



Commemorative Air Force Wisconsin Wing Newsletter

Chartered April 30th, 1982

Editor: Brad Ohde

May 2023, Issue #2305

From the Front Cockpit Col Gary Otto – Wing Leader





Our first Honor Flight Escort Mission was flown on April 22 for 2 flights of veterans flying to Washington, DC on the Stars and Stripes Honor Flight program. Mike Moynihan was my co-pilot and the weather allowed us to take off from Waukesha at sunrise, 6AM and be at Mitchell Field in time to escort both flights. This mission fulfills all 3 of our mission objectives, to educate, inspire and honor. Mostly honoring, but still a lot of other benefits to carrying out these flights.

We are often asked to fly memorial flyovers for veterans and we do our best to make them happen. Vic Stottlemyer is our flyover coordinator, and we owe many thanks to Vic for his many years of devotion to formation flyovers to honor our military heroes.

Our pilots usually have to personally pay for all the flying costs associated with mission flights, but we recently established a Mission Flying Fund that anyone can donate to for flying mission flights like these. If you are interested in supporting our mission flying, please consider a donation to the CAF WI Wing with a designation for Mission Flying. Our wonderful and historic aircraft do such a good job of carrying out the "Honor" part of our mission. We need to collectively support our aircraft so they can continue to fly!

It's such a privilege to fly these warbirds and to touch people's lives in so many ways. I urge all our members to get involved in our mission!



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I CRASHED!!!

by Col Mike Woods, CAF WI Wing Operations Officer



It was a beautiful day with clear skies and light winds and our craft was ready to go. My friend was looking to buy a new house so we thought some nice arial photos would be perfect for him and lots of fun for me to fly around his house and get the pictures. We took pictures from the front of the house and then maneuvered around to take side views and then moved onto the back to get better pictures of the pool area and the back of the house. I started to maneuver so we could get a better view of the pool and I had what I believe the military calls target fixation and I lost my situational awareness and suddenly we were not flying. I crashed into the trees. The good news is I could see a picture

of the trees thru the lens of the drone camera so we walked to the back of the house but the trees and brush were very thick so we could not see the drone. Finally, my friend saw the blinking light of the drone, but we did not have a ladder or any way to get to 25 feet in the tree branch to get it down. Here is where Crew Resource Management came into play. Another friend who had come with us suggested getting one of the landscape crew who were working down the road to see if they had equipment or knowledge of how to dislodge the drone from the grasp of the tree. We talked to the crew but since we did not know Spanish and their English was extremely limited our hands told the story. The crew was very accommodating and sent one of their men with us along with some of their gear.

Once we were back at the scene of the crash our new friend surveyed the area and finally decided to put on his climbing gear and went up the tree. He did use a safety rope, but prayers were said that he would not fall. He cut a long skinny branch and was able to free the drone that fell to a blanket that we spread out on the ground. Even though we had prop strikes (there are four of them) we did not do an engine tear down, and a close inspection did not reveal any damage. A new battery was installed and we were able to finish our job of picture taking. Our new friend was also happy since he was given a very generous reward for saving my day.

Even though it was a drone, the lessons were the same – don't get fixated on one thing and forget everything else. Always keep your situational awareness up and running, and finally remember to use crew resource management. Keep you flying safe and fun.

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Good turnout of 24 for our monthly Wing meeting in April. Cadet Francis explaining how a propeller works on this 1943 Stearman at our Wisconsin. (*Photo credit... Col Candy Parr*)

WI Wing Membership Meeting

You are invited to the CAF WI Wing on Sat., May 13th, 2023

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

> Program: Chris Reeves and his C-45 Warbird Restoration



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

- SNJ- flying, minor problem with the airspeed switch for the Hobbs meter that tracks flight time. This does not affect airworthiness. Will install replacement part when oil change is done.
- T-34- Test flying started 5-09-23 by our IP John Reed. All flights A-OK.

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



April was still a quiet month for the Operations side of our Wing. We did get the ground schools for both planes done. The latest news on the T-34 is that the test flights were flown on 5-9-23. We are all looking forward to a great year of flying our T-34. We have 2 new transition letter pilots and 5 more interested. As a side note, if you liked the Mouse on the tail of the plane, you are going to be disappointed, but if you did not like it, you will be happy. Actually, half of the Mouse has been removed and the other half will be removed once we are flying the plane and can get it back to Oshkosh to get the last half taken off.

25 WI Wing members and invited guests enjoyed a memorable evening at our Spring Banquet and Silent Auction. EAA's Museum Manager and aviation historian, Chris Henry was our guest speaker presenting a behind the scenes look at the Tuskegee Airmen. The Delafield Brew Haus hosted the event with another excellent dinner in their outstanding party room.

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Honor Flight Escort Mission April 22, 2023













May 2023 Wing Safety Report

by Col Evan Bauer, WI Wing Safety Officer

"Hangar & Tug Safety Reminders"

Tug safety: Per CAF guidelines only qualified and properly trained personnel may operate aircraft tugs or any other vehicles owned or operated by the unit.

- 1) Before operating our tug make sure the floor is clear of any obstructions or obstacles. Even small items like a cord, towels, etc. can cause the tug to move off its intended course or cause issues.
- 2) Be careful to align the tug with the aircraft wheel as straight as possible. Even being slightly angled can cause binding. When turning, do not exceed the allowable turning angle.
- 3) Make sure all areas around the airplane have sufficient clearance as well as a clear pathway to the plane's destination.
- 4) When possible, use wing walkers to make sure the side and vertical clearance of the airplane is maintained throughout the operation.
- 5) When tug operation is completed, please make sure the tug goes back to where it originated and is plugged back in to recharge.

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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
Steve Janke	Larry McClellan	



Major Richard I. Bong by Col Brian Liddle, WI Wing Historian

Superior, Wisconsin, what is it known for? It carries the namesake of a bordering lake which has the largest surface area in the world, Lake Superior. The lake runs deep and wide, and so does the history involved with Superior, Wisconsin. On September 24,1920, a man was born of whom would become a household name in the history of World War 2. That man was Richard Ira Bong. Major Richard Bong or "Dick" Bong, was a fighter pilot in the Pacific Theater becoming the leading fighter ace with forty kills flying the Lockheed P-38 Lightning. Because of this achievement he earned the title of ace of aces and the Congressional Medal of Honor. This made him the most highly decorated pilot in the Army Air





Major Bong in his mount "Marge."

Corps.

Major Bong's P-38 is famous for the nose

Major Richard Bong

art. He had a photo of his of then girlfriend applied on the left side of the center fuselage. His girlfriend's name "Marge," (Marjorie Vattendahl was her name) painted to the left-hand side of it. Even though he flew different

planes

throughout

the war, "Marge," was his plane he was mostly affiliated with.

Toward the end of World War 2, the jet age was coming into focus. Major Bong was assigned to become a test pilot. Another Lockheed aircraft was being tested the P-80 Shooting Star. On August 6th 1945, Major Richard Ira Bong died while testing the P-80 in



Lockheed P-80 Shooting Star

an accident while taking off. He ejected while the plane was a too low of an altitude and fell to his death at the age of 24. The same day the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan.

For further Information on Major Richard Bong you can reference.

Yenne. Bill. "Aces High: The Heroic Saga of the Tuo Top Aces." or

Stanaway. John. "P-38 Lightning Aces of the Pacific and CBI." Osprey of the Aces Series Volume 14.



The Corsair

by Col Candy Parr, WI Wing Education Officer

Did You Know?

- F4U Corsair production continued for more than ten years, and the type remained in service until 1965. Total production was 12,571 aircraft.
- The **Corsair** was designed to meet a 1938 U.S. Navy requirement for a single-seat shipboard fighter. The nature of the military's request strongly suggested at least to theVought design team that the Navy wanted the fastest fighter ever built.



• The Vought F4U Corsair is an American fighter aircraft which saw service primarily in World War II and the Korean War. Designed and initially manufactured by Chance Vought, the Corsair was soon in great demand; additional production contracts were given to Goodyear, whose Corsairs were designated FG, and Brewster, designated F3A.

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CORSAIR REUNION AMONG THE WARBIRD HIGHLIGHTS AT EAA AIRVENTURE OSHKOSH 2023



Oshkosh, WI (February 16, 2023) - A reunion of the Chance Vought F4U Corsair, the unique gullwing fighter aircraft best known for its exploits off U.S. aircraft carriers, will be among the warbird highlights at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2023. The 70th edition of EAA's fly-in convention is July 24-30 at Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. "With only about two dozen flying examples of the Corsair remaining in North America, the opportunity to bring together the largest-possible group of these unforgettable aircraft at Oshkosh was one we had to organize," said Rick Larsen, EAA's vice president of communities and member programs, who coordinates AirVenture features and attractions. "This airplane recently marked the 80th anniversary of its introduction to the U.S.military and

remains a favorite warbird among many enthusiasts. Our goal is to create a memorable program with several activities that feature the Corsairs on ground display and in the air."

Corsair owners are encouraged to join this unique reunion by contacting Chris Henry at the EAA Aviation Museum (<u>CHenry@EAA.org</u>) for further details and registration information.

The Corsair received heightened attention at the end of 2022 with the release of the major motion picture **Devotion**, which recognized the Korean War exploits of Medal of Honor recipient Thomas Hudner and his wingman Jesse Brown, the first Black U.S. naval aviator. That movie will be played during AirVenture at the event's Fly-In Theater, with descendants of the Brown and Hudner families invited to participate.

In addition, visitors will have the opportunity most of the week to visit the newly opened Corsair display inside the EAA Aviation Museum, which is open to all attendees as part of their AirVenture admission. The exhibit honors both Brown and Hudner, including a Corsair flown by Hudner on his subsequent deployments in the early 1950s and painted with its original VF-32 squadron markings.







The Corsair (cont'd from previous page)

The Chance Vought F4U Corsair was first flown in 1940 and introduced to the U.S. military on December 28, 1942. Its unique gullwing design came as a way to allow use of the powerful Pratt & Whitney R-2800 Double Wasp engine and allow shorter, more rugged landing gear for use as a carrier-based aircraft. With those attributes and a top speed of more than 450 miles per hour, the aircraft became renowned as a naval aviation fighter and in support of ground forces.

Have you seen the movie Devotion? A must see!

Based on Medal of Honor recipient Thomas Hudner and his wingman Jesse Brown.

Brown's father had taken him to an air show, where his love for flying began. "As you say, we'll just have to give our best, and trust in God for all others." *Jesse L. Brown*



Jesse LeRoy Brown (October 13, 1926 – December 4, 1950) was a United States Navy officer. He was the first African-American aviator to complete the United States Navy's basic flight training program (though not the first African-American Navy aviator), the first African-American naval officer killed in the Korean War, and a recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Born in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, to an impoverished family, Brown was avidly interested in aircraft from a young age. He graduated as salutatorian of his high school, notwithstanding its racial segregation, and later earned a degree from Ohio State University. Brown enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1946, becoming a midshipman. Brown earned his pilot wings on October 21, 1948, amid a flurry of press coverage. In January 1949 he was assigned to Fighter Squadron 32 (VF-32) aboard the aircraft carrier USS Leyte.

At the outset of the Korean War, Leyte was ordered to the Korean Peninsula, arriving in October 1950. VF-32 flew F4U-4 Corsair fighters in support of United Nations forces. Brown, an ensign, had already flown 20 combat missions when his Corsair came under fire and crashed on a remote mountaintop on December 4, 1950, while supporting ground troops at the Battle of Chosin Reservoir. Brown died of his wounds despite the efforts of his wingman, Thomas J. Hudner Jr., who intentionally crashed his own aircraft nearby in a rescue attempt, for which he was awarded the Medal of Honor.

Brown's life in the segregated and desegregated U.S. military has been memorialized in books and film, including the 2022 film Devotion.[2] The frigate USS Jesse L. Brown (FF-1089) was named in his honor.

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Another Corsair Story..."Good Entertainer, but a Great Marine!"

Did you know?

"Heeeeeeeeeeee's Johnny! Edward Leo Peter "Ed" McMahon, Jr. (March 6, 1923 – June 23, 2009) American comedian, actor, singer, game show host and announcer. He is most famous for his work on television as Johnny Carson's sidekick, a position he held for over 30 years. Before he died, McMahon told his son, Lex, who is a Corporal in the US Army, that he preferred to be remembered as a "Good Entertainer, but a Great Marine".



<u>The Corsair</u> (cont'd from previous page)

His son, Lex, compiled a list of highlights of his father's 23-years of service in the U.S. Marine Corps:

- ✓ Eating powder eggs during Officers Candidates School even though they were billeted on a farm with hundreds of chickens some things in the Corps never change!
- ✓ Being commissioned as a 2nd Lt.
- ✓ Being made a flight instructor while still in-flight school.
- ✓ Earning his Naval Aviator wings on 4/4/44.
- ✓ Flying the hottest fighter in WWII the F4U-Corsair.
- ✓ Getting reprimanded for conducting "training missions" over his girlfriend's house.
- ✓ Becoming a test pilot.
- ✓ Being reprimanded for conducting "training missions" over his girlfriend's house again.
- ✓ Teaching carrier landings.
- ✓ And yes, being reprimanded for flying "training missions" over his girlfriend's house AGAIN.
- ✓ Telling NBC he'd love to sign a big contract to be their next star- but he had just received orders to report to Korea.
- ✓ Meeting Marilyn Monroe prior to deploying to Korea and having her impishly tell him: "Ed, I'm not wearing anything underneath".
- ✓ Flying 85 combat missions in Korea as an artillery spotter.
- ✓ Cornering the market on food and alcohol by becoming his squadron's Officer-in-Charge of the Mess Tent and Officer's Club.
- ✓ The 3-day long party in Tent 7 with 55-gallon drums of "truce juice" when the armistice was signed.
- ✓ Participation in creating the Toys for Tots program.
- ✓ Being promoted to Colonel.
- ✓ Promoting his son to the rank of Corporal.
- ✓ Passing a flight physical at age 70 and flying the Harrier Jump Jet.
- ✓ Working with The Flying Leatherneck Historical Foundation to cement the legacy and traditions of Marine Corps Aviation.
- ✓ And being Major General Lenhert's Guest of Honor at the Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Ball in 2005 Where he remarked that he had tremendous respect for General Lenhert and was humbled to be his guest of honor.

Corporal Lex McMahon also wrote a sad and inspiring note concerning his father's death:



"Dad – on behalf of a grateful nation, fiercely loyal United States Marine Corps, assembled friends, loving family, and me – a devoted son – it is the highest honor of my life, to fulfill your request to be buried as a Marine. I wish you Godspeed, as you pull chocks and embark on one last mission in your Corsair – destined for the final rally point – Valhalla – warrior heaven. I salute you!" - *Lex McMahon*



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

I	Food Truck Schedule 2023		
Date 🔻	Truck 1	Truck 2 🔻	
	Densons	Sandwich Sisters	
	A&A Cafe	Pina Mexican Eats	
	Marco Pollo	Taqueria Miyagi	
6/23/2023	Scrima- 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	
	Lumpia City	Marco Pollo	
7/28/2023	Scrima- 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	



EAA WARBIRD 32 Squadron

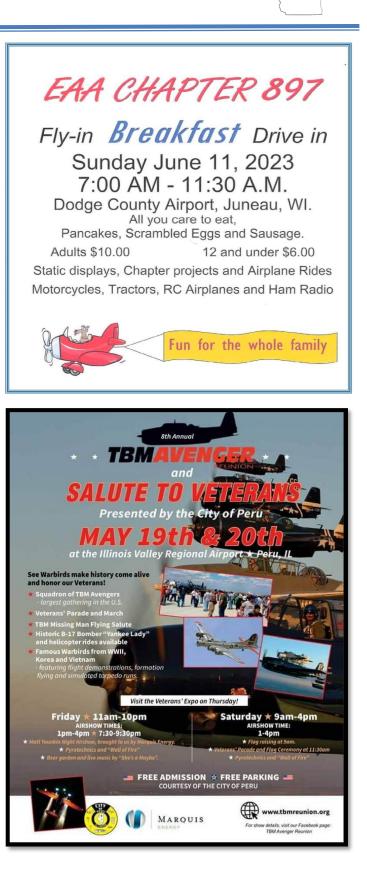
- June → Sat., 6/10 Oshkosh Airport Main Terminal Annual WB32 fly-in, pancake breakfast & car/MV show. More details to come! Young Eagle rides too!
 - → Wed., 6/14 Anniversary Party Details toTBA!

Related links:

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

https://chapters.eaa.org/war32

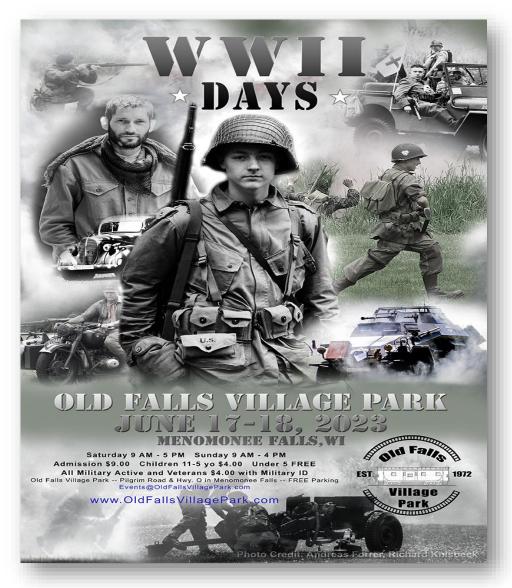
Membership dues lowered to \$30!!!



Wisconsin Wing Newsletter

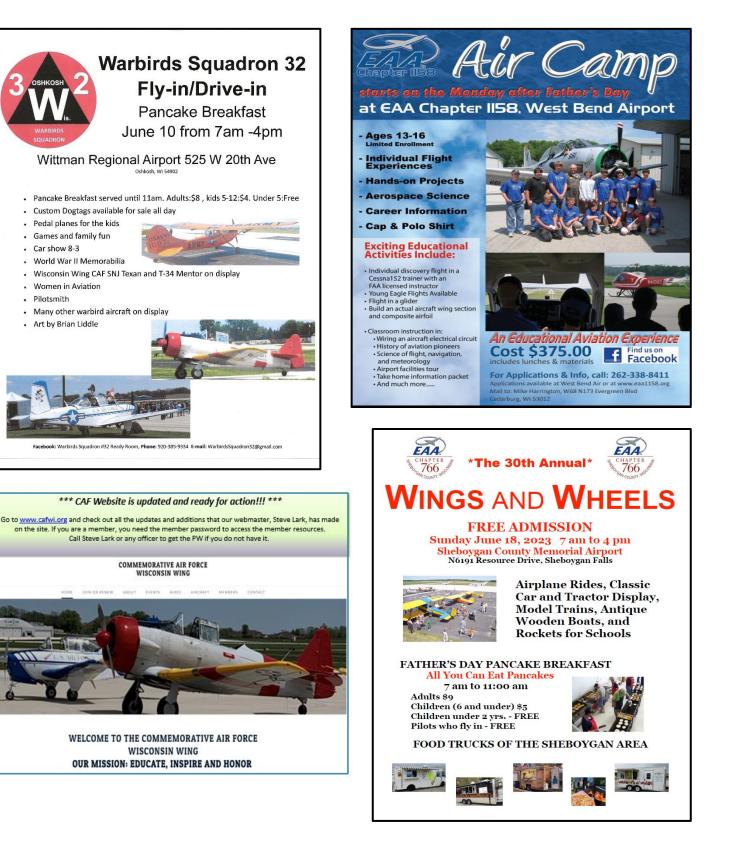
COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE





Wisconsin Wing News





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.

May 13 Wing May 15-20 Arme May 20 Hono May 20 TBM I May 20-20 TBM I May 26-28 Dock May 27 28 29 Mem May 31 Wing June 2 First IF ???? 128 th June 10 EAA V June 10 Wing June 11 Junea June 17-18 Menc June 18 Wing June 28 Wing July 3 Shaw July 8 Wing July 9 CAF A July 9-23 CAF A Aug 2 Wing Aug 5 Old G Aug 5 Menc August 12 Wing	ki Hounds Opener ng Meeting & Lunch hed Forces Week hor Flight Escort A Reunion ki Hounds Military Wk morial Day Fly-overs ng Staff Meeting t Food Truck Friday th ARW Tour (TBC) N Warbird SQUADRON 32 Fly-in ng Meeting eau EAA 897 nomonee Falls WWII Days Big Band Sat nite hor Flight Escort ngs and Wheels ng Staff Meeting A Chapter 1365 Fly-in wano Fireworks day ng Meeting c AirPower History Tour FiFi & Diamond 'Lil +	Fly Over with SNJ Waukesha Airport Terminal Various activities w/128th Milwaukee Mitchell Airport Peru, IL Fly Over with SNJ Union Grove & Wood Cem. Zoom KUES Terminal Ramp MKE Airport: 128 th Base KOSH Oshkosh Terminal and Ramp Waukesha Airport Terminal Dodge County Airport Old Falls Village Historic Park, Menomonee Falls, WI KMKE Mitchell Airport Sheboygan Zoom Mauston/New Lisbon Union Airport Shawano Airport Waukesha Airport Terminal TBA	TBA 10:30-11:30 a.m. TBA 6:00 a.m. TBA TBA 7BA TBA TBA TBA TBA TBA TBA 10AM – 4PM 10:30 am start 7am – 11:30AM 10:00-5:00 p.m. plus Sat nite band 6:00 AM 7AM to 4PM 7PM Go Friday night Noon-dusk	x x x ; ; ; ; ; ; ;	x	X X X X X 7 X X X	flyover x x x x x x x flyover x x x
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July 8 Wing July 19-23 CAF A July 24-July 30 EAA A Aug 2 Wing Aug 5 Old G Aug 5 Menc August 12 Wing	ng Meeting AirPower History Tour FiFi & Diamond 'Lil +	Waukesha Airport Terminal				x	x
July 19-23 CAF A July 24-July 30 EAA A Aug 2 Wing Aug 5 Old G Aug 5 Menc August 12 Wing	AirPower History Tour FiFi & Diamond 'Lil +	· · ·	10:30 am start				·····
Aug 2WingAug 5Old GAug 5MenoAugust 12Wing		IDA		???		x	x
Aug 5 Old G Aug 5 Meno August 12 Wing	AirVenture	Oshkosh Airport		no	no	x	x
Aug 5 Menc August 12 Wing	ng Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
August 12 Wing	Glory Honor Flt Event	Fly Over Oshkosh					flyover
	nomonee Fly In	Fly In		???		???	???
TBA RC W	ng Meeting & Lunch	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
	Warbirds and Classics Over the Midwest	Welnuts RC Field SE of Fond du Lac	ТВА	x			flyover
August 19 Shaw	wano Fly-In	Shawano	All day/rain 8-20	X?		x	x
August 30 Wing	g Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
	d Truck Friday – Last	Waukesha terminal	11am to 2pm	x	x	x	x
	nor Flight Escort	KMKE Mitchell Airport	6:00 AM			х	x
September 9 Wing	ng Meeting & Lunch	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
	onto Fly-In	Oconto Airport	9:00AM - 4:00PM	???		x	x*
Sept 9 Wauk	ukegan Fly-in	Waukegan, IL		x			х
	th FW Family Day	Madison Airport				x	
October 1 Burlin	lington Fly In	Burlington, WI Airport	TBD	???			1
	g Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
	nor Flight Escort	KMKE Mitchell Airport	6:00 AM				
October 14 Wing	ng Meeting & Lunch	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
October TBA Corsid	sicana Airshow	Corsicana, TX Coyote Sqdn	Sat. 10-8 all day				
November 1 Wing	ng Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				
November 4 Hono	nor Flight Escort	KMKE Mitchell Airport	6:00 AM				XDark?
November 4 Veter	erans Day Parade	Fly Overs	11AM???				
	ng Meeting & Lunch tion nominations	Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				
	to EAA Museum	Oshkosh, WI	9:00 a.m.				1
	ng Staff Meeting	Zoom	7PM				1
	WING Holiday Party	Brewhaus	Details to follow				1
		Waukesha Airport Terminal	10:30 am start				+
TBA N103.	ng Meeting Election for 2024-5 terms	Tulsa OK Wing	ТВА				+

For the latest EAA AirVenture news & info go to: https://www.eaa.org/airventure



AirVenture Dates

2023: July 24 - July 30 2024: July 22 - July 28 2025: July 21 - July 27

WI Wing Staff

Position	Person	Contact Info.
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 mikewwoods@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.:	Dennis Flancher	414-534-0160 dennislf@att.net
Fly-Over Coord.	Vic Stottlemyer	262-391-5110 stottlemy7@aol.com
Wisconsin Wing mailing addr	ess: CAF Wisconsin Wi P.O. Box 1998 Waukesha, WI 53	

www.cafwi.org