



# High Desert Flyers

Chapter 1345 Bend, Oregon

## June 2025 Newsletter

### Summer Potluck

*Please Note: In lieu of our June chapter meeting, we will hold a potluck picnic.*

*Please see page 3 for more details on how to RSVP.*

Wednesday, June 11

**5:30pm – Potluck Picnic**

#### Location:

Compass Park Picnic Shelter  
2500 NW Crossing Dr  
Bend, OR

### Message from the President

Greetings fellow members and welcome to our June newsletter!

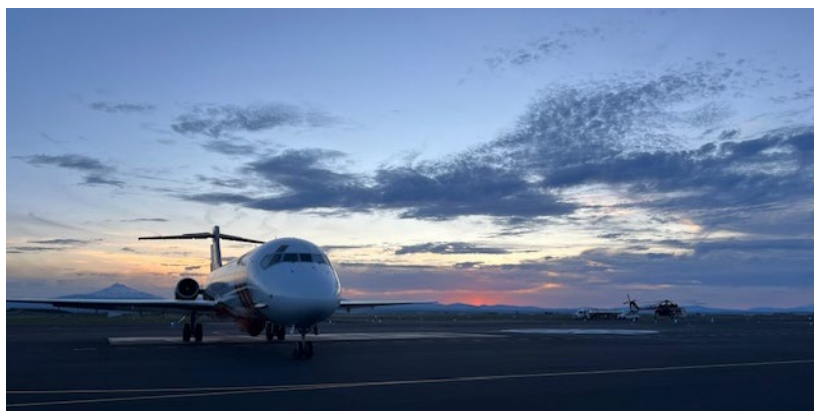
We have just completed our first Young Eagles event of the season in conjunction with the Madras airport open house. It was another highly successful event due to the hard work of our army of volunteers. We have a recap as well as pictures from the day. Thanks to all of you who gave up your time and avgas.

We also have information and updates from our Ray Scholars, and a very exciting builders update from Jeff Stolasz.

This month's meeting will be a potluck picnic instead of our usual plan. Please note the change in meeting time and location. Should be great weather and lots of good food and camaraderie. Signup information is below. Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Tailwinds!

*Chris Wallace*



*Madras Airport on the eve of Young Eagles*

## June Meeting Agenda

There will be no chapter meeting in June. We hope to see you at our Summer Potluck on Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. Please see page 3 for more details.



## 2025 Chapter Events Schedule

*Chapter meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month unless noted otherwise below.*

<b>June 11</b>	<b>Picnic in the Park (see page 3 for details)</b>
July 9	Chapter Meeting
August 13	Chapter Meeting
September 10	Chapter Meeting
<b><i>Date TBD</i></b>	<b><i>Young Eagles Day at Bend Municipal Airport</i></b>
October 8	Chapter Meeting
November 12	Chapter Meeting or Group Volunteer Event
<b>December 10</b>	<b>Holiday Party</b>

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### 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](mailto:highdesertflyers1345@gmail.com).

# 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: Compass Park Picnic Shelter  
(In Northwest Crossing, Bend)

An invitation was emailed via SignUp Genius to RSVP and sign-up to share what you will be bringing to the potluck. If you would like to join us but didn't receive the email invitation, contact us at [highdesertflyers1345@gmail.com](mailto:highdesertflyers1345@gmail.com).

Please RSVP no later than Monday, Jun 9<sup>th</sup>.

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

We hope you can join us!



## **Young Eagles Rally on Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup> Update**

*Submitted by Amy Bionda, Madras Young Eagles Coordinator*

The EAA Chapter 1345 Young Eagles Rally on Saturday, May 31, 2025, was a resounding success and a shining example of our chapter's core mission in action: sparking a lifelong passion for aviation in the next generation. Volunteers began setting up bright and early at 6:30 a.m., and by 8:00 a.m., the first eager Young Eagles were registering under sunny skies and ideal flying conditions. Thanks to the incredible teamwork of 24 dedicated ground volunteers—handling everything from greeting and registration to liaisons, ground escorts, and marshaling—and 11 amazing volunteer pilots (including two who stepped up at the last minute), the event ran smoothly and maintained the absolute highest level of safety throughout the entire day. All 30 Young Eagles, ages 7 to 18, were flown before noon, with a few no-shows offset by walk-ins to keep the numbers just right.

This event isn't just a fun day—it's at the heart of what we do. Introducing young people to aviation, many for the very first time, is one of the most important missions of EAA Chapter 1345. The joy and wonder on the kids' faces, and the number who expressed an interest in becoming pilots, was truly inspiring. Families praised not only the exciting flights but also the smooth organization and the added festivities of Madras Airport Day. While we'll make a few minor tweaks moving forward, the event went so well we're confident we can welcome even more future aviators next time. We are incredibly grateful to every volunteer—your contributions are what make these unforgettable experiences possible. As we look ahead, we encourage anyone interested to get involved, especially in the crucial preparation stages. Together, we're offering something truly special.



A big **THANK YOU** to all of the volunteers who came out early Saturday morning to help make our YE Day a success!!! We apologize if we missed anyone.

**Pilots**

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Bob Patterson  
Chuck Rosenfeld  
Craig Sleight  
Dick Rohaly  
Drew Morgan  
Fred Berardo  
Joel Haynes  
Luis Pla  
Rob Norris  
Stephen Bateman  
Tom Thompson

**Ground Crew**

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Amy Bionda  
Analia Hodge  
Bryce Cassagneres  
Cash Earl  
Charley Klein  
Chris Wallace  
Cliff Robson  
Debbie Wallace  
Delilah Richards  
Don McLean  
Jeff Stolasz  
Joanna Richards  
John Aufdermauer  
Justin Earl  
Katie Ryan  
Linda Wallon Haynes  
Mark Harris  
Melanie Duran  
MJ Harris  
Rick Campbell  
Ronik Kanevsky  
Saul Ballaine  
Sean Phillips  
Tobann Bionda

Photos from our YE day taken by Jeff Stolasz follow.











And some photos of our volunteer crew....



*Pilot Morning Briefing*





*Ground Crew  
Morning Briefing*



*Registration Team*



*First Families Arrive*



## 2025 Scholarship Recipients Updates



### Update from Taylor Goodrich

Taylor had her first solo on May 19th, and passed her private written exam with an excellent score of 87! She left soon after for a week of training at the US Naval Academy. When she returns she will resume her rapid paced training which she has planned out with the help of her instructor, Saul Ballaine, of Bend Aircraft Mechanics. She should have no problem finishing this summer.

### 2025 Scholarship Recipients Photos

We somehow forgot to include photos of our three 2025 scholarship winners in last month's newsletter, so here they are.



*Delilah Rose Richards*



*Tobann Bionda*

*Taylor Goodrich*



## **2025 Scholars and the Scholarship Mentor Team**



*Front Row: Delilah Richards, Tobann Bionda and Taylor Goodrich  
Back Row: Tom Wright, Chris Wallace, Joel Haynes, Jeff Stolasz and Justin Earl*



## From the Desk of the Bend Airport Manager

### AIRPORT APPRAISAL

In case you missed this news story: FAA awards Bend \$2.1M to upgrade taxiways, boost airport lifespan [| Local News | centraloregondaily.com](https://www.centraloregondaily.com). On June 18, 2025, the City Council will make a decision regarding accepting the grant and approving the related contracts. If approved, it is anticipated that this work will begin by late fall 2025. I will provide updates as this work is likely to result in some inconveniences and closures.

Also, for those of you who are interested in an Air Traffic Control Tower update, please see photos below.

Please fly safe and check NOTAMs.

*Tracy Williams, Airport Manager*

*Photo Taken in March 2025  
Back then, concrete floors  
were still being poured and  
had to be protected from  
cold weather via the plastic  
sheeting to help with curing.*





*Photo taken on May 27, 2025*

*Stair sections for levels 1-3*



*Future upper floor window openings with a view across the runway*



## *Updates from our Chapter Aircraft Builders*



Some of our chapter members are 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.

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**Chapter Member:** Jeff Stolasz  
**Kit:** Just Highlander  
**Build Location:** Jeff's Home Shop

Highlander Complete!

I received the Airworthiness Certificate for my kit-built Highlander on May 22. The Designated Airworthiness Representative (DAR), a contractor for the FAA, came to the shop and performed the physical inspection and paperwork verification. I wasn't worried about the paperwork—we had worked all that out ahead of time. The DAR was very helpful, answered all my questions promptly, and was genuinely interested in getting me across the finish line. His inspection was thorough and informative. I made a few on-the-spot corrections, and he offered a couple of recommendations. For example, he felt that my aileron controls were a bit stiff and recommended I loosen the turnbuckles for better response. He also reviewed the operating limitations with me, and we were finished in under two hours.







My family and I pushed the airplane across the street, and it was ready for a calm wind morning for its first flight.

*(continued on next page)*



The first flight happened on the morning of Memorial Day, with not a breath of wind. Joel Haynes was present to review the flight plan and take some video. The flight was generally uneventful: a few laps above the airport, a check of the landing configuration at 3000 AGL, one go-around, and a decent enough landing. A few things needed adjustment, but nothing unanticipated. I'm doing the task-based Phase I, and I'm currently on test card 6 of 26. The plane has 9.7 hours on the Hobbs so far.



As a project summary: we opened the crate in August 2021 after a trip to Oshkosh, but didn't really start working on the plane in earnest until our barn/workshop was finished in April 2022. That was the stage my wife calls "If You Give a Mouse a Cookie."



Work progressed at a slow but steady pace - about 1,300 hours over the next three years - culminating in this moment. I think it's good to call the project "complete," because it's definitely not finished...

Stay tuned for adjustments, enhancements, and yes... bigger tires.

## Upcoming Pacific Northwest Aviation Events

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### 2025 Airshows

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
<b>July 21-27</b>		<b>EAA AirVenture</b>	<b>Oshkosh, WI</b>
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*

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## Local Aviation Museum Highlights

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### Western Antique Aeroplane & Automobile Museum

2025 scheduled events at the WAAAM museum in Hood River:

*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](http://www.waaamuseum.org).

## Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum



Upcoming events at the Evergreen Museum in McMinnville, home of the Spruce Goose, include:

### **Saturday & Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>**

#### **FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND SR-71 SYMPOSIUM**

Join us for this biannual Evergreen Museum Special Event. Guests will have a rare opportunity to peek in the SR-71 cockpit and meet the World's Fastest Pilots:

Ed Yeilding: Record for Flight Time from L.A. to D.C. (64 min 20 sec)

Al Joersz – World Airspeed Record Holder (2,193.167 MPH)

B.C. Thomas – Most SR-71 flight hours

### **Beginning June 16<sup>th</sup>**

#### **THE SKUNK WORKS EXPERIENCE**

Are you as obsessed with Mach Speed and Stealth Aircraft as we are? Join us this summer for the Skunk Works Experience – A Docent led Briefing & Tour that offers a rare in-depth look into Lockheed Martin's secret development operation known as Skunk Works, where the amazing speed and stealth technology we see in the form of the SR-71, F-104 Starfighter, D-21 Drone, and F-117 Nighthawk were born.

The new experience will launch on June 16<sup>th</sup>, the presentations will be offered daily on weekdays and last approximately 50 minutes.

For more information or to buy tickets, please visit their website at

[www.evergreenmuseum.org](http://www.evergreenmuseum.org).

## 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.

- Jun 4: EAA Young Eagles Build and Fly Program for Chapters
- Jun 10: The P-80
- Jun 11: All You Wanted to Know About Stalls (and How to Teach Them)  
(*FAA WINGS Credit*)
- Jun 26: EAA AirVenture 2025 Features and Attractions



## 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](mailto: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.





## 2025 Membership Dues

Member dues help 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](mailto:highdesertflyers1345@gmail.com).

## Lightspeed Aviation Foundation Affiliate Program

Just a reminder that the chapter has been accepted into the Lightspeed Affiliate Program. If you are in the market for a headset please consider Lightspeed Aviation's product line, especially their flagship product the Delta Zulu ANR Headset. If you make a purchase using the link below our Chapter will get a commission from your purchase.

Lightspeed is a fantastic company, especially their program that gives Ray scholarship recipients a free headset after meeting certain milestones in their training. A fantastic benefit that would be great to support.

Follow this link or use the QR code below if you are in the market for a headset.

<https://www.lightspeedaviation.com/?ref=97>



## **Chapter Board**

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

For more information on EAA and our local chapter 1345, and to view previous monthly chapter newsletters, please visit our website at <https://chapters.eaa.org/eaal345/newsletters>.