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Thunder in the Valley Air Show Tickets Available

Tickets may be purchased online and at several additional merchant locations

Columbus, Ga., February 16, 2017 – Thunder in the Valley Air Show is celebrating “20 Years of Thunder” at the Columbus Airport on April 8 - 9, with tickets now available for purchase online and at a variety of local retail outlets.

Advance tickets are \$10 per person, per day, at the following locations:

- Columbus-area McDonald’s
- Flightways Columbus (Columbus Airport)
- Ace Hardware (3863 St. Marys Road)
- Bruster’s Real Ice Cream (1654 Whittlesey Road, 7590 Schomburg Road and 3465 Macon Road)
- Wingstop (2528 Weems Road)

Advance tickets may also be purchased online at www.thunderinthevalleyairshow.com. A \$1.50 service fee will be applied to each online ticket purchase. Military personnel may purchase advance tickets for \$8 apiece at Fort Benning’s MWR Tickets and Travel. All tickets are \$15 per person on the day of the show. Children ages 6 and younger receive free admission.

Ticket buyers will enjoy a variety of military, modern and vintage aircraft, including **Skip Stewart**, performing gravity-defying maneuvers in a modified Pitts S2S biplane; **Matt Younkin**, flying one of the most graceful and unusual acts in his Beech 18; **Gary Ward**, taking his MX2 through a sequence jam-packed with breathtaking dives and turns; **Greg Koontz**, a comedy act featuring the wayward farmer “Clem Cleaver” in a Piper J-3 Cub; and **Chris Darnell’s Shockwave Jet Truck**, an all-out sensory assault of flames, smoke, heat and noise at speeds of more than 350 mph.

The **U.S. Army Silver Wings Demonstration Team** will open the air show each day by delivering the American flag. Spectators can enjoy a taste of WW II history and modern-day aviation when two fighters, a **USAF F-16** and a **Redtail Squadron P-51**, perform a formation flyover. A **USAF F-35** from Eglin AFB will provide a thrilling flyover showcasing the aircraft’s speed and agility.

Other modern day military displays include, a **Grumman Northrop F-5N**, a single-seat, tactical fighter and attack aircraft; a **Lockheed C-130 Hercules**, known as the “workhorse” of the U.S. Air Force; and a **Lockheed P-3 Orion**, the ultimate maritime patrol.

Thunder in the Valley Air Show will also include an array of engaging ground attractions, including the “**Rise Above Traveling Exhibit**,” a mobile theater that educates and inspires people of all ages with the history of the Tuskegee Airmen; the **Big Air Insanity FMX Team**, showcasing some of the top freestyle motocross riders in the world; **Precision Extreme Drive**, which allows guests to experience what it’s like to push a Ferrari F430 or Lamborghini Gallardo Spyder past the 160 mph barrier on an airport runway; a **Kids Carnival**; and helicopter and airplane rides.

New this year, the Thunder in the Valley Air Show offers a mobile app. Download it from the Apple Store or Google Play and use it as your on-the-go guide throughout the air show.

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“The planning committee looks forward to presenting the 20th Thunder in the Valley Air Show to the Chattahoochee Valley”, said Phaedra Childers, Event Coordinator. “The committee has planned for this year’s air show for nearly two years. They did a great job of securing headliners from the past, and working closely with the military for our “20 Years of Thunder” celebration. The Thunder in the Valley Air Show continues to be one of the best supported events in the Chattahoochee Valley; for which we are very grateful.”

Ticket Information

Online tickets may be ordered from the **Thunder in the Valley Air Show website** (<http://www.thunderinthevalleyairshow.com>).

Local ticket outlets accept cash only. Ticket prices are \$8 Military Discount (sold only through MWR Tickets and Travel at Fort Benning), \$10 Advance Discount and \$15 Day of Event. Children ages 6 and younger are always free. Each ticket is valid only for one of the two show days – to attend both days requires two tickets – and there are no rain dates or refunds.

Online advance tickets will be available until 11:59 p.m. on Friday, April 7. Retail locations will offer advance tickets until close of business on Friday, April 7. Only \$15 Day of Event tickets will be sold after that.

Gates will open at 10 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. on both Saturday, April 8 and Sunday, April 9.

It takes more than a few drops of rain to stop the Thunder in the Valley Air Show! The Thunder in the Valley Air Show will take place – weather permitting – both Saturday and Sunday. Air show performers have high, low and flat routines to adapt to varying weather conditions. Schedules may be altered, delayed for periods of time or canceled if heavy rainfall occurs.

All acts are scheduled to appear.

About 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 300 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 10,000 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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