



Wingman



Winter

506th Fighter Group Association

2006

Ft. Worth Round Up Fighter Pilot & Cowboy Boots



Indians. Cattle. Railroads. Oil. The Western History of Fort Worth reads like the history of the American West. Fort Worth Western History began as an army outpost in 1849, established to protect settlers from Indian attacks. Soon, Fort Worth became the last major stop on the legendary Chisholm Trail, the dusty path where millions of cattle were driven North to market.

Today, known as "Cowtown" for its rough-and-rowdy roots, Fort Worth still celebrates its colorful Western history and heritage today.

History, and the continued preservation of the 506th Fighter Group, is the storyline of this year's reunion. The unit that served with such honor on Iwo Jima lives on, in part, through the 457th Fighter Squadron, a Reserve F-16 unit at NAS Ft Worth. One of their members, Major Eric Maurer attended the 2005 reunion in Dayton astride his F-16. Delighted with the experience, Major Maurer invited the WWII vets to participate in an expanded reunion with all generations of fighter pilots to be hosted by the 457th.

The reunion will begin Thursday May 4th and con-

clude with a joint banquet with the 457th on Saturday May 6th. We will be staying at the Green Oaks Hotel, which is just across the highway from Carswell (formally Air Force Base, now a joint use military field). Discounted rooms at \$59 a night have been set aside and as so much of our reunion is provided by the 457th, the reunion fee is one of the lowest we have had of only \$75 per person.

Besides our usual annual hangar flying and business session, there is a tour of Lockheed and a demonstration of air refueling on the agenda. However, the highlight of the event should be Saturday when we spend the afternoon and evening with a mix of P-51 and F-16 pilots. Now if we can just arrange for a Mustang to be parked on the ramp next to the F-16 for our group photo!

The last few reunions have grown in participation by the surviving veterans, but just as importantly, we have added an expanding number of second and third generation family members. This is a terrific opportunity to honor the history of the 506th, so please make plans to attend.

Make your reservations, TODAY!

2006 Reunion—Green Oaks Hotel Fort Worth Texas

For the 2006 reunion, we will be staying at the Green Oaks Hotel, considered one of the best in the area for comfort, convenience, and service in Fort Worth, Texas. The hotel is just 2 miles from Carswell, where the 457th squadron now calls home. Your reunion committee has arranged a discounted rate of \$59 per night (tell them you are with the 506th).

The Green Oaks Hotel is ideally located on Fort Worth's beautiful suburban west side; about ten minutes ride to the downtown Fort Worth area and only twenty-five minutes to Dallas Fort Worth Airport (DFW), plus minutes away from all the great downtown shopping and stockyard excitement that makes Fort Worth a historic Texas city. Just across the highway are both the Westwood Mall and Ridgmar Mall, for those who wish to go shopping.

To get the discount rate, contact the hotel by **April 14th** at **(800) 433-2174**. The local number is (817) 738-7311. Additionally, visit them on the web at: www.greenoakshotel.com.

Airport Transportation Dallas / Fort Worth Airport to Hotel

For those flying into DFW for the 2006 reunion, you will have several options for ground transportation. The easiest is to make a reservation with Super Shuttle. Contact them at **(800) 258-3826**. The local number in Fort Worth is (817) 329-2000. Also, for those of you who like using the world wide web, look them up at: www.supershuttle.com.

If you need some special care, some of us will be there with cars available and will be happy to assist. If you need to make special arrangements, call Amy Woodrick at (678) 697-5621, and she will set it up.

Schedule of Events *(Tentative)*

Thursday May 4th
Hotel check-in
Reunion registration
Welcome buffet dinner
Friday May 5th
Tour of Lockheed
Air Refueling Demonstration
Casual buffet dinner
Saturday May 6th
Annual meeting
Open House with 457th Ftr. Sqd.
Reunion Dinner with 457th Ftr. Sqd.
Sunday May 7th
Return home

(The time and dates of the above events are subject to change as we get nearer the reunion. If you have other items you wish added, let us know.)

www.506thfightergroup.org

The web site dedicated to helping preserve the history of the 506th Fighter Group continues to grow with more photos and articles. Thanks to Robert "RG" Grant (son of the late JJ Grant, 462nd FS), and the assistance of Dr. John Benbow, Ed Millner, Deborah McCune, and Ed Linfante. The website includes photos, historical documents, mission reports, and even sounds of a Mustang in flight, and R.G. is adding new material every weekend.



Major Eric Maurer
457th Fighter Squadron
Fort Worth Texas

Gathering of Mustangs and Legends *"The Final Round Up"* 2007

One of the greatest opportunities to see a large formation of North American P-51 Mustangs is being organized for 2007. Originally scheduled for the summer of 2006 in Reno, the date and locations are being changed. There may be an opportunity to have the 506th Fighter Group reunion for 2007 to be held in conjunction with this event. If that interests you, please let us know and check for details about the event on the web at; www.stallion51.com

If all goes well, they expect 100 P-51 Mustangs on the ramp to attend. Wouldn't it be great to see a formation of 65 flying overhead? The previous time this event was held they had over 50 planes attend along with numerous WWII aces and dignitaries. It would be great for the 506th Fighter Group to be represented.

- * To renew your membership and update our records, please complete the middle portion of this form. Your membership helps pay for the newsletter.
- * For those attending the reunion, in addition, please complete the lower portion. Make your reservation by April 14th.

* Mail (with your check) to:
Note this is a new address!
 506th Fighter Group
 3571 Far West Blvd. #214
 Austin, TX 78731



2006 Dues - 506th Fighter Group

Just complete and return to:
 506th Fighter Group
 3571 Far West Blvd. #214
 Austin, TX 78731

Name:	
Address:	
City:	
State:	
ZIP:	
Home Phone:	
Email Address:	

**2006
 Dues
 \$15**



2006 Reunion Registration - 506th Fighter Group

This information will be used to complete your nametag.

Name of Those Attending	Home Town	Squadron

**Reunion
 Registration
 Fee
 \$75 ea.**





506th Fighter Group

3571 Far West #214

Austin, Texas 78731

