

WFC Flyer



WFC aircraft at Re-Dun Field (17NK) for the annual Memorial Day pancake breakfast on May 31, 2021 (Tom Carter)

Important Dates:

General Meeting
June 10, 2021
WFC Clubhouse

Board Meeting
July 1, 2021
WFC Clubhouse

General Meeting
July 8, 2021
WFC Clubhouse

Inside This Issue:

- President's Desk, Randy Christian, p1
- Activities Update, Chris Houston, p2
- Outings: NYC, p4
- Cool Places To Fly, Coleman Young Municipal, p5
- Outings: Re-Dun, p7
- Opinion: Pinch-Hitter Courses, p7
- Congratulations, p8
- Calendar, p8

Williamson Flying Club Newsletter

June 2021

From the President's Desk by Randy Christian

Williamson Flying Club members... Welcome to June 2021!

Normally, this month's entry would be full of praise to the membership for another job well done with the annual pancake breakfast. Sadly, for the second year in a row, we had to cancel the breakfast due to the ongoing pandemic.

On that note, I will add that I finally believe there is a light at the end of the tunnel and it's no longer a train speeding down the tracks at us. I believe now is the time to feel optimistic about the rest of the flying season and beyond. Club activities are already underway with the just completed NYC skyline flight. That will be followed by a full agenda of fun and

challenging aviation-related ways to utilize the privilege of general aviation and your flying club.

From time to time, I think that we as members of the general aviation family lose sight of how the ability to take to the skies is truly a privilege. I would like to add that, if you have not flown in a long time, now is the perfect time to pair up with one of our fine CFI's and knock the rust off. Regain focus and reconnect with whatever bug led you down the path of general aviation in the first place! Reignite that fire inside yourself and regain what you may have set aside for many different reasons.



(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
Treasurer: Bob Herloski
Secretary: Steve Murray

Director, 2019: Paula Sippel
Director, 2020: Lesly Jean-Louis
Director, 2021: Dick Swingly

Contact: bod@williamsonflyingclub.com

Medical Advisor: Dr. Pam Tarkington

“Now should be the time to poke our heads back through the clouds, take a long look at the world beneath our wings, and marvel at the effort and dedication it took to put you in that very spot.”

Aviation Quote

“My airplane is quiet, and for a moment still an alien, still a stranger to the ground, I am home.”

- Richard Bach
Stranger to
the Ground

From the President’s Desk by Randy Christian

(Continued from page 1)

Whether you are a student pilot, a newly minted private pilot, or a tenured pilot, we can all use a reminder once in awhile that where there is a will, there is a way to find new enjoyment within this exclusive family that we share and love. Maybe it will be as a passenger on an upcoming activities event or offering up a seat to a fellow member. I am always looking for newbies to take up for a flight as it's a great way to give back. Who knows, you might just light a fire for someone in the process!

Now should be the time to poke our

heads back through the clouds, take a long look at the world beneath our wings, and marvel at the effort and dedication it took to put you in that very spot.

In closing, I will add that I hope each and everyone of us will find a way to utilize the club resources and in a small way feed your flying bug this season.

Blue skies...

Randy

Notification: Future WFC Member Meetings

As announced at the May 2021 meeting, we are making some changes to the conduct of member meetings as we begin opening back up from the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Starting with the June 10 member meeting, we will no longer utilize email as a means of approval for member attendance. Meeting attendance will only be satisfied by being in-person attendance.
- We will no longer utilize Zoom (remote) access to membership meetings. Based on May's fantastic attendance and much better weather, our meetings will be on-site only. This is based on logistics as we will not have zoom access from the hangars.

Activities Committee Update by Chris Houston

Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes

In the [May newsletter](#), we announced our slate of activities for 2021. After the fact, we realized that our plans were heavily concentrated in the months of June and July. We don't want to unduly tie up Club aircraft too often, nor interfere with the flight training that is such a vital mission of our

Club. In consultation with Board representatives and Mike Bjerga, we made some adjustments. First, we spread out the events more evenly between May and October. Second, we shifted more activities to Sundays when flight training is less active. The May newsletter was revised to reflect the new dates and we will continue to highlight

(Continued on page 3)

Activities Committee Update by Chris Houston

(Continued from page 2)

events coming within the next two months on the back page of the newsletter. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused, but believe that the changes we made will better balance our usage of Club aircraft.

Why Do We Do This, Anyway?

There are a number of reasons that we go through the effort to plan, organize, advertise, and undertake these events for the Club membership. I think they're worth mentioning:

- **Camaraderie:** I have made some fantastic friends as a result of meeting members through activities events. As an aircraft owner, the biggest perk of being a member of the Williamson Flying Club is the people. This is also why I write the Member Spotlight column — it has been a great way to get to know more of our members. (Member Spotlight will return next month.)
- **New horizons:** For me, one of the greatest joys of aviation is exploration. It's one of the reasons why I keep a map of every airport I've ever landed at as PIC (up to 221 as of last week). It is our hope that Activities Committee events will encourage our membership to visit new places. This is also the motivation behind the Cool Places To Fly column.
- **Growth opportunities:** Part of the value of going new places is adding new experiences and stretching our personal enve-

lopes and comfort zones. We fly the NYC skyline not only because it's an amazing view, but it encourages our pilots to talk with NYC controllers, which can be intimidating. Some of my favorite success stories from fly-outs involve relatively newly-certificated pilots visiting towered fields and navigating more complex airspace than they might have otherwise attempted on their own. Some of our members have become more confident and skilled pilots as a result of their participation in some of our events... and that's exactly the goal.

- **Real world general aviation for student pilots:** We always try to fill open seats with other members, especially our student pilots. As you might imagine, open seats are not a resource that is readily controlled, but we do what we can. As a student riding along on an Activities Committee event, you'll get to see real world general aviation outside of the training environment. It's a way of getting direct visibility to the type of flying that you might do once you have your certificate in hand.

In closing, if you're interested in something we're planning, please join us! It's fun and we're looking forward to seeing you. Plus, there is something really enjoyable about flying places as part of a small fleet of aircraft.

Review

On May 22, three aircraft and eight

people flew the NYC skyline (see Outings, page 4). Due to a personal conflict for one pilot and N701DT's alternator failure, we only had half as many members participate as planned. We're considering going again in the fall for those who missed out this time.

The May 29 excursion to Niagara Falls was cancelled due to concerns over the weather, though a couple of our enterprising members made the trip anyway!

On Monday, May 31, 20+ members flew to the sidewalk-runway of Re-Dun Field (17NK) for the annual Memorial Day pancake breakfast there. It was wonderful to see so many WFC aircraft parked on the field and members enjoying a return to pancake breakfast fly-ins! See Outings, page 7.

What Comes Next?

Next up for June is the start of **Saturday lunches on June 5**, the **fly-out dinner to Primo Barone's on June 6**, the **fly-out picnic lunch to Piseco on June 19**, and the flight to **Detroit on Sunday, June 27**. I'll make my pitch for the Detroit trip in this month's Cool Places To Fly (page 5).

Feedback and questions are always welcome — feel free to reach out to me or any member of the committee!

The 2021 WFC Activities Committee: Tony Alesci, Tammy Bebernitz, Tom Carter, Ed Ciolkowski, Chris Houston, Scott Lasky, Matt Palmer, Dan Probst, and Mike Shippers.

Outings: New York City Skyline, 22 May 2021

Eight people flew in three aircraft to sightsee along the Manhattan skyline, work with some very busy NYC air traffic controllers, and enjoy an excellent lunch at Hangars Café on the field at Sky Acres (44N).



Paula Sippel and Erik Rall (Paula Sippel)



Kristy, The Bear, and Chris Houston (Chris Houston)



Jamie Oliver, Alicia & Tom Carter (Jamie Oliver)



One World Trade Center (Chris Houston)



The Empire State Building (Paula Sippel)



Lower Manhattan (Chris Houston)



Backside of the Statue of Liberty (Chris Houston)



Columbia University (Kristy Houston)



The UN and Midtown Manhattan (Chris Houston)

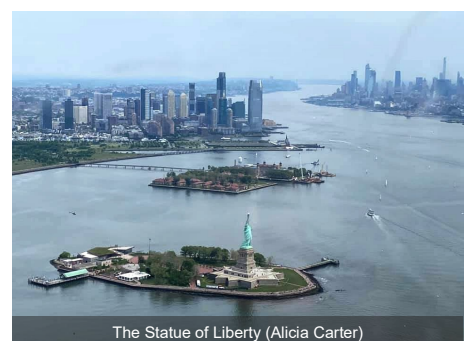
Contribute to the Newsletter!

“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



The Statue of Liberty (Alicia Carter)



Tom and Alicia Carter at Sky Acres (Jamie Oliver)



Lunch at Hangars Café at Sky Acres: Alicia Carter, Tom Carter, Chris Houston, The Bear, Kristy Houston, Erik Rall, Paula Sippel and Jamie Oliver (Jamie Oliver)

Cool Places To Fly by Chris Houston

My goal with this month's column is to provide some additional information around a planned daytrip to Detroit at the end of June. If you're wondering if you would want to participate in this event, please read on!

Destination: Coleman A Young Municipal (KDET), Detroit, MI

Distance: 265 nautical miles

Why It's Cool:

Historically, I've used KDET (formerly known as Detroit City Airport) as a convenient fuel stop. Located in Detroit, it is a towered Class Delta field situated just on the Michigan side of the USA / Canada border. The sole FBO on the field is AvFlight, a branch of the same Michigan-based FBO chain with a presence at Frederick Douglass / Greater Rochester International (KROC) that is managed by WFC member Bob Frantangelo. For a towered field, the fuel price is reasonable (\$5.25/gal self-serve). The self-service fuel is located on a ramp south of runway 7-25 and noted on the taxiway diagram as "Cargo Area". The last time I visited in February 2020, the self-serve fuel was inoperative, but AvFlight fueled me from the truck at the self-serve rate. Every interaction I have had with the staff at AvFlight has been top notch; the

Detroit crew is a friendly bunch. I have never been charged any landing or ramp fees by AvFlight, though I have always bought fuel.

My first flight to KDET was particularly memorable because it was the first place I've ever had my landing clearance changed due to a coyote sighting on the intended runway. Those runways, by the way, are in excellent condition. It is obvious that there was a recent infusion of money into the airport.

In the last week, the airport [made headlines](#) with the unveiling of a statue honoring the Tuskegee Airmen. Coleman Young, namesake of the airport and the first black mayor of Detroit, was also a Tuskegee Airman.

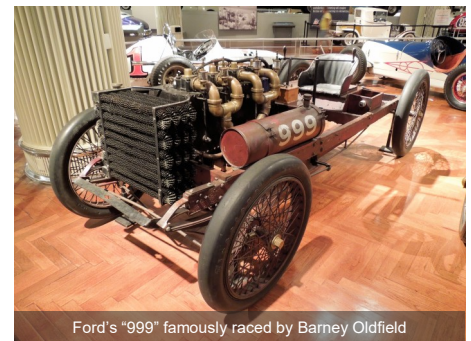
Mostly, KDET is cool because it is an excellent gateway to the city of Detroit. On Sunday, June 27, we (the WFC Activities Committee) have a long daytrip planned to Detroit to visit [The Henry Ford](#).

The Henry Ford Museum was dedicated in 1929 as the Edison Institute in honor of Ford's friend, Thomas Edison. Dedication took place exactly 50 years after Edison's invention of the incandescent light bulb. The original cornerstone bearing Edison's signature and footprints in concrete is on

(Continued on page 6)



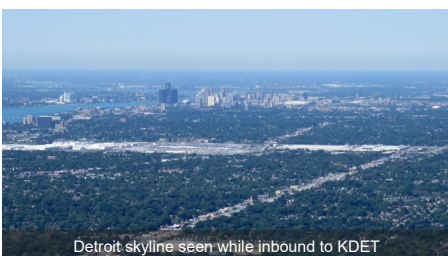
The 1948 General Motors bus (built in nearby Pontiac, MI) in which Rosa Parks refused to surrender her seat in 1955 Montgomery, AL.



Ford's "999" famously raced by Barney Oldfield



1965 Ford Mustang, serial number 1



Detroit skyline seen while inbound to KDET



Final approach, runway 33, KDET



Chris' Warrior on the AvFlight ramp at KDET

Cool Places To Fly by Chris Houston

(Continued from page 5)

display in the entry hall to the museum. Of the museum, Henry Ford said, "I am collecting the history of our people as written into things their hands made and used.... When we are through, we shall have reproduced American life as lived, and that, I think, is the best way of preserving at least a part of our history and tradition..."

The museum is expansive. From cars to aircraft, trains to tractors, it is a vast space filled with noteworthy artifacts of an industrialized 20th Century: a Ford Trimotor named the *Floyd Bennett* that carried Admiral Byrd over the South Pole in 1929, the limousine in which JFK was assassinated, the very bus where Rosa Parks quietly began the civil rights movement. Not just artifacts; artifacts with meaning. It's quite a place.

While we're there, our goal is to tour The Rouge. Currently producing Ford's F-150 trucks, The Rouge was constructed in 1917 as Ford's first vertically-integrated manufacturing facility in which raw materials went in one end and finished cars came out the other. The iconic, original Ford Mustangs were produced at The Rouge. The tour is absolutely fascinating and an introductory film about Ford's life balances the man's accomplishments with his failings.

Tips:

- The direct route from KSDC to KDET involves an overflight of Canada. I have been flying this route both VFR and IFR since 2006. It is easy to do and is

available even though the border is currently closed.

- If **IFR**, simply file as you would to any US airport and the transborder operation will be transparent to you.
- If **VFR**, you need to be on an active VFR flight plan (a DVFR flight plan is not necessary), be talking with ATC during the border crossings (on both ends), and on a discrete squawk code (not 1200). Buffalo Approach is the controlling agency on the Canada/NY border on 126.5 MHz and Selfridge Approach controls the crossing on the Canada/MI border on 119.6 MHz. It rarely happens, but if flight following is terminated while transiting Ontario, simply contact the appropriate US approach facility before crossing the border back into the US.
- Take your passport, just in case of an emergency.
- Canada does not recognize BasicMed in their airspace. All PICs should hold at least a 3rd Class medical.

Stay tuned for more details. Our goal will be to get a read on how many people are coming so that we can arrange suitable ground transportation.



The original museum cornerstone w/ Edison's signature



Ford Trimotor flown over the South Pole in 1929 by Byrd



President John F Kennedy's limousine



The massive 1940s era Allegheny steam locomotive

Outings: Pancake Breakfast at Re-Dun Field (17NK), 31 May 2021

We counted at least 20 members attending the annual Memorial Day pancake breakfast at Re-Dun Field! It was great to see so many WFC aircraft landing on a sidewalk. (Re-Dun's paved runway is 20' wide.) It was also great to get back to the business of pancake breakfasts again! Thanks to Tom Carter for providing the pictures.



Sure, it's narrow, but it's not really that challenging



Dan Dorschel's RV and N1185X from the WFC



Jamie Oliver & Don Henry's Searey was very popular



Denny and Marie arrive in Denny's Champ

Welcome New Members!

We had a remarkable seven new members join the WFC on the May 13 member meeting! The WFC extends a warm welcome to all of our new members and we look forward to seeing you in the sky!

- Mike Abate
- Caleb DiNatele
- Kevin Duhamel
- Andrew Hecht
- Luke Kusmierz
- Jonah Sharp
- Steven Snyder

Opinion: What Would You Do? By Chris Houston

I personally believe that “always leave yourself an out” is one of the most important safety concepts in aviation, a philosophy that was crystallized for me when I did flight training in the Rocky Mountains. We can implement all kinds of Plan Bs, but what happens if we, as pilots, become incapacitated? What then?

My wife has always been hesitant to take the controls of our airplane. She knows that it will happily fly hands-off when properly trimmed. She has no problem setting transponder codes or chang-

ing radio frequencies. But actually touching the flight controls? No way. In her mind, if she touched the controls, the wings would retract into the fuselage and the plane would plummet from the sky like a rock. Intellectually, she knows that it's an irrational fear.

My instrument instructor even tried to sweet talk her into letting him teach her enough to make a safe landing in our Warrior. She already knows how all the instruments work, it would just be a matter of learning the physicality of landing. Her answer? *Nope. No way.*



My wife and I flying to Lake Placid last summer

Eric, a frequent poster on [Piper Forum](#), had the same concerns about his wife. Eric is a professional cinematographer who runs a well-polished YouTube channel called “[SoCal Flying Monkey](#)”. He recently teamed up with CFI Jason Miller (from “[The Finer Points](#)”)

(Continued on page 8)

Congratulations!



Congratulations to the Williamson Flying Club's newest CFI, Mike Bebernitz! Well done, Mike!

Opinion: What Would You Do?

(Continued from page 7)

and persuaded his wife to embark on a Pinch Hitter course with Jason. This was not an easy sell. Tears were involved.



Eric recently posted the [first of a two part video series](#) on YouTube that depicts her training. It's truly excellent. My wife and I watched it together with great interest. It may have opened the door for my wife to reconsider her stance on this kind of training. I'm waiting with bated breath for Part 2. By creating this video, I think that Eric and his wife have done a tremendous service to the aviation community and flying families everywhere. Check it out!

Upcoming WFC and Local Events

Saturday June 12	EAA 44 Sport Aviation Center 10 Year Anniversary, Ledge Dale 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 rsvpflyin@gmail.com or go to pilotfun101.com and RSVP under the Fly-In Event tab. Spaces are limited.
Saturday June 19	WFC fly-out picnic to Piseco (K09). Details coming!
Sunday June 27	WFC 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. See "Cool Places To Fly" in this issue for additional details.
Sunday July 04	FLY-IN / DRIVE-IN BREAKFAST, 7:30 - NOON. Whitford's Airport [B16], 3043 Ditmar Rd Weedsport NY Adults \$10, Children under 12 \$5, Children under 5 free.
Sunday July 04	FLY-IN / DRIVE-IN PANCAKE BREAKFAST, 8:00 am - 11:00 am. Elmira-Corning Regional Airport [KELM]. Sponsored by EAA Chapter 533, please meet at their hangar—this will avoid landing fees. Breakfast includes pancakes, eggs, sausage and beverages for \$8.00. For more information visit EAA 533
Saturday - Sunday July 10-11	Greatest Show on Turf 2021 , Geneseo Airport (D52).
Saturday- Sunday July 10-11	Jimmy Stewart Airshow, 2021 at Indiana County Airport (KIDI).
Saturday July 10	WFC fly-out to Hagerstown, MD (KHGR) for lunch at The Grille at Runways and a personalized tour of the Hagerstown Aviation Museum .
Saturday July 17	WFC fly-out to the Empire State Aerosciences Museum at the Schenectady County Airport (KSCH).
Sunday August 1	WFC fly-out to the Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome , tour the museum, see the Sunday WWI airshow.

- Selected events are generally within 150 nautical miles. For additional events in the wider area, please see the WFC [Upcoming Fly-Ins listing](#).
- Items in **bold** are sponsored by the WFC Activities Committee.
- Saturday lunches will run at SDC every Saturday at noon starting June 5 until October (end date TBD).