

CORBEN COURIER

Chapter Meeting December 18 at Blackhawk Airfield



Please plan to attend our next monthly meeting at our Blackhawk Airfield clubhouse on Thursday, December 18 at 7 p.m. I recognize this date is getting very close to the holidays but this is an important meeting as we will be discussing our pending move to a new location. With this discussion we will need to decide which clubhouse items will be retained for future use and which items we must either discard or distribute to members through various means. I

look forward to seeing all of you there!

- Rob Tweed

2014...Another Big Year for Chapter 93!

Wow, it is hard to believe that we are about to say goodbye to 2014 and hunker down for another Wisconsin winter. I'm hoping for some warmer temps and a lot less snow than we endured last year so I can get the little plane out and enjoy some winter flying. So far, so good from a weather standpoint. Let's hope this trend continues.

As Chapter 93 throws another year on the Hobbs meter I enjoy looking back on the many fun times we have enjoyed as a group and imagining how we can parlay these good times into lots of exciting, fun activities for our coming year.



Our "Hanger Hangout" activities were new this year and we were able to organize a couple events. These events are a great way to get some Corben Cadet flights in while enjoying some tasty barbeque and fun conversation. Those attending had a great time and I'm sure



we'll continue to press on with these events next year. Speaking of Corben Cadets, it sure was fun creating new cadets

this year! I am hopeful that our winter weather cooperates this year so we can get some more Corben Cadet flights in even before the white stuff melts.

Perhaps it was our keen focus on Heavy Bombers Weekend planning or maybe it was our lack of a good, safe operations base for Young Eagles flights but, whatever the reason, we didn't fly as many Young Eagles flights as we would have liked. Yes, we had a great event at Middleton earlier in the year and lots of smiles were pasted on young people's faces. We'll work hard in 2015 to create more Young Eagles and we are considering larger joint events with Chapter 1389 to make this happen. Stay tuned...

It was rewarding to learn of the impact our scholarship award had on Brian Welch in enabling him to complete his pilot training and earn his private pilot license. Brian spoke to us during a monthly meeting earlier in the year and expressed his appreciation for this assistance. We have another very promising candidate for the Hoot and Betty Gibson scholarship program for 2015 and we hope to make the presentation very soon.

How many of you find yourselves looking back to our Heavy Bombers Weekend event last summer and sensing that tinge of awe when you consider what we organized and brilliantly



executed. I know I do, and quite often I might add! Meeting Col. Cole and watching him interact with the many visitors of the event was so rewarding. Think of how many lives we touched by providing the venue for these people to meet a true living hero from World War II. It was a highly successful weekend and I thank all of our volunteers for your tireless efforts in organizing the event. Great praise was received from all stakeholders in the event and we are looking forward to another fun, safe, HBW event in 2015.



Many thanks to Col. Warren Webster for sharing his many wonderful flying experiences with us during our annual Chapter 93 banquet. Learning how determined he was to fly in the military, even when it involved joining the Royal Canadian Air Force to do so, was highly entertaining. We also enjoyed hearing Warren recall his harrowing combat experiences while flying the P-47 Thunderbolt in France during WWII. Soon Warren will celebrate his 100th birthday and it will be fun for Chapter 93 to help him celebrate his big day.



As with every year, Chapter 93 wraps up our year of flying fun with the annual Tom Rebolz Memorial Chili Fly-In. Unlike the cold, dreary

conditions we have endured for many of our past events, we were blessed with sunny skies and perfect temperatures for this year's event. Sincere thanks go out to all of you who contributed batches of your favorite chili recipes. We enjoyed record attendance this year with 12 aircraft flying in. Unfortunately our chili supply was gobbled up by our hungry attendees by 12:30! Congratulations to Angela Kurth and Jill Tweed for winning top honors this year with your delicious chili.

2015 will provide our chapter with some challenges as we work to secure a suitable location for our monthly meetings. I regret that we find ourselves in this position but, given the current situation at Blackhawk Airfield, we simply must protect our interests and relocate our base of operations. A number of viable alternatives are under consideration at this time and an update on this progress will be provided during the next monthly meeting on December 18.

I would like to thank all of our members for your support of all of our activities throughout the year. It is an honor and privilege to be associated with such a great group of aviation enthusiasts. Best wishes to you and your families for a safe, fun holiday season!

- Rob Tweed



Jack Jerred Memorial Service

Jack Jerred passed away at age 91 on December 3, 2014. A memorial service for Jack will be held at Lake Edge Lutheran Church, 4032 Monona Drive, Madison, on Monday, December 22, 2014 at 11 a.m., with visitation prior to the service. A full obituary will be published soon.



Jack was a dedicated Chapter 93 member and wonderful friend to all of us. We will miss Jack and all of his contributions. Godspeed, Jack. Enjoy your new wings!



- Rob Tweed

Chapter 93 Dues

EAA Chapter members please submit dues for 2015. \$20 may be mailed to Jim Lins or me at 922 Lawrence St., Madison, WI. 53715. All renewals and new memberships received in December will be included in a drawing. The prize is an all-expense paid trip to Christy's Landing on Lake Waubesa for a burger. The trip will originate at C29. Please bring your checkbook or wallet to our December meeting.

- Jeff Plantz

Titan Missile Museum

At the November chapter meeting, Gary Chenier gave a very interesting presentation about his visit to the Titan Missile Museum in Arizona. Here are some highlights from Gary's presentation.



Titan II missile in its silo and launch controls (above). Computers and blast door (below).





Ryan Firebee target drone and Budd Conestoga (above). Boeing YC-14 STOL tactical transport (below).



- Al Kurth

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The Corben of Corben Chapter



Orland G. Corben (photo from Wisconsin Aviation Hall of Fame website)

I first knew Orland G. Corben in 1935 when I was a senior at East High School. (I soloed a Corben Junior Ace in 1940, when I was a senior at U.W. Madison.)

Corben was general manager of the Madison Airport, sometimes called the North Street Airport because North Street terminated at the airport. The airport was an 800 by 2800 foot grass field located between the Oscar Meyer plant and the small hill to E. Washington Ave., where Aberg Ave. now is.

Corben lived with his wife Jean and Collie Skip on the second floor at 509 North St. (at the corner with Hoard St.) In his younger years he worked for Ringling Bros. Circus as a clown and unicycle rider, and Jean worked as an acrobatic bareback rider.

It was the custom in the '30s that when a student soloed, he would host a party with a pony of beer. Corben's dog Skip liked beer and would get shnockered.

Back then a Continental A-40 powered Baby Ace sold for \$1,095, a Salmson AD-9 powered Junior Ace Cabin for \$1,265, and a Ford Model A powered Super Ace for \$895. The Salmson was a 9-cylinder 40 horsepower radial engine. Solo flying time was \$5 to \$6 an hour.

- Fred Leidel

Note: For more information about Orland Corben, see

<http://www.wisconsinaviationhalloffame.org/inductees/corben.htm>.

- Al Kurth



Jack Jerred at Heavy Bombers Weekend, July 2014.

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