

# AIR NEWS

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



JUNE 2026

chicagoarea99s.org

## OUR CHAPTER REQUESTS YOUR HELP IN FUNDING OUR REGULAR ANNUAL EXPENSES.

As Ninety-Nines, you are a part of a large world-wide organization that is managed by a Headquarters staff in Oklahoma City, OK. The International 99s membership sends bills for your annual dues yearly.



**BUT WAIT, There's more**



**Our Chapter** operates financially apart from that by raising the funds we need to do the things we decide as a Chapter to do each year. The annual budget is created and voted upon each year in June—the beginning of our official fiscal year.

**We are asking each member to donate an amount of \$20. to help fund this budget. Please send your check, payable to the Chicago Area 99s to our Treasurer, Susan M , by clicking on the dues/donation button on our website . [chicagoarea99s.org](http://chicagoarea99s.org) or pay via zelle at [99ChicagoTreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:99ChicagoTreasurer@gmail.com)**

To our Chapter Members who are college students of any age:

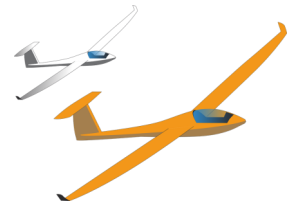
There is a relatively new funding possibility brought to you by the 99s. The Collegiate Women's Achievement Award of \$3500 is being awarded annually to a 99 who is studying aviation as a collegiate Sophomore or higher.

The application window opens July 1 and closes October 1. Details for the application can be viewed at <https://www.ninety-nines.org/awards.htm>

Because our directory does not include the information of your college attendance, we must rely on you to read this notice, look at the application and let us know that you are interested and eligible. See page 4 for links

**Our annual meeting of the Chicago Area Chapter will take place at Sky Soaring Gliderport.**

**If you have never flown a glider, here's your chance. The pros at Sky Soaring will show you the ropes (tow ropes) and teach your first lesson!**



**DRIVE IN or FLY IN JUNE 13 11 am**

In the May issue we published a proposal to amend the Chapter ByLaws and Standing Rules. The vote will be taken during our official Annual Business Meeting June 13. Other business including our budget will also be addressed.



**Have you signed up for the International Conference in San Diego? Registration information is available at [ninety-nines.org](http://ninety-nines.org) Tours, Meals, Great speakers, Awards banquet, Scholarship presentations, Fly Market Sales tables, Panel discussions, FUN!!! And the Business Meeting on Saturday, the 11th (which you can attend via zoom, but that's not as much fun!)**

**FLY IN JULY 8-12, 2026**

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

**CHAIR**

**Victoria S**

**VICE CHAIR**

**Larisa K**

**SECRETARY**

**Lisa M**

**TREASURER**

**Susan R M**

**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*

I'm writing this after coming back from vacation a few days ago and I feel like I have been trying to catch up ever since. Not only were there chores that needed to be taken care of, but now that the weather has decided that it is summer, and a whole new list of activities has sprouted. (Aka, plant flowers and the vegetable garden)

This is due to life, as usual, getting complicated. For example, I still need to get night current because during pre-flight for my lesson, guess what was not working, yup the landing light! So, on Mother's Day, my husband helped me install a new LED landing light. It should be nice and bright. Also, I'm still plugging along on my IFR book work. I downloaded a couple lessons before I left on vacation. Unfortunately, I couldn't get them to launch. Oh well.

But never fear, I have a bunch of good tidings. At the very end of April, Gabby F and I represented the 99s at Lansing first Aviation Career Day. I spoke to around 150 middle school students in the morning and 100 high school students in the afternoon. All different aviation opportunities were presented from the Illinois State Police to mechanics to the Navy. There were a few young ladies that were interested in becoming pilots.

At the beginning of May, Cynthia & Ralph M and I manned a table at the inaugural Bessie Coleman Film Festival, put on by our own Susan M. There was a nice crowd with the Tuskegee Airmen doing a Fly-over to open the event. The films were impressive. Susan, it was a great day! You should be proud!

Last but not least, the Aviation Day for Girls was another success! Over 100 girls learned about aviation and careers in aviation! Lewis University was a great host. Great job, Megan and Corie!

I hope to see many of you at our June meeting at Sky Soaring. Last year I went up in a glider, and it is an amazing experience. It is so quiet and you don't need a headset. This is our annual business meeting, but I will try to keep things short and sweet.

Here's to smooth skies,

*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!***

These questions were asked of all of our Student Pilot members during May. We are featuring Susan M's responses in this month's column.

**Joy** asked: "What traits do you believe are essential for someone considering becoming a pilot?"

**Susan** responds: "Essential traits include staying calm and paying attention. You've got to respect the airplane and keep learning."

**Joy**: "Can you describe the most technically challenging aspect of flying an airplane for you?"

**Susan**: "Now the most technically challenging part of flying is probably juggling everything at once-especially takeoff and landing. There's a lot going on."

**Joy**: "What advancements in aviation technology excite you the most for the future of flying?"

**Susan**: "I'm most excited about electric planes and eVTOL aircraft- quieter, cleaner and feels like a a whole new chapter."

**Joy**: "Can you describe an emergency procedure that you're trained to execute?"

**Susan**: "The emergency procedure I'm trained to execute: if the engine quits—keep control, find somewhere to land , try a restart if you can, and go from there."

*We would love to hear from you—your Chicago Area Chapter members support your journey and welcome you. Watch for Joy's email and respond with a brief report of your progress; your interests; your hurdles; or just your greetings.*

**AND UPDATES FROM ANOTHER MEMBER!**

from Kadijah H

**Marilyn H B** I'm in the home stretch of completing my instrument rating with all the flying requirements completed. I intentionally timed my written exam to coincide with the checkride, which will hopefully be in the next week, and the checkride will follow soon thereafter. Tagging along with my instrument-rated friends on a Pilots and Paws mission and an Angel Flight has been rewarding and beneficial to my training!

I've been stretching my cross-country distances and recently flew to Nashville for the newly formed Cirrus (COPA) Women Pilots group meeting for a great day of learning. They also honored the achievements of AOPA's Amanda Farnsworth and Executive Director of the Cirrus SR Product Line, Ivy McIver (who did her flight training at KPWK)! They both shared some really interesting stories and updates on hot topics in aviation. It was also fun to follow into KJWN my friend and Influencer Sarah Daniels, and spend time with her, the behind the scenes of a female influencer is pretty interesting. The day wrapped up flying along on a Cirrus formation demo - wow!!!

Having grown up with parent pilots at Brookeridge and Casa de Aero and learning to fly much later in life, going from flying with my Mom to 99's meetings in her 152 to appreciating the amazing cross-country abilities of the Cirrus, it's been fun to carve my own path in aviation!



**OUR CHAPTER IS LOOKING FOR A SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR**

After many years of service in this position, Sharon Ann S. is retiring.

Please express your interest to Vickie S

Ps This would be an excellent way to pay back if you have previously won a scholarship yourself

Introducing the new

## Collegiate Women's Achievement Award

The Ninety-Nines is proud to announce the launch of the **Collegiate Women's Achievement Award (CWAA)**—a new initiative that recognizes the out-standing accomplishments of a collegiate member of The Ninety-Nines.

This award will be presented annually to a student who exemplifies the values we hold dear: **academic excellence, professionalism, leadership, and volunteerism.**

Read more...

<https://www.ninety-nines.org/download/99sCollegiateWomensAchievementAward.pdf>

Achievement Award applications are accepted each year from **July 1 to October 1.**

Find the application **on the Ninety-Nines.org website in the Awards area.**



## Chicago Area Chapter 99s

### Proficiency Air Meet

October 17, 2026

Lansing Municipal Airport (KIGQ)

Lansing, Illinois

The Chicago Area Chapter is planning an air meet open to any 99 from any chapter. A proficiency air meet is not a speed contest – the winner is the team that most closely predicts their speed and fuel burn. The triangular course will be approximately 150 miles and is flown as a regular cross-country flight under VFR conditions and FAA regulations. No complex airspace. Depart KIGQ and return, no stops.

We need a minimum number of planes to proceed with the race. If you have an interest in participating or have questions, please contact Vickie S. or Cynthia M.

## Chicago 99s

### August 2026 Meeting

#### DATE & TIME :

Saturday August 15, 2026  
1100CDT - 1200CDT

#### LOCATION :

Northbrook Sports Club  
160 Sports Club Dr.,  
Hainesville, IL 60030

Nearest airport: C81 - Campbell

#### AGENDA:

1100CDT - Opening Remarks  
1115CDT - Agenda topics  
1145CDT - Raffle winner announced  
1200CDT - Meeting adjourned  
1215CT- Sporting clay activity begins



Bagels, donuts and coffee will be provided during the meeting.

#### NOTES

Parking is available at the venue. If you choose to fly to C81, a shuttle will be available from the airport to the venue at 1045CDT sharp.

All attendees will have a chance to win 2 hours of flight time in a Cardinal 177B (instrument rated) with an authorized pilot.

Everyone over 18-years-old is invited to participate in 3 stations of sporting clays after the meeting. Eight spots are available. Please notify Ana A [redacted] no later than July 1, 2026 if you would like to be included in the list. Please wear closed-toe shoes.

## Chicago 99 Susan R M hosts the first Bessie Coleman Aviation Film Festival !!

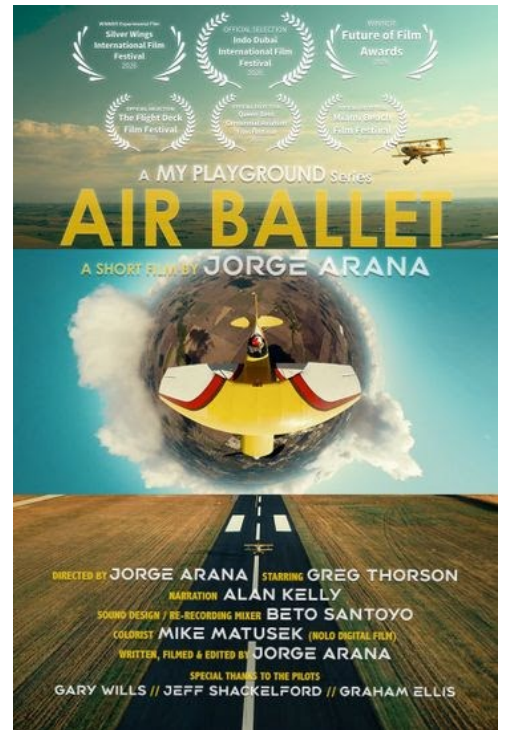
### Bessie Coleman Aviation Film Festival Hot Wash

The Bessie Coleman Aviation Film Festival held May 2, 2026 welcomed more than 100 attendees for a celebration of aviation storytelling, history, and innovation. The event featured 12 aviation-themed films ranging from historical documentaries to contemporary stories about flight, exploration, and future aerospace careers.

The event launched with an honorary flyover by Tuskegee Airman, Ken Rapier. Flight simulators and STEM educational opportunities were available for students of all ages. Audience members really enjoyed the filmmaker panels including Captain Beth Powell with American Airlines. Film awards were given to the best feature film, the best short film, the best drone film and the audience choice award.

Here is a [link](#) for your viewing of the audience choice award film by Torrance Hill. Next year's film festival is May 1, 2027 at BULT Field, C56.

SAVE THE DATE!!!



Cynthia M and Vickie S staffed the 99s table throughout the event. Ralph M was there as an assist, when needed. Maddie S, one of our newer members, helped Susan run the event and Donna and Wayne K popped in later.





# 2026 AVIATION DAY FOR GIRLS



5/23/26  
Chicago Area  
Chapter 99s





**2026 Aviation Day  
for Girls**

**Open to Girls grade 4-12**

**May 23, 2026**

**8:30am-1:30pm**

**Lewis University**  
Romeoville, IL

Cost is \$20 per person, lunch included

Visit: [www.chicagoarea99s.org](http://www.chicagoarea99s.org)



**AIR NEWS**

Madeleine M



**2026 CALENDAR**

JUNE 13	ANNUAL CHAPTER MEETING	SKY SOARING 11:00am
JULY 8-12	INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE	SAN DIEGO <a href="http://www.ninety-nines.org">www.ninety-nines.org</a>
JULY 20-26	EAA AIRVENTURE	VOLUNTEER TO WORK AT 99S BOOTH
AUG 15	CHAPTER MEETING	NORTHBROOK SPORTS CLUB 11:00am
SEPT 11-12	INTL FOREST OF FRIENDSHIP	50TH REUNION ATCHISON, KS
SEPT 24	CHAPTER MEETING	PILOT PETES DINNER
OCT 2-4	NCS MEETING	FISHERS, INDIANA
OCT 17	CHAPTER AIR MEET (RAIN DATE 18)	LANSING AIRPORT
NOV 12	FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN	LIBERTYVILLE
DEC 13	HOLIDAY PARTY 12-3	GORTON CENTER, LAKE FOREST