

# the Daily

Friday, March 22, 2024



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Once you have uploaded the app, enter your email and badge ID login credentials to access the My Planner functionality, including communication with speakers, exhibitors, and other attendees.

## Join the Conversation

Help share the excitement of attending the 35th Annual Women in Aviation International Conference by using these hashtags on social media.

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#WomeninAviation  
#WomeninAviationInternational



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## WAI CEO Lynda Coffman Hosts First Member Meeting

PAULA GRUBB



Today's 2024 WAI membership meeting officially opens our conference. WAI CEO Lynda Coffman notes that our organization is the largest in the world dedicated to increasing the number of women in all aspects of aviation and aerospace. She welcomes #WAI2024 attendees to a record-breaking event this week with more than 5,000 attendees and over 200 exhibitors.

The WAI mission continues to support members throughout their aviation journey with a Lifetime of Programs, Lynda explains. She specifically addresses WAI's resources available for students, workforce entry, mid-career, as well as experienced professionals and beyond. The strong sense of WAI community is built

through a worldwide network of 180 chapters in 26 countries. Approximately 42% of our members belong to a chapter. Also, nearly 500 corporate members represent global aviation along with dozens of aerospace companies.

Lynda also notes the number of junior members, aged 18 years and younger, has increased to over 5,000 and student members has grown to over 3,700.

Since 1995, scholarship funders have given over \$15 million to WAI members. And through our new international scholarship program, scholarships have been awarded to seven international universities.

WAI has received a Platinum Transparency rating from GuideStar Charity Check and is good financial health with an approved 2024 budget and an endowment solidly above \$1 million.

Looking to the future, Lynda, noted the sky is unlimited with plans for WAI to expand its virtual resource centers for members and to increase the organization's global community of empowered women shaping the next frontier of aviation and aerospace.

The board election results will be announced with one new board member Captain **Bart Roberts** and a renewed term for **Michaela Lucas**, board secretary. We thank Captain **Deborah Hecker**, outgoing board chair, for her longtime service as well as **Marci Veronie**. Both have served on the WAI board for nine years.

Effective April 1, 2024, **Kathy Yodice** will assume the role of board chair, and **Shannon Weidekamp** will step up as vice chair. **Michaela Lucas** will continue to serve as board secretary, and **Linda Markham** continues as board treasurer.

Lynda encourages members to build their WAI network by getting involved in WAI events, utilizing WAI resources such as Mentor Connect, as well as connecting with your local chapter.

This issue of *The Daily* sponsored by:



# Teachers at Work

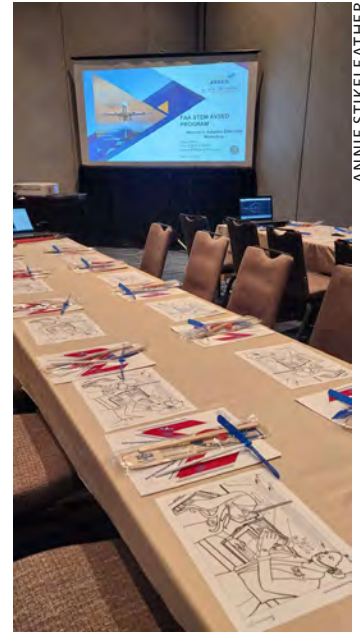
The annual WAI Aerospace Educator Workshop, sponsored this year by Republic Airways, is all about sharing resources, contacts, and support for teachers and educators to bring back to their students and classrooms. This workshop, presented by the Federal Aviation Administration STEM AVSED team, focused this year on air traffic control education and the collaborative network of aerospace education including Civil Air Patrol, NASA, as well as Women in Aviation International. Each organization shared about their program and provided information and resources to attendees.

With a growing shortage of air traffic controllers in the FAA, educators are introducing and engaging students to strengthen the ATC industry. During this workshop, educators ex-

plored NASA's Smart Skies air traffic control simulator. This math-based educational resource teaches the importance of balancing aircraft en route to a destination and allows for manipulations to safely navigate aircraft to landings by changing the aircraft's speed. The simulation is one of many free resources provided by NASA and can be utilized in every educator's classroom to feature an important career in the aviation industry. Explore the simulator on your own at [atcsim.nasa.gov](http://atcsim.nasa.gov).

Educators left the WAI event with a tool kit full of options for teaching their students about the plethora of resources for budding air traffic controllers. The hope is that they can help the National Airspace System find its next generation of air traffic controllers.

—Annie Stikeleather, WAI 107402



ANNIE STIKELEATHER

JOHN RIEDEL



The WAI2024 exhibit hall was officially opened yesterday. During a ribbon-cutting ceremony, both founding and current board members welcomed a record crowd.

JOHN RIEDEL



Yesterday's Be a Mentor. Find a Mentor. event was a conference hit. Are you looking for a meaningful, informative connection with an aviation professional that has navigated the same challenges and decisions you're facing? Maybe you have a professional opportunity you want to tackle, but need advice or want to grow your skills. Perhaps you are looking for an experienced professional that can advise you as you navigate your aviation and personal journey. WAI members are encouraged to sign up for Mentor Connect.

**The Daily** is a publication of Women in Aviation International, published during the annual conference.

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# Make it Fit!

You'll be humming along with Etta James singing "At Last" as Jennifer Knapp, Aerospace Experimental Psychology (AEP), shares the Navy and Marine Corp's anthropometric survey. Originally conducted in the 1960's at a time when women were not flying, the survey is used in the design of aircraft and safety equipment. Now, there is a new survey that will fundamentally change the disproportionate accommodation of women in aviation.

Jennifer describes the study, what it's like collecting data, and meeting fleet aviators. She discusses the history behind it, how humans have evolved since the 1960's and the impact the study has on naval aviation accommodations, flight gear,

survival gear, and more. While this study is being conducted by the military, it is relevant and important for all domains across aviation and will be shared with the industry.

There is also a recruitment message to be heard. Jennifer will share her personal journey, earning two sets of wings and how her career has gone from pilot to aeromedical officer to researcher.

Come hear more about human system engineering, the different aviation pathways in the Navy, and the anthropometric survey that will change the safety and accessibility of flight for women in **Crystal N** at **4:15 p.m.** today.

—Mary Woolf, WAI 45799

## What we heard

*"I'm here to catch up with old friends. Over the years in the industry I've made so many. At my first conference I was sponsored by my incredible mentor, and I got myself into recruiting for each of the companies I've flown with so I could return here."*

Crystal Chalifour, pilot for New Pacific Airlines, dba Raun Alaska

*"We are here to connect, engage, and inspire... you inspire with the knowledge you have, and you can be someone's mentor, giving it application. You can be anything you want in aviation, not just a pilot, not just a mechanic, but also an accountant, in HR, in marketing."*

Edemi Kumassah, Ghana CAA, engineer

# Sounding it Out

***Speech-Language science is critical to aviation communication in an "English only" sky.***

Linguistic diversity in pilots is on the rise and raising safety and operational concerns for air traffic controllers worldwide. The English language has a complex sound system and the most advanced vowel system in the world. Non-native English speakers have a difficult time hearing and reproducing some sounds impacting the dialogue between the pilot and tower and causing near misses on runways and incorrect landings.

In her WAI education session (**Crystal 3** at **3 p.m.**) Dr. Katie Pierson is discussing the impact of speech-language pathology in aviation and how speech therapy can help pilots learn how to reproduce sounds not existing in their native language. Dr. Pierson focuses on targeting the missing sounds in the hierarchy

of the brain, teaching the pilot to both hear and reproduce the sounds needed. All provided therapy is individualized as everyone has a preferred way of speaking in any given language and the concern could not be sound related but rather due to a thick accent carried over from the native language to the learned language or due to a lack of separation between words when speaking, which may not exist in the native language.

During her session, Dr. Pierson will share statistics from various industries, introduce what speech therapists can do, and provide an avenue for those in need to find help.

—Mary Woolf, WAI 45799



Dr. Katie Pierson

# Authors Connect Schedule

The Authors Connect booth will be located in **Cypress Alcove 1**



FRIDAY, MARCH 22

10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

**Eileen Bjorkman**

*The Fly Girls Revolt: The Story of the Women Who Kicked Open the Door to Fly in Combat*

**Sian Proctor**

*Doctor Proctor's Space 2 Inspire: The Art of Inspiration*

**Merryl Tengesdal**

*Shatter the Sky: What Going to the Stratosphere*

*Taught Me about Self-Worth, Sacrifice, and Discipline*

1:30-3 p.m.

**Loree Draude**

*Soar Into Joy: A Combat Pilot's Wisdom on Falling in Love with Your Life; She's Just Another Navy Pilot: An Aviator's Sea Journal*

**Erin Miller**

*Final Flight, Final Fight: My Grandmother, the WASP, and Arlington National Cemetery; What Grandma Did*

**Laura Savino**

*Jet Boss: A Female Pilot on Taking Risks and Flying High*

3-4:30 p.m.

**Julie Boatman**

*Together We Fly: Voices from the DC-3; Honest Vision: The Donald Douglas Story*

**Kodey Bogart**

*Helo Girls: The Firefighting Pilot*

**Lynn Rippelmeyer**

*Life Takes Wings: Becoming the World's First Female 747 Pilot*

4:30-6 p.m.

**Caroline Jensen**

*Thundermouse*

**Daine Meszaros**

*Ava the Aviator: The Adventure Begins; Ava the Aviator: The Adventure Continues*

**Victoria Yeager**

*Chuck Yeager: What a Ride! My Life with The Original Right Stuff; 101 Chuck Yeagerisms: Wit and Wisdom from America's Hero*

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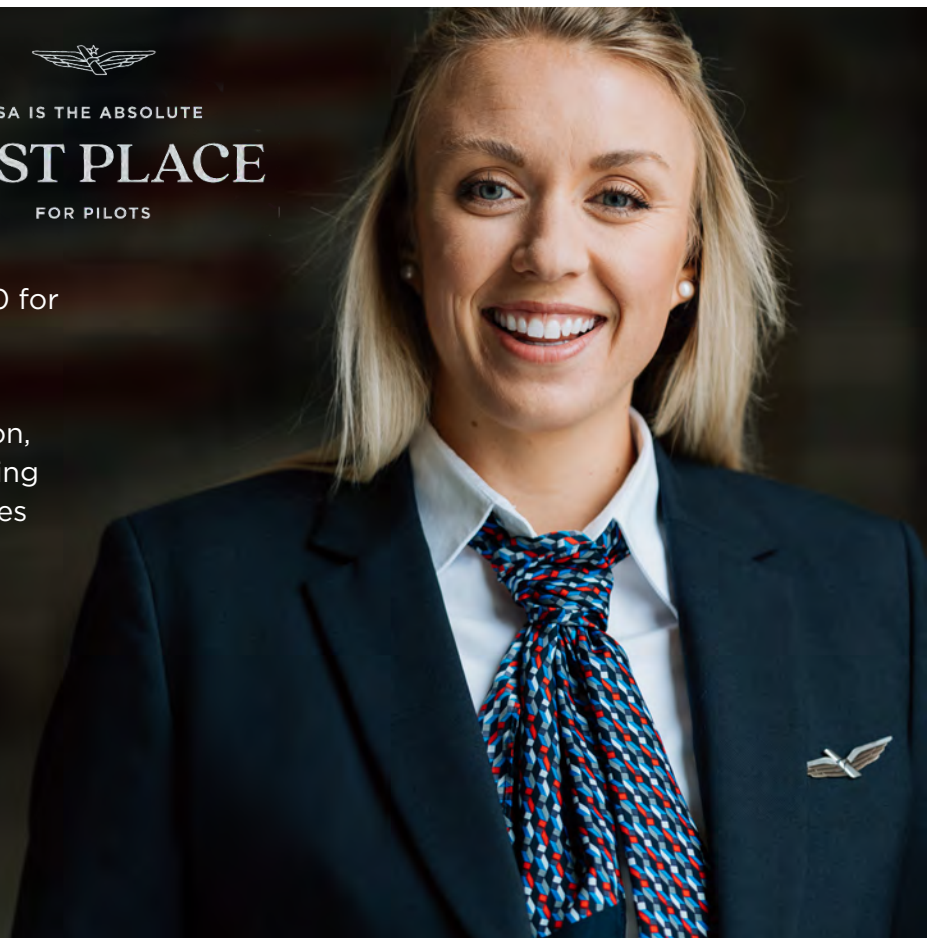
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# CHAPTER CONNECT RECEPTION

Hundreds of WAI chapter members gathered on Wednesday evening for the annual Chapter Connect Reception. Sponsored by Atlas Air, the high energy event featured a selfie challenge and connected members of our 180-strong chapter network. Congratulations to Young Chappell, WAI Greater Oklahoma City Metro Chapter president for receiving the Dorothy Hilbert Chapter Volunteer of the Year award. Want to learn more about the WAI chapter network? See Page 13 for the schedule of more chapter events this week.



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# Bridges and Boundaries at Work

Are you struggling with the challenges of working in a male-dominated workplace? Do you know what elements you need in order to be happy in your career? Whether you need advice on workplace challenges, are at a crossroads, or simply don't know how to start defining what is right for you, come to **Crystal H** at **4:15 p.m.** today to hear Lane Wallace, columnist for *AFW* Magazine, share her experience and the tools needed to succeed when there are gender imbalances where you work.

"It's hard to be in a male-dominated culture without losing yourself," Lane says. "Get your strength up first, apply it, build bridges wherever possible and draw boundaries whenever necessary."

Following a packed house at last year's WAI conference, Lane is continuing the dialogue first prepping participants on the key elements to building core strength and stability within yourself through self-awareness (who you are and what matters most to you) and becoming more well-grounded (being at peace with who you are and focusing more on meaningful, internal rewards). This core strength, like a good workout, helps you keep your balance, focus and clarity in your career.

With that internal clarity, it's time to look externally. Success doesn't come from focusing on fighting battles or worrying about fitting in, but from building bridges with those who can help you; those you can rely on. "Bridges and Boundaries are how you work effectively in the world," Lane continues. She guides participants through how to build bridges with others and how these bridges will help you manage boundaries.

"Focus on the value of internal rewards versus external rewards," Lane concludes. "Be relaxed, comfortable in yourself, grounded, and clear about what elements you really need to be happy, so if your job falls apart, you are able to react. Rely on your bridges – strategic, tactical and genuine."

Additional information on Bridges and Boundaries can be found in Lane's column in the March/April issue of *Aviation for Women* magazine.

—Mary Woolf, WAI 45799



*AFW columnist Lane Wallace packs them in for her education sessions on handling your career*

## Road to Revolt: a History of Women Aviators in Combat

Today at **3 p.m.** in **Magnolia 20**, Eileen Bjorkman leads a panel of pioneers who are part of a group of strong individuals who pushed open the door for women in the U.S. military to legally fly aircraft in combat encounters. Come hear the dramatic retelling from the brave women who led the charge in the halls of Congress to repeal the law, written in 1948, preventing women from flying combat jets in harm's way.

Incited by Desert Shield/Desert Storm, the public became aware that women were flying in combat, but not in combat aircraft. Women, who were not all aviators, wrote letters to and lobbied Congress to repeal this law. While the law was finally repealed by Congress, it took two years and a Presidential commission to allow women to legally fly combat jets into actual engagements and "harm's way."

This panel fought the legal fight to eliminate all policies preventing women from achieving their military ambitions in aviation, and they succeeded, but there is still a social fight. The current and next generation must fight to improve the number of women in military and civilian aviation and overcome challenges, which include being a pilot and having a family.

This panel of esteemed women did not get to reap the benefit of their actions and fly jets in combat, but they did get to see the next generation of women achieve this goal. Come listen, interact and be inspired to pay it forward and see even more change and opportunity for the next generation.

—Mary Woolf, WAI 45799

## Exhibitors

(as of March 21, 2024)

- 819** AAR  
**816** ACES Systems  
**2325** AOPA-Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association  
**101** ATP Flight School  
**2219** Abingdon Co.  
**810** ABX Air Inc  
**1006** Academy of Aviation  
**313** AerSale, Inc  
**2335** AeroStar Training Services  
**717** AeroTEC  
**902** Aerospace Center for Excellence / SUN 'n FUN Aerospace Expo  
**906** Aims Community College  
**1109** Air Force Civilian Service  
**2224** Air Line Pilots Association International  
**815** Air Methods Corporation  
**2318** Air Race Classic Inc.  
**419** Air Transport International  
**618** Air Wisconsin Airlines  
**2125** Airbus Americas  
**2333** Airshare  
**1101** Alaska Airlines  
**2330** Allegiant Air  
**908** Allied Pilots Association  
**514** Alpine Air Express  
**205** America's Navy  
**800** American Airlines  
**704** American Airlines Federal Credit Union  
**316** Ameriflight  
**918** Amerijet International Airlines, Inc.  
**2321** Association for Women in Aviation Maintenance(AWAM)  
**510** Atlas Air  
**2236** Auburn University School of Aviation  
**418** Avelo Airlines  
**617** Avemco Insurance Company  
**2008** Aviation Conversations  
**201** Aviation Retirement Strategies, LLC  
**619** Aviation Search Group  
**508** AviationJewelry.Com  
**210** Blue Line Aviation  
**500** Boeing  
**2105** Bombardier  
**2316** Born of Ashes LLC  
**2004** Bose Corporation  
**2212** Breeze Aviation Group  
**1018** CAE HQ  
**1001** CAMP Systems International  
**916** California Aeronautical University  
**611** Cape Air  
**2334** Castle Aviation  
**517** Cessna and Beechcraft by Textron Aviation  
**511** Cirrus Aircraft  
**312** CommuteAir  
**2106** Contour Aviation  
**2206** Convergence Data  
**911** Corporate Wings  
**620** CrossCheck Hub  
**2233** Customs and Border Protection Air and Marine Operations  
**900** David Clark Company  
**2025** Delta Air Lines  
**2131** Delta State University  
**2315** Duncan Aviation  
**2232** Elevate Aviation Group  
**1008** Elevated Access  
**2311** Embraer  
**412** Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
**2128** Empire Airlines  
**2018** Endeavor Air  
**801** Envoy Air  
**1108** Equus Flight Academy  
**413** Executive Jet Management  
**603** Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)  
**920** FAA - Airman DUI/DWI Program  
**1117** FAA Civil Aerospace Medical Institute  
**919** FAA Human Resource Management  
**2327** FedEx  
**2331** FedEx Employees Credit Association  
**901** Flexjet  
**409** FlightSafety International  
**2102** Flight Uniforms  
**2209** flyexclusive  
**1116** Freedom Aviation Network  
**2010** Frontier Airlines  
**516** Gleim Aviation  
**310** Global Aviation Data  
**300** Global Crossing Airlines Inc  
**716** Global Medical Response  
**306** GoJet Airlines  
**714** GrandView Aviation  
**2225** Gulfstream  
**610** Hawaiian Airlines  
**318** Hemlock Films  
**2115** IFOD Institute of Flight Operations and Dispatch  
**706** ISA+21  
**209** JSX  
**811** JSfirm.com  
**2104** Jet Linx Aviation  
**614** jetBlue  
**2217** Latino Pilots Association (LPA)  
**2133** Leading Edge Financial Planning  
**417** Leiden University  
**2028** Liberty University School of Aeronautics  
**1017** Life Flight Network  
**2005** LifeLine Pilots  
**720** Lockheed Martin  
**909** M & H Uniforms  
**2130** Mamava Inc  
**809** Mcneely Charter  
**1016** MedAire Inc  
**1005** Mercy Medical Angels  
**521** Metro Aviation, Inc.  
**712** Middle Tennessee State University  
**2230** Mountain Air Cargo  
**904** MzeroA Online Ground School  
**1112** NASA Aeronautics  
**2109** NBCFAE National  
**1019** NOAA Aircraft Operations Center  
**515** National Air Traffic Controllers Association  
**914** National Airlines  
**711** National Business Aviation Association (NBAA)  
**2110** National Gay Pilots Association  
**1010** National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency  
**1003** National Nuclear Security Administration NNSA  
**315** National Transportation Safety Board  
**307** NetJets  
**2320** Ninety-Nines  
**2007** Northern Jet  
**208** Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals  
**421** PASS National  
**1111** PHI Aviation  
**700** Piedmont Airlines  
**707** PSA Airlines  
**715** Pearls With Purpose  
**2006** Phoenix Air Group, Inc.  
**2108** Phoenix East Aviation  
**1007** PlaneSense, Inc.  
**2003** Premier Private Jets  
**820** Procter & Gamble  
**416** Professional Asian Pilots Association  
**814** Professional Women Controllers (PWC)  
**2119** RTX/Collins Aerospace/ Pratt & Whitney  
**607** Republic Airways  
**2239** Ricardo Belverly Hills  
**713** SKYTECH, INC  
**2317** SUU Aviation  
**615** Saint Louis University  
**319** Sierra West Airlines  
**1013** Silver Airways  
**2111** SkyWest Airlines  
**2312** Solairus Aviation  
**2120** Southwest Airlines  
**910** Southwest Airlines Pilots Association  
**601** Space2inspire  
**2231** Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology  
**915** Spirit Airlines  
**2016** Spitfire Elite Consulting  
**2336** Stratus Financial  
**2009** Sun Country Airlines  
**1015** TES  
**415** Telex Aviation Headsets  
**621** Thomas Edison State University  
**314** Tradewind Aviation LLC  
**907** Travelpro  
**519** Turbine Capital  
**1102** U.S. Air Force Recruiting-Det 1  
**1009** U.S. Coast Guard  
**302** UPS Airlines  
**719** USA Jet  
**2241** USI  
**2135** Unifi Service  
**301** United Airlines  
**2234** United Ground Express  
**2014** University Aviation Association  
**317** University of North Dakota  
**2208** Utah State University Aviation Technology  
**1014** Vertical Aviation International  
**2237** Visionary Training Resources Virtual Reality  
**2213** Vista  
**818** Volato  
**708** Walmart Aviation  
**2319** West Star Aviation  
**808** Western Michigan University College of Aviation  
**204** Wheels Up  
**1011** Whirly-Girls International  
**613** Wings Financial Credit Union  
**2314** Wings For Val Foundation Inc.  
**1100** Women Military Aviators  
**600** Women in Aviation International Membership  
**812** Women in Aviation Purdue University Chapter  
**709** Women in Corporate Aviation (WCA)

**Cypress Alcove 1**

Authors Connect  
WAI Merchandise

**Cypress Alcove 2**

BodyWorks Attendee Wellbeing  
Mamava Inc

**Cypress Alcove 3**

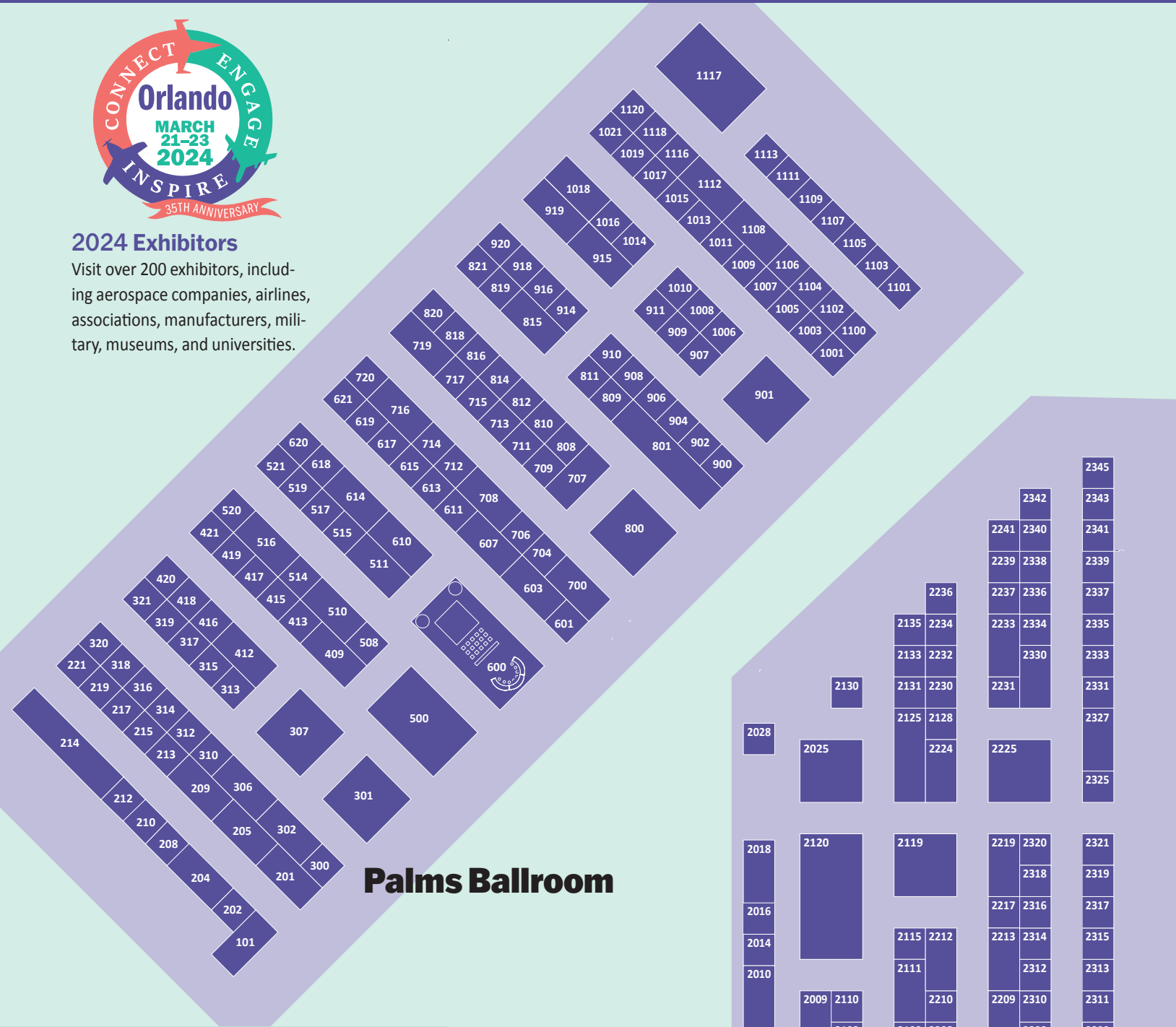
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## 2024 Exhibitors

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## Palms Ballroom

## Exhibit Hall Hours

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FRIDAY, MARCH 22  
10:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

(closed during luncheon—noon–1:30 p.m.)

SATURDAY, MARCH 23  
10:30 a.m.–3 p.m.



## Cypress 1 Ballroom

# Getting Past Microaggressions

Today at 4:15 p.m. in **Crystal 3**, Katie O'Malley, a skilled therapist in the intersection of career and mental health, will lead a workshop focused on the impact of microaggressions in the workplace. In this session, participants will learn what steps we, as individuals and organizations, must take to address and repair the impact of microaggressions.

Microaggression is a prejudiced action (consciously or unconsciously) against an underrepresented group. When unaddressed, microaggressions lead to increased stress, induced trauma, difficulty sleeping, and burn-out. While women are often on the receiving end of microaggressions, we also are guilty

of imposing them on others.

Katie will provide an overview and understanding of what a microaggression is, the impact and implications of leaving it unaddressed, what it looks like to take accountability when we deliver a microaggression, and how she has personally experienced four microaggressions. The discussion in the workshop encompasses both the micro (what I can do as an individual) and macro (what the C-suite can do to help) view and calls on everyone to be advocates and support each other.

Come join this workshop to gain hands-on experience learning to recognize and address microaggressions and leverage proven frameworks for resolution.

## What we heard

*"I want to reconnect with the next generation and find great talent—and learn their sense of 'why,' sense of belonging. We're all part of something bigger."*

Stephanie Golden, Textron Aviation  
Newly appointed GM of Orlando TextAu Service Center,  
15-plus years from Cessna onward

*"It's fun to start learning how to network, meet people, and see where to go with aviation."*

Kayle Bausman, student pilot and first time attendee,  
preparing for her first solo



Sadie Blace | Co-pilot  
UND Frozen Force Team, 2023

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# Curtis-Taylor is in it for the really long cross country: open cockpit style

Tracey Curtis-Taylor's education session today (**Magnolia 22, 4:15 p.m.**) is an event not to be missed for aviation history buffs and long-distance fliers alike. She's sharing her story of romance and resilience as she solo piloted her vintage Boeing Stearman across the globe, paying tribute to and following similar flight routes of three incredible and unconventional women of the golden age: Amy Johnson, Lady Heath and Amelia Earhart.

Through storytelling, Tracey shares her own personal love of flying, how the movie "Out of Africa" inspired her, and how she was humbled and honored by young school girls in a small village in Pakistan who were part of one of her many stops.

Throughout her trip she was reminded that while women have been piloting planes for decades, it is still a profession where women are rare participants. In her presentation Tracey shares her own stories of prejudice and inequities, of the socioeconomic opportunity that women are denied. She focuses on how large organizations need to step forward and ramp up recruitment of women and how training needs to be designed for everyone, not just for men.

—Mary Woolf, WAI 45799



In 2013, Tracey launched on a series of expeditions in her Boeing Stearman bi-plane paying homage to the female pioneers of the Golden Age of Aviation: Cape Town to England; England to Australia, and across the USA. Tracey has written a book, Bird, and a documentary film set to release this year.

JOHN RIEDEL



The WAI and Harvard University Emerging Leaders class of 2023 and 2024 gathered on Wednesday to connect and share experiences during their 3-day unique session on campus at the university last year. Thanks to the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, the program will continue to expand.

Shout out to FedEx who kindly shipped the equipment for the Jazz with Wings Women in Aviation Band. Thanks to Pat Mimento, VP of flight operations and training, for FedEx for handling the band logistics for WAI2024.



MIKE ULLERY

# EDUCATION SESSIONS

FRIDAY MARCH 22							
	Crystal H	Crystal M	Crystal J	Crystal N	Magnolia 16	Magnolia 20	Magnolia 22
<b>1:45-2:45 p.m.</b>	Mental Health for Pilots, ATC, & Dispatchers: Seeking Help & the FAA <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Women in Corporate Aviation (WCA) Career Panel <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Mentoring in Action <i>Career/Leadership</i>	CEO <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Striking a Balance While Building a Resilient Warrior <i>Military</i>	Keep Relationships Strong & Find Balance Between Home & Your Career <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Civilian Aviation Careers in the Military and Federal Government <i>Career/Leadership</i>
<b>3-4 p.m.</b>	Navigating the Skies: Empowering Women Pilots in Aviation Industry <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Maximizing Momentum for Women in Aviation <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Speech-language Pathology Partnering with Aviation to Help Prevent Miscommunications Due to Intelligibility Concerns in Non-native English Speakers <i>Career/Leadership</i>	The One Thing You Need to Feel Better About Your Money: It's Not a Budget, It's Clarity <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Drones: The Gateway to Aviation <i>Emerging Technologies</i>	The Road to Revolt -- the Fight to Repeal the Combat Exclusion Law <i>History</i>	Public Benefit Flying - Using aviation to give back! <i>Career/Leadership</i>
<b>4:15-5:15 p.m.</b>	Bridges and Boundaries: Building the Strength and Skills to Succeed in a Male-Dominated Workplace <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Importance of Allyship in Tech Ops <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Communicating with Accountability: Navigating & Addressing Microaggressions in the Workplace <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Using Novel Body Scanning Technology and Analysis Methods to Generate an Accurate and Affordable USN and USMC Aircrew Anthropometric Database <i>Military</i>	Thinking Like an Engineer: Through the Lens of Flight Test - <i>Emerging Technologies</i>	Come Fly with Us! Civil Air Patrol Youth & Adult Flying Opportunities <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Bird <i>History</i>
SATURDAY MARCH 23							
	Crystal H	Crystal M	Crystal J	Crystal N	Magnolia 16	Magnolia 20	Magnolia 22
<b>1:45-2:45 p.m.</b>	Navigating a Pilot Interview with Confidence and Resilience <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Airline Pilot Panel <i>Career/Leadership</i>	The Working Daughter <i>Career/Leadership</i>	How to Be an Ally in the LGBTQ+ Aviation Community <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Taking the Lead: Women as Instructors and Role Models in Aviation <i>Career/Leadership</i>	The Rollercoaster of Search and Rescue Flying <i>Career/Leadership</i>	NTSB – Where safety is no accident! <i>Career/Leadership</i>
<b>3-4 p.m.</b>	Taking Flight Together: Empowering Young Women in Aviation through Dual Enrollment <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Sexual Harassment - Where to Go and What to Do <i>Career/Leadership</i>	How to Be a Boss in Your Own Life: Boldy and Confidently Pursuing Your Dreams <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Airspace Invasion <i>Emerging Technologies</i>	Perspectives & Boundaries: Navigating the Biases We Face Throughout Our Careers <i>Career/Leadership</i>	Family Planning and Flying in the Military <i>Military</i>	A License to Learn <i>Maintenance/Tech Ops</i>

## CONNECT > ENGAGE > INSPIRE

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

### Opening Session

**9-10:30 a.m.** • **Cypress Ballroom 2**

Keynote Speakers:

**Dr. Patty Chang-Chien**

**NOAA Rear Admiral Nancy Hann**

**Dr. Sian Proctor**

*Sponsored by The Boeing Company*

### Luncheon

**Noon-1:30 p.m.** • **Cypress Ballroom 2**

Keynote Speaker:

**Pam Melroy**

*(ticket required)*

*Sponsored by Delta Air Lines*

**Volunteer Sign Up/Check-in Information Center Lost and Found**  
**Cypress Rotunda**

**Media Center**  
**Magnolia 4**

### Industry Briefings

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

**Crystal K, Magnolia 14**

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

**Crystal K**

See the conference app for current schedule.

### Exhibits

**Palms Ballroom and Cypress Ballroom 1**

### Exhibit Hall Hours

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

**10:30 a.m.-noon**

*(closed during luncheon)*

**1:30-5 p.m.**

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

**10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.**

### WAI 2024 Registration

**Cypress Registration**

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

**8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.**

*(closed during luncheon)*

### Zumba

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

**7-8 a.m.** • **Magnolia 10**

*(ticket required)*

## Industry Partner Events

Please note that these events are by invitation or open only to current members of a particular group. When in doubt, check with a representative of that group or company. Must be a registered attendee to participate. Details at [www.WAI.org/2024-industry-partner-events](http://www.WAI.org/2024-industry-partner-events)

### FRIDAY Partner Events

Air Force - Reception Room  
8 a.m. - 4 p.m. • Washington Room

Southwest Airlines - Hospitality Room  
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Magnolia 13

ALPA - Coffee and Conversation  
10:30 - 11:30 a.m. • Magnolia 18

Delta Air Lines - Pilot Recruiter Meet and Greet  
2 p.m. - 5 p.m. • Diamond Suite

The Ninety-Nines, Inc. - PPLI Social  
5:30 - 6:30 p.m. • New York Room

UND Aerospace - Alumni and Industry Reception  
6 - 7:30 p.m. • New Orleans Room

WMA - Flight Suit Social  
6 - 10 p.m. • Magnolia 10

GoJet Airlines - Karaoke Night  
7 - 9 p.m. • Jade Suite

ISA + 21- Annual Friday Night Social  
7 - 10 p.m. • Magnolia 24

## CHAPTER EVENTS

FRIDAY, MARCH 22  
**Plan and Host an Outstanding Girls in Aviation Day Event**  
1:45-3:15 p.m.  
Crystal D

FRIDAY, MARCH 22  
**How to Start a WAI Chapter**  
3:30-5 p.m.  
Crystal D

SATURDAY, MARCH 23  
**Student and Collegiate Chapter Leadership Workshop**  
10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.  
Magnolia 14

## Navigating the Skies: Overcoming Invisible Barriers



Capt. Reyne O'Shaughnessy (ret.) is CEO/Founder of Piloting 2 Wellbeing TEDx speaker, and Amazon best-selling author of *This is Your Captain Speaking: What you should know about your Pilot's Mental Health*. In her session, 'Navigating the Skies: Empowering Women Pilots in the Aviation Industry,' she draws on her extensive experience as an aviation strategist to emphasize the critical importance of self-awareness and personal well-being in a male-dominated industry where invisible barriers exist. Her aim is to empower women pilots to navigate these challenges and thrive in their careers.

Capt. O will share personal stories from over 35 years as a commercial airline pilot, shedding light on the challenges women face in aviation. She believes that sharing stories not only humanizes our experiences but also increases our awareness of invisible barriers and the value of embracing our unique differences. Attendees will receive practical advice on setting personal boundaries, maintaining professionalism, and earning the respect of male counterparts, all while staying true to themselves.

Join Reyne today in **Crystal H** from **3 p.m.** for an inspiring session that will not only enlighten you about the challenges women face in aviation but also equip you with the tools to navigate the aviation and aerospace industry with confidence and grace.

—Michelle Graves, WAI 45798

## Maximizing Momentum for Women in Aviation

Come by **Crystal M** at **3 p.m.** today for an exciting panel discussion including valuable insights and advice from some of Signature Aviation's most senior female executives.

"At Signature we are fortunate to have inspiring women in a variety of leadership roles, including in sectors that are not historically held by women, such as fuel, security and airport relations. Some have risen through the aviation industry and others found their way through a different path. Regardless of the road taken, we want to share their stories to remind women that they not only have a place within the industry, but also an opportunity to lead it," said Amy Alexy, Chief People Officer for Signature Aviation.

Panelists, including Melissa Chapman (VP, Talent), Amy Alexy (Chief People Officer), Mary Miller (VP, Industry and Government Affairs), Bridget Gonchar (Chief Operating Officer, EPIC Fuels), and Sanchia Rivera-Beckno (Regional VP, Operations), will be moderated by Ali Tuck. They plan to share an overview of their career paths and current responsibilities.

Hear about what led these executives to aviation and how they navigate within the industry, as well as topics like embracing risk, overcoming imposter syndrome, and trusting their gut. You'll hear about pivotal moments in their careers, advice to women entering the industry, and how they balance a career with their personal lives and passions.

—Michelle Graves, WAI 45798



Katie Brown

# Thinking Like an Engineer

Ever wonder what it's like to perform flight tests? If so, come to **Magnolia 17** today at **4:15 p.m.** to hear from **Bailey Bonaci**, Boeing Flight Test Ground Operations Engineer, and **Katie Brown**, Boeing Product Development, as they share the process of flight testing from writing the test plans to practicing with pilots in flight simulations to performing tests live in the air.

Participants will receive an introduction to experimental flight tests including who's involved, when it happens, what's involved, and examples of specific testing such as performing obscure maneuvers required by the FAA. Bailey and Katie will walk through a risk probability and risk severity matrix used to evaluate the severity of what could go wrong so that a mitigation can be created to reduce the probability that the issue will occur or, at least, reduce the severity of it at time of occurrence. After guiding a discussion about the key factors involved in flight testing, Katie and Bailey will show videos and pose potential risks, such as an engine failure, and ask the audience to think like an engineer and brainstorm how the risk could be mitigated and what could be the next failure that may endanger the test crew (like a second engine failure).

Thinking about engine failures, severe crosswinds, or loss of instrumentation is scary, but understanding the rigor of testing and the people who think critically about it, makes commercial flying safer (and less scary) for everyone.

—**Mary Woolf**, WAI 45799

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**EAA.ORG/WOMENVENTURE**

# Debunking Myths around Military Flying: Hear it from those who do it.

Today at **1:45 p.m.** in **Magnolia 17**, Lt. Col. (ret.) Jessica Ruttenber leads a panel of distinguished women who collectively have more than 100 years of military service. Together they will share their stories of resilience throughout their military careers and debunk myths around flying, mental health, and military regulations.

The discussion will focus on mental health, emotional needs and physical requirements from the development of a maternity flight suit to dismantling the policy preventing 44% of women from entering aviation because of height restrictions.

Demonstrating vulnerability, Jessica is leading off the panel by sharing her own experiences with mental health and invites the panel members to do the same. Through stories, these leaders and advocates for women share how mental and emotional health does not happen to just one person nor only during service. "The nightmares I had," she sighs. "It's not normal to take bodies home, not normal to leave your kids all the time, not

normal to feel isolated. I'm learning to parent again in retirement and I am not used to being home for birthdays – it feels awkward," Jessica says.

The women will provide advice on building resilience in yourself and your troops, discuss the tools commanders can use to prepare their unit mentally for combat/natural disaster missions, and tools to help heal after events or service. Jessica will demonstrate an app called "Med Standards" which provides standards, by service line, for flying, including pre-approved drugs, waivers, and more.

Come hear these experienced military leaders share their passion for their teams as they work to dismantle barriers, improve communication, and provide resources and assistance for ongoing mental and emotional needs.

—Mary Wolf, WAI 45799



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## Check Out the Tours



ANDREW ZABACK

Attendees enjoyed a day-long visit during the Kennedy Space Center tour on Wednesday.



MIKE ULLERY

NOAA Aircraft Operations Center tour in nearby Lakeland, Florida, included viewing of a variety of aircraft that NOAA operates that collect data vital to protecting lives and property.



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