

Antelope Valley Ninety-Nines  
SKYWORD  
June 2006

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*Hello AV 99s!!!*

*Thanks to Barbara for having a BBQ over Memorial Day weekend. It was great fun to socialize with everyone who was in town. I hope we can have more "last minute" social events like that. They seem to work best for some people in our chapter.*

*Summer is fast approaching us. I cannot believe half the year is almost over. But, it looks like we have some fun events planned for this summer. Please look at the Calendar of events for the socializing activities like camping out at Kernville and hiking to the top of Telescope Peak.*

*I have included in the information in the section below about the various on-line networking sites that are being used by the 99s. These are great sites to remember. We can use them for planning events, getting information about training, or advancing in an aviation career. Just visit the web site of the ninety-nines to sign up, if you are interested.*

*Jennifer*

## **Chapter Events & Info**

**Our next Chapter Meeting will be Thursday June 8** – will be held at the **Greenhouse Café in Lancaster**. Social dinner at 6:00 and the meeting starts at 7:00 pm. This meeting is open to guests.

**The next Board Meeting** will be in August 7<sup>th</sup> at Jennifer's house at 7pm. This meeting is open to all members.

**A Chapter hike-campout at Telescope Peak** is being planned for June 16-17. For everyone who enjoys the outdoors, it looks like this event will be a lot of fun.

**The Spring SWS Meeting** was well attended by the AV Chapter. Our attendees were Jennifer, Carol, Elle, and Barbara. The weather was great for flying both directions, the events were a lot of fun, and the meeting was quite well organized.

As far as we know, none of the AV Chapter members plan to attend the **Annual International Meeting**, to be held in Washington DC in early July, so Jennifer will give our delegate slips to Susan Larson. More information on the Chapter's voting requests is contained in the Chapter minutes. If anyone decides to go, please let Jennifer know asap.

**Congratulations to our Chapter!** We won the SWS' Aerospace Education Award this year...AGAIN!!! Nice job, everyone! Our chapter's commitment to its members being active in the aviation community continues.

### **99s Email Networking Forums**

**The Ninety-Nines sponsors three email networking forums for women pilots:**

**The 99s Email Network** is for discussion of varied topics related to being women pilots and 99s - flying, chapter/section innovations, 99s events and activities, and much more.

**The 99s Flight Training Forum** is for 99s to discuss any-and-all concerns about flight training, including finding a flight school or instructor, completing a rating, maintaining currency, and flight safety. This is where we may share what we know about flying, and learn from each other. It is moderated by flight instructors and designated pilot examiners from the U.S. and Canada.

**Pro 99s Network:** This is a virtual meeting place for women worldwide who are progressing toward or are already in professional pilot careers. They network and mentor each other and discuss all topics pertinent to pilot careers including the benefits and disadvantages of various different pilot career opportunities, finding scholarships and jobs, and balancing work and family. It is moderated by professional pilots. It is open to eligible non-members (pilots who are not 99s)!

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## Chapter Member News

### *FOREST OF FRIENDSHIP*

This month we are featuring our two members who have been accepted into the 99s Forest of Friendship: Flora Belle Reece and Shirley Williams (listed alphabetically).

The Forest is nestled on a gentle slope overlooking Lake Warnock, on the outskirts of Atchison, Kansas. It is comprised of trees from all fifty states and thirty-five countries around the world, where Honorees reside. Each tree has its own flag; and on special occasions, the Forest is ablaze with the brilliance of colors of more than 100 flags blowing in the breeze.

There are trees from George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, the Bicentennial American Spruce, a tree from Amelia's grandfather's farm, a redbud from President Eisenhower's farm, and the Moon Tree grown from a seed taken to the moon by Command Pilot Stuart Roosa on Apollo 14. This latter tree honors the seventeen astronauts who gave their lives in America's pioneering of space exploration. Their names are enshrined around the tree and the names of the living astronauts are put in a protective outer circle. In 2003 a monument near the tree was dedicated to the seven astronauts lost on Shuttle Columbia.

From its inception, the International Forest of Friendship was founded and led by Fay Gillis Wells and Joe Carrigan, who had served as Co-Chairmen. Fay Wells was one of the Charter members of The Ninety-Nines and has been honored for her great interest and support of aviation and as an outstanding journalist. Joe Carrigan resided in Atchison and was responsible for the daily decisions needed to run the Forest. Unfortunately, we lost Joe in June of 1996 and Fay in 2002. It will be difficult, if not next to impossible, to replace both of them. But their sons, Pat Carrigan and Lin Wells, have assumed the duties of Co-Chairmen. In 1991, a beautiful gazebo was dedicated to Fay Wells, in honor of her leadership to the Forest, and was paid for by her many friends throughout the World.

The 2006 ceremonies will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Forest and will take place from June 16-18. The theme will be "World Friendship through Flying," emphasizing the underlying goal of the Forest since its inception. We hope to have a strong international presence, and invite as many past honorees and guests as possible to come back and enjoy the Forest.

This year, along with the Antelope Valley Chapter Members Flora Belle Reece and Shirley Williams, honorees will include General Richard B. Myers, USAF(ret), who served as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 2001 to 2005. You may find more information about the Forest of Friendship at: <http://www.ninety-nines.org/fof.html>

### **FLORA BELLE REECE – BIOGRAPHY**

Flora Belle Reece was born and raised in Oklahoma graduating from high school in Elk City in 1942. Her family (her parents and three siblings) moved to Oklahoma City soon after she graduated. She had always wanted to learn to fly—she worked to pay for her flying lessons while attending college. Flora Belle learned to fly before she learned to drive an automobile! (Her family didn't own an automobile.)

Flora Belle read magazine articles about the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) and wanted to join. She was required to complete 35 hours of flying lessons before being accepted into the WASP, so she completed those hours at Nuckols Airport in Oklahoma City (with some financial assistance from her brother) and entered the WASP in November of 1943 (Class 44W4) graduating in May of 1944 with her "wings" and then was assigned to Foster Field Air Force Base in Victoria, Texas. She flew a number of different aircraft while in the WASP including a B-26. In the B-26, she towed targets for the gunnery schools. Later, she was transferred to Enid, Oklahoma and flew aircraft that needed testing following engine repair work. The WASP organization was disbanded by the U.S. Congress in December 1944.

Flora Belle married her high school sweetheart, Ralph, on August 1, 1945. They had three children—Connie, Cherryl, and Russell (Rusty). Daughter Connie married Richard Fox—they have two children, John

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and Jim. Grandson Jim and his wife Theresa have three children—Parker, Preston, and Victoria. Flora Belle's son, Rusty, is married to Val (Truesdale), and they have two daughter, Susan and Pamela. Granddaughter Susan married Matt Smith and has one daughter, Allison. Granddaughter Pam married Charles Schwartz has one son, Riley. Flora Belle and Ralph lost their daughter, Cheryl, in an auto accident at age 16.

In Flora Belle and Ralph's 60 years of marriage, they have raised a family, served in the Peace Corp, served as missionaries, and had other exciting adventures—with all that, Flora Belle has never lost her love for flying! After she raised her family, she started flying again and joined the 99s (an international women pilots organization).

She has been active in the 99s for over 20 years and is a charter member of the Antelope Valley Chapter (established in 1988). She has been in many leadership positions and assisted with numerous projects. After she retired from teaching mathematics, she stayed involved with the local schools by speaking to students about her aviation career and her love of flying. She is still often asked to speak at local schools and is always willing to do so. She is also often asked to speak to local aviation and community groups.

On April 20, 2004, Flora Belle made the national news! She flew into the Burbank Airport in the jump seat of a Lockheed P-38 Lightning airplane. The P-38 was flown into that airport for a special anniversary event. During her tenure as a WASP back in the early 1940's, she had always wanted to fly in a P-38—so her dream was fulfilled in 2004!

Flora Belle states that her rule of life is as follows: "Put God first, family second, then flying every chance I get." She still continues to fly with her 99s friends.

### **SHIRLEY WILLIAMS - BIOGRAPHY**

Shirley Williams is a private pilot, having obtained her pilot's license in 1974. She joined the 99s (an international women pilots organization) in 1975. While a member of the High Desert Chapter, Shirley held several offices including chairman. In 1988, Shirley assisted in establishing the Antelope Valley Chapter in the Lancaster/Palmdale area in California and then became a charter member. She has been a leader in air marking runways, maintaining the Chapter's history and scrapbook, helping with flying companion seminars, and assisting in numerous other projects.

While living in Lancaster, Shirley was also an officer in the Milestones of Flight Museum and helped plan Barnstormers Reunions. These annual events were well attended by the aviation community.

At one time Shirley and her husband George two general aviation airplanes. They restored Bill Barnes' airplane—a Stinson 108-3 (station wagon model). (Note: Bill Barnes was the only son of aviation legend Pancho Barnes.) When Shirley and George purchased the Stinson, it was in pieces stored in three hangers. They meticulously put it back together (no easy task!) and flew it to several air shows in California.

Shirley and George also owned a Cessna 150, which they flew many hours including five trips to Alaska. They flew their Cessna as far north as the Arctic Circle and as far south as the tip of the Baja Peninsula.

Shirley had grown up in the Woodlake area of California where she met her husband, and they returned there in 1991 after retiring. She continued to fly for several years, and she and George still enjoy "hanger flying" at their local airport.

Shirley has remained a member of the Antelope Valley Chapter of the 99s and welcomes the local chapter when they fly into the Woodlake Airport. She is an inspiration to younger members of the Chapter with her wide variety of flying experience and knowledge and has been a valuable member of the 99s for over 30 years.

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**Year 2006 - 2007 Calendar of Events**

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Contact</b>
June	No Board Meeting in June	
<sup>99</sup> Jun 8 <sup>th</sup> (2 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday)	AV99s Chapter Meeting 6:30 pm at Greenhouse Café in Lancaster (6:00 Dinner/Social)	Jennifer
<sup>99</sup> Jun 16,17 <sup>th</sup>	Forest of Friendship Atchison, Kansas	Rosemary
Jun 16,17 <sup>th</sup>	AV99s Telescope Peak Hike	Michelle
July	No Board Meeting in July	
July	Safety Seminar – TBD	Rosemary
<sup>99</sup> Jul 5-7 <sup>th</sup>	International 99s Conference Washington D.C.	Jennifer
<sup>99</sup> Jul 8,9	Kern Valley Airport – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Campout-Fly- Out	Michelle
<sup>99</sup> Jul 13 <sup>th</sup> (2 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday)	AV99s Chapter Meeting 6:30 pm at Greenhouse Café in Lancaster (6:00 Dinner/Social)	Jennifer
<sup>99</sup> Aug 7 <sup>th</sup> (1 <sup>st</sup> Monday)	AV99s Board Meeting 7:00 pm at Jennifer’s Home	Jennifer
<sup>99</sup> Aug 11-13	Palms to Pines Air Race	Michelle
<sup>99</sup> Aug 19 <sup>th</sup> (3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday)	AV99s Chapter Meeting - Fly-Out 9:00 am at Skillet Café in Tehachapi (Breakfast Meeting)	Jennifer
September	No Board Meeting in September	
<sup>99</sup> Sep 14 <sup>th</sup> (2 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday)	AV99s Chapter Meeting 6:30 pm at Greenhouse Café in Lancaster (6:00 Dinner/Social)	Jennifer
Sep 16	Lancaster Walk of Honor	
<sup>99</sup> Sep 21-24 <sup>th</sup>	Fall SWS/NWS Meeting Ashland, Oregon	Jennifer

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Sep 28-30	Society of Experimental Test Pilots (SETP)	Carol
<sup>99</sup> Oct 2 <sup>nd</sup> (1 <sup>st</sup> Monday)	AV99s Board Meeting 7:00 pm at Jennifer's Home	Jennifer
<sup>99</sup> Oct 12 <sup>th</sup> (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday)	AV99s Chapter Meeting 6:30 pm at Greenhouse Café in Lancaster (6:00 Dinner/Social)	Jennifer
Oct 28, 29	Edwards Airshow	
November	No Board Meeting in November	
<sup>99</sup> Nov 18 <sup>th</sup> (3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday)	AV99s Chapter Meeting - Fly-Out 9:00 am Leigh Kelly's Home in Rosamond (Annual APT & Lunch Meeting)	Jennifer
December	No Board or Chapter Meetings in December	
<sup>99</sup> Dec 2 <sup>nd</sup>	AV99s Holiday Party	
<sup>99</sup> Dec 9 <sup>th</sup>	AV99s Cookies to the Towers	Jennifer
<sup>99</sup> Jan 6 <sup>th</sup> (1 <sup>st</sup> Monday)	AV99s Board Meeting 7:00 pm at Jennifer's Home	Jennifer
<sup>99</sup> Jan 11 <sup>th</sup> (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday)	AV99s Chapter Meeting 6:30 pm at Greenhouse Café in Lancaster (6:00 Dinner/Social)	Jennifer
February	No Board Meeting in February	
<sup>99</sup> Feb 17 <sup>th</sup> (3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday)	AV99s Chapter Meeting - Fly-Out 9:00 am at Airport Café in Cal City (Breakfast Meeting)	Jennifer
<sup>99</sup> Mar 5 <sup>th</sup> (1 <sup>st</sup> Monday)	AV99s Board Meeting 7:00 pm at Jennifer's Home	Jennifer
<sup>99</sup> Mar 15 <sup>th</sup> (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday)	AV99s Chapter Meeting 6:30 pm at Greenhouse Café in Lancaster (6:00 Dinner/Social)	Jennifer
<sup>99</sup> Mar 18 <sup>th</sup> <sup>99</sup> Mar 17 <sup>th</sup> - Setup	AV99s 17 <sup>th</sup> Annual Poker Run	Michelle
April	No Board Meeting in April	
<sup>99</sup> Apr 19 <sup>th</sup> (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday)	AV99s Chapter Meeting 6:30 pm at Greenhouse Café in Lancaster (6:00 Dinner/Social)	Jennifer

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<sup>99</sup> May 7 <sup>th</sup> (1 <sup>st</sup> Monday)	AV99s Board Meeting 7:00 pm at Jennifer's Home	Jennifer
<sup>99</sup> May 19 <sup>th</sup> (3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday)	AV99s Chapter Meeting - Fly-Out 9:00 am at Airport Café in Mojave (Breakfast Meeting)	Jennifer
June	No Board Meeting in June	
<sup>99</sup> Jun 14 <sup>th</sup> 2007 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday)	AV99s Chapter Meeting – Installation of New Officers 6:30 pm at Greenhouse Café in Lancaster (6:00 Dinner/Social)	Jennifer
<sup>99</sup> Jul 1 <sup>st</sup> 2007	New Term for Chapter Officers/Board	Bev

<sup>99</sup> Denotes a Antelope Valley 99's Function

### **Fly-Out Calendar**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>Contact</b>
July 8,9	Kern Valley Airport – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Campout-Fly-Out	Michelle
Aug 19	Tehachapi – Chapter Breakfast Meeting	Jennifer
Sep 21-24	Fall SWS/NWS Meeting Ashland, Oregon	Jennifer
Nov 18	Rosamond – Chapter Luncheon/APT Meeting	Jennifer
Jan 2007	Annual Death Valley Fly-Out – Brunch at the Inn	Michelle
Feb 17	California City – Chapter Breakfast Meeting	Jennifer
May 19	Mojave – Chapter Breakfast Meeting	Jennifer
Tbd	Palm Springs – Shopping Fly-Out	Michelle
Tbd	Inyokern – Antiquing Fly-Out	Carol
Tbd	Tbd airport – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Wine Tasting Fly-Out	Michelle

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**Michelle, AV99s Fly-Out Chair**

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**AV99s Chapter Website:** <http://www.freewebs.com/av99s/index.htm>

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**Return completed form to: Elise**

**QUALIFYING ACTIVITIES:**

Ground Based Activities

- a. Any flight safety seminary
- b. Industry-conducted re-currency training, includes simulator training and research studies
- c. Physiological training, such as high altitude chamber
- d. Aviation Judge training, such as NIFA or WPFC judging
- e. Aviation Judging, such as NIFA or WPFC
- f. Flight Instructor re-currency ground training
- g. Aircraft Maintenance Training, such as Cessna Powerplant Course
- h. Attendance at AOPA Town Meeting and Seminars
- i. Attendance of FAA ground school course, mountain flying, floatplane, or CAP training course, etc.
- j. Parachute Ground Training
- k. Poker Run support

Flight Activities

- a. Wings Certification, any level
- b. Biannual Flight Review (BFR), and/or an Annual Proficiency Training ride (APT)
- c. Instrument Competency Check (ICC)
- d. Any new rating
- e. Check-out in a new aircraft type, high performance, tailwheel, glider, ultralight, floatplane, etc.
- f. Flight Instructor re-currency
- g. Check rides with organizations such as Angel Flight, Los Medicos, Flying Sams, Civil Air Patrol, Sheriff's Patrol, etc.
- h. First Parachute jump
- i. Fly-ins/out

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Southwest Section Ninety-Nines Proficiency Training Program  
**Ninety-Nines Chapter: Antelope Valley**

**Name: (Print)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Qualifying Activities:**

**Ground Activity Type:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Completed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructor Signature:** (only if appropriate) \_\_\_\_\_

--or--

**Flight Activity Type:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Completed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructor Signature:** (only if appropriate) \_\_\_\_\_