

# AIR NEWS

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

DECEMBER 2025

chicagoarea99s.org



## JOIN US TO CELEBRATE THE SEASON



**Date:** Sunday December 14th

(see blue dot)

**Time:** 12:00PM - 4:00PM

**Place:** Lake Barrington Shores

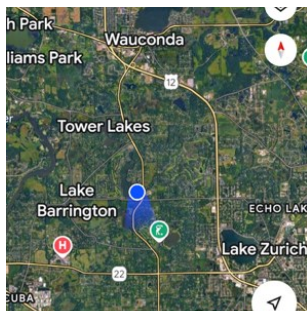
Fireplace Room in the Clubhouse

[64 Old Barn Rd, Lake Barrington, IL 60010](#)



(see blue dot)

Please enter off Barrington Road, other entrances are for residents only.



**Potluck Dinner**—Bring a dish to pass!

**Last name starting with A - M: Side dish. Last name starting with N - Z: Dessert or appetiser!**

Hosts: Chef Pete and Sous Chef Lisa M will provide a Maple Brown Sugar Ham and Turkey, along with cupcakes, meatballs and other festive foods.

Everyone is welcome.

**IMPORTANT THIS IS A GATED COMMUNITY WE MUST PROVIDE A LIST OF NAMES TO THE GUARD AT THE ENTRANCE.**

IF YOU GIVE US ONE NAME PER CAR, IT WILL BE EASIER TO ENTER AT THE GATE. IF ANYONE IS NOT ON THE LIST THE GUARD WILL HAVE TO CALL ME FOR CLEARANCE. IT'S POSSIBLE, BUT MUCH BETTER TO TELL US IN ADVANCE.

**WHO'S COMING ? TEXT YOUR NAME TO LISA OR MADELEINE**

I'll be first— Madeleine M is coming



After the Holidays, after New Year celebrations,  
when the weather is as midwestern miserable as possible, we have a big event to host!

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 2026 8AM TO 4PM**

**IFR/VFR Safety Seminar**

**Chicago Area Chapter 99s**

## 2026 Aviation Expo

HILTON CHICAGO NORTHBROOK

2855 Milwaukee Ave,

Northbrook, IL 60062

***See article on page 4 for volunteer opportunities***

**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, Editor

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*

Dear Members,

I'm writing this a week before Thanksgiving and am thinking of the many things I am grateful for like warm days and blue skies or fresh picked tomatoes. (I had my best tomato crop ever.) I'm thinking of friends and family as the Holidays approach and plans are underway for gatherings and outings. I'm grateful for fellow aviators' advice and expertise on mechanical issues, flying techniques, safety gear, and podcasts. For hangar neighbors taking me up into real IFR, so I know what I am getting into with Instrument training. For my sweet airplane, Bessie Mae, who is down with a mechanical issue. For everyone who listens to my tale of woe as I miss my plane. And for other 99s who encourage and support me whether with words or example or by just being there. Thanks!



(l-r) Coraline D, Vickie S, Yosh K, Larisa K, Jill F, Emily L. Nico, Phil R, Pete M, Lisa M, Penny L

Last week, a group of CAC 99s packed meals for Feed My Staving Children. We worked to make up meal kits for children in Senegal. Several of us met for dinner before the event and had a chance to catch up and enjoy some great food. We met the rest of our group at the FMSC site. We had a short meeting about safety and health procedures and were divided up for several tasks. I helped in the warehouse scooping rice out of supersacks into large bins for the packers. The packing room sounded like a party was happening. (It might have been the music and/or the hairnets) I got a good work out in scooping rice or soy and moving containers. We had a good time, and the Chapter will be volunteering there next November.

So, what are you grateful for this year?

I'd like to tell you that I am grateful to you, my 99 sisters.

Thank you,

*Vickie*



*If any members reach a new level, accomplish a goal, overcome an obstacle, or just discover a new joy in flight-please email Joy R and tell her a bit about it. We want to hear how ALL of you are doing. Remember, every one of us started just like you.*

**Maria L:** A note from Maria, life is full of uncertainty; every day is different for a hospice nurse.—Note: We look forward to hearing from Maria soon.

**Susan M;** My 'Aha' moment was when I was researching my grandmother who flew a Curtiss Jenny and realized we had adventure in our DNA. The most unexpected part of flying was realizing how hard it is. My first flight lesson was exhilarating. I felt free. If I could have a copilot from any movie: Definitely Tom Cruise.

**Marly S:** I am excited to share that I passed my private pilot checkride! Looking back on my very first flight lesson, I remember thinking there was absolutely no way I would ever be able to fly a plane on my own. Everything was so new, and I knew that pursuing this meant working two jobs while also going to college and grad school for something completely unrelated to aviation. I was really scared, but something in me wanted to accomplish this more than anything as a personal goal and a hobby, so I committed. I'm so glad I made that decision. Even if it took me awhile, I got it done, and the version of me from that first lesson would be so proud that I earned my PPL.

*Congratulations*

**Eriel S.** This is officially my last letter as a student pilot. As of Monday, I have passed my private pilot checkride and I graduate in December. Looking forward to finally being at home and having the chance to attend meetings. My 'Aha' moment that made me decide to become a pilot was during my OBAP ace program where I nearly had a panic attack, but once I was at the control, all of my fear of flying just evaporated and I knew this was what I wanted to do with my life. I think the most unexpected part of this is how supportive it is from every side. Everyone you tell about it is always rooting for you and it's just so different from my mom and her being in IT which is the field they tend to want to keep women out of when she was growing up into it. For me, I haven't seen anyone who actively told me not to keep going. My first lesson I was feeling nerves, but once I hit those controls again and we were cruising along the Chicago skyline, it was just amazing.

*Congratulations!*

Note from Joy: *Thank you to each one of you for your contributions to the newsletter. You are all amazing women, and we are proud of what you are accomplishing!*

## AND UPDATES FROM OTHER MEMBERS!

Info gathered by Kadijah H

**Megan M** is now a working CFI, on the schedule at Blue Skies Flying Service, Lake in the Hills Airport. She is also working on her CFII. Congratulations Megan. You did it! Let's hear your story when you solo your first student. It is a never to be forgotten experience for a CFI.

**Isabella D** achieved her Instrument Rating in November, also at Blue Skies!

**Madeleine M** attended her first section meeting as an International Director representing the 99s IBOD at New England Section in New Bedford Mass. "I can't believe how much I enjoy meeting 99s from other parts of the country and the world. You all should know that we really do have sisters in spirit everywhere."





## AVIATION EXPO 2026 JANUARY 31, 2026 CHICAGO AREA CHAPTER 99S

### Volunteers Requested      Responded

Intros—VFR      Larisa K

Intros—IFR      Vickie S

Welcome Desk Manager      Megan M

Greeter

Greeter

Greeter

Greeter

Flying Companion Manager      Jen M

Jamie S

50/50 Raffle Sales      Ellen O

Sales Assistant

Photos      Corie W

99s Member Booth      Mona K

Megan M

Helper

Helper

Vendor sales/Treasurer      Susan R M

Public Relations Outreach      Krista C

Interested in volunteering to help?

You can be a long time member or a brand new member. Many hands make light work and this is a great way to meet people in aviation and/or see old friends.

Contact the Lead person in the category you might enjoy.

Megan, Jen, Ellen, Susan or Madeleine can help you find a spot.

Aviation

2026

Expo

And you can come and learn, enjoy the day with aviation friends  
and be important members of the AUDIENCE too!

### **99s Nominating Committees are working on two levels right now.**

Our North Central **Section** will be sending out ballots to elect a new Governor, Vice Governor, Secretary, Treasurer, 2 Directors and 5 new Nominating Committee Members. The forms have all been submitted and you will receive a ballot via email (unless you have opted out and get USPS mail instead) Please read the bios and learn what you can, AND VOTE!

**VOTE**

Our **International** will be electing a new President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, 2 Directors and a 5 person Nominating Committee at pretty much the same time. As a member of this organization you get a voice and a vote, please use it. Any questions about any of the candidates, just ask a trusted 99 friend or officer to help.

**TWO DIFFERENT BALLOTS—PLEASE VOTE IN EACH ELECTION**



**NEED A GIFT FOR A 99? OR FOR YOURSELF? Here is a beautiful choice—a limited edition Medal.**

Kentucky Bluegrass Ninety-Nines Presents

# AMELIA EARHART MEDAL

## FIRST WOMAN TO CROSS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN SOLO

### BACKGROUND

The city of Philadelphia presented this medal to Amelia Earhart in recognition of her 1932 solo, non stop flight across the Atlantic Ocean making her the first woman and only person since Charles Lindbergh to fly nonstop and solo across the Atlantic Ocean. On May 20, 1932 she took off from harbor Grace Newfoundland, Canada and 15 hours and 2,026 miles later, she landed in Londonderry, Northern Ireland.

### FUNDRAISER

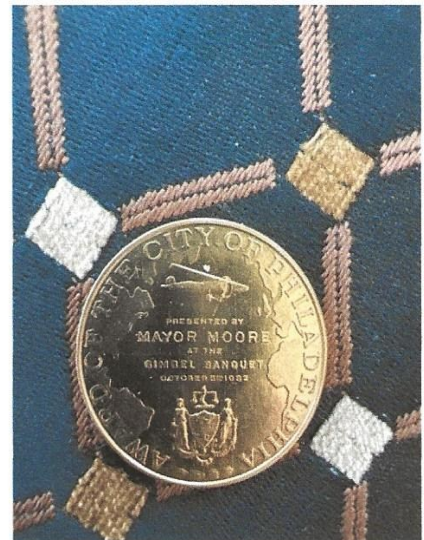
The Kentucky Bluegrass chapter has received a generous donation of duplicates of the medal presented to Amelia Earhart. They are being presented for donations to help support the chapters scholarship funds. There is a strong tradition of scholarship recipients in the Bluegrass Chapter and the medals are being sold to help continue that tradition of supporting ladies in flight training to help support the need for women in Aviation.

#### Front of Medal

Relief Bust of Earhart and text "FIRST WOMAN IN THE WORLD TO FLY ALONE ACROSS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN MAY 12, 1932 AMELIA EARHART"

#### Reverse Side

Relief of Earhart Lockheed 5B Vega flying over a map of the Atlantic Ocean and the coat of arms of the City of Philadelphia. Text "AWARD OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA PRESENTED BY MAYOR MOORE AT THE GIMBEL BANQUET SEPTEMBER 24, 1932"



**Order now from  
Terri**

## AIR NEWS

Madeleine M



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

### CHICAGO AREA 99S 2025/2026 CALENDAR

DEC 14	HOLIDAY PARTY POT LUCK SUNDAY 12-4	LISA LAKE BARRINGTON SHORES
<b>RSVP NOW PLEASE—NEED ONE NAME PER CAR FOR ENTRY</b>		
JAN 31	AVIATION EXPO HILTON CHICAGO NORTHBROOK	MADELEINE & CHAPTER TEAM
FEB 22	CHAPTER MEETING DEKALB 12 NOON	CORIE
MAR 27-29	NCS MEETING OHIO SPORTY'S	ALL OHIO HOSTS
APR 18	CHAPTER MEETING CAMPBELL AIRPORT	KATY
MAY TBD	AVIATION FOR GIRLS DAY LEWIS UNIVERSITY	CORIE & MEGAN
JUNE 13	ANNUAL CHAPTER MEETING SKY SOARING	ELIZABETH
JULY 8-12	INTERNATIONAL—SAN DIEGO	INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
JULY 20-26	EAA AIRVENTURE VOLUNTEER AT ONE OF TWO 99 BOOTHS FOR A DAY GREAT CONTACTS	
AUG 15	CHAPTER MEETING HAINESVILLE	ANA
SEPT 11-12	INTL FOREST OF FRIENDSHIP 50TH ANN REUNION	HONORING ONE OF OUR MEMBERS
SEPT 19 or 20	CHICAGO AREA CHAPTER AIR MEET LANSING	VICKIE & CYNTHIA
OCT 2-4	NCS MEETING—INDIANA	INDIANA CHAPTER
OCT 22	CHAPTER MEETING PILOT PETES DINNER	MADELEINE
NOV 12	FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN	LISA
DEC 13	HOLIDAY PARTY	SUSAN