



CAF RISE ABOVE®

Inspiring young people to RISE ABOVE adversity using the lessons and stories of the Tuskegee Airmen and the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP).

July 2021

JOIN US AT OSHKOSH!

Tuesday, July 27 - August 1

The CAF RISE ABOVE Squadron is honored to have Tuskegee Airmen Brig Gen Charles and Lt Col George Hardy joining us for this landmark aviation event of the airshow season! Be sure to bring your family to KidVenture where the RISE ABOVE Traveling Exhibit will be on display. You'll also get the chance to meet Tuskegee Airmen in person for photos.

The P-51C Mustang *Tuskegee Airmen* will be at the Warbird Alley

See page 2 for schedule



Photo courtesy Ken Mist

**Tuskegee Airmen Brig Gen Charles McGee & Lt Col George Hardy
Schedule for Oshkosh**

Location KidVenture behind EAA AirVenture Museum

July 27-31, 2021

**Note, subject to change without notice*

TUESDAY July 27	
9:00 – 11:00	Brig Gen Charles McGee at the Traveling Exhibit
11:00	Show center - Lt Col George Hardy, Jerry Burke Interview
11:30-12:45	SkyScape Theater - Brig Gen Charles McGee and his son, Major Ronald McGee
1:30- 3:00	Lt Col George Hardy at the Traveling Exhibit
WEDNESDAY July 28	
9:00 – 11:00	Lt Col George Hardy at Exhibit
10:00	Show center - Brig Gen Charles McGee and Lt Col George Hardy with Jerry Burke
1:00-2:15	Skyscape Theatre - Both Airmen with WASP Nell Bright joining via Zoom. Topic the connection of the WASP and the Tuskegee Airmen at Mather AFB, CA
THURSDAY July 29	
9:00 – 11:00	Airmen at the Traveling Exhibit
11:30-12:25	Skyscape Theater - Lt Col George Hardy
1:30- 3:00	Brig Gen Charles McGee at the Traveling Exhibit
FRIDAY July 30	
9:00 – 11:00	Airmen at the Traveling Exhibit
1:30- 3:00	Airmen at the Traveling Exhibit
7:00-9:00	Theater in the Park - Brig Gen Charles McGee and Lt Col George Hardy
SATURDAY July 31	
9:00 – 11:00	Airmen at the Traveling Exhibit
1:00- 3:00	Warbirds in Review - Brig Gen Charles McGee and Lt Col George Hardy

[Download schedule](#)



Photo courtesy Max Haynes

We have numerous events that are still in the planning stages, closely monitoring local Covid cases and restrictions to finalize details, so [please check our event calendar often for updates.](#)

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
July 21-25	Fargo Air Museum & Fargo AirSho RISE ABOVE Traveling Exhibit and P-51C Mustang	Fargo, ND
July 27-August 1	EAA AirVenture RISE ABOVE Traveling Exhibit and P-51C Mustang	Oshkosh, WI
August 6-8	Wings and Wheels Spectacular P-51C Mustang	Owls Head, ME
September 29-October 3	University of Dubuque RISE ABOVE Traveling Exhibit and P-51C Mustang	Dubuque, IA
November 3-7	Rise Above Tallahassee RISE ABOVE Traveling Exhibit and P-51C Mustang	Tallahassee, FL
November 13-14	Stuart Airshow RISE ABOVE Traveling Exhibit and P-51C Mustang	Stuart, FL



Did you know that the CAF National Aviation Education Center in Dallas has a theater to show the RISE ABOVE movies, and it is named after the man behind creating the RISE ABOVE program, Don Hinz, along with Tuskegee Airman, BGen Charles McGee? And how about that lobby???

[Check out all the details in this month's Digital Dispatch](#)

Our mission in action!

Dear Mr. Brown,

Hello! I am a student from a middle school in Lansing, Illinois. My teacher asked me to write a letter for a person from the Tuskegee Airmen and express the gratitude that I have for them. I have read all of your biography and learned of all the hardships you have gone through. So I am here to say thank you. As well for giving you love though this letter.



I am thankful for you going through all the tough times that you have been through serving for Tuskegee Airmen. It must have been very difficult for you to have the courage to fly and help this country, even though you were not treated right at all. For you to walk off the shackles and chains of racism and unequal treatment that. To help the horrible place that treated you like you did not belong is incredible for you to do. All the courage, all that belief has made the world a better place and a place that remembers you and all the other people that have died to help the world change.

I am grateful for all the things you have done to make this world a whole lot better, all the courage, bravery, losses, and hardships that you have and been through to make the world take a step forward to get even better in the future. All the things that you have done in the past and it gave a positive outcome for everyone, White or Black. Everyone that lives today is because of you and the Tuskegee Airmen. After the war your choices had mattered and made the world accept blacks for who they are. I am accepted the way I am due to your sacrifice.

I hope you continue to be well and awesome, you are remembered by this student as a pioneer in word and in deed.

With Great Respect ,
A Grateful Middle School Student

Check out our educational resources!

Find a wealth of information about the Tuskegee Airmen or WASP, educational resources and more. Look for [RESOURCES](#) in the menu bar!

Our [free, downloadable RISE ABOVE Resource Kits](#) provides users access to posters featuring the Six Guiding Principles, PowerPoint's, classroom activities and a wealth of material about the Tuskegee Airmen or the WASP.

Purchase dog tags featuring the Six Guiding Principles, DVDs, and other materials to enhance your classroom activities in the [online store](#).





America's Tribute to the Tuskegee Airmen

Learn more about the [CAF Red Tail Squadron](#), whose mission is sharing the inspiring legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen, America's first black military pilots and their support personnel. Their strength, courage, and ability to triumph over adversity during WWII can serve to inspire others about how to succeed today.

FEATURED TUSKEGEE AIRMEN PROFILE

Paul L. Green

June 19, 1923 – February 23, 2015

Class 44-G-SE

Unit: 99th Fighter Squadron, 332nd Fighter Group

Green was drafted into the Army Quartermaster Corps in February 1943, and was stationed a short time in Indio, California. He completed Flying Training School at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama and joined the 99th Fighter Squadron, flying combat in Italy and was able to fly twenty-five combat missions during the Second World War with the 99th Fighter Squadron. Most of these missions were escorting bombers to and from their intended targets.

[Read the profile of Col Green online!](#)



TUSKEGEE AIRMEN QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"We [referring to the Tuskegee Airmen] proved we were not dummies. It was just the color of our skin that was different. We were capable of flying planes and doing things others do."

~ Tuskegee Airman Paul L. Green



Class SE-44-G: George L. Bing, John E. Edwards, William H. Edwards, James H. Fischer, Thurston L. Gaines, Jr., Robert E. Garrison, Jr., Newman C. Golden, Leo R. Gray, Paul L. Green, Conrad A. Johnson, Jr., Benny R. Kimnrough, John H. Lyle, Elbert N. Merriweather, Jr., Leland H. Pennington, Ronald W. Reeves, Maury M. Reid, Jr., William E. Rice, Robert C. Robinson, Jr., Calvin J. Spann, Thomas C. Street, Harold L. White, Joseph C. White, Robert E. Williams, Jr.

Photo courtesy The Air Force Historical Research Agency, Maxwell AFB, Alabama



Honoring the Women Airforce Service Pilots

Learn more about the [RISE ABOVE: WASP](#), whose mission is sharing the story of the Women Airforce Service Pilots in order to inspire others, especially girls and young women, to RISE ABOVE expectations and find a greater appreciation of their potential.

FEATURED WASP PROFILE

Bernice Batten

Class: WAFS "The Originals"

April 14, 1913 – July 16, 2004

Planes flown: BT-13, At-6, A-24

Training Location: New Castle Army Air Base
(Wilmington, Del.)

Assigned bases: Long Beach Army Air Base (Calif.),
Love Field (Dallas, Tex.) and New Castle Army Air
Base (Wilmington, Del.)

The first females to fly for the U.S. military were the "Originals," better known as the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron, a WWII group led by aviatrix Nancy Love. Twenty-seven women strong, between the ages of 21 and 35, this elite corps of experienced pilots ferried planes across America from factories to docks for shipment overseas.

[Read the profile of Bernice online!](#)



WASP QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"We all did what they asked us to do... We were just happy doing what we were doing. It was a rarity. We were thrilled to be a part of it. It was our war; our country and we were able to help."

~WASP Marguerite Sis Tuffin Bernhardt

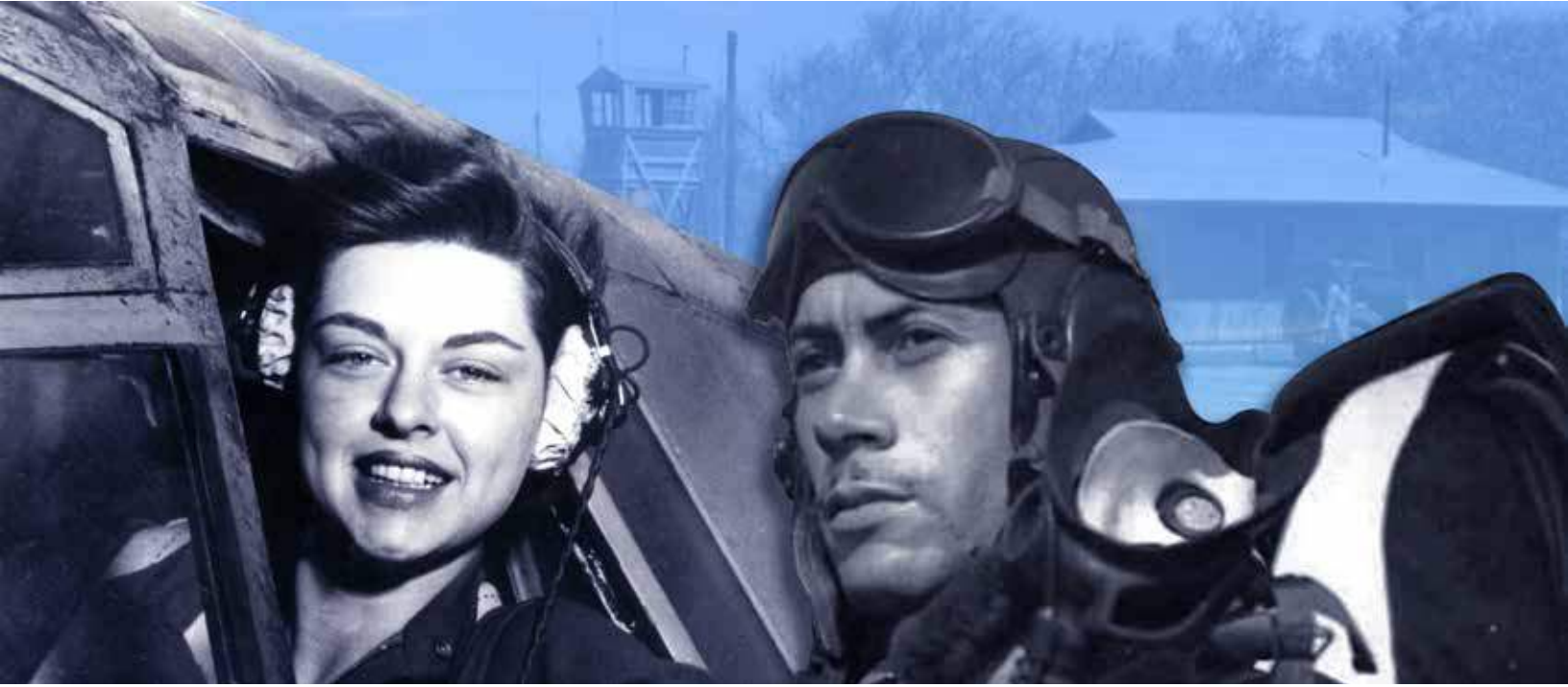
Class 44-W-3

Long Beach AAB, Long Beach, California. WAFS
Barbara Towne, Cornelia Fort, Evelyn Sharp, Barbara
Erickson and Bernice Batten

Photo courtesy Texas Women's University



WE NEED YOU!



Discipline. Dedication. Determination. More than 70 years ago, the Tuskegee Airmen and Women Airforce Service Pilots discovered that these qualities could help them overcome great adversity as they sought to serve their country in World War II. Now, because of your support, the lessons they learned can be passed on to our next generation.

Supporters like you have enabled us to bring the lessons of the Tuskegee Airmen and WASP out of the history books straight into the everyday lives of young people all over the country. Since the debut of the RISE ABOVE Traveling Exhibit® in July 2011, over 280,000 visitors have experienced the RISE ABOVE® program and 142,000 children have received a free inspirational dog tag featuring the Six Guiding Six Principles© – **Aim High, Believe In Yourself, Use Your Brain, Be Ready To Go, Never Quit, Expect to Win.**

We offer innovative resource materials for teachers, youth leaders, students and parents to help bring the lessons of the Tuskegee Airmen and WASP alive in the classroom and have distributed over 242,000 free downloadable RISE ABOVE Resource Kits and affordable supplemental resources.

Please help us ensure that their legacy is passed on to future generations, so that their strength of character, courage and ability to triumph over adversity may serve as a means to inspire others to RISE ABOVE obstacles in their own lives and achieve their goals!

Give [online](#), by calling 888-928-0188, or by mail at:

**CAF RISE ABOVE
971 Hallstrom Drive
Red Wing, MN 55066**

The CAF RISE ABOVE® is an educational outreach program of the [Commemorative Air Force](#), (CAF) a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your contribution is tax deductible less the value of the benefits given in return for your contribution noted above, if any. CAF FEIN # 74-1484491

Please mail correspondence or donations to our home office at:

CAF RISE ABOVE®
971 Hallstrom Drive
Red Wing, MN 55066



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[CAF RISE ABOVE: WASP](#) - Share the story of the Women Airforce Service Pilots in order to inspire others, especially girls and young women, to RISE ABOVE expectations and find a greater appreciation of their potential.



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[RISE ABOVE: WASP](#)



See us in action on YouTube

[RISE ABOVE: Red Tail](#)
[RISE ABOVE: WASP](#)



RISE ABOVE: Red Tail - Keep an eye on our blog and don't miss out on a single story

Find an archive of all our best articles, featuring closer looks at original Tuskegee Airmen, the P-51C Mustang *Tuskegee Airmen*, and many more in-depth stories in our blog. [Check it out!](#)



RISE ABOVE: Red Tail - Stay up to date in real time on Twitter

Join the conversation [@cafredtail on Twitter!](#) There's a lot going on here and you don't want to miss it. Want to help educate others about the history and legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen? Retweet to spread the word!