



Evergreen Aviation Museum
The Captain Michael King Smith Educational Institute

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New Aviation Photography Exhibit Arrives at the Evergreen Aviation Museum

***Renowned Aviation Photographer, Michael Pliskin's exhibit is the latest to be featured at
Evergreen Aviation Museum.***

MCMINNVILLE, Ore.— On Mon., Jan. 3, 2005, the Evergreen Aviation Museum will install its newest visiting exhibit, *The Aviation Photography of Michael Pliskin*. The exhibit will include approximately 30 photographs of modern and restored “warbirds”. Photographs include those that were taken air-to-air, as well as air-to-ground. The exhibit will be on display through Mar. 31.

“Michael Pliskin is a true professional and his photography captures the spirit of aviation. Visitors will see flight from an angle that many will never experience. Pliskin has captured fighter jets in the air as he has flown at their side,” said Ben Kristy, museum curator.

Pliskin's recently published images include coverage of the first SpaceShip One suborbital flight for the *Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association* magazine and website, and coverage of the final NASA X-43 *Hyper-X Scramjet* test flight for *Flight International* magazine.

Michael Pliskin has been interested in photography since he was nine years old. He has a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in photography and design from California Institute of the Arts (CalArts). Years after college, he was hired as a technical advisor by Nikon, Inc. It was during his almost twelve year tenure at Nikon that he began his interest in aviation photography.

"Part of my job at Nikon was to evaluate new camera technologies and learn the capabilities of new cameras and lenses. When the first automatic focus SLR came out, I took it to a Blue Angels air show to see if the autofocus would work on fast moving jets. Frankly, I was amazed at the results I got with that primitive (by today's standards) autofocus technology. After that, every time a new autofocus camera or lens came out, I would go to an air show at one of the local bases in Southern California to test its capabilities. My library of aviation images began growing and I started doing more and more aviation photography," said Pliskin.

Nikon recognized Pliskin's interest and growing expertise in aviation photography and sent him on assignment to assist the Air Force photojournalists in building a camera pod for F-4G Phantom II *Wild Weasels* so they could do air-to-air photographs of missile launch tests. He began

licensing his aviation images to local aerospace industry subcontractors for use in catalogues, advertising and marketing brochures. Nikon surveying instruments used several of his F-14 *Tomcat* images in their marketing campaign for the new "Top Gun" Total Station devices.

In his freelance career, Pliskin has shot advertising, editorial and annual report images for many aviation industry clients and publishers, as well as doing photography for entertainment industry clients and non-profits. His aerospace client list includes United Airline Services, Rockwell-Collins, Air Show Networks, AOPA and Flight International magazine. His images can be seen on his website: www.pliskindesigns.com.

The Evergreen Aviation Museum is best known as the home of the world's largest wooden airplane, the *Spruce Goose*, SR-71 *Blackbird* and Grumman F6F-3 *Hellcat*. In addition, there are more than 60 historic aircraft and exhibits on display, along with artwork, traveling displays, the newly remodeled Spruce Goose Café and the museum store. The Evergreen Aviation Museum's hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., daily except when it is closed for Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, New Year's Day and Easter. The Museum is located at 500 NE Captain Michael King Smith Way, across the highway from the McMinnville Airport and about three miles southeast of McMinnville, Ore., on Highway 18. Regular visitor admission is required. Call (503) 434-4180 for more information, and visit www.sprucegoose.org.

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