



Phaedra Childers
Event Coordinator

4747-C Hamilton Road
Columbus, GA 31904

O - 706-393-3000
M - 706-442-7595

PChilders@ThunderintheValleyAirShow.com

Thunder in the Valley Air Show Celebrates 15th Anniversary with “Xtreme Thunder”
Exciting Mix of Aerobatic and Military Aircraft, Static and Participatory Displays

Columbus, Ga., January 10, 2012 – Thunder in the Valley Air Show today announced it has finalized the majority of its acts and displays for 2012, all chosen specifically for how they will work with the milestone fifteenth anniversary of the event. The 15th Annual Thunder in the Valley Air Show, themed as “Xtreme Thunder,” will be Saturday, March 17 and Sunday, March 18, 2012 at the Columbus Airport.

“The mission of the Air Show is to raise funds for youth organizations throughout the Chattahoochee Valley,” says Phaedra Childers, Event Coordinator. “For our fifteenth year, our goal is to bring in acts that reflect favorites from all 15 years as well as exciting new acts that demonstrate how we’ve improved since 1997, and as a result, improve on the \$48,500 we were able to donate to children’s charities in 2011.”

The 2012 Thunder in the Valley Air Show will welcome:

- Team RV – The largest aerobatic formation team in the world
- Gary Ward in his MX2
- Greg Connell in his radial powered Pitts Model 12
- Mark Sorenson Airborne Comedy
- F-18 Demonstration Team
- V-22 Osprey Demonstration Team
- Naval Aviation Legacy Flight
- Sky Soldiers Helicopter Demonstration Team
- Glory Days Jet Dragster
- Stearman Group
- Plus flying demonstrations by current and historic military aircraft, civilian and military aircraft and vehicles on display, airplane and helicopter rides, a military encampment experience, hands-on weapons simulators, a children’s carnival and great food.

The line-up of performers and static displays falls into several “Xtreme” categories, according to 2012 Marketing Chair, Ernie Kelly.

“We’re building on the Roman numerals XV for our fifteenth anniversary,” Kelly says. “We’ll have ‘Xtreme Visual’ acts such as Team RV, Gary Ward, and Greg Connell; ‘Xtreme Vertical’ is the norm for Sky Soldiers in their helicopters, the V-22 Osprey, and the skydive team; ‘Xtreme Velocity’ will come from current and historic military aircraft, the Glory Days jet dragster and from an F-18 fly-by; and the decibel level will provide ‘Xtreme Volume.’”

Kelly quickly added another “XV” for ticket prices. “This year’s show is an ‘Xtreme Value’ because ticket prices remain the same as they have for the past several years.” General admission is \$8 in advance and military admission is only \$6 in advance. Day-of-event tickets are only \$2 more and children age six and younger are always free.” Tickets will be available online as well as through local outlets to be announced closer to the show. Gates will open at 10 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. on both Saturday, March 17 and Sunday, March 18.

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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 15,000 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.

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