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2019 Air Show to Showcase Electrifying USAF A-10 and USN F/A-18 Tactical Demonstrations

Northeast Ohio Crew Members Touch Down in Cleveland Labor Day Weekend

CLEVELAND, OH (May 17, 2019) – The Cleveland National Air Show presented by Discount Drug Mart will showcase tactical demonstrations by both the U.S. Air Force A-10C Thunderbolt II and U.S. Navy F/A-18F Super Hornet on Labor Day Weekend (August 31, September 1 & 2) at Burke Lakefront Airport. As an added perk, each demonstration team boasts a crew member from Northeast Ohio.

The A-10C Thunderbolt II is the first U.S. Air Force aircraft designed for close air support of ground forces. The demonstration profile will include combat maneuvers of constant changes in airspeed, altitude, heading, and bank angle. The A-10 Thunderbolt II is nicknamed the Warthog (or “Hog”) and the A-10C Demonstration Team is based at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Arizona.

MSgt Derek Allen serves as the Superintendent of the U.S. Air Force A-10C Demonstration Team and is responsible for all air show coordination plus aircraft maintenance. MSgt Allen was born in Akron, Ohio and graduated from Archbishop Hoban High School in 2004. He has served in the U.S. Air Force for 15 years.

The U.S. Navy's F/A-18F Super Hornet is an all-weather strike fighter aircraft that performs fighter escort, fleet air defense, force projection, interdiction, and close air support. The high energy demonstration will put the Super Hornet (nicknamed the “Rhino”) through its paces. The U.S. Navy East Coast F/A-18F Super Hornet Tactical Demonstration Team will come from Strike Fighter Squadron 106 (VFA 106), also known as the “Gladiators” based at Naval Air Station Oceana, Virginia.

LT Jeff “Pwe” Mayer is one of the Super Hornet Demonstration Pilots and a native of Vermillion, Ohio. He graduated from Case Western Reserve University and Baldwin Wallace University in 2009. LT Mayer has accumulated over 1,400 flight hours and 190 carrier arrested landings.

Headlining this year’s show are the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds. They will be joined by the U.S. Air Force F-35 Tactical Demonstration, U.S. Army Golden Knights parachute team, world famous GEICO Skytypers and more. 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. The 2019 Air Show is also part of the Grunt Style Air Show Majors tour uniting the most prestigious air shows in the country.

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Advance General Admission tickets are \$23 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, Barnstormer Club and Flight Deck Loge, offer a variety of amenities. For more information, please visit www.clevelandairshow.com or call (216) 781-0747. Advance General Admission Tickets will be available at local Discount Drug Mart stores starting August 1, 2019.

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. For more information, please visit www.clevelandairshow.com or call (216) 781-0747.

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