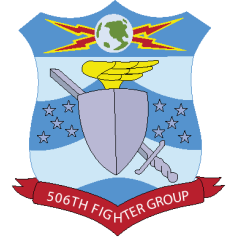




# Wingman



Winter

506th Fighter Group Association

2011



## ***Lone Star Reunion 2011*** ***Austin, Texas***

When high winds caused cancellation of the flights in the World War II trainers, the group was very interested in giving it another try. Because it is easier to round up the old warbirds in the Austin area, that will be the headquarters for the 2011 reunion. We will be staying in the center of the city near downtown, the state headquarters and the University of Texas. We will spend one day at local Austin tourist sites – the State Capital and the State of Texas Museum.

As for the flying, we will travel to the town of Burnet (35 miles away) where the Highland Lakes Squadron of the Commemorative Air Force is arranging a day of flying along with a “burger burn” for lunch. Flight priority will be given to our veterans, but after they fly, all family members will be welcome to experience a little stick and rudder time in the same planes our veterans first took to the skies.

Each pilot/owner of the planes we will use is volunteering his time and plane. They are doing so to honor the 506<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group veterans and their families. Normally flights like the ones we are offering would be \$200 to \$400. Our WWII veterans will be provided the flights at NO CHARGE. However, to cover the fuel cost for this effort, we are asking reunion family members who wish to fly, to contribute \$100 for each flight they take. Additionally some planes have insurance that require the passengers to be at least 18.

So, when you sign up for the reunion, indicate which planes your family members wish to fly and reserve your flight. Reservations are necessary so we will have enough airplanes. Additionally, priority will go to those who are first to send in their reunion reservation. Because we have the challenge of weather and the availability of airplanes, we will not ask for your \$100 fee until it is time to fly.

What else is there to do at the reunion? Well Austin is known as the *Live Music Capital of the World*. So, each night you will have a lot of options if you like music. If unique and free strike your fancy, at dusk each evening 1½ million bats emerge from under a downtown bridge to blanket the sky as they head out to forage for food. You knew everything was bigger in Texas – now it's time to come check it out!

## Tentative 2011 Reunion Schedule

Date	Day	Event
4/14/2011	Thu	Welcome Dinner
4/15/2011	Fri	Texas State History Museum Texas Capital Tour Austin on your own Warbird Dinner
4/16/2011	Sat	Warbird Rides Picnic Lunch Banquet Free Time
4/17/2011	Sun	Hotel Checkout



### **Doubletree Hotel Austin**

1617 IH-35 North Austin, Texas 78702  
 (800) 236-1361  
 (512) 479-4000  
 Group Name: **506<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group**  
 Room Rate: **\$109/night** plus Tax  
*(Rooms Rate Guaranteed if booked by Saturday **March 25<sup>th</sup>**)*

### Service from the Austin Airport

#### **Super Shuttle**

800 BLUE VAN  
 (512) 258-3826 Local

### **Reunion Fee - \$125**

(please register by 4/1/11)

What you get for your \$\$\$\$.

- Hospitality room with refreshments
- 3 Evening Meals & 1 Picnic Lunch
- Van Transportation to events

*Who Should Attend the Reunion?* **YOU!**

Every reunion sparks interest those from subsequent generations. Many of those younger than our veterans who went off to World War II, musters up the interest and fortitude to investigate attending an upcoming reunion. They recognize the magnetic pull of wanting to know more about the unit their dad, uncle, or grandfather served with, but are unsure if it is appropriate for them to participate. They hesitate because they think they might not fit in, might be a distraction, or it just might not be a productive use of time their busy life.

But those who venture to their 1st reunion always come away with the same two realizations. They recognize this is something very important to their family's history and they wish they had started earlier to learn more about the group and how their family member became a part of this historic group.

Each year more and more NEW folks participate in our reunions. Each year the new attendees know in their hearts they will come back again and when they do, they know they will encourage more of their family to attend. It is good they pick up the torch as our ranks of veterans continue on that sad but inevitable march of time.

If there is a moral to this little story it is that more of your family members need to be encouraged to attend our future reunions. If you receive this newsletter as one of the Greatest Generation, please attend and encourage your family to attend. Come help us preserve the history of these regular men who answered a call to serve a great cause and in doing so, became our heroes and preserved our way of life. We must always remember and honor them. We will never forget them.



The Texas State Capital



The Texas State History Museum

<http://www.thestoryoftexas.com/>

**Inventory  
Close Out**

**Promote the Squadrons of the 506th**

*They help tell the story and preserve the history*

**Order Hats, Polo Shirts Today!**

Satisfaction Guaranteed

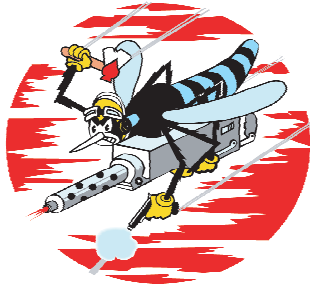
**Squadron Polo Shirts \$ 30 ea.**

Polo shirts are navy blue with multi-color squadron patch embroidered on left.

**Squadron Hats \$ 15 ea.**

Hats are white with embroidered multi-color squadron patch. **Patch only, no text!**

**Inventory  
Close Out**



457th Fighter Squadron  
506th Fighter Group  
Iwo Jima '45



458th Fighter Squadron  
506th Fighter Group  
Iwo Jima '45



462nd Fighter Squadron  
506th Fighter Group  
Iwo Jima '45

Size	Quantity
Small	<u>Sold Out</u>
Medium	<u>Sold Out</u>
Large	<u>Sold Out</u>
X-Large	<u>Sold Out</u>
XX-Large	<u>Sold Out</u>
Hats	

Size	Quantity
Small	<u>Sold Out</u>
Medium	<u>Sold Out</u>
Large	
X-Large	<u>Sold Out</u>
XX-Large	
Hats	<u>Sold Out</u>

Size	Quantity
Small	<u>Sold Out</u>
Medium	
Large	
X-Large	<u>Sold Out</u>
XX-Large	<u>Sold Out</u>
Hats	<u>Sold Out</u>

Orders will be shipped to the member's address on the other side of this form.



**License Plate Frames**

Chrome Frame / Dark Blue Background / White Lettering

Qty	Item	Each	Amount Enclosed
	Shirts	\$30	
	Hats	\$15	
	License Frame	\$20	
	<i>Shipping &amp; Handling</i>		\$5.00
	Dues	\$20	
	Reunion	\$125	
	<b>Total</b>		





**North American "Texan"**

**Free to WWII Veterans**  
 \$125 - 2nd & 3rd Generation  
Must be 18 years old



**Fairchild PT-19**

**Free to WWII Veterans**  
 \$100 - 2nd & 3rd Generation  
Must be 18 years old



**Stearman PT-17**

**Free to WWII Veterans**  
 \$100 - 2nd & 3rd Generation  
Open to all ages

**Make you reservations so we will know how many airplanes to bring.**

Payment will be made the day you fly, so bring your checkbook.  
 All flights will be about 20 minutes, but you can fly as many times or planes as time allows.

<u>I want to fly the</u> <u>TEXAN</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>Reservations</u>
<b>Veterans</b>	FREE	_____
<b>2nd &amp; 3rd Generations</b>	\$100	_____
<b>Under 18</b>	Not Available	Not Available

<u>I want to fly the</u> <u>Fairchild</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>Reservations</u>
<b>Veterans</b>	FREE	_____
<b>2nd &amp; 3rd Generations</b>	\$100	_____
<b>Under 18</b>	Not Available	Not Available

<u>I want to fly the</u> <u>Stearman</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>Reservations</u>
<b>Veterans</b>	FREE	_____
<b>2nd &amp; 3rd Generations</b>	\$100	_____
<b>Under 18</b>	\$100	_____

**2011 Dues - 506th Fighter Group**

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

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

**2011  
 Dues  
 \$20**



**2011 Reunion Registration - 506th Fighter Group**

*This information will be used to complete your nametag*

Name of Those Attending	Home Town/State	Squadron

**Reunion  
 Registration  
 Fee  
 \$125 ea.**  
 (if paid by April 1, 2011  
 \$150 if after that date)  
Registration Fee  
will be Refunded if  
Canceled by  
April 1st.



Left to Right: Harry Altman, Jack Westbrook, Dick Updike, Bill Peterson, Ralph Gardner, Abner Aust, Norwin Hines, Jack Rice, Ed Linfante, Bill Ebersole

### Texas Reunion 2010

At the 2010 reunion, held in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area, we had a total of 45 folks attending. That included 10 of our veterans and we had one member whose great grandfather was one of the 506<sup>th</sup> pilots. The key reason to hold the reunion in Texas was to participate with the 457<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron's bi-annual reunion. As was the case at the 2006 reunion, the F-16 pilots were terrific host to our veterans and their families.

We had also planned a day of flying in World War II trainers (Stearmans and AT-6 Texans), but Mother Nature didn't cooperate. On both the day before and the day of the scheduled flights, winds were 25 gusting to 40 and the old airplanes couldn't even taxi out of their hangars. To fill the day still surrounded by old airplanes, most of our members visited the Cavanaugh Flight Museum in Dallas where they have a major collection of warbirds – everything from World War One prop planes to more modern jets.



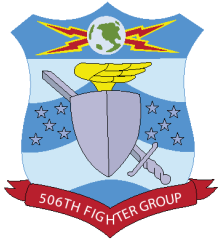
Col. Abner Aust is presented an artist rendering of his P-51 by Robert Grant, our webmaster and son of J.J. Grant of the 462nd .

*Sorry for not having produced a newsletter last summer. The sequence for the last few years has been to have one newsletter, like this one, that has information about the next reunion and the forms to sign up. Then, following the reunion, a second newsletter is mailed to report on the reunion events. To round out the year, a third newsletter should come out each fall providing general information about the next reunion so our members can set aside the dates on their calendar. That was the plan, but last year I got a little lazy. Sorry!*



### 506th Fighter Group in Print

What started with emails between our webmaster, Robert Grant, and an artist in Poland has grown to become a book commemorating the 506th Fighter Group. You may purchase copies from the group web site, or better yet, come to the reunion and have our veterans sign your book. Please take advantage of the opportunity while it exists.



## 506th Fighter Group

3571 Far West #214

Austin, Texas 78731

### 506th Fighter Group

Had receives long overdue publicity in a

# New Book!

Available at the 506th web site.

