

Valley Flyers

"Just Plane Fun!"

885 Lancaster Dr SE Salem, OR 97317

May 2016



Monthly Event!

May 28th will be our next club fly out. This month will be a flight out to Siletz Bay. We will plan to depart at 10 am. Book and plane and fill the seats with as many as you are comfortable taking!

Last month we had a great turn out at Independence with ten people across all four club aircraft! It was a great time, and we will continue the new tradition!



Refueling Reminder

As a club, we work hard to keep flying affordable. Although the cost of fuel at Salem has remained high, fuel prices at many other nearby airports has dropped significantly. As examples:

Salem: \$4.85/gal Albany: \$4.09/gal

Independence: \$3.99/gal (@ south ramp)

Twin Oaks: \$3.99/gal

Fueling up at one of the alternate airports can save between \$6/hr and \$12/hr! This savings can help us pay off the engines faster and start doing some of the other cosmetic and avionics upgrades that we all desire.

In addition, fueling at these alternate airports provides a convenient excuse to add a few airports to your list of 2016 airports. Also of important note, Albany gives free cookies when you fuel there!

Hopefully the fuel prices in Salem will be more competitive soon, but until then, thank you for helping to keep our costs down!

New Members

Kirby Headrick: Kirby grew up in Corvallis, and moved to Salem after graduating from OSU to work at Garmin as a software engineer. He has worked on the GTNs and the Flight Stream 210. He decided to join the club as flying always seemed like fun and been a plan to learn to fly "one of these days!" The ground school at Garmin was his trigger to start learning. Outside of work, he enjoys origami and has a passion for electronics. Kirby is flying with John Barringer.

Alex Edwards: Alex grew up in West Linn, and works at Garmin as a software engineer on the Kernel team. He became interested in learning to fly after joining on some of the flight tests at Garmin for the GTN. In his spare time, he brews beer, and enjoys watching the Trail Blazers and the Mariners. He is flying with Chris Eriksson.

Ryan Smoots: Ryan grew up in Renton, and graduated from the University of Washington. After graduation, he moved down to Salem to work as a software engineer at Garmin. He is learning to fly to gain a pilot perspective on the avionics he helps create, and thought it would be a fun skill to learn. Outside of work, he enjoys cycling, hiking, mountaineering, and now flying! He flies with John Barringer.

Keith Payne: Keith moved to Salem from Kansas City. He has worked at Garmin since 1996, but only started in the Salem facility last July. He works as a Business Analyst in Aviation Support. Before Garmin, he was in the Air Force and Air National Guard with nearly 30 years' experience fixing radios in military and civilian aircraft. Outside of work, he enjoys BBQ, bowling, and woodworking. He will be flying with Dennis Wyza.

Have you had a memorable trip, flying experience, or words of wisdom from which others in the club would benefit, or that you would like to share? Please send your stories, tips, quotes and pictures to **Chris Eriksson** for inclusion in future newsletters.



Terrance Hawley drew this image of Toledo Airport (5S4), just east of Newport, OR. Toledo is the shortest public runway in Oregon, at 1,750 ft long and 40 ft wide. It is along a river in a narrow valley. It presents a challenging takeoff and landing, consider bringing an instructor with to try it out the first time!

New Hangar Signs

A big thank you to Mark Neubauer for donating new signs to put over each of the hangars! He made the signs himself and donated them to the club. These are a much needed improvement for the hangars. We will continue to improve the facilities and the aircraft over the coming months.



Aviation Quote:

"The three most useless things to a pilot are: altitude above you, runway behind you, and a tenth of a second ago."

June Events

Strawberries and BBQ!

We will be having our annual strawberry and BBQ picnic this June. It will be on a Saturday that is still to be determined. Look for an email with a date when the strawberries start coming into season!

Meeting with Tower

We are working on setting up a meeting with the tower manager again to give him a chance to get to know us, and us a chance to talk to him and learn anything you want to know about the air traffic control here in Salem or in general! Look for an email with dates for that event!

Alison Neubauer Passes Checkride!

Alison Neubauer passed her private pilot checkride earlier this month after training with Chris. She flew with Lisa on about the windiest day of the month! Weather was gusty with rain in the area, and she did an excellent job! Congratulations Alison!



Airport Highlight:

Country Squire: Country Squire (S48) is a non-towered field just south of Sandy, OR. This puts it at 41.0 nm from Salem. Country Squire has one runway, 7/25, which is 3095 ft x32 ft. It is a higher elevation runway, at 1,175 ft. The runway is in excellent shape, but has tall trees on either side of the runway. Wind shear is common when passing through the tree line. The airport is very narrow, and can be hard to spot, but is in a great location with views of both Mt. Hood and downtown Portland. It makes a great quick trip from Salem and makes for a challenging airport to fly into.