

Lu Curtis Hollander

After a \$99 Cessna Beginner's special in 1970, Lu Curtis Hollander joined the ranks of women pilots in a Cessna Skylane. One of her most memorable flights was taking her 90 year old grandfather on his maiden flight to survey his lifetime home and farm near Old Glory, Texas. Lu has used her piloting skills in many endeavors including bald eagle and other wildlife census flights for the Oklahoma Wildlife Department.

Lu has served in many capacities with the Ninety-Nines since she joined in 1978. At the Chapter level, she has become as splattered with paint as anybody else at airmarkings, taught at Flying Companion and other aviation seminars, served as Chapter secretary, vice chair and chair. She has chaired the Oklahoma Chapter's Okie Derby Proficiency Air Race three times -- scholarships of \$1,000 are awarded yearly from the profits of these competitions. Lu also has judged at National Intercollegiate Flying Association events and United States Proficiency Flight Competitions.

She served as Public Relations and Nominating Committee chairs for the South Central Section of 99s, managed media relations for the 1988-1991 International Conventions, and was a coordinator of the 1996 International Convention. Ninety-Nines elected Lu International Director in 1988 1990, International Secretary in 1990-1992 and International President in 1992-1994. During her presidency, she initiated development of the 1995 Resolution governing operation of the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum. Lu was the first woman named to the Board of Trustees of the Oklahoma Air and Space Museum in 1991 and served as its secretary from 1993-1996. After a multiple-museum merger in July 1996, she was named vice president of Air and Space for the Board of Trustees of the Kirkpatrick Science and Air Space Museum at Omniplex.

Lu has devoted her life to communications, after graduating with a degree in Advertising Art from North Texas State University. Later she earned a master's in Journalism Education from the University of Central Oklahoma. She has edited the Oklahoma Chapter newsletter, as well as The 99 NEWS magazine. She designed and helped edit and produce "History of the Ninety-Nines, Inc.", a coffee-table volume produced in 1979 that commemorated the 50th anniversary of the organization. and served as chairman] of the Editorial Committee for a second history of the organization published in 1997.

Lu received Amelia Earhart medals for her work with the 99s' history book and magazine. In 1992, she was named Oklahoma Aviator of the Year by Oklahoma Aviator newspaper. In 1996, Lu's professional skills were recognized by the Oklahoma Chapter of Women in Communications when she was awarded a Byliner for Communications.

She is a member of Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, the Oklahoma Pilots Association, Women in Communications, the Public Relations Society of America, and Kappa Tau Alpha, a journalism honor society. In addition she is listed in "Who's Who of American Women" "Who's Who in the Southwest" and "2000 Notable Women."

Express Personnel Services, an internationally franchised staffing service, currently utilizes her business, publications, journalism and graphics experience as their Franchise Communications manager.