



Valley Flyers

"Just Plane Fun!"

885 Lancaster Dr SE
Salem, OR 97317

June 2026



Strawberry Shortcake Summer BBQ - June 27



We have planned our annual Strawberry Shortcake and BBQ event for Saturday, June 27th, weather permitting! Please bring your choice of meat for your family and a salad or main dish to share in the potluck. The club will provide beverages and strawberry shortcake for everyone.

We'll start the event at 12pm, with the grilling starting at 1pm. Bring your family and friends to enjoy an afternoon at the hangars! We'll also invite the Tower so we can get a chance to visit with some of our controllers.

This event is BYOC (Bring Your Own Chair). It would be helpful – but isn't required – to RSVP to Isaac Mosgrove so that we can plan enough beverages and strawberry shortcake.

Keep an eye on your emails in case of changes!

Quarterly members meeting

On May 19th, we held our regular quarterly members meeting. We covered the club budget, aircraft squawks and improvements, and general club activities. Thanks to Chris Eriksson for his presentation and discussion on aeronautical decision-making!

If you weren't able to attend the meeting, feel free to contact a board member at any time if you have a question or suggestion for the club.

Keeping on the straight and yellow

Hopefully everyone has noticed that we now have yellow guide lines painted outside all the hangars. They make it much easier to push the aircraft back into the right spot, and keep them away from the hangar walls.

Many thanks to Alan Lasneski for the great painting job!



Club flyouts - June-August

Simon Hayes



Unsettled weather in May prevented another flyout from happening. Here are the dates and destinations for the next three months. Note that

Alan Lasneski CFI 503.866.2396	Brian Deno CFII 541.990.2696	Chris Eriksson CFII 847.345.5258	Corey Benson CFII 864.508.2605	Holly Benson CFII 704.960.9741	Scott Bragg CFII 970.219.0661	Simon Hayes CFII 256.652.1554	Todd Lindley CFII 425.681.9994
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the August flyout to Orcas is planned to coincide with the [EAA Chapter 937 Fly-In](#) on August 7-9:

Date	Destination	Airport
06/20/2026	Westport, WA	14S
07/18/2026	Hood River	4S2
08/08/2026	Orcas, WA	KORS

If you have questions, suggestions, or comments about the flyouts please contact Simon Hayes or Jon Eggert.

PIREP: 2025 AirShow of the Cascades

Recap

Mikel Wynn

A significant chunk of my summer 2025 plans completely fell apart from mid-June and all of July, which resulted in me getting skunked on four air shows I planned to attend, either due to bad weather or poor communications by specific venues regarding fly-ins (or lack thereof!), making my 2025 air show season a rather lackluster year (for context, I had plans to attend 10 different shows, but I ended up only making it to six of them). That all mercifully changed for me on Saturday, August 23, 2025 when I flew N70574 out to Madras for the AirShow of the Cascades (one of my personal favorite air show venues!), which would be the last event I fly myself out to for the year.



This opportunity was my fifth year in a row flying out to this venue and it would be a special one because 2025 marked this air show's 25th anniversary, which was a big deal. Better yet, I got to share this trip with a young man named Nolan,

who joined me in flying out with me. Nolan's mother is a friend and co-worker of mine, and she asked me if there was any possibility if I would allow her son to tag along on this air show outing; I was more than happy to oblige! Nolan was about to start his senior year of high school and he was also following his older brother's academic footsteps by being enrolled in the CTEC aviation program here in Salem!



Nolan and I met up at SLE and we had an uneventful VFR flight in the Skylane out to Madras. After landing, air show volunteers directed us to where we can park and helped us secure the airplane; these volunteers are the reason why I love flying out for the AirShow of the Cascades every year! After checking in at the registration tent for the fly-in, Nolan and I staked out spots along the crowd line for our camp chairs before walking around the venue, which included looking at the static displays, visiting the Erickson Aircraft Collection, and visiting the Ron Ochs chalet (named after the founder of this air show!), which gave VIP treatment to the pilots and passengers who flew in, which included breakfast and later lunch as well as ice-cold drinks free of charge (another perk about flying in to this air show!). Before the show got underway, Nolan and I enjoyed a free lunch consisting of pizza and drinks, courtesy of the Ron Ochs chalet.

We also had to make the most of our time at the Erickson Aircraft Collection because this air show has become the only opportunity the museum opens their doors to the public after they announced in March 2025 that they were closing to regular visitations due to their extensive aircraft collection undergoing maintenance as well as being

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hired by other warbird owners and organizations to conduct and carry out maintenance, which marked a pivot in their business strategy; over half the EAC's hangar has since been converted into a maintenance and restoration shop and less of a museum, which is unfortunate for the warbird enthusiasts, but necessary to keep funds flowing to keep the warbirds flying.



As for the performer line-up, it was certainly worthy of being a part of the 25th anniversary celebrations! Following the opening ceremonies, local skydive instructors from Skydive Bend (based at Madras!) kicked off the flying demonstrations with parachute jumping demos. John "Drew" Blase (who debuted at Bremerton last year) and his SIAI-Marchetti SF.260 was an unannounced last-minute addition to the line-up and I certainly appreciated seeing him perform again; he says a few more air shows and he'll eventually be approved to lower hard-deck altitudes as part of his aerobatic competency! Another new-to-me performer was husband and wife duo Mike and Samantha Tryggvason and their Grumman G-164 "Showcat" doing their "Wingwalker Sam" routine demonstrating the ultimate "trust walk" (not to mention the ultimate test of their marriage!) and the most precise crew resource management demonstration one can see at an air show; this act was a treat to see because the old-fashioned wing-walking that harkens back to barnstormers of the 1920s have become an increasingly rare sight!

We were also treated to aerobatic performances by local Oregonian based out of Aurora Renny Price in his Sukhoi Su-29, as well as a Pitts S-1S flown by Anthony Oshinuga, a relative newcomer to aerobatics, air shows and air racing with an

impressive number of accolades and world record firsts under his belt achieved in a short amount of time, most notably being the first African American pilot to compete and place on the podium at the Reno Air Races in 2015 with a second-place finish, as well as being featured as the first African American aerobatics pilot to perform in the Arctic Circle at an air show at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska. Oshinuga also owns and operates his aerial scenic wine touring company, AirOshi in southern California. And of course, the Madras-based Erickson Aircraft Collection sent up a few of their warbirds as part of the air show line-up all the while commemorating the fact that the year 2025 marked 80 years since the end of World War II; for the main air show line-up EAC pilots flew their P-51D Mustang, P-38L Lightning, and B-25 Mitchell for a number of beautiful and poignant passes. In addition to the regular air show performances, EAC's B-17 Flying Fortress, T-6 Texan, and SBD Dauntless gave rides throughout the day prior to and after the main air show performances.



And perhaps most notably, the main headline performer for the 2025 AirShow of the Cascades was the Byron, California-based Patriots Jet Team and their six Czech-built Aero L-39C Albatros jet trainers! Notable because this occasion was the jet team's first time performing at Madras. Also notable because this was the first time in this air show venue's history to feature a large, six-ship formation jet team as part of the performer line-up and as headliner. This was actually my second time during the season seeing the Patriots Jet Team, as I've already seen them earlier in the year at the 2025 Oregon International Air Show at Hillsboro. But I

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had looked forward to seeing the Patriots at both venues regardless because prior to that, it had been over a decade (well-before I started flying!) since I last saw them at an air show and I've been waiting for an opportunity to get better photos of them in action, which I accomplished twice during the 2025 air show season!



Needless to say, the Patriots Jet Team was a crowd-pleaser for the Madras community as it was quite a treat for a small-town air show to get such a prestigious formation jet team as the headline performer on the 25th anniversary. And in a class act at the conclusion of their performance, the Patriots paid tribute to AirShow of the Cascades founder Ron Ochs (who passed away in June 2020) with a poignant and heart-tugging Missing Man Formation. I'm sure the late-Ron Ochs was smiling down from the heavens, satisfied that this air show made it to its 25th anniversary, a milestone year for sure!

After the Patriots Jet Team landed, the TFR over Madras lifted. Nolan and I stuck around for a little bit, first to chat with and get autographs from the Patriots Jet Team pilots. We then walked through the static displays and the Erickson Aircraft Collection hangar one more time for some prime photo opportunities while waiting for a good chunk of the fly-in traffic to die down. After we satisfied our appetites of the last-minute sights and sounds of the air show venue, we packed our belongings back into the Skylane.

Following a problem-free pre-flight and run-ups, we got airborne out of Madras and Nolan and I enjoyed yet another uneventful VFR flight back home to Salem, where we eventually topped off the Skylane's tanks and got it back into our club hangars

before we parted ways. I certainly enjoyed having Nolan as company, a rarity for me since I typically tend to do these air show trips solo. It was indeed a privilege to have shared this opportunity with a prospective future pilot and a student of the CTEC aviation program no less!

The AirShow of the Cascades is scheduled to take place again for the 2026 season, on August 28th and 29th.



Fuel surcharge update

Avgas at Salem is unchanged at \$7.20/gallon, above the \$6.78/gallon mark at which the club applies a fuel surcharge. We are keeping the surcharge at its current level of 42c/gallon:

Aircraft	Fuel burn	Surcharge/hr
C182	13gph	\$5.46
C172, PA28	8.5gph	\$3.57

The club will continue to reimburse fuel expenses fully as usual. The surcharge is a completely separate item and you'll see it show up in Flight Circle as part of your regular billing.

We appreciate members filling up at other airports if avgas is cheaper there, however safety and required fuel reserves always come first. Please don't try to stretch a flight simply to save a few dollars!

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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