



Commemorative Air Force Wisconsin Wing Newsletter

Chartered April 30th, 1982

Editor: Brad Ohde

August 2023, Issue #2308

From the Front Cockpit Col Gary Otto – Wing Leader



July was a busy month for so many CAF WI Wing members. If you wanted to participate in our mission to Educate, Inspire and Honor, you certainly had a long list of opportunities to choose from. This newsletter is packed full of stories about member involvement and successful missions. AirVenture by all reports was bigger and better than ever with a very active CAF Hospitality area in the warbird campground plus many CAF and CAF member owned aircraft on display. We beat the heat with our swamp cooler in the campground, and there were plenty of beverages and snacks every day.

We still have plenty of opportunities to get involved:

- Food Truck Fridays through Sept. 1st
- Sat 8AM breakfasts at Denny's (most Saturdays/verify with wing leader)
- Aircraft support/sponsorship/pilots/flight crew
- Waukegan Airshow Sept. 9th plus many more outings (see the events list)
- Monthly Wing Meetings (some with lunches – Like this month!!!!)
- Holiday Party Friday Dec. 8th Delafield Brewhaus
- Honor Flight Escort missions
- Wing Staff Officer positions open/need volunteers
- Much more..... just ask or go to www.cafwi.org (pass: cafwi)

The CAF has much to offer to members. I encourage you to explore how you can get more involved with this rewarding and adventurous mission.

Best to you all,
Gary Otto – WI Wing Leader



Longtime CAF member and pilot, Wally Garlock, wins Best Helicopter and Silver Wrench Awards at AirVenture. See details later in newsletter (pg. 9)!

Inside this issue:

From the Front Cockpit	1
Maintenance Report, Mikoyan-Gurevich Mig 23 "Flogger"	2
New Members & Upcoming Events	3
Education Update	4-7
Special Food Truck Friday & Congrats to Wally Garlock!	8-9
AirVenture '23, Safety Corner, "Dreams Do Come True, & regional events	10-14
Events & Staff Listing	15-16



Wisconsin Wing News



Mikoyan-Gurevich Mig 23 “Flogger”

by Col Brian Liddle – WI Wing Historian



Figure 1: "Lieutenant Commander Dan Filer's Mig 23UF at EAA Airventure July 2003." Photo Courtesy of Brian Liddle.

At Air Venture in Oshkosh in 2023, a rare warbird was sitting on the tarmac that has never been there before. An aircraft with swept wings and a Russian insignia stood out prominently among the different planes. The plane was a Russian made Mig-23 and it's owned by Lieutenant Commander Dan "Files," Filer. Dan was an A-6 Intruder pilot in during the Gulf War and has a passion for the restoration of Soviet aircraft such as the Mig. His Mig-23 is the only privately owned aircraft of its type to date. He owns three of these Migs.

A brief history about the Mig-23 starts in 1967 when it made its maiden flight. The production of the aircraft began in 1969 and over 5000 of them were constructed. Several different countries used the Mig-23 for their defenses. These countries included Germany, Hungary, India, Iran, Iraq, Libya, etc. The Mig-23 was upgraded to the Mig-27 with the same Flogger nickname and improved radar, electronics and performance.

One of the distinct features of the Mig-23 is its swept wing design. The variable geometry wing allows the pilot to change the signature of the aircraft. The wings are extended straight for slower flight and for supersonic speeds the wings are folded into a swept pattern.

For further information on Lieutenant Commander Dan "Files," Filer's Mig-23 you may watch his videos on his channel on YouTube. There is also an interview on kltv.com, "East Texas pilot restores antique Russian Fighter Jet," by Jamey Boyum. For more specific information on the Mig-23/27 feel free to refer to Bill Gunston's book "Mig 23/27 Flogger."

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Maintenance Report – August 2023: by Col Scott Twesme – WI Wing Maintenance Officer

- T-34 → T-34 is up.
 - Cowl latch replaced by Plane Safe prior to Oshkosh. Expensive part (1100) but necessary.
 - Mouse is 99% removed from the tail.
- SNJ → SNJ is up.
 - Carb mixture is adjusted after a couple iterations.



Wisconsin Wing News



Welcome
New Members!!!

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
Steve Janke	Larry McClellan	Jarrett Tezer

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WI Wing Membership Meeting

You are invited to the CAF WI Wing on Sat., August 12th, 2023

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

Program: AirVenture 2023 Report

Lunch cooked up by our own Tom McDermott (donations appreciated!) including brats, chips, & potato salad. Don't miss this one!

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Annual Holiday Party

Fri., Dec. 8th

at

the Delafield Brewhaus

Details to come!!!



Wisconsin Wing News



Education Update

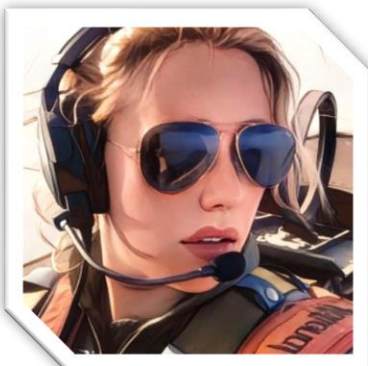
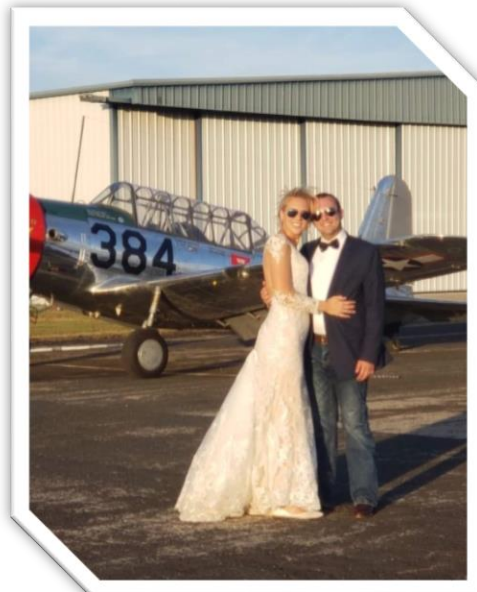
by Col Candy Par - WI Wing Education Officer

- Blue Angels cookie fundraiser:**



Sold for donation of \$3 + and/or gave away the 120 cookies I had ordered for MAWS/CAF WI Wing PX. Sold about \$150 which includes an approx. \$60 at PX FTF as cash went into PX cash box and not recorded.

- Prayers for CAF Texas & the Warbird family** of Devyn Reiley, 30-year-old Pilot of T-6 that went down in Lake Winnebago with a 20 yr. old passenger on 7/29 while attending EAA AirVenture. (not in the airshow). Devyn and her husband, Hunter (also a pilot) were married at EAA AirVenture on July 26, 2020. Both CAF members out of Texas. *She will be remembered for her contribution to the education the public on the WASP and women & warbird, as a mentor for many young women.* Devyn is the daughter of Bruce Collie, two- time Superbowl winner & oldest of 13 children. They have set up a scholarship fund in her name and will be selling patches. She was near to achieving her commercial pilot's license.



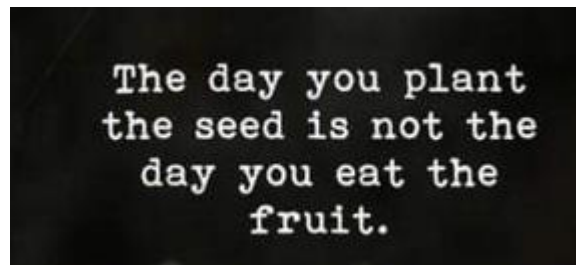


Wisconsin Wing News



Education Update (cont'd from previous page)

- Educate our Youth & Community on the Aviation World Every day!



- The 128th Air Refueling Wing Community Council and The Milwaukee Air and Water Show VIP Reception



Some of our CAF Wisconsin Wing attended the exclusive private VIP Reception at the 128th ARW base with the Navy Blue Angels, Aerial Military Teams, Show Performers and Event Sponsors. Celebrating several notable female flyers this year, the US Navy Blue Angels Squadron welcomes their first female combat fighter pilot in over 76 years, Lt. Amanda Lee and Milwaukee welcomes the US Air Force F16 Viper's newest demo pilot, Capt. Aimee Fiedler

← 2023 Blue Angels



The US Navy Blue Angels Squadron first female combat fighter pilot in over 76 years, Lt. Amanda Lee said she had been flying for 17 years and this assignment is for 2 years. I also purchased the Blue Angel's teddy bear from our CAF PX and gave her that along with a copy of our newsletter where I highlighted her and of course a MAWS Jet cookie from the CAF WI Wing. Lt. Lee said her father was back at the hotel and he would enjoy reading our newsletter.

They are on the road 300 days a year. I spoke to some of the other pilots and they said their children and wives are back at the hotel, so they have the option to travel on tour.



Lt. Lee signed my model jet along with 3 other pilots & a few crew members.



Wisconsin Wing News



Education Update (cont'd from previous page)



US Air Force F16 Viper's newest demo pilot, Capt. Aimee Fiedler (right) with Candy Par.



Newest 128th ARW Community Council members: CAF WI Wing Cols George Crawford and Ed Pleva



One of a kind. The owner from IL received special permission to paint his bike as a Blue Angels bike.



I had the privilege to escort these 3 youngsters to the MAWS. My mother 81 yo, Mary Jane Payne, (30 years Auxiliary Coast Guard) who invited her two 86 years young veteran neighbors to join us at the MAWS. Bob Dorn, US Air Force Aviation Mechanics (on left) & Fred Bernard, US Navy Special Forces Navy Seals. One of the first as the Frogmen who became Navy Seals. He counted that he had been in over 27 countries during his Navy career.



Wisconsin Wing News



Education Update (cont'd from previous page)



LT. Lawrence Marsch, 101-year-old WWII Fighter Pilot at VIP Reception

The Blue Angels NEVER Disappoint!





Wisconsin Wing News



Special Food Truck Friday by Col Tom Leunig

On Friday, August 4th there was the usual Food Truck Friday at Waukesha Airport. However, this Friday had a special recognition to one of our members, Wally Garlock. Wally was recognized at the event in a special presentation by Airport Director, Kurt Stanich. The occasion was to recognize Wally for his awards at EAA AirVenture. Wally received a prestigious Silver Wrench Award and Best Helicopter Award for his Hughes CH-55A Osage. Wally's years of work and attention to detail paid off.

This Friday was also "Childrens Day", so there were lots of children present. This helped us have a good day for the PX, especially selling toys! Gary Otto taxied over our SNJ, and we gave many tours to children. We also had a China built Nanching trainer pay a visit. This aircraft operates on pneumatic power!

There are 4 more Food Truck Friday's, so if you haven't attended try to make it out for an enjoyable lunch and camaraderie.





Wisconsin Wing News



Congratulations to Wally Garlock – 2023 EAA AirVenture Award Recipient!





Wisconsin Wing News



AirVenture 2023

by Col Mike Woods



As we look back at this year, we are now realizing that we are in our final month of real summer in Wisconsin, which also means that AirVenture 2023 is now in our rear view mirror, but it is still mostly a beautiful view.

As many of you know, I volunteer with the ground crew where we sell rides on the Ford Tri-Motor. I started volunteering at AirVenture flying control line planes with the kids, which was great fun. I often wondered if I had more fun than the kids, which proves the saying that if you do not grow up by the time you are 30, there is no danger of it. After several years, I graduated to the Tri-Motor and have been enjoying it just as much there. We have various duties to get people briefed and safely on and off the planes, especially since we only shut down the one engine on the side of the door, but if everything goes well, we can turn the plane around in two to three minutes and still let the passengers enjoy the flight and have pictures taken by the plane.

One of my favorite duties is giving the safety and history briefings since I get to talk to people from all over the world. It is mind boggling to me how many people come from all corners of the world to attend out fantastic airshow. I feel we are extremely lucky to live where we are so we can easily get there in an hour or so, or can stay for a few days or the whole show and camp out or rent a camper for even more comfort (and expense). One person stood out in one briefing as the person's

friend said he was a helicopter pilot in Viet Nam. In talking to him he said he was shot down three times, and in asking questions he said the last time was the worst since he was shot in the back and was paralyzed for a year and was told he would probably not walk again. Thank God doctors are not always correct in that he was very mobile with no noticeable issues. I told him he was a true hero, but in his very humble way, he said he was not, but I totally disagree with his statement. I feel honored to have even met this person and it made me realize again what a wonderful country we have and how many fantastic people we have. It is unfortunate that those who are not so wonderful make most of the headlines.

EAA said we had record attendance, airplanes, and I will add fun. So many fly overs and gifted air show people. Of course, our military was there doing their many (and frequent and loud, no very loud) fly overs. I know I would be quivering in my boots if I were the enemy and saw or heard one of those beasts heading my way.

There were so many great vendors and displays that it would be almost impossible to see and take in everything. If you missed this year, go next year, and if you really want to enjoy yourself, volunteer as many of our members already do, and if you want to help with the Tri-Motor give me a jingle.



Wisconsin Wing News



AirVenture 2023 - more photos to come next month!



July 28th storms approaching AirVenture!!!



Tom McDermott's "Lucky Dogs" band played TH night at the Circle R Campground. A night of great music!!



CAF Hospitality Area in full swing!



CAF Friday Dinner well attended by WI Wing members



Wisconsin Wing News



Safety Corner

by Col Evan Bauer WI Wing Safety Officer

August 2023 Safety Reminders



As a reminder, it's always important to assess your current state when gearing up to go fly. The IMSAFE checklist is a good reference but not all encompassing. Being mindful of your skill, comfort and experience level is a critical step to take before taking to the skies. Staying current and proficient, using all the proper checklists and establishing personal minimums are all necessary parts of safe operations. Safety is always #1 at the CAF, not only for the pilots, but for all members no matter what you are involved with.

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Dreams do come true!

by Col Ryan Beard

In the summer of 1993, my grandparents took my sister and me on a 2-week European vacation. We got to the Paris airport a few hours ahead of time which gave an airplane-addicted kid (who could only dream of flying for a living) the chance to snap a few photos of the nearly brand-new United 767 we'd be flying home in as it pulled up to our gate. Thankfully, those photos were clear enough to see its tail number, N652UA.

Fast forward just a few days short of exactly 30 years later and this still airplane-addicted "kid" just got to fly that same 767 back to Europe.

Talk about dreams coming true!





Wisconsin Wing News



NORTHERN ILLINOIS AIRSHOW 2021

Saturday Sept. 11th
Waukegan Airport
 2601 W. Plane Rest Drive

Tickets: \$15
 Active Duty Military, Veterans
 with I.D. and Kids 12 and Under
FREE!

Featuring:
 Fully-Restored
FG-1D "Corsair"
 WARBIRO
 HERITAGE FOUNDATION

**Gates Open:
 9:30 AM**

**Airshow:
 12:00 PM**

847.244.0055 • NorthernIllinoisAirshow.com

9.11.01 SPECIAL TRIBUTE

Corsair photo courtesy of CAP

Friday Food Truck Day 11 AM to 1:30 PM
Location: Waukesha County Airport -
2525 Aviation Drive

**** Portion of the food truck sales go to the non-profit of the day**

Food Truck Schedule 2023		
Date	Truck 1	Truck 2
6/2/2023	Densons	Sandwich Sisters
6/9/2023	A&A Cafe	Pina Mexican Eats
6/16/2023	Marco Pollo	Taqueria Miyagi
6/23/2023	Gerima- Fish/ Shrimp	Rose Mob
6/30/2023	Mr. P's	Sandwich Sisters
7/7/2023	A&A Cafe	Densons
7/14/2023	Pina Mexican Eats	Timbers
7/21/2023	Lumpia City	Marco Pollo
7/28/2023	Gerima- Fish/ Shrimp	Troublemakers Cocina
8/4/2023	Rose Mob	Sandwich Sisters
8/11/2023	Timbers	Troublemakers Cocina
8/18/2023	Mr. P's	Pina Mexican Eats
8/25/2023	Lumpia City	Densons
9/1/2023	Rose Mob	Taqueria Miyagi



SHAWANO AIRPORT
An Anytime Destination for the Whole Family!

ANNUAL FLY-IN & CAR SHOW
 August 19th 9:00AM-2:00PM
 No Admission Fee
 Antiques, Classics, War Birds, Showcars & Sky Divers!
 Rain Date: August 20th

VISIT US FOR UPDATES AND SURPRISES:
www.ShawanoAirport.com
 248 Airport Rd
 Shawano, WI 54166

"KEZS" 715-526-2465



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midwestwarbirds.com

Home Pilots Spectators Veterans Vendors Media Contact



List of Pre-registered Pilots

[Pre-Register for 2023](#)

[Event Flyer](#)

View Pictures:

-Select Year-

View Videos:

-Select Year-

Welcome to...

Warbirds and Classics over the Midwest
Aug 17th - 19th, 2023
 Sunday, Aug 20th, is an open Fun-Fly

10⁰⁰
123

To Register for the 2023 Event [Click Here](#)

Warbirds and Classics over the Midwest is an annual model airplane extravaganza! If you're a pilot or spectator, come out and experience one of the biggest and best radio-control airplane events in the Midwest. The event features GIANT scale models of military and vintage aircraft. We draw world-class builders & pilots from all over the US and Canada. Check it out - you won't be disappointed.

Our next show: **WARBIRDS AND CLASSICS OVER THE MIDWEST.**

FOUR WHOLE FUN-FILLED DAYS, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday **Aug 17th - 20th, 2023**. Sunday will be open to all model aircraft. We fly all day from 9am-4pm, weather permitting. [See Map](#)

Admission is just \$10 per car--which covers you for the whole week! (\$5 for Sunday only) Bring the whole family and have a good time! Brats, burgers, ice cream, and soft drinks will be available.

Location:

Wellnitz Field
 N4841 Hickory Road.
 Fond du Lac, WI 54937
 2-1/2 miles South of 41 on Hickory Road.

Calendar – Upcoming Events

Please go to 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 2nd thru Sept. 1st, with WI Wing PX attending and Aircraft support.

Date	Event Name	Location	Time	PX Booth	Education Table	T-34A	SNJ-5
August 12	Wing Meeting & Lunch	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
August 17-20	RC Warbirds and Classics Over the Midwest	Welnuts RC Field SE of Fond du Lac	TBA	x			flyover
August 19	Shawano Fly-In	Shawano	All day/rain 8-20	x?		x	x
August 30	Wing Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
Sept 1	Food Truck Friday – Last	Waukesha terminal	11am to 2pm	x	x	x	x
September 9	Honor Flight Escort	KMKE Mitchell Airport	6:00 AM			x	x
September 9	Wing Meeting & Lunch	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
Sept 16	Oconto Fly-In	Oconto Airport	9:00AM – 4:00PM	???		x	x
Sept 9	Waukegan Fly-in	Waukegan, IL		x		x	x
Sept 9-10	115 th FW Family Day	Madison Airport				x	
October 1	Burlington Fly In	Burlington, WI Airport	TBD	???			
October 4	Wing Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
October 7	Honor Flight Escort	KMKE Mitchell Airport	6:00 AM			x	x
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				xdark?
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				

* Updates as of August 8th, 2023.

Contact Noel Skerven at 262-239-8773 or Gary Otto at 262-875-1640 with questions or information to share.

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