. This led to briefing the group about how Lauren met the V.P. of Blue Origin and there are plans in the works for the Ninety-Nines to collaborate with them for future educational programs and initiatives. A Blue Origin space themed booth will be included at the Austin WAI Girls in Aviation Day (GIAD).



### The Fun of It Amelia Earhart from Kansas to the Capitol

By Lauren Spohn,  
Austin Hill Country Chapter

Ninety years after crossing the Atlantic, Amelia Earhart has finally landed in the U.S. Capitol. She joins 99 other illustrious Americans in the U.S. Capitol's Statuary Hall, each honored by their respective home states. Alongside former President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Earhart's bronze statue now represents the state of Kansas, proudly standing between Wisconsin's Robert M. La Follette (the Progressive-Era lawyer and politician) and Tennessee's General John Sevier (the frontiersman and first state governor). She boasts a Kansas-shaped belt buckle with a sunflower in the middle. As we might have guessed, Earhart fits in with the other pioneers.

GIAD takes place on September 24<sup>th</sup> in the Atlantic Aviation FBO (Address: 4309 Emma Browning Ave, Austin, TX 78719). The set-up crew is requested to arrive at 9:00 AM, the event will begin at 11:00 AM and continue until 2:00 PM, and the clean-up crew is requested to stay until 3:00 PM. Laura Weiss, the event coordinator, has sent out an email to all volunteers. If you did not receive it or are interested in volunteering, please contact Sarah Wendt and she will forward it to you. The

event is sold out with fifteen on the waiting list. GIAD leaders are challenged with securing contributions for lunch. AHC unanimously voted to donate \$250 to support the WAI GIAD. If you would like to make an individual contribution for the event, follow the [WAI donation link](#). Any additional funds raised over the amount needed for GIAD supplies will go into a fund for future WAI-sponsored discovery flights.



The Chapter Chair report concluded with a briefing about the [2022 Fall South Central Section meeting](#) in Corpus Christi from October 14th - 16th. The Tip of Texas Ninety-Nines urges those who are planning on attending to register A.S.A.P. (follow the link embedded in this newsletter above.)

The deadline to register is October 10<sup>th</sup>. At registration, indicate if you are interested in volunteering to help with the section meeting.

Marian gave the Secretary's Report and spoke on the completion of a promotional AHC 99s recruitment flier. We will use this to post on FBO bulletin boards and at flight schools. There was discussion about a couple of edits for the flier and to request tri-fold pamphlets from International HQ. We are also continuing the tradition of sending handwritten "Thank You's" to speakers, supporters, and contributors to our chapter. Marian will be taking on the task of writing and sending these notes and remarked we will need chapter funds for stationery and postage. Carol Foy donated a book of stamps for these efforts.

Carol Foy followed with the Treasurer's report. We have \$1389.80 in the account plus \$120.00 that was collected from the Lago Vista Seaplane Seminar bringing the total to \$1509.80. Carol then reminded us as a service organization we need to have movement in our account which has been relatively dormant for a few years. After a hearty discussion we voted and unanimously agreed to donate \$250 to the [Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum's](#) landscaping project.



During the Education Chair report, Dez circled back to the earlier discussion about using aviation seminars as fundraisers. She volunteered to put together a Google Sheet where we can compile names for a chapter-hosted speaker series. We also had ideas for a mentorship program within the chapter and how we might go about setting that up.

Becky's Membership Chair report noted our membership has decreased, concluding this was due to inactive members leaving our roster. We currently stand with forty-nine members, twelve of those are student pilots. Becky has also started compiling member bios. This will aid the mentor program by matching members with similar interests. **Please take the time to email your bio to Becky.** Becky Smith and Carol Foy have launched the AHC 99s history preservation project. They are working on digitally preserving our chapter scrapbooks that date back to 1964 when the chapter was founded. The project has required the purchase of certain materials and as a group we voted and approved the reimbursement of funds to the preservation project. Once the digitizing process is complete, the hard copies will be sent to the Ninety-Nines Headquarters where we have been approved storage space. Another key player in this project has been Jordan Bentle of the WASP Museum. She has been an invaluable resource in technical expertise.

There was no old business to review or vote on, so we quickly moved on to new business. Membership location demographics were explained and how there is a majority shift back toward Austin proper with more additions East and South. This sparked a conversation about where we want to hold our quarterly business meetings. We love being hosted by Gwen and Judie at the Gillespie County Airport.

Nevertheless, our goal is to increase active membership participation. In recent membership surveys, the distance of meeting and event locale has been a top concern. After discussion, the consensus was if a member volunteers to host a business meeting, then we will hold the meeting at their desired location; if no one steps-up to volunteer as host, our default will be to hold meetings at Gillespie County Airport. We then planned "save the dates": Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>; Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> (Ninety-Nines Anniversary); Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup> (AHC 99s Holiday Party); Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> (2023 Q1 Business Meeting).

We closed with a few announcements: Lindy Segall explained that the WASP Museum is on the hunt for an AT-6 "Texan" aircraft to complete their collection of trainers the WASP flew in Sweetwater. Please contact Lindy at 512.293-6949 if you have any information to help them in their search. Sarah Wendt then reminded members about the Air Race Classic - Air Derby. The deadline to enter and complete the safety courses is coming up fast. Registration closing is on September 20, 2022, 2359 ET. To find out more go to the [Air Race Classic - Air Derby](#) website.

Thanks to Gwen Fullbrook for providing coffee and snacks for our members during the meeting and to those who contributed toward refreshment reimbursement.



## Calendar

### 99s/ WASP Events

#### **September**

**10<sup>th</sup>** - AHC 99s Q3 Meeting at T82 chapter calendar planning. Speaker after. Zoom available.

**24<sup>th</sup>** - Girls in Aviation Day in collaboration with Women in Aviation Austin Chapter. Atlantic Aviation KAUS. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

#### **October**

**1<sup>st</sup>** - AHC 99s TBD Event

**14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>** - [South Central Section Meeting](#). Emerald Beach Hotel - Corpus Christi.

#### **November**

**2<sup>nd</sup>** - Ninety-Nines Anniversary get together - Details to come

### General Aviation Events

#### **September**

**14<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>** - [STIHL National Championship Air Races](#) (Reno, NV)

**15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>** - [Hammers over Hondo -KHDO IAC Aerobatic contest](#)

**16<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup>** - [International Forest of Friendship Annual Induction Ceremony](#) (Atchison, KS)

**20<sup>th</sup>** - Celebration of Jacob Brodbeck commemorate the first flight of the Father of Aviation @ 9:00 a.m. Gillespie County Airport Terminal Building

#### **October**

**1<sup>st</sup>** - The [Texas Barnstorming Museum's 8th annual fly-in and whole-hog pig roast](#) Hallettsville Municipal Airport, 34R

**21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>** - [37th Annual Flying M Ranch Fly-In and Campout](#)

**22<sup>nd</sup>** - [Alliance Texas Aviation Expo](#)

**29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>** - [Wings Over Houston](#) airshow

#### **November**

**11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>** - [CAF Wings Over Dallas WWII Airshow](#)

Our friends at EAA 1088 hold their chapter meetings every third Saturday of the month at T82 and EAA 1607 every fourth Saturday at KRYW.

Would you like your event on the calendar? Please send Sarah Wendt all pertinent information to be posted in our newsletter and on our website and social media.