



# NEWS In the Sky

April 2023

([www.opa.aero](http://www.opa.aero))

April 6, 2023 - 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](mailto:dinner@opa.aero)

## Speaker: George W. Braley GAMI Head of Engineering



George W. Braley  
D.O.B. 3/7/1948. Ada, Oklahoma.  
Aerospace Engineering,  
Brown University '70.  
Head of Engineering, General  
Aviation Modifications, Inc. (GAMI).  
Commercial Pilot. SMEL.  
Flight Instructor for more than 50  
years.  
Inventor of G100UL® High Octane  
Avgas, the only FAA approved drop-  
in replacement for existing high  
octane leaded aviation gasoline.

This is a Great Item  
for our Auction!  
(Believed to be)  
Authentic 103-year-old  
vintage document.  
Operations of Aircraft  
1920 United States of  
America War Office. In  
good condition,  
professionally framed  
and preserved. Passed  
down as an heirloom  
from a government  
pilot to his  
granddaughter who left  
it in her estate. Note  
#1 "Don't take the  
machine into the air  
unless you're satisfied  
it will fly" and #21  
"Pilots may not wear  
spurs while flying"



May 4, 2023 - Social Hour 6:30 p.m.  
Dinner Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

OPA is accepting items until May for an auction scheduled for our August dinner meeting. Any items not selected for the auction will be welcome and used for door prizes for our dinner meetings. We expect to have some excellent items. This is a great opportunity to regift some of your aviation treasures and find new ones!

## Speaker: Dana Lutz Executive Director of Canadian County CASA



**Dana Lutz is the Executive Director of Canadian County Court Appointed Children's Advocates, (CASA) Inc.** Dana has been on staff with CASA since 2014 and was appointed Executive Director in 2019. Dana Lutz is originally from Tulsa, where she attended Berryhill High School. Dana received a Bachelor's degree in Human Relations from the University of Oklahoma. Her passion lies with helping children and making a difference within the child welfare system. It is her mission to grow the CASA program and provide all of the abused and neglected children of Canadian County with a CASA volunteer. In her free time, Dana enjoys travelling, playing volleyball and spending time with family and friends.



### OPA Newsletter Mailing Request

Because the cost of printing and mailing our newsletter has gone up (much like everything else), if you currently receive your copy of the newsletter from the post office, please let us know if you are willing to save money for OPA by viewing the newsletter online instead of receiving a hard copy. Contact us at [info@opa.aero](mailto:info@opa.aero) if you are willing to change to online viewing. (Remember that it is always in color online.)



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.

**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](mailto:membership@opa.aero)
- Vice President of Communications  
Craig Hodgens  
[info@opa.aero](mailto: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 Hodgens
- Lee Holmes

Bill Pappadopoulos

College Liasion - Elise McLendon

**EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS**

- June Roy
- Steve Haynes

**OPA President  
Kyle Fulton**



Have you been participating in the Fly Oklahoma App? This app was created by the Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission (OAC) to encourage pilots to experience our beautiful state.

This program rewards pilots who fly to Oklahoma's airports throughout the state. To participate, download the FlyOklahoma app on your electronic device.

Fly into any airport listed on the Airport Directory feature of the mobile app. While at the airport open the mobile app and click "Check in" on the airport notification. You will receive 1 digital badge the first time you check in at each airport.

When you have earned the required number of badges for each level of the program, the OAC will mail you a prize. The number of required airport visits for each level and prizes are as follows:

Bronze (35) – Fly Oklahoma cap.

Silver (70) – Fly Oklahoma insulated stainless steel water bottle and custom challenge coin.

Gold (105) – Leather flight jacket and patch.

This program is open to all FAA Licensed pilots. There is no deadline for completing the program as long as it remains in operation.

This program has encouraged me to fly to airports that I don't normally experience. So far, I have checked into 50 Oklahoma airports and I rank #11 on the passport leaderboard. Six people have achieved "Gold" level.

I hope you can use this app to help you explore and enjoy flying even more!





### Highlights from the March Dinner Meeting

OPA President Kyle Fulton opened the meeting and we thanked Dave for catering the great BBQ dinner. Bill Pappadopoulos led the pledge to our flag. We welcomed new member John Taylor, Kimberly and Jarrett Watson, Teri and Michael Wyatt (president of the COA Flying Club) Eddie Edgerton and Denise Roberts, Derick Patton, Derrick Smith, Amber and Gabby Cassectari.

Our speaker was Jeff Mulder who has spent 35 years in aviation, including seven years in OKC as airport director. He mentioned that he's having trouble finding a place to rent an airplane and she should be doing something about that as OKC Airport Director. He grew up in a small town and seeing crop-dusting aircraft started his interest in flying. A friend from church had a Cessna 140 and took him up using the grass strip crop dusters used. He got his pilot's license at 16. His parents were supportive, but his mom just said that's nice when he told her he got his license. She was more interested in him going to college.

One of his first jobs at an airport concerned noise abatement. He said talking to people who don't like airplane noise, trying to explain aerodynamics and to get them to understand, was a real challenge. He had jobs in airports in New Orleans, Milwaukee, Appleton, Wisconsin (near Oshkosh), Tulsa, and Ft. Myers, Florida. Mulder said that the first hurricane he experienced in Florida was an interesting time because getting the airport open and available was important to get relief in and people in and out. He said getting his commercial license helped him better understand the aviation community. Proactive planning at Will Rogers has helped provide a huge footprint for a town of this size. It helps protect airspace and provide the opportunity to expand business on the airport property. There are a lot of companies that have leased space at Will Rogers. It offers good product with a good economy. The more non-stop flights we can get, the more competitive we are. Tulsa International Airport is more commercial and about out of capacity.

COVID led to many challenges after a record year in 2019 including workforce problem because airlines offered early retirement to pilots. Now there aren't enough crews to fly all the flights that would otherwise be available. GA and corporation charter flights responded rapidly after COVID because people didn't want to get on planes with a lot of other people.

Upgrades coming or completed at local airports include the Will Rogers expansion of the terminal building with expanded security checkpoints. They added four new gates for a total of 21. Federal Inspection for space designed to allow international flight so customers will be able to go through customs here should be done next year. Clarence Page Airport will have self-serve AV gas to allow 24-hour use. Wiley Post will bid for widening of 17R to utility for larger aircraft. They will construct a new ATF tower but doesn't include funding for at new terminal. They haven't found someone willing to provide the resources for a new restaurant here. Mulder said input from local pilots will really help him.

Lee Holmes told us about the delightful OPA fly away to McAlester and said the airport manager gave them an extremely nice welcome. See the fly away write up for more details. A great one to Reba's is scheduled for March. Thanks to all of our OPA Board Members with a special long-service award to Mike Rangel.



**A BIG thanks to OklaHome for sponsoring our monthly dinner meeting for several months!**

### OklaHome Real Estate + Homebuilder

We would love to help you with:

- Residential
- New Construction
- Investment Properties
- Land Evaluation



How much is your house worth? Call us for FREE market evaluation.

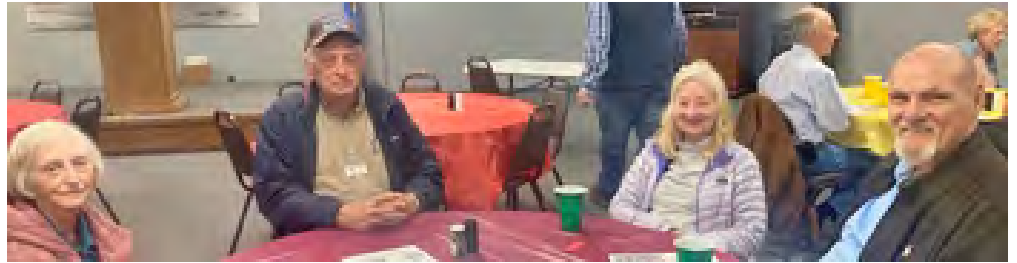
[www.oklahome.com](http://www.oklahome.com) 405-509-2299





### Pictures from the March Dinner Meeting

Thanks to Mike Grimes for the Pictures







## March 18 OPA Fly Away to Reba's Place - Atoka, OK Thanks to Kyle Fulton for arrangements, article and pictures!



Last Saturday's weather delay gave us the time to learn more about Reba's. Apparently many others also regularly consider Reba's a weekend food and fun destination, and this popularity creates some delay at the chow line. Sometimes as long as 2-3 hours.... And you can't even call to get a reservation. But our OPA President Kyle Fulton convinced the mayor of Atoka to help our group out. (Editor's note provided by Craig Hodgens. We have such great OPA Officers and Board Members!)

Our flyaway for March turned out to be a great new destination for Oklahoma Pilots! Reba's Place restaurant can be challenging to schedule for a large group, but Atoka Mayor Brian Cathey helped plan a successful trip. A Cessna 180 Skywagon was the first to arrive at Atoka's airport followed by 3 more planes. Atoka's Mayor, Brian Cathey was on the ground to greet us. A local shuttle service ran by Matt immediately began transporting our group to downtown Atoka. By 10:48 we had 10 airplanes and 1 helicopter at the Atoka airport.

Approximately 36 OPA members and guests checked in at Reba's Place to get seated. Reba's opened promptly at 11:00 am and started seating people. There was live music already playing as we sat down. There was seating on 2 floors with a bar overlooking the 1st floor stage on the 2nd floor. Reba's dresses and records were all around the restaurant, as well as pictures of Reba. The 3rd floor housed a gift shop loaded with Reba themed clothing and memorabilia.

Our table enjoyed the Cherry Coke BBQ Burger and Chicken Fried Steak. For dessert we had the wonderful Strawberry Shortcake with ice cream. We were never short of food with the vegetables and breadbasket on the table. While our time at Reba's Place began with some issues; overall it was a great experience. The wait staff was professional, very helpful and prompt with service. Matt's shuttle service transported us all back to the airport and we all departed by mid-afternoon.







### March 18 OPA Fly Away to Reba's Place - Atoka, OK Thanks to Kyle Fulton for arrangements, article and pictures!







# March 18 OPA Fly Away to Reba's Place - Atoka, OK Thanks to Kyle Fulton for arrangements, article and pictures!



Here's an EAA event near you!  
[View this email online](#)



## EAA Chapter 1098 Young Eagles Flight Experience Shawnee, OK Saturday April 15, 9a.m. - 12p.m.

**WHAT:**

Come join us for our EAA Chapter 1098 Young Eagles flight day. We'll have free flights in our General Aviation airplanes for children aged 8-17. Please don't forget to sign up for the event before hand at [www.young eaglesday.org](http://www.young eaglesday.org)

Look forward to seeing you there.

**WHERE:**

Gordon Cooper Aviation Technical Campus  
2600 N Airport Dr  
Shawnee, OK 74804

**CONTACT US:**

Stuart Yeo, Vice President and Young Eagles Coordinator  
740-398-5301 or [stuartyeo@gmail.com](mailto:stuartyeo@gmail.com)

[Click here](#) for more information.

[Join EAA](#) | [Member Benefits](#) | [Chapters](#) | [Contact Us](#)

To make sure you continue receiving our emails to your inbox (not bulk or junk folders), please add [connect@eaa.org](mailto:connect@eaa.org) to your address book or safe sender list.





### OPA Fly Away - OSU Flying Aggies 75th Anniversary Fly-In

11 AM – 3 PM, Saturday, April 1, 2023

Stillwater Regional Airport (multiple parking lots available with shuttle service)



#### FREE TO ATTEND:

Food available for purchase. 30+ aircraft will be on display. Rides available for a low price. All proceeds benefit OSU Flying Aggies aviation organization!

We would love to see you there! If you had the chance to attend last year, you know what a great community event this is!

If you have questions, reply here or email [osuflyingaggies@gmail.com](mailto:osuflyingaggies@gmail.com)

Ryan Austin  
Vice President, OSU Flying Aggies

Photo and article from the Stillwater Community Page on Facebook  
Thanks to our new College Liaison, Elise McClendon, for obtaining this information



### Meet our new College Liasion Board Member Elise McLendon

My name is Elise McLendon and I recently acquired my PPL and am now working on my instrument rating at Wiley Post! I have my Bachelors of Science from the University of Arkansas and my goals for the future include flying charter, owning my own Cessna Caravan, and getting a flight job in Alaska someday!



#### HANGAR FOR SALE PRICE REDUCED!

**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. \$42,500 .**



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.





**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: Call Jim Sutton 405-760-1988 or Scott Law 405-520-2442 .

**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

## 2023 OPA Calendar

**April 1 - OPA Fly Away - Stillwater, OK OSU Flyin' Aggies Fly In**

Details TBA

**April 6 - OPA Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm**  
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

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

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

**May 13 - OPA Flyaway Alva, OK Plane Plastics**

Details TBA

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

**June 2 - OPA Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm**  
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

**June 3 - OPA Fly Away - Chickasha, OK Fly In & Car Show**

**June 17 - OPA Fly Away - Stearman Field, KS**

**June 15 - 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) **March** through October

3rd Saturday - Goldsby Airport Breakfast  
Donations benefit youth aviation

**Looking for a tax break? OPA is a 501c3 organization, so donations are tax deductible!**



**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](mailto: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](mailto:mem@opa.aero).**

