San Luis Obispo County Chapter of the Ninety-Nines

55th Anniversary Impact Report



52 MEMBERS, 19 STUDENT PILOTS

The Ninety-Nines promote the advancement of aviation through education, scholarships, and mutual support while honoring our unique history and sharing our passion for flight.

HELPING WOMEN ACHIEVE AVIATION DREAMS

Since our chapter's inception in 1969 and the launch of chapter scholarships in 2014, we have supported our community through education, mentorship and financial support.

This support has helped local women become private pilots, military pilots, airline pilots, flight instructors, airplane mechanics, and leaders in their respective profession.

MEASURABLE IMPACTS

$42,000 AWARDED

- First $1,000 scholarship in 2014
- Since 2020, two $2,500 scholarships annually, with goal of increasing number and amount

35 SCHOLARSHIPS

- 17 discovery flights – introduction to aviation
- 18 flight training scholarships towards certificates and ratings

81% **Of scholarship recipients have gone on to, or are working towards, a professional career in Aviation**

98% Of chapter expenditures go towards scholarships

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Girls in Aviation Day
- Morro Bay HS Career Fair
- Cal Poly Mustang Aviation Day
- Veterans Celebrations
- Civil Air Patrol
- Arroyo Grande HS Aviation Path
- Support 4 Local Airports and their pilot Communities
- Spread Cheer to the Tower, CalFire, Airport Admin, FBOs
- Estrella Warbirds Museum
- PEO (Philanthroic Org)
- Toys for Tots
- EAA
- Compass Rose Painting

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Chapter Success Stories



ANNA VOJVODA, UNITED AIRLINES

TRAINING HIGHLIGHT: C-17 QUALIFICATION, US AIR FORCE

The SLO 99s scholarship had a great impact on my flying journey, as I put the money towards pursuing my private pilot's license. That opportunity opened up doors for me, ultimately helping me become a pilot in the air force reserves. Beyond the scholarship, being a member of the SLO 99's meant so much to me. ***I felt so inspired by all the women pilots around me*** *and was grateful to be part of such a welcoming and supportive community.*

JOLIE LUCAS, LEAD INSTRUCTOR, RIGHT SEAT READY COURSE FOR NON-PILOT PASSENGERS & HOST OF "ON SECOND THOUGHT" PODCAST

TRAINING HIGHLIGHT: MULTI- ENGINE ADD-ON

The 99s scholarship was very helpful in defraying the costs associated with the multi-engine commercial add on. The funds helped me travel in my airplane to the Phoenix area to attend an accelerated course. The multi-engine training was intense but also very good education. ***I simply could not have done it without the 99s scholarship****.*





OLIVIA LEWIS, FIRST OFFICER, DELTA AIRLINES

TRAINING HIGHLIGHT: T-6 TRAINING, C-17 QUALIFICATION

The SLO 99s played an integral role in my journey to becoming both a military and airline pilot. The scholarship they provided helped me achieve the qualifications I needed to pursue this career, but ***it was the encouragement, mentorship, and support of this incredible group of women that gave me the confidence to chase a dream I once thought was too big****. The SLO 99s are a remarkable community of women who lift one another up and pave the way for women of all ages to enter and thrive in aviation. Their impact on my life extends far beyond the scholarship itself. Their influence will always be an important part of my story when people ask how I became a pilot.*

ALESSANDRA RIZZO, CONTRACT PILOT & CERTIFIED FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR

SCHOLARSHIP RECEIVED: PRIVATE PILOT CERTIFICATE

The flight training scholarship I received from the SLO 99s during my primary flight training not only helped me achieve my goal of earning my private pilot certificate, but introduced me to ***a community that continues to inspire me to go further in aviation and give back to those just starting out****. I don't think I ever would have seen myself as someone who would have pursued a commercial or CFI certificate without the encouragement of all the kind and accomplished ladies in the 99s.*





ERIN AYERS, CERTIFIED FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR

SCHOLARSHIP RECEIVED: PRIVATE PILOT CERTIFICATE, CFI

I have always been impressed by the SLO 99s' dedication to education, their sense of community, and their encouragement of their fellow pilots. I have firsthand benefitted from all of these, and also have been helped by scholarships at crucial times in my training. Their desire to come alongside pilots at all levels to provide support - ***and sometimes just to bring the fun back into flying*** *- makes KSBP a richer, stronger flying community.*

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Chapter Success Stories



ASPEN MARTIN, FIRST YEAR STUDENT AT CAL POLY, SAN LUIS OBISPO

SCHOLARSHIP RECEIVED: PRIVATE PILOT CERTIFICATE, INSTRUMENT RATING, AND TAILWHEEL ENDORSEMENT

Receiving two SLO 99s scholarships has been a huge part of my aviation journey so far, allowing me to keep pushing myself as a pilot and take on new challenges. More than anything, ***having people outside of my family believe in me and support my goals*** *has given me an aviation family that continues to push me toward my goal of becoming a professional pilot.*

SNEHA LAKSHMIN, C-17 MECHANIC & PILOT, US AIR FORCE

TRAINING HIGHLIGHT: PRIVATE PILOT LICENSE, COMMERCIAL WITH INSTRUMENT AND MULTI ENGINE RATING

I'm so glad I found the SLO 99s my freshman year! I always felt like I had so much mentorship and community around me and that's exactly what I needed when I was so new to this world. ***My favorite memories are the fly outs****. It was good to see the flying I could look forward to when I was struggling during private pilot training.*





ALEX MCGILL, CERTIFIED FLIGHT INSTRUCTOR AT AIR PASO AND SECOND IN COMMAND AT MARCAIR

TRAINING HIGHLIGHT: SPIN AND UPSET RECOVERY

While my scholarship for spin and upset recovery training increased my confidence and proficiency as a pilot, my overall ***involvement with the SLO 99s has taught me more, including valuable organizational leadership skills****.*

WILLOW BAILEY, PILOT, US ARMY

TRAINING HIGHLIGHT: SIKORSKY UH-60M BLACK HAWK HELICOPTER

When asked how my career in aviation started, ***I always tell them about the SLO 99s****. After my first meeting I knew that aviation was always going to be a part of my life. I was given opportunities to go flying with these women, get involved in volunteer events, apply for scholarships, and even landed my first aviation job working at the local FBO. From that point on it's only gone up and up for me. I learned to fly helicopters, ultimately deciding that the military was the direction I saw my career moving. I joined as a Blackhawk mechanic and I have recently graduated flight school as an Army Aviation Warrant Officer and UH-60 Blackhawk Pilot. All these years later, even though I don't live on the Central Coast anymore, I still maintain relationships with SLO 99s members, updating them on my journey through the aviation industry. These are relationships I will have for a lifetime – they will always be an instrumental part of my success.*





RACHEL HAMANN, OWNER, DOT + CROSS STUDIO

SCHOLARSHIP RECEIVED: PRIVATE PILOT LICENSE

At the end of my four-year stint in the aviation world at ACI, I think the greatest thing about the 99s is that it is all women. A takeaway for me from my job at ACI was that it is still a bit of a 'good ol' boys club,' and it was refreshing and courage-building to be in a group with so many women who have swept that to the side and said 'not here, not with us' and have charged forward making it what they want it to be. I wasn't sure what role I wanted aviation to play in my life, and the 99s scholarship helped alleviate the burden of juggling three jobs while working towards my PPL (so that I didn't have debt when I completed it). . . I'm including one of my favorite photos that a friend took of me and my husband from the backseat of N734UZ.

I fly for the love of it, and to go places with the people I love...so this seems very appropriate

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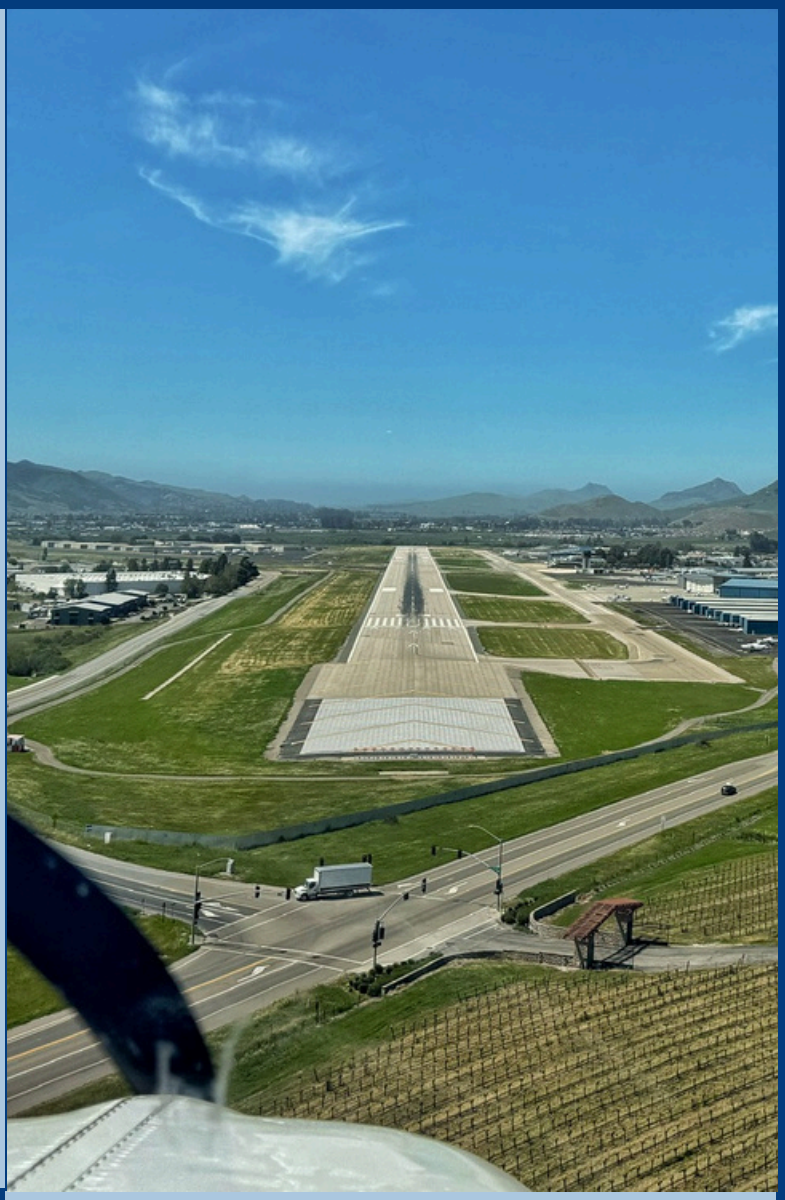
WE COULD NOT HAVE MADE THIS IMPACT WITHOUT SUPPORT

THANK YOU

TO ALL OUR DONORS, VOLUNTEERS, SUPPORTERS, AND OUR MEMBERS

Special Thank You to our Platinum Donors:

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GOALS FOR 2026/27

FUNDRAISE $20,000

Double the number and amount of scholarships offered annually

BUILD A MORE ROBUST WEBSITE

To attract and inform new members, donors, and supporters; and to improve engagement

CONTACT US:

SLO99INFO@GMAIL.COM

HELP SUPPORT OUR MISSION

Donate via Zelle, Paypal, Credit Card, or Check

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