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The Ventura County Ninety-Nines have a monthly business meeting and speaker on the evening of the third Tuesday of the month. Check this publication for the next meeting, or at our website for locations.

We also meet socially for breakfast at 8:30 AM on the first Sunday of the month at Flight 126 at Santa Paula Airport.

If you are reading a paper copy of this newsletter, it is printed from an electronic file and can be found--in color--at our website. You can register to get an email reminder of The Flyer via email at this site.

Ventura County 99s Attend the Ninety-Nines Int'l Conference San Antonio, Texas

Mignon Gery

The Ventura County 99s were very well represented at the Ninety-Nines International Conference in San Antonio, Texas. Six chapter members were present, Judy McCarthy, Lori Parker, Janeen Gaul, Sheila Collier, Martha Phillips and Mignon Gery. It was Janeen's and my first time attending an International 99s conference, and we had a lot of fun! San Antonio is a wonderful city with many cultural and historical sites to visit. It was a great opportunity to attend Ninety-Nines business meetings, seminars, the Scholarship and Awards Banquet as well as tour the city and river walk.

As a first time conference attendee and the International Membership Chairperson I attended the First Time Attendees Meet and Greet as well as welcomed many new members. It was great meeting new members, learning about their flying adventures and hearing their enthusiasm about the Ninety-Nines. There are so many young energetic members of our organization who are excited to be active members of their chapters. I also had the opportunity

to sit along side Lori Parker at the Maximizing L.I.F.T. seminar. Lori had been asked to host a round table discussion on Secrets of Successful Chapters. She did a fantastic

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**NEXT
MEETING
AUGUST 15**

Ninety-Nines Int'l Conference

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



job of sharing best practices for keeping chapters vital and members engaged. Most important of all was to hear from these chapters what their hurdles are and to have an open discussion on possible strategies to overcome such obstacles.

Our world of aviation is an amazing place, the people you meet can inspire and amaze you. Such was the case with two

guest speakers at the conference. The keynote speaker on Thursday night was Captain Beverly Bass, she shared her inspirational story of her international flight's diversion to Gander, Newfoundland, when U.S. airspace was closed as a result of the 9/11 attacks. Now her story is a Broadway musical "Come From Away". I cannot wait to go to NYC and see this musical. The other amazing speaker that I had the pleasure of listening to is a NASA astronaut. Shannon Walker shared her story of living on the International Space Station for six months! Who knew how hard



it is to wash your hair, and to vacuum the Space Station?

The Ventura County 99s had a lot of fun, touring the Natural Bridge Caverns, taking the river boat cruise and adopting Sara from Phoenix. Sara was in attendance as an Amelia Earhart Memorial Fund winner, and we took her under our wings and enjoyed getting to know her.

But best of all, we were all honored to be present when our beloved 49.5 Art Phillips received the George Palmer Putnam Award! Boy did Art look sharp in his suit and tie. He spoke so eloquently about his love for Martha and how he enjoys supporting her and all of us, but his real secret is that he does it all for HUGS.

What a great conference!





Skywriting

Judy McCarthy
Chairman

Fly With Attitude! **It's Fun...**

I think one of the best things about the 99s is the Camaraderie. According to vocabulary.com it means "the spirit of good friendship and loyalty among members of a group." Is that not us?!

I just returned from the International Conference in San Antonio with some of our members. We shared rooms, hair dryers, coffee, drinks, dinners, stories--maybe some secrets--and ideas. That is camaraderie and friendship building of the best kind.

What a treat to see and visit with 99s that I never

get to see except at these events and it's like old home week! It has been a whole year, but it seems like last week. Everyone is so excited and happy to see each other. And there's the new friends you make and look forward to seeing again soon. This is camaraderie.

August is our Air Show month and as we all volunteer to help make it successful, but we actually do it for the camaraderie, too. Nothing like being at an air show with you pilot friends!

It's fun to hang out in the Information Booth and talk to people about the 99s about our Chapter and the great things we do.

It's fun to meet the people coming to the Silent Auction booth looking for the best deals working side by side with fellow VC99s.

It's fun to take pancake orders, cook them, make batter, cook sausage and work alongside some hard working (fun & crazy) VC99s and 49.5 hiding inside the Burka.

If you haven't volunteered in one of our booths yet, please do so. You won't be sorry and the Camaraderie of the VC99s is the best you will find anywhere.



There's Always Someone to Congratulate in the VC99s

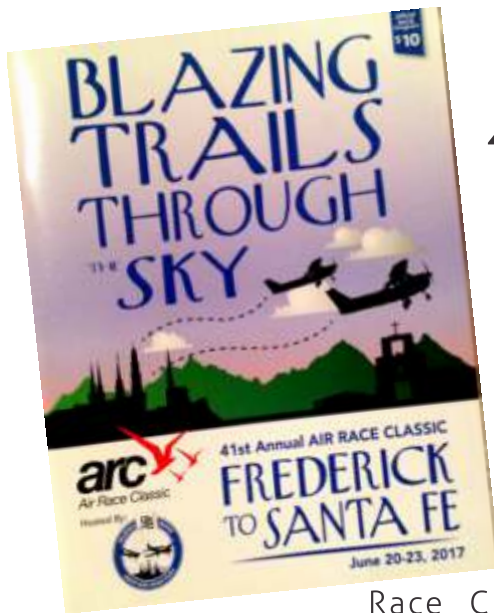


Jennifer Engel received her private on July 20. She flies a Piper Cherokee Warrior out of KSMO.



Alison Barker completed her Tailwheel Endorsement on July 19. Congrats ladies!





41st Air Race Classic 2017 Terminus in Santa Fe, NM

Angelee Conroy

I had the opportunity to attend the awards banquet of the 2017 Air



to finish the race. Since the race is handicapped, no one knows until the banquet how they finished... Lauren, Maria

and Shelby placed 10th! They said they are looking forward to racing again next year.

The winner of this year's race was "Team Kiwi"- Dee Bond from Pukekohe, New Zealand (who is a member of the New Zealand chapter of the 99s, and attending her seventh ARC) and McKenzie Krutsinger from Sidney, IL.



The 42nd ARC is June 19-22, 2018, and will begin in Sweetwater, TX (KSWW), and end in Fryeburg, ME (KIZG). www.AirRaceClassic.org ✈️

Race Classic, which terminated in Santa Fe, NM. Of the 47 women teams competing, it was wonderful to see 14 collegiate teams racing from universities all across the U.S. One team from the Florida Institute of Technology was very happy to have landed ten minutes before the race deadline.

My sister-in-law and I had the pleasure of sitting with Lauren, Maria, and Shelby, a team from Western Michigan University. All of these accomplished young women have already completed many of their advanced ratings.

The awards given at the banquet included the "Ninety-Nines Award", for the fastest 99 member

Confession(s) of a Newsletter Editor

Pat McCollum

Can you believe I've been doing the VC99s Flyer for more than 20 years now!? I probably have

skipped no more than 10 issues in that time (vacations, lack of news, whatever). Some months



I'm thrilled to do it, others, not so much. The one thing I delight in is changing photos of 99s. It might be removing a mar, fixing the one person with closed eyes, removing the odd fire hydrant in the background, etc. This morning I was giggling away as I modified the summer picnic picture. Mike and I were out of town that weekend. Not according to this picture. I was there! ✈️

Planes & Paws

Lori Parker

Most of you probably know about “Pilots and Paws”, an organization where pilots coordinate with rescue volunteers to transport animals. Well, this article is a variation...

I signed up Pilots and Paws about a year ago after transporting a border collie to Reno for a woman that Pat M. met at the Waypoint. She was rescued after being cooped up in a cage for too long (that's a story for another time). The challenge I had with future transports for Pilots and Paws was timing, distance or another pilot beating me to the opportunity. It turned out to be a competitive group! Well the day finally came. I was to take 2 Chihuahuas to Henderson NV, where the second pilot would take them to Colorado to their forever home. Departure was to be at 6am sharp so the flights could be completed before the possible afternoon thunderstorms.

At 3:34am a text woke me up – the second pilot needed to cancel. I was sooo disappointed.



(Not to worry – the flight was completed a few days later by other pilots.)

Fast forward two days. I received an email from Bev, the woman to started Savearecue.org, a nationwide shelter and rescue directory, asking me if I could retrieve a sweet 10 month old German Shepherd named Lexi from Dallas to Thousand Oaks. (She must have thought I owned a jet!) I replied with, “I will be in San Antonio for an International 99s Women Pilot Meeting so if you can get her to San Antonio on Saturday, I am happy to transport her on the commercial flight home Sunday morning. All the players sprang into action. Lexi was saved with 2 hours to spare before she would be euthanized. A loving foster family made sure she had her shots,

her required exam and was ready for her flight to CA. Another dedicated volunteer drove her 4½ hours to San Antonio and helped me get her safely on the plane. After an hour in LA trying to find which terminal they took her



to, we were on way to Thousand Oaks, where her new family awaited her with open arms.

So my first Pilot and Paws rescue was one where I didn't even pilot the plane!

Addendum: Bev is one of the people that look for potential dogs for Wilma's Search Dog Foundation. It's a small world... ✈️

Caught Flying



Not that it's impressive that she's in the air at all, but Judy Phelps was caught flying in a Stearman. It's the newest bird in the Phelps flock.

Scholarship Winner Flies Off With a Tailwheel Endorsement

Alison Barker



I got my Private pilot license on November 15, 2002. I credit a mid-life crisis for my pilot license and I have never looked back. Whenever you decide to start your pilot training and no matter how long it takes to complete it, it's worth every bit of time, effort and funds. A pilot license changed my life. I found there is a network of women pilots out there that like to have a great time, like to get together, like to do good things for the community, like to raise money and give scholarships to other women who want to learn how to fly, like to spend their time mentoring other women and girls, like to plan community events that inspire us, and of course like to fly! That wonderful organization is the Ninety-Nines.

Thanks to our wonderful Ventura County Chapter, I was awarded a "Get Back In The Air" scholarship to use towards pilot training to get me back to flying after several years break. I chose to use my scholarship to complete a tailwheel endorsement that I had started but never completed. Why a tailwheel endorsement? It's a challenge! You really have to learn to make the aircraft do what you are thinking it should be doing and going where you need it to go. Also, the logical next step after a tailwheel endorsement is aerobatics! I would like to thank my Instructor, Rochelle, for the great training, Judy at CP Aviation for having a great flight school, and the CP Aviation line guys who always have the aircraft ready to go.





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Photo of the Month



VC99 Peggy Meinke taking off at Santa Paula.

Calendar of Events

AUGUST

Aug 3 6:00pm Board Meeting – Dept of Airports, Camarillo

Aug 15 General Meeting – Viewport CMA

SEPTEMBER

Sept.7 6:00pm Board Meeting – Dept of Airports, Camarillo

Sept 19 5:30pm General Meeting – Progressive Dinner, Santa Paula

SPECIAL EVENTS

First Sunday of each month

Santa Paula Airport Open House (10am-2pm) and 99s Social Breakfast at Flight 126 Café (8:30am)

Aug 19-20, 2017 Wings Over Camarillo Airshow

Sept 28, 2017 99s SWS Conference, Mount Shasta/ Redding, CA

Oct 20, 2017 Aviation Career Day, CAF Camarillo

Dec 3, 2017 Holiday Awards Dinner

OTHER AVIATION THINGS:

EVERY First Saturday of the Month at 9am

EAA Young Eagles Flights at EAA Hangar, CMA

EVERY First Monday at 7PM, Camarillo City Hall

Aviation Advisory Commission meets

EVERY Second Thursday at 7PM, Camarillo City Hall

The Aviation Authority meets

EVERY Second Saturday (except December)

The Camarillo Chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) meets at the EAA Hangar, CMA

ARTICLE and PHOTO

SUBMISSION ADDRESS:

vc99sflyer@vc99s.org

Deadline to receive: 25th of each month

READY TO FLY?

VENTURA COUNTY FLIGHT TRAINING CENTER AT OXNARD AIRPORT

If you're looking to earn your private pilot certificate or enhance your capabilities as a pilot, the Ventura County Flight Training Center provides flight training at Oxnard Airport.



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The Ventura County Flight Training Center is a flight training extension of California Aeronautical University (CAU), which holds FAA Part 141 approval.

With a world-class training facility located on Meadows Airport in Bakersfield, CAU offers professional pilot degree programs in an immersive aviation environment.

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