



Oracle Challenger Facts:

- Weighs 1,129 pounds
- Can reach a top speed of 300 mph
- Capable of flying backwards at 100 mph
- Powered by a custom modified Lycoming AEIO-540-D4B5 engine that turns a composite-built, Hartzell three-bladed propeller
- In 14 years of airshow performances, not a single flight has been cancelled due to mechanical reasons.



The Aero Club of
Northern California

The 2006 Crystal Eagle Award Winner

Sean D. Tucker



“Skydancer” Sean D. Tucker in his Oracle Challenger



Sean was named as one of twenty-five “Living Legends of Flight” by the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum in 2003.



The G forces exerted on Sean when he is flying the Oracle Challenger are as great as the forces exerted on modern fighter pilots like the Air Force Thunderbirds and Navy Blue Angels.



Over half of Sean’s maneuvers are original and have never been duplicated by another aerobatic pilot



Sean D. Tucker

Living Legend of Flight

Sean Tucker once had a fear of flying. Determined to conquer his fear, “the Ambassador of Aerobatics,” took flying lessons in 1969. However, even after receiving his pilot’s certificate, his fear remained. In true “Tucker style,” Sean conquered his fears in 1973 by enrolling in an aerobatic training course at the Amelia Reid Flying School at RHV in San Jose, California. His training there led him to become one of today’s premiere air show performers.



Sean’s success and safety depend on a grueling fitness regimen of aerobic exercise, weight training and daily flight to keep his G-force tolerance levels high and razor-sharp reflexes taut. Sean’s typical “day at the office” is impossible for most of us to achieve. His practice sessions alone put his body through one of the most grueling and physically demanding workouts imaginable. Sean’s performance, known as “Sky Dance,” imposes more G-forces on his body than jet fighter pilots experience — a chest-hammering +10 to – 8 G’s!

In 2003, Sean was named as one of the twenty-five “Living Legends of Flight” by the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum – an honor shared with aviation legends such as John Glenn, Neil Armstrong and Chuck Yeager.

In 2001, The US Air Force honored Sean during their prestigious “Gathering of Eagles” ceremony at Maxwell AFB, Alabama. Sean is the only airshow performer to be named an honorary member of all three North American jet teams – the US Navy Blue Angels, US Air Force Thunderbirds and Canadian Forces Snowbirds.

Sean’s commitment to aerobatics has paid off and the FAA has recognized his efforts. He currently serves as a FAA designated ACE (Air Show Certification Evaluator) where he spends countless hours counseling young air show performers on their routines. He has also served on air show industry oversight committees to review training, regulatory procedures and vital safety issues.

Sean’s ever-energetic personality, showmanship and love of flying are contagious. Whether he is talking to experienced pilots or enthusiastic fans, Sean has a way about him that leaves everyone awe-inspired.

Millions of Americans have witnessed Sean’s one-of-a-kind aerobatic feats at air shows nationwide and return each year to share in his love affair with the sky.

