



Stephen L. Tupper
Producer and Host

620 Wilshire
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48302

248-470-7944

steve@airspeedonline.com

Blog/Show Notes/Links to Show Audio: www.airspeedonline.com

ABOUT STEPHEN FORCE AND THE AIRSPEED PODCAST AND RADIO NETWORK

Stephen Force is the superhero alter ego of mild-mannered tech and aviation lawyer, private pilot (ASEL, AMEL, IA, and DC-3 (SIC) type-rated), and Civil Air Patrol (USAF Auxiliary) Captain Steve Tupper.

Since launching the podcast and radio network more than three years ago, Steve has recorded episode segments from the cockpit of the aircraft that he flies, flown in a USAF Thunderbird F-16D, been strapped into a canvas sling seat at 12,500 feet next to the open door of the Golden Knights' C-31A jump aircraft, been up in a balloon over the Battle Creek Balloon Festival, been upside down with his hair on fire in Brett Hunter's Pitts S-2C, been tumbled gyroscopically in Michael Mancuso's Extra 300L, and covered such diverse topics as motion sickness with NASA's premier expert on the subject, music composition with composer David Kneupper, icing with the NASA Glenn Icing research Team (home of the "Otter-sicle"), and the modified B-747 Shuttle Carrier Aircraft with astronaut and pilot G. Gordon Fullerton.

Steve assembles groups of radio and similar audio media to which to feed audio content for airshows and other special events like Groundhog Day. He also volunteers with EAA Radio for AirVenture Oshkosh and with Sun 'N Fun Radio. You can also hear *Airspeed* episodes on the event radio station at the Arlington Fly-In.

Steve's first book, *Airspeed: The First Two years Aloft*, launched in December of 2007. (<http://www.lulu.com/content/1389586>)

Steve is also a multi-instrumental musician and composer who is currently scoring and recording the music for the upcoming independent film, *A Pilot's Story* for Wilco Films. See www.apilotsstory.com.

Example episodes:

Sometimes Alternates Fly - My Ride with the USAF Thunderbirds (<http://tinyurl.com/5ozv9m>) and <http://tinyurl.com/45tn5v>)

DC-3 Type Rating Summary Episode (<http://tinyurl.com/4dy6oc>)

Fingers in the Airport Fence Entwined (<http://tinyurl.com/68dt7u>)

Why I Fly (<http://tinyurl.com/5o7goh>)

First Solo (<http://tinyurl.com/5fl596>)



LISTENERS SPEAK: PRAISE FOR *AIRSPEED*

Steve, this is outstanding. The production quality is top notch. Great music – it’s driving without being cliché or overwhelming. I’ve never read of a Thunderbirds ride with this perspective. It’s usually what you get in the Sunday paper (“gee, that was fast, and then I needed to use the sick sack”). I enjoyed the pilot’s perspective, but you wrote so much more than MOAs and gee forces into this, and that’s what makes this a truly outstanding work. It’s about the people, after all. Thank you for the huge time and effort you have put into this wonderful and entertaining show.

- WC

Not only have you again captured the essence that drives us back to the airport or to look back up into the sky with every passing airplane, quiet honestly you’ve caused me to take a hard look at my own inner spirit for aviation and what effect the daily drone the airline schedule has had upon it. In short, thank you. In long, I’m not quite sure what the eventual effects of these new insights may have, but I’m excited them, so thanks. Thanks a lot.

- CC

I knew I would listen when the full T-Birds ‘cast came out, but I figured I’d heard a lot of it already in the early teasers you’d released. Man, was I wrong. I’ve listened three times so far. It is so engaging, I had to stop using power tools while listening to avoid personal injury! I laughed, I cried (I told my wife it was dust in my eyes from the leaf blower...). You captured it, and you shared it with us all. Thanks for taking me along!

- SJ

Maj [jet team demo pilot] said that he really enjoyed flying you and your coverage was some of the best the team had ever received.

- WH

You really earned your “ready for NPR” ticket with the [composer and musician] David Kneupper interview. Great story idea, superior execution. If you worked at a newspaper, your editor would offer you a cigar after reading that story. Thanks for the consistently solid podcast. Wish you continued success, I look forward to hearing more on *Airspeed* in the future.

- JF

I wanted to take a moment this morning to thank you for making [the *Airspeed* episode] “Sometimes Alternates Fly.” For the better part of five years now I have been driving the same route to work each morning. Monday through Friday it is a consistently mundane ride that lasts just over thirty minutes. I have driven several different vehicles over the years but today was the first time that I have ridden to work in an F-16. I started my ride today just as Thunderbird 8 requested the MOA and arrived to work at just in time to look down and see the end of the Thunderbird routine over Battle Creek. I have listened to a lot of podcasts over the years and continue to listen to all of the aviation shows but today was the first time that I felt the experience. I hope that your flight isn’t the closest I ever come to the back seat of a fighter but if it is, it was a damn good ride! Keep up the great work.

- PD



This podcast kicked ass on the audio. I have a little Mini Cooper S with an H/K Audio system. I had the sun roof open and the wind whistling along with the sound as I listening to it on my drive home. It felt like I was right there. I really enjoy when you put the listeners there in the seat with you. You have had some nice opportunities to pursue some wicked cool parts of aviation. Thanks for sharing that with the rest of us.

- RM

This [piece] deeply moved me. I don't know what put me in the "able to be moved" mood, if it was the rainy weather or because I am way the heck over here on the wrong side of the Atlantic Ocean missing my wife and kids, but your poem nearly shook me up. I had to do the old Navy Officer sleeve wipe to get the "haze" out of my eyes to regain my composure.

- RM

I still have no idea why, but after listening to this three times, "Viper-Six is a two ship flight and, sir, we're F-16s" is where I get all choked up. Wow. What a treasure this episode is. "Take Your Kids to the Airport" and "Why I Fly" were great. But this sets the bar very high indeed.

- MC

Shut Up and Listen To the Airplanes was another gem. As soon as I heard the intro, I grabbed the good headphones and headed for the garden lounger with the iPod. It's sunny and warm here in the U.K. today, so I shut my eyes and was transported to an airfield in another country. I could smell the kerosene as the jets ripped past and the announcer got himself excited in the middle distance. Then there was the Pitts (was it?) looping and rolling in my mind's eye while that lovely warm exhaust note came and went. That was this morning. Its a holiday today and we've just come back from a good pasta-lunch-and-two-pints at the local pub. So guess what I'm going to do? I'm going to grab the iPod, head for the garden and listen again. After that, I may just listen again.

- Christopher

Shut Up and Listen to the Airplanes was a fantastic show! I absolutely loved getting to hear the aircraft that I don't get to listen to that often. I'm currently stuck at work right now but I'm going to hurry home and play this on my 6.1 Home Theater system as loudly as my wife will let me.

- MW

This episode was the best podcast ever, regardless of the fact that no one else outside flying may understand. It stuck me so close to the heart, for I went thru very similar solo experience. Sorry for the lost of Josh, and very proud of you to continue chasing your dreams, beating your demons. Must admit, this was a tear-jerker.

- FD

Wow. Blew me away. Clipping a copy of your logbook sheet to the fence got my cheeks wet. Second time, even wetter. The most powerful, personal, meaningful podcast I've ever been blessed to hear.

- KK

