



**Phaedra Childers**  
Event Coordinator

4747-C Hamilton Road  
Columbus, GA 31904

O - 706-243-8954  
M - 706-442-7595

[PChilders@ThunderintheValleyAirShow.com](mailto:PChilders@ThunderintheValleyAirShow.com)

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**Thunder in the Valley Air Show Invites Public to “Give the Fun Way from the Runway”**  
*Performers include popular favorites and new-to-the-Valley additions*

**Columbus, Ga., January 28, 2013** – Thunder in the Valley Air Show today announced it has finalized the majority of its acts and displays for 2013, the sixteenth anniversary of the event. The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Thunder in the Valley Air Show will be Saturday, March 16 and Sunday, March 17, 2013 at the Columbus Airport, and this year it will more clearly make its connection to area youth organizations.

“The mission of the Air Show is to raise funds for youth organizations throughout the Chattahoochee Valley,” says Phaedra Childers, Event Coordinator. “This year, our goal is to bring more people inside the gate by offering a greater value through a longer, more diverse show, and as a result, improve on the \$48,500 we were able to donate to children’s charities in 2012.”

The 2013 Thunder in the Valley Air Show will welcome:

- [Viper Air Shows](#) – Breathtaking aerobatics, motorcycle stunts and a chest-shaking jet vehicle
- [Raiders Demo Team](#) – Precision four- to six-plane formations in Yakovlev 52 and Nanchang CJ6 aircraft
- [Jane Wicker Wing Walker](#) – Jane brings beauty and grace to a thrilling performance OUTSIDE the aircraft
- [VFA-106 F-18 Navy TAC Demo](#) – An awesome demonstration of our nation’s top Navy fighter jets
- [Greg Koontz’ “Alabama Boys” Comedy Act](#) – Airplanes, trucks, and a fun-for-all ruckus
- [Disabled American Veterans B-25](#) – An iconic aircraft with a team that promotes service and volunteerism
- Hixson Flight Museum
- U. S. Army Silver Wings Parachute Team
- Southern Cruisers Riding Club
- Plus flying demonstrations by current and historic military aircraft, civilian and military aircraft and vehicles on display, airplane and helicopter rides, a children’s carnival, great food, and much more.

**Give the Fun Way from the Runway...**

“Because all proceeds go to area children’s charities, and those proceeds are primarily a result of ticket sales, we are working very hard to encourage those who watch from outside to buy tickets in advance and come inside the gate,” Childers explained. “It really is a completely different experience on the flightline.”

To provide greater incentive to buy a ticket and come in, the 2013 Thunder in the Valley Air Show is longer – more than three hours of acts and a day’s worth of exhibits to explore – and there are more varieties of food and snacks than ever before. The incentive to purchase tickets in advance is a \$5 discount for advance-purchased general admission tickets this year, versus only \$2 off in previous years.

General admission is \$10 in advance and military admission is only \$8 in advance. Day-of-event tickets are only \$15 (civilian and military) with Scouts in uniform (Troop Leaders and Scouts) and children age six and younger free. Tickets go on sale online as well as through local outlets\* February 1. Gates will open at 10 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. on both Saturday, March 16 and Sunday, March 17. (All advance tickets are cash only, except online purchases.)

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\*Ticket Outlets:

- Columbus-area McDonald's
- Cricket Communications
- MWR Tickets and Travel (exclusive outlet for Military advanced ticket sales)
- Flightways Columbus and Skyline Columbus (at the Columbus Airport)
- Off Price Furniture
- Ace Hardware - St. Marys Road
- Chattahoochee Council, Boy Scout of America - Main Office (1237 1st Avenue)

About the Thunder in the Valley Air Show:

The Thunder in the Valley Air Show began in 1997 as a local fly-in for aviation enthusiasts and has grown to become one of the largest outdoor family events in the Chattahoochee Valley, thanks to the efforts of more than 600 dedicated volunteers – both groups and individuals. The air show brings in top performers from across the United States, all paid for by local and regional sponsors whose products and services are exposed to an average of 12,000 guests each day of the show, and included in advertising that reaches hundreds of thousands before the event. National attention has been given to the Thunder in the Valley Air Show by the International Council of Air Shows for excellence in marketing. The Thunder in the Valley Air Show is a fun, family event with proceeds going to youth organizations in the Chattahoochee Valley. For more information on the event or how you can become a sponsor, visit [www.thunderinthevalleyairshow.com](http://www.thunderinthevalleyairshow.com).

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