

AIR NEWS

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

MARCH 2026



chicagoarea99s.org

BITS AND PIECES

Did you Know? As a participating 99 in the USA, you can deduct your expenses as allowed by law because we are a 501C3 organization

It is appropriate to itemize travel to Chapter Meetings, Section Meetings, Board Meetings and Trust Meetings, and also events like Expo and Aviation for Girls Day. Meals are not deductible when you are in your home area, sleeping in your own bed, but hotel and registration fees are deductible as non-cash donations. TALK TO YOUR CPA, tax preparer, or the Turbo tax chat bot.



Did you know? We try to spread our meetings out around the area but if someone from the south side or the west side, or downtown, doesn't volunteer we don't have a choice. Its easy to host a meeting. You don't have to have a program or serve a meal. You can choose an airport location (best choice) but don't have to—especially in bad weather months. We have had to change our meeting date for February because our member who was scheduled to host had emergency surgery and then lost her dad. Our most sincere condolences to Corie W on the loss of her Father. And we are announcing a new meeting hostess, date and time for April. Please mark your calendar to come for “pot luck” brunch on April 11th at 11:00 am at our Vice Chairman's home. We will be helping the Aviation for Girls Day Team prepare the handouts for the girls after our eating, drinking, and meeting.



Did you know? You can not only find all of our Chapter Members contact information in the members area of the International Website. In fact you can find a 99 anywhere in the world—all almost 8000 of them—the same way. Start the process to sign in as a member and almost immediately you will get a password to get in. From there you can search on name, address, chapter, city, state, country, officer or student pilot, Section, and more. 99s can withhold their contact info, but most do not.

Did you know? Every new member is encouraged to volunteer. There are small jobs and big jobs. There are jobs that take 30 minutes and jobs that can take 3 weeks. There are guidelines available, but you can make it your own. There are partnering possibilities for those who might feel good about sharing a post. We exist for our members. We want to make their time as 99s—whether its 20 years or 80 years, a wonderful, enriching experience. We are all made better by your new ideas, your enthusiasm, your education and your participation. When you see an ask for help—we mean you—volunteer.



Did you know? That our Chapter hosts two big events each year that educate the aviation (and non-aviation) public and spread the knowledge we have with as many people as possible..... Aviation Expo and Aviation for Girls Day.

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

March, "In like a lion and out like a lamb ". Soon Winter will be over and Spring will here. In fact, a few of the snowdrops in my yard have begun to bloom. Are you ready to bloom? Did you read the POH or FAR/AIM? Or take that written? Or sign up for spin awareness training? March is a great time to finish up or get to work on all those winter projects. I will be working on my IFR ground school a bit harder this month!

March is also a great month to plan and prepare for the upcoming year. Take a look at the calendar, NCS section meeting in March, Aviation Day for Girls in May, our Chicago Chapter Annual business meeting in June, International meeting and EAA AirVenture in July, ... Also, maybe a trip to the AirZoo Aviation museum in Kalamazoo or the AE Birthplace Museum in Atchison, KS? What and where will you go?

Speaking of the NCS meeting in Ohio (at Sporty's) on March 27-29. If you have never gone to a Section meeting, but would like to, the Chapter has a small scholarship for a first-time attendee to help pay for the registration, hotel, etc. Please reach out to a board member or me if you are interested. In case you didn't know, our section meetings are a lot of FUN. Oh, and did you know, that our chapter is to host the North Central Section meeting in the Fall of 2027.

We are looking for more volunteers to help with Aviation Day for Girls. All types of help is needed. We are looking for a Publicity / Outreach coordinator, Event Day volunteer coordinator, Presenters, Group Guides, Registration table volunteers, etc. Aviation Day for Girls is at Lewis University on May 23 rd from 8:30 to 1:30. If you cannot come the whole time, that's fine, just help out for a couple of hours. Oh, and yes, you can fly into Lewis. It's a nice, towered airport with helpful controllers. If you haven't helped out at Aviation Day for Girls, it is really fun showing all these girls how totally cool airplanes and flying really are and that they can do it too! Come out and join us! We'll have a blast!

Vickie



P.S. Please remember to vote in the International election. Yes, your vote does matter!

Our student pilots were asked how they've handled these past months of record-breaking weather, specifically how they coped with the restrictiveness, isolation and loneliness of our winter.

Maddie S: This past month of weather definitely tested both motivation and morale. I was fortunate that it aligned with the start of my instrument training, which requires completing 14 hours of simulator time before getting back in the airplane. Because of that, I've been able to stay engaged by splitting my time between ground school, simulator lessons, and studying. At my flight school, a few other women are at similar stages of instrument training, so we've been coordinating study groups to stay motivated and accountable. I've also been very proactive about reaching out to people because it is such a great way to get out of the house and socialize, even if it's not always the most productive study hour.

Stacy W: Winter is one of my favorite times of year. It's a time for the earth to rest and recover sending a message to all of us to hunker down and relax. A quick getaway to a warmer climate reminded me that spring is around the corner and frigid days will release their grip soon. We went to Iceland a few years ago. While a local pointed out that the Arctic Circle was just miles away, they admired us for being able to live close to Chicago. They referred to our winters as "Eyeball Freezing Cold." On those bitter days, when the wind bites, I chuckle at the memory. This winter I have spent a lot of time studying for my written exam, developing new units for the middle school students, and planning summer vacations. I am looking forward to spring and getting back in the air again.

Joy R: Thank you for remembering me during my recent physical challenge. I had to have emergency abdominal surgery in January. It was a life-threatening situation caused by scar tissue from a surgery I had over 40 years ago! Didn't see that coming! I was told if I declined the surgery, I had would be dead within hours. You never know what a day brings, do you? Recovery has been slow; I probably have another month or so to go before my strength returns and I'm 100%.

AND UPDATES FROM OTHER MEMBERS!

by Kadijah H

Bailey R: Earned my Commercial Multi-Engine rating down in St. Louis this week. I had a female DPE for my checkride, which felt pretty special, and did it all in the Duchess — lots of lady power in that cockpit. The Duchess has been used for multi training for literal decades, so she's kind of a legend. Cool to add my name to the list of people who've trained with her.



Becca R Hi everyone! My name is Becca R, and I'm so excited to be joining the chapter and getting to meet everyone. It was awesome connecting with a few of you in person at the aviation expo, and I'm really looking forward to getting more involved. A little about me: I graduated from Purdue's flight program in December 2024 and earned my CFI this past summer. I moved to the Chicago suburbs in July and started working in Ground Operations at a Part 135 company at KPWK. I've been learning a ton from the business aviation side, and it's been a really fun change of pace. Right now, I'm also on the hunt for a flight instructing position that I can do alongside my ground ops job. I'm definitely eager to get back in the air and put my "CFI hat" back on — it's been a few months since I've flown, and I'm really missing it!

Outside of aviation, I love anything outdoors (especially hiking and backpacking), live music, and always buying new plants. I've also recently gotten into freshwater aquariums and sourdough baking, which have been surprisingly fun hobbies to take on. I'm really excited to be part of such a welcoming and motivated group of women. Since I'm still pretty new to the Chicago area, I'm especially excited to make some new friends through the chapter. If anyone is looking for a buddy to grab a coffee and chat, go flying, or study, please reach out! I hope to see you all at the next meeting!

Marta M I'm currently working on Instrument Rating. I'd love to be able to finish it by spring! At EXPO It was my first time attending, and first-time volunteering. Even though I wasn't able to listen to the actual seminars, I really enjoyed being there. We received a LOT of great comments about the presentations ("the best one yet", "the IR seminar was great!") I just joined the 99s a few weeks ago. I'm really fortunate to be part of this chapter! Everyone I met so far has been very welcoming and friendly and I love being part of this group of women :).

Chicago Area Chapter 99s Meeting

February 13, 2026

Schaumburg Airport

Attendees: Vickie S, Larisa K, Gail L, Suzan Z, Eriel S, Sophia and Rosemary M, Cynthia M, Diane C, Megan M, Madeleine M, Mona K. 49 1/2 Tony G, Victor Z, Yosh K, Ralph M

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm The meeting opened with a brief introduction of the members and guests.

Chair's report The Aviation Expo was a success! Approximately 300 people attended the event. 27 Chapter members worked/ attended the event. Volunteers did an excellent job.

Elections Elections for the Section are in process and International are upcoming An email with link for the international voting will be sent in March

Section Meeting in Batavia, Ohio March 27 -29 Members were asked who was attending the section meeting The scholarship for a Chapter first time attendee was mentioned. None planning to attend were eligible.

Secretarys Report Approval of Previous Minutes A motion to accept the previous meeting minutes for October and December was made (Madeleine 1 st , Diane 2 nd) The motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report – No report, Susan was not in attendance.

Recognition Shelley V was nominated for the Forest of Friendship by Cynthia, 2 nd by Madeleine. Motion was approved. Forest of Friendship is celebrating its 50th Anniversary

Fundraising The Badge fundraising effort was put on hold

Aviation Day for Girls - May 23rd Additional volunteers are needed A volunteer list will be put in the newsletter

Future Planning The chapter will host the section meeting in October 2027. Need to start planning this. Vickie will work with Corie.

Scholarship Santori Scholarship for initial and extended ratings application is open. Megan's application for the AE scholarship has been passed on from the section to International.

Website revamp. The chapter's will be updated A planning group is being developed

Upcoming Meeting. Next meeting scheduled for April 11th at 11 am • Location: Larisa's house. Pot Luck?

Announcements: Diane C asked for photos in JPG format for publication in the 99s news.

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 7:30.

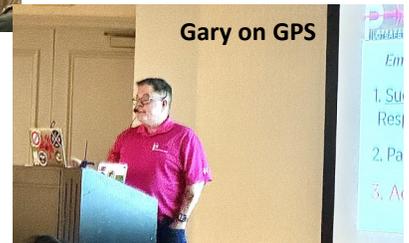
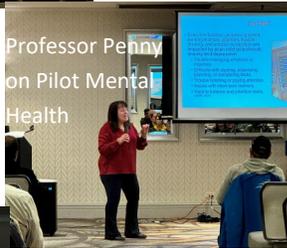
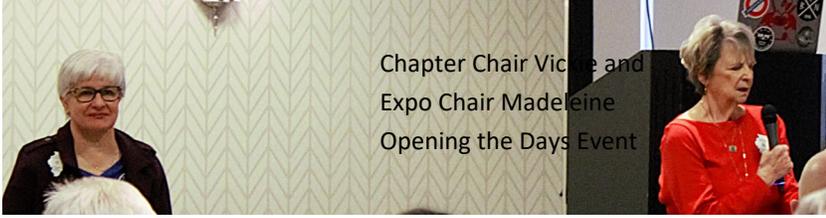
- Presentation by EAA Chapter 153. Thank you for the invitation!

Our member Corie W lost her father recently, as well as having emergency surgery. She was therefore unable to host the February Meeting as planned. However, Bob B of EAA 153 offered their hospitality once again and we brought Valentines Day goodies to honor his welcoming attitude.

Our sincere sympathy to Corie and her family on the loss of her dad, Allen Roush ,on February 18th.

Our sincere thanks to Bob and 153 for sharing the regular meeting at Schaumburg Airport.

Aviation Expo 2026





AIR NEWS

Madeleine M



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

CHICAGO AREA 99S 2026 CALENDAR

MAR 27-29	NCS MEETING OHIO SPORTY'S	ALL OHIO HOSTS
APR 11	CHAPTER MEETING POT LUCK BRUNCH NEW DATE/TIME 11AM	LARISA'S HOME BARRINGTON
MAY 23	AVIATION FOR GIRLS DAY LEWIS UNIVERSITY	MEGAN and TEAM
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 24	CHAPTER MEETING PILOT PETES DINNER	MADELEINE
OCT 2-4	NCS MEETING—INDIANA	INDIANA CHAPTER
OCT 17	CHAPTER AIR MEET (RAIN DATE 18) LANSING	VICKIE & CYNTHIA
NOV 12	FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN	LISA
DEC 13	HOLIDAY PARTY	SUSAN