The Daily
S P O N S O R E D  B Y  A L A S K A  A I R L I N E S

The 28th Annual International Women in Aviation Conference
Saturday March 4 2017

WAI: MEET YOUR FUTURE

It’s Girls in Aviation Day Orlando at #WAI17

Today we welcome more than 200 girls from ages 8 to 17 to the Girls in Aviation Day Orlando—a fun and engaging program that is so well-regarded we are full to capacity! We have local Girl Scouts attending who will earn their Aviation fun patch, and we would like to thank the Orange County Parks and Recreation department for conducting outreach in the local area to make the day a huge success. This program will present ideas beyond these girls’ wildest dreams.

At Girls in Aviation Day Orlando, WAI engages students by facilitating state-of-the-art aviation workshops and activities. Here at the conference our young ladies will be connected with role models who will share their aviation careers through presentations, hands-on STEM learning opportunities such as flying a simulator, learning to read charts, and trying out skills at an ATC tower, learn about robotics and unmanned vehicles plus learn to use tools that aircraft mechanics need in their careers.

Girls will tour the exhibit hall where they will connect and engage with WAI members from all aspects of the aviation community. Older girls will meet with aerospace and aviation college representatives who will provide guidance on mapping their future to be career ready. As an extra special treat, the girls will be blown away by having lunch with Patty Wagstaff. She is a six-time member of the U.S. Unlimited Aerobatic Team. Patty is the first woman to win the title of U.S. National Aerobatic Champion, one of the few people to win it three times.

We urge all our members to connect, engage, and inspire Girls in Aviation Day participants. Welcome them to our community and show them how a career in aviation is a terrific choice for them.

—Melinda Benson Viteri, WAI 95734, is a teacher at the British International School based in Washington D.C. and Co-Director of D.C. Youth Aviation Build a Plane Inc.

Help share the excitement of attending a Women in Aviation Conference by using the hashtag #WAI17 and #IamWAi on social media.
ON THE SCHEDULE FOR SATURDAY

Chase Your Dreams
Fun Run/Walk
CORONADO SPRINGS
RUNNING TRAIL
7:30-8:30 a.m.
Pre-register

Saturday General Session
9-10:30 a.m.
Catherine “Cathé” Fish
Dr. Yvonne Cagle

Girls in Aviation Day
Orlando
Patty Wagstaff
VERACRUZ C
9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pre-register

Exhibit Hall open
VERACRUZ EXHIBIT HALL
10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Explore the
Excitement of Flying!
CORONADO H
10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Lunch On Your Own

Meet and Mingle
With the WAI Board
FIESTA 5
11-11:45 a.m.

Pioneer Hall of Fame
Ceremony and Banquet
CORONADO H
7-9:30 p.m.
Ticket required.

P R E S I D E N T ’ S  M E S S A G E

What a difference a day makes!

In the last 48 hours I’ve met so many new members, renewed old friendships and re-connected with colleagues...heard stories that amaze me, and make me proud to be a woman in aviation. The International Women in Aviation Conference was conceived for just that reason. I hope that you are finding the general sessions, education sessions, and all of the face-to-face networking as inspiring and energizing as I am.

This year Saturday is about the future. I hope you take time to stop by our Girls in Aviation Day program and see how we are reaching out to young girls through exciting hands-on activities. Please welcome the girls in the exhibit hall this afternoon as they go scavenger hunting!

We are also welcoming people from the local community today who are here to learn more about general aviation and flying from industry experts John and Martha King and a group of certified flight instructors. If you have a question for the Kings or just want to spend some time learning more about flying come to Coronado H from 10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

We’ve been steadily awarding scholarships over the past two days, and we aren’t done yet! Be sure to come to the banquet tonight and help us celebrate our pioneers and honor a few more deserving scholarship winners. Be sure to thank our sponsors. Without them, our conference experience would not be as expansive and enhanced.

Honoring the Pioneer Hall of Fame Inductees

Join us tonight to honor the 2017 inductees of the Pioneer Hall of Fame Ceremony and Banquet, sponsored by Air Wisconsin, Airbus, Alaska Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Endeavor Air, Horizon Air, JetBlue Airways, Sun Country Airlines, in the Coronado Ballroom at 7:00 p.m.

Honoraries include The First Class of Women Naval Aviators: Judith Neuffer (Brunner); Barbara Allen (Rainey) (deceased); Jane Skiles (O’Dea); Ana Maria Scott, Joellen Drag (Oslund), and Rosemary Merims (Mariner). These six pioneers clearly demonstrated that women had the physical and mental capacity not just to fly naval aircraft, but also perform all military missions. Their success set an example for the U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force, and U.S. Coast Guard to emulate.

Elizabeth “Betty” Everts Green (deceased) is recognized as a trailblazer in humanitarian and missionary flying. Seeing a need to reach remote places to improve the lives of people, Betty helped found the Missionary Aviation Fellowship (MAF).

Lt. General Stayce Harris, the highest-ranking African-American woman military pilot in all the United States armed forces, will also be inducted. Stayce has been an inspirational leader and mentor to young people everywhere for more than 30 years. Her unmatched leadership ability was recognized, and she became the first female commander of the 22nd Air Force, a unit with 15,000 airmen flying 1,200 aircraft responsible for tactical airlift, pilot training, weather observation, and flight test operations. Today, Stayce is the vice chief of staff and director, Air Staff, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.

CAF Rise Above

Find out how each of us can inspire, teach, and mentor the next generation of women in aviation. The WASP legacy was important in laying the foundation for future pilots and the mechanics of mentorship. This afternoon’s panel discussion “CAF Rise Above: WASP: Honoring the Past, Inspiring the Future,” will be led by Captain Sandy Anderson, Heather Penney, and Tracy Toth, in Durango starting at 1:45 p.m.

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

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Dr. Peggy Chabrian, President

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Vernice “FlyGirl” Armour Ignites WAI

Running from the rear of the Coronado Ballroom Friday morning, Vernice “FlyGirl” Armour high-fived her way down the center aisle to deliver an explosive keynote address. Donning a desert-tan flight suit and brown leather jacket with “Tuskegee Airmen” blazed across the back, Vernice planted seeds for success, starting with a five-step flight plan.

Vernice was the Marine Corps’ first African-American aviatrix and speaks more than 50 times a year. Her talk, entitled “Excelerated Leadership,” mixed humor while emphasizing self-determination for one’s own future and success. She said everyone faces challenges, but stressed the need to “acknowledge the obstacles, DON’T give them power.”

Beginning with a military aviator social at the 2006 WAI conference in Nashville, Vernice recalled how she started to ask herself, “What do you REALLY want?” She encouraged listeners to do the same, identifying “Where are you?” and “Where do you want to be?” Vernice cautioned against over-reliance on figuring out the “how,” as that can paralyze some.

Vernice calls herself “a recovering combat pilot and unemployed comedian,” delivering jokes with impeccable timing. She entertained and inspired listeners to figure out what they wanted, then give themselves “permission to engage,” rather than waiting for external direction. Vernice said to walk one’s purpose on the planet, “you can’t just stand up…you’ve got to take action.”

As she told her own story from combat aviator to professional speaker, Vernice began removing her flight suit, revealing a white blouse and black slacks, a visual metaphor for her career transformation.

She closed by thanking WAI President Dr. Peggy Chabrian for the opportunity to speak this year; the energized attendees thanked Vernice with a rousing standing ovation.

Read more of Vernice’s story and success tools in her book Zero to Breakthrough.

—Monica Smith, WAI 5470, is a retired Air Force pilot and former math teacher with a longtime passion for writing; she specializes in lesser known aviation pioneers.
As I walk up to the Durango conference room, my friend exclaims, “This will be SO FUN!” She’s talking about a workout with the Marines. I smile sheepishly, and stare straight ahead at the eight Marines with pleasant smiles. I’m immediately suspicious. My muscles tense as I walk over to the check-in table where we must sign Marine Corps logo-emblazoned waivers. “I bet you they will start with jogging in place,” I said. (Sure enough...) At least we were not alone; over 20 WAI members attended the class with us.

After introductions, we started with a Tabata workout. My first thought was, “Isn’t that a type of sushi?” Tabata is a form of High Intensity Interval Training (HIIT), and it is designed specifically to keep heart rates elevated with short rest periods. The workout involved repeated sets of three to four exercises, involving various types of squats, crunches, and push-ups. The Marines kindly offered modified exercise positions. Destry, my class companion, usually completes crossfit workouts and was perfectly prepared. I, however, was not. My preferred workout involves a lot of dancing and booty-shaking: Zumba. My inability to stop movements in a timely fashion cost me and my classmates five extra push-ups, twice. (I’m sorry, ladies and gents. You’ll thank me later.)

In short, it was an inspiring class and I walked away with exercises I will be able to accomplish in my hotel room on my airline layovers. It was an excellent way to kick off Day 2 of our beloved conference. Many thanks to the Marines for your encouragement and teamwork! I’d happily work out with you again anytime. SEMPER FI! OORAH!

—Gabrielle Palmas, WAI 19787, is president of the Phoenix Valley of the Sun Chapter and currently is an American Airlines flight attendant, trainer and pilot.
Exhibit Hall Hours

S A T U R D A Y , M A R C H 4
10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Silent Auction
Support WAI scholarships and educational programs!
Pick up a bid number for $1 from the silent auction table to bid on any item.

(Auction is only open during exhibit hall hours)

VERACRUZ EXHIBIT HALL
BOOTH 101
S A T U R D A Y , M A R C H 4
10:30 a.m-12:30 p.m.

Education Session Change:
The education session Advanced ATC, scheduled for Saturday at 3-4 p.m. in Fiesta 8, has been canceled.

THANK YOU!
The Daily thanks all our talented volunteer writers and photographers who worked so hard to make The Daily a success.
Have News for The Daily?

If you’re an exhibitor, speaker, or represent a group that has appropriate news for us, come tell us about it in the WAI Press Room, located directly across from the Fiesta Ballroom in YUCATAN 3. If you have a press kit, please bring one to us and supply additional copies for other media covering the conference. There are two more issues of The Daily: Friday (deadline noon on Thursday) and Saturday (deadline noon on Friday).

Press Room Hours

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1
2-4 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2
8 a.m.–5 p.m.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3
8 a.m.–5 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4
8 a.m.–noon

115 Purdue University
123 Regional Airline Association (RAA)
837 Reno Tahoe USA
716 Republic Airways Holdings
414 Saint Louis University Aviation Science
706 Signature Flight Support Corp.
807 Silver Airways
318 SkyOne Federal Credit Union
702 SkyWest Airlines
317 Southern Illinois University
511 Southwest Airlines
628 Spirit Airlines
736 Sun Country Airlines
536 Sun ’n Fun Fly-In Inc.
427 Texas Woman’s University
622 Textron Aviation
817 The Ohio State University
218 Thomas Edison State University
110 Trade-A-Plane
226 Trans States Airlines
538 Transportation Security Administration (TSA/D)
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WAI Chapter Showcase
(located in the WAI Membership Booth in the Exhibit Hall)

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Bluegrass Chapter

12:30-1:30 p.m.
Bluegrass Chapter

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Open to all conference attendees

Meet and Mingle With the WAI Board

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

11-11:45 a.m. • FIESTA 5

Want to learn about becoming a future member of the board and helping to create the future of WAI? Please take this opportunity to meet the Women in Aviation International Board of Directors up close and personal. Stop by to learn more about our candidate process; we hope to see you there.

Don’t miss an exciting opportunity to exchange important aviation safety information

A Conversation on Safety Culture

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

3-4 p.m. • FIESTA 9

Greg Feith, former NTSB investigator and current NBC safety analyst; Wally Funk, NTSB’s first female air safety investigator and the first FAA inspector; and Duane Futch, former head of Walmart Corporation flight and travel operations; will bring their decades of combined aviation safety experiences to discuss topics such as cockpit resource management, compliance and governance, as well as other safety efforts facing the industry today.

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Bluegrass Chapter

12:30-1:30 p.m.
Bluegrass Chapter

Special Interest Group Meetings 2017

Please note that these events are by invitation or open only to current members of a particular group. When in doubt, check with a representative of that group or company.

AWAM Scholarship Breakfast
Sponsored by Pratt & Whitney

SATURDAY MARCH 4
7-9 a.m. • MONTERREY 1

WCA Annual Membership Meeting & Networking

SATURDAY MARCH 4
11 a.m.-1:45 p.m. • CORONADO 5

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Scholarships not presented at the Conference

Ace Aerobatic School Spin Training
Aero Femme
Aerosim Training ATP CTP Scholarship
Airbus Manufacturing Grant (New 2017)
Airline Ground Schools, Inc./Flamingo Air
American Airlines Veterans Initiative Scholarship
Anne Bridge Baddour Aviation Scholarship
ATP General Aviation Maintenance Scholarship
Beyond and Above
Corporate Flight Attendant Training
Blackburn Northwest Flight Scholarships

Bonita Jean Olson Memorial Scholarship (New 2017)
Bunny M. Connors Memorial Scholarship
CAE ATP/CTP Course (New 2017)
Dare to Dream Scholarship
Diane Endres Ballweg Scholarships

HAI Helicopter Maintenance Scholarship
HAI Initial Helicopter Scholarship
Jeppesen Flight Training Scholarship
R-W Foundation
Signature Flight Support Corporation Scholarship
Ted Mallory Memorial Scholarship
Tools for Aircraft Maintenance TAM
Universal Weather & Aviation
FAA-certified Dispatcher Training
WAI Management Award
WAI Mile High Chapter Empowerment Scholarship
WAI Wright Chapter, Elisha Hall Memorial Scholarship
WAI Sponsor Award
WAI WA Chapter, Janet Clark Memorial Scholarship
Wings Over 35
Women in Corporate Aviation
Women Military Aviators–Dream of Flight

Rachel Pityk, Media, Pennsylvania
Genevieve Lim, Seattle, Washington
Carolina Kazmierczak, Weston, Florida
Andrea M. Crumb-Wilson, Eight Mile, Alabama
Christina Karpinski, Kanarraville, Utah
Wilder Guerra, Chula Vista, California
Mary Earickson, Fort Collins, Colorado
Audrey Rabe, Newbury, Ohio
Karen Ferguson, Phoenix, Arizona
Danielle Maniere, Missoula, Montana
Hanna Oberst, Aurora, Colorado
Rebecca Voltin, Lyons, Oregon
Samantha Challburg, Bend, Oregon
Vicktoria McSmith, Seattle, Washington
Mikelle Feik, Logan, Utah
Kaitlin J. Logan, Utah
Helena Lind, New York, New York
Leah M. Thomas, Phoenix, Arizona
Christy McDonough, Scituate, Massachusetts
Amy R. Hartt, Mead, Washington
Stacy Williamson, Bristol, Connecticut
Jenna Lohneis, Los Angeles, California
Emily Ha, Colleyville, Texas
Erika Blackwell, Trinidad, California
Cleta Elefritz, Kenai, Alaska
Coryn E. Porter, Daytona Beach, Florida
Laura B. Caldwell, Mapleton, Minnesota
Jennifer Webster, Niwot, Colorado
Maelyn O’Connor, Delray Beach, Florida
Gisela Michelle Lagos, San Diego, California
Alexa Raye Dunn, Yelm, Washington
Jennie Hess, Playa Del Rey, California
Sarah Gault, Newark, Delaware
Amber J. Channel, Thornton, Colorado
Alexis Quintana, Denver, Colorado
Chelsea Atwater, Flagstaff, Arizona
Alison Martin, Albuquerque, New Mexico
Elizabeth Resh, Fayetteville, Arkansas
Jennifer Hampson, Santa Rosa, California
Kathleen Imanishi, Seattle, Washington
Denise Huntzinger, Mississauga, Ontario
Keeley Speck, Shreveport, Louisiana

“Look in the mirror and be honest about the current state. Don’t accept mediocrity. Inspire your team towards excellence. Work together, learn from diversity of thought, adapt and create the magic that is the future of flight.”

-Jenette Ramos, The Boeing Company, speaking at the Friday General Session

Next Year in Reno, Nevada

The 2018 International Women in Aviation Conference will be held at the Reno Convention Center. Add the dates to your calendar, March 22-24, 2018, and get ready to connect, engage, and inspire again next year.
Nine years ago the goal was to take a photo of what would be the world’s largest gathering of female pilots, and on August 1, 2008, approximately 800 women gathered in pink T-shirts during EAA AirVenture Oshkosh. The celebration of women in aviation at Oshkosh has steadily grown in the years since, and in 2017, women involved in all facets of the aviation community will gather for the tenth annual photo as part of EAA’s WomenVenture.

Activities and forums designed to empower women and enable them to pursue their dreams in aviation take place throughout the week, with key celebrations happening on Wednesday, July 26. WomenVenture gives women the opportunity to build camaraderie within the EAA community and become a part of a unique sisterhood in the aviation industry, opening doors to mentorship, knowledge, and participation.

Wednesday’s events kick off with the WAI Connect Breakfast followed by the annual photo on Boeing Plaza, and WomenVenture Power Lunch featuring change leadership speaker Dr. Janet Lapp. A pilot and flight instructor, Dr. Lapp has flown her airplane throughout South America and Africa on medical and rescue missions, and is a long-time member of the Flying Doctors of Mercy volunteering in central Mexico. Born and raised in Quebec, Canada, she has inspired more than 2,000 audiences around the world from Russia to Argentina to Hong Kong.

New this year, EAA will also host the first WomenVenture Social on Monday, July 24, where attendees can start the week off right by meeting and networking with like-minded women. On Tuesday, July 25, the Ninety-Nines will host a dinner event on the grounds.

EAA has also announced the WomenVenture Sport Pilot Academy Scholarship, to be awarded during Wednesday’s Power Lunch. The scholarship is open to women who are former Young Eagles participants and will cover tuition and onsite costs to attend the August 2017 EAA Sport Pilot Academy in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

There’s also unique programming during the week for girls interested in aviation with EAA’s Women Soar You Soar program. The day camp runs from Sunday, July 23 to Wednesday, July 26, and serves to engage, inspire, and educate young women so they can pursue their dreams in aviation and beyond. Girls are paired with strong female mentors from a variety of aviation and aerospace fields to explore career paths, participate in hands-on workshops, and participate in special “only at Oshkosh” behind-the-scenes events.

Stop by the EAA booth in the exhibit hall to learn more about the activities planned and how you can take part, or visit www.EAA.org/WomenVenture.

—Kelly Nelson, WAI 18201, is executive editor for the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA).
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.
Amelia Earhart. Bessie Coleman. Sally Ride. Are you next?

To honor these and the many other tremendous women of our history who broke more than just the sound barrier, Alaska Airlines is proud to support Women in Aviation.