

THE SOUTHWESTERLY

Quarterly Newsletter of the Southwest Section of the Ninety-Nines

Arizona - California - Hawaii - Nevada - Utah

SUMMER 2025

GOVERNOR'S CORNER

Please welcome Luz Schaible, former Ventura County Chapter Chair, as our new Vice Governor. Luz was kind enough to step in when Mary Wich, Sutter Buttes Chapter, realized she no longer had the time to serve on the Section Board. If you follow Mary on Facebook, you know she is flying constantly and sharing beautiful shots of the sky, clouds, and airplanes from wherever she is. Luz is a long-time 99 and was the chapter chair during the fabulous Fall 2023 Spring Section meeting that was held in Ventura.

Our current Secretary, Sofia Nosratabadi, Orange County Chapter, is also leaving our Section, so if you have ever considered serving on the Section Board, let someone on the nominating committee know. Committee members are listed at the end of the Southwesterly. We wish Sofia the best and congratulate the Northwest Section for acquiring a great new member.

The International Conference in Burlington, VT, is right around the corner, just over a month away, July 9-13. I look forward to seeing many of you in Vermont, and take good notes because San Diego, California, is the location for the 2026 International Conference. The conference isn't just a "San Diego Chapter" event, it is a Southwest Section event. We will be calling on chapters to help with hosting the Hospitality Room, finding vendors for the Fly Mart, advertisers, sponsors, and a multitude of other things that must be done to make the conference a success. Planning has already begun, but will pick up speed in earnest in August. For those of you who have helped plan a section meeting, you know how time flies!

By the time you read this, early registration will have ended, but please register for the Fall Southwest Section Meeting being hosted by the Monterey Bay Chapter. This year, they are also celebrating their 60th anniversary. They have a great event planned and a great location.

Please join us, section meetings are a great place to meet fellow 99s and to network with other chapter members to find out what they are doing. Section Meetings are also a wonderful way to get new members involved in their local chapters. Meeting with other 99s who share the same interests helps members get involved and stay involved. Consider sponsoring a "first timer" to attend the Fall Section Meeting.

Monterey Bay isn't the only chapter celebrating a significant anniversary this year. The Mt. Shasta and Lake Tahoe Chapters are celebrating 50 years, and the Santa Barbara Chapter was chartered 65 years ago this year.

Ten members of our section received AEMSF scholarships - at least one in each state in our section - and there are also six First Wings Scholarship winners. Congratulations to all of them. They will be introduced at our Fall Section Meeting, October 3-5.

Our Spring Section Meeting in Laughlin turned out to be a success. We started without a host chapter. Fortunately, for me, the Rio Colorado Chapter agreed to help. Rio Colorado is a small but mighty chapter of 12 (according to the current directory). They planned an evening Colorado River Cruise, handled the hospitality room, airport transportation and the "goodie bags". Barbara Schulz joined us with a huge selection of books, jewelry and aviation knick knacks. Basically, Rio Colorado took the project over and did a wonderful job! My point is that a chapter doesn't need to have a lot of members to host a Section Meeting; any of our chapters can do it. It is a great way to build camaraderie within the chapter. If your chapter is interested in hosting the Spring 2026 Section meeting or a meeting in the future, contact Luz Schaible, your new Vice Governor!

Anele

Section Officers

Governor:

Anele Brooks – San Luis Obispo County

Vice-Governor:

Luz Schiabile - Ventura County

Secretary:

Sofia Nosratabadi – Orange County

Treasurer:

Leslie Ingham – Santa Clara Valley

Immediate Past Governor:

Pat Chan - Bay Cities

Directors:

Claudia Maciel – Monterey Bay

Laura Del Favero – Santa Clara Valley

Nominating Committee Chair:

Susan Conner-Steeb - San Luis Obispo County

Nominating Committee:

Debra Balsley – San Diego

Samarra Dalrymple - Fullerton

Donna L. Harman - Mount Shasta

Annelie Hubinette – San Fernando Valley

The Southwesterly

Editor-in-Chief

Laura Del Favero

Santa Clara Valley

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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 2022-2024

Flying Activities:

Airmarking

NIFA

Young Eagles

Flying Activities

Lynn Meadows, Lake Tahoe

OPEN

Pat Forbes, Santa Clara Valley

Pat Gregory, Santa Clara Valley

Education & Chapter Development:

Air & Space Education

Fundraising

Membership

Sue Kerr, Mt. Shasta

Susan Liebeler, Ventura County

Lynn Meadows, Lake Tahoe

Communication:

Southwesterly Editor

Social Media/PR

Laura Del Favero, Santa Clara Valley

OPEN

Kelsey Webb, Bay Cities

Jeanne Fenimore, San Fernando Valley

SWS Webmaster- Interim

SWS Web Team

SWS Web Team

SWS Web Team

SWS Website Advisor

Susan Tilley, Santa Clara Valley

Maki Honda, Santa Clara Valley

OPEN

OPEN

Mary McDonald, Bay Cities

Awards:

Awards Chairman

AE Scholarship

Linda Mae Hivert, Reno Area

Lori Parker, Sedona Red Rockettes

Ceci Stratford, Ventura County

Wendy O'Malley, Bay Cities

Other Scholarships

WPOY

Dot Norkus, San Diego

Marcie Smith, Santa Clara Valley

Pilot Careers:

OPEN

History:

Historian /Scrapbook

Oral History

OPEN

Pat Chan, Bay Cities

OPEN

Forest of Friendship

OPEN

Administrative:

Tax Compliance

Bylaws

Barbara Crooker, Mt. Shasta

Pat Prentiss, Orange County

sws99s.org

Congratulations

TO THE SOUTHWEST SECTION SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

2025 AE WINNERS!

Winner's Name	Chapter
Shantal Bustamante	Los Angeles Chapter
Alyssa Christian	San Diego Chapter
Michelle JoAnn	Aloha Chapter
Halley Mallory	Air Hearts-Utah Chapter
Alexandra McGill	San Luis Obispo Co. Chapter
Shanley Olson	Phoenix Chapter
Tania Rivers	San Diego Chapter
Anais Rodriguez	Aloha Chapter
Shanna Varela	San Gabriel Valley Chapter
Kate Whipple	Las Vegas Chapter

SPRING 2025 FIRST WINGS AWARD WINNERS!

Winner's Name	Chapter
Sydney Alquiza-Dacumos	Monterey Bay
Kathryn Baum	Aloha
Dawn Bender	Los Angeles
Katelyn Dunn	Air Hearts-Utah
Christina Gilmore	San Diego
Madison Wooley	Air Hearts-Utah



CALENDAR

Upcoming SWS and International Meetings



Date	Meeting	Host/Location
July 9-13, 2025	2025 International Conference	Location: Burlington, VT Registration link
October 2-5, 2025	2025 Fall SW Section Meeting	Host chapter: Monterey Bay Location: Monterey, CA Registration link
January 2026	2026 Winter Workshop	Host Chapter: Palomar

Fall Southwest Section Meeting Lands in Monterey!

 October 3–5, 2025 |  Monterey, California
 **BONUS: Exclusive Joby Aviation Tour – October 2**

Get ready for ocean views, innovation, and aviation camaraderie—this year's **Fall Southwest Section Meeting** is happening in **Monterey, California** from **October 3–5**, and you won't want to miss it.

Monterey offers the perfect backdrop for our gathering, with crisp fall weather, fewer crowds, and stunning scenery along the coast. Pilots and guests alike will enjoy exploring **Cannery Row**, the world-renowned **Monterey Bay Aquarium**, and the scenic **17-Mile Drive**. Whether you're flying in commercially or landing your aircraft at **Monterey Peninsula Airport (KMRY)**, the journey is worth it!

Don't Miss This: Limited Joby Aviation Tour – Thursday, October 2

We're incredibly excited to announce an **exclusive pre-meeting tour of Joby Aviation**—one of the most talked-about innovators in electric air mobility.

This behind-the-scenes experience includes:

- A deep dive into **how Joby's eVTOL aircraft is designed and built**
- A chance to see **robots in action**, producing key aircraft components
- Conversations with the **Joby team managing high-tech production**
- Weather permitting, a **live flight demonstration** of their unmanned eVTOL aircraft!

This tour is **limited in capacity**, so early registration is highly encouraged..

Event At-A-Glance:

- **Joby Aviation Tour:** October 2 (limited space)
- **Section Meeting:** October 3–5
- **Location:** Monterey, CA
- **Airport:** Monterey Peninsula Airport (KMRY)

Ready to Register?

<https://conferences.sws99s.org/events/2025-fall-southwest-section-meeting/>

Come connect with fellow pilots, learn something new, and be inspired by the future of flight in one of California's most beautiful coastal cities. See you in Monterey!

Hotel Information

Venue: Embassy Suites Monterey Bay - Seaside

Venue Website: <https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/internationalorganizationofwomenpilots/>

Address:

Group Code C-906, 1441 Canyon Del Rey, Seaside, California, 93955, United States

Hosted During the Fall Southwest Section Meeting in Monterey

Want a website for your chapter but not sure where to start? We've got you covered!

During the Fall Section Meeting in Monterey, we're offering a **hands-on website workshop** to help any chapter build a simple, functional website using **WordPress**—one of the most user-friendly website platforms out there.

This workshop is **designed for beginners** and requires no technical experience. If you can write an email, you can build a website!



What You'll Learn:

- How to log in and navigate your chapter's website
- How to add and update content (like events, photos, and announcements)
- How to keep your site clear, useful, and welcoming
- Tips for keeping your site updated without a lot of extra time



What You'll Need:

- A laptop (this will be a hands-on session)
- A willingness to try something new!
- Let us know in advance if you're planning to participate—so we can reserve space for your chapter on the server

The Southwest Section will host your site on our main system at sws99s.org/yourchaptername.

Want your own custom website address? You're welcome to purchase your own domain (like yourchapter99s.org)



Important Notes:

- Server Space is limited and assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.
- No coding, no jargon, no stress—we'll guide you every step of the way.
- This is a great opportunity to make your chapter more visible and easier to find online.

Whether your chapter has no website at all or you're starting fresh, this is the perfect time to get set up and feel confident managing your own site.

Interested in joining the workshop?

Please email us or check the box during registration to reserve your spot. That way, we can prepare your chapter's site ahead of time!

Let's bring your chapter online—simply and successfully.

Claudia Maciel



JULY 9-13

2025 International Conference

Burlington, Vermont

Hosted by the New England Section

**CONFERENCE ON-TIME REGISTRATION
DEADLINE - MAY 31!**

Follow [link](#) for information and registration



JULY 15

The application deadline for the next Professional Pilot Leadership Initiative (PPLI) session is July 15.

[Click here for the PPLI fact sheet](#)

[Click here for more information and the website](#)

AUG 31

The application deadline for the Southwest Section Woman Pilot of the Year award is August 31.

[Click here for the WPOY application](#)

OCT 3-5

Registration for the Fall SW Section Meeting is open!

[Click here for registration information](#)

OCT 1

Student Pilots - The application deadline for the Fall First Wings Award is October 1

[Award descriptions and application instructions](#)



Please note the deadline is **August 31, 2025**



Southwest Section Members

Call for Nominations for 2025 WOMAN PILOT OF THE YEAR

The 2025 WOMAN PILOT OF THE YEAR and PROFESSIONAL WOMAN PILOT OF THE YEAR will be revealed at the Fall Southwest Section Meeting on October 4, 2025.

Our organization is filled with women of tremendous accomplishments. Each one has such an interesting and fascinating repertoire of flight experiences and contributions to the 99s and the aviation community. Our members take long flying adventures, fly for the 99s, fly for charity, fly for the Civil Air Patrol, give introductory flights as well as fly for their living – instructors, charter, airline, and many more. Each year we celebrate one or two of our members for her achievements and to inspire other members.

I urge all of you, wonderfully talented women pilots to take a look around you and at yourself for potential candidates to be nominated for Woman Pilot of the Year or for Professional Woman Pilot of the Year for 2025. You may send your application to me via USPS or electronically. The **deadline is August 31, 2025.**

This should take you right to the page.

<https://sws99s.org/members-only/section-awards/>

Send to:

Marcie Smith

1047 Blair Ave

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

marcie.smith.home@gmail.com

408-245-7934

CHAPTER NEWS

Aloha Chapter 99s Celebrate Earth Day with Annual Beach Cleanup



Waimānalo, O‘ahu — The Aloha Chapter of The Ninety-Nines, an international organization of women pilots, gathered at Sherwoods Beach in Waimānalo on April 27, 2025 for their annual Earth Day beach cleanup—an event that combines community service with social connection and environmental stewardship.

With reusable gloves on and bags in hand, aviatrixes and their families scoured the shoreline, collecting trash, plastics, and other debris from the beach. In the process of beautifying one of O‘ahu’s treasured coastlines, members of the Aloha Chapter shared “talk story” moments with beachgoers, engaging the community in conversations about The Ninety-Nines’ legacy, mission, and ongoing work to promote women in aviation.

“This is one of our favorite annual events,” said Michelle JoAnn, Aloha Chapter Chair. “It’s a chance to give back to our local community, mālama ‘āina, and connect with people about what we do—beyond flying planes.”

Founded in 1929 by 99 women pilots including Amelia Earhart, The Ninety-Nines supports women in aviation through education, mentorship, scholarships, and outreach. The Aloha Chapter proudly carries that mission forward across Hawai‘i, organizing local events and service projects.

The beach cleanup not only helped preserve the natural beauty of Sherwoods Beach, but also sparked meaningful dialogue with locals and visitors about aviation history and the power of women-led initiatives.

To learn more about The Ninety-Nines and the Aloha Chapter’s events and initiatives, visit <https://www.instagram.com/alohachapter99s/>

Media Contact: Michelle JoAnn Chapter Chair Aloha Chapter 99s
alohachapter99s@gmail.com
<https://www.alohachapter99s.com/>



CHAPTER NEWS

Fullerton Chapter

Poker Run in February 2025

The representation from our local Fullerton Airport pilots and other 99s chapters (Orange County, San Diego, Palomar, and Long Beach) was very nice to see. Our Treasurer announced that our Poker Run was very successful as the funds raised will go towards our scholarships. The weather held up, the hot dogs were great, the company fun and what more can one ask?

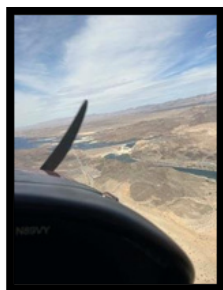
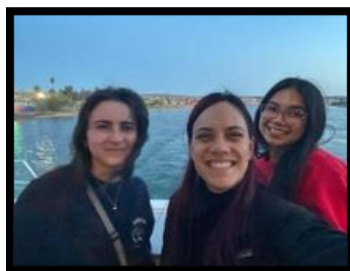
We thank our many sponsors who donated prize items for the event: Fullerton Airport, General Aviation at Fullerton Airport, Ida Zhang, Anna's Kitchen at El Monte Airort, Yanks Museum at Chino Airport, Flying Tigers from Riverside Airport, Café at Riverside Airport, Dana Glidden, Kim Ernst, Garys Aircraft Detailing, and Mr. Taylor. Without our gift donations, this event would not have been as successful as it was.



Congratulations to the above prize winners!

Southwest Section Meeting – March 2025

Chapter members who attended the Southwest Section Meeting in Laughlin, Nevada were: Cameron LaFont, Dana Glidden, Jamie Tanabe, Anna Clark, Mikayla Hinze, and Julia Cruz (Lia). We thank the Rio Colorado Chapter for a fun Section Meeting and appreciate the work that went into hosting this event.



VIP WELCOME IN THE DESERT: FULLERTON 99S AIRMARK "THE AIRPORT CLUB"

By Madona Ray, Vice Chair

The Fullerton Chapter of The Ninety-Nines, Inc. recently completed a striking airmarking at The Airport Club (NV00), a private airfield and the first in Nevada to be granted an identifier. "The Airport Club" in large white letters and frequency "122.8", along with the 99s logo, now proudly stand on the runway, a beacon of aviation community, sisterhood and accomplishment.

What makes this event particularly special for me is the serendipitous way it came together. I, being a chapter member, stepped into a role in aircraft management, sales and leasing (which came after earning my private pilot certificate and qualification a year or two previously—an achievement made possible by scholarships, mentorship, and unwavering support from the 99s). Consequently, I would find myself in a meeting with Mr. Jonathan Wallentine, owner of the airport, in a conference room where the idea took flight.

Upon learning about the 99s and their mission, Mr. Wallentine was instantly supportive. He not only offered his runway for the airmarking, but went above and beyond: the event was catered, live music filled the air, and refreshments flowed freely as we painted. It wasn't just a project—it was a festive and fun historical landmark in the making.

Thanks to the detailed guidance of the 99s' Airmarking Guide and assistance from the Airport Manager, Mark, the Fullerton Chapter—many of whom had never participated in an airmarking before—delivered a beautifully executed piece of useful aviation art. The camaraderie, teamwork, and collective talent within the chapter (and the broader organization) shone brightly. A lot of work goes into the day of painting, the day before prepping, creating a strategy and aides to efficiency, as well as so much preparation behind the scenes...weeks in advance!

Special thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Wallentine and family, Airport Manager Mark Zinkel and staff, Ronna. The Airport Club hospitality has truly raised the bar. Thank you to "On the Ball Coffee", for the energizing and tasty coffee and also to the Fullerton 99s Board and Members. Participation has truly been a joy, honor and a privilege.

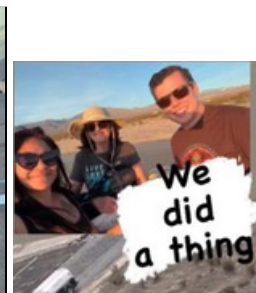
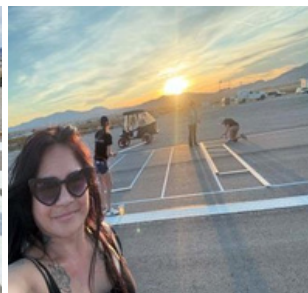
Fullerton 99s Participants were: Cameron LaFont, Madona Ray, Cheri Rhynard, Lauren Hutson, Jamie Tanabe, Michelle Perine, Hannah Smith, Nina Rodriguez, Samantha Schroeder, Marisol Carrera, Bob LaFont, J Bruce Camino, Bogdan, Vic Jones, Bryan Rodriguez, Michelle Ponce, Ali Isaksen, Steven Papageorge, Nathan Perine and Elisha Ray.



Back Row: Jamie, Jonathan, Kaylee, Cameron, Steve Ali, Vic, Bryan, Mark, Michelle
Front Row: Marisol, Michelle, J Bruce, Bob, Nina, Hannah, Sam, Madona



Back Row: Vic, Madona, Bryan, Marisol, Nina, Hannah, Bob, Sam, Baby Jane, Jonathan, J Bruce
Front Row: Ali, Michelle, Cameron, Jamie



CHAPTER NEWS

Ventura County 99s Celebrate Women's History! Sunday, March 2, 2025

Inspiring Vibes, Women's History Thrives!

Today, VC99s kicked off Women's History Month at @kszp @aviation_museum_sp with an incredible celebration of our pioneering women in aviation!

Our amazing Pilot Crew—Dawn Maloney, Brenda Corby, Sheila Collier, Lindsey Bell, Joann Stover, Susan Ray, Ava West, Emma Elkington, and Dakota Tustin—showed their unwavering support, greeting curious aviation enthusiasts in full pilot regalia. They embodied the spirit of trailblazers like Amelia Earhart, Pancho Barnes, Harriet Quimby, and more, giving onlookers a taste of the nostalgic essence of our pioneer Aviatrices.

We are so proud of our chapter's enthusiasm—together, we are the best of us!

The mission of the 99 Pilots is to empower through education, mentoring, and scholarship opportunities—DM us for more info on how to join this incredible journey!



Reno Area

On May 8, the Reno chapter visited Katie Grigg's Balloon Repair Facility in Dayton, NV.





MARIN COUNTY 99S 2025 WING UP SCHOLARSHIP

For those daring, inspiring, wonderful women pursuing their dreams of flight, the Marin County 99s are offering our support for your next rating. We will provide up to \$1,000 for your check ride expenses. There will be three awards given.

Please provide your contact information (name, address, email, phone), age, rating to be accomplished, your airport of operation, instructors' name and designated flight examiner's name, (when known). We would also like to know your background and future plans in the aviation world. What brought you to aviation? What will you give back?

***Applicants must live within 50 nautical miles of the
Scaggs Island VOR (SGD)112.1***

The check ride must be accomplished within 2025. Please send in your information by August 1, 2025 to: Cindy Pickett, clpickett@verizon.net

The 99s have been inspiring and promoting women pilots since 1929. We honor and respect all women who have found their heart, lives and future in aviation.

Make this the best year of your life! We are there for you.

CREDENTIALING PROCESS FOR JULY 12, 2025 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

One Member One Vote – Credentialing Process All Online

The credentials process establishes current membership in The Ninety-Nines, Inc. The 2025 Annual Meeting is employing a hybrid (In-person, Online) approach; therefore in order to vote, either in-person or virtually via Zoom, every member must complete the credentials process. Good news: The credentials process is done ALL ONLINE using the same platform we employed in 2021-2024. The online application, (1) confirms you are a member of The Ninety-Nines, Inc. using the email address on file at International Headquarters. On June 16, 2025, Headquarters will send out an email notification that The Ninety-Nines Annual Meeting Credentials Website is Open and outline the process for each member to credential for The Ninety-Nines Annual Meeting, whether it be in-person or via ZOOM. Chapter Chairs check your membership rosters and encourage members to sign up for electronic voting as well as obtaining an email address if none is currently listed in the directory. Members without an email address on file at Headquarters may establish a free email account using GMAIL or YAHOO and forward to HQ. Members can register to vote electronically yet still request for their email address to be omitted from the online directory if anyone is worried about unwanted solicitation.

Key Dates:

- June 16, 2025 – Email from HQ announcing credentials desk online is open along with instructions on completing the online application
- July 10, 2025 – Online credentials desk will close at midnight
- July 12, 2025 – Check your email one hour before the Annual Meeting for an Election Buddy email confirming your credentials process was a success. Election Buddy will be used to establish a quorum and for voting during The Annual Meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact our Headquarters Manager, Laura Ohrenberg, at 844-994-1929 or 405-685-7969 or via email at hqmanager@ninety-nines.org or Credentials Chair at 315-525-7732 or via email at credentials@ninety-nines.org.

Thank you for being a Ninety-Nine! We hope you will attend this year's Annual Meeting.

Sincerely,

Lois Horne, Credentials Committee Chair



NEW HORIZONS

Aldine Von Isser passed away on April 16, 2025, She was a member of the Tucson Chapter. Follow [link](#) to read the New Horizons article posted on the International website.





OUR MISSION — THE NINETY-NINES® INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN PILOTS® PROMOTES ADVANCEMENT OF AVIATION THROUGH EDUCATION, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND MUTUAL SUPPORT WHILE HONORING OUR UNIQUE HISTORY AND SHARING OUR PASSION FOR FLIGHT.

SOUTHWESTERLY NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Feb 20 submissions due for the Spring issue
May 20 submissions due for the Summer issue
Aug 20 submissions due for the Fall issue
Nov 20 submissions due for the Winter issue

This newsletter is a publication of the Southwest Section of the Ninety-Nines.
Forward submissions and photos to be included in the upcoming newsletter to
southwesterly@sws99s.org

Editor
Laura Del Favero
Santa Clara Valley Chapter