



NORTH AMERICAN TRAINER ASSOCIATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NATA TO CELEBRATE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE T-6 “TEXAN” *Airshow Event at AirVenture to feature up to 80 NATA Aircraft*

Elkhart, IN (NATA HQ) – The venerable T-6 Texan first flew on September 18, 1938, and NATA is celebrating this important milestone at several airshows in 2018! The major celebration will occur at EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh, WI on Tuesday July 24, 2018. NATA is actively planning this major celebration now. The major elements of this celebration include:

1. **“80 Texans to Oshkosh”** – NATA is actively recruiting T-6 owners and pilots to bring their Texan’s to Oshkosh to be a part of the 80th Anniversary celebration. Each year at Oshkosh, there are about 50 Texan’s on the Flight Line. This year, we are striving to bring 80 of these historic aircraft! Pilots flying their Texans to Oshkosh are encouraged to register on the NATA Website (flynata.org).
2. **NATA Airshow at Oshkosh** on Tuesday and Thursday. EAA Warbirds of America is working closely with NATA to develop a 35 minute Airshow Showcase of the T-6 Texan and all NATA aircraft types as part of a NATA "Family Birthday Celebration". This airshow will feature a 28-ship T-6 formation to create a large “8 0” overhead Oshkosh. Accompanying this large formation, will be the following elements additional T-6 groups such as the Aeroshell Team, GEICO Skytypers, Canadian Harvard Aerobatic Team, a T-6 Heritage Flight with USAF participation, and large Formations of T-28’s, B-25’s, and Fighter aircraft led by a P-51.
3. **“Texans in Review”** – On Tuesday, July 24th, 2018, EAA Warbirds of America will feature “Texan’s In Review” as part of their very popular Warbirds in Review program. Held twice daily during the week of AirVenture, the Tuesday Texans in Review event will feature historically accurate displays of a Canadian Harvard, a Navy SNJ-5C, a USAAF AT-6, and a modern USAF T-6 Texan II. Telling their stories about these Texans will be pilots who flew them in each Military service throughout the years. This panel will be moderated by David Hartman (of Good Morning American fame and a friend to all Warbirds).

ABOUT NATA: The North American Trainer Association (NATA) is an independent, non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to the preservation, restoration and safe operation and enjoyment of military aircraft manufactured by the North American Aviation company (NAA). NATA provides its 1000 members with Type Club support and Formation Training. Membership is open to all pilots, owners and enthusiasts of these aircraft worldwide, and includes a majority of U.S. owners of these aircraft, and owners, pilots, enthusiasts and historians from 13 countries. NATA aircraft types include all variants of the NAA P-51 Mustang, B-25 Mitchell, T-28 Trojan, T-6 Texan/SNJ/Harvard, NA-50, NA-64, L-17 Navion, F-86 Sabre, and T-2 Buckeye. In addition to our key mission of promoting safe Formation flying, NATA provides Educational Scholarships each year through the Maintenance Scholarship program. Our goal is to inspire the next generation of maintenance technicians to keep these historic aircraft flying!

ABOUT THE TEXAN: The North American T-6 “Texan” is a two-seat aircraft used as the advanced trainer for World War II pilots. Designed by North American Aviation, Inc., and first flown in 1938, the “Texan” quickly became the most popular trainer aircraft for the U.S. Military in the 1940s and 1950s. Over 15,000 “Texans” were built between 1938 and 1947, and about 500 are still flying today.

More information is available at flynata.org.

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Above and Below: Large T-6 Formation over Washington DC, 2014

