



NEWS In the Sky

July 2022

(www.opa.aero)

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

Speaker: Geoff Camp
Oklahoma Director of Aerospace and Defense

Geoffrey Camp is the State Director of Aerospace & Defense. In his role, Camp will lead Commerce's Aerospace & Defense team as they work to strengthen the industry in Oklahoma by enhancing workforce efforts, providing assistance for business retention and expansion, and recruiting new companies in the state.

Camp has nearly 30 years of aerospace experience. His career started as an E-3 AWACS Jet Engine Mechanic at Tinker Air Force Base. He is a graduate of the Oklahoma State University Aviation Program where he received a Bachelor of Science in Aviation Science with an emphasis in Technical Services and Management. Most recently, Camp served as Senior Executive – Business Development for Vertical Aerospace, an Oklahoma aerospace company in Bristow.



**Enjoy your Independence
Day Celebration!**

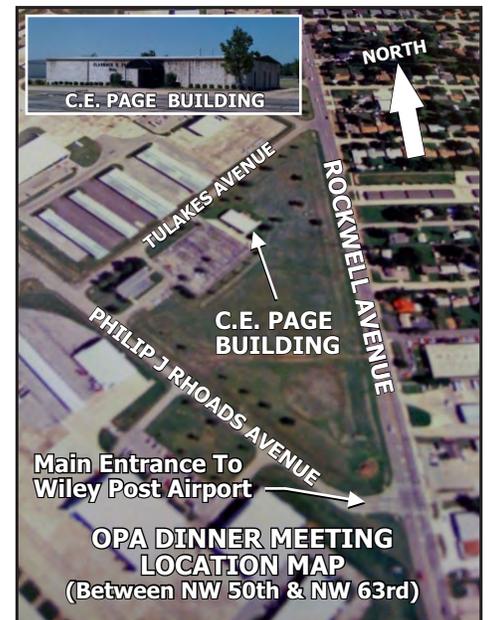
If you plan to attend, please RSVP as soon as possible, but no later than noon the Tuesday before the Thursday Dinner Meeting, so we can get a count to the caterer (\$15 each). You can RSVP by sending an email to dinner@opa.aero

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.

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

Speaker: Jeff Sandusky, Oshkosh 2022

Jeff will present an overview of Oshkosh, with lots of pictures for us to enjoy!





Clarence E. Page Building
5810 Tulakes Avenue
Wiley Post Airport
Bethany, Oklahoma 73008

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: Mike Rangel

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

2021-2022 OPA OFFICERS

President - Kyle Fulton
Exec. Vice President - Mike Grimes 405 641-6860
Past President - Greg Finley 918 340-9184
Treasurer - Roy Cowan 405 340-1425
Secretary - Angela Drabek
Vice President of Membership
Roger Walton 405 219-5149
membership@opa.aero
Vice President of Communications
Rick Cacini
info@opa.aero

DIRECTORS

Term Expires 6/30/2023
Chris Call
Bill Hines
Eric Lang
Mike Rangel
Joey Sager
Jeff Sandusky

Term Expires 6/30/2024
Dave Ames
Rick Cacini
Craig Hodgenn
Lee Holmes
Bill Pappadopoulos

College Student Board Member - Mason Mateson

EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

June Roy
Steve Haynes

OPA President Kyle Fulton



As an introduction to me and my passion for flying, I will tell you a story over three months. Although I enjoy flying, there's more to it than just the process of flying an aircraft for me.

Seven years ago, I had no idea that I would be flying planes in a few short years. When I was 5 years old my brother, Ricky, had a model of an F-14 Tomcat; I dreamed of being a pilot from my early years while staring at it.. Ricky's purpose in life was to fly planes. My Dad, a farmer, required Ricky to learn how to be an airplane mechanic before he could learn how to fly. That was one of the smartest things my brother ever accomplished. Ricky was able to diagnose and fix many problems throughout his career. He was eventually able to complete his own annuals as well as help his friends with their annual inspections.

Staring at that F-14 model, I couldn't imagine going through all that training, and felt that my purpose in life was to be a farmer. I came to the conclusion that I could compromise and become a flying rancher and just use an ultra-light. I wouldn't need as much training for an ultra-light (motorized kite). My fear of heights ultimately won out over the desire to fly via ultra-lights.

I learned everything I could via flight simulators and media I gathered over the next 40 years. I flew countless hours whenever I could with Ricky in his Cessna 172 and later, Cessna 180. Our careers separated us for 25 years, so I wasn't able to fly with Ricky as much as I wanted. I researched getting my private pilot license and just couldn't justify the cost of a hobby like that while raising a young family.

Pictures from Liberal Air Museum Jake and Blake Dutton - from Kyle



Highlights from the June Dinner Meeting

Thanks to Mike Grimes for the pictures and Susie Grimes for the notes

Greg Finley passed his medical. Elaine Regier got married. We had a guest from U.S. Representative Tom Cole's office, Bruce Campbell. The suggested slate of OPA Officers and Board Members from the Nomination Committee was submitted. Craig Hodgenn was nominated from the floor for the open board member position, and he agreed to serve. The revised list of nominees was approved by acclimation by the members present.

Angela Drabek introduced our speaker, Gerry Cole. (Gerry is the mother of former OPA President and Board Member, Matt Cole. Her book, "Blue Skies and Tail Winds", was based on his story.) Gerry said she read "The Living Tree" to her children because the lesson is sharing. The story for her book fell in her lap when she was in the intensive care burn unit with Matt after a horrific plane crash. The nurses told her that she would write an amazing book when she got home with Matt. She focused on the part about going home with him because there were times they didn't know if Matt would survive. One of the doctors told her that he would see her book in Barnes and Noble.



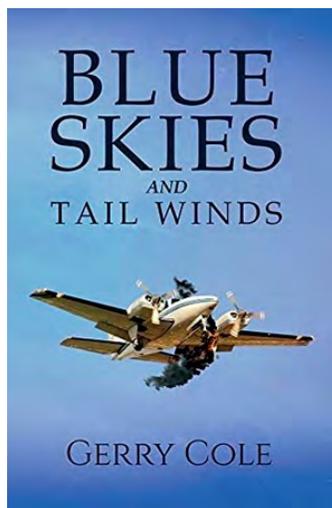
Highlights from the June Dinner Meeting

Thanks to Mike Grimes for the pictures and Susie Grimes for the notes

Matt liked to play chess and taught his mom, but he said she stunk at it and told her she had to look ahead when playing chess. Then he asked her when she was going to write her book and told her it might be time to start writing. Her husband bought her a new computer so she could write. Matt brought out his favorite book to read while he kept her company; but could not turn the pages due to his injuries. They put the lead end of a pencil in his mouth, and he turned the pages with the eraser.

Her husband Jeremy was offered a job in Oklahoma, and they moved here from LA. Matt decided he needed to move forward and studied Aviation Private Pilot through Utah Valley University. He continued his studies and completed his CFI, CFII, MEI, ATP and is a Gold Seal Flight Instructor. He owns Blue Skies Flight Training in Guthrie, OK.

The book has been translated into German and French and was nominated for the Eric Hoffer Award for best nonfiction. (She said that a man who wrote about carnivorous ants won the award.) An audio version of the book is coming out and she is slowly working on a screen play. The book very appropriately ended when Matt got married. Our thanks to Gerry Cole for a great presentation!





OPA June 4th Fly Away to Chickasha, OK - Wings & Wheels Airshow

Thanks to Mike Grimes for the photographs





OPA June 4th Fly Away to Chickasha, OK - Wings & Wheels Airshow

Thanks to Mike Grimes for the photographs



OPA Fly Away June 19th - MidAmerican Museum at the Liberal, Kansas Airport  

Article and pictures submitted by Lee Holmes, Flyaway Chairman

The June OPA Flyaway to MidAmerican Museum at the Liberal, Kansas Airport did happen on June 19. Plans for the trip could not be confirmed until June 13 and Kyle Fulton's email to members was sent. Unfortunately, some OPA members did not receive his message.

At least 13 members and guests made it to the museum. A group picture was taken at the latest plane donation to the museum – the Sonex jet built and flown by OPA member Kenneth Hollrah. (See additional information.)

In 1997 Oklahoma City resident, Col. Tom A. Thomas Jr, Retired, donated 56 planes to the museum. The museum now has over 100 planes on display. Our host was Bob Immell, Executive Director of the museum. For \$5 you can buy a 148-page picture/story book about the planes.

There is a picture/story/facts of the planets in our solar system on one wall of the museum. If you didn't go, a trip to this museum will be a great adventure for you, your children, or grandchildren (and others).



OPA Fly Away June 19th - MidAmerican Museum at the Liberal, Kansas Airport

Article and pictures submitted by Lee Holmes, Flyaway Chairman



Subsonex JSX-2 Jet - Donated by Ken Hollrah of Fairmont, Oklahoma on May 27, 2022.

The Subsonex JSX-2 was one of the initial Beta Projects sold by the factory to receive feedback from builders on the kit and on the build manual. Ken Hollrah received the kit in 2015 and completed the project, including all of his personal changes, improvements, and additions, in mid-2018.

A few of the personalized additions to the aircraft included Aim-9 miles, a handcrafted solid walnut control stick, self-designed pneumatic tail stand, hand crafted trim wheel, heated seat, hand crafted air vents and wing fairings, forced air toe heater, oxygen system, exterior charging port, and a Tru-Trak auto pilot. The addition of the auto pilot made flying the jet a lot less labor intensive.

After accumulating 237 flight hours in less than three years, possessing the record for highest time JSX-2 pilot in the world and a combination of TBO expense (sending the engine to the factory in the Czech Republic is required at 300 hours), liability consequences if he sold the aircraft, and a history of engine turbine blade failure in the fleet, Ken decided it was time to move on to other projects. The JSX-2 has landed in 5 different states and at 49 different airports including being displayed at several air shows and fly-ins. The museum took possession of the aircraft with the understanding that the jet will not be flown again.



OPA July 16th Fly Away

Lunch at Stearman Field (1K1) - Benton, KS

Stearman Airfield Bar & Grill

Wheels down 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.

(Closes at Noon)



This should be a great Fly Away. Those who ate at Stearman Field at past Fly Aways really enjoyed the great food. It is an easygoing, airplane-decorated bar & American eatery with a big patio. Please call (405-833-7201) to register your attendance and the name of all those attending. Email Lee at pilotleeholmes@gmail.com

If you did not receive the email about the June Fly Away, please email Lee Holmes with your current email address so we can make sure you are on the list.

ANGEL FLIGHT



We Need More Pilots.

Join Angel Flight Oklahoma and Make a Difference, One Flight at a Time.

Share your skills and love of flying to help those in need. Angel Flight volunteer pilots fly one or more flights a year. Flights are posted and scheduled online so you can pick a flight that's best for you.

To learn more, or to schedule a fly-along, call 918-749-8992 or visit www.AngelFlight.com.



CIRRUS AIRCRAFT
CIRRUSAIRCRAFT.COM

To Schedule a free demonstration flight in the world's best selling aircraft, contact
Jeff Sandusky
 405-650-5900
 jsandusky@cirrusaircraft.com

WILEY POST AIRPORT ATLANTIC FBO OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

OPA Newsletter Ad Rates

Approximate Ad Size Monthly Rate

Business Card 2"x 3 1/2"	\$30
One-Eighth Page 2 1/2" x 3 3/4"	\$40
One-Quarter Page 3 3/4" x 4 3/4"	\$70
One-Half Page 4 3/4" x 7 1/2"	\$120
Full Page 7 1/2" x 9 1/2"	\$240

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

July 7 - OPA Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

July 16 - Stearman Field - Kansas
Stearman Airfield Field Bar and Grill
Wheels Down - 10:30 - 11:00 am

July 21 - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 pm
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

August 4 - OPA Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

August 18 - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 pm
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

August 13 - OPA Fly Away - Enid, OK
Oklahoma Train Museum

September 1 - OPA Dinner Meeting 6:00 pm
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

September - OPA Fly Away

TBA - Golfing at Carlton Landing or Fountainhead

September 15 - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 pm
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

Make dinner meeting reservations at 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

July 16th Woodring's Fly-In & Spot Landing Contest breakfast. Barnstormers will be serving their buffet breakfast from 7:30am to 10am, \$9.99 a plate, \$4.99 for kids 12 & under.

Mandatory safety briefing for all participants at 8:00 am in the pilot's lounge.

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 _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Receive by Mail
 Phone (Residence) _____ (Business) _____ (FAX) _____

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

MEMBER: Approximate Hours _____
 Private ___ Commercial ___ Instrument ___
 ATP ___ CFI ___ CFII _____

Please make dues check payable to:
 Oklahoma Pilots Association
 Mail to: 5810 Tulakes Ave.,
 Wiley Post Airport,
 Bethany, OK 73008

All material for newsletter publication should be sent to:
OPA NEWS
 C/o June Roy
 11749 SW. 54th St
 Mustang, OK 73064
 405-802-9657 Cell
 email:
broysprint01@earthlink.net

ANNUAL DUES ARE
\$40
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.aero.**



Clarence E. Page Building
 5810 Tulakes Avenue
 Wiley Post Airport
 Bethany, Oklahoma 73008