



Important Dates:

Member Meeting
June 12, 2025
7:00 pm, Clubhouse

Board Meeting
July 3, 2025
7:00 pm, Clubhouse

Member Meeting
July 10, 2025
7:00 pm, Clubhouse

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Williamson Flying Club Newsletter

June 2025

From the President's Desk by Scott Lasky

Looking Back

My weather forecast may not have been spot-on, but despite averse weather conditions, we served 1138 breakfasts and our ride pilots were busy all morning until the low visibility shut rides down. Overall, it was a resounding success! Thanks to everyone's efforts, the food line moved quickly and smoothly—and I think we set a new record for the fastest cleanup ever. That kind of efficiency speaks volumes about the dedication and teamwork of our volunteers. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who pitched in, especially our outstanding breakfast chairs: Bob Fratangelo, Bill Bach, and Steve Snyder.



After a soggy spring, our mowing crew made the most of the few dry days to get the grounds back in shape. Huge thanks to Mike Abate and the entire crew for keeping the airport looking its best.

Thanks to all who submitted feedback on membership meetings. The board has reviewed your survey comments and has already implemented a few changes. Going forward, we'll be distributing the minutes from each general membership meeting, along with the meeting agendas. I'm also forming a committee to explore how we can make our meetings more informative and

(Continued on page 2)

Williamson Flying Club

Williamson-Sodus Airport (KSDC)
5502 State Route 104
Williamson, NY 14589

Find us on the web at:
www.williamsonflyingclub.com

Board of Directors

President: Scott Lasky
Vice President: Gilead Biggie
Secretary: Paula Sippel
Treasurer: Bob Herloski

Director, 2023: Dave Perricone
Director, 2024: Bill Black
Director, 2025: John Lauster

Contact: bod@williamsonflyingclub.com

Recommended Reading



The May / June 2025 issue of FAA's [Safety Briefing Magazine](#) is focused on tools to mitigate or manage weather risk.

Aviation Quote

"This plane can teach you more things and give you more gifts than I ever could. It won't get you a better job, a faster car, or a bigger house. But if you treat it with respect and keep your eyes open, it may remind you of some things you used to know — that life is in the moment, joy matters more than money, the world is a beautiful place, and that dreams really, truly are possible."

- Lane Wallace,
Eyes of a Child,
Flying Magazine
Feb 2000

From the President's Desk by Scott Lasky

(Continued from page 1)

bring back the close-knit, family atmosphere that has long defined our club.

Looking Ahead

Fingers crossed that the worst of the weather is behind us—here's to blue skies and smooth flying ahead! The Activities Committee has a great lineup of upcoming flyouts, which you'll find in our newsletters and on the events calendar as the dates approach.

One event I'd like to highlight is our Hangar Talk with Bob Burns from Rochester ATC, happening June 21st at 11:00 am in the clubhouse (see the Activities Committee Update later in the newsletter). It promises to be both educational and engaging, and I highly recommend attending.

Budget & Planning

The stretch of bad weather has unfortunately led to a dip in income from aircraft rentals and flight instruction. We're hopeful that better conditions will help turn things around. If not, the board will be reviewing and adjusting the budget at our July meeting to ensure we stay on track.

Final Thoughts

After 31 years of teaching, I'll be retiring in the next couple of weeks. I'm excited for the chance to spend more time at the airport and to do some traveling. First up: a 13,000-mile round trip motorcycle ride to the Arctic Circle in Alaska.

Blue skies and tailwinds,

Scott Lasky

Activities Committee Update by Chris Houston

Recent Events

In May and early June, we held two successful fly-outs, an ad-hoc trip to **Re-Dun for the Memorial Day pancake breakfast** (see [Fly-Outs: Re-Dun, page 5](#)) and a pre-planned return to the **Piper Aviation Museum** in Lock Haven, PA (see [Fly-Outs: Piper Aviation Museum, page 6](#)) on June 1. The planned trip to Montauk was scuttled due to weather, Plan B also materialized with worse-than-forecast weather, and Plan C became lunch at the **Airport Diner in Potsdam, NY** (see [Cool Places to Fly, page 4](#))

Near Term Events

Future events are listed in the sidebar on the following page. June events described in [last month's issue](#) for which invitations have already issued through aSoS include:

- June 14, dinner at Lippy's BBQ, Greene Airport (4N7). Invitations already issued
- June 21, Hangar Talk, Bob Burns from ROC ATC at the WFC clubhouse (see inset for details, next page)

(Continued on page 3)

Activities Committee Update by Chris Houston

(Continued from page 2)

- June 28, Submarine Force Museum, Groton, CT (KGON)

Coming Events

July 19, Eagles Mere Aviation Museum, Merritt Field (private, 4PN7)

The Eagles Mere Aviation Museum was founded in 2008 to showcase the immaculate and often rare vintage aircraft in the private collection of George Jenkins. It is housed in a set of hangars at Merritt Field, a private airport with a paved runway set on a mountaintop in northern Pennsylvania. The WFC last visited in August of 2022, see Fly-

Outs: Eagles Mere Aviation Museum in the [September 2022 WFC Flyer](#) for more information and photographs.

This trip is a must for anyone who loves vintage aircraft, especially rare examples restored to a pristine state.

Merritt Field is private and requires prior approval for landing, including a waiver that essentially requires visiting pilots to hold the field's owner harmless if landing results in a pranged airplane.

Expect more information about this trip in late June.



N1185X on final for runway 24R at Merritt Field.



Eagles Mere: Sole remaining 1928 Alexander Eaglerock A-4.

Hangar Talk Announcement

Robert Burns,

ATC Supervisor, Rochester ATCT

Saturday, June 21, 11:00 am

Williamson-Sodus Airport, WFC Clubhouse



Robert holds a commercial pilot certificate, is a member of the Williamson Flying Club who originally learned to fly here, and a supervisor at the Rochester air traffic control facility. He will present on air traffic control in our local airspace by taking us from an initial call-up to clearance delivery all the way to a RADAR handoff to a different air traffic control facility. Topics of discussion will include local best practices, available services to stakeholders, local hazards, and Q&A.

Lunch will follow immediately after in the WFC maintenance hangar!

Planned 2025 Activities Committee Events

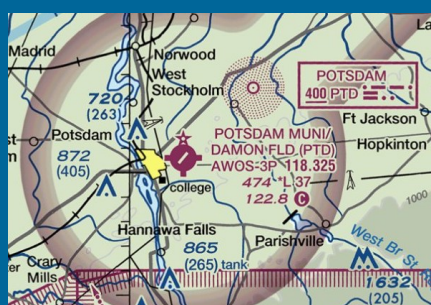
Non-Flying Events

- June 21, Hangar Talk: ROC ATC
- July 26, Annual club cookout
- TBD: Annual holiday party

Fly-Out Events

- June 14, Dinner, Lippy's BBQ, Greene Airport (4N7, turf-only)
- June 28, Submarine Force Museum, Groton-New London (KGON)
- ***Updated*** July 19, Eagles Mere Aviation Museum, Merritt Field (private, 4PN7)
- August 2-3, Owls Head Transportation Museum, Knox County Airport (KRKD) — overnight
- August 16, Empire State Aero-sciences Museum, Schenectady County Airport (KSCH)
- September 6, NYC Skyline Flight w/ lunch at Sky Acres (44N)
- September 19, Lycoming factory tour, Williamsport (KIPT)
- September 20, Flight to the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum / Udvar-Hazy Center — overnight
- ***Updated*** September 27, Luray Caverns, Luray Caverns Airport (KLUA)
- October 4, Annual Lake Placid Fly-Out w/ lunch at Big Slide Brewery & Public House, Lake Placid Airport (KLKP)
- October 18, Benton fly-in BBQ, Benton Airport (PA40, turf only)

Cool Places to Fly: Potsdam Municipal Airport / Damon Field (KPTD) by Chris Houston



Destination:

Potsdam Municipal Airport / Damon Field (KPTD), Potsdam, NY

Distance:

128 nautical miles, direct

Why It's Cool:

- Reached via a beautiful flight along Lake Ontario and the St Lawrence River.
- The Airport Diner

One of my favorite “Sunday drive” flights involves departing Sodus and cruising eastbound along the Lake Ontario shore. Past Sodus Bay, Chimney Bluffs, Fair Haven, and Oswego, ultimately rounding the end of the lake at Mexico Bay. Beyond Sandy Pond and Watertown lies the St Lawrence Seaway — international border, key shipping route, and home to the beautiful Thousand Islands.

There in the northernmost portion of New York State — north of the Adirondacks where French nearly rivals English on Unicom frequencies — lies the remote college town of Potsdam.

Hungry aviators landing at Potsdam's Damon Field (KPTD) will find sustenance just off airport proper-



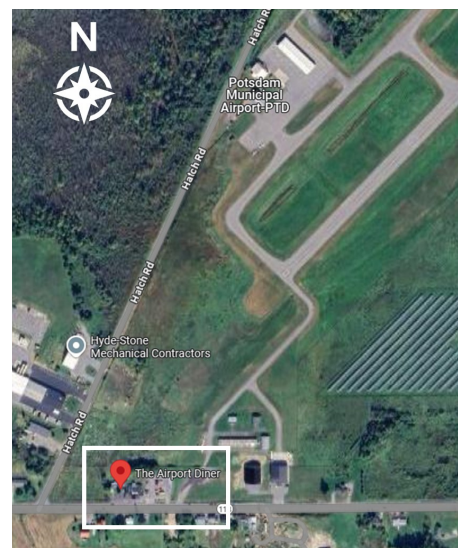
Quite apt! (Ed Ciolkowski)

ty at the [Airport Diner](#). The current restaurant was founded in 2023. Visitors will find a clean, welcoming diner with a menu packed with well-prepared comfort food (tagline: “experience comfort food at new heights”) at reasonable prices. The Airport Diner is truly a treat! They even have cool T-shirts.

The Airport Diner is located off the approach end of runway 6 at 219 State Highway 11B, Potsdam, NY 13676 (see map at right). They are open seven days a week from 6 am–11 am for breakfast and 11 am to 2 pm for lunch. Our group of seven all had a great experience during our first visit June 7. Thanks to Sam and Zoe for the recommendation!

Tips:

- Self service avgas is available at Potsdam. AirNav shows \$5.75/gal as of 14 Apr 2025.
- While the flight to Potsdam is an easy one that passes west



and north of the complex of military airspace in that part of the state, be cognizant of restricted areas northeast of Wheeler-Sack AAF.

- While it appears that some airplane parking might be available close to the diner at the south end of the airport, we parked on the main ramp and had an easy walk to lunch via Hatch Rd.

Fly-Outs: Re-Dun (17NK) Pancake Breakfast, 26 May 2025



Jonathan, Alicia, and Tom (Tom Carter).



Alyssa, Claire, and Chris (Chris Houston).



Re-Dun and a narrow paved runway (Chris Houston).



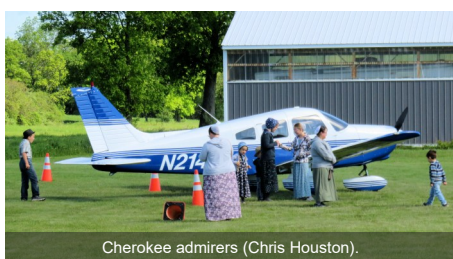
Pilots helping pilots stuck in wet grass (Alyssa Leone).



Rube Goldberg at its finest! (Chris Houston).



Pancake machine! (Chris Houston).



Cherokee admirers (Chris Houston).



Lee's coltish Piper Colt (Chris Houston).



With such a nice picture, why is my recollection so fuzzy?



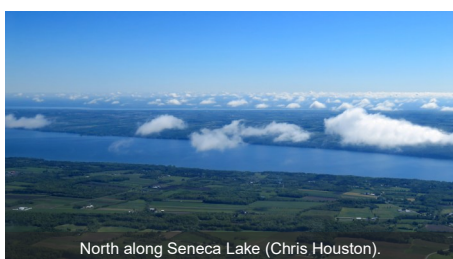
Ed's well-dressed PA-28 (Chris Houston).



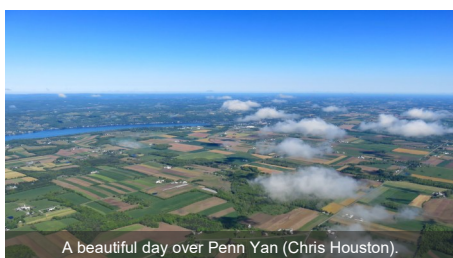
Dalia Oliver in the Searey (Jamie Oliver).



Alicia bids adieu to her adoring public (Chris Houston).



North along Seneca Lake (Chris Houston).



A beautiful day over Penn Yan (Chris Houston).

On Memorial Day, May 26, 2025, a group of nineteen departed from KSDC (mostly) for an ad-hoc pancake run to Re-Dun (17NK), journeying to a place where the runway was narrow, the turf a little soggy compared to the ideal (yep, we got a couple of airplanes stuck), and the pancakes cooked to perfection by the Awe-Ja-Magic automatic pancake making machine. The atmosphere at Re-Dun is always fun and welcoming.

Re-Dun is a private field owned by the Dundee Flying Club, but opens to the flying public on Memorial Day and Labor Day holidays when they hold their pancake breakfasts. Although the runway is charted as "other than a hard surface", the runway is paved and roughly 20 feet wide.

Thanks to Tom Carter, Chris Houston, Alyssa Leone, and Jamie Oliver for sharing their pictures of the event. Chris Houston spread the word club-wide on behalf of the WFC Activities Committee.

Fly-Outs: Piper Aviation Museum, William Piper Memorial Airport (KLHV), 1 June 2025



Most of the WFC fleet (not pictured, Dan's RV-8A).



Chris, Tom, Gilead, Elizabeth, Paula, Dan, Patrick, Zoe, and Sam enjoying lunch at Fox's Market House.



Fox's Market House in downtown Lock Haven, PA.



Piper Aviation Museum in the old Piper engineering building.



A J3 Cub on skies!



New addition: the prototype Piper Jet / Altaire.



Say what you do, do what you say.



PA-12 Super Cruiser that flew around the world in 1947.



Prototype PT-1 military trainer.



Military L-4 Grasshopper WWII liaison aircraft.



Reproduction of a single seat PA-8 Skycycle.



PA-23-235 Apache 235.



A relatively rare Comanche 400.



A J2 Cub (top, gray) and the iconic J3 Cub (bottom, yellow).

Nine members in six airplanes flew to William T Piper Memorial Airport (KLHV) in Lock Haven, PA on 1 June 2025 to visit the [Piper Aviation Museum](#). We enjoyed lunch at the historical Fox's Market House before exploring the museum. Our last visit to Lock Haven as a club was in 2018 and the museum has added a significant number of new aircraft exhibits with the most recent being the prototype Piper Jet "Altaire" (arrived just a week prior to our visit). Thanks to Elizabeth Pantaleo for organizing this trip on behalf of the Activities Committee. Photos on this page are courtesy of Chris Houston.

Fly-Outs: Montauk (KMTP), Venango (KFKL), Potsdam (KPTD), 7 June 2025

On June 1, the Activities Committee planned an adventure to Montauk (KMTP) on the eastern tip of Long Island, but Plan A was abandoned due to coastal fog. Plan B was to sample the new Runway Ristorante & Lounge at the Venango Airport (KFKL) in western Pennsylvania, but the weather was worse than forecast. Plan C became a journey along Lake Ontario to the St Lawrence and, ultimately, to Potsdam to sample the Airport Diner (see [Cool Places to Fly](#) in this issue). Success! Our group of seven had a wonderful time exploring



Dan, Chris, Jonathan, Alicia, Tom, Ed, and Dan.

a new destination. As the T-shirt said, we were just “propelling through life, one meal at a time.” Thanks to Dan Van Huben for his organizational flexibility. Ed Ciolkowski and Chris Houston submitted photos from this trip.



Jonathan and Ed in Ed's Archer II.



WFC aircraft parked on the main ramp at Potsdam.

Scenes from the 2025 Apple Blossom Pancake Breakfast Submitted by Bob Fratangelo and Chris Houston



Scenes from the 2025 Apple Blossom Pancake Breakfast

Submitted by Bob Fratangelo and Chris Houston



Images submitted by Dan Van Huben

In May of 2025, WFC member Dan Van Huben took his first flying lesson in a Cessna Skyhawk. While this may sound perfectly ordinary, what made it special was the location: Palmer, Alaska from the Warren “Bud” Woods Palmer Municipal Airport (PAAQ). Dan was kind enough to share the experience in photographs.



Upcoming WFC and Local Events

Thursday June 12	Steak and Baked Potato Fly-In, 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM. Ledgeale Airport (7G0), Brockport, NY. Steak, baked potato, salad and soft drinks, all for \$25.
Saturday June 14	WFC fly-out to Greene (4N7) for dinner at Lippy's BBQ. Greene is turf-only in excellent condition. aSoS invitations have been sent. Contact Scott Lasky with questions or ride requests. 2nd annual Ticonderoga fly-in, Ticonderoga Municipal Airport (4B6), Ticonderoga, NY. 10:00 am—2:00 pm. See James Cawley's Batmobile! Food and ice cream provided by the Wind-Chill Factory. Fly-in/drive-in Airport Day, 8:00 am—2:00 pm, Lt Warren C Eaton Airport (KOIC), Norwich, NY. Breakfast at 8:00 am, lunch w/ chicken BBQ later. C-47 Whiskey 7 from Geneseo will be flying paid rides.
Sunday June 15	Father's Day fly-in pancake breakfast, Marcellus Airport (NK71, turf only), 8:00 am—noon. Father's Day fly-in pancake breakfast, Genesee County Airport (KGVQ), Batavia, NY. 7:30 am—11:00 am. Father's Day fly-in pancake breakfast, East Hill Flying Club, Ithaca Tompkins Airport (KITH), Ithaca, NY. 7:00 am—1:00 pm.
Saturday June 21	WFC Hangar Talk at the WFC clubhouse. Featuring Robert Burns from Rochester ATC for a talk followed by Q&A and a cook out lunch. Presentation at 11:00 am with lunch immediately following. aSoS invitations have been sent. EAA 44 Open House, Ledgeale Airpark (7G0), 10:00 am—4:00 pm. Everything free except grill food for purchase.
Sunday June 22	Fly-in pancake breakfast, Oswego County Airport (KFZY), Fulton, NY, 7:30 am-11:00 am.
Saturday June 28	WFC fly-out to Goodspeed (42B) for lunch and Groton, CT (KGON) to visit the Submarine Force Museum. aSoS invitations have already been sent. Contact Chris Houston with questions or ride requests.
Friday July 4	4th of July pancake breakfast, Penn Yan Airport (KPEO), Penn Yan, NY. 6:30—11:30 am.
Sunday July 6	Fly-in pancake breakfast, Elmira-Corning Regional Airport (KELM), 8:00-11:00 am, Taxi to EAA 533 hangar. Fly-in pancake breakfast, Whitford's Airport (B16), Weedsport, NY. 7:30 am-noon.
Saturday-Sunday July 12-13	National Warplane Museum—Geneseo Airport, “The Greatest Show on Turf”, Geneseo Airport (D52). More details here. Weekend fly-in, Marcellus Airport (NK71, turf only), Marcellus, NY. Primitive camping available, spot landing contest and poker run. Food available: breakfast and lunch on Saturday, breakfast on Sunday. Sunday chicken BBQ noon till gone, donations accepted. Please bring a dish to pass.
Saturday July 19	WFC fly-out to Eagles Mere Aviation Museum at Merritt Field (4PN7). Details coming soon.
Saturday July 26	WFC annual picnic/cook-out. Details coming in late June.

Events in **bold** are sponsored by the WFC Activities Committee