



NEWS In the Sky

September 2022

(www.opa.aero)

**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.

**October 6, 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: Col. Dennis L. D'Angelo USAF Ret.

In July 2003 While stationed at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton Ohio, Denny helped with the inspiration and coordination of the 27 ultra lite aircraft that flew from Dayton to Kitty Hawk, North Carolina in celebration of the 100-year anniversary of the December 1903 Wright Brothers historic first manned airplane flights. Over 60 individuals served as the ground crews to provide ground support and logistics.

Dennis L. D'Angelo currently serves as the Executive Director, Air Force Sustainment Center, Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma where he is responsible for the execution of Air Force Supply Chain Management and Depot Maintenance missions overseeing a workforce of 75,000 people. He is a retired United States Air Force Colonel with 42 years of military and civilian service to the country and over 7,800 flying hours in wide range of military and civilian aircraft. Currently, he flies a 1948 Aeronca Champ for the fun of aviating.





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: David Aimes

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

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**OPA President
Kyle Fulton**



In the first two articles, you read that I went from a kid dreaming of flying to an adult who finally realized that dream. I had no idea what was to come.

Early in 2019 I learned that the examiner that went through 2 stressful check rides with me lost her life in a plane crash at Sundance Airport. Just 2 months before the crash, I stopped in at Sundance and visited with Britton Lee. She was covered in grease and in the middle of working on her twin engine airplane. She took time to give me a tour of her other airplanes and told me that she would love to have a Spitfire!

Little did I know that 18 months later I would also lose my brother, Ricky, in an accident while fighting fires in Idaho flying a Single Engine Air Tanker.

Some of my first thoughts in 2020 after hearing the news were.....I'm never flying again....two of my mentors are gone. I went ahead and got back into the air within 2 days of Ricky's crash. This was the best thing I could have done. It started me toward the healing process and gave me a new love for flying!

I spent the next 8 months completing the training for insurance purposes to fly the Cessna 180. I can't explain the joy and memories I have now when I fly the 180 (N1818).

My career developed into starting a business in crop consulting. I work with farmers and ranchers to help them become more productive with the resources they have. I get to fly to and with my customers. I feel like I'm accomplishing my purpose in becoming the "flying farmer"



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.



From the Editor: I had a wonderful problem this month; too much good information and too many great pictures to fit in the newsletter. I will do a very short article and photos from the dinner meeting and will put more Oshkosh pictures in the October newsletter.

**Highlights from the August Dinner Meeting
Thanks to Mike Grimes for meeting and Oshkosh photos and to Jeff Sandusky for a great presentation and photos from Oshkosh**

Greg welcomed everyone, including Mason Matteson, our first two-year OPA scholarship winner and his mother, Rebecca and Gabe Velez, Hannah Nelson, Gail and Ron Carr, and Jeff's mom, Carolyn. Jeff treated us to the best ever presentation on Oshkosh, but I don't have room to include my notes from the meeting. Oshkosh continues to break every record. Jeff said that the staff working at Oshkosh this year almost equaled the first year's total attendance. He didn't have a Cirrus to fly to Oshkosh the day before he had to leave because they had sold all their stock. Cirrus got him a brand new plane and delivered it for his use. Jeff's best Oshkosh presentation!



Thanks to Mike Grimes and Jeff Sandusky for pictures from Oshkosh
Your editor promises lots of Jeff's Oshkosh plane pictures next month





OPA August 13th Fly Away to Enid, OK

Thanks to Lee Holmes for the articles and pictures



The OPA August Flyaway to Enid for a visit to the Enid Railroad Museum – keeping track of all the attendees “ain't easy” for me but included Matt Vance in his plane on floats. (Matt was our April 3rd program speaker). Other attendees: Ray Cowan and Roger Walton, Earnest William Thompson, Bill and Teresa Camp, David Ames and David Best, Tony Plant with Sonia (who wants to be a pilot), Randy and Kathy Butram, David Finley and Tom Strobe, Lee Holmes with great niece Andrea Brakefield and her two children, Christian and Katie. It was their first flights in a small plane. Bill Halpain flew solo.

A big thank you to DeeAnn Ediger, Ron Hollrah and Richard Hollrah who are Enid residents and helped arrange for transportation, lunch, and other logistics. My apologies if you were there and are not listed above. The Mexican restaurant which accommodated us for lunch had all of us at one long table.

The people at the railroad museum were very helpful and informative. One of the volunteers, Fran Kroll, is the daughter of one of the founders of the museum. Her father was a railroad employee for over 48 years. Frank “Watermelon” Campbell continued to volunteer at the museum until the day before he died, at age 99! His nickname? He raised watermelons and would fill his green pickup with watermelons and take it to the train station. He would tell the riders on a train that the pickup and watermelons were waiting for them; and his truck better be empty when he was ready to go home.





OPA August 13th Fly Away to Enid, OK

Thanks to Lee Holmes for the articles and pictures



Fly, Fly with, Fly to, Flying in an airplane which makes memories – memories – like the shadows of our minds – A 12 year old boy riding in his first small airplane – holding the yoke – Steering the plane – making it turn, making it go up or down – later while the pilot is taxiing – “may I steer it?” – yes – with your feet push the pedals left to go left – push right pedal to go right – memories, excitement, accomplishment – grins and more grins – “I want to be a pilot!”

OPA Flyaway to Enid – not just a “flyaway” – but a memory maker! Before the trip a mother tells her son we are going to a “railroad museum” – any “museum” to a 12 year old boy – “do we have to?” – The mother – yes, with Uncle Lee – Okay – in his airplane – thoughts of a 12 year old – “boring” – But later – memories – great memories of “flying an airplane”, of touring a museum containing a HUGE railroad engine – So Huge, so complicated – pull the rope on the engine and hear the bell; see the small scale replica of towns, small railroad tracks with little trains magically moving around the town, over the bridges, past the houses – memories – watching the adults – many flew there in their own planes – one plane was taller than all the rest – it was on huge floats that held the plane up high – he was allowed to climb up on the floats and up to the plane – and look down on all the old guys and his mother standing below.

Giving memories to help him have dreams and plans that someday he can be the one to fly the airplanes – to share with others the thrill of riding in an airplane, the thrill of “Flying” the airplane – of letting a young boy or girl hold the yoke and fly the airplane – dreams, plans, memories and experiences that will last a lifetime. “Mom – I want to be a pilot!”

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LET THE OPA HELP WITH THE BILL



The Oklahoma Pilots Associations Vic Jackson Memorial Scholarship Application is NOW OPEN

Apply at www.opa.aero/scholarships

Application closes on October 31, 2022, APPLY NOW

Each year the Oklahoma Pilots Association awards an aviation scholarship for a minimum amount of \$2000. Any private pilot meeting the eligibility requirements listed in the application may apply for this scholarship.

From Scholarship Committee Chair, Brian Hancock

In June of 2022 we awarded our 2021 Vic Jackson Scholarship to two recipients: Mason Matteson and Holly Burke. Each will receive \$3500 towards their lessons and/or classes related to their flight training. Mason is our first two-time recipient, and this is Holly's first scholarship. The September and October Newsletters will each include an article on our scholars.

The Vic Jackson Scholarship recognizes individuals working towards a career in Aviation and assist them with scholarship money to help with their efforts. The Oklahoma Pilots association awards a minimum of \$2000 each year to recipients.

The 2022 Vic Jackson Scholarship Application is now open and are due no later than October 31, 2022. The Scholarship will be awarded in early 2023. Please see our website for more details and application; www.opa.aero/scholarships/

Letter from Mason Matteson OPA Scholarship Receptient

I am currently a flight instructor at the Guthrie Edmond Regional Airport. I am working on building my flight hours to become eligible for the regional airlines. I intend to use this flight money to obtain my multi engine instructor certificate so that I may build multi engine flight hours in accordance with regulations needed to become airline eligible. Since I won the last scholarship a year ago, I have received my commercial license, CFI, and CFI-I certificates. OPA has helped me accomplish my aviation goals in ways I thought I couldn't have.

This is a picture on my way to Oshkosh 2022. Logged my 1,000th flight hour on the flight up! Mason Matteson



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 405-642-2341. \$46,500.

Photos from the Enid Fly Away (above and right)

Updates from the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission

Fly, Oklahoma! APP FOR APPLE AND ANDROID DEVICES From the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission

We did it, Oklahoma! You asked for a digital Airfield Directory, Recreational Aviation Directory, and a digital passport system which will allow pilots to access airport information across the state of Oklahoma. Launched this week in Oshkosh at the EAA AirVenture and downloaded by explorers in over 25 states, this app is for all citizens, aviators to passengers, who are ready to discover the aviation trail. Fly, Oklahoma! Download today! To download click on the icon or search apps for 'Fly, Oklahoma'



Aeronautics Commission August Meeting Considered Record Amount of Grant Funds to 56 Education Organizations

This year, 56 different entities were considered for Aerospace and Aviation Education Program grants totaling more than \$451,157 from the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission. The record amount of funding will be used to bring more students in Oklahoma to STEM careers, particularly those in aerospace and aviation.

From the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission Flight Bytes

In celebration of August being declared General Aviation Awareness Month, Oklahoma Lt. Governor Matt Pinnell flew a crosswind landing with Dr. Scott Dorsey and Mustang Aviation student, Antonin, who passed his private pilot check-ride this week. This was Pinnell's first general aviation flight, and he said, "No state can match Oklahoma's high school aviation system. With 57 programs across the state, and more on the way, we are preparing more Oklahomans than ever before to fill our growing need for aerospace talent."



OPA October 10th Fly Away to El Reno, OK



SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 10 | 10AM - 4PM
 EL RENO REGIONAL AIRPORT | 6600 MUSTANG FIELD ROAD

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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

2022 OPA Calendar

September 1 - OPA Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

September 10 - OPA Fly Away - El Reno, OK
El Reno 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 Lake Eufaula

October 20 - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 pm
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

November 3 - OPA Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

November 13 - OPA Flyaway - Pauls Valley OK
Antique Fly-In

November 17 - 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

Join us for

Max Westheimer's 16th Annual Aviation Festival

When: Saturday October 1, 2022 - 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
 Where: 1700 Lexington Ave. Norman, OK 73069

For static display RSVP, please contact
 Max Westheimer Airport at 405-325-7233 or by email at ouairport@ou.edu.



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.,
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 Bethany, OK 73008

All material for newsletter publication should be sent to:
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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.**



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