

# CORBEN COURIER

## Chapter Meeting June 16 at Morey Field



Our June Chapter Meeting -Hangar Hangout, hosted by Jeff and Patty Plantz, is scheduled for Thursday, June 16 at the Plantz's hangar at Morey Field, Middleton. We will fire up the grill at 6:00. Burgers and brats will be provided. Drive in, fly in, or bike in. Come early with a good story to tell! The meeting will start at 6:30. Think good weather thoughts. Please bring a dish to pass.



- Jeff and Patty Plantz

## Let's Roll with VetsRoll

As we move into "crunch time" with our Heavy Bombers Weekend preparations I enjoy thinking about the many veterans our event will attract and then imagine these fine people standing next to the aircraft we have assembled on the ramp while they relate their memories with family and friends. In my mind this is one of the best ways to honor these incredible veterans, by giving



them such a great opportunity to relive an important part of their lives with loved ones. It's seeing events such as this unfold before my eyes at HBW that makes all of our preparations worth the effort.

I had a similar "goosebumps" moment on May 25 when Chelsea and I attended the VetsRoll Homecoming event in Beloit. Here we joined a tremendous crowd of people to welcome home 200 WWII and Korean War veterans along with "Rosie the Riveters" from their caravan to the WWII Memorial in

Washington DC. We arrived early and got to feel the excitement build as we waited for the coaches to arrive. While we were waiting, several fire engines raced off with sirens blaring to intercept the caravan and escort the vehicles into the celebration awaiting them. The grand arrival occurred moments later. The parade escort of emergency vehicles representing many surrounding municipalities, motorcycles, historic vehicles, etc. went on for over 8 minutes, accompanied with thunderous cheers from the crowd. There was lots of flag waving, tooting horns, sirens, fireworks and special signs from family members welcoming these special people home. But it was the smiles on the faces of the veterans as they departed their buses and hugged their family members that was most memorable. I highly recommend attending next year's VetsRoll homecoming event. It is a very rewarding experience for everyone.



As many of you know, Chapter 93 has partnered with VetsRoll for their assistance in promoting HBW and providing staffing support during the event. We appreciate the opportunity to work with VetsRoll and I would like to provide you with additional information about this fine organization. John and Mark Finnegan, owners of Finnegan RV Center, Inc. in South Beloit, Illinois, formed VetsRoll in 2010 to honor the memory of their father and other WWII and Korean war veterans, as well as the many "Rosie the Riveter", and other such people who supported the war effort back home. Mark and John were familiar with the Honor Flight program; and they discovered they were successful fundraisers when they raised \$11,000 in less than 5 days for a family in need who was the subject of an ABC Extreme Makeover television show they were supporting through their RV business. With access to RVs, busses, a proven ability to raise funds and a desire to honor veterans, VetsRoll was launched in 2010. VetsRoll has just completed their 7th journey to the WWII Memorial, enabling hundreds of veterans to experience the thrill of seeing the memorial and spending time with fellow veterans.



Congratulations and sincere appreciation goes out to Mark and John Finnegan and our friends at VetsRoll for providing such a special experience to our veterans and their families. It is a joy and honor to have you assist us with Heavy Bombers Weekend!

## HBW T Shirts

All volunteers for HBW will receive a high quality T shirt in recognition of your great support. Please reply to this email with your preferred size for the shirt and we'll get them ordered for you!

- Rob Tweed

# Heavy Bomber Weekend News

I am still looking for a Chapter 93 member (Non-Board Member) to be a back-up/assistant vendor arrival coordinator for Bob Ulrich. I received zero responses from last month's request for help for this vacancy. Rob Tweed has offered to help, but he also has a dozen other items on his plate for HBW. I'd prefer a dedicated Chapter 93 member. I will seek an assistant from Chapter 431 or Chapter 22 if I don't receive a response by the end of June.

Also, we have secured a daily cash auditor from both CAF and EAA headquarters to help Jim Lins with the daily audit of cash intake. The daily intake will be audited against the sealed and serialized wristband distribution.

WWII veterans have been secured for Media Day - great help came from Chapters 22 and 431 Presidents Bryan Hunt and Pat Weeden. We also received a few from Mark Finnegan at VetsRoll.

Volunteer sign-up sheets for HBW2016 are very low daily totals so far. We have four or five Chapter 93 members signed up for each day. See **Earl Martin** at the June and July chapter meetings to sign up for volunteer duties. We'd like to see 15 to 20 volunteers, a day at a minimum. The help from Chapters 431, 22, and 60 is greatly appreciated this year and it gives us the opportunity to have a fun filled weekend with some of our fellow EAA members from other chapters. This could open the door for more joint events between these chapters in the future, something many of us enjoy seeing come to light.

Don't forget - there will be a HBW 2016 "Kick-off" breakfast Friday, July 22, 2016 at "The Cursing Stone Pub at Glen Erin Golf Club" (JVL Airport) at 7:00am. Get there early for a good seat. Our daily kick-off briefing will be at 8:30am in the JVL Terminal before the gates open at 9:00am. Many of us intend to meet for breakfast Saturday and Sunday mornings as well for good company and HBW stories - please join us daily. The Cursing Stone will be serving Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner from 6:30am to 8:00pm during HBW. This is within walking distance from the Terminal building.

Lastly - HBW volunteers - please park your car in the Black Hawk Technical College Parking Lot to avoid taking valuable spaces in the terminals main parking lot. Bob Ulrich - please communicate to Vendors not to have their extra staff members park in the main terminal lot either - they too should use the Black Hawk lot.

- Pete Buffington

## Calendar

Thursday, June 16, 2016, 6:30 p.m. Chapter Meeting – Hangar Hangout hosted by Jeff & Patty Plantz

Thursday, July 21, 2016, 6:30 p.m., Chapter Meeting – HBW Planning

Friday, July 22, 2016, 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. HBW Volunteer Breakfast, Glen Erin Golf Club, 1417 W. Airport Rd., Janesville

Friday, July 22 to Sunday, July 24, 2016 Heavy Bomber Weekend, Southern Wisconsin Regional Airport, Janesville

July 25–31, 2016 – EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2016

Thursday, September 15, 2016, 6:30 p.m., Chapter Meeting – Hangar Hangout hosted by Rob Tweed

Sunday, October 2, 2016, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Chapter 93 Banquet at Rex's Innkeeper, 301 N. Century Road, Waunakee. Speaker: John Dorcey, Wisconsin Aviation Hall of Fame

Thursday, October 20, 2016, 6:30 p.m. Chapter Meeting – Hangar Hangout hosted by Frank Smidler

Thursday, November 17, 2016, 6:30 p.m. Chapter Meeting at Bill Rewey's hangar Topic: Zenith Aircraft Build Project by Bill Rewey

## Chapter Officers & Committee Chairs

Rob Tweed, President, 608-213-8271, [rbtweed@charter.net](mailto:rbtweed@charter.net)

Dean Zakos, Vice President, 262-498-0942, [drzakos@sbcglobal.net](mailto:drzakos@sbcglobal.net)

Jim Lins, Treasurer, 608-271-8079, [jwlins@facstaff.wisc.edu](mailto:jwlins@facstaff.wisc.edu)

Earl Martin, Secretary, [martine@splpharma.com](mailto:martine@splpharma.com)

Scott Nolinske, Board Member at Large, 608-273-2586, [scott.nolinske@gmail.com](mailto:scott.nolinske@gmail.com)

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Brian Terry, Board Member at Large and Membership Coordinator, 608-220-4784, [brian.terry@charter.net](mailto:brian.terry@charter.net)

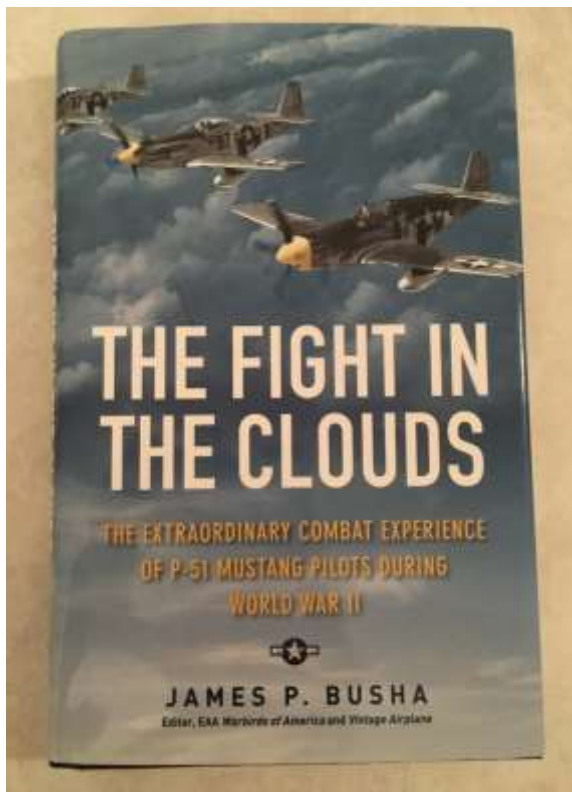
# Thank You

Thanks to Rob Tweed, Pete Buffington, Brian Terry, and Jeff and Patty Plantz for contributing to this month's newsletter. Please send articles for future newsletters to [a.kurth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:a.kurth@sbcglobal.net).

- Al Kurth

## Book Review

by Brian Terry



“The Fight in the Clouds” by James P. Busha

The Fight in the Clouds is a compilation of stories from pilots who flew the P-51 Mustang during WWII. Mr. Busha is a

detective for the Oshkosh Police Department as well as the Editor of the EAA magazines *Warbirds* and *Vintage Airplanes*. Over the years, he has interviewed WWII pilots and compiled their stories in this book.

One of the things that were common in most of the pilots was their lack of confidence in the P-51 when they saw it. They were used to the heavy armament and protection the P-47 gave them in dogfights. Compared to the P-47, the P-51 was fragile and they thought for sure this new plane was sending them to their deaths. But their opinions quickly changed once they got behind the controls and flew the P-51 for the first time. They quickly realized that the German pilots couldn't shoot what they couldn't catch.

In addition, the stories, Mr. Busha also includes copies of the actual combat reports from the missions discussed.

This is a very interesting read for anyone interested in the P-51 or WWII history.