

# Rio Grande Norte 99s Peak Gusts

November 2011  
Number 3  
Volume 2011

## Joint South-Central and Southwest Section Meeting

RGNs: Susan Larson, Michal Mudd, Cathy Farrell, Tandra Hicks, Elizabeth Hunke, Virginie Dupont, Marianne Francois

49.5s: Andrew Starbuck, Fred Loehr, Steve Ross, Bertrand Rollin

The fall South Central Section meeting was held Oct 21-23, jointly with Southwest Section, in Durango, Colorado. Seven RGNs and four 49.5s gathered for a weekend of laughter. Virginie and Bertrand flew up with Susan (in Mikey) on Thursday, in time to take the Durango-Silverton Narrow Gauge Railway tour the next day. Tandra and Fred met them Thursday evening for dinner and drinks, setting a pattern for the rest of the weekend. Steve and Elizabeth flew in on Friday, while Michal and Andrew drove; Marianne flew up Saturday morning. Friday evening the festivities kicked off at the "Gala" in the Strater Hotel's old-fashioned theater, with entertainment by the Bar D Wranglers. Our 49.5s weren't dancing, but the music inspired a little two-stepping among the gals! The next morning, while the 99s were in their business meeting, the guys went on a special tour of the Railyard, including the maintenance shop, the roundhouse, and the Railroad Museum.

Business meeting highlights: Our chapter's was the only scrapbook brought to the meeting. Jody McCarrell, our section governor, decided to wait until the spring section meeting to judge scrapbooks, since there was no competition at this one. (We might add that there wouldn't have been any "real" competition anyhow!) Many of the candidates for section offices next year were present, and they each spent a few minutes telling us about themselves and why we should vote for them. "Awesome" and inspiring" are a but two of the words that come to mind when one finds out what these friendly women have accomplished in the air! Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship applications are due to the chapter officer by **December 1** (see page 7).

For lunch following the meeting, Cathy drove up from Farmington to join us at the Cyprus Cafe: eleven RGNs plus Jody, who kept us in stitches. The food was simply fabulous, and it provided the energy we needed to hike up Animas Mountain for superb views of the Animas River Valley and the town of Durango. At the awards banquet that night (in the Railroad Museum), our chapter received "outstanding" awards for aviation activities and for participation in the FAA Wings program. Way to go, ladies!

Party Central (Tandra & Fred's room) closed early our last night in Durango. Early was 12:45am!



Bar D Wranglers (above)



Susan, Tandra, Fred, Bertrand (counterclockwise)



Clockwise: Susan, Andrew, Michal, Cathy, Fred, Tandra, Elizabeth, Steve, Bertrand & Virginie. Marianne behind the camera

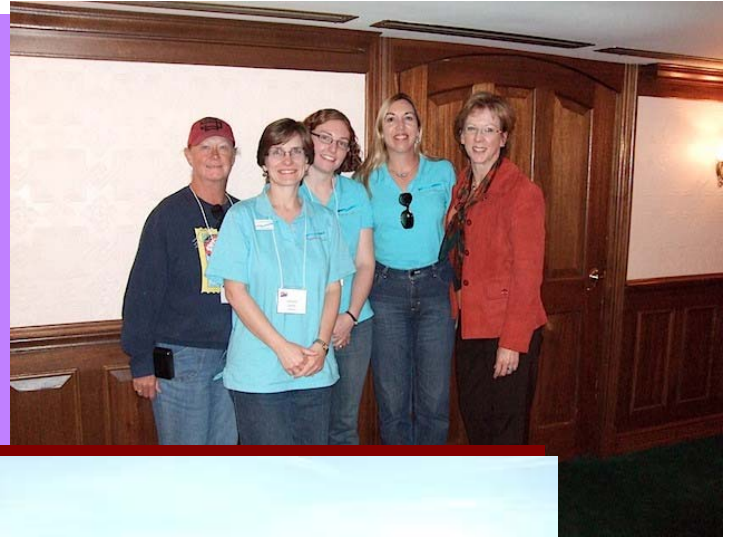
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Ninety-Nines  
Rio Grande Norte Chapter

Chapter Chair: Elizabeth Hunke  
Vice Chair: Tandra Hicks  
Secretary: Michal Mudd  
Treasurer: Lyn Bennett  
Editor: Tandra Hicks  
Webmaster: Elizabeth Hunke  
RGN99s.org



Jody presents RGN awards to Elizabeth at the banquet (above)



RGNs at the Business Meeting Tandra, Elizabeth, Virginie, Michal, Susan (above)



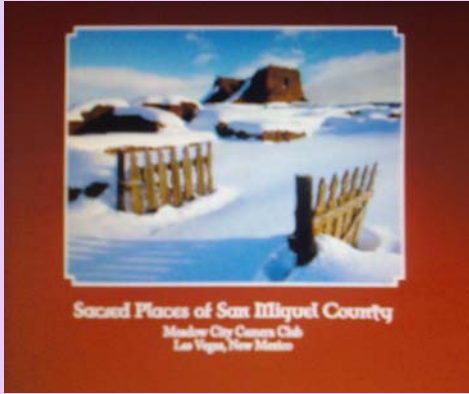
View of Durango from pattern altitude on Animas Mountain



Marianne, Bertrand, Virginie, Elizabeth, Steve, Andrew, Michal, Susan



Elizabeth, Virginie, Marianne, Michal

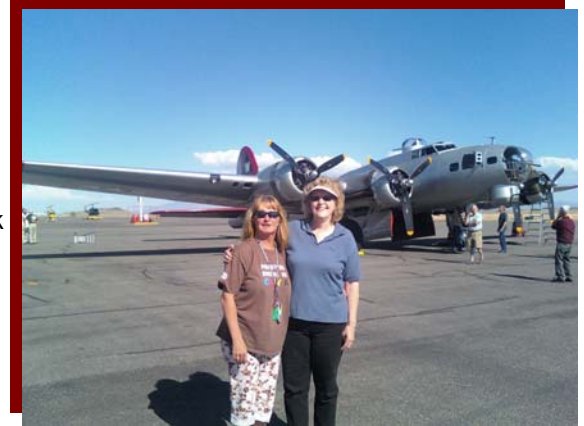


Congratulations to our own Jo Rita Jordan and the Meadow City Camera Club! Her new book is now at Blurb for printing! You can review the wonderful photography online: <http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/invited/2075366/f30d1d94bf09a4d2d9bde681daf32fd0a37ab44a>

## B-17 Comes to Double Eagle II

EAA's "Aluminum Overcast" was on exhibit October 2 through October 8, offering tours, rides and memorabilia. Revenues from the B-17 tour help cover maintenance and operations costs for the aircraft and aid EAA's ambition to "keep 'em flying" for many years to come.

Tandra Hicks had the wonderful opportunity to meet visiting 99, Elaine Fitch. Elaine is the Iowa Chapter secretary. Her husband, Bill, is part of the B-17 crew. Visit [www.B17.org](http://www.B17.org) to see the tour schedule and check out the online store. They have a pretty impressive array of gift items for everyone and it's a great way to support a part of our history.



Tandra & Elaine (L to R)

## AEG Open House

Participants: RGNs Susan Larson, Elizabeth Hunke, Robin Smith, Tandra Hicks; 49.5s Steve Ross, Fred Loehr & Danny O'Neil  
Albuquerque's Barbara Fricke & Greta Moore

On August 27, Rio Grande Norte and Albuquerque 99s took turns manning our display table and promoting The Ninety-Nines. Along with recruiting new members, we were determined to persuade people to cast their votes for the Amelia Earhart Memorial Scholarship fund through the Lightspeed Aviation website! The open house was also a fabulous venue to advertise our Plane Wash Fundraiser the following month.

We had fliers galore and made sure everyone had a hand full. Many pilots were happy to take the plane wash flier for display at their local FBOs. We visited with many of the CAP cadets and met an Airbus Pilot, Misty Winker, who flies for US Airways. Misty is based at Mid-Valley.

Elizabeth & Steve left first in Bunny, Robin & Danny next in their Tecnam, Susan in Mikey bringing up the rear, all headed back to Santa Fe.



Barbara & Greta (above)



Susan, Greta, Elizabeth (left)

### Airplane Wash Fundraiser

Oooh, we got to touch so many gorgeous airplanes that day! Numerous Cessnas, a Cub, Cirrus, Decathalon, Glasair, Piper, Tecnam...

Their owners lined them up September 24, donating money toward aviation scholarships in exchange for a sparkling cleaning. We started with vacuuming (for an extra donation), then a belly wash and debugging, followed by the "wet wash" and finally a towel-drying. Susan and Robin placed their airplanes strategically toward the end of the line, so that when another pilot pulled up, Susan could offer to let them cut in line (for an extra donation of course). Tandra made fabulous fliers and signs, and everyone brought home-baked goods to sell for extra income. One pilot finally handed Susan his wallet! Barbara Fricke's tent top provided a shady spot for customers and washers-on-break to gather for hangar flying, capping a perfect day.

Thank you to all the pilots who donated to our worthy cause, as well as the 99s & 49.5s who worked so hard to make our fundraiser a success. This may become an annual event!

Amy smiling atop Jeff Scott's Super Cub



Iona, Ginny & Jeff Scott at the command post

Dick Perry and his 170 with Tandra



Larry Haight's Decathalon





L to R: Patti, Amy, Steve, Jim, Michal making Ken Summers' GS-2 a happy plane

Amy and Bunch on belly detail for Mike Emerson's Cessna 172



## THE GANG



Lyn Bennett, Barbara Fricke, Marianne Francois, Jim Foley, Amy Ross, Michal Mudd, Robin Smith, Iona Gamertsfelder, Susan Larson, Tandra Hicks, Virginie Dupont, Elizabeth Hunke, Steve Ross, Patti Perovich (Fred Loehr in the background) Ginny Boylls not pictured

## 2012 Planning Meeting

Members Present : Elizabeth Hunke, Martha Cook, Susan Larson, Ginny Boylls, Virginie Dupont, Marianne Francois, Michal Mudd, Tandra Hicks

Elizabeth hosted our lively meeting November 6, planning chapter activities for next year. Here are some highlights: educational presentations for young people through local libraries, Girl Scouts and EYH; a rummage sale in the spring and another plane wash (or two?); tours of Albuquerque Center and Approach; overnight fly-outs to Page, Carlsbad, El Paso and Clancey's lake house in Missouri; a space museum and IMAX film; and another airborne treasure hunt highlighting New Mexico's history. With display board sheets spread across the floor, it wasn't easy to decide which and when to plan activities. You can see a table of projected activities on page 7 which we will discuss at our Holiday Potluck.

It's a 99s meeting and of course food is involved. Elizabeth served coffee, tea and wonderful baked goodies while Tandra brought fresh hummus, salsa verde and pita chips. Ever wonder what to do with those green tomatoes you have to pick before they freeze? Well, Michal has the perfect solution: Bread. The bread was so moist, it just melted in your mouth.

### Green Tomato Bread

#### Ingredients:

2 1/4 cups sugar – reduce or substitute some with brown sugar  
1 cup vegetable oil or melted shortening  
3 eggs  
2 teaspoons vanilla  
3 cups flour  
1 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon baking powder  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg  
1 cup pecans or walnuts  
1 cup raisins or raisins  
2 1/2 cups diced green tomatoes  
coconut (optional)

#### Preparation:

Preheat oven to 350°. In mixing bowl, beat sugar, vegetable oil or shortening, eggs and vanilla until smooth and creamy. Sift together the flour, salt, baking powder, cinnamon and nutmeg; slowly hand mix or beat into egg mixture. Blend well. Stir in pecans, raisins and tomatoes.

Pour into greased 9x13-inch pan. Top with coconut if desired. Bake for one hour, or until a wooden pick or cake tester inserted in center comes out clean.

Serves 12.

### Upcoming Events

- November 19, 2011 WINGS seminar in Las Cruces, "Decision Making"
- November 25, 2011 Fly-out to Gallup or Grants for lunch (flexible day & destination)
- November 26, 2011 Happy Birthday Martha Cook
- December 1, 2011 Scholarship Application Deadline
- December 7, 2011 WINGS seminar in Albuquerque, "Radio Communication" (No registration necessary)
- December 11, 2011 Holiday Potluck hosted by Clancey and Jack at their home in El Rancho 1 PM
- December 31, 2011 New Years Eve Durango CO
- January 12, 2012 WINGS seminar in Albuquerque, "Reining in the Fatal Accident Rate" (No registration necessary)
- February 2012 Ginny Boylls' 70th Birthday Party/Chapter Meeting
- Spring 2012 Rummage Sale/Plane Wash
- March 21, 2012 EYH Workshop Crossroads Bible Church, Los Alamos (<http://nmnwse.org/eyh>)
- April 27-29, 2012 South Central Section Spring Meeting Choctaw Casino & Resort in Durant OK
- May (tbd) 2012 EYH Workshop Santa Fe (more info to come)
- July 11-15, 2012 International Conference, Providence RI
- September 2012 NM Centennial Aviation Celebration
- October 19-21, 2012 South Central Section Fall Meeting El Paso TX
- December 2012 ABQ Approach & Center Tour

Three aircraft will be winging to Las Cruces on November 19 for the Wings Seminar, and seats are available. You can register for the event here:

[http://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event\\_details.aspx?eid=41095&caller=/SPANS/events/EventList.aspx](http://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event_details.aspx?eid=41095&caller=/SPANS/events/EventList.aspx)

We'll be leaving early to arrive by 10 am!"

DEC		WINGS Radio Communications, Dec 7 Holiday Potluck, Dec 11
JAN		Durango Space Museum/IMAX, Alamogordo
FEB		Aviation programs: Girl Scouts Ginny's 70th Birthday Party
MAR		Aviation programs: EYH Los Alamos, Mar 21 Scrapbook update
APR		Rummage Sale South Central Section, Durant OK, Apr 27-29
MAY		Plane Wash, Double Eagle II Aviation programs: libraries, EYH Santa Fe
JUN		Airmarking RGN Annual Meeting
JUL		Clancey's Lake House, Missouri International 99s Conference, Providence RI, July 11-15
AUG		Flying/Houseboating trip, Page AZ
SEP		Treasure Hunt
OCT		Spin Training South Central Section, El Paso, Oct 19-21
NOV		Carlsbad RGN 2013 Planning Meeting
DEC		ABQ Center/Approach Tour Holiday Potluck
throughout		Fly-outs (Las Vegas, Angel Fire, Taos, Pagosa Springs, Farmington...)

- Meetings
- Fly-outs
- Fundraising
- Educational

### Invitation from Clancey Maloney

If there is interest, add to the mix a fly-out to my Missouri lakehouse. Although we close the lakehouse for the winter, we'll reopen it in April 2012. I know, I know, this has been on the table for awhile, but I think the house is ready for company, finally, with new plumbing and appliances. The weather in late spring (May and June) and early fall (September and October) is spectacular, especially in October when the leaves turn. (July and August are awful with heat and humidity, so we decamp back to New Mexico.) The house can accommodate me plus 3 easily -- there's only one bathroom, one spare bedroom with a queen bed for 2, and a sofa for 1. There are nearby motels (within 3 miles and which I can check into) and airports. (Never had to find out about them to date because my mother's family owns a place up the road and I inherited this place from my stepfather. I may be able to borrow the other family place down the road, and I can check into that, too.) Fly-in options include Warrensburg MO (KRCM) 75 miles away with Enterprise rental cars (and where I have a hangar and Mom's old Buick land barge), Sedalia MO (KDMO) 50 miles away, and Versailles MO (3VS) 10 miles away. Runway lengths are 4200' at KRCM, 5500' at KDMO, and 2800' at 3VS (not sure 3VS has lights). Cook-outs, porch-sitting, boat-riding, fishing, swimming, sunbathing.

### Deadline for Scholarship Applications

Scholarship applications are due to the chapter scholarship chair (Martha Heather Cook) by December 1! Don't miss out on this fabulous opportunity to further your flying skills! New Pilot Awards have increased to \$2000, and scholarships for further ratings or research are limited only by your imagination. Contact Martha for more information! She, Clancey and Jacque have all received scholarship awards and can answer all your questions.

### Scrapbooking Party

Participants:  
Elizabeth, Steve, Tandra, Fred, Marianne, Lori & Robert Gibson, Lyn, Robin, Ginny, Marilyn & Paul Lisowski

Our chapter did so many different things this past year that it took 8 intrepid scrapbookers several hours to create pages for all of it! Virginie hosted our scrapbooking fest October 15, at her home in Los Alamos, on North Mesa immediately across the canyon from KLAM airport. Elizabeth and Steve flew in from Santa Fe, and it took as long to drive all the way around from the airport to Virginie's as it did to fly from KSAF to KLAM! The chapter is usually pretty good at potlucks, but the cooler weather must have put everyone in the mood for pasta---we had a table full of pasta salads! Chef Bertrand served up yummy guac with chips and grilled burgers to round out the feast. From Virginie's balcony at dusk, the remaining partiers watched Bunny take off, headed back to Santa Fe, and caught a rare glimpse of the International Space Station gleaming in the eastern sky.



Tandra  
Lyn  
Robin  
Ginny



Paul, Marilyn  
Robert, Lori



Virginie  
Bertrand  
Tandra  
Fred



Robert, Marianne, Elizabeth

## Belen September 25

Participants: Elizabeth, Steve and Tandra

Almost everyone who participated in the plane wash the day before slept in. Tandra was eager to fly someplace other than the pattern after finally getting out of a 2 1/2 month annual. Belen was the destination of choice since they now provide a courtesy car. With keys in hand, we charged for the restaurant. But, how do you get off the field? We never thought we would need a map just to exit the airport! After exploring for 20 minutes, we figured out how to escape. Brunch at the Rio Grande Diner was good. We headed back to the airport only to find the gate code had been changed. After a couple more phone calls, we were back in our planes and headed home.

Lesson learned: You can never be too prepared when you fly. Make sure you get directions and codes *before* you leave home!



Bunny & Skittles

Elizabeth & Tandra

# FANTASY FLIGHT TRAINING RAFFLE



This raffle is for a World War II Fantasy Flight Training Experience.

There will be three winners who will attend Ground School together.

The winning prize includes the following:

- A replica World War II A-4 Flight Suit with a B-1 Flight Cap.
- Primary flight training Ground School followed by 2-one hour training flights in the PT-26 with winners at the controls.
- Additional Ground School followed by a one hour flight in the T-6.
- One Year Associate Membership in the Commemorative Air Force.

Raffle Tickets: \$20.00 each purchased on-line at... [www.lobowing.org](http://www.lobowing.org)

Winners: 3 Grand Prize winners

All raffle details and rules will be available at the Lobo Wing web-site and the online store.

Raffle winners will be drawn on March 12, 2012.



[www.lobowing.org](http://www.lobowing.org)

The CAF is a Patriotic 501 (c)(3) Organization Dedicated to the Preservation of the World's Great Combat Aircraft - 1939-1945



Designed & Photographed By: Robert Talarczyk, Darkhorse Design, Santa Fe, N.M., U.S.A.

## An extra reason why I love the 99s

The Las Conchas fire was a hard time for residents from Los Alamos and its surrounding communities. When it started, I was on my way to Chicago for work, and Bertrand was alone at home with our two cats. He evacuated during the voluntary evacuation, and managed to find a room in a pet-friendly hotel in Santa Fe. Most of the Los Alamos residents evacuated to hotels in Santa Fe or Albuquerque, and shelters filled up quickly with pets that couldn't follow their parents in a hotel. The first day, the hardest part was not knowing how long he was going to stay at the hotel. They wanted to know before noon if he would be staying for another night. We thought we would have to live on a day-to-day basis, renewing the room everyday, hoping they would still have one for him. Moreover, we had been planing on going to Florida with Marianne (who was already there for work) and to go scuba diving. When the evacuation became mandatory, emails from the 99s started flooding my mailbox, offering rooms to stay for humans and pets. I was amazed at how these women, some I had barely met the day before at the meeting, were ready to host us for an unknown period of time. We decided to accept Susan's offer. Bertrand was able to unload the car (he had packed it so full that when we came back, we had to do 2 round trips to Los Alamos, with me and my bag being the extra things that wouldn't fit). The cats found a home to play in (and tried to expel Susan's pets), and Bertrand a room to stay in and a kitchen to play with. When she heard about our plans for Florida, Susan even offered to petsit Darwin and Terechkova. She didn't know Darwin would not behave, and she may not offer ever again, but we were very grateful to be able to go on with our original plans and take a break from the fire. In summary, all I want to say is thank you 99s for all the offers. I am grateful I belong to such an organization, providing me with great flying companions, and even better friends who I can count on when times get a bit harder. All our friends here live in Los Alamos and were in the same situation as us, and the 99s were the only group that could offer us hospitality. Thank you for doing it.

---Virginie & Bertrand

### Advertisement

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 505-438-2788  
 marthaheather@gmail.com  
**\$21,500**



Darwin, Bertrand, Virginie, Terechkova



### Editor's Note:

I completed my first BFR this week. My nerves were on edge and I had that familiar feeling in the pit of my stomach like the night before my checkride. Everyone kept telling me, it is just a review. They were right and it went very smooth. Anxiety caused by the unknown is a very strong emotion. Experience is the only antidote. A new friend I met at the SCS Meeting in Durango, sent me a note of congratulations, indicating she would soon be going for her recurrent training in a Citation X. "I am always a little nervous before any training event, so keep your fingers crossed!" That certainly put things into perspective for me. Nerves are normal, just keep the shiny side up. Thanks for the advice Debby!

There are more photos of our fun times on the website. Please visit often! RGN99s.org

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