

WIA-E BREMEN Local Group

“Christmas Space Tales”

2nd December, Grand Hotel ATLANTIC Bremen

This year is all about women in space... First ‘unmanned’ space walk in a history was a step to a first woman to be walking on the Moon in 2024 within Artemis mission. Moreover the 2019 marked the 10th anniversary of the foundation of WIA-Europe. In order to celebrate this amazing achievement, WIA-E Bremen local group organized a “walk through the memory” with two special guests: Maiken Nielsen (writer of the novel “Space girls”) and Claudia Kessler (founder of WIA-Europe and pioneer of the “Die Astronautin” initiative).



Maiken Nielsen (writer), Claudia Kessler (WIA-E/Die Astronautin Founder), Antonella Sgambati (WIA-E Bremen LG) from the right to the left

Eighteen participants shared the moments of these inspiring talks.

Maiken wrote a novel based on a real story of First Lady Astronaut Trainees (FLATs) from the Space/Moon Race Era. She presented impressive stories and photos of women astronaut candidates, during this particular historical period and the different treatments/ trainings they had to face. The Woman in Space Program began as an Air Force project that grew out of two researchers’ interests in women’s capabilities for spaceflight. Because, on the average, women are smaller and lighter than men are, scientists speculated that they might make good occupants for cramped space vehicles.



Thirteen women were selected for a NASA astronaut training programme. A grueling test regime begins that brings each of the women close to her breaking point, but at the end none flew. Claudia Kessler celebrated with us the 10th anniversary of WIA-Europe; going back to the decision with Simonetta Di Pippo about the needs in Europe of an organization able to promote the inclusive presence of women in the aviation field. After 2 months, the members reached quote 100! Although 10 years have passed, further changes must be made in this area





Space makes you dream and we dream of a modern society with gender equality and inclusion