



NEWS In the Sky

December 2023

(www.opa.aero)

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

**OPA Dinner Meeting sponsor for November was
Jeff Sandusky, Cirrus Aircraft**

Damian Theodoridis - Entertainer

Damian is a 13 year old native of Oklahoma. He began playing piano at the age of five; and has been a music lover and showman since.



Though Damian's preferred music style is classical music, he truly loves music of many different types, and enjoys listening to music styles from various other cultures. Damian's love of music is not limited to just playing the piano. He also loves composing and playing his own music. Throughout the years he has enjoyed playing and listening to violin music as well. His favorite composer is Franz Liszt. He enjoys Liszt's lively compositions; and has played Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody No. 6 in different competitions and performances.



OPA will have entertainment and an auction during our December Christmas Dinner meeting. We have some excellent items. This is a great opportunity to find some aviation treasures and Christmas gifts!

Dusty Boren has donated a free flight in his Husky for the auction. See photos of some of the auction items on page 3.

**January 4, 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, \$18 starting in January). You can RSVP by sending an email to dinner@opa.aero If no RSVP, \$20 at the door if food is available.

Speaker: Aarland Vorland - FAASTeam

Varland has been flying for more than 20 years, has a bachelor's degree in aviation management. He has instructed part 61/141 and flown professionally under parts 91, 91k and 135. In 2014 he was hired into the Will Rogers Flight Standards District Office as an Aviation Safety Inspector. As an ASI he had oversight of commercial operators working under parts 133, 135, 137 and 141 as well as providing medical flight reviews, 44709's and check rides. In June of 2017, Aaron joined the Federal Aviation Administration Safety Team (FAASTeam). In his position on the FAASTeam Aaron has spent the last 5 years studying what causes incidents and accidents in the state of Oklahoma and uses that information to help pilots fly more safely.



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



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

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EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

June Roy
Steve Haynes

OPA President Kyle Fulton



In November I informed you that our membership fees will be increasing in January. I printed the wrong amount. The new membership renewal will be \$50/year and the monthly dinner price will be \$18/person. Part of the increased fees are to help pay for our rent at the Page Building due to the cost of replacing the HVAC system.

I hope that you will attend our December meeting for the entertainment, and the chance to purchase some airplane related items in our auction. This will help with our organization's operating budget.

I wish each of you a Merry Christmas and encourage you to spend time with your family and loved ones during the Holidays!
Kyle Fulton



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.

OKLAHOMA CITY – The Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission launched their Fly Oklahoma mobile app last July. The Fly Oklahoma mobile app allows pilots to explore the Oklahoma Airport System and serves as a digital Airfield Directory (AFD), Recreational Aviation Directory, and a digital passport system which allows pilots to access airport information across the state of Oklahoma, compete to earn various badges upon visiting Oklahoma airports, and stay up to date with aviation events. Download the app on your mobile device and begin your adventure today! Search for the Fly Oklahoma app in the mobile app store for more information. Explore the OK Airport System and other aviation points of interest by scanning the code with your phone's camera.



**Pictures of some of the Auction Items available at the December Meeting
There will also be some gift baskets you can buy tickets for a drawing!**

**Planes
are in
original
boxes!**



We have a whole fleet of Texaco Model airplanes! A framed picture of the Geneology of Piper Aircraft; A framed drawing of Diamond Lil; A framed Cottonbelt plane flying; An Antique framed photo of Regulatios for Operation of Aircraft; A Jacket; and others



OPA November Fly Aways

Many of our OPA members attended both the Oklahoma Antique Aircraft Association's annual Fly-in and Car Show and Fairview's Oldest Free Fly-in.

OAAA's Flyin at Pauls Valley attracted over 50 airplanes and 80 cars. Fairview hosted over 80 airplanes for their annual flyin breakfast and turkey giveaway.



WORLD'S OLDEST FREE FLY-IN
70th Annual
FAIRVIEW FLY-IN





OPA November Fly Aways Photos Continued Thanks to Kyle Fulton for the great shots.



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Please let our new advertiser, Crosswind Cleaning, know you saw their ad in our newsletter!

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Highlights from the November Dinner Meeting

Thanks to Jeff Sandusky of Cirrus Aircraft for sponsoring our Dinner Meeting

Thanks to Mike Grimes for the Pictures

OPA President Kyle Fulton opened the meeting, and we thanked Dave for a great meal. Kyle notified everyone that we had to change the prices for dinner and OPA dues starting in January because of more expense to OPA. Dinner will be \$18, and dues will be \$50 a year. Please come to the December dinner meeting, Christmas party and auction and purchase some great items for yourself or others, for Christmas gifts! We were pleased to have Diane Harris, former OPA member Sandy Harris' wife, join us for the evening, as well as Cindy Ice, a 99's member. Jim Putnam returned from Scotland. Mike Grimes said that he and Susie just celebrated their 51st anniversary and her birthday. She was on TV for an interview about the Friends of the Library book sales that they have the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month. It is at 510 Elm in Yukon.

Our speaker, Lt. Col. McCullum from the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) informed us that CAP predates the US Airforce. It started in 1941 and the Airforce in 1947. They recently celebrated their 75th anniversary in OPA member Tony Plant's hangar. He noted that there was a CAP poster shown in the credits of the Captain America movie. They helped the US Army in WWII by carrying weapons, etc. where they were needed.

Some of their duties include looking for planes that are missing and doing search and rescue flights. They were credited with saving 60 lives in '23. They also do disaster relief including sending visual images to FEMA to help them allocate resources. They were chartered by the US Congress and funded by grants from Congress. CAP Cadets can get their pilots certificate fully funded by the government. Every CAP member, whether young or old, must have basic knowledge of aerospace. We enjoyed a lot of interesting information about CAP, including the fact that Oklahoma has a group of 800 unpaid professionals who serve our state. Twin brothers received their SPOTS award from a Thunderbird pilot who was a former CAP member.



Highlights from the November Dinner Meeting

Thanks to Jeff Sandusky of Cirrus Aircraft for sponsoring our Dinner Meeting
Thanks to Mike Grimes for the Pictures



December 9th OPA Fly Away to Guthrie - A Territorial Christmas & Victorian Walk Meet for Dinner and a Group Photo at Sinaloa Signature Restaurante at 5:30

Authentic coastal Mexican - 111 W Harrison Ave - (405) 906-3700



This December we are all going to Guthrie, OK, for a stroll around downtown Guthrie. There we will listen to old-fashioned carolers and browse various shops filled with visions of everyday Victorian life with live models dressed in 19th Century period clothing adorning the window fronts and sidewalks. Guthrie has long been a

destination for fans of Victorian architecture, and, with this lovely holiday walking tour, you can get an up-close look at these beautiful buildings. Enjoy this Victorian Christmas walk that includes over 60 old-fashioned decorated store windows with live exhibits depicting 19th Century life in Guthrie.



November 18th, 2023 - OPA members Angela Drabek and Teresa Camp made a Pilots N Paws flight to Hereford, Texas to pick up 4 dogs - Clementine, Rya, Aero and Pax to take on the first leg on their journey to their forever homes in Burlington, Wisconsin.



CONGRATULATIONS to OPA Member, and past Scholarship Recipient, as well as Route 66 Flight School owner, **HOLLY BLUNK**, who has been named the **2023-24 Teacher of the Year** at Deer Creek High School, where she teaches both French and Aviation. **Bravo!**



Deer Creek High School
TEACHER OF THE YEAR
2023 - 2024



Holly Blunk - French & Aviation



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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 advertisers 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

- December 7 - OPA Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm**
Christmas Party and Auction
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- December 9 - OPA Fly Away Guthrie, OK**
Victorian Walk
Meet at Sinaloa Restaurante for Dinner
OPA Photo at 5:30 at Sinaloa
- December 21 - No OPA Board Meeting**
Enjoy the Holidays with your family!

- 2024 OPA Calendar**
- January 4 - OPA Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm**
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
 - January 14 - OPA Fly Away**
Enrique's Mexican Restaurant
Wheels Down - 11:00 am
 - January 18 - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 pm**
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
 - February 1 - OPA Dinner Meeting 6:30 pm**
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
 - February - OPA Fly Away**
To Be Announced
 - February 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 costs, \$18 in January.
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

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
 405-615-2071
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ANNUAL DUES ARE
\$40 December
\$50 January
ALL DONATIONS ARE
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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.**

