

# AEDC and Tri-chamber Coalition Centennial of Flight Air Show



Navy Lt. Tim Tippet flew this F/A-18 Hornet. The Tullahoma native is based out of the Naval Air Station at Oceana, Va. (Photo by Gary Barton)



Tullahoma Postmaster Hubert Perry, left, and post office supervisor of delivery services Ron Corley stand with AEDC Commander Col. David Eichhorn before a replica of the 1903 Wright Flyer during the Centennial of Flight stamp unveiling. (Photo by Claude Morse)



Two World War II-era aircraft, P-51 Mustang, top, and P-47 Thunderbolt fly at the event. (Photo by Gary Barton)



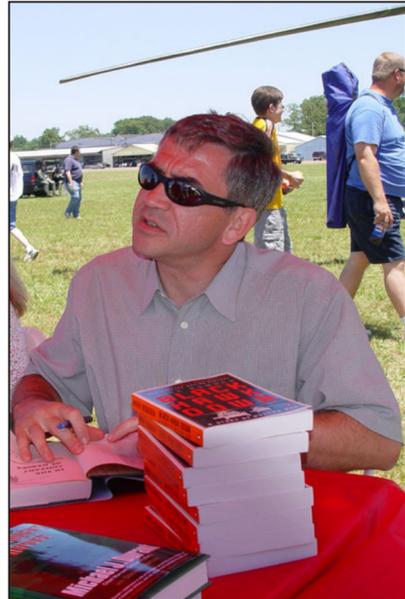
The Centennial of Flight Air Show allowed children of all ages to see our nation's warbirds up close including this Army helicopter. (Photo by Gary Barton)



AEDC Company Grade Officers and enlisted personnel worked behind the scenes fencing off the air show's perimeter. (Photo by Gary Barton)



The Aeroshell Aerobatics Team, the air show's headlining act, show why they get top billing around the country. (Photo by Gary Barton)



Retired Army Chief Warrant Officer Michael Durant signs his new book, "In the Company of Heroes." (Photo by Claude Morse)



AEDC's force security team meets before the gates open to refine and coordinate their security activities at the air show. (Photo by Gary Barton)

By Philip Lorenz III  
AEDC Public Affairs

Thousands of people enjoyed clear skies, low humidity and high-flying excitement during the Centennial of Flight Air Show June 21 and 22.

The show was presented free of charge by AEDC and the Tri-chamber Air Show Coalition of Manchester, Tullahoma and Franklin County.

The event featured static display aircraft including a replica of the plane that started it all, the Wright Flyer, to high performance military jet fighters from the Navy and the Air Force, demonstrating their capabilities in the clear skies.

According to Tim Sanders, Tri-chamber Air Show Coalition representative, approximately 80,000 people attended the air show at the Tullahoma Regional Airport.

AEDC, the Tri-chamber Coalition, the city of Tullahoma and the Tullahoma Airport Commission joined forces to put in more than a year's worth of planning, coordination and hard work to ensure a successful and memorable air show.

The event showcased, not only the first 100 years of powered flight, but also included AEDC's half century of contributions to the advancement of flight technology.

"At the show I had numerous strangers come up to me and tell me



Army's Golden Knights fall for spectators. (Photo by David Housch)



U.S. Special Operations Command Parachute Demonstration Team members demonstrate a "downed airmen" scenario. (Photo by Gary Barton)

how little they knew about AEDC's role in air and space development, and to tell me how much they appreciated the air show," said Murray King, AEDC air show coordinator.

"The performers gave us an A-plus," he continued. "They said for us to just let them know when the next show was, and they'd love to come back."

Daryl Justice, senior emergency management coordinator for AEDC said, "From an EOC (emergency operational center) perspective, it went very well. The EOC was manned jointly by Tullahoma and AEDC personnel, who remained in contact with the fire, medical and police personnel stationed among the crowd."

Jay Mott, AEDC fire chief for the center's fire and emergency personnel at the air show, concurred with Justice.

"Speaking from our (fire) department's perspective, we had a great air show again this year," he said. "We worked hand-in-hand with Tullahoma, Hickerson Station and Jack Daniels' fire departments. The Tennessee Air National Guard Reserve from Nashville had a crash truck on the scene. EMS from Coffee County and AEDC worked closely with the fire departments.

"Every person we came in contact with was very respectful and the attendees were responsive to any requests to improve safety during the event."

David Gardenhire, chief of



The Golden Knights present the flag for the opening of the airshow. (Photo by Gary Barton)

AEDC's security police force, incidents or accidents, which I attribute to the pre-planning efforts and outstanding performance of all those working in support of the air show."

"It was a very orderly and well-organized event with no reportable



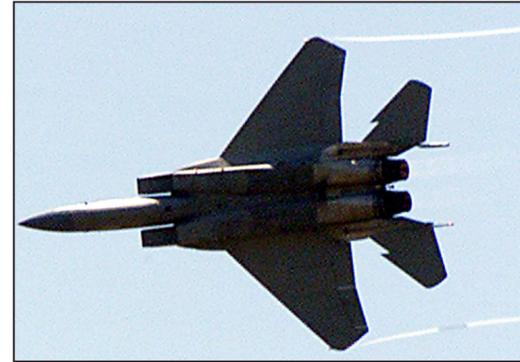
A Nashville-based 118th Air National Guard airlift wing C-130 provided shade and a steady stream of tours for spectators. (Photo by David Housch)



Dan McClung in Red Eagle keeps eyes skyward. (Photo by Gary Barton)



Spectators made themselves comfortable for two days of high-flying action, static displays and more, showcasing the Centennial of Flight at the Tullahoma Regional Airport. (Photo by Gary Barton)



The F-15 Eagle, above, held the attention of air show attendees as it screamed across clear skies both days. (Photo by Gary Barton)



Young pilots got in on the fun through Stepping Stones to Aviation. This experience allowed them to climb into realistic planes, steer on a colorful runway and more. (Photo by Gary Barton)



Jim Franklin and Kyle, his 23-year-old wing-walking son, wow air show fans in a 1937 Waco biplane powered by a radial prop engine and a J-85 jet engine. (Photo by Gary Barton)



National Aerobatic champion Patty Wagstaff, above, proved just as popular on the ground as she signs her autograph to air show posters. (Photo by Claude Morse)



As long as it's fast, air show spectators wanted to see it up close, including the Air Force's #21 Ford Taurus (driven by NASCAR driver Ricky Rudd). (Photo by Gary Barton)