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Blue Angels returning to Q-C skies

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Jeff Cook, FILE PHOTO

The Navy Blue Angels last attended the Quad-City Air Show in 2011.

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January 25, 2015 7:16 pm • By Linda Cook (6) Comments

The U.S. Navy Blue Angels Demonstration Team will roar through the skies as part of the 29th Quad-City Air Show over Mother's Day weekend.

Air show president and founder Ken Hopper said he is "proud to announce that while other air shows around the

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country are shutting down and canceling their events,” the Quad-City Air Show will feature the Blue Angels during the show May 9-10 at Davenport Municipal Airport.

He can describe the secret to almost 30 years of success with one word: “Passion.”

People ask how he has kept the event going for three decades, and he says it’s possible, “If you put your heart and soul and mind into it and strive to be the best, and, of course, it takes people that are willing to get on that train with you and share that same passion.”

It takes a community to keep an event going, he said, with the support of local governments, community-minded and supportive sponsors and companies, fans and spectators and “the best volunteers in the world.”

Additionally, for the first time, the Royal White Tiger Discovery Exhibit, which will give visitors an opportunity to see a white tiger up close, will be part of the show

Visitors “can take selfies if they want,” Hopper said, and can watch the tigers being fed by handlers.

The exhibit features interactive programs with the tigers’ keepers and educational programs to promote conservation issues involving white tigers, which have been extinct from the wild since 1958.

“Since I founded this air show over 29 years ago, my goal has always been to highlight aviation, the importance of airports, highlight the greatest military in the world, showcase the rare and important aircraft from World War II and provide a first-class, family entertainment event for the great Quad-Cities,” Hopper said in a news release.

The theme for the show is “Red, White & BLUES.” Among the features will be the Fat Albert Blue Angels C-130, the Shockwave Triple Jet Semi, Ace Maker Air Shows, Red Star & Dragon Air Shows, Rifle Air Shows, G&M Air Shows, Radial Rumble Air Shows, Misty Blues All-Women Parachute Team, Hawkeye Jet Demo Team, and classic warbirds such as the Chance-Vought F4U-4 Corsair, North American P-51 Mustang and the North American B-25 Mitchell.

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Tags Blue Angels Demonstration Team, Quad-city Air Show, Ken Hopper, Davenport Municipal Airport, Royal White Tiger Discovery Exhibit, World War II, Fat Albert Blue Angels C-130, Shockwave Triple Jet Semi, Ace Maker Air Shows, Red Star & Dragon Air Shows, Rifle Air Shows, G&M Air Shows, Radial Rumble Air Shows, Misty Blues All-women Parachute Team, Hawkeye Jet Demo Team, United States Navy, Davenport Municipal Airport



Photos: 28th Quad-City Air Show



Quad-City Air Show 2013



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Quad-City Air Show 2010

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For more information visit www.quadcityairshow.com or call 563-322-7469.

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