

[View this email in your browser](#)



WAI Connect

The Official eNewsletter of
Women in Aviation International

[FOR MEMBERS](#)[CHAPTERS](#)[Aviation for Women MAGAZINE](#)

March 2025

Letter from WAI CEO Lynda Coffman

Dear WAI Members and Industry Colleagues,

Many challenges have arisen in our industry since I last addressed our organization on February 1st. The commercial airline accident in Toronto on February 17th has led to a barrage of misinformation about the qualifications of female pilots. As the CEO of Women in Aviation International, I want to address this matter directly and plainly. WAI stands resolute in reaffirming the skills, experience, and professionalism of all women pilots.

Our members, and indeed all women aviators, undergo rigorous training and meet or exceed the same stringent standards required of all pilots, regardless of gender. The inference that gender plays a role in pilot skill is not only inaccurate, it's preposterous. Women have proven repeatedly that not only are they fully qualified to take on the responsibilities of the flight deck, but they also demonstrate resilience and strength gained through facing adversity and barriers such as we are seeing today.

We will not stand for any form of unfounded criticism against women in aviation across all roles in the aviation industry. Speculation and misinformation at the cost of truth not only tarnishes the reputation of all professionals but also undermines public perception of the aviation industry's stellar safety record.

WAI remains committed to supporting and empowering women across all roles in the aviation industry. We will continue to advocate for a respectful environment where every individual, regardless of gender, can thrive and succeed. It is times such as this that we will stand together, support one another, and encourage those that dream of following us.

To our members, stay strong and confident in your abilities. Your dedication and contributions are invaluable, and we are incredibly proud of each and every one of you. To our allies and supporters, thank you for standing with us. Your support has been instrumental in driving change. Together we will continue to champion our vision of a world where the sky is open to all and where aviation and aerospace dreams are possible without barriers.

Sincerely,
Lynda Coffman
WAI CEO





[#WAI2025 Conference Promo_March 27-29_Denver](#)

[Register for WAI2025](#)

[View the WAI2025 website](#)

Cast Your Vote for the 2025 WAI Board of Directors

e-Ballot closes at midnight (EDT) March 20, 2025

This year, nine candidates are on the ballot for the 2025 Women in Aviation International Board of Directors.

- **Kandy Bernskoetter** is on the ballot for election as a new board member.
- **Ali Faddis** is on the ballot for election as a new board member.
- **Dana Kirchmar** is on the ballot for election as a new board member.
- **Sandra Pineau-Boddison** is on the ballot for election as a new board member.
- **Jackie Rios** is on the ballot for election as a new board member.
- **Julie Schell** is on the ballot for election as a new board member.
- **Julie Tizard** is on the ballot for election as a new board member.
- **Shannon Weidekamp** is up for re-election for another three-year term.
- **Kathy Yodice** is up for re-election for another three-year term.

As a valued member of Women in Aviation International, your voice is essential in shaping the future of our organization. Please take a moment to review the candidates' profiles included in the e-Ballot and cast your vote to help select the leaders who will play a part in guiding

WAI. Note that voting closes at midnight (US EDT) on March 20, 2025.

Election results will be announced during the Membership Meeting section of the General Session on Thursday, March 27, 2025 (9-10 a.m.) at the 36th Annual WAI Conference at the Gaylord Rockies Resort & Convention Center in Denver, Colorado.

[e-Ballot Vote Here](#)

Notice of Annual Membership Meeting

All members of Women in Aviation International are encouraged to attend the annual membership meeting, which will be held Thursday, March 27, 2025 during the General Session of the Annual Conference, from 9-10 a.m. Aurora Ballroom, Level 2 of the Gaylord Rockies Resort & Convention Center in Denver, Colorado.



2025 FAR/AIM Series

Accurate, reliable, trusted.



The standard regulatory reference of the industry since 1940.

[Shop FAR-AIM ▶▶](#)

Register for Girls in Aviation Day Denver at WAI2025!

Girls ages 8-18 are invited to attend Girls in Aviation Day Denver during the 36th Annual Women in Aviation International Conference on Saturday, March 29 at the Gaylord Rockies Resort from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Participants will tour the WAI2025 exhibit hall, hear from leading ladies in aviation and aerospace during a career panel, and experience nearly 30 unique hands-on STEM activities.



A Women in Aviation International® Event

The 300 attendees will have lunch with [Jessica Cox](#), the world's first and only armless pilot and Taekwondo black belt who has never let "impossible" stand in her way. Now, she's on a mission to inspire the next generation of fearless young women in aviation and STEM! At this special

Girls in Aviation Day at WAI2025, Jessica will share her incredible journey, proving that limits are meant to be broken. Through her powerful message of courage, adaptability, and “thinking outside the shoe,” she’ll challenge girls to dream big, take on challenges, and believe that they, too, can soar.

Don’t miss this unforgettable opportunity to meet Jessica, ask questions, and get inspired to take flight—both in aviation and in life!

Space is limited! [Register today](#). Chaperones are required. Tickets are \$10 each and includes lunch. Each participant will receive a fun and educational GIAD Activity Kit and earn the WAI Aviation Fun Patch.



Jessica Cox, author of Disarm Your Limits, will be the GIAD Denver keynote speaker

[Register for GIAD Denver](#)

Explore Denver During Local Tours

You can add a Tour when you register for the conference. Already registered, but want to add a Tour? Go to the [Attendee Service Center](#) to add it to your registration! Each of the three tours are scheduled on Wednesday, March 26.

Red Rocks Denver & Beyond Tour

Cost per person: \$120

11:45 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Enjoy a 30-minute scenic drive to the iconic Red Rocks Park and Amphitheater and take in the stunning rock formations and explore the world-famous amphitheater. There will be a quick stop at Lookout Mountain for panoramic views of Denver, Golden, and the Rocky Mountains.



**Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space
Museum Tour & Lowry Beer Garden Craft
Brewery Visit**

Cost per person: \$99

12:15-5:30 p.m.

The Wings Over the Rockies exhibits allow you to get up close and personal with historic aircraft, artifacts and memorabilia, and explore the future of aviation and aerospace. Attendees will also visit a Colorado Craft Brewery next door at the Lowry Beer Garden.



Enjoy the scenic drive during the Red Rocks Denver & Beyond Tour

USAF Academy Tour Colorado Springs

Cost per person: \$75

12:15-4 p.m.

Located north of Colorado Springs, at the base of the Front Range, the campus sits on 18,500 acres of breathtaking mountain panoramas. Cadets will provide a guided tour starting at Arnold Hall and the Barry Goldwater Visitor Center--home to numerous engaging exhibits.



The Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum Tour will feature historic aircraft and more



Located north of Colorado Springs, the U.S. Air Force Academy sits on 18,500 acres

Register for WAI2025 Tours



**Join us for Women ACEs Breakfast
at SUN 'n FUN
April 2, 2025**

Keynote Speaker: Teresa Arredondo President & CEO of Artcraft Paint and Interiors for Planes

One-on-One Interview: Kelly Murphy, WAI & Nan Walsh, former Air Traffic Controller, Commercial Airline Pilot and Assistant Airport Director.

Panel Discussion: Featuring Women from Republic Airways & Lift Academy

Scholarship Awards & Swag Bag

FLYSNF.ORG

GET TICKETS!



Member Benefits

[WAI members](#) seek to inspire and stand for encouragement, continued education, and a whole lot of fun! When you join WAI, you'll have access to exclusive discount programs and benefits, including many diverse benefits, available only to our valued members.

Exclusive Discount Programs for Members

- **Avemco:** 5% discount on insurance
- **Aviation Medicine Advisory Service:** 5% discount on standard case fees
- **Enterprise and National Car Rental:** discount rates with promotion code
- **General Aviation News** subscription: free sample issues and 50% off subscription
- **King Schools:** free package of 5 King courses focused on Risk Management and 20% discount on all King Schools courses
- **MedJetAssist:** reduced annual and multi-year rates
- **Travelpro®:** exclusive 20% discount on all products



Upcoming Events

The calendar of events is a source of information about industry/organization events.

2025

March 27-29 - 36th Annual Women in Aviation International Conference, Gaylord Rockies Resort & Convention Center, Denver, Colorado, www.WAI.org/2025-conference

April 2 - Women ACEs Breakfast at SUN 'n FUN, Aerospace Expo Aerospace Pavilion, Lakeland, Florida, purchase tickets at www.flysnf.org/activities/other-activities/women-aces/

RESERVE AND PICK UP AT WAI2025 CONFERENCE STORE

Shop for WAI2025 T-shirts

Featuring new WAI Vision



WAI2025 Conference T-shirt
Lavender Dust Crewneck
LIMITED EDITION Ladies
Relaxed Fit
100% Combed Cotton
Sizes: Ladies S-3XL
Imprinted on Front and
Back
Pre-Order Cost —
\$25.00*



WAI2025 Conference T-shirt
Heather Dust V-Neck
LIMITED EDITION Ladies Relaxed Fit
52% Combed Cotton, 48% Polyester
Sizes: Ladies S-2XL Imprinted on
Front and Back
Pre-Order Cost —
\$25.00*

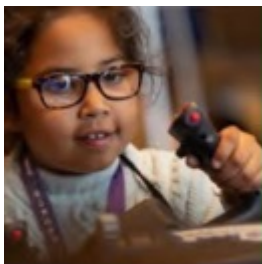


WAI2025 Conference T-shirt
Dark Gray Heather Long-Sleeve
LIMITED EDITION Ladies Retail Fit
100% Combed Cotton
Sizes: Ladies S-2XL Imprinted on
Front and Back
Pre-Order Cost —
\$30.00*



*** RESERVE AND PICK UP AT WAI2025 CONFERENCE STORE ***

www.WAI-store.org



WAI donors are visionaries who play a vital role in the long-term health of aviation and aerospace around the world.



Be a visionary.

Donations to WAI are vital to increasing the number of women who work in every aspect of aviation and aerospace.

Your gift will be used to

- **build** a diverse and inclusive industry
- **invest** in our current and future workforce
- **inspire** girls to pursue careers in aviation and aerospace.

Donate today.



www.WAI.org/donate



"We envision a world where the sky is open to all, where aviation and aerospace dreams are possible without barriers."

-WAI

Pioneer Hall of Fame

Education & Careers

Scholarships



Copyright © 2025 Women in Aviation International, All rights reserved.

To update your email address, visit the Members Area of the WAI website at:
[\[https://www.wai.org/member-compass#profile\]](https://www.wai.org/member-compass#profile)

If you wish to unsubscribe skaur@wai.org from future WAI Connect eNewsletter mailings, go to: [\[Unsubscribe Now\]](#).

Added through Women in Aviation International web site [\[View Privacy Statement\]](#) Be sure to add wai@wai.org to your list of approved contacts to guarantee delivery of this publication. If you received this in error, you can [Unsubscribe](#) permanently although that will remove your email from our records.

Women in Aviation International
1864 Dayton Germantown Pike, Unit 4
Germantown, OH 45327-1100
<https://www.wai.org>
E-mail: waihq@wai.org
Tel: 937-839-4647

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)