

Monterey Bay 99s

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Logbook

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July-August 2015

www.montereybay99s.org



Alice Talnack, Theresa Levandoski-Byers, Michaele Serasio at the international conference. Alice & Michaele worked for Theresa as sentinels checking members for their voting rights.

NEWSFLASH! NEWSFLASH!

Starting with the August 19th meeting, there will be no 6 p.m. Section planning meeting. Instead, update/planning for the upcoming Section Meeting in October and 50th Anniversary Celebration will be at 7 p.m.

Chapter Meeting—August 19, 2015

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Our general meeting for Wednesday, August 19th Will be at 7 p.m. in the EAA Building at Watsonville Airport, 60 Aviation Way.

Directions: **Coming From CA-1 North** take the Airport Blvd/Freedom Exit. Merge onto Larkin Valley Road., Turn left onto Airport Blvd. Turn left onto Aviation Way. **Coming from CA-1 South** take Airport Blvd/Freedom. Turn left onto Ranport Rd., Turn left onto Airport Blvd. Turn left onto Aviation Way.

Monterey Bay Chapter Officers

Chair: Claudia Contreras
Vice-Chair: Mona Kendrick
Secretary: Michael Serasio
Treasurer: Alice Talnack
Past Chair: Alice Talnack
Logbook Editor: Jeanne Sabankaya
Deadline: 25th of each month for the next month's publication. Send info to jeannesabankaya@gmail.com

Committee Chairs

Aerospace Education:

Carolgene Dierolf
Alice Talnack

Air Marking:

Michael Serasio

Scholarship:

Alice Talnack

Membership:

Donna Crane-Bailey 688-9760

Historian: Alice Talnack

Librarian:

Laura Barnett

Scrapbook:

Theresa Levandoski-Byers

Aviation Activities:

Open

Legislative: Alice Talnack

WebMistress: Gabrielle Adelman

Public Relations Coordinator:

Carolyn Dugger

Hospitality Chair:

Joanne Nissen



Member Activities



- Several members attended International Conference in Germany
- Osh-Kosh
- Wing over Watsonville committee
- SOPA
- Preparations for October's section meeting
- Flying and Instructing

Membership Donations

If you haven't please make your membership donations minimum of \$20 please do so. **Make check payable to Monterey Bay 99s and send to Alice Talnack, 140 Dovewood Ln, Aptos, CA 95003.** Our local dues run from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

Monterey Bay Yearly Chapter Members Donations **7/1/2015 – 6/30/2016**

Below is the latest list of members who have paid dues / made a yearly donation to the MB 99s.

Make checks payable to the Monterey By 99s.

Barnett, Laura
Chauvet, Sarah
Crane-Bailey, Donna
Dierolf, Carolgene
Harris, Leritha
Hendrickson, Jeanne
Nissen, Joanne
Pratt, Sandy
Sabankaya, Jeanne

Serasio, Michael
Smith, Jill
Talnack, Alice

First Female Afghan Pilot Grounded By Threats

August 5, 2015 (Wall Street Journal)

By Margherita Stancati

KABUL—At age 21, Niloofar Rahmani became Afghanistan’s first female fixed-wing military pilot, living out her father’s dream and emerging as a symbol of her country’s revolutionary assent to roles for women outside the home.

That was also when her life began to unravel. “This was my dream job,” the Afghan Air Force captain said. “I never thought I would want to quit.”

Now 23 years old, Capt. Rahmani faces death threats from both the Taliban and members of her extended family for daring to work in the male-dominated world of military aviation. Her parents and siblings also fear for their lives, and the family of eight lives in hiding, their comfortable middle-class life lost.

The U.S.-led coalition had publicized Capt. Rahmani’s achievements, helping turn her into one of the faces of the post-9/11 generation of Afghans, those who came of age after the end of Taliban rule. Online photos of the young pilot in her khaki jumpsuit, loose head scarf and aviator sunglasses went viral.

Her experience, however, reveals the limits on women’s rights here, despite the sizable investment by the U.S. and its allies to promote gender equality. Among the advances: Girls schools have opened, women have joined the workforce and some have shed their burqas. But efforts to empower women have at times clashed with traditional Afghan culture.

Capt. Rahmani grew up in a family that embraced the [U.S.-backed order](#) that followed the [Taliban](#)’s ouster. When the Afghan Air Force began recruiting women, she signed up in 2011 with the support of her family. She was 18 years old.

“We should have this right in Afghanistan,” she told The Wall Street Journal during training in 2012, and urged other young women to follow. “I decided to join the military to be an example for others.”

Capt. Rahmani flies a Cessna 208 turboprop plane that ferries soldiers to battle—and sometimes brings

their remains. A year ago, she became an aircraft commander.

Her father, Abdoul Wakil, had wanted to join the Afghan Air Force as a young man in the 1980s. “The children knew that their father’s dream hadn’t come true,” he said. “But I never imagined that by becoming a pilot we would face such problems, that we would suffer this much.”

By 2013, Capt. Rahmani had become well-known in Afghanistan and that was when the threatening phone calls began. At first, she had trouble understanding the shouted messages. The men calling didn’t speak her language, Dari. But their message was clear: Quit or die.

A letter then landed on her doorstep one night. “You have not taken our threats seriously,” said the letter, dated Aug. 3, 2013. “Islam has instructed women not to work with the Americans or British. If you carry on doing your job, you will be responsible for your destruction and that of your family.”

The mailed threat was signed by a faction of the Pakistani Taliban, the Tehrik-e Taliban Swat. It advised her “to learn from Malala Yousafzai,” the teenage Nobel laureate who was nearly killed for campaigning for women’s rights in her home valley of Swat, Pakistan. The family, including Capt. Rahmani, temporarily fled to India.

More frightening, Capt. Rahmani said, were threats from relatives who accused her of shaming the family. In one photo widely shared on social media, two female U.S. pilots lifted Capt. Rahmani in celebration after her first solo flight. Rumors spread that the U.S. pilots were actually men, and they were converting her to Christianity.

Some of Capt. Rahmani’s male relatives, including uncles and cousins, believed the only way to restore their family honor was to punish her, she said. After a guard halted a break-in at the longtime family home in Kabul, she said, they sold the house. They have since moved houses every few months.

After Capt. Rahmani returned from India, the Afghan Air Force asked her to quit, saying she had abandoned duty. She said pressure from the U.S.-led coalition kept her job.

Over the past year, Capt. Rahmani’s brother Omar said, he was twice attacked, first in an attempted shooting near his university, and then in a hit-and-run that broke his arm. The family’s main breadwinner—Mr. Wakil, an engineer—lost his job last fall after harassment by his colleagues over his daughter’s notoriety, Mr. Wakil said.

Capt. Rahmani's older sister, Afsun, has suffered her own consequences: Her husband's family shunned her, and she is now divorced, a rare and shameful circumstance in Afghanistan. As a result, she hasn't seen her 4-year-old son in more than a year, according to family members.

"Had I known, I would never have put my family through this," Capt. Rahmani said. "Despite the situation we are in, they are still supporting me. Sometimes I feel that if I didn't have their support, I wouldn't be alive."

In March, the U.S. Department of State honored Capt. Rahmani with an International Women of Courage Award, acknowledging the personal risks she took for her career. She visited San Diego to fly with the Navy's Blue Angels, and the mayor proclaimed March 10, 2015, "Captain Niloofar Rahmani Day."

Capt. Rahmani's superiors were reluctant to grant her permission to travel to the U.S. and gave no recognition of the honor when she returned, Capt. Rahmani and foreign officials said.

"Niloofar is not the only one who is being threatened—all pilots are," said Col. Bahadur Khan, spokesman for the Afghan Air Force. "The enemy doesn't distinguish between men and women. She should stand firm against the threats and serve the country bravely."

Of the threats and attacks on her family, Capt. Rahmani said, her superiors have told her, in essence: You knew what you were getting into. We didn't force you to join.

"Her visibility served on one hand as a source of inspiration, but on the other hand as an irritant to those who were not progressively minded," said John Michel, a retired U.S. Air Force Brigadier General who was in charge of the U.S.-led coalition's Air Training command until August 2014. "It's disappointing to hear where we are at now."

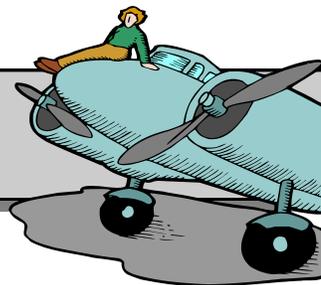
Although Afghanistan is short of skilled pilots, Capt. Rahmani hasn't flown since early July because of security risks.

The U.S. military has offered a chance for her to temporarily relocate to the U.S. for training aboard C-130 transport aircraft, an opportunity she is eager to pursue. She also could enroll in aviation school outside Afghanistan to obtain a commercial pilot's license, she said, an expensive option her family can't afford without help.

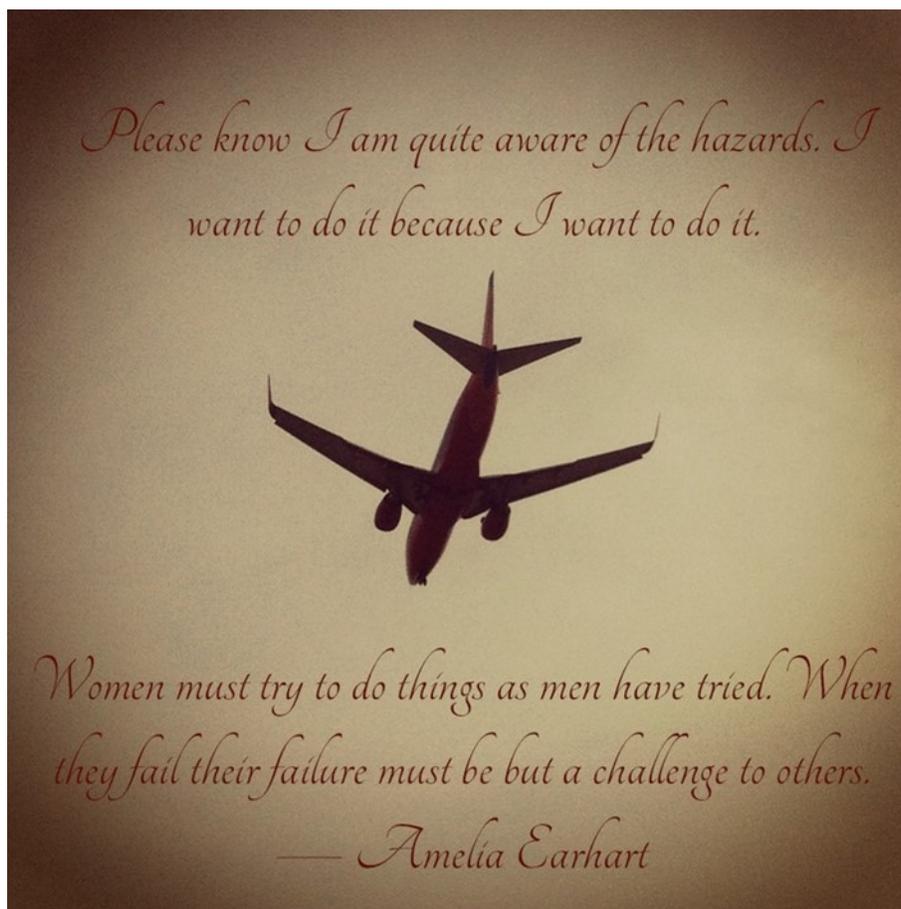
"I really wanted to be in the military. I really wanted to be in the Air Force," said the aviator, currently one of three female Afghan military pilots. "But I can't continue like this."

Prop Wash

By Claudia Contreras



Recently I had to go through my old flight instructor lesson plans to remind myself how to teach IFR. I know how to fly IFR and I can shoot an approach but I couldn't remember the basics of IFR flying. What I did know was that I had spent a lot of time while training for my CFII in putting resources together so that in the future I would be able to go back and remind myself on how to teach. It got me thinking about my time in the 90s. I have done a lot with and for the 90s but what I couldn't tell you off the top of my head. Thankfully I knew that most of it could be found in previous editions of the logbook. The logbook is a great way to let others know what we are doing but more importantly it's a reminder of what we have done as a chapter. So I urge to take as much time as needed no matter how tedious or time consuming it may be to submit your thoughts, comments, pictures to our newsletter editor. You may realize later how a simple picture can spark a hundred memories. Or one sentence can take you back to a fun place.



Fly Safe, Fly Often.

Claudia Contreras



Theresa, Michaela and Alice with MB 99s member Ann Sanchez. Ann now lives in Olga, Washington, but is a current MB 99.



CONFERENCE & TOUR PHOTOS

Sophie was an attendee at our June meeting. The following article was copied from the SOPA newsletter after receiving permission.

SOPA Sponsored Kids off to Oshkosh, Wisconsin-SOPA was very fortunate this year in the selection of two very bright and enthusiastic young girls for the EAA Air Academy held in Oshkosh, WI. Both Sophia and Katrina are 14 years old and will be attending the Basic Air Academy. The week long Air Academy is an exciting step through the world of aviation. Each “hands-on” activity is developed for the intermediate 14- and 15-year-olds during a classroom and media presentation, specialized laboratory activities and aviation-related demonstrations. Activities at the Basic Air Academy are designed to interest and challenge students and includes such activities as: Airplane Wing Construction, Aeromodeling, Rocketry, Ground School and Airplanes. They will tour the AirVenture Museum, Visit Pioneer Airport, Watch flight demonstrations and experience the thrill of flight in both an airplane and helicopter. SOPA pays the full tuition to the camp and the round trip airfare which adds up to about \$2,000.00 per child. With SOPA paying all the costs associated with the Air Academy, it allows a child to attend this amazing Air Academy that otherwise may be out of their reach due to the costs.

14 Year old Sophia Taylor-Home from Salinas, will be attending Session 1 from June 27 to July 2, 2015. Sophia stated that the first time she heard of the Air Academy she knew it was the place for her. Sophia has flown with Young Eagles at the Salinas and Watsonville airports and has taken an introductory flight lesson in Monterey. Sophia has almost completed the entire Sporty’s Learn to Fly ground school.

14 year old Katrina Espinoza will be attending Session 2 of the Air Academy from July 6 to July 11, 2015. Katrina who has immersed herself in the Civil Air Patrol dreams of becoming a search and rescue pilot. She has flown four times as a Young Eagle and has completed the Sporty’s Learn to Fly ground school. Sophia and Katrina will be at the August SOPA meeting discussing their experience at the Air Academy.

AOPA REGIONAL FLY-IN at KSNS (from SOPA newsletter)

A few statistics from the May 16, 2015, AOPA regional fly-in held at the Salinas airport: (SNS)
Attendance-2,600 people Airplanes-300 Barnstormer Party / Movie-750 people Rusty Pilots Course-90 people Exhibitors-80

The Monterey Bay Chapter’s 50th Anniversary is officially August 14, 2015. To celebrate our Golden Anniversary, the Chapter is hosting the Fall Southwest Section Meeting here in Santa Cruz at the Chaminade Resort, Conference Center & Spa, October 22-25, 2015.

Please contact Claudia Contreras, Coordinator, if you have questions, suggestions, want to attend or want to get more involved as the October 22-25, 2015 event approaches.

This is our 50th Anniversary and we invite all members, friends and fellow aviators to attend. MB99s members—we need all members to help and celebrate our distinguished history!!!



ZOE DELL NUTTER—INDUCTED TO DAYTON REGION’S WALK OF FAME. Luncheon & Induction Ceremony is on September 24, 2015 @ the Sinclair Community College in Dayton, Ohio.

Zoe helped found our Ninety-Nines chapter. See the attached flyers and information about her. Zoe just turned 100 years old.

Hospitality Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to provide refreshments during our meetings. If you would like to volunteer please contact Joanne Nissen at 831-675-3950 or email ewesfly@aol.com

August — Sue Purvis
September — Serena Whelchel
November — Theresa Levandoski-Byers
December — Holiday Party



Attached to this newsletter are several flyers of upcoming events:

- ◆ Flying Companion Seminar—August 22, 2015
- ◆ Zoe Dell Nutter press release
- ◆ Dayton Region's Walk of Fame Luncheon & Induction—September 24, 2015
- ◆ WOW—Wings Over Watsonville Fly-In—September 5, 2015

Mary Ann Farley died this year but her artwork is available through Etsy.
maryannfarley.etsy.com



Monterey Bay Chapter 99s
c/o Claudia Contreras
P.O. Box 400
Chualar CA 93925

Logbook



Mailing
Address
Goes
Here

**Monterey Bay 99s Membership & Planning Meetings
August 19, 2015**

Call to Order- 7:00 pm

August 19, 2015 ————— 7 p.m. Chapter & Planning Meeting EAA Building,

August 22, 2015 ————— Flying Companion Seminar @ RHV

September 5, 2015 ————— Wings Over Watsonville Fly-In 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

*September 24, 2015 ————— Dayton Region's Walk of Fame Luncheon & Induction Ceremony for
Zoe Dell Nutter*

*October 22-25, 2015 ————— Fall Section Meeting / & 50th Anniversary
Santa Cruz, CA*

