

NEWS

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SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
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Highflying 'Salute' Takes Off at Chino Airport - Annual Air Show Features Aerobatics, Performances by Dozens of Historic Aircraft

Honoring the "Greatest Generation" of men and women who served in World War II and providing a showcase for the future of aviation, this year's Air Show at Chino Airport features performances from more than 40 historic aircraft and offers fun-filled activities for the entire family.

The County of San Bernardino/Planes of Fame Air Show will be held on Saturday, May 15 and Sunday, May 16. Gates open at 8 a.m. and close at 5 p.m., with flying activities scheduled between 11 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. each day (A previous news release contained incorrect dates).

Between 10,000 and 15,000 people a day are expected to attend the Air Show, which features classic warbirds from the era, flyovers, displays, and numerous merchandise and food and beverage booths. The Air Show offers something for everyone; flying enthusiasts, children and anyone who appreciates the beauty of flight will enjoy watching and learning about different kinds of aircraft while seeing the airport up close.

"The County of San Bernardino/Planes of Fame Air Show is an opportunity for the citizens of the County to come and learn about aviation, the Chino Airport, the Planes of Fame Air Museum and to express their thanks to those who make our freedoms possible" said San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors Chairman Gary Ovitt, who represents the Fourth District, which includes Chino Airport.

The Planes of Fame Air Show is the largest warbirds air show in the country, said Andrea Eldridge, Director of Marketing for Planes of Fame Air Museum. "We put more warbirds in the sky at one time, something spectators won't see anywhere else" she said. "It is one of the reasons our airshow stands out from the rest. We have both historical planes and modern-day jets as well. It's an impressive array of air power."

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The Air Show provides Chino Airport an opportunity to interact with the local community, said Mike N. Williams, A.A.E., Director of Airports for the County of San Bernardino. "We want the public to attend, have a good a good time and learn about the airport," Williams said.

This year, Steven Hinton, grandson of the founder of Planes of Fame Air Museum and 2009 Unlimited Gold class champion, will be flying Strega, a highly-modified P-51 and eight-time class champion at the National Championship Air Races in Reno.

During the United States Air Force Heritage Flight, World War II warbirds will be flown with current-era jets, (an F-16, P-38 Lightning and two P-51 Mustangs), showcasing the history and technology advancement of aircraft within the U.S. Air Force. This unique combination of planes demonstrates the differences between propeller and jet-powered aircraft as well as the different skill level required of the pilots to operate the aircrafts.

The air show also will showcase the only original flying Japanese Zero in the world, which will be accompanied be a P-38 Lighting, F6F Hellcat and P-40 Warhawk during a reenactment of the World War II Pacific Air Battle. The Zero is flown only two times a year – on Pearl Harbor Day and during the Planes of Fame Air Show. Other performers include the Silver Wings Wing Walking Team, Rob Harrison (the Tumbling Bear), and The Horsemen, a P-51 formation aerobatic team.

Prior to May 1, Adult tickets are \$16 with one child (ages 5 to 11) admitted free with each paid adult ticket. Additional child tickets can be purchased for \$5. After May 1, Adult tickets are \$20 with one child (ages 5 to 11) admitted free with each paid adult ticket. Additional child tickets can be purchased for \$5. Parking is complimentary.

Attendees are advised to wear comfortable shoes, weather-appropriate clothing and to bring plenty of sunscreen.

For more information, please visit www.planesoffame.org. Tickets can be purchased in advance through the Web site until May 1.

About Chino Airport:

Located minutes from Los Angeles County and Orange County, the County of San Bernardino's Chino Airport is a preferred destination for general aviation and corporate aviation in Southern California. The historic airport, which once trained World War II pilots as Cal Aero Field, is home to unique aviation museums, an acclaimed air show and excellent facilities for private and business aviation. To learn more, visit www.ChinoAirport.org or www.SBCountyWings.com