



NEWS In the Sky

July 2018

(www.opa.link)

July 4th, 2018 - Dinner 7:30 p.m. Watch Bethany Fireworks After

4th of July Celebration
at
AirOne Flight Academy

7:30 pm Dinner w/ Pizza, Pop, & Desserts
Please RSVP to AirOne Flight Academy at
405.789.0000

Bethany Freedom Festival
9:45 pm Fireworks Show

Bring your own lawn chair to watch the fireworks from AirOne at the Terminal Building on Wiley Post Airport (KPWA). Come to the Terminal Building to Suite 105.

Instead of our regular OPA dinner meeting, you are invited to our 4th of July Dinner and Celebration at AirOne. Bring your family and friends for dinner. Bring lawn chairs if you would like to sit in the yard around the Terminal Building to watch the Bethany Fireworks Show.

Dinner begins at 7:30 pm in our classroom, Suite 105 of the Terminal Building on Wiley Post Airport. Please RSVP to AirOne Flight Academy at 405.789.0000 with your name and the number in your party.

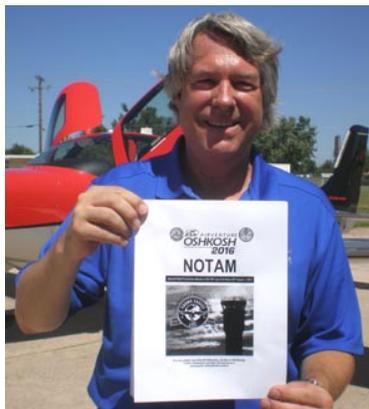
Sincerely,

Hal Harris, AirOne Flight Academy, Inc.
Wiley Post Airport (KPWA)
5915 Philip J. Rhoades Ave., Suite 105
P.O. Box 721600



**August 2nd, 2018 - Social Hour 6:30 p.m.
Dinner Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**

Speaker: Jeff Sandusky will lead us on a trip to Oshkosh AirVenture 2018



The Oklahoma Pilots Association (OPA) meets the 1st Thursday of each month at the Clarence E. Page Building, located on Wiley Post Airport. From N. Rockwell, enter the airport at the traffic light (Phillip J. Rhoades Ave.), take the first right, and drive back to the light gray brick building.



Oklahoma Pilots Association is a member-controlled not-for-profit organization for all pilots and aircraft owners. OPA strives to serve the needs of general aviation pilots statewide, promoting aviation, education and safety in personal and business flying.

Membership consists of student pilots through airline transport pilots, both civil and military and is open to all pilots and aircraft owners. Annual membership dues are currently \$35.

OPA holds monthly dinner meetings at the C. E. Page Building on Wiley Post Airport in Oklahoma City. Distinguished guest speakers present educational and safety related programs at the monthly dinner meetings.

OPA hosts monthly Fly Aways for lunch or dinner and weekend Fly Aways to interesting destinations.

OPA, through its charitable non-profit corporation, accepts money or property donated to fund the Vic Jackson Memorial Scholarship Fund which is awarded annually to a college student with career aspirations in the field of aviation. Your contributions of money or property are tax deductible.

OPA Newsletter Staff

Editors: Ben & June Roy

Typesetting & Layout: Ben Roy

Circulation: Wyvema Startz

Members' contributions of articles and other information relative to aviation are encouraged.

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Position open

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Ben Roy
June Roy
Steve Haynes

OPA President Brian Hancock

Thank you so much for electing me as your president for the 2018-2019 term. I thought it would be fitting to tell you a little about myself and my relationship with aviation. I grew up on a small family farm south of Wichita, KS... specifically over the flight path of McConnell Air Force Base, Boeing, Cessna and Beech Aircraft plants. From a very young age I grew up listening to the roar of F-4 Phantoms, B-52's, KC-135's, F-16's, B-1's and all makes and manners of general aviation and commercial aircraft. I specifically remember going to an air show at McConnell Air Force Base at a very young age and... being board, hot, and tired of walking... that was until the Blue Angels performed. After that I was hooked; watching and listening to them flash across the sky was and still is a true thrill.

My father, who had earned his private pilot's license in college but was not an active pilot, encouraged aviation related hobbies in our family. On Christmas one he gave my brother and I RC gliders that we launched with a 100-yard long rubber band and controlled remotely... by Christmas dinner one of them was a pile of balsa wood and all of us were too scared to fly the other. After a few pointers we were flying them with ease and eventually graduated to RC powered aircraft.

I was also an active member of AFROTC in high school and that translated to joining the Air National Guard when I was 19. I trained as an F-16 crew chief with the thought of applying to their pilot program after I graduated from college. However, after several military cutbacks in the mid 1990's there was not much need for a college graduate with a marketing degree in the Air Force Pilot program and my applications were denied. While in college at Kansas State University I used my crew chief skills to get a job at Manhattan, KS Regional FBO. This was my introduction to general aviation flying and I managed to scrap up enough money, that was not being used for "college entertainment," to take a few lessons. Unfortunately, the aforementioned entertainment regrettably took precedence to the expense of learning to fly.

After college I moved to Denver, CO and continued to work in the ANG at Buckley AFB. While in Denver I worked a regular job at AT&T and it was there I met my future wife, Shannon. We were married in 1997 and have two children that are 20 and 18. My daughter is a Junior majoring in Architecture at the University of Kansas and my son will start at OSU this fall majoring in Hospitality and Tourism Management. I apparently was not as inspirational as my father in their upbringing and neither of my children have a passion for flying other than to provide "a quicker way to get places."

Due to the cost of learning to fly my passion took a back seat to raising a family and starting a career. It was not until 2010 that my dream of learning to fly took a big leap forward. At an auction on the airport in Cushing, OK I bought a bright red Cessna 150... without and inspection or test flight (which I do not recommend). Luckily it did fly and only a few minor issues showed up in the post buy inspection. It was not long before I was in the pilot seat answering a life-long call to fly. Since then I have amassed only about 300 incredibly enjoyable flight hours. My purchase also helped to inspire my dad as well and he too picked up where he left off after starting a family and learned to fly again. One of my best memories was flying to Oshkosh with my dad and brother (also a pilot) and sharing that experience with them. Since then my dad has lost his medical but still loves it when I come pick him up for a flight somewhere or the occasional OPA Flyaway.

Aviation has always captured my imagination and I love to hop in my plane and leave my earthly bounds. In 2013 I joined the OPA and it was not long before I realized this was an avenue to share doing what I love with like-minded individuals. I'm honored and humbled to serve you as president this year.

In Memoriam - Sue Halpain

Thanks to Brian Hancock for the article

Sue Halpain passed from this earth on June 5th, 2018. Hundreds of individuals, including several OPA members, attended her memorial service which was a testament to how many lives Sue touched throughout her life.

Sue was an accomplished musician and taught piano and music theory for 56 years. She was also a licensed private pilot and accumulated over 1500 flying hours. She and (husband) Bill have flown all over the U.S., Canada, and Mexico including the Bahamas and Alaska. Several of the pictures shown during her memorial were of her and Bill camping next to their Bonanza, which they would pack with suitcase motorcycles to get around with when they were on the ground.

Sue loved her flying community and served the Ninety-Nines as the South Central Section Governor, Oklahoma Chapter Chair, and numerous committees. Sue was also a long-standing member of the Oklahoma Pilots Association.

The Oklahoma Pilots Association would like to express our condolences to Bill, their son, Phillip, and the rest of the Halpain family.



Sue and Bill at Planes, Bikes, n' Cars and Sue making the news bringing home the Winnie Mae wheel pants. We will all miss her smiling face at OPA.



June OPA Dinner Meeting

Editors Note: We apologize for the lack of information about the meeting. Ben has been sick and in the hospital and I have been tied up with him. (Not literally) He is very much improved and home from the hospital. Thanks to the people who provided pictures and articles that allowed us to complete this newsletter.

We had a stirring presentation in song about the 40th Anniversary Okie Derby August 28th, 2018. We elected OPA officers and board members by acclamation.

Matt Cole introduced AOPA President Mark Baker, who said, "After that great introduction I should say and in closing..." He gave us some very good information and noted that OK Senator Inhoff is the best aviation senator in the world. Some information was very positive and some we need to keep our eyes on and keep fighting for general aviation. He said some FBOs bought up airport land and say the ramp belongs to them. He paid \$180 the other day just to park there for a couple of hours and there was no red carpet or anyone waving you in. We need transient space to be reasonable and available.

Katie Pribyl leads AOPAs Aviation Strategy and Programs Division and also gave us some great information. They have a High School STEM curriculum to provide meaningful information about aviation. It is free of charge to any high school that wants it. She is working very hard on programs to keep current pilots and promote new ones.

We were also fortunate to have AOPAs Tom Chandler join us and give us even more useful information. Thanks for the enlightenment.





OPA June Fly-Away Dodge City, KS June 16, 2018



Thanks to Greg Finley for the article and to Gerald Luton and Greg for the photographs

For most of us, the movies and television shows of our youth seemed to focus on the old west. A certain nostalgia began to grow in our minds as we watched in complete amazement when the bandits chased the stage coach or fights broke out in the local saloon. Some may have pretended to be Jacob McCandles going to rescue his grandson in "Big Jake" or even Matt Dillon staring down an outlaw on Front St. in Dodge City in the long running show "Gunsmoke". Many of you may be able to remember such days growing up in Oklahoma and hearing stories from your parents or grandparents. But others can only dream of that time in our Nation's history. This month, several of us were able to relive the old west as we visited Dodge City, KS.

Our recent Fly Away had 17 OPA members and guests descend upon the Dodge City in 7 different airplanes. The headwinds were varying around 23 knots quartering and the landings were gusting upwards to 32 knots but nearly right down the runway. After arriving, we gathered in three different crew cars and made the short drive to the Boot Hill museum which is a true representation of the old Front Street. The museum is built on the former Boot Hill cemetery after all remains were transferred to the Dodge City cemetery.

At high noon, we watched a reenactment of a scenario that lead to a gunfight between the good guys and the bad guys. The good guys won of course! Afterwards, the gang of us crossed the street and had lunch at the Guyman Petro Mercantile restaurant before returning to the FBO for the flight home. Those of us who were able to attend this great event were Patrick Allmond, David & Lola Ames, Craig Boelte, Danny & Viola Davis, Don Simons, Bill Halpain, Alan & Sonie Liebler, Gerald Luton, Greg & Leona McGee, Roger & Jan Walton, and I was accompanied by my Grandson Austin Finley. All in all, we had a great time and I would like to encourage you to attend our next fly away to have lunch together at the Aqua Bar & Lounge at the Grand Lake Regional Airport (3O9), on July 14, 2018.





OPA June Fly-Away - Dodge City, Kansas





OPA June Fly-Away - Dodge City, Kansas



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**OPA July 14th Fly Away - Grand Lake, Monkey Island
Aqua Bar and Lounge
Wheels down 11:00 a.m.**



The Aqua Bar and Grill located on the edge of Grand Lake, is one of the finest local restaurants in Oklahoma. Serving delicious entrées, mixed drinks and spectacular deserts. The Aqua Bar is located on the southeast edge of the Grand Lake Regional Airport.

If you plan to go, please email Roger Walton at flyaway@opa.link with the number in your group (or text or call: (405) 219-5149). If you have a seat available or need a ride please contact one of the following: Greg Finley, Brian Hancock: (405) 757-5706 - Hancock73660@gmail.com, or Bill Pappadopoulos: (405) 417-7876, or Roger Walton: (405) 219-5149 - flyaway@opa.link, or **Danny Davis**: (405) 990-5201 - abadavis@sbcglobal.net.



Photos from 2016 OPA Fly Away and Grand Lake website



Usually we need a head count (for the restaurant & for ground transportation when needed), so if you plan to go along, please email Roger Walton at flyaway@opa.link with the number in your group (or text or call: (405) 219-5149). We'll meet you on the ramp. If you have a seat available or need a ride please contact one of the following: Brian Hancock: (405) 757-5706 - Hancock73660@gmail.com, or Bill Pappadopoulos: (405) 417-7876, or Roger Walton: (405) 219-5149 - flyaway@opa.link, or **Danny Davis**: (405) 990-5201 - abadavis@sbcglobal.net

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Contacts: Steve Schroeder: 405-691-8629 (home phone) sandsschroeder@cox.net or QB Governor Jim Sutton 405-760-1988 (mobile phone)



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OPA Fly Away Committee

Please contact any committee member with questions about Fly Aways or suggestions for future OPA Fly Aways.

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WILEY POST AIRPORT ATLANTIC FBO OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

2018 OPA Calendar

- July 4th** - No Dinner Meeting
 Dinner 7:30 p.m. at AirOne
 Watch Bethany Fireworks After
- July 14th** - Fly Away - Grand Lake
 Monkey Island - Aqua Bar and Lounge
 Wheels Down - 11:00 a.m.
- July 19th** - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- August 2nd** - Dinner Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- August 11th** - Fly Away - Fayetteville, AR
 Fayetteville Air Museum - Wheels Down - 11:00
- August 16th** - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- September 6th** - Dinner Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- September 15th** - Muskogee, Oklahoma
 Tour the Batfish Submarine
 Wheels Down - 11:00 a.m.
- September 20th** - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
Be sure to contact Roger Walton for dinner reservations
 405-219-5149 dinner@opa.link
- Monthly Oklahoma Fly-Ins**
- 1st Saturday - Ponca City Aviation Booster Fly-In
 Breakfast - Call Don Nuzum 580-767-0470
- 1st Saturday - Pauls Valley Lunch Fly In
 Call 405-268-3925 (Breakfast in Summer)
- 2nd Saturday - Ardmore
 Breakfast Lakeland Aviation - Call 580-389-5000
- 3rd Saturday - Alva Regional Airport Fly-In
 Breakfast - Call 580-327-6778 March through Nov
- Saturday after 3rd Monday - Owasso Pancake
 Breakfast EAA Chapter 10
- 4th Saturday - Enid Fly-In Breakfast - Woodring

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One-Eighth Page 2 1/2" x 3 3/4"	\$40.00
One-Quarter Page 3 3/4" x 4 3/4"	\$70.00
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ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

The OPA General Aviation Newsletter is published monthly. Articles for the newsletter are sought from members, trade organizations, etc. Stories and articles can include flying trips, rebuilding and restoration experiences, special tips, activities, etc.

Material for publication will be accepted up to the deadline which is the 15th of each month, space permitting. The editorial staff reserves the right to accept, refuse, or edit any material submitted. Publication of articles and opinions in the OPA Newsletter is not an endorsement by the Association, nor does the Association assume any responsibility for the accuracy of the information contained in the Newsletter. Permission is granted to reprint, provided credit is given to The Oklahoma Pilots Association Newsletter. **For circulation issues including newsletters not received or email and address changes contact Roger Walton 405-219-5149 or email mem@opa.link.**



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