



# Valley Flyers

“Just Plane Fun!”

885 Lancaster Dr SE  
Salem, OR 97317

May 2017



## Monthly Events

There was a date change for the Copalis fly out, so our May fly out will now be on May 13<sup>th</sup>, to Ranger Creek (21W) to help with the airport cleanup. A group is arriving at 9:30 to help clean up the airport prior to the peak flying season, and chili will be served afterwards! We will plan for wheels up by 8:15. The route will take you right over Mt. St. Helens! Enjoy some mountain flying!

Due to the tides, the Copalis trip is now planned for Saturday June 3<sup>rd</sup>. This event is hosted by the Washington Pilots Association and FATPNW. The fly in starts at 1, so we will plan to leave at around 1130.

It is the only sand runway in the lower 48, and we are fortunate to have it only about an hour and a half away. In the past, we have usually been some of the only aircraft there, but for this fly out, FATPNW and WPA have had turnouts of more than 30 aircraft. This will give a great opportunity to meet fellow northwest aviators in one of the most unique airports we have in the country.

Copalis provides some extra challenge in that the runway is only available at low tide. At high tide, the entire runway is underwater. Because of that, it is the smoothest runway you can find. It is paved daily by the changing tides, and you truly cannot get any closer of an airport to the beach.



Final Approach into Copalis

Landing takes some special care to identify what sand is safe to land on, and which is too wet or too dry. We recommend taking either an instructor, or an experienced pilot who has visited Copalis before, to help identify the safe strip of land. This trip will, as always, be followed with a thorough cleaning of all aircraft that made the journey. The sand and salt cannot be allowed to stay in or on the airplanes!

## ADS-B Traffic

As 2020 gets closer, more of the GA fleet is equipping ADS-B. So far, the only ADS-B equipped club aircraft is N515ED. ADS-B is broken down into ADS-B In and ADS-B Out. The Out portion outputs the aircraft position accurately for ATC use. It also allows other aircraft that have ADS-B In technology to see 5ED on their displays. ADS-B In allows you to see other aircraft on your traffic display. It also allows you to see weather data as well, including METARs and TFRs. You can see the available weather information on the weather page of the GTNs in 5ED. The ADS-B In traffic isn't perfect, not all aircraft will equip ADS-B technology, so do not rely entirely on ADS-B traffic. ADS-B is a great supplement to your situational awareness, and helps make others aware of your position as well. Ron Sterba took this shot of 5ED flying into Salem.



N515ED descending into the traffic pattern in Salem – Ron Sterba

## New Private Pilot!

Congrats to Glen Nicol for finishing his private pilot checkride on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. He finished his checkride in the Cherokee. Congratulations Glen!

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## April Fly Out

By Todd Lindley

After having to reschedule the February fly out to Bend (KBDN), the weather finally cooperated on Saturday the 16th. Alan Lasneski and I launched in 70574 and we were joined by another pilot from Salem Pilots Association in their club's 172. As we climbed to 7,500, we pointed the airplane between Mt. Washington and Three-Fingered Jack, which kept us clear of two wilderness areas and offered one of the lower eastbound mountain crossing altitudes. As we got closer to the pass, we climbed briefly to 8,500 to increase our margin for terrain clearance and looked for our crossing point, which was the junction of highway 22 and highway 20. There is also a state airport (8S3) at that junction that makes for an ideal landmark.



Over Santiam Junction (8S3)

After crossing the pass, we started our descent into Bend and dialed up the AWOS and started monitoring the KBDN CTAF frequency. At about 15 miles, the airport was visible and we setup for a right pattern entry to runway 16. Though the sectional and third party airport information websites list the pattern flow as left traffic, there is a permanent NOTAM in place that calls for right traffic to runway 16 for fixed wing aircraft as there is a high volume of helicopter training at the airport and rotorcraft fly left traffic for the same runway.

After landing, we fueled the plane and walked across the tarmac to the Pickled Pig Restaurant. The restaurant is located on the second floor of one of

the FBO's and has nice views of the airport both inside and from the outside deck. They serve breakfast all day and tout their award-winning barbeque on the menu.



Pickled Pig Wall O' Awards

The flight back was slightly bumpy as the winds had picked up and the temperature had warmed since our arrival. The forecast called for a broken layer forming at 5:00 pm, but was starting to form a little earlier than expected, so we had to pick our way in between and sometimes over the cloud layer. We opted in most cases to climb above the deck instead of going under in order to keep a safer altitude above terrain to avoid turbulence and other mountain phenomena that occur when wind blows across a ridge.



Mt. Jefferson and Three-Fingered Jack

Overall, I'd recommend the Pickled Pig as a breakfast or lunch destination if looking for a fun flying outing and mountain crossing. Though, I'd recommend going early in the morning and returning before the afternoon winds and temperatures rise as the ride could be quite bumpy (especially in the Summer).

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## New Member Introductions

**Jordan Snyder** - I grew up fascinated by aviation but always felt becoming a pilot was out of reach. Looking back, I probably used childhood motion sickness and a 6'6" frame as excuses. I recently stopped working full time and started a (very) small business out of my home and finally have the time to learn to fly. I live in South Salem with my wife Kathryn, son Calvin (2.5), and 2 dogs. I love spending time in Central Oregon, watching Formula 1, and brewing beer.

**Eric Brown** - I started flying about three years ago and hold a private rotorcraft certificate. I just moved to Salem from Arizona in 2016 to work for Garmin and am now working on my Private Fixed-Wing certificate with the club. I have a wonderful wife and an 8-year old daughter who tolerate my hobbies well. I also enjoy anything outdoors and have recently started competing in triathlons.

## Other Fly Outs

Oregon Pilot's Association Flight to Chehalis – May 20th, 2017. A group is departing out of Albany to fly to Chehalis leaving S12 at 10:10 am. They plan to walk over to the golf course restaurant to socialize. Chehalis is a pretty close flight, and the food at the golf course is excellent!

Washington Pilot's Association Calendar of events. The Washington Pilot's Association (WPA) has multiple events every month including Friday Harbor Flyouts, and fly outs to Desert Aire. Go to <http://www.wpaflys.org/calendar.html> to see a full list of events. They always welcome more participants, so check out the list when looking for places to fly.

Aurora Aviation is once again hosting the Collins Foundation at KUAO on June 16<sup>th</sup>. In the past, they have brought up the B17 for rides. Stop by Aurora Aviation to see what they bring up this year!

## Summer Weather Flying begins again!

We are starting to get the nice weather again, with beautiful warm sunny days! The clear skies mean flights are more reliable, and the ground is drying out. Soon, the grass fields will be open again and safe for use! Great summer flight ideas include flying into Siletz Bay or Pacific City and walking out to the beach, flying into Sisters to enjoy some mountain air and walk around the town, or even fly into Nehalem Bay, or Tieton State Washington for

some airplane camping opportunities. And if you have never made the trip up to the San Juan Islands, you are missing out! Many of the islands have airports, and are only a short walk from the airport to town. The scenery is amazing, and you can fly into one of the most beautiful areas of the northwest. Take a day or two and enjoy something different! Remember, if you want to try a fun fly out, but it is a bit farther than you want to go alone, talk to your fellow club members and see if you can split the flight and cover more distance. The one hour minimum a month gets you a lot farther when you combine your hour with another's. We will keep doing monthly fly outs to introduce everyone to new destinations, and exciting new flying opportunities!



*Kelso – Chris Eriksson*

## Strawberry Shortcake and BBQ Picnic

We will be having our annual BBQ and Strawberry Shortcake day on in late June. The exact date is still to be determined, but we have been told to plan to pick up strawberries in mid June. We will put the exact date in the June newsletter, and send out an email notice. Every year, we have a BBQ, and delicious strawberry shortcake. We ask everyone who comes to bring a side dish so we have plenty of food for everyone.

## Meeting with Tower

We will be having our annual meeting with the tower on May 24, at 6:00 pm at Sizzler on Lancaster. Rob, our tower chief, will be there to discuss the new runway condition reporting, and other various topics and an open Q&A session so you can ask all the questions you have always wanted to know about operating in our delta airspace. This is a great opportunity to learn how we can better work with the tower, and make sure we are doing what they want to make the airspace a friendly place. This is highly recommended for everyone, and Please RSVP to Isaac so he can estimate seats needed.

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