



Commemorative Air Force Wisconsin Wing Newsletter

Chartered April 30th, 1982

Editor: Brad Ohde



June 2022, Issue #2206

From the Front Cockpit Col Gary Otto – Wing Leader



The peak of the 2022 flying season is finally here, and we are ready for it! Our SNJ and T-34 warbirds are flying, the PT-26 is nearing flight status, we have many member owned warbirds flying, our membership is steadily growing, member activity and volunteerism is growing, and we are having a great time carrying out our mission to Educate, Inspire and Honor. Our mission reports let our members know what has been happening, and we are sending monthly email blasts highlighting upcoming aviation events and opportunities for members to get involved. There are so many CAF WI Wing activities and events to volunteer for. Refer to the event schedule in this newsletter as well as the special notices and reminders. Here are several really fun and important opportunities to get involved:

- June 17/24 July 1/15: Food Truck Friday-PX-aircraft static display
- June 18th: Noon "missing man" memorial flyover with Nick Stanich playing his bagpipes
- June 18th: picnic lunch at noon. We need some HELP with this NOW!!
- June 18th: Members bring your warbirds, MV's, and Collector Cars to the meeting and picnic. (RSVP please to assure space)
- June 18-19th: WWII Days PX, Big Band Dance, need volunteers!
- June 27th: Blue Monday #3 Need help with set-up and clean-up
- Many more: refer to the complete list

This is YOUR CAF WI Wing! Nothing happens without YOU getting involved by attending or even better yet, volunteering to help! I hope to see many of you at our upcoming events. Lots of adventure awaits those who venture out!

Best to you all,
Gary Otto

Wing Leader 2021-2

******* NOTICE *******

Beginning July 9th, WI Wing meetings will be on the 2nd Saturday of the month. The 3rd Saturday had too many conflicts throughout the year. Mark your calendars appropriately! Don't miss our meetings!!

BLUE MONDAY!!! June 27th - Don't miss this!!!

5:30 start at the CAF Hangar BYO beverage

Your hosts, Tom and Mary Kay McDermott, are bringing BBQ pulled pork and some delicious fixins!

For all members (new and old), family and guests!
Come for an enjoyable evening at the airport.
Wing Aircraft on Static Display too. Be there!!!

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COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE
Wisconsin Wing Newsletter



Wisconsin Wing News



Maintenance Report – June 2022

by Col Steven Sorge – Maintenance Officer – WI Wing

T-34

- Aircraft on line.
- Future items:
Gary Otto & Michael Woods are actively working down the list of items to get aircraft into standard category. – Flew plane to engine install STC owner for review of installation and closure of STC/337 paperwork. THANK YOU Gary and Mike !!!



SNJ-5

- Aircraft on line.

PT-26

- Down for annual.
 - ✓ Purchased Recently overhauled engine in May, will get the engines swapped out and use currently installed engine as spare once cylinder work is completed. Timing for engine swap – TBD.
 - ✓ Cylinders removed – sent in for overhaul.
 - Overhaul shop work delayed due to parts and labor shortages. Completion date unknown.
 - ✓ Tail wheel drag link replacement and busing overhaul work has begun.

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What to do in your spare time between knee replacements! by Col Steven Sorge – Maintenance Officer – WI Wing

On 14 April, I had my right knee replaced. It was so much fun that I had the left knee replaced 5 weeks later, on 23May. But that hasn't stopped my hobby work! In between surgeries, my wife drove me out to Jerome, Idaho - where I picked up a small truckload (SUV) of TBM radios, bomb hardware, tail hook, bombardier seating and accessories. Best treasure find was a brand new / in the box: gun camera, torpedo camera, and cockpit chart board & plotter— previously thought to be “unobtainable”.

Additionally, I've been able to complete a restoration of a 1981 Honda XL500 - same bike that got me to Alaska twice. And then also getting all sorts of TBM parts cleaned up: bomb shackles, rocker covers, induction tubes (I'm replacing two cylinders) and replacing chafe strips on all engine cowl parts - including replacement of many dzus fasteners and grommets.

Another 3 weeks and I should be airborne - over and out!





Wisconsin Wing News



➤ ELECTION 2022 UPDATE

It will soon be fall election time at the WI Wing, with **Wing Leader/Adjutant/Development/Finance/Maintenance** Officer positions all up for election. We also have a one year term for the Education Officer position to appoint. If you want to nominate someone (or even yourself) for any of these positions, please let someone on the wing staff know. We also need members to serve on the nomination committee and the election committee! These committees only function during the election process and while being very important roles to fill, involve less of a time commitment. Volunteering for a leadership role at the WI Wing is a great way to share your passion for our mission! Look for more details in the July newsletter, but think about serving the WI Wing in one of the positions listed above!

➤ Do you have your KUES security gate pass? *by Michael Guslick*

If you don't already have airport access to the CAF hangar area, you must go to the airport office in the terminal building during regular weekday business hours and apply for your own gate access card. There is a small fee for the card, but each member must have their own card. If you are using a gate code "number" that is not assigned to you, you are accessing the airport improperly and risking loss of access to whomever owns the number you are "using". Just ask for Sarah McCalvy, Administrative Specialist (smccalvy@waukeshacounty.gov) (262-970-6785) (262-521-5250) and tell her that you are a CAF member and that I sent you over to get your gate pass. Make sure you get access to Gates 9, 11, 12 and 1 to assure access to all 3 CAF aircraft. Gate 1 is next to the CAF PT-26 Hangar where we have most of our meetings. Best to call first to set up an appointment for the review of airport rules and a short test. Gate pass renewals are done on line every 2 years after the initial in-person application.

➤ EAA AirVenture is Fast Approaching! *by Gary Otto*

The biggest aviation event of the year is EAA's AirVenture in Oshkosh. The WI Wing plans to have all 3 of our aircraft at the event and a hospitality tent with refreshments set up all week in the Warbird Campground. If you can help with Warbird Campground clean-up, repairs and set-up on Sat. July 16th or CAF Hospitality Area set-up on Sunday am, July 24th, please let me know. There is always lots to do!

The June WI Wing meeting will focus on letting members know how they can make the CAF part of their visit to AirVenture, and enjoy our hospitality area or maybe even fly "Dawn Patrol" in one of our warbird aircraft. Flying in and out of Oshkosh during AirVenture is a rare and exciting adventure. If you are in Oshkosh on Friday, July 29th, attend the CAF beer and pizza party at the Basler Turbo Conversions Factory. RSVP with HQ and come meet CAF members from across the country.

AirVenture WI Wing Hospitality Tent: East end of 2nd row from North in WB Campground. Set-up is Sunday July 24 from 10am to noon. Help is needed! Tear-down is Sunday July. 31st at 10AM: Help is needed here, too!

If you plan to attend AirVenture, plan to visit the CAF Hospitality area anytime. Gary Otto is the hospitality coordinator. Call 262-875-1640 to confirm your assistance.

WI Wing Welcome Reception at the Big Warbird Camp Hospitality Tent: 5pm to 8pm Tuesday July 26th. All CAF members at AirVenture plus our CAF friends and guests are welcome. This is not a formal CAF event, but spread the word and let's have a great time together! We will stock up on beer, soda, and water plus some snacks. If we get well organized, we may even offer some food items. Wing member volunteers to help stock up and welcome guests are needed.

Many of our members are experienced AirVenturer's, but many are new to the adventure of going to Oshkosh. I encourage all of our members to take in some or all of the AirVenture week. Our experienced members are ready and willing to help make that happen.



Wisconsin Wing News



WI Wing Membership Meeting

You are invited to the CAF WI Wing on Sat., June 18th, 2022
 10:30 AM Central Time → CAF hangar / Gate 1 at the Waukesha Airport

Program: Don't miss AirVenture 2022!

Plus...

- 2022 Fall Officer Election Preview
- Memorial "Missing Man" flyover at noon to honor our Gone West members, relatives, and friends. Featuring Nick Stanich and his bagpipes
- Bring your warbird, military vehicle, or collector car over to the hangar area too. Share your passion with others!
- Picnic lunch at noon! Wing will furnish brats, burgers, & hot dogs. Please bring a dish to share!



2022		
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

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
Noel Skerven	Chris Reeves	Austin Kornov
Bernie DeKok		



Wisconsin Wing News



Road Trip to Madison!!!



Mission Report: June 2nd Road Trip to Madison by Col Dave Cook

On June 2nd the Wisconsin Wing were guests of the 115th Fighter Wing of the Air National Guard which is based in Madison, WI. Nearly 20 Wing members and guests stopped for brunch at the Jet Room at the airport in Madison before entering the base for a tour of the fighter wing's operation.



We were greeted by the executive staff of the wing where we were briefed on the mission of the 115th FW. The 115th FW is home to the F-16 Viper which is in its last year of operation with the unit. In 2023, they will be transitioning to the 5th generation F-35 stealth fighter which is a testament to professionalism of the 115th fighter wing. Our wing members then boarded a bus outside of the operations building and were taken out to the flight line where we observed the launch and take off of a number of F-16s close up.



Our hosts then took us on a tour of their maintenance facility where we were able to get up close and personal with several F-16s while they explained the functions of the jets and answered our many questions. We saw the major renovations taking place on the base as they get ready to on-board the new F-35s. Afterwards we saw the recovery of a couple of jets to the alert shelters where two F-16s are on a constant state of alert providing protection over the Midwest.



Our tour was amazing, our hosts were fantastic, and the weather turned out to be awesome. Hopefully the Wisconsin Wing will have opportunities in the future to support some of the events held by the 115th fighter wing in which our aircraft and people can participate. Our hosts invited our wing back to Madison to see the new F-35s once the new jets have become operational over the next year or two, so stay tuned for that!



Wisconsin Wing News



Road Trip to Madison (cont.'d from previous page)



We can't thank the folks of the 115th fighter wing enough for the time that they spent and the access they gave us of their operations. I'm certain if the Air National Guard took people of any age into their ranks, they would have many new members after our tour! We look forward to new opportunities for our wing to be involved with the 115th in the future!

Special thanks to Eric Ruediger and Dave for the photo's and contributions!



Wisconsin Wing News



Mission Report: May 21st Honor Flight Escort *by Col Gary Otto*



Our second Honor Flight Escort Mission was on May 21st, and once again, the weather cooperated much better than forecast. This mission was flown by Mike Woods in the T-34 with new member Mitch Saltzberg as co-pilot and Gary Ott in the SNJ-5 with member Chuck Christburg as co-pilot. As we always do, we park next to each of the departing flights full of veterans headed for a day in Washington, D.C., allowing them to see historic military aircraft on the ramp! Then we lead them to the departure runway, through the water cannon salute, and then fly by as they depart. There were 2 flights departing and we had a successful mission escorting each flight! What an honor it is for us to fly these missions as we use our airplanes and our mission to touch people's lives and make a difference. The next honor flight mission is on June 18th, and Kathy Laabs will be the co-pilot in the SNJ!



Mission Report: DockHounds Flyover *by Chuck Christburg*

On May 20th we had the honor of flying over the inaugural game at the new Lake Country DockHounds baseball stadium in Oconomowoc near Pabst Farms. The T-34 approached from the north over center field and executed a left 270 degree turn, flying off to the west, to honor our gone west heroes. All of this with a thick trail of smoke to enhance the event. Gary Otto piloted and I navigated to assure an on time arrival at the conclusion of the national anthem. The photo shown here features the illuminated American flag out on the infield.



Finance Update:



Our 2022 Spring Banquet was also a financial success, having generated nearly \$2000 in donations, wine pull and silent auction proceeds.

Thank you to all who donated for the auction and the wine pull events!



Wisconsin Wing News



WARBIRDS AND PILOTS NEEDED JULY 28-31

WE NEED YOUR FLY OVER SUPPORT for the

"MILWAUKEE CLASSIC-SUPPORT THE TROOPS-WOUNDED WARRIORS SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT"

This annual tournament has raised over \$50,000 to date for our wounded warriors. Our opening day Honor Guard & National Anthem is Thursday, July 28th, at approx. 12 noon. Fly-overs are also welcome at any other time during the event. Games are noon to 4PM daily. Destination/target is WIRTH PARK, 2585 PILGRIM ROAD, Brookfield, WI.

Thank you for your past support! Call with any questions!

THOM MIKICH, DIRECTOR

rntmik9646@sbcglobal.net

262-679-9338 (HOME) 414-813-1979 (CELL)

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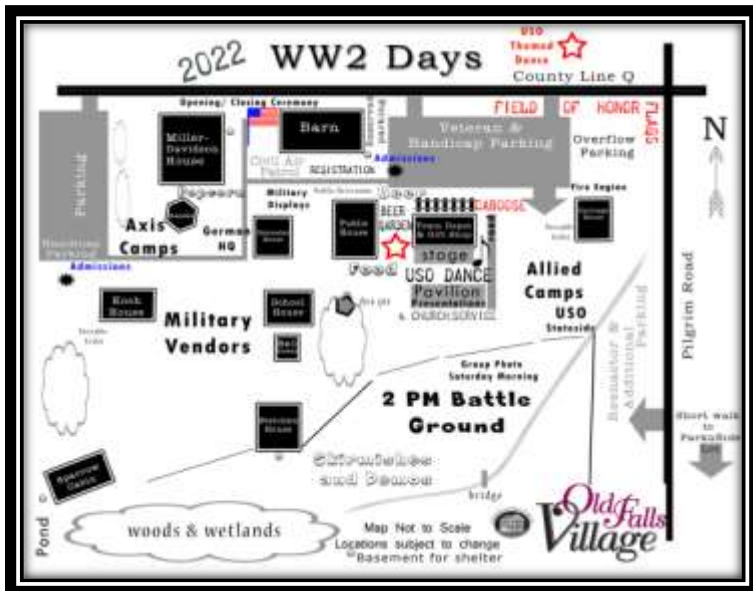


Photo Credit: Andreas Furrer, Richard Knipfner



Wisconsin Wing News



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

BLUE MONDAY!!! June 27th - Don't miss this!!!

5:30 start at the CAF Hangar BYO beverage

Your hosts, Tom and Mary Kay McDermott, are bringing BBQ pulled pork and some delicious fixins!

For all members (new and old), family and guests!
Come for an enjoyable evening at the airport.
Wing Aircraft on Static Display too. Be there!!!

JULY Meeting Program

July 9th Wing Meeting Presentation:
" Tom McDermott: Normandy Invasion Anniversary Visit "



PT Pilots Wanted!!!

We need new PT pilot sponsors to share in our mission to Educate, Inspire and Honor. Flying our historic "time machine" PT-26 is a real joy and honor. If you are, or if you know of someone who might be, excited about the CAF Mission and flying a piece of history, contact our operations officer, Mike Woods. CAF makes warbird flying accessible and affordable for the average pilot. Find out what it takes to fly in the Commemorative Air Force!



Wisconsin Wing News



FOR YOUR INFORMATION



The June 3rd FTF was sponsored by the Custom Canines Service Dog Academy.
"Did someone say that the airport was going to the dogs?"

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Wisconsin Wing News



Oconto is looking for more warbirds to attend the September 17th fly-in. Fuel provided for warbirds attending!!!

OCONTO *Elks* FLY-IN 2022
Car & Tractor Show **14th Annual**
 Sat. Sept. 17th - 9AM - 4PM
 OCONTO MUNICIPAL AIRPORT KOCQ

Don't Miss It!

FLY-OVERS ALL DAY!
 PLANES! CARS! TRACTORS!
HELICOPTER RIDES \$50
PLANE RIDES \$100+
 RC AEROBATICS! VENDOR SALE! FOOD!
 ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS!

Admission \$5 Kids 12 & Under FREE!

CAR SHOW
 TROPHIES AWARDED!
 DASH PLAQUES!

Something For Everyone!
 2983 Airport Road, Oconto
 INFO - 920-373-6948 or 920-834-3154

WAUKESHA COUNTY AIRPORT
 CRITES FIELD

FOOD TRUCK FRIDAYS
11AM-1:30PM

JUNE 3
 DENSON'S CATERING
 SANDWICH SISTERS

JUNE 10
 SCRIMA'S CATERING
 MR. P'S GRILLED CHEESE

JUNE 17
 A & A CAFE
 TRUCK MEISTER GOURMET BURGERS

JUNE 24
 TROUBLE MAKER'S COCINA
 MARCO POLLO

JULY 8
 ROSE MOB GRILL
 DOUBLE B'S BBQ

JULY 15
 LOLA'S EMPANADAS
 SCRIMA'S CATERING

JULY 22
 TRUCK MEISTER GOURMET BURGERS
 SANDWICH SISTERS

JULY 29
 ROSE MOB GRILL
 MR. P'S GRILLED CHEESE

AUGUST 5
 DOUBLE B'S BBQ
 MARCO POLLO

AUGUST 12
 A & A CAFE
 DENSON'S CATERING

AUGUST 19
 OXTAIL NOODLE HOUSE
 LOLA'S EMPANADAS

AUGUST 26
 DENSON'S CATERING
 MR. P'S GRILLED CHEESE

SEPTEMBER 2
 OXTAIL NOODLE HOUSE
 DOUBLE B'S BBQ

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Calendar – Upcoming Events

Please go to cafwi.org for more details on all the Commemorative Air Force Wisconsin 2022 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 3rd thru September 2nd, with WI Wing PX attending and Aircraft support.

Date	Event Name	Location	Time	PX Booth	PT-26	T-34A	SNJ-5
June 18	Wing Meeting & Picnic Memorial Fly-Overs	Waukesha Airport CAF Hangar Gate 1	10:30-11:30 a.m.	mini	x	x	x
June 18-19	<u>Menomonee Falls WWII Days Big Band Sat nite</u>	Old Falls Village Historic Park, Menomonee Falls, WI	10:00-5:00 p.m. plus Sat nite band	x			
June 19	Palmyra Fly-In	88C Palmyra Airport	AM	X?			
June 18	Honor Flight Escort	KMKE Mitchell Airport	6:00 AM		x	x	x
June 25	EAA #706 Pancake Bkfst	WI Rapids KISW Chris Ott	7:00 a.m.-11:00				X
June 27	Blue Monday #3	CAF Hangar Gate 1 KUES	5:30 – 8PM				
July 9	Wing Meeting Tom McDermott Normandy	Waukesha Airport CAF Hangar Gate 1	10:30-11:45 a.m.				
July 20-24	CAF AirPower History Tour FIFI & Diamond 'Lil +	Kenosha Airport, WI also in Appleton during AirVenture		x	x	x	x
July 25-July 31	EAA AirVenture	Oshkosh Airport		no	x	x	x
August 13	Wing Meeting	Waukesha A/P CAF Gate1	10:30am - noon				
August 18-19-20	<u>RC Warbirds and Classics Over the Midwest</u>	Welnuts RC Field SE of Fond du Lac	TBD	x			
August 19	Food Truck Friday + Rides	Waukesha Airport Terminal	11AM – 4PM??	x	x*	x	x*
August 20	Shawano Fly-In	Shawano	All day/rain 8-21	X?		x	x
August 26-27	Cedarburg Flyovers	Cedarburg					
September 2	CAF Sponsors Food Tr Fri	Waukesha County Airport	11:30am 1:30pm	x	x	x	x
September 3	<u>EAA Chapter 1365 Fly-in</u>	Mauston/New Lisbon Union	TBD	x	x	x	x
September 10	Honor Flight Escort	KMKE Mitchell Airport	6:00 AM		x	x	x
September 10	Wing Meeting	Waukesha Airport CAF	10:30-11:45 a.m.				
Sept (go16?) 17	Oconto Fly-In	Oconto Airport	9:00AM – 4:00PM	x	x*	x	x*
October 8	Honor Flight Escort	KMKE Mitchell Airport	6:00 AM		x	x	x
October 8	Wing Meeting G Otto out of town/Run by staff	Waukesha Airport CAF Hangar Gate 1	10:30-11:45 a.m.				
October 7-8	Corsicana Airshow	Corsicana, TX Coyote Sqdn	Sat. 10-8 all day			x	
November 5	Honor Flight Escort	KMKE Mitchell Airport	6:00 AM				
November 5	Veterans Day Parade	Fly Overs	11AM???				
November 12	Wing Meeting Election meeting	Waukesha Airport CAF Hangar Gate 1	10:30-11:30 a.m.				
November 25	Trip to EAA Museum	Oshkosh, WI	9:00 a.m.				
December 10	Wing Business Meeting	Waukesha Airport CAF Hangar Gate 1	10:30-11:30 a.m.				
TBA	N103JC return to flight	Tulsa OK Wing	TBA				

WI Wing Staff

Position	Person	Contact Info.
Wing Leader:	Gary Otto	262-875-1640 gary.arthur.otto@gmail.com
Executive Officer:	Tom McDermott	608-289-2424 mcfender@yahoo.com
Finance Officer:	Ryan Beard	847-858-7846 rcbeard1@gmail.com
Maintenance Officer:	Steve Sorge	414-852-8104 ssorge@wi.rr.com
Operations Officer:	Mike Woods	262-781-0487 mikewoods@gmail.com
Safety Officer:	Scott Twesme	920-650-6101 srtzen@gmail.com
Ground Crew Leader:	Mike Ziarniak	414-380-9532 ziarniakm@gmail.com
Public Information Officer:	Andy Jaskie	414-241-5092 pilotjaskie@hotmail.com
Development Officer:	Bob Vajrt	414-550-2770 dawnbob@wi.rr.com
Education Officer:	*** Open *** This could be you!	
Membership Officer:	Michael Guslick	262-203-6049 haveblue@haveblue.org
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 brad.ohde@outlook.com
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Wisconsin Wing mailing address:		
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