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Thunder in the Valley Air Show Only Slightly Impacted by Sequestration

Some Static Displays Canceled; Aerial Performers Still Scheduled

Columbus, Ga., March 8, 2013 – Thunder in the Valley Air Show, like many air shows featuring military acts and static displays, will be impacted by the effects of the mandatory budget cuts in Washington, DC known as “the Sequester.”

“We have received notice from the Army that they will be unable to provide static displays of their helicopters, armor and infantry vehicles,” said Phaedra Childers, Event Coordinator. “They Navy also notified us they will have to cancel static displays of its P-3 Orion and E-2C Hawkeye aircraft.”

Flying Demonstrations Unaffected...

The 16th Annual Thunder in the Valley Air Show, scheduled for Saturday, March 16 and Sunday, March 17, 2013 at the Columbus Airport, will still have nearly four hours of continuous performances.

“The Navy’s VFA-106 has confirmed they are still coming with their awesome F-18 TAC Demo team, and the Army’s incredible Silver Wings Parachute Team will still open the show both days,” Childers clarified. “In all there will still be slightly more than 240 minutes of performances.”

Acts and attractions still scheduled include:

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 historic military aircraft, airplane and helicopter rides, a children’s carnival, great food, and much more.

Early Weather Forecasts are Good...

“The long-range forecast calls for sunny weather both days of the show, with low winds and high temperatures in the upper 60s. It’s a great opportunity for guests who purchase tickets in advance to save \$5 per ticket,” Childers noted. “Every ticket sold helps support local children’s charities. That’s why we say ‘Give the fun way from the runway.’”

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 are on sale online as well as through local outlets* throughout the Chattahoochee Valley. Gates will open at 10 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. on both Saturday, March 16 and Sunday, March 17. (Advance tickets are cash only, except online purchases.)

*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.