



# Commemorative Air Force Wisconsin Wing Newsletter

Chartered April 30<sup>th</sup>, 1982

Editor: Brad Ohde

## April 2023, Issue #2304

### From the Front Cockpit Col Gary Otto – Wing Leader



## COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE Wisconsin Wing Newsletter

It's time for ACTION!! April is bringing us warmer weather, the start of the flying season activities, our CAF Spring Banquet, plus many more ways to get involved with the Commemorative Air Force – Wisconsin Wing! Check out the events calendar for upcoming ways to get involved. We will have PX event sign-up sheets at the April meeting or you can simply call our events or PX folks. Volunteering to help carry out our mission to educate, inspire and honor can be very uplifting and heartwarming, especially when you see your efforts making a difference in someone's life.

Our SNJ-5 and T-34 wing aircraft provide us with awesome and inspiring tools to use for our missions, and these aircraft need a broad base of support to keep them flying in mission ready condition. Please consider aircraft sponsorship or even better yet, simply becoming a "Flight Crew" supporter for either of our aircraft. Flight Crew members donate monthly to support the fixed costs of keeping our aircraft ready to go. Hangar rent, insurance, and inspections are the primary fixed costs. It takes approximately \$18,000 per plane to pay those costs, before even one hour is flown.

Our T-34 is almost flight ready, but not without some significant restoration costs to cover and the need for more pilot sponsors and flight crew supporters for the insurance, hangar and annual inspections. We will soon be calling a special meeting to broaden our base of support for the T-34. Please consider stepping up to this call for ACTION!

I flew the SNJ this past weekend, and with the warmer weather creeping in, if you have won a free warbird ride in the monthly meeting raffle and not yet flown, please call me to schedule a flight. I am always looking for a reason to fly, and sharing this great airplane with our members is a very good reason to take to the sky! Let's do some Educating, Inspiring and Honoring!

Gary Otto  
Wing Leader 2023

**Save the date!!!!!!**

**Fri., April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 → CAF Spring Banquet**

**Registration & event details in the newsletter.....**

**Need donations for the Silent Auction at the banquet!!!**

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## Wisconsin Wing News



### **Maintenance Report – April 2023** by Col Scott Twesme – WI Wing Maintenance Officer

- SNJ is up and flying well, flew it 2/28 and it was great. Next mx item is an oil change in about 4 flight hours.
- T-34 is still down waiting for the engine reassembly to be completed. Early April reported by Poplar Grove
- Although the PT isn't on our books, we are still responsible for the tail wheel assembly. As of last week, the lower trunnion was a bad part, so we are set back to looking for another part. Ethan was going to look and see if he had one and should be getting a shipment of parts in March or April that have some trunnions (condition unknown).

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### **Operations Report:** by Col Mike Woods, CAF WI Wing Operations Officer

We completed our Crew Resource Management Ground School with the Indianapolis Wing on February 2nd. If anyone needs to make that up we can work with the Indy Wing to get a recording.

We have our SNJ Ground School scheduled for Thursday April 6th with 9 people invited. We are scheduling the T-34 Ground School a week later on Thursday April 13th, and we have 10 current and potential pilots invited. It appears we are now getting more interest in our two planes. Both of the sessions will be via Zoom.

Our current pilots have all completed their 60-1 training and all have paid their \$300 pilot fee. All pilots need to be sure they check Rally Point before flying and then fill in their flying info in Rally Point as soon as they are done for the day.

Rally Point has now made it easier to check both your flying status and that of the plane since you now just need to click on the Dispatch button and this will lead you to both your airplane readiness and your pilot info. If anything is past due, it will show up, so it is imperative that a before check is done.

Rally Point now has a feature that lets you put in airplane squawks, whether they are grounding or not grounding ones. Be sure you check with maintenance before putting in a grounding squawk, unless you know for sure that it is a grounding one – something like the propellor fell off or a wing came loose - well, you get the idea.

There were no flights in the SNJ in March, but the winter is winding down so I expect to see more flights soon. Also, we are hoping to get the T-34 back in the air later this month or early May so we are all looking forward to having many flights to help us with our mission to educate, honor and inspire.

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2022-23		
Donn Droegkamp (Pewaukee) *** Gold Lifetime Member ***	Al Pavik (TX-Coyote Squadron Member)	Eric Ruediger (Racine)
Jackson LaManna (Mequon) *** Cadet ***	Laura Stants (Indiana Wing)	John Reed
Scott Slay	Mitch Saltzberg	Candy Parr
George Bacik	Jeff Karsten	Cadet Francis Anderer (Noel Skerven's Nephew!)
Joe Van Wie	Glenn Leidel	Brian Liddle *** Life Member ***
Mary Berg	Eric Chappelear	Evan Bauer
Dan Butler	Tony Madonia	Mike Heileman



# Wisconsin Wing News



## What is STEM and how does it relate to aviation? by Col Candy Parr Education Officer

We have often heard the acronym STEM, but do you know what it really means and how it relates to aviation? Here is what our FAA thinks about STEM.



**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

### Why STEM? **Science-Technology-Engineering –Math**

With the aviation and aerospace industry growing, tremendous opportunity exists for today's students. To help build their awareness of aviation and aerospace as a career path, we are committed to educational outreach to our younger generation through our STEM Aviation and Space Education (AVSED) program.

**STEM + Students = Success in Aviation**

To maintain our country's global leadership in aviation, as well as in other disciplines, today's students must advance their skills in science, technology, education, and math (STEM). STEM is essential to the employment of future generations, and it's the key to a strong economic future.

Consider the following:

- The FAA, industry stakeholders, and the aerospace community project where there will be more than 2 million more employees needed in the aviation and aerospace industries over the next 20 years.
- The U.S. Department of Commerce states that employees in STEM fields can expect to earn 26% more money on average and will be less likely to experience job loss.
- The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that STEM occupations are projected to grow faster than the average for all occupations.

STEM is not only a critical part of a student's success in aviation, but it's also a driving force behind our country's strategic positioning and economic well-being.

WI and CA Wing(s) presented at the CAF 2023 Conference Education Breakout session: **Getting started in STEM and Beyond** along with Col Michell Siemens of Central California Valley Squadron. The topic for our breakout session was "How can we get children and teens involved in STEM with activities at our Wings & Squadrons."

*This will be part of my mission here at the WI Wing and I am asking for volunteer members to help our education program be a huge success. Start them young and they can grow up to support our WI Wing along with their parents.*

***These photos highlight the breakout session in Dallas:***



Col (s) Candy Parr,  
Michell Siemens with  
Brenda Townsend, CAF  
Interim VP of Education

Showing the WI Wing  
Newsletter and our  
January participation  
at 2 KUES activities





## Wisconsin Wing News



### What is STEM and how does it relate to aviation? (cont'd from previous page)



Hands-on activity, followed by finished product – ready to launch! Who went the farthest?

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### Update on Dallas CAF Annual Conference by Col Candy Lee Parr

The 2023 CAF Annual Conference was held on March 16-18 at the Dallas CAF HQ, and was attended by WI Wing Colonels Gary Otto, Candy Parr, Tom McDermott, Mary Berg, Alan Pavik and Dan Summerall. Please note that the annual conference is for all wing members to attend, not just Staff. It was a wonderful time to hang out with a great group of like-minded people, learn new ideas and make new contacts & friends.

Gary Otto hosted Unit Leaders Round Table and I co-presented S.T.E.M. as to relating to children and aviation with Michelle from Central California Valley Squadron. Both went very well from the feedback from CAF Headquarters. Gary earned an award for recruitment in 2022. **Congratulations!** Personally, I attended the following 7 out of 7 breakout sessions time slots: Social Media, Membership 101, Brand Standards, PIO Public Information Officer Resources, Fundraising, Unit Leaders Roundtable, and Presented in Getting started in STEM.

### Takeaways- Highlights:

**Membership 101:** CAF Hdqtrs gives 8 notices to renew. You can pay for your national membership monthly. Here is **BIG one:** In 2021- **40% of the Colonels are not Wing members.** We asked for a list of WI CAF national members who are not local unit members.

**Fundraising:** \$484 billion dollars was donated in the USA in 2022- **67% of it by individuals.** Who do you know? CAF HDQTRS: **40% of their attendees, to their benefit fundraisers, are NOT CAF members.** Who do you know to invite to our fundraisers? **NOTE:** It costs more time & money to find a new donor than to keep current donors. Build and keep up your relationships with your donors.

**Social Media:** You are an extension of our CAF Brand. Wear our logo to events. It is important! People have a short attention span – more than ever. Interview requests: Leah Block VP of Marketing at CAF Hdqtrs is a great resource, when in doubt we should contact her.

**Public Information Officer (PIO):** CAF media request contact up 54%. CAF website users went from 20K to 50K per month. **Lately 70K per month looking for rides, events, CAF news and unit locations.** It is important we keep our website current. **Big one:** Send our Event date/Press releases to Leah and they can push through their media channels. **And they will link it to our WING website.**





## Wisconsin Wing News



### Update on Dallas CAF Annual Conference *(cont'd from previous page)*

**Brand Standards:** A brand is a promise. What do the public think when they hear about CAF? Inspiration- Integrity-Preservation- Service- Respect- Patriotism- Leadership-Citizenship-Authenticity- Freedom- Liberty- Sacrifices. **Branding gives us:** Recognition-Loyalty-Credibility-Attracts talent- Allows shared values.

**Unit Leader Round Table: We learned all Wings have similar challenges:** Getting volunteers, not burning out volunteers, recruiting new members, keeping members, finding pilots, fundraising efforts, to name a few. Hank, our President sat in on the Q & A and they are working on items to better help us with these challenges.

**Have a Happy Easter, see you all on the 15<sup>th</sup> and at our WI Wing Spring Banquet on the 28<sup>th</sup>!**





# Wisconsin Wing News



## Update on Dallas CAF Annual Conference *(cont'd from previous page)*







## Wisconsin Wing News



### CAF Breakfast at Denny's is (nearly) every Saturday at 8AM

Don't forget that you can have some CAF comradery most every Saturday AM at Denny's by the airport. The April 1st breakfast was very special to me with member and talented model builder, John Leidel, surprising me with a very detailed model of our SNJ-5. The model is now on display at the Waukesha County Airport terminal museum in our CAF display cabinet for many to enjoy. I had some fun taking photos of the model sitting on the wing of the full scale version. Try attending breakfast sometime! We often head over to the airport afterwards for more activity.



John Leidel presents SNJ model to Gary Otto



April 1<sup>st</sup> Breakfast Gang!



1/32 scale SNJ meets full scale SNJ!

### EAA Warbird 32 Squadron

April meeting: Wed., 4/12, 6pm  
Military Veterans Museum – Oshkosh  
Sean Elliot – Flying Heavy Bomber Warbirds

May meeting: Wed., 5/10, 6pm  
Military Veterans Museum – Oshkosh  
Model Night

June → Sat., 6/10  
Oshkosh Airport Main Terminal  
Annual WB32 fly-in, pancake breakfast & car/MV show.  
More details to come! Young Eagle rides too!

Related links:

<https://www.facebook.com/OshkoshSquad> &

<https://chapters.eaa.org/war32>

*Membership dues lowered to \$30!!!*

**8th Annual**  
**TBM AVENGER**  
and  
**SALUTE TO VETERANS**  
Presented by the City of Peru  
**MAY 19th & 20th**  
at the Illinois Valley Regional Airport • Peru, IL

See Warbirds make history come alive and honor our Veterans!

- ★ Squadron of TBM Avengers - largest gathering in the U.S.
- ★ Veterans' Parade and March
- ★ TBM Missing Man Flying Salute
- ★ Historic B-17 Bomber "Yankee Lady" and helicopter rides available
- ★ Famous Warbirds from WWII, Korea and Vietnam - featuring flight demonstrations, formation flying and simulated torpedo runs.

Visit the Veterans' Expo on Thursday!

**Friday ★ 11am-10pm**  
AIRSHOW TIMES:  
1pm-4pm ★ 7:30-9:30pm

★ Matt Younkin Night Airshow, brought to us by Marquis Energy.  
★ Pyrotechnics and "Wall of Fire"

**Saturday ★ 9am-4pm**  
AIRSHOW TIME:  
1-4pm

★ Veterans' Parade and Flag Ceremony at 11:30am  
★ Pyrotechnics and "Wall of Fire"

**FREE ADMISSION ★ FREE PARKING**  
COURTESY OF THE CITY OF PERU

[www.tbmareunion.org](http://www.tbmareunion.org)  
For show details, visit our Facebook page: TBM Avenger Reunion



## Wisconsin Wing News



### **MUCH SUN AND MUCH FUN** *by Col Mike Woods*



Well, the real name as everyone knows is Sun N Fun, but with temps around 90 and relatively clear skies and with good friends I thought my title was appropriate. As has been our practice for the last few years, I, and a couple of Florida neighbors, head out to Lakeland, FL for one day at the show. Since three of us are all named Mike, we differentiate ourselves by one using his preferred name of Micky, and another one is 6'4", so he is Big Mike, and so I am, yes, you guessed it, Little Mike. For variety this year, we invited a new neighbor but he made the name game easy since his name is John. To make the conversations interesting all three Mike's are pilots, with Micky being very inactive and big Mike was an F4 and A-7 pilot in the Air Force and then a United Captain. John just liked being around planes.

We departed our condo at 6:00 AM and arrived at Lakeland around 8:30. Last year we arrived around 11:00 and spent 1 ½ hours in traffic. Since we arrived early, the traffic was relatively light and we were able to get a great parking spot in a relatively unoccupied lot. When we left, the lot was full and it sounded like this was one of their busier days. One of the workers there said they had a hard time getting well known airshow performers since they do not give them gas, but those that did perform were excellent. After the twist and turn performers we were treated to an excellent show by the Navy Blue Angels. Those guys, and I believe one gal, are excellent, and almost scary the way they pass each other, and at times fly canopy to canopy. The only complaint about the

show is that there was an awful lot of dead time between acts. Amazon has a big warehouse on the airport and the show had to stop whenever one of the Amazon planes came in or left, so that caused more dead time.

There were a lot of exhibitors on the grounds. Interesting enough there were two light sport planes that caught my fancy. The first one was a 70% P-51 replica. It is powered with a Rotax but still gets 160-170 at altitude. It is carbon fiber but they were able to make the skin look like it has rivets where there were real ones. I believe this is made in Germany. What a thrill it would be to fly around in this fantastic looking plane. The second light sport was a two-place seaplane. It is currently made in Brazil, but they have an office in FL. With all the water in FL I can only imagine how much fun a plane like this would be. The latest issue in Sport Aviation has an article on both of these planes, so if interested, look up the article. I also chatted with the folks from Carbon Cub and was interested to see their latest which is a nosewheel version. Somehow a nosewheel Cub just does not look right, but they realized that most people that can afford either one of the kits or a ready to fly version are older and many do not have, nor do they want, a tailwheel endorsement. Also, insurance companies are making it more difficult to get insurance on tailwheel aircraft for those of us that are over 70. The nosewheel version must be a big hit since they said that is the only version they are making right now and even so, new orders are out 2 years. Ah, success in the market place is a wonderful thing, at least for the manufacturer.

The one thing that struck me as much different from Oshkosh is I did not see where those that flew in where located. I guess the parking area is a much smaller area, but I have always found it fun to look at all the planes, especially the homebuilt ones, that fly in. A great day, 4 miles of walking, lots to see, so will try to take in more next year.





## Wisconsin Wing News



### **Meet your Wing Historian – Brian Liddle!** *by Col Brian Liddle, WI Wing Historian*

Hello I'm Brian Liddle. I am proud to inform you that I have been appointed as your new historian for the Commemorative Air Force - Wisconsin Wing. I am an air enthusiast and an EAA volunteer with Training Command. I am an active member with Warbirds Squadron 32 out of Oshkosh, WI. They have been a springboard for me to showcase my art and meet new people. The Warbirds chapter was a reason for joining CAF, and traveling to cities I've never been to, I feel it has given me social growth



I am from Green Bay; WI and I cheer on the variety of sports teams throughout the state. When I am not drawing, I like to fish, hike, and keep the reflexes in check by playing video games. I am an artist, my passion is drawing airplanes using colored pencils, primarily. I am also constantly looking for inspiration everyday to continue my drawings.

I have 2 Bachelor degrees, Geography 1996, and Theology 2020. I am currently a Studio Arts Major at UWGB and hope to finish in the year 2025. I want to meet new people and make friends along my journey. My profession is a personal, residential caregiver for Home Instead. I find that job very rewarding because I am allowed to help people who are in need. I am a new member with the Commemorative Air Force, so I am still learning the ropes. Not only am I an artist but an avid researcher as it is evident in my drawings. I am hopeful that I will receive the support I need to become a successful historian. I hope to make all of you proud by producing accurate and interesting documentation on aircraft and related items. I share the same pride in my artwork as well as enthusiasm for history.

I want to thank you for the opportunity for appointing me to be your historian. I am sure I will find the position rewarding and a learning experience. Let's get started, shall we? Brian

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### **1948 → The Air Force Reserve is Formed: President Harry Truman formally establishes the "Air Force Reserve."**

Air Force Reserve Birthday is observed on April 14 every year. After the 'U.S. Air Force' was established as a separate branch of service, the 'Air Force Reserve' was born. Its mission is to provide combat-ready forces to 'Fly, Fight and Win.'

Reservists play a crucial part in the Department of Defense's strategy for manpower, global reach, and military flexibility. This day celebrates those who have taken the courageous decision to answer the call of duty. They embody the values of integrity, service before self, and excellence that deserves to be celebrated not just for a day but the whole year-round.

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Former WI Wing member, long time CAF member, and Marine veteran Craig Hoaglund has gone west on 3-17-23 at age 60. Craig was very involved with the WI Wing PV-2D Harpoon restoration project and made significant contributions of time and support for the bomber project. Services were held on April 5th with burial at Highland Memorial Cemetery with full military honors.



## Wisconsin Wing News



### WI Wing Membership Meeting

You are invited to the CAF WI Wing on Sat., April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023

10:30 AM Central Time → Waukesha Airport Terminal Conference Room  
(Airport Drive, Waukesha)

**Program: Brian Liddle, aviation artist & historian  
presenting "My Journey"**

**\*\*\* CAF Website is updated and ready for action!!! \*\*\***

Go to [www.cafwi.org](http://www.cafwi.org) and check out all the updates and additions that our webmaster, Steve Lark, has made on the site. If you are a member, you need the member password to access the member resources. Call Steve Lark or any officer to get the PW if you do not have it.

### COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE WISCONSIN WING

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**WELCOME TO THE COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE  
WISCONSIN WING  
OUR MISSION: EDUCATE, INSPIRE AND HONOR**



## Wisconsin Wing News



**Editor's Note:** *I was introduced to an article published in the Q1 edition of the CAF West Texas Wing's "From the Flight Deck" about Recruiting and Training Naval Aviators during World War II. I reached out to the author, Ray Heineman, for permission to re-print the article only to realize his bio is equally interesting! I hope you enjoy both articles as much as I did and thanks to Ray for sharing both snapshots of history! -Brad Ohde*



Raymond G. Heineman, a native of Stone Mountain, Georgia, has worked for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) since February 2007. Currently he is the Chief of the Aircraft Operations Division (AOD), Flight Operations Directorate, Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center, Houston TX. The primary mission of AOD is to support Space Flight Readiness Training for the Astronaut Office with a secondary mission of providing aviation support of NASA, DoD, and other government agency missions.

Ray is currently qualified as an Evaluator and Instructor Pilot on both the T-38N "Talon" and Super Guppy Turbine, and an Aircraft Commander in the Gulfstream V. He has previously qualified as a First Pilot of the WB-57F High-Altitude Research Aircraft and Evaluator and Instructor Pilot in the C-9B Microgravity Research Aircraft. Additionally, he was awarded the NASA Stuart M. Present Flight Achievement Award for Aviation Excellence in 2009, along with multiple other individual and group NASA achievement awards.

He has over 10,000 flight hours in 60 different aircraft, gliders, and helicopters, and holds an Airline Transport Pilot certificate with type ratings in the McDonnell-Douglas DC-9, Beech 1900, and Gulfstream V aircraft. He also holds a Certificated Flight Instructor (CFI) certificate in single engine aircraft, single engine seaplanes, multiengine aircraft, and is an instrument rated instructor. Ray also holds Instrument Ground Instructor (IGI), Advanced Ground Instructor (AGI) certificates.

Prior to his arrival at Johnson Space Center, Ray worked at the NASA-Langley Research Center, Hampton Virginia, as a Safety and Mission Assurance Engineer on the Ares I-X Developmental Flight Test Flight launched in October 2009, and the Mars Science Lab (MSL) Entry, Descent, and Landing Instrumentation (MEDLI) project.

Prior to his work at NASA, Ray worked as an Avionics Test Pilot and Flight Test Engineer for ARINC Engineering Services. Among his projects were the Air Force C-12C/D Avionics Upgrade Program, the C-5M Avionics Modernization Program, and the C-12J Avionics Upgrade Program. All three programs consisted of installing "glass" cockpits within these aircraft, and the associated ground tests, flight tests, and certification.

Ray also served 24 years of active and reserve duty with the United States Navy, retiring with the rank of Commander (O-5). During his service he was a designated Naval Aviator flying the Grumman A-6E "Intruder" from the deck of USS AMERICA (CV-66). During "Operation Desert Storm" he flew 37 combat missions over Iraq and Kuwait. During his naval career, he was an Instructor Pilot in the T-2C "Buckeye", and a Transport Aircraft Commander in both the Beech UC-12B "King Air" and Douglas DC-9 "Skytrain" aircraft. During his Navy career, Ray earned three Air Medals, two Navy Commendation Medals, two Navy Achievement Medals, and various other joint and campaign awards.

Ray is a two-time graduate of the Georgia Institute of Technology, with undergraduate degrees in Aerospace Engineering and Industrial Management, and holds a Master of Science Degree in Aerospace Systems Engineering from the University of Alabama - Huntsville. He is also a graduate of the Aviation Safety programs of Naval Postgraduate School and University of Southern California and is a graduate of Rice University with a certificate in Leadership.

He is married to the former Traci Jerman of Birmingham, AL, and they have three children.





## Wisconsin Wing News



### Recruiting and Training Naval Aviators during World War II

By Ray Heineman

As a former Naval Aviator, I'm well versed in the process of recruitment and training civilians to become military pilots. In my case a visit to my local recruiter, who showed me an exciting video and provided colorful brochures, then discussed it with my parents, and signed the paperwork. A four-year college degree was a requirement, so soon after graduation I reported to Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola for 14 weeks of Aviation Officer Candidate School (AOCS). My class, Class 13-85, began with 78 candidates and graduated 24. It was tough, consisting of physical training, swim and survival training, marching, classroom lectures, and a host of other training. Of course, there were other ways to begin the career of a Naval Aviator, such as the Naval Academy or Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), but I chose the "Officer and a Gentleman" route. After commissioning as an Ensign, it was off to 18-24 months of flight school to earn my "Wings of Gold". My service commitment was seven years active duty after earning my wings.

Leading up to World War II, it was not much different. In 1935 Congress passed the Naval Aviation Cadet Act, setting up a volunteer naval reserve class V-5 Naval Aviation Cadet (NavCad) program to send civilian and enlisted candidates to train as aviation cadets. Requirements were candidates had to be between the ages of 19 and 25, have an associate degree or at least two years of college, and had to complete a bachelor's degree within six years after graduation to keep their commission. Training was for 18 months, and candidates had to agree to not marry during training and to serve for at least three more years of active-duty service.

North American SNJ advanced trainer



Vultee SNV basic trainer

Curtiss SB2C Hellidver



Primary trainer



Naval Aircraft Factory N3N

Selected candidates went to Naval Flight Preparatory School, consisting of physical training, military training, and an education in naval customs and etiquette. Classroom training in mathematics and physics with applications of these skills in flight. Next was the preliminary flight training module, consisting of 10 hours of simulator training followed by a one-hour test flight with an instructor. Those that passed received V-5 flight badges (gold-metal aviator's wings with the V-5 badge set in the center), then sent to primary and basic flight training at NAS Pensacola and advanced flight training at another naval air stations. Graduates then became naval aviators with the rank of aviation cadet, which was considered senior to the rank of chief petty officer but below the rank of warrant officer, and was a member of the volunteer reserve. They received the same pay as an ordinary seaman (\$75 a month during training or duty ashore, \$125 a month when on active sea duty, and \$30 mess allowance) After three years of active service, they could be promoted to the rank of lieutenant (junior grade) in the naval reserve and receive a \$1,500 bonus. Cont. next page...



Chance Vought F4U Corsair





## Wisconsin Wing News



### Recruiting and Training Naval Aviators during World War II

Cont.

Due to poor pay and slow promotion, many naval aviation cadets left the service to work for the growing commercial aviation and airline industries. In 1939 Congress passed the Naval Aviation Reserve Act, which expanded the parameters of the earlier Aviation Cadet Act. Training was for 12 months, with graduates receiving commissions in the Naval Reserve as an ensign and were required to serve seven years on active duty.

During World War II, the Navy pilot training program really ramped up to meet wartime demands. It had the same stages as the army aviation program (pre-flight, primary, basic, and advanced), except basic flight added a carrier landing stage for fighter and torpedo- or dive-bomber pilots.

Primary Flight School began at NAS Pensacola where students were taught basic flying skills in the N3N, built by the Naval Aircraft Factory, or in the Stearman N2S "Kaydet" trainers. They were dubbed the "Yellow Peril" from both their bright yellow paint scheme and the inexperience of the student pilots. Basic Flight School was broken into two parts: initially instrument flying and night flying were taught to the students, followed by formation flying and gunnery.

Next, single-engine aircraft pilots taught how to land on a carrier, using the North American SNJ "Texan". Advanced Flight Training graduates received gold Naval Aviator wings. Each graduate had around 600 total flight hours, with approximately 200 flight hours on front-line Navy aircraft. Pilots who washed out of training were assigned as regular ensigns.

Enlisted Naval Aviation cadets were paid \$50/month for the first month of training ("Boot Camp") as an Apprentice Seaman and \$75/month for the second through eighth months as a Seamen Second Class. Commissioned Naval Aviation students (NavCad Ensigns or previously commissioned officers attending Flight School) were paid \$245/month, the same pay as an ensign.

The number of naval aviators grew at an astounding rate. In 1942, the program graduated 10,869 aviators, almost twice as many as the previous eight years combined. In 1943 there were 20,842 graduates; in 1944, 21,067; and in 1945 there were 8,880 graduates. Combining the wartime numbers, the U.S. Navy produced 61,658 pilots – more than 2.5 times the number of pilots as the Imperial Japanese Navy. Combined with the tremendous increases in aircraft, ship, and other production, it was only a matter of time before the might of the United States war effort was felt by the Axis.



# Air Camp

**starts on the Monday after Father's Day  
at EAA Chapter 1158, West Bend Airport**

- **Ages 13-16**  
Limited Enrollment
- **Individual Flight Experiences**
- **Hands-on Projects**
- **Aerospace Science**
- **Career Information**
- **Cap & Polo Shirt**

**Exciting Educational Activities Include:**

- Individual discovery flight in a Cessna 152 trainer with an FAA licensed instructor
- Young Eagle Flights Available
- Flight in a glider
- Build an actual aircraft wing section and composite airfoil
- Classroom instruction in:
  - Wiring an aircraft electrical circuit
  - History of aviation pioneers
  - Science of flight, navigation, and meteorology
  - Airport facilities tour
  - Take home information packet
  - And much more.....





**An Educational Aviation Experience**  
**Cost \$375.00**  
 includes lunches & materials

Find us on  **Facebook**

For Applications & Info, call: 262-338-8411  
 Applications available at West Bend Air or at [www.eaa1158.org](http://www.eaa1158.org)  
 Mail to: Mike Harrington, W68 N173 Evergreen Blvd  
 Cedarburg, WI 53012

Do you have an interest in history or vintage aviation? We would like to invite you to join us, **CAF** today!



# WE WANT YOU!

You do not need to be a veteran or a pilot to join the CAF. Membership is open to everyone age 18 or older. Cadet membership is open to students ages 12-23. All membership levels will receive a membership packet and the knowledge that you are securing a part of history that can remain alive through flight. The CAF is a non-profit, tax-exempt historical and educational organization. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

[Membership Options \(commemorativeairforce.org\)](http://www.commemorativeairforce.org)  
[WWW.COMMEMORATIVEAIRFORCE.ORG](http://WWW.COMMEMORATIVEAIRFORCE.ORG)



## Wisconsin Wing News



### **Warbird Heavy Iron (in plastic) – “Times A Wastin”** by Col John Leidel, WI Wing Adjutant Officer

Up until recently, all my models would only be seen by myself, my family, friends, and the spiders in my basement. It was through Facebook that I was able to start sharing my models with the world! I was asked to build a model of Aluminum Overcast for Chris Henry. I posted my progress on Facebook. This got the attention of Gary Hall who wanted a model of the B-17G “Times A Wastin” (TAW) of the 91st BG, 401st Sqd. His Grandfather, Edgar G. Harrell, was KIA when TAW was shot down on April 8, 1945 over Stendal, Germany. Gary contacted me, and I made it happen!

The kit is the venerable old Monogram (Revell) 1/48 scale B-17G from 1975. Although there is a modern kit made by HK Models that has far more interior detail than the old Monogram kit, it does NOT have the proper shape and stance of a real B-17. Secret tip, 90% of the interior cannot be seen on the finished model! The only modification I made to this kit was staggering the right waist gun by using the window part as a guide to cut out the new opening with an exacto knife. I used that cut out part to fill the old opening. I also opened the bomb-bay using a razor saw and exacto knife. Decals for TAW are available from Kitsworld.UK, so the markings were easy. The overall finish was done with a Testors Gloss Metallic Silver from a rattle can, all other painting was brushed using Tamiya Acrylics. As you will see in future articles, my techniques improved and expanded over time.

This project really launched my new-found passion for building in honor of, and even for Veterans. When Gary Hall sent these pictures of Flight Engineer Lyle Jones with the model, it was very rewarding! When he shared the photo of the model by Mr. Harrell's grave, it made me cry!

Keep 'em Flying (or Build A Model of 'em!)



The finished model.



Showing the installation of the new staggered waist gun window before it was puttied and sanded.



The interior, most of which cannot be seen once the fuselage is closed up.



Top: Cyrus Hard (not confirmed), Robert Morris, Peter Pastras, George Latches.  
Bottom: Donald Lemons, Robert O. Smith, Robert A. Smith, Lyle Jones and Edgar Harrell.



Gary Hall shares Times A Wastin with Flight Engineer Lyle Jones who bailed out and became a POW.



What it's all about!





# Wisconsin Wing News



## Commemorative Air Force-Wisconsin Wing Annual Spring Banquet & Silent Auction 41st Anniversary Celebration



**Friday, April 28, 2023**

Join us for an evening to...

- Hear our **Special Keynote Speaker**
- **Celebrate 41 yrs** of accomplishments of the CAF-Wisconsin Wing and have some great fun!
- Chat with fellow and prospective Wing members and guests (**invite a friend or two!**)
- **Bid on fabulous Silent Auction Items** to raise funds to support the mission of the Wisconsin Wing (Cash or check preferred - we are also able to process credit cards.)

**Location:** **Delafield Brewhaus, 3832 Hillside Dr, Delafield, WI**

**Time:** 5:30-6:30 pm - Cocktails, Social Hour & Silent Auction Bidding  
6:30-7:30 pm - Dinner & Silent Auction Bidding  
7:30-9:30 pm - Reflections, Updates, Keynote Speaker & Silent Auction Winners  
9:30 until ??? - Social time continues!

**Cost:** \$45 per person - see menu below; reservation with payment in advance

**Incidentals:** Cocktails, beer and soft drinks from our banquet room bar; coffee and tea are included

**Questions:** Questions? Contact Noel Skerven or Teri Anderer

Col Noel Skerven: 262-239-8773 or [nxskerven@gmail.com](mailto:nxskerven@gmail.com)

Col Teri Anderer: 262-227-7472 or [teri.anderer@gmail.com](mailto:teri.anderer@gmail.com)

or Col Gary Otto at 262-875-1640 or [gary.arthur.otto@gmail.com](mailto:gary.arthur.otto@gmail.com)

**Donations of Silent Auction items are appreciated! We welcome items Prior to the Banquet!**  
Label items with donor's name, contact info and approximate value  
and give them to Col Ed Pleva (262-844-0965). Tax deduction receipts are available.

*Commemorative Air Force - Wisconsin Wing is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. This civilian group shares a passion for military aviation history and is dedicated to the preservation and flying of vintage military aircraft. Our mission is to Educate, Inspire and Honor! Visit us at [www.cafwi.org](http://www.cafwi.org) or on Facebook.*

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**To register for the banquet- return bottom portion with check written out to CAF-Wisconsin Wing**

**Mail completed bottom portion & check by April 18th to:**

**Col Noel Skerven, N93W19820 Addison Rd, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051-1203**

**Attendees Names:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

Brewhaus Buffet	Number Requested	Attendee's Name(s)
Roast Pork Loin/Beef Tenderloin	_____ x \$45/person	
Salad/2-veggies/2-potato/Rolls+		

*Also includes relish tray, coffee, tea, milk and special CAF cake.*

**Total Amount Enclosed: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

## Calendar – Upcoming Events

Please go to [cafwi.org](http://cafwi.org) for more details on all the Commemorative Air Force Wisconsin 2023 Wing activities.

Notes: CAF WI Wing activity always subject to weather and aircraft availability

- WI Wing Staff meetings are always 10 days prior to each wing meeting and open to all members to attend.
- Waukesha Airport Food Truck Fridays Run June 2<sup>nd</sup> thru Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, with WI Wing PX attending and Aircraft support.

Date	Event Name	Location	Time	PX Booth	Education Table	T-34A	SNJ-5
April 15	Wing Meeting & Lunch	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
April 21	Ice Cream at KUES	Airport Terminal	3-6PM				
April 22	<a href="#">Honor Flight Escort</a>	KUES KMKE	5:30am depart				
April 28	Spring Banquet	Delafield Brew Haus	5:30 til ???				
May 3	Wing Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
May 12	Dock Hounds Opener	Fly Over with SNJ	TBA			X	X
May 13	Wing Meeting & Lunch	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30-11:30 a.m.				
May 15-20	Armed Forces Week	Various activities w/128th	TBA				
May 20	<a href="#">Honor Flight Escort</a>	Milwaukee Mitchell Airport	6:00 a.m.			X	X
May 19-20	TBM Reunion	Peru, IL	TBA				
May 26-28	Dock Hounds Military Wk	Fly Over with SNJ	TBA				
May 27 28 29	Memorial Day Fly-overs	Union Grove & Wood Cem.	TBD				
May 31	Wing Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
June 2	First Food Truck Friday	KUES Terminal Ramp	11AM-2PM				
????	128 <sup>th</sup> ARW Tour (TBC)	MKE Airport: 128 <sup>th</sup> Base	TBA				
June 10	EAA Warbird SQUADRON 32 Fly-in	KOSH Oshkosh Terminal and Ramp	10AM – 4PM				
June 10	Wing Meeting	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
June 17-18	<a href="#">Menomonee Falls WWII Days Big Band Sat nite</a>	Old Falls Village Historic Park, Menomonee Falls, WI	10:00-5:00 p.m. plus Sat night band	X	X		
June 17 (verify)	Honor Flight Escort	KMKE Mitchell Airport	6:00 AM			X	X
June 28	Wing Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
July 1	<a href="#">EAA Chapter 1365 Fly-in</a>	Mauston/New Lisbon Union Airport	Go Friday night	X		X	X
July 3	Shawano Fireworks day	Shawano Airport	Noon-dusk			X	X
July 8	Wing Meeting	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
July 19-23	CAF AirPower History Tour FiFi & Diamond 'Lil +	TBA		X		X	X
July 24-July 30	EAA AirVenture	Oshkosh Airport		no	no	X	X
Aug 2	Wing Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
Aug 5	Old Glory Honor Flt Event	Fly Over Oshkosh					
Aug 5	Menomonee Fly In	Fly In					
August 12	Wing Meeting & Lunch	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
TBA	<a href="#">RC Warbirds and Classics Over the Midwest</a>	Wenets RC Field SE of Fond du Lac	TBA	X			X
August 19	Shawano Fly-In	Shawano	All day/rain 8-20	X?			X
August 30	Wing Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
September 9	Honor Flight Escort	KMKE Mitchell Airport	6:00 AM				X
September 9	Wing Meeting & Lunch	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
Sept 9	Oconto Fly-In	Oconto Airport	9:00AM – 4:00PM	X			X*
Sept 9	Waukegan Fly-in	Waukegan, IL					
October 1	Burlington Fly In	Burlington, WI Airport	TBD	X			
October 4	Wing Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
October 7	Honor Flight Escort	KMKE Mitchell Airport	6:00 AM				
October 14	Wing Meeting & Lunch	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
October TBA	Corsicana Airshow	Corsicana, TX Coyote Sqdn	Sat. 10-8 all day				
November 1	Wing Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
November 4	Honor Flight Escort	KMKE Mitchell Airport	6:00 AM				X?
November 4	Veterans Day Parade	Fly Overs	11AM???				
November 11	Wing Meeting & Lunch Election nominations	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
November 24	Trip to EAA Museum	Oshkosh, WI	9:00 a.m.				
November 29	Wing Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
December TBA	WI WING Holiday Party	Brewhaus	Details to follow				
December 9	Wing Meeting Election for 2024-5 terms	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
TBA	N103JC return to flight	Tulsa OK Wing	TBA				

For the latest EAA AirVenture news & info go to:



<https://www.eaa.org/airventure>

## WI Wing Staff

<u>Position</u>	<u>Person</u>	<u>Contact Info.</u>
<b>Wing Leader:</b>	Gary Otto	262-875-1640 gary.arthur.otto@gmail.com
<b>Executive Officer:</b>	*** Open *** This could be you!	
<b>Finance Officer:</b>	Tony Madonia	312-208-9840 tony@madonia.com
<b>Maintenance Officer:</b>	Scott Twesme	920-650-6101 srtzen@gmail.com
<b>Operations Officer:</b>	Mike Woods	262-781-0487 mikewoods@gmail.com
<b>Safety Officer:</b>	Evan Bauer	901-541-0476 bauere25@gmail.com
<b>Ground Crew Leader:</b>	*** Open *** This could be you!	
<b>Public Information Officer:</b>	Bob Vajgrt	414-550-2770 dawnbob@wi.rr.com
<b>Development Officer:</b>	Tom McDermott	608-289-2424 mcfender@yahoo.com
<b>Education Officer:</b>	Candy Parr	262-490-0330 cparr@jamesimaging.com candy.parr2018@gmail.com
<b>Membership Officer:</b>	Michael Guslick	262-203-6049 haveblue@haveblue.org
<b>Adjutant Officer:</b>	John Leidel	262-538-1542 mfd4401@yahoo.com
<b>Events Officer:</b>	Noel Skerven	262-239-8773 nxskerven@gmail.com
<b>Historian:</b>	Brian Liddle	920-634-7034 liddle.brian@yahoo.com
<b>Newsletter:</b>	Brad Ohde	262-309-8600 brad.ohde@outlook.com
<b>PX Leader:</b>	Ed Pleva	262-844-0965 ed.pleva@gmail.com
<b>PX Volunteer Coord.:</b>	Dennis Flancher	414-534-0160 dennislf@att.net
<b>Fly-Over Coord.</b>	Vic Stottlemyer	262-391-5110 stottlemy7@aol.com
<b>Wisconsin Wing mailing address:</b>  <b>CAF Wisconsin Wing</b> <b>P.O. Box 1998</b> <b>Waukesha, WI 53187-1998</b> <a href="http://www.cafwi.org">www.cafwi.org</a>		