Our Mission
The Oregon Aviation Historical Society was incorporated in June 1983 by 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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There are new decals available at the museum, featuring the new logo—two versions—a regular decal—or a vinyl cling for inside windows. Stop and pick one up!

The Purple Pen
What a summer!

Here at OAHS, in 2020, we kept trying to plan events, fly-ins, pancake breakfasts and gatherings with friends, but nearly each time COVID-19 restrictions on social events cancelled our arrangements.

Now it’s September and we look back and ask what DID we do?

Restoration work on all projects is continuing. The volunteers faithfully show up each week to weld, glue and stitch the bodies of Wimpy or the Great Lakes back together.

Be sure to thank our dedicated restoration volunteers when you see them—Jakonah Mattson-Bell, Dennis Whittington, Mark Baxter and Tim Talen.

The only event hosted was the 42nd Annual Jim Wright Memorial Stearman Fly-in, held on August 1. Friends with their wonderful aircraft visited the field and stayed a couple of days.

Thanks to Molly and Keith Littlefield for a terrific day! See photos of this year’s attendees scattered throughout this newsletter.

If the roar of a radial engine stirs your blood, you don’t want to miss out on next year’s annual gathering of Stearman WW II trainers.

The first weekend in August, 2021—as always, we’d love to see you!

By Janice Scanlon

It was an honor for the OAHS Board of Directors to add James L. Wright to the Oregon Aviation Hall of Fame during the 2020 Stearman Fly-In.

Jim Wright was a skilled aviator who had a passion for preserving aviation history and the exhilaration of high-speed flight.
AN HISTORICAL IMPERATIVE

Over the last few weeks I have had the opportunity to travel to California and Nevada on an old airplane gathering junket. While I did accomplish the goal of retrieving some engine parts that I could have lost forever—it got me to thinking about our aviation world and how museums relate to preserving our great history. You see—if those engine parts had not been identified and preserved, they would never have been reunited with the rest of the engine to which they belonged. So too, if someone does not identify and preserve our Oregon aviation history it will, indeed, be lost. That is why your museum is so important and why we need EVERYONE’S HELP!

Artifacts and histories of aviation events will fade and disappear if not preserved—time is not our friend. Even though 2020 has not been a very positive year, we are confident the museum will not only survive, but will play a significant role in preserving our aviation history.

If we do not do our part—who will? Is it imperative? Absolutely!

Here are just three (of many) areas of aviation history that need to be researched and documented immediately:

- A 100-year historical account of the Oregon Department of Aviation. There are bits and pieces of this information available, but not compiled.
- A directory of all homebuilt aircraft built under Oregon State licensing regulations, from 1921 through 1941
- A post-WWII inventory of Oregon’s significant homebuilt “milestone” aircraft and their contributions

www.oregonaviation.org
oregonaviation.org@gmail.com

Tim’s Montana Mailplane: 1928 Stearman C3B

This aircraft was restored by Tim because of its significant state history.
OAHS has successfully completed the sale of the RV-6A aircraft donated by the heirs of one of our late friends, Dick Fronczak. This effort was accomplished by a dedicated team of OAHS volunteers. President Doug Kindred brought the possibility of selling the RV to the OAHS Board. Shawn Kelley provided the inspection and repairs necessary to bring the plane to flying status. Member Gary Ludeke assisted with the familiarization flight. The paperwork was completed, promotional messages created and scores of inquiries were fielded.

Our new friend, Christopher Crick, of Corvallis, is now the owner of this meticulously constructed aircraft. Thank you to all who assisted in this project.

Remember, OAHS has other projects for sale!

1937 REARWIN "SPORTSTER" • $45,000 • Ken-Royce 5F 90HP Needs final engine work and license.

FLYBABY • $750 • Made to look like a Boeing P-26! Fuselage Well along. No Wings

REARWIN SPEEDSTER REPLICA PROJ • $20,000 • Core Menasco D4-87 engine, very complete kit.

BABY GREAT LAKES PROJECT • $2,900 • The Wings are Done, Fuselage Welded, On Gear PLUS!

Aviation Art Prints, Books, Books and more Books! & Collectible Magazines—about pilots, for pilots and just-for-fun!

OAHS For Sale Items:

One of the key methods of fundraising for the operation of the museum is through the sale of surplus, or donated items. Look at www.OregonAviation.org or on www.ebay.com for the items currently for sale.
Scooter Reid created this chronology of Oregon’s Aviation History as a class project and he has donated it to the museum. It is very well done, with a frame built like aircraft construction—covered and doped in aircraft fabric. This display gives a quick history of Oregon aviation and could make a great exhibit in the 2021 traveling museum. OAHS would like to acknowledge his considerable efforts putting this together and his generous contribution to the museum’s collection.

A BIG THANK YOU to the members of the Oregon Antique & Classic Aircraft Club (OACAC) for their generous gifts of two wonderful (and very sturdy) benches and large picnic table. These will be enjoyable seating for future events and fly-ins.

Have you moved?

Make sure we have your current mailing address!
Write to us at OAHS
2475 Jim Wright Way
Cottage Grove, OR 97424
or send an email to: oregonaviation.org@gmail.com

Keith Littlefield in his Super Cub visited OAHS for the Fly-In

Museum hours are Tuesdays — Fridays
10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Stop in and say “Hi!”
2021 Project Update

This project is important because when learning our individual and collective histories we build upon an identity of where we, as American builders/pilots, fit in the world. The long-ago contributions of trailblazers, like Bogardus, Long, Rankin and Hester, to aviation’s story are more than just entertaining. If you have built or flown your own aircraft, you have done so upon their original efforts to understand flight. OAHS is going to preserve, fly and share the 100-year “Oregon Aviation Story” with the world next year in a tour around the state. The ambitious travelling exhibit is also planned for display at AirVenture 2021 to commemorate the first 100 years of Oregon’s aviation history and the amazing stories of these aviation pioneers.

You can become part of the story—sponsor an aircraft, contribute restoration materials or donate funds to support this exhibit today.

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You could have your very own commemorative replica License Plate!

**Funds from the sale of these plates support the 2021 Project**

Show your support for Oregon’s contributions to the field of aviation with a fun collectible airplane license plate.

- Designed to look just like the original Oregon State Department of Aviation’s plates from 1921
- The number “100” signifies 100 years of Oregon’s amazing aviation history
- The birthday year for ODA was 1921. Thus, 2021 commemorates 100 years of existence.
- Limited quantity available for collectors or gifts for friends and relatives

Show your support Donate just $100 to the Oregon Aviation Historical Society and we will send you one of these collectible plates. (shipping = $10)

You can mail your donation, or conveniently and safely donate to OAHS online using PayPal.
YES—I want to help preserve Oregon’s aviation past for future generations. Please renew or enroll me as a member of OAHS at the following level (check one):

- Contributer $100/yr
- Sustaining $50/yr
- Family $35/yr
- Associate $25/yr

Name (please print) ___________________________________________ Date _____________

Home phone (_____)_______________________ Email ______________________________________

Address _____________________________________________________________________________

City __________________________________ State ___________ Zip _______________

Associate membership includes: One admission to a pancake breakfast + 10% discount at OAHS gift shop

Family membership includes: Two admissions to a pancake breakfast, 10% discount at OAHS gift shop

Sustaining membership includes: Two admissions to a pancake breakfast, two entry’s to Wings & Wheels, & 10% discount at OAHS gift shop

Contributing membership: All benefits of Sustaining & OAHS T-shirt of your choice.

The Oregon Aviation Historical Society is a Domestic Non-Profit Corporation
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Wimpy: The elevators and other surfaces have been covered and the restorers are preparing Wimpy for the fabric work.

Tex & Dorothy’s Great Lakes: The nose bowl has been reworked and installed on this historic aircraft. She will fly as part of the 2021 Centennial Project.