



Badger Honor Flight

Serving Those Who Served for US

www.badgerhonorflight.org

WHEELCHAIR MISSION - ACCOMPLISHED

At the heart of the Badger Honor Flight network, a fleet of wheelchairs has become the unsung hero, ensuring that World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, and terminally ill Veterans get to witness the monuments erected in their honor. These wheelchairs, now retired after a decade of service, make way for a new battalion, purchased from Medline in Illinois, each playing a crucial role in the mission.

Late last year, Phil Ingwell accepted the monumental task of replacing the old fleet. With his connections and commitment, he brought forth a community rallying together. The goal of raising \$20,000 seemed ambitious, but within a mere three weeks, the community not only met but exceeded the target. Thirty families and businesses in the community united, recognizing the importance of ensuring the continued support for our Veterans.

The new fleet of 80 wheelchairs, made its debut at Guardian training where guardians were trained on this essential equipment to seamlessly aid Veterans during their mission. On flight day, a supply of wheelchairs will be strategically stationed outside the airport, eagerly awaiting the arrival of Veterans. From airport terminals to aircraft cabins, and even tucked under buses, these wheelchairs become the lifeline for our heroes.

The legacy of the retired wheelchairs, with over a decade of faithful service – loaded and unloaded nearly 300 times from planes and buses – extends beyond flight lines. The old fleet will continue to serve others, with contributions reaching West Africa, Honduras, Columbus, WI, and Oregon, WI, benefiting various communities.

For Badger Honor Flight, a wheelchair down is considered a "man down," emphasizing the critical role each chair plays in the mission. In this silent procession, the wheels of honor continue to roll, ensuring every Veteran has the opportunity to witness the memorials standing tall in their honor.

Badger Honor Flight expresses profound gratitude for the generous contributions from our dedicated supporters.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are currently in need of volunteers in the following roles:

- *Medical Team Members*
- *Admin Support*
- *IT Management*
- *Newsletter Team*
- *Photo Storage and Photo Sharing Site Maintenance Team*

BADGER HONOR FLIGHT T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST!

Unleash Your Creativity! We are thrilled to announce an exciting opportunity for you to showcase your artistic talents and contribute to the spirit of Badger Honor Flight! We are calling on all creative minds to submit their unique designs for a brand-new t-shirt that will be featured at our Welcome Home events.

Send your design to inventory@badgerhonorflight.org by March 29th*.

All designs will undergo board review, and voting happens at the April Volunteer Meeting. Be present to vote!

Please adhere to the minimal requirements:

- Include the "Badger Honor Flight" name.
- Must include the Year.
- Include "Serving Those Who Served for Us"
- Limit to 2-3 Colors
- No Weapons



Last year's design, for reference.

**Note: Submissions become BHF property. Designers grant permission for BHF use. One design per person. For additional information, contact Dawn at inventory@badgerhonorflight.org*

Your design could be our next iconic volunteer shirt!

MONTH IN REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS FUNDRAISING EVENTS

2024 Spring flight dates were announced; mark your calendars!

Mission 52 – Saturday, April 6

Mission 53 – Saturday, May 11

Mission 54 – Saturday, June 1

23 MAR · SAT - Rude's Lanes Bowling Fundraiser (DeForest)

26 MAR · TUES - Culver's - Make Your Meal Matter (Sauk City)

13 APR · SAT - Barstool Open (Madison)

20 MAY · MON - Bergamont Golf Outing (Oregon)

24-26 MAY - Brat Fest (Madison)

02 JUN · SUN - Monroe Moose Lodge Breakfast (Monroe)

BOARD MEMBER CONTACT INFORMATION

- Chairperson of the Board: Brian Ziegler chairperson@badgerhonorflight.org
- Administration: Eileen Stevens administration@badgerhonorflight.org
- Flight Operations: Jody McClain flightoperations@badgerhonorflight.org
- Inventory: Dawn Splittgerber inventory@badgerhonorflight.org
- Medical Support: Anthony Corso medical@badgerhonorflight.org
- Secretary / Historian: Becki Clark secretary@badgerhonorflight.org
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