



Colorado  
Ninety-Nines



# Crosswind Chatter

February  
2026

Newsletter of the Colorado Ninety-Nines  
International Organization of Women Pilots



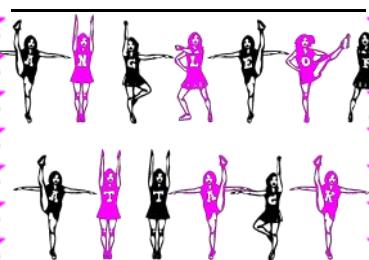
## Upcoming Events

See page two for details.

### 99s Meetings

**FEB 5**  
Business  
Meeting  
Zoom

**FEB 14**  
Zoom meeting  
with Gretchen  
Jahn



## Gretchen Jahn Presentation

Join us on Zoom to hear what it's like to fly in New Zealand! Gretchen will describe the similarities, the differences, the adventures, and the peculiarities that make NZ aviation unique.

Gretchen has been a pilot and a 99s since 1985. In 2004 she got her NZ pilot license and flew the Around NZ Air Race. She then moved to NZ for several years, flew in other NZ aviation events, and continues to maintain her love affair with the country and its aviation culture.

Zoom Link

### Zoom to New Zealand

Zoom Link

Meeting ID:  
844 7688 8168

**Saturday,  
February 14**

Passcode: 3rVZL

**10AM  
MST**



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84476888168?pwd=N5BnkmBbzx2Qgx4RiPz2jKjvEij28V.1>

One tap mobile  
+17193594580,,84476888168#,,,\*028964# US  
+13462487799,,84476888168#,,,\*028964# US (Houston)

**See You There!**

### Meetings Schedule for February

**February 5**  
99 Business Meeting Zoom



**6:30PM**

**February 14**  
Zoom meeting with Gretchen Jahn



**10:00AM**



THERE IS NOTHING LIKE THE 99s

# Upcoming Events, Activities and Programs

Second Saturday



Join Wings Over the Rockies monthly fly-ins featuring planes, pilots and breakfast!  
At the Boeing Blue Sky Aviation Gallery Centennial Airport (KAPA)



FEB 5



99s Business Meeting  
Zoom 6:30

FEB 14



Gretchen Jahn will repeat her Fantastic New Zealand presentation in a Zoom meeting.

Zoom Link

MAR 7



Collaboration with Wings Over the Rockies  
Centennial Airport (KAPA)

MAR 8



National Women  
Airline Pilots Day  
Women of Aviation Worldwide  
Week is March 2-8, 2026

APR 14-19



Sun n Fun  
Lakeland, Florida

MAY 1-2



South Central Spring Section  
Meeting Wichita, Kansas  
Hosted by Air Capital-Kansas Chapter

JUL 8-12



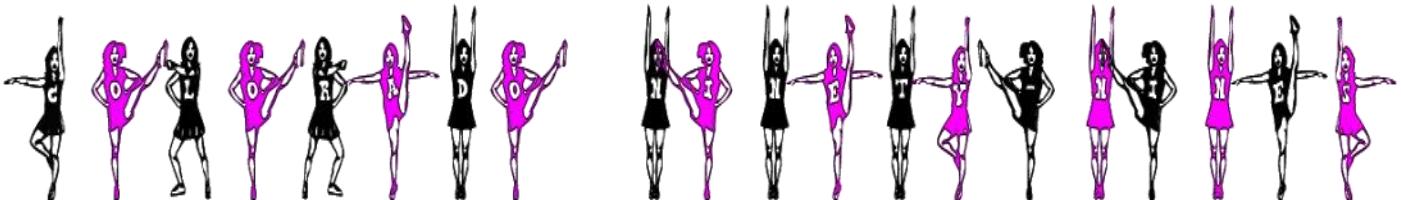
2026 International Conference  
San Diego, California



## There is Nothing Like The Ninety-Nines!



Welcome new members!



# Attention Student Pilots!

The deadline for the spring First Wings Award is **April 1**.

You may be eligible for an award of up to **\$6,000** if you meet the following criteria:

- You are a current student pilot.
- You have been a member of the 99s since on or before January 1, 2026.

You have logged at least five hours of flight training in the six months immediately preceding the April 1 application deadline.

For the complete award description and instructions, visit the International 99s website, in the Members Area: <https://www.ninety-nines.org/first-wings-award.htm>.

An updated application form will be available on the international website on or about February 1.

## Tips for a Successful Application:

- **Read all instructions carefully!** This includes the general FIRST WINGS Award Instructions AND the application form instructions.
- **Follow all instructions precisely.** If bullet points are provided in the instructions, ensure you address those points at a minimum; providing a little extra detail is also acceptable.
- **Download the application before entering any information.** The online form does not save your progress.
- You need a mentor (any 99s member can assist you). Contact **Jane Link** if you need help finding one.
- The Colorado Chapter is part of the **South Central Section**.
- Necessary documents can be captured with a phone or scanner. Ensure they are complete, clean, **readable**, and as straight as possible.
- The 99s Recommendation and Certification pages (Part VII and VIII) will be completed by the Chapter AEMSF scholarship chairman, Jane Link, *after* you submit your application to her on April 1

Email your complete application to the Chapter AEMSF chairman, Jane Link, no later than **April 1**.

**Questions?** Contact Jane Link at [aescholarship@colorado99s.org](mailto:aescholarship@colorado99s.org) or [jane@webzlink.com](mailto:jane@webzlink.com) for more information.

# Attention Student Pilots!

# 2026 Scholarships

With the new year come a new round of scholarship awards! Here are your important deadlines for this year.

- **April 1** - [First Wings Award](#) application deadline (awarded by [The 99s International](#) organization for primary training)
- **April 30** - [Future Woman Pilot Award](#) application deadline (awarded by the [Colorado Chapter](#) for primary training)
- **July 31** - [Ruehle Award for Advanced Ratings](#) application deadline (awarded by the [Colorado Chapter](#) for advanced ratings)
- **October 1** - [First Wings Award](#) application deadline (awarded by The 99s International organization for primary training)  
Watch for more details in the coming newsletters and emails! If you have questions in the meantime, contact [scholarship@colorado99s.org](mailto:scholarship@colorado99s.org).

# Scholarships

# Future Women Pilot Award

By Terry Fiala

The Colorado 99s is excited to announce the upcoming opening to apply for the 2026 Future Women Pilot Award.

The application for the **2026 Future Woman Pilot Award** scholarship will open March 1 with a deadline of April 30.

The award is for flights and flight instruction in any aircraft type (airplane, glider, hot air balloon, etc.) as appropriate for the certificate.

- To Be Eligible, each applicant must:
- Be female
- Undergo flight training in Colorado
- Currently hold a Student Pilot Certificate (if required for the certificate sought)
- Have logged at least 5 hours of flight time in the six months preceding the application deadline

Additional information can be found on the scholarship page on the Colorado 99s [Website](#).



# MEOW



## Penny's New Logo



**GRIT AND LACE:**

STORIES ABOUT TRAILBLAZING WOMEN

Penny Hamilton's new [Substack](#) logo. Check out her articles on women pilots and women astronauts.

## Chapter Contacts

**Chairman**  
**Amanda Willson**

**Vice Chairman**  
**Anastasia McCune**

**Secretary**  
**Jacepine Hokanson**

**Treasurer**  
**Jan McKenzie**

**Crosswind Chatter Editor**  
**Margot Plummer**

Have you moved or changed your email address? If you are a member, go to: <https://www.ninety-nines.org/members/> Otherwise, contact our Webmaster, **June Stewart**: [webmaster@colorado99s.org](mailto:webmaster@colorado99s.org)

**Moving?**



# 49th Air Race Classic



**Air Race Classic**

**June 23-26 2026**

The Air Race Classic stands as the premier event in women's cross-country air racing. Competitors span generations—some just 17, others well into their nineties—and represent an impressive mix of backgrounds: students, educators, medical professionals, airline pilots, entrepreneurs, and even air traffic controllers.

Each team is made up of at least two women pilots who must fly VFR, limited to daylight hours, and complete flybys at every designated timing point before reaching the final stop. The course shifts annually, stretching roughly 2,400 statute miles and typically featuring eight or nine timing locations along the way.

For 2026, the race will run from June 23 through June 26.

# Wings Over the Rockies Event

From Chapter Chairman Amanda Willson

Hello fellow 99s,

Planning for our event at **Wings Over the Rockies** is well underway, and now we'd love your help bringing it all together!

At this event, we will be showcasing the **past, present, and future efforts and activities of the 99s**. Our goal is to show the broader community what the 99s is all about—our history, our ongoing programs, and the many ways our members contribute to aviation today.

To help with this, we are creating display boards for several themed booths, and we are looking for volunteers to assist with **researching and gathering content** for those displays.

## How you can help

In the Google Drive link below, you'll find a sign-up sheet outlining a variety of topics we would like covered for our Past, Present, and Future display booths (such as **Airmarking, PPLI, the Air Race Classic, Chapter History**, and more).

Each topic needs clear, well-organized background information that explains:

- **What the topic is**
- **Why it matters**
- **How the 99s have been involved (past or present)**

If you sign up for a topic, please gather as much relevant information as you can and compile it into a Word, PDF, etc., along with any photos you find. Upload your document and images to the designated Google Drive folder for your selected topic.

## Sign-up sheet columns

The sign-up sheet includes the following columns:

- **Topic**
- **Topic Research Details / Summary (the “why” and background for the topic)**
- **Status**
- **Name**
- **Email**
- **Questions** (for volunteers to add any questions they may have)
- **Answers** (a section we will monitor and update)



If there is an additional topic you feel strongly about or have special knowledge of that is not already listed, we absolutely welcome those ideas as well.

You are welcome to sign up for **more than one topic** if you'd like to help in multiple areas. Please limit it to two names per topic.

## Crafting day - February 7, 2026

During our crafting day, we will assemble the display boards together and print all gathered materials at once to ensure consistent formatting and appearance across all displays. Drinks and snacks will be provided!

**Location: Wings Over the Rockies Exploration of Flight**

**Address: 13005 Wings Way Englewood, CO 80112**

**Date/Time: February 7, 2026 from 1:00pm - 4:00pm**

Thank you in advance for your support—we truly appreciate your help in making this event a success and highlighting everything the 99s represents.

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1TpAiHnHxsfLoChp2yqa-kddOoViViiCP?usp=drive\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1TpAiHnHxsfLoChp2yqa-kddOoViViiCP?usp=drive_link)

# A Colorado CFI's Advice: Navigating the Skies with The 99s

By Kate Yorga

It's winter! And even though this has been an oddly dry winter, it's getting cold outside! You all know what that means; it's time for every pilot's worst nightmare, frosty airplanes!

Frost and ice are major concerns for pilots of all aircraft types. Under 14 CFR § 91.527, no pilot may take off with frost, ice, or snow adhering to any propeller, windshield, stabilizing or control surface; to a powerplant installation; or to an airspeed, altimeter, rate of climb, or flight attitude instrument system or wing - in other words, almost the entire airplane!! As pilots, we should know this. But let's get into why.



In the last 10 years, there have been over 30 accidents during the takeoff roll from wing contamination due to ice. When frost or snow accumulates on the wings and other control surfaces, the smooth flow of airflow necessary to make us fly is disrupted. This can lead to increased stall speeds, longer takeoff rolls, or even an inability to become airborne at all. Ice can also lead to blockages in your pitot-static system causing false instrument readings. On top of that, ice adds increased weight and can create uneven weight distribution, leading to handling problems and rolling tendencies. None of those outcomes are ideal, and are entirely preventable! So, what are your options? In simple terms: go home, or get it off!

Now that I have moved into jets I have a new appreciation for those early and cold mornings out on the flight school ramp with a snow-broom, hot water bag, and rags, and praying that I'd get put in the hangar for the next day. Those sucked! But, it's always worth it for safe flying. Many flight schools incorporate methods of snow removal that are easily accessible, although they are often not ideal. Nowadays most flight schools have some form of de-icing fluid. Most commonly glycol or polypropylene antifreeze. These de-icers work by lowering the freezing temperature of water, allowing the water to melt at a cooler temperature. However, these are not to be used as anti-ice equipment, they are very effective as de-ice equipment and help ease some of the pain of scraping the ice off yourself.

# A Colorado CFI's Advice: Navigating the Skies with The 99s

Continued:

By Kate Yorga

In my jet, I got to experience de-icing for the first time! It was cool to be sitting in the airplane while getting sprayed, it felt like a luxury. As a brief explanation, there are four types of de-icing fluids all used for different purposes. Type one is the least extreme and is primarily used to remove contamination, while Type IV is the most extreme and is used if there is active precipitation threatening a safe takeoff roll.

Below is a small chart to help briefly explain further!



Type	Purpose	Thickness	Typical Aircraft
I	De-ice	Thin	All
II	Anti-ice	Thick	Fast jets
III	Anti-ice	Medium	Turboprops / regionals
IV	Anti-ice	Very thick	Large jets

As a last wrap up, please remember that even the smallest bit of ice on the airplane can interfere with the safe operation of flight. When in doubt, always take the time to remove the ice fully before attempting to fly. Safe flying and stay warm!



Pikes Peak 99s Presents:  
**FLYING COMPANION  
COURSE**

**\$99**

**\*Course is valued at over \$149**



Spouses, family members,  
and friends of pilots  
can learn essential  
skills to assist a  
pilot in the  
aircraft!

**Date:** 04/04/26

**Location:** MLAA Hangar  
13550 Piper Lane  
Peyton, CO 80831

**Check In:** 8:30 am

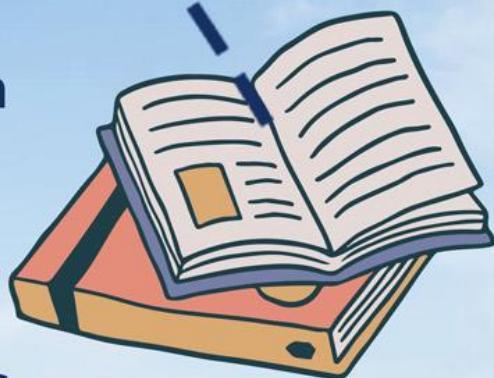
**Start time:** 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Lunch is provided!

**To register:** email

[chairman@pikespeak99s.org](mailto:chairman@pikespeak99s.org)

**Deadline to register:** 03/28/26



# Remembering Bonita Ades

Longtime Colorado Chapter member Bonita Ades passed away January 15, she was born October 15, 1941. She was surrounded by her husband son and daughter and passed peacefully. [Bonita's obituary](#).

Bonita was Colorado Chapter Chair and South Central Section Governor of The Ninety-Nines. There will be a celebration of her life in a yet-to-be-determined date.



# PPLI

Professional Pilot Leadership Initiative

Not only do companies need women to step up as leaders, the worldwide aviation industry is slowly making strides to have more women in leading positions. As a professional pilot you can make a difference and can become a leader in your own right. Would you like to learn how to be an Aviation leader also?

The Professional Pilot Leadership Initiative (PPLI) is a mentoring program which will connect you with other supportive fellow Ninety-Nines.

It will help you to develop and enhance your leadership talents and qualities. And it will assist you to strengthen and advance your career progress.



# Deadline July 15, 2026



## Going Shopping

Are you interested in Ninety-Nines gear to wear to our next event, or just out in the community to show your Ninety-Nines spirit?

Ordering is a breeze. Or rather, winds calm.

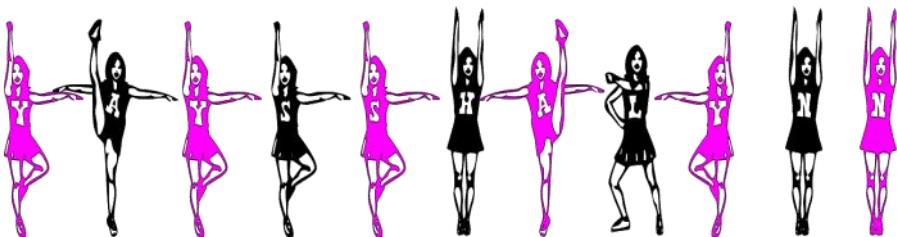
- 1) Go to our Chapter website at <https://www.colorado99s.org/>.
- 2) Find the rightmost blue column labeled 'Other Links'.
- 3) For shirts, hats, jackets etc, click the link that says 'Ninety-Nines eStore'.
- 4) For name badges (that say your name, chapter and Ninety-Nines logo) click the [Order Badges](#) link and follow the instructions in the pdf.
- 5) Sport your spiffy new gear at our next event!



# Congratulations Shalynn



Shalynn Swails, our Airmarking Vice Chair, recently completed the Airline Transport Pilot Certification Training Program (ATP/CTP) in Kissimmee, Florida on a scholarship awarded by the Arab American Aviation Professionals (AAAP). The course included three days of ground instruction and 10 hours of A320 simulator training. She's now poised to take her ATP written exam, which she hopes to finish by the end of the month.



## Hooray!

Shalynn Swails

# We Are Seeking



The Colorado 99s is currently seeking to fill the following positions:

- Director— Responsible for recruiting candidates for officer positions (Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, and two Directors), as well as coordinating the summer picnic and holiday party.
- Fundraising Chairman – Coordinates the Chapter's efforts to raise funds.
- Membership Chairman – Responsible for promoting Chapter membership through recruiting new members and supporting the retention of current members.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of the positions listed above, please contact [info@colorado99s.org](mailto:info@colorado99s.org).

# SOUTH CENTRAL MEETINGS

Spring 2026 Section Meeting

May 1-2

Air Capital-Kansas

**2026 International Conference**

July 8-12

San Diego, California



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