



NEWS In the Sky

June 2023

(www.opa.aero)

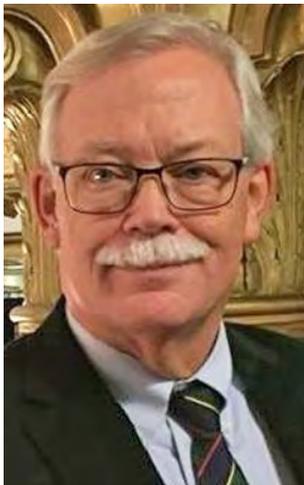
June 1, 2023 - Social Hour 6:30 p.m.
Dinner Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

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

Speaker: Dr Jeffrey S. Underwood

**Subject:
Peaceful Air Power - Air Force One**

OPA is accepting items until October for an auction scheduled for our December 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!



Dr. Jeffrey S. Underwood received his doctorate in American history from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, in 1988. His first book, *The Wings of Democracy: The Influence of Air Power on the Roosevelt Administration, 1933-1941*, was published by Texas A&M University Press in 1991. More recently, his essay "Presidential Statesmen and U.S. Airpower: Personalities and Perceptions" appeared in *The Influence of Airpower upon History: Statesmanship, Diplomacy, and Foreign Policy since 1903*, edited by Robin Higham and Mark Parillo, from the University Press of Kentucky in 2013. From 1988 to 1999, Dr. Underwood worked as a historian for the United States Air Force with the Military Airlift Command, USAF Air Defense Weapons Center, First Air Force, and Air Combat Command. From 1999 until his retirement from the federal government in 2016, he was the historian for the National Museum of the United States Air Force at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. In addition to writing official histories and curating museum exhibits, he has written numerous articles and book reviews for professional journals and magazines. He has also done media interviews for the History Channel, PBS, National Geographic, BBC, CNN, MSNBC, C-SPAN, NPR, ABC, CBS, Fox, NBC, The New York Times, The Washington Post, and others.

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

Speaker: Our scheduled speaker for July is unable to attend due to surgery. Your OPA Board is scheduling a new speaker to be announced.



Elections for OPA Officers and Board Members will be held during the June Dinner Meeting!

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.



Your OPA Board Members enjoying a meeting on the patio that you probably didn't know existed due to a problem inside the building. Lee Holmes was behind the camera, so he couldn't be in front of it."



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
- Vice President of Communications
Craig Hodgens
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**



The June dinner meeting will be here by the time this is published, but some of the most enjoyable meetings I've had since joining the Oklahoma Pilots Association have been the board meetings that we have on the 3rd Thursday of each month. During these meetings and dinner at Swadley's afterwards we get to learn more about the organization and each of the board members. Serving on the board of directors is not only a way to offer input, but is also a way to get to know fellow members while you help guide our organization.

Our June meeting is typically the time when we elect our board of directors and officers. We will have some nominations ready for the election, but if you would like to volunteer to serve on the board, please let me know. Our members are also welcome to come to the board meetings and offer any input.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your president this past year.

Kyle Fulton
kyle@fultonfarms.us
580-302-4007

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Highlights from the May Dinner Meeting

Thanks to Mike Grimes for the Pictures

After a great meal, Bill Pappadopoulos led us in the pledge to the greatest flag in the world. We had an update on fly aways. The May 20th fly away is to Alva to tour Plane Plastics, and then Bob Baker will give us a tour of his hangar. He has a Mercedes Trainer and two jets. Our thanks to OklaHome for sponsoring the dinner meeting again tonight. His company reminded us that in Oklahoma we have to stay weather aware. A tornado might not destroy a house, but might hurt the roof, etc. The Williams family home was damaged enough to tear out and gut the interior, but not enough to rebuild it. Because OklaHome owner, Craig Hodgens, has insurance experience he was able to help with the insurance red tape.

OPA Scholarship Chair, Brian Hancock, informed us that OPA awarded two scholarships this year to worthy recipients. He introduced Emily Jensik and she thanked OPA for helping her further her education in aviation. She has her private license and is working on her Instrument rating at OU. She participated in the AOPA STEM Education program at Mustang High School. Her photo and biography are on page 4. The second scholarship winner is studying abroad this summer and will try to attend a dinner meeting when she returns.

Rick Cacini introduced our speaker, Dana Lutz, The Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Director. Rick serves on the CASA Board. Canadian County CASA, as authorized by Oklahoma law, is organized to speak for the best interest of abused and neglected children in court. We promote and support volunteer representation for children in an effort to provide each child a safe, permanent, nurturing home. Kids in the system have suffered the worst of the worst and went into DHS custody. Most are shuffled through homes, foster homes, etc. and nobody represented them directly. There are about 300 kids in custody in Canadian County. Most go through from 3 to 5 different homes while in DHS custody and are traumatized when moved, or often mistreated. CASA volunteers are the eyes and ears of the court and have access to everyone involved, the kid, foster parent, parents, etc. DHS has been overwhelmed since Covid and most workers don't last a year. CASA volunteers investigate and give the court an independent evaluation of what is in the best interest of the child.

Some CASA workers stayed 4 years; the average is 22-24 months. One CASA volunteer, Jack, worked with 2 boys who had been sexually and physically abused. They would yell, scream, cuss, and punch holes in the walls. They were separated and the volunteer traveled across the state to visit both boys. He even took them to see each other. He worked to see what they needed. One boy who was in DHS custody for 3 years had 20 placements during that time. Jack still sees him. He is graduating this year and is finally happy. Jack sometimes went to family counseling and no one else showed up.

Volunteers take 30 hours of training so they can deal with the trauma the kids have experienced and not cause further trauma. They are always looking for volunteers and board



members. As a CASA volunteer you would: Investigate circumstances surrounding the case and make an independent evaluation of what is in the child's best interest; Monitor implementation of case plans and court orders; Talk to all of the parties in the case to gather information; Speak with both foster and biological parents; Visit your CASA child once a month; Attend all court hearings and provide a written report (CASA advocate supervisor will attend with you.)

How can you help without volunteering? CASA always need donations to help fund our program to continue to help the children of Canadian County. Funds are used to help with training new volunteers, help the children with needs, community outreaches and numerous other programs to help foster children. It costs an average of \$2000 to train and retain a CASA volunteer. One year of CASA advocacy costs less than one month of foster care. Mike Grimes, with Canadian County, said that CASA has been a big asset to the Canadian County Sheriff's Office.



Pictures from the May Dinner Meeting

Thanks to Mike Grimes for the Pictures



OPA Scholarship Recipient, Emily Jensik

My name is Emily Jensik and I am a sophomore at the University of Oklahoma. I am studying Aviation with a Professional Pilot concentration. I discovered my passion for aviation in high school through a family friend who is an airline pilot, and I instantly knew I wanted to become an airline captain too. I started my training at the university soon after and I am currently in the Instrument flying course, and I plan to complete Commercial this Summer. Through my training in the Aviation program, I hope to become a flight instructor and then fly for a major airline.



At the University of Oklahoma, I am involved in many aviation organizations so that I can connect with others who are passionate about aviation and to learn more about the industry. I am the Vice President of the Women in Aviation Sooner Chapter, a board member of the Aviation Student Advisory Board, a member of the Ken Carson Aviation Leadership Program, Sooner Air Traffic Control Association, and the American Association of Airport Executives Sooner Chapter. Through these organizations I have enjoyed creating a better community within the aviation program and connecting with my peers. I am so grateful to have found my passion for aviation and I am excited to take on the vast opportunities the industry provides.



OPA May 20 Fly Away - Plane Plastics - Alva, Oklahoma



Thanks to Lee Holmes for the article and Lee, Chris Neill, and Angela for the pictures

Our May Flyaway to Alva was well attended and enjoyed. Twenty-two members and guests arrived in ten airplanes. We gathered at the Plane Plastics building and Chris Neill gave us a tour of the facility with explanations and demonstrations of how plastic replacement parts are made for our airplanes. Most replacement parts are not in stock, but the "mold" is. When the "table" of molds is full, a sheet of plastic is heated to the perfect temperature, dropped over the molds, air is suctioned out from underneath, tightening the plastic around all the molds. After cooling the separate parts are cut out, sent to a "finisher" who is an expert at cutting off the excess material and then are readied for shipping. Most orders are shipped within 2-4 days! They also have "plane safe/qualified" carpet available.

After the tour we enjoyed hot dogs, chips, and drinks and then most of us went to visit Bob Baker's hangar and airplanes. Bob owns several airplanes, and his personal hangar is really great! Bob used to have 2 P51s but sold them and now has two jet airplanes.

I was lucky - after leaving Bob's hangar, after a quick visit I taxied to the gasoline pump, filled up, paid, and then my engine would not start. Low battery. A lot of "helpers" came to my rescue but after about 30 minutes of futile attempts my plane was "towed" to Bob Baker's hangar, hooked up to a heavy duty charger and for about 30 minutes several of us were treated to a visit with Bob. My great nephew, 21-year-old Colton, and Bob discussed "business". Bob shared with us the requirements to be a producer of organic foods and other organic products, even organic wheat seeds. Colton and I were lucky to have the visit with Bob Baker, a real caring and sharing pilot.

Some of those attending: Kyle Fulton & Luke Tate; David Finley; Brennan Schmidt & Stephan Luke; Bill Halpain & Roger Walton; Danny Davis, Jet Sager & Joey Sager; Dee Ann Ediger in her Cessna 177 with husband Kenneth Hollrah; Roy Cowan & Bill Hines; Lee Holmes & great nephew Colton; Andrea Drabek & Teresa Kamp; Hal Harris in his Beach Baron with his wife Maricris and daughter Grace.





OPA May 20 Fly Away - Plane Plastics - Alva, Oklahoma

Thanks to Lee Holmes for the article and Lee, Chris Neill, and Angela for the pictures





OPA May 20 Fly Away - Plane Plastics - Alva, Oklahoma



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OPA May 20 Fly Away - Chickasha, Oklahoma



Wings & Wheels Air Show & Car Show

**Saturday, June 3
Chickasha Municipal Airport**

Featuring

**Kyle Franklin - Franklin's Flying Circus
Mike "Spanky" Gallaway · Lone Star Jet Team
Falcon Flight · Jeremy Holt · Leland Kracher**

JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FREE FAMILY FUN!

- Free airplane rides for children start at 8 a.m.
- Car Show Registration from 8 - 10:30 a.m.
- Car Show Awards at 11:30 a.m.
- STOL Demonstration at 11 a.m.
- Air Show Opening Ceremonies at 12 p.m.
- Food trucks & vendor booths available all day!
- Don't forget your lawn chair & sunscreen!**
- No weapons, coolers or alcohol allowed.



OPA will have a table at the Fly In. OPA members and guests should meet at the FBO Terminal at 11:15 for a group picture for the newsletter.

The runway will be closed from Noon until approximately 3:00 pm for the airshow.

Please check NOTAMS for weather and runway information.

chickasha.org/wings



Presented by the City of Chickasha & Chickasha Wings
Airshow coordination and operations by David Schultz Airshows LLC



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Call June Roy 405- 615-2071



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

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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

- June 1 - OPA Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm**
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- June 3 - OPA Fly Away - Chickasha, OK Fly In & Car Show**
- June 15 - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 pm**
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- July 6 - OPA Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm**
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- July 15 - OPA Fly Away - Beaumont, KS Grass Strip - 2400'**
- July 20 - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 pm**
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- August 3 - OPA Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm**
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- August 17 - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 pm**
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- August 19 - OPA Fly Away Okie Derby (99s)**

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) **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
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 email:
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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.**



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