



Valley Flyers

"Just Plane Fun!"

885 Lancaster Dr SE
Salem, OR 97317

January 2026



Annual Business Meeting: January 28th

**JANUARY
28**



Our Club Annual Business Meeting will be on Wednesday, January 28th at 6:00 pm. This year's meeting will be held at [Miller's Café](#) located at [4600 25th Ave NE #165, Salem, OR 97301](#) within the Capital City Business Center building.

Miller's Café is the local business from whom we buy the BBQ for our Annual Christmas Party. They will be

opening after their normal business hours to support our club meeting at no extra charge to the club. We've moved the meeting location to save members the hassle of having to pay for parking in downtown Salem and to support another great local business. **Please RSVP (attending or not attending) to Isaac by January 26th so that Miller's can staff appropriately.**

This year's meeting will 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 any other business that you wish to bring up.

The President, Treasurer, and Safety and 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 the positions: Isaac Mosgrove (President), Simon Hayes (Vice-President), Joan Johnson (Treasurer), Jon Eggert (Secretary), Corey Benson (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.

Club flyouts: January-March

Simon Hayes



December was not a good month of flying weather and unfortunately we didn't succeed in having a flyout. Here are the dates and destinations for the next three months:

| Date | Destination | Airport |
|------------|-------------|---------|
| 01/17/2026 | Hood River | 4S2 |
| 02/21/2026 | Siletz Bay | S45 |
| 03/21/2026 | Prospect | 64S |

We've had a good response to flyout reminder emails that we've sent out ahead of time, and we'll keep doing that in future.

If you have questions, suggestions, or comments about the flyouts please contact Simon Hayes or Jon Eggert. Please also let us know if you're interested in possibly doing a longer flying trip, for example to California or Idaho.

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Alan Lasneski CFI | Chris Eriksson CFII | Corey Benson CFII | Holly Benson CFII | Jackson Gilmore CFII | Scott Bragg CFII | Simon Hayes CFII | Todd Lindley CFII |
| 503.866.2396 | 847.345.5258 | 864.508.2605 | 704.960.9741 | 928.821.0028 | 970.219.0661 | 256.652.1554 | 425.681.9994 |

5174E has new paint!



Photos by Mikel Wynn

N5174E's new paint job is complete and 74E is now safely back in Salem and online for members to fly. Thank you to Kate Pelczar and Todd Lindley for helping to get the plane up to Paine Field for paint. A huge thank you to Brian Deno and Kate Pelczar for being available when the weather finally allowed the aircraft to be safely returned to Salem (which was no small feat with the weather in December).

Many other upgrades were made in addition to the new paint: new windows, flap roller bearings, exterior fastener hardware, door seals, and plastic parts (except wingtips) were installed.

We invested more than \$50,000 in the paint and upgrades and want to keep the paint looking nice. We ask that all members please take special care of this plane:

- Like N70574, there is a fuel mat in the luggage area. **ALWAYS USE THE FUEL MAT WHEN FUELING to protect the leading edge.** Even with the mat, please don't rest the hose on the wing or allow ladders or jacket zippers/buttons to come in contact with the plane.



- Please be sure to thoroughly clean the leading edges, struts, and cowl after each flight.
- Please remember that it is still an older airframe and we need to be careful with the doors (opening, closing, and locking), seat mechanisms, and other aspects of the plane. With new door seals, it may be harder to close the doors than what you are used to. This is normal and it will become easier over time.
- Please report any damage noted to the paint.

Admire the new look, have fun flying it, and enjoy an extra few knots of speed!



Club Christmas Party



Photos by Mikel Wynn

This year's Christmas Party was a wonderful event at Joan and Vern's house. Thank you both so much for hosting our annual celebration! It was a relaxing and festive evening filled with laughter, visiting and eating. There were great gifts for the gift exchange (with lots of bantering and laughing).

As usual, people went all out with the food and desserts (including ham, BBQ brisket, chicken, and tons of other delicious dishes, desserts, and hors d'oeuvres). It was great to see so many new connections being made.

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Alan Lasneski CFI | Chris Eriksson CFII | Corey Benson CFII | Holly Benson CFII | Jackson Gilmore CFII | Scott Bragg CFII | Simon Hayes CFII | Todd Lindley CFII |
| 503.866.2396 | 847.345.5258 | 864.508.2605 | 704.960.9741 | 928.821.0028 | 970.219.0661 | 256.652.1554 | 425.681.9994 |

Thank you to everyone who helped make this a successful event and for helping clean up afterward. We look forward to doing it again in 2026!



West parking area hangar improvement project completed

Nathan Powell

A sincere thank-you to everyone who contributed their time, effort, equipment, and resources to make the new parking area at the west end of the hangars a reality!

This project was truly a community effort, completed thanks to the many volunteers who stepped up to help. The goal was straightforward but important: replace the grass parking sections with a durable, all-weather surface that provides reliable winter parking for club members.



Project Overview

The scope of work was significant. It included removing and off-hauling the existing grass and unsuitable soils, addressing long-standing grading issues to improve drainage (we were limited by existing building, taxiway, and sidewalk elevations, but the situation is now improved), installing road fabric to support long-term performance, and placing and compacting more than 130 cubic yards of asphalt millings. Airport Operations played a key role by providing and hauling the asphalt millings, which made this improvement possible and helped keep costs to a minimum.



Project Effort Highlights

- 135+ volunteer hours dedicated
- 130 cubic yards of asphalt millings provided and hauled by Airport Operations
- Equipment donated at no cost, contributing many hours of essential use

Estimated Cost Savings

- Donated Equipment: \$7,770
- Asphalt Millings & Hauling: \$3,000
- Volunteer Labor: \$8,775
- Dump Fees: \$900

Total Estimated Savings: \$20,445

| Alan Lasneski CFI | Chris Eriksson CFII | Corey Benson CFII | Holly Benson CFII | Jackson Gilmore CFII | Scott Bragg CFII | Simon Hayes CFII | Todd Lindley CFII |
|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 503.866.2396 | 847.345.5258 | 864.508.2605 | 704.960.9741 | 928.821.0028 | 970.219.0661 | 256.652.1554 | 425.681.9994 |

Acknowledgments

- A sincere thank-you to Q&R Construction Services Inc. for loaning an additional excavator at no cost on short notice.
- Special thanks to Justin Benson for consistently showing up and contributing exceptional hours.

- Enter KSLE as the fueling location for each fuel purchase made at Salem.

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.



KSLE Fuel Discount

When submitting your fuel expenses for fuel purchased at Salem, please remember to do the following to help us with the fuel refund from Salem Aviation Fueling:

- **When purchasing fuel at KSLE:** Enter the full Aircraft Tail number in the pumps when you purchase fuel at KSLE (e.g., 5174E, 70574).
- **When checking your flight into Flight Circle:**
 - Enter each fuel expense separately and upload an image of each fuel slip. Flight Circle allows you to enter multiple fuel reimbursements for each flight. If you purchased fuel at multiple locations, please do not mix KSLE fuel reimbursements with those from other airports.

| Alan Lasneski CFI | Chris Eriksson CFII | Corey Benson CFII | Holly Benson CFII | Jackson Gilmore CFII | Scott Bragg CFII | Simon Hayes CFII | Todd Lindley CFII |
|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 503.866.2396 | 847.345.5258 | 864.508.2605 | 704.960.9741 | 928.821.0028 | 970.219.0661 | 256.652.1554 | 425.681.9994 |