

The 29th Annual
International
Women in Aviation
Conference

The Daily

Saturday
March 24
2018

30TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL WAI CONFERENCE IN CALIFORNIA

WELCOME THE NEXT GENERATION
OF WOMEN IN AVIATION INTERNATIONAL

AMY LABODA



Girls IN AVIATION DAY RENO

A Women in Aviation International® Event

Today local area girls, including Girl Scouts and girls attending the conference with mothers and aunts and others, will spend the day being introduced to the career possibilities and the amazing life-

style that aviation and aerospace present. Through a host of hands-on activities, speakers, games and more, girls ages 8 to 17 will be immersed in all that aviation has to offer. What's more, it's all fun!

Older girls will be able to meet with representatives from aviation colleges and universities. There will be no shortage of role models for the girls as they hear from actual working women about their unique aviation careers. Flying a simulator, reading a sectional chart, learning the phonetic alphabet: It's all part of Girls in Aviation Day Reno.

After their activities and their Girls in Aviation Day lunch, you'll have a chance to interact with the girls when they tour the exhibit hall this afternoon. Make the girls feel welcome. After all, you just may be talking to your future colleague, coworker, or co-pilot. Your presence serves as a compelling role model for the girls so help enrich their Girls in Aviation Day experience.

Tonight We Honor our 2018 Hall of Fame Pioneers

In a ceremony beginning at 5 p.m., three new pioneers will be inducted into WAI's International Pioneer Hall of Fame (Convention Center Room C4). The ceremony will take place prior to (and separate from) the conference's closing Celebration Dinner.

"We want to ensure that the rich history of women's accomplishments in aviation is not lost to time," says WAI President Dr. Peggy Chabrian. "Our International Pioneer Hall of Fame honors women who made remarkable contributions to aviation as well as opened doors for future generations of women who choose aviation as a career."



Bonnie Tiburzi Caputo was hired at age 24 as an American Airlines pilot in March 1973. She was the first woman hired by a major airline as a member of the cockpit crew. At American Airlines, she flew as flight engineer, first officer, and captain on the Boeing 727. At the time of her retirement in 1998, she was flying as captain in the Boeing 757/767 on domestic and international routes. Her American Airlines pilot uniform is on display at the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

Kathleen Fox began a career as an air traffic controller in 1974 at Transport Canada control towers in Baie-Comeau, Sept-Iles, Saint-Hubert and Montreal-Dorval and at the Montreal Area Control Centre. She assumed more senior positions with Nav Canada where she served as the director of air traffic control services and vice president of operations. In 2014, she was appointed to a four-year term as chair of the Transportation Safety Board of Canada.



Brig. Gen. Linda K. McTague retired in 2009 from the United States Air Force having served more than 28 years as both a pilot and aircraft maintenance officer. During her military career, she logged more than 5,900 flight hours in military trainers and VIP transport aircraft and commanded at both the squadron and wing levels. Her final assignment was as the commander of the District of Columbia Air National Guard.

The Women in Aviation International Pioneer Hall of Fame was established in 1992 to honor women who have made significant contributions as record setters, pioneers, or innovators. For information on how to nominate a pioneer, go to the Pioneer Hall of Fame section of the website at www.wai.org. "This year's slate of inductees mirror the variety of aviation careers and backgrounds held by WAI members—international representatives of the airlines, government, military, general aviation, air traffic controllers, and more," adds Dr. Chabrian.


Women in Aviation
INTERNATIONAL

Hiring Briefings

SATURDAY,
MARCH 24

Convention Room A1

11-11:45 a.m. United
1-1:45 p.m. Horizon
2-2:45 p.m. Delta
3-3:45 p.m. Alaska

Convention Room A2

11-11:45 a.m. P&W/UTAS
1-1:45 p.m. Southwest
2-2:45 p.m. UPS

Convention Room A3

11-11:45 a.m. Aurora
1-1:45 p.m. Emirates
2-2:45 p.m. Jeppesen
3-3:45 p.m. FedEx

Shuttle Bus

SATURDAY,
MARCH 24

First bus leaves Peppermill
Resort at 7 a.m.
Last bus leaves convention
center at 9:15 p.m.

Focus on Business

Women-owned businesses in aviation are no longer as scarce as hens' teeth. That said, they are still in the minority, but #WAI18 is a great place to find the dynamic women entrepreneurs and business professionals on the rise.

For example, AeroStar Training Services LLC, (Booth 130) based in Kissimmee, Florida, offers pilot training, a career pilot academy, and flight attendant courses. It's a FAA Certified 142 Training Center so training includes type ratings on the A320, B737, and BBJ. Deidra Toye, CEO, is in the business of bringing more people into the aviation industry, a goal that brought her to WAI. Her career began in operations and compliance with a Florida flight school where a mentor taught her the ins and outs of running a school. Years later, her career and experience has taken off, and she now operates her own school. Deidra has an acute understanding of what it was like to be "just getting started in aviation, and not knowing what path to choose." She actively mentors those new to the field.

This year, AeroStar Training Services is celebrating its 10th anniversary. Great things are happening, they are excited to announce the 30,000 sq. ft. expansion of their campus along with new simulators. The company also has an Aircraft Maintenance Division, and offers youth aviation camps.

AeroStar has been a part of Women in Aviation International for years, and the company is looking forward to offering a type rating scholarship to a WAI member in 2019 at our 30th anniversary conference in Long Beach, California.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

One More Day—Let's Have Fun!

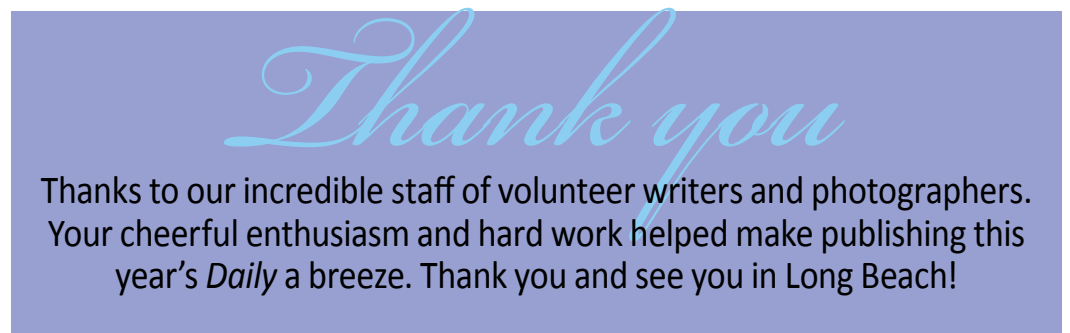
I'm always surprised when I wake up on the Saturday morning of our conference and realize this is the last day. Part of me is pleased that we're on the home stretch and I can (usually) say everything has gone off without a hitch. But I'm also always a bit sad. I love spending time with our members, meeting you and hearing your stories. What I love most is the energy of this conference. If we could harness our enthusiasm, we could light up a city with it. I love to see the smiles on your faces, the laughter and the hugs which helps make this conference like no other.

We still have one day to go—and what a day it will be. In addition to our regular activities of our general session featuring fantastic speakers and our afternoon education sessions, the conference will end on a different note. Using feedback from our members, we are trying something new this year. Rather than incorporating our Pioneer Hall of Fame ceremony into the banquet, we are making it a separate activity which will take place prior to the evening's celebration. And rather than our usual closing banquet, we're making tonight far less formal—and hopefully more relaxed and more fun. This is an experiment for this year so we will count on your feedback—so make sure you return your conference surveys to us so we can see how this worked for you.

Once again, thank you for attending this conference. You are part of an amazing community!



Dr. Peggy Chabrian
On Thursday, we welcomed
new members into the
WAI Wings Society
including Abigail Reyes.



CHRISTOPHER MILLER

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


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“We are committed to recruiting and retaining the best and brightest people from the broadest talent pool possible, so that we can serve our customers globally,” said Mary Ann Cannon, Pratt & Whitney Vice President, Commercial Engine Programs. As part of that effort a small team of dedicated women from the company volunteered to compile a book recognizing the women who have built and engineered Pratt & Whitney’s products for more than 90 years. Look for it in the United Technologies booth 417. The pictures and history within its pages will captivate you, too.

Engineering the Next Wave

Want to be part of the next wave of aviation? The engineers from Aurora Flight Sciences, an independent subsidiary of The Boeing Company, want you to know that you should be looking at getting involved with unmanned aircraft.

Attending the conference to actively support women in aviation and engineering, Jessica Jones, an engineer with Aurora, states, “Diversity increases performance.”

The engineers are spreading the word about the exciting work taking place with several types of UAVs (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle). UAVs can do the dirty, dangerous, repetitious work that people can’t.

Developing the unmanned aircraft requires a wide range of roles from mechanical and electrical engineers to project managers.

All of these skills are required in the current development of the XV-24A, a vertical take-off and landing X-Plane. A model of the UAV is on display at the Aurora booth 207, according to Melissa Dominquez, Avionics IPT (Integrated product team) lead engineer. The aircraft is trying to fill the gap of where no aircraft exist. A full-scale version is currently in development. There are many systems on the aircraft that need to be developed as they go since they are all new!

Other exciting things the Aurora team has been involved in is the Orion vehicle, which holds a record for the longest unmanned flight for its vehicle type at 80 hours. The team is working on Block one—certifying the aircraft. This is a first for a UAV so part of the project is Interpreting FAA certification rules as it applies to drones/UAVs.

Stop by the Aurora booth 207 to learn more about you could be involved in the exciting future of UAVs!

—Michelle Graves, WAI 45798

EDUCATION SESSIONS

Saturday March 24	C1	C2	C3	C4	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	D7
1:45-2:45 p.m.	Corporate Aviation Career Panel	Flying While Pregnant	The Impostor Phenomenon	Landing Your Dream Job	Soviet Night Witches of WWII		Perspective vs Perception	Air Force Wings	Check-ride-itis: Overcome Fear	Clouds Tell a Story	
3-4 p.m.	What’s It Like to Be a Mechanic	From Military to Commercial	Inspire Winning Teams	Learning to Lead	Defrag Your Brain			Alaska: Flying the Last Frontier	Aviation Marriage	Just a Private Pilot	

CONNECT > ENGAGE > INSPIRE

Saturday, March 24
Reno-Sparks Convention Center

General Session
9-10:30 a.m. • Hall 4

Girls in Aviation Day Reno Program
For girls ages 8-17 and chaperones
9 a.m.-3 p.m. • Rooms F1-8
(Preregistration required)

WAI Pioneer Hall of Fame Ceremony & Awards
5-6 p.m. • Room C4

Celebration Dinner
6-8 p.m. • Hall 4

WAI 2018 Registration

Convention Center Lobby

SATURDAY,
MARCH 24

8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Exhibits

Convention Center Hall 2

SATURDAY,
MARCH 24

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

Volunteer
Sign Up/Check-in
Information
Lost and Found

Convention Center Lobby

Hiring Briefings

Rooms A1, A2, A3

SATURDAY,
MARCH 24

11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Taking #WAI18 Home

How you execute what you now know, how you maximize who you now know

It was 2001, a watershed year. For a lot of us we could hardly believe we'd seen the turn of the millennium. Women in Aviation International was having its first Reno, Nevada, conference (its 12th conference overall) and I was the volunteer in charge of setting up and monitoring all of the general sessions and breakout sessions. It was an overwhelming position, but I loved it. I got to work with hotel audio/visual staff and meet all of WAI's speakers one-on-one. In the headphones backstage I heard my name called out (not something I liked because that usually meant something very bad just happened). Except this time they were calling me onstage to award the Bruce Baty Volunteer of the Year award—it went to me and to my friend and mentor Debbie Harvey, who lives in Reno. I was astounded and honored to be appreciated for all that hard work. Looking out from the stage at the sea of excited faces in front of me only made me want to do more. Less than a year later I was editor of *Aviation for Women* magazine.

Seventeen conferences later I can tell you, even though you think that the reason you are here is for the learning, for the networking, for the scholarships and chance to connect with the next company you'll work with: that's not really it. Because WAI is where you go, how you move into your future with this knowledge, those contacts. Take it all home but do not tuck it away. Pull out the business cards and write each person a "great to meet you, thanks for the advice" note. Contemplate handwriting the thank you notes and snail-mailing them if you have an address. Handwriting is personal. And that knowledge gained, those resources procured? Use it. If you've learned about new technology or techniques, incorporate them into your life. If you've got newfound skills, put them to use. That's how you make #WAI18 carry you right on through to #WAI19. See ya next year in Long Beach!

— Amy Laboda, WAI 14, Founding Board member



CHRISTOPHER MILLER

WomenVenture²⁰¹⁸

Aviator Reimagined.

Now in its second decade, EAA's WomenVenture is an annual celebration of women in all facets of the aviation community.

July 25
For a complete schedule and to register visit:
EAA.org/WomenVenture

EAA AIRVENTURE
OSHKOSH
2018

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BOEING



Exhibits • Hall 2

WAI 2018

Exhibit Hall Hours

SATURDAY, MARCH 24
10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Silent Auction Hours

(Auction is only open during exhibit hall hours)

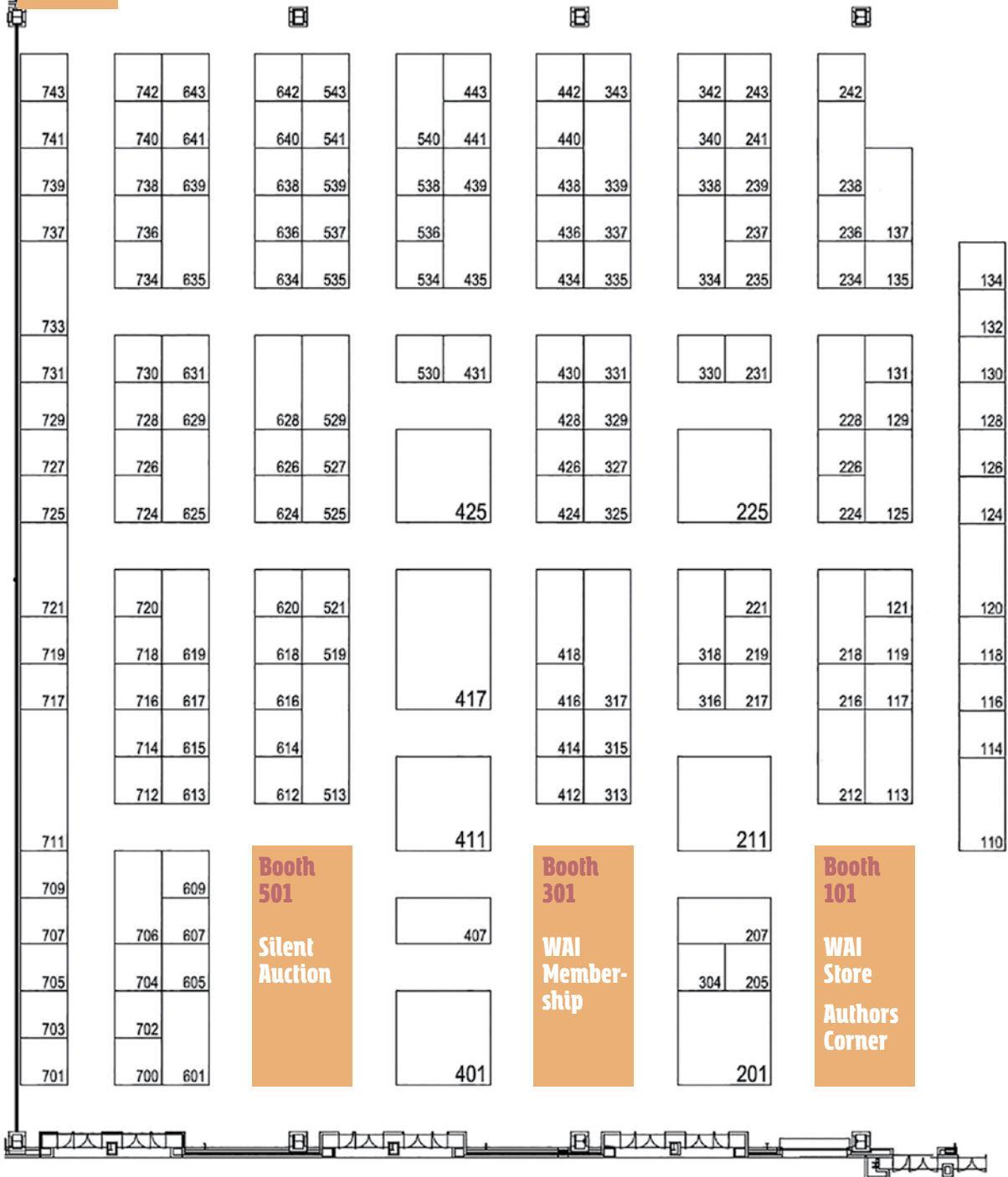
Convention Hall 2

Booth 501

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

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

Booth 745
FAA CAMI Hypoxia Training Enclosure



ENTRANCE

Exhibitors

334	Abingdon Co	414	CommutAir United Express	731	Institute of Aviation at Parkland College	601	SkyWest Airlines
541	ABX Air	631	Compass Airlines	117	International Society of Women Airline Pilots	337	Southern Illinois University
130	Aerostar Training Services	128	Contrail	716	International Society of Air Safety Investigators	737	Southern Utah University Aviation
239	AeroTEC	335	Coradine—LogTen Pro X	438	Jacksonville University	425	Southwest Airlines
330	Air Cargo Carriers LLC	231	David Clark Company Inc.	205	Jeppesen	435	Spirit Airlines
700	Air Force Civilian Service	736	Defense Contract Management Agency	110	JetBlue Airways	726	Sun Country Airlines
120	Air Force Reserve	513	Delta Air Lines Inc.	125	JETPUBS Inc.	614	Texas Woman's University
424	Air Line Pilots Association International	430	Delta State University—Commercial Aviation	705	JetSuite	126	The Ohio State University
219	Air Race Classic Inc.	236	Desert Jet	434	J5firm.com	228	Thomas Edison State University
729	Air Transport International Inc. (ATI)	701	doTERRA International	707	Kent State University	733	Trans States Airlines
407	Air Wisconsin Airlines Corp.	521	DUATS	527	L3 CTS Airline Academy	704	Transportation Security Administration (TSA/D)
317	Airbus	714	EagleMed LLC/AirMed	442	Las Vivid Inc.	720	Travelpro
428	Airline Ground Schools	418	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	442	Lewis University	241	U.S. Coast Guard Recruiting Command
625	Alaska Airlines	539	Emirates Airlines	135	Long Beach, California	411	United Airlines
237	Allegiant Air	727	Empire Airlines	340	Lufthansa Aviation Training USA	441	University Aviation Association
739	Alpha Eta Rho	519	Endeavor Air	718	M & H Uniforms	216	University of Dubuque
620	Amazon	325	Envoy Air Inc.	609	Middle Tennessee State University	426	University of North Dakota
225	American Airlines	725	Executive Jet Management	543	Mesa Airlines	212	UPS
327	American Airlines Federal Credit Union	318	Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)	638	Mountain Air Cargo	642	US Aviation Academy
329	Ameriflight LLC	416	ExpressJet Airlines	538	National Air Traffic Controllers Association	702	US Customs & Border Protection—Air & Marine
412	Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA)	607	FAA/Airmen DUI/DWI Program	119	National Gay Pilots Association	540	US Marine Corps
221	Association for Women in Aviation Maintenance (AWAM)	745	FAA Civil Aerospace Medical Institute	717	National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency	124	USAA
619	Atlas Air Inc.	129	FAA Wildlife Strike Database and Website	618	National WASP WWII Museum	626	USDA Forest Service
530	ATP Flight School	734	Falcon Aviation Academy	643	NetJets	315	Utah State University Aviation
443	Auburn University Aviation Center	628	Federal Aviation Administration	217	Ninety-Nines Inc.	417	UTC Pratt & Whitney
207	Aurora Flight Sciences	401	FedEx Express	537	Ohio University	132	Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology
304	Aviall Services Inc.	728	Flexjet	338	Omni Air International	301	WAI Membership/Chapter Booth
640	Aviation Relocation International	536	Flight School Association of North America	636	OSM Aviation—Norwegian	101	WAI Merchandise
440	Aviation Search Group LLC	131	FlightSafety International	639	Pan Am International Flight Academy	501	WAI Silent Auction
313	AviationJewelry.Com	238	FitPlan.com	724	Pearls With Purpose	624	Walmart Aviation
201	The Boeing Company	634	Forever Young	709	Phoenix East Aviation (PEA)	316	Western Michigan University College of Aviation
113	Bombardier Aerospace	635	Freight Runners Express	224	Piedmont Airlines	617	Westminster College
218	CAE	721	Frontier Airlines	534	PilotCredentials.com	615	Whirly-Girls International
535	California Aeronautical University	343	FSSolutions	235	Piper Aircraft Inc.	121	Wings Financial Credit Union
436	California Baptist University	116	Garmin	118	PlaneSense Inc.	703	Wings For Val Foundation
730	California Wing Specialties	342	Global Retail	226	PSA Airlines	612	Women in Corporate Aviation
114	Cape Air/Nantucket Airlines	439	GoJet Airlines	134	PSA Airlines Connect	616	Women Military Aviators
641	Charleston Shoe Company	211	Gulfstream, A General Dynamics Company	243	Ravn Air Group	529	XOJET Inc.
711	Charter College Aviation	741	Halldale Group	339	Republic Airline		
		726	Hawaiian Airlines	605	Saint Louis University Aviation Science		
		629	Horizon Air	613	Signature Flight Support Corporation		
		234	IFOD—Flight Dispatch Training	719	Silver Airways		
		706	INB Medical	525	SkyOne Federal Credit Union		

Take part in the 2018 WAI Silent Auction!

The proceeds from the Silent Auction go to the WAI Endowment Fund, which provides scholarships to deserving WAI members and also supports a number of education projects.

1. Register Pay \$1 at the Silent Auction Table, Booth 501. You will be assigned an auction number.

2. Bid Print your auction number and the amount of your bid on the sheet next to any desired item on the Silent Auction Table.

3. Continue Bid throughout the day. You may bid as often as necessary, but must be within the minimum bid increments and time allocated.

4. Win! Bidding on items begins in the Exhibit Hall at 1 p.m. on Thursday, March 22. Bidding closes on some items at 4 p.m. on Friday, March 23. All other items close at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 24. *(Refer to the individual bid sheets for specific closing times.)*

5. Collect your treasures! If you have the winning bid on items that close Friday, you may pay for and retrieve your items at the Silent Auction Table after the bidding closes, or on Saturday. If you have the winning bid on items that close at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, they can be picked up from 1-3 p.m. at the Silent Auction Tables.

We accept Amex, Visa, MasterCard, checks, cash.

WAI Chapter Showcase

(located in the WAI Membership Booth in the Exhibit Hall)

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

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



CHRISTOPHER MILLER

Fast 40 Schedule

SATURDAY,
MARCH 24

11-11:40 a.m.

Virtual Chapter

Bettina Mrusek and Kristine Kiernan present the tools and tricks they have for running a successful virtual chapter with members from across the United States and several countries.

1:00-1:40 p.m.

Growing & Running a Chapter: Social Media Tools, Continuity Tool, Chapter Handbook and Annual Reporting

Chrissi Culver and others discuss what social media tools you should be using to grow your chapter, how to take full advantage of WAI's continuity tool and Chapter Handbook, and walks you through the requirements of annual reporting to keep your chapter running.

2:00-2:40 p.m.

WAI Mentorship Program

Learn about WAI's mentorship program and what you can gain from participating—either as a mentor or mentee.



Special Interest Group Meetings Saturday

AWAM Scholarship Breakfast *Sponsored by Pratt&Whitney*

SATURDAY, MARCH 24 • **7-9 a.m.**

Peppermill Tuscany Ballroom F

Women Military Aviators Annual Business Meeting

SATURDAY, MARCH 24 • **8-9 a.m.**

Convention Room D5

ALPA Coffee and Conversation

SATURDAY, MARCH 24 • **10:30-11 a.m.**

Convention Room D8

WCA Annual Membership Meeting & Luncheon

SATURDAY, MARCH 24 • **11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**

Convention Room A10

New! WAI Jobs Connect

Looking for Qualified Employees or Interns?

Jobs Connect is one of the many benefits of WAI Corporate membership. Corporate members can now post job and internship openings—at no charge—on the WAI website. Nearly 14,000 active WAI members may see your job and internship opportunities.

To post a job or internship, your company must be an active Corporate member. You can use WAI Corporate member login information to access WAI Jobs Connect and can post as many positions as you like for free! Each posting is active for 30 days and can be renewed.

Questions about your Corporate membership status? Contact Stephanie Gordon sgordon@wai.org • 937-839-4647

Become a Mentor

One of the greatest benefits of being a member of the WAI community is the mentoring relationships made by connecting with other members. If you, or a member of your company, would like to become a potential mentor for another WAI member log in at www.WAI.org to update your mentor profile. Under your name and member number you'll see the option to select Mentor. Check the Online Mentor box, fill in your details, and you're all set. Within 15 minutes the site will display your name as a willing mentor for the WAI community.

www.WAI.org/members/jobs-connect

Honoring the WASP



My love affair, if you could call it that, with the WASP was solidified at a WAI conference in 2009 in Atlanta. WASP Marion Stegeman Hodgson was the after-dinner speaker at that year's closing banquet. She was frail and was guided from her seat on the dais to the podium while everyone sort of held their breath. When she spoke, however, her voice was clear and strong.

She began, "You never know what an old lady has been up to." It was a moment I'll never forget and whether at a WAI conference or at Oshkosh, I was always thrilled to simply be in the presence of the WASP and always thought their beautiful faces just glow. At least, they do for me.

When I wrote an article about Cornelia Fort for *Aviation for Women*, I found a collection of her letters on line, and reading them transformed Cornelia for me from merely a historical figure to a living, breathing woman. Reading her letters made her real for me. And I think of that when I look at the always cool black and white photos of war-time WASP and think what tremendous

and often painful sacrifices these women made. And how many walls they knocked down!

And so, as Memorial Day approaches, what better use of our time than to honor the WASP who have passed by visiting and decorating their graves? WAI is currently searching for a master list of WASP graves and if you have any ideas or leads on this, please email Kelly Murphy at kmurphy@wai.org. But you can do some research of your own. Investigate your local cemeteries to see if there are any WASP laid to rest there.

Honoring the WASP is an activity that you can do as a WAI chapter or as an individual. We'll update you about this project in WAI's April Connect e-newsletter, but if you know of a WASP grave, bear in mind

As Memorial Day approaches, what better use of our time than to honor the WASP who have passed by visiting and decorating their graves.

that cemeteries, particularly military cemeteries, have rules and regulations about what can be left at a gravesite. To simplify the rules, you can't go wrong with real (not artificial) flowers in a plastic (not glass or metal) container. If you're not sure, or want to do something more, consult with the cemetery's management first.

What else should you do? That's up to you. You could simply have a moment of silence. Or sing a song, or thank the WASP



Jennifer Nelson and daughter got to meet WASP Millicent Peters and hold the Congressional Medal of Honor.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JENNIFER NELSON

aloud. We have an unofficial goal of honoring 100 WASP graves. To help us reach that goal, please photograph your "ceremony" and tweet it with #HonoringTheWASP. We'll retweet all of them to share in the memory.

And for our international members, we want to include you as well. You may not observe Memorial Day when we do here in the United States, but we welcome any similar activities for women military pioneers in your own countries.

Memorial Day is Monday, May 28th, but we'll be visiting and honoring the WASP all weekend so please find some time away from picnics and beach visits and cookouts to remember and honor women who have done so much for us.

I googled Marion Stegeman Hodgson and learned that she was laid to rest at Oconee Cemetery in Athens, Georgia. If any WAI members are near there, please do me a favor and go to the cemetery to honor and remember her.

—Patricia Luebke, WAI 1954, is a New York-based writer and columnist for *Aviation for Women*.

CHRISTOPHER MILLER



"We are focusing our efforts and energy on the pilot supply at United. We are exceptionally proud and happy to announce our career path programs that are now reaching down into the university level. We are looking to the future and how we can attract and support the aviation pilot supply need."

—Susan White, senior manager, pilot hiring programs, United Airlines



NGPA AT #WAI18

At the confluence of two minority aviation groups is a formidable flock of ladies—the women of the National Gay Pilots Association (NGPA) in booth 119. This group of female aviators shares a close bond. Their dual citizenship of sorts extends a chance for our society to embrace and behold the power of diversity and inclusion.

Both groups continue, through hard work and perseverance, to change the tone of aviation for a brighter, more inclusive future.

And can we talk about just how cool they are in their own right? Julie Tizard, former Air Force pilot turned airline diva, wrote a novel entitled *The Road to Wings*. Kit Warfield, seaplane pilot extraordinaire, had a starring role in Microsoft Flight Simulator. And there are many more incredible stories and personalities within this network of empowered women.

Jan Anderson, captain at American Airlines, was recently appointed to Vice President of the NGPA. When asked about the benefits of being in WAI and NGPA, she said, “I’m very excited to see diversity and inclusion expanding in both organizations and the possibilities for new members in each other’s groups is endless.”

NGPA board member Kathy Dulson has been a longtime WAI member. She said, “I actually learned about NGPA from attending an WAI conference! Visibility of NGPA at the WAI event is important for people to learn of our organization and our advocacy in aviation. Our attendance also allows us to spread the word of scholarship opportunities available through the NGPA.”

The NGPA reveres WAI as a mentor organization. Both groups continue, through hard work and perseverance, to change the tone of aviation for a brighter, more inclusive future.

—Robbie Barnhart, WAI 46389, is an airline pilot based in Seattle, Washington. He’s a proud member of WAI since 2010 and NGPA member since 2012.

NAA Presents Two Trophies to WAI Members

Stinson Trophy

The National Aeronautic Association (NAA) yesterday awarded Shaesta Waiz, WAI 45659 and founder of Dreams Soar, Inc., the 2017 Katherine and Marjorie Stinson Trophy. The Stinson Trophy was created in 1997 by NAA to honor the accomplishments of the two sisters who were among the first 11 American women to be certified as pilots. Shaesta is being recognized for “...utilizing her solo around the world flight to inspire and encourage girls and young women to pursue careers in aviation and STEM.”

Born in a refugee camp in Afghanistan in 1987, Shaesta and her family traveled to America to escape the Soviet-Afghan war. Shaesta grew up in Richmond, California, and attended school in an underprivileged school district. Her passion for aviation started during her first commercial airline flight from California to Florida at the age of 18. That experience proved to be life changing, as she fell in love with aviation. Shaesta became the first in her family to receive college and post-graduate degrees from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. She’s got a commercial pilot rating and was the first certified civilian female pilot from Afghanistan. Shaesta dreamed of inspiring girls to achieve their goals regardless of the challenges and traditions they face. She decided to become the youngest woman to circumnavigate the world, solo, in a single-engine airplane, hosting outreach events along her journey to engage, empower, inspire and motivate youth to explore STEM related fields and aviation education.

Shaesta founded Dreams Soar, Inc. in 2014. She assembled her “Dream Team,” comprised of college students and seasoned industry professionals. After years of planning, on May 13, 2017, she launched. Her journey took her to 22 countries, including Afghanistan, where she held 32 outreach events, inspiring more than 3,000 youth. Four and a half months after her trip began, she landed back at Daytona Beach on October 4, 2017.

Shaesta is speaking today at the General Session and at the Girls in Aviation lunch.



PAULA GRUBB

Wright Trophy

Major Chrystina Jones, WAI 45090, and a United States Air Force pilot, was awarded the 2017 Katharine Wright Trophy. The trophy was established in 1981 and is awarded annually to an individual who “...has contributed to the success of others, or made a personal contribution to the advancement of the art, sport, and science of aviation and space flight over an extended period of time.”

Chrystina is being recognized for “... her commitment to encouraging women across the globe to pursue and succeed in aviation careers.”

A U.S. Air Force Academy graduate, Chrystina completed pilot training and was qualified as a C-130 pilot. While deployed in Iraq, she was inspired to help the women of

Iraq by encouraging them to become leaders in the field she knew best—aviation. In 2010, Chrystina founded the WAI Horizon East Chapter. As the chapter grew and the concept of Iraqi women in aviation gained momentum, she partnered with the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad to host a reception to outline increasing opportunities for women in the field of aviation. Iraqi women traveled from across the country to attend this unprecedented event, where they learned how to make a career as a pilot, in air traffic control, or in airport management. The event was broadcast internationally, and the woman who attended became powerful role models for their communities.

At Yokota Air Base in Japan, Chrystina invited Caroline Kennedy, Ambassador to Japan, to speak at the Women’s History Month luncheon attended by 322 personnel. Chrystina also organized a bilateral women’s career fair for 550 American and Japanese students showcasing over 30 professional fields.

—Kelly Murphy, WAI 2397



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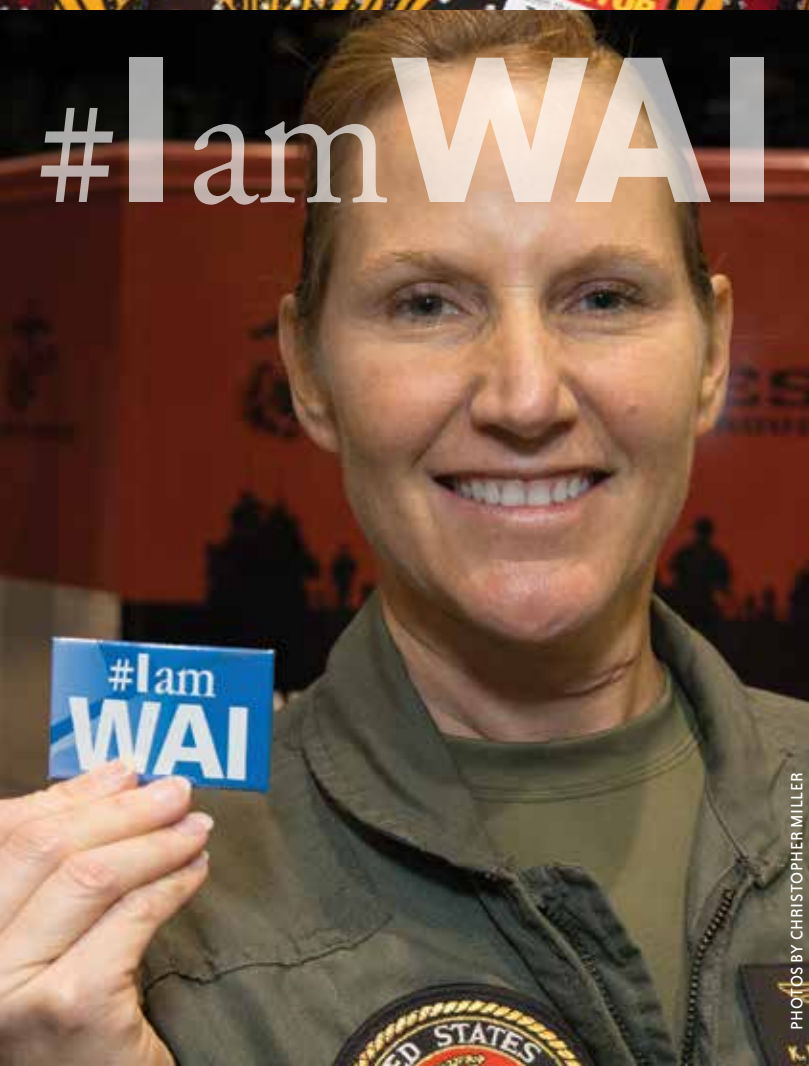
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We are pilots, mechanics, air traffic controllers, airport managers, aerospace engineers, flight attendants, astronauts, educators, enthusiasts, and members of the military. We are Women in Aviation International.


WOMEN *in* AVIATION[®]
INTERNATIONAL
JOIN US! WWW.WAI.ORG

PHOTOS BY CHRISTOPHER MILLER

Cheers to 30 years!

Join Women in Aviation International in Long Beach, California, next year as we mark three decades of coming together, mentoring, networking, and sharing the trademark positive energy found at our annual conference.

You don't want to miss the

- keynote speakers representing various segments of the industry— GA, commercial, aerospace and military;
- education sessions covering topics such as work/life balance, leadership, maintenance, military and more;
- professional development seminars and workshops teaching career skills for various segments of the industry;
- exhibit hall showcasing services and products from 170 companies;
- student and young professional events connecting mentees with mentors;
- chapter activities providing leadership skills, fundraising ideas, and social events;
- Pioneer Hall of Fame honoring trailblazers of our industry;
- Girls in Aviation Day Long Beach introducing girls, ages 8-17, to aviation career possibilities through hands-on activities, speakers, games and more.

Visit
www.wai.org/19conference
for more details.



There's no better place to be inspired, share your enthusiasm, and connect with others who share your passion for the aviation industry.

March 14-16, 2019
Long Beach Convention Center



PHOTO COURTESY LONG BEACH CVB

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