



NEWS In the Sky

January 2018

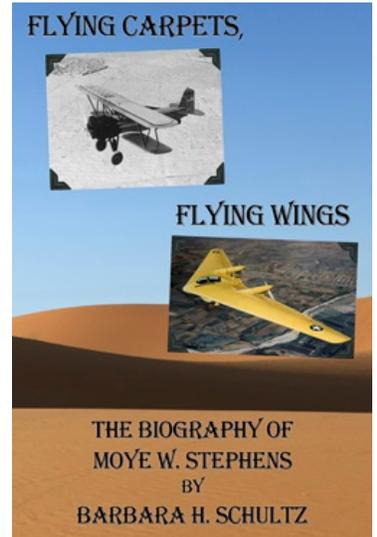
(www.opa.link)

January 4th, 2018 - Social 6:30 p.m.
7:00 Dinner Meeting

Speaker: Barbara Schultz - Aviation Author



A member of the 99's Museum of Women Pilots, Barbara Schultz is a noted aviation historian and author with four books in print: *Pancho: The Biography of Florence Lowe Barnes*; *Wedell-Williams Air Service*; *Flying Carpets*, *Flying Wings: The Biography of Moye W. Stephens*; and *Endorsed by Earhart: How Amelia Earhart financed her Flying*. The Stephens biography encompasses over fifty years of aviation history. Stephens' story includes early flying in southern California from Clover, Rogers, DeMille, Chaplin, and Glendale's Grand Central Airport and his association with Howard Hughes, Alan Hancock, Eddie Bellande, Amelia Earhart, and many other notable aviators. Piloting a Stearman dubbed the Flying Carpet, an open cockpit biplane with only a compass for directions, Stephens flew famed author Richard Halliburton around the world in 1931/1932. The 18-month flight included a 1,600 mile journey through the desolate Sahara to Timbuctoo; a near fatal flight in an attempt to capture Mt. Everest on film; and a visit with Dyak headhunters in Borneo. This is the first factual narrative of the Flying Carpet flight.



In addition to her books and AAHS journal articles, she has been a consultant and participant in three aviation documentaries: *The Happy Bottom Riding Club*, *Breaking through the Clouds*, and *The Katherine Cheung Story*. Her projects are well-researched and include many first-person interviews with pioneering pilots. Barbara earned her pilot's license in 1978, purchased a 1950 Cessna 140A, and married her test pilot husband, Phil. They live on their own airport in California's Antelope Valley and own several classic aircraft.

Please contact Roger Walton for dinner reservations so we have enough food for everyone. dinner@opa.link 405-219-5149

February 1st, 2018 - Social 6:30 p.m.
7:00 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.

Speaker: Aaron Varland was born and raised in Reedsport, Oregon. His first flight was in the summer of 2001 in a Cessna 172 owned by one of his mother's coworkers. That flight set in motion Aaron's pursuit of a career in aviation. After graduating from high school, he moved to Oklahoma in 2002 to pursue his formal flight training. Since moving to Oklahoma, Aaron has obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Aviation Management; instructed in part 61/141; and flown professionally under parts 91, 91k and 135. In 2014 he was hired by 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 and check rides. In June of 2017 Aaron joined the Federal Aviation Administration Safety Team with the goal of helping reduce the aviation accident rate in the state of Oklahoma.





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 \$35.

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
Editors: Ben & June Roy
Typesetting & Layout: Ben Roy
Circulation: Wyvema Startz

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

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**OPA President
Matt Cole**



Hello all. Just a quick note bidding everyone a very Happy, Safe, and Healthy 2018. Hopefully 2018 will be a great year for aviation, and I am sure 2018 will be a great year at the OPA. Be sure to keep an eye out for details on our April 2018 social event, which is being held on April 5th. We are planning an incredible event which will be held at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at that event, at all our OPA social events, and looking forward to seeing everyone at the airport.



**Flyin
High"
Band**



Highlights from the December Dinner Meeting

OPA President Matt Cole welcomed everyone to our meeting and Bill Pappadopoulos led us in the pledge to our flag. Sonie Liebler introduced the "Flying High" Band from Tinker Air Force Base. They provided the entertainment for our December 7th dinner meeting. They played selections ranging from "Fly Me to the Moon" and "Stardust" to "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy". They also played Christmas songs, including "All I Want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth" and "Sleigh Ride". The musicians who played so well included: Bill Leidy – sax, Don Annesley – sax, Teri Darrah – sax, Tamara Daniels – sax, Ron Jones – sax, Jerry Polcar – clarinet, Mike Darrah – trumpet, Bob Goodner – trumpet, Leroy Wallace – trumpet, Greg Pickle – trombone, Jim Ammerman – trombone, Dave Moreman – guitar, Sherri Rameriz – piano, Mark Brim – bass and vocals, and David Crager – drums.

We had an update from Brian Hancock on the planned OPA December Fly Away to Granny Had One Banquet Hall in Guthrie for dinner during the Territorial Christmas Celebration and Victorian Walk. Bill Pappadopoulos said the venue is next to the police station. (Someone else said there would be a collection for Bill's bail.) The January Fly Away is to Enrique's in Ponca City. The November Fly Away was weathered out. That has happened to scheduled Fly Aways six times this year. We also learned that Grace Mangclimont received her United States citizenship in November. Congratulations Grace! Hal Harris is a very proud father and tells us that Alma's citizenship is very near.



Highlights from the December Dinner Meeting Continued

Shirley and Charlie Brown gave Vicki and Jim Yates some competition on the dance floor and several other couples joined them at different times. "America the Beautiful" brought everyone to their feet. "Georgia on My Mind" was played in honor of thinking about Georgia losing to Oklahoma in the Rose Bowl. Everyone enjoyed a great evening after a wonderful meal.



Photos from the December Dinner Meeting





December 9th OPA Fly Away - Granny Had One Banquet Hall - Guthrie



Thanks to Brian Hancock for the Pictures and Article

A great time was had by all at the December Flyaway to Guthrie, OK (KGOK). Our host, Granny Had One Banquet Hall, provided a memorable meal, and the holiday spirit was in full swing in Guthrie due to the annual Territorial Christmas Celebration and Victorian Walk that was going on that evening. We had 26 dinner guests that included David and Lola Ames, Alan and Linda Arms, Matt Cole with his fiancé Angie, Jeremy and Gerry Cole, Danny and Viola Davis, Angela Drabek, Scott, Reba, and their daughter Jaden Dunn, Brian and Shannon Hancock, Gerald Luton, Bill Pappadopoulos with his daughter Joy and granddaughters Jinny and Sara, Mike and Helen Rangel, Wyvema Startz, and Roger and Jan Walton. Joey and Danielle Sager dropped by with their kids, Josie and Jett, to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. Hot chocolate and cider was provided by many of the stores that were open for the evening and Christmas music filled the streets. Several of the stores had living window displays featuring life during a traditional Victorian Christmas. It was a great Christmas celebration.



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OPA January 13th Fly Away - Ponca City, OK
Enrique's Mexican Restaurant (at the airport)
Wheels down 11:00 a.m.



We had two scheduled Fly Aways to Enrique's cancelled last year due to weather. They say that the third time is a charm. So, if at first you don't succeed, try, try again. This is traditionally one of our highest participation Fly Aways. It is definitely one of my very favorites. The food can't be matched. No other restaurant makes their chips like Enrique's and the salsa and queso are fantastic. That alone is worth the trip. But when you add in one of their great entrees it makes for a well rounded meal (and maybe a little too well rounded person). I'll just say that it's a good thing for me that it isn't just across the street.

Usually we need a head count (for the restaurant & for ground transportation when needed), so if you plan to go along, please email Roger Walton at flyaway@opa.link with the number in your group (or text or call: (405) 219-5149). We'll meet you on the ramp. If you have a seat available or need a ride please contact one of the following: Brian Hancock: (405) 757-5706 - Hancock73660@gmail.com, or Bill Pappadopoulos: (405) 417-7876, or Roger Walton: (405) 219-5149 - flyaway@opa.link, or

[Danny Davis: \(405\) 990-5201 - abadavis@sbcglobal.net](mailto:DannyDavis@sbcglobal.net)



Photos from 2015 OPA Fly Away to Enrique's Mexican Restaurant



Fly Away Committee

Please contact any committee member with questions about Fly Aways or suggestions for future OPA Fly Aways.

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Celebrating Our 49th Year At Wiley Post

2018 OPA Calendar

- January 4th** - Dinner Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- January 13th** - Fly Away - Ponca City, OK
 Enrique's Mexican Restaurant - On Airport
 Wheels Down - 11:00 a.m.
- January 18th** - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- February 1st**- Dinner Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- February 10th** - Fly Away - Elk City, OK
 Prairie Fire Restaurant
 Wheels Down - 11:00 a.m.
- February 15th** - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- March 1st**- Dinner Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- March 10th** - Fly Away - Claremore, OK
 J. M. Davis Arms Museum
 Wheels Down - 11:00 a.m.
- March 15th** - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

Be sure to contact **Roger Walton** for dinner reservations
 405-219-5149 dinner@opa.link

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)
- 2nd Saturday - Ardmore (Cancelled until spring)
 Breakfast Lakeland Aviation - Call 580-389-5000
 (No heater in the hangar, waiting for installation)
- 3rd Saturday - Alva Regional Airport Fly-In
 Breakfast - Call 580-327-6778 March through Nov
- Saturday after 3rd Monday - Owasso Pancake
 Breakfast EAA Chapter 10
- 4th Saturday - Enid Fly-In Breakfast - Woodring
 Airport (WDG) April through October

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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.link.**



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