



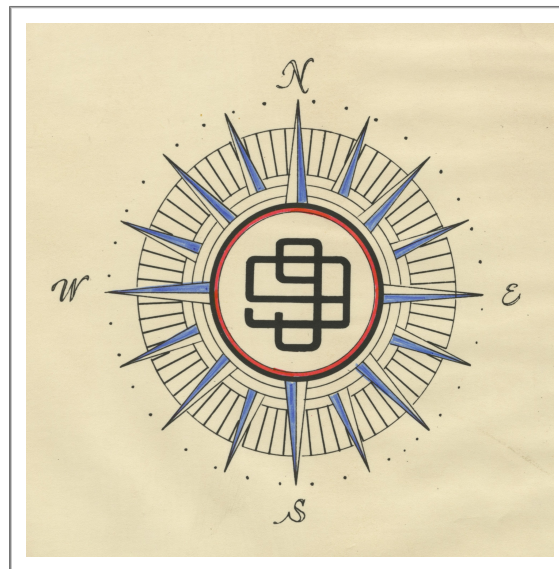
# Smithsonian

*National Air and Space Museum*

## Ninety-Nines, Inc. History Books Collection

David Schwartz

2002



National Air and Space Museum Archives  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Air and Space Museum Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Ninety-Nines, Inc. History Books Collection
<b>Date:</b>	1929-1981
<b>Identifier:</b>	NASM.XXXX.0470
<b>Creator:</b>	Ninety-Nines (Organization)
<b>Extent:</b>	8.73 Cubic feet (23 boxes)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The Ninety-Nines, Inc. History Books Collection consists of scrapbooks (yearbooks) compiled by the officers of the Ninety-Nines to document the organization. Included in the yearbooks are the following: photographs of the members and officers; news clippings of the organization, individual chapters and sections, and about individual members; programs from air races, including Air Race Classic, Angel Derby, and the Powder Puff Derby; minutes from the annual meetings; and newsletters of the organization, <i>The 99news</i> , <i>Ninety-Nine News</i> , and <i>Ninety-niner</i> .

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

Ninety-Nines, Inc., unknown, XXXX-0470

### Processing Information

Finding aid prepared by David Schwatz, 2002.

Finding aid encoded by Amanda Buel, 2016.

### Preferred Citation

Ninety-Nines Inc., History Books Collection, Acc. XXXX-0470, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

No restrictions on access.

### Conditions Governing Use

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## Biographical Note

On November 2, 1929, twenty-six licensed women pilots gathered together at Curtiss Field, Valley Stream, Long Island, New York, to discuss the formation of a club "to promote women pilots among themselves, and to encourage other women to fly, as well as to break down general opposition to aviation." (1) After that first meeting, letters were sent out to the 117 licensed women pilots in the United States, giving all of them the opportunity to become charter members in the new club. The name of the club was to be determined by the number of women who wished to join. When 99 letters were returned by the approved date, the club became known as *The Ninety-Nines*. Many famous female pilots of the time, including Amelia Earhart, Ruth Elder, Viola Gentry, Phoebe Omlie, and Louise Thaden were charter members.

In the succeeding years, The Ninety-Nines have ably fulfilled the purpose set forth in the original letter. Many aviation records have been set by members of The Ninety-Nines. Amelia Earhart was the first woman to pilot an aircraft across the Atlantic and, in 1936, Louise Thaden and Blanche Noyes won the Bendix Trophy Race. Since 1941, the organization has bestowed a variety of scholarships and grants to members who are seeking advanced training in specialized branches of aviation. Today, the Ninety-Nines, Inc. has grown to include 6,500 members in 35 countries.

(1) Clara Trenckmann to Mr. Skinner and Mr. Mellen, October 1, 1929. "September 1, 1929 -- September 1, 1930," Folder 1, Box 1, Ninety-Nines, Inc. History Books Collection (Acc.XXXX-0470). Archives Division, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC.

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## Scope and Contents

This collection consists of 19 bound scrapbooks and 34 unbound scrapbooks chronicling the history of the Ninety-Nines. Some of the volumes are described with a date range (September 1, 1937 -- September 1, 1938), while others are described with a volume number and date range (Volume 28, 1956 -- 1957). Organization of the Ninety-Nines History Books varies somewhat over the years. Usually, the books begin with photographs of the officers of the national organization, followed by minutes and a program from the annual meeting. The books end with copies of The Ninety-Nines Newsletters from the previous year. Additional contents of each book are dependent upon the events that happened in a particular year. In the early years of the organization, the books include further refinements of the constitution and by-laws, and various newspaper and magazine articles regarding accomplishments of the organization or individual members. In subsequent years, the history books focus more on the air races in which members participated or various events sponsored by the organization.

The researcher will note that in 1953 volume numbers were assigned to the books. For the sake of continuity and clarity in the finding aid, the processing archivist assigned volume numbers where appropriate. These numbers appear in square brackets where appropriate, i.e. [35]. Due to the fragile nature of the bound scrapbooks, photocopying may not be possible.

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## Arrangement

The Ninety-Nines, Inc. History Books Collection is arranged chronologically, by date and/or volume number.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Aeronautics  
Aeronautics -- Societies, etc.  
Air pilots  
Periodicals  
Women in aeronautics

Types of Materials:

Photographs  
Publications  
Scrapbooks

Names:

Air Race Classic  
Angel Derby  
Earhart, Amelia, 1897-1937  
Ninety-Nines (Organization)  
Powder Puff Derby  
Thaden, Louise (McPhetridge), Mrs, 1905-1979

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## Container Listing

Box 1, Folder 1	[Photographs and Correspondence], September 1, 1929 - September 1, 1930 Image(s): [Unnumbered Volume]
Box 1, Folder 2	[Press Releases], August 23, 1929 - September 1, 1930
Box 1, Folder 3	[Photographs, Correspondence, Press Releases], September 1, 1930 - September 1, 1931
Box 1, Folder 4	[Photographs, Correspondence, Newsletters], September 1, 1931 - September 1, 1932
Box 1, Folder 5	[Photographs, Correspondence, Newsletters], September 1, 1932 - September 1, 1933
Box 1, Folder 6	[Photographs, Correspondence, Newsletters, Clippings], September 1, 1933 - September 1, 1934
Box 1, Folder 7	[Photographs, Newsletters, Clippings], September 1, 1934 - September 1, 1935
Box 1, Folder 8	[Photographs, Newsletters, Clippings], September 1, 1935 - September 1, 1936
Box 1, Folder 9	[Photographs, Newsletters, Clippings], September 1, 1936 - September 1, 1937
Box 2, Folder 1	[Photographs, Newsletters], September 1, 1937 - September 1, 1938
Box 2, Folder 2	[Photographs, Newsletters], September 1, 1938 - September 1, 1939
Box 2, Folder 3	[Photographs, Newsletters], September 1, 1939 - September 1, 1940
Box 2, Folder 4	[Photographs, Correspondence, Newsletters], September 1, 1940 - September 1, 1941
Box 2, Folder 5	[Photographs, Publications, Newsletters], September 1, 1941 - September 1, 1942
Box 2, Folder 6	[Photographs, Correspondence, Publications, Newsletters], September 1, 1942 - September 1, 1943
Box 2, Folder 7	[Photographs, Newsletters, Clippings], September 1, 1943 - September 1, 1944
Box 2, Folder 8	[Photographs, Newsletters, Clippings], September 1, 1944 - September 1, 1945

Box 2, Folder 9	[Photographs, Newsletters], September 1, 1945 - September 1, 1946
Box 3, Folder 1	[Photographs, Newsletters; Publications], September 1, 1946 - September 1, 1947
Box 3, Folder 2	[Photographs, Newsletters, Publications], September 1947 - September 1948
Box 3, Folder 3	[Photographs, Newsletters, Publications], September 1948 - September 1949
Box 3, Folder 4	[Photographs, Newsletters, Publications], September 1949 - September 1950
Box 4, Folder 1	[Photographs, Correspondence, Publications, Newsletters], September 1950 - September 1951
Box 4, Folder 2	[Newsletters], September 1951 - August 1952
Box 4, Folder 3	[Photographs, Newsletters, Publications], September 1952 - August 1953
Box 4, Folder 4	Volume 25 [Photographs, Newsletters], 1953-1954
Box 4, Folder 5	Volume 26 [Photographs, Newsletters], 1954-1955
Box 4, Folder 6	Volume 27 [Photographs, Newsletters], 1955-1956
Box 5, Folder 1	Volume 28 [Newsletters], 1956 - 1957
Box 5, Folder 2	Volume 29 [Newsletters], 1957 - 1958
Box 5, Folder 3	Volume 30 [Photographs, Newsletters, Meeting Notes], 1958 - 1959
Box 5, Folder 4	Volume 31 [Photographs, Newsletters, Meeting Notes], 1959 - 1960
Box 5, Folder 5	Volume 32 [Photographs, Newsletters, Meeting Notes], 1960 - 1961
Box 5, Folder 6	Volume 33 [Photographs, Newsletters, Meeting Notes], 1961 - 1962
Box 5, Folder 7	Volume 34 [Photographs, Newsletters, Meeting Notes], 1962 - 1963
Box 5, Folder 8	Copies of The Ninety-Nines, Inc. Newsletter, 1955 - 1960
Box 5, Folder 9	Forty Years On by Margaret Kentley [Unpublished Manuscript], 1967 Notes: [Unpublished Manuscript]
Box 6	[Volume 35; Photographs, Newsletters, Powder Puff Derby Programs], July 1963 - July 1964
Box 7	[Volume 36; Photographs, Newsletters, Meeting Notes, News Clippings], 1964 - 1965

Box 8	[Volume 37; Photographs, Newsletters, Meeting Notes, News Clippings], 1965 - 1966
Box 9	[Volume 38; Photographs, Newsletters, Correspondence, Meeting Notes, News Clippings], 1966 - 1967
Box 10	[Volume 39; Photographs, Newsletters, Correspondence, Meeting Notes, News Clippings], 1967 - 1968
Box 11	[Volume 40; Photographs, Newsletters, Correspondence, Convention Programs, Meeting Notes, News Clippings], 1968 - 1969
Box 12	[Volume 41; Photographs, Newsletters, Correspondence, Convention Programs, Meeting Notes, News Clippings], 1969 - 1970
Box 13	[Volume 42; Photographs, Newsletters, Correspondence, Powder Puff Derby Publications; Convention Programs, Meeting Notes, News Clippings], 1970 - 1971
Box 14	[Volume 43; Photographs; Meeting Notes; "99 News" Magazines; Powder Puff Derby Programs; Correspondence], 1971 - 1972
Box 15	[Volume 44; Photographs, Press Releases, Meeting Notes; Powder Puff Derby Programs; "99 News" Magazines], 1972 - 1973
Box 16	[Volume 45; Photographs, Convention Programs; Powder Puff Derby Program; News Clippings; Powder Puff Derby Programs], 1973 - 1974
Box 17	[Volume 46; Photographs, Press Releases; Meeting Notes; News Clippings; "99 News" Magazines], 1974 - 1975
Box 18	[Volume 47; Photographs; Convention and Race Programs; Newsletters; News Clippings; Press Releases; "99 News" Magazines], 1975 - 1976
Box 19	[Volume 48; Photographs; Convention and Race Programs; Newsletters; News Clippings; Press Releases; "99 News" Magazines], 1976 - 1977
Box 20	[Volume 49; Photographs; Correspondence; Convention Reports and Programs; Race Rules and Programs; News Clippings; "99 News" Magazines], September 1977 - September 1978
Box 21	[Volume 50; Photographs; Convention Notes and Programs; Powder Puff Derby Album and Program; Race Scores; News Clippings], September 1978 - September 1979
Box 21	[Volume 51; Photographs; Annual Reports; Convention Program; Brochures; News Clippings; Race Program and rules], September 1979 - September 1980



Box 22 [Volume 52; Photographs; Convention Notes and Program; Angel Derby Program and Notes; Air Race Classic Program and Rules; News Clippings; Newsletters; "99 News" Magazines], September 1980 - September 1981

Box 23 [Volume 53; Photographs; Convention Program; News Clippings; Air Race Program; "99 News" Magazines], September 1981 - September 1982