



AUX TANK

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

OCTOBER 2006

Chairman's Report

By Jeanne Fenimore

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September was a busy month. Attending the Explorer Luncheon on September 9th was quite humbling. There were 200 people from all walks of life at this luncheon, all working with the different Explorer programs. Our own Explorer Post 747 received "Explorer Post of the Year." San Fernando Police Chief Anthony Alba received "The Badge of Honor" award. Ralph Truglio of Van Nuys Aviation Explorer Post 3 received an award for 51 years of Dedication to the Aviation Explorer Program. The San Fernando Valley 99s received "The William H. Spurgeon Award" presented for "Highest recognition for individuals and organizations contributing significant leadership to the Exploring program." What an honor!

The joint Southwest / Northwest Section Meeting in Ashland, Oregon was a great success. We had 13 SFV99s fly/drive to Ashland to attend the meeting. Everyone had a great time. I represented the Chapter at the Chapter Chairman's Meeting on Friday afternoon. This was also a joint meeting. Meeting other chapter chairmen and hearing some of their stories about struggling to keep their chapters active makes me appreciate how active we are and what a great chapter we all belong to. See other articles in the Aux Tank for more details from the Section Meeting.



Report continued on page 2

(Photo: Jeanne Fenimore at Ashland's Airport)

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.

Those of us who flew braved a 35kt headwind. It took such a long time that most of us took two days. We all flew to different airports for the night, so ask Paula Sandling, Jeanne Kirhofer and me how we all met up over Mt. Shasta. Of course, headwinds plagued us on the way home too. The next Section Meeting is in Santa Maria on May 18-20; this will be close enough for everyone to attend.



Once again the San Fernando Valley 99s did not come home empty-handed. We received the PR Award for large chapters. It was a close race with the Orange County Chapter.

The Traveling Space Museum is up and running again after a summer hiatus. If you have some spare time, please help them out. We get \$100 per volunteer for our participation in their presentations. (Contact Ceci Stratford for more information.) Girl Scout Aviation Day is November 4th at Whiteman Airport, and AOPA is November 8-11 in Palm Springs. We are again marching in the Doo Dah Parade on November 19. In December, we have Cookies to the Tower and our Holiday Party.

Wow! We are busy!!
See you at the airport.

*(Top Photo: View of Mt. Shasta from Jeanne's plane;
SFV99s proudly display awards at SWS Banquet)*



Rose of Achievement

We have one less FWP in the Chapter. Joanne Davis passed her private check ride on September 4th! Joanne was thrilled, of course, and her FWP Scholarship Program mentor, Kathryn Presson, was very proud.

On September 24th, Julieann Sikora soloed in a hang-glider off of Kagel Mountain.

Julieann said that she was scared at first, but after relaxing she enjoyed her flight.



Julieann Sikora launches for a solo flight.

Both Joanne and Julieann earned a Rose of Achievement at the October Meeting. Congratulations to them both!

Member of the Month

Ruth Logan and Marcia Fuller received Member of the Month recognition at the October Meeting. Ruth was honored for her dedication to the Aviation Explorers Program and Post 747's win of Explorer Post of the Year. Marcia was recognized for her work on the Salute to Youth Planning Committee. Ruth and Martha, thanks for all your hard work!

If you missed October's Meeting...

SFV99s may read the report from the SWS Fall 2006 Meeting on the Chapter's website in the Members Only section.

Short Final...October

Aviation Explorers

Aviation Explorer Post 747 is still basking in the glow of winning Explorer Post of the Year from Learning for Life on September 9th. The Luncheon was held at the Odyssey Restaurant and the Award was presented by State Senator George Runner. The ceremony was very impressive with Fire, Police, Sheriff and many other Explorer Posts in attendance.

The Explorers attended the SFV99s meeting on October 2 to thank the organization for their donation and support. We now have sixteen Explorers – all eager to learn to fly. One of the reasons that our program has been successful is that we appoint a mentor to each Explorer when they begin flight lessons. A mentor spends extra time with their Explorer, taking them flying or just helping them to understand the ground school portion of flight training. We have three young ladies and thirteen young men. If you are interested in becoming a mentor to an Explorer, please contact Ruth Logan.

Fly for Breast Cancer Cure

Lisa Hineman is once again coordinating our Chapter's participation in The Ninety-Nines' Third Annual Flying Event Fundraiser. During the entire months of October and November please keep track of your flight time, including when you are a passenger. For every flight, you can request a pledge for a per hour flight, (i.e., someone pledges \$10.00 per hour and you fly 1.7 hrs, you raise \$17.00). All of the money (100%) will go towards "Breast Cancer Cure" through the American Cancer Society.

There are flight logs and sheets that you need to use to give us Chapter credit, Section credit, and National credit. Flat donations are

accepted too. Information and log sheets may be found at www.ninety-nines.org/breastcancercure.

Now Available!

The Ninety-Nines' 2007 Calendar

Our own Bertie Duffy is in the calendar!

\$12.99 plus S&H

1-800-788-3350

www.ninetyninescalendar.com

October Fly-In

The October Fly-in will be to Brackett Airport on Saturday, October 21. Cal Rods will be hosting their annual Car Show that day at Brackett. Many of us attended last year's event and were really impressed by the number of outstanding "hot rods" on display. The hours for the event are 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Neither Jeanne Fenimore nor Ruth Logan will be able to attend the event, but we will coordinate flights, connecting people who are going with people who need rides. If you are interested in flying in for the event, please contact Jeanne or Ruth.

--Ruth Logan

Happy Birthday!

October 6	Mary Lou Neale
October 14	Irma "Babe" Story
October 15	Kathy Crawley
October 20	Paula Sandling
October 28	Dolores Mathews
October 29	Stacie Crowther

Future Woman Pilot Scholarship Program

FWP Genesis Rivas just keeps on truckin'. Genesis completed her long cross-country and passed her written exam in September. Her long cross-country was from Whiteman to Mojave to Victorville and back to Whiteman. It will not be long before she completes her check ride!

Traveling Space Museum

Here are more opportunities to help with the Traveling Space Museum and, in turn, help raise funds for our Chapter.

October 13: The Traveling Space Museum will be at Winnetka Elementary's Space Day between 8:00 – 2:00. The school is at Winnetka and Roscoe.

October 21 & 22: The Traveling Space Museum will be in Las Cruces, New Mexico at the X-Prize X-Cup competition. Ivor Dawson needs volunteers to help talk to the kids, telling them about space and aviation and showing them the exhibits. Volunteers will be reimbursed for certain travel expenses.

The Chapter will earn \$100 per SFV99s volunteer. To sign up, contact Ivor at (310) 279-5130.

California Pilots Association Annual Meeting

October 6 & 7, 2006
Santa Monica Airport

Guest Speakers: Brian Terwilliger, Clay Lacy,
John Pfeifer, Abel Maldonado, Gary Rice

More info: (800) 319-5286
cpa@calpilots.org www.calpilots.org

October Membership Anniversary

Happy Anniversary to our SFV99s!

1968	Coralee Tucker
1973	Jeanne Fenimore
1978	Barbara Black
1981	Elisabeth Irwin
1989	Marion McNiff
1992	Susan Sloan
1996	Nina Yates
1999	Jackie Forsting
2005	Lynette Williams

Party & Prep for Doo Dah

The Doo Dah crew will have its first Plane Construction / Brainstorming Party at Anne Marie Radel's hangar (T-5 at WHP – in the NE corner of the airport) from 12:00 to 5:00 on Sunday, October 15.

Everyone is invited! Even if you cannot participate in the Doo Dah Parade, you can help the Chapter create its program and PR campaign. Bring construction materials, plane designs and PR ideas. The Doo Dah Parade will be a fantastic opportunity for the Chapter to work towards earning next year's PR Award.

Please let Anne Marie know if you will attend so she will have an accurate head count for food and drinks: 818-429-8663 or kidradello@aol.com.

Next Meeting:

Monday, November 6

Turning Base...November

Girl Scout Aviation Day

The SFV99s will be helping at Girl Scout Aviation Day on November 4, 2006 from 8:00 to 3:30 at Whiteman Airport. The day will consist of two sessions where Brownies will earn an Aviation Badge.

The SFV99s will be working again with Cadette/Senior Troop 1522 from the Burbank area. The 99s and the Explorers will be speaking at each session, bringing aircraft to display, assembling goodie bags, and hopefully inspiring a few girls into aviation. *[Editor's note: One of your Aux Tank Editors became a pilot because of working on a Girl Scout Aviation Badge in the 7th grade. So come and inspire a future 99!]*

If you think you can help, please notify Ceci Stratford at cecipilot@sbcglobal.net or Jeanne Fenimore at jeannefenimore@earthlink.net.

Get Well Soon

Jeanne Kirhofer had knee replacement surgery on September 27 and is doing great. She'll be back at the airport in no time!

Kathryn Presson fell and hurt her knee just before Section. She is currently wearing a cast.

Lisa Hineman also hurt her knee. (Ladies, what is going on with all these knees?!!)

Adam Berg has been diagnosed with Lymphoma. Cards may be sent to: 16425 Hart Street, Van Nuys, CA 91406.

The Chapter wishes Jeanne, Kathryn, Lisa and Adam a speedy recovery.

Doo Dah Parade

If you did not get a chance to sign up for the Doo Dah Parade at the Chapter's October meeting, it is not too late! You are not going to want to miss this event!

The parade takes place on Sunday, November 19 in Pasadena. It is a spoof on the Rose Parade and a fundraiser for the Light Bringer Project, a nonprofit Pasadena-based cultural arts organization. It is also a fundraiser for our Chapter!

<http://www.pasadenadoodahparade.info/>

Your entrance fee is \$20 (\$10 of which goes to the Chapter). Your mission is to raise funds for the SFV99s by asking your family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors to sponsor your "airplane" just like in a real air show! See page 3 for info on the prep parties.

In addition to fundraising, our goal will be to blanket the parade crowd with information about our organization and its activities, and to encourage any woman flyers or potential flyers to check out The Ninety-Nines. For more information or to sign up, please contact Anne Marie Radel at 818-429-8663.



Cookies to the Tower

Everybody come join us at Rocky's Restaurant at Whiteman Airport on Saturday, December 2, 2006, from 9:30am to 1:30pm for a great event "Cookies to the Tower"!

We will be stuffing holiday boxes with homemade delights and sharing treats amongst ourselves. Every person who participates needs to bring 3-5 dozen homemade cookies or holiday treats (OK, they can be store bought if need be) to be delivered to our favorite & helpful friends in aviation.

Each participating cookie maker also needs to bring a \$10.00 gift for the gift exchange. No white elephant gifts, please! We will be playing the feared "Dirty Santa" gift exchange game!!!!

We will also have complimentary coffee & tea in the morning, and during the gift exchange we will be able to order lunch on our own (i.e., Dutch treat) from the restaurant. Mark your calendars and we hope to see all of you there!

--Anne Marie Radel

Holiday Party 2006

Mark your calendars and tell our aviation friends! The Chapter's Annual Holiday Party will take place on Saturday, December 9th at Lilian Holt's home. Enjoy a fabulous potluck, great drinks, questionable white elephant gifts, fun singing, and good cheer!

Look for more details in the next issue of the Aux Tank.

SWS Winter Business Meeting

The Southwest Section Winter Business Meeting will be held on January 27, 2007 in Ontario, California at the Hilton Ontario Airport Hotel. The San Gabriel Valley Chapter is hosting. General Aviation is encouraged to fly into Cable; the landing fee will be waived for 99s. Check the Southwest Section website for registration information (www.sws99s.org). Rooms at the Hilton will be \$89.00.

99s International Meetings

2007 – Boulder/Denver, CO
September 11-16
2008 – Anchorage, AL
August 7-10
2009 – Chicago, IL
2010 – hosted by SWS

Future Southwest Section Meetings

Spring 2007: May 18-20, 2007 - Santa Maria at the Radisson
Fall 2007: October 5-7, 2007 - San Francisco at the Hyatt
Spring 2008: May 2-4, 2008 - Palm Springs at the Agua Caliente Hotel
Fall 2008: September 26-28, 2008 - Ogden, UT
Spring 2009 – open
Fall 2009 – Grass Valley, CA

Density Altitude – Hot Time In The Old Town!

Summer hit this year with a vengeance, and it doesn't seem inclined to leave us any time soon. In fact, we're now into a couple of the hottest months of the year. High temperatures make it nice to think of higher altitudes where it's usually (but not always – there are always those nasty inversions...) cooler. Remember the "environmental lapse rate" of 2°C/1000 ft.? Following that logic and it's 10°C (or 18°F!) cooler 5000' above where you are sitting on the taxiway. Nice! It's probably also about that same temperature up at the beach in Santa Barbara. Aaah! ☺ Well, I digress. I've written about Density Altitude in the past, but it's always a good idea to cover it once again, especially in such a hot summer.



All this summer heat means we have to start taking serious consideration of the Density Altitude when we're planning a flight. What does that really mean other than it takes longer to take off and longer to climb out and landings are at a faster ground speed than normal? For those who like to know the "why" of things, please read on.

Density Altitude is all about aircraft performance. Details about how your aircraft performs at various altitudes are found in the back sections of your POH (Pilot's Operating Handbook). If you haven't looked at them lately, do yourself a favor and spend a few minutes looking at what temperature does to your takeoff distance.

Why call it "Density" Altitude? It's pretty certain that the "Density" part refers to the density – or lack of – of the air, the warmer the temperature becomes. Of course, the name may also refer also to the density of the pilot who ignores it, but we won't go there. If you ever had Physics 101 (and for some of us that was rather back in the dark ages – hah!), you may remember that as air heats up, its molecules move faster and they get farther apart and so are less dense per any given volume of space. OK, fine. So what does that mean to my airplane and me?

What it means is that any part of the airplane that operates on air – including the pilot – is going to have less of it to work with. Here's a short list of the more important parts:

The wings generate lift by the action of air flowing over and under them. The more air molecules, the more lift, and vice versa. So, the higher the Density Altitude, the less lift you have. Don't forget your horizontal stabilizer or stabilator is a "wing", too, and won't respond as quickly.

The propeller, which works just like the wings, only at a different angle, also suffers from lower air density. The fewer molecules it can push against, the less the thrust it will produce and the slower you'll go.

The engine needs to maintain an optimal balance (about 16-1 ratio) between the amount of air and the amount of fuel in the cylinders for efficient fuel burn. You know about that – "rich" vs. "lean". As the Density Altitude increases with summer heat, you have to reduce the amount of fuel that is burned per cylinder to maintain the fuel to air optimum mix. With less fuel burning, the engine produces less power. Of course, if your engine is turbo-charged, it is getting air that has been made more dense by compressing it back down, and you can burn more fuel for more power. (Jet engines work that way, but that's another story!) That helps some, but doesn't completely make up for the reduced efficiency of the wings and the prop. That and I'd be willing to lay down some serious money that most of us fly "normally aspirated" vs. "turbo charged" engines. By the way, another effect of operating at high temps with an air cooled



engine is that it doesn't get as much cooling from the air on a hot day and you need to watch out for high temp limits, especially of your engine oil.

The airspeed indicator works on a pressure differential between the pitot tube and the static port, and it will have less pitot tube pressure with fewer air molecules. Even though the aircraft is going at the same speed through the air as it was at a lower density altitude, it will indicate a lower airspeed. That means that as you land, your ground speed will be greater for a given indicated airspeed. It will be more important than ever to line up your landing well. As you slow to land, your control surfaces will lose their effectiveness, but you'll be moving over the ground at a faster than usual speed. If you find yourself needing to make fast control inputs, you'll find the airplane won't respond as quickly as you might want.



The pilot, the most important part of the aircraft, needs oxygen to be able to think straight and operate the aircraft. The human brain is a real oxygen-hog and without enough, your thinking will be less than ideal. You've seen that for a fact if you've ever been through the Physiological Flight Training (Altitude Chamber) program that the Military presents in cooperation with the FAA. (If you haven't, I'd strongly recommend that you go.) Be aware that Density Altitude effects YOU along with your airplane! Hot days mean you'll need to stay hydrated, too, so don't forget to bring water with you.

Stay cool and fly safely!

Claudia Ferguson
SFV 99's Safety Chairman
FAA Aviation Safety Counselor
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Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Reference
October 15	Doo Dah Plane Construction / Brainstorm Party (12:00 - 5:00) WHP, Anne Marie's hangar	Anne Marie Radel
October 21	Fly-In to Brackett	Ruth Logan / Jeanne Fenimore
October 27-28	International Board Meeting, Oklahoma	www.ninety-nines.org
October 30	Chapter Board Meeting	Rocky's WHP -- 6:30 pm
November 4	Girl Scout Aviation Day, WHP (8:00 – 3:00)	Ceci Stratford / Jeanne Fenimore
November 6	Chapter Meeting Dinner in the Main Dining Room	Airtel Hotel -- 7:00 pm as early as 5:30
November 9-11	AOPA Meeting, Palm Springs	www.aopa.org
November 12	Hangar Party for Doo Dah Prep WHP, Anne Marie's hangar	Anne Marie Radel
November 19	Doo Dah Parade, Pasadena	Anne Marie Radel
December 2	Cookies to the Tower, Rocky's – WHP (9:30 – 1:00)	Anne Marie Radel
December 4	Chapter Meeting (Guest Speaker: Tim Diggins, FAA) Dinner in the Main Dining Room	Airtel Hotel -- 7:00 pm as early as 5:30
December 9	Holiday Party, Lilian Holt's home	Stacie Crowther & Linda Worden

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

www.ninety-nines.org (International)

AUX TANK

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