



# THE SOUTHWESTERLY

Quarterly Newsletter of the Southwest Section Ninety-Nines  
Arizona • California • Hawaii • Nevada • Utah

July – September 2012

## From the Governor...



**Penny Nagy**

Boy, I can't believe we're halfway through August; where has the summer gone? Mine has been very busy, although I was not able to attend the Int'l Meeting in Providence this year because of work. This was the first meeting I've missed in ten years so, needless to say, I was pretty "bummed". Lee and I lived in Connecticut for six months in the early 70s, and I was looking forward to once again visiting Mystic Seaport. I have it on good authority that it was a wonderful meeting. All of the bylaws and standing rules were adopted. This now means that "Life Membership" is open to everyone. The amount of your payment is based on your age. Congratulations to the new International Board Members, four of whom are from our Section: Martha Phillips, Ventura County Chapter, International President; Leslie Ingham, Santa Clara Valley Chapter, International Treasurer; Dianne Cole,

San Joaquin Valley Chapter, International Director; and Alanna McClellan, Lake Tahoe Chapter, Nominating Committee Member. Way to go ladies!

As many of you know, Alena Herranen, our tax chairman, had to resign in May and I have not been able to replace her. Even though that position is not yet filled, it is still very important for all of the chapters to file all of their compliance paperwork in a timely fashion. I cannot reiterate enough how important it is for each and every chapter to stay compliant with the various governmental agencies. It is not a pretty picture to lose non-profit status.

Anita Lewis is hard at work in her new position as section historian. If things go according to plan, she hopes to have everything finished by December. Thank you again Anita for taking this on. I know that Verna is very happy to finally have a replacement.

By the time many of you receive this issue the Fall Section Meeting in Santa Maria will be a memory. Carol Andrews and I flew down there in July and we can say firsthand that this is going to be a great section meeting. The chapter has been working very hard getting the memorial garden ready for the dedication Saturday afternoon. I can't believe how much they've accomplished in just two short years.

The Mt. Shasta Chapter is hard at work putting together the Winter Workshop on January 26, 2013. Once again I encourage everyone to attend this meeting. It is just what the name implies, a workshop. You'll gain

valuable information that you can take back to your chapters. I'm starting to put together the agenda so if any of you have any ideas for topics please let me know.

Bakersfield has been working hard on the Spring Section Meeting May 3 – May 5, 2013. They are very enthusiastic and have a lot of great ideas. This meeting will be one that you won't want to miss.

The location of the Fall 2013 meeting has not been finalized, so stay tuned for more to come regarding the location.

I'm planning on attending the [AOPA Conference](#) October 11 – October 13 in Palm Springs. They are still looking for help to work in the 99s booth. If you're interested, here is the pertinent information. Candy Whitfield, Reno High Sierra Chapter, is the tradeshow coordinator and can provide potential volunteers or attendees with any general information. She can be reached at [candy58z@charter.net](mailto:candy58z@charter.net) or 775-225-2428. In addition, Rhonda Glennon, Santa Barbara Chapter, has agreed to serve as the volunteer coordinator for this conference. Rhonda can be reached at 424-835-0515 or by email to [99sBoothAtAOPA@gmail.com](mailto:99sBoothAtAOPA@gmail.com).

November 1<sup>st</sup> I will be on my way to Oklahoma City for the Fall Board Meeting. If there are any areas of concern that need addressing please let me know and I'll see about having it placed on the agenda for the Council of Governor's Meeting.

Happy Flying!

Penny

# The Southwesterly is On-line for Everyone

By Lynn Meadows, Circulation Manager

The big changeover is now upon us. The *Southwesterly* will no longer be mailed to all chapter officers, nor will it be mailed to all new 99s in the last quarter. It will continue to be mailed to those gals whose subscription goes until December of 2012 and that's about 300 Ninety-Nines in our section.

To access the *Southwesterly* on-line you need to go to [www.sws99s.org](http://www.sws99s.org). Click on the link for "members only." The log-in word is "sws99s" and the password is 1929airace (remember only one "r"! ). Under "Quick Links" you will see *Southwesterly* newsletter and if you click on that, you will get to the place where you can click on the newest copy of the *Southwesterly* or you can access the last two archived issues.

Everyone with a current email will get a reminder blast when the newest *Southwesterly* is posted on our section website so it is important that you keep your email current with Maureen Kenney, our section webmaster, at [webmaster@sws99s.org](mailto:webmaster@sws99s.org). Don't forget to keep your email current with 99s Headquarters in Oklahoma City, too.

It is hoped that those few members who do not have computer access or are not computer savvy will have a 99 friend in their chapter who will print off a copy of the current issue and send it to them. Or perhaps the membership chairman in a chapter could take on that responsibility? It seems that all public libraries now have computers for public use and documents can be printed from those also.

The *Southwesterly*, the premier communication tool for our section, will still be written! This is an opportunity for ALL SWS 99s to access the *Southwesterly*, not just paid subscribers and officers. We will be able to have more photos of our section activities (and in color too!). We will not be constrained by space limits. We will deliver it to all of you much faster on the quarterly months of March, June, September and December without relying on the post office.

Your editorial staff hopes that chapters will continue to submit articles and accomplishments to [southwesterlynews@gmail.com](mailto:southwesterlynews@gmail.com).



**COACHELLA VALLEY 99s**  
**FLY-IN - CAMP-OUT**  
**RVs - PETs WELCOME**

**Saturday - October 20, 2012**  
✦ 4:00 - Cocktails - BYOB ✦ 6:30 Dinner ✦  
Fire Pit - Hangar Talk - S'mores

**Sunday - October 21, 2012**  
✦ 7:30 - 9:30 am - Breakfast ✦  
SPOT LANDING - TROPHIES - CASH PRIZES  
SILENT AUCTION / RAFFLE - STAR GAZING - SWIMMING  
✦ 12:00 pm - Lunch

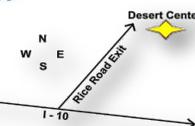
\$30.00 Per Person Fee includes Saturday Dinner - Sunday Breakfast and Lunch - Spot Landing  
MEAL ONLY - DONATIONS WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED AT THE MEAL OF YOUR CHOICE  
RSVP for Individual meals - [christinahutson@msn.com](mailto:christinahutson@msn.com) or Phone 760-347-4490

**Desert Center Airport**  
(PVT) Desert Center Frequency: 122.9  
Arrive: Saturday - Sunrise until Sunset (NO RUNWAY LIGHTS)  
Arrive: Sunday - Sunrise until Sunset

Sponsored by  
Coachella Valley Chapter

Please Send Entry Fee  
By OCTOBER 1, 2012 (Check is RSVP)  
To: Coachella 99's  
c/o Erika Sharp  
73-920 Grapevine Street  
Palm Desert CA 92260  
\*Entries Limited to  
Thirty (30) Airplanes

Tradition Aviation FBO  
"Best Fuel Price"  
Fill up at (TRM) Jacqueline Cochran Airport  
No Fuel at (PVT)



## WANTED:

Stories about your chapter's latest fly-in, member accomplishments, or other fun SWS 99s activities/events

Next *Southwesterly* deadline:  
**NOVEMBER 15<sup>th</sup>**

## CORRECTIONS

Our sincere apologies for the following errors in the previous paper version of *The Southwesterly*...

Goof #1: extra text propagated from another story onto page 4, last paragraph.

Goof #2: misspelling of Pat Prentiss' and Nancy Ginesi's name.

Goof #3: incorrect copy of registration forms were printed.

### Section Officers

**Governor:**

Penny Nagy - Sacramento Valley

**Vice-Governor:**

Carol Andrews - Sutter Buttes

**Secretary:**

Jeanne Pierce - Reno Area

**Treasurer:**

Sharon Raney - Sacramento Valley

**Immediate Past Governor:**

Linda Mae Draper-Hivert - Reno Area

**Directors:**

Barbara Crooker - Mount Shasta

Alice Talnack - Monterey Bay

**Nominating Committee Chair:**

Maureen Kenney - San Fernando Valley

**Nominating Committee:**

Janet Gageby - Reno Area

Michael Serasio - Monterey Bay

Candace Harding - San Joaquin Valley

Willa Young - Sutter Buttes

#### THE SOUTHWESTERLY

**Editor-in Chief**

Jeanne Pierce

Reno Area Chapter

[southwesterlynews@gmail.com](mailto:southwesterlynews@gmail.com)

**Design & Layout**

Janet Coté

**Circulation Manager**

Lynn Meadows

**Editorial Policy:** *The Southwesterly is the official publication of the Southwest Section of The Ninety-Nines, Inc., a non-profit organization (IRS code 501(c)(3)).*

*Neither the Editor, the Southwest Section of The Ninety-Nines, Inc, nor its Board of Directors is responsible for the accuracy or authenticity of any of the content of this publication. The opinions expressed in the articles presented in this newsletter are those of the authors and shall not be construed to represent policies or opinions of The Ninety Nines, Inc.*

### Southwest Section Committee Chairmen and Board Liaisons 2012-2014

**Mission Statement: to promote world fellowship through flight**

**Flying Activities:**

Airmarking

NIFA

Young Eagles

Flying Activities

Lynn Meadows, Reno High Sierra

Virginia Harmer, San Gabriel Valley

Pat Forbes, Santa Clara Valley

Lisa Erickson, Orange County

**Mission Statement: to provide networking and scholarship opportunities for women and aviation education in the community**

**Education & Chapter Development:**

Aerospace Education

Fundraising

Membership

Associate Members

Sister Sections

Sue Kerr, Mt Shasta

Susan Liebler, Ventura County

Kim Ernst, Fullerton

Open

Kitty Houghton, Marin County

**Communication:**

Southwesterly Editor

Southwesterly Layout

Southwesterly Circulation

Public Relations

SWS Website

Jeanne Pierce, Reno Area

Janet Cote', Sacramento Valley

Lynn Meadows, Reno High Sierra

Connie Charles, San Diego

Maureen Kenney, San Fernando Valley

**Awards:**

Awards Chairman

AE Scholarship

Other Scholarships

WPOY

Open

Lori Parker, Ventura Co

Dorothy Norkus, San Diego

Linda Mae Draper-Hivert, Reno Area

**Pilot Careers:**

Kristen Mansel, Bay Cities

Liana Hart, Las Vegas Valley

**Mission Statement: to preserve the unique history of women in aviation**

**History:**

Historian

Photographer

Oral History

Forest of Friendship

Scrapbook

Anita Lewis, Rio Colorado

Lilian Darling Holt, San Fernando Valley

Pat Chan, Bay Cities

Dorothy Robinson, Bakersfield

Mari Hurley, Imperial So-Lo

Open

**Administrative:**

Tax

By-Laws

Nominating

Insurance

Open

Pat Prentiss, Orange County

Maureen Kenney, San Fernando Valley

Open

[www.sws99s.org](http://www.sws99s.org)

# Forest of Friendship 2012

By Lynn Meadows

Have you ever been to Atchison, KS? If not, there are two reasons to go:

First, it is the birthplace home of Amelia Earhart. She was born in the upstairs bedroom of the home of Judge and Mrs. Otis, her grandparents. The home is now owned by the 99s and is open to the public on most days. Affectionately called the birthplace museum, it is the [Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum](#) (AEBM) and includes docents to give tours, a small gift shop, and a collection of the clothing worn by Hilary Swank in the movie "Amelia." This year a new tree was planted in the front yard, which was presented by Pat Prentiss and dedicated to her friend Robert Woods.

Secondly, is the [Forest of Friendship](#), a bicentennial gift given to America by the 99s and the City of Atchison in 1976. The project was spearheaded by charter member 99 Faye Gillis Wells and continues to be lovingly guided by her son Linton Wells and the son of the original caretaker, Pat Carrigan. Annual festivities take place in mid-June when aviation supporters are inducted into the forest. Among the more than [1,300 honorees](#) are such internationally recognized flyers as Amelia Earhart, Charles Lindbergh, the Wright Brothers, Sally Ride, Eileen Collins, and Chuck Yeager. This year 16 people were inducted into the Forest of Friendship. Among those were Susan Larson, outgoing President of the 99s and Southwest Section 99s Annelie Brinkman (San Diego), Kaye Craig (Tucson), Sunni Gibbons (Santa Maria Valley), Susan Liebeler (Ventura County), Lynn Meadows (Reno High Sierra), Pam O'Brien (Monterey Bay), and Diane Pirman (Santa Maria Valley - who was inducted in 2009 but wasn't present until this year).



*Tree dedication at the AEBM — tree purchased by Pat Prentiss and dedicated in the name of her friend Robert Woods. That is Robert's sister with the scissors.*

The ceremony begins with a parade of flags from the 50 states carried by the children of Atchison. The forest has 50 trees for each of the 50 states, 35 trees from countries where there are women pilots, and also a 'moon tree', grown from a seed taken to the moon on Apollo 14. After the flag ceremony and invocation, all inductees have their biographies read to the assembled audience. Afterwards, photos are taken and guests and inductees wander the walkways of the forest before boarding the Atchison trolley to return to town and continue the weekend's activities. The banquet speaker Saturday night was Dr. Kathryn D. Sullivan, the first American woman to walk in space, veteran of three shuttle missions acquiring 532 hours in space, and recent inductee into the forest this year.



Congratulations Lynn!

TRUCKEE, Calif. — Lynn Meadows of Truckee was honored as a 2012 inductee into the International Forest of Friendship in Atchison, Kansas during ceremonies in June. She was recognized for her broad and enthusiastic support of The Ninety-Nines, the International Organization of Women Pilots, and particularly the Reno High Sierra Chapter.

Lynn and her husband both earned their private pilot's certificates in 1978, and bought their first aircraft the following year. She has held many offices with her Ninety-Nines Chapter, and continually volunteers for assignments in support of the broader organization, ranging from mailings to air marking to aerospace education as

well as being a past director for the SW Section and a past nominating committee member.

Her volunteering doesn't stop with The Ninety-Nines. She has been on the Wildlife Shelter Inc. Board of Director for 20 years, and is a member of the Truckee Chapter of Los Medicos Voladores (The Flying Doctors).

Lynn Meadows is the consummate Ninety-Nine, dedicated to sharing her joy of aviation with newcomers and old hands. Whether she's traveling, flying, or on the ground volunteering, she is continually active and looks forward to her next adventure.

*This article is reprinted in part from the July 3, 2012 issue of the Sierra Sun.*

# Sutter Buttes Chapter Scholarships Assist Aviation Goals

## Hannah Northern Awarded 2012 Sutter Buttes 99s Scholarship

Hannah Northern, Santa Rosa Chapter, was awarded the Sutter Buttes Chapter's 2012 \$1,500 scholarship to earn her MEI.

She earned her private pilot certificate in 2008 and transferred to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, earning her BS in Aeronautical Science while pursuing further ratings. While at ERAU, she was a member of the

Eagles Flight Team, competing in various events at both regional and national level. She was also chosen to represent the University as copilot in the 2009 Women's Air Race Classic, then as PIC in 2010.

She was granted a summer internship with Solairus Aviation, a charter operator that flies corporate aircraft. Upon graduation, she accepted a position in their Flight Operations department, working 30 hours a week directly under the VP of Flight Operations. While there, she was given the opportunity to fly over 24 hours as a safety pilot in their King Air 350.

Hannah was also building time as a flight instructor, and participated in various outreach programs for young aspiring aviators. She gave a classroom presentation to elementary school children on careers in aviation, and worked with the 99s teaching junior high girls the importance of taking an interest in math and science.

In July, Hannah completed her MEI in Chicago; and with the winning of an Amelia Earhart scholarship this year, she will be getting a type rating in the King Air.

With a solid educational background, the willingness to work hard, and a definite career goal in mind, Hannah exemplifies the many young women who are up and coming in aviation today. It is an honor for our chapter to give her the boost she needed to continue on her path to success.



## Jacque Warda Receives Sutter Buttes Scholarship for Instrument Training

Sutter Buttes 99s gave a second scholarship this year for \$1,000 to Jacque Warda, Sutter Buttes Chapter, to pursue training toward an instrument ticket. Jacque flies an Extra 300 and competes across the country in aerobatic competition. In flying the Extra to locations as far away as Brunswick, ME, she often encounters weather that has her sitting at an airport waiting for it to become VFR.

In her application, Jacque expressed a desire "to continue to learn new skills as a pilot which will keep me sharp, safe and focused on furthering my piloting skills and knowledge." She currently holds a Commercial Single Engine Land and Sea Certificate.

Jacque learned to fly at the age of 32 in the Pacific Northwest. She lived a while in Oregon, Washington, Alaska and Idaho before settling in Danville, California, where her interest in flying turned to aerobatics. She's trained with Wayne Handley, and flew her Pitts Special for 10 years before she lost it in 2010 in an off-airport landing after engine failure. Jacque flew the Pitts several years in the biplane class at the Reno Air Races before turning her



full attention to air show performing. Of owning the Extra 300, she says she is pleased that she can finally share the experience with others, as the Extra has 2 seats.

*The Sutter Buttes 99s offer an annual \$1,500 scholarship to any 99 within 99 miles of Yuba City, CA "to continue her quest to better her flying skills". The pursuit of a further rating/certificate need not be career driven. For further information, contact Carol Andrews at [charley.alpha@theunion.net](mailto:charley.alpha@theunion.net).*

# Female Aviators Band Together

By Dave Nordstrand

Gazing skyward through her dark-tinted flight glasses, Michaele Serasio, 53, sees more than clouds and sun. Serasio sees possibilities. She sees adventure in the cockpit of a small plane, and she imagines Earth itself, composed in glorious contours and colors slipping hypnotically by below her.

"Flight is alive. Flight is real life," Serasio said. "That's why I like it."

"You have elements like the wind and other planes that you have to be aware of. Taking off and landing are the hard parts. Once you're in the air, you can enjoy it. It's a good feeling."

A North Salinas High School graduate and registered nurse in case management at Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital, Serasio is also a licensed pilot and a member of one of the most storied groups in aviation history, the Ninety-Nines. Global in scope, the nonprofit Ninety-Nines has a local group, the Monterey Bay Chapter with 40 members in Monterey and Santa Cruz counties, including Serasio.

The organization, which consists of women in aviation, dates to 1929 when it was founded at Curtiss Field, Valley Stream, Long Island. In 1931, the members elected pioneering aviator Amelia Earhart as their first president.

The organization is named for the 99 charter members. It now has 6,500 licensed women pilots from 36 countries. Members include corporate pilots, astronauts, student pilots, air traffic controllers, aircraft mechanics, career pilots, certified instructors and pilots, such as Serasio, who buckle into the cockpit for the enjoyment and challenge that moving through space high above Earth's surface can bring.

The Ninety-Nines takes a woman's love of flight and gives it meaning beyond individual experience. "We do all sorts of things for the community in general," said Donna Crane-Bailey, membership chairwoman.

One example has members going into

science and technology classes at every grade level. Members introduce students to flight basics. In October, for example, the group has planned a program to bring Girl Scouts to the Salinas Municipal Airport. They'll tour the control tower, visit a facility that restores vintage planes to flying prime and explore other dynamics that make airport life tick.

Over the decades, the Ninety-Nines has included a stellar line-up — first woman to break the sound barrier, first woman airline pilot, first woman U.S. aerobatics champion, first woman captain on a B-747 and the first U.S. military flight demonstration team pilot.

## A freedom in the air

Kay Harmon of Salinas, another Ninety-Nines member, started flying at age 41.

Her husband, Ron Harmon, was already an experienced pilot. Kay agreed to learn to fly, too, but reluctantly. "As a dutiful wife," she said.

Surprisingly to her, she felt an affinity for flying. Learning the plane's controls proved easy for her. The cockpit environs felt inviting. Kay, with a flight instructor — the plane had dual controls — took off to begin her training. They flew toward Greenfield, doing a few lazy "S" patterns and then tracing circles in the sky.

"Even flying down the Salinas Valley on a beautiful day, there's nothing greater than seeing things like the Salinas River that John Steinbeck wrote about," Harmon said.

After compiling nine hours of instruction, she soloed. Soon Harmon was an eager pilot. She was driving out to the airport two to three times a week to fly for fun.

"There's such a freedom in flight," said Kay, who flew with Ron to such places as Lake Tahoe as well as into Utah and Arizona.

Ron died in 2009. Now 79 and no longer flying much, Kay continues her membership with the Ninety-Nines.



Michaele Serasio

## Nervous beginnings

Serasio was first intrigued by flight while watching the Navy's blue and gold Blue Angels aerobatics team perform their slicing maneuvers through the sky over the California Airshow Salinas. In the early 1990s, Serasio started flying lessons.

"I was so nervous for my first solo," she recalled. "I was stuttering. There was no instructor to pull me out if I got in trouble. The control tower asked if I was all right, but it all went well."

For Serasio, flying is a hobby. Every few weeks, she'll rent a plane. Among her flights, one to Santa Rosa in northern California. On that flight, she had to navigate her small plane past the heavy commercial traffic rising out of San Francisco International Airport.

Another flight was along the stunning ruggedness of the Pacific coast.

"I enjoy the challenges of flight and also the camaraderie of the women in the Ninety-Nines," Serasio said.

In its broader scope, the Ninety-Nines aims to promote world fellowship through flight, as a brochure says.

*Continued on next page*

It works to preserve and tell the story of women in flight. It awards scholarships. For the Monterey Bay Chapter, that runs between \$1,000 and \$2,000 yearly, Crane-Bailey said. The money might go, for example, to someone learning to fly or working to achieve a higher pilot ranking.

“Of course, we have a lot of fun, too,” Crane-Bailey said. “Like flying over to the Harris Ranch for lunch.” (The Harris Ranch, where Interstate 5 meets Highway 198 near Coalinga, features a 2,800-foot landing strip.)

Kay and Ron Harmon loved flying together. They might fly to Southern California on a business trip or to British Columbia to vacation.

On all their flights, Kay kept in mind what Earhart had said back when she was president of the Ninety-Nines. Earhart offered a nugget of philosophy for the women in the cockpit, advice which has filtered down through time.

“Fly for the fun of it,” Earhart advised.

That’s what Kay Harmon did.

On one very enjoyable trip, she and her husband went to Texas to pick up two small planes they intended to sell back home. Together, they flew the planes from Texas back to Salinas. En route, they landed at one airport for the night and at another for a meal.

“Wingtip-to-wingtip,” Harmon said. “It was a great flight.”

.....  
*We thank The Salinas Californian for giving us permission to reprint this article, which appeared in the July 27, 2012 issue.*

---

## Amelia Earhart Peak Climbed Again in 2012

By Lynn Meadows

Although it had only been 5 years since an organized climb of Amelia Earhart Peak in Yosemite by the 99s, it was decided in late spring to do it again. Once again, Cindy Pickett (Marin Co.) agreed to lead the group for a third time. This year’s climbers were Cindy, Pat Chan (Bay Cities), Mo Egan (Eastern Ontario), Kitty Houghton (Marin County), Nancy Maas (Redwood Coast Flyers), and Carol Munch (Santa Clara Valley). They were assisted at Tuolumne Meadows’ 8,600 ft high campground by Alanna McClellan (Lake Tahoe) and Lynn Meadows (Reno High Sierra).

The pre-climb group arrived on July 18th to secure a campsite. Two planes with the five climbers arrived at Lee Vining airport on July 20th and were shuttled to the Tuolumne Meadows campsite. After a kickoff carbo-load dinner that night, the climbers set off with their 30-pound packs for the first night’s camp about six miles up Lyell Canyon on the PCT/John Muir Trail. No bear visited as it had in 2007.

The second day found the climbers hiking another 5 miles and ascending 1,500 ft. up what is affectionately called “the staircase” to their basecamp at 10,000 ft. elevation. They spent a day getting acclimated to the altitude and hoping for good weather the next day after some brief showers in the days before.

As luck would have it, July 24th dawned clear and cloudless and the intrepid group of 99s made the ascent to 11,982 ft. in time for lunch and a fly-by from Santa Clara Valley 99s Mayetta Behringer, Pat Gregory, and Candace Tuttle. After spending most of the afternoon enjoying the

view from atop AE Peak on Amelia’s 115th birthday and the 75th anniversary of her disappearance, the climbers descended to basecamp for the night.

The next day they covered the 12 miles back to Tuolumne Meadows with lighter packs (oh really?), to an evening of celebration and good stories. On July 26th after a breakfast of blueberry pancakes prepared by Tom Meadows, ‘the cook’ from 2007, the two planes again departed the Lee Vining airport and the ground support shuttle crew returned to Tahoe.



*The 2012 AE Peak group — L to R: Carol Munch, Kitty Houghton, Mo Egan, Pat Chan, Lynn Meadows, Nancy Maas, Cindy Pickett, and Alanna McClellan.*

# CHAPTERS ON

## **Bay Cities**

Bay Cities had another busy summer with airport days at Auburn and Santa Rosa, a summer picnic, and aerospace education potlucks as well as having a booth at Vertical Challenge. There is an airshow at Mather, Salinas and Chico coming up in September. Looks like a very busy fall for them also! They are also working on their oral histories.

## **Marin County**

Cindy has returned from her back-country flying adventures to direct the chapter. She has some great insight from her experiences. The chapter is planning upcoming events and doing some interesting fun things during the summer and early fall.

## **Reno Area**

The Reno National Championship Air Races are coming up and the chapter is ramping up for working that event. They have been involved in the Carson City and Minden airport days, as well as the annual EAA Young Eagles event at Stead. Several members have had some “life shifting” issues this year that will prevent them from entering the Virginia City Outhouse Races in October, but they will look at doing it next year instead. It takes some manpower for this project that is lacking right now. The chapter is working on their written and oral histories this summer and fall. Linda Mae has taken on the chairmanship of the AE scholarship and is looking for people to apply.

## **Reno High Sierra**

June 2nd was our fourth annual hangar crawl at Stead Airport. We went to several members' hangars for a progressive dinner and ended up at the last hangar where we presented our scholarship. This year we awarded a \$3,000 scholarship to Natasha Flaherty who is working on her multi-engine rating in Sacramento. We also installed our new officers for the coming year and celebrated our chapter's twenty-third birthday with a festive cake. We had a social dinner get-together at Mimi's in July in addition to our regular business meeting. Our whole chapter is busy gearing up for the Reno Air Races Sept. 12-16, right after the SWS fall section meeting. Chapter member Elizabeth Collins regularly flies for National Air Lines out of Dubai to 'exciting' places in the Middle East. Chapter member Neita Montague is attempting to set some female soaring records this summer out of Air Sailing airport in Nevada. Chapter member Lynn Meadows was inducted into the Forest of Friendship in Atchison, KS in June.

# THE MOVE

## **San Joaquin Valley**

San Joaquin had a fly-in meeting in June to Pine Mountain Lake Country Club. There is an airport open house coming up in October at Livermore.

## **San Luis Obispo**

The chapter has earned money from their poker run and barbeque while having some fun at the same time. They had their 2nd successful Young Aviators camp, their “fly-in” movie night at Oceano was in August, and they have airport days coming up at Paso Robles Sept 29th and San Luis Obispo airport October 20th. Some of their members got to fly in a DC-3 from Paso Robles to San Luis.

## **Santa Maria Valley**

Well, we all know what Santa Maria has been doing this year! They’re preparing for all of us to have a fabulous time at their Fall SWS Meeting. See you there!

## **Ventura County**

Spring was filled with opportunities to congratulate three members with distinctive honors: Martha Phillips was installed as the President of International, Susan Liebler was inducted into the Forest of Friendship, and Sheila Collier won an AEM Scholarship for her Instrument Helicopter rating. So many members flew-out for a TRACON facility tour, they had to arrange a morning and an afternoon group. Membership grew to 97 during the annual membership drive picnic where the chapter awarded two \$3000 scholarships to local Future Women Pilots. Through their presence at the Airshow at Camarillo Airport in August, they plan to cross the 100 member mark.

### **REMEMBER:**

Please send your chapter news to  
[southwesterlynews@gmail.com](mailto:southwesterlynews@gmail.com)  
by the November 15<sup>th</sup> deadline !!

# Engine Failures Revisited

By Cindy Pickett, Marin Chapter

My recent BFR included a few power off/engine failure procedures that can really make you gather all your training; there's no time for slow, deliberate thinking, your response should be clear and crisp. Most pilots spend too much time 'swimming in the glue' before they start any useful response such as establishing best glide speed, troubleshooting the problem, and trying to restore engine power.

This denial, frozen mind, glue-like response happens because the pilot has not practiced his or her emergency procedures and is trying to recall the steps that s/he should take. Muddling around takes time and altitude. You can lose 1000' in a nano-second looking for your emergency checklist.

In the meantime the airplane has not been trimmed for power off, best glide speed condition. Every plane has their 'official' manufacturer-defined best glide speed. Besides getting up in the morning and knowing the sun is up you need to know what that speed is. Go ahead, put this article down now and find out. Come back when you know. If you just remember the big number, which on my plane is at the three o'clock position on the airspeed indicator, you won't be far off. If you are light (no passengers or baggage/fuel) you can slow it quite a bit more.

Before you take any other action, remember to fly the airplane. There should be a hammer spot on your head from your flight instructor beating that into you. This must always be your first priority. The following steps are my pattern; your plane may take a different configuration:

1. Establish best glide speed and don't lose any altitude until best glide speed is established.
2. Electric fuel pump "ON" and switch to a fuel tank containing fuel.
3. Carburetor heat or injected heat "ON." This step should be taken even if ice is impossible.

Something (sand? flying stuff?) could have blocked your air filter and the use of "heat" allows a different path for air to enter your engine and may allow a restart.

4. Switch the magnetos from both to "left or right" to see if the engine will run better on one of them than it does on "both". If it does, leave the switch where it is.
5. Enrich the mixture to ensure that the engine didn't quit because it was too lean. If at high altitude, moving the mixture control full forward may flood the engine. Go slowly!
6. If the engine has not restarted pull your prop control all the way out to improve your glide ratio. This will cut your sink rate about in half.

How long does this sequence take? It should take less than 10 seconds and a few more to fight out of the paper bag in your mind. You need to be at the same altitude as when the silence started, approaching best glide speed, and already

deciding the direction you should turn to head for your landing site. Hopefully that's an airport. Out in the middle of nowhere it will be a dirt road, paved road or open field.

Mountainous terrain often has lots of forest service roads. Passes over mountains usually have two lane roads. 'IFR' to me means I follow roads when in uninhabited areas.

The above steps do not have to be completed in this order. The geometry of each cockpit drives your actions. You can be holding the nose up and trimming while turning on the fuel pump, switching tanks, turning on "heat", or switching the mags. The point is to complete them and hopefully one of them restores that magic noise of a purring engine.

Cockpit Resource Management is all about making the most of whoever is in the plane. If your partner is usually with you, train them on specific moves. In our plane the right seat is in charge of switching the fuel selector because it's on the floor, and looking down turning the lever takes time. The right seat can also find the closest airport, pull out the directions, get the radio frequency, and be the calming influence to your spiking blood pressure. Use their logic; their sight is not as muddled as yours.

A good thing to do is sit in your plane, on the ground, and practice your maneuvers until you can do it in 10 seconds or less. Make this a part of your run-up. Engine failures so rarely happen, but when they do, you need to be on auto-drive.

After your automatic response, if time permits, pull out your written checklist and make sure you did not skip any steps. It's really important to trim for best glide speed so that if your attention is diverted while reading you won't lose excess altitude.

## Ratings and Certificates

Amber Whitmill (Bay Cities, AEMSF winner)  
Instrument rating

Cynthia Sperberg-Hart (Bay Cities)  
Private Pilot Certificate

Vikki Mena (Fullerton)  
Private Pilot Certificate

Dana Glidden (Fullerton)  
Private Pilot Certificate

Tracy Zedeck (Bay Cities)  
Commercial Helicopter Certificate

## Milestones

Carin Castillo (Bay Cities)  
solo cross country

# New Horizons

## **Pamela Azar O'Brien**

Monterey Bay Chapter  
October 13, 1949 ~ May 4, 2012

Pamela Azar O'Brien passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family and friends on May 4, 2012 at the age of 62 after a long battle with breast cancer.

She is survived by husband, Dale O'Brien and sons, Neal and Raymond O'Brien of Pacific Grove, California; her beloved sister and brother-in-law, Barbara and Tony Davis of Columbia, Missouri; and her aunt, Minnie Todd of St. Louis, Missouri.

Pamela was born and raised in St. Louis and graduated from the University of Missouri in 1971 with a Bachelor of Science degree. She married her husband, Dale in 1974, and later founded Razar Resources. Over time she picked up extensive computer skills, graphics, and bookkeeping - as well as continuing to expand on her various crafts such as design, photography, macrame, cooking, and sewing. Her nickname was "The Craft Queen."

Pamela began flying lessons in the 1980s, and eventually became instrument rated. She owned two planes - a Piper Dakota and a Beechcraft Bonanza. For the past 25 years she had been very active in the The Ninety-Nines, holding a number of positions in the organization, and was single minded in bringing The Ninety-Nines into the digital age. She founded The Ninety-Nines website and functioned as its webmaster for many years. She also was the long serving moderator of The Ninety-Nines listserv discussion group. Pam received the prestigious President's Award from The Ninety-Nines in 2003.

This summer, Pamela Azar O'Brien was posthumously inducted into the International Forest of Friendship in Atchison, Kansas, an honor memorial to those who have made a mark in the history of aviation and aerospace.

## **Jimmie (Jim) L. Kerr**

49½ Mount Shasta Chapter  
1933 – 2012

Jim was taken from us unexpectedly, on June 19, 2012. He was born in Los Angeles to Oscar Burl Kerr and Della (Dickey) Kerr. Jim was a Korean War Veteran; released from active service in 1955. He enjoyed a 40 year career with Calavaras Cement from 1955 to 1995.

Jim started Jim & I Aviators in 1995 with his wife Sue and niece Susan McCormick. He gave wings to many and loved breaking his "earthly bonds".

In the past, Jim had participated as a volunteer fireman and was a part of Search and Rescue. He was a member of several clubs; the Jeep Club, the Enterprise Flying Club, the West Coast Cessna 120/140 Club, and the Redding British Car Club. He was also a member of several other organizations such as the Civil Air Patrol, AOPA, and the EAA. Going to fly-ins during the summer offered much enjoyment. Most recently Jim loved to go on rides with the British car club, take trips with the trailer, camp, canoe, and do anything in the outdoors.

Jim is survived by his wife of 19 years Sue (Susan), daughters Jennifer Gasta, Rebecca Fetters, Della Sunderland and son Stephen Kerr. Niece Susan McCormick, nephew John Ludtke, stepchildren Cody Sandifer, Dana Reis and Justin Sandifer.

## **Elaine Lockhart Brown**

Reno Area Chapter  
August 5, 1928 - July 2, 2012

Elaine Lockhart Brown was born on August 5, 1928, in Boston, Massachusetts. She passed away peacefully at Emeritus at Reno on July 2, 2012.

She was the daughter of Hubert and Emily Lockhart and was raised in Boston with her two brothers, Richard

Lockhart and Donald Lockhart.

Elaine graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Maine, Phi Kappa Phi, and was a member of the National Honors Society. Shortly after college Elaine became a school teacher. She briefly pursued a career as an actress at Paramount Studios in Los Angeles before becoming a flight attendant for American Airlines. She met Stanley Howard Brown, Sr. in 1954 and they were married shortly thereafter.

Stanley and Elaine raised three children, Stanley Howard Brown, Jr., Stephen Lockhart Brown, and Allison Ardelle Brown. Elaine was a Cub Scout den mother, Girl Scout leader, and was also active in 4-H, Boy Scouts, and the Reno Continental Little League.

Elaine and Stanley were both accomplished pilots. She was one of Nevada's first female commercially licensed pilots and flew the family's Cessna 182 in many cross country races. Elaine participated in dressage, competing in many English riding competitions locally and across the state.

Elaine was past president of Folded Wings International, past President of the Kiwi Association, past President of the Washoe County Lawyer's Wives, past Chairman of the Reno Area Chapter 99s, past Chairman of the Reno Area Chapter of the California Dressage Society, past Chairman of Washoe County 4-H, past member of the board of directors of Horsemanship, and a past member of the California and U.S. Dressage Organizations.

She is survived by her son, Stanley Howard Brown, Jr.; daughter, Allison Ardelle Brown; daughter-in-law, Dena Brown; brother, Donald Lockhart; grandchildren, Cody James Brown and Justin John Brown; stepson James B. Brown and stepdaughter, Cassandra Bernstein.

## 2012/2013 Calendar/Activities

### Sept 7-9

Fall Southwest Section Meeting  
Radisson Hotel  
Santa Maria, CA

### Sept 8-9

California Capital Airshow  
Mather, CA

### Sept 12-16

Reno National Championship  
Air Races and Air Show  
Reno-Stead Airport, Nevada

### October 6-7

Virginia City World Championship  
Outhouse Races  
Virginia City, NV

### October 11-13

AOPA Conference  
Palm Springs, CA

### October 20 -21

Coachella Valley Fly-in Camp Out  
Desert Center Airport (CN64)  
Contact Christina Hutson for details  
760-347-4490 or  
[christinahutson@msn.com](mailto:christinahutson@msn.com)

### October 27

Tucson 99s  
Treasure Hunt/Poker Run

### January 26, 2013

Southwest Section  
Winter Workshop  
Redding, CA

### May 3-5, 2013

Spring Section Meeting  
Bakersfield

#### Does your chapter have items for sale?

Dorothy Norkus (San Diego Chapter) is gathering this information into a database which can be accessed from the 99s website.

Contact Dot at [av8trxx@aol.com](mailto:av8trxx@aol.com)  
for more information.

***Please Expedite  
Dated Material***

THE SOUTHWESTERLY  
SWS Ninety-Nines Newsletter  
c/o Lynn Meadows  
P.O. Box 111  
Truckee, CA 96160  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
TRUCKEE, CA  
PERMIT NO. 43