OFFICIAL 2024 PROGRAM

FROM THE PLAINS TO THE PEAKS.

47TH ANNUAL AIR RACE CLASSIC
CARBONDALE, IL TO FT. COLLINS, CO
JUNE 18-21, 2024
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President’s Welcome

It is my honor to welcome each of you to the 47th Annual Air Race Classic. This year, we celebrate the 95th anniversary of the first Women’s Air Derby! The current Air Race Classic is a 501(c)(3) organization focused on encouraging and educating women pilots and preserving and promoting the tradition of female aviation pioneers. Each year, the Air Race Classic visits new airports and communities during our annual race. This year’s race starts in Carbondale, IL at the home of Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. The Terminus is in Loveland, CO, the Gateway to the Rockies. It is my great pleasure to work with each of the Air Race Classic Directors, Assistant Directors and Race Officials who volunteer thousands of hours annually planning, executing and managing the race. I am truly grateful for their generosity, talent, and commitment to all aspects of this event. Just as the original participants of the 1929 Women’s Air Derby represented some of the best women aviators of their day, the lady racers who participate now embody some of the finest female aviators flying today, representing multiple facets of women in aviation in our country.

In addition to the ARC Board of Directors and racers, the Air Race Classic would not be possible without the dedication and enthusiasm of the hundreds of volunteers throughout the country. Numerous committees have been planning for several years to welcome the ARC teams at this year’s Start, Terminus, and each of the enroute stops. Enroute stops allow for flyby timing points, refueling, and planned overnight stops for the race teams. Since the race route changes every year, new volunteers are recruited for each race. Those individuals may work as timers, shuttle drivers, safety check inspectors; anything that needs done to make the race a success. They may be former racers, aviation enthusiasts who follow their hometown racer or team, and pilots willing to travel to the stops to be a part of the competitive camaraderie that is the Air Race Classic. Along with our volunteers, scores of loyal fans across the country are eagerly anticipating the arrival of ARC racers in their hometowns. We are extraordinarily grateful to each of them for their enthusiasm and support; the perpetuity of this one-of-a-kind race is due to the dedication and efforts of everyone involved! I would like to extend my deepest thanks to each you who contribute to the success of the Air Race Classic, the premier transcontinental cross-country competition for women pilots!

Air Race Classic, Inc. President, Donna Harris

Special thanks to all our ARC volunteers for making our race a success.

KMDH Murphysboro, IL
KPPO La Porte, IN
KCAD Cadillac, MI
KVTA Newark, OH
C56 Monee, IL
KOWA Owatonna, MN
KMBY Moberly, MO
KBVO Bartlesville, OK
KDDC Dodge City, KS
KFNL Loveland, CO
The Air Race Classic Board of Directors is a diverse group of volunteers who plan and organize each year’s race. Each board member donates energy, time and resources to continue and enhance the traditions of the Air Race Classic. They cover all their own expenses related to the race and any associated meetings.

Members of the ARC Board are bound by a Code of Conduct and a Code of Ethics. These codes dictate the behavior expected of Board members as they interact with other members and with those outside the organization and set out principles to mitigate conflicts of interest when Board members are racing or serving as race officials. Board member adherence to these codes is taken very seriously, and a member can be removed for non-compliance.

The Board is composed of 9-12 directors plus assistant directors, with support from past presidents, former directors and a host of volunteers across the country. New members are invited to join the board based on the needs of the organization.
47th Annual Air Race Classic

2024 GENERAL INFORMATION

**FRI JUNE 14**

START: Southern Illinois Airport (Carbondale, IL)
Airplane Safety Checks
ARC Credentials
Start Check-In, Hospitality

**SAT JUNE 15**

Airplane Inspections, ARC Credentials
Start Check-In, Hospitality
Racers Arrival – DEADLINE
Youth Aviation Event
Airplane Inspections, ARC Credentials – CLOSE
“Meet the Racers” Welcome Reception

**SUN JUNE 16**

Start Check-in – CLOSE
Collegiate Racers Meeting – MANDATORY
All Contestants Briefing – MANDATORY
Safety Officer’s Briefing – MANDATORY
Timing, Technology & Judging Briefing – RECOMMENDED
Group Photo – All Racers – MANDATORY
Social Hour & Take-off Banquet – MANDATORY

**MON JUNE 17**

Racer Flyby Briefing – MANDATORY
Race Start/Terminus Briefing – MANDATORY
Weather Briefing – RECOMMENDED
First Time Racers Clinic – RECOMMENDED
Race Officials Meeting

**TUES JUNE 18**

Take-off Breakfast
All Contestants Final Briefing – MANDATORY
START TAKE-OFF!

**FRI JUNE 21**

TERMINUS: Northern Colorado Regional Airport (Loveland, CO)
Terminus Check-in, Hospitality
Racers Finish – DEADLINE
Meltdown Party

**SAT JUNE 22**

Airplane Safety Checks
Terminus Check-in, Hospitality
Score Sheet Signing,
Meet with Judges
Youth Aviation Event – Meet the Racers

**SUN JUNE 23**

All Contestants Debriefing Breakfast
All Contestants Debriefing – MANDATORY
ARC Board Meeting
Collegiate Racers Debriefing – RECOMMENDED
First Time Racers Debriefing – RECOMMENDED
ARC Awards Banquet – MANDATORY

*All times above are subject to change*
The Air Race Classic (ARC) is an annual VFR all-women, cross-country event flown in official ARC daylight hours. Airplanes with at least 100 horsepower (HP) and not more than 600 HP may be flown in one of three classes: Competition, Intercollegiate or Non-Competition.

Competition and Intercollegiate classes include stock and modified stock, normally aspirated, piston-powered airplanes, rated for continuous operation at maximum engine speed. Intercollegiate class also includes airplanes that limit flying at full throttle for more than takeoff and are equipped with a G1000 or similar monitoring equipment. Non-Competition class includes airplanes not qualifying in Competition Class per ARC rules and those teams, not racing, but flying the event solely for education, experience, and the camaraderie of the race. Each class follow the same rules and enjoy similar flying adventures over the 2400+ statute-mile course.

Handicaps are the basis for the ARC competitive races. This is a method to allow all ARC entry-qualified make and model airplanes to compete against one another in the same race. Prior to the race, each airplane is flown to determine the handicap for that particular airplane based on its current, demonstrated best speed. During the race, designated flybys incorporate special FAA-approved flight procedures that allow all teams to be timed at the start and finish of each race leg. Winners are determined after the airplanes arrive at and cross the final finish line. Official scores are calculated for each race leg by taking an airplane’s ground speed, subtracting the airplane’s handicap, then any applicable penalties.

Once the first plane launches from the Start, the teams have four days to fly all race legs and to arrive and cross the Terminus finish line. You can follow the race and see each team’s progress at www.airraceclassic.org and select the Follow ARC Racers to the Finish link.
Air Race Classic Mission

The Air Race Classic, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization dedicated to: encouraging and educating current and future women pilots; increasing public awareness of general aviation; demonstrating women’s roles in aviation; preserving and promoting the tradition of pioneering women in aviation.
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**Total Distance**

2,269 nm 2,610 sm

Follow ARC Racers to the finish at airraceclassic.org
Carbondale, IL
The Southern Illinois Airport, KMDH

The Southern Illinois Airport (KMDH) is proud to welcome you to the start of this year’s Air Race Classic! For being one of the busiest airports in the state of Illinois, it is certainly a snapshot of American aviation. On June 1, 1950, the airport opened with only one runway, two buildings, and two businesses. As of today, it now encompasses three runways, 30 buildings, and nearly two dozen businesses. On the field, we are home to the widely recognized aviation program of Southern Illinois University. When here, be sure to also check out our aviation apparel and gear store, our onsite restaurant, and so much more!

Not only does this airport have so much to offer, but the surrounding community is a compelling destination for travelers. With such beautiful landscapes, one can enjoy a plethora of outdoor activities like camping, hiking, and fishing. All in all, the Southern Illinois Airport is an evolving full-service facility nestled in the panoramic views of Southern Illinois. Thus, we are beyond excited to welcome all ARC racers to our home!

We are thrilled to have you experience our wonderful summer weather!

Start Chairs Alyssa Connell & Gary Shafer
Fly Back in Time at MDH!

Thank You Sponsors!

Proud to host the 2024 START!

Southern Illinois Airport - KMDH
665 N. Airport Rd. • 618-529-1721
Murphysboro, IL 62966 • siaairport.com
La Porte Municipal Airport (KPPO) is proud to be the first stop of the Air Race Classic this year! La Porte traces its aviation history all the way back to 1910 when a resident designed a monoplane. In 1945, the City of La Porte took over ownership of the airfield that is now the La Porte Municipal Airport and built the first two hangars, one of which is still being used today.

The City of La Porte offers an abundance of nature with parks, trails, beaches, and five freshwater lakes within the city limits; and plenty of shopping in the well-maintained historic downtown. Boating, hiking, mountain biking, kayak rentals, and golfing are only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to outdoor activities in La Porte. Visitors can finish off a day of excitement with u-pick produce, small business shopping, and local restaurants. La Porte County offers even more parks and trails, plenty of local breweries, and pristine sandy beach shoreline on Lake Michigan. La Porte is also home to American Licorice, makers and distributors of Sour Punch Straws.

The La Porte Municipal Airport has a 5000’ long by 75’ wide primary runway and a 2798’ long by 60’ wide cross-wind runway. There is a spacious terminal building with conference room, kitchen, and an FAA-certified flight simulator for rent. 100LL and Jet fuel are available full service, 100LL and 90 octane mogas are available self-service. A courtesy car is available first-come first-serve, or call ahead to reserve. The airport also still uses its original beacon tower from the 1930s, though the beacon itself has been refurbished.

The La Porte Municipal Airport hosts several aviation events every year. Every April through October, the airport hosts a fly-in and community lunch on the 4th Friday of the month, as part of a local lunch rotation called “Lunch on the Fly.” The airport also runs an aviation camp for a week every summer, for students entering grades 6-12. Air Fair is one of the largest events of the year, which will host the Arizona Commemorative Air Force’s B-25 and B-17 this year, and also includes the annual pancake breakfast that averages 1000 people in attendance. The airport closes out yearly events with a local favorite of Trick or Treat at the Scairport, a trunk or treat type of event with aircraft, a tradition that started in 2020. The airport is thrilled to add this event to the lineup, and we look forward to greeting the Air Race Classic!

Stop Chair Janice Welsh
Head Timer Margaret Wint
Airport Manager Eric Bobcik
Wexford County Airport is a public use airport, jointly operated by Wexford County and the City of Cadillac located in Northern Michigan.

It all started in 1928, 10 acres of stumps were pulled to build our turf runway, which is still used today.

The Wexford County Airport Authority was formed in 1971, paving the way for broader financial support for our facility. Today, we have 40 rental hangars, a community hangar, a 5,000’ x 100’ paved runway, 100LL and Jet-A fuel, a comfortable pilot lounge, and a courtesy car for your convenience.

There are several restaurants and accommodations close by. We have 3 FBOs on site offering maintenance, rental, flight instruction, (including seaplane and multiengine), and a glider operation.

We are also proud to serve as the base for the Civil Air Patrol’s Cadillac Highpoint Squadron!

Located in beautiful Wexford County, Cadillac has a wonderful mix of natural beauty and vibrant businesses. Our business community includes manufacturing, health care, education, tourism-related businesses, service, retail, and agriculture.

Recreationally, the Cadillac area is famous for hunting, fishing, skiing, snowmobiling, hiking, and biking trails. This Northern Michigan gem has many lakes, rivers, and streams, as well as the Manistee National Forest. We enjoy a great quality of life!

Stop Chairs Laura Garland
Head Timer Carol Dehnboestel
Airport Manager Keith Newell

Cadillac Aircraft Services (231-876-0580) | Optimus Aircraft Service (231-775-8522) | Northwoods Aviation (231-775-6641)
Welcome to Ohio, the birthplace of aviation! You have landed at the Newark-Heath Airport, a facility once used by what was formerly the Newark Air Force Base, hosted in Heath, OH and the seat of U.S.A.F Metrology. VTA is owned by the Licking County Regional Airport Authority and covers an area of 140 acres. Food and lodging are available close to the airport, with more a short drive into town. VTA is the perfect starting point to discover Licking County, Ohio.

In 1929, airmail routes and airfields, including KVTA, were laid out. The VTA beacon and concrete arrow are one of few remaining in the country. Early pilots had a bird’s eye view of the Newark Earthworks, a Hopewell Indian Ceremonial Earthwork that has been nominated as a World Heritage site. Since the 1930s, a 2,040-foot-long hedge that reads DAWES ARBORETUM has served as an interesting navigational aid southeast of VTA. In 1968, the runway was extended to a 75 x 4,649-foot hard surface and runway lighting was added. To commemorate the event, a celebratory fly-in was held, with the longest line forming for autographs from Newark native, Jerrie Fredritz Mock. In 1964, flying her Cessna 180 Spirit of Columbus, Mock became the first woman to pilot an aircraft, solo, around the world.

Presently, EAA Chapter 402, assisted by an active Civil Air Patrol, flies Young Eagles over the world’s largest basket, built as the Longaberger Basket Corporate Office. Buckeye Lake, home of the extremely rare Cranberry Marsh, a protected floating bog dating back to the Ice Age, is a favorite practice area for student pilots. Flying over downtown Newark reveals the Courthouse facelift, the Square’s splendid revitalization, and the beautiful Midland Theatre. Around the corner, at The Works, a bronze statue of Jerrie Mock and a re-creation of her airplane are on permanent display. Architect Louis Sullivan’s “jewel box” bank is currently under restoration, and will be another highlight for visitors to our area.

VTA is home to commercial fliers, GA, a flight school and an F-4 Phantom on static display. The Aviation Works, Inc. provides services that include hanger or tie-down rentals, full service refueling (Jet-A & 100LL), rental aircraft, pilot training, and a staffed maintenance shop.

GOOD LUCK to all ARC teams!

Newark-Heath Airport: 740-522-6968 | 530 Heath Rd, Heath, OH 43056

Stop Chair Wendie Hollinger
Head Timer Frances Englund
Airport Manager Elijah Snow
Bult Field is a state-owned, public-use airport located 3 miles southeast of Monee, Illinois, a south suburb of Chicago. The airport contracts with Hanson Professional Services to manage operations. Ramirez is a veteran owned business that manages Bult’s line service. The airport provides pilots and passengers direct access to central and eastern Will County and the greater Chicago Southland area. Bult Field has a 5000-foot concrete runway, 139 hangars, and a beautiful terminal serving tenants, professional and collegiate athletics, musicians, and business people from multiple industries. The airport is home to many aviation communities, such as D14 Aviation (flight school), Governors State University School of Extended Learning, EAA Chapter 260, Tuskegee Airmen Chicago “Dodo” Chapter, and the CAP Thunder Squadron. Bult Field is proud to provide 1st class service to all our tenants and has the prospect of becoming the 3rd Chicagoland airport.

The Village of Monee is proud to celebrate its 150th Anniversary this year! Monee has grown from a population of 598 to over 5000 while holding true to its founding roots of harmonious blending of agriculture and industry.

Stop Chairs Cynthia Madsen & Megan McArthur
Head Timer Madeleine Monaco
Airport Manager Mark Thompson
Welcome to Owatonna, where the extra mile takes you!!

As the fifth stop on your route, the Owatonna Degner Regional Airport (OWA) is pleased to welcome you to our facility and the community. Friendly people, excellent cuisine and a variety of lodging accommodations make Owatonna an ideal spot to spend a few hours, an overnight or an extended vacation. You’ll see why this charming destination is worth going the extra mile to enjoy.

For generations, city leaders have been committed to preserving natural areas while managing forward-looking growth to provide the best of all worlds. By going the extra mile, Owatonna offers a multitude of experiences - history, nature, shopping, arts and entertainment plus 35 parks and abundant trails and nature areas.

OWA serves the general and business aviation needs of the community as one of Minnesota’s key system airports. The airport sparks economic development and offers first-class facilities and services. The dual runway configuration can accommodate most general aviation needs. Owatonna’s 5,500-foot runway serves as a gateway to Southern Minnesota as well as the Twin Cities. OWA has excellent instrument approaches and is home to a variety of aircraft. Accelerated Aviation, based here, is a thriving flight school that facilitates flight training for students from around the country. For additional information, please visit www.owatonnaairport.com.

We look forward to serving ARC racers and hope you plan to come back and visit again soon!

Stop Chair Patti Sandusky
Head Timer Cheryl Daml
Airport Manager Dave Beaver
The Omar N. Bradley Regional Airport (MBY) is situated three miles north of downtown Moberly, conveniently positioned between Kansas City and St. Louis, and a mere 30-minute drive north of Columbia.

Established in 1927 by Clinton Linneman and Leo Hutchinson, the airport marked Moberly, Missouri’s inaugural aviation hub. Originally located at the former brick plant, it subsequently relocated to north Urbandale before finally settling at the previous Missouri Transit grounds at the intersection of Highways 24 and 63.

The airport’s dedicated staff has served as both community ambassadors and operational stalwarts, managing tasks such as fuel sales, infrastructure upkeep, runway condition reporting for air traffic, sales record maintenance, hangar and tie-down space rentals, as well as monitoring and maintaining runway lighting and navigational aids.

The City of Moberly offers 100-octane avgas and Jet fuel for purchase at the Omar N. Bradley Regional Airport, with a charge-account program available upon pre-approval by the Public Works Director. A wide variety of pilots and aircraft throughout the nation are often attracted to our rural airport due to its large fuel supply and competitive prices.

Moberly is home to an EAA Chapter that hosts regular meetings, fly-ins, and community events to engage residents and visitors with the airport. Additionally, we will serve as the 6th stop in the 2024 Air Race Classic, providing a unique opportunity for the public to witness a diverse array of aircraft from around the globe as pilots land to refuel and prepare for their next leg of the journey.

Omar N. Bradley Regional Airport is continuously enhancing and expanding its services to provide a seamless and convenient, top-tier aviation experience for all patrons. We encourage all to visit the Omar N. Bradley Facebook and webpage on the City of Moberly website to stay in the loop of fly-ins and other aviation events that will be taking place at our airport in the upcoming months.

Stop Chair John Brilhart
Head Timer Chris Hope
Airport Manager Tom Sanders
Bartlesville, OK
Bartlesville Municipal Airport, KBVO

Welcome to Bartlesville, where history, nature, culture, and art collide.

A diverse city with a rich history in business and the arts, Bartlesville is located in northeast Oklahoma, about 50 miles of easy highway driving north of Tulsa. Home to about 35,000 people, Bartlesville is a small city with a big heart — and big-city amenities as well. In NW Washington County it sits just across the county line from Osage County, home to the Tall Grass Prairie, Bison reserve, and the Osage Nation.

The city of Bartlesville draws thousands of tourists every year with its world-class museums, music, and architecture. This small city includes the Price Tower, the only skyscraper designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, and Woolaroc Museum & Wildlife Preserve, the 3,700-acre ranch and museum founded by Frank Phillips and located about 8 miles to the south. Preserved there is the Travel Air 5000 monoplane sponsored by the Phillips Petroleum Company which competed in the Dole Air Race in 1927.

The Bartlesville Municipal Airport is located in the northwest portion of Bartlesville within the Osage County line, approximately three miles west of downtown area. The 430-acre facility is 717 feet above sea level and features one concrete runway, which measures 6,850 feet in length by 100 feet in width. Runway lighting is pilot-controlled. ASOS and non-precision approaches are available.

Bartlesville Aviation FBO offers a full range of services to both transient and local business, including aircraft fueling (Jet and Avgas), towing, hangar storage, flight crew vehicles, restrooms, passenger and flight crew lounge areas, weather and flight planning.

Approximately 50 aircraft are based at the airport. There are 56 parking spaces for vehicles at the passenger terminal area and additional parking adjacent to each hangar facility. Rental car service is available off-site.

KBVO hosts a Back to Bartlesville fly-in each September. These events include the Airborne Demonstration Team’s C-49 “Wild Kat” WWII Parachute Jump Demonstration. The WWII Airborne Demonstration Team Foundation was formed to honor and serve the memory of the men who fought and died to preserve America’s freedom during WWII as members of the Airborne units of the United States Army.

The Tulsa Warbirds are also well represented. The Tulsa Warbirds Foundation operate vintage WWII North American T-6 Texan Trainers. From 1934 to February 1945, the Stearman Aircraft Company, a division of Boeing Aircraft Company, built a total of 8,428 planes, including PT-17 Stearman biplanes. More American military pilots learned to fly in the Stearman Model 75 primary trainers than in any other airplane. For over 20 years KBVO was home for the National Biplane Association at an annual event. A National Biplane Association Memorial Plaza honoring fallen members is outside the airport terminal.

Stop Chair Elaine Stock
Airport Manager Mike Richardson
Head Timers Sandy O’Neal & Brad Kidder
The Dodge City Regional Airport would like to welcome all Racers to our historic town! Dodge City Regional Airport is a vital part of the southwestern Kansas regional airport system and is an integral part of the transportation infrastructure for the region. The airport is vital for the quality of life, economic growth and the stability of our community. Our main objective at the Dodge City Regional Airport is to maintain safe and stable air service for our visitors arriving by air, including commercial service, charter service, military, cargo operations and general aviation.

During the early years, Dodge City acquired an infamous stamp of lawlessness and gun-slinging. There was no local law enforcement, and the military had no jurisdiction over the town. Buffalo hunters, railroad workers, drifters, and soldiers scrapped and fought, leading to the shootings where men died with their boots on. This created a hasty need for a local burial place - Boot Hill Cemetery. The cemetery was used until 1878 and is now part of downtown Dodge City.

In 1919, the State of Kansas deeded the property the airport is currently on to Ford County. Colonel Charles Lindbergh, Vice President of Transcontinental Air Transport Company, inspected the new airport site east of Dodge City and expressed his approval for it as a Midwest airport division point. In 1929, Ford County leased the property to the City of Dodge City who subleased it to Mid Continent Air Express Company.

In 1938, with the help of Mayor Zenas Arthur Nevins, the City of Dodge City acquired the title to the land and airport improvements. In 1940, the airport began expansion using WPA workers to build four runways, three of which were grass and one was paved. 300 yards of rock for the terminal building came from the south side of Buckner Creek. By 1943, the administration building, runways, large hangar and repair shop were completed with the help of the federal government. In May of 1956, runway lights were installed with ongoing improvements up to the present. The Dodge City Regional Airport has two active runways: 14-32 which is a 6,900’ by 100’ concrete runway that was newly reconstructed and re-opened in November of 2019; 02-20, our crosswind runway, is a 4,650’ by 100’ asphalt runway. The FBO at the airport is owned by Crotts Aircraft Service and has highly trained staff and full service newly updated facilities with over 35 years of experience.

Today, Dodge City is a growing community and a popular tourist destination, which would make for the perfect overnight spot for racers! The authentic replica of Front Street with the Long Branch Saloon and Boot Hill Cemetery located at Boot Hill Museum, Boot Hill Distillery, Dodge City Brewing, and Long Branch Lagoon Water Park are places to see while in Dodge City, all within walking distance of our downtown area that is the hub for nightlife and local eateries. The city is also home to Boot Hill Casino & Resort, and Dodge City Raceway Park.

Stop Chair & Airport Manager Eliel Marin
Head Timer Doug Tilghman
Dear Participants and Sponsors,

Welcome to Northern Colorado Regional Airport! KFNL is honored to be the Terminus Host of the 47th Annual Air Race Classic. We hope you take some time to relax and enjoy everything that Colorado has to offer after a thrilling race!

Upon arrival, you will see some evidence of our exciting new growth and development, including our 19,400 square foot terminal building which is expected to open in October. These projects will provide the space and infrastructure necessary to continue serving aircraft of all sizes for years to come, and your participation in this event further demonstrates the value of investing in our future.

We want to express our heartfelt appreciation to the KFNL stakeholders, local businesses, and community members whose unwavering interest and support keep our airport operational every day. Special thanks are owed to the Colorado Department of Transportation, jetCenters of Colorado, Professional Aircraft Services, and numerous other sponsors and volunteers who generously contributed their time and resources to ensure the success and safety of this event. We look forward to celebrating with you all soon!

Safe travels,

Dave Ruppel
Interim Airport Director

2024 ARC Terminus Volunteers

KFNL team at Northern Colorado Regional Airport

JetCenters of Colorado
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Located at the Northern Colorado Regional Airport!

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4824 Earhart Road, Loveland, CO 80538 | 970-679-4633
Welcome to KFNL, Northern Colorado Regional Airport.

Situated 50 miles north of Denver and minutes from the charming historic downtown districts of Loveland and Fort Collins, KFNL lies at the heart of Northern Colorado. The airport was established in 1963 with the assistance of an FAA land grant and is jointly owned by the Cities of Loveland and Fort Collins. While providing general aviation, business, and commuter air travel services for more than 60 years, the airport has continued to grow along with the population of the region.

Today, KFNL is a FAR Part 139 commercially certified regional airport which accommodates over 125,000 annual flight operations, 202 hangar units, and 300 based aircraft. The Airport, its FBO (JetCenters of Colorado), and many other businesses cater to the diverse needs of the aviation community on site. The list of amenities and services continues to grow with demand and further solidifies KFNL as a thriving center of aviation activity.

One project, a state-of-the-art terminal building, is currently under construction and slated to open in October 2024. This space will serve as a multimodal transportation hub for the region featuring comprehensive security screening, streamlined airline check-in and arrival processes, and shuttle services to Denver International Airport.

Hosting the 2024 Air Race Classic Terminus is a privilege for the airport and allows participants to explore the gems of this region. Northern Colorado boasts a vibrant craft beer scene, rich arts and entertainment offerings, and a plethora of outdoor activities suitable for year-round enjoyment. KFNL serves as the closest airport to Estes Park, the gateway to the awe-inspiring Rocky Mountain National Park, and provides convenient access to renowned ski resorts such as Vail, Copper Mountain, Winter Park, and Eldora Mountain.

With 300 days of sunshine annually, picturesque snow-capped peaks, and pristine waterways, the area is a delightful destination throughout the year. Stay a while and come back again soon!

The 2024 Terminus Committee includes representatives from the Colorado Chapter 99s, Aims Community College WAI Chapter, Northern Colorado WAI Chapter, and local airport volunteers. The Committee also acknowledges past racer Lydia Baldwin as the 2024 Terminus Chair. The hard work and dedication of this group is greatly appreciated!
“With SiriusXM I feel safer in my cockpit.”

Lin Caywood, Vice President of the Air Race Classic

“During my fourth Air Race Classic, there was a weather front coming in as we were flying through the mountains. A combination of good luck, analysis and faith in SiriusXM’s weather allowed us to be one of the few teams that made it out of the mountains before the weather came in.”

Lin Caywood
Commercial SEL & MEL, tailwheel, seaplane, CFI, CFII, Cessna 182T and 150 owner
2024 AOPA Eastern Region Best Flight Instructor, Vice President of the Air Race Classic, PALS Pilot and 99s Governor of the Mid Atlantic Section

Learn more at siriusxm.com/aviation or watch Lin discuss her experience using SiriusXM Aviation Weather by scanning the QR code.

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The Air Race Classic is an annual event that takes a year-round effort by hundreds of volunteers, who spend countless hours making sure all the pieces fall into place. That effort begins with the all-volunteer Air Race Classic Board of Directors, whose members oversee the organization and its events. They also provide guidance to ensure the future of the race. Assistant Directors widen the scope and range of expertise, providing experience that more fully supports the ARC’s mission and goals. All Directors and Assistant Directors of this 501(c)(3) corporation shoulder the responsibility and reap the reward of sponsoring the race because they believe in its value to both general aviation and women in aviation.

Supporting the race is an ever-expanding network of volunteers who work with the Board and Assistant Directors across these divisions, generously dedicating numerous hours throughout the year to ensure a safe, competitive, educational, and festive event. The ARC volunteer network is what makes this event happen year in and year out. Thank you to the men and women involved in our volunteer network!

The Air Race Classic organization continuously strives to upgrade its operations to meet aviation challenges of today’s changing world. We have implemented new tools for race timing and scoring and offer live tracking of race teams en route.

Working on this event is almost as exciting as flying it. The ARC’s energy and enthusiasm are contagious. If you would like to be part of the behind-the-scenes activity that supports this race, please join us by contacting info@airraceclassic.org.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to make the 2024 ARC a success!

Our divisions include:

**AIRPLANE** | Airplane Entry; Inspection; New Airplane Technology

**EDUCATION** | Briefings; Educational Videos; First Timers/Refresher; Public Education/Youth; Safety

**FINANCING** | Advertising; Endowment Fund; Grants; Sales; Silent Auction; Sponsors

**GOVERNANCE** | Judging; Rules; Treasury

**HANDICAP** | Coordinate Handicap Flights; Recruit & Train Handicap Pilots; Calculate Handicap Speed

**MARKETING** | ARC Program; ARC Promotion; Awards & Prizes; Press Releases; Publications; Racer Promotion; Social Media; Trade Shows & Conferences

**RACERS** | Credentials; Entry Administration; Mother Bird Program; Scholastic Outreach

**ROUTE** | Enroute Stop Volunteer Coordination; FAA Waivers; Flyby Design

**SAFETY** | Race Central; Race Safety Oversight; Safety Officer

**SCORING** | Scoring; Timing Coordination; Timing Technologies

**START/TERMINUS** | Route Selection; Start/Terminus Liaison

**SUPPORT** | ARC History; Documents and Databases; Thank Yous; Website
ARC Pilot

[ˈpahɪ-ˈluht] noun.

1. A Woman taking Flight, courageously soaring onward.

2. A Navigator of the sky, defying gravity majestically and inspiring wonder.

3. An adventurer taking flight, exploring the unknown and chasing her dreams.
Meet the 2024 Air Race Classic Racers

1 | Ladies of the Plains

MELINDA CLEMENS & CHRISTY WHITE
CESSNA 182H

Melinda (Benton, KS) holds a Private Pilot certificate with an instrument rating, a high-performance endorsement, and 630 hours logged.

Melinda was the SAP Finance and Data Analytics IT Manager with Hills Pet Nutrition/Colgate Palmolive for 21 years and has been with Dairy Farmers of America for the last 4 years. She started working for her family’s insurance business, Clemens Insurance Agency, in 2024 as an accountant/IT analyst. She is racing because she loves “that it is women-focused and promotes women in aviation. We have a great 99s group, and teaming up together to represent them is exciting. I love to fly, and it is a great opportunity to meet other like-minded ladies, continue to encourage the younger generation, and stretch yourself as a pilot.” Melinda has volunteered at previous ARC stops. She says, “I have enjoyed volunteering at the Kansas stops - mostly cleaning leading edges and windshields - racers LOVE it!” Melinda loves anything outdoors - boating, fishing, skiing, hiking, etc. Time with family is a top priority, and flying allows her to have more of all of that! Melinda is a member of the Kansas Chapter of the 99s.

Christy (Wichita, KS) is a Commercial Pilot with complex and high-performance endorsements, a current instrument rating, and 805 hours in her logbook.

Christy has worked in the aviation industry as an Engineer (most recently in Flight Test) since graduating from San Diego State University in 1996. Christy is racing “for the interaction with all of the other pilots and the overall experience of the race. I have enjoyed new challenges and flying to new airports during my flying career, so I am looking forward to enjoying the race with another pilot.” She loves flying, kayaking, and going to live music events. She just bought her first airplane this past year and has enjoyed all the joys of owning one. It just so happens she bought the same airplane (make/model/year) as her teammate owns! Christy is a member of the Kansas Chapter of the 99s.

Sponsors: Clemens Insurance Agency

02 | Hunny Racers - Scratched

KELLI ANGELLE & MELISSA MAY

Kelli (New Roads, LA) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate with high-performance, complex, and tailwheel endorsements, and 1,430 hours logged.

Kelli is a Case Manager in Disaster Recovery, located in New Orleans, LA. She advocated for those affected by natural disasters and helped create a network to organize donations and services. She also flies missions delivering aid to areas struck by disaster. She is racing because “I flew my first race in 2016 as a brand-new pilot and had an absolute blast. I swore I’d be back, and the cards just fell into place this year.” During the 2016 race, Kelli’s team laughed the entire week and was voted “Most Fun Team.” Kelli loves hiking, camping, skydiving, and most outdoor activities. She loves sharing these experiences with her 8-year-old granddaughter, who started camping under the wing with Kelli at age 5.

Welcome first-time racer, Melissa! Melissa (Tucson, AZ) holds both Private Pilot and Remote Pilot certificates, with a high-performance endorsement, a current instrument rating, and 277 hours in her logbook.

Melissa is a Flight Test Engineer for L3Harris on the VTOL-capable FVR-90 UAV. She works mostly in the testing of new payloads, flying demonstration flights, and conducting test events.

Hello to veteran racer Kelli Angelle & first-timer Melissa May!

Previously, she was a Sensor Operator on the MQ-90 reaper with General Atomics. Melissa says, “2024 is my first Air Race Classic but, hopefully, the first of many! I am looking forward to having an awesome flight experience and learning from my copilot and all the other racers. I am excited to make many wonderful aviatrix friends along the way and continue to refine my flying skills.” Some of her hobbies include cooking/baking, travel, board games, and alpine skiing. Recently, she has been obtaining additional flight training where and when she can. She is currently working on her commercial multi-engine rating to move from the world of unmanned flying to manned flying professionally. Melissa is a member-at-large of Women in Aviation and a member of the Tucson Chapter of the 99s.
Tracy (Grand Forks, ND) is back for her second ARC. She holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, single-engine and multi-engine ratings, a Remote Pilot Certificate, instrument rating, complex and high-performance endorsements, flight instructor credentials, and 282 hours logged.

Tracy is a full-time aviation student at UND and a Flight Operations intern for General Atomics Aeronautical. In the previous year, she began instructing for the Unmanned Aircraft Department at the University, teaching commercial UAS applications and concepts to aerospace students. She is racing “to set an example for young female aviators and showcase the sisterhood that comes with the community. I want to give back the mentorship I have received so far along my journey. ARC also provides the unique opportunity to create connections with other female pilots!” Being from Montana, most of Tracy’s hobbies include being outdoors. When she’s not in the cockpit, she enjoys skiing, hiking, paddle-boarding, or hammocking with a good book! In the chilly North Dakota winters, she has taken up the art of crocheting and enjoys watching the snowfall! Tracy is a member of the Minnesota Chapter of the 99s.

Caroline (Lakeville, MN) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, single-engine and multi-engine ratings, a current instrument rating, flight instructor credentials, and 470 hours logged.

Caroline is a first-generation pilot. She is a University of North Dakota student and has recently become a CFI and teaching assistant at UND, sharing what she has learned with others. She is also a member of the UND Flying Team. Caroline is racing “for many reasons! I love the opportunity to meet and support other women in aviation while challenging my pilot skills. I believe the experiences and relationships built here cannot be found elsewhere. I love the atmosphere of the race, and I am excited to compete with other female pilots!” One of her greatest interests is traveling, but she enjoys several activities, such as reading and painting, in her spare time at home. She has learned how to crochet as well. She is often kept busy by her cat, who is very playful and loves to seek out trouble. Caroline is a member of the Minnesota Chapter of the 99s.

Helena (Grand Forks, ND) is a Commercial Pilot with a current instrument rating, complex endorsement, and 209 hours logged.

Helena obtained her Commercial certificate this past November through the University of North Dakota. All of her flight training was achieved through training at UND. She races because “I admire the sense of both competition and achievement that comes with the event. The race provides a platform to showcase and test my skills and inspire the next generation of female aviators.” She enjoys staying active, whether going to the gym or hiking outside. The arts inspire her, and she tries to incorporate them into her daily life through drawing, painting, and journaling. Helena is a member of the UND chapter of WAI.
Jeri (Collinsville, OK) is a Private Pilot with high-performance and tailwheel endorsements and 650 hours logged. Jeri is a CEO and holistic financial planner focusing on wealth management by minimizing taxes and protecting retirees or those close to retirement. Growing up in a three-generational family business provides additional experience to pass on to families and their businesses in business succession planning. She is racing because “I am highly competitive against myself and want to achieve greater things in this life that is bigger than oneself. I love a challenge, meeting new women aviators, and mentoring others. And I would love to take over the world while helping others learn about aviation! The sky is our playground.” Jeri grew up in a small airport, OK93, and has three children. She’s formerly known as Jeri Springer! She loves nature, flying, traveling, and being active in her community. She wants to share the love of aviation and inspire other women by building the one and only T32 Curtiss Condor. Jeri is a member of WAI and a member of the Oklahoma Chapter of the 99s.

Mary (Winchester, CA) holds both Private Pilot certificates and a current instrument rating, other endorsements and 970 hours in her logbook. Since 1989, Mary worked as an engineer in medical device manufacturing. In 2000, she decided to work for herself as a consultant. In 2015, she decided to “retire” and spend more time in the air. She returned in 2015 for a short contract but is now happily retired. Mary races for “the combination of the challenge, competition, and camaraderie.” During the 2023 race, she remembers a fun memory of laughing with her teammates uncontrollably at breakfast one morning. The other diners looked at them as if they were crazy! That’s what makes this so fun. She thanks her wonderful supportive husband who lets her do this over his birthday. Other than flying, she enjoys golfing and cooking. Ten years ago, she lived in Ireland and a few years ago in The Netherlands. She had the opportunity to fly in both countries while there. Mary is a member of the Coyote Country Chapter of the 99s.
06 | Kiwi Express
DEE BOND & JAN MCKENZIE
CESSNA 182R

Dee (Pukekohe, NZ) is an eight-time ARC racer. She holds a Commercial Pilot certificate for single-engine and multi-engine aircraft and seaplanes; CFI/CFII/MEI flight instructor credentials; BGI/AGI/IGI ground instructor credentials; an instrument rating; high-performance, complex, tailwheel, aerobic, and formation endorsements; and 5,052 hours logged.

Since 2008, Dee and her partner, Neil, have owned and operated the 4-star Tuakau Hotel and developed the Mercer Airport in New Zealand. In 2021, they acquired the assets of Pacific Aerospace and now, as NZAero, also build aircraft and spare parts for the 750XL-II SuperPac, CT4 Airtrainer, and FBA-2C3 E350 Expedition. She is racing “for fun and friendship. It’s a great way to see the USA in the company of like-minded pilots. It’s thanks to the 99s newsletter where I first read about and got inspired by ARC racers, and Denise Waters for taking me on as her co-pilot after the 2001 London to Sydney Air Race, that I got the ARC bug.” In a prior race, Dee stopped using the radio when ATC kept advising me “that radio sounds funny” and has flown each race since with American co-pilots to remain incognito as the kiwi flyer, who “sounds funny” on the radio. In 2012, Dee and her partner hired three Cessna C182s in South Africa, flying themselves on safari through Botswana and Zimbabwe, a trip to remember. She ferried a Mooney to England from New Zealand in 2001. She also flies a WWII PBY Catalina and owns Cessna C152, C182, C180 & C185 aircraft. Dee is a WAI member-at-large and a member of the New Zealand Section of the 99s.

Welcome back to the ARC, Dee Bond & Jan McKenzie!

07 | Tahoe Turbulence
RAJ KARWA & SARAH KRAMMEN
CESSNA 172P

Raj (Incline Village, NV) holds a Private Pilot certificate with high-performance, tailwheel, and other endorsements and 425 hours logged.

With decades of technology leadership spanning finance, food, and media entertainment, Raj blends entrepreneurial spirit with corporate expertise. A Computer Engineering graduate from Pune University, India, Raj has founded businesses and thrived in dynamic startup and corporate landscapes. She is racing because “racing combines my love for flying and problem-solving, pushing me to enhance my aviation skills and knowledge. The electrifying atmosphere of women pilots further fuels my excitement, creating a dynamic environment for inspiration and growth.” Raj loves to immerse herself in nature by flying, hiking, skiing, and water sports. She dedicates time and skills to local nonprofits, championing education and hunger relief. A pilot alongside her husband, they aspire for their 8-year-old twins to embrace the skies with the same fervor. Raj is a member of the Lake Tahoe Chapter of the 99s.

Sarah (Truckee, CA) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate for single-engine and multi-engine airplanes; high-performance, complex, and other endorsements; a current instrument rating; flight instructor credentials; and 350 hours in her logbook.

Say hello to first-time team, Raj Karwa & Sarah Krammen!

Sarah is a commercial multi-engine charter pilot with Dreamline Aviation, flying right seat in a King Air B200. She is also a flight instructor. She started flying professionally in September 2023, when she left a thirteen-year career as a high school math teacher. Sarah is racing because “I have never raced airplanes, but this is the energy I love and miss from racing mountain bikes. It seems like a great opportunity to have an adventure with a good friend and to make more lady friends in the industry!” Her interest in flying started in 2019 when she was in Homer, Alaska. In July 2019, she was putting her gravel bike together for a solo bike-packing trip across the state to Prudhoe Bay when a young pilot asked her if she wanted to go fly. The flight over Kachemak Bay started her wild dream of flying! Sarah is a member of the Lake Tahoe Chapter of the 99s.
**08 | Delta V’s**

**REBECCA CUTRI-KOHART & LAURA LUCIER**

**MOONEY M20J**

Rebecca (Alexandria, VA) is a Private Pilot with a current instrument rating, complex endorsement, and 720 hours logged.

Rebecca is a NASA aerospace engineer and mission controller turned lawyer. She has orchestrated trajectory for shuttle missions and managed ISS cargo missions. Rebecca became a judicial law clerk, trial attorney with the Department of Justice, and counsel at the White House. Now, she’s an in-house litigator at a space company. She is racing because “flying fast is fun! Flying fast is fun! Flying fast is fun!” This is her first Air Race Classic, but she has been an active Sport Air Race League racer for a decade, holds the record for the fastest M20J, and won her class for multiple Air Venture Cups.

Laura (Houston, TX) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate with an instrument rating, complex endorsement, and 497 hours in her logbook.

Laura has been working at NASA’s Johnson Space Center for the past 20+ years, first as a robotics flight controller, then through various progressive supervisory positions, and now, as the Flight Operations Directorate’s Transformation Manager. Laura is racing because she’s “looking forward to sisterhood, adventure, building my confidence, and becoming a better pilot.” When she’s not working or flying, you can find her SCUBA diving, traveling, remodeling her home, or working on one of the many “maker” projects she always has on the go.

“Every ARC race is another year at Fly Camp. You see good friends you only see once a year, and spend a couple of weeks having a great time doing something we all love. What could be better.” Marolyn Wilson

**09 | SkyMoms**

**SARAH HASKETT & TIMBER DAWSON**

**CESSNA 172F**

Sarah (Midland, MI) is a Private Pilot, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating and 353 hours logged.

Sarah was a public school music teacher for twenty years. She left that career and opened a piano studio to help pay for her flight training. She uses her education degrees to volunteer for youth aviation days. She has volunteered at 99s, WAI, and EAA educational events for youth. She is racing "for the experience. I can’t wait to meet other female pilots, gain experience navigating through new air space, and share this experience with my teammate, Timber!" On her 40th birthday, she bought herself a discovery flight and signed up for flying lessons. She fell in love! Now, she is making a full career change to hopefully become a corporate pilot. She is currently working toward her commercial certificate and multi-engine rating. Sarah is a member of the Michigan Chapter of the 99s and a member of WAI.

Timber (Louisville, KY) is a Private Pilot, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating, high-performance and complex endorsements, and 332 hours in her logbook.

As a homeschooling teacher for 17 years, Timber has provided personalized education for each of her five children. She has cu-rated curriculum and taught all grades from Pre-K to 12th grade. Timber has earned two degrees in aviation, is a seasoned leader in BSA Scouting, and has experience in aircraft management. She is racing because “I’m the first female pilot in my family. I inherited a rich aviation legacy dating back to 1939, with both my grandfather and my uncle earning pilot certificates. Encouraged by my husband’s support and motivated by a love for outdoor adventure, I am excited for the camaraderie among women in air racing!” Timber’s family loves to explore the outdoors together every chance they get. Their favorite things are hiking, backpacking, kayaking, volunteering in trail maintenance at state parks, and flying to fun places together. Timber is a member of the Kentucky Bluegrass Chapter of the 99s.
10 | Cardinal Skyhoppers

MINNETTA GARDINIER & DEE DREGER

**Minnetta Gardinier** (Iowa City, IA) is a 14-time racer, holding a Private Pilot certificate with a current instrument rating and 2,684 hours logged. Minnetta is an Associate Professor Emerita of Pharmacology and retired Associate Dean of the Graduate College at the University of Iowa. During her time at the university, she directed a laboratory for research in multiple sclerosis, taught medical students, pharmacy students, grad students, and nurse anesthetists. She is racing because she’s ‘flown every ARC race since 2008. Each race is a new adventure and introduces me to new flying experiences and new aviation friends. I return to the ARC each year for its great fun, friendship, and flying. It’s a blast to reconnect with past racers and meet new racers.’ In reflecting back on past races, she never thought that she’d top her rookie error (2008) when the newly made extra set of plane keys didn’t work on the race start morning. She elaborates, “BUT 2011 offered a topper – after the 4 northern route stops were canceled due to weather, we surprised all, racers and FBOs, by flying the entire original race course.” Flying is Minnetta’s #1 hobby, and she volunteers with the 99s, EAA, and AOPA. Minnetta is currently the Vice President of The Ninety-Nines. Her other interests include travel (preferably in her own plane) and reading. She also enjoys attending theater, performing arts, and sporting events around the Iowa City area. Minnetta is a member of the Iowa Chapter of the 99s.

Welcome, Dee Dreger (Tomahawk, WI), to her first ARC! She is a Private Pilot with a current instrument rating, high-performance and complex endorsements, and 709 hours in her logbook. Dee retired from teaching special education students after teaching for 33 years in ONLY special education. Her students taught her to never give up and be open to trying new experiences. Her first teaching job was in Queensland, Australia, where she had her first small airplane flight. It was magical! Dee is racing because “I saw a print ad for the ARC when I began taking flying lessons. I secretly put racing on my bucket list. I was invited by Minnetta Gardinier to race with her this year. After a short contemplation, I said, ‘YES!’ I just think racing would be a great experience and another ‘feather in me cap!’” Besides flying, she has many interests. Dee is a cantor at her church, a quilter, and a waterskier. She loves to travel! She bakes most of the desserts for her daughter’s restaurant – she would rather fly, sing, quilt, waterski, travel, cook or bake than clean her house! Dee is a member of the Northwoods Chapter of the 99s.

12 | Freakin’ Awesome

LIN CAYWOOD & SUSAN BEALL

**Lin** (Frederick, MD) is a 10-time ARC racer. She holds a Commercial Pilot certificate with single-engine (land and sea) and multi-engine ratings; a Remote Pilot certificate; high-performance, complex, and tailwheel endorsements; a current instrument rating; CFI/CFII flight instructor credentials; IGI ground instructor credentials; and 3,025 hours logged. Lin is a former realtor with over 30 years in real estate finance and mortgage banking. She is retired and now self-employed as a Certified Flight Instructor. She is racing because “it’s so motivating to spend time with highly motivated, highly accomplished women pilots. The camaraderie and the competition are thrilling. I’ve now landed my plane in 38 of the 48 contiguous US states with the race, and I can’t wait to add more states.” Looking back on her past races, Lin says, “We laugh, we cuss, we rarely shed tears, but it’s always a fun and memorable experience!” She spends much of her free time volunteering with the ARC as the Vice President. She volunteers with Patient Airlift Services (PALS) and the 99s to give back while flying. Lin and her husband recently restored a Cessna 150, and she loves crafts of any kind. Lin is a member of the Blue Ridge WAI chapter and a member of the Sugarloaf Chapter of the 99s.

Welcome back to the ARC, Lin Caywood and Susan Beall! **Susan** (Riva, MD) is a five-time racer and holds a Private Pilot certificate with an instrument rating with high-performance and complex endorsements; she is also rated in single-engine seaplanes and has 760 hours in her logbook. As long as she can remember, Susan has wanted to fly. This is a passion for her, and she feels fortunate to participate in an historic event with its roots from which came the first 99s. She says, “The Air Race Classic is an amazing adventure.” Susan keeps busy with her business, but in her free time and when not flying, she loves to water ski and snow ski with her family. Her family also lives on the water and loves to boat. Susan is a member of the Sugarloaf Chapter of the 99s.
13 | Helotes Hellions
REBECCA CARROLL & GRETCHEN JAHN
PIPER PA-24-250

Rebecca (Aurora, CO) is a three-time racer, holding an Airline Transport Pilot certificate and Remote Pilot certificate with current instrument rating; is qualified in single-engine and multi-engine airplanes; high-performance, complex, and tailwheel endorsed; CFI/CFII/MEI flight instructor credentials; advanced ground instructor credentials; a jet type rating; and 1,846 hours logged.

Rebecca currently flies the A320 for an airline. Before working for her airline, she taught in San Antonio, Texas, as a CFI/CFII/MEI. She is also an active 99 and flies for charitable causes. She started racing because “it seemed like a fun opportunity to do some cross-country flying. Now, I race because I have made an amazing group of friends and get to participate in the adventure of a lifetime every summer while being surrounded and supported by a fabulous group of like-minded aviators.” Rebecca tells the joke, “Where does a mountain climber keep her airplane? In a cliff-hanger!” Beyond racing in the ARC, she is an avid hiker. There are 58 mountains in Colorado that are all over 14,000 feet tall, and her goal is to hike all of them one day. Right now, she is currently at 14 mountain summits out of the 58. Rebecca is an assistant director of the Air Race Classic, a member of the Colorado Chapter of the 99s and a member of the Alamo City Chapter of WAI.

Welcome back to the ARC, Rebecca Carroll & Gretchen Jahn!

Gretchen (Broomfield, CO) is one of the most experienced racers in the ARC, having flown in 26 previous races. Gretchen holds a Commercial Pilot certificate with an instrument rating, high-performance and complex endorsements, CFI/CFII flight instructor credentials, and 3,362 hours in her logbook.

Gretchen is a retired businesswoman and entrepreneur focusing on manufacturing, aviation, and management. She is the former CEO of Mooney Airplane Company, General Manager of Alpha Aviation (NZ), and COO of REMOS Aircraft (Germany). She also founded a software company. Today, she spends her time with non-profits. Gretchen races “to see old friends and learn new things. The camaraderie is incredible. I love to meet and help new racers. There is always more to learn about the airplane, weather, aviation rules, team coordination, and personal capabilities. It’s fun to ‘collect’ airports, become more proficient, and go fast!” She is a member of numerous aviation groups. She also lived in New Zealand for 2.5 years and just loved it. Gretchen sold her Cessna 182 in 2020 and now spends time with the ARC archives and history and was instrumental in developing the ARC database. She completed two AEMSF research grants to gather AWTAR/Powder Puff Derby data into the ARC database with search tools. Gretchen is an assistant director for the Air Race Classic, a member of the Colorado Chapter of the 99s and the Mile High Chapter of WAI.

Welcome back to the veteran-racing team, Lorraine Denby and Amy Myzie!

14 | Blue Footed Booby
LORRAINE DENBY & AMY MYZIE
PIPER PA-28R-180

Lorraine (Berkeley Heights, NJ) has flown in four ARCs and holds a Commercial Pilot certificate with a current instrument rating, high-performance and complex endorsements, CFI/CFII flight instructor credentials, and 4,028 hours logged.

Lorraine holds a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, is a fellow of the American Statistical Association, and has won the Edison Patent Award. The bulk of her career was as a researcher for Bell Labs, and she is currently a principal for Murray Hill Data Science. She holds 19 patents and authored more than 50 papers. Lorraine is racing because “racing is just SO MUCH fun. I like thinking about the strategy and the weather. It is a wonderful opportunity to further hone your skills. And, of course, the company is just fabulous.” Much of her free time is occupied by the Civil Air Patrol, where she is the NJ Wing Emergency Services Training Officer. She is now part of the Green Flag mission, where she will be helping train the ground troops by flying as a surrogate target. She also enjoys skiing, hiking, and sailing with her three grandchildren.

Lorraine is a director of the Air Race Classic, and a member of the North Jersey Chapter of the 99s.

Welcome back to the veteran-racing team, Lorraine Denby and Amy Myzie!

Amy (Flemington, NJ) is a four-time ARC racer with a Private Pilot certificate and a current instrument rating, complex endorsement, and 1,413 hours in her logbook.

Amy is a retired Police Lieutenant for a municipal police department after 30 years of service. Much of her career was spent as a Detective investigating everything imaginable, from petty crimes to homicide. Amy says, “It was a truly rewarding career.” Amy is racing because “I love to meet fellow women pilots from around the world and to test my flying skills.” She likes to teach first aid, CPR, and higher levels of EMS training. Her greatest ‘hobby’ is serving in the Civil Air Patrol which she has done for over 40 years, beginning as a young Cadet in the 1970’s. Amy is a director of the Air Race Classic and a member of the New Jersey Chapter of the 99s.
15 | The Flying Curly Girls
MARY WUNDER & JO ALCORN
MOONEY M20F

Mary (Collegeville, PA) has flown in thirteen ARCs and holds a Commercial Pilot certificate with a current instrument rating, high-performance, complex, and tailwheel endorsements, multi-engine land credentials, and 3,035 hours logged.

Mary had the best job ever - she was an air traffic controller. She would everyone tell everyone where to go. Where else can you tell people what to do, and they have to listen to you? She has been retired for 15 years. Mary is racing because “it’s so much fun. I learned to fly in the 70s and racing gives me the opportunity to try new things and an excuse to get to different parts of the country. Plus, time spent flying with your girlfriends - priceless.” Mary is a permanent trustee of the 99s Endowment Fund, which is over $3.5 million now. She also teaches Homeopathy - a form of alternative medicine. Mary is a director of the Air Race Classic, a member of the Sugarloaf Chapter of the 99s, and a member of WAI.

Jo (Winter Haven, FL) is an eleven-time ARC racer with a Commercial Pilot certificate, an instrument rating, single- and multi-engine land and single-engine sea ratings, high-performance, complex, and tailwheel endorsements, AGI/BGI/IGI credentials, and 2,180 hours in her logbook.

Jo is a retired IT Manager. Since retirement, she has worked in a variety of aviation businesses; the latest and most rewarding is the testing and certification of prospective aircraft mechanics. Jo is racing because “I have not raced in several years, but when hearing that my dear friend, Mary, was looking for a copilot, I jumped at the chance to race again. I have missed the excitement and camaraderie.” In a past race, weather forced the route to be changed and the Start of the race became the 5th stop. There was a severe shortage of rooms and her team ended up 25 miles outside of town in a cabin on a farm. Jo awoke to the romping of dozens of fainting goats. Besides flying, Jo loves to travel, read, bake pies, and do research on the family tree. Flying allows her to explore homesteads and meet distant cousins. Jo is a member of the Florida Heartland Chapter of the 99s.

16 | Over the Moon!
ALICIA SIKES & NANCY ROHR
MOONEY M20J

Alicia (Quakertown, PA) holds an Airline Transport Pilot certificate, multiple jet type ratings and the DC3 type rating, a current instrument rating, high-performance, complex, and tailwheel endorsements, CFI/CFII flight instructor credentials, AGI/BGI/IGI ground instructor credentials, and 25,596 hours logged. Alicia has raced six times with the ARC.

Alicia is a Captain flying the Airbus 319/320/321 for American Airlines. She has flown 65 types of airplanes, including the MD80, B727, B737, B757, and B767 for TWA, North American Airlines, Air New Orleans, and Napier Air Service. She is racing because “It’s fun! So completely different from what I do for a living. Nice to be around so many female pilots for a change.” A fun memory from a past race, Alicia remembers, “[it was] super windy heading into Abilene KS... we realized taxing out how windy that place really is as the windsock at the departure end was nothing but tattered, faded pieces of fabric!” Alicia’s background includes a BS in Computer Science with honors from SCHC and has three master’s degrees (MS in Space Studies from UND, MS in Systems Management/Information Systems from FIT, and MS in Digital Forensics from Champlain College). In her spare time, she loves playing tennis. She’s also a LOSA observer for AA. Alicia is a director of the Air Race Classic, a member of the Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter of the 99s and a WAI member.

Nancy (Bear, DE) holds an Airline Transport Pilot certificate with jet-type ratings, high-performance and complex endorsements, a current instrument rating, CFI/CFII flight instructor credentials, AGI/BGI/IGI ground instructor credentials, and 4,565 hours in her logbook. Nancy is a five-time ARC racer.

Nancy flies for fun and transportation. She works for FlightSafety International in the Regulatory Affairs department to ensure compliance with foreign aviation regulations. Nancy deals with aviation authorities all over the world. She is racing “For the spirit and love of flying and the camaraderie of like-minded women pilots!” Looking back on the 2012 race, Nancy says, “Weather kept us overnight in Goodland, KS. Cynthia and I got together with Team DC3, borrowed the airport car, and explored Goodland. We had a great time in an antique car lot pretending to be gangster women!” She loves to fly and is working on her Maryland and Virginia Passports. She spends her free time in her garden and also loves to read about solar technology. Nancy is a member of the Delaware Chapter of the 99s and a member-at-large of WAI.

Sponsors: Take Wing Leasing LLC
Send a big warm welcome to first-time racers Lisa Mitchell, Ana Adona, & Kriztine Ballarini!

**Lisa** (Lake Villa, IL) is a Private Pilot with 157 hours logged. Lisa works in the financial department of Blue Cross Blue Shield. Last year, she returned to college for a second degree and is majoring in Cybersecurity. She would like to one day be a CFII and give back to the aviation community. She finds flying very fun and rewarding and wants to spread the joy of aviation throughout the world! Lisa is racing because “I have always wanted to participate and race in the Air Race Classic since the first day I took a discovery flight in 2012. Racing fuels the fire and desire to become the best pilot one can be. To me, racing consists of precision and strong situational awareness and promotes safety during every flight.” Even in her first race, she’s already made fun memories. Lisa volunteers for the Special Olympics and mentors individuals with disabilities. She enjoys teaching youth about flying and aviation. She also enjoys hiking/camping, kayaking, snowboarding, and mountain biking. Lisa plays hockey, softball, fencing, and tennis. She also wants to build her own plane. Lisa is a member of the Chicago Area Chapter of the 99s.

**Ana** (Rosemont, IL) holds a Private Pilot with 170 hours logged. Ana’s first job after college was at a Starbucks at Honolulu International Airport. Then, she became a flight attendant for United Airlines in 2013 before moving to a leadership role at the corporate office in Chicago five years later. She is currently an on-duty manager for flight attendants. She is racing because “I am very fascinated with flight planning, and it brings me joy when I successfully and safely execute a flight. I would like to expand and share this experience with other women with a common goal. I also believe this will enhance my CRM skills, a critical attribute of a safe pilot.” Ana was born and raised in the Philippines and moved to the United States in 2010. Her hobbies largely involve the great outdoors: camping, hiking, skiing, and sporting clays. She is working on her instrument rating. Ana is a member of the 99s.

**Kriztine** (Des Plaines, IL) is a Private Pilot with 170 hours logged. Kriztine is a Nursing Student/NA at Rush Medical Center. Of her many accolades in nursing, she is an operating registered nurse, neurology intensive care unit registered nurse, neonatal ICU registered nurse, and a business owner. She says, “Entering this race isn’t just about the thrill; it’s about breaking barriers. I aim to be a trailblazer, inspiring the next generation of female pilots to dream big and soar high. I want to symbolize the limitless possibilities that await those who dare to challenge conventions.” Kriztine is a daredevil; she loves challenges and things that require technical skills. In the winter, she skis, and power lifts all year round. She’s bilingual and picking up a third language in her spare time. Kriztine is a member of the 99s and WAI.

**Emmy** (San Marcos, CA) holds an Airline Transport Pilot certificate and Remote Pilot certificate, high-performance and complex endorsements, CFI/CFII/MEI flight instructor credentials, AGI/BGI/IGI ground instructor credentials, a current instrument rating, and 4,000 hours logged. She is also a five-time ARC racer.

After careers in business and teaching, Jeanné became a flight instructor. She also presented seminars for AOPA and was selected as the 2015 CFI of the Year for the Kansas City FSDO and FAA Central Region. In 2012, Jeanné was selected as the National FAAS-Team Rep of the Year. She loves teaching and especially mentoring young women in aviation. Jeanné is racing because “my mom was a flight instructor and taught me to fly when I was young. In 1973, she took me as her co-pilot in the Angel Derby, the All-Women’s International Air Race, and got me hooked on racing! So, my first air race was 50 years ago! This will be my 10th national or international air race.” In 1998, Jeanné took her mother as her copilot in the ARC along with her high school-age daughter as a team member. They were the first triple-generation team to ever compete in women’s cross-country air racing. Jeanné loves doing volunteer flights; she has given over 150 Young Eagle rides and flown over 50 Angel Flight missions. She enjoys flying her husband and family members around the country for events. For the last 15 years, she has also been an off-ice hockey official for a local minor league team, the Kansas City Mavericks. Jeanné is a member of the Greater Kansas City Chapter of the 99s.

**Emmy** (San Marcos, CA) holds an Airline Transport Pilot certificate, complex, high-performance, tailwheel endorsements, CFI/CFII flight instructor credentials, multiple jet type-ratings, and over 2,500 hours logged.

After graduating from college, Emmy worked as an avionics human factors engineer and then pursued a flying career. She first flew as a ferry pilot for an aircraft manufacturer, then as an air ambulance pilot, progressing to a charter captain on a variety of jets, and now she’s on the B777 flying cargo. She is racing because “there’s no better way to see the country than from the cockpit of an airplane. The ARC is also like a second family to me. I learn new skills and techniques, growing my technical knowledge, learning from amazingly talented racers, all while celebrating the long history of women pioneers in aviation.” One of Emmy’s flying goals is to fly a general aviation aircraft in every US state, and the race pushes her closer to reaching that goal. She spends much of her time volunteering for various aviation organizations, which have allowed her to learn from accomplished aviators and even fly warbirds. Emmy is a director of the Air Race Classic, a member of the San Diego Chapter of the 99s, as well as the San Diego Chapter of WAI.
**20 | DC3-1**

**DEBI DREYFUSS & JOY HALCOTT**

**CESSNA 182T**

Debi (Potomac, MD) holds an Airline Transport Pilot certificate, multi-engine and single-engine land and sea ratings, high-performance, complex, tailwheel, formation, and other endorsements, CFI/CFII flight instructor credentials, a current instrument rating, and 4,000 hours logged. She is also a 12-time ARC racer.

After her divorce, Debi founded Designs Unlimited Architectural Graphics / Commercial Signage and owned it for 20 years. Her second career was selling advertising, and some good investments allowed her to retire in 2007. She remarried in 2009. Debi is racing because “I wanted to fly since age 6 when my uncle took me for a ride in his 172. I race for fun, camaraderie, and competition. That, and I need to convince my spouse that I really need a reason to keep my glass cockpit 182 in my fleet of 3 planes (a Texas taildragger, and 2013 Piper Mirage). Team DC3-1 loves the rush. Members may change, but the thrill doesn’t!” In 2022, her team was on a roll, but didn’t know it. “My co-pilot deferred to me when we left a day early on that last leg.” They had headwinds and clocked a terrible time but astonishingly won 8th place. Debi said, “It surely doesn’t always turn out this way for newbies.” “It doesn’t?” Her co-pilot asked. Debi personally funds the “Debi Dreyfuss Dare to Be Different” award for the local 99s chapters. She’s rescued over 300 animals through Pilots N Paws in the US and Bahamas. Debi is a member of the 99s Mid-Atlantic Chapter and the WAI Capital Region Chapter.

**Welcome back to the ARC, Debi Dreyfuss and Joy Halcott!**

Joy (Baltimore, MD) holds a Private Pilot certificate, tailwheel and high-performance endorsements, AGI/BGI/IGI ground instructor credentials, and over 500 hours logged.

Joy is the Administrative Assistant to the Assistant Director of Facilities Management for the Community College of Baltimore County at the Dundalk Campus. She has worked for this organization for 13 years. She is racing “for myself to fulfill a dream, for others (especially young girls) to encourage, and for aviation to promote awareness and educate.” Joy volunteers with her local CAP and is a member of the Max Lichty Essex Flying Club at Essex Skypark. She volunteers with Girls in Flight Training week in Vernon, TX, and is pursuing an instrument rating with Hartford Flying Club. Joy is a member of the 99s Mid-Atlantic Chapter.

**Sponsors: ProJet Aviation, SkyTech Aviation, Maserati of Washington, Silver Eagle Training Facility, Miller and Long Construction, Kraemer Aviation**

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**21 | Free Rein**

**SHERRY KANDLE & MONICA WEYHE**

**CESSNA 182K**

Sherry (Boise, ID) holds a Private Pilot certificate with a high-performance endorsement, and she has logged 1,200 hours. She is also a seven-time ARC racer.

As an engineer and project manager, Sherry had the opportunity to combine aviation and engineering in the development of a commercial flight management system, where she worked on the FAA validation team. Sherry races “for adventure, challenges, education, and to hang out with my flying friends. I have learned so much about my airplane by flying the race. I am proud to be part of this race that connects us to the women pilots who flew the first race in 1929.” Sherry’s husband, Doug, is also a pilot. They have two rescue dogs who enjoy the Idaho flying destinations. Sherry loves books, movies, bike rides, and tennis. She is a director with the Air Race Classic and a member of the Idaho Chapter of the 99s.

Monica (Medford, OR) holds a Private Pilot certificate, high-performance endorsement, a current instrument rating, and over 1,100 hours logged. She is also a two-time ARC racer.

Monica’s careers were in library and public administration, human resources, and retirement and benefits, living in California, Alaska, Washington, and Oregon. She is on the local flying club board, Finance VP for AAUW Oregon and a local board director.

**Welcome back to the ARC, Sherry Kandle and Monica Weyhe!**

She races “for the adventure and fun with awesome women, to learn and improve as a pilot, and to encourage girls to enter aviation. In the 2016 ARC, we flew across the entire country and back (the first and only time that I’ve flown East of Nebraska), and I’m looking forward to flying in new territory in 2024.” Recalling a memory from the 2016 race, Monica says “we decided to fly two legs and skip the first stop. I couldn’t hold it. After climbing into the back of the C182, with pants down to my ankles and in ‘rest stop’ position, my pilot rounded a high ridge. Turbulence threw me into the air screaming, and she turned in time for a most shocking view!” Monica and her husband have flown their Cheetah since 1984. Their Cheetah’s 46th birthday is the last day of this ARC; flying her for over half of their lives! Monica likes to power walk, hike, snowshoe, kayak, and travel to practice her French. Monica is a member of the Crater Lake Flyers Chapter of the 99s.
22 | Charlie’s Angels

LAURA CARRENO & KATELYN GALL
LEWIS UNIVERSITY | CESSNA 172S

Laura (Melrose Park, ID) holds a Private Pilot certificate, a single-engine land rating, and a current instrument rating, and she has logged 300 hours.

Laura currently works at Lewis University as an aircraft dispatcher, and she has been very lucky to meet new people in the industry. She joined her school’s flight team to get more flight experience and has been able to compete. Thanks to that, it taught her the importance of being safe. She races “to showcase that there are women in aviation, and we are capable of doing so much together, and we are a community of inclusivity.” Some of Laura’s additional hobbies are playing the trumpet and soccer. She is also bilingual; Spanish is her first language. Her family is from Mexico, and funny enough, she is the only pilot in her family!

Katelyn (Channahon, IL) holds a single-engine Commercial Pilot certificate, a CFI flight instructor credential, a current instrument rating, and over 380 hours logged. She has also flown in a previous ARC and she’s excited to be back!

Katelyn is an aircraft dispatcher for Lewis University, where she is responsible for communicating with flight instructors and their students, checking aircraft binders in and out, and keeping up with hangar duties. She is racing “to follow in the footsteps of the women who have competed before me, and I hope to inspire other women who want to pursue a career in aviation. Furthermore, I race to challenge my flying abilities and gain more flying experience.” Katelyn is a part of the Lewis University flight team, and her favorite events to compete in are landings and message drop. She was a part of the Women’s Track and Field team at Lewis, participating in the pole vault. Katelyn also enjoys long distance running.

23 | Jetlaw

ROBIN LAWS & KALI HAGUE
CESSNA 172N

Robin (Denver, CO) holds an Airline Transport Pilot certificate, single- and multi-engine land ratings, CFI/CFII/MEI flight instructor credentials, BGI/AGI/IGI ground instructor credentials, and high-performance, complex, and tailwheel endorsements. She has logged 1,900 hours and is also a four-time ARC racer.

A professional pilot by trade, Robin has logged over 1,200 hours of flight instruction since 2006, has worked as an Operations Officer for the Wichita Airport Authority, and was a Production Test Pilot. More recently, she has been a stay-at-home mom and homeschool educator for her three kiddos. Robin races because “I love the camaraderie, scenery, and experiences learned from real-world flying during the race. I enjoy using things I have learned racing to teach students and make flight training (and child-raising) fun. I love connecting with other racers, making friends, and sharing experiences.” Robin and her husband (also a pilot) have three kids. She discovered her love of teaching flying transferred to homeschooling, which was handy when they traveled full-time in an RV for three years. She is back to flight instructing and loves it! Robin is an assistant director with the Air Race Classic, a member of the Ambassador Chapter of the 99s and the Air Capital City Chapter of WAI.

Kali (Washington, DC) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate with single-engine and multi-engine ratings, CFI/CFII flight instructor credentials, AGI ground instructor credentials, high-performance, complex, and tailwheel endorsements, a current instrument rating, and over 1,500 hours logged. She is also a three-time ARC racer.

Welcome back to the ARC, Robin Laws and Kali Hague!

Kali is a Partner and COO at Jetlaw, an aviation law firm in Washington, D.C. She helps her air carrier, corporate flight department, and airport clients navigate regulatory requirements and maintain compliance. She also helps manage and operate her firm’s Piper Meridian. She is racing “to be a better pilot and to have an incredible adventure with my friend, Robin.” Remembering the 2023 race, she says, “racing a 1946 Luscombe 8E was an ADVENTURE! The first leg was strong headwinds, and we climbed to 7,500 for fuel economy. Another leg we climbed to 9,500. We were exhausted when we crossed the finish line, just minutes before the deadline. To place 10th was the best feeling.” Robin and Kali met 16 years ago in Kansas State University’s aviation program. They love getting together for dinner, swapping aviation stories, and drinking a good glass of red wine. Kali is a member of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the 99s and the Capital Region Chapter of WAI.

Sponsors: Jetlaw
Congratulations and good luck to Kali Hague and Robin Laws (Team 23) and to all of the 47th Air Race Classic competitors!
Congratulations and good luck to Kali Hague and Robin Laws (Team 23) and to all of the competitors!
Susan (Kennebunk, ME) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate with single-engine land and sea, multi-engine land ratings, glider rating, CFI/CFII/CFI-G flight instructor credentials, a current instrument rating, and high-performance, complex, and tailwheel endorsements. She has logged 3,000 hours and has flown in a previous ARC.

After several careers and her recent retirement, she's still figuring out what to do next. Her flying has always been on the side, but she says that maybe that's due to change soon. Susan says she's not sure why she races, but says “I race, therefore I am.” She once got to fly in a P51 Mustang 50ft over the water, circling George H. Bush’s house in Kennebunkport, Maine. Pure dumb luck. Right place, right time! Susan is a member of the Katahdin Chapter of the 99s.

Marisa (Berwick, ME) holds a Private Pilot certificate, single-engine land, a high-performance endorsement, and has logged 300 hours.

After several years of being a flight attendant with a major airline, Marisa decided it was time to change gears and aim for the front of the airplane. Before that, she was a music therapist and still teaches piano on the side to keep her feet on the ground occasionally. She is racing because “there is nothing better than seeing women in a cockpit and by racing, I get to be another woman that others can see and can look up to. I love flying to new places and meeting people from all around and this race encompasses all of the above!” Marisa loves to hike, play piano and guitar, embroider, crochet, and quilt. She also loves being on her Vespa and has been to 35+ countries and doesn’t plan on stopping!

Lenora (Portland, ME) holds a Private Pilot certificate, single-engine land, and has 90 hours in her logbook.

Lenora is a flight school administrator, currently working at Southern Maine Aviation helping the flight department get new students started on their piloting journey. She was a customer service representative at the FBO at Southern Maine Aviation before that. Aviation is new to her; before this, she was in medicine. She says she “wanted to race so that I could fly across new airports and parts of the United States while meeting some other women in aviation to make connections with. I am still new to this wonderful aviation world and trying to find my place in it. I hope I get more insight into my future profession.” To help pay for flight school, Lenora has a small business where she sells stickers, crocheted products, and jewelry. Her favorite things to sell are cartoon versions of planes, which she makes into stickers, and stuffed airplanes that she crochets. Lenora is a member of the Katahdin Chapter of the 99s and Eleanor Spear (Maine) Chapter of WAI.

Sponsors: Southern Maine Aviation LLC, Jim Knowles
**Logan (Berthoud, CO)** holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, a current instrument rating, and a high-performance endorsement. She has logged over 340 hours, and this is her first ARC!

Logan’s education and career have been in the agriculture field in R&D and Production in order to support farmers by performing research in biotechnology, pesticides and seeds. She has been with her current employer for 28 years and has been in a quality control role for 10 years. She races because “my first race was in 2022 and I couldn’t get enough! I am excited to return with a new partner (a first timer) and can’t wait to show her the ropes. I am excited to meet and network with other female aviators and improve my aviation skills.” She currently volunteers for a non-profit organization on a WWII PV-2 Harpoon. She is the current treasurer and supports with maintenance (because she can fit into small spaces!). She loves learning the mechanics behind her airplane by performing an owner-assisted annual. She also gardens, runs, and swims.

**Amanda (Danville, IL)** holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, AGI ground instructor credentials, a current instrument rating, and has logged 420 hours.

Amanda is a Senior Analyst at Blackstone Laboratories. That’s right—she writes about engine oil for a living. How does one get into that profession? In her case, she started with a couple of history degrees and fell into a ‘writing’ job by chance one day. She is racing because “the question isn’t, ‘Why do you race?’ but rather, ‘Why wouldn’t you race, if a good friend asked you to race with her?’ What an awesome opportunity to challenge myself, meet new people, and hone my aviation skills.” Amanda has many hobbies including playing bassoon, bowling, birdwatching, and passionately pursuing her bucket list. She also enjoys alligator wrestling. Someday soon, she hopes to take up unicycling and playing the bagpipes.

**Welcome back to the ARC, Joelene Smith, and first-time racer Amanda Callahan!**

**Sponsors:** Blackstone Laboratories, Republic Bank Aircraft Lending, BOLDAviation, Lube Masters, Hendrick County Aviation Association

**27 | Mach .182**

**LOGAN NISSEN & KELLY HANSEN**

**CESSNA 182Q**

**Logan** (Berthoud, CO) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, a current instrument rating, and a high-performance endorsement. She has logged over 340 hours, and this is her first ARC!

Logan is in her senior year at Embry-Riddle Prescott. She is a commercial pilot working on her multi-engine rating. She’s also a United Aviate participant and works at the Robertson Aviation Safety Center in the crash lab at Embry-Riddle. Her mom and dad are both pilots who inspire her! She says “my teammate Kelly and I chose to race with the goal of gaining further experiences and to deepen our aviation education. We are thrilled to partake in this competition with other female aviators and see what we are made of and how successful the two of us can be together!” She has not raced in a prior ARC, but has watched some YouTube videos about the race, spoken to past racers, and heard many good stories! She obviously loves to fly but also enjoys pretty much anything to do with being outside! Hiking, fishing, wake surfing, snowboarding, horseback riding, and off-roading! She loves finishing her days with friends and family, either just chatting or watching a good show. Logan is a member of the ERAU-Prescott Chapter of WAI.

**Kelly** (El Dorado Hills, CA) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, complex and high-performance endorsements, a current instrument rating, and has logged 310 hours. This is also her first ARC!

**Give a big welcome to first-time team, Logan Nissen and Kelly Hansen!**

Kelly is pursuing a B.S. in Aeronautical Science at ERAU and is a soon-to-be CFI. Her Delta Air Lines internship, with 200+ hours in the Airbus simulator, ignited her goal to join their ranks. As a Peer Counselor, lifeguard, and ALPA ACE Industry Liaison, her commitment revolves around safety, mentorship, and excellence. She is racing for the love of competition and aviation. Our goal is to acquire valuable flight experience and knowledge through this thrilling pursuit.” She finds joy in being part of the ERAU women’s volleyball team. Beyond aviation, her background as a previous competitive snowboard racer fuels her goal of competing in NASA-ASF events. Kelly is a member of the Sacramento Valley Chapter of the 99s and the ERAU-Prescott Chapter of WAI.

**Sponsors:** Roof Link, Children’s Art Classes
28 | The Flying Carastros

SUSAN CARASTRO, MARIE CARASTRO & DANIELLE CARASTRO
CESSNA 182T

Susan (West Palm Beach, FL) holds an Airline Transport Pilot certificate, single-engine land and sea, and multi-engine ratings, a current instrument rating, CFI/MEI flight instructor credentials, and complex, high-performance, and tailwheel endorsements. She has logged over 3,100 hours, and this is her 20th ARC!

Susan is a veterinary ophthalmologist. She said she has one of the most enjoyable and challenging careers, managing eye problems in all of God’s four-legged creatures, from dogs, cats, and horses to giraffes and rhinos. Susan races to “spend time with my mom, vacation, meet new friends, visit with old friends and challenge my cross-country skills.” With her multitude of ARC experiences, one of the more humorous memories is flying the numbers off the airplane many times. Susan enjoys horseback riding including trail and polo. She plays racquetball and enjoys running regularly. SCUBA diving and boating are a must, living in Florida. Susan is a member of the Florida Goldcoast Chapter of the 99s.

Marie (Montgomery, AL) holds a Private Pilot certificate, complex and high-performance endorsements, and has logged 1,400 hours. This is also her 20th ARC!

Marie has been a practicing Registered Dietitian for the past 60 years in private practice as a nutritional consultant, federal, and state health provider standards. She incorporated aviation into her career by traveling to consulting jobs in the state of Alabama in a Cessna 172. She is racing for “quality 1-on-1 time spent with daughter Susan and her granddaughter, Danielle, seeing old friends, and the opportunity to make new friends. I look forward and enjoy the thrill, excitement, and challenges of piloting across the country.” Thinking back through her many races, she comments, “Susan and I alternate legs, and somehow I get all the difficult legs.” Marie enjoys spending time with her family, gardening, traveling, and genealogy. Her interest in aviation started with her brother being drafted into the Army/Air Corp to fly in the B25 in WWII. She feels privileged to have been presented with the Master Pilot Award. Marie is a member of the Alabama Chapter of the 99s.

Danielle (Ocean Springs, MS) holds a Private Pilot certificate and a current instrument rating, with 300 hours logged. She is also a four-time ARC racer.

Danielle is a student at AUM. She has several thoughts regarding her future career which may include aviation, so she is excited about continuing to expand her knowledge during the race. She races because “my grandmother and aunt have competed for years; [I am] trying to keep up the family tradition.” Danielle enjoys horseback riding, video games, soccer and anything to do with water and the beach. She also loves spending time with her family.

29 | Sky Cats

ROXANA LINARES & SYD OYER
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY – POLYTECHNIC
CESSNA 172S

Roxana (Arkansas City, KS) holds a Private Pilot certificate and a current instrument rating. She has logged over 310 hours, and this is her second ARC!

Roxana began flying during her senior year of high school and fell in love with aviation. She is working on completing the collegiate aviation program at Kansas State University and hopes to one day fly for airlines internationally. She races to “bond with other women in aviation, allowing me to learn from my peers, improve my skills, and grow as an individual.” Outside of flying, Roxana enjoys being involved by taking on different leadership positions on campus. She enjoys being able to help others and create progress and improvement wherever she goes. Roxana is a member of the Kansas State University - Polytechnic Chapter of WAI.

Syd (Gardner, KS) holds a Private Pilot certificate, high-performance endorsement, and a current instrument rating. She has logged 200 hours, and this is her first ARC!

Syd is a 21-year-old Kansas State University senior working on her commercial pilot rating. She began flying at a Part 61 flight school in Kansas City when she was 17. By 18, she received her private pilot certificate, then decided to move to a Part 141 school to receive a degree in aviation. She is racing because “my dad was interested in aviation and airplanes, and I remember being around planes often as a child. Once I decided to give flying a try, I was hooked immediately and discovered a passion I never knew I had.” Syd has never raced before but helped last year. Syd enjoys staying active, being outdoors, spending time with family and friends, and traveling! She is excited to get her CFI as well because she has a passion for teaching and sharing the joy of flight with others.

Welcome to the 2024 ARC, Roxana Linares and first-time racer Syd Oyer!
EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH FLIGHT

Celebrating the Women’s Air Race Classic

Today’s women in aviation are increasingly being given opportunities to live their dreams of taking flight, especially here at the 47th Annual Air Race Classic.

“The Air Race Classic is an unforgettable experience for us women in aviation,” says Republic Airways First Officer Abby Lee. “We’re able to put our skills to the test and inspire the next generation of pilots, all in the span of an adrenaline-filled 4-day race! The memories you make and the people you meet at every stop make it a priceless experience.”

Republic Airways is a strong supporter of women in aviation. If you aspire to pursue a career as a pilot, land your flying aspirations at Republic. To learn more about aviation opportunities for women and all interested individuals, visit careers.rjet.com.

Republic Airways

30 | Sky Chicken

JUSTINA ASTRAUSKAITE & MACY McMILLAN
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY – POLYTECHNIC CESSNA 172S

Justina (Willowbrook, IL) holds a Private Pilot certificate, single-engine land, and a current instrument rating. She has logged over 230 hours, and this is her first ARC! Justina took a discovery flight during her senior year of high school, and after that, she knew she wanted to do this as her career. Eventually, she would like to work for a government agency, but prior to that, she would like to work for airlines or fly corporate. She races because “the race would help me get some of the real-life experiences. In addition, I will be able to connect with other racers.” Besides flying, Justina rides horses when she has some free time. In addition to that, she likes to spend time with friends. Whenever she has time, she also likes to travel.

Macy (Concordia, KS) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate with single-engine and multi-engine ratings, a Remote Pilot certificate, CFI/CFII flight instructor credentials, AGI ground instructor credentials, high-performance, complex, and tailwheel endorsements, and a current instrument rating. She has logged 1,300 hours, and this is her first ARC! Macy is a recent graduate of Kansas State University Salina Aerospace & Technology Campus and is an Advanced Flight Instructor at KSU. She has enjoyed serving her university as a flight instructor for the past year and a half. She is looking forward to moving on to the next phase of her career. She is racing because she is “eager for the opportunity to break out of the normal training environment and apply the skills I teach every day to a real-life situation.” Macy grew up on a farm in North Central Kansas with her parents and younger sister. She knew from a young age she wanted to be in aviation. This will be her first race, and she’s super excited. Macy is a member of the Kansas State University – Polytechnic Chapter of WAI.
The Piper Powderpuffs

CARLY SHUKIAR, LUCY FREEMAN & BAILEY CUST
PIPER PA-28-181

Carly (Palm Bay, FL) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, single-engine and multi-engine ratings, complex and high-performance endorsements, a current instrument rating, and CFI/CFII flight instructor credentials. She has logged over 1,000 hours, and this is her first ARC!

Carly is proud to work at Piper Aircraft, where she manages the eastern America territory for trainer fleet sales. Helping flight schools take their operations to the next level in aircraft she loves has been amazing. She’s been with Piper for nearly 3 years now, and also is a CFI/CFII and demonstration pilot. Carly races because “racing has been a goal of mine since I started flying! I was a member of my collegiate team, but never got to fly a race due to Covid. Now, racing on behalf of Piper is a dream come true. I am excited to showcase our aircraft alongside my talented teammates, who are also my close friends." Carly was born and raised in Southern California but has lived in Florida for two years. She’s also a University of North Dakota Commercial Aviation graduate. She loves to golf, although she says she’s not very good at it, and recently started running. She hopes to run her first marathon in November of this year! Carly is a member of the Ventura County Chapter of the 99s and a Member-At-Large of WAI.

Lucy (West Melbourne, FL) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, a high-performance, endorsement, and a current instrument rating. She has 310 flight hours.

Lucy graduated from Florida Institute of Technology in Spring 2021 with a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering (Aeronautical Emphasis). Shortly after, she started her career at Piper Aircraft where she currently supports PA28, PA44, and PA46 production by prescribing structural repairs as a Liaison Engineer II. She is racing because “in addition to demonstrating that women belong in the left seat, I want to show that women belong in ALL aviation roles, from sales, to maintenance, to engineering. I find that cross-country flying is one of the most confidence-building activities in the air, so I’m excited to build up that skill more as well.” Lucy’s favorite thing to do outside of work/flying is running. Her current major goal is to run a marathon in all 50 states and to time qualify for the 2025 Boston Marathon. On schedule this year, she has plans to run the Tunnel Vision Marathon in Washington State and the Every Woman’s Marathon in GA. This will be her first air race, and she’s super excited.

Bailey (Palm Bay, FL) holds a Private Pilot certificate and has logged 70 hours.

Bailey works in the Marketing department at Piper Aircraft and has her PPL which she obtained through Part 61 training. Her experience has four years in the marketing industry, and about ten years immersed in aviation. She is racing “because we want to promote diversity in our field. We are so excited to participate in this historical race and network with other lady aviators.” Bailey grew up in the world of seaplane and bush flying. Float flying is her greatest passion. Outside of aviation, she loves the outdoors and participate in skiing, boating, hiking, and camping.

Sponsors: Piper Aircraft

CAITLYN KELLY & MARY DODD MARTIN
CESSNA HAWK XP

Caitlyn (Arlington, TN) is a Commercial Pilot, single- and multi-engine land; with a current instrument rating; CFI/CFII/MEI credentials; complex, high-performance and skydiver endorsements; and 610 flight hours.

Caitlyn became interested in aviation in 2013 when her mom began skydiving. Caitlyn started flight training in 2019, then went on to finish her certificates at a university. She is now instructing at an amazing school, where she can share her passion for aviation with others. Caitlyn is racing “to meet other women in aviation and to gain experience in a different field of aviation.” Since Caitlyn’s family started skydiving, her life became all about aviation. She went on her first skydive when she was 13, and she knew she wanted to be in the sky. She loves jumping all weekend with her family, flying all week with her friends, and going home to her cats every night.

Mary Dodd (Rockvale, TN) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, single- and multi-engine land; with a current instrument rating; complex and high-performance endorsements; CFI/CFII credentials; and 675 hours in her log book.

Mary Dodd found her love for aviation in high school. She started flying in 2018 and obtained her Private Pilot certificate at 18 years old. She finished her training at Murfreesboro Aviation, where she now teaches others to fly. Mary Dodd says, “I am excited to race along side so many other women who are passionate about aviation. I hope to share my love for this industry through the race. I am excited to be involved of this side of aviation!” Her favorite thing to do is to teach the next generation of pilots how to fly! She loves to hang out with her cat and loves to explore the outdoors.
Alyssa (Collierville, TN) is a Commercial Pilot, single- and multi-engine land, with a current instrument rating; a complex endorsement; CFI/CFII/MEI credentials; and 355 hours logged. Alyssa is finishing up her last semester at Middle Tennessee State University. She started working as an MTSU flight instructor in the Fall of 2023, and she is also an aerospace student ambassador where she has the opportunity to uphold a positive image of the flight training program to prospective students. Alyssa says, "Last year was my first experience in the ARC, and I had the opportunity to learn about teamwork and overcoming dynamic situations. Flying outside of a training environment is an amazing way for me to gain new skills and become a better pilot and flight instructor for my students. One of Alyssa’s favorite stories was when she and her team were flying home from the Air Race. As she was sitting in the backseat exhausted from the previous week, she fell asleep, and her teammate took a picture of her. She will still show people that picture to describe their overall experience from the Air Race. She has always been surrounded by aviation due to her dad being a retired pilot from the Air Force. When she started flying at 16, that confirmed what she had known her entire life, she is meant to be a pilot. She is also currently an officer for her Women in Aviation chapter, and she can’t wait for graduation! Alyssa is a member of the Nashville Chapter of the 99s and the Air Raiders Chapter of WAI.

Rachel (Cisco, TN) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, single- and multi-engine land; with a current instrument rating; complex and high-performance endorsements; CFI/CFII and AGI/IGI credentials; and 478 hours in her logbook. Rachel is currently flight instructing as a CFII for MTSU. At the moment, she is time building to help achieve her goal of becoming a DPE and working for the regionals. One of her long-term goals is to follow in the footsteps of her mother and become an airline pilot for one of the major carriers. Rachel says, "Being able to compete with other women in a largely male-dominated field is a dream come true, and making new friends would be invaluable. It is my passion to fly, and this race provides a wonderful opportunity for me to inspire young women to follow in my footsteps." Some of her hobbies include SCUBA diving, traveling to new places, and water skiing. She has always been fascinated by traveling and SCUBA diving in different oceans since she was a child. There are a number of countries that she has visited, but Egypt, Italy, and Argentina are some of her favorites. Rachel is a member of WAI.

Hailey (Lakeland, TN) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, single- and multi-engine land; with a current instrument rating; complex endorsement; and 239 hours in her logbook. Hailey is currently a student at Middle Tennessee State University. She is a junior, majoring in Aerospace: Professional Pilot & Flight Dispatch, and is soon to be Certified Flight Instructor. She will also be flight instructing at MTSU in the near future! Hailey is racing "for the amazing experience and the opportunity to meet some amazing fellow women aviators from across the country. This is my first ARC, so I am excited to get to gain a new experience.” She enjoys skiing, going to the gym, hanging out with friends, and walking her roommate’s dog, Remy. A fun fact about Hailey is that her discovery flight was with a former Blue Angels pilot in his own personal plane! She is a member of the Nashville Chapter of the 99s and the Air Raiders Chapter of WAI.
Olivia (Braham, MN) is a Commercial Pilot, single- and multi-engine land, with a complex endorsement, and 290 hours logged. Olivia’s career aspirations consist of continuing to work towards achieving her Certified Flight Instructor rating to build up hours to become an airline pilot. Olivia is racing “because I want to enhance my cross country and pilotage skills. I also want to use this opportunity to make connections within the aviation community. Olivia participates on the Minnesota State University Mankato swim team. She likes to cook, hunt, fish, be with family and friends, and weightlift. She has an adopted cat named Rusty. Olivia is a member of the Minnesota Chapter of the 99s.

Jess (Vadnais Heights, MN) holds a Private Pilot certificate, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating; and 247 hours in her logbook. Jess is a student at Minnesota State University Mankato. She has been flying since 2021 and has earned her private pilot certificate and instrument rating since then. She expects to take her commercial multi-engine checkride within the next few weeks! Jess says, “I race because of the wonderful women who have helped me get to where I am today. I cherish the friendships and connections I’ve been able to make so far, and there’s nothing like the camaraderie of an all-women crew.” Outside of flying, Jess enjoys going to the gym, watching movies, drawing, seeing live music, and drinking coffee. She tutors other aviation students and has been conducting extracurricular research on the effects of caffeine on pilot performance for the past year. Jess is a member of the MSU Northern Lights Chapter of the WAI.

Laura (Salem, WI) holds a Private Pilot certificate, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating; and 245 hours in her logbook. Laura is an aviation student at Minnesota State University Mankato. She has been extremely lucky to have the opportunity to work line service and front desk at a few different airports. It’s been a great journey so far, and she is excited to see where she lands (pun intended) in aviation! She is racing because, “I’ve heard so many good things from previous racers. I also think this will be a great way for me to improve my skills as a pilot, as well as a great bonding experience with the other girls I’m racing with. I’m very excited to see how it will go!” Laura got into flying through her high school’s aviation club, where she actually got to build the plane that she got her license in! Outside of flying, she has been dancing since two years old, and loves to snowboard in the winter. Laura is a member of the MSU Northern Lights Chapter of the WAI.

Welcome back, Olivia Hudobo! Welcome first-time racers, Jessica “Jess” Stelton and Laura Beinecke!

Harper (Gilford, NH) is a Commercial Pilot, single- and multi-engine land, with a Remote Pilot Certificate, and 260 hours logged. Harper is a sophomore at Jacksonville University working on CFI and has been hired as an aviation tutor. She helps students who have any questions about the certificates they are working on, gives mock oral exams, and proctors tests that they may need to take. Harper is racing “for the amazing experiences that we will get flying across the country. I also like to be competitive, so I am excited to be able to do that within aviation. I am looking forward to meeting the other racers and getting to know other women in aviation.” Harper comes from New Hampshire and grew up skiing, playing sports, and being on the lake. She loves to be with her family and to travel. When she got into high school, she and her twin brother both decided to get their private pilot’s licenses together. Now, she wants to pursue an aviation career. Harper is a member of the Jacksonville University Chapter of WAI.

Welcome, first-time team, Harper Meehan and Grace Whitney!

Grace (Mankato, MN) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, single- and multi-engine land, with a Remote Pilot Certificate, and 264 hours in her logbook. Grace is currently a sophomore at Jacksonville University working on her CFI! She recently started working as a tutor for aviation students. She helps students of all ratings work towards their goals and answer any questions they may have. Grace says, “I heard of the race through one of my flight instructors. It sounded like an amazing opportunity to meet more women in aviation and gain experience in flying.” She is from Minnesota and has always loved being by the lake and outside. Grace is a member of the Jacksonville University Chapter of WAI.
Morgan (Peru, IN) is a Commercial Pilot, single- and multi-engine land, a current instrument rating, complex and tail-wheel endorsements, and CFI/CFII credentials, with 570 hours in her logbook.

Morgan will graduate from Purdue University in the spring with a Bachelors degree in Aviation Management. After graduation, she will continue working as a flight instructor at a flight school near her hometown and will also begin working as a corporate pilot. Morgan is racing because “I enjoy flying the Air Race because it gives me a chance to think outside the box, visit unique places, improve my flying skills, and connect with a variety of impressive people.” Morgan has her tailwheel endorsement and really enjoys flying a Champ or Citabria on a warm summer evening to watch the sunset. She has also had the amazing opportunity to spend time around warbirds and is interested in one day flying them herself.

Reyna (Mundelein, IL) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, single- and multi-engine land; with a current instrument rating; complex and tailwheel endorsements; CFI/CFII credentials; and 440 hours in her logbook.

Reyna is an instructor for Purdue University’s Part 141 program. She also works as a flight dispatcher for the university. She flies survey flights for the Indiana DNR in a Sky Arrow at night, and this summer will be instructing for the Able Flight program, also in the Sky Arrow. Reyna says, “I learned about the race from my first instructor, and since then, participating has been a dream of mine. It’s an opportunity to connect with other remarkable women in aviation, find mentors, and forge lasting friendships. It will expand my abilities as a pilot by exposing me to new challenges.” Reyna enjoys hiking, exploring new places, and also being at home, cuddling with her cats. When she’s not flying or studying, she is often trying out new workout classes or cooking new recipes. Her favorite airplane memories have been sunset flights in the Champ. Reyna is a member of the Purdue Chapter of the WAI.

Sara (Belton, MO) is an instrument-rated Commercial Pilot, single-engine land and sea, with complex, high-performance and tailwheel endorsements, and has logged 380 flight hours.

Sara has been working in the aviation field for over years. She says she was lucky enough to find a job at a local FBO working line service and just fell in love. She was able to spend time in Alaska this past year, got her seaplane rating and loved it. She can’t wait to further her career! Sara says, “I race because I want to be involved in more aviation related activities. It is an added bonus that the race is an all-female event. I love being surrounded by like-minded people. I cannot wait to gain the experience by participating in the Air Race. Sara enjoys spending time outdoors. She would love to spend more time flying to new places and exploring what it has to offer. Getting involved with local EAA chapters and encouraging others to pursue their dreams of flying is a favorite of hers. Sara is a member of the Greater Kansas City Chapter of the 99s and the Kansas State Polytechnic Chapter of WAI.

Bailey (Albia, IA) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, single-engine land; with a current instrument rating; complex, high-performance, tailwheel and skydiver endorsements; CFI and IGI credentials; and 562 hours in her logbook.

Bailey is currently a Part 61 CFI in Ottumwa, IA and she flies as many good days as she can. In Iowa, it can be a bit difficult with the weather and all the seasons, but, Sara says, it comes with its perks.
**38 | Tall Tails**

**HEIDI HIGHTOWER & RAINER FULLERMOORE**
**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY-CARBONDALE**
**CESSNA SKYHAWK 172**

Heidi (Chesterfield, MO) is a Commercial Pilot, single-engine land and sea; with a current instrument rating; complex, high-performance and tailwheel endorsements; CFI credentials; and 410 hours logged.

Heidi is currently a senior and part-time flight instructor at Southern Illinois University. She also details vintage and modern aircraft when she can, primarily in the St. Louis area. She hopes to become a pilot for a major airline in the future. Heidi says, "I will be participating in this year’s race for the adventure and learning experience! I am fortunate to have the opportunity to participate through my generous school, Southern Illinois University, and members of my community. Meeting new friends and seeing new sights are added bonuses!" Heidi’s aviation story began in a Stearman. Her first solo was in her family’s Stearman, and she has been learning how to fly formation in it! Her dad, brother, and Heidi are all pilots at various levels and enjoy sharing this world together. She loves to fly and will never get used to it!

Rainer (Carbondale, IL) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating; complex endorsement; CFI/CFII credentials; and 426 hours in her log book.

Since 2020, Rainer has flown at various flight schools in different parts of Illinois until she ended up at Southern Illinois University! Fast forward four short years, she now works as a flight instructor at SIU. The job is very challenging, but it has pushed her to be a better pilot and overall person. Rainer says, "I race to represent women in leadership positions. Any women, or man, that we can inspire to take the leap and do something out of their comfort zone is a 2,269-mile trip well worth it! Thank you for opportunity to pay it forward to other men and women!" Reiner’s race partner has referenced a story of a team who did not sign up with the goal to win. They brought their coolers, everything they needed to pack, and just had fun! Compared to other collegiate teams splitting their toothbrushes in half...Reiner thought that was very funny! She comes from a very small town in Illinois with her parents and sister. Her family has a small shoe store that has been around for about 100 years. From an entrepreneurial background with zero experience in aviation, Reiner decided to become a pilot. She has been very thankful for her decision ever since!

**Welcome to first-time team of Heidi Hightower and Rainer FullerMoore!**

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**39 | Can Do Crew**

**MARY NOLAND & MEGAN BAKER**
**PIPER ARROW PA-28R-180**

Michelle (Farmington, MN) is a Private Pilot, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating, and complex and high-performance endorsements, with 502 hours logged.

Michelle first started flying when she was a senior in high school, she is currently attending Minnesota State University Mankato, studying Aviation Management. Michelle is "racing to meet new people and to gain the experience and knowledge that you get from competing in the air race, as well as better my cross-country planning and flying abilities.” Outside of her academic studies, she is passionate about building knowledge in aviation. She is a member of the Maverick Flight team and has competed at her regional and national SAFECON competitions. When she is not flying, she dedicates her time to riding and competing with her quarter horse, Duke. Michelle is a member of the Minnesota Chapter of the 99s and the Stars of the North Chapter of WAI.

Megan (Cottage Grove, MN) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating, and 155 hours in her logbook.

Megan is currently a flight attendant and loves working in the aviation industry. This career inspired her to get her pilot’s certificate and move to the other side of the flight deck door. When asked why she is racing, Megan said, “I am doing this race to become a better pilot by challenging myself. I am looking forward to learning new skills and strategies to create the perfect cross-country flight.” Michelle became a flight attendant in 2018, fell in love with aviation and decided to get her pilot’s certificate in 2020. She enjoys volunteering in the aviation community and watching other women follow their dreams. Megan is a member of the Minnesota Chapter of the 99s and the Stars of the North Chapter of WAI.

**Welcome back, Michelle Noland and welcome, Megan Baker, to your first Air Race Classic!**
40 | **AirDawgs**

**GRACE GRAY & GABRIELLE LOUB**  
**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY-CARBONDALE**  
**CESSNA SKYHAWK 172S**

**Grace** (Lakeville, MN) is a Private Pilot, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating, a complex endorsement, and 220 hours logged.

Grace is currently a senior at Southern Illinois University Carbondale pursuing her B.S. in Aviation Management and her A.A.S. in Aviation Flight. She is in the final stages of completing her Commercial certificate this spring and will begin working towards her CFI this summer. Regarding air racing, Grace says, "The promotion of getting more women involved in aviation is incredibly important to me as my own involvement in the industry has grown. And when I learned about this race and the principles of its foundation, I knew that I wanted to compete." She currently serves as president of one of the student organizations at SIUC called, Aviation Management Society. This leadership role has helped her grow immensely not only as a student but as a future professional of the aviation industry. Grace is a member of the SIUC Saluki Aviators Chapter of the WAI.

**Gabi** (Carbondale, IL) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, single-engine land, a current instrument rating, complex endorsement, CFI/CFII credentials, and 718 hours logged.

Gabi has received all her certificates through Southern Illinois University. She has been a flight instructor at SIU since January 2023, and earned her CFII in August 2023. She has really enjoyed her time teaching, and is currently working on her multi-engine rating, flying a Cessna 310. She says, "This is actually my first race, and I am very excited! I cannot wait to test my flying skills as well as meet a bunch of other women who share the same passion as me!" Outside of flying Gabi enjoys spending time outside. She is an avid runner and loves going on hikes, especially in new places! Naturally, she is an introvert, but once you get to know her, Gabi says she is as loud as she can be.

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41 | **The Saluki Aces**

**MAYA MARENDA & GRACI MCDANIEL**  
**SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY-CARBONDALE**  
**CESSNA SKYHAWK 172S**

**Maya** (Oglesby, IL) is a Private Pilot, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating, complex and high-performance endorsements, and 246 hours logged.

As of now, Maya is a student at SIU; however, she hopes to begin instructing as part time here before she graduates and then stay on as full time while building her hours! Maya says, "I became aware of the Air Race last year when I had seen our team: The Saluki Aces had competed and finished second. This year when I was asked to compete, I could not have been more excited. For me, it is a great experience to meet other inspiring women and just have a great time doing what I love!" Aside from school, Maya spends most of her time working and, as of late, running. She is running in the River to River race this year and hopes to also complete another race before the year ends. Her end goal is to fly internationally through whatever path and opportunities take her there. Maya is a member of the SIUC Saluki Aviators Chapter of WAI.

**Graci** (Du Quoin, IL) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating, CFI/CFII credentials, and 715 hours in her logbook.

Graci is a current aviation flight instructor at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. She graduated in May of 2023 from SIU and finished her CFI in August of 2023. She is currently working on her hours for her R-ATP and plans to go to the airlines after receiving it. She is racing because "I already have, and it was my absolute favorite aviation experience! I'm so excited and honored to be able to represent SIU again in the ARC and hope to bring home 1st this year!" Her most humorous experience from a prior ARC was flying low and watching the massive cellphone towers come out of the smoke from the wildfires last year. She and her race partner, Meadow, were terrified and thought it was hilarious at the same time! When she’s not flying, spending time with family and friends is her biggest priority. She loves strengthening her relationships and being around people in general. Graci is so excited to meet the new racers and also see her lifelong friends she met last year!
Willie (East Amhurst, NY) is a Private Pilot, single-engine land, with 1,768 hours logged. Willie is a Registered Nurse and midwife and have a MS in Nurse Education. She works in Niagara County, NY as a Community Health Nurse. Working as a RN/midwife in remote areas only accessible by air for the Canadian Government, Willie developed a passion for flying and obtained her US pilot certificate in 1989. Willie is racing because “The ARC in 2019, 2022 and 2023 were challenging and fun and I look forward to participating in 2024. Testing my flying skills again and renewing friendships is exciting. I have had many flying adventures in the US and Canada in my beloved Piper N222DL, but the race will present the ultimate challenge.” In last year’s race, while flying over the swamp to Homestead, FL, Willie detected a slight vibration under her feet (one always does over water!). Landing safely and pulling into the parking area she heard a loud tinkling sound. Her landing light, momentarily seen hanging out like an eyeball, was instantly chopped up by the propellor. UGH! Willie comes from the Isle of Wight UK. She is a member of EAA and AOPA, and is currently President of The Buffalo Aero Club, the oldest in the US. To date, she has flown over 400 Young Eagles. She is completing an A & P mechanics course and her favorite hobby, other than flying, is sailing on Lake Ontario. Willie is a member of the Western New York Chapter of the 99s.

Samy-Rae (Tuscumbia, AL) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, single- and multi-engine land, single-engine sea; with a current instrument rating; complex and high-performance endorsements; CFI/CFII/MEI credentials; and 800 hours in her logbook. Samy-Rae started flying at the end of 2021 and, in 2022, she earned all her ratings, in about 10 months! She is four students away from being a Gold Seal instructor and is a Cadet with Frontier Airlines. Samy-Rae says, “Since I started flying in 2021, I’ve heard about the race, but it wasn’t until recently that I met ladies who actually did it in my local 99s chapter and they encouraged me to ‘go for it!’” Outside of flying, Samy-Rae and her wife own a seasonal popsicle food truck “Itty Bitty Pop Shop” and, on top of always looking for new recipes, they have ventured into making “Pup Pops”. Samy-Rae is a member of the Alabama Chapter of the 99s.
Sophie (Prescott, AZ) is a Private Pilot, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating, and 234 hours logged. Sophie is a junior at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University working on her Commercial rating. She is majoring in Aeronautical Science and minoring in Air Traffic Control. Sophie wants to “represent my school and encourage other women to pursue careers in aviation. Racing aircraft has been a lifelong dream of mine, and I am ecstatic to be able to do so. I also want to inspire other young women to become interested in the aviation world!” She likes to hike, camp, and hang out with friends! She has a dog named Reggie and loves taking him to see his dog friends and on hikes to lakes around Prescott. Sophie is a member of the Yavapai Chapter of the 99s.

Sarah Marie (Prescott Valley, AZ) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, single-engine land; with a current instrument rating; CFI/CFII credentials; and 1,100 hours in her logbook. Sarah Marie graduated from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Prescott Campus in fall, 2019. She has been a flight instructor at the same campus for three years now and absolutely loves it! Teaching turned out to be her calling, and she enjoys all of her students and seeing them succeed. She is racing because “Instructing is so much fun, and it is my calling; however, I am excited to experience a little more of aviation outside of my school and meet other passionate women who have a lot to offer aviation, while enjoying a little adrenaline!” besides the obvious (shopping and eating), she thoroughly enjoys road trips, off-roading, camping, and cooking. What’s even better is combining them! Sarah Marie is a member of the ERAU-Prescott Chapter of WAI.

Ashley (Fayetteville, NC) is a Private Pilot, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating, and 190 hours logged. Ashley, a first-time racer, graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a degree in business administration, and now she is on her aviation journey as a student at Liberty University! Ashley says, “I’m always up for a challenge, and I love being in an environment that supports women!” She is a lover of the outdoors! From riding horses to rock climbing and fishing, you can often find her on a fun adventure exploring somewhere new. Ashley is a member-at-large of WAI.

Savannah (Pax, WV) holds a Commercial Pilot certificate, single- and multi-engine land; with a current instrument rating; complex and high-performance endorsements; CFI/CFII credentials; and 680 hours in her logbook. Flying her second ARC, Savannah is a full-time instructor at Liberty University. She fell in love with aviation through movies and curiosity. Her first time ever in an airplane was her first flight lesson! She started her flight training at a small WV airport in 2019. Savannah races “for the amazing opportunity and to develop community with other female aviators! Racing is a part of human nature; it challenges us to go beyond imaginable. As a young pilot, this is a chance to grow and develop.” Savannah loves to explore and try new things! She is hoping to one day become a NOAA pilot! She enjoys working out, including biking, swimming, and running.

Moriah (Clermont, FL) holds a Private Pilot certificate, single-engine land, Remote Pilot Certificate, and 100 hours in her logbook. Moriah is a freshman in the Aeronautics department at Liberty University. She was intrigued with aviation through her love of space travel. She earned her Private Pilot certificate in April 2023 right before graduating high school and is now pursuing a degree in aviation. For Moriah, “this race is a chance to get to know other women who have been in aviation so much longer than me and learn from their experience while also gaining some of my own. Moriah truly values opportunities where she can connect with people and learn from their wisdom.” Moriah has spent most of her summers growing up doing long, cross-country road trips sightseeing the United States with her family enjoying Creation. As of last year, she got her Part 107 license in addition to her Private Pilot certificate, but she still finds flying in the left seat more exciting. Moriah is a member of the Liberty University Chapter of WAI.

Ashley Legoas, Savannah Hughes and Moriah Langford!

Welcome to Ashley Legoas, Savannah Hughes and Moriah Langford!

Welcome to the first-time team of Sophie Du Bois and Sarah Marie Santos!
Kate (Lakewood, CO) is a Commercial Pilot, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating, complex and high-performance endorsements, CFI and BGI/AGI credentials, and 600 hours logged. Kate is a CFI out of Western Air Flight Academy. Previously, she was an intern in the operations department at KBJC. Those are the only two aviation jobs she has held but loves sharing the joy of aviation with all of her students and hopes to continue! Kate says, “I race because I want to show other women that being a female pilot is possible. I race because I want to support female pilots, and this is such an excellent opportunity for a large group of strong and passionate women to do something together.”

Welcome to the first-time team of Bella Memeo and Yuka Noguchi.

Roxy (Denver, CO) holds a Private Pilot, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating, a high-performance endorsement, CFI/CFII/MEI credentials: and 3,000 hours in her logbook. Roxy currently works as a bartender, which she’s been doing for the past few years as she works her way towards finishing her degree. Once she gets her CFI, she plans to work as an instructor and probably still bartend on the side. She is racing because “I love using my piloting skills to navigate through them. Racing will allow me to utilize the skills I’ve learned throughout my training at a competitive level, while also enjoying the different landscapes and having fun!” She is a first-generation college student and aviator! She loves aviation because of the sense of adventure she gets on every flight. Kate also enjoys hiking, boating, and working out and is a member of the Colorado Chapter of the 99s.
KATRINA SCHLENKER, ASHLEY ASSELIN & MEGAN COTTER | LIBERTY UNIVERSITY

Katrina (Batavia, IL) is a Private Pilot, single-engine, with a current instrument rating, and 180 hours logged. Katrina is a student at Liberty University currently pursuing a major in commercial and corporate aviation. She completed all of her training thus far at Liberty. Katrina is racing because “Racing allows me to gain valuable flight experience while being a part of a team of like-minded women. Being a part of the Liberty Belles presents an opportunity to represent Christ and compete for a higher purpose through my passion for aviation.” Katrina is a student athlete on the Liberty cross-country and track team. She enjoys hiking, eating sushi, and watching Star Wars and grew up in the Chicago suburbs.

Ashley (Chicopee, MA) holds a Commercial Pilot, single- and multi-engine, with a current instrument rating, a complex endorsement, CFI/CFII credentials, and has 310 hours logged.

Ashley is a flight instructor at Liberty University and has been flying for a little under five years. She earned her Private certificate at Embry-Riddle, transferred to Liberty shortly after where she completed the rest of her training and degree, and never looked back! She is racing to “represent her school and women in aviation.” Her number one hobby is flying, but besides that she enjoys sports and art. She enjoys wrestling, tennis, BMX racing, and running. She paints a lot of landscapes and portraits and enjoys seeing other people’s art. She has six siblings and is from Massachusetts.

Megan (Lynchburg, VA) holds a Private Pilot, single-engine, with 83 hours logged.

Megan is currently a student at Liberty University studying commercial and corporate aviation. She began commercial flight training this year at Liberty after completing her private pilot’s certificate at her hometown airport in New York. Megan says, “I am so fortunate to be offered an opportunity to grow alongside so many other women aviators in a competitive environment! I am looking forward to the memories we will make together!” She comes from a family that loves to travel, and as a pilot, she wants to carry on that tradition. Although she grew up in Buffalo, NY, she has not had the chance to explore much of the midwestern United States yet. Megan is very excited about the opportunity to do so from the skies!

LILLIAN HUME, EMILY HARTZELL & CAROLINE YUSKA | WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Lily (Kalamazoo, MI) is an instrument-rated Private Pilot, single- and multi-engine, with a complex endorsement, and 244 hours logged.

Lily is a Senior at Western Michigan University and plans to graduate this spring. She has completed both her instrument and commercial multi-engine training at WMU and is currently awaiting her Commercial Multi-engine Initial Check ride. Lily is racing because “I am passionate about flying, and I love the empowerment that comes with the Air Race Classic. I love Western Michigan University and the experiences it has brought me, and the WMU Air Race Team is a strong group of women that represents the university well. I am proud to be apart of this team.” She loves to crochet, spend time with friends and family, read, and listen to music. When the weather is nice, she likes hiking, taking her dog on walks, as well as traveling and exploring cultures that are new to her.

Emily (Durand, MI) holds a Commercial Pilot, single- and multi-engine, land, with complex and high-performance endorsements, CFI credentials, and 340 hours logged.

In November of 2023, Emily Started her career as a flight instructor at Western Michigan University. She is a December ‘23 WMU Alum and proud to take the first big step in her as an instructor at her alma mater! She is racing “to meet and support other women in the industry and to grow my skills and experience as a pilot. This will be my second race and I am looking forward to reconnecting with past racers and meeting new ones!” Aside from flying, Emily likes to spend time traveling with friends and family, reading, and staying involved at her university. As a recent graduate, staying involved is a bit tougher now, but that’s why she wanted to race this year! Emily is a member of the Western Michigan University Chapter of WAI.

Caroline (Carmel, IN) holds a Private Pilot with a current instrument rating and 138 hours logged.

She is a sophomore Aviation Flight Science major at Western Michigan University working on her commercial multi-engine rating. She is heavily involved with different organizations at WMU and have met many amazing people here who continue to push her toward her goal of flying for the airlines. Caroline says, “I race to promote the importance of having women in aviation and to gain the priceless experience that the Air Race offers for young pilots like me. The challenge of the race has pushed me to become a better pilot and I know it is something I will forever look back on with pride.” Caroline enjoys long walks on the beach, baking, hiking, and has always wanted to fly a B747. She caught the aviation bug from her high school world history teacher and never looked back with the support of her teacher, and so many other amazing women. Caroline is a member of the Western Michigan University Chapter of WAI.
Alyssa (Lockport, IL) is a Commercial Pilot, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating, CFI credentials, complex endorsement, dispatcher certificate, and 260 hours logged. Alyssa is currently a flight instructor at Kent State while she finishes her ratings and remaining flight hours. She plans to graduate in 2024 with a bachelor’s degree in Aeronautics, as well as a minor in Business and Aircraft Dispatch. Alyssa is racing because “I love the thrill and excitement of flying while also sharing it with others. Being able to race allows me to represent female aviators and show them that anything is possible if you put your mind to it.” Outside of flying, Alyssa’s hobbies include figure skating—she used to teach little ones how to ice skate! She also enjoys reading, and volunteering in her free time with organizations like Kent State’s Chapter of Women in Aviation and Kids in Flight. Alyssa is a member of the KSU Flying Black Squirrels Chapter of WAI.

Peyton (Stow, OH) is a Commercial-rated pilot, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating, CFI credentials, a complex endorsement, and 300 hours in her logbook. Currently, Peyton is a flight instructor at Kent State while continuing her education. She plans to graduate in 2024 once she completes her multi-engine rating. Peyton says, “I love the competitive nature that goes along with the race while also having the opportunity to be an inspiration for the next generation of female aviators. It gives me the opportunity to challenge myself in every aspect of being an aviator.” When Peyton is not flying, she loves to be involved with aviation. She volunteers with the organizations of NGPA, WAI, and local organizations such as PROPS for paws and Kids in Flight. Being able to take her passion and share it with others is something she loves doing. Peyton is a member of the KSU Flying Black Squirrels Chapter of WAI.
Kelsey (Independence, OH) is a Private Pilot, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating, complex endorsement, and 230 hours logged. Kelsey is currently a student at Kent State University and is going to be starting her CFI in the fall. She plans on graduating in the spring of 2024. She is currently working as a receptionist at Kent State’s Airport, giving tours and getting to share her love of aviation with prospective students. Says Kelsey, “I am extremely excited to share this experience with other women in the field and continue to grow my experience as a pilot. I am looking forward to being able to share my experience with young ladies in the field and continue to prove that girls can do all things.” Alongside flying, she enjoys serving her community through her sorority, Delta Gamma, and also through her local chapter of Women in Aviation. She loves giving back to her community that has done so much for her and helped her to be the aviator she is today. Kelsey is a member of the KSU Flying Black Squirrels Chapter of the 99s.

Madeline (Warren, OH) is a Commercial-rated pilot, single- and multi-engine land, with a current instrument rating, CFI/CFII and AGI credentials, a complex endorsement, and 600 hours in her logbook. Madeline is a flight instructor at Kent State University. She teaches a wide range of students from private to CFI and enjoys every minute teaching. My long-term career goal is to transition to the regional airlines and then to the majors. Madeline is racing, “to be a part of the fantastic history and women that have participated in the Air Race Classic, and to help motivate my female students that they can do anything they put their hearts to.” Madeline enjoys being a part of the Kent State Precision Flight Team. She is continuously challenged by the great people who are a part of the team, and always looks forward to tailoring her flying and knowledge skills and having a fun time doing it! Madeline is a member of the KSU Flying Black Squirrels Chapter of the 99s.

Maggie (Clarksville, GA) is a Private Pilot, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating, Remote Pilot Certificate, and 287 hours logged. Maggie is a customer service representative at the Auburn University Regional Airport. She greets pilots and makes sure they have all the accommodations needed. She loves the opportunity to meet people from all sorts of aviation backgrounds! Maggie hopes to become an instructor for Auburn in the fall! Since coming to Auburn, it has been Maggie’s dream to do the Air Race Classic. Some of the best pilots I know have competed in this race and I wanted the opportunity to follow in their footsteps. I also love the aspect of seeing new parts of the country and forming new relationships with fellow aviators.” Most of her day-to-day activities have to do with aviation, such as flying, going to club meetings, working at the airport, and giving tours to prospective students. Outside of aviation, she enjoys hanging out with friends, being outdoors, and being active by either playing tennis or going on hikes. Maggie is a member of the Alabama Chapter of the 99s and the War Eagle Chapter of WAI.

Anna Kate (Auburn, AL) is a Commercial-rated pilot, single- and multi-engine land, with a current instrument rating, CFII credentials, a complex endorsement, and 803 hours in her logbook. Currently, Anna Kate is a flight instructor at Auburn University. Her favorite part about being a flight instructor is watching her students grow and being able to work alongside some of her best friends. She says, “I love everything the Air Race Classic stands for! I cannot think of a better way to fly than by being surrounded by women aviators from all backgrounds. I am so excited to be able to fly across new parts of the country and to experience the overwhelming camaraderie this race offers.” When Anna Kate is not working or flying, she loves spending time with family and friends outdoors. Being in the sun or by a body of water is her favorite place to be! She also has a deep love for animals. She has been an avid foster for kittens and has a dog and cows back home. Anna Kate is a member of the Alabama Chapter of the 99s and the Southern Airways Chapter of WAI.
Page (Auburn, AL) is a Private Pilot, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating, and 270 hours logged. Page is from Milwaukee, WI and is a student at Auburn University in the Professional Flight program. In the future, Tommy hopes to be able to combine her flight and language skills flying internationally! Tommy is “racing this year for the adventure of it! I have had friends complete the ARC in the past and have heard some amazing stories and lessons learned. I am hoping for a similar experience with good memories made surrounded by all the other talented female pilots participating.” When she is not flying, Tommy loves to travel when she can and loves trying new things! She has always been very interested in other languages and cultures and is forever happy to learn something new. In the next few months, she hopes to improve her Italian and earn her seaplane rating! Tommy is a member of the Alabama Chapter of the 99s and the War Eagle Chapter of WAI.

April (Auburn, AL) is a Commercial-rated pilot, single- and multi-engine land, with a current instrument rating, CFI/CFII credentials, complex and high-performance endorsements, and 473 hours in her logbook. April completed her bachelor’s degree in Professional Flight Management at Auburn University. After graduation, she worked under Auburn Aviation’s event coordinator and assisted with planning various events for the program. She has since become a flight instructor at Auburn University. April says, “I am so grateful for the opportunity to become a part of this community of female pilots. After many years of flight training, I am excited to be able to participate in competitive flying and grow closer with my teammates along the way!” Originally from South Carolina, Riley grew up believing that she would work in the agriculture industry. When she was introduced to aviation, she knew that she was meant to become a professional pilot. Outside of aviation, one of her favorite hobbies is reading. Riley is a member of WAI.

Riley (Auburn, AL) is a Private Pilot, single-engine land, with a current instrument rating, and 317 hours logged. Tommy is a student at Auburn University majoring in Professional Flight and Spanish! She is also currently working as a brand ambassador for Endeavor Air, as well as a tutor for the Auburn Athletics Department. In the future, Tommy hopes to be able to combine her flight and language skills flying internationally! Tommy is “racing this year for the adventure of it! I have had friends complete the ARC in the past and have heard some amazing stories and lessons learned. I am hoping for a similar experience with good memories made surrounded by all the other talented female pilots participating.” When she is not flying, Tommy loves to travel when she can and loves trying new things! She has always been very interested in other languages and cultures and is forever happy to learn something new. In the next few months, she hopes to improve her Italian and earn her seaplane rating! Tommy is a member of the Alabama Chapter of the 99s and the War Eagle Chapter of WAI.

Send a big welcome to first-time racer, Page Zuccaro and second-time racer, April Heppner!

Riley completed her bachelor’s degree in Professional Flight Management at Auburn University. After graduation, she worked under Auburn Aviation’s event coordinator and assisted with planning various events for the program. She has since become a flight instructor at Auburn University. April says, “I am so grateful for the opportunity to become a part of this community of female pilots. After many years of flight training, I am excited to be able to participate in competitive flying and grow closer with my teammates along the way!” Originally from South Carolina, Riley grew up believing that she would work in the agriculture industry. When she was introduced to aviation, she knew that she was meant to become a professional pilot. Outside of aviation, one of her favorite hobbies is reading. Riley is a member of WAI.

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Welcome to Owatonna...
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Women’s air racing all started in 1929 with the First Women’s Air Derby. Twenty pilots raced from Santa Monica, CA to Cleveland, OH, site of the National Air Races. Racing continued through the ’30’s and was renewed again after WWII when the All Women’s Transcontinental Air Race (AWTAR), better known as the Powder Puff Derby, came into being. The AWTAR held its 30th, final and commemorative flight in 1977. When the AWTAR was discontinued, the Air Race Classic, Ltd., (ARC) stepped in to continue the tradition of transcontinental speed competition for women pilots and staged its premier race. The Air Race Classic was reincorporated in 2002 into the Air Race Classic, Inc., a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

The early air races were the “on to” type, with noon and night control stops, and the contestants more or less stayed together. In that manner, weather and flying conditions were practically the same for each entrant and the race officials could release standings to the media after each day of racing.

The current race routes are approximately 2,400 statute miles in length, and the contestants are usually given four days, flying VFR in daylight hours, to reach the terminus. Each plane is assigned a handicap speed – and the goal is to fly the actual ground speed as far over the handicap speed as possible. The pilots are thus given the leeway to play the elements, holding out for better weather, winds, etc. The objective is to fly the “perfect” cross-country. In this type of race, the official standings cannot be released until the final entrant has crossed the finish line. Actually, the last arrival can be the winner.

Scoring techniques evolved over the years, and in 1952 the AWTAR began using the handicap system of scoring. The Air Race Classic has continued to use this type of scoring throughout its history. The ’29-30’s races flew shorter legs and made more stops than the current races. Now the legs are 280 to 320 statute miles, and seven or eight control stops are designated for either landing or fly-by. The race has been in 44 states, stopping in over 300 cities, and Canada. The races are open to all women with fixed wing aircraft from 100 to 600 horsepower. In earlier days, the fastest airplane with no specified handicap was in a good position to win, if it held together over the long haul and there was no big navigational error committed. Now the handicapping system is used – each plane flying against its own speed. Supposedly, any entry has an equal chance of victory, depending on the accuracy of the handicapping. All participants are true winners in their own right, flying the best possible race.

At a time when some people are inclined to down-play and have only negative views of general aviation, it is encouraging each summer when dozens of women pilots casually get into their airplanes and safely race each other over trans-continental routings. There is a spirit of camaraderie in spite of the keen competition, and the Air Race Classic proves a boon to aviation in general. At the same time, it gives the fliers the opportunity to hone their flying techniques. Many other people are drawn into the annual events through sponsorship, ground/air assistance, timing, officiating and as spectators.

Award wise, the Air Race Classic started in 1977 with an $8,550 purse for the top-ten crews, with additional leg prizes for those finishing outside the selected group of ten. The awards have been increased over the years, so that the current top-ten purse is $20,500.

Over 40 years later, the Air Race Classic remains a venue for competitive flying. Louise Thaden is quoted as saying, “... added skills are developed, self confidence is increased and enduring friendships are made”. And Blanche Noyes added, “Flying is ageless.”

We are proud and honored to celebrate over 90 years of women’s air racing!
The Women Who Preserved Air Racing

Since the first Air Race Classic in 1977, over 1,000 women pilots have flown the ARC. Racers have flown to hundreds of airports across the United States and kept alive the pioneering spirit of America’s female aviators. Thousands of supporters have volunteered their time, money, and enthusiasm to sustain the vision of our founding ARC Board of Directors. Today, the Air Race Classic is the longest running all-women transcontinental air race. Join the adventure and keep the ARC flying.

The ARC Medallion

Owning an ARC medallion is a privilege reserved for any racer who has flown at least one leg of any Air Race Classic. The medallion comes in gold or silver vermeil. It can be worn on a chain or as a pin. Esther Lowry Safford designed it for the first Air Race Classic in 1977. A white stone can be inserted on one of the “flowers” that surrounds the design for each Air Race Classic flown. Blue stones are reserved for ARC Board members and a medallion that is surrounded by rubies denotes someone who has served as President of the Air Race Classic.

Medallions will be on sale during events. Order today at president@airraceclassic.org for pick up at the Terminus.
# Where We’ve Been

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<td>British Columbia</td>
<td>Who We’ve Been</td>
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Between 1998 and 2014, Gene Nora flew eleven ARC races, ten of those with Patty Mitchell, four with Brenda ‘BJ’ Carter as 3rd crew member, and one ARC flown with Cammie Patch. In 2013 her team, The Three Musketeers, received best finish landing in 10th place.

She was an aviatrix, teacher, businesswoman, trailblazer, Mercury 13, author, humorist, cellist, Master Pilot, Gold Seal instructor, FAA Advisor, airport commissioner, 99s President, Idaho Hall of Fame inductee, Three Musketeer, wife, mother, and always...a dear friend.

Gene Nora inspired all of us to live life to the fullest and to bring a fellow 99 along for the adventure. Thank you for a lifetime of being awesome.
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Good luck to the 2023 ARC Air Derby participants! Good Luck to the 2024 Air Race Classic Participants!

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Top Ten Winners of 2023

1ST. Peyton Turner & Laura Wilson (Kent State University)

2ND. Graci McDaniel & Meadow Boden (Southern Illinois University Carbondale)

3RD. Lin Caywood & Mary Wunder

4TH. Cynthia Lee & Linda Evans

5TH. Bobbie Rothen, Gretchen Jahn & Kristy Pottol

6TH. Abby Hagan & Ashley Baldwin (Auburn University)

7TH. Nir Levi & Carmel Haas

8TH. Alex Small & Morgan Mallow (Purdue University)

9TH. Jeanné Willerth & Emmy Dillon

10TH. Kali Hague & Robin Laws
The Air Race Classic makes a special effort to include collegiate women in the race. The chance to learn from the collective wisdom of other women racers is an invaluable experience.

To expand its collegiate presence, the Air Race Classic established the Intercollegiate Class in 2024. Intercollegiate teams compete with each other to win the highest score in the Intercollegiate competition. Intercollegiate teams have the opportunity to win top finishing prizes such as cash, medallions, and leg prizes! In addition, the ARC Collegiate Liaison works to encourage universities to grant college credit for race participation. Purdue University and Lewis University have granted college credit in the past.

To participate in the ARC Intercollegiate Class, it’s important that all team members have a close affiliation with the college or university they represent. This includes students, faculty, and flight instructors. Specifically, the team Pilot must be a registered undergraduate student at the time of team registration.

Ten years of InterCollegiate Winners

INTERCOLLEGIATE CHALLENGE 2023

1ST  Peyton Turner & Laura Wilson (Kent State University)
2ND  Graci McDaniel & Meadow Boden (Southern Illinois University Carbondale)
3RD  Abby Hagan & Ashley Baldwin (Auburn University)

MORE WINNERS FROM PREVIOUS YEARS

2022  Laura Miller and Alex Johnson (Kent State University)
2019  Lauren Quandt, Shelby Satkowski, Kelly Erdmann (Western Michigan University)
2018  Caitlyn Miller and Kendall Higdon (Auburn University)
2017  Lauren Quandt, Shelby Satkowski, Kelly Erdmann (Western Michigan University)
2016  Rachel Hutzell and Becca Dooling (ERAU – Prescott)
2015  Emmy Dillon and Abbie Pasmore (ERAU – Daytona)
2014  Stephanie Armstrong and Jessica Reed (Southern Illinois University – Carbondale)
2013  Valdeta Mehanja and Nancy Snyder (ERAU – Daytona)
2012  Valdeta Mehanja and Danielle Erlichman (ERAU – Daytona)
2024 Awards and Prizes

Competition Class Trophy
This trophy is awarded to the highest-scoring team in the Competition Class. The trophy features a soaring bird reflecting the Air Race Classic logo.

InterCollegiate Class Trophy
This trophy is awarded to the highest-scoring team in the Intercollegiate Class. The trophy features a soaring bird reflecting the Air Race Classic logo.

Claude Glasson SOS Award
The lowest-scoring team without penalties will win the perennially treasured “Turtle” award and a $100 cash prize.

99s Terminus Leg Prize
The Ninety-Nines, Inc. International Organization of Women Pilots, award a $100 cash prize to the race team with the highest score on the 9th or Terminus leg. The winning team must be members of The Ninety-Nines. The 99s’ history with air racing dates back to the 1929 national Air Races when Amelia Earhart and several other competitors met under the grandstand at the finish line in Cleveland, OH. They vowed to form an organization for women aviators and that group became the Ninety-Nines. Today’s Air Race Classic grew out of that first Women’s Air Derby. This award is designed to inspire racers to continue to fly that perfect cross country on the final terminus leg of the race even though the race has been long and hard.

Fastest Women in Aviation Award
Women in Aviation International is pleased to offer this award to the highest-scoring team made up of all WAI members. The winning team will receive $500 to share and a plaque for each team member.

Fastest Beech Award
The Beech Aero Club is pleased to offer this award to the team flying a Beech airplane with the best finish in the 2023 ARC. The winning team will receive a certificate for each team member and the team is invited to the annual Beech Party at the Beech Aero Club/Beechcraft Heritage Museum. Your VIP Guest ticket will include admission, lunch, dinner, and tour. The museum is home to Louise Thaden’s 1936 Bendix trophy and Gene Nora Jessen’s 1962 Musketeer N2303Z (serial number M-6) that she piloted around the country when Baby Beech was introduced.

Fastest Cessna Award
The Cessna Flyer Association is donating trophies to recognize the highest-placing team flying the fastest Cessna.

Esther Lowry Safford Rookie Racer Award
Esther Lowry Safford was one of the original six extraordinary women who founded the Air Race Classic. She remained an avid supporter of the race and, prior to her death, she established the Rookie Racer Award for a pilot or co-pilot flying her first Air Race Classic. The awardee is selected based on a short essay, “Why I Fly.” The winner receives a $500 cash prize.

Other ARC Awards:
- Flying Family Team
- Safety Award
- Best Stop

2024 Awards

Top Six Competition Class Highest Scoring Teams
Each team member will receive an ARC Award medallion, and teams receive the following value in cash and prizes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1ST</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2ND</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3RD</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4TH</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5TH</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6TH</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top Four Intercollegiate Class Highest Scoring Teams
Each team member will receive an ARC medallion and the following value in cash and prizes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1ST</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2ND</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3RD</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4TH</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Leg Prizes
For each leg of the race, prizes are awarded to the three highest scoring teams (Top Teams winners not eligible).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1ST</td>
<td>$50 and two charms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2ND</td>
<td>$40 and two charms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3RD</td>
<td>$30 and two charms</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ten Years of Winners


2022  Laura Wilson & Alex Johnson (Kent State University) | Katie Truedson, Cassie Thompson-Pride & Connie Leeg | Ashley Zook & Elisabeth Mills; Shrewsbury & Lauren Heisey | Lara Zook-Gaerte & Donna Harris | Minnetta Gardinier & Jeneanne Visser | Naiara Petralanda & Lauren Thompson | Deb Dreyfuss & Joy Halcott | Margaret Wint & Sue Glisson | Bunnie Ambrose & Alexa Baumgartner

2021  Canceled due to the pandemic.

2020  Canceled due to the pandemic.

2019  Corbi Bulluck & Stephanie Wrenn | Caitlyn Miller & Kendall Higdon (Auburn University) | Jan Aarsheim & Elin-Mari Heggland | Ailsa Moseley Cutting & Sarah Wendt | Madi Bright, Rachel Chaput & Morgan Carney (Jacksonville University) | Susan Carasco & Marie Carasco | Lara Gaerte & Donna Harris | Mickael Ashworth & Megan Shaffer | Susan Larson & Amy Ecclesine | Jo Alcorn & Gretchen Jahn


2017  Dee Bond & McKenzie Krutsinger Rachel Hutzell and Becca Dooling (ERAU-Prescott) | Minnetta Gardinier & Jeneanne Visser | Caroline Baldwin & Lydia Baldwin | Jenn Lowe & Hannah Burright (ERAU-Prescott) | Lorraine Denby & Amy Myzie | Lara Gaerte & JoAnne Alcorn | Emma Kishel, Dana Atkins & Jenni Annable (University of North Dakota) | Brittany Danko, Katelyn Griffin & Jami Higdon (Indiana State University) | Shelby Satkowiak, Lauren Quandt & Maria Walston (Western Michigan University)


2012  Dianna Stanger & Victoria Holt | Danielle Erlichman & Marisha Falk (Embry-Riddle Aero University) | Terry Carbonell & Ellen Herr | Arlene Wohlgemuth & Julia Matthews | Malinda Caywood & Susan Beall, Elizabeth Frankowski & Carol Brackley | Joyce Wilson & Janet Yoder | Nicole Lordeman & Tonya Hodson (Kansas State University) | Marlene Wessel & Kristine Anthony (Embry-Riddle Aero University) | Emily Applegate & Zia Safko (Metropolitan State College of Denver)

Look back on all 40+ years of Air Race Classic Top Ten Winners (1977-2023) airraceclassic.org/winners-list.htm
Follow ARC Racers to the Finish

VISIT AIRRACECLASSIC.ORG TO TRACK RACERS DURING THE RACE!
WHY FLY THE ARC DERBY?
An exciting and fun opportunity to fly around the world, to challenge your piloting, flight planning, and navigation skills. (Teams must consist of at least 2 pilots with at least one female pilot or student pilot).

RACE ALMOST ANY AIRPLANE!
Open to any Airplane under 12,500 lbs., including light sport, experimental, powered glider and turbo charged that has the range to complet the minimum leg length.

YOU DESIGN YOUR OWN ROUTE.
Each Team designs their own route. The Team then estimates the time it will take to fly each leg and the entire route, and then strives to fly it as close to their estimated time as possible.

Registration Opens August 15th!
Scan the QR code to learn how to register for the 2024 ARC Air Derby!

Contact Us:
derby.airraceclassic.org
info@airraceclassic.org
@airraceclassicincARC
The ARC Silent Auction

A long-time tradition, the ARC silent auction is held as a fundraiser to support the future of the Air Race Classic. The auction is an opportunity to purchase interesting aviation-related items, as well as many other items. You can be a part of this annual event whether you are a racer, volunteer or someone cheering ARC on from the sidelines.

Auction items are donated by corporations, groups and individuals. Aviation-related items are always appropriate, but not required. Past purchases have included aviation technology, training courses, aviation prints, hats, shirts, books, jewelry, collectibles, gift cards, and much more!

Do you have something to donate? Your gift is tax deductible and will make a difference. For more information, contact silentauction@airraceclassic.org.

The Air Race Classic Endowment Fund

Celebrating 46 years of continuous of women’s air racing, Air Race Classic is looking forward to a continued bright and successful future. To ensure this legacy, the Board of Directors has established an Endowment Fund with a goal of raising $500,000.

“Those monies will be prudently invested, and once the goal is met, the principal will be retained, and revenue earned will be allocated to the Air Race Classic Board for distribution to help defray the costs of running this race,” said Carolyn Van Newkirk, former member of the Air Race Classic Board of Directors. “It is our hope that the legacy will last indefinitely.”

With your help, we can continue to be a part of aviation history, helping women pilots face new challenges, accomplish goals and share the experience. If you would like to help us keep the challenge alive by supporting the Air Race Classic with your contribution, send your donations to:

ARC ENDOWMENT FUND
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Kent WA 98042
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-IA Activity Report
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-A/C Profiles
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-100 Hr Checklist

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Eastern P.A. Chapter

The Ninety-Nines, Inc.

Good luck to all the racers in this year’s race!
Special good wishes to the racers from the Eastern PA 99s
Aircraft Maintenance Technicians, the Individuals that keep the planes flying. According to one website the global aviation maintenance technicians workforce will need to add almost 38,000 new technicians annually in order to meet the projected demand. The Association of Women in Aviation Maintenance is hoping to inspire young women to be a part of this wide-open industry. With a brand new website, a robust scholarship program, and a solid social media presence we invite you to check us out!

AWAM is a nonprofit organization created for the purpose of championing women’s professional growth and enrichment in the aviation maintenance fields by providing opportunities for sharing information and networking, education, fostering a sense of community and increasing public awareness of women in the industry.

Women supporting women is essential to success. This is why we value our partnership with ARC. Supporting ARC gives our organization a unique and much needed opportunity in offering our maintenance students hands on experience in aircraft maintenance.

AWAM is honored to have been chosen as the Maintenance Team in charge of all aircraft inspections for Air Race Classic. From start to finish, AWAM is willing and ready to offer their support. Ladies with wrenches supporting ladies with yokes!

Best of Luck to all of the Racers!!
LiveATC.net will put listeners right in the cockpit of the Air Race Classic (ARC) race planes, as they hear the racers maneuver for position, line up for flybys, execute high-speed low passes over each timing line and then either zoom off to the next stop or stop the clock, cool their engines down and land for fuel and a well-needed rest.

LiveATC.net is the world's leading provider of ATC audio streams. We carry over 1,500 ATC audio streams from around the world and deliver them right to your browser or smartphone. LiveATC.net is an excellent training resource as well as a source of entertainment for a large audience of pilots and aviation enthusiasts. LiveATC.net archives all transmissions, providing a great training resource for pilots.

If your airport is not covered by LiveATC.net, consider becoming a feed provider — or get your local FBO or flight school involved — we will make it easy for you to get connected!

LiveATC.net is a proud Flyby Sponsor of the Air Race Classic. Visit www.LiveATC.net and contact us for information on adding your local airport!
Join us next time for our
48TH ANNUAL AIR RACE CLASSIC
Summer of 2025

2025 Leg Lengths

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<td>Fairhope, AL</td>
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<td>73S</td>
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<td>Felts Field</td>
<td>Spokane, WA</td>
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* Turn Point Only  | ** Flyover Only

[Total Distance] 2106 nm 2426 sm

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NETWORKING & FRIENDSHIP WITH

THE NINETY-NINES

We are thousands of woman pilots worldwide, many doing exactly what you hope to do in your aviation future.

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www.ninety-nines.org
Congratulations to all of the 2024 Racers!

The Terminus Volunteer Team and the Colorado 99s would like to give thanks to all our sponsors.

Thank you for your support.