



## BLUE ANGELS, APOLLO ASTRONAUTS TO HEADLINE AIRVENTURE OSHKOSH 2017 World's Largest Fly-In Set for July 24-30; WomenVenture July 26

**OSHKOSH, Wisconsin (May 16, 2017)** — Wittman Regional Airport will soon become the world's busiest airport – at least for one week. From July 24-30, more than 10,000 aircraft and a half a million flight enthusiasts will descend for the 65th annual Experimental Aircraft Association fly-in convention, [EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2017](#).



Known to many simply as “Oshkosh,” this year’s event will feature performances by some of the nation’s top stunt pilots, as well as by [The Blue Angels](#), the official jet team of the United States Navy. First formed in 1946, the Blue Angels team of Boeing F/A-18 Hornets reaches speeds up to 700 mph, while flying as close as 18 inches to one another. Full performances are on Friday and Saturday afternoon, July 28-29, as part of the afternoon air show.



“The Blue Angels carry tradition and innovation with them wherever they fly,” said Dick Knapinski, EAA’s director of communications. “Their power and precision will be on full display during AirVenture 2017.”

AirVenture will also commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the famous [World War II Doolittle Raiders mission](#). In addition to welcoming the lone living member of the 80 Doolittle Raiders, 101 year-old Richard Cole, 16 B-25 bombers will fly during a reenactment of the historic raid on the evening of Wednesday, July 26.

On Wednesday, July 26, the grounds will host [WomenVenture](#), a national initiative to close the gender gap in aviation. Highlights will include a “Power Lunch” with remarks by pioneering EAA member and pilot, Dr. Janet Lapp, as well as the Women Soar You Soar aviation camp sponsored by Honda, which offers teen girls pilot mentorship opportunities.

Friday, July 28 will feature an unforgettable reunion by nine of the original fifteen living [Apollo Mission Astronauts](#), including Buzz Aldrin, Frank Borman, and Jim Lovell. Other major performances and experiences include Oracle pilot [Sean D. Tucker](#); the [AeroShell Aerobatic Team](#); NASA exhibits; travelling Huey helicopter and a variety of plane and aviation product introductions from the more than [800 exhibitors](#).



The action in the skies is matched on the ground. AirVenture also includes learning centers for children and aircraft enthusiasts; aircraft of nearly every size, shape and era to view (including more than 300 warbirds, homebuilts and vintage craft); nightly activities, like a [“fly-in” theater](#) and concerts; and [flight experiences](#) on a B-17, Ford Tri-Motor and Bell 47 Helicopter. The [EAA Aviation Museum](#) is also open for tours during the week of AirVenture.

### **About EAA AirVenture Oshkosh**

EAA AirVenture Oshkosh is the “World’s Greatest Aviation Celebration” and EAA’s yearly membership convention. Additional EAA AirVenture information, including advance ticket and camping purchases, is available online at [www.eaa.org/airventure](http://www.eaa.org/airventure). EAA members receive lowest prices on admission rates. For more information on EAA and its programs, call 1-800-JOIN-EAA (1-800-564-6322) or visit [www.eaa.org](http://www.eaa.org). Immediate news is available at [www.twitter.com/EAA](http://www.twitter.com/EAA).

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EDITOR’S NOTE: EAA AirVenture images are available at EAA’s media FTP website.

<http://media.eaa.org> ID: eaamedia PW:airventure2012 (AirVenture 2017 folder)