



The Windsock

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International Organization of Women Pilots
Santa Clara Valley Chapter
June-July 2024

Push To Talk

The year is already half way over, with some adventures behind us, and some ahead. Once recent adventure was a trip to the 99s International Conference in Vancouver, BC. 7 of us flew up there in 4 airplanes—for some of us it was the first time crossing the US border in a small airplane in either direction. Three airplanes met at Independence, OR, for a better than halfway point lunch before proceeding to Vancouver. Then we met again in Vancouver for dinner. By the way, Canadian customs at Boundary Bay Airport is basically a non-event.



More adventures were encountered—meeting 99s from around the country and the world, hearing from some inspiring people at the keynotes and seminars, wandering around the city and participating in a variety of tours, and eating really well. At one event, we managed to capture this photo of all the SCV 99s in attendance. with Jan McKenzie.

My husband and I managed to sneak in a short seaplane tour of the city and harbour (yes, that's how the Canadians spell it), including this shot of the world's tallest seaport control tower (the tall building to the upper right).

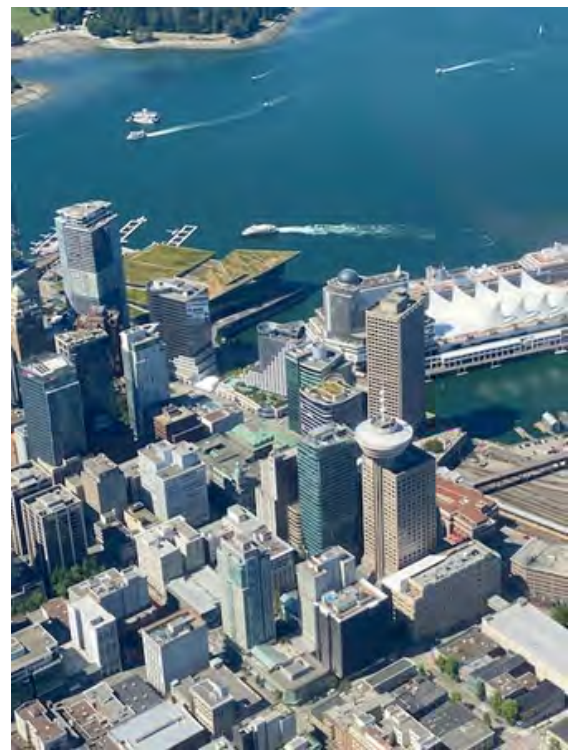


Luckily, we made it back across the border without getting in trouble and home safely, ready for our next adventure.

What will that be? Minden, NV on July 20? A mystery flight in September? Or just come to our next meeting to see your Santa Clara Valley 99s family?

Hope to see you soon!

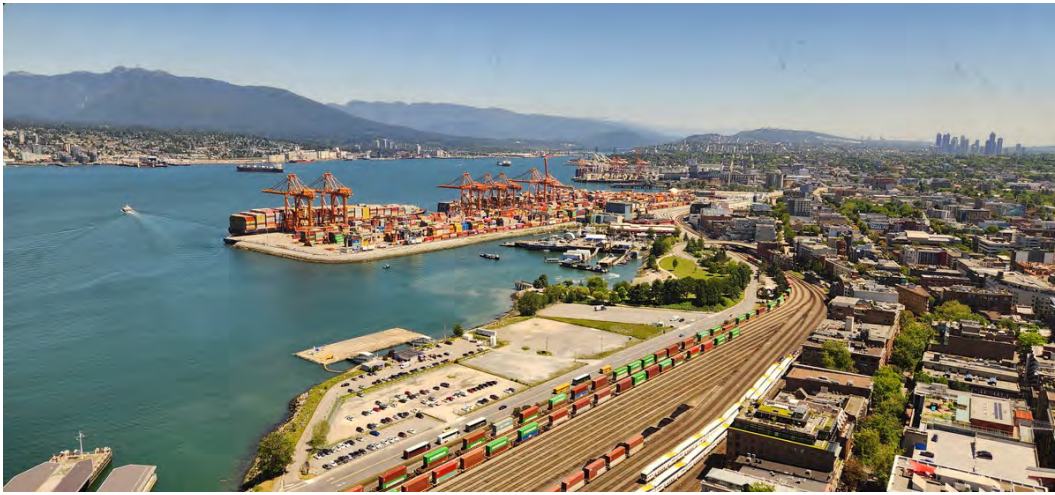
Louise Mateos
SCV 99s Chapter Chair
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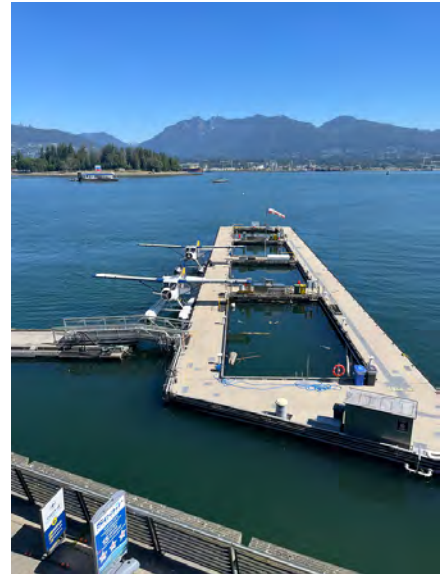
Nine Santa Clara Valley 99s attended the annual conference in Vancouver, BC. Below is a selection of photos from that trip.



2024 International Conference, Vancouver, British Columbia



2024 International Conference, Vancouver, British Columbia



Congratulations Maki

on passing your CFI checkride and receiving the Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship Medal at the Annual Conference in Vancouver



Student Pilot Report

Nicole Laberta

First Solo

04-28-2024

Reid-Hillview Airport (KRHV)

Cessna 172 P

N98485

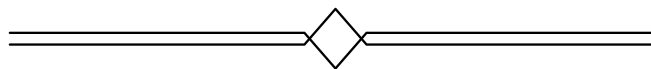


Hello, I'm Nicole. I never knew what I wanted to be when I grew up. After high school, I became a real estate agent for a few years and that didn't pan out. I then went to nursing school, and that didn't pan out either. I was still looking for my path when I found myself moving to Mexico. I lived in Mexico for 5 years, became the ultimate beach bum, learned to surf, and just lived life off the grid. I thoroughly enjoyed it, but after about 5 years, I started to feel an unsettling feeling. A calling, or a longing for

something that I couldn't quite figure out. I started to realize that I wanted more out of life. But what exactly? I had no idea. And that was the question I was pondering one evening while watching a beautiful sunset in front of my home in Baja Malibu, Mexico. I closed my eyes and called out to God and said, "please God, give me a sign."

When I opened my eyes, an airplane landed on the beach right in front of me. Literally right in front of me. It was my sign. I decided to move back to the USA to pursue aviation. That was in October 2018. It was a long journey back and it took me a while to get here. I had to establish new credit to qualify for flight school loans. I worked with the FAA for 18 months to get approved for my medical. 5 years later, almost to the day, I enrolled in ATP flight school for an accelerated program. I was devastated when I was kicked out 3 months later for failing the pre-solo stage check. I had already been bit by the aviation bug though, and I knew God didn't bring me this far only to fail. That's when I found AeroDynamic Aviation. This school brought my aviation dream back to life and on 4-28-2024, I got to prove to myself that with enough determination and perseverance, anything is possible 🌟🌟🌟

I put in the hard work, but God did the rest. I am so thankful and grateful to everyone who has supported me so far along this journey! Without them, simply none of this would be possible for me. Huge shout out to my amazing instructors I've had so far; Austin, who gave me my first 40 hours of instruction and taught me how to fly an airplane; Rebecca, who brought back the joy, fun and passion of aviation, and Liam who got me solo ready and is taking me the rest of the way ✈️ Can't wait to see what's next!



Since this article was written, Nicole passed her private pilot checkride!

Congratulations Nicole



SANTA CLARA VALLEY 99S

PICNIC AT PORTAL PARK

Please join us to celebrate our 70th anniversary
as a 99s chapter

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2024

4 PM - 8 PM

PORTAL PARK

10299 NORTH PORTAL AVENUE,
CUPERTINO

This is a potluck picnic. Bring your favorite food and drinks
to share. We ask you to please bring mostly finger food.

Dessert and tableware will be provided.



RSVP to Pat Gregory plowers@pacbell.net so we can get a headcount of attendees

Santa Maria Flyout - May 2024

By Marcie Smith

The May 18 chapter fly-in to Santa Maria was small but fun. Two chapter aircraft met Diane Pirman at the on field hotel and walked to the delicious Mexican restaurant in the airport terminal building. Nancy Sliwa flew down in her SR22T from Minden with two local (Reno Area) 99s joining her, Gloria Whalen and Jeanne Pierce. Marcie Smith flew down in her C182 from Palo Alto. Pat Gregory and Laura Del Favero flew their C182 down from San Jose but were turned back by thick fog over the airport (bases 1200, tops 4000) when they realized that neither were IFR current. Considering it was forecast to clear at 11 am, the thick fog was a bit of a surprise. The small group from 3 chapters enjoyed a lovely lunch at Pepper Garcia's.



Gloria, Diane, Jeanne, Nancy, Marcie

St. Louis Trip Report

by Marcie Smith

When Nancy Sliwa called me and asked if I wanted to join her on a trip to St Louis, I remembered that I have a cousin there and said YES! Nancy was going to a bridal shower on the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend and we would spend a bit more time sightseeing. Along with Wendy Whitsell (99 from Columbia Cascade Chapter), they planned a trip and it was a great success.

Wendy and I both flew our planes to Nancy's house a day or two before departure so we could get out reasonably early. We had a lovely dinner in Genoa (where Nancy and her husband Steve live) Wednesday night and then headed east Thursday morning in Nancy's airplane. We arrived at our destination of Bentonville, AR after two legs (Wendy had the leg MEV-FMN, Nancy flew FMN-VBT). The weather was good but most of the west airports had lots of surface wind; luckily mostly down the runway at Farmington. Bentonville is the home of Walmart, but the airport we landed at was named after Louise Thaden, a charter 99 with many records and accomplishments including winning the first Powder Puff Derby back in 1929.

St. Louis Trip Report

Continued

After eating at the hotel and getting a good night's sleep, Nancy and I had breakfast at the hotel while Wendy caught up with a high school friend. We checked out downtown Bentonville (with a very nice thunderstorm passing by) for some shopping, and then went to the Crystal Bridge museum for some unique architecture and artwork (and lunch). We then drove north a bit to visit the Mildred Cooper Memorial Chapel, which was a lovely chapel in the middle of the woods, reminding us of Rivendell in Lord of the Rings – a place for elves. We had a delicious dinner (Wendy had made reservations at Conifer) in Bentonville with leftovers.

Saturday morning, I had the leg from BTV to SUS (Spirit of St. Louis airport), only about 1:15 in the fast SR22T. We then drove to my cousin's house and had a leftover lunch on their back patio in their lovely garden. I hadn't seen my cousin or her husband in over 5 years so it was great to catch up with them. We then went sightseeing – off to see the Cahokia mounds left by Indians from about 1100 AD, getting a tour of the city of St Louis (including the arch) on our way there and back. We had dinner at the Ritz, where Nancy and Wendy were staying (since that's where the shower was).

Sunday Nancy was focused on the shower, so Wendy and I went out with Mary and Mike to see more of St Louis. We went to see the Park where the Budweiser Clydesdale horses are kept. Mary used to work for Anheuser Busch and knew a lot about them (they used to report to her!) but we didn't stay long because outside of the barn, the cicadas were horrendous! Flying around and landing on everyone; it would have been funny to watch everyone do the cicada dance but I was too busy dancing! We then stopped at a lovely church and then the St Louis History museum which was having a special display on the 1904 World's Fair.

Dinner at Mary and Mikes (delicious) with another thunderstorm, this time with tornado warnings going off, and then we were off to come home Monday morning with clear skies. Three legs, all VFR and only the last leg with small deviations to avoid clouds. It's nice to be at 16,500' with oxygen to get over the Rockies! Wendy flew to Garden City, KS (GCK), I had the leg to Grand Junction, CO (GJT) and Nancy had the leg home. The 2 hour time change made it pretty easy to do in one day with 3 pilots.



Nancy, Wendy and Marcie at the Cahokia mounds (see the St Louis arch in the background)



Part of a nice display about Louise Thaden at KBTV: Louise M Thaden Field

Minden Flyout - July 2024

July 20 Hangar Potluck

Nancy Sliwa invited us to her and Steve's hangar at the Minden Airport for a potluck lunch. Thank you Nancy for a fabulous fly-in.

In attendance were 99s from several chapters including Santa Clara Valley, Reno Area, and Lake Tahoe.



Nancy arranged for Bruce Campbell to speak about his record-setting glider flights. Each flight was over 3,000 km and lasted about 18 hours. You can see the flight details at the links below.

Arcus Jet Glider Record Flights

19 June 2023

3058 Km @ an average 177 Km/Hr

09:30z - 03:11z (17 hr 41 min)

Minden, NV KMEV - O59 Cederville, CA

<https://www.weglide.org/flight/291438>

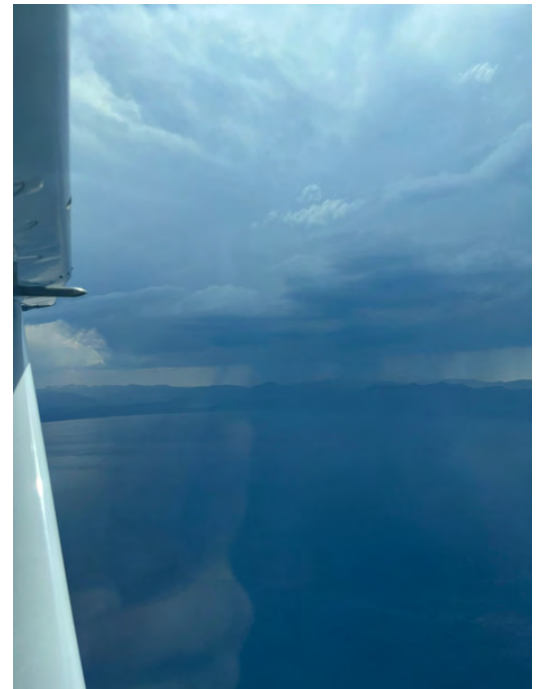
05 Nov 2023

3143 Km @ an average 186 Km/Hr

17:03z - 11:33z (18 hr 30 min)

Minden, NV KMEV - KHTH Hawthorn Industrial Airport

<https://www.weglide.org/flight/347370>



Some storms developed over the Sierras in the afternoon, but we were able to depart ahead of them.

Chapter Flyout Schedule



Come Fly With Us! Help plan and participate in our chapter fly-ins! We hope to see you at the next fly-in.

August 10, Woodlake Airport

The next chapter flyout is scheduled for August 10, to Woodlake Airport (O42). Marcie Smith is organizing. Please email Marcie if you are going so she can get a headcount for the restaurant and help find a seat in an airplane for anyone who needs a ride.

September 15, Mystery Flight

For September we are planning a mystery flight. During this flight, you will fly over checkpoints. At each checkpoint, you will answer questions that will be used to determine if you identified the location correctly. At the end of the flight, we will all meet somewhere for lunch.

2024 Flyout Schedule

Date	Destination	Contact
August 10	Woodlake (O42)	Marcie Smith marciesmithhome@gmail.com
September 15	Mystery Flight	Laura Del Favero ladelfavero@gmail.com
October 26	Columbia (O22)	Carol Munch camunch2@gmail.com
November 16	San Luis Obispo (SBP)	Marcie Smith marciesmithhome@gmail.com
December 14	Petaluma (O69)	*need host
January 18, 2025	Whale watch flight (WVI)	Pat Gregory plowers@pacbell.net

CHAPTER BOARD 2023-2025

Chair Louise Mateos
Vice-Chair Mary McEnroe
Treasurer Maki Yu
Secretary Collene Melvin
Director Debby Cunningham
Nominating Committee
Marcie Smith
Pat Gregory
Immediate Past Chair Sue Ballew

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Flying Activities Pat Gregory
Legislative Penny Blake
Membership Mary McEnroe
Newsletter Laura Del Favero
Scholarships Debby Cunningham
Social Media Maki Yu
Student Pilots Mary McEnroe
99s News reporter Carol Munch
Website/Google Docs Brittany Sabol
Events/Programs

CHAPTER DONATIONS

You can make a donation to the chapter to help offset costs of running the chapter. The chapter suggests an annual donation in the amount of \$15.

If you'd like to make a donation, you can pay via PayPal or by check. Make check out to SCV99s. Email Treasurer Maki Yu for PayPal instructions or mailing address: nowasabiplease@gmail.com

Calendar	
August 10	Woodlake flyout
September 15	Mystery flight
September 19-22	Fall southwest section meeting
September 21	Reid-Hillview Airport Day
September 29	Palo Alto Airport Day
October 12	Flying Companion Seminar

Upcoming SW Section and International Meetings

Date	Meeting	Host/Location
Sept 20-22, 2024	2024 Fall SW Section Meeting	Host chapter: San Luis Obispo Location: Paso Robles, CA Registration Link
January 25, 2025	2025 SW Section Winter Workshop	Host chapter: Antelope Valley Location: Lancaster, CA
July 9-13, 2025	2025 Annual Conference	Burlington, VT



The Windsock Information and Deadlines

To our members, please send me your ideas, articles, and photos for the newsletter.

Article Due Dates:

- The Windsock is delivered bimonthly
- The due date for articles is the **last day** of even-numbered months (**Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, and Oct**)

Preferred Content Format:

- Please provide articles in Word docs or as text within an email
- Photos as picture files (not in the document or body of an email) preferred

Thank you,

Editor

Laura Del Favero

ladelfavero@gmail.com