

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

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

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*

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 |