



Ninety-Nines Newsletter of the  
Ventura County Ninety-Nines  
[www.vc99s.com](http://www.vc99s.com)

January/February 2018

# The Flyer

Chairman: Judy McCarthy  
Vice Chair: Alison Barker  
Secretary: Janeen Gaul  
Treasurer: Paula Heintz  
Past Chair: Peggy Watson-Meinke  
Newsletter: Pat McCollum

## First Pilot Proficiency Class of the 2018 Season! iPad Basic & Aviation Weather Apps

Lori Parker

Starting off the VC99's 18<sup>th</sup> year of pilot proficiency classes was Brian Schiff, who taught an excellent program on iPad Basics & Aviation apps. His interesting and entertaining style had the audience focused the entire evening.

Looking for a new iPad? Consider at minimum the iPad Air, with at least 32 gigabytes of memory if possible. When deciding on display size, consider your individual cockpit when making a decision. If you get iPad with cellular, it has an internal GPS even if you don't activate the service. To save money, you can always use the WiFi hot-spot on your phone if needed.

Can iPad replace paper? The answer is yes for general aviation VFR and IFR, however make sure there is no avionics interference, you have the functional equivalent of the paper material, and the data is current. However, you cannot use the iPad for navigation – only for situational awareness. And remember, before updating the iOS, wait until your favorite aviation app vets the program first.

Battery management tips: We all know to reduce screen brightness, but did you know that location services can really soak up battery life?

Go to Settings > Privacy > Location Services and turn off as many of possible.

Some of Brian's favorite aviation weather apps:

- WSI
- VFRmap.com (website—add to home screen)
- AeroWeather
- NOAA Radar Wunderground
- AVNwx.com (website—add to home screen)



If you missed Brian's program, you can go to [www.CaptainSchiff.com/iPad](http://www.CaptainSchiff.com/iPad) to see the slides and handouts. I found that and so that and much more. Check it out!

*A big thank you goes out to Jon Williams who generously donated a mini iPad to be raffled off during the last class of the season.*

# Winter Scholarship Awards

Lori & Lisa

Women decide to learn to fly for many reasons – she may come from a flying family, she may have a spouse that flies or maybe it is a goal that she has always had. Whatever the inspiration, learning to fly is a commitment of time, energy, resources and of course, the mind. We have two student pilot milestone award winners this fall who are ready, willing and able to achieve their dream of becoming a pilot. We are proud to announce the following award winners.

**Carly Shukiar**, who after talking with the VC99s at Aviation Career Day, cemented her dream to become a pilot. With the support of her parents who honored her dream, she was able to start flight lessons much earlier than many of us. She is one lucky and determined gal!

At 17 years old, she has already soloed and is focusing on her cross country flights and preparing for the written exam.

Many times a person has the fortitude to persevere through challenging times of the learning process because they have already been successful with following through with other endeavors. Last year, Carly started aviation club at her high school. At the end of her first year, she had gathered 15 active members. This is dedication in action.

With her goal of becoming a pilot, CFI and eventually becoming a captain of a Boeing 787, she is well on her way towards achieving her PPL in 2018. She has her feet firmly planted on the ground with her eyes clearly focused in the sky. We are thrilled for Carly!



There is nothing like being given the yoke as a pre-teen to get the ball rolling to become a pilot! Add a positive female role model pilot to the mix and the only place to go from there is UP!

Student Pilot Milestone Award winner **Sierra Garlinger** has had a plethora of experiences that have prepared her for becoming a pilot. She has not only ridden and helped fly many aircraft, she has helped clean and paint and assisted with minor repairs. She has been fortunate enough to fly many times in the B25 with her father.

With all those experiences, one specific experience truly changed her life. Pilot and philanthropist Jack Broom let her try out his brand new simulator for jet pilots that he would soon donate to the military. That cinched the deal.

She is now going to school at CAU to focus on her aviation degree & has already started her volunteer work with the 99s.

And if that isn't enough, she also volunteers with children who have disabilities. What does she with the kids do you ask? She of course takes her service horse, an American Mini Horse named Captain Freddie Sparrow and lets the kids interact with him. Good luck Sierra! Happy Flying!

This fall's Advanced Milestone award winner is **Lisa Fusano**. Lisa earned her Private Pilot Certificate three years ago and since then has logged over 600 hours. Lisa is an active member of the 99s SFV Chapter, serving as chairman of their Cookies to the Tower committee. She is extensively involved at Whiteman Airport with the Aviation Explorers Program for youth ages 14 to 21 and the EAA

Chapter 40. She has flown 139 Young Eagle flights, including special needs children and 32 Adult Eagle flights.

Lisa recently obtained her Instrument Rating and is now studying for the Commercial Rating written exam. She will use this scholarship for her Commercial Rating flight training. Ultimately she wants to become a CFI, a Command Pilot for Angel Flights and offer flights for special need kids and adults. Ceci Stratford has been Lisa's positive role model and has been guiding Lisa in her quest to reach her aviation goals. Congratulations Lisa and thank you Ceci for all you do to support females in aviation! •



*Ceci Stratford (left) and Lisa Fusano.*

## VC99s Holiday Awards Dinner

Judy McCarthy

On December 3, 2017, Seventy seven VC99s, their 49.5s and guests converged upon the Best Western Posada Royale Inn in Simi Valley for a fun night of Merriment and wonderful food.

A lovely social hour with appetizers, dinner and drinks was topped off by Three (yes 3) Scholarships Awards. We gave two Student Pilot Awards to young women just learning to fly and one Karen Johnson advanced award for a woman pilot wanting to advance beyond Private Pilot. The Karen Johnson Advance Award is given in Memory of our late Chapter Chair, who was killed in a Helicopter accident Jan. 2, 2013.

Of course the night would not be complete without the 49.5 Pledge, which is a fun yearly ritual designed for a good laugh by all.

We collected clothing, and supplies as well as checks for our Charity pick Samaritan Homeless Center of Simi Valley. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously.

A great time was had by all and the good news....we will do it again next year in the West County. Mark your calendar for Dec. 2, 2018!! •

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Cessna Pilot Center

# Our January Meeting

Alison Barker

At our January 16th General Meeting, held at the Aviation Museum of Santa Paula, we were treated to a presentation by Velma Lomax and her teams of award winning female robotics students from ACE Charter High Flying Aces Team 4711 and Ventura High School Circuit of Life Team 3925.

Velma mentors 12 robotics teams in Ventura County, helping them get their clubs set up and running. She has been in education for 25 years and her dedication is inspiring. The teams are currently getting ready for the Ventura Regional FIRST Robotics competition on March 29-31. Each team entering gets the contest theme on January 6 and they have only 6 weeks and limited budget to build and program an industrial sized robot to

play a difficult field game against competitors from all over the world. If they are successful, they will go on to the the FIRST Championship in April.

The theme of the 2018 Regionals is FIRST POWER UP. FIRST Stands for- 1.For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology and was founded in 1989 by engineer and entrepreneur Dean Kamen, who invented the Segway. Kamen was disappointed with the number of kids—particularly women and minorities—who were interested in science and technology careers, and decided to do something about it. As an inventor, he looked for

activities that captured the enthusiasm of students, and decided that combining the excitement of sports competition with science and technology had potential.

Not only do the students learn the building side of robotics such as design, engineering, programming, 3-D printing and building, they also learn



the business side such as fundraising, schmoozing, teamwork, branding, budgeting and how to run a business. Students also go on to mentor younger students in Lego Leagues.

They are in need of volunteers for the Ventura Regional on March 29-10. Please consider volunteering to be a judge at this fun event. They especially need women judges and mentors. Robotics, like aviation, is still a male dominated field. Here is the website for more information: [www.frcventuraregional.com](http://www.frcventuraregional.com) •

# Chili & Charts with Judy Phelps

Lori Parker, Co-Chair Student Advancement Team

On January 20<sup>th</sup>, ten enthusiastic student pilots attended the “Chili and Charts” workshop with our own Master Pilot Judy Phelps. While enjoying Pat McCollum’s delicious chili, attendees learned important tips on correctly reading VFR charts. Once again, we forgot to take pictures to have a visual memory of the event, however, everyone will remember the difference between restricted and prohibited airspace and the safety factor of the highest point printed in a quadrant.

A big thank you to all who attended this successful Student Pilot Advancement program and to Judy for leading! Stay tuned for the next event in the Spring... •

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## Mark Your Calendars 99s!

**Ventura County 99s 6th Annual Valentine’s Day  
Flash Mob Fly-In to Santa Ynez Airport**

**Sunday, February 11th  
11 AM - 1 PM**

Bring your picnic lunch, wear your favorite pink, red, or white shirt, and compete for the Best Table Setup! If you need more information or are planning to come, please email directly to [linda@av8chicks.com](mailto:linda@av8chicks.com). I will keep a list and send out information prior to the day.

Back up date – February 18th •

## There’s Always Someone to Congratulate in the VC99s

Congratulations to **Erika Ames** for passing her Commercial Pilot checkride in December.



**Molly Culver** passer her Private Pilot Check-ride Saturday, November 19. Congratulations!



# ICAS Convention

Alison Barker

ICAS is the International Council of Air Shows. The ICAS annual convention in Las Vegas is a place where the airshow community can meet, exchange ideas, and learn how to put on exciting, professional and safe events. Airshow performers get booked, airshow organizers find out what performers are available and who wants to be in their show. The first ICAS convention was in 1967, which makes 2017 their 50-year anniversary.

I've served on the board of the Wings Over Camarillo Airshow for the past 2 years and each year a new person from our team is selected to go. This year I was the lucky person joining Air Boss Bill Thomas and board VP Matt Johnston. For the icing on the cake, we got to fly to Las Vegas with Airshow Performer, Vicky Benzing! Unfortunately, the convention started on December 3rd, so I had to miss our VC99s holiday party, and also we received the news of the fires starting while we were there, which was devastating. However, lots of exciting things happened at ICAS and I had a great time.



Why is ICAS so much fun? Well, picture this... a large convention room filled with your favorite airshow performers. They each have their individual booths, and you just go from booth to booth



meeting them all. They also have plenty of aviation swag and don't mind getting their picture taken with you. Military jet teams such as Blue Angels, Thunderbirds and Snowbirds, as

well as civilian performers such as Sean Tucker, Vicky Benzing, John Collver, Julie Clark, Dan Buchanan, Kent Pietsch and Bill Stein are all there. The Commemorative Air Force occupied an entire row with all their different units and chapters.

ICAS is also one giant 60,000 sq.ft. classroom. All the airshow experts are there. There are valuable educational and safety sessions for both the performers and attendees. And of course, fun parties!

The Wings Over Camarillo team is bursting with new ideas to make our airshow more exciting, more fun for all ages and with more things to do and experience. Mark your calendars for the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in August – August 18 & 19, 2018. Also, make sure to "Like" and stay tuned for announcements on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/>



# 2016 Award Winner's Thanks

Susan Bell

Thank you Ventura County 99s for the Karen Johnson Advanced Rating scholarship I was awarded last December, with additional thanks to Mark King at CP Aviation in Santa Paula for his instruction toward my commercial rating, which has opened many doors for me.

As many of you may know, my current aviation focus is on aerobatics. I just finished my second year of competing in International Aerobatics Club (IAC) contests in the Southwest. I began 2017 with the knowledge that I needed to purchase an aerobatic plane of my own if I was to continue progressing and eventually reach my goal of being on the U.S. Advanced Aerobatic Team. After much searching, the perfect aircraft appeared on the scene this summer: an Extra 300 midwing that was locally-owned. The one caveat as I jumped through the hoops of ownership: I needed a commercial rating to be insurable in such a high-performance plane. Thankfully, I finished up this rating just as I completed the checkout in my new plane and a thorough aerobatic safety course at Tutima Academy of Aviation Safety. So I'm now happily rolling, looping and spinning above the skies these days as I continue to perfect my skills.

The summer I also began glider lessons at Southern California Soaring Academy with the intent to complete my commercial add-on rating. Happy to report that I soloed in mid-September and have my checkride scheduled for mid-November. Soaring is such a different experience from power planes — gotta make every landing count and it's so very quiet. I plan to also learn how to tow gliders with my taildragger experience, combining the two worlds. (They need a female tow pilot out there at Crystal!) I've also begun volunteering with the school's STEM program exposing with eighth graders to soaring and providing first glider rides.

And, finally, finishing my commercial rating allows me to pursue my flight instructor ratings. I've already taken the CFI, CFI-I and FOI writtens and have my advanced and instrument ground instructor certificate. My goals for this are a bit less defined, but I think I want to teach aerobatics and upset recovery, although I wouldn't rule out a mid-career change into aviation. The more I fly, the more I love it, and the more I want to share it with others. Thanks again VC99s! •



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# Oxnard STEM Day for Girls

Alison Barker

California Aeronautical University teamed up with the VC99s Sierra Garlinger and Alison Barker to participate in the 2nd annual STEM Day for Girls on December 2nd. About 300 middle school girls from Oxnard Union school district came to Hueneme High School at 8 am on a Saturday to learn about STEM careers with mechanical, computer, aeronautical and electrical engineering themes.

STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. The goal of STEM day is to inspire our future workforce and introduce girls to different STEM careers they may not be aware of.

The event was kicked off by Mary Anne Rooney, of the Ventura County Civic Alliance, followed by opening remarks from Rebecca Chandler, Director of Career Education. Silvia Faulstich of NAVAUR gave the keynote address.

Students then separated into groups and attended 3 different 40 minute long workshops. The VC99s and CAU represented the Aeronautical theme. CAU brought their Mobile Simulator Experience Bus which allows students fly aircraft in a simulator. We set up the sim so they took off at Oxnard airport and were able to see the scenery above their houses and towns. While waiting for their turn in the Sim, students learned about engineering and aeronautical principles through a hands-on paper airplane building and test flying experiment with competitions and prizes for accuracy and distance. The students also got an overview about pilot careers and the Bachelors of Science Degree in Aeronautics offered by CAU. •



# Ventura County Ninety-Nines 18th Annual Pilot Proficiency Classes • 2018



The Ventura County Ninety-Nines return for the 18th annual season of Pilot Proficiency Classes with the new classes and instructors that you asked for! The classes are open to all pilots, student pilots and instructors. You can find detailed information about the classes & instructors and register at [www.vc99sclasses.com](http://www.vc99sclasses.com) or <http://ennect.com/e5891>.

|      |     |                |  |  |      |
|------|-----|----------------|--|--|------|
| 1/31 | Wed | 7:00-9:30pm    | iPad Basics and Weather Information  | with Brian Schiff  | \$35 |
| 2/7  | Wed | 7:00-9:00pm    | Mountain Flying and Density Altitude   | with Barry Schiff and Brian Schiff                             | \$35 |
| 2/10 | Sat | 9:30am-4:00pm  | Annual Pilot Refresher   | with Michael Church  | \$70 |
| 2/14 | Wed | 7:00-9:00pm    | ForeFlight for Beginners   | with Michael Jesch   | \$35 |
| 2/21 | Wed | 7:00-9:00pm    | Airline Pilots Who Also Fly GA: Decision Points                                | with Michael Jesch, John Ringel, Gary Schank, and Brian Schiff | \$35 |
| 2/28 | Wed | 7:00-9:30pm    | Hands On ForeFlight Workshop   | with Brian Schiff  | \$35 |
| 3/3  | Sat | 9:30am-12:30pm | ForeFlight Long Cross Country Flight Planning: Destination Airventure Oshkosh! | with Michael Jesch   | \$35 |
| 3/3  | Sat | 2:00-4:30pm    | Other iPad Apps  | with Michael Jesch   | \$35 |
| 3/7  | Wed | 7:00-9:00pm    | Risk Management and Decision Making in Alaska                                  | with DPE Ken Wittekiend and MasterCFII Michael Phillips        | \$35 |
| 3/10 | Sat | 9:30-11:30am   | Preparing for the Private Pilot Practical Test                                 | with DPE Ken Wittekiend and MasterCFII Michael Phillips        | \$35 |
| 3/10 | Sat | 1:30-4:00pm    | Preparing for the Instrument Practical Test                                    | with DPE Ken Wittekiend and MasterCFII Michael Phillips        | \$35 |
| 3/14 | Wed | 7:00-9:00pm    | Lessons Learned Flying a Boeing 737-200 on its Last Flight                     | with Gary Schank   | \$35 |
| 3/17 | Sat | 9:30am-4:30pm  | IFR Refresher Clinic   | with Rayvon Williams   | \$70 |
| 3/21 | Wed | 7:00-9:00pm    | Flight Forces and Fundamentals   | with Barry Schiff and Brian Schiff                             | \$35 |
| 3/24 | Sat | 9:30am-12:00pm | Navigating Through and Around LAX & SAN Class Bravo Airspace                   | with Michael Phillips  | \$35 |
| 3/24 | Sat | 2:00-4:30pm    | Understanding VFR Charts and Airspace  | with Judy Phelps   | \$35 |
| 3/28 | Wed | 7:00-9:00pm    | Human Factors and Pilot Decision Making  | with Brian Schiff and James Clarkson                           | \$35 |
| 4/11 | Wed | 7:00-9:00pm    | ForeFlight for Non-Pilot Passengers  | with Michael Jesch   | \$35 |
| 4/18 | Wed | 7:00-9:00pm    | What the Airspeed Indicator Can and Can't Tell You                             | with Michael Jesch   | \$35 |
| 4/25 | Wed | 7:00-9:00pm    | How Bad Decisions Lead to Accidents  | with William Pass  | \$35 |

Please register early and no later than 24 hours in advance, for all the classes to make sure you get a seat and any course materials. There is a fee for all classes. There are several discount pricing options and season passes for 99s and immediate family members, active full-time military, CFIs, and those who want to attend multiple classes. Early bird pricing available for those who buy season passes before February 28th. We welcome walk-ins on a space available basis.

All classes meet at  
555 Airport Way  
in the upstairs meeting  
room of the Department of  
Airports at KCMA.  
Ample free parking for your  
plane or car

**Advance On-Line Registration & Payment Recommended.**

Many of our classes require you bring materials to class. For class details/requirements as well as complete presenter information, please go to [www.vc99sclasses.com](http://www.vc99sclasses.com) or <http://ennect.com/e5891>

# Meet a Member

My name is **Victoria Cabrera** and I am a newer member of the Ventura County 99s. I am a captain on the Embraer Brasilia and have been flying for Phoenix Air for more than three years. I am based at Point Mugu Naval Base and fly passengers to San Nicholas Island and China Lake Naval Base. I have recently been recognized for my dedication and commitment to the mission by my peers and company. I feel honored and proud to be able to share this with our organization because I want other female pilots to be inspired to become great pilots and achieve the goals they set their minds



to. In the words of Walt Disney, "If you can dream it, you can do it." I want all our members and future aviators to dream big. •

## READY TO FLY?

### VENTURA COUNTY FLIGHT TRAINING CENTER AT OXNARD AIRPORT

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#### Flight School Programs

- ▶ Private pilot certificate
- ▶ Instrument rating
- ▶ Tailwheel Endorsement
- ▶ Multi-engine, commercial, CFI, CFII
- ▶ and more



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