

Aviation EXPO 2026 – January 31, 2026

Schedule of Events

IFR PILOT SESSIONS

8:15 **Introductions & Opening Remarks**

9:00 **Flying Real IFR—a Comprehensive Review**
Gary Reeves—the Guy in the Pink Shirt (GPS)

A full morning of Instrument Instruction - Immerse yourself in becoming more proficient; make your IFR flying easier and safer

12:00 **Lunch**

13:30 **ATC Was My Co-Pilot**
Minnetta Gardinier, Race Pilot, 99s Vice President

15:00 **Tales from the TRACON**
Eddie Trujillo, Air Traffic Controller

FLYING COMPANION SESSIONS

A Comprehensive all-day program for right-seat riders

09:00 **How Does It Fly?**

10:20 **Break**

10:40 **Customary Communications**

12:00 **Lunch with your pilot**

13:30 **Finding Your Way Around**

15:00 **Stay Calm and Carry On**

*All sessions created, produced and presented by
Chicago Area 99s Jen Markovska + Jamie Swanson*

VFR PILOT SESSIONS

08:15 **Introductions & Opening Remarks**

09:00 **VFR Airport Runway Procedures**
Jennifer Settle, FAA Runway Safety

10:00 **Mosaic Can Change your Pilot Life**
Michael Baraz, CFII, FAA Safety Rep

11:00 **RAF Backcountry Airstrips & Your Role in Safe Operations**
Mike Purpura, Regional Manager

12:00 **Lunch**

14:00 **Between a Rock & a Hard Place Pilot Mental Health**
M Penny Levin CFI, PhD

15:00 **Flying Paved Alaska**
Dave Montgomery, Intrepid Aviator

VENDORS

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| Aviation Chicago | Illinois Dept of Transportation |
| Blue Skies Flying Services | Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame |
| Civil Air Patrol | Leading Edge Flying Club |
| Chicago Executive Airport | Lewis University |
| Chicago Executive Pilot Association | Lifeline Pilots |
| Chicago Executive Flight School | Midwest Sight Foundation |
| Chicago TRACON | Ninety-Nines Chicago Area Chapter |
| DuPage Airport | Pilot Flight Training Courses |
| EAA Warbird Squadron 4 | Plane English |
| Eagles Nest Projects Wisconsin | Poplar Grove Airmotive |
| Extreme Flight Simulation | Recreational Aircraft Foundation |
| FAA FSDO | Soaring Society of America |
| Fly America | Stick and Rudder Flying Club |
| Fly Waterloo | Tuskegee Airmen DODO Chapter |
| Golden Wings Team | Women in Aviation |
| Holiday Airways, LLC | Leading Edge Chapter |
| | WAir Aviation |