

AIR NEWS

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

SEPTEMBER 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

JOIN US AT PILOT PETE'S SCHAUMBURG AIRPORT IN THE BALLOON ROOM
SEPTEMBER 24TH 6 PM BRING FRIENDS!

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 VOLUNTEER TO LARISA K 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!!	MEET PEOPLE	HAVE FUN

CHECK THE CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER EVENTS

WHO'S WHO
in the
Chicago Area Chapter

CHAIR

Victoria S

VICE CHAIR

Larisa K

SECRETARY

Susan 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

So, life can throw you a few curveballs. Lately, I feel like I'm in a soap opera (aka daytime drama). I was working, gardening, doing a little flying, reading IFR textbooks and then BAM.

It starts off with a shooting at my workplace by a recently terminated employee. So, after that things were getting back to normal, and I went to San Diego for the convention with my family. While in San Diego, we visited Steve's 100-year-old aunt, who lives by herself and is as sharp as a tack. The next week, Steve's aunt tripped over her vacuum cleaner cord and could not get up. She was in the hospital for a few days, and and is now in a nursing home. My husband flew out to San Diego to take care of her.

But wait there's more, at the end of June and then in the middle of July not one, but two tornados came through my town. Many of my neighbors' homes have roof damage and others are destroyed. Also, my hangar door is bent, and we cannot get the plane out. The airport doesn't know when the hangars will be fixed. It might be a month. Ugh.

Although all this happened, I have been counting my blessings. I have a good therapist through my work that has been helping me through all of this. My house is fine. We didn't even lose a shingle. No one in Lansing was seriously hurt in either storm. I have spent time getting to know my neighbors. Last of all, Steve's aunt is making progress in her recovery. She told us that she will be going to assisted living when her therapy is complete. I think that flying and flight training help you learn to be ready to divert and make new plans when things don't work out.

So, I'm looking forward to Fall. By the time you read this I will have retired from NPAA. Some of the activities that I have planned are: a flight in a tri-motor and going to the Ford Hangar Celebration in Lansing, flying Young Eagles, going to see Shelley inducted into the Forest of Friendship, attending Madeleine's induction into the Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame, and attending the NCS Fall meeting in Indianapolis. I will also be going to San Diego to check on Aunt Jean, gardening, quilting and getting back to work on my Instrument rating.

Hope to see all of you at our Pilot Pete's meeting!

Happy Fall!

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!

Our September Meeting will be a dinner meeting (more dinner than meeting actually)
at Pilot Pete's in Schaumburg, 6pm, 9-24-26

The Balloon Room is ours for the evening, and we can order from the menu,
but there will be only one bill for the group.

PLEASE calculate carefully and chip in to cover your meal, drinks, tax and tip.

SEPTEMBER CHICAGO CHAPTER MEETING

THE BALLOON ROOM

PILOT PETE'S RESTAURANT

SCHAUMBURG AIRPORT

905 W IRVING PARK ROAD

SCHAUMBURG, IL 60193

847-891-5100



BRING GUESTS, SPOUSES,
FLYING FRIENDS

(we promised at
least 20 people)

Questions—

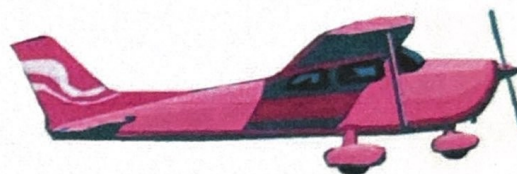
SEE YOU THERE!!!

CHICAGO AREA 99s AIR MEET OPEN TO ANY 99

JOIN THE FUN!

Improve your piloting skills
Practice navigation
Learn more about your
aircraft Go back to basics
It's fun, educational and challenging.

OCTOBER 17, 2026
LANSING IL MUNICIPAL
AIRPORT (KIGQ)



Pilot and passenger required

Cash prizes

Upon arrival at Lansing, you will be given a course of approximately 150 nm to fly.
The winning competitor will come the closest to their estimated fuel burn
over the entire course and their actual speed in knots.

1st Place

2nd place

3rd Place



Breakfast and lunch available.
Rental aircraft welcome.



This is an excellent opportunity for a CFI to help a student learn more about navigation,
flight planning, fuel consumption and estimating time over a course.

It is a great exercise in pilotage and dead reckoning.

It is a terrific way to learn more about what your aircraft can do.

More info and registration forms will be available at www.chicagoarea99s.org

CHICAGO AREA 99s AIR MEET
Saturday October 17, 2026
Lansing Illinois Municipal Airport (KIGO)

The Chicago Area 99s Air Meet is a fun and educational activity designed to increase pilot proficiency and safety awareness using basic pilotage skills under VFR conditions. There will be help available for newcomers – we need rookie pilots. To participate, your registration must be postmarked no later than September 1, 2026. If an insufficient number of entries is received and the air meet cannot be held, you will be notified promptly after September 1, 2026 and all your deposits will be returned to you.

AGENDA/SCHEDULE		ENTRY FEE
0830-0930	Fly-in, fuel up, registration, briefing	Proficiency Air Meet \$25 per plane Lunch available for purchase on race day Make check payable to "Chicago Area Chapter 99s" to Vickie Szewczyk (address in 99s directory) or make payment online at ChicagoArea99s.org
1000	First plane starts	
1200-END	Lunch	
1330	Awards (time may vary slightly based on when the last plane makes it back to KIGQ)	

RULES

1. The Chicago Area 99s Air Meet is a cross-country proficiency air meet of approximately 150 nautical miles flown under VFR conditions.
2. Each plane entered shall have two occupants, both must be a Ninety-Nine. A student pilot 99 must have an instructor as co-pilot.
3. The pilot will estimate speed and fuel consumption the morning of the air meet and start with full tanks. Estimates must be turned in during the air meet morning briefing. (**Knots and gallons per hour.**)
4. Checkpoints along the air meet route must be identified during the air meet and noted on the questionnaire form.
5. Any airworthy aircraft is eligible except for helicopters and balloons. All documents required by the FARs must be on board the plane and/or person. Pilot must have a current Chicago sectional chart.
6. Entry fee is \$25 per plane.

Scoring

- Speed shall be stated in nautical miles per hour (**your speed estimate to run the course**).
- Fuel shall be stated in gallons per hour (**not total gallons used**).
- Speed score will be calculated as follows: Knots actual divided by knots predicted times 100. If more than 100, the score will be the remainder after subtracting from 200.
- Fuel score will be calculated as follows: GPH actual divided by GPH predicted times 100. If more than 100, the score will be the remainder after subtracting from 200.
- Combined score will be the sum of the fuel score and the speed score, divided by two.
- Scoring will be by computer.
- Timing will start when the flag drops and end at the fly-by timing line to be specified at the air meet morning briefing.
- If a question sheet is provided, questions need to be answered to determine that the prescribed course was flown and may be used to break a tie score.

STUDENT PILOT UPDATE

Gathered by Joy R

Aurora B joined 99s on 7/24/26 She is Megan M student at Blue Skies. Aurora joined us at the TRACON tour on Saturday August 22 and learned things! Say hi when you see her and ask about it!

Susan M: In addition to continuing her flight training, Susan has been premiering her film “The Pulitzer Electric Air Race” across the country. After her trip to Boeing in Seattle she has now scheduled a Chicago Area Premier at Harper College in Prospect Heights and a follow up presentation at the CEPA (Chicago Executive Pilots Assoc) Safety Program on October 28th 7pm 1375 S Wolf Road, Prospect Heights, IL Come and see her award winning film on electric aircraft.

AND UPDATES FROM OTHER MEMBERS!

from Kadijah H

Sharon S: It was time to say goodbye to “Ting” - my Cessna 206 on amphibious floats. Had her since new in 1976 (yes, 50 years)! Lots of awesome memories for me and my family. Maybe my son will let me fly his Champ

Madeleine M is working on the agreement for 2027 Aviation Expo. We plan to go back to Renaissance Glenview Suites Hotel on January 30, 2027. What role would YOU like to play in this event? Let Madeleine know. 🤔

TRACON TOUR AUGUST 22

Those who were able to attend this special private TRACON tour provided by Eddie Trujillo of NATCA at C90 were very pleased at the tremendous opportunity. We each had the opportunity to plug in at 2 different stations with the controllers actually working traffic—real time. If you think you could do this? Maybe think again. What talented professionals!



August Meeting Report

from Ana A

The Chapter gathered at Northbrook Sports Club (NSC) in Hainesville for the August meeting. NSC is a private, member-owned clay target shooting club. The 700-acre club is one of the top sporting clays ranges in the US and they have hosted major regional and national shotgun competitions including World FITASC and the US Open. The day started in the club house where officers and members discussed the meeting agenda. Lively conversations were had over coffee, donuts and bagels. Corie W was announced winner of the raffle for 2 hours of flight time on an instrument rated Cardinal 177B. Despite challenging August weather, a group of 10 were able to enjoy a few rounds of sporting clays after the meeting. Northbrook is passionate about engaging women in the sport. They partner with Annie Oakley Shooters of Illinois to host several events including an all-female sporting clay tournament. Everyone is invited to join the club. Check their website at northbrooksportsclub.org for more information!



Chicago Area Chapter 99s Meeting Minutes

August 15, 2026 Northbrook Sports Club Hostess: Ana A

Attending: Vickie S, Megan M, Penny L, Susan M, Larisa K, Mona K, Sharon S, Katie B, Corie W, Ellen O, Erica O, Aurora B, Ana A, Lara E, Shelley V

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 12:15 p.m.

Chairman's Report Vickie S, Chairman The new Executive Board was discussed. Katie B was announced as the new Treasurer. NCS calendars and fundraising were discussed. Planning for upcoming NCS meeting was reviewed.

Secretary's Report Susan M, Secretary The April and June meeting minutes were presented for approval. The minutes were approved. Google Docs will continue to be used for chapter records and document sharing.

Treasurer's Report Katie B, Treasurer Katie reported approximately: \$22,000 in checking \$8,000 in savings Additional Treasurer/business items discussed: Chapter bank accounts are being updated to reflect the chapter's legal name. Updating chapter banking and financial records will be completed as part of the Treasurer transition.

Old Business

NCS Fall Section Meeting Planning continues for the 2027 Fall Section Meeting. Corie and Vickie are involved in planning. The meeting is planned at the DuPage airport in West Chicago. Tentative dates noted: October 15–17, 2027. Volunteers will be needed.

Oral History Project Susan M reported that three oral histories have been completed.

Technology / Communications Work continues on improving chapter technology, communications and file storage. The Zeffy platform is being set up. A new chapter link is coming. The chapter needs someone to assist with the website.

Badges Madeleine and Katie are taking orders for chapter badges.

Holiday Party Planning continues for the 2026 Holiday Party. The event is planned for December 13, 2026 in Waukegan, with a hangar/aviation setting. A future holiday party date of December 12, 2027 was also noted.

2027 NCS Calendar Planning for the 2027 calendar was discussed

Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame The chapter discussed its involvement with the Illinois Aviation Hall of Fame. Madeleine M will be inducted this year.

New Business TRACON Tour The chapter's TRACON tour is scheduled for August 22.

November Meeting We need to schedule a November meeting and determine a related charity activity/project.
2027 Chapter Calendar Larissa is working on the chapter calendar for 2027.

Announcements

International Forest of Friendship The International Forest of Friendship event will be held September 11–12. Shelley V will be honored and a group will be attending. .

The next Chicago Area Chapter meeting will be: September 24, 2026 Pilot Pete's — Schaumburg

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan R M, Secretary
Chicago Area Chapter 99s

AIR NEWS

Madeleine M



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>

September Chapter Meeting RSVP - Dinner at Pilot Pete's: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/september-chapter-meeting-dinner-at-pilot-petes>

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!

2026 CALENDAR

For details on events please see our website chicagoarea99s.org

SEPT 11-12	INTL FOREST OF FRIENDSHIP	50TH REUNION ATCHISON, KS
SEPT 24	CHAPTER MEETING	PILOT PETES BALLOON ROOM 6:00 pm
OCT 2-4	NCS MEETING	FISHERS, INDIANA
OCT 15	IL AVIATION HALL OF FAME DINNER	SPRINGFIELD, IL
OCT 17	CHAPTER AIR MEET	LANSING AIRPORT
NOV 12	??????????????	
DEC 13	HOLIDAY PARTY 12-3	GOLDEN WINGS HANGAR KUGN

[And contact Vice Chair Larisa K to volunteer for next year!](#)