



# TUCSON 99S TREASURE HUNT

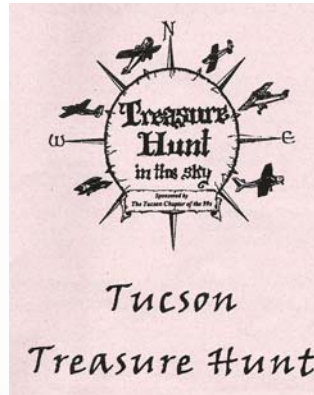
by Nancy Rogers

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About 20 years ago I participated in my first Treasure Hunt sponsored by the Tucson Chapter of the Ninety Nines. After that first "Hunt" I promised myself that I would do it again. Well, about 20 years passed and my best intentions went by the way-side as everyday life seemed to get in the way. But, this year I made it. As soon as I received notification of the date, I wrote it on my calendar and decided that nothing would get in the way of participating in what I remembered as a truly fun and sometimes hysterically funny event.

The Tucson Treasure Hunt is now in its 30th year and, as I remembered it from long ago, it is cleverly designed and incredibly challenging. Forty-eight (48) hunters in nineteen (19) airplanes participated in the event. The teams came from all over Arizona and California.

Following a safety and weather briefing on Saturday morning and after teams were buckled into their aircraft we were each given two sealed envelopes. One of the envelopes contained about 40 clues that had to be solved during our flight. The second envelope was to be opened in case we got so lost we needed help to find the enroute secret airport where we were to partici-



pate in a spot landing contest.

We departed from Tucson International one-by-one on the 260+ mile trip that zig-zagged across the southern area of our state. To solve the clues we looked for landmarks on the ground and on the current sectional chart. There were a series of about 40 questions. On our answer sheet we had to describe or draw what we saw on the ground (or thought we saw on the ground) that we hoped correctly solved the clues. A little more than midway through the hunt one of our clues told us to land at Bisbee airport where we would be judged on accuracy during a spot landing. All of the hunters had to be back at TIA by 3 PM. This was not a speed event, so circling

was allowed.

Saturday evening there was a banquet and the MC presented a slide show of what we were *suppose* to see when the clue was answered correctly. That's when all the laughter started. He enjoyed sharing some of the not-so-correct answers that many of the contestants (including yours truly) came up with. We were then entertained by a short video that illustrated the many different landing techniques used during the spot landing contest.

Congratulations to the Tucson Chapter for another successful Treasure Hunt. I plan to put it on my calendar again next year as soon as the date is announced. You should too.



Winner of 2007 Treasure Hunt—99  
Kaye Craig of the Tucson Chapter  
along with her husband Kayl.