



AUX TANK

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

APRIL 2008

A Special Launch Chairman's Report

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On April 6, 2008, the USNS Amelia Earhart was launched from the NASSCO Shipyards in San Diego, Ca. It was a magical night! Those in attendance were able to really appreciate the enormity of this ship. The USNS Amelia Earhart is the 6th "Lewis & Clark" class of supply ship.



The ship was launched at 9:40pm on a Sunday, which seems like an odd time, but she can only launch during high tide. The night launch made the event even more dramatic, with fireworks and the band playing "Anchors Away," and I don't think there was a dry eye in the audience. San Fernando Valley 99s attending were: Michele Albiez, Jeanne Fenimore, Lilian Holt, Jeanne Kirhofer, Ceci Stratford, and 49-1/2 Chuck Kamphausen. If you would like to view a little clip of the launch, I have placed my video on YouTube. Just go to www.youtube.com and search USNS Amelia Earhart. There are also several other views posted. Enjoy them all.



Her mission will be to deliver ammunition, provisions, stores, spare parts, potable water and petroleum products to strike groups and other naval forces, by serving as a shuttle ship or

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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.

Short Final...April

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station ship. The ship is 689 feet long, and she can travel 20 Knots per hour.

We need to give a big *thank you* to Bertie Duffy. As many of you know, she volunteers at the Hollywood Bowl and they have a museum. Well it turns out that The Bowl was changing out an exhibit and had a projector left over. Bertie asked if they would consider donating it to a non-profit (like us) and they did, so we are now the proud owners of a video projector. We have the capabilities of showing more videos and having safety seminars. We also need to thank Maureen Kenney who went out the next day and donated a case to put the projector in, plus all the cables it needs. So our only expense is a new lamp, which has been ordered and is on the way. The last big *thank you* goes to Paula Sandling who has been more than generous in allowing us to use her projector. She will continue to do this, so we now have access to two projectors.

Congratulations to Allan Stirwalt who is our B-17 ride winner. Many of you know his dad, Jim. They are both thrilled that Allen won and Allen is looking forward to his ride. Congratulations to Linda Hernandez for selling the winning ticket.

We have two career days coming up this month, plus the B-17 visit at Van Nuys. We will need help for all of these events, so if you have some time please come out to help. More information is elsewhere in the Aux Tank.

We passed out the ballots to elect next year's Board of Directors at the April meeting. If you were not there, you should have received your ballot in the mail. Please vote and return your ballot ASAP.

See you at the Airport.

--Jeanne Fenimore

April Membership Anniversary

Happy Anniversary to our SFV99s!

1975	Dolores Mathews
1978	Sylvia Sanderson
1982	Paula Sandling
1983	Jaye Howes
1986	Patricia Yendes
1988	Mary Glassman
1996	Helene Krongold
1996	Lisa Hineman
2000	Carin Counihan
2004	Jennifer Mindock
2005	Janice Martin
2006	Erin Thorpe
2007	Ayla Brown

April Guest Speaker "The Legend of Pancho Barnes"

At the meeting on April 7, our chapter had the opportunity to listen to a wonderful presentation by Nicholas T. Spark and Amanda Pope.

Nick, a writer and filmmaker has produced and/or directed a number of award winning documentaries and industrial films. His latest project is a documentary on the life and legend of aviatrix Florence Lowe "Pancho" Barnes. Amanda Pope, an Associate Professor at USC School of Cinema-Television, is the film's director. "Pancho," as she was known by her friends, was a tough and fearless pilot, a barnstormer, and known as being the first female stunt pilot in the 1920's and 1930's. She was also the owner of the "Happy Bottom Riding Club" frequented by those record breaking test pilots such as Chuck Yeager and Bob Hoover. With newly discovered

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documents and photos from the personal files of the aviatrix, as well as rare movie footage and interviews with her friends, historians and biographers, a more and complete look at an extraordinary life is revealed in this documentary.

Members were captivated by the great detail of this fine work in progress and look forward to seeing the completed documentary soon. More information on the progress of the film can be found on the internet website www.panchobarnesfilm.com.

SEE THE B-17 THIS WEEK

The EAA's B-17 "Aluminum Overcast" is coming to VNY April 18 – 20. It will be flying out of the Syncro Hangar Ramp at 7701 Woodley (across from the Van Nuys FlyAway). Flights are scheduled everyday 10:15am to 1:15pm, and then the war bird will be on static display for tours from 2:00pm to 5:00pm. (All dates and times are tentative and subject to change due to weather or other causes.)

Anne Marie Radel is looking for SFV99s to volunteer during the event in either ground operations or merchandising. Please contact her to sign up.

A flight in the B-17 is a great gift for loved ones and aviation aficionados! There are only ten B-17s currently flying in the world. See, touch and be a part of history! Visit the B-17 website at www.b17.org for more information or call 1-800-359-6217 for reservations and inquires.

Happy Birthday!

April 5	Wanda Schramm-Ogne	April 22	Marion McNiff
April 15	Susan Theurkauf	April 26	Golda Neuman
April 18	Doris Minter	April 27	Nina Yates
April 19	Laura Ricks	April 30	Bertie Duffy

Rose of Achievement



Julieann Sikora received a Rose of Achievement for passing the Instrument Written Test! Ya hoo!

Aviation Career Days

Friday, April 25

8:00am to 2:00pm

VNY Syncro Hangar

Contact: Jeanne Fenimore

Wednesday, April 30

11:00am to 1:00pm

Van Nuys High School

Contact: Ceci Stratford

Please sign up for these events.

Guests

Nick Spark and Amanda Pope, Producer and Director (respectively) of "The Legend of Pancho Barnes," were guest speakers at the April meeting. Our other guests included Brenda Bradford, Director of Learning for Life, Barbara Bloom, Michael Sandling, and Chuck Kamphausen. Thank you for joining us. We look forward to seeing you again.

Members of the Month

Kathy Crawley and Kathryn Presson received Members of the Month at the April meeting for speaking to the ground school class at Glendale College. Great work, ladies!

Turning Base...May

Next Meeting:

Monday, May 5

Date Change: Traveling Space Museum

April 18 - Kirnan Elementary, Sarasota, FL
May 9 - Longfellow Elementary, Riverside, CA
May 30 - Kennedy Middle School, San Jose, CA

The Traveling Space Museum will donate \$100 to the SFV99s for each SFV99 or guest of a SFV99 who volunteers at an event. Travel is reimbursed for events out of town. Please contact Ivor Dawson at (310) 279-2624 to sign up.

SGV99s 50th Anniversary

The San Fernando Valley Chapter has received an invitation:

San Gabriel Valley Ninety-Nines invite you to join us as we celebrate our 50th Anniversary
Saturday, May 17
5:30pm
EAA 1 Hangar - Flabob Airport
4130 Mennes Avenue, Riverside, CA 92509

Please reply no later than May 1
to Christine Malcomson-Young.
www.sgv.sws99s.org

Macy's Fundraiser

Once again the SFV99s will be participating in Macy's Community Day. Please save the date and help your chapter make this a successful and profitable event.

Tickets are available through Linda Hernandez. The \$10 tickets are good all day **only*** on **Saturday, May 17** at the **Sherman Oaks, Palm Desert or South Coast Plaza Macy's Stores**.

For a donation of just \$10, shoppers get 10-20% off almost all regular, sale, and clearance merchandise at the Sherman Oaks, Palm Desert, or South Coast Plaza Macy's stores (only cosmetics and fragrances, "Macy's Everyday Values," and Coach handbags are excluded). There will also be special events throughout the store, plus a chance to win a \$500 shopping spree! As an added bonus, once a ticket is purchased, shoppers can "pre-shop" by visiting the store **up to 10 days prior to the event*, present the especially-marked ticket, pay for the merchandise the day they shop, and then pick up their items on May 17th.

The \$10 donation will support the education and scholarship efforts of the SFV99s. And to prove that sometimes a good deed is more than its own reward, shoppers are able to "refund" their donation with a certificate good for \$10 off any one purchase of \$25 or more.

A few volunteers will also be needed for our spot at the Sherman Oaks Macy's. Linda will pass around a sign up sheet at the meeting. Please join us in this fundraiser!

Down Wind...

Chapter Award Deadlines

Woman Pilot of the Year and Rookie Pilot of the Year entries must be postmarked or handed in by May 17, and the Schubert Service Award by May 15. Applications are on the Chapter's website.

Awards & Installation Luncheon

The Chapter's Installation and Awards Luncheon will be held on June 14 at the Smoke House Restaurant in Burbank. Meal choices include Sirloin of Beef for \$25.50 or Caesar Salad with Blackened Salmon for \$21.70. A vegetarian plate is also available, price to be determined. Please send your checks payable to SFV99s to PO Box 7142, Van Nuys, CA 91409. Please also RSVP your attendance with Michele Albiez.

Palms to Pines Air Race

The Los Angeles Palms Chapter of The Ninety-Nines invites all women pilots to join them on their 39th Annual "Palms to Pines Air Race" on Friday, August 1 through Sunday, August 3. The objective of the race is to have fun while promoting women in aviation. Professional pilots and new private pilots are all invited to join in on the race!

The race starts at Santa Monica Airport followed by timed fly-bys at Merced Airport and Red Bluff Airport where the racers will stay overnight. The race continues Saturday morning departing Red Bluff with a timed fly-by at Redmond Airport and landing at Bend Airport. A wonderful banquet dinner will be held Saturday evening at the Shilo Inn in

beautiful Bend, Oregon, followed by the exciting awards breakfast on Sunday morning. Transportation to and from airport and hotels is available and accommodations have been secured at special group rates.

Cash prizes and trophies are awarded to the first five places and trophies awarded for 6th through 10th place. Raffle drawings for aviation and other prizes are held during the race with the proceeds benefiting The Ninety-Nines' Museum.

Race kits can be obtained by sending \$5.00 to Clare Walters, Race Committee Chairperson.



FWPs

At the April meeting, Jackie Forsting pinned FWP Jacqueline Harris, who joined the SFV99s a few months ago!

Sacramento Valley Ninety-Nines 60th Anniversary Celebration

On Saturday, June 14, 2008, the Sacramento Valley Chapter of the Ninety-Nines will be hosting their 60th Anniversary Celebration. Fly-in or drive-in to this great event filled with music, food and fun! Ticket cost is \$25 per person and the event will be held at Aviators Restaurant at Executive Airport in the beautiful Capital City of Sacramento, CA. Live music from the 30's and 40's era will be played by 'Sara and Swingtime'.

For more information please visit:
www.sacramento99s.org or email Nancy Hill.

Caring Counts

Lisa Perry (daughter of member Mary Glassman) will be attending the Chapter's meeting on May 5 to introduce our members to a new program sponsored by Clay Lacy with participation from Pentastar Aviation, Hawker Beechcraft, Maguire Aviation, Beverly Garland's Holiday Inn Hotel and Van Nuys Airport.

Caring Counts is a collection drive to help provide essential needs to children, adults and families who are homeless, by providing travel size personal hygiene items. These items will be distributed to such agencies as M.E.N.D. (the San Fernando Valley's largest non-profit agency), San Fernando Valley Rescue Mission, L.A. Housing, Children of the Night and The Downtown Women's Center to name a few.

Sometimes the Greatest Gifts come in travel-size packages.

B-17 WINNER

The winner of the SFV99s' opportunity for the B-17 ride at Van Nuys Airport is Allan Stirwalt of Santa Clarita. He is a licensed pilot and a Detective Sergeant with the Los Angeles Police Department. Allan's flight instructor for his private license was Chris Merrick, a SVF99s member. Allan's father and frequent flying partner is Jim Stirwalt, who has an S-Model Bonanza at Whiteman Airport.

Allan's Grandfather (Jim's dad) was U.S. Army Air Force Captain Harry Allan Stirwalt, a B-17 pilot assigned to the 95th Bomb Group (H), Eighth Air

Force flying missions from Framlingham Field, Suffolk, England, during World War II. On June 13, 1943, Capt. Stirwalt, with his co-pilot Brigadier General Nathan Forrest III, led a flight of seventeen B-17s on a mission over Kiel, Germany. After the bomb run was completed, the flight received a massive attack from German fighters as they made their way back to England. Capt. Stirwalt's aircraft fell from the flight and the crew parachuted into the bitter cold Baltic Sea. The navigator was the only survivor (who landed near a German fishing vessel and became a POW).

Allan and Jim are lifetime members of the 95th Bomb Group Legacy Association which is a very active group of former B-17 surviving crew members, their families and friends. This organization has an annual convention in different cities throughout the country and maintains a 95th BG Memorial at the Pima Air Museum in Tucson, Arizona. Allan will cherish the ride!

--Linda Hernandez



Is There Such A Thing As Too Much Oil?

A few years back, there was a discussion thread in the email digest of the Cardinal Flyers Online (CFO), an owner/pilot's group to which I belong (being very fond of my '72 Cessna Cardinal). The subject was something I'd never really thought about



before, and I was very interested in what I found out. I thought that since I had not written about this in a while I would share it again in this month's safety article.

It's certain that at an early point in your flight training, your instructor taught you to check the oil dipstick on the engine of

the airplane you were flying as part of your pre-flight. I don't know about you, but what I was taught to look for was a LACK of oil. That makes good sense as any engine will consume some oil as a part of its normal operation. It's necessary to see if you've reached a point where you need to add more, or had an unexplained loss of a lot since

your last flight. Of course, too much oil consumption is not a good thing and can indicate some problems that should be addressed, such as worn piston rings, leaky seals, etc. Oil plays an important part not only in engine lubrication, but also engine cooling. Cockpit gauges tell us the level of oil pressure and the oil temperature in flight. We take oil quantity into account for weight and balance. There is information about proper quantities in the POH. Not having enough oil can cause some pretty undesirable problems, from running too hot right up to and including engine seizure in flight because of lack of lubrication. OK.



Well and good. So much for the question of “do we have enough?”

What about the question for this month, which is: “is there too much oil?” For whatever reason, this is a question I think most folks never even think to ask. I’ve changed the oil in my Cardinal before, and carefully counted the quarts of oil that I added back in after draining out the old stuff, closing the quick drain, and putting on a new filter. Usually, I put less than the 8 quarts recommended because I’ve learned that my engine is happy with 6 and blows the rest out the crankcase breather tube, getting the underside of the airplane pretty greasy. I’d never thought about what might happen if I lost count and added an extra quart past the maximum amount recommended by the engine

maker. If you don’t know the answer to that question, please read on. It may surprise you.

For most of our little airplane engines, the oil resides in a “sump” located at the bottom part of the engine crankcase. There is an oil pump that circulates this oil to all the places where it is needed, and also through an oil cooler, which helps to remove some of the heat from the oil before it is returned to the engine. Each engine is designed to work with a certain amount of oil, and has max and minimum quantities specified by the manufacturer. It turns out that BOTH of those are there for good reasons.

Believe it or not, too much oil can be just as bad as not enough. Just above the oil sump in the engine is the area in which the engine crankshaft travels. If the oil quantity is too high, the crankshaft throws will begin to splash into the oil, causing it to foam up so it becomes sort of like a beer or a soda that’s full of air. (Ever get a mouthful of that foam?

Not much there, right?)

If that continues for a while, the viscosity of the oil will begin to degrade. This defeats the purpose of having a multi-viscosity oil, such as 15W-50, which many of us use.



When the oil starts to foam up and fill with air, the oil pump will start having problems with cavitation (fancy word meaning “sudden formation and collapse of low-pressure bubbles in liquids”). The pump isn’t designed to deal with this

abnormal situation. Because the oil pump is now pumping air along with the oil, this will cause havoc with oil pressure and oil cooling. Higher temperatures will develop in the engine, cylinder rings will develop more friction and heat, and your oil temp gauge will most likely read abnormally high. There won’t be as much oil circulating in the engine to provide needed lubrication and cooling (air isn’t good at doing either of those).

If the plane you are flying doesn’t have an engine analyzer (such as a JPI or GEM), which will alert you to high oil temp, it may be a while before you spot the trouble, assuming you don’t catch the oil overfill on the dipstick during preflight. One pilot reported that on takeoff, “the CHT went right to red-line”. He quickly landed and returned to the mechanic, where it was discovered that just 1 extra quart of oil had been mistakenly added. He also said that when the oil was drained, it “looked cooked”, having swirls that were very dark and discolored (and this was newly changed oil!). I suspect he didn’t pay much attention when he looked at the oil dipstick before takeoff, or maybe, like me (until I read about this), he didn’t know that too much oil is too much of a good thing.

Fly Safely!

Claudia Ferguson, Safety
Chairman

San Fernando Valley 99s

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With appropriate thanks to the CFO gurus, and Steve at Procraft Aviation in Corona

Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Reference
April 18-20	EAA B-17 Visit at VNY	Anne Marie Radel
April 25	Aviation Career Day at Syncro Hangar 8:00 – 2:00	Jeanne Fenimore
April 28	Chapter Board Meeting	Rocky's at WHP -- 6:30 pm
April 30	Career Day at Van Nuys High School 11:00 – 1:00	Ceci Stratford
May 2-4	SWS Meeting – Palm Springs	www.sws99s.org
May 5	Chapter Meeting Dinner in the Main Dining Room	Airtel Hotel -- 7:00 pm
May 17	Macy's Shopping Day – Fundraiser	Linda Hernandez
June 2	Chapter Meeting Dinner in the Main Dining Room	Airtel Hotel -- 7:00 pm
June 14	Awards & Installation Luncheon Smoke House Restaurant, Burbank	Michele Albiez
July 19	Summer Potluck – Ceci Stratford's home	
July 21	Chapter Meeting (August Meeting due to International) Dinner in the Main Dining Room	Airtel Hotel -- 7:00 pm

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

www.ninety-nines.org (International)

AUX TANK

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