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A Sentimental Journey: Historical WWII Aircraft at 2015 Air Show

Air Show Features B-25 Mitchell Bomber and P-51 Mustang

CLEVELAND, OH (August 3, 2015)— The 2015 Cleveland National Air Show presented by Discount Drug Mart takes a sentimental journey with WWII B-25 Mitchell Bomber “Georgie’s Gal” and WWII Red Tail P-51 Mustang on Labor Day Weekend (Sept. 5, 6 & 7) at Burke Lakefront Airport in downtown Cleveland.

The North American B-25 Mitchell is an American twin-engined, medium bomber manufactured by North American Aviation. It was used by many Allied air forces, in every theater of World War II, although the majority of B-25s in American service were used in the Pacific. The B-25 was named in honor of General Billy Mitchell, a pioneer of U.S. military aviation. Georgie’s Gal started her life at a manufacturing plant in Kansas City, being accepted into service in 1945. She has been bought and sold numerous times since being decommissioned and entering civilian service. Liberty Aviation Museum in Port Clinton, Ohio purchased the plane in 2011 and has lovingly completed extensive mechanical and cosmetic restorations to the aircraft.

The Commemorative Air Force (CAF) Red Tail Squadron will share the inspiring history and legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen – America’s first African American military pilots and their support crews. The CAF Red Tail Squadron has restored and flies a rare P-51C model Mustang fighter such as flown by the Tuskegee Airmen from 1943 to 1945.

The CAF *RISE ABOVE Traveling Exhibit* will also be on the air show grounds. The state of the art exhibit is a fully functional movie theater housed in a 53’ semi-trailer. Visitors will be immersed as they soar above the clouds in a P-51C Mustang watching the original film, “RISE ABOVE” on a 160-degree panoramic screen. The *RISE ABOVE Traveling Exhibit* highlights the courage and determination of the Tuskegee Airmen, who overcame obstacles to train and fight as U.S. Army Air Corps pilots, and what it means 60 years later.

Headlining this year’s show are the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds. They will be joined by the U.S. Marine Corps Harrier and U.S. Navy Super Hornet tactical demonstrations as well as the U.S. Army Golden Knights. Also appearing are aerobatic legends Sean D. Tucker and Rob Holland. Inside the gates spectators will experience the 300 mph Shockwave Jet Truck and pyrotechnics with a Wall of Fire. Fans can tour unique aircraft, help pack a parachute, meet a pilot and explore aviation first hand.

Advance General Admission tickets are \$21 for adults, \$14 for children ages 6-11 (\$2 more at the gate) and free for children 5 and younger. Popular seating including Reserved Box Seats and Barnstormer Club offer a variety of amenities. For more information, please visit www.clevelandairshow.com or call (216) 781-0747.

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Advance General Admission Tickets are also available at local Discount Drug Mart stores.

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The Cleveland National Air Show has been Northeast Ohio's Labor Day Weekend Tradition since 1964, attracting 60,000 to 100,000 visitors to Burke Lakefront Airport and making it one of the region's largest annual events. It is produced by Cleveland National Air Show, Inc. a 501(c)(4) not-for-profit Ohio corporation that relies on sponsorship and community support to offset the costs of producing the event. The Air Show has an annual economic impact of \$7.1 million+ on the City of Cleveland.