



AUX TANK

Newsletter of the San Fernando Valley Chapter of
THE NINETY - NINES
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN PILOTS

AUGUST 2006

Rose of Achievement

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Kathryn Presson (pictured far right) and FWP Genesis Rivas (right) each received a Rose of Achievement at the August Chapter Meeting! Kathryn's rose was for earning her instrument rating on June 21, and Genesis received a rose for winning a \$3000 flight training scholarship from the National Aviation Explorers Scholarship Program. Congratulations to Kathryn and Genesis!



2006 International Conference Report

by Jeanne Fenimore, Chapter Chairman

The 99s International Conference is worth attending for any and all 99s. The business conducted is real and meaningful, the opportunity to meet counterparts from all over the world is priceless, and the fun of sideline adventures and sights is to be remembered for many years. The 99s International Conference is an opportunity to visit old friends and to meet new friends. Attendees came from 19 different Sections and 8 other countries.

This year's conference was in Washington, DC at the fortuitous time of the 4th of July. There is something really special about being in Washington, DC on our nation's birthday.

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The San Fernando Valley Chapter of the Ninety-Nines was founded on February 1, 1952. The mission of the Ninety-Nines is:

- To promote world fellowship through flight.
- To provide networking and scholarship opportunities for women and aviation education in the community.
- To preserve the unique history of women in aviation.

The afternoon at the National Mall started with the wildest thunderstorm many of us have ever seen. The police cars announced "Evacuate, Evacuate! Go to the nearest museum! There is a severe thunderstorm approaching!" We scrambled to the safety of the Smithsonian Native Indian Museum, and later moved over to the National Air & Space Museum. They were not exaggerating. Horizontal rain does happen.

Our SFV 99s group consisted of Bertie Duffy, Lilian Holt, Julieann Sikora and her mother Karen, Paula and Michael Sandling, Marcia Fuller, and Bill and Jeanne Fenimore. We also had in tow 99s from several other chapters who wanted to join our party. Included were the new International President Pat Prentiss, New Vice-President Susan Larson, New International Secretary Frances Luckhart and International Director, Pat Theberge, as well as former SWS Governor, Pat Gregory.



Standing: Julieann Sikora, Karen Sikora, Pat Prentiss, Frances Luckhart, & Pat Theberge. Seated: Pat Gregory, Paula Sandling, Jeanne Fenimore, Lilian Holt, Bertie Duffy, Susan Larson & Michael Sandling.

After the storm we all returned to the National Mall to enjoy a concert and what is purported to be the largest fireworks display in the country. The fireworks were SPECTACULAR! From our vantage point they appeared to explode at the top of the Washington Monument. It looked like it was lighting a candle on the Nation's Birthday Cake.

There were some great tours, and lots to do on your own. The Smithsonian Air and Space Museum on the Capital Mall and the new Air and Space Museum Annex, The Uvdar-Hazy Museum at Dulles Airport, are worth the trip to DC alone. On Saturday, there were well-presented and informative seminars.

The Business meeting was conducted in a timely manner so we could all get back to tours, visiting and the all-important networking. The SFV 99s' proposed by-law change, which change would allow the President and Vice President to run for a second term, did not pass by the required two-thirds vote. A Standing Rule was changed to allow members to renew International dues for 3 or 5 years rather than the previous limitation of one year. There were reports on the Women in Aviation Museum, the Amelia Earhart Birthplace, and the Amelia Earhart Scholarships. The Amelia Earhart Scholarship Fund awarded 13 AE Scholarships, 2 FWP Scholarships, and one Maule Tailwheel Award. The AE Committee also announced that they have 2 million dollars in trust for future scholarships. Go to www.ninetynines.org for more information.

We have a New International Board of Directors. They are listed in the July/August 99 News. Our own Anne Marie Radel is now a Co-Chairman for International Membership. She will do a great job. The new International Board is a great group of gals, and if you have an opportunity to talk to any of them you will feel the same way.

Former Senator Bob Dole attended a reception at The Watergate Apartments honoring the many WASPs who were there, and former Senator John Glenn attended the Awards Banquet on Saturday night, when his wife, Anne, received the Kathryn Wright Award.

If you have never been to an International Conference, consider next year in Boulder, Colorado on Sept 12-16, 2007 or Anchorage, Alaska on August 6-9, 2008. (I'll be there!)

Short Final...August

Members of the Month

Ruth Logan, Leslie Dinius, Julieann Sikora, Stacie Crowther, and Linda Worden received Member of the Month recognition at the August Meeting. Ruth organized the Chapter's booth at the Van Nuys Air Fest, Leslie Dinius organized the June Awards Luncheon, Julieann hosted the summer potluck, and Stacie and Linda helped with the potluck. Congratulations to these busy ladies!

Guests

Guests at the August meeting included Brenda Alarcon, Victoria Fain, Dang Meseune, and Misti Flaspohler.

Welcome! We hope you can join us again.

Happy Birthday!

August 3	Lisa Hineman
August 9	Leslie Dinius
August 18	Felicia Hoppe
August 19	Jeanne Kirhofer
August 20	Del Rubio
August 21	Jaye Howes
August 23	Mary Glassman
August 31	Beverly Butcher

Reminder...

The September Chapter meeting is held in August due to the Labor Day Holiday.

Next Meeting: Monday, August 28

Don't forget: Chapter dues are due at the August 28 meeting.

Membership Renewal

Members of The Ninety-Nines should note that a new Standing Rule was added at the International Meeting which states that members may renew their international membership for three or five years at current rates (non-refundable). FWP and Academic memberships are not eligible for multiple-year renewals. Funds will be retained in the appropriate financial accounts and dispensed to Headquarters and Sections in the appropriate year. Membership cards will be issued for the full length of the renewal.

This will take effect with the August 2006 renewals. This gives members an option to renew for multiple years. The August renewals have already been mailed and do not reflect this option. Please recognize the option is now available to you. Please contact Headquarters if you have questions.

August Membership Anniversary

Happy Anniversary to our SFV members!

1995	Pam Distaso
2002	Julieann Sikora
2005	Genesis Rivas

Castle Fly-In

Although the day was rather bleak and overcast in the San Fernando Valley, on Saturday, July 29, several SFV 99s, friends and Explorers flew to Castle Airport (formerly Castle Air Force Base).



After having to “file” to get out of the Valley (this was Kathryn Presson’s first use of her new IFR rating), no one had any trouble landing on the 12,000-foot runway. Everyone enjoyed the outdoor aviation museum with one of the most extraordinary collections of USAF bomber and fighter aircraft west of Wright-Patterson.

After enjoying their time and having to “file” again to get back into the Valley, some members were able to attend Phil Aune’s retirement party later that day.

Celebrating with Phil Aune

On July 29, we came to celebrate the retirement of Van Nuys Air Traffic Controller Phil Aune at the AirTel Hotel, and a celebration it certainly was! Hundreds of pilots were hugging, shaking hands, signing his gigantic card and everybody had to have their photo with Phil. I’m sure he handled most of our 1st solo flights, I know he did mine. We could see the helicopters hovering in the air over the northwest side of the airport while an incredible array of airplanes paid their gratitude to a man who kept us separated and safe while landing at Van Nuys Airport. It was a spectacular sight when the B-25, Pitts, AT6, P-51, A-25, and the

Heavenly Body made an appearance. When we thought it was all over, three Fire Department helicopters appeared out of nowhere for a low, slow fly-by while emptying their tanks of water.

--Lilian Holt



Eileen Harte Goldsman, Susan Skalla, Anne Marie Radel, Phil Aune, Jan Archibald, Jackie Forsting, Coralee Tucker, Lilian Holt



Standing: Al & Coralee Tucker; Seated: Laura Ricks & Jan Archibald



Laura Ricks, Mary Glassman & Melinda Lyon



Ed & Kathy Smither

Sizzling Summer Potluck

A great time was had by all at the 2006 SFV 99s Pot Luck at the Sikoras' in Sylmar. The heat was unbearable. However, that did not put a damper on the fun - maybe the crowd - but definitely not the fun! The heat made the enormous swimming pool extremely inviting. A few of us jumped in to cool off, while others had looks on their faces wishing they had brought a swim suit to join in the soothing water.

Due to the extreme heat, but not as bad as the record breaking heat the following Saturday, we moved the party inside to eat. Yummy creations were served - taco salad, tortilla casserole, jambalaya, and fresh fruit in a gorgeous arrangement - just to name a few items. Dessert was phenomenal as our very own pastry chef, Kathryn Presson, displayed her talents by creating the most scrumptious torte!

The 99s did not just eat, swim, eat, socialize and eat some more.....Julieann introduced a new game. Everyone grumbled a bit since we were outside and we were going to play a game....a game...not just any game -- The Dice Game! The tables were full of wrapped prizes. Everyone was so excited. They had no idea what they were going to win. The fun part was to watch everyone steal prizes from each other, not knowing what they were stealing until the very end where they revealed their winnings. The most traded or stolen prize turned out to be a bag of grapefruits. Everyone just had to have the bag!

The party was a success! A BIG thank you to all who helped - Linda Worden, Kathryn Presson, Stacie Crowther and Kristina Sunness. A BIG thank you to Roger & Karen Sikora for letting us use their house and pool. Thank you to all who bore the heat to help make this a fun, intimate, and exciting party.

--Julieann Sikora

Checkride: Lessons Learned

Recently, Kathryn Presson successfully completed the instrument checkride on her second attempt. Below, Kathryn shares her experience and the lessons learned from her first attempt.

May 2006: I don't have a total "victory" to report regarding my checkride. I breezed through the oral in about 75 minutes (that's short for an instrument oral exam). But I will have to retest on a couple of my approaches.

Actually, what I was most concerned about (my basic attitude instrument flying -- holding heading and altitude, etc.) I did great on (go figure!). What the DPE (Dennis Renzelman) faulted me on (and I don't mean he was being critical; Dennis is always very kind and helpful) was the way in which I was using my GPS for approaches. He said I was fixating on the moving map to where it became a distraction rather than a help, and I started making mistakes. He said if I had not had a GPS in the plane, I probably would have passed on the first try. But since I do have a GPS, and I want to learn to use it safely (and not be the next NTSB statistic), I actually considered this "pink slip" experience to be excellent feedback. As marginal as my performance was on those approaches, if he had passed me, he would actually have been doing me a great disservice.

So, it's back in the plane with the instructor for a few more sessions, and I'll retest on just those portions probably nearer the end of the month. And if you want, you can share any of this in the Aux Tank, because I think it's a tremendous help to FWP's and those of us still working on ratings to remember that it is not all about just getting the rating and another notch in your belt. It is about being a safe pilot.

So, I know that when I'm finally finished with this rating, I will be a safe instrument pilot.
--Kathryn Presson

Turning Base...September

Exploring Recognition Luncheon

The San Fernando Valley 99s are invited to the Exploring Recognition Luncheon on Saturday, September 9, 2006 at The Odyssey Restaurant in Granada Hills at 12:00. The Keynote Speaker will be Senator George Runner. The San Fernando Valley 99s will receive the Spurgeon Award* at the Luncheon.

The Spurgeon Award is considered to be the highest honor in Learning for Life - Exploring. The Award is bestowed to an individual or group for their outstanding contribution to the Exploring Program. Our Aviation Explorer Post will receive Explorer Post of the Year in the General Exploring Cluster. An invitation and list of honorees was sent to the Yahoo list serve. If you have any questions, please call Ruth Logan 818-364-1224 or Brenda Bradford 818-995-1415.

*The William H. Spurgeon, III Award was developed in 1971 in honor of the man who is regarded as the major leader in the development of special interest Exploring.

Joint Southwest/Northwest Section Meeting

September 21-24, 2006
Ashland, OR

Welcome New Members!

A warm welcome to our Chapter's newest FWP, Pnina Weiser of Tarzana. Pnina moved from Israel to California in 1974. She works as a CAD designer, is a mother of three children, and is active in the sisterhood of her temple. Pnina is a student pilot and looks forward to being an active member of the 99s.

Welcome to Yenyong Julie Fung, a recent transfer to our Chapter. Julie was previously a Member-At-Large. After meeting Jeanne Fenimore and other SFV99s, Julie was persuaded to join our Chapter. We look forward to meeting Julie at our next event.

Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Reference
August 14	Budget Meeting / Board Meeting	WHP Pilots Lounge -- 6:30 pm
August 19-20	Camarillo Air Show Ventura 99s pancake breakfast	8:00am
August 19	Santa Clara 99s Fly-in to Santa Barbara Lunch at Beachside Café, ETA 11:30am	Santa Clara 99s
August 20	Fly-in: Tehachapi Mountain Festival Lunch 11:30am	Ruth Logan & Jeanne Fenimore
August 28	Chapter Business Meeting – Closed to Guests Dinner in the Main Dining Room	Airtel Hotel -- 7:00 pm as early as 5:30
September 15	Salute to Youth, Palmdale Plant 42	
September 14-17	Reno Air Races	
September 21-24	Joint Southwest/Northwest Section Meeting: Ashland, OR	www.sws99s.org
October 2	Chapter Meeting Dinner in the Main Dining Room	Airtel Hotel -- 7:00 pm as early as 5:30
November 4	Girl Scout Aviation Day, WHP	Jeanne Fenimore
November 9-11	AOPA Meeting, Palm Springs	www.aopa.org

www.sfv99s.org (San Fernando Valley 99s)
www.sws99s.org (Southwest Section)

www.ninety-nines.org (International)

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