**UPDATES**

**Room Changes**
Zumba has moved to Tuscany Ballroom 11/12 at the Peppermill, beginning at 7 a.m.

**Exhibitors**
- Booth 242  Las Vivid Inc.
- Booth 726 Hawaiian Airlines is now in Booth 726.

**Head Shot Studio is Open**
Check in at Room A17
Come get your head shot photo! There are openings for formal portraits in A17 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. today. The sessions are 15 minutes long. You know you need that professional picture. Take advantage of this terrific WAI benefit here at the conference for only a $10 fee.
Also open 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Saturday

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**WAI’s got a New Board Chair, an Anniversary, and more!**

The 2018 Women in Aviation International annual membership meeting was well attended, with a lot of first-time attendees and WAI chapter members in attendance. Dr. Peggy Chabrian, president of WAI, introduced the WAI team members to the attendees who responded with enthusiasm.

Chabrian noted a few new programs introduced this year at the conference, including WAI Mentor Connect and WAI Jobs Connect, along with the Super Mentor program. She also spoke about the Wings Society, a special group of WAI angels who generously donate to support the organization.

Molly Martin, WAI Outreach Director, invited everyone to participate in the expanded Girls in Aviation Day, which will take place Oct 13, 2018, at locations all over the world. WAI now has 117 chapters in 17 countries. Now that the WAI website is available in eight languages she’s hoping for even more chapter growth and Girls in Aviation Day outreach in the years ahead.

WAI board member Linda Markham told the members that the WAI endowment fund is healthy and has been invested well. Board member Lauren McFarland made an appeal for volunteers to help with the Girls in Aviation outreach.

Membership committee chair and WAI board member Abingdon Mullin told the group that yes, membership is down from last year, however, we know why. With the end of the Fast Pass job interview program there were members who chose not to renew. Her committee has been hard at work coming up with ideas for renewing the growth of the organization. She challenged the meeting attendees to each invite three women to join WAI. That alone would spur tremendous growth.

Finally, the WAI annual election votes were tallied and all five board members Abingdon Mullin, Deborah Hecker, Marci Veronie, Brian Bolt, and new board member Michaela Lucas were elected. Marci Veronie was appointed board chair for the coming year.

During the meeting, $14,500 in scholarships were awarded. This is just a portion of the 140 scholarships valued at more than $680,000 that are being awarded at the conference this week.

—Michelle Graves, WAI 45798
**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

**Share My Attitude of Gratitude**

At WAI, we have so much to be grateful for. First off, we are grateful to our members who have made the commitment to be here with us in Reno. We know it takes time and money, both of which can be in short supply at times, so we thank you for your presence. In turn, I am grateful to my staff who work year-round in earnest to make each conference the best ever. In meetings, they analyze every aspect, always trying to find a way to enhance the conference experience for our members.

Who else? We’re grateful for the speakers and presenters who share their wisdom, enthusiasm and expertise. And I’ve got to add a special thank you to our volunteer members who take time away from their own schedules to perform any number of useful tasks (not always glamorous) to keep the conference running on schedule.

And of course, we are so grateful to our sponsors who make the conference possible by eliminating many costs to keep conference fees reasonable. We have companies and organizations that have been sponsors for years, and some that are joining us for the first time. To all of them, I say “Thank you!” Please note who our sponsors are and be sure to support the companies who support WAI.

We have a jam-packed day ahead so make the most of it and take advantage of all that we have planned for you.

**Dr. Peggy Chabrian**  
WAI President and CEO

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**Hiring Briefings**

**FRI DAY, MARCH 23**

**Convention Room A1**
- 10-10:45 a.m. | Atlas Air
- 11-11:45 a.m. | JetBlue
- 2-2:45 p.m. | Delta
- 3-3:45 p.m. | Jeppesen
- 4-4:45 p.m. | Horizon

**Convention Room A2**
- 10-10:45 a.m. | Emirates
- 11-11:45 a.m. | UPS
- 2-2:45 p.m. | Alaska
- 3-3:45 p.m. | FedEx
- 4-4:45 p.m. | Aurora

**Convention Room A3**
- 11-11:45 a.m. | Southwest
- 2-2:45 p.m. | P&W/UTAS
- 3-3:45 p.m. | American
- 4-4:45 p.m. | United

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**Shuttle Bus**

**FRI DAY, MARCH 23**

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

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**WAI Website is Now Multi-Lingual**

Not a native English speaker? WAI’s website will now load in Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Russian, or Spanish.

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

*Kelly Murphy*, Editor-in-Chief  
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*Nancy Bink*, Art Director  
*Dr. Peggy Chabrian*, President

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A First-timer Learns about Leadership

I am a Stars of the North chapter member and this is my first international WAI conference, so I decided to check out the Chapter Leadership Workshop. This event was all about how you could learn to be a better leader. The principal speaker when I was there was Janette McMurtie PhD. She’s got tons of experience in aviation, and focused her speech on the different types of leaders out there, and how to work with different personalities. You see, the better you work with others, the better leader you can be. Dr. McMurtie also spoke about her experiences and how to balance the responsibilities of both leading and managing (they’re subtly different).

As a chapter member and a first-time conference attendee, I found the whole workshop fascinating. If you are involved in a chapter, I’d consider this a “must-attend” event, frankly. I came away with ideas for making my chapter work better. I now have great ideas for activities, fundraisers, and recruiting that are definitely good for Stars of the North.

—Keyahna Kurilla, WAI 70253, Brainerd, Minnesota

A Teacher Comes to Conference

I’ve brought high school students, four boys and four girls, who are either student pilots or student airplane builders to the #WAI18 conference because seeing is believing. I want them to take advantage of the many connections they can make here and the guidance of all the wonderful people they meet at the conference. The high schoolers are volunteering all over the conference, collecting reception tickets, writing for The Daily and more.

My connection to these young people is through my work as a high school teacher in Washington D.C. at the British International School of Washington. We teachers are always asking, “How should we inspire the next generation to consider aviation and aerospace as a career or passion?” We knew the solutions had to be realistic, and found our answer through creating a small nonprofit called DC Youth Aviation. Ian Piper, principal at the British International School of Washington, is very supportive and provided some funding. The goal was to raise $30,000 and we just made our target to complete rebuilding a 1953 Piper Pacer that was graciously donated from the Col. Mary Feik estate. Building this network took two years and a massive community effort to accomplish.

I hope more high schools can send students to the conference next year. We must pay it forward and our industry leaders should support ambitions to ensure we have enough future employees of pipeline talent.

—Melinda Benson, WAI 47286

Zahra: “I’m delighted to have been chosen to attend this conference. I’m really interested to find colleges and scholarship opportunities so I can continue to take flying lessons, as it is very expensive.”

Mackenzie: “I’m interested in becoming a drone aerial photographer and starting my own business.”
Meet us at the Emirates booth

Ready to take your ambition places? Come by the Emirates booth #539, to find out what it’s like to work for one of the world’s fastest-growing airlines, earning a tax-free salary with generous housing, education and medical benefits. All while calling sunny Dubai your new home.

Join us for a presentation in room A2 from 10:00-10:45 am.

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Calling All Duos

WAI Families Span Generations

There’s lots of unique and wonderful quotes about the special relationship between mothers and daughters. But one that’s really timeless is—Happiness is mother and daughter time. It’s hard to replace those feelings when you share experiences, thoughts, dreams, and challenges. While we know there are numerous mother-daughter duos at Reno this week (and probably mother-son and even larger family connections as well), here’s one story about Tracy Welch, WAI 687, and her daughter Abby Welch, WAI 29726.

For Tracy:

When did you start your flying career and what inspired you?

Last December I wrote an article for ISA+21 for a composites book to be published in 2018 to raise money for scholarships. The story is titled Timing is Everything and starts, “It was 1974...” It covers the start of my flying career and my inspirations. The short story is that my father was my inspiration as an airline pilot for Capital Airlines and then United Airlines. He liked his job, we got to travel, he had home time, no homework, and got paid. When he took me up in a small plane when I was 12 years old, I loved it! He said when I was 16 and could drive myself to the airport, I could take lessons. And I did.

What has been your greatest success and biggest challenge to date as a female commercial airline pilot?

My grandmother wanted to fly and went for an airplane ride in 1919, but was ahead of her time and could not pursue her dream. My timing was good. I got hired at American Airlines 10 years after the first female airline pilots were hired and am grateful the path was paved in order for me to pursue my career. There were still new barriers to break. I was the first woman to major in aviation at my college. At age 23, I was hired as a pilot for American Airlines and was their first female pilot to be based in Washington, D.C. In 1986 I was a flight engineer on the Boeing 727 and part of the first all-female crew for American Airlines. At 29, I was the youngest woman in the airline’s history to check out as captain and am slated to retire as the number one, most senior pilot of the whole airline when I retire. Because of my unique positions in the spotlight over the years, I feel like my greatest success and my biggest challenge has been setting a good example for female pilots who followed behind me.

What advice do you have for inspiring future aviators?

From your first discovery flight to becoming an airline pilot is a challenging yet rewarding experience. It requires self-motivation and there is a big learning curve at the start, not to mention all the acronyms you will need to learn. Keep a good attitude and work ethic, your success will come from within.

What do you enjoy from your WAI membership?

What I enjoy about my WAI membership is the comradery of being surrounded by strong women with a common interest.

Are you a mother/daughter duo here together?

Please come to The Daily press room at Convention Room A9 so you can help us tell the story of all the generations of WAI.
Have you brought your daughter before to conference? What do you enjoy about this annual gathering of WAI members?

When my daughter Abby was 13 we went together to the WAI conference in Orlando. The seminars at the conferences are inspirational for all ages. Orlando was a fabulous mother-daughter experience and going to Disney in the evening was an added bonus. It was 10 years after that initial conference that Abby got the “aviation bug” and started lessons. It has been such a thrill this past year to watch her earn her private certificate and progress in her flying. It was an honor to be her first passenger when she flew me to lunch as PIC. It is great fun to have a common interest and be able to speak the same “aviation” language.

For Abby:

Who has inspired you to pursue flying, and what are your future goals?

My mom has been my inspiration to pursue a career in aviation. Over the years I have witnessed her love for flying and the joy it has brought to her. Having never been in a small airplane before this past year (2017), I decided to take my first flight lesson. I caught the aviation bug quickly and hit the ground running. I received my private certificate in September and am actively pursuing my instrument rating. I am looking forward to the many opportunities being a pilot has to offer. I am determined to seek out all the opportunities available in the field of aviation to learn possible future career paths.

What has been your greatest success and biggest challenge to date as a female pilot?

My greatest success as a female pilot so far is having the chance to speak with other females who are embarking on their flying journey. I have quickly had the opportunity to speak with other young aspiring pilots and share my experience to date. Because the percentage of females in aviation is small, it has allowed me to form instant bonds between myself and individuals at all stages in their aviation journeys.

I attended my first WAI conference in 2007 when I was 13 years old. I was not yet interested in pursuing an aviation career but attended the conference with my mom as an opportunity to experience networking first hand. I remember being amazed by the number of strong women who all shared an overwhelming love for aviation. I had the opportunity to listen to a panel of WASP who were groundbreakers for the women, who are now able to fly in the United States military. This experience is yet another example of the inspiring and powerful opportunities the annual conference has to offer.

I am very excited to be here for the 2018 Reno conference! I look back and know my 13-year-old self would be proud that I am attending this conference as a strong woman who shares a love for aviation.

What has been your favorite experience since starting to fly?

Having the opportunity to share this special bond with my mom has been my favorite part of flying. She has acted as an invaluable resource as I pursue my training! I am able to have an even greater respect for her astonishing career now that I can grasp the effort and dedication she puts into her job on a daily basis. Flying to mother-daughter lunches on the weekend and getting to act PIC flying my mom around is truly a dream come true. I am so grateful to have her as an aviation mentor and loving mother.

—Compiled by Kelly Murphy, WAI 2397, Women in Aviation International Director of Communications
Exhibit Hall Hours

Friday, March 23
10:30 a.m.-noon (closed for luncheon)
1:30-5 p.m.

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

Friday, March 23
10:30 a.m.-noon (closed for luncheon)
1:30-5 p.m.

Saturday, March 24
10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Booth 745
FAA CAMI Hypoxia Training Enclosure

Exhibits • Hall 2
**Exhibitors**

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

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**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.
Fast 40 Schedule

FRIDAY, MARCH 23
2:00-2:40 p.m.
Starting a Chapter
Chrissi Culver and Molly Martin explain the benefits of starting a new chapter in your area and review the step-by-step process to start a chapter.

3:00-3:40 p.m.
Chapter Fundraisers
Lyndse Costabile discusses what chapters should be doing to gain corporate sponsorships, and Chrissi Culver will describe what chapters are doing to fundraise. Chapters are encouraged to come participate and let other chapters know what fundraisers work for their chapter and how to execute them.

4:00-4:40 p.m.
Collegiate Chapters
Tips for Students and Advisors
Chrissi Culver and others discuss what it takes to run a successful collegiate chapter—including challenges only collegiate chapters face—and how advisors can help students run a successful chapter.

WAI Chapter Showcase
(located in the WAI Membership Booth in the Exhibit Hall)
FRIDAY, MARCH 23
10:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m.
ERAU Worldwide
Great Salt Lake
2-4 p.m.
Greater Los Angeles Area
3-4 p.m.
ERAU Daytona Beach

Special Interest Meetings Friday

Boeing Networking Breakfast
FRIDAY, MARCH 23
7-8:30 a.m. • Convention Room A10/A11
ERAU Alumni Hospitality Room
FRIDAY, MARCH 23
9 a.m.-5 p.m. • Convention Room A19
The Ninety-Nines PPLI Reception
FRIDAY, MARCH 23
5-6:30 p.m. • Convention Room A10/A11
JetBlue Schmoozing Event
FRIDAY, MARCH 23
6-8 p.m. • Peppermill Tuscany Ballroom 3/4
AWAM Members Social
FRIDAY, MARCH 23
6-10 p.m. • Peppermill Tuscany Ballroom F
Women Military Aviators Flight Suit Social
FRIDAY, MARCH 23
6-11 p.m. • Peppermill (Visit WMA booth 616 for room)
Embry-Riddle Alumni Reception
FRIDAY, MARCH 23
6:30-8 p.m. • Peppermill Tuscany Ballroom 1/2
UND Aerospace Alumni & Industry Reception
FRIDAY, MARCH 23
6:30-8 p.m. • Peppermill Tuscany Ballroom 6
ISA+21 Social
FRIDAY, MARCH 23
7-10 p.m. • Peppermill Tuscany Ballroom 9/10

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Women in Aviation International’s newest Supersonic Corporate member Aviation Relocation International is here for the 29th Annual Women in Aviation Conference with a unique product geared toward those relocating to a new base. Aviation Relocation International (ARI), is a relocation service company especially for aviation professionals and their families. With a wide range of services including finding you a realtor and recommending reputable movers, ARI provides a single source of contact for moving across the country or across the world.

“We’re a free service, we provide relocation services,” said owner Tracy DuCharme. “When a pilot or flight attendant wants to move, we give the price comparisons, school information, neighborhood information...the information that they need so they’re able to make educated decisions on what bases to move to.”

Tracy, a realtor, founded ARI after helping several friends in the aviation community make connections needed to move to different bases. “While they’re focusing on their jobs and what they need to do to get ahead in their career, we’re a resource for them to make sure they’re getting the best thing they can in their personal life as well,” she said.

She has agents strategically placed in locations that cater towards aviation and if she doesn’t have a contact in a specific location, she will network within her niche network of realtors to find an agent that is right for the job.

Tracy is eager to meet with recruiters and WAI members and spread the word about the services ARI can offer aviation professionals. “For women, it’s a home and they care,” said Tracy. “We can help them find this little piece of heaven where their heart is going to be: their home.”

—Chrissi Culver, WAI 49942, WAI Chapter Relations Specialist

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Chapters Choose Their Honoree

Women in Aviation International congratulates Dawne Barrett for winning the Dorothy Hilbert Chapter Volunteer of the Year award! She was named this year’s recipient of the prestigious award at the WAI Chapter Reception, sponsored by AOPA, Wednesday evening in Reno at #WAI18. Dawne has been an integral part of the WAI Stars of the North chapter since it was re-started in late 2012, immediately stepping in to act as treasurer, a role she continued in through 2015. In 2016, Dawne volunteered to be the chapter’s president and excelled in that role until the end of 2017. She was instrumental in furthering the chapter’s growth and organized two Girls in Aviation Day events that hosted 1,200 attendees in 2016 and more than 1,600 attendees in 2017. We can’t imagine anyone more deserving of recognition!

—Kelly Murphy, WAI 2397

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EDUCATION SESSIONS

**Friday, March 23**

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<td>1:45-2:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Prepping Your Aircraft for the ARC</td>
<td>Personal Wingman Panel</td>
<td>Dialects of Aviation</td>
<td>Women in Combat</td>
<td>Working Remotely: Drones</td>
<td>The FAA’s Drug &amp; Alcohol Testing</td>
<td>Thriving With Millennial Generation</td>
<td>Thunderstorm Hazards</td>
<td>Spaceports Gateway to the Stars</td>
<td>Dissecting the Big Jets</td>
<td>Yoga in the Cockpit</td>
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<td>3-4 p.m.</td>
<td>Military to Civilian in Maintenance</td>
<td>What Do You Want to Ask ATC?</td>
<td>Six WAFS Up Close and Personal</td>
<td>Airline Pilot Panel</td>
<td>Digital Transformation in Aviation</td>
<td>Onboard Cabin Connectivity</td>
<td>ADS-B Mandate</td>
<td>Aviation Weather Center</td>
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<td>Other Side: FBO Operations</td>
<td>Emergency! Getting It Right</td>
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Saturday, March 24

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<td>1:45-2:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Corporate Aviation Career Panel</td>
<td>Flying While Pregnant</td>
<td>The Impostor Phenomenon</td>
<td>Landing Your Dream Job</td>
<td>Soviet Night Witches of WWII</td>
<td>Perspec-tive vs Perception</td>
<td>Air Force Wings</td>
<td>Check-ride-its: Overcome Fear</td>
<td>Clouds Tell a Story</td>
<td>Just a Private Pilot</td>
<td>Airline Marriage</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-4 p.m.</td>
<td>What’s It Like to Be a Mechanic</td>
<td>From Military to Commercial</td>
<td>Inspire Winning Teams</td>
<td>Learning to Lead</td>
<td>Defrag Your Brain</td>
<td>Alaska: Flying the Last Frontier</td>
<td>Aviation Marriage</td>
<td>Leadership Lessons in FBO Management</td>
<td>Exhibits</td>
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<td>Just a Private Pilot</td>
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CONNECT > ENGAGE > INSPIRE

Friday, March 23
Reno-Sparks Convention Center

General Session
9-10:30 a.m. • Hall 4

How to Start A WAI Chapter
10:45-11:45 a.m. • Room D7

Luncheon
Noon-1:30 p.m. • Hall 4 (ticket required)

Young Professionals Reception
5:30-7 p.m. • Room D8 (ticket required)

Tap Into the Drone Market
7-8:30 p.m. • Room C4 (Open to the public)

WAI 2018 Registration
Convention Center Lobby

**FRIDAY, MARCH 23**
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
(Closed during luncheon)

**SATURDAY, MARCH 24**
8 a.m.-1 p.m.

Exhibits
Convention Center Hall 2

**FRIDAY, MARCH 23**
10:30 a.m.-noon
(Closed during luncheon)

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

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

Volunteer Sign Up/Check-in
Information • Lost and Found
Convention Center Lobby

**FRIDAY, MARCH 23**
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Hiring Briefings
Rooms A1, A2, A3

**SATURDAY, MARCH 24**
11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Developing Your Professionalism

“If you get phone numbers this weekend through networking, please do something with them,” said Amy Noland. “Following up within 48 hours with a new connection only takes three minutes.” Amy, along with Tracy Cotton and Julie Spencer, spoke to a room full of conference attendees on Thursday morning in a session titled “Foundations of Accomplishment,” sponsored by XOJET. Their topics covered practicing vulnerability, curiosity, and engagement in the work environment. Toward the end of the session, the room of professionals became engaged in an activity that taught vulnerability. “To be curious and vulnerable, you need to be courageous. To be courageous, you need to be braver in your thoughts and actions on a daily basis,” said Tracy.

—J. Clare Maloney, WAI 57610

DID YOU MINGLE?

Current and former board members met with WAI members in an intimate setting Thursday afternoon to discuss what to expect in the coming year. Immediately upon entering the room, the board shook hands and helped members understand what their dues go toward and how to strengthen their membership engagement. Membership committee chair Abingdon Mullin spoke about how members themselves can recruit others to join WAI. Among the attendees was the newest chair of the WAI board, Marci Veronie, Vice President of Sales and Marketing with Avemco Insurance Company. Marci was re-elected to the board and named chair on Thursday. She’s looking forward to engaging more with the membership this year.

—J. Clare Maloney, WAI 57610
All Hands on Deck!

With a focus on addressing workforce shortages, Aviation STEM programs are working together to meet the needs of the future. In the next 10 years, the industry will need over 1 million pilots and mechanics...at least. With commercial transportation doubling by 2025, the advancement of unmanned aerial systems, and the untapped field of commercial space, the pipeline for jobs is growing faster than the availability of skilled workers.

The Aerospace Educators Workshop focused on providing information to educators on programs and curriculum, most of which are free, available to K-12 schools to introduce, inspire, and educate students in the field of aviation. Understanding the field of aviation for students helps them understand why “what” they learn in school is used and important in the real world. “Suddenly, rate x time = distance means something different to students when they have to fly 30 miles but have 20 miles worth of fuel,” Jim Brough, National Program Manager for FAA STEM Program, states. “In a hands-on experience exercise listening to airport live communications, we can teach listening skills to students.”

“As a first grade teacher then principal in Montgomery, Alabama, I introduced aviation into the school in 1986 and took us to number 2 in the state for education,” Susan Mallett, CAP/Aerospace/STEM Education Programs Coordinator. Air Force-sponsored programs such as Civil Air Patrol (CAP) and Aerospace Education introduce students to the field of aviation. Through a $35 annual membership, Aerospace Education provides access to STEM kits by grade level plus 15 STEM kits on a variety of topics from astronomy to quadcopters to rocketry. These kits are free to keep! Visit gocivilairpatrol.com/ae to find them.

AOPA’s Aviation STEM Curriculum’s new four-year program follows three pathways: pilot, aerospace engineering, and drones. For students in grade 9-12, AOPA provides these programs for free to high schools and they include an industry credential in each pathway. In 2018, AOPA field tested the 9th grade program and is currently developing the 10th grade level classes to be available for the beginning of the school year in the fall of 2018. Visit AOPA booth 412 for more information.

Want a simulation for your school? Redbird offers curriculum and lesson plans, free with purchase of a simulator. Through the Redbird website, schools can apply for grants to cover the cost of simulators.

Regional outreach programs, grants, and national AVSED activities around career awareness and classroom assistance are just a few of the programs made available by the FAA. With 60 national partners and over 100 informal partners, the FAA is working hard to provide scholarships, hands-on experience, and education to introduce students into the fascinating field of aviation and assist the industry with filling necessary positions in the future. Visit: www.FAA.gov/education.

—Mary Woolf, WAI 45799
The debut of Minute Mentoring®
Thursday’s Minute Mentoring at #WAI18 was a fast paced program for women leaders and rising stars. Co-founder Dana Perino explained, “The idea for Minute Mentoring was spurred by the laws of supply and demand. Many young women are hungry for mentoring and many women mentors want to share their experiences, but are crunched for time, so, Minute Mentoring makes those connections happen...in just minutes.”

WAI mentees joined mentors at round tables and migrated from table to table at set intervals. Mentors introduced themselves and then asked each mentee for their story. Mentee backgrounds ranged from high school seniors starting out and seeking advice to women with established careers considering a career change or how to combine their knowledge and experience with their interests in aviation. The experiences shared by all were enlightening, encouraging, and motivating! One major thing that was apparent was that there is no “one way” to be involved in aviation. Each path is unique. Every experience leads to a person using their skills and passion to make an impact as only they can do.

“Passion” was a term heard over and over. Mentor Capt. Sandy Anderson stressed finding your passion. Jane Shelton, another mentor declared, “Find your passion and figure out how to use it.” And Lucia Mencia recommended, for those just starting flight lessons, to find a flight instructor with a passion for their own flying so they will motivate you past plateaus in your training.

With so many paths to aviation and so many opportunities within the aviation field, having the chance to speak with these mentors and hearing their stories and advice was at once calming (yes, there is a way to do this) to invigorating (there are so many amazing opportunities)! The message was loud and clear to all who have an interest in aviation: pursue that interest and find the way you can make a difference.

—Michelle Graves, WAI 45798

Why attend Minute Mentoring next year?
One of the main reasons I choose to attend the Women in Aviation conference every year is to see “my people.” These are the women I met over the past eleven years through WAI who have made a positive impact on my life. They’re always a phone call away for encouragement, tips, and direction. Once a year, we reunite at our favorite conference and feed off each other’s enthusiasm. Each year, I get to add to my support team. Thursday morning I acted as a mentor for Minute Mentoring and got to meet dozens of women I hope to help and inspire. It’s the perfect place to get comfortable talking to complete strangers and figure out which type of mentor you need in your life. The aviation industry can be a challenge, but connecting with women who can relate and have succeeded has been my ticket to navigating this career. Keep an eye out for potential mentors this conference and consider attending Minute Mentoring next year.

—Leah Hetzel, WAI 39362

WAI Jobs Connect is up and running!
Have you logged onto the Members Only section recently? If you are job-hunting, searching for a summer internship in aviation or just contemplating your future you owe it to yourself to check out the new WAI Jobs Connect page (https://www.wai.org/members/jobs-connect). There are 24 and counting opportunities posted from WAI corporate members looking for a few good WAI members to join their teams around the world.

If you are a corporate member and thinking of hiring or offering an internship, this posting service is free to you. Log on and reach out to some of the best job candidates in the business!
SOAR WITH US!

QUALITY OF LIFE MILES ABOVE THE COMPETITION!

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