



NEWS In the Sky

June 2020

(www.opa.link)

OPA: The light at the end of the tunnel is quickly approaching!!! The State of Oklahoma is on track to move in to Phase 3 of the Governor's reopening plan on June 1st. Therefore, we are planning to go forward with our June dinner meeting for Thursday, June 4th, at 7:00 pm (social time starts at 6:30 pm). Please mark your calendars and plan to attend as we welcome Teresa Camp, our guest speaker. Teresa will be sharing her story of flying her Cessna 182 across Africa. Personal protection equipment, such as masks and gloves, is not required, but is recommended if you would like to bring them with you. We are planning to follow the appropriate protocols for such a gathering and for serving food.

Please RSVP to let us know how many will be with you so we can let our caterer know how much to prepare. You can RSVP by simply replying to this email or you may send a separate email to dinner@opa.link.

If for some reason the State does not move in to Phase 3 prior to our meeting, we will notify you by email as to the status of our meeting.

Thank you, Greg Finley, VP of OPA Communications

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.



**June 4th, 2020 - Social Hour 6:30 p.m.
Dinner Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**

**Speaker: Teresa Camp
Cessna 182 self-fly African Safari**

Elections for OPA Board Members and Officers will be held at the June Dinner Meeting. If you are interested in serving in one of those positions or on a committee, please contact any officer or board member. (See P. 7)

Teresa Camp earned a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering and a Master's Degree in Business Administration. She started flying in the autumn of 2000 thinking it would make her a better engineer, but soon fell in love with the adventure associated with the lifelong learning to fly. She holds a pilot certificate with ratings as instrument, single-engine land, and single-engine sea, and owns a Mooney M20J. **She has competed in 4 transcontinental air races and in the summer of 2019, completed a self-fly African Safari in a Cessna 182 crossing through 3 countries!** She was born and raised in Southern California.

Teresa is a Special Projects Manager for Executive Transport at The Boeing Company. Before to coming to Oklahoma in 2018, she worked at Pratt & Whitney (P&W) in Connecticut,



developing advanced military engines for helicopters and fighter aircraft. Prior to P&W, Teresa accumulated over 28 years of program management and engineering experience at Boeing both in Southern California and St. Louis. During that time, she worked many diverse projects including the US Army's modernization with robotics, the F/A-18 Super Hornet, F-15 Strike Eagle, AV-8B Harrier, T-45 Goshawk, Phantom Works, ICBM systems, and Trident/Poseidon submarines.





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 \$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.

2018-2019 OPA OFFICERS

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Exec. Vice President - Mike Grimes	405 647-6860
Past President - Matt Cole	405 260-1010
Treasurer - Roy Cowan	405 340-1425
Secretary - Angela Drabek	405 990-9067

Vice President of Membership
Roger Walton 405 219-5149
mem@opa.link

Vice President of Communications
Greg Finley 918 340-9184
gfinley@cox.net

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Term Expires 6/30/2020

Rick Cacini
Hal Harris
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Bill Pappadopoulos

College Student Board Member - Josh Smith

EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Ben Roy
June Roy
Steve Haynes

OPA President Brian Hancock



OPA Pilots Association in Search of Assistance

We have nearly come to the end of my second and last term as the Oklahoma Pilots Association President. In that time, I have learned many of the in's and out's only seen from that point of view.

With that said, I have learned, more than ever, that this organization hinges on a few select members volunteering their time and efforts to operate efficiently to seamlessly pull off the quality dinner meetings and flyaways we host each month. Some of those members have been volunteering their time for longer than I have lived in Oklahoma (17 years). I know I would not be able to do what I do without a handful of members helping me along and for those volunteers I am very grateful.

As with any organization we ALWAYS have a need for more help and that is the purpose of this months article. We are looking for quality individuals willing to donate their time for the betterment of the organization. Specifically, we need a Vice President of Communications and a Flyaway Chairperson.

The VP of Communications has the responsibility of communicating with our membership and those outside of the organization. This is usually done via email but sometimes requires a phone call or even a face to face visit. This person is often the "face" of the organization as they communicate with both members and non-members and are usually the "go-to" for any request or to seek information from others. This is a very involved and important role in the organization and requires someone with a little time and good communication skills to fulfill the position.

The VP of Communications has also historically acted as our Flyaway Chairperson but if someone would like to take on one role, but not the other, we would be open to fill this role with a second person. The Flyaway Chairperson works with the Flyaway Committee to select destinations and organize all of our flyaways. The Chairperson would lead a monthly committee meeting to select and plan our flyaways. The Chairperson would also attend our monthly board meetings to report the flyaway schedule. We need both a Chairperson and members to sit on this committee, so there is opportunity to have a lead and supporting role planning our flyaways.

Last, I would like to also ask if anyone is interested in filling a board position. We, from time to time, have a need to fill a position that has been vacated either due to an illness or a personal request to step down. If this is something you would be interested in, please let us know.

In any of these roles you will have a more direct involvement with how the organization operates, how it grows, the types of events we host, and the direction we take. The time commitment, in my opinion, is minuscule to the reward you feel helping your fellow pilots and shaping the organization. Please consider joining our ranks in a greater capacity and volunteer with us today. Email info@opa.link if interested, or speak to any officer or board member if you have more questions.

Stay Safe and Happy Flying.

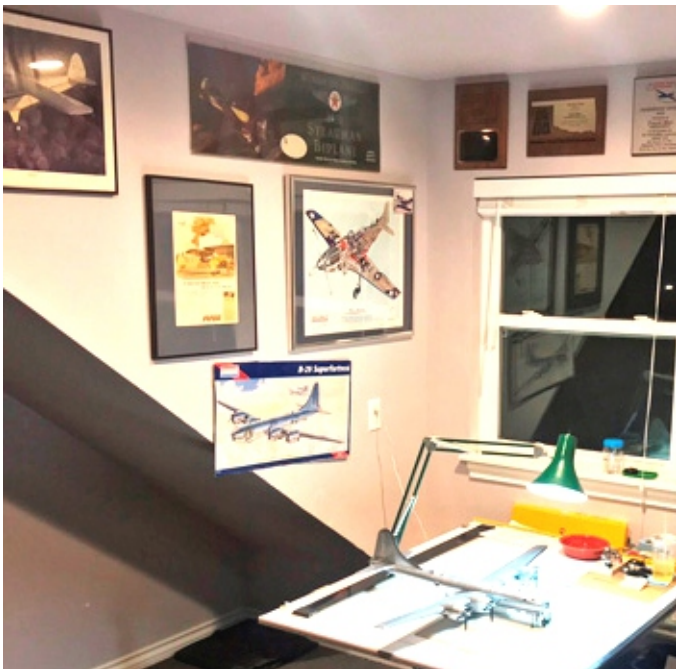
Brian Hancock
OPA President

May OPA Featured Member - Bob Heft

Article is paraphrased by Frank Bice from Bob's written account of his adventures.

Robert W. Heft (Bob) passed the Aviation Cadet exams during his senior year of high school and was inducted into the military in July 1943 at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Following almost a year of various training schools, he completed B-29 Crew Training as a Flight Engineer at Alamogordo, New Mexico. His crew was given a new B-29 in Kearney, Nebraska, which they then flew to Sacramento en route to the Pacific war zone. At a stop in Hawaii, their guns were loaded for their flight to Guam. They assumed this new B-29 would be their combat plane, but they delivered it to the 20th Headquarters Squadron and were then flown to Tinian, in the Mariana Islands, in a C-46 and assigned to probably the oldest B-29 in the 769th Squadron. Their aircraft commander was a 2nd Lieutenant.

From May to August 1945, Bob flew 17 combat missions over Japan. Each mission involved 16 to 18 flight hours, depending on the location of their bombing targets. As Flight Engineer, he was responsible for all aircraft systems while airborne, including fuel management to ensure their successful return to base. His final mission was the fifteen-hour flight, "VJ Day Display of Power", flown over the battleship U.S.S. Missouri near Tokyo Bay. His was one of 462 B-29s from Guam, Tinian, and Saipan. They overflew the Missouri at about 1:20 AM, on Sunday, September 2, 1945, while Japanese officials were signing the surrender agreement.



May OPA Featured Member - Bob Heft



Our thanks to Frank Bice for the article and pictures and to Bob Heft for his service to our country. Editors

Quote from Frank:

Buy a man a plane ticket and he flies for a day;
Push a man out of an airplane and he'll fly for the rest of his life!



Bob has long since retired and lives in a retirement center in Oklahoma City. Fast forward to about 2016, when Bob asked Roger Walton if he would assemble a B-29 plastic model for him and Roger agreed. However, after a couple of years of looking at the large box, Roger realized he did not have time to devote to the project and sometime in 2017 or 2018, Roger asked me if I would build it for Bob. Of course, with all good intentions, I said I would. So, after a year or so of looking at that large box on the shelf in my home office closet, I took it to my loft studio and spread its contents out on my drawing board. That turned out to be the perfect spot for building a B-29! It was quiet (although, I do have a wall-mounted big screen TV with Netflix up there), isolated, and I could walk away and leave it scattered without worrying about it being in the way.

This was no simple plastic model; the 1/48th scale model has a wingspan of about 35 inches and a length of about 25 inches. The flight deck, bomb bay, tail section and exterior are all highly detailed. I often referred to Google for paint scheme details and other information, as the instructions were helpful, but sort of sketchy. During construction, I asked about the name of Bob's plane, but he said it had no name. I had planned to add appropriate nose-art if possible. So, after about a year and a half, on a chilly Sunday afternoon in February, Roger, Jan, and I delivered the completed B-29 to Bob at his apartment. To say that he was pleased with the results of our efforts is an understatement. We enjoyed an hour or so with Bob as he shared memorabilia and war stories from days gone by. He seems to have total recall and has a wall full of photos and documents

related to his military service. Bob, we appreciate your service and wish you well.

Cheers!
Frank



Editors' thanks to all who responded to the request for pictures and articles for the newsletter since we did not have a dinner meeting or fly away last month. Hope you all enjoy the submissions. June and Ben

Article and Photo from new member Dusty Boren

I have not yet been able to make a fly away or a dinner but fully intend to and am always willing to give rides. Hope to meet you soon. Here is my favorite flying story.

Ever since I was a child I always dreamed about the day I would get to fly my own plane to my family's farm and land on the 1800ft grass strip just like my dad and grandfather once did in the mid 80's in their Cessna 172. They owned the plane for about 8 years before selling it and each logged about 100 hours each flying around SE Oklahoma.

This past year my Husky A-1C allowed me to finally make the flight to Hughes County to a once chartered "LOBO" field. Unfortunately, my grandfather is no longer with us; but my Dad and I took the opportunity to recreate a photo from about 35 years ago! If anyone is in the area approximately 4 miles south of Calvin, OK, you should land and be greeted by my mom and dad and me. We will share a glass of tea and some good stories! NOTAM = numerous cows on and in the vicinity of LOBO field.

Dusty Boren, N89WY



Photos from Angela Drabek



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Holly Blunk with "Spots" from Angela Drabek (left)

Ryan Field in Montana
Owned by the Recreational Aviation Foundation

For those who have been to Ryan: Just wanted to share with everyone that last November myself and around a dozen others worked for about 8 days there making improvements to the airstrip for those who will be using it in the future. In the past the strip was narrow in the middle portion. That has been widened some. We removed some obstructions along the side, removed some old structures to make more camp sites, and ran water to them. As soon as the snow melts up there, we will return to do the finish grading of the dirt work before opening the strip up for use this summer. Hope to see some others from OPA go and enjoy this place.

Steven Thompson
Recreational Aviation Foundation
Oklahoma State Liaison

Holly Blunk with "Spots" from Angela Drabek



Humor

Alternate Airport: The area directly beyond the active runway when the engine quits on take off.

Altimeter Setting: The place where the altimeter sets. Usually hidden by the control column during a near-minimums approach.

"Clear": Warning shouted two seconds after hitting the starter button.



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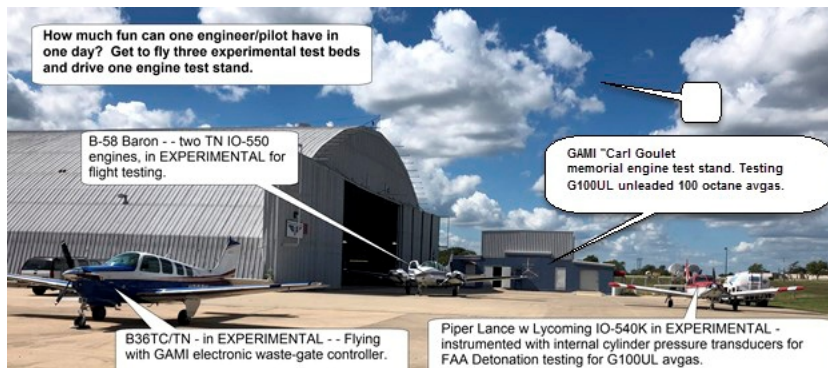
OPA June 13th Fly Away - Ada Regional Airport Wheels Down: 10:00 a.m.



Whew! Finally, we can all go outside and play! Now it's time to pre-flight the planes and go somewhere. For the month of June, we are going to go to the Ada Regional Airport (KADH), and visit the General Aviation Modifications, Inc. (GAMI) facility where they install balanced fuel injectors which assist Continental and Lycoming engines in burning lean of peak and they install turbo-normalizers on Bonanzas, Cirrus, and Cessna aircraft. Also, we will be learning more about a new lead-free aviation fuel that is being developed.

Please plan on being wheels down by 10:00 am on Saturday, June 13th and we will stay on the airport and begin the tour of GAMI facility by its founders George Braly and Tim Roehl. Afterwards, we will remain at GAMI and enjoy a catered lunch. We are still getting estimates for the cost of the lunch but I imagine it will be around \$14 - \$16 per person.

Please help us prepare for this flyaway by sending us an RSVP to flyaway@opa.link. You can learn more about this flyaway and others by visiting our website at opa.link or follow us on Facebook at Oklahoma Pilots Association.



OPA Officer and Board Member Recommended Slate from the OPA Nominating Committee

- President – Greg Finley
- Executive Vice President – Mike Grimes
- Past President – Brian Hancock
- Treasurer – Roy Cowan
- Secretary – Angela Drabek
- VP of Communications – open position
- Board of Directors term to expire 2023
- Hal Harris
- Bill Pappadopoulos
- Lee Holmes
- One open position
- College Student Board Member - open position
- Flyaway Chairperson – open position
- Nominations from the floor will be accepted. Please clear any nominations with the nominee ahead of time.



Editors' thanks to all who responded to the request for pictures and articles for the newsletter since we did not have a dinner meeting or fly away last month. Hope you all enjoy the submissions. June and Ben



Angela Drabek, Elaine Reiger, Wyvema Startz - thanks Elaine



Humor

Engine Failure: A condition that occurs when all fuel tanks become filled with air.

Gliding Distance: Half the distance from your present position to the nearest decent landing area at the time of complete power failure.

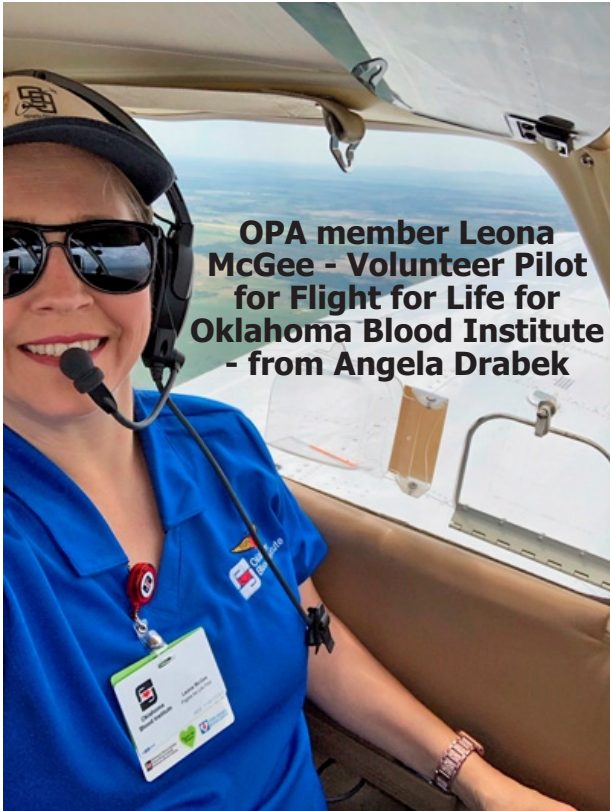
Gross Weight: Maximum permissible takeoff weight, plus an extra suitcase, a case of bourbon, rifle, ammo, golf bag, bowling ball, and diving weights.

Holding Pattern: The term applied to the dogfight in progress over any radio facility serving a terminal airport.

Landing Flap: A 4000' rollout on a 3000' runway.

Range: Five miles beyond the point where all fuel tanks have become filled with air.

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OPA member Leona McGee - Volunteer Pilot for Flight for Life for Oklahoma Blood Institute - from Angela Drabek

Adventure Flight from Jim Putnam

In August of 2018 seven of us flew our planes into the River of No Return Wilderness in Central Idaho and landed at Johnson Creek, where we set up camp and explored the local area. Lots of high altitude back country flying which was quite a challenge! We flew over to Big Spring grass strip to have breakfast at a mountain lodge, and then flew on to West Yellowstone and camped off the parking area. We toured Yellowstone National Park and covered it all in a very busy and full day! The only disappointment is that summer there were over 50 forest fires burning all over the Western United States. We were IFR for forest fire smoke in our first fuel stop in Kansas! We had a forest fire active just two miles south of Johnson Creek. The visibility in Yellowstone Park was only about two to three miles due to smoke. Quite a challenge to fly over the high Rockies with limited visibility! Quite an adventure overall.

Cheers,
Jim Putnam



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



OPA Fly Away Committee

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

Greg Finley - 918-340-9184

gfinley@cox.net

Danny Davis - 405-990-5201

abadavis@sbcglobal.net,

Brian Hancock - 405-757-5706

hancock73660@gmail.com,

Mike Rangel - rangelm945@msn.com,

and Bill Pappadopoulos - 405-417-7876



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**Let the Fly Away Committee know if you are
attending this month's Fly Away!**

If you plan to go, please email Roger Walton at flyaway@opa.link with the number in your group (or text, (405) 219-5149). If you have a seat available or need a ride please contact one of the following: Greg Finley (918)340-9184 gfinley@cox.net Brian Hancock: (405) 757-5706 - Hancock73660@gmail.com, or Bill Pappadopoulos: (405) 417-7876, or Danny Davis: (405) 990-5201 - abadavis@sbcglobal.net.

Humor

Critical Altitude: Minus 6 feet.

Critical Engine: That part of your plane that used to be under the cowl, but is now in intensive care at the maintenance shop.

Dead Reckoning: You reckon correctly, or you are.

De-Icer: A device designed to work under all weather conditions, except icing.

Engine Failure: A condition that occurs when all fuel tanks become filled with air.

Walkaround: What you do while waiting for weather to clear.

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2020 OPA Calendar

All scheduled items are subject to change as necessary to meet directed Covid 19 requirements and for the health and safety of our members and guests.

June 4th - Dinner Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

June 18th - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

June 13th OPA Fly Away - Ponca City, OK
 Enrique's Mexican Restaurant
 Wheels Down: 11:00 a.m.

July 2nd - Dinner Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

July 16th - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

July 11th Fly Away - Ada, OK - GAMi
 Petrillo's Restaurant
 Wheels Down 11:00 a.m.

August 6th - OPA Dinner Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

August 20th - OPA Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
 Page Building, Wiley Post Airport

August - OPA Fly Away - TBA
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)

4th Saturday - Enid Fly-In Breakfast - Woodring Airport (WDG) April through October



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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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