



Commemorative Air Force Wisconsin Wing Newsletter

Chartered April 30th, 1982

Editor: Brad Ohde

August 2021, Issue #2108

From the Front Cockpit Col Gary Otto – Wing Leader



COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE
Wisconsin Wing Newsletter

It's hard to believe that we are already into August and 2021 AirVenture is already in the history books. With approximately 635,000 attending and over 350 warbirds, it was a record setting event in many respects. Your WI Wing was well represented with all 3 of our aircraft on the field and flying often, a "cool" hospitality area in the Warbird Campground, lots of WI Wing member owned warbirds, and the week was topped off by our T-34 winning Judge's Choice – T-34 at the Warbird banquet Saturday evening. Wow! What a week+!! Many thanks to Chuck Christburg, Jeff Otto, Steven Mueller, and Steve Lark for helping with AirVenture set-up!

Prior to the start of AirVenture, we attended the Tri-State Wing's Warbird Weekend in Janesville, featuring our T-34 on daily static display and Dennis Flancher with the PX. Sales were the biggest of the year so far, nearing \$2000. Thanks go to Dennis Flancher, Tom Leunig, Mike Woods, Steven Mueller, and my visiting niece from Colorado, Victoria Barrow for their support of the PX.

During the week of AirVenture, the Arizona Air Base had their B-25, Maid in the Shade at Waukesha Airport for tours and rides. See Jeanette Anderson's article on her B-25 flight!

There has been lots of Educating, Inspiring and Honoring going on in SE Wisconsin, and there is lots more to come for August and September. Checkout the mission reports in this newsletter and review the events list to see where you can volunteer to make a difference. We have many PX outings that need support. We also have four new members this past month with lots to get involved with right up front.

Best to you all!

Gary Otto



Inside this issue:

<i>From the Front Cockpit</i>	1
<i>Gone West: Lt Colonel Edward Tyre</i>	2
<i>Distinguished Visitor – NAVY Embark Program, Announcements, WI Wing T-34 wins "Judge's Choice" at AirVenture, WWII B-25 Invades Waukesha Airport in July, & more!</i>	3-14
<i>Events & Staff Listing</i>	15



Wisconsin Wing News



Lieutenant Colonel Edward Tyre USAF (ret), the Father of WI Wing member, Tim Tyre, passed away July 29, 2021 at the age of 97.

LtCol Tyre was a WW2 Lead Pilot and Co-Pilot on the Widow Maker- the Martin B-26 Marauder Bomber. LtCol Tyre flew 50 combat missions in the European Theater of Operations during the War, and his military career spanned 26 years of active and



reserve service. LtCol Tyre's many military decorations include the European Campaign Medal with 4 battle Stars, and 9 Air Medals with Oak Leaf Clusters.

In 2013, The President of France, Francois Hollande, both Knighted LtCol Tyre and awarded him the French Legion of Honor Medal for LtCol Tyre's Valor while flying combat missions over France.

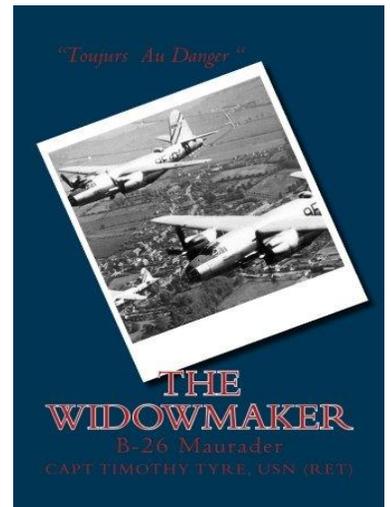
LtCol Ed Tyre and Capt. Tim Tyre were guest speakers at a CAF WI Wing event several years ago, telling the story of the raid on the German Luftwaffe's dreaded ME-262 jet fighter base. Tim wrote a book detailing his father's missions during WWII, called "The Widowmaker". The outstanding book is still available from the WI Wing PX.



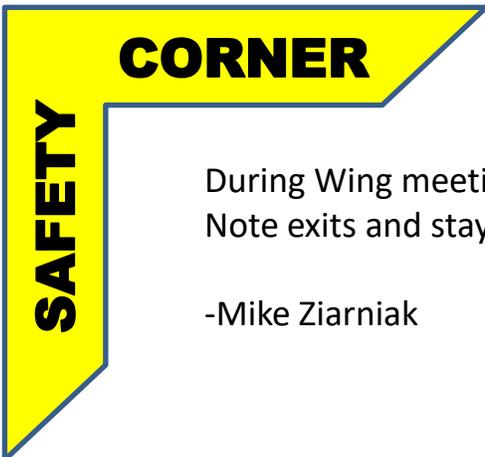
Visitation for Lt Col Tyre will be at St Theresa of Calcutta Catholic Church on Saturday August 28, 2021 at 1000 followed by a funeral Mass at 1100. Internment with full Military Honors will 1101. immediately follow the Mass.

There will be a missing man formation at LtCol Tyre's internment led by LtCol John Palese with Jesse Bentley flying as #2.

Details on the funeral service can be found at: <https://www.krausefuneralhome.com/obituary/>



=====



During Wing meetings, please be aware of surroundings while in the hangar. Note exits and stay clear of both aircraft in the hangar (PT and Tiger Moth).

-Mike Ziarniak



Wisconsin Wing News



Welcome
New Members!!!

2021		
John Schroeder	Matt Phillips	Gary Kozlowski
Paul McAllister	Tom Leunig	Herb Coussons
Chuck Christburg	Scott Meisenheimer	Tim Tyre
Steven Mueller	Jeff Otto	John Leidel
John Hartmann	Matt Phillips	Mike Pastore
Enzo Aita	Tracy Hunter	Ed Pleva
Michael Moynihan	Tonie Michaels	Karl Beckle



PX Volunteers Needed NOW!!!

If interested in joining the PX team and representing the CAF WI Wing at events throughout the season, please contact Dennis Flancher, PX Volunteer Coordinator, at 414-543-0160 or email dennislf@att.net

Training provided and it's a great way to meet great people!

The upcoming PX outings need volunteers →

- Aug. 20, 27, & Sept. 3rd (Finale!) Food Truck Fridays
- Sept. 4 Mauston
- Sept. 11 Waukegan
- Sept. 18 Oconto
- Sept. 19 East Troy
- Sept. 25 Oshkosh
- Sept. 26 & Oct 9 Rides Day KUE



Wisconsin Wing Holiday Party
Friday December 17th - Delafield Brew House

If you want to volunteer to be on the banquet committee and help plan this enjoyable event, please contact Kathy Laabs – Events Officer.



Wisconsin Wing News



Several years ago, a friend of mine told me about an experience aboard a US Navy Aircraft Carrier he had. I immediately sent and requested an application, with little expectation of ever being selected. In an effort by the Navy to get their message to the American people about what they do, how they do it, they invite about 2,000 people annually to embark with them for a 24-hour experience aboard an active aircraft carrier. As I later learned from some of my fellow 'Distinguished Visitors', better known on the ship as 'DV's, getting selected was an opportunity not afforded to many people.

About a year or so went by after I submitted my application, and I suspected I would not be selected to participate. Then I received word that I was approved for an upcoming embarkation, and to expect further information shortly on specifics. When Covid hit us, the program was indefinitely suspended. Early summer of 2021, I received a notice that the program was restarting, and to reply if I was available in August 2021 for an embarkation out of San Diego, which of course I said YES!!!

The Navy is looking to get their story told through business and civic leaders who are active in their community and who can be a positive voice for their often-unheralded efforts, with me...**mission accomplished!**



T-34C based at NAS

Upon arriving at the North Island Naval Air Station San Diego, we were met by USN public affairs officers and escorted on to base where we presented a brief overview and history of the Naval Air Station.

After our overview on base history and what to expect over the next 24 hours, we were provided a safety briefing prior to departure on a USN Osprey out to the USS Abraham Lincoln CVN-72 (which is the fifth Nimitz-class aircraft carrier) off the coast of San Diego. After obtaining our safety equipment (ear plugs, cranial helmet, and life preserver) we loaded up for the flight to the carrier.



Wisconsin Wing News



During the flight out to the carrier, the rear loading doors remain open for a view of the NAS during departure, the flight out, and arrival on the carrier.

Upon arrival on the USS Abraham Lincoln, we were escorted to the Captains stateroom where we were greeted by Captain Walter M Slaughter and a number of his officers. During my introduction to him, I exchanged patches with him (patch exchanges are very much enjoyed by the crew). These are the patches I exchanged a Wisconsin Wing T-34 patch for....

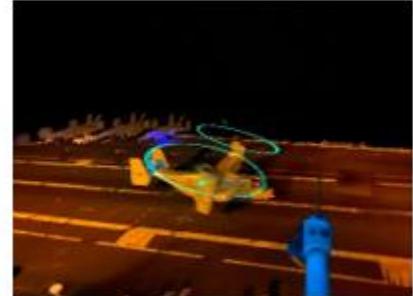


After our briefing, we headed up about 8 flights of stairs to bridge and enjoyed the expansive view of the carrier and observe flight operations. After some time of the bridge, we moved to the flight deck to continue to observe aircraft launches and recoveries of F-18's, F-35's, EA-18G, E2B's, and Osprey's (The USS Abraham Lincoln is the second carrier to have F-35's assigned). Needless to say, being on deck, that close to aircraft launching with full afterburners on, landings that are loud and violent, it is something you will never forget. With the hearing protection equipment on the sounds are muted, but you FEEL the power in every part of your body. Day operations we observed about 12 launches and recoveries, and about the same number in the evening (8pm – 10pm).

Between the day and evening operations, we had the honor of having dinner with the ships Captain and Fleet Admiral. Much discussion was had, and we all very much appreciated the time the Captain and his team spent with us. After dinner we toured the hangar deck with spans almost the entire length of the carrier (1,092' long). The carrier is home to about 72 active aircraft including; F18's, F-35's, EA-18G, E2B's and Osprey's.



Wisconsin Wing News



Between the day and evening operations, we had the honor of having dinner with the ships Captain and Fleet Admiral. Much discussion was had, and we all very much appreciated the time the Captain and his team spent with us. After dinner we toured the hangar deck with spans almost the entire length of the carrier (1,092' long). The carrier is home to about 72 active aircraft including; F18's, F-35's, EA-18G, E2B's and Osprey's.



It's easy to be impressed by the enormity of the Aircraft Carrier and the F18's/F-35's/EA-18G/E2B's/Ospreys that grace it's decks, but the real story that hit's you is the professionalism, commitment and hard work by every member of the crew working together as a team. Not to be overlooked, are the hardworking men and women at the Naval bases that work to ensure the full operation in the background. [Videos of trip can be found here.](#)

So, at the end of the day, the most compelling feeling is the pride I feel for the hard work and sacrifices these men and women make daily to ensure our freedom and safety at home. Approximately 4,700 personnel serve onboard the USS Abraham Lincoln, for many months at a time, working very long days, and not seeing families for months on end. Unfortunately, the turnover rate is very high among the enlisted personnel (>35%) and thus costs to continually train our sailors is very high – let's all work to help get their pay and benefits where they should be to help mitigate that part of the challenge (not much can be done about the time away from family issue).

We all need to remember the sacrifices these men and women make for all of us (while you are reading this on your couch). We need to ensure that these dads, moms, brothers, and sisters get, and continue to receive everything they deserve from us. If you ever get the privilege to embark on an aircraft carrier, or other ship, be sure to do so, you will not be disappointed and will have some part of you changed forever. God Bless America and all of its service personnel and families.





Wisconsin Wing News



**WI Wing T-34 Wins
"Judge's Choice - T-34"
at AirVenture**



Gary Otto and Steven Mueller on judging day!



Judging presentation: Photos, logbooks, history and a very impressive Warbird!



Clean up crew celebrating the cleanest T-34 on the ramp! Thank you to Steven Mueller, Dave Cook, Tim Derner, and Fred Dowling.



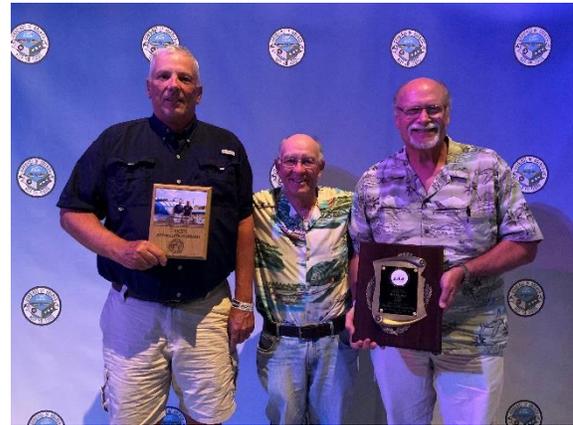
Clean up crew hard at work preparing for Judging!



Wisconsin Wing News



T-34 Wins BIG at AirVenture!!!



Award presentation at the Warbird Banquet.



SOS Brothers Beer Tent saw lots of "action"!!!



Sunday display in the "winner's circle" with Dan Summerall.



WI Wing Hospitality area was busy all week!



A trip to Oshkosh must include a stop at Ardy & Ed's Root Beer Stand! Gary Otto's niece Victoria Barrow and Dennis Flancher enjoying their lunch!!



Sunday teardown crew: Tommy Haug, Dan Summerall, Gary Otto and Fred Dowling. Thanks!!!!



Wisconsin Wing News



Mission Report:



WI Wing supporter, Jim Fanning, visits the WI Wing!

The WI Wing welcomed Indiana based Jim Fanning and Cory Jordan on Sunday, August 15th. After Vic Stottlemeyer led a tour of several KUES hangars full of warbirds, Mike Woods and Gary Otto flew Jim and Cory down to Janesville for lunch at Bessie's in the PT and SNJ.



What a great way to say thank you to Jim for his generous support of our aircraft. Thank you, Jim!!! Gary Otto

=====

WWII B-25 Invades Waukesha Airport in July!

By Col Jeanette Anderson

During the week of AirVenture, Waukesha County Airport had a memorable visit from the Arizona Airbase Flying Legends of Victory Tour's B-25J Mitchell Maid in the Shade. Named for Milwaukee's own General Billy Mitchell, the B-25 was one of the most versatile aircraft of WWII.



The B25 is perhaps most famous for its role in the Doolittle raid over Tokyo in early 1942. On April 18, 1942, just 4 months after Pearl Harbor, Lieutenant Colonel James Doolittle and his group of sixteen B-25 Mitchell Bombers were launched off the USS Hornet and dropped their bombs in Tokyo, providing a much needed morale boost for American troops and civilians. Doolittle's co-pilot on that raid was then Lieutenant Richard Cole. Dick Cole was also a CAF Colonel and inductee into our CAF Hall of Fame. You can see a video commemorating his induction here:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=229629184849953>

You can also see his autograph proudly displayed on the bomb bay door of Maid in the Shade. The B-25J Maid In The Shade served with the 319th Bomb Group, 437th

Squadron at Serragia Airbase, in Corsica, where it was assigned Battle Number 18. The plane flew 15 combat missions over Italy and Yugoslavia between November 4 and December 31, 1944, primarily targeting railroad bridges.

Maid In The Shade arrived in Waukesha on Monday, July 26th. The plane was open for visitors during the day from Tuesday through Thursday. On Friday, Saturday and Sunday, "Maid in the Shade" took to the sky a total of seven times, each time with seven passengers. On Sunday morning, FOX 6 News came out to showcase the plane and do live interviews which generated a lot of interest and visitors throughout the day on Sunday. What a great way to carry out our CAF mission to Educate, Inspire and Honor!

Our own Col George Crawford, who is also a member of the Arizona Airbase, reports that the visit brought in nearly \$25,000 for the week! George also mentioned how much they appreciated the low cost rooms for the crew at the new nearby Avid Motel and the great support from Stein Aviation Services who provided fuel at a very low cost and much appreciated hangar space at night, where it was protected from all the stormy weather, which we definitely had!





Wisconsin Wing News



(cont'd from previous page.....)

On Saturday morning I was very excited to be one of those lucky B-25 passengers. We took off just before 9:00 am and flew south over beautiful Lake Geneva. During the flight, I was able to crawl through the tunnel to sit in the tail gunner's position. My mind was transported back in time, trying to imagine what it must have been like to be flying over Italy during 1944. I was very glad that nobody was shooting at us during this flight!



I want to especially thank the pilots and crew of Maid In The Shade. Their professionalism, knowledge, and enthusiasm made for an absolutely flawless experience, one that I will remember for a lifetime.



=====

CORNER

PX

HOT OFF THE (screen) PRESS!
By Dave Cook and Dennis Flancher

The PX has just added some new shirts to our inventory. These are the Aircraft Series shirts that feature each one of our Wing aircraft. The front has our new logo and the aircraft identifier. The back has a 3 view profile of the aircraft. Don't forget that we now have a selection of new Wisconsin Wing t-shirts and sweatshirts along with Wing hats, all featuring our new WI Wing logo!



Wisconsin Wing News



AirVenture Highlights:



A very proud Paul Keppeler with his new SNJ!



Henning flying in the Wednesday airshow.



Paul Walter chatting with attendees.



Kathy Laabs having just marshaled in a Corsair.



Sam Taber's L-5 (not Sam flying it – might be Sharon).



WI Wing member from Texas Dan Summerall and wife Patti along with fellow Coyote Squadron member Frank DeArmond and wife JoAnne enjoyed the WI Wing hospitality while at AirVenture.





Wisconsin Wing News



CAF WI Wing August Meeting Invitation

August 21st, 2021 10:30 AM

Call Gary Otto if you don't have a card or code for gate access!

In person option at the CAF hangar with COVID mitigation.

2347A Aviation Drive, - Waukesha County Airport Gate 1

or **Join Zoom Meeting using this link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85420078864>

Dial in option: 312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 854 2007 8864

Ground Crew Volunteers Wanted!!!

If interested in joining this invaluable part of our operations team, please contact Mike Ziarniak at 414-380-9532 or email to ziarniakm@gmail.com

Drive In or Fly In
East Troy Airport Open House




Pancake Breakfast
 Highway L & 20 East Troy, WI (57C)
FREE ADMISSION
September 19, 2021
 Served: 7:00AM until Noon




Come for Breakfast

Pancakes	Breakfast:
Butter & Syrup	Adults \$8.00
Scrambled Eggs	Children \$5.00
Sausages	(8 and under)
Coffee / Milk / Juice	

Stay for the Fun

- Vintage, Homebuilt & Warbird Aircraft
- WWII Display

Great Raffle Prizes
Free Admission - Free Parking
 Sponsored by: The Friends of East Troy Airport, Inc.





Wisconsin Wing News



EAA 1365 Mauston-New Lisbon Fly-In Sept 3-4

We have been attending this event for many years with the SNJ, and this year we want to add the T-34 and maybe even the PT! If we can get a PX volunteer to travel this far with the trailer, it might be worthwhile to have the PX active too. These are great folks and it is an honor to support their annual event. It is a Saturday event, but arriving Friday evening assures you won't be delayed by morning fog and you get to attend their hangar party! Event coordinator is Tom McDermott.



Check these out!!!



Tickets \$15 - Purchase At The Gate
Free Parking - Kids 12 and Under are Free
Active Duty Military, Retired Military and Veterans with Military ID or State Veterans ID Admitted Free

Home Performers > FAQs > Gallery > Vendors & Exhibitors > Sponsor Information > Volunteer Directions Contact

Mark Your Calendar for Our 2021 Airshow on September 11
Gates Open at 9:30am - Airshow Starts at Noon
**** Helicopter Rides 10:15am - 5:00pm / \$40 a Seat ****

Time Until Event
180:18:20:40
Days Hrs Mins Secs

Our 2021 Northern Illinois Airshow is Looking Good!

Who's up for an Airshow? I can tell you after a difficult period and a canceled 2020 show, WE ARE!
Optimism abounds and we believe health care capacity will not be a concern by September and Restore Illinois Phase 5 will be in place, allowing large public gatherings. We miss you and can hardly wait to put together a Great Show for you on Saturday September 11th, 2021!
Volunteers are already hard at work planning the event. Please support our many great [sponsors](#) as this would not be possible without them.



Wisconsin Wing News



2021 Events and Opportunities to Volunteer

- ✓ Honor Flight Escort Aug. 28 at KMKE 7AM pilots and planes
- ✓ Mauston EAA Fly-In Sat Sept.4 PX pilots and planes
- ✓ Waukegan Air Show Sept. 11 PX pilots and planes
- ✓ Oconto Fly-In Sept. 18 PX, Rides Crew, Pilots and planes
- ✓ East Troy Pancake Breakfast Sunday Sept. 19 PX Pilots and planes
- ✓ Honor Flight Escort Sept 25th at KMKE 7AM pilots and planes
- ✓ EAA WARBIRD SQUADRON 32 5-yr anniversary fly-in PX pilots & planes
- ✓ Rides Day at KUES 9/26 Sunday all day PX and Rides Crew
- ✓ Rides Day at KUES 10/9 Saturday all day PX and Rides Crew
- ✓ Honor Flight Escort Oct 16 at KMKE 7AM pilots and planes
- ✓ Honor Flight Escort Nov. 6th at KMKE 7AM pilots and planes
- ✓ Holiday Party: Save the date: Friday Dec. 17th



Remember that the CAF requires all volunteers who will be working within an arm's reach of a youth to take part in both Youth Protection and Interaction Training and Criminal History Background Check before you may work with youth at CAF units or CAF events. This is an online Youth Protection and Interaction Training that will take approximately fifteen minutes to complete. You will need to watch a short video, take a quiz, and apply for the background check. There is no cost to you or the Wing for this certification. Once you have completed the training and passed the background check, we will be notified that you are eligible to work with youth. The background check is handled by a secure third-party vendor and no confidential information is shared with the CAF. If you have any questions about the policy or how it is implemented, you can view the CAF Youth Protection Policy by following this link at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/bx9k41p13n2nryy/CAF%20Youth%20Protection%20Policy%20General.pdf?dl=0>

To complete the training, go to the CAF website under Education and click on the Youth Interaction and Protection box or follow this link. <https://www.cafeducation.org/youth-interaction-and-protection>

Thank you for doing your part to keep our young people safe as we Educate, Inspire, and Honor a new generation of aviation enthusiasts!



=====

Wisconsin Wing Holiday Party
Friday December 17th - Delafield Brew House

If you want to volunteer to be on the banquet committee and help plan this enjoyable event, please contact Kathy Laabs – Events Officer.

Calendar – Upcoming Events

Date	Event, Time, Location
8/20 - 8/22	Wisconsin Military Show Eagle Village Park, Eagle, WI 7am to 5pm (2pm Sun) Flyovers planned.
Sat., 8/21	Wing Meeting 10:30AM - In Hangar & Virtual
Sat., 8/28	Honor Flight Escort 7AM - KMKE
9/3 – 9/4	EAA 1365 Mauston-New Lisbon Fly-in
Sat., 9/11	Northern Illinois Air Show / Wings Over Waukegan
Sat., 9/18	Wing Meeting 10:30AM - In Hangar & Virtual
Sat., 9/18	Oconto Fly-In 9AM – 4PM
Sat., 9/25	EAA WARBIRD SQUADRON 32 5-yr anniversary fly-in Oshkosh
Sat., 10/16	Wing Meeting 10:30AM - In Hangar & Virtual
Sat., 10/31	CAF – Wings over Dallas Airshow Dallas, TX
Sat., 11/20	Wing Meeting 10:30AM - In Hangar & Virtual
Fri., 11/26	Annual WI Wing field trip to EAA Museum
Fri., 12/17	CAF WI Wing Holiday Party Delafield Brew Haus

Remember!

Food Truck Fridays at KUES
every Friday 11AM to 1:30 PM
thru Sept. 3rd!

WI Wing Staff

Position	Person	Contact Info.
Wing Leader:	Gary Otto	262-875-1640 gary.arthur.otto@gmail.com
Executive Officer:	Paul Keppeler	262-443-0624 pbkepp@aol.com
Finance Officer:	Ryan Beard	847-858-7846 rcbeard1@gmail.com
Maintenance Officer:	Steve Sorge	414-852-8104 ssorge@wi.rr.com
Operations Officer:	Henning Henningsen	262-951-6472 henning.henningsen.wi@gmail.com
Safety Officer & Ground Crew Leader:	Mike Ziarniak	414-380-9532 ziarniakm@gmail.com
Public Information Officer:	*** Open *** This could be you!	
Development Officer:	Bob Vajgrt	414-550-2770 dawnbob@wi.rr.com
Education Officer:	Jeanette Anderson	414-313-9513 jfa16daa@gmail.com
Membership Officer:	Tom McDermott	608-289-2424 mcfender@yahoo.com
Adjutant Officer:	A.G. Bharatkumar	262-366-3295 agbkumar@wi.rr.com
Events Officer:	Kathy Laabs	414-418-7222 t28gal@att.net
Historian:	*** Open *** This could be you!	
Newsletter:	Brad Ohde	262-309-8600 bohde@wi.rr.com
PX Leader:	Tracy Sorge	262-366-0664 horseshowmomm@wi.rr.com
PX Volunteer Coord.:	Dennis Flancher	414-534-0160 dennislf@att.net
Fly-Over Coord.	Vic Stottlemeyer	262-391-5110 stottlemey7@aol.com
Wisconsin Wing mailing address:		
CAF Wisconsin Wing P.O. Box 1998 Waukesha, WI 53187-1998 www.cafwi.org		