



Annika Schnur, 3, reaches for the propeller of a 1945 P-51D Mustang at the Broomfield Air and Car Show held at the Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport on Saturday.

Kira Vos / For the Times-Call

Show wows crowd with ground and air spectacle

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Aerobatics proved to be main attraction

BY JENNIFER RIOS
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Stepping through the gates at the Rocky Mountain Air & Ground Festival on Saturday was a way to step back in time.

Near the Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport's sat "The Old Dodge," a 1923 Arvada fire truck — shiny red and outfitted with a wooden ladder.

Bianca and the Flyboys provided the soundtrack Saturday afternoon as people craned their necks to see incoming flights. The group was accompanied by the USO tribute group Denver Dolls — an eye-catching trio in World War II era clothing, hair and makeup.

Vintage cars, trucks and planes drew in thousands of people from across the Denver Metro Saturday who came, in large part, to watch aerobatics.

Toward the end of the morning performance session, Kyle Franklin, of Franklin's Flying Circus & Airshow, dropped his

plane only to straighten out before hitting the ground.

"Don't let your kids be scared," said Danny "Sky-Talker" Clisham from a platform near the runway. "That was an act."

Clisham, who has spent 53 years announcing air shows, said he grew up with airplanes in his dad's back yard. He used that love and knowledge of planes and pilots to entertain, and possibly educate, crowds.

"I want to take the mystery out of the flying," he said, comparing jargon used by doctors and lawyers to technical language of

flight. "They're my family and I want them to understand everything."

It was his first show at the Rocky Mountain airport, but he's known the show producer and a lot of the performers for years. When he meets a new act, they sit down together and he tries to identify the "soul" of the show and "how they're different than any other act you're going to see."

The 'price' was right

After the morning's "Parade of Flight," there was a demonstration of a jet-powered smart car

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