



Wingman



Winter

506th Fighter Group Association

2010



Kick up your heels in the Lone Star State
April 29th — May 2nd

Texas returns to center stage for the 2010 reunion. It was back in '06 that our World War II veterans and families were hosted by the 457th Fighter Squadron at their home in Fort Worth. It was one of the most unforgettable reunions for our members and the group was eager to return. The parts of the prior reunion that were most memorable were the tour of Lockheed, the ride on the KC-135 as the F-16 refueled, and the honor and respect lavished on our veterans by the pilots who were currently defending our country.

In fact, it was the warm reception and admiration bestowed on the Iwo Jima veterans by those who had just returned from fighting in the Middle East that was most appreciated by our members and their families. While the 506th Fighter Group could easily be described the last fighter pilots of World War II to go to war and the first forgotten, the reunion in '06 made clear that their memory and honor is strongly acknowledged by the current members of the 457th.

For 2010 the weekend selected for the reunion sees Lockheed unavailable for tours and we can assume cutback in budget will not allow a repeat of the refueling adventure. However, we are planning on taking our members and their families flying. More importantly we will continue the tradition started in '06 of allowing our pilots who flew in the days of propellers to share combat stories with the guys who now fly jets.



Veterans & Their Families to Fly Vintage WWII Planes

In past reunions the families have heard the countless flying stories from our veterans (memories we will always cherish). We have had the opportunity to see a new fighter being built and watched them being refueled in the air. We have attended past reunions where we have been able to see vintage planes fly and to hear the roar of those mighty engines from over 60 years ago.

This year, we are going to allow our veterans to re-experience their days of learning to fly. To let them take the controls in the air like they did in their youth, to see if their stick and rudder skills return and to remember what it was like to become a fighter pilot. And for the families, each member will have an opportunity to experience what it is like to fly in the same planes their fathers and grandfathers first took to the sky.

So, how is it going to work? Well on Friday April 30th, as a replacement for the Lockheed tour, we will travel to a small, local airport. An assortment of WWII trainers will be on hand for us to fly. Our veterans will have the first opportunity to fly and will all be expected to show off what they remember from their flight training days. After that, every family member with an interest in flying will be given a chance to take one of these planes up with our crew of experienced pilots. Once in the air, you will be given the opportunity to take the controls or just enjoy the ride.

While some details of these flights are still a work in process, there are a few items that are clear. Each pilot/owner of the planes we will use, is volunteering his time and plane. They are doing so to honor the 506th 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, contribute \$100 for each flight they take. Additionally some of the planes have insurance that restricts 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 for a 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.

This should be a fun day of flying. We all want to watch our veterans have this experience and each member attending the reunion should seriously consider this to be an excellent opportunity to see what it is like to fly one of these vintage planes. Please sign up for the reunion early and take advantage of this day of flying.





North American "Texan"
Free to WWII Veterans
 \$100 - 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.

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

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

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

2010 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:	

**2010
 Dues
 \$20**



2010 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
 \$100 ea.**
 (if paid by April 19, 2010
 \$125 if after that date)
Registration Fee
will be Refunded if
Canceled by
April 19th.

**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	
Large	
X-Large	
XX-Large	
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	
Medium	
Large	
X-Large	
XX-Large	
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	
	Reunion Fee	\$100	
	<i>Shipping & Handling</i>		\$5.00
	Dues	\$20	
	Total		



Comfort Inn DFW Airport North

5000 W. John Carpenter Fwy.
Irving, TX, 75063

Phone: (972) 929-5757

Group Name: **506th Fighter Group**

Room Rate: **\$55/night plus Tax**

*Hotel Offers Van Service From DFW Airport
(Must Book Rooms by Monday April 19th)*

Reunion Fee - \$100 (please register by 4/19/10)

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

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

Tentative 2010 Reunion Schedule

Date	Day	Time	Event	Location
4/29/2010	Thu	16:00	Reunion Registration	
		18:30	Welcome Dinner	Hotel
4/30/2010	Fri	07:30	Breakfast	Hotel
		08:30	Depart for Airport	Hotel Lobby
		09:00	Warbird Rides	Airport
		13:00	Picnic Lunch	Airport
		16:00	Return to Hotel	
		16:30	Free Time	
		18:30	Banquet	
5/1/2010	Sat	07:30	Breakfast	Hotel
		09:00	Annual Meeting	
		10:00	Free Time	
		12:00	Lunch on your Own	
		15:00	Depart for Carswell	
		15:30	Cocktails at Spad Bar	
		16:30	Briefing & Speeches	
		17:30	BBQ	
		21:00	Return to Hotel	
5/2/2010	Sun		Hotel Checkout	

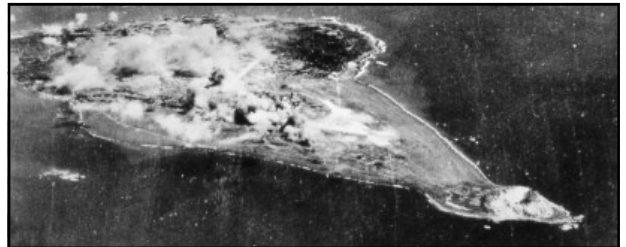
Who Should Attend the Reunion? YOU!

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 506th web site is constantly being updated.
Visit often to see the new information.

<http://506thfightergroup.org/>

Close Out

506th Shirts & Hats

We started selling 506th Polo Shirts 5 years ago and 4 years ago we added squadron hats. To date, we have sold over 170 shirts and over 80 hats. However, recently the demand has diminished for the shirts and hats, so it's time to close them out. The order form indicates which items are still available. If you want to reserve specific sizes, please email your request and we will hold your order awaiting your payment.

Email to: pt19flyer@aol.com



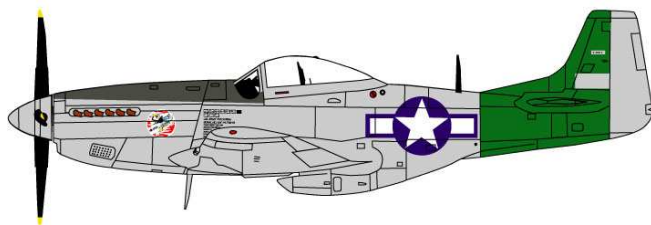
506th Fighter Group

3571 Far West #214

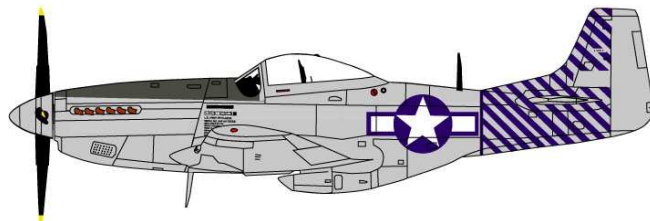
Austin, Texas 78731



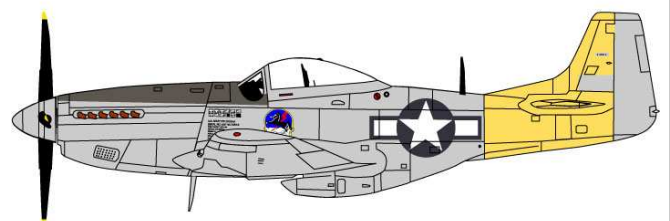
457th Fighter Squadron



458th Fighter Squadron



462nd Fighter Squadron



506th Fighter Group
Iwo Jima—1945