



WAI Connect

The Official eNewsletter of
Women in Aviation International



FOR MEMBERS

CHAPTERS

Aviation for Women MAGAZINE

January 2023
Message from WAI

Happy New Year from the WAI Team!



The WAI staff is grateful for the support of our more than 16,000 members around the world. We wish you a Happy New Year, and see you in the sky during 2023!

Give yourself some credit with
Wings membership.

Insured by NCUA. Membership with \$5 Share Savings required.

Join Today! >

Wings
FINANCIAL
CREDIT UNION

Register Early and Save by January 17 Deadline!

Early registration for WAI2023 ends January 17, 2023, midnight EST. Join thousands of WAI members and friends during our annual three-day gathering next month in Long Beach, California.

Learn more about [professional development seminars](#), [local tours](#), and [industry briefings](#). All will be held during the [34th Annual Women in Aviation International Conference, February 23-25, 2023, in Long Beach, California](#).

[Check here for more online registration information.](#)

[Room blocks](#) are almost filled. There are a variety of hotels at nearby locations to the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center. Take advantage of special conference pricing. Discounted rates will sell out. Visit WAI.org/2023-conference-hotels for details.



WAI2023



Visit Southern California February 23-25, 2023, to experience the [unique WAI2023 conference](#), and learn why our theme is *Connect. Engage. Inspire.*



34TH ANNUAL WOMEN IN AVIATION INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



MAYA GHAZAL



DR. MICHELLE
PARKER



SHERREXCIA
"REXY" ROLLE



COL. MERRYL
TENGEDSAL
USAF (RET.)



HUY KIM TRAN



DR. SUSAN YING

Be inspired by the stories of our WAI2023 keynote speakers! Maya Ghazal, Dr. Michelle Parker, Sherrexcia "Rexy" Rolle, Col. Merryl Tengesdal, Huy Kim Tran, Dr. Susan Ying. [Click here](#) to learn more about each of this year's keynote speakers.



WAI To Launch Emerging Leaders Professional Development Program!

Through a partnership with Harvard University Division of Continuing Education, WAI is offering a new professional development program designed for women

program, May 3-4, 2023, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, will be based on curriculum offered through Harvard's Women's Leadership Institute.

Rising female leaders in the aviation and aerospace industry are encouraged to apply to attend *Women in Leadership: A Program for Emerging Leaders*. This program is ideal for high-performing women who are WAI members with 5 to 10 years of experience and an interest to advance their careers in leadership roles. With generous funding from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, a maximum of 30 female WAI members will be selected to receive funding support including program fees, hotel, meals, and a stipend for airfare.



The Harvard University campus is in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Applications for this new Emerging Leaders Professional Development Program will be [available online](#) beginning January 13 and due by March 15, 2023. Attendees will be notified of their acceptance on April 1, 2023.

For more information email Stephanie Kenyon, WAI chief growth officer, at skenyon@wai.org.

Air Race Classic Registration Opens Today!

Registration for the 2023 Air Race Classic is now available at www.AirRaceClassic.org.

This year's route starts in Grand Forks, North Dakota, on June 20, with 8 different stops until the terminus in Homestead, Florida, at Miami Homestead General Aviation Airport on June 23.

2023 Air Race Classic

Registration Opens January 3, 2023

The [Air Race Classic](#) is the epicenter of women's air racing. Pilots range in age from 17 to 90 years old from a variety of backgrounds.

ATP Go Direct to the A320 & B737 At 1,500 Hours Request Free Info

Chapter News

We're all better together. Every month through 2023, the officers and leaders for all the WAI chapters across the network are

grow our chapters, as well as to serve our chapter members. Watch the Chapter Leader Facebook page, the WAI Connect newsletter, and the [WAI Chapter Resources page](#) for registration links monthly.

PLEASE REGISTER FOR THIS MONTH'S CHAPTER LEADERSHIP CONNECT!

January 20, 2023 - (1 p.m. EST)

Topic: California Dreamin': All Things Conference

[Register here.](#)

Thinking about starting a WAI Chapter? Have questions about WAI Chapters? [Email Jessi Rowden](#), WAI chapter relations manager!



Make the most of your conference experience by attending this month's Chapter Leadership Connect! Learn about all the events and sessions specifically for WAI chapters during our annual three-day gathering.

[Register](#) for this Friday, January 20 webinar [here.](#)



Want to Volunteer to Beta Test Mentor Connect 2023?

WAI will be completely revamping our Mentor Connect program in 2023, and we need your help! We're looking for volunteers across all the industry segments and throughout the world to help us prioritize features and functionality and iron out the wrinkles in the program as we develop it.

Are you interested in volunteering to be on the Mentor Connect 2023 Beta Test team? If so, please visit this link and join the team: <https://bit.ly/BetaTestMentorConnect2023>



RESERVE YOUR LIMITED EDITION WAI2023 CONFERENCE MERCHANDISE.

Shop for WAI 2023 Gear



Unisex sizes: XS – 3XL
\$22



Ladies sizes: S – 3XL
\$22



Unisex sizes: XS – 3XL
\$25



CamelBak
Tritan Water
Bottle
25 oz. \$25



Unisex sizes: XS – 3XL
\$40



Unisex sizes: XS – 2XL
\$38

Pick up on-site at the WAI Store in the main lobby of the Long Beach Convention Center starting 2/23/23.



www.WAI-store.org



White Ceramic Speck
Camper Mug
15 oz. \$12



Black Ceramic Cork
Bottom Mug
13 oz. \$12



One size fits all \$12

WAI WELCOMES NEW JUNIOR MEMBERS!

- Are you 18 years old or younger?
- Do you love aviation and STEM?
- Do you want to learn more about living your aviation passion?
- Are you interested in finding out more about scholarships in aviation?

We have a free WAI membership for you!

Join for free here and learn about all the resources and benefits at WAI.org/membership-information



Upcoming Events

The calendar of events is a source of information about industry/organization events. Events marked with * are WAI events that we sponsor, exhibit, or partner.

Interested in volunteering to help at events where WAI is participating? [Email Rorie Ainbinder, Chapter Relations Specialist](#), to sign up.

2023

***January 24-26** - Schedulers & Dispatchers Conference, Music City Center, Nashville, Tennessee, www.NBAA.org

February 9-12 - NGPA Winter Warm-Up, Renaissance Palm Springs Hotel, Palm Springs, California, www.NGPA.org

***February 23-25** - 34th Annual Women in Aviation International Conference, Long Beach, California, www.WAI.org/2023-conference

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
- **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

"Authenticity is the daily practice of letting go of who we think we're supposed to be and embracing who we are."

-Brené Brown



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[\[https://www.wai.org/member-compass#profile\]](https://www.wai.org/member-compass#profile)

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