



High Desert Flyers

Chapter 1345 Bend, Oregon

May 2025 Newsletter

Message from the President

Greetings fellow members, and welcome to our May newsletter. We have some great information about our scholarship winners, and some good news from our builders. Both planes are getting very close to flying.

We have a great meeting planned. Along with our usual business we will have a very interesting presentation safety from Prineville's Steve Bateman. Those who have already heard him speak know he is an amazing source of great flying information.

Next General Meeting

Wednesday, May 14

6:00pm - Dinner will be available for purchase before the meeting. Please see the menu on page 3.

6:30-7:30pm
General meeting

Location:

Dogs and Fries Restaurant
63136 Powell Butte Hwy
Bend, OR

Guests are welcome to attend up to two monthly meetings before becoming a member.

Summer is getting busy! We have our first Young Eagles event on May 31st in Madras. Amy Bionda will fill us in on the details. Also, there is an ODART exercise planned, information from Kim Muinch is below. Our June meeting will be a potluck picnic. Should be a great chance to visit and meet our newer members.

However, it is with great sadness I announce the passing of Henry Graham. He died peacefully at his home in April.

Henry has been an enthusiastic member of our chapter for far longer than I. He served our chapter for two years as our treasurer. He was well read and always had interesting opinions on a large variety of subjects. I'm hoping many of you had the pleasure of getting to know him.

There are plans being made for a memorial service. As soon as I have any information I will pass it along.

He will be missed.

See you on the 14th!

Tailwinds!

Chris Wallace

May Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and greetings to guests Chris Wallace
- July 5th Young Eagles update/Request for volunteers Amy Bionda
- **Guest Speaker: Steve Bateman, CFI II Human Performance Factors**
Wings Presentation on local airspace and being predictable
(A Wings announcement will be sent before the meeting)
- Closing remarks Chris Wallace

2025 Chapter Events Schedule

Chapter meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month unless noted otherwise below.

May 14	Chapter Meeting
May 31 (Sat)	Young Eagles Day at Madras Airport
June 11	Picnic in the Park (see page 4 for details)
July 5	Young Eagles Day at Bend Municipal Airport
July 9	Chapter Meeting
August 13	Chapter Meeting
September 10	Chapter Meeting
Sept TBD	<i>Young Eagles Day (Location TBD)</i>
October 8	Chapter Meeting
November 12	Chapter Meeting or Group Volunteer Event
December 10	Holiday Party

Volunteers Needed

Please consider volunteering for one of our many chapter events. It's a great way to get to know other members and give back to our community.

And we are always looking for ideas for speakers/programs for our monthly chapter meetings. If you or someone you know would be interested in presenting to the chapter, please reach out to Chris Wallace at highdesertflyers1345@gmail.com.

May Chapter Meeting Dinner Menu

We will be meeting at Dogs and Fries Restaurant located upstairs in the Bend Airport FBO building. Attendees will be able to buy dinner directly from the restaurant prior to the meeting.

A Plea from your President

We are very fortunate that Hoss (owner of Dogs and Fries) allows us to use his restaurant for our meetings. However, we know this will only continue if it is financially beneficial for him. So we encourage you, if possible, to support the restaurant by buying dinner at our meetings.

The menu will be a Persian or Mexican rice bowl this month. You do not need to order in advance, but please try to arrive no later than 6:00pm to allow time to eat before the meeting begins at 6:30pm. The menu will be limited to the choice of one of the two rice bowls listed below. This will allow Hoss and his team to serve everyone during the 30-minute window before the meeting starts.

Menu

Persian Bowl \$14

- Basmati Rice
- Gheymeh (yellow split pea & beef stew)
- Shirazi Salad
- Mast-o-khiar (cucumber yogurt dips)

Taco Bowl \$14

- Mexican Rice
- Beans
- Choice of (select one):
 - Chicken Tinga
 - Beef Barbacoa
 - Sweet Potato
- Pico
- Cotija Cheese
- Sour Cream



Summer Potluck Picnic in the Park

We will be gathering for a picnic in the park for our June chapter meeting.

Date: Wednesday, June 11

Time: 5:30-7:30pm

Location: *Bend park location TBD*

An invitation will be emailed via SignUp Genius to RSVP and sign-up to share what you will be bringing to the potluck.

The chapter will provide paper plates, napkins, cups and utensils.

More details to come...

We hope you can join us!



Exciting News – Our First Young Eagles Event of the Year!

We're thrilled to announce that our chapter is deep in the planning stages for our first Young Eagles event of the season, taking place **Saturday, May 31st** at the **Madras Airport**!

This is more than just a day of flights—it's a chance to inspire the next generation of aviators and ignite a lifelong passion for the skies.

Registration opened Thursday, May 1st at 8:00 AM, with 24 flight slots available (plus a waiting list). Based on the overwhelming response at past events, we expect these to fill within hours!

Volunteer Info: All volunteers are asked to arrive **no later than 7:30 AM** on **Saturday, May 31st** at the **Madras Airport FBO** for a group briefing and final walk-throughs. We'll be dividing into three teams:

- **Pilots** – led by Fred Berardo
- **Ground Marshals** – led by Don McLean
- **Ground Escorts** – led by Amy Bionda

Please check in with your team lead promptly at 7:30 AM. The first families will begin arriving around **8:15 AM**, with check-in officially starting at **8:30 AM**.

New this year: All ground crew—including escorts, marshals, liaisons, registrars, EAA scholars, etc.—are **highly encouraged to attend a special safety training on Saturday, May 17th at 9:00 AM** at the **Bend Airport**. This is an important step in ensuring a smooth and safe experience for everyone involved.

We already have a fantastic team shaping up—but we still need more help! If you're interested in volunteering, whether as a pilot or on the ground crew, or you're unsure of your current role or status, please contact **Amy Bionda** either at the **May 14th EAA Chapter Meeting** or via email at amy.bionda@yahoo.com.

This is an incredible opportunity to give kids the experience of a lifetime—and it wouldn't be possible without your passion and dedication. Thank you for helping us lift dreams off the ground.

Let's make this event unforgettable!



Meet Our 2025 Scholarship Recipients!

*Submitted by Jeff Stolas,
Chapter Scholarship Coordinator*



As we kick off the 2025 flying season, we're excited to introduce this year's three scholarship recipients—an outstanding group of young aviators who truly stood out among a strong pool of applicants. Let's meet them.

Delilah Rose Richards

Delilah is a junior at Bend High School with talents that span from the mat to the track—and now to the skies. She's a dedicated athlete, competing in both track and wrestling, and this summer she'll be adding "pilot" to her impressive list of accomplishments. Delilah's inspiration to fly comes from stories of aviation in her family history, which led her to take a Young Eagles flight with our chapter a couple of years ago. That flight happened to be with one of our recently certified young pilots—and it sparked something. Since then, Delilah has been an active and enthusiastic member of our chapter. She and her family have become familiar faces at meetings and events, and they even volunteered at our chapter's charity event this winter. Delilah is in her fourth year of the International Youth Exchange Program through American Airlines, giving her a global perspective to match her flying goals. She also works at the Hayden Homes Amphitheater as part of the Green Team. We can't wait to see where she flies next!

Tobann Bionda

Tobann is a junior from Sisters, Oregon—and yes, the younger brother of one of our former Ray Scholars! Originally from rural France, Tobann brings a global outlook and a real sense of adventure to everything he does. Whether it's cross-country biking, sailing, or road-tripping, he's always up for exploring new horizons. He's also a tennis player and a fiddle player with the Sisters Outlaw Strings group. His aviation journey started through the Sisters High School Aviation Program, and he's a founding member of the Outlaw RC Plane and Drone Club. For Tobann, aviation is also a bit of a family affair—his mom, Amy, plays an active role in our chapter's Young Eagles program. With strong roots in our EAA community, Tobann is ready to make his own mark. He plans to kick off his flight training this summer—right after a few more travel adventures, of course.

(continued on next page)

Meet Our 2025 Scholarship Recipients! *(continued)*

Taylor Goodrich

Taylor is the recipient of our Jack Watson Memorial Scholarship—and she's about as involved as a high school junior can be! She takes classes through the OSU Extension Center and somehow still finds time to participate in cross country, martial arts, Nordic skiing, and trap shooting through Summit High School. In the aviation world, she's an active member of the Civil Air Patrol, where she earned the Amelia Earhart Award and even soloed a glider last summer. These days, Taylor is flying regularly with Bend Aircraft, logging several flights a week as she continues building her skills and hours.

We're incredibly proud to support these three students as they chase their aviation goals. Stay tuned—there's a lot more to come from Delilah, Tobann, and Taylor this season!

EAA National Free Webinars

Below is a list of some of the webinars offered for free by EAA National to members this month. Preregistration is recommended since space is limited. For more information and to preregister, go to <https://www.eaa.org/eaanews-and-publications/eaanews-webinars>. If you miss the live webinar, you can still watch the video at a later date.

***May 13-15 is Learn To Fly Week.
Visit the EAA webinar site for a list of classes offered***

- May 6: The Gee Bee (*EAA Museum Series*)
- May 7: Security Violation
- May 21: IFR Approach: From Cruise to the Initial Approach Fix
- May 28: Stall and Spin Avoidance

Updates from our Chapter Aircraft Builders



Our chapter has several members currently building experimental kit planes in varying stages. The builders have been busy this winter and below are some updates on their projects. If you are building a kit, we would love to include your update in a future newsletter.

Chapter Member: Jeff Stolasz

Kit: Just Highlander

Build Location: Jeff's Home Shop

The Highlander is closing in on completion. Just today I did a successful first engine start. As with everything it didn't go without some head scratching. First, I had to figure out why the starter wasn't getting power. As I was walking to get my tools, I remembered...the anti-theft switch! I wired that as one of the first things six months ago, at least it's working. Then I forgot about the fuel valve. Definitely need to write that checklist. The third attempt at starting led me down another troubleshooting path to a mis-wired ignition switch. Finally, on the fourth attempt it fired right up. Now I need to dial in the prop pitch. All the major pieces are complete. A lot of punch list items to go through and nagging issues to fix. I think I can see the light at the end of the tunnel.



Chapter Member: Chris Wallace
Kit: Sonex Waix
Build Location: Bend Builder's Assist

Making some pretty good progress lately. Wings are installed, most wiring is complete, panel is coming along nicely. Test fit new interior. Put in sound insulation, should be quiet as an airliner!





Chapter Member Name Tags

The Chapter purchases name tags for all current members who would like one. The name tag will include your name, and a second line of your choice. Maybe your aircraft N number, your nickname, board position, or anything you'd like to say about yourself.

If you would like a name tag, please submit your request to Jeff Stolasz (jstolasz@yahoo.com). We receive a discount on ten or more, so every ten requests we will place an order.

Wear your nametag with pride. You are part of a rapidly growing group!

Here is a sample of the name tag.



Member Submissions

We would love to include thoughts, travels, and flying experiences of our members in the monthly newsletter. If you would like to share, please send your articles and photos to Debbie Wallace at highdesertflyers1345@gmail.com.

ODART Update

Submitted by Kim Muinch, Chapter Member

The Oregon Disaster Airlift Response Team Whale Run 2025 annual exercise – set for Saturday, June 7th and Saturday, June 14th is in its final planning stage, with pilots having just been matched to flights.

We will be flying “Windshield Aerial Surveys” on Saturday, June 7th. These flights will assess transportation infrastructure in Central Oregon and across the Cascades. This includes major highways and airfields. If you would like to fly-along with a pilot as an observer, a sign-up sheet will be circulated at the chapter meeting.

Bend pilots will be flying cargoes from airports on the west side of the Cascades to the Bend Municipal Airport on June 14th. Those cargoes will most likely be non-perishable food, and we will deliver those cargoes to local food banks in Central Oregon.

This past Monday, flight assignments were made, and pilots notified. Pilots - if you have not registered for flights with Air Ops Coordinator Dave Wellman, there may still be flight slots available. Contact Dave NOW at dave@wellmansurveying.com

Logistics volunteers, we'll need you on Saturday, June 14th to support the cargo flights. If you'd like to volunteer, a sign-up sheet will be circulated at the chapter meeting. You'll manage the ramp for safe operations, assist pilots with unloading, and forward flight arrival/cargo receipt notifications to communications volunteers for transmission to ODART sending airport comm's volunteers.

We have 4 volunteers on our communications team. And a complete HAM/PC station that can communicate with all other ODART locations, and beyond. If you'd like to join that team, we'll have a sign-up sheet for that also.

Anyone - YOU can sign-up to be an exercise observer! We are looking for observations of what worked, and didn't work so well. OR - if you'd like to deliver cargo to your favorite food bank, we'll make the arrangement.

Kim (541) 848-3600

Local Aviation Museum Highlights



Western Antique Aeroplane & Automobile Museum

2025 scheduled events at the WAAAM museum in Hood River:

May 10 - Second Saturday - Studebaker Spotlight

May 24 - Driving Through The Decades

May 31 - Model T Driving School

June 14 - Second Saturday - Gliders and the World of Silent Flight

June 28 - Model T Driving School

July 12 - WAAAM Traffic Jam - A Car Show, WAAAM Style

July 21-24 - WAAAM Camp – Car Style

July 26 - Model T Driving School

July 28-31 - WAAAM Camp - Intro to Aviation for Kids

August 9 - Second Saturday - Oregon Road Trips Author Talk

August 23 - Model T Driving School

September 6 & 7 - Annual Hood River Fly-in

September 13 - Second Saturday - International Model A Day

September 27 - Model T Driving School

October 11 - Second Saturday - V-8 Engines

November 8 - Second Saturday - Military Vehicles

December 13 - Second Saturday - Special Delivery

Each month we fly and drive the exhibits. Come and enjoy the fun!

To see more details, please visit their website at www.waaamuseum.org.

Upcoming Pacific Northwest Aviation Events

2025 Airshows

May 16-18	Oregon International Airshow	Hillsboro, OR
May 30-31	Oregon Trail STOL	Ontario, OR
June 7	Yakima Aviation Day	Yakima, WA
June 7-8	*T Beale Air & Space Expo	Beale AFB, CA
June 14-15	Olympic Airshow	Olympia, WA
June 20-21	Moses Lake Airshow	Grant County Intl Airport, WA
June 20-21	Pangborn's Festival of Flight	East Wenatchee, WA
June 28	Skagit Skies Airshow	Skagit, WA
June 28	Coeur d'Alene Aviation Air Show	Hayden, ID
July 12-13	Bremerton Airshow	Bremerton, WA
July 19-20	*T Wings and Eagles Airshow	Klamath Falls, OR
July 21-27	EAA AirVenture	Oshkosh, WI
July 25-27	STCU Over-the-River Air Show	Kennewick, WA
Aug 16	Tacoma Narrows Airshow	Gig Harbor, WA
Aug 1-3	*B Boeing Seafair Airshow	Seattle, WA
Aug 15-17	Arlington SkyFest	Arlington, WA
Aug 22-23	Airshow of the Cascades	Madras, OR
Sept 26-28	*S Oregon International Airshow	McMinnville, OR
Sept 6-7	WAAAM Hood River Fly-In	Hood River, Or
Oct 10-12	*B&S Fleet Week	San Francisco, CA

Special Performances: *B *Airshow features US Navy Blue Angels*
 *S *Airshow features Canadian Snowbirds*
 *T *Airshow features US Air Force Thunderbirds*



2025 Membership Dues

Annual membership dues for 2025 are due! Member dues helps us to cover our operating expenses. Annual dues are \$35 for individuals and \$50 for a family. Dues can be paid electronically by credit card through PayPal on our website. If you prefer to pay by check, please make the check payable to “EAA Chapter 1345” and either bring it to the monthly meeting or mail it to:

EAA Chapter 1345
P.O. Box 6732
Bend, OR 97706

We welcome prospective members to attend up to two of our monthly chapter meetings to learn about the group and meet our members. After attending two meetings, we kindly ask that you join the chapter by paying the annual dues to help fund our activities during the year.

If you have any questions, please send an email to highdesertflyers1345@gmail.com.



Chapter Board

President	Chris Wallace highdesertflyers1345@gmail.com <i>Term: Jan 2023-Dec 2025</i>	Vice President	Tom Wright wright.thomas@yahoo.com <i>Term: Jan 2023-Dec 2025</i>
Secretary	Jeff Stolasz Jstolasz@yahoo.com <i>Term: Jan 2023-Dec 2026</i>	Treasurer	Joel Haynes Joelroberthaynes@gmail.com <i>Term: Jan 2024-Dec 2025</i>

Chapter Committee Chairpersons

Young Eagles & Eagles Coordinator

Tom Wright
wright.thomas@yahoo.com
Term: Term: Jan 2023-Dec 2025

Membership Coordinator & Member At Large

Justin Earl
highdesertflyers1345@gmail.com
Term: Jan 2025-Dec 2026

Scholarship Coordinator

Jeff Stolasz
Jstolasz@yahoo.com
Term: Jan 2023-Dec 2026

Webmaster

Don McLean
highdesertflyers1345@gmail.com
Term: Mar 2025-Dec 2026

Newsletter Editor

Debbie Wallace
highdesertflyers1345@gmail.com
Term: Jan 2023-Dec 2025

For those of you who are new to the chapter....

Young Eagles events offer free introductory flights to local youth aged 8-17. Flying Start is a program for adults to inspire and educate aspiring aviators. Both events are made possible by the generosity of chapter member volunteers.

The Ray Aviation Scholarship program provides up to \$12,000 to local deserving youths to help cover their flight training expenses. The scholarships are partially funded by the EAA National Ray Foundation and partially by our chapter.