



For Immediate Release:



The Flying Willats: Sailplane Magic Airshow Team

Since 1979, with over 20,000 flight hours, Bret Willat has been performing professional Airshows in sailplanes. Bret and Karen were married in a sailplane in 1980. **Their sons**, Garret and Boyd “flew *with* Karen” literally before they were born, so it would seem the Willat family is truly born to fly. Now, Garret and Boyd Willat have earned their Low Altitude Wavers, allowing them to fly at Airshows also. Karen is the towpilot pulling the sailplanes at most shows, completing this family of performers. **The Willat Family is the only known performing Airshow family.**

The “star” of Sailplane Magic is the Grob G-103A sailplane that thrills audiences with its long graceful wings, soaring to music while trailing smoke from the wingtips and tail. The sailplane is towed into the air about 4,000 feet above the ground. The music starts and the sailplane pilot (Bret, Garret or Boyd) talks to the audience about the sport of soaring showing the dream & joy of soaring. Releasing from the towplane, the sailplane does smooth graceful aerobatics, doing loops and rolls upon the blue canvas of the sky. The smoke trails in the air creating painted brush strokes in the sky. All to music, these artists of the sky draw you into the beauty of the sport of soaring.

Garret Willat has over 8,500 flight hours. He has two daughters Leena (8) and Nadeen (5). Garret is the current US National Club Class Champion in sailplanes and is a member of the USA Soaring Team. When Garret turned 14, he soloed 18 different gliders which was an amazing world record. That’s correct, you can solo a glider at 14 years young and many girls and boys have! **Sky Sailing welcomes teaching youngsters - a perfect 14th birthday gift!**

Boyd Willat is an airline pilot at the age of 24, with over 6,500 hours of pilot time. Boyd is the US National Junior Champion and is a member of the USA Junior Soaring team. Since his brother Garret soloed 18 gliders on his 14th birthday, Boyd had to solo 23! This is a record that should stand for many years or until one of Garret’s daughters reaches her 14th birthday!

MCAS Miramar Airshow Oct 2-4, 2015: Boyd and Garret will be flying the Day shows. Bret will fly the Night show.

Sky Sailing, Inc, Warner Springs CA: Since 1959 a World leader in the sport of Soaring, with rides, rentals and instruction in sailplanes also know as gliders. Operated by the Willat Family. Open 7 days a week from 9 to 5.

HI-RES IMAGES AVAILABLE:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/k3bcnufst8s7bm/AAAKGVkxWwYCVcApk80grsvea?dl=0>
or please contact Soar@skysailing.com or call (760-782-0404). An archive of videos on an SD card or DVD is also available upon request.

LINKS:

Sky Sailing. Since 1959 a world leader in the sport of soaring: www.skysailing.com
Soaring Society of America. The national organization for sailplanes: www.SSA.org
Sky Sailing Media information: www.skysailing.com/media
A link to this release: www.skysailing.com/release80315
Miramar Airshow: <http://miramarairshow.com/>
International Council of Airshows is the Airshow organization: <https://www.airshows.aero/>
United States Soaring Team: <http://www.ussoaringteam.org/>

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