

CORBEN COURIER

Chapter Meeting June 19 at Blackhawk Airfield



Our next Chapter 93 Meeting will be on June 19th at 7:00 PM at our Blackhawk Airfield Clubhouse. Plan to arrive early as our barbeque will be fired up. Feel free to bring your favorite meat item, drinks will be provided. Please plan to attend this meeting as we will be focusing our discussions on the upcoming Heavy Bomber Weekend event. At this meeting we will be reviewing our specific needs for HBW and signing up members and family participants in various support roles. We are looking forward to another fabulous event this year and we need your help to make it happen. Please join us on the 19th!

- Rob Tweed

Sun Is Out, Snow Is Gone...Let's Fly!

A few short weeks ago I was visiting my sister in Illinois and it was there that I got my first dose of aviator spring fever. It was a warmer day and the sun was out. Snow still lined the streets and driveways but, with some imagination, we knew spring was right around the corner. We were driving past her neighbor's house and that's when I realized our brutal winter was soon to pass from an ongoing threat to an ugly memory. There in the driveway amidst the melting snow were a cute brother and sister giving their bikes a good clean up and check out. The bucket, hose and towels were out and one of the bikes was flipped upside down resting on its seat and handlebars as the young boy looked over the wheels.

This was just the sort of kick in the pants I needed to wrap up my annual condition inspection on the Lancair and end its winter-long hibernation. So, I gathered up my inspection checklists, tools and parts and plowed into my own version of those kids' inspirational spring bicycle prep. I really do enjoy this annual maintenance ritual. It's a great way to reaffirm that special connection builders have with their flying creations.

After wrapping up the annual inspection and getting a few test hops under my belt my attention turned towards finding a fun mission to launch my somewhat belated 2014 flying season.

Thankfully I didn't have to wait long. Pete Buffington alerted me to the annual air show in La Crosse featuring the Blue Angels and that seemed like a perfect way to begin the season.

With Al Kurth in the right seat we met Pete and his friends at the airport and settled in for a wonderful day of clear, warm sunshine and great flying demonstrations. It has been many years since I have attended a Blue Angels performance and their show is still as impressive as ever. My favorite part of the show was their "misdirection", Blue Angels style. This involves everyone in the crowd looking straight overhead at the beautiful precision loop of the tight four aircraft formation and then jump out of their skin as one of the solo planes streaks past on the deck at better than 600 knots with its afterburner blazing. Breathtaking stuff!

We also enjoyed connecting with our friends from the Minnesota CAF wing. Jim Gilmore and his team were there with their beautiful B-25 "Miss Mitchell." To our delight we were able to see Miss Mitchell's impressive aerial routine. This aircraft will be a huge hit at this year's HBW event. I can't wait! Thanks Pete and Al for our fun air show mission to La Crosse. I look forward to other great times with the rest of our Chapter 93 members and friends at pancake breakfasts, "hanger hangout" events and other fun venues throughout the summer. Fly safe!

- Rob Tweed



Al, Rob, and Pete with Blue Angels



Pete with "Frozen Assets" nose art

Spring Cleaning at Blackhawk

Chuck Knutson and some volunteers spent the weekend of May 10 and 11 clearing out brush and overgrowth at Blackhawk Airfield. This will make runway 04/22 safer for aircraft operations. Thank you to Chuck and everyone who helped!



Spring cleanup at Blackhawk

- *Jonie Fobes photos*

May Chapter Meeting

Our May meeting was held at the Sugar Ridge Airport. Thank you to Tom Kretschmann for hosting us and informing us of latest projects!



Tom Kretschmann and Rob Tweed



Chapter members around Frank Smidler's RV-6



Interesting planes in Tom Kretschmann's hangar



Bill Rewey and Fred Leidel



Airplanes, big and small

Jonie Fobes photos

WIN A RIDE IN THE B-25 "MISS MITCHELL"!

Just a reminder that every "DUES paid" Chapter 93 members' name will be placed in a drawing. One (1) Lucky Chapter 93 member will win a ride to be awarded at the Heavy Bomber Weekend.

To enter, pay your dues! (Those yet to pay 2014 membership dues will be notified by email or U.S. Mail and given the chance to re-up.)

Invite a new member to join and that person's name will be added to the drawing. You can claim one of three (3) "bring a new member" prizes. Prizes to pick from include an EAA Chapter 93 golf shirt, reimbursement of your 2014 dues, or a gift certificate to O'Malley's Jet Room.

- Don Ripp

Want to Have Fun?

Volunteer at Oshkosh

We had a great weekend volunteering. If you've never volunteered for a work weekend, you should, it is a lot of fun! You never know what you'll be doing and they feed you too. You meet people from all over that volunteer.



Chapter 93 members Frank Smidler, Fred Leidel and I volunteered. Some people mowed grass, some did building and some did painting. Fred and I started out cutting wood and then I went to paint with two other women. We had beautiful weather.



After supper we were invited to a tour of the Eagle Hangar. We had two great young people from the EAA museum who had interesting stories of the planes and people. We were also invited to climb into several of the planes which was Fantastic! Anyway if you have time to do this sometime you will enjoy!

- Jonie Fobes

2014 Heavy Bombers Weekend Event Poster

Attached is a PDF file containing the 2014 HBW event posters. Feel free to forward these to friends, family, coworkers, etc. You can also print and post them in locations with high public visibility. You might notice that I used Photoshop to add some additional details that EAA headquarters omitted (this has become an annual tradition).

I received a package of posters yesterday printed on high quality poster paper. I will be seeking a few (3 or 4) highly motivated chapter 93 members to help post these around the Madison metropolitan area. Unfortunately these posters don't have the additional text I photo shopped as seen in the attached PDF, but they will work fine. I will distribute posters to willing chapter 93 volunteers at the next chapter meeting, Thursday, June 19th.

Thanks very much for your help,

- *Pete Buffington*

Book Review

“Top Guns” by Joe Foss and Matthew Brennan, 1991 Pocket Books Division of Simon and Shuster, 444 p. Soft Cover.

This is an accounting of the experiences of pilots of the Army, Navy and Marines, one in WWI, nineteen in WWII, six in the Korean War, and one in the Vietnam War.

Each of them describes his experiences fighting the enemy in the air or strafing the enemy on the ground. Each contact was an experience of kill or be killed. As the reader, I wondered where they found the courage to do what they did. There were very few photos of the pilots, and they appeared to be kids in their early twenties.

I found the book to be exciting and easy to read. I don't know how I got possession of the book, but I used it while in bed at St. Mary's Health Care Center during my recent illness.

- *Fred Leidel*

Corben Courier
EAA Chapter 93
C/o Al Kurth, Editor
5878 Ridge View Court
Fitchburg, WI 53711