



NEWS In the Sky

January 2019

(www.opa.link)

**January 3, 2019 - Social Hour 6:30 p.m.
Dinner Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**

**Speakers: Sgt Dustin White and Sgt Austin Childs
Oklahoma City Police Department Helicopter Unit**

Our January speakers are Sgt Dustin White and Sgt Austin Childs, who fly for the Oklahoma City Police Department's Police Air Unit, known as Air One. The pilots will discuss their mission, talk about the helicopters they fly, and describe how they spend their days and nights protecting our community. Weather permitting, they will fly one of their Airbus S350B3e helicopters to our meeting and land near the C. E. Page building for all of us to view.



**February 7th, 2019 - Social Hour 6:30 p.m.
Dinner Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**

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

Speaker: Harry Weatherford

Topic: the differences between the FAA and ICAO flight plan formats

When a pilot files a flight plan for a domestic flight he has the choice of using one of two formats: the FAA format (which has been around a long time and is very familiar to the general aviation community) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) format which is rarely used here in the States but widely used in the rest of the world. It is expected that at some point in the future the FAA will retire its flight plan format and require all flight plans use the ICAO format. To help our pilots make this transition, Harry will essentially be presenting a seminar on the differences between the two formats.

Harry has spent the last decade doing volunteer work for the FAA Safety Team. Here is a little background for those who may not have met him. He retired from the Tulsa Oklahoma TRACON in 1989, after a thirty year career in Air Traffic Control. Since then he has owned a real estate brokerage, a heat & air business, and a retail liquor store. Harry also operates Precision Flight (a Flight Safety & Simulation School) which he operates out of the basement of his liquor store in Mustang. Harry is an Air Transport rated pilot with fifty years of flying experience. He also holds instructor ratings for airplanes, both single and multi engine.





Clarence E. Page Building
5810 Tulakes Avenue
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Bethany, Oklahoma 73008

OPA President Brian Hancock



It's the beginning of a new year... ripe with new possibilities and opportunities, of which I hope include some flying for each of you. If you are looking for a few fly away destinations for next year, consider participating in a few of our OPA Fly Aways. I talked to Greg Finley, our Fly Away Chair, and he has told me we have some pretty good destinations picked out. They include a flight to Ponca City in January to an OPA favorite, Enrique's. There will be a trip to Wichita, KS to visit DOC, one of only two flying B-29s in the world. (We will also be able to see the brick our organization purchased as a donation.) Greg is also working on a trip to Pawhuska, OK to visit the Pioneer Woman Mercantile; which I am sure will be a big hit with the ladies... and my stomach. And, for those wanting to get away from town for a weekend, Greg is also working on a trip to Amarillo for an overnight trip to see the play Texas. Be sure to look in your newsletter or on the website for upcoming flyaway dates and times; www.opa.link.

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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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.



Highlights from the December Christmas Party

After a great Christmas feast was at least started by everyone, OPA President Brian Hancock welcomed everyone and thanked Tony Plant for arranging the room for us every month. Tony and Randy Plant invited everyone to the Southern Wings Christmas luncheon on the 14th at noon. Greg Finley gave us updates on the December OPA Fly Away to Guthrie and January to Enrique's in Ponca City. Greg said he had to talk fast because Bill was eyeing his ham. The OPA Fly Away Committee is also planning a spring trip to the Pioneer Woman Mercantile for lunch in Pawhuska, and maybe an overnight trip to Amarillo to see the play Texas. Bill led us in the pledge to our flag and we learned that the Women's Aviation Day turned out to be a great event. We welcomed David Hanes as a new member; then turned the stage over to our evening entertainment, the Tinker AFB Flyin' High Band.

Some of the great music they entertained us with included: Winter Wonderland (with a comment that it might look like that in OKC by Saturday), Jolly Old St. Nicholas, Jingle Bells, All I Want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth, Santa Claus Is Coming to Town, La Bamba (a chance for Jim and Vicky Yates and any others who wished to dance with passion), and Heartbreak Hotel. While the band took a brief break, Brian told us we expected officers from the OKC Police Dept. Helicopter Unit for our speakers in January. They will fly in the new helicopter, weather permitting. Brian thanked the person who brought around \$200 in gift certificates for restaurants for door prizes, even though he didn't know who he was thanking. He mentioned that we could see an update on our scholarship winner in the newsletter.

The band entertained us with more great tunes including: White Christmas, Baby, It's Cold Outside, Frosty the Snowman, Go Tell It on the Mountain, Christmas Waltz and then wrapped it all up with Feliz Navidad. A great evening of food, music, and sharing time with friends was enjoyed by all present. The Flyin' High Band members who played for us included: Bill Leidy, alto sax; Don Annesley, alto sax; Teri Darrah, tenor sax; Tamara Daniels, tenor sax; Ron Jones, bari sax; Jerry Polcar, clarinet; Bob Goodner, trumpet; Marvin Rodgers, trumpet; Leroy Wallace, trumpet; Greg Pickle, trombone; Jim Ammerman, trombone; David Moreman, guitar; Mark Brim, bass; and David Crager, Drums.



Pictures from the OPA Christmas Party



Pictures from the OPA Christmas Party



Pictures from the OPA Christmas Party



OPA Fly Away December 15, 2018 - Guthrie, OK Territorial Christmas Victorian Walk and Dinner at Granny Had One Banquet Hall

For the OPA Fly Away for the month of December we experienced the Centennial Christmas and Victorian Walk in Guthrie. I am not too sure how long OPA has been participating in this event; but a former OPA President and current Board member, Bill Pappadopoulos, recalled that we have been doing this annual event for over 20 years. Twenty-two of us descended upon Granny Had One – one of Guthrie, Oklahoma's finest restaurants. This year's menu included a buffet of garden salad; homemade hot rolls; roasted chicken, slow roasted beef in a rich gravy; vegetable medley, and whipped potatoes and was topped-off with a delicious black forest cake for desert.

Afterwards, several of us strolled around downtown Guthrie and listened to the sounds of carolers and browsed various shops that were filled with visions of everyday Victorian life as live models dressed in period clothing adorned the window fronts.

If you did not have an opportunity to join us for this extraordinary event, I would like to encourage you to take the time and mark your calendars and start planning to participate in next year's annual dinner event at Granny Had One!

Greg Finley
OPA Fly Away Chair



Pictures from Greg Finley from the December Fly Away



**Thanks,
Greg for the
article and
photos**



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**OPA Fly Away January 12th - Ponca City
Enrique's Mexican Restaurant
Wheels Down - 11:00 a.m.**



The months of November and December are a special time for me as the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays begin to approach. Like most of us, it allows me a time to reflect on the real meaning of those occasions and what they mean to me. It allows for a special time for friends and family to join together over meals usually consisting of turkey or ham as the main dish. Some may choose to have a meal based upon their own family's culture. For instance, my time living in Japan allowed for me to learn that a very popular Christmas meal exists of fried chicken. Germany celebrates with a Christmas goose, while the Philippines partakes of the roasted whole pig. Regardless of your family traditions, I hope you all have had a wonderful Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas.

As you begin to accelerate in to the New Year, OPA is going to soar in to 2019, with a Mexican lunch on Saturday, January 5th, at Enrique's located at Ponca City Regional Airport (KPNC). Please mark your calendars and plan to join us as we go wheels down at 11:00 am. See you soon!

Greg Finley, OPA Fly Away Chair



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If you plan to go, please email Roger Walton at flyaway@opa.link with the number in your group (or text, or call: (405) 219-5149). If you have a seat available or need a ride please contact one of the following: Greg Finley: Greg Finley (918)340-9184 gfinley@cox.net 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.

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

Try the Page Building at Wiley Post Airport!

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All holiday and special event dates are charged \$75 over daily rate.

Contacts: Steve Schroeder: 405-691-8629 (home phone) sandsschroeder@cox.net or QB Governor Jim Sutton 405-760-1988 (mobile phone)



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OPA 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

- December 6th** - Christmas Dinner - 6:30 p.m.
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
- December 15th Fly Away** - Guthrie Centennial Christmas & Victorian Walk - Dinner
Granny Had One - Wheels Down - 5:00 p.m.
- December NO OPA Board Meeting Merry Christmas!**

2019 OPA Calendar

- January 3rd** - Dinner Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
 - January 12th Fly Away** - Ponca City, OK
Enrique's Mexican Restaurant
Wheels Down - 11:00 a.m.
 - January 17th** - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
 - February 7th** - Dinner Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Page Building, Wiley Post Airport
 - February 9th Fly Away** - Enid, OK
Cafe' Garcia - Wheels Down - 11:00 a.m.
 - February 21st** - 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
Breakfast Lakeland Aviation - Call 580-389-5000
- 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
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All material for newsletter publication should be sent to:
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ANNUAL DUES ARE \$35
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.link.**



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