

# AIR NEWS

Chicago Area Chapter Ninety-Nines®, Inc., International Organization of Women Pilots.

OCTOBER 2026

chicagoarea99s.org



Our Chapter is thriving. We have many new members at all levels of aviation. You can be a part of our success!

*Opportunities for women pilots to excel!!!!*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:      NOVEMBER 15 AT DPA      DEC 13 AT UGN

| OPENING                            | JOB DESCRIPTION                                                                         | REWARD                                                                  |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR                  | ANNOUNCE/ENCOURAGE/GUIDE 99S IN APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS                               | HELP WOMEN REACH THEIR AVIATION GOALS WITH FINANCIAL HELP               |
| 99S MAGAZINE REPORTER              | SUBMIT ARTICLES, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND ACHIEVEMENTS 6 TIMES A YEAR                         | LET THE WORLD OF 99S KNOW WHAT CHICAGO CHAPTER WOMEN ARE DOING          |
| FALL 27 SECTION MEETING VOLUNTEERS | TRANSPORTATION, REGISTRATION, GOODIE BAGS,                                              | MAKE OUR GUESTS WELCOME, MOVING THEM PLACE TO PLACE, PROVIDING HANDOUTS |
| HOST A CHAPTER MEETING OR EVENT    | ONE TIME      GUIDANCE PROVIDED<br>VOLUNTEER TO LARISA K<br>NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED      | YOU DECIDE!                                                             |
| SOCIAL MEDIA CHAIR                 | SUPERVISE/ENHANCE FB, IG, AND OTHER PUBLIC RELATIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, TOOLS AND OUTLETS | MAKING US KNOWN!!!                                                      |
| WEBMANAGER                         | MANAGE UPDATES/ADDITIONS TO OUR WEBSITE (CURRENTLY BEING UPGRADED)                      | HELP YOUR CHAPTER THRIVE WITH 21ST CENTURY TECHNOLOGY                   |
| And always!!                       | Volunteer                                                                               | MEET PEOPLE                                                             |

CHECK THE WEBSITE CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER EVENTS

**WHO'S WHO**  
**in the**  
**Chicago Area Chapter**

**CHAIR**

**Victoria S**

**VICE CHAIR**

**Larisa K**

**SECRETARY**

**Susan R M**

**TREASURER**

**Katie B**

**Deadline for submission the**  
**20th of the month :**

**Madeleine M**

Air News is published monthly by the Chicago Area Chapter of the 99s Inc and is available to non-members for \$20 per year. Members must pay chapter dues to receive Air News. Suggested donation for a business card size ad is \$5/month or \$50/year. Members may place 6 free personal ads per year. Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and shall not be construed to express the policies or opinions of the Ninety-Nines, Inc.



*Skywriting*  
*Chicago Area Chair, Vickie S*

Oh, the places you'll go.

Oshkosh, WI, Burlington, VT, Batavia, OH, San Diego, CA, Atchinson, KS

I started looking over my calendar (past and present) and was amazed at some of the places that aviation has taken me. From International conventions to Section meetings to the lovely Forest of Friendship. The 99s have given me reasons to see new places and opened opportunities.

At Osh Kosh we visited the EAA museum where we had a short tour and time to wander with almost no one there. We also went up in the tower and learned how OSH works the other 50 weeks of the year that are not AirVenture.

I had not visited inland New England before going to Burlington, VT. It was a very charming place with history on one side and cutting-edge technology on the other. The cutting-edge was visiting Beta Technologies who are developing all-electric small cargo aircraft and the needed infrastructure.

In Batavia, OH, the home of Sporty's, we had a tour that showed the companies different facets, including aviation training, the catalog business (aviation, home-and-garden and tools) and managing the airport. It was very interesting, especially the history of the company.

In San Diego, we visited the Air & Space Museum, and I learned more about about early aviators and enjoyed a 4D movie. We took a harbor tour where I learned about the naval base and the different types of ships, as the captain was retired navy.

I really enjoyed Atchinson, KS and the Forest of Friendship, which celebrates World Friendship through flight. The "Forest" is more like a park with paved paths lined with the inductee's names on small markers. I was amazed at how many of the inductees I know either from history (the Lindberg's and Katherine Wright), the news (many astronauts) and several friends (Cynthia, Madeleine and Shelley). I also had time to see the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum, which is well kept and helped me learn a bit more about life in the early 1900's.

These are just my experiences with the 99s in the past couple of years. I can't wait to see what's next!

*Vickie*

***Editor's note If you haven't attended any meetings or events yet, we would love to meet you. The bond we share as women pilots is the most wonderful thing about being a 99. Please plan on something that sounds interesting, and join us, for an hour or two!***

**September Chapter Meeting Minutes Pilot Pete's Schaumburg Airport**  
**Chicago Area Chapter 99s Meeting Minutes**  
**September 24, 2026 Pilot Pete's — Schaumburg Airport Hostess: Madeleine M**

The Chicago Area Chapter 99s met on September 24, 2026, at Pilot Pete's at Schaumburg Airport.

Call to Order

Members & Guests Present: **99s Members:** Deb M, Vickie S, Eva K, Leslie P, Susan M, Sandra K, Heather G (International Director), Susan Z, Sharon S, Barbara D, Larisa K, Cynthia M, Diane C, Jamie S, Corie W, Ellen O, Aurora B, Madeleine M, Daniela T, Daniela G, Avery B, Katie B, & Shelley V.

Guests: Dorina J, Roger K, Dave S, Jack W, Natalia P, Annelia K, Caitlin F, Jason R, Beata R, Yosh K, Victor Z, Ralph M, Steve S and Darius J.

Chairman's Report — Vickie S

Forest of Friendship: Shelley V was inducted into the Forest of Friendship in Atchison, Kansas.

NCS Fall Meeting — October 2–4: Vickie, Ellen, Madeleine and Shelley indicated they plan to attend.

NCS Printed 2027 Calendar is available for sale now

Ford Hangar: Discussion of the hangar's 100th anniversary, dating to 1926.

Aviation Career Day — Lansing: Scheduled for October 22, 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed.

The chapter continues to seek volunteers for several open positions and activities, including: Scholarship Chair, 99s

Magazine Reporter News/article contributions, Webmaster, Social media

Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame: Madeleine provided an update.

Secretary's Report Susan R M Aug meeting minutes were presented. Motion to approve Corie/Katie Passed

Treasurer's Report — Katie B Katie B presented the Treasurer's Report.

Old Business

2027 North Central Section Fall Meeting: Corie W and Vickie S reported that planning is underway for the October 15–17, 2027 meeting. DuPage is being considered/worked on as the location. Madeleine M: Madeleine is coordinating the proposed Tracon tour.

Oral History Project — Susan R M: Oral history work continues. Participants/stories noted included Sharon, Susan, Diane, and Corie.

Technology Update: Discussion continued regarding a new technology committee and chapter communications, including email/newsletter communication and possible Discord or WhatsApp use, as well as chapter sales and electronic storage of minutes and bylaws.

Chapter Badges: Madeleine and Katie reported that 20 badges have been ordered.

Holiday Party Susan R M: Chapter Holiday Party is scheduled for Sunday, December 13, from noon–3:00pm

Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame: Continued discussion/update.

2027 Chapter Calendar — Larisa: Planning continues for the chapter's 2027 calendar.

New Business

Open chapter positions were again discussed, including: Scholarships — First Wings, AEM and Santori Webmaster Social Media 99 News Reporter Members interested in these positions were encouraged to volunteer.

Announcements

Chapter members were reminded of upcoming aviation activities and opportunities to participate in chapter programs.

Upcoming Meeting Tentative Date: Sunday, November 15, 2026 Time: 2:00 p.m. Location: DuPage Airport

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned following completion of chapter business.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan R M

Secretary Chicago Area Chapter 99s

# CHICAGO AREA CHAPTER NOVEMBER MEETING

DU PAGE AIRPORT MAIN TERMINAL SUNDAY , November 15, 2:00 pm

BRING CLOTHES AND JEWELRY TO SWAP, SHARE, OR DONATE. AVIATION OR OTHERWISE

If someone wants a T shirt from Air Venture, or a pair of airplane earrings, this is your swap shop Bring something, take something, no money spent. If your size has changed, bring what doesn't fit anymore. Or scarves, mittens, gloves

All leftover unclaimed items will be donated to someone in need, so bring work clothes, play clothes, exercise clothes, coats or jackets—anything useful to others, but not to you anymore. And if you have nothing? Bring a new toy or book for a child's gift.

**THE GREATEST REWARD IS IN GIVING**

Dear Chicago Area Chapter 99s

Celebrate the season at our **Sleigh Bells & Golden Wings Holiday Party on Sunday, December 13,**  
from 12—3 PM at [GW Aviation, 2960 Aviation Drive, Waukegan.](#)

Join us for an afternoon of holiday cheer, aviation friendship, lunch, refreshments, and festive fun in the hangar.

The cost is **\$35 per person**, and guests are welcome.

Holiday festive or aviation casual attire is encouraged.

Come enjoy good friends, great conversation, and a little hangar-style holiday magic.

LINK WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON ON ZEFFY **Please RSVP by December 1** so we can finalize food and event arrangements.

FLY FRIENDSHIP HIGHER

—  —

SAME PASSION BRIGHTER TOMORROWS

**BOARDING PASS**  
SPECIAL FLIGHT  
SPECIAL PEOPLE

**THE 99s HOLIDAY PARTY**  
**SLEIGH BELLS & GOLDEN WINGS**  
FRIENDSHIP TAKES FLIGHT

*Same Horizons  
Brighter Holidays*

**DESTINATION:**  
 **GW Aviation Hangar**

**DATE:**  
 **Sunday, December 13, 2026**

**BOARDING TIME:**  
 **12:00 PM**

**RETURN:**  
 **3:00 PM**

**FARE:**  
 **\$35 per person**

**LOCATION:**  
 **GW Aviation**  
2960 Aviation Drive, Waukegan, Illinois

*Join your fellow 99s for an afternoon of holiday cheer,  
aviation, friendship, and fun.*

 *Guests welcome • Holiday festive / aviation casual* 

*Good Friends  
Make Great Journeys*

**THE 99s**  
**SLEIGH BELLS & GOLDEN WINGS**

AVIATION  
FRIENDSHIP  
HOLIDAY CHEER  
A BRIGHTER TOMORROW



MORE THAN A DESTINATION  
  
A STRONGER TOMORROW



## NORTH CENTRAL SECTION 99S CALENDAR AVAILABLE

From student pilots to seasoned captains, the 2027 NCS 99s Calendar brings together the extraordinary women who share the skies across our heartland Chapters.

Featuring monthly photos of our members and their aircraft, this calendar celebrates aviation's power, mutual support, and lifelong friendships.

Hang it on your wall, track your own flying adventures, and let inspiring pilots fuel your passion for flight all year long!

Your purchase supports the North Central Section 99s fundraising. Questions? Contact Brenda Frye ([fundraising@ncs99s.org](mailto:fundraising@ncs99s.org)).

[Purchase online at Lulu.com](https://www.lulu.com) for \$25 + shipping

## Safety Seminar for CFI's and A&P Technicians at DuPage Airport

WHEN: October 14, 2026 9:00 AM

WHERE: [2700 International Drive](#); West Chicago, IL

WHAT: A Discussion of Occurrences

WHY: Save Your Aircraft - Save Your Students - Exchange Knowledge - Communicate and Collaborate - Meet FSDO Staff

## UPDATES FROM OUR MEMBERS!

from Kadijah H

**Kadijah H:** Four young women gathered at the [Chicago Glider Club](#) in Minooka for an unforgettable day of soaring. Standing beside the club's grass runway on Airport Road, they watched with building anticipation as the sailplanes were prepared for flight. One by one, they buckled into the cockpits as a tow plane pulled them up into the clear sky. Once the tow lines were released, they experienced the serene, breathtaking magic of pure motorless flight. Our glider club has done this once before this summer and plans to do more next year. Other Chapter members are welcome to attend and assist with this any time.



**Mona K:** In late August, Mona passed her CFII checkride. She is looking forward to teaching instrument flight! Any student with their own (IFR-capable) plane who wants to learn, please reach out.

**Congratulations**

# INTERNATIONAL FOREST OF FRIENDSHIP CELEBRATES FIFTY YEARS



Chicago Area Chapter members at the Forest

In Atchison, KS on 9-11-26 we honored those who perished 25 years earlier at the World Trade Center with a solemn sunset ceremony. This was part of the weekend that recognized 50 years of the International Forest of Friendship, founded by 99s Charter Member Fay Gillis Wells. Our Chapter members Vickie S, Cynthia M, and Madeleine M were attending to celebrate the inclusion of Chapter honoree, Shelley V



99s at the 2026 International Forest of Friendship Celebration



Cynthia's Paver



Vickie & AE



Amelia Earhart Hangar Museum



Madeleine carried Illinois flag



Shelley found her brick



Cynthia at AE's House

**The Ninety-Nines, Inc.**  
owns and operates the Amelia  
Earhart Birthplace Museum



Barbara Silagi, Chicago Area Life  
Member has a brick in the Forest

Our weekend included a Friday night reception at the Amelia Earhart Hangar Museum; Saturday morning Parade of Flags at the Forest; followed by introduction of 50 honorees and a picnic lunch under the trees with the Atchison Jazz Band playing. Saturday night was celebrated with a Gala Banquet at the Atchison Cultural Center.



This month, *CALLBACK* continues its informal survey of ASRS Human Factors with a brief look at troubleshooting in flight as a critical and defining skill, often needed and practiced by aviation professionals and enthusiasts alike.

Good troubleshooting demands keen observation, accurate perception, anticipation, sound judgment, and timely decision-making that breeds effective action. Other human factors, a bit of creativity, and the ability to adapt or improvise may also influence results. In short, troubleshooting aims at continually improving the safety and outcome of an evolving situation.

The principle is cemented in aviation's Safety Management System (SMS) philosophy and is reflected in every checklist, Quick Reference Handbook procedure, and immediate action item.

In this issue, we feature incident reports that recount serious aircraft challenges in which troubleshooting was paramount to resolving each problem. Note the many facets that troubleshooting takes on and the human factors at play.

#### Part 91 – The Audio Connection

While IFR in IMC, this Cirrus SR22 pilot experienced a situation that deteriorated as troubleshooting was attempted. Priorities were reestablished, and the flight landed safely.

☐ Cleared for takeoff.... Given right turn to 120 at about 1000 ft. Entered clouds. Solid IMC. Flying with autopilot, heading bug, and altitude step-ups. At that moment, the audio panel went out, reverting to backup level functionality. No noise canceling. Low audio volume. Instructions from ATC difficult to hear well in that environment, but I did hear. Was given turn to 140. Heading bug moved to 140. I advised that I was having audio difficulties and began to troubleshoot the audio. Subsequently, it was evident that the autopilot was also nonfunctional. I was nose high in a shallow left turn with airspeed about 90 kts. Momentarily I regained control from the unusual attitude and began to correct course. Once basic control had been reestablished, troubleshooting checklist led to the breaker panel, where I could feel two breakers out. These were reset and the audio and autopilot returned to normal, and normal operations were again possible. The flight then proceeded normally to the destination safely.

### MEET ZEFFY

*We're excited to share that the Chicago Area Chapter is now using **Zeffy**, a platform designed specifically for nonprofits, to make it easier to support and participate in chapter activities. Going forward, we'll use **Zeffy to manage chapter donations, event RSVPs, and personalized badge orders.***

*You can now use Zeffy for:*

**Annual Member Donation:** <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/chicago-area-chapter-of-the-nintey-nines>

**Personalized Badge Program:** <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/chicago-area-chapter-of-the-ninety-nines-shop>

*Our goal is to simplify these processes for members while giving the chapter one central place to manage payments and registrations. Keep an eye out for Zeffy links in future chapter communications!*

## AIR NEWS

Madeleine M



### 2026 CALENDAR

For details on events please see our website [chicagoarea99s.org](http://chicagoarea99s.org)

|                   |                                 |                                       |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| OCT 2-4           | NCS MEETING                     | FISHERS, INDIANA                      |
| OCT 14            | WINGS SEMINAR FOR CFIs & A+Ps   | DU PAGE AIRPORT 9 AM                  |
| OCT 15            | IL AVIATION HALL OF FAME DINNER | SPRINGFIELD, IL                       |
| <del>OCT 17</del> | <del>CHAPTER AIR MEET</del>     | <del>LANSING AIRPORT- CANCELLED</del> |
| NOV 15            | NOVEMBER CHAPTER MEETING 2 PM   | DUPAGE SWAP MEET                      |
| DEC 13            | HOLIDAY PARTY 12-3              | GOLDEN WINGS HANGAR KUGN              |

### 2027 CALENDAR

|        |                                |                             |
|--------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| JAN 29 | PRE EXPO DINNER                | RENAISSANCE SUITES GLENVIEW |
| JAN 30 | AVIATION EXPO IFR/VFR SEMINARS | RENAISSANCE SUITES GLENVIEW |