

A-26 "Lady Liberty"



Fewer and fewer warbirds on the airshow circuit can claim actual combat experience in WWII, as most were built too late to take part in that pivotal conflict, but the A-26 *Lady Liberty* is one of the few. With such an historic aircraft, the Lady Liberty Squadron can significantly bolster your airshow lineup with a full spectrum of attractions for your patrons. As a static, we offer the opportunity for spectators to see the outside *and* inside of an authentic WWII combat aircraft, with crewmembers answering questions and giving access to the gunner's compartment, bomb bay, and cockpit. Additionally, our unique "bomb train" provides entertainment for the children, in the form of a short ride around the flightline. We never charge spectators for giving aircraft tours or bomb train rides, although donations are happily accepted. With an all-volunteer unit composed mostly of veterans (also becoming a rarity), we pride ourselves on our customer service and flexibility, and will do everything in our capacity to meet your specific objectives. We normally travel with 6-8 crew to fully staff the aircraft and bomb train and interface with the spectators during your show.

Static Display

Epitomizing the apex of WWII technology, A-26s are rare, with only a handful still airworthy in the US. Of those, Lady Liberty is the oldest still flying, and one of the very few that was never modified into a corporate transport; she retains operational bomb bay doors. Your spectators are welcome to duck under the fuselage and stand under the aircraft in the open bomb bay with clear view of the gunner's compartment, where crew members will be present to talk about the historic significance of the aircraft,



and what it was like to employ them in WWII. We will also have a ladder available so spectators can look into the cockpit. We never charge the spectators for the aircraft tours. Additionally, we'll have several crewmembers stationed around the outside of the aircraft to interface with

the crowd. The sight of the sleek, gloss-black attack bomber is an attention-getter on every flightline; the spectators never have a lack of questions.

The Bomb Train

Unique to Lady Liberty, our “Bomb Train” consists of actual 500-lb practice bombs that have been modified with seats and chassis. It is always a huge hit with families, providing small children with free entertainment. Safety is always our primary concern, and we are happy to work with your event to determine the best course for our bomb train and to work within any constraints you may have. We request that your event provide a suitable tow vehicle such as an ATV or golf cart, which we will be happy to staff during the show. History has shown that gas-powered vehicles work best. Although a vehicle with a 2” receiver is ideal, we always carry a universal hitch that will clamp on to the bumper of most vehicles. Please let us know what you plan to use for a tow vehicle and we will do our best to ensure compatibility.



The unique history of Lady Liberty

A-26B Invader, USAAF serial number 41-39230, rolled out of the Douglas Aircraft, Long Beach, CA factory on 23 August 1944. In September of 1944 she was flown to France and assigned to Ninth Air Force, 410th Bomb Group, where she served the remainder of the war. She returned to the US in August 1945 and was placed into storage. In October 1954 she was assigned to the USAF Reserve, serving first at Dobbins AFB, GA, and then Scott AFB, IL. She was dropped from the US Air Force inventory in October 1957 and transferred to civilian ownership, being issued the civilian tail number N9682C. After a brief period of private ownership, she was purchased by an electronics company in Dallas, TX, and used as an avionics test platform from 1963-1966. She was eventually purchased by D&D Aero Spraying in Rantoul, KS, and used as a fire bomber from 1969-1980, carrying the designation Tanker 105. She was subsequently purchased and donated to the Commemorative Air Force in 1988 and began an eight-year restoration. First flown by a CAF unit in North Las Vegas and then Oklahoma City, she came to her present home of Enid, OK, in June of 2012 and is operated by the Lady Liberty Squadron. One of the last of her kind, in 2020 she flew over the White House as part of the 4th of July festivities in Washington, D.C.

