



NEWS In the Sky

May 2022

(www.opa.aero)

**May 5, 2022 - Social Hour 6:30 p.m.
Dinner Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**

June 2, 2022 - OPA Elections!



Speaker Bob Burke has written more historical non-fiction books than anyone else in history. He was born in Broken Bow, Oklahoma, and now practices law and writes books in Oklahoma City. Burke graduated with a journalism degree from the University of Oklahoma and a law degree from Oklahoma City University. He was director of the Department of Economic and Community Affairs (now the Department of Commerce) in the administration of Governor David Boren and managed Boren's first campaign for the U.S. Senate in 1978.

Burke has written on such diverse topics as baseball, aviation, art, and religion in Oklahoma. His biographies of Wiley Post and books on the history of baseball in Oklahoma and about the Oklahoma governor's mansion have won the Oklahoma Book Award. His biography of Bryce Harlow was named the outstanding Oklahoma history book of the year by the Oklahoma Historical Society. His book about the life of Ralph Ellison was nominated as a 2005 Oklahoma Reads Oklahoma book selection. Also in 2005, his book about traveling Oklahoma timber towns was named book of the year by the Oklahoma Museum Association.

Burke's community service is extensive. He has served on the governing boards of the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence, the Jim Thorpe Association, the Oklahoma Heritage Association, the Oklahoma 4-H Foundation, the Oklahoma Arts Council, the Oklahoma Higher Education Heritage Society, Red Earth, the Wiley Post Commission, the Oklahoma Historical Society, and executive committees at Oklahoma City University and at the University of Oklahoma where he is an adjunct professor in the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication.

In 2004, he received the Governor's Art Award for Excellence in the Arts in Oklahoma and was named to the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame. In 2006, he was given the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Oklahoma Center for the Book. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 2006 and received the OU School of Journalism Alumni Award in 2007. Burke was named as one of the Oklahoma Health Center Foundation's Treasures for Tomorrow honorees in 2008. In 2010, Bob became the first recipient of the Lee Allan Smith Oklahoma Legacy Award and was inducted into the Oklahoma Historians Hall of Fame. Bob received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Oklahoma City University in 2011.

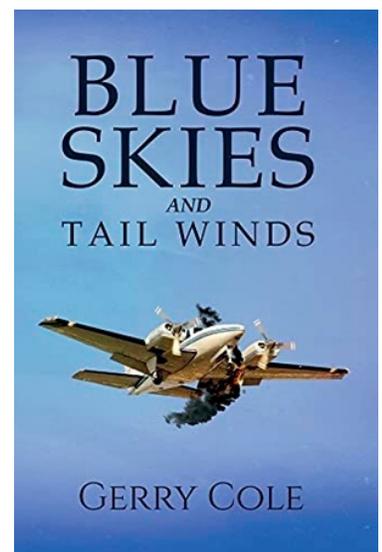
**June 2, 2022 - Social Hour 6:30 p.m.
Dinner Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**

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

Speaker: Author Gerry Cole grew up in Western New York where she attended local schools. She studied English and Composition at SUNY at Buffalo and has a minor in Spanish. She has been married to Jeremy for many years and together they have 3 children, Matthew, Leah and Shayna. They also enjoy 5 grandsons. They left the hustle and bustle of Los Angeles and live together in Edmond, Oklahoma with their 2 dogs.

Gerry Cole is the mother of local flight school owner Matt Cole, who owns Blue Skies in Guthrie, Oklahoma. Matt is a former OPA President and Board member.

The book 'Blue Skies and Tailwinds' focuses on a family that is struggling to get their lives back on track after a fiery airplane crash that almost claims the life of their son and brother. We are introduced to Mom, a stay at home parent, who has to learn new skills to be a caregiver to her son and Dad, a physician, who travelled back and forth from Los Angeles to Gainesville to be with his wife and son. Watch how they evolve and create a new life. Cheer with Mom and Dad as they see their son accomplish tasks the doctors said would not be possible. There is never a way to turn back the clock. There is only the constant beat of forward movement. Everyone in this family chose to go on, and the lives they live were chosen by themselves. They continue to thrive today.





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

OPA President Greg Finley



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
Editors: Ben & June Roy
Circulation: Mike Rangel

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

2021-2022 OPA OFFICERS

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EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Ben Roy
June Roy

I am sure many of you are already aware of this being an election year for many very important positions on both the state and federal levels. Over the next several months, many candidates will be competing for your attention and support, which may direct your focus on to them until that special day of voting. I most certainly would not attempt to influence your decision one way or another in those elections but, instead, I would like to take a brief moment to redirect your attention to another election that will be taking place this coming June 2nd. An election that is not only a little closer to home, but one in which your important voice will help provide immediate and appreciated results to continue shaping a very important personal interest of us all. If you have not guessed already, I will go ahead and let you know that our Association will hold our annual elections during the June Dinner/Membership meeting. We will have both OPA Officers and Board Member positions open that need to be filled.

I would like for you to read this article as a multi-purposed document. The first purpose has already been fulfilled... the notification of the annual elections. The second is to encourage each of you to consider becoming an active member of our Board. Even if you have already done this at some point in the past, I would encourage your consideration of another term. All you need to do is notify either myself or another member of our current Board that you are interested in filing one of our Board positions. Also, we will have open a College Member (Representative) position. If you are a current college student in an aviation related field, please let us know. Anyone seeking to fill a Board position does need to be a current OPA member in good standing.

Finally, I would ask that you make a special effort to attend each of our monthly meetings; especially in June. Not only is your vote important but it will be really nice to see you all together as well!

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.



Highlights from the April Dinner Meeting

A Big Thanks to Dr Vance for allowing us to use his excellent presentation in the newsletter

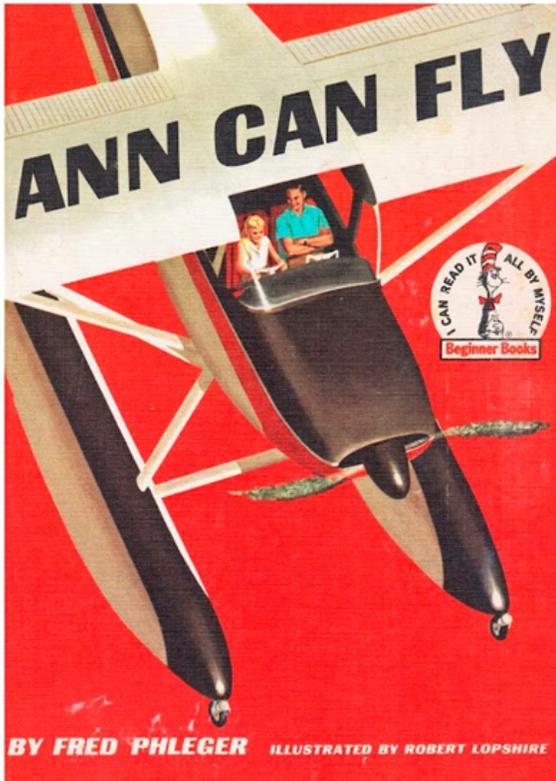
Brian Hancock opened our meeting. After the pledge to our flag, he welcomed Jared Dunlap from OSU who was there with Dr. Vance, our speaker. Brian said he doesn't talk to his daughter because she went to Kansas; and his son doesn't want to be a pilot, so he doesn't talk to him either. He introduced our speaker and turned the meeting over to him. (Editor's note: I confessed to Dr. Vance that I didn't expect an interesting presentation about how to get a seaplane rating and was very pleasantly surprised with one that someone I know said was one of the best we have had at OPA. I can share this because Dr. Vance said it was a compliment. I meant it that way! June)



Dr Vance said that his interest in flying started in the second grade and centered around a "Cat in the Hat" book named "Ann Can Fly." It had a picture on the cover of a Cessna 180 on amphibious floats painted orange and black over white. He always wanted to fly a seaplane after that. He noted that you can still buy the book online. There is no way I can do his presentation justice in writing. It is just not the same without him talking. If you missed the meeting and have a chance to hear him, take advantage of it.



Vance said you don't have a GPS to take you down to the water; you fly the entire thing by hand. You must fly a constant flight path to the water, but you will be a better pilot. He said you should complete your due diligence before buying a seaplane. Did he do his first? No. He knew just what he wanted and thought that was what he needed. He looked at one that didn't float. The owner didn't mention it hadn't been on the water for a year and the pontoons had 25 gallons of water in them. If it stayed on the water, it would sink. He looked at one that had the pilot sitting below the water line. When you take off it buries the nose in the water, and you can't see. His 21-year-old broker convinced him that he needed a 185, not a 180. He found one that had 84 hours on the engine and was well instrumented with oversized floats. He had a ventral fin installed and picked the plane up and ferried it to Stillwater. Then he learned that the owner two times back had landed hard and cracked the bulkhead. He had a crack drilled and the corrosion was so bad you could have poked your fingers through. It took four months to replace the four feet of skin; at the cost of a small car. He had an offer he couldn't resist to paint it for \$12,500 so he had that done. (Does the new paint job [above] look familiar?)



Jared Dunlap



Highlights from the April Dinner Meeting

They aren't making seaplanes anymore and you must invest to keep it up. If you buy an amphibian, you must get it off the wheels to swing the gear. There are 1,101 fasteners, clips, screws for each Annual. How do I know? (Personal experience!)

Maintenance Performed:

Continental IO-550 Starter Adapter Spring - \$400 + \$750 install

Hydraulic Pump - \$3K (core)

Aft Bulkhead - \$4K for part + \$11K to install

EDO 3500 corrosion.....\$39K

Airframe repaint - \$12.5K

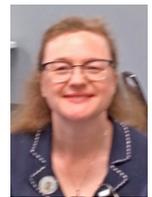
uAvionix-tailBeacon - \$2K

Landing gear cables (12, 6/float) - \$2.7K + \$2.9K to install

Depth gauge - \$110 + 1.6K to install

Altee Dodge V-Brace - \$700

Dr. Vance created seaplane flying checklists and a Maneuvers Manual patterned after Jared's manuals. Insurance is expensive for any plane, but especially true for a seaplane to be used with students. Cannot (choose not) to afford full Commercial hull... because the cost would be more than \$14,000 a year. **ROI (Return on Investment) - Is this all worth it? Professionally, Personally, As a teacher (give-back), One word.....YES!**



Pictures from the April Dinner Meeting



Pictures from the April Dinner Meeting



OPA Member, Mike Grimes, honored by the State of Oklahoma for 57 Years of Law Enforcement Service



The Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission recognized Sandra Shelton by presenting her with a twenty-five-year pin and a commendation from Gov. Kevin Stitt.





**OPA May 21st Fly Away to Independence, Kansas
Cessna Factory Tour - Wheels Down - 10:00 - 10:30
Details to be Announced - Watch Emails and Website**



OPA May 2022 Flyaway is to visit the Cessna Airplane Factory at Independence, KS On May 21st. The airport is 133NM - 153 SM Northeast of Wiley Post. This is about 35 miles NE of Bartlesville. Present plans are to land between 10 - 10:30. Airport is KIDP, AWOS 118.525, Unicom 123.05.

We will Tour the Cessna Factory where they make the 172, 182, 206, Caravan and the M2 Jet.

It is REALLY important that our tour guide(s) have a bellybutton count (innie or outie). (That's the same as plus or minus a few to most people. LOL) If you are going, please let me know by Friday, May 20th, 3 pm with your name and guests. Send to Pilotleeholmes@gmail.com or text to 405-833-7201 or call. If you decide to go after 3 pm, send message anyway.

For the flyaway, we are also inviting members of EAA chapters 24 OKC, 1098 Shawnee, 55 Enid and others. Everyone is encouraged to wear name tags, which will be available. If you need a plane ride, let me know. And if you are piloting and have room for passengers, let me know as well. I will try to make connections.

Some of the details are tentative (times and Lunch) so watch for Kyle's email messages about updates and changes.

The June 2022 Flyaway will be to Chickasha on June 4.

Have you, or do you know a pilot who started an airplane engine:

With a Tow Tug still hooked up and/or; With something left on a wing and/or; With something left on the elevator and/or; With an oil cap or door loose or off and/or; With a gas cap loose or off and/or; Without checking the gas tank to be sure there was enough gasoline to complete the mission and/or; With cowling screws not fastened and/or; All tires were properly inflated and/or; All tie downs and chocks have been removed and/or; The pilot is all buckled in but the key to his/her plane is in his back pocket; or her key is in her purse in the back seat and/or; His/her I-Pad is in the hangar or car and/or; ?_____?

Well, I have or know someone who has. So..... what do I do?

I now have a Cessna – Before or right after I put my foot on the step to get into the plane, I back away and walk completely around the plane . . . moving the elevator up and down, looking under the elevator to be sure the elevator trim is secure, looking at the rudder, looking at the tires, moving the ailerons on both wings up and down to be sure they move easily, look at my gas caps, check baggage door, pitot is clear, all inspection plates are fully screwed on, oil door is shut, run my hand across both propellers, look at the ends of both wings, maybe more – not less. Then I get in the plane. Hope this suggestion is helpful. **Lee M. Holmes**



**OPA April 23rd Fly Away Postponed to April 30th
Cedar Mills at Lake Texoma (3T0) - Gordonville, TX
Wheels Down 11:30 - Lunch at Pelican's Landing**

The April OPA Fly Away to Cedar Mills at Lake Texoma was postponed due to weather to April 30th. Watch for pictures and information in the June newsletter. Let us know if you need a ride or have an extra seat.

If you have any suggestions for flyaway locations or questions, please call Flyaway Chairman, Lee Holmes, 405-833-7201.

HANGER FOR SALE - PAGE (KRCE)

Nice fully insulated hanger with nice air conditioned office. More than enough room for a high wing. Call Martin Kubier 580-453-1546. Text or leave message. \$65,000.



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Approximate Ad Size Monthly Rate

Business Card 2"x 3 1/2"	\$30
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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 Ben Roy, 405-802-9657
 or 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 editors, Ben or June Roy 405-615-2071

All scheduled items are subject to change as necessary.

2022 OPA Calendar

May 5 - OPA Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

May 19 - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 pm
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

May 21- OPA Fly Away
 Independence, Kansas KIDP
 Cessna Factory Tour
 Wheels Down 10 - 10:30
 Details to be Announced

June 2 - OPA Dinner Meeting 6:00 pm
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

June 4 - OPA Fly Away
 Chickasha, Oklahoma
 Details to be Announced

June 16 - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 pm
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

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

July 9 - To be Announced
 Details to be Announced

July 21 - 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**
- 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

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 Mustang, OK 73064
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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.**

