



Public Relations / Strategic Planning / Marketing Communications

For Immediate Release

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PRECISION AEROBATICS BRING THRILLS TO CONCORD AIRSHOW

(Concord, NH) -- A crowd of nearly ten thousand is expected to join in the excitement at this year's Concord Airshow, scheduled for Saturday, June 25th, according to Joe Alosa, chairman of the Concord Aviation Day Committee.

"If the weather cooperates, this should be our biggest and most spectacular airshow ever," Alosa said. "We've put together a fast-paced day of activities – a show the whole family can enjoy, and with admission just \$2 for adults – kids get in free – it's a great bargain, too."

Alosa said the show will feature experimental and ultralight aircraft, in addition to aerobatics, skydiving, vintage warplanes, and military jet such as the A-10 Thunderbolt and F-106.

Sponsored by the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce, the airshow will begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue until 4:00 p.m. The airport is located on Airport Road, Concord.

Making their first appearance this year are precision aerobatic pilots Dennis Sawyer and Steve Skupien. Sawyer is a National Advanced Champion and will fly his homebuilt 180-

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horsepower Pitts Special through a demanding sequence of precision aerobatic maneuvers. His specialty is the “Lomchavuk,” a violent maneuver in which the Pitts soars straight up, stalls, and then tumbles earthward end-over end.

Joining Sawyer is Steve Skupien, who will pilot a homebuilt Christen Eagle II. A two-place, 200-horsepower biplane, the Eagle is one of the most sophisticated aerobatic aircraft on the airshow circuit. With entry speeds of up to 200 mpg, Skupien will lead Sawyer’s plane through numerous tight formation maneuvers, in addition to flying a solo aerobatic routine.

Also making their first appearance at the Concord Airshow are Dick Durkee of South Berwick, Maine, who will perform aerobatics in an ultralight aircraft, and Ed Stead, owner of Stead Aviation, Manchester, who will make several high-speed passes in a rare British Vampire jet.

As part of this year’s focus on experimental aircraft, six futuristic aircraft known as VariEzes will also be on hand and will demonstrate their exceptional maneuverability and speed. Built with a combination of foam, fiberglass, and epoxy and using a rear-mounted engine, the VariEze looks more like a Star Wars spaceship than a conventional airplane. Other experimental aircraft will also be on display, courtesy of Chapter 336 of the Experimental Aircraft Association.

Two crowd pleasing acts from previous shows are also returning to Concord. Making their sixth appearance will be 16 members of “Skies Unlimited,” a precision skydiving team led by Ray Germain of Pelham. Also returning is Bob Weymouth, the original “Flying Farmer.” In his J-3 Piper Cub, Weymouth’s hilarious antics seem to defy the laws of both gravity and common sense.

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A Weather Service display, an open house at Concord's Flight Service Station, helicopter demonstrations, radio controlled model airplanes, films, in-door displays by aviation-related companies, and airplane rides will round out this year's schedule of events.

For more information, call the Concord Chamber of Commerce at 224-2508.

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