Become a Pilot Family Day
Saturday, June 14, 2014
At the Udvar-Hazy Center

Each year, visitors see nearly 50 visiting vintage, recreational, home-built, and military aircraft at an outdoor display for one day only, and enjoy indoor presentations and activities for all ages. Special in 2014 was the visit of a United Airlines Boeing 777 passenger jet, which visitors could enter.

9,800 people attended Become a Pilot Family Day in 2014.

This event was made possible by the generous support of Booz Allen Hamilton, WTOP Radio 103.5 FM, and WTOP.com

List of activities:

Outdoor Aviation Display, Pilots and Special Announcer Ron David!
- Wing walking demonstration
- Single, dual and quad-line kite flying demonstrations, kite flying tips, and Bol (kite) “Races”
- Fairfax County Government, featuring information on the new Fairfax Connector Bus to the Udvar-Hazy Center
- NASA Mobile Unit

Presentations & Highlights Tours
- Roger Connor, Museum’s Aeronautics curator. Quadcopter drone flying demo
- Ask an Expert Talk. Valerie Neal, Museum’s space shuttle curator. Discovery, a Remarkable Flying Machine
- Ask an Expert Talk. Tom Crouch, Museum’s Aeronautics senior curator. The Langley Aerodrome
- Fairfax County Fire & Rescue Department. Q & A
- Highlights Tours.

Hands-on Activities (Various locations throughout the Udvar-Hazy Center)
- Decorate and Build Your Own Sled Kite
- Experience hands-on learning through active looking, discussion and interaction with Discovery Stations & Hands-on Interactives
- Learn About Naval Careers in Aviation and Science with the U.S. Naval Academy
- Discover the science behind rocket flight and see a model rocket showcase with the Maryland Delaware Rocketry Association (MDRA).
- Take part in Paper Airplane Contest.
- Monocopter demonstration by Evan Ulrich.
• Robot demonstrations and hands-on activities with the First Robotics, Virginia & Washington, DC Teams.
• Hobby Hangar Model & R/C Airplane Showcase and Activities
• WWII memorabilia display and talk with Jan Sylvester, Commemorative Air Force, National Capitol Squadron.
• Aviation talks, interviews, and podcasts with Airline Geeks. Q & A with local pilots
• USAF Academy Graduates Way of Life Alumni Group. Learn about careers as a professional pilot
• Airplane Geeks Radio Show. Aviation talks, interviews, and podcasts
• Learn about USAF careers in aviation with the U.S. Air Force Academy.
• Model airplane building demonstration and history of scale aircraft modeling with the International Plastic Modelers Society (IPMS).
• Flight Simulators
• Radio controlled model airplane display and Q & A with Northern Virginia Radio Control
• Learn how the Museum’s Archives Department assisted with the restoration of the Curtiss SB2C Helldiver.
• Parts of an airplane and Fighter pilot suit paper dolls
• Air Traffic Control Flight Pattern Activity for Tots
• Flights of Fancy Story Time and Hands-on Activity.

Books Signings (Upper Level Overlook and across from the Museum Store)
• Songs from a Distant Cockpit with author John J. Schulz
• Top Gun Days with author Dave Baranek
• Tuskegee Airman: The Biography of Charles E. McGee, Air Force Fighter, Combat Record Holder with author Col. Charles E. McGee
• X-15, The World’s Fastest Rocket Plane and the Pilots Who Ushered in the Space Age with author and National Air and Space Museum aeronautics curator John Anderson