



WAI Connect

The Official eNewsletter of



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June 2020

Message from WAI

Women in Aviation International is proud to announce the appointment of [WAI CEO Allison McKay](#) to newly formed Women in Aviation Advisory Board. The 30 board members were appointed May 15, 2020, by [U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao](#) and will sit for approximately two years.

"I'm honored to represent the more than 16,000 active members of WAI in this important effort," Allison says. "WAI shares the objective of the Advisory Board, and has been actively encouraging more women and girls to consider careers in aviation for over 30 years. I look forward to interacting and engaging with the DOT, FAA, and board members to move the needle significantly in our shared pursuit."



WAI CEO Allison McKay

WAI Remembers the Pioneering WASP on Memorial Day Weekend

With social distancing in mind, WAI chapters creatively and safely visited the gravesites of more than 100 Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) in honor of Memorial Day 2020. Inducted into WAI's International Pioneer Hall of Fame in 1993, the WASP flew for the U.S. Army Airforce from September 1942 to December 1944 during World War II. Some 1,102 women wore the silver wings flying more than 70 million miles and delivering 12,650 aircraft across the country during their time of operation. Today there are 31 WASP still living.

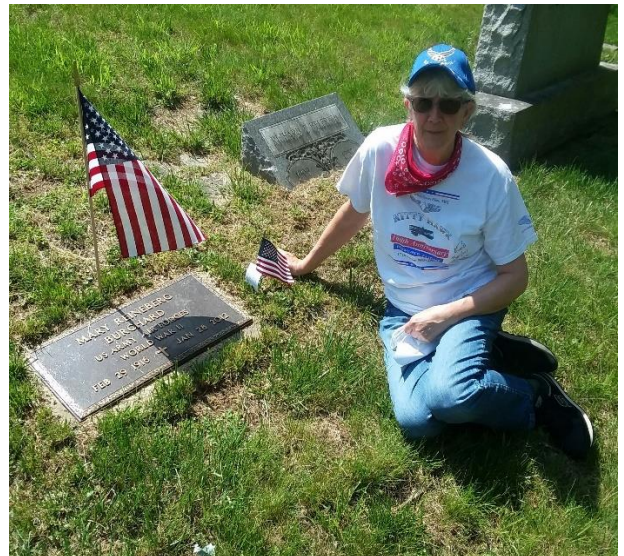
Thank you to WAI members and friends that provided updates for our [WASP database](#) to find their final resting places across the nation. WAI appreciates the continued partnership of [Texas Woman's University \(home of the WASP archives\)](#).

This year marks the third annual Honor The WASP event organized by Women in Aviation International. Learn more about this annual program [here](#).

See photos of the [2020 #HonorTheWASP event](#) on the [@WomeninAviationIntl Facebook page](#). Video tributes can also be viewed on [the WAI YouTube](#) by the [WAI Capital Region Chapter](#), [WAI CEO Allison McKay](#), [Kate Landdeck](#), author of [The Women with Silver Wings](#). Also view a special tribute for [the WASP buried at sea](#).



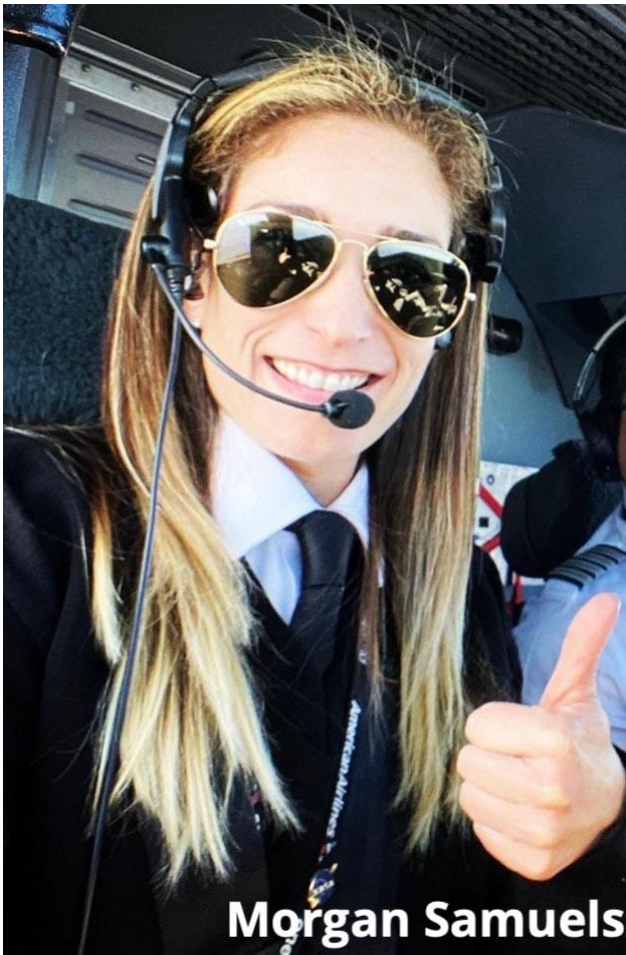
#WomeninAviation continued the annual tradition of placing an appropriate flower, flag, or wreath at WASP gravesites across the nation.



WASP Mary Reineberg Burchard (44-W-6) is remembered by WAI on Memorial Day 2020 at her final resting place at the Saint Mary-Saint Patrick Cemetery in York, Pennsylvania. We thank you for your service! #HonorTheWASP #WomeninAviation #MemorialDay2020

Sun 'n Fun Virtual Connect Lunch 2020

In lieu of the annual WAI Connect Lunch held at Sun 'n Fun each year, WAI held a [virtual Connect Event](#) on May 9, 2020, owing to the canceled #SNF20. Hundreds of WAI members joined our live event, sponsored by Piedmont Airlines, that included inspiring female leaders that provided great insight and advice from their own personal aviation journeys. View the recorded session [here](#).



Morgan Samuels



Laura Spolar



Lt Cmdr Danielle Varwig



Capt Kristin "Beo" Wolfe

Join a strong **community** of **pilots, builders, and dreamers.**



Chapter News

This month, chapter leadership are invited to join a live Connect event on *Keeping Chapter Membership Fresh and New Web Portal Tools* on **Monday, June 15 at 3 p.m. EDT**. If you are a chapter officer and need to be added to the Private WAI Chapter Leader Facebook Page contact Chelsea Wendell at cwendell@wai.org. You will have access to great information, discussions, event reminders, and more!

Are you looking for a way to connect with other WAI members locally? Your local chapter is there for you, even in these COVID times.

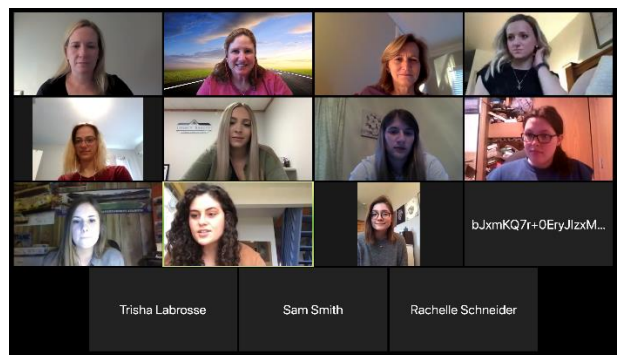
Many chapters all around the world are meeting virtually and have creative and fun activities on Zoom and other video chat services. They include virtual happy hours, yoga sessions, mental health sessions, Pictionary games, meet-and-greet with WAI CEO Allison McKay, book clubs, and more. [Find your local chapter here.](#)



Atlanta's Gone With the Wind Chapter



India Chapter



Oshkosh Chapter



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Your Fastest Path to Becoming a
Pilot Starts Now

Request Free Info

Thank you Airbus!

A special thank you to Airbus Commercial and Helicopter for offering eight scholarships to WAI members. Congratulations to the following members:

A320 Type Rating Scholarship

Airbus Training Center, Miami Springs, Florida

Jenna M. Montgomery, Oceanside, California
Courtney T. Robson, Raleigh, North Carolina
Margaret (Maggie) Gartill, Beaver, Pennsylvania

Airbus Helicopter Inadvertent IMC and Maintenance Courses Scholarships

Airbus Helicopters, Inc., Grand Prairie, Texas

Samantha D. Hansen, Hilo, Hawaii
Carrie Schwausch, Austin, Texas
Michael D. Erickson, Harker Heights, Texas
Leah R. Murphy, Prescott, Arizona
Stephanie Fulir, Hope Mills, North Carolina



Samantha Hansen is one of five WAI members who received a scholarship for Airbus Helicopters training at the Grand Prairie, Texas, facility.

Member Benefits

[WAI members](#) seek to inspire and stand for encouragement, continued education, and a whole lot of fun! We invite you to take advantage of exclusive discount programs, including many diverse benefits, available 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 Rental-A-Car:** special discount rates with promotion code
 - **Flying magazine subscription:** annual \$8.00 rate for new subscribers
 - **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 course
 - **MedJetAssist:** reduced annual and multi-year rates
 - **SmithAmundsen:** free 30-minute consultation on legal services
 - **Travelpro®:** exclusive 20% discount on all products
-

"You can't be what you can't see."

—Marian Wright Edelman

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