

CORBEN COURIER

Chapter Meeting November 20 at Blackhawk Airfield



Due to our annual banquet this month our next meeting will be on Thursday, November 20. This meeting will begin at 7:00 PM and we will meet at our Blackhawk Airfield clubhouse. Our program will be provided by Gary Chenier. Gary recently visited a museum highlighting various missile systems and he has prepared a presentation for us on his visit. Please plan to attend our meeting!

- Rob Tweed

Fall is in the Air!

It sure was nice to see many of you and your family members at our Chapter 93 annual banquet last week. We had a lot of fun visiting with each other and listening to our guest speaker, Lt. Col. Warren Webster, share with us his experiences of learning to fly in the late 1930's in Madison and ultimately flying his trusty P-47 Thunderbolt "Miss Mary" in combat while based in France during WWII. It is simply amazing to see the energy levels that Col. Webster and Fred Leidel have as they prepare to celebrate their 100th birthdays in just a few months. These gentlemen are an inspiration to us all and I consider myself very lucky to have them as friends. Those of you who missed the banquet should make plans to join us next year. Rex and his staff prepare a great feast and our new midday fall format works great. No more braving freezing temperatures and icy roads at night! So please join in the fun next year and attend our banquet.

Fall is my favorite time of year. Yes, it serves as a harbinger of a long, cold winter around the corner but the beautiful fall colors, smell of burning leaves, hot apple cider, etc. are such a wonderful way to close out our warm weather and the fun we had during the summer months. This year I will be able to experience two peak fall color moments. A couple of weeks ago my

friend and I took the off road motorcycles about 4 hours northeast of Madison to Wabeno and participated in a two-day ride. The fall colors were at peak and I was awestruck with the vibrant, beautiful colors everywhere around us as we rode through the woods.

As we drove back to Madison we could feel the colors fade with every passing mile. That's OK I thought to myself because I knew our color was coming right around the corner. But just where was our color change? Never needing much of a reason to go flying, I thought an aerial reconnaissance mission to find the location of our fall colors was as good of reason as any. A quick call to George Bindl netted me a right seater for this mission. With camera at the ready we departed on our flight Wednesday morning, October 8.

And what were our findings from this carefully planned research flight? We are happy to report that our peak fall color change is just about a twenty minute flight away! Take a look at these photos below



The photo on the left was taken near Middleton / Cross Plains. The photo on the right was taken near Devil's Lake. Notice the much higher color concentration on this photo. So, ladies and gentlemen, there you have it...our fall color peak is just a hop, skip and jump away! Enjoy!

- Rob Tweed

Tom Rebholz Memorial Chili Fly-In

Mark your calendars for December 6, 2014. We will be hosting the Tom Rebholz Memorial Chili Fly-In on this date at Blackhawk Airfield from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Fly in or stop by for some delicious chili and great fixing's. Tell your friends to join us!

- Rob Tweed

The Pietenpol in the Clubhouse

Some of our younger members have seen the airplane parts that get in the way so here is the history of the Pietenpol airplane and the "Blackhawk Fliers."

Back in 2006 Dick Hartwig sold the rough fuselage, tail feathers, ribs and some metal parts of a Pietenpol design to six of us for \$1,800 or \$300 each. We formed a building club meeting every second Thursday of the month for a couple of hours. Some of us also did some work at home or other days. Bill Rewey is our advisor. He's built two!

We decided to use the Riblett GA30U612 airfoil because it has more lift and better stall characteristics. We've been selling the old Piet airfoils at \$20 each. (I've got one of each on a wall at home.)

Jerry Matzelle was our president but left town and sold out. We bought an overhauled Continental 65 from Bill Rewey for \$5,000 or \$833 each. We've been paying dues of \$25 per month which would be around \$2,500.

The Piet cruises at around 75 miles an hour, is quite stable, easy to fly for someone who just want to get up in the air. We are interested in more members. For \$1,000 (even prorated) you could learn some building details and save \$2,400 or more (\$3,533 – 1,000). If you have some interest, talk to Lowell Zirbel 837-9683, Jim Lins 271-8079, Gary Chenier 837-2557 or Jim Zirbel 235-5885.

- Lowell Zirbel

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