



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).

February 2023



Our 2023 season starts this month with our annual appearance in Tallahassee, Florida.

Longtime supporter Dr. AJ Brickler hosts us and brings out scores of young people from the area to expose them to the lessons and stories of the Tuskegee Airmen and WASP. Thank you Dr. Brickler!

The beginning of the season means it is time for our annual spring training. This year we teamed up with CAF Airbase Georgia for our pilot training.

Getting a bigger group together brings more discussion and a better training experience.

With the ground training completed we will begin the recurrent flight training in the weeks ahead to be ready for our [2023 schedule](#).

As always, we could not do this without the generosity of our many supporters and we thank you for that.

Tailwinds,
Doug Rozendaal
Squadron Leader



Photo courtesy Ken Mist



Job Title: Traveling Exhibit Ambassador
Department: CAF Rise Above Squadron

The Commemorative Air Force (CAF) Rise Above Squadron is seeking a full-time drive team member.

Job Summary:

The candidates will be representing the Commemorative Air Force Rise Above Squadron as a representative/ambassador on a nation-wide tour to tell the stories of the Tuskegee Airmen and the WASP, Women Airforce Service Pilots. The candidate will be part of a traveling road crew that will travel to airshows, educational events and other gatherings to set up, operate, and manage a one-of-a-kind mobile movie exhibit designed to engage and inspire the public.

Term:

- Annual contract position from March to November

Compensation:

- Competitive weekly salary
- Modest per diem
- Accommodations
- Company vehicle

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Drive cross country on a nationwide basis by car
- Setup and tear down exhibit at each event
- Operate the exhibit electronic display systems
- Manage merchandising and sales
- Interface with clients

Qualifications:

- Technologically proficient
- Minor accounting and banking knowledge
- Professional customer service

Requirements:

- Valid Drivers licence
- Good driving record
- Ability to Certificate to supervise at risk youth
- Ability to lift 30lbs
- Work flexible hours
- Stand for long periods
- Good natured
- Professional appearance and conduct

Additional skills and attributes:

- Patient/flexible
- Cool under pressure
- Good with children
- Personable & engaging
- On-time & reliable
- Honest & 150% trustworthy
- Willing to learn/take instruction
- Solid work ethic

The Commemorative Air Force is the world's largest WWII Flying Museum with over 175 WWII aircraft and 86 units in 28 states and 4 international locations. The CAF has a volunteer membership of approximately 12,000. Information concerning our organization can be obtained at www.commemorativeairforce.org.

The candidate must understand they are at all times, representing the brand of the Commemorative Air Force, and their actions while on tour require a professional attitude and behavior.

If interested and for more details email [Bill Shepard](mailto:Bill.Shepard@caf.org) or call 519-532-5613.



For students in 4th - 12th grade!

Deadline to submit your essay is February 6, 2023

[Click here for the guidelines and prize information!](#)

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 and the WASP.

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



NEWS WORTHY NEWS!

Julia Going, a high school junior in Wisconsin, produced the attached short film about the WASP. Her film won first place for the 2020 National History Day, at the state level. The theme was "[Breaking Barriers](#)".

Girl Scout Shelby Hoskins received the Girl Scout Gold Award, she had interviewed Dr. Harold Brown. She shared her personal statement of why receiving the Gold Award is important to her.

"Receiving the Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest honor for a Girl Scout. It's a huge accomplishment for me because it's proof that I'm doing something that will have a lasting impact. Not only is "[Veteran's Tales of War](#)" a way of preserving veteran's stories for future generations, it's also dedicated to my late grandfather, James W. Hoskins. He was a World War II Army Medic/Private who was stationed in Japan during the postwar era. Interviewing veterans, especially those who fought in WWII, allowed me to feel closer to him."



FEATURED TUSKEGEE AIRMEN PROFILE

America's Tribute to the Tuskegee Airmen

Dr. Harold Haywood Brown

August 19, 1924 – January 12, 2023

Class: 44-E-SE

Graduation Date: 5/23/1944

Service # 0830783

Unit: 99th Fighter Squadron of the 332nd Fighter Group

Lt. Col. Harold H. Brown, 98, of Catawba Island, Ohio, took his final flight in the skies and passed away peacefully on January 12, 2023.

Harold was born in Minneapolis, August 19, 1924, to John and Allie Brown. When he graduated from high school in 1942, he enlisted in the military with the goal of becoming a pilot, a dream of his since sixth grade. Brown went to the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama for training to become a Tuskegee Airman. At the age of 19 he graduated from the segregated pilot training program and was commissioned as an officer in the then U.S. Army Air Corps in 1944. During his time in combat, he completed missions strafing targets on the ground and protecting bombers in the air. On his 30th mission, he was shot down over Linz, Austria, and was forced to bail out of his badly damaged P-51 Mustang. He was taken as a prisoner of war.



After World War II, Harold returned to Tuskegee as a Flight Instructor. He was then transferred to Lockbourne AF Base in Columbus, Ohio. He later served in Japan during the Korean War.

Harold left active duty in 1965 at the rank of Lt. Colonel and turned his eyes to education. He received a degree in mathematics from Ohio University and continued on to earn a doctoral degree from The Ohio State University. Dr. Brown translated his love of aviation education to a love for engineering education. He took a position at Columbus Area Technical School, becoming Chair of the Electrical Engineering Program, and eventually retiring as Vice President of Academic Affairs at Columbus State Community College.

Dr. Brown and the other Tuskegee Airmen, through their superlative service during World War II, paved the way for desegregation of the military. In 2007 they were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in Washington, D.C.

To keep the story of the Tuskegee Airmen alive for the next generation, Harold and his wife, Dr. Marsha Bordner, published [***Keep Your Airspeed Up: The Story of a Tuskegee Airman***](#), in 2017.

In 2002 Dr. Brown was inducted into the [Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame](#).

[***Read his profile online!***](#)

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.

TUSKEGEE AIRMEN QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“We all hope to achieve those final goals that we all set for our lives. Sometimes we’re successful, but sometimes we aren’t. But in not achieving some of those goals, it doesn’t mean that we have failed, it means that we did not achieve that, but we were smart enough to learn from that failure, and we set different goals for ourselves.”

~Tuskegee Airman Dr. Harold H. Brown



2nd Lt Brown graduation photo



At Tuskegee in front of an AT-6





FEATURED WASP PROFILE

Jean Downey Harman

1924 – January 21, 2023

Class: 44-W-9

Graduated: November 8, 1944

Training Location: Avenger Field (Sweetwater, Tex.)

Assigned Bases: Marana Army Air Field (Ariz.)

Planes flown: PT-17 and BT-13

WASP Jean Downey Harman took her final flight in the skies and passed away peacefully on January 21, 2023.

Jean's introductory flight was from Douglas Airfield in West Los Angeles when she was only 7. She was hooked for life but being raised in the city of San Francisco was only able to dream about it until she got to the College of the Pacific in Stockton, California at age 16. It was Dec. of 1944 when Pearl Harbor occurred, and all civilian flying was curtailed within about 300 miles of the coast. The Civilian Pilot Training program that was one of Jean's college courses, continued the aviation ground school but the planes were moved to Nevada. She finished her AA in 1943 and moved to Nevada where she got her Private Pilot License in Yerington Nevada. Her stepfather financed that (but her mother never knew). Soon, she reached the eligible age of 18 and immediately applied for WASP training.

Accepted WASP entrants were already pilots, but the Army Air Force wanted us to fly the military way, and those who were accepted were required to go through the same flight training as the incoming inexperienced males entering the AAF.

According to Harman, men were not satisfied with women doing jobs that, until then, only men had done. "The men did not like it at all, the idea was that women did not belong in a man's job. The pilots were heroes, and big shots and women did not belong there, so it was very difficult." Despite this resistance from men, Harman said she would do it again in a heartbeat.

"We would pay to do it again, we would never have had [in civilian life] an opportunity to fly bigger planes, we flew everything that the military had." This included the fighter plane and the big bombers. "But we would have never had that opportunity in civilian life."

Harman is especially proud of graduating from pilot training. "Just graduating from the training, each class only graduated about 50%, so it was quite an accomplishment to get through; I was very proud of it."

[Read her profile online!](#)



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.

WASP QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"I was very interested in aviation. In those days, women did not fly as a profession but flew for fun; so ever since I was little, I wanted to fly."

WASP Jean Downey Harman, Class 44-W-9



Comprehensive new databases now online!!



The CAF Rise Above's three-fold educational outreach program brings the history and legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen and Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) to life in communities and classrooms everywhere.

One of our goals is to cultivate and provide a national repository of information, that is easy and free to access as a means to preserving that history and legacy for generations to come. Online we have extensive educational resources for students, teachers, youth leaders, parents and anyone looking to learn more and be inspired by these remarkable American trailblazers.

In the past 6 months LaVone Kay has collaborated with Dr. Daniel Haulman, PhD, retired Air Force historian, and Craig Huntly, Tuskegee Airmen Subject Matter Expert, to develop a comprehensive database of Tuskegee Airmen Killed in Service, Killed in Action, or Missing in Action.

[Click here to view the database.](#)

For the WASP portion of the project, she collaborated with Andy Hailey, son of WASP Lois B. Hailey, Class 43-W-3.

[Click here to view the database.](#)

What the Tuskegee Airmen and WASP had in common – and what made them ultimately succeed – was the ability to recognize that all of the obstacles they faced could be overcome with hard work and dedication. The timeless lessons they teach us about perseverance and courage are just as applicable today as they were in the 1940s.

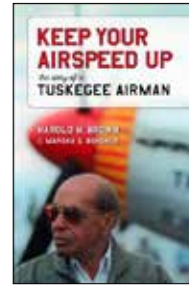
We appreciate any feedback and are always looking for items to share in the [Red Tail Virtual Museum](#), [WASP Virtual Museum](#), or stories to share in [Tuskegee Airmen Profiles](#) and [WASP profiles](#).

Please contact LaVone Kay at (888) 928-0188 or email info@cafriseabove.org

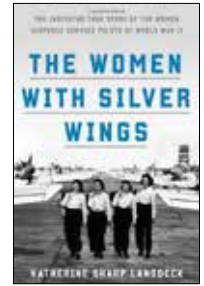
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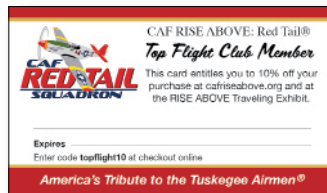
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For \$99 you can join the exclusive ranks of the Top Flight Club!

There's no better way to support our mission to educate, inspire, and honor through flight and living history experiences than by joining a Top Flight Club!



Why 99? *(for each membership)*

[Join RISE ABOVE: RED TAIL](#)

The 99th was originally formed as the U.S. Army Air Forces' first African American fighter squadron, then known as the 99th Pursuit Squadron. The personnel received their initial flight training at Tuskegee, Alabama earning them the nickname Tuskegee Airmen.

[Join RISE ABOVE: WASP](#)

The Ninety-Nines was founded November 2, 1929, at Curtiss Field, Valley Stream, Long Island, New York. All 117 women pilots at the time were invited to assemble in mutual support of the advancement of women in aviation. In 1942 members of the Ninety-Nines were asked to join the Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASP) class of 43-W-1 in Houston, Texas.



Please help us ensure that the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen and WASP 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!

WAYS TO GIVE

- Does your employer have a matching gift program? Your donation to the CAF Rise Above may be able to be doubled or tripled. Ask your employer for details.
- Include the CAF Rise Above as a beneficiary in your will
- Name the CAF Rise Above as a beneficiary of a gift that pays you income (a remainder trust or gift annuity)
- Name the CAF Rise Above as the beneficiary of your investment portfolio or retirement account (IRA, Roth IRA, 401K, etc.)
- Leave a gift of real estate to the CAF Rise Above
- Name the CAF Rise Above as the owner and/or beneficiary of your life insurance policy

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

CAF RISE ABOVE
PO Box 416
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®
PO Box 416
Red Wing, MN 55066



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[CAF RISE ABOVE: Red Tail](#) - Share 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.

[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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See us in action on YouTube



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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!](#)

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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!