

WFC Flyer

Back among the clouds after a long winter, April 2021 (Chris Houston)

Important Dates:

General Meeting
May 13, 2021
WFC Clubhouse

Board Meeting
June 3, 2021
WFC Clubhouse

General Meeting
June 10, 2021
WFC Clubhouse

Inside This Issue:

- Activities Update, Chris Houston, p1
- Outings: Glenn Curtiss Museum, p4
- Cool Places To Fly, Westfield-Barnes, p4
- Member Spotlight, Gabe Orrange-Paton, p5
- Congratulations, p7
- Airport Diners & Events
- Calendar, p8

Williamson Flying Club Newsletter

May 2021

Activities Committee Update by Chris Houston

Spring has sprung! And more benign weather brings the wonderful sound of aircraft engines cranking up for new adventures in 2021.

On the Activities Committee, our objective is to help the Club behave more like a Club by organizing fun things for members to do. Some of these are purely social activities, but most are focused on our common passion: flight.

For fly-outs, participation across the Club is encouraged. We encourage of all of our pilots to make open aircraft seats available to other members, particularly student pilots. If you see an event that intrigues you, but have not yet earned your Pilot in Command privileges, reach out to us

and we will try to find a ride for you! Every event will be posted with a key contact person from the committee or you can reach out to me directly.

Our goal is to hold events that all pilots can participate in regardless of skill level. For the most part, you won't require hundreds of hours or an IFR ticket to participate. However, if there are any restrictions or cautions for a particular activity, we'll make that clear up front.

Today, I'd like to give you a sneak preview of our 2021 plans. I'll be blunt: we have overprogrammed. What I mean by that is that we've planned a lot of activities knowing that some will get cancelled due to weather or circum-

(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: Randy Christian
Vice President: Brad Roehrig
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Director, 2019: Paula Sippel
Director, 2020: Lesly Jean-Louis
Director, 2021: Dick Swingly

Contact: bod@williamsonflyingclub.com

Medical Advisor: Dr. Pam Tarkington

Aviation Quote

“A small machine is ideal for short flight, joy riding the heavens, or sight seeing among the clouds; but there is something more majestic and stable about the big bombers which a pilot begins to love. An exquisite community grows up between machine and pilot; each, as it were, merges into the other. The machine is rudimentary and the pilot the intellectual force. The levers and controls are the nervous system of the machine, through which the will of the pilot may be expressed — and expressed to an infinitely fine degree. A flying machine is something entirely apart from and above all other contrivances of man’s ingenuity.

The aeroplane is the nearest thing to animate life that man has created. In the air, a machine ceases indeed to be a mere piece of mechanism; it becomes animate and is capable not only of primary guidance and control, but actually of expressing a pilot’s temperament.”

- Sir Ross Smith, KBE, National Geographic Magazine, March 1921

Activities Committee Update by Chris Houston

(Continued from page 1)

stance. With so many events scheduled, we’re assured a good number of excellent adventures in 2021 even if weather prevents some events from occurring. This strategy was very successful in 2019.

Finally, one last note. With the country re-opening from COVID-19, our activities will be subject to Club COVID rules ([see WFC Flyer, April 2021](#)) as well the rules of any venue or state that we visit. We’ll try to make these requirements clear up front. They will probably evolve throughout the summer.

Non-Flying Activities:

We have already held a couple of these, including the Hangar Talk by Katherine Rawlins (April 10) and the trip to the Glenn Curtiss Museum (May 1, see “Outings” later in this issue).



Thanksgiving in October Event, October 2018 (Eric Mehserle)

Saturday Lunches: As many of you know, Tony Alesci has hosted lunches at the airport on Saturdays at noon during the summer that conclude each season with “Thanksgiving in October”. We plan to start these on June 5. Patrons will need to be masked and wear gloves while getting food. More details to follow!

Club Picnic: We have tentatively scheduled a Club picnic for **August 14** and

will be working through the logistics of what this will look like.

Movie Night: The theatrical release of *Top Gun: Maverick* has been pushed back to **November**. We are planning to reserve a movie theatre auditorium for the Club, most likely at the Webster AMC.

WFC Christmas Party: This is booked at the Blue Heron Hills Golf Club for **December 4** with entertainment from comedian Sky Sands.

Fly-Out Activities:

These fall into two categories: ad hoc and planned. Planned events are more elaborate, scheduled in advance, and involve flying greater distances. Ad hoc events will include:

- Quick evening fly-outs for ice cream at Ice Cream Island at DSV.
- Saturday morning short breakfast fly-outs. Currently, there are not many local options available, but we are monitoring this.
- Organized trips to local fly-in breakfasts as available.



WFC members at Whitford's for breakfast in May 2018

Planned fly-out events for 2021 include a variety of aerial sightseeing, dining, and museum experiences:

- [NYC Skyline Flight](#) with lunch at [Sunset Pub and Grill](#) (Lincoln Park, NJ. **May 22**). The NYC Skyline tour

(Continued on page 3)

Activities Committee Update by Chris Houston

(Continued from page 2)



Lower Manhattan in 2018 (Chris Houston)

is consistently a popular event! Invitations and guidelines were already distributed to the club.

- **Niagara Falls aerial tour**, lunch at [Jim & Paul's Super Dog](#) (across the street from IAG), visit to the [Niagara Aerospace Museum](#). **May 29**.



Niagara Falls, June 2019 (Chris Houston)

- Evening / dinner fly-out, [Primo Barone's](#) at the Venango Regional Airport (FKL). **June 6**. *Night currency recommended.*
- **Picnic lunch at Piseco Airport** (K09) with hiking afterward for those interested. **June 19**.



Even fancy picnics can be had at Piseco (Chris Houston)

- Flight to Detroit, visit the [Henry Ford](#) and Rouge Plant Tour. *Will require overflying Canadian Airspace, 3rd class medical*

required for PIC. June 27.



A DC-3 at the Henry Ford in 2015 (Chris Houston)

- Hagerstown, MD, lunch at [The Grille at Runways](#) and a personalized tour of the [Hagerstown Aviation Museum](#), celebrating Hagerstown as a former home to Fairchild. **July 10** (rain date: August 7).
- [Empire State Aerosciences Museum](#) at the Schenectady County Airport (SCH). **July 17**.
- [Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome](#) for the Sunday WWI Airshow. ORA is a must-visit for anyone who loves old airplanes. ([Pictures are available here from our 2019 trip](#)). **August 1**
- Long Island Aviation History Day Trip: Fly into Republic (FRG) and visit the [American Airpower Museum](#) and the [Cradle of Aviation Museum](#). If Scott Lasky gets his way, we'll have NY-style pizza for lunch. **August 22**.
- Basin Harbor, VT (B06) for lunch at the [Red Mill Restaurant](#). Basin Harbor is an im-



Basin Harbor with Red Mill in background (Chris Houston)

maculately-maintained 3,000' grass runway. *Members flying Club aircraft will require 150 hours and a grass check-out with a Club instructor.* **Aug 29**.

- [Luray Caverns](#) in Virginia (LUA), known as the most "decorated" (with formations) cave in the United States; truly spectacular! **Sep 12**.
- Ticonderoga (4B6) and a visit to the [Star Trek Original Series Set Tour](#) (for the Trekkies among us!). **Sep 19**.
- "Annual" (-ish) fall foliage flight



WFC at Lake Placid (Stacey Platzer)

to Lake Placid. **October 2** (rain date: October 9).

- Benton, Pennsylvania (PA40) annual **Fly-In and Pig Out BBQ**. Benton is a well-maintained 2200' grass strip. *Grass skills and lightly loaded aircraft recommended. Club members flying WFC aircraft require 150 hours and a grass check-out with a Club instructor.* This is a fantastic event that [some members attended in 2019](#). **October 16**.

Stay tuned! More information to come!

Outings: Glenn H. Curtiss Museum, Hammondsport, NY

On May 1, 2021, club members toured the excellent Glenn Curtiss Museum in Hammondsport, NY with lunch at Burgers and Beer. Significant effort has been invested to improve the museum experience for visitors. If it has been a few years since your last visit, the facility is worth another visit!



Main entrance to the Curtiss Museum (Chris Houston)



Dan, Tom, Alicia, Bonnie, Chris, Melodie, and Brad



"Fastest Man Alive" on this motorcycle (Chris Houston)



A Curtiss classic: the Jenny (Chris Houston)



The 1908 June Bug (Chris Houston)



The 1907 Curtiss "Wind Wagon" (Chris Houston)

Cool Places To Fly by Chris Houston

Destination: Westfield-Barnes Regional Airport (KBAF), Westfield / Springfield, MA

Distance: 205 nautical miles, direct

Why It's Cool: Barnes is a towered field located 13 nautical miles north of Bradley International (KBDL). It is joint-use general aviation and Air National Guard facility. This is quite evident by the note in the FAA Chart Supplement about the military aircraft arresting barriers on runway 02/20 that periodically fail in the "up" position. The warning to civies is clear: don't hit

Contribute to the Newsletter!

"Hey! I take some pretty great photos, too! Why aren't mine in the newsletter?"

We're always looking for an opportunity to showcase how our members enjoy aviation. Or maybe you have a great story to tell? We'd love to share it. We'll even help you write it!

Submit your photos and stories to the newsletter by emailing:

Newsletter@williamsonflyingclub.com

Recommended Reading



The May / June 2021 issue of [FAA Safety Briefing](#) is focused on integrating new flying vehicles (such as UAS, aka "drone") into the National Airspace System. Articles will cover regulatory changes, emerging technology to streamline integration with traditional airspace users, and educational efforts to benefit all airspace users.

Cool Places To Fly by Chris Houston

(Continued from page 4)

them! Especially at night. Otherwise, Barnes is a capable field with four choices in landing direction.

Most airport dining options are variations on the \$100 hamburger or pancake. Barnes is different. The airport diner at Barnes is [Tobiko Sushi](#), specializing in Japanese fare: hibachi, noodle dishes, and — obviously — sushi. This is no “gas station” sushi, either. Quality of the offerings is quite high and it is served in a café with a great view of the main parking ramp. A second story open air patio provides an even better vantage point on airport operations for diners during the summer. My first visit to Tobiko Sushi was with six other friends and everyone was very impressed with their meals. In general, all

agreed that it was very much worth the trip.

Tobiko Sushi is in the same building as the FBO (Rectrix), located immediately west of the “X” formed by the airport’s crossing runways.

Tips:

- If entering Tobiko from the ramp without going through Rectrix, there is a code used to gain entrance to the building. The code is available in the vestibule. The same code must be entered to return to the ramp and it is not posted inside, so it is best to take a picture of it when entering the building to ensure that you remember it so that you can re-

turn to the ramp!

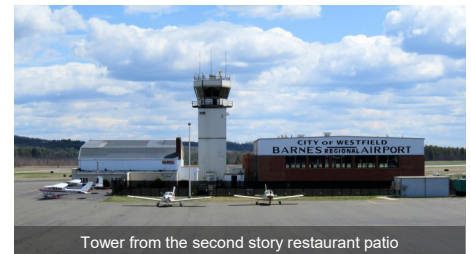
- 100LL is available full serve only through Rectrix. Current price is \$5.15/gal.
- Despite a comment in Fore-Flight about being charged a landing fee by mail, it appears that light singles are not charged landing fees at BAF.
- The intersection of ramp, taxiways A and B, and runways 15/33 and 02/20 at the center of the airport is designated as a Hot Spot on the official FAA taxi diagram. From experience, I can say that this intersection is more confusing to navigate from the ground than may be apparent from the diagram.



Chris' airplane parked in front of Rectrix / Tobiko



Looking across the field at the BAF VOR



Tower from the second story restaurant patio

Member Spotlight: Gabe Orange-Paton by Chris Houston



Member: Gabe Orange-Paton
 Ratings: Comm-MEL, IFR, CFI
 Hours: ~450
 Joined WFC: 2015
 WFC Roles: Instructor

Meet the Williamson Flying Club’s newest instructor, Gabe Orange-Paton. Gabe first came to the WFC in 2015 as a junior in high school. He earned his private pilot certificate in August of 2016 after training with Mike Bjerga. With the ink on his private pilot ticket still wet, Gabe departed shortly thereafter for college at

(Continued on page 6)

Member Spotlight: Gabe Orange-Paton by Chris Houston

(Continued from page 5)

SUNY Farmingdale. There, Gabe joined the Aviation Department. In July 2020, he earned a Bachelor's degree from the school's Aeronautical Science: Professional Pilot program. The degree program included topics like advanced aircraft systems, aviation law, and air carrier operations (regulations for Part 121 carriers).

Farmingdale has a Piper-oriented fleet, consisting of several Warriors, Arrows, and a Seminole. Gabe probably felt right at home after transitioning from the WFC fleet. Through Farmingdale, Gabe earned his IFR, Commercial, and multiengine. The school is based at Republic Airport (FRG), the third busiest airport in New York state behind JFK and LaGuardia. He confesses that the high traffic density at FRG kept him on his toes and that he once failed a stage check as he struggled to keep track of how many airplanes were in the pattern ahead of him. But those days are long behind and he quickly acclimated to the Long Island flight environment.

For his CFI, Gabe pursued an accelerated course with American Flyers, flying out of Morristown, NJ (MMU). He describes the experience with one word: intense. The 30 day program prepared him for his CFI and CFII check rides. If there was a bit of hand-holding done by the college, American Flyers was more of a crucible. Gabe's experience in the accelerated program featured much more actual IMC for a more real world experience. Though he earned his CFI,

he has yet to schedule his CFII check ride.

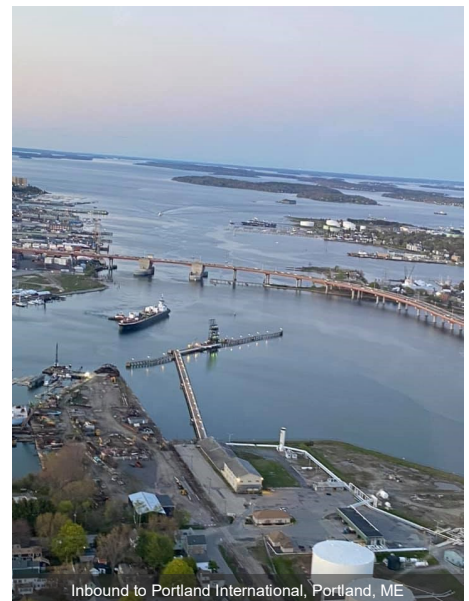
If American Flyers gave Gabe a bigger dose of real world flying, that is not to say that his college experience passed without adventure. In fact, Gabe fell into a pattern of experiencing the unexpected on cross country flights during college. His IFR cross country flight had him departing Republic for Groton, CT (GON). When the transponder failed 10 minutes after take-off, he and his instructor aborted the flight and attempted a return to Republic. Unfortunately, the ceiling was lower than expected at home. After flying the ILS to minimums, the pair went missed. A second attempt, careening toward a shrouded runway in IMC, also ended in a missed approach. They diverted to MacArthur (ISP) and got in right at minimums. The approach was so turbulent that Gabe's instructor took the controls and struggled to track the localizer. It doesn't get much more real world than that.

On a nighttime cross country flight for his Commercial rating, the real world intervened again. School policy required Gabe to take on fuel at his destination — in this case, Hartford, CT — before returning home to Republic. Gabe called ahead to Hartford and was assured by an FBO staffer that they would be open. Bluntly: they weren't. Gabe's choices were to spend the night in Hartford and wait for the FBO to reopen in the morning so that he could take on fuel or violate school policy by returning to Republic that evening. Spending

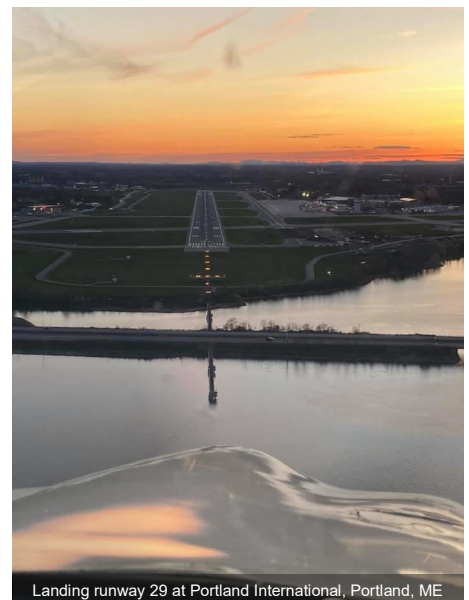
the night in Hartford required a difficult search for an exit gate on the darkened FBO ramp. Any aviator who dares travel by General Aviation has had their fill of unex-

(Continued on page 7)

Images contributed by Tom and Alicia Carter



Inbound to Portland International, Portland, ME



Landing runway 29 at Portland International, Portland, ME

Congratulations!



Member Spotlight: Gabe Orange-Paton by Chris Houston

(Continued from page 6)

pected overnights in unexpected places. Gabe got this experience out of the way early in his career.

During the summers, Gabe often returned home to Sodus and flew the WFC aircraft. He is particularly fond of flying to Ithaca where he has friends who enjoy “cliff jumping” into a local reservoir. Another favorite destination is Lake Placid. As a skier, Gabe finds circumnavigating Whiteface from the air to be

particularly enjoyable.

Having grown up on Sodus Bay, Gabe loves fishing, particularly in Maxwell Creek. He also owns a green Kawasaki Ninja 300 and often rides with a group of friends. (Is it fair to call them a motorcycle gang?) Last summer, they had a memorable ride to Niagara Falls.

Don't let his calm demeanor fool you. Gabe is clearly a skiing, cliff jumping, instrument minimums

flying, motorcycle gang member with the steely-eyed gaze that can only come from flying the dense traffic pattern of Republic Airport. (Author's note: Just kidding! At no time during our interview did Gabe hint at a proclivity for reckless behavior.)

Gabe is currently available as an instructor for WFC members and is able to instruct in all four club aircraft.

Airport Diners and Events

As a new resource available to Williamson Flying Club members, Dan Probst has compiled a spreadsheet of airport diners within ~ 300 nautical miles of SDC. All entries have been verified as viable businesses. The list is sorted by distance and identifies key attributes such as whether the runway is turf only or the field towered. Links to each venue are provided along with WFC member reviews where available.

WFC Nearby Airport Restaurants and Upcoming Fly-ins

| Name | Airport | Distance | Direction | Comments | Last reported | Open | Field | Paved? |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|--|---------------|------|-------|--------|
| Country Club (premium) Restaurant | Danville Municipal | 6200 | SW | Short walk, other side of the Interstate | | N | N | Y |
| Ice Cream Stand | Danville Municipal | 6200 | SW | Across the street. Big Lots parking lot. Tremendous selection of hand dipped ice cream | 03/2020 | N | N | Y |
| Laurel's Deli & Deli | Greensboro Airport | 860 | SE | Turf only | | Y | N | N |
| Wings Fly-In Restaurant | Great Valley Airport | 860 | SW | Right across the street from the airport. Turf only. Greasy space | | N | N | Y |
| Breakfast Colony | Shelby | 1020 | SE | Closely with typical breakfast fare. Short walk. | 02/2021 | N | N | Y |
| Shelby Farms Restaurant | Shelby Co. | 1020 | SE | Break this is turf only anyway. | | N | N | Y |
| Barco's Restaurant | South Davton | 1020 | SW | Appears to be pizza/burgers and Perry's ice cream right next to the turf | | Y | N | N |
| The Terrace Deli & Deli | Durham Reg. | 1020 | SW | | | Y | N | Y |
| Wind Mill | St Marys | 1020 | SW | Still on reduced hours from COVID (as of April 2021), but generally good food and atmosphere | 07/2020 | Y | N | Y |
| Cherry Ridge Airport Restaurant | Cherry Ridge | 1020 | SW | May not have outdoor seating right away in 2021. Aircraft parking can fill up. Good food! | 10/2020 | Y | N | Y |
| Jordan's Place & Italian Cuisine | Duaneburg Airport | 880 | E | As the name suggests, pizza and the like. Turf only | | Y | N | N |
| The Captain's Club | Silverdale Co. | 1020 | SE | | | N | Y | Y |
| AGS Lewis Cafe | Airfield Reg. | 1020 | SE | | | Y | N | Y |
| The Flight Deck | Dulles Reg. Airport | 1020 | SW | | | Y | N | Y |
| Big Sky Deli and Brewery | Lake Placid | 1600 | ENE | Small restaurant. No COVID protocols. Located 1/2 mile down the street from the airport entrance. Farm to table options in town. | 12/2020 | N | N | Y |
| Cherry Ridge | Cherry Ridge | 1020 | SW | Appears to be a very short walk. Also Barco's. Creamery nearby as well | | N | N | Y |
| Colombia Co. | 181 | ENE | On the entrance road to the airport | | | N | N | Y |
| The Cafe | Kelso Airport | 100 | SE | Interesting looking Italian place | | Y | N | Y |
| Home Brewery | Venango Reg. | 1020 | SW | Fire-drying facility | 03/2021 | Y | N | Y |
| Danville's Deli | Danville Airport | 200 | SE | | | Y | N | Y |
| Edison's Flying School | Edison Reg. | 1020 | SW | Short walk from airport entrance. Hot dog stand - outdoor dining only | | N | N | Y |
| East Hill Restaurant | Basin Harbor | 100 | ENE | Public setting. Fire dining. Turf only airport. Very much worth the trip | 10/2010 | Y | N | N |
| Franklin's Business Cafe | Hudson Valley Reg. | 1020 | SW | Established one - Home not food. Also has what is from the Top 1000 Cafe West | | Y | Y | Y |

Click [here](#) to access the listing!

Help us keep this listing current! The spreadsheet is set to read-only, but you can send your reviews and updates to Dan at: macedonrv8or@gmail.com

Additionally, Dan is tracking events in the north-east, including more distant events than the calendar at right. To access, click the "Upcoming Fly-Ins/Shows/Etc" tab at the bottom of the spreadsheet.

Images contributed by Dan Probst



Upcoming WFC and Local Events

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Saturday May 22 | NYC Skyline Tour with lunch at Sunset Pub and Grill (N07). Invitations already sent to the WFC. Please RSVP on the Event Calendar. Contact Matt Palmer for questions, ride requests, etc. Rain date, May 23. |
| Saturday May 29 | Niagara Falls Fly-Out. Do the scenic falls tour by air, land at IAG, lunch at Jim & Paul's Super Dog, visit the Niagara Aerospace Museum. Watch for invitations! Contact Scott Lasky with questions. |
| Sunday May 30 | Pancake breakfast, Whitford (B16), Weedsport, NY. 7:30 am to 11:00 am. Adults \$10, children under 12 \$5, children under 5 free. Contact John Whitford, 315-834-9950 or Whitford@twcny.rr.com |
| Sunday May 30 | Pancake breakfast, Perry Warsaw Airport (01G), 8:00 am to noon. Adults \$8, children under 12 \$5. |
| Monday May 31 | Pancake breakfast, Re-Dun (17NK), 7:00 am to 11:00 am. Adults \$8, children \$5. Runway 17-35, paved (2400' x 20'). This is always a great time! Highly recommended. Don't miss the Awe-Ja-Magic automated pancake maker! |
| Monday May 31 | Pancake breakfast, Akron Airport (9G3), 8:00 am to noon. Adults \$8, children 12 and under \$5. |
| Saturday-Sunday June 5-6 | Wings, Wheels, and Pancakes Fly-In / Drive-In Breakfast. Gettysburg Regional Airport (W05 — about 204 nautical miles from SDC), Gettysburg, PA. 8:00 am to noon, both days. |
| Saturday June 5 | Saturday lunches at SDC begin! Gloves and masks must be worn while in line for food. Donations are always appreciated! |
| Sunday June 6 | Fly-out for dinner at Primo Barones, Venango Regional Airport, Franklin, PA (FKL). Details coming! |
| Saturday June 12 | EAA 44 Sport Aviation Center 10 Year Anniversary, Ledgesdale Airpark (7G0), 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Celebrating 10 years of FREE aviation education programs and activities offered to the aviation community and general public. Baby Ace Restoration, homebuilt, restored, and production aircraft on display, flight simulators available, grilled food for purchase, classic car cruise in, FAMILY FRIENDLY For more information contact: Bob Nelligan-Barrett, E-mail: trailbossbob@icloud.cool Phone: (585) 754-7263 |
| Saturday June 12 | Second annual fly-in, Orange County Airport (MGJ). Featuring hamburgers, hot dogs, snacks, and side dishes along with a 50/50 raffle, vendors and live music. Bring your own chairs, relax and have a fun day with your aviation family and friends! Please RSVP to rspvflyin@gmail.com or go to pilotfun101.com and RSVP under the Fly-In Event tab. Spaces are limited. |
| Saturday June 19 | Fly-out picnic to Piseco (K09). Details coming! |
| Sunday June 27 | Fly-out to Detroit to visit the Henry Ford / Rouge Plant Tour (where Ford builds F-150 trucks). 3rd class medical certificate or higher required for PIC flying across Ontario. Details coming! Rain day, June 27. |

Selected events generally within 150 nautical miles. Items in **bold** are sponsored by the WFC Activities Committee. Saturday lunches will run at SDC every Saturday at noon starting June 5 and running until October (end date TBD).