



NEWS In the Sky

March 2024

(www.opa.aero)

March 7, 2024 - Social Hour 6:30 p.m.
Dinner Meeting at 7:00 p.m.



Michele Henricksen AirCentre, LLC, It was established in 2006 by Ed Schwartz and me, Michele Henricksen. We are in Hangar 15 at Wiley Post Airport. As co-owners, we are dedicated to ensuring that individuals, whether they are aspiring pilots or seasoned aviators, have ready access to the essentials required for seamless flights. At AirCentre, we prioritize exceptional service and specialize in locating elusive parts, guaranteeing that every customer can rely on us to fulfill their needs with meticulous attention and expertise.

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 (\$18 each). You can RSVP by sending an email to dinner@opa.aero

If no RSVP, \$20 at the door if food is available.

April 4, 2024 - Social Hour 6:30 p.m.
Dinner Meeting at 7:00 p.m.



Dr. Matt Vance holds a PhD in Aviation Science from Saint Louis University. He was the Oklahoma State University Senior Professional Pilot faculty representative responsible for academic classes covering aviation: Human Factors, Crew Resource Management (CRM), Law, Ethics, FAR §141 PVT/INST/COMM/MULTI ground school, Space Science and Safety.

The March presentation will involve "Title - FAA 5 Critical Decision Points/N9815L"

Are you familiar with Ch-2 of the Pilot's Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge (FAA-H-8083-25C), Aeronautical Decision Making (ADM)? Buried within the discussion of the 5-P checklist are the FAA's 5 critical decision points a pilot faces on every flight. We will discuss them and then apply the decision points to a Flight Service Station (FSS)

audio recording of a real-life, near-tragic incident. This discussion lesson was always one of the most poignant and respected by my professional pilot students at OSU."

Previous to OSU, he served as Senior Researcher/Flight Instructor for the Center for Aviation and Space at Saint Louis University. Previous industry positions included Boeing; Exchange Officer – UK Ministry of Defense in London; Director of Washington Studies and Analysis, Future Combat Systems, Air Traffic Management, and Senior Manager of Boeing Commercial Airplanes Product Strategy; McDonnell Douglas, Principal Engineer for Phantom Works Systems Assessment Division and Lead Engineer for the HARPOON missile.

His flight experience includes 5,800 hours between U.S. Naval Flight Officer, civil Pilot-in-Command / Instructor flying time. His 20-year military career includes more than 3,000 hours of patrol/submarine hunting with extensive operational experience in Pacific, Indian, Arctic and North Atlantic theaters and joint Command Center Duty Officer service at the United States Transportation Command. Dr. Vance recently retired from the faculty at Oklahoma State University.



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



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.

2023-2024 OPA OFFICERS

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- June Roy
- Steve Haynes

**OPA President
Kyle Fulton**



The groundhog tells us it will be an early Spring! I hope he's right. I've pulled the plane out of the hangar a few times this year and am looking forward to our Spring fly-aways, If you would like to be involved with planning our fly-aways, please let me or one of our board members know.

OPA Pilot Update

In Memorial - Charles M. Vandergriff

We just learned from Susie Mitchell that long time OPA member, Charles Vandergriff passed away in August. She thought that the many friends in the OPA would like to know.

Charles' interests in rescue, ham radio, and aviation led him into the Oklahoma Civil Air Patrol where he served for many years. As co-pilot, he assisted his wife, Norma in her two transcontinental flights in the Powder Puff Derby; and together, they made many flights, including to Central America to deliver medical supplies. Over the past years, Charles often joked that he frequently submitted his application at the Pearly Gates, but was always rejected! For this, his earthly family has been grateful for the many years they have been able to spend with him!

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.



New OPA News in the Sky Feature Pilot of the Month - Roy Cowen

Interviewer: Brian Hancock

What first got you into flying? I have always been interested and curious but had never been in a small plane until about 20 years ago when I took a Discovery Flight with OPA Member, Hal Harris. I got my license shortly after and added my instrument in 2013.

What do you fly? Until recently I owned a Piper Arrow however, it got caught in a hailstorm while parked in Pueblo, CO last July and was totaled by the insurance company. I recently purchased a 1962 Beech Debonair with OPA Member, Tony Plant, serving as broker.

When did you join the OPA? Hal also introduced me to the OPA, and I joined shortly after my discovery flight. (It should be noted that Roy serves on the OPA board and has been the OPA Treasurer for over 10 years.)

How long have you been flying? I started lessons in 2011 and got my private in 2012. I have a little over 400 hours.

What have been some of your favorite flights? I have been to EAA AirVenture Oshkosh three times and went to Sun and Fun in Florida with OPA Member, Lee Holmes, in his Cessna 182.

What is your dream plane? Today it's a new-to-me Bonanza Debonair!



**Roy Cowen (right) with
OPA member Bill Hines**



OPA Vic Jackson Memorial Scholarship Winners - Emily Jensik

Last month the OPA Scholarship Committee selected two recipients for the 2023 Vic Jackson Memorial Scholarship: Emily Jensik and Antonin Stoddard. Each recipient will receive \$5000 to use towards their aviation education. Emily Jensik was recognized at our February Dinner Meeting, and we hope to have Antonin Stoddard join us for a future dinner. Below is a short bio on Jensik.

Emily Jensik is a junior at the University of Oklahoma studying Aviation with a Professional Pilot concentration. Jensik currently holds a Commercial Pilot Certificate and instrument rating, and she is working towards her Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) certificate this semester. Jensik is involved in many student organizations within the university's flight program, such as the Women in Aviation Sooner Chapter where she is currently the Vice President. She is also a member of the Col. Kenneth R. Carson Aviation Leadership Program.



Jensik's short term goal is to work as a flight instructor until she can achieve her ultimate career goal which is to fly for United Airlines. After completing her CFI this spring, she plans to flight instruct and help students achieve their aviation goals and dreams.

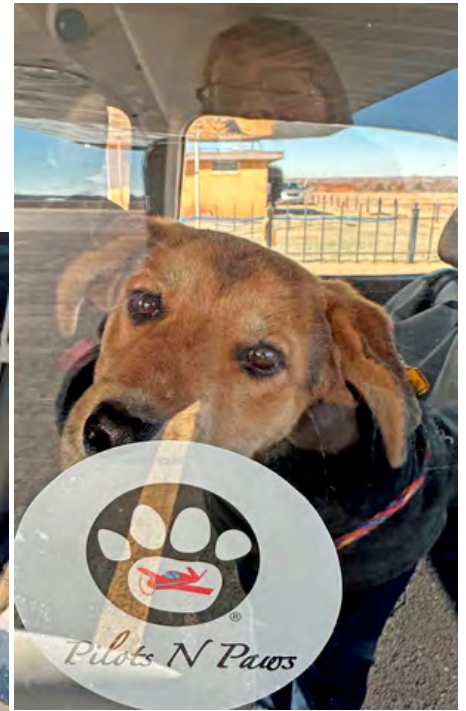


**"The newest CFII in
Oklahoma, Elise McLendon!"**
No, this is not a repeat; last month was her CFI rating!

Pilots N Paws Flight Feb 18, 2024

OPA members Angela Drabek and Teresa Camp flew from Norman to Elk City for the first leg to pick up Ritz and Yoli, then flew to the next connecting flight to meet the next pilot in Great Bend, Kansas.

These sweet pups made their journey to their forever homes all the way from Texas to Wisconsin in one day. Starting at Hereford, Tx and flying all the way to Burlington, Wisconsin.



From Your Editor

If you take a flight and/or have pictures from a flight, please submit the article and pictures to me at broysprint01@earthlink.net

They will be used as space is available in the newsletter. It might be from a flight to an airport, a Young Eagles flight, a Discovery flight like the one that gave Roy Cowen the love of flying, or just any flight that was special to you.

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

Highlights from the OPA February Dinner Meeting

Thanks to Mike Grimes for the pictures and Susie Grimes for the notes

Dr. Vivek Mahale gave a very comprehensive, informative, and interesting presentation.

Hazardous Weather:

- 1. Thunderstorms
- 2. Icing
- 3. Turbulence
- 4. Volcanic Ash

Thunderstorms can have towering cumulus clouds, mature clouds, or dissipating clouds. Hail can cause severe damage to aircraft. Downbursts and microbursts are very dangerous and can cause crashes.

The National Weather Service in Norman covers 56 counties. Forty-eight are in Oklahoma, and eight are in Texas. The National Weather Service in Norman is staffed 24 hours a day and seven days a week.

Terminal Aerodrome Forecast (TAF) is issued four times each day. This can change in severe weather when more updates are needed.



OPA Scholarship Winner Emily Jensik Left and middle right

Pictures from the OPA February Dinner Meeting



March 16th 2024 OPA Flyaway - 3rd Saturday - Davis, OK Smokin' Joes BBQ Ranch - Wheels down at 11:00 am



We will eat lunch at Smokin' Joes BBQ Ranch. Smokin' Joes will also be hosting their Bluegrass, Gospel & BBQ Jam 1-4 pm.

Please RSVP to Kyle Fulton email: kyle@fultonfarms.us cell: 580-302-4007

Smokin' Joe's RV Park provides you with a grass airstrip just shy of 2,000 Ft in length available for airplanes! learn more about their airstrip at <https://theraf.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/smokinjoesrvpark>

Airfield Information: Elevation: 800'

Near: Davis, OK Comm: 122.9

Fuel: None

Lat/Long: 34.46032 / -97.12763 34° 27' 37.14" / -97° 7' 39.46"

Runway Dimensions: 1,900'x200'

Surface Type: Turf Condition: Good

Runway 13 Traffic Pattern: LEFT

Runway 31 Traffic Pattern: RIGHT



Thanks Kyle for the info



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OPA February 14 Fly Away - Ponca City, Oklahoma Enrique's Mexican Restaurant

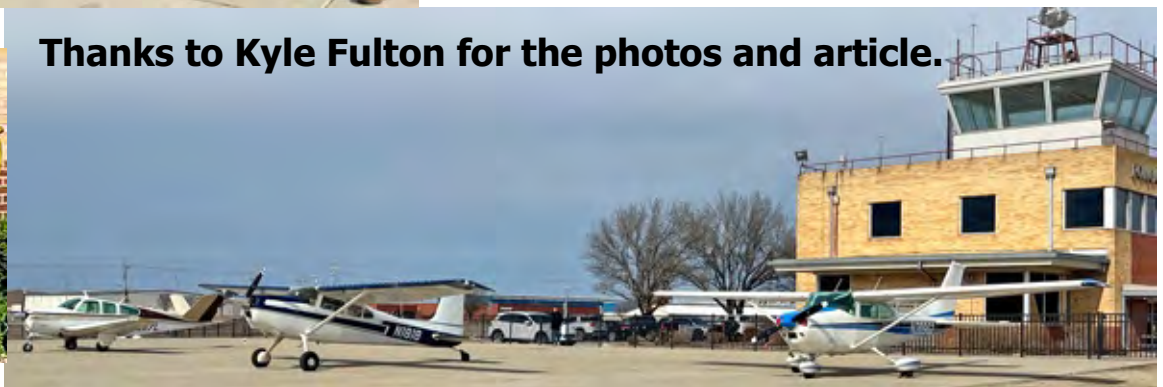


We had 6 people and 3 planes land on our February flyaway to Enrique's Restaurant at Ponca City Airport. Upon arrival we had a pretty strong crosswind which made the landing challenging, especially in a tail wheel. The lunch was delicious. This was my first time going to the restaurant in 30 years.

The homemade chips are more like mini-sopapillas and are almost a meal by themselves. The winds were much more favorable by the time we departed for an enjoyable flight home.



Thanks to Kyle Fulton for the photos and article.





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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
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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

2024 OPA Calendar

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

March 16 - OPA Fly Away - Davis OK Smokin' Joe's BBQ

Wheels Down: 11:00 am
Bluegrass, Gospel & BBQ Jam 1-4 pm

March 21 - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 pm
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

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

April 13 - OPA Fly Away - Stillwater, OK OSU Flying Aggies Fly In

Static Displays parked by 10:am
Gates open 11:00 am

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

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

May 18 - OPA Fly Away - Enid, OK Breakfast Tentative

Wheels Down: 11:00 am

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

Make dinner meeting reservations at dinner@opa.aero

\$18 per Dinner due to increased costs
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:
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 C/o June Roy
 11749 SW. 54th St
 Mustang, OK 73064
 405-615-2071
 email:
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ANNUAL DUES ARE \$50 starting in January 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.**

