

Chairman's Message

By Anele Brooks

This month I am sharing Kathleen Schwind's essay titled "The Beauty of Flight". My hope is that this young woman will earn her aeronautical engineering degree and her pilot's license and that one day she will come back to the San Luis Obispo 99's Chapter as the Chapter Chair and re-run this essay with comments about her journey.

The Beauty of Flight

It seems like every day I get the same question: "What do you want to do in college?" And every time I get so excited when I tell them: "I'm going to be an Aeronautical Engineer!" As long as I can remember, I have been fascinated with flight. Even when I was a baby, my mom used to take me and sit in the airport, watching all the planes come in

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and out while we waited for my dad. We would sit there for hours in front of the big glass windows overlooking the runway, watching the planes.

I am so excited to starting on the next leg of my journey towards actually building and working with planes by becoming an aeronautical engineer and getting my pilot's license as I am applying to college. My family cannot afford pilot lessons, but I have been able to enjoy the next best thing: air shows. My dad has driven me to shows as far away as Salinas and San Diego, to Santa Maria and



North American T-28C Trojan after her show at the "Thunder Over The Valley" airshow in Santa Maria on Aug 22/23 (see also page 3)

Dates and Schedules

Comments, corrections, and suggestions are welcome. Fly-outs: dates are flexible and we will confirm plans and set times at the chapter meeting before the scheduled fly-out. Seats will be available for non-pilots, students, and pilots without wings. We want every seat to be filled, so let us know if you want to come along.

Sep 2	Chapter Meeting at the Spirit of San at 6 pm, social gathering, 5:30
Sep 16	FAAST meeting at Santa Maria Museum of Flight, 7pm: Master CFI Gary Reeves about the new and improved www.1800wxbrief.com
Oct 10	SLO Airport Day

Robert's Air Force Base. There is nothing more inspiring or exhilarating than watching jets take off and scream across the sky, afterburners glowing. Talking with the pilots is even more interesting, discussing how they got into flying and what suggestions they have for me – as a future pilot. I plan to follow my passion by getting an engineering degree that allows me to work with these amazing machines and people every day. In the future, I see myself as a leader in the commercial space flight industry, helping to give others the tools to explore those deep expanses of space that beckon us all. So if you are looking into the sky sometime in the next two decades and see a bright light sailing through the sky, know that it may be my rocket: a beacon of light, that the young engineers of that generation can look at and make a wish upon, just as they may a shooting star. The joy I get out of just seeing planes do remarkable things in the sky only makes me wonder what it would be like to build and fly these amazing machines. As "Highway to the Danger Zone" plays through my head, there is nothing I love more than being around planes, and hearing jets rip through the sky. Someday, I know that I'll be the one flying into the sunset.

Kathleen is a beacon of light for the future of flight. I hope she applies for and receives our Chapter Scholarship and that we can play a part in her very bright future.

Minutes of General Meeting

By Anele Brooks

We welcomed Kathleen Schwind as our guest [General Meeting, August 5, 2015]. She recently graduated from San Luis Obispo High School and will be attending MIT in the fall as an Aeronautical Engineering student. Her father works with Liz Ruth. She isn't ready to begin her flying lessons yet, but gave Grace a very nice essay which, I hope, means that she will be applying for our scholarship. Eric Norrbom A&P/IA was our guest presenter. We had a roundtable discussion about aircraft maintenance, engines, etc. We asked random questions about engines, what happens to our engines when we do certain things in the air. Eric answered all our questions thoroughly and we decided at the end of the meeting that we should plan a field trip to an actual engine to see what is under our cowling.

The next meeting will be held on September 2 at the Spirit.

Make sure to come to this month's FAAST safety meeting at the Santa Maria Museum of Flight on 9/16 at 7pm (dinner at 6pm). Well-known master-CFI Gary Reeves will talk about Lockheed Martin's new and improved, FAA-legal (and free) www.1800wxbrief.com briefing system with its advanced and useful features. Pre-register at <https://www.faasafety.gov/>

Thunder Over The Valley Airshow in Santa Maria (Photos)



At the KSMX airshow Aug 22/23 (Thunder Over The Valley, from left to right): T-6 fly-by, Bill Cornick showing his famous inverted flat spin in his Pitts S-2C, Lockheed T-33 low pass, Bill Cornick handing out autographs to fans. At age 82, Bill has been flying for 62 years and has 2000 aerobatic hours!

The Memorial Garden

A memorial garden provides a long-lasting tribute to those who have gone before and those who remain, those who inspire us to become the best we can be as we walk the garden's calming paths.

The garden is a place of respite and remembering, a place to spend a few quiet moments alone surrounded by nature as well as a place to refresh the soul among friends and family.

The 99s Memorial Garden was dedicated in September of 2012, by the Santa Maria Valley Chapter of The Ninety-Nines, Inc. to honor women who have contributed to aviation history.

It is located on a sheltered plot adjacent to the Santa Maria Museum of Flight at the Santa Maria Public Airport.

The general public has access to the garden which faces Airpark Drive.

The Memorial Garden includes presentation stands that give visitors information about the contributions of women pilots since the beginning of flight. A beautiful mural which overlooks the garden was designed by artist, Sunni Gibbons, who is a 99 and flew from Santa Maria for many years.

There are benches and picnic tables to allow visitors to rest and enjoy this small oasis on the airport. Lining the walkways are memorial bricks with permanent inscriptions celebrating our heroes, those who have gone before and those who are still with us.

The Santa Maria Valley Chapter invites you to participate by sponsoring one or more inscribed bricks beside the the garden's pathways. Sponsorships of presentation stands are also still available.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, we invite you to fill out the form on the reverse side.



The mural depicts the evolution of aviation and the contributions of women pilots from barnstormers of the early 20th Century to present-day astronauts.



Memorial bricks celebrating well-known and personal heroes line the pathways. Most, but not all, are aviators. There are also those who have supported pilots and aviation in many and varied roles.

Brick Sponsorship Order Form

Sponsor Name:
 Street Address:
 City, St, Zip:
 Telephone:
 Email:

Please use a separate form for each brick

Inscription for Brick
 3 lines maximum & 14 characters
 on each line including spaces



Honor family, friends & heroes by sponsoring a brick to be installed in our 99s Memorial Garden on the grounds of the Santa Maria Museum of Flight

\$99.00 per Brick
 Add \$10.00 for Certificate

Please make checks payable to the "99s Memorial Garden"

Mail to: Diane Pirman
 PO Box 8424, Santa Maria, CA 93456
 (Presentation Stands also available for sponsorship)

