



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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World's Only Privately Flown Harrier Coming to Fair Saint Louis Air Show

Top air show performers from around the country help commemorate 30 years of Fair Saint Louis

ST. LOUIS -- The only civilian owned Royal Navy Sea Harrier will entertain crowds along the St. Louis riverfront and on the Gateway Arch grounds on Saturday, July 3 and Sunday, July 4 at the Fair Saint Louis Air Show. Former Marine Art Nalls, the first pilot to be civilian and aerobatic rated in Harriers, is bringing the world's only privately owned, civilian-flyable Harrier jump jet to St. Louis. Nalls purchased the completely demilitarized aircraft in 2006 from a broker who had obtained it from Britain's Royal Navy surplus. It's the second Sea Harrier ever manufactured and at 31 years old, the oldest surviving one.

"The nation's top air show performers are coming to our Fair Saint Louis Air Show," said Tim Jones, Chairman of the Fair Saint Louis Air Show Committee. "With the addition of the ultimate crowd pleaser -- Art Nalls and his Harrier Jump Jet-- we have a lineup that will be talked about all summer. And it's all right here on the riverfront."

Fair Saint Louis Air Shows times are Saturday, July 3 at Noon and Sunday, July 4 at 10:45a.m. and 5:15p.m. For more information, visit the Fair Saint Louis Web site at www.celebratestlouis.org.

In addition to Art Nalls' Harrier, Fair Saint Louis Air Show attendees will be treated to the following military highlights:

- **A C-130 Hercules.** Using its aft loading ramp and door the C-130 can accommodate a wide variety of oversized cargo, including everything from utility helicopters and six wheeled armored vehicles to standard palletized cargo and military personnel. In an aerial delivery role, it can air drop loads up to 42,000 pounds or use its high-floatation landing gear to land and deliver cargo on rough, dirt strips.
- **The U.S. Army Black Daggers Jump Team.** The Black Daggers are the official U.S. Army Special Operations Command Parachute Demonstration Team. Their mission is to perform live aerial demonstrations in support of Army Special Operations community relations and recruiting. Comprised of volunteers from throughout Army Special Operations the Black Daggers have diverse backgrounds and are skilled in various military specialties including Special Forces, Rangers, civil affairs, psychological operations and signal and support. The team represents the professionalism and dedication of special operations forces.
- **Commemorative Air Force, Missouri Wing:** In July of 1980, 25 dedicated World War II aviation enthusiasts formed a squadron of the C.A.F. in St. Louis, Missouri. One year later, the squadron was granted wing status and became the 25th C.A.F. Wing. Adding local flavor to the Fair Saint Louis Air Show, the C.A.F. Missouri Wing will fly two aircraft in the Fair Saint Louis Air Show: the North American B-25J Medium Bomber and the Grumman TBM-3E Torpedo Bomber.

Additionally, some of the world's finest aerobatic performers are coming to Fair Saint Louis. Of the seven civilian performers, four have won both the "Bill Barber Award for Showmanship" and the "Art Scholl Memorial Showmanship Award," the aviation world's most prestigious awards. They include:

- **Aeroshell 4-Plane Team:** The AeroShell Aerobatic Team was born of humble beginnings in 1985. Two friends, Alan Henley and Steve Gustafson, each owned an AT-6 and had been performing solo at air shows for some time. Gustafson's father Merle, who performs an aerobatic duet with Bob Speed, gave Steve his AT-6 as a Christmas present. As they watched his father and Speed perform, Gustafson suggested that he and Henley give it a try. Henley agreed, and they took off right then and there to attempt a series of loops and rolls. So began their performing partnership. The duo was eventually joined by Alan's twin brother, Mark Henley, serving alongside Gustafson as Right/Left Wing Pilot, and Gene McNeely as Right Wing/Slot Man.
- **Gene Soucy "Mr. Airshow":** Gene Soucy is one of the most well-respected and proficient air show pilots in American aviation. He is a former member of the record-setting Eagles Aerobatic Flight Team, he has been a member of two World Champion U.S. Aerobatic Teams, and he has won more awards than any other active air show pilot. Innovation and versatility are Gene Soucy's style. It is no wonder as to why he has rightfully been nicknamed "Mr. Airshow." At the age of twenty-two, Gene earned a position on the U.S. Aerobatic Team, making him the youngest competitor flying at the World Contest in England held that year. Since that very auspicious beginning, Gene has gone on to gather an impressive competition record. He became a three-time U.S. National Champion and a three-time Canadian National Champion, and he has been an active pilot in the unlimited category since 1969. Gene Soucy is a wonder in the sky and one of the most remarkable aerobatic pilots ever to have lived.
- **John Mohr:** With over 25,000 hours of flying experience (that's more than two years of his life spent in the air) John Mohr is one of the most talented and exciting pilots on the air show circuit. He performs extremely difficult maneuvers in a meticulously restored 1943 stock 220 Stearman bi-plane, which is not only an aircraft that not only weighs twice as much as today's aerobatic planes but also uses only half the horsepower. John has been thrilling crowds for more than 25 years.
- **Jim Maroney:** Maroney was the original "Top Gun" and spent a number of years as the #1 trainer for the Air Force. Jim's air show routine is filled with thrilling maneuvers and precision flying in his legendary "Super" Chipmunk. With a degree in aeronautical and mechanical engineering and an impressive military flying career (Jim recently retired as an F-16 pilot with the North Dakota Air National Guard), Jim has had a lifelong love of aviation. Watching Jim perform in the "Super" Chipmunk, you will see the skills first-hand that made Jim a "Top Gun!"

Rounding out the Fair Saint Louis Air Show are these notables:

- **Kirby Chambliss:** Kirby Chambliss knew from a very early age that he wanted to be a pilot and went airborne at 13. By 21, he was a pilot for a business jet company; at 24 he became the youngest commercial pilot at Southwest Airlines; and he made captain by 28. It was that very first job that led him into aerobatics. "That first time we turned the airplane upside down, my whole focus changed," he remembers. "To me, flying was about being upside down and cart wheeling the airplane, taking an airplane and just ripping the guts out. That's what I still love to do." He went on to claim five U.S. National Aerobatic Championships, which caught the eye of officials from the Red Bull Air Race. "I loved aerobatics, I loved speed, and I did low-level flying anyway, so to me it was a natural fit." By 2006, he was the Red Bull Air Race Champion, a title he's gunning to reclaim again.
- **The Red Eagles:** Team lead Dan McClung harnesses the raw power of the Talon Eagle to push the aircraft to its performance envelope. Dan completed over 21 years of active and reserve flying for the U.S. Navy before retiring as a Commander. Dan has accumulated more than 22,000 hours of flying, a remarkable achievement considering that he completed nearly 400 day and night aircraft carrier landings in the A7 Corsair. At the controls of the Red Eagle is Buck Roetman who combines his passion for flying and years of experience in the air to captivate audiences nationwide. Buck holds nearly

every FAA rating from Airline Transport Pilot to Airframe & Powerplant mechanic. Buck specializes in systems and structure fabrication to keep the team and the Eagles in the air.

- **Matt Younkin:** Matt Younkin is a third generation pilot. He is the son of legendary airshow pilot Bobby Younkin, who is famous for his amazing aerobatic displays in the AT-6, Beech 18, Learjet 23, Samson, and most recently, the Super Decathlon. Bobby is considered to be one of the greatest airshow pilots of all time. Matt is now proficient in over 50 types of airplanes ranging from the Piper Cub to the North American B-25. He is also a fully rated flight instructor and now has almost 3000 hours of total flying time.

A Great Corporate Community

Without the remarkable corporate community in the St. Louis region, the crowd-pleasing elements of Fair Saint Louis and the Celebrate St. Louis Summer Concerts would not be possible. Over 30 companies and organizations come together to allow these events to be free and open to all.

Platinum: Anheuser-Busch, Boeing, Edward Jones, Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Lumiere Place Casino and Hotels and River City Casino, Nestle Purina, US Bank, Wells Fargo Advisors

Gold: AmerenUE, Emerson, Maritz

Silver: Clear Channel, KMOV News 4, Monsanto, Schnucks

Bronze: AT & T, Bank of America, BJC Healthcare, Brown Shoe, Clayco, Coin Acceptors, Dobbs Tire & Auto Centers, Energizer, Express Scripts, The Holecamp Family Foundation, Laclede Gas, M & I Bank, Metro, Peabody Energy, Pepsi Co, Riverfront Times, St. Louis Cardinals, St. Louis CVC, St. Louis Rams, Skechers, United Mayflower Container Services, World Wide Technology

Community Contributor: Alpha Packaging, Inc., Anders, Minkler & Diehl LLP, Crane Agency, Downtown St. Louis Partnership, Dula Foundation, First National Bank of St. Louis, Friends of the Fair, Graybar, Grey Eagle Distributors, Guarantee Electric Co., Hager Companies, Hermann Companies, Hunter Engineering Company, J.W. Terrill, LaBarge Inc., Mississippi Lime Company, Paric Corporation, Stifel Nicolaus, Stupp Bros. Bridge & Iron, Thompson Coburn LLP, Watlow

Media Partner: Majic 104.9, 93.7 The Bull, Rewind 103.3, 88.1 KDHX, Y98, KSHE 95, KPNT 105.7, Sauce Magazine, STLTv

Hotel Partner: Hyatt Regency -- St. Louis at The Arch, HotelLumiere, Millennium Hotel, The Parkway Hotel

Public Agency Support: Missouri Arts Council, Regional Arts Commission

Each year community volunteers, Fair Saint Louis staff, the Veiled Prophet Organization, in partnership with the National Park Service and the City of St. Louis work together to promote St. Louis by bringing visitors downtown for the month-long event. The name Fair Saint Louis acknowledges that this event is produced by Saint Louisans, for Saint Louisans and their guests from all over the world. If members of the community are interested in volunteering, volunteer applications may be downloaded from the Celebrate St. Louis Web site at www.celebratestlouis.org.

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Fair Saint Louis Foundation

The Fair Saint Louis Foundation, formed to organize and operate the Fair each year, has donated numerous gifts to the Saint Louis community in conjunction with the Fair. Over the years, the Foundation has contributed the lighting of the Eads Bridge, the Mississippi River Overlook, the mile-long Riverfront Promenade, and was a partner in providing two Grand Staircases beneath the Arch as a part of the National Park system.

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