



Valley Flyers

"Just Plane Fun!"

885 Lancaster Dr SE
Salem, OR 97317

December 2021



Club Christmas Party: December 11th!

Isaac Mosgrove



After canceling last year's Christmas party because of COVID, we are looking forward to getting together with everyone to celebrate this year. Joan and Vern have

graciously agreed to host the party, starting at 6:00 PM on Saturday, December 11th.

In order to have enough food for everyone, each member is asked to bring either a main dish or salad, and a small dessert to share. The club will provide meat and some fixings. We'll also do a gift exchange, so bring a fun gift in the \$10-15 range (aviation gifts are always fun). Bring your family or friends and masks for a fun evening together. This is a great time to see old friends and to meet some of our newer members.

Please RSVP to Isaac by December 4th so that we can get the plans finalized and seating appropriately spaced. Feel free to text or email Isaac or Joan if you have questions.

Annual Business Meeting: January 26th

Isaac Mosgrove



It's almost time for our annual club meeting to cover general business and officer elections. Over dinner, we'll have a chance to meet the many new members that joined this year, provide an overall update on the club and our financials, discuss what we've accomplished over the last year, hold officer elections, discuss plans for the future, and discuss other business that you wish to bring up.

The President, Treasurer, and Safety & Maintenance Officer positions expire in January, so elections will be held for these positions. If you have interest in serving

on the Board, please contact any of the board members for more information on these positions: Isaac Mosgrove (President), Simon Hayes (Vice-President), Joan Johnson (Treasurer), Alan Lasneski (Secretary), Al Gray (Safety & Maintenance), Chris Eriksson (Chief Pilot).

If you know of special topics, proposals, or concerns that you'd like to discuss, please contact Isaac so that we can be sure that they are on the agenda.

We look forward to recapping the accomplishments of this past year and to look ahead to further improvements for the future. This year's meeting will be at 6:00 pm, Wednesday, January 26th.

October flyout: Oregon Air and Space Museum (KEUG)

Todd Lindley

This was the first time we'd made a club flight to Eugene to visit the Oregon Air and Space Museum. The museum is located on the airport (KEUG) at the southwest end.



Over fall colors, right downwind 34R

There are a lot of interesting artifacts for a small museum venue including a MiG-17 that had an engine fire and was safely landed instead of the pilot ejecting.

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There are also several Navy jets and an extensive scale model collection.



Inside museum hangar #1

KEUG can be fairly busy with GA training and commercial air carrier service and depending on the assigned runway, the taxi instructions can be quite complex. In our case we landed on runway 34R and had to taxi to the opposite side of the airport with multiple intersection instructions and a few changed taxi routes due to outgoing aircraft leaving the terminal.



MiG-17 with burned tail section

November flyout: night currency

Todd Lindley



This month we tried something a little different and instead of flying out of the area, we gathered a few instructors and offered night currency flights. A few pilots hadn't flown at night since their private pilot practical days, so it was a good refresher for all of us (including the CFI's).



Refueling at KSLE after the night flyout

After a safety briefing and pre-flight while we still had some daylight, we departed for some night takeoffs and landings at KMMV, 7S5, and KSLE. Even for those that don't do a lot of night flying, remaining current and proficient for passengers can come in handy for those day trips that extend into beyond sunset and being current, you won't have to rush back before dark. Consider doing your next club annual in the evening for a change of scenery.

December and January flyouts

Todd Lindley



The last time we had a club fly out to Sunriver was April 2020. That was Spring so what a better time to go on a sunny winter day (hopefully) with snow on the pass and surrounding the airport. On Saturday December 11, we'll depart at 10:00 am for S21 and from the airport take the resort shuttle to the Sun River Resort to grab lunch at one of the resort restaurants.

Our January flyout will be on Saturday the 8th. The destination is still to be decided.

Fuel Prices

Isaac Mosgrove



If you haven't noticed, Salem fuel prices continue to rise. Fuel is one of the most significant costs that affects our hourly rates. It is much appreciated if you keep an eye on fuel costs

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while out and about to try to save some costs for the club. As examples:

	Cost Per Gallon	Skylane Estimated Savings	Skyhawk Estimated Savings
Independence	\$5.41	-	-
Salem	\$5.40	-	-
Twin Oaks	\$4.80	\$7.80/hr	\$5.40/hr
Lenhardt	\$5.05	\$4.55/hr	\$3.15/hr
Corvallis	\$5.09	\$4.03/hr	\$2.79/hr
Albany/Mulino	\$5.29	\$1.43/hr	\$0.99/hr

Please purchase what fuel you need for the flight, regardless of the cost. Safety is always top priority. Stopping at a fun local airport to buy cheaper fuel will help the club keep our hourly rates low.

New member intro: Morgan Loring

Morgan Loring

Hi everyone! I've been interested in airplanes and aviation in general ever since I was a kid. At one point growing up, I intended to have a career in flying but eventually changed my mind and went to college to study software engineering.



After I graduated in 2019, I got a job at Garmin AT here in Salem. Even though I didn't choose flying as a career, my interest in aviation never went away and when I got the chance to join this club, I jumped at this opportunity to start my flight training. I now have several hours of instruction with Alan and can't wait to do more! Other than flying, I enjoy hiking, reading, cooking, and gaming.

New member intro: Emily Baker

Emily Baker

I'm Emily, I work for Garmin as a Design Certification Engineer. I graduated from PSU in 2019 with an EE

degree, and in my free time I enjoy baking bread, reading science fiction, and playing with my two cats. Something interesting about me is that I actually grew up in Germany and (used to) speak fluent German.



I just started flying about six weeks ago, I'm a complete novice but I've been having a blast so far and hope to continue. I am having difficulties with the FAA medical certification process though so if anyone with experience would like to reach out to me about that it would be much appreciated.

First Passengers – Not Always According to Plan

Stuart Jantze (written in June 2021)

In October 2021 I earned my private pilot certificate. The excitement of flying my first passengers hit as soon as the DPE handed me the temporary certificate. I knew for some time who my scheduled first and second passengers were going to be. My first scheduled passenger Cresta is located in Bend. Cresta is a great friend of many years. My second scheduled passenger Mia lived in Seattle but has recently relocated to Idaho to be closer to family. Mia is the youngest daughter of my friend Becky (who passed away in 2017), is in her mid-twenties, and proudly following her mother's footsteps as a registered nurse. I was so looking forward to taking them flying that I purchased co-pilot logbooks for each of them to have when we eventually flew.

My friend Cresta and I had many failed attempts to make our first flight a reality – weather delays, her schedule, my schedule, and aircraft availability on short notice. Having her on the other side of the Cascades was a challenge for a new pilot like me flying in the winter/spring.

Enter my friend Robert. Robert and his family have been friends with my family for... my whole life. Robert knew I earned my certificate and asked me last fall if I would fly him over his cabin near Mitchell, OR. I told him that I would be happy to do so in the spring or summer – just give me some time to gain confidence and look for a weather opportunity.

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Robert has been fighting cancer for over seven years. His wife called me in April, letting me know that they had called in Hospice. My heart sunk when I heard this terrible news for him – also thinking that I couldn't fulfill my promise to fly Robert over his cabin.

That weekend, my father and I stopped by Robert's in Bend to see how he and his family were doing. It shocked the heck out of us when both he and his wife answered the door! I could not believe that he wasn't bedridden since they had called in Hospice. Though looking frail, he was still Robert – full of all kinds of humor! We talked with the family, meanwhile I was watching for a weather window and aircraft availability on my Smartphone – no joy. The next day I looked again and that Wednesday was looking like a possibility. I booked a plane and kept my fingers crossed that the plan would work out.

The trip over the Cascades was smooth and uneventful that Wednesday morning in late April. Cresta enjoyed the flight much more than she had thought she might. We flew near the Cascades, over the Cascade Lakes, then back along the Deschutes River near Bend to see if we could spot her house. She commented that the landing was the smoothest she had ever felt (think of her experience with airliners thumping onto the runway, somewhat attempting to flare). It was a good landing, 8/10, I was slightly to the left of centerline (sorry Instructors Dennis and Steve!) but she knew no different.

After lunch with Cresta at CJ's At The Airport, it was time to take my second and third passengers up for a flight. I flew Robert and his daughter Katie out to Mitchell via a southern path over Prineville Reservoir. We flew near the Painted Hills, over his cabin, and many other local landmarks of which I was unaware. The trip back took us over Ochoco Reservoir with a 7/10 landing at Bend. I was pretty sure Robert and Katie enjoyed the flight, though we all knew the occasion was bittersweet. In all reality, you could tell that Robert just did not feel well.

The trip home over the Cascades was uneventful. My landing on runway 34 at Salem was unimpressive, a 5/10. I must have been getting fatigued as my landings throughout the day became progressively imperfect. Unfortunately no landing like a butterfly with sore feet this evening.

Within a few days after the Bend flights, I took my friend's daughter Mia out for a coast flight before she moved back to Idaho. She was all too happy to be my fourth passenger instead of my second. She recently finished an oncology rotation in Seattle and stated what I did for Katie and her father will be remembered

by their family forever – I'm sure it will. Mia also commented on how smooth the landing was back in Salem – a common trend I am hearing from my passengers. She also said the flight was "fire" (I guess this is good?) and that her mother would be so proud of me for pursuing and obtaining my longtime dream to fly.

Taking passengers up flying has been a blast! I'm refining how to brief my passengers – one instructor said to give them the minimum, another said a bit more; I lean towards using the FAA S A F E T Y acronym when giving passenger briefings. Flying with my "license to learn" is one of the most rewarding endeavors of which I have undertaken in years.

I will always remember my first passenger Cresta and my second fourth passenger Mia. The ones I will for sure recall are flying Katie and Robert over their cabin near Mitchell. The times I have been back to Bend since that first passengers' flight, I have had countless individuals tell me how much Robert and Katie enjoyed and talked about that day we flew over Mitchell. I know that we as pilots are but a very small percentage of the overall population; I am starting to see how powerful this thing called aviation really is to people – especially non-pilots.

I was so happy that I was able to keep my promise to Robert by taking him and Katie flying to Mitchell – it was a true honor. Robert passed on Thursday, 03 June 2021 – rest in peace Robert.



Robert and Katie

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

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