



THE NATIONAL WASP WWII MUSEUM PRESENTS

WASP HOMECOMING

★ 80TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION ★

Weekend Highlights

What a wonderful time we had with you April 29 – 30 at our Homecoming Celebration and Fly-in. Going into this event, we re-examined its name – Homecoming. Twenty years ago, this name was chosen because, much like a graduated high school class, we were inviting WASP to come back to their home field at Avenger and celebrate the pride and joy of winning. Except this touchdown event did not involve a football. It involved garnering silver wings for themselves and all the women who would earn their wings for the next 80 years. What a wonderful reason to come home!

This year, WASP Shirley Kruse came home to Avenger Field and was greeted like the hometown hero she truly is. Shirley was busy all day generously giving her time and affection to WASP families, aspiring pilots, reporters, and curious children. She had so much fun, she was the last woman standing at the party. Shirley called the Museum after returning home to let the team know that, “This was the best Homecoming I have ever been to.”

The Museum has been asked many times this year if its Homecoming tradition will continue. Absolutely. As this year proved, there are WASP who surprise us and manage to come here occasionally. Ultimately, Homecoming will continue with WASP families and legacy pilots coming home to infamous Avenger Field – the field where 1,074 female pilots flew through the glass ceiling and won a place for all women in aviation, regardless of race or ethnicity.

We had also hoped to raise \$150,000 for new WASP exhibits in Hangar 2. I am elated to report that you all collectively gave \$161,000. Thank you! We are raising this money to give the Women Airforce Service Pilots of WWII the first-class Museum they have earned. We also raise money to use the WASP platform to inspire

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young women to join aviation through camps, mentorship, and scholarships.

From the bottom of my heart to yours, thank you so much for coming. Please read on for Homecoming stats and some great pictures.

See you next year, April 27-29!

Wishing you blue skies,

Lisa Taylor

Lisa Taylor

✉ lisataylor@waspmuseum.org

A special thank you to the Womens Vintage Society of Dallas for being our candy girls at the Birthday Bash Ball!



Birthday Bash Ball Photos

VISIT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE TO DOWNLOAD YOUR PICTURES OR CLICK ON THE LINK ON THE AVENGER NEWS PAGE ON OUR WEBSITE

<https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjzMJwz>



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1 WASP
*Shirley J.
Chase
Kruse
44-W-6*



3 BIRTHDAYS
*- The WASP
- Shirley J.
Chase Kruse
44-W-6
- Sandra Spears
(WASP Board
Member)*



**7 AVIATION
GROUPS**

- United States Air Force
- CAF
- Chick Fighter Pilots Association
- Sisters of the Skies
- Commercial Pilots
- Private Pilots
- Re-enactors



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7 AUTHORS



50 AIRCRAFT
Abundant smiles and rides given



51 WASP FAMILIES VISITED
Countless mom stories



2,000 ENTHUSIASTS

coming together in celebration and honor of the WASP

\$161,000 RAISED FOR MUSEUM EXPANSION

Dedicated for the newest installation of exhibits in hangar 2.

Thank you for helping us reach our goal!

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Thank You

WASP HOMECOMING

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Share your memories! #WASP80TH #AVENGERFIELD80

