



# Mountain Waves

Sept. 2017 • Volume 29, Issue 3

[www.renohighsierra99s.org](http://www.renohighsierra99s.org)

---

**MEETING NOTICE:** Our next chapter meeting will be on the second **Thursday, Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>** at **Atlantic Aviation** [655 South Rock Blvd....near the base of the RNO tower] in Reno at **6 p.m.** **Remember:** *Karen Inda will present a slide show of her flying trip to Cuba after the meeting.*

---

## PUSH TO TALK

Happy Fall Ladies!

What a fast paced couple of months we have had! I am excited to transition from Vice Chairman to Chairman for this incredible chapter. HUGE thank you to Katie Greenwood for so graciously leading us these past few years and staying on as my Vice Chairman to continue to be my partner in crime. We hardly knew each other when we took on these positions and now I can't imagine it happening any other way. As Chairman for the Reno High Sierra 99s, I hope to continue in Katie's pursuit to bring this chapter forward as we seek new fundraising opportunities, strive to get back into more flying adventures as a chapter, and pursue the greatest impact that we can have in our local aviation community in this 99 mile radius!

As a chapter, we have been experiencing some new changes such as a new website, new meeting time, and now the announcement of a new meeting location! We have secured a new location at Atlantic Aviation that will provide many benefits. One of the greatest is that we will now have WIFI that will allow us to begin working on "Skyping" members into the meetings, allowing for greater accessibility for all of our members. I thank all of you for your patience, input, and understanding as we make changes that are not always easy. I am certain that as we continue to progress as a chapter, these changes will not only help broaden our impact on our members, but the community at large.

THANK YOU to all of the incredible volunteers at the Reno Air Races this year! I cannot say thank you enough for all of the hard work that was put in. A very special thanks goes out to Lynn and Tom Meadows who practically live there for the week. Their dedication to this event is unwavering and a key part in our success.

*Continued in the next column*

Thank you to all of our chapter members who volunteered, as well as friends and family. It is not always easy, sometimes it's freezing, sometimes it's hot, but it is ALWAYS worth it to take on at least one 5-hour shift and be a part of our biggest fundraiser event of the year. Your hard work is what helps us put scholarships in the hands of women aviators.

I look forward to the two years ahead, as Chairman, and am so proud to be granted the opportunity to lead this inspiring group of women in aviation.

All my best,

*Leah*

## RHS Offers \$8,000 in Scholarships This Fall

Attention local female aviatrixes: Be sure to go to our newly updated chapter website [www.renohighsierra99.org](http://www.renohighsierra99.org) and find the criteria and applications for our four scholarships!

- \$3,500 for an advanced rating
- \$2,500 for a female student pilot
- \$1,000 for re-currency or endorsement
- \$1,000 for Discover Aviation sponsored by Click Bond

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR for upcoming events....

- **Oct. 7 & 8** — Aviation Roundup at Minden Airport. \$15 tickets on line/\$20 day of the event. USAF Thunderbirds performing! [www.aviationroundup.com](http://www.aviationroundup.com)
- **Oct. 12** — **RHS business meeting, 6 p.m., Atlantic Aviation at 655 So. Rock Blvd.**
- **Oct. 13-14** — CalPilots Airfest 2017 at San Carlos airport. Contact [Charlene.fulton@calpilots.org](mailto:Charlene.fulton@calpilots.org)
- **Oct. 15** — Applications for our chapter scholarships are due today. See our chapter website for the application and details.
- **Oct. 18** — Christina Olds, daughter of WW2 Triple Ace Robin Olds, speaks at TRK airport, 5:45 pm
- **Oct. 18-22** — Hi Sierra Fly-in 2017 at Dead Cow Lakebed / Rainbow Rd. Info? Katie or Leah
- **Oct. 28** — Chapter scholarship interviews at Atlantic Aviation. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- **Nov. 9** — RHS business meeting, 6 p.m., Atlantic Aviation 655 So. Rock Blvd. Safety seminar after the meeting at 7 p.m.
- **Nov. 9-11** — Havasu 600 Air Race. Mesquite, NV to Borrego Springs, CA to Lake Havasu, AZ. = 600 nm. Info at [www.havasu600.com](http://www.havasu600.com)
- **Nov. 14** — Girls Night Out Dinner at Mimi's in Reno, 6 p.m., RSVP to Joan Herz
- **Dec. Meeting** — Holiday Party, details TBD

### FUTURE SW SECTION MEETINGS:

- April 26-29, 2018 — SWS Spring Section Meeting hosted by Bakersfield chapter.
- Oct. 4-7, 2018 — SWS Fall Section Meeting hosted by San Gabriel Valley chapter.



### FUTURE 99s INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS:

- July 3-7, 2018 — Int'l Conference in **Philadelphia, PA**
- July, 2019 — Int'l Conference in **Dayton, OH**
- July, 2020 — Int'l Conference in **Long Beach, CA**

**NOTAM:** *AEMSf applications are due Dec. 1 to Moe Makowski, our chapter AEMSf chairman. Start your application now! Reminder: these are 'full ride' scholarships for any rating. You need to be a 99 for one year before applying. We have had several chapter winners who would be available to help you with the application if necessary. Applications are available at [www.ninety-nines.org](http://www.ninety-nines.org)*

## Reno Air Races 2017 in Official Merchandise Tent #2

Well another successful year at the air races is over! THANK YOU to all of you who stepped forward to help the Reno High Sierra 99s raise scholarship money for the coming year. We had 46 different folks working over the six days: 21 chapter members, six 49 1/2s, and 19 family members and friends.

The weather was varied...pretty warm on set up day, torrential rain on Tuesday late afternoon that created a river through our sales tent, plus a little more rain on Wednesday which made it cooler the rest of the week. And there were no serious accidents during the races which is always a good thing. Although we can't see much from the tent, there were the opening ceremonies, the racing heats, the military fly-bys including the U-2 and B-2, the Texas Flying Legends, and you could certainly hear the AV-8B Harrier and Smoke 'n Thunder! There was even an aerobatic performance by Brad Wursten. The Drone 2017 Championships were something to see and there was a motorcross exhibition, too. The military aircraft displays were awesome as usual.

Thanks to those who helped us set up on Monday: Joan Herz, Candy Whitfield and 49 1/2 Gary, their friends from the UK Ria and Colin Balaam, Lynn Meadows & 49 1/2 Tom, Lynn's brother Randy Hawke and his wife Linda, and HAN friend Marcia Peissner. It is fun to see the merchandise we are going to sell and a challenge to arrange it all in an appealing manner. Daily leads Moe Makowski, Lynn Meadows, Kay Lynn Marble, Leah Ochs and Deb Richied are also integral parts of the big picture.

Chapter member from Australia, Tammy Augustin, was crew chief for her partner Charlie Camilleri who flew his L-29 "Miss Independence" in the Jet Class silver race. It is good to have chapter member Diane Bigby as RARA operations manager coordinating merchandise sales and the multitude of outside vendors. Chapter member Diana Croyle is also RARA executive assistant and her husband Steve is IT coordinator

Chapter members helping this year were: Jean Starr, Hailey Truax, Claire Petrie, Jojo Myers, Camile Tricomo, Nickki Buckley, Lila Glaser, Heather McCoy, Melody Luetkehans, Nicole Bringolf, Elizabeth Collins, Kristi Mansel, new members Misha Williams and Catherine Bodenstein as well as Joan, Candy, Moe, Kay Lynn, Deb, Lynn, and Leah. A job well done, ladies.



**Nikki Buckley & Misha Williams**



**Beth Ware, Sue Ward and Nicole Bringolf**

## Book Review

### Deep Sea Quest for Amelia Earhart

By David W. Jourdan

Ocellus Productions, 2010, Hardback, 250 pgs., ISBN 978-0-9843282-0-8

So many theories on what happened to Amelia, especially now that the 'new' possible photograph of her and Fred on a dock in the Gilbert Islands. Another popular theory is the one of Elgen Long, author of "Amelia Earhart: The Mystery Solved", who believes she crashed into the sea off of Howland Island.

Well David Jourdan, founder of the deep-sea exploration company NAUTICOS, believes Long's theory and was willing to mount two very expensive searches [spending \$1 every second]...one in 2002 and one in 2006...to search miles of ocean bottom with deep-towed sonars.

This book is about his quest: "for anyone interested in true-life mysteries, ocean adventures, the business of deep-sea exploration and engrossing technical solutions to seemingly impossible problems." Mr. Jourdan spoke at a 99s section meeting in 2010 and I bought his book. It has taken me this long to get around to reading it, but it was an interesting book...written in diary form. Quite detailed...but they didn't find the Electra on the bottom of the ocean! — by Lynn Meadows



## Happy Birthday Wishes

10/3 Bee Ferrato

10/9 Sarah Spy

10/13 Candy Whitfield

10/29 Diane Bigby

11/3 Jean Starr

11/17 Juliet Mulholland

11/24 Janeanne Henigin

12/6 Lynn Meadows

12/15 Eileen Gay

12/16 Karen Graettinger

12/22 Ellie Compardo

12/26 Diane Ekstrom

## RHS Chapter Officers 2017 to 2018

Leah Ochs, *Chairman*  
(775) 378-8135

Katie Greenwood, *Vice Chairman*  
(702) 466-9560

Lynn Meadows, *Treasurer*  
(530) 587-7281

Karen Inda, *Secretary*  
(775) 223-4123

## Community Service

Yes, we are an aviation organization. And yes, we want recognition in our community as 99s. But there are many opportunities for community service outside of aviation.

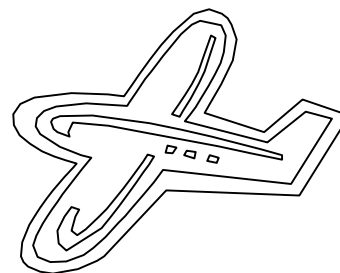
In mid-June the Reno-Tahoe Airport asked for volunteers to help as escorts for the American Council for the Blind (ACB) convention coming to town in July. The Meadows' volunteered for two full days, along with CAP cadets and adults and also the TMCC fire school EMT students. It was rewarding to meet blind travelers from all over the U.S. as well as some of their guide dogs.

In August Hot August Nights invited us to do traffic control both at the GSR and downtown on cruise nights. Again chapter members stepped forward: Melody, Leah, Mark, Kay Lynn, Katie, Lynn, Tom, Jean and Candy. Yes, it was cars but it was also fun!

Another rewarding program is the EAA Young Eagles flights for kids 8-17. Sometimes it sparks a child's interest in aviation. New member Catherine B. and Lynn have volunteered as ground crew registration at three rallies this year: SPZ on August 26<sup>th</sup>, O02 on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>, and TVL on Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>.

So if you want to get involved in some good causes, opportunities are available.

*Melody & Lynn at cruise night*



## We're Flying High

### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS...

- **Misha Williams** — Misha works locally in Reno and is just discovering aviation. She is about to start her flying lessons this fall. Glad to have you in RHS 99s!
- **Catherine Bodenstein** — Catherine has jumped into ground school at TMCC and volunteering with our chapter. She, too, will start flight lessons soon. Glad to have you in our chapter also.

### WHAT'S NEW IN OUR CHAPTER

- **Nikki Buckley** — Nikki and her husband Corey are excited about a new addition to their family in 2018. We are wishing her the best and are excited for her, too.
- **Nicole Bringolf** — Nicole is continuing her aerobatic training this fall and will compete again at Borrego Springs. You go, girl!
- **Karen Graettinger** — Karen and Bill have been flying back East recently...TN, KY, and back and avoided most of the hurricane weather. They encountered strong headwinds in AZ though.
- **Camile Tricomo** — Camile is working on her instrument rating and did her long cross country from AUN to SoCal in a C-150. Now that's a long x-country.
- **Sarah Spy** — Sarah is now a captain with Skywest Airlines and flies out of Detroit. She is also in the NV Air Guard and was deployed in July out of the country. We hope to see her again soon!

## July at Mimi's

Although there was a small gathering for this evening at Mimi's, all five of us had a really nice time together. Diane, Melody, Neita, Sue and Candy just chatted away in between enjoying our dinners. Neita spoke of her glider training activities and how scary it was at the glider port with the nearness of the recent fire in the area. Melody certainly entertained with a story of her recent taxiing 'adventures' which prompted each of us to share like stories of when we were student pilots. We were all able to laugh together after talking about our own experiences. Diane shared how busy she was at RARA and also helping Greg run their business. She said all is coming along and she will be prepared for the air races this year. Sue told us about her volunteer duties at the Reno Rodeo and Candy said that she had also been quite busy volunteering for Hot August Nights. We miss Joan but hoped she was having a good time in Elko!

## Getting to Know Hailey Truax

My love for flight began with scenic slow flights over rolling green Californian hills in my stepdad's Piper Cub. I was enamored by this feeling, and knew that someday I would get my pilot's license and be the one to take him on these breathtaking flights as he grows old.

I am now 24 and have finally had the chance to pursue my dream of being a pilot, with the help of my supportive family and aviation community. But finding this community wasn't always an easy ride. I moved a few times after college and tried to get my pilot's license while working with three different flight schools and five different instructors, stretching from coast to coast! This lack of consistency made it very difficult to move forward in my training.

After realizing this, I decided to put flying first and move back to my childhood airport, Rancho Murieta; which was the best decision I could have made. Since then, I've been flying with Mike Smith Aviation, and am continuously amazed by my development. I now have my license and tailwheel endorsement, and am currently working on my instrument rating as well. The pilots at Rancho Murieta have been excellent examples of how to build community and support one another's aviation goals. This is what I'm seeking in the Reno High Sierra 99s community as well. Especially with female pilots still being a bit rare, I find it to be so important for us to come together and encourage each other in our many different flying endeavors! It's important to me that I continue the tradition of building up the aviation community and always being there to help other pilots.

---

*...I find it to be so important for us to come together and encourage each other...*

---



## 99s Int'l Conference in San Antonio, TX July 12-16

Texas in July isn't my favorite time of year, but for 250 women pilots and 75 guests it was worth going! Tom and I left the day after the Truckee Airshow and alternated flying legs. I got the lightning and he got the headwinds. All totaled we landed at 15 small airports and flew 32.1 hours (I logged 18 and he logged 14.1). After a night in ABQ visiting pilot friends and another in FBG, we tied down at Stinson Field south of San Antonio. Lots of history there plus a great museum on the field!

The conference had some great speakers: a female pilot diverted to Halifax on 9/11; an actress portraying a young WASP; several good seminars & panels. We also had a Mexican fiesta complete with a female Mariachi band! We took a morning walk of historic houses, toured the four San Antonio missions and enjoyed the Riverwalk boat tour. And of course we held the annual 99s business meeting.

After the conference we flew to Corpus Christi to visit Tom's brother and his family. We headed home via Odessa, TX and RON at Demming, NM...be sure to visit the Adobe Grill if you are ever there. On to PHX and RON at Scottsdale visiting Tom's niece and family. The final leg through Boulder City for fuel and back to TRK after a stop in BIH for Thai food for lunch.

99s International Conferences are fun and informative. Next year it is in Philadelphia July 3-7. And in 2020 it is in Long Beach, CA...right in our own backyard almost.

**Photos on the next page.**

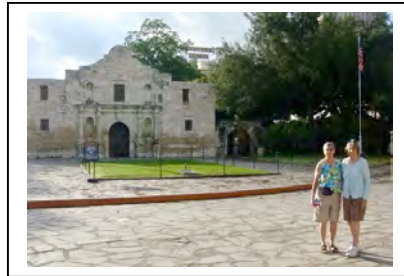
# International Conference Photos



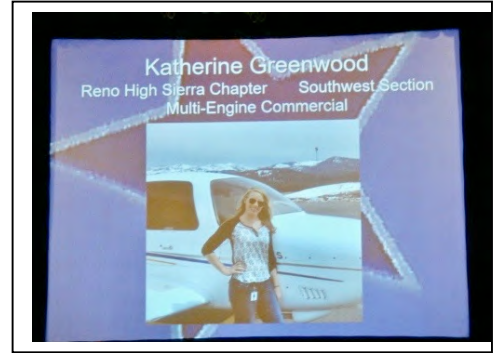
Table centerpiece at AEMSF dinner



Center top: Sue Ballew (Santa Clara Valley 99), Lynn (RHS 99), Alanna McClellan (Lake Tahoe 99)



Center bottom: Alanna & Lynn at the Alamo



Katie Greenwood AEMSF slideshow



Katherine Stinson Memorial at Stinson Field in San Antonio



## Mission Fish Has Been Very, Very Good to Us

Yes, we have made over \$19,600 in five years on our eBay non-profit site called Aviatrrix\_Group. Go to our chapter website ([ww.renohighsierra99s.org](http://ww.renohighsierra99s.org)) and click on the link that takes you right there. We started with a donation of Reno Air Race posters from Irene Engard who is now the Orange County chapter chairman, but she used to live in Reno.

We only sell aviation and military items: books, lapel pins, patches, jewelry, clothing, posters, art prints, headsets, airline collectibles, ball caps, mugs, toys, CDs, E-6Bs, pilot supplies, etc. But to keep this fundraiser going, we need constant donations from you, your friends or thrift stores!

At the end of the year each donor will receive a letter on our chapter letterhead listing their donations and what they sold for. As a 501(c)(3) organization, all your donations are tax deductible. To date we have 100% positive feedback and are "power sellers"! So get your items to Lynn at a meeting or at Mimi's.

**Top:** Original Amelia Earhart brand luggage found at a yard sale in Reno

**Bottom:** SAS bag found at a yard sale in Truckee



## Around the World Solo in a Mooney



Carol Ann Garratt spoke at the Truckee EAA on Aug. 16<sup>th</sup>. She is a 'World Rounder' three times over. In 2003 she took 7 months flying solo. Carol has made two more trips around the world, one with a woman co-pilot friend and they set a record of 8 days 12 hrs. 20 mins. (2008) and one solo again which took 11 months (2011). She had an interesting Powerpoint program of her 2008 flight. All her flights have been to raise money for ALS, a disease her mother died from. I am planning on showing her DVD at a future RHS meeting. — Lynn Meadows



**L to R:** Ron Pizer (Hailey's dad), Carol Ann Garratt, and Lynn

## The Eclipse

Several of our chapter members made independent pilgrimages to points north in Oregon and Idaho to view the total solar eclipse on August 21<sup>st</sup>. Karen Inda, Juliet Mulholland, Melody Leutkehans, Elizabeth Collins and 49 ½ Gary Whitfield all were witnesses of this amazing 2-minute phenomenon. The Meadows' were in the air flying to Las Vegas at the time and only saw the shadows through a pinhole in a piece of paper. No written reports but lots of interesting comments about birds and animals being quiet, interesting shadows on the ground, temperatures dropping, and some traffic congestion, too. Don't miss 2024 in a Texas to Maine path for 4 minutes of totality.



Lynn, Serenity, Heather, Leah and Bee at Quincy flyout.

## August Flyout to Quincy

Reno High Sierra 99s are on the move again! We had a chapter flyout to Quincy on a beautiful Sunday morning. Three planes (plus two more of Bee's friends' planes from Carson City) delivered Bee Ferrato and Joe, Heather McCoy & pilot friend, Leah Ochs, Serenity Enriquez and Lynn & Tom Meadows.

Our timing was perfect between crowds and the food and conversation were good. It was Leah's first time to land a high-wing plane and she greased it in. We hope to have more chapter flyouts in the coming year.

## AOPA Night Flying Safety Seminar

Monday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> there was a program on flying at night at the Atlantis Casino Resort put on by the AOPA Air Safety Foundation. This new seminar covered material that was relevant to all, good refresher information for long-time pilots, and loads of tips for new pilots. Chapter members attending were: Karen and Bill Graettinger, Lynn and Tom Meadows, Joan Herz, Karen and Trygve Inda, Katie Greenwood and new member Catherine B. Joan even won a prize in the drawing...ask her to model it.



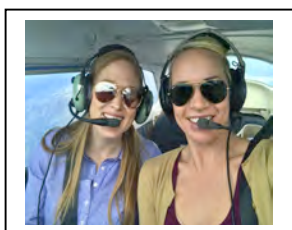
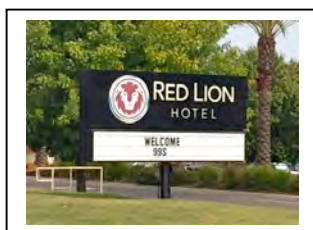
## SWS Fall Meeting in Redding

Perfect flying weather the weekend of Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> - Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> was a benefit for chapter members Lynn and Tom along with Alanna McClellan (Lake Tahoe 99) who flew to RDD on Thursday and Katie who flew to CXP and picked up Leah on Friday to fly to RDD. When we landed at RDD we were pretty impressed with the five Bakersfield chapter members who had arrived in a Citation. Their chapter has connections! The youngest future 99 ever in attendance was 9-day-old Zoe, daughter of Dea Payette, both of whom came from Bakersfield in the Citation, too. There were 105 registered 99s present plus their guests.

Thursday night was a very nice welcome reception for the early arrivals. Friday optional tours included kayaking on Whiskeytown Lake and a Shasta Dam tour. SWS board and chapter chairman meetings were held in the afternoon after a very good morning seminar on ADSB- In & Out. Elaine Yeary arrived Friday afternoon and Katie and Leah made it in just in time for the Friday night Mexican buffet dinner at the Cookhouse Restaurant at Bridge Bay on Lake Shasta.

Following Saturday's SWS business meeting, optional tours were available to the Arboretum at Turtle Bay and also to the CalFire base at RDD, which Leah took. There was time for pool and hot tubbing before the awards banquet Saturday night. Barbara Boot from Mt. Shasta chapter gave a nice presentation on Amelia Earhart. Ask Katie about the clever high-heeled-shoe table centerpieces, one of which she got. Both the Redwood Coast Flyers and Mt. Shasta chapters joined together to put on this section meeting. Many thanks to Elaine who was our personal ground transportation to Lake Shasta, the Redding airport, and an emergency shopping trip for Leah's shoe disaster.

Flights home Sunday were good after departing from RDD which was quite windy. It is fun to hear other 99s on the radio as they communicate with Oakland Center and NorCal approach as we all scatter in different directions after meeting our old friends and making new ones. The next SW Section meeting is April 26-29 in Bakersfield hosted by the Bakersfield chapter. They are offering 'early bird' registration of \$130 until Nov. 1...go to [www.sws99s.org](http://www.sws99s.org) for registration details. It'll be fun!



**Clockwise:** Red Lion welcome; Leah and Katie en route; Leah, Elaine, Lynn and Katie at the banquet; Katie with her shoe plane; Leah and the group at CalFire Redding.



If you watched the History Channel's "Amelia Earhart: The Lost Evidence" — you may know by now that after the show aired, it took a Japanese historian and blogger all of 30 minutes to find the photo in an obscure travel book held by the National Library of Japan. *The Life Line of the Sea, My South Sea Memoir* was written by Notoaki Nishino of Palau and printed by Fumio Almano in Tokyo. It was published in 1935, two years before Earhart and Noonan disappeared. Thus this photographic 'evidence' of the theory of Amelia's capture by the Japanese was negated. If you are interested in information by Ric Gillespie of TIGHAR about what they have found, his presentation is on You Tube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8RZWQyul4W0>.