

Ventura County Ninety-Nines Award 2020 Summer Scholarship Winners

Mignon Gery

The Ventura County Ninety-Nines are pleased to announce the 2020 Summer awards recipients. Our chapter was able to sponsor three categories of scholarship awards this summer. We were surprised to have a total of 24 applications submitted. This is the most applications we have ever had in one season. The Covid pandemic can't stop all of these amazing women from pursuing their aviation dreams.

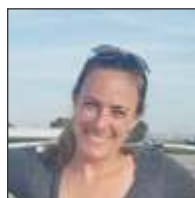


The Female Student Pilot Milestone Award for \$3,000 was awarded to **Rachel Meitler**. Rachel flies out of SZP with CP Aviation and is working on her Private Pilot Certificate. She is a member of the 99s Antelope Valley Chapter. News flash just in, Congratulations to Rachel she has completed her training, with Rochelle Oslick, CFI and is now a Certificated pilot!

The Karen L. Johnson Advanced Milestone Award for \$3,000 was awarded to **Cindy Santoso**. Cindy is a CFI at CP Aviation and she flies out of SZP. She is pursuing her CFII



rating. She is a 99s member of the Long Beach Chapter and serves as chapter secretary.



The Get Out of Your Comfort Zone "Learn Something New" award for \$1,000 was awarded to **Kate Scott**. Kate is currently working on earning her instrument rating, and wants to use the scholarship award towards Emergency Maneuver Training with Mark King CFII at Santa Paula. Kate is a 99s member of the Los Angeles Chapter and serves as the chapter chairperson. The VC99s would like to thank our judges. All judging is done by volunteers outside of our chapter. The judges are pilots and non pilots, business men and women across the country who are not connected with our chapter or any SoCal flight schools.

Congratulations to all of our winners, we look forward hearing about all of your aviation accomplishments.

VC99s Scholarship Team:
Mignon Gery, Judy Phelps & Lori Parker

Read more
about these
ladies on
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STUDENTS STILL LEARNING

On August 19, 2020, the VC99s Student Pilot Advancement Program had eight student pilots along with Robin and Lori on a Zoom meeting. The gals shared experiences, successes, challenges, and realized they had a lot in common with one another. We even have a new participant from SFV! Rachel M shared some excellent helpful hints from her successful private pilot checkride. Robin Sullivan taught the secrets of calculating Zulu time along with understanding load factors. These awesome ladies are on a roll!





Rachel Meitler

Female Student Pilot Milestone Award

After my discovery flight last year, I was hooked on aviation and knew this was the career for me! I began working on my PPC in February at CP Aviation and hope to get my certificate in a couple weeks. A special thank you to my awesome instructor, Rochelle. I just graduated from high school and plan to attend California Baptist University this fall to major in aviation science, commercial flight. My goal is to be a pilot for a major airline. I hope one day to inspire, encourage, and support future pilots, especially women, just as so many have done for me on my journey. I am so honored and thankful to be the recipient of the Milestone Award for Female Student Pilots. Thank you, Ventura 99s, for helping make my aviation dreams come true!

Cindy Santoso

Karen L. Johnson Advanced Milestone Award

Cindy has recently received her Certificate Flight Instructor – Instrument. She is an active member of the 99s Long Beach Chapter and serving as the Secretary. She has been an instructor for almost one year. Her favorite part about instructing is being able to witness the joy that first flights bring to her students. Cindy volunteers to various events such as STEM Day and Girls in Aviation Day to introduce more females to the aviation world. Her long-term goal is to be a captain on long-haul flights.



Kate Scott

Get Out of Your Comfort Zone “Learn Something New” award

I’m a California native, raised in the Bay Area. I transplanted to Los Angeles in my adulthood where I currently live, fly and work out of Santa Monica. In my career, I manage the conference/event department at a non-governmental research think-tank. This fulfills both my inherent planner sensibilities and desire for the betterment of society. In my spare time, I volunteer for several organizations both within and outside of aviation. I’m currently the Vice Chair of the Los Angeles 99s, and Historian/Public Affairs Officer for the Clover Field Composite Squadron of Civil Air Patrol. I am also an avid world traveler, and have been to over 35 countries in pursuit of education (Master’s degree), photography (solar eclipse chaser), or just a new perspective on life.





Alison Barker
Chapter Chairman

skywriting

More Pilots


I recently attended a webinar where AOPA President Mark Baker was speaking. Baker said that AOPA has seen an increase in people pursuing their pilot's licenses and also an increase in people buying their own aircraft. Could COVID-19 be helping the aviation industry a little bit? Just last week I received a call at my work as an aviation insurance broker from an 83-year-old man who decided it was time he buys an aircraft and pursues his dream to learn to fly. He started out by telling me others had tried to discourage him because of his age, but he said he knew he could do it! I first had to stop and take a moment to congratulate him on his decision to pursue his dreams. No matter your age, you are entitled to your dreams, and I am inspired by people that are going for it.

I think that COVID-19 has caused a lot of us to pause and take notice of our lives and to contemplate our personal goals and decide what makes us happy. Maybe people have always had a dream to become a pilot and they are realizing there's no time like the present. It could also be that people have more time to spend studying and learning about flying. Others may have decided that the best social distancing travel may just be flying yourself. Whatever reasons people have, it's a great time to fly!

The Ventura County 99s are proud to be able to continue to provide scholarships to women of




all levels of flying, due to generous donations to our scholarship fund and hard work in past years raising funds. Thank you to all who have attended our classes, ate pancakes and sausage at our pancake breakfasts, got great deals at our silent auctions, and participated in our other fundraising events. We hope to get back to all our traditions very soon and

see everyone in person in the near future. Be sure to check out our calendar in our newsletter and our website for future events. www.vc99s.org 

Onward & Upward

by Lisa Fusano



Yep, I am a mom of 7 adult kids (one severely disabled) and 12 grandkids and on August 18th I became a Commercial Pilot SEL with an Instrument Rating! This accomplishment is thanks to all the Ventura County 99s and the Karen Johnson Advanced Milestone Award I received in December 2017! This award helped me get through most of my training including my complex endorsement before "life happened" (two family crisis, a sudden move, becoming a part time parent of 2 grandchildren, a hospitalization for pneumonia and my airplane being down for 6 months). I am so very grateful for the help of the VC99's to complete my Commercial Certificate! Now onward to become a Certified Flight Instructor! Thank you so much VC99's for believing in me!!! 

Scholarship Opportunities!

by Janeen Gaul

The Fly Now Scholarship for student pilot members of the 99s can provide up to \$6000.00 toward your private pilot certificate. Applications are due to Janeen Gaul and Wendy Lascher by October 1, 2020.

Applications for 2021 Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarships will be available September 1, 2020 on the International website. These scholarships are for licensed pilot members to advance in training and education in aviation and aerospace, including scholarships to complete additional pilot certificates and ratings, jet type ratings, college degrees, technical training and an Emergency Maneuver Training Scholarship established in memory of 99 member Vicki Cruse. Also available are Research Scholar Grants to add to the world's knowledge of women in aviation and aerospace.

Contact Janeen with any questions!

Jcgaul3@gmail.com



On June 16, Judy Phelps and Rochelle Oslick presented "Spins and Unusual Attitudes" as a webinar for the Fullerton Airport Pilot Association (FAPA) on-line Zoom meeting. We discussed loss of control and stall/spin accidents and training to develop awareness for avoiding these types of accidents. There were 95 attendees, including pilots from as far away as Tennessee and Florida, with 70 pilots requesting Wings credits. Although it's a little more challenging presenting information to an audience remotely, our presentation was well-received, with many compliments and some interesting questions.



Ventura County Ninety-Nines Scholarship Program

The VC99s proudly announce our Fall Scholarship Award

We will be offering

\$3,000 Female Student Pilot Milestone Award

Requirements:

- Over the age of 17
- Living /working in Ventura County or training at a Ventura County airport (CMA, OXR, SZP, or NTD)
- A minimum of 5 flight hours within 90 days preceding the award application deadline

Applications will be accepted Nov 1-15, 2020

Visit our Website at www.vc99s.org for scholarship applications and requirements

Questions? Email: scholarships@vc99s.org

Aviation Impressions on 9 Year Olds

Peggy Watson Meinke

Back in early July Susan Liebler, VC99s chapter member, asked if I would talk to her nine year old granddaughter's Columba class at the Gate Academy in San Rafael, CA about flying Hot Air Balloons. Apparently, Susan was aware that the class was studying flying and lighter than air aircraft.

On July 24th I was able to connect with the class via a Zoom meeting. I briefly explained how balloons worked and how we have to manage weather and landing sites. I told them I had assembled a few pictures but that I was not sure how to display them on the Zoom meeting. Well, leave it to eight and nine year old kids to know all about that!! They were all telling me (all at once) what needed to be done to display my pictures. Ha! So, I was eventually able to show them pictures of my balloon and balloons of all different shapes and sizes.

They had all sorts of intelligent questions such as How high do you go? How fast do you go? How

do wind currents make a difference to your flight? (Wow, adults don't even ask me that question.) How do you transport your balloon? Do I fly alone



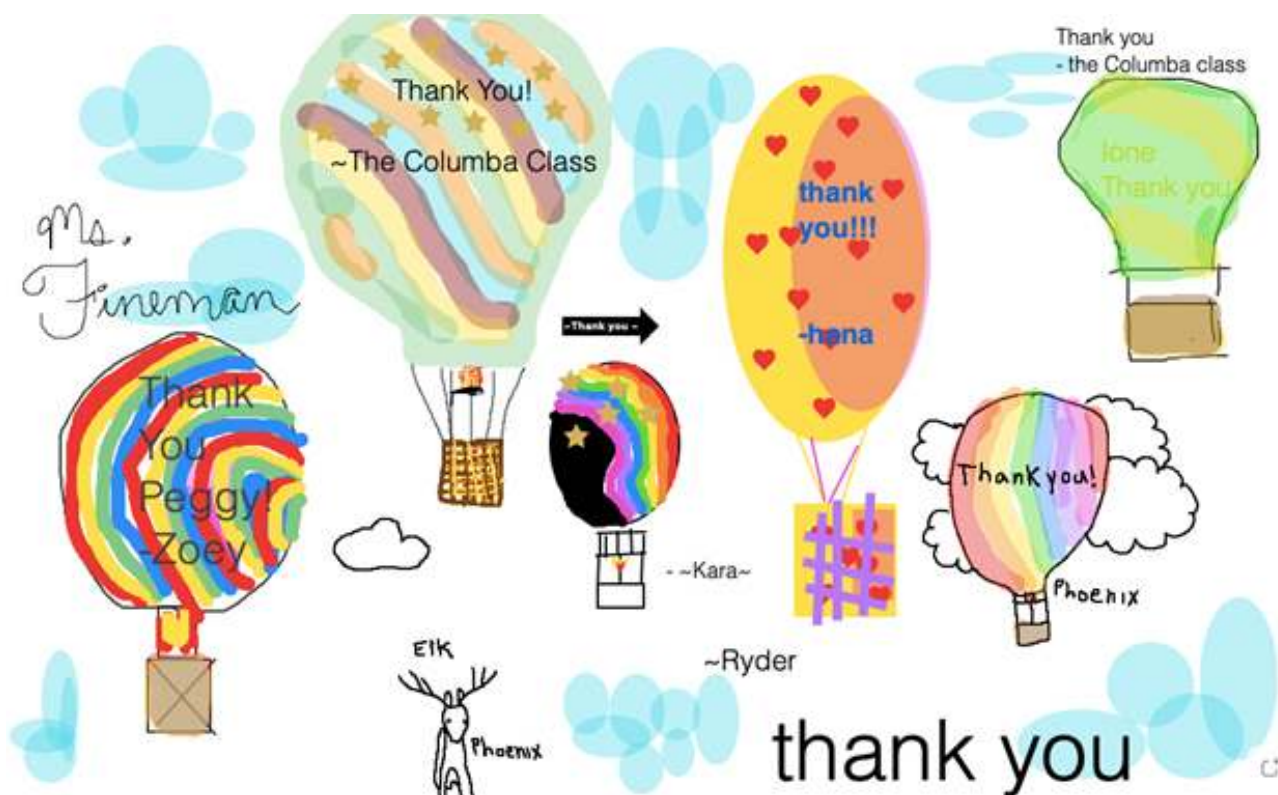
or with passengers? And, was my basket big enough to "social distance"? (Who would have thought THAT would be a part of a child's vocabulary just a year ago?). Another question was, what kind of animals do I see from the air and what was my favorite animal sighting?

I showed them a picture of a herd of elk in the foreground of my balloon on the ground behind them. They were very excited about that.

Below is a Thank You card they drew up and sent to me in an email. I absolutely LOVE it. I even printed it and have it hanging on my wall above my desk. It took me a while to figure out why there was a drawing of an elk, but remembered my story.

It goes to show how much of an impression you can leave on a young mind, so make sure you leave a GOOD ONE.

VC99s



Future VC99s Meetings/Events

All meetings start at 5:30. Details will be sent via email and will be on the events page of our website: www.vc99s.org

Sept 8 **Board Meeting**

Sept 15 **General Chapter Meeting** SAVE THE DATE and look for the invitation via email Sept 1st, Scholarships, Women Pilot of the Year, and 49.5 will be awarded. Video of members flying adventures will be featured.

Oct 1 **Board Meeting**

Oct20 **General Chapter Meeting**

Submitting Articles

Article submissions should be sent to vc99sflyer@aol.com

Please send your article only once, and no more than 4 photos per article

Due Dates:

25th of February, April, June, August, October & December



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