



# AUX TANK

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

**AUGUST 2008**

## Hot Summer Happenings

### Chairman's Report

The planes are off to Alaska! Paula Sandling, Jeanne Fenimore and Lilian Holt, together with 49½s Michael and Bill, are making their way north to Alaska for the 99s International Conference. Soon, other SFV99s and I will be joining them in Anchorage, only via slightly larger airplanes. We will bring back a full report, beautiful photos and great stories!



The SFV99s have had an unusual "dark" July this year, in that it has not been dark at all. We have been busy with events and planning, plus we held our "August" meeting on July 21 due to the timing of the International Conference. I would like to thank the out going Board for meeting one last time and showing the ropes to the new Board members, who are already hard at work in their new positions.

Chapter members came out in great support at the American Heroes Air Show on July 12. Our table attracted many women who were interested in learning how to fly as well as a large number of people who picked up information about Aviation Explorers and Young Eagles Flights. You can read more about the event on page 4.

We had a beautiful evening for the Summer Potluck at Ceci and Chuck's home. Stacie Vournas has become a pro at organizing the event, and I want to thank Stacie and her helpers

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**CHAIRMAN**  
Jennifer Miller

**VICE CHAIRMAN**  
Kathryn Presson

**RECORDING SECRETARY**  
Julieann Sikora

**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**  
Stacie Vournas

**TREASURER**  
Pam Distaso

**EDITORS**  
Mary Glassman  
Jennifer Miller

**PHOTOGRAPHER**  
Lilian Darling Holt

**WEBMASTER**  
Pam Distaso

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.

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for all their work. Thank you to Ceci and Chuck, too, for their warm hospitality.



Behind the scenes this summer, a small and dedicated committee has been hard at work preparing the SFV99s' premier Pilot Proficiency Seminars. The first seminar kicks off on September 4, and one will run each week until October 11. The Chapter has printed hundreds of fliers on colored paper, which need to be taken to our neighboring airports. Please contact me to help. Maureen Kenney has designed a great website for the seminars: [www.sfv99s.org/seminars](http://www.sfv99s.org/seminars). Please visit the site to learn more about the event, register for the seminars, and sign up to volunteer. A flier is included in this Aux Tank and is available on the seminar website. We need your help spreading the word in order to make this a successful event and fundraiser!

By a unanimous vote at the last meeting, we will be holding our future chapter meetings at the Van Nuys FlyAway, thanks to an agreement with the airport office. This move will result in a huge savings for the Chapter. The SFV99s have for many years enjoyed the hospitality of the Airtel Plaza Hotel. As room rental costs continue to rise, however, we needed to find an alternative solution for regular meeting space. The FlyAway has a conference room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor that satisfies our requirements. Members and guests can still meet for dinner at the Airtel, just be sure to give yourself enough time to drive a few blocks to the FlyAway for the meeting at 7:00pm. See details on page 3. The Airtel has been a great supporter of the SFV99s and we will continue our relationship with the hotel for special events, such as the Pilot Proficiency Seminars.

I appreciated the members' support on this big change. It looks like we are off to a great year!

--Jennifer Miller

Photo: Old Friends reunite at the Summer Potluck - Lilian Holt, Sonia Pope, Lorrie Blech, and Silvia Sanderson

## Guests

Immediate Past Governor Martha Philips and former SFV99 Sonia Pope were guests at the July meeting. Sonia plans on re-joining the Chapter! Thank you for joining us. We look forward to seeing you again.

## August Membership Anniversary

Happy Anniversary to our SFV99s!

1995	Pam Distaso
2002	Julieann Sikora
2005	Prina Weiser

## Members of the Month

Michele Albiez, Ceci Stratford and Stacie Vournas were Members of the Month at the July 21 meeting. Michele pulled off another great Awards and Installation Luncheon in June and was a terrific mistress of ceremonies. Ceci was thanked for graciously hosting the Summer Potluck at her beautiful home and Stacie was recognized for organizing the relaxing and enjoyable event. Thank you!



## Rose of Achievement

Julieann Sikora, Anne Marie Radel and Lorrie Blech earned a Rose of Achievement for completing the Air Race Classic. It was Julieann's first air race! Congratulations, air racers!

## Short Final...

### Happy Birthday!

August 1	Rhonda McNeil
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 28	Faith Hillman
August 31	Beverly Butcher

## New and Returning Members

“Welcome” to Maria Entraigues who has recently joined our Chapter. The Chapter had an opportunity to meet Maria at our July 21 meeting. We are so happy to have you in our Chapter.

Also “Welcome” to returning member Faith Hillman whose career as Captain for Continental Airlines was inspired by the SFV99s years ago when Faith was a Girl Scout working on her Aviation Badge. We are happy you are returning to Southern California and especially to the SFV99s.

### Budget Meeting

Chapter members are welcome and encouraged to join the Board at the Annual Budget Meeting on **August 18, 2008, 6:30pm** at Rocky's. If you are unable to attend but have budget requests, please contact Jennifer Miller prior to the meeting.

### Next Meeting:

**Monday, August 25**

**Annual Business Meeting  
(closed to guests)**

## New Meeting Location

Chapter Meetings will now be held at the **Van Nuys FlyAway** in the conference room on the second floor. Enter the FlyAway terminal, take the elevator to the second floor, and turn right. You may park in the front 30 minute parking lot (we will not be ticketed during our meetings), or in the parking structure for a small fee (\$1.00 for two hours or \$2.00 for four hours).

FlyAway: 7610 Woodley Ave., Van Nuys  
(cross street is Saticoy)

## Chapter Fly-In

The Pine Mountain Lake fly-in wasn't meant to be this summer. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July fly-in to Paula and Michael's home was canceled due to the fires. We will try again next year.

The August fly-in will be to the Camarillo Air Expo, happening August 16 & 17. Join chapter members on Saturday, August 16, 9:30am at the Ventura County 99s pancake breakfast located at the west end of the field. You will also have an opportunity to visit the VC99s silent auction across from the Waypoint Café gate. The pancake breakfast runs from 6:00am to 10:30am. It will be fun visiting with our sisters from the VC99s!

# Turning Base...

## American Heroes Air Show

Hansen Dam Recreation and Sports Complex was where the third annual American Heroes Air Show was held on July 12. This show is a tribute to all those who put their lives on the line daily for the safety of the public. This was the first time the SFV99s



participated, but I am sure it will not be our last. New Chairman Jennifer Miller and Past Chairman Jeanne Fenimore with Michele Albiez were at our table when the people started arriving at 9:00am. The four skydivers, at the opening ceremony, were a big hit with their colored smoke and beautiful flags flowing as they glided over the men, women and children to make a perfect landing. With lots of food choices and so much to see and do, everyone who attended seemed to enjoy the day. Thanks to Lilian Holt, Anne Marie Radel, Melinda Lyon, Mary Glassman, and Kathryn Presson who also helped in our display booth.

SFV99s Michele Albiez, Mary Glassman, Jeanne Fenimore and Melinda Lyon (all pictured in blue shirts) take a photo op with volunteers from other organizations based out of Whiteman Airport.

**Aviation Gifts by Ruth**

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aviation T-shirts, kids clothing  
and much more at . . .

[www.aviationgiftsbyruth.com](http://www.aviationgiftsbyruth.com)

## Wanted

### Aux Tank Editor(s)

The current editors are retiring. They have had a grand time working together and highly recommend the two-team approach. Send inquiries ASAP.

## Fall Section

The Southwest Section Fall Meeting is just around the corner, so it is time to complete your registration. The dates are September 25 – 28 in Ogden, Utah. A couple of people are talking about flying their planes, while some have already bought commercial tickets. Hotel rooms are only \$85 per night. This will be a great Section! We hope you can join the fun.

## For Sale

### TEXACO COLLECTIBLE METAL AIRPLANE BANKS

The series of airplane banks from the 2nd edition through the 11th edition are for sale. All but #5 have boxes, and have never been out of them. Price is \$400.00 for all, or make an offer. Contact me at: [gj897neum@verizon.net](mailto:gj897neum@verizon.net)

--Golda Neuman

# SAN FERNANDO VALLEY NINETY-NINES PILOT PROFICIENCY SEMINARS

## FALL 2008

Seminars held at Van Nuys Airport • Airtel Plaza Hotel • 7277 Valjean Avenue • Van Nuys, CA 91406

To ensure we have seats & course materials for everyone, please register & pay for the seminars at least 48 hours in advance.

Limited Seating – Registered attendees have priority

Additional information, registration and payment information at [www.sfv99s.org/seminars](http://www.sfv99s.org/seminars)

DATE/TIME	CLASS	COST
Thursday September 4 7 – 9:30pm	<b>Nuances of Mountain Flying with Barry Schiff</b> This seminar includes topics and tidbits seldom covered in textbooks, useful information to improve pilot safety when they operate in high-altitude terrain, and using mountain-based airports. This course involves mountain-flying wisdom distilled from Barry Schiff's 56-year flying career.	\$35
Tuesday September 9 7 – 9:00pm	<b>High-Speed Cruise Over the Aviation Law Landscape w/John D. Lyon, Esq.</b> This seminar will provide a broad overview of legal matters of interest to aviators. Particular topics covered will include FAA regulation and enforcement, and aircraft ownership issues. Time will be provided for questions of general interest...and perhaps even for answers!*	\$35
Wednesday September 17 7 – 9:30pm	<b>Understanding Airspace with Judy Phelps</b> Judy Phelps will provide a thorough review of Airspace. This seminar is an excellent review for all pilots and especially useful for student pilots. Learn and review: identifying various classes of airspace, ATC services, radio procedures, equipment requirements, cloud clearance and visibility, speed limits.	\$35
Saturday September 20 9am – 4pm	<b>Annual Pilot Refresher Seminar with Gene Hudson</b> A review of the topic areas implicated in light aircraft accidents, incidents and violations as well as airworthiness, airspace, aerodynamics and human factors. This seminar will satisfy the ground portion of a Flight Review. (Time allows for a 1-1/2 hour lunch break.)	\$65
Wednesday September 24 7 – 9pm	<b>VFR Charts – What Can They Tell You? with Jim Griffiths</b> A review of VFR chart legends, symbols, airport information, and an overview of terrain and hazard markings, special use airspace, and airspace identification. Appropriate for student pilots and for experienced pilots who are looking for a refresher.	\$35
Thursday October 2 7 – 9:30pm	<b>Aviating thru Weather with Mike Wittman</b> Introduction to terminology related to SoCal's various weather patterns, a look at terrain and how it affects those patterns, an in-depth look at the region's marine layer and Santa Ana condition, a review of web sites that will help pilots in their flight planning for local and cross-country flights.	\$35
Saturday October 11 10am – 12:30pm	<b>Basic Aerobatics, Fun with a Purpose! with Rich Stowell</b> Descriptions of basic aerobatic maneuvers to expand your understanding of the flight environment. Discover the building block maneuvers, how compound maneuvers are constructed, and the aerodynamics of aerobatic flight. Review the pertinent FARs and recoveries from unusual attitudes.	\$35

\* Seminar does not qualify for WINGS credit

### REGISTRATION

#### Season Passes and Special Rates:

Fall 2008 season tickets for all seminars are available on-line for \$199.  
We also have special rates for Ninety-Nines, 49-1/2s, CFIs and the military.

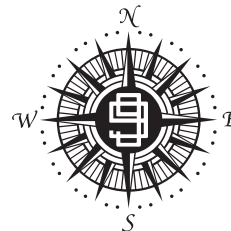
#### Advance On-Line Registration & Payment Recommended

In order to ensure that we have seats and course materials for everyone, please register and pay for the classes at least 48 hours in advance at [www.sfv99s.org/seminars](http://www.sfv99s.org/seminars)

We prefer on-line credit card payments but will accept checks payable to "SFV99s" and mailed to SFV99s – Seminars, P.O. Box 8160, Van Nuys, CA 91409.

We cannot guarantee a seat or admission to people who do not register in advance.

**Contributions:** The San Fernando Valley Ninety-Nines, a non-profit organization, will incur substantial expenses for meeting rooms, instructors, publicity, copying and course materials for the seminars. We ask the minimum donation noted for each class you take.



Questions: Send e-mail to [seminars@sfv99s.org](mailto:seminars@sfv99s.org)

**Most seminars qualify for WINGS credit and the ground portion of Avemco Insurance's recurrency training premium credit.**

Check with your insurance company for discount qualifications.

Absolutely no audio or video recording will be permitted without prior written consent.

### SEE BACK FOR INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

# SAN FERNANDO VALLEY NINETY-NINES PILOT PROFICIENCY SEMINARS

## INSTRUCTORS



### Barry Schiff

ATP, CFI, CFII, MEI, AGI, IGI

Capt. Schiff retired from TWA in 1998 after a 34-year career. He holds five world speed records and has received honors for his contributions to aviation safety. The National Aeronautic Association recently designated him as an Elder Statesman of Aviation. An award-winning journalist and author, he is well known to flying audiences for his numerous books and articles in aviation magazines. He continues to investigate and report to the aviation community various aspects of proficiency and safety, and remains a vigorous and outspoken advocate for general aviation.

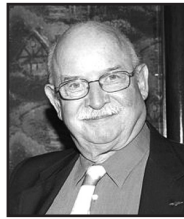
[www.barryschiff.com](http://www.barryschiff.com)

With more than 27,000 hours logged in more than 300 types of aircraft, Barry Schiff has received worldwide recognition for his aeronautical accomplishments. He has earned every FAA category and class rating (except airship) and every instructor rating.

### John D. Lyon, Esq.

AOPA Legal Services Panel, Harvard Law

John D. Lyon graduated from Harvard Law in 1960 and has been practicing law ever since. He says he is going to continue practicing until he gets it right! He is a generalist in the area of business law. He and his 99 Melinda own and fly a 1959 Meyers 200. He is executive director of the Thomas W. Wathen Foundation, which owns and operates Flabob Airport in Riverside, using aviation to promote education.



### Judy Phelps

CFI, CFII, Master CFI Aerobatic

Judy is Vice President and co-owner of CP Aviation in Santa Paula where she gives flight instruction, tailwheel, emergency maneuver and aerobatic training. Judy is a member of the Ventura County Ninety-Nines and is currently serving as Chapter Chair. She also serves as the President of the Aviation Museum of Santa Paula. Judy competes in local aerobatic contests and flies a Pitts S2B. [www.cpaviation.com](http://www.cpaviation.com)



### Gene Hudson

CFI, CFII, MEI, MCFI, CSI, FAA Safety Team Lead Representative

Gene Hudson acquired his Flight Instructor, Instrument Instructor and Multi-Engine Instructor certificates in 1987 and has been teaching ever since. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering and computer science, and is in the process of completing a Master's degree in Aerospace Safety Systems at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. He has over 14,000 hours total time in over 100 aircraft types, and specializes in instrument techniques, pilot workload reduction, human factors and decision-making, and helping students and pilots in overcoming fear or who are 'stuck'. He is an FAA-designated Remedial Instruction Program (traffic school for pilots) instructor. He has authored numerous articles and the book "Instrument Flying Made Easy." Gene is the FAA's 2005 Western Region Flight Instructor of the Year, and the 2006 National Aviation Safety Counselor of the Year. [www.genehudson.com](http://www.genehudson.com)

Gene Hudson acquired his Flight Instructor, Instrument Instructor and Multi-Engine Instructor certificates in 1987 and has been teaching ever since. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering and computer science, and is in the process of completing a Master's degree in Aerospace Safety

### Jim Griffiths CFI

Jim Griffiths began his CFI career in 2001 and has logged nearly 4,000 hours as a full-time Certified Flight Instructor. His interest in aviation has been life-long, and became an avocation after a demo ride provided by a close friend. Jim determined that his career goals would include both flying and educating. He obtained his private pilot license in 1996, and continued his training, quickly earning his commercial and instrument ratings. He is a dedicated educator and a respected pilot. In 2007, Jim was a recipient of the San Fernando Valley 99s Career Scholarship. He used this award to add his multi-engine rating.



### Mike Wittman

Meteorologist, member of the Naval Weather Service Assoc., American Meteorological Society, National Aeronautical Assoc., National Air Race Assoc., and the Pacific Climate Conference

Mike Wittman is CEO and Lead Meteorologist for Pacific Coast Forecasting, providing weather and flight planning for domestic and international operations from the Van Nuys, California base. Mike is a 1979 graduate of California State University



Long Beach, with a Bachelor's degree in Geography. He served 6 years in the U.S. Navy as a Naval Weather Service Meteorologist, where he attended various naval meteorology schools including flight forecasting. Mike worked at Universal Weather and Aviation from 1975 to 1998. Mike has been an officer and board member of the Aero Club of Southern California. He has served as co-chairman of the NBAA local committee for the annual convention. Mike is a freelance writer and has had numerous articles published on the National Championship Air Races. [www.PCForecasting.com](http://www.PCForecasting.com)

Rich Stowell began instructing full-time in 1987, after developing the Emergency Maneuver Training (EMT®) Program at CP Aviation, in Santa Paula, CA. He is recognized as the country's First Master CFI-Aerobatics, so designated by the National Association of Flight Instructors and the International Aerobatic Club in February 2001. Rich is currently on the NAFI Board of Review for Master CFI-Aerobatic applicants. He is the author of several books, articles, and videos on stalls, spins, emergency maneuvers and aerobatics. His experiences include nearly 30,000 spins performed with students in 183 different airplanes—equivalent to 1,400 vertical miles while spinning. [www.richstowell.com](http://www.richstowell.com)

### Rich Stowell

CFI, NAFI Master CFI-Aerobatics, FAA 2006 National Flight Instructor of the Year



SEE FRONT FOR CLASS AND SCHEDULE INFORMATION

Additional information, registration and payment information at [www.sfv99s.org/seminars](http://www.sfv99s.org/seminars)

## Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Reference
August 6 – 10	99s International Conference, Anchorage, Alaska	<a href="http://www.ninety-nines.org">www.ninety-nines.org</a>
August 16 – 17	Camarillo Air Expo (Chapter Fly-in on Aug 16, 9:30am Meet at VC99s pancake breakfast)	Ruth Logan
August 18	Budget Meeting / Board Meeting	Rocky's -- 6:30 pm
August 25	Chapter Annual Business Meeting – Closed to Guests	VNY FlyAway -- 7:00 pm Conf Rm, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
September 4	SFV99s Pilot Proficiency Seminar "Nuances of Mountain Flying" with Barry Schiff	<a href="http://www.sfv99s.org/seminars">www.sfv99s.org/seminars</a>
September 9	SFV99s Pilot Proficiency Seminar "High-Speed Cruise Over the Aviation Law Landscape" with John D. Lyon, Esq.	<a href="http://www.sfv99s.org/seminars">www.sfv99s.org/seminars</a>
September 17	SFV99s Pilot Proficiency Seminar "Understanding Airspace" with Judy Phelps	<a href="http://www.sfv99s.org/seminars">www.sfv99s.org/seminars</a>
September 20	SFV99s Pilot Proficiency Seminar "Annual Pilot Refresher Seminar" with Gene Hudson	<a href="http://www.sfv99s.org/seminars">www.sfv99s.org/seminars</a>
September 24	SFV99s Pilot Proficiency Seminar "VFR Charts – What Can They Tell You?" with Jim Griffiths	<a href="http://www.sfv99s.org/seminars">www.sfv99s.org/seminars</a>
September 25 – 28	Fall Southwest Section Meeting Ogden, UT	<a href="http://www.sws99s.org">www.sws99s.org</a>
October 2	SFV99s Pilot Proficiency Seminar "Aviating thru Weather" with Mike Wittman	<a href="http://www.sfv99s.org/seminars">www.sfv99s.org/seminars</a>
October 6	Chapter Meeting	VNY FlyAway -- 7:00 pm Conf Rm, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor
October 11	SFV99s Pilot Proficiency Seminar "Basic Aerobatics, Fun with a Purpose!" with Rich Stowell	<a href="http://www.sfv99s.org/seminars">www.sfv99s.org/seminars</a>
October 18	Challenge Air – WHP	<a href="http://www.challengeair.org">www.challengeair.org</a>

[www.sfv99s.org](http://www.sfv99s.org) (San Fernando Valley 99s)  
[www.sws99s.org](http://www.sws99s.org) (Southwest Section)

[www.ninety-nines.org](http://www.ninety-nines.org) (International)

## AUX TANK

P.O. Box 7142  
 Van Nuys, CA 91409