



# NEWS In the Sky

**August 2022**

**(www.opa.aero)**

**August 4, 2022 - Social Hour 6:30 p.m.  
Dinner Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**

**Speaker: Jeff Sandusky, Cirrus Aircraft  
Regional Director - Midwest, Covering OK,  
AR, MO, and KS**  
**Jeff will present an overview of Oshkosh  
2022, with lots of pictures for us to enjoy!**

Learned to Fly at the University of Oklahoma in 1987. ATP Rated Single and Multi Engine. Commercial Rated Sea Plane Single. Certified Flight Instructor Single Engine and Multi Engine, along with Instrument Instructor. 8,000 Plus Hours Pilot in Command. University of Oklahoma BBA Finance. Oklahoma City University MBA Finance and Marketing. OPA members who have not attended Oshkosh say they enjoy attending vicariously through his presentation.



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. Rhoads Ave.), take the first right, and drive back to the light gray brick building.



**OPA DINNER MEETING  
LOCATION MAP  
(Between NW 50th & NW 63rd)**

**September 1, 2022 - Social Hour 6:30 p.m.  
Dinner Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**

**Speaker: Chase Rutledge  
News 5 Helicopter Pilot**

SKY 5 Chief Pilot Chase Rutledge flies for you every morning to bring you the latest in traffic, breaking news and any information that will impact your day. Chase is also there for you when it matters. As a member of the First Alert Storm Team, Chase will bring you the most accurate and up to date information about severe weather in your area and as breaking news happens, he will be there to provide the information you need as the story develops.

Chase has been with the KOCO Channel 5 since 2012 as a backup pilot. After retiring from the Oklahoma National Guard on March 31, 2018, he assumed the full-time chief pilot position. He served 26 years with the Oklahoma Guard with 20 of those years in full time position as an Army pilot and Instructor. He has served overseas and during countless missions across the nation in support of the war on terrorism, disaster relief and Homeland Security to name just a small few.

Chase has known that his dream was to be a pilot since he was six years old, and he has never stopped pursuing that dream. Chase studied Telecommunications at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, OK, acquired all of his airplane qualifications at Spartan School of Aeronautics in Tulsa, OK and then continued that flight training with the United States Army. He believes that all of this experience has prepared him for what he calls his "dream job" here at Channel 5.

When Chase isn't flying, he is still dreaming of flying. However, while he is doing that, he enjoys spending time with his family. He is an avid wood turner and enjoys traveling the world. Chase and his wife live in Edmond, and they have four children. The six of them enjoy getting outdoors and enjoying what this great state and world have to offer. Chase enjoys hiking, skiing, camping ... well anything that takes him to the mountains and back in the sky.

**If you plan to attend, please RSVP as soon as possible, but no later than noon the Tuesday before the Thursday Dinner Meeting, so we can get a count to the caterer (\$15 each). You can RSVP by sending an email to [dinner@opa.aero](mailto:dinner@opa.aero)**





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 \$40.

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  
Editor: June Roy  
Circulation: David Aimes

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

### 2021-2022 OPA OFFICERS

President - Kyle Fulton  
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Past President - Greg Finley 918 340-9184  
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Term Expires 6/30/2024

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Rick Cacini  
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Lee Holmes  
Bill Pappadopoulos

College Student Board Member - Mason Mateson

### EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

June Roy  
Steve Haynes

## OPA President Kyle Fulton



In the previous issue, we left off when I was a younger man with small children and the activity and costs that come with it.

Fast forward a few years, I was 46 and Ricky (my brother) was 54. Ricky had over 20,000 hours of flight time, Commercial, CFII, Commercial Helicopter pilots license. He still had his Cessna 180, but now he also had a Cessna 150. Ricky always told me that the 180 was too expensive to fly around for training while burning 15 gallons per hour, but we both lived in Oklahoma now at least 6 months of the year and were only about 90 miles from each other. A friend of mine, who was training to get his license, asked me a very good question. He said, "Kyle, your brother is an instructor and has a Cessna 150. Why aren't you getting your PPL?"

That night I called Ricky and popped the question. Ricky agreed!!!

We spent hours of training that I cherish now that Ricky is gone. I later came to the conclusion that you probably shouldn't use your sibling as a flight instructor, but I'm thankful I spent that time with him. About half-way through my training, I started using a different instructor who was not part of my family.

I was able to complete my training and completed my check rides. When I called to tell Ricky, I was a pilot too, he said "Congratulations! You can come down and get my 150 and use it. All you have to do is rent a hangar and buy the gas and oil. I'll do the annuals." This was an even bigger gift than helping me get my training. This kept me flying for the next 2 years (350 hours of flight time).

I had great pride when I would fly somewhere and meet up with my brother and his wonderful Cessna 180 during the next 2 years (2018-2020).

Story continues in September

## HANGAR FOR SALE

**Twin hangar for sale at PWA. Located directly across from the Pilot's Lounge. Member of PWA, Inc. with all privileges including discounted aviation fuel. Call Jay Flinton 405-642-2342. \$46,500.**

### Highlights from the July Dinner Meeting



After a great meal prepared by Dave, OPA President Kyle Fulton opened the meeting with the pledge to the American flag. Flyaway chair, Lee Holmes said the restaurant chosen for the July flyaway is closed for lunch and they would have to decide how to handle that. ( It was later handled nicely with the staff staying open and treating the OPA group very well.) Lee shared that the flyaway to Kansas last month included a very good museum. A display he liked about the planets and stars said that the center of the sun has a temperature about 15 million degrees. A grain of sand that hot at 100 miles away would burn you up. (I guess you can learn things on a flyaway, not just enjoy good food and companionship.)

Jeff Sandusky said that Cirrus will host the party the night before Oshkosh opens. They were told to limit attendance to 1000 this year; but had 1200 signed up before they could shut it down. If OPA members want to attend, contact Jeff because you can't sign up for it, but he will get you in. (I apologize if I got any of the following names wrong or spelled incorrectly.) David Barby got his CFII. Kyle Rouse and wife Leann have a new Piper airplane. Dave Bess and Brian Austin, VP of the Flyin Aggies are trying to get it going. Kyle said it was good to have June back. Brian said he was very excited to have June back, so he doesn't have to take notes and write an article. (Thanks for the help from Brian and others who helped me with that over the last couple of years.)



Piper airplane. Dave Bess and Brian Austin, VP of the Flyin Aggies are trying to get it going. Kyle said it was good to have June back. Brian said he was very excited to have June back, so he doesn't have to take notes and write an article. (Thanks for the help from Brian and others who helped me with that over the last couple of years.)



### Highlights from the July Dinner Meeting

Brian introduced our speaker, Geoff Camp. Brian first met him when he was recognized as one of the 10 people expected to move Oklahoma Aviation forward. Camp said he had been in Oklahoma since 1949 and his father flew, but he wanted out of Altus. His one-way ticket out was through the US Air Force. When he interviewed to become an engineer for GE, he thought he bombed it. He was surprised when they called him to offer the job before he left the tarmac. He said it was the best job he ever had. He said he was never leaving Oklahoma again. Because he was an engineer who could actually talk to human beings, they put him in sales. He said he loves airplanes and gets grumpy when he's not around them. Saying he's passionate about this is a major understatement.

Camp explained that the Aerospace Commerce Economics Services (ACES) Act established a common strategy for growth of the Oklahoma Aerospace Industry. The legislature established and funded it. Senators Paul Rosing and Adam Pugh were involved in getting it done. There are over 12,000 employees in the industry, accounting for 15% of Oklahoma jobs and over 1100 aerospace entities. He said to remember that the \$2.9M spent since 2018 brought home \$998M in new capital investments for the state. For every dollar invested ACES has returned \$34,413 in capital investment in the Aerospace Industry in Oklahoma. Camp said that we have no business beating California or Texas at this. We win because of the Oklahoma standard. It is the people, kind, and willing to help each other out. He suggested that we start talking to people about airplanes; and before you know it you may get a burger, a beer, and maybe even a ride!





## OPA July 16th Fly Away to Stearman Field - Benton, Kansas

Thanks to Roy Cowan for the article and pictures

The July fly away for lunch at Stearman Field occurred as scheduled. Lloyd Stearman Field (FAA LID: 1K1), also known as Benton Airpark, is a public airport located one mile (1.6 km) southwest of the central business district of Benton, in Butler County, Kansas. It was named in honor of aviation pioneer Lloyd Stearman and seven Stearman World War II-era training biplanes are based there. The airport covers 30 acres and has one runway. The runway is good concrete, but there are no taxiways so pilots must backtaxi to exit the runway. There is a nice restaurant on the field where the food was tasty and reasonably priced.

It was already almost 85° when we departed Oklahoma City for the 11:30 lunch, but before long we were at 5,500 feet and the temperature was pleasant. Nine aircraft made the flight from various airports including Guthrie, Twin Lakes, Wiley Post, and Enid. Those in attendance were Stan Young and Jim Macaluso in a Mooney, Jim Gleason and Craig Hodgens in a Cessna 172, Ben Collins and Bill Halpain in a Bonanza, David and Dotty Finley in a Navion, Stuart Yeo in a RV-9A, John and Joyce Myers in a RV-8, and Greg and Dianne Chapman in a RV-8A, and Roy Cowan and Bill Hines in a Piper Arrow.

We had a good lunch and departed around 1:00 PM. By then it was 100° as we made our way back along the airspace of the 7 airports surrounding Wichita. Climbing again to 8,500 to reach some cooler air, we enjoyed the 1-hour flight back to Oklahoma City.





### OPA July 16th Fly Away to Stearman Field - Benton, Kansas

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# OPA July 16th Fly Away to Stearman Field - Benton, Kansas

Thanks to Roy Cowan for the article and pictures



**Another Stearman Field photo from Roy below**



**OPA July 16th Fly Away to Stearman Field - Benton, Kansas**

Thanks to Kyle Fulton for the article and pictures



I showed up at Stearman field in Kansas an hour late. I was flying back from North Dakota and had to divert around some weather that made me late. The pictures of me at Stearman field are attached. The wait staff were all talking about all the airplanes that were lined up from OPA.



**OPA August 13th Fly Away - Enid Oklahoma Train Museum**



The Railroad Museum of Oklahoma is a railroad museum located in the former Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway freight depot in Enid, Oklahoma. The museum began in 1977 and is a non-profit operated by the Enid chapter of the National Railway Historical Society.

Please call (405-833-7201) to register your attendance and the name of all those attending. Email Lee at [pilotleeholmes@gmail.com](mailto:pilotleeholmes@gmail.com)

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Call June Roy 405- 615-2071



**Looking for a Location for a Special Event or a Meeting?**

**Try the Page Building at Wiley Post Airport!**

**For Page Building rental rates contact: Steve Schroeder: 405-691-8629 (home phone) sandsschroeder@cox.net or QB Governor Jim Sutton 405-760-1988 (mobile phone).**

**We are looking for new advertisements for our newsletter. If you can help us find new advertisers, please contact our editor, June Roy 405-615-2071**

**All scheduled items are subject to change as necessary.**

### 2022 OPA Calendar

- August 4 - OPA Dinner Meeting** 6:30 pm  
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- August 13 - OPA Flyaway - Enid, Oklahoma Oklahoma Train Museum**
- August 18 - OPA Board Meeting** 6:30 pm  
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- August 20 - Okie Derby**  
Sundance Airport  
Yukon, Oklahoma
- September 1 - OPA Dinner Meeting** 6:30 pm  
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- September 10 - OPA Fly Away El Reno, Oklahoma Airport Fly-In**
- September 15 - OPA Board Meeting** 6:30 pm  
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- October 6 - OPA Dinner Meeting** 6:30 pm  
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- October 15 - Details To Be Announced**  
Golfing at Fountainhead
- October 20 - OPA Board Meeting** 6:30 pm  
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

**Make dinner meeting reservations at [dinner@opa.aero](mailto:dinner@opa.aero)**

**\$15 per Dinner due to increased cost. If no RSVP, \$20 at the door if food is available.**

### 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)
- 3rd Saturday - Enid Fly-In Breakfast - Woodring Airport (WDG) April through October
- 3rd Saturday - Goldsby Airport breakfast  
Donations benefit youth aviation

**Please Print - Information Will Be Used For Membership Directory and Newsletter Database**

Oklahoma Pilots Association Membership Application  New Membership  Renewal  Update

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Referred By \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ **Name tag** Yes No  
 Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ **Name tag** Yes No  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Phone (Residence) \_\_\_\_\_ (Business) \_\_\_\_\_ (FAX) \_\_\_\_\_

Pilot information: Are you a Aircraft Owner? Yes — No — Type \_\_\_\_\_ N# \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER: Approximate Hours \_\_\_\_\_  
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 ATP \_\_\_ CFI \_\_\_\_\_ CFII \_\_\_\_\_

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**ANNUAL DUES ARE**  
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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.aero](mailto:mem@opa.aero).**

