Join the OAHS!
If you’re not a member, we invite you to join the Society in its efforts to preserve and celebrate Oregon Aviation History. Fill in the blanks and return to:

Oregon Aviation Historical Society, PO Box 553, Cottage Grove, OR 97424

Contributor-$100  Sustaining-$50  Family-$35  Associate-$25

Name_______________________________________  Date______________

Address_________________________________  Home Phone______________

City _______________________________  State _____  Zip _____________

Occupation_____________________  Email __________________________

I am Interested in Volunteering _____________________________________

Skills and Interests _____________________________________________

If you are already a member and you aren’t sure whether or not you’ve paid your annual membership dues, send email to oregonaviation.org@gmail.com. We’ll check the records and let you know before you send out a potential duplicate payment.

The Oregon Aviation Historical Society was incorporated in June 1983 through the efforts of a group of aviation enthusiasts who recognized the need to preserve Oregon’s rich aviation heritage for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations. Its purposes are to collect, preserve, restore and exhibit aviation artifacts; to develop facilities for the restoration and preservation of artifacts, public viewing and exhibition of the collection; to establish and maintain an Oregon Aviation Hall of Fame; establish a resource center for Oregon aviation historical research and to disseminate information about Oregon aviation history.

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Our Mission
The Northwest Swift Fly-in will take place at the OAHS July 7 & 8. The public is invited free of charge to view the aircraft and a Swift History exhibit, talk to the pilots, and learn more about these vintage aircraft. The 2010 fly-in was a great success, which we hope to replicate this year!

The Globe Aircraft Corp. built parts for North American’s P-51 during WW II and by 1944 there were so many fighter planes that they didn’t need to build any more. So they went to work designing a small business plane, borrowing some of the design technology from the fighters. The Swifts were built from 1945 until 1951, and were a good example of the advances of military aircraft technology reapplied for civilian use.

We encourage you to come out and visit with the pilots, or even help out at the History Center over the weekend.

One again the Stearman planes will grace our field. The Stearman fly-in is set for the first weekend in August. Weather permitting, the majority of the planes will arrive on Friday and they’ll all fly home on Sunday. This means that the best day for you to come out and take a look at these old trainers is Saturday, August 4th.

The event was a great success last year and we hope to repeat that success this year. As always, we can use the help of our members during the event. You can sit at the merchandise table for a few hours (we break it up so you don’t have to sit all day) or you can be here to show folks around and answer questions about the OAHS.

We encourage all of our members in the area to come out for both fly-ins. It is a great way to show your support of the OAHS and of local and regional pilots.
Hello again. Summer is hopefully around the corner and the History Center will become a busy place. Starting with the Swift Fly-in, Antique and Classic Annual Meeting and of course the grand-daddy of them all, the Stearman Fly-in.

I hope many of you will have a chance to visit with us and notice the progress being made. The Springfield Cadet or Baby Fleet as some call it is moving along. The top wing is covered and getting ready for rib stitching. Tim has the cowl nearly finished for the Stinson so it will soon be ready to fly. If you would like to spend time as a Docent on Saturdays this summer, Check out Google Calendar at oregonaviation.org and add your name to a Saturday. Also, volunteers are needed to help manage the merchandise table during the Stearman Fly-in. As always we welcome your comments and suggestions for improvements to our facility.

Have a great flying season and I hope you’ll make us a destination point during one of your wanderings. Your President, Doug Kindred

Free and Easy Way to Raise Funds for the OAHS

We’d like to introduce you to our friends at GoodSearch.com, a website which makes raising money for our cause incredibly easy! GoodSearch.com is a Yahoo!-powered search engine which donates about a penny per search to your nonprofit. GoodSearch.com also has an online shopping portal called GoodShop.com, which works with more than 2,500 stores (including Amazon, Apple, Target and Macy’s) to donate a percentage of your purchase to our cause. And GoodShop.com has coupons worth $2 million in savings so you can save money while giving back. For all the details, go to www.goodsearch.com.

So Many Ways to Help—Which One is for You?

We have an excellent Docent training program and we would love to see many of you take advantage of it this year. There is always room for one more tour guide here at the History Center. What better way to really get to know all the goodies we have here than to show them off?

If that doesn’t tickle your fancy, we have plenty of other ways that the at-large members can be of service here at the History Center. Consider joining one of the committees that help keep the OAHS going. Your expertise and dedication to the OAHS mission is always welcome!

Committees and contact information:

Public Outreach and Education: Annette Buswell Whittington, 541-895-3910
Aircraft Operations: Tim Talen, 541-746-6572
Facilities: Hal Skinner, 541-767-0244
Finance: Roger Starr, 503-266-4282
Collections: Doug Kindred, 541-687-9490
Event Volunteer Coordinator: DJ Amick-Elder, 541-543-7308 (fly-in help especially needed)

In connection with the Collections committee, we have a need for someone to help out with digitizing the collections. If you have experience with scanning documents and are comfortable working with computers, contact DJ at the History Center (oregonaviation.org@gmail.com).
The date is June 11, 1912. The place: Portland, Oregon, during the Rose Festival. On the roof of the Multnomah Hotel, 23 year old pilot Silas Christofferson, with the help of aviation pioneer Danny Grecco, assembled his 1912 Curtiss-type pusher biplane as a crowd of 50,000 gathered on the streets below. A ramp about 200 feet long and 50 feet wide was built on the roof to use as a runway. The plane was initially dismantled then hauled up the side of the hotel by ropes. Once it was on the roof, it was reassembled and positioned for take off. Christofferson sat down and started the engine while two helpers held the plane in place by the wingtips. At the pilot’s signal, two men ran alongside the plane, pushing on the wingtips as the aircraft gained speed. With 25 feet to spare, Christofferson pulled back on the stick and took off to the roar of the disbelieving crowd below.

Twelve minutes and eight miles later, he landed at Vancouver Barracks, which is now part of Pearson Field. This short flight was also the first airmail flight, as Christofferson carried letters with him from Portland to Vancouver. He sold that plane the very next day to Johnny Bryant, who had it for ten days before he was killed while flying the plane in Victoria, British Columbia. In 1931 the Christofferson Airport was dedicated on Sandy Blvd, in the Parkrose district of Portland. The airport is no longer around, and if anyone has information on the ultimate fate of the airport, we’d love to add that to our Christofferson file.

In 1995 this famous flight was reenacted by pilot Thomas Murphy. His reenactment was captured on video and was published as “Flight of Fancy.” The OAHS gift shop has a few copies of the DVD for sale, or you can view it during your next visit to the History Center.

Mrs. Ariel Talen-Keller, OAHS member and daughter of our current Vice-President Tim Talen, is in the news. Mrs. Keller is the reigning Mrs. Alaska United States All World Beauties. She will be representing the State of Alaska in the United States All World Beauties National Pageant in Orlando, Florida in July. Mrs. Keller’s platform is called GirlsFlyToo – a project to encourage and educate women of all ages to become involved in aviation. She travels extensively throughout the state and other parts of the country speaking about her platform. Mrs. Keller has earned a Master of Aeronautical Science degree from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and a Bachelor of Science in Geography from the University of Oregon.

Mrs. Keller recently attended the Women in Aviation International conference in Dallas, Texas as a guest speaker. While she was there, she had the honor to meet the President/CEO of EAA, Rod Hightower, as shown in the photo above.

New Collection for Educational Program Received!

On June 12th, Lorraine Troh Gabel generously donated aviation education materials to the OAHS. Lorraine used these materials when teaching middle-schoolers about aviation (she even designed some of the materials herself).

We are very excited about the possibilities that this collection presents. Over the next few weeks we will go through the materials and put together a program for local youth. We hope to present something this summer, probably in August, and we would love your input. If you have any suggestions or would like to help in anyway, please send us an email at oregonaviation.org@gmail.com.