



The Windsock

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International Organization of Women Pilots
Santa Clara Valley Chapter
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Push To Talk

New year, new goals! (or, recommitment to ongoing goals)

Like our list of fly outs for the year (see below). BTW, please volunteer to host one of the events. All that's needed is to keep a list of who plans to go and call ahead for a reservation.

It got me thinking about other things we do around this time of year. I have a small garden and get inundated with seed catalogs—this is the time of year to dream. My daughter started a membership at a new gym—this is the time of year to work on ourselves. I went to pick up my mom to bring her to my house when the power was out at hers (and she was getting cold)—this is the time of year to shelter our families and friends from the storm.

Fortunately, between storms, I had the opportunity to attend the SWS Winter Workshop in Sacramento. Great ideas on things we can do to keep our chapter relevant to our members and to grow. Also, great information should we find ourselves hosting a Section meeting in the future.



Enjoy this time of year—get out and fly when you can, but continue to dream while you are landbound!

Louise Mateos
SCV 99s Chapter Chair
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408-505-2993



Winter Workshop Report

The Winter Workshop took place on Saturday, January 27, 2024. It was hosted by the Sacramento Valley chapter.

The morning began with some updates from the board. Governor Pat Chan, Secretary Anele Brooks, Treasurer Leslie Ingham, and Nominating Committee Chair Kim Ernst each spoke briefly.

The workshop consisted of two sessions. The morning session topic was *How to Host a Section Meeting*, presented by Luz Schaible and Emily Rosessler from the Ventura County chapter.

The afternoon session topic was *How to Keep Chapters Viable*, presented by Susan Steeb from the San Luis Obispo chapter.

The workshop concluded with an invitation to the 2024 Spring SW Section Meeting, given by Jeanne Fenimore.

SCV Annual Holiday Party By Pat Gregory

What a delightful Holiday Party we had this year, with 30 people in attendance plus a couple of tiny pilots. We all gathered at The Three Flames Restaurant in San Jose where we were welcomed to the lovely music of Liz and John Alsop regaling us with holiday and Celtic tunes. Many were intrigued by John's Nikleharpe, a Swedish variation on the fiddle. Versatile Liz played the fiddle, guitar, and flute. It was a wonderful way to wave goodbye to the year of strange weather and smooth flights.

The gift table was full of fun and interesting items to share after dinner at our gift exchange game. Everyone went home with something. The donation table was also filled with items that Marcie Smith took to the Mountain View Community Center to be distributed to needy neighbors.

Pat Gregory announced that Yi Li has won a Fly Now scholarship and is in the midst of her education. Pat will be mentoring her through this phase of her pilot training. Everyone wished her good luck and blue skies. Chapter Chair Louis Mateos welcomed everyone and wished all a happy, safe holiday.

For the first time in a few years, we broke even on the event. The food was its usual high quality and there was plenty along with a delightful chocolate/cherry dessert and lots of chocolate candy.

We all look forward to another year of safe flying, seeing new places, meeting new people, and getting together to celebrate it again in 2024.

Mele Kalikimaka to all, Pat



Student Pilot Report

Sandra Sachs

First solo and other flying adventures

My journey has been long so far. I started ground school in March of 2021 and took my first flight lesson in July 2021. I have had a few pauses along the way and although it has taken a while, I've been trying to have fun. Knowing I was a student pilot, a coworker of mine who was interested in aviation, but is not a pilot, asked me before I traveled whether I would fly at my destination. My first reaction was "no" since I didn't have a license, but upon further consideration, I asked my CFI if I could hire a CFI at my destination and go flying. He said that was an excellent idea and even though I had not yet soloed, much less earned my license, I have been able to do some amazing flights.

Examples of these bucket list tours were Maui in March 2022 (airstrip is on Molokai), on a cross-country trip with WVFC to Mt. Rushmore/Yellowstone in July 2022 and outside of Bordeaux France in October of 2022 (see attached photos). My last trip to France is what coaxed me into joining the 99s as I thought I should have been further along before joining. However, I needed a French connection to assist me to setup and book a lesson, so I joined, gained access to the international directory and made a cold call. A lovely pilot from France assisted me to find the Libourne aeroclub outside of Bordeaux, where I overflew St. Emilion, the Dunes at Pilat and Arcachon and kilometers of beach with WWII bunker remnants.

Plane ownership has been an unplanned diversion that was at first frustrating (I owned a plane that I couldn't fly myself), that is, until November. I have since booked my plane and flown it unsupervised. I think that has been the most exhilarating part of this journey so far, but I anticipate many more to come.



Student Pilot Report

Cherish Wurts First solo

After experiencing partial power loss in the Cessna 152 she soloed on Nov. 13, 2023, Cherish Wurts transitioned to the Cessna 172 to resume her private pilot training. She spent time learning about the 172's mechanical systems and v-speeds, and completed sufficient flight training to do her first solo flight in the 172 on Dec. 24, 2023 at the Palo Alto Airport.



2024 SW Section Elections



Ballots will go out on March 1 for the SW Section Board of Directors elections.

If you have opted into electronic voting, you will receive a ballot by email from Election Buddy.

If you have not opted into electronic voting, you will receive a paper ballot in the mail. Please consider opting for electronic voting because it is much less expensive than voting by mail.

To check your electronic voting status, log in to the Ninety-Nines website. In the Member's Area, you will see **Renewal/Donation in red text. Click on that to view your online voting status.**



Santa Clara Valley Chapter History Update

Our chapter was founded in 1954 and so this year is our 70th birthday. We last updated our chapter history in 2004 so we have 20 years to catch up on. And collecting data that we want is challenged by the loss of our paper-saving historian (Verna West) and the transition to electronic. So I am making a call for folks to fill in some of the gaps in my records.

The major things we need are Chapter minutes and Windsocks. But the history includes air racing from our members, Forest of Friendship inductions, WPOY winners, chapter officers (and members who also serve at section or international level), AE scholarship winners, etc so I'm hoping that most of that is in our minutes or Windsocks, but information about that is also welcome.

But please let me know if you have any of the following:

** Chapter minutes after 2004

** Windsocks from 2004-2008, Feb-June 2009, Sept-Nov 2010, Feb 2010-March 2014, June 2015-Aug 2015, Oct 2015-March 2016, July-Sept 2016, Dec 2016-July 2017

Thanks!
Marcie

marcie.smith.home@gmail.com

Spring First Wings Awards

The First Wings Awards are semiannual awards of up to \$6,000 based on the completion of specific training milestones. They are available only to Student Pilot Members of The 99s who meet eligibility requirements. To be eligible, applicants must hold a student pilot certificate (or provide evidence that they meet their country's flight training requirement), have been an official Student Pilot Member of The Ninety-Nines for at least three months prior to the application deadline, have logged five hours in the six months prior to the application deadline, and show financial need.

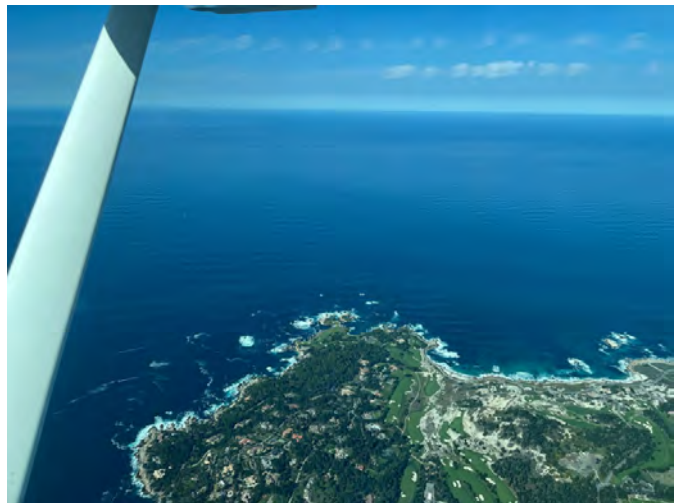
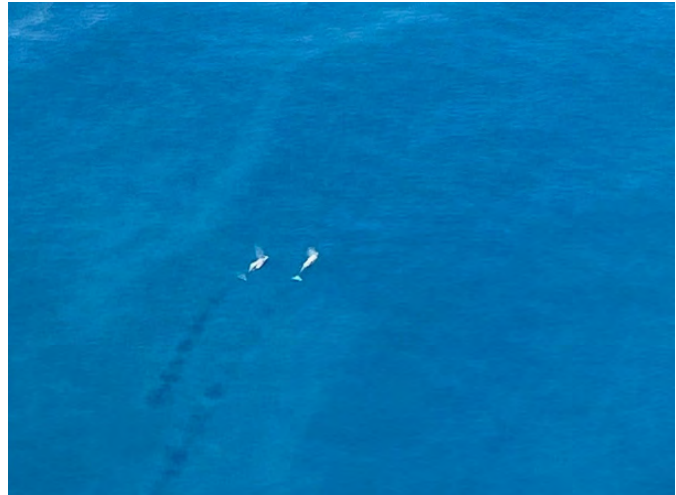
The Spring First Wings Award Application deadline is April 1 each year. Membership join date must be no later than January 1 of that year.



Whale Watch Flight

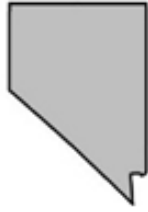
Finally a sunny, cloud-free, low-wind day for our Whale Watching. Joining in the fun were Pat and Laura in 8MK, Louise, her daughter Isabelle, and Carol in 5KP, Alice Talnack in her car, Michael Thomasziewski, and Jeanne from the Monterey Bay chapter.

There were 10 of us in all and we all saw multiple whales. Lunch at WVI was staggered as some folks flew before lunch and some after so we didn't all see each other, but a good time was had by all. it was a perfect day for this flight because the ocean was fairly calm and the sky was clear. Check out the accompanying photos. And prepare to come along next year!



THE RENO AREA and SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CHAPTERS

INVITE YOU TO



Silver & Gold



**Southwest Section Meeting
May 3 – 5, 2024
Carson City, Nevada**

We welcome you to the Silver State for a weekend of learning, sharing, and having fun. We have tried to keep the schedule simple so you may enjoy each other and the beautiful opportunities available nearby.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: Gold Dust West Hotel Casino - 877-519-5567. Mention Reno Area 99s Room Block Available until April 2, 2024.

The Gold Dust West Hotel Casino (2171 East Williams Street Carson City) is ready to provide for all of your needs. Breakfast comes free with your room reservation. The Grille is open daily from 6:00 am to 10:00 pm. Ole, Ole a Mexican restaurant is open for dinner.

Room rates depend on the night(s) you stay. As low as \$110 on Thursday to \$139 for the weekend. They also have an onsite RV park. Pull through (to 40ft) is \$60 a night and Back in (to 33 ft) is \$55 per night) RV parking does not include breakfast.

CARSON TAHOE airport is less than 2 miles from the hotel. The local EAA Chapter #403 will be greeting you at their headquarters next to the terminal, Tie down fees have been waived by Stellar Aviation. We will transport you to the hotel. Rental Cars are available through Enterprise if you wish to rent a car.

Flying into **RENO-TAHOE INTERNATIONAL**? There are many rental car companies on site. Plan on Friday for visits to the State Museum/Mint and Railroad Museums. Admissions are about \$10 each. We will have a van and rotating schedule to take you to both places. Please indicate which museum you would like to visit on the registration form to help us schedule. Lake Tahoe and Virginia City are each about 30 minutes away.

Want to play golf? Let us know. We will provide information for local courses.

SEMINARS will be held on Saturday. Linda Mae Hivert will explain how flying a glider differs from a power plane; how to add on to your certificate; records and safety features. Larry Cheek, from the RNO FSDO, will enlighten you about Mountain Flying. Both seminars will be eligible for Wings Credit.

WELCOME RECEPTION The Friday night welcome reception will be held at the Nevada Room of the Governor's Mansion. The room has lots of Nevada history on display. Appetizers will be served. Water and soft drinks will be available. Bring your own alcoholic drinks. Liquor is available near the casino.

BUSINESS MEETING AND SATURDAY BANQUETS will be held in a private hangar at the airport. The banquet buffet will feature assorted salads; Wellington of Beef; Lemon Herb Chicken; Mashed Potatoes; Artisan Breads; Seasonal Desserts. Coffee, water and soft drinks will be available. Bring your own alcoholic beverages. If you have any special dietary needs, please specify on the registration form.

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.

March Flyout to Tehachapi (TSP)

For March, we will fly to Tehachapi KTSP on Saturday, March 16.

We'll meet at the Village Grill at noon. It's a short walk from the airport.

Contact Marcie Smith (marcie.smith.home@gmail.com), if you plan to join us.

2024 Flyout Schedule

Date	Destination	Host
March 16	Tehachapi (TSP)	Marcie Smith marciesmithhome@gmail.com
April 20	Cameron Park (O61)	*need host
May 18	Santa Maria (SMX)	*need host
June 15	Red Bluff (RBL)	*need host
July 20	Minden (MEV)	Nancy Sliwa nancy@sliva.com
September 21	Columbia (O22)	Carol Munch camunch2@gmail.com
October 19	Woodlake (O42)	Louise Mateos louise.mateos@sbcglobal.net
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

*if you can organize any of these flights, please contact Pat Gregory at 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

CHAPTER COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Forest of Friendship

Pat Gregory

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

TBD



CHAPTER DONATIONS

If you wish, you can donate to the chapter. The chapter is currently accepting donations of \$15 for the 23-24 fiscal year.

You may pay via PayPal or by check. Make check out to SCV99s. Email Treasurer Maki Yu for PayPal instructions or mailing address: nowasabiplease@gmail.com

Mix and match the following name with the most appropriate clues:

[answers on next page](#)

1. Ellen Church
2. Jacqueline Cochran
3. Amelia Earhart
4. Ruth Nichols
5. Harriet Quimby
6. Helen Ritchey

- A. First licensed woman pilot in the United States
- B. First U.S. stewardess
- C. Established numerous aviation records
- D. First woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean
- E. Headed Woman's Air Force Service Pilots (WASP)
- F. First woman airline pilot (Central Airlines, 1934)

Upcoming SW Section and International Meetings

Date	Meeting	Host/Location
May 3-5, 2024	2024 Spring SW Section Meeting	Host chapters: Reno Area and San Fernando Valley Location: Carson City, NV
July 3-7, 2024	2024 International Conference	Vancouver, BC, Canada
Sept 20-22, 2024	2024 Fall SW Section Meeting	Host chapter: San Luis Obispo Location: Paso Robles, CA
January 25, 2025	2025 SW Section Winter Workshop	Host chapter: Antelope Valley Location: Lancaster, CA





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

1. B; 2. E; 3. D; 4. C; 5. A; 6. F

