



# OX5 NEWS

Published by and for Members of the OX5 Club of America

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VOLUME 14 - NUMBER 4

## We Will Remember Cliff Ball

As all of our members are now sadly aware, Cliff Ball, our National Secretary, died at his desk, on Friday, June 2, 1972. Cliff had served us in his current assignment since the inception of the OX5 Club in 1955. Obviously, Cliff's sudden passing was a terrific shock and loss to all aviation pioneers. His love and devotion to this Club was unmatched. In its earlier days of growing pains, Cliff was practically the "glue" that held it together. Today, OX5 is the largest pioneer pilot organization in the world.

Cliff was a native Pittsburgher—one of eleven children of an English-born coal miner. After graduating from McKeesport High School, he became a clerk at the Federal National Bank; took night courses in finance and economics at Duquesne University, and a business course at Duff's Iron City College. During WW I, he served with American forces in France, fighting through Chateau Thierry and the Argonne for 101 days of combat.

Returning from overseas, Cliff Ball started an automobile business which showed great signs of success. Then, one Sunday afternoon he drove past a field near Dravosburg where he stopped to watch Eddie Stinson and his Zephyr Fliers. And for \$15.00 he bought a "straight up and straight down" ride in an OX5 Jenny. That same day Eddie and Cliff, both ex-servicemen, became better acquainted. They talked about aviation and what it soon would mean to the world. Cliff went back again to talk with Eddie, and to aviation was born a new and enthusiastic supporter. Eddie moved on with his barnstormers. Cliff commenced talking flying to anyone who would listen. But there were few listeners. One of them recently told Cliff—"You know, fella, in those days I thought you were completely nuts."

Cliff talked of airports, landing strips, or anything from which aircraft could operate. "Build the nests

and the birds will come" was one of his slogans. He believed in it. And in 1924, he had become so enamored with the prospective future of aviation that he mortgaged everything he owned, and borrowed all he could, to raise \$35,000 to purchase 40 acres above Dravosburg on which to build an airport. This spot later became Bettis Field, named for Cyrus Bettis, a World War I flying Ace.



To recoup as much as he could, and as quickly as possible, Cliff ran airshows at his new airport. But, realizing that pilots would need steadier jobs, he worked with his friend, Congressman M. Clyde Kelly, for passage of the first national air law, later known as the Kelly Air Mail Act.

Soon thereafter, Cliff established the first airmail service in Pennsylvania. And on April 26, 1927, using four Waco 9's, his newly formed airline began carrying the mail from Pittsburgh to Cleveland. A year later, using the same aircraft, the Clifford Ball Airlines began carrying passengers over the same route—one flight a day in each direction. It was not unusual to see a lone passenger sitting on mail sacks while flying the route, known as "The Path of the Eagle." This service was soon extended to Washington, D.C.

Later, the Clifford Ball Airlines became Pennsylvania Airlines. Then, as mounting pressures forced him to sell his air mail contract, the firm under its new owners became Penn Central; then Capitol Airlines, which merged into United Airlines in 1961. Cliff then went to work with Pittsburgh Aviation Industries as a V.P., after which he tried a spell of retirement in Florida. But with his heart and mind still in his former locale, he returned to Pittsburgh to become the first Superintendent of Greater Pittsburgh Airport, which opened in 1952. And he served as Director of Allegheny County Airport. He also served as the

(Continued on Page 10)

## OX5 NEWS

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*Secretary*

419 Plaza Building, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15219

\*deceased

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**Karl Voelter**  
President

Comparatively few of our members, unless they knew Cliff Ball very well, realize the tremendous loss we have sustained in the memoirs of the OX5 Club. Although not too surprised, I was shocked, and very much so, when Miss Flora Balmer (Cliff's Assistant in OX5 affairs) called me — within minutes of his passing. I flew to Pittsburgh immediately to do whatever I could, and to be personally assured that what Cliff would have wanted, would be accomplished. Remaining in PIT, and at the office, from early morning until late every night for the next four days, I found what I guess I already knew, which included the exceptional knowledge and control Miss Balmer has in all of the office routine. Actually, all that I could add, was the psychological and administrative touch to complete the circuit. And it was indeed gratifying and pleasing to me, to be able to return home, knowing that concise arrangements had been effected with Miss Balmer to provide for her continuing with the office routine, while I take over the administrative duties at this end. This is of course a tentative arrangement. But I know it will work as we want it to, and as Cliff Ball would have wanted it to, until a new National Secretary can be named in September, at Columbus. I personally believe that all will go well during this current arrangement.

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### Editor's Cockpit

This corner will continue to be looked at sadly with respect to our former Editor. We assure you, however, that future issues of the NEWS will continue to contain the same general format and timeliness that has marked its publication for many years. Actually, the Assistant Editor — Flora Balmer, who has worked with Cliff since the inception of the OX5 Club, will continue in that same capacity. And she will temporarily have close assistance from the National President. It is believed, therefore, that all members can continue to look forward to the OX5 NEWS with the same high regard and enthusiasm that has previously prevailed. And we can assure you that all sections of the NEWS will receive the same relative attention as in the past.

It is of course possible that some changes in format may occur as time goes on. But any such changes, if made, will be closely studied with respect to the overall requirements and desires of the membership. But in the latter regard, please remember that we must remain within our financial limits, and any increase in size is out of the question at this time. We will continue to use a limited number of Wing reports, especially if they are concise and well prepared. And a few good black and white photos sometimes come in handy. We will look forward to receiving good quality and interesting material.

The coming Convention/Reunion in September gives me great assurance that it will be a good one. From the personal discussions and correspondence I have had with Foster Lane, our Reunion Chairman, it is most evident that we will have three full days—and nights—of enjoyable activity in one of the finest hotels. The management of the Neil House, our hotel host, has assured me that it is their intention to make this 1972 Convention the most outstanding in OX5 history. Incidentally, the Neil House has a terrific reputation and among other attributes, it has recently been completely refurbished. Their pre-planning is just great, and I urge that all of our members who possibly can make it, do so . . . Almost glumly I say, that a new National President will be elected this year. I use the term "glumly" because I have enjoyed being your President for the past two years, and according to the By-Laws, two years is the max limit covering the term of the President. I have been especially gratified in the progress during my term of office and I cherish the fact that our incoming President will step into a really smooth-running organization. I'll still be "on tap" until 1 January, 1973, and at that time, whomever it will be that takes my place, will be most fortunate to take over one of the greatest outfits he can ever find. Thank you all for your fine support, and for all you have done for me and for OX5ers.

## CANDIDATES SELECTED FOR 1972 ELECTION

John I. Schnaubelt, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, assisted by committee members R. V. Trader and W. T. Homan, certified the list of candidates whose names will appear on the 1972 ballot.

The National Board of Governors consists of fifteen members. Five governors are to be elected from this list — ten governors are holdovers representing the various wings.

Nominations were carefully screened as they came in from Wing Presidents, Wing Secretaries, and individual members. The nominee's background was reviewed as to current membership, experience in OX5 affairs, experience as wing officers, attendance at wing meetings, and attendance at the national reunions.

The Club's by-laws restricts the election of one National Board member from any one state.

The list of candidates is as follows:

### **KARL E. VOELTER (No. 84), Coral Gables, Fla.**

A charter member of the OX5 Club. Served 6 years as President of the Florida Wing. Chairman of several national committees. Completing 6 years on the National Board. Two terms as National President. Chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee.

### **GLENN MESSER (No. 7071), Birmingham, Ala.†**

An Early Bird — was their National President. Served as Chairman of several national committees; active in local Wing affairs, presently President of the Alabama Wing.

### **ANTHONY BITETTI (No. 1464), Gardena, Calif.**

Served on various national committees. Frequent visitor to Wing meetings outside Southern Calif. Reorganized and served as President of the Southern

California Wing. Winner of the President's award in 1971.

### **OLIVER PHILLIPS (No. 8565), Wheat Ridge, Colo.**

Completing his first term on the National Board. Active in national affairs. Serving as Chairman of the Hall of Fame Screening Committee.

### **DICK PALEN (No. 3909), Edina, Minn.**

Active in Minnesota Wing affairs. Served as Wing President. Frequent attender at National Reunions, representing the Wing at the General Assembly.

### **WYATT, Owen (No. 7237), Birmingham, Ala.†**

Served the Alabama Wing as President, and presently as Wing Secretary. Served as chairman of the Reunion Committee Alabama Wing. Attended several National Reunions.

### **BYRON W. HOOK (No. 728), Oklahoma City, Okla.**

One of the early members of the Club. Served as Secretary of the D.C. Wing in the early days. Now serving as President of the Oklahoma Wing.

### **ROY VENCILL (No. 2448), Dallas, Texas**

Active in local affairs. Served on National Committees in the past. Completing his first term as a National Governor.

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† Several nominations received from different areas for two candidates from the same State. The one receiving highest number of votes will be the winner, as only one candidate from any one State can be elected.

## **PENNSYLVANIA WING**

Kathryn Hackenburg, Secy.

Pennsylvania Wing members will celebrate the 17th anniversary of the founding of the OX5 Club on Saturday, August 26th, at Williamsport, Pa.

The hosts will be Kathryn and Jess Hackenburg, owners and operators of Penny Hill Airport. This is a sod field, with an E. and W. landing strip, 2400 ft., suitable for conventional private and twin aircraft.

Like the first affair at Latrobe in 1955, this will be an outdoor event.

The general assembly will get underway at 3:00 P.M. at which time the results of the election will be announced. Pennsylvania OX5ers will elect three new Board members; and in turn the Board will select a new slate of officers to serve for 1973.

A picnic type dinner will be served in a large tent at approximately 4:30, in time for those who may desire to return home the same evening.

Members of nearby wings, especially the District of Columbia, Ohio, New York, and Maryland, are cordially invited to attend and join in the fun.

## **NEW YORK WING**

By Dave Fox, President

The New York Wing will participate in the 1972 Aero Historians Conference on Friday and Saturday, October 6 and 7, Henry Perkins Hotel, Riverside, Long Island. The theme will be "Long Island Aviation."

The registration fee will be \$6.00 (wives \$3.00); Lunch Saturday, \$4.50; and Banquet Saturday, \$9.00.

The tentative program will consist of a short version of "Lilac Time" Friday evening, with a discussion by the actress, Colleen Moore.

This will be followed by a first public showing of "History of Fighter Aviation," by Grumman Aircraft.

Saturday's session will consist of the presentation of three papers, followed by a round table discussion. Viola Gentry will be guest of honor at the luncheon. The Banquet Speaker will be Grover Loening on the "History of the Loening Company."

Reservations are at a minimum — you are urged to contact John T. Golden, 161 Van Buren St., North Babylon, N.Y. 11704 as soon as possible.

# WING STRUTS

## ALABAMA WING

By Owen Wyatt

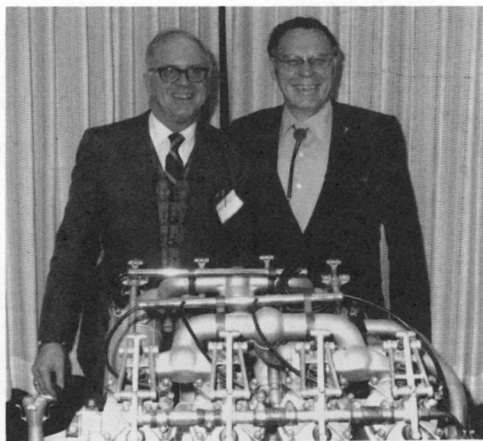
Heave Ho Mates was the order of the day as the Alabama Wing held its Semi-Annual Meeting on June 24th at Mobile in the Captain's Quarters aboard the Navy Battleship USS Alabama. Chairman for this unusual and great gathering was L. L. Brabham, V.P. Southern Region with Wing President Glenn E. Messer holding the course. And besides fun, this meeting had a real business motive, including a membership drive; greater care in nominations for annual awards, and the appointment of a nominating committee.

To stay within regs they had to jump ship for that delicious dinner – steak with all the trimmings in the Battle House Hotel. And being a consistent bunch of guys and gals they then viewed two authentic military movies – one a current exciter – the SAM missile “Kill” of an enemy MIG in Viet Nam aerial combat. The other a WWII aerial combat reality which made some of the lads hang onto their chairs.

As evidence that an OX5 membership application enclosed with the last Alabama Wing Newsletter can bear fruit, especially with the help of a couple of enthusiasts by the names of Shorty Carden and Charlie Wade, were applications from Squire Helms, Sr., and “Tater” Lowe, both from the area of Columbus, Ga.

## MINNESOTA WING

Don Hansen, President



Over 200 members and guests attended the Spring Wing Ding of the Minnesota Wing. The party was held in honor of Walt Bullock who was recently installed in the OX5 Club, Aviation Hall of Fame. Pictured here with the Wing's OX5 engine are Wing officers: Bob Henry, Secretary, left, and Don Hansen, President, right.

## OREGON WING

By Evelyn Waldren



“O’ Prez,” President Tom Taylor, center, flanked by Frank Barr, famous ex-Alaskan, left, and author-pilot Lloyd Jarman.

Portland's Spring meeting was attended by 57 OX5ers and everybody had a ball. Harold Wagner and Walt Goodat started things off by giving members rides in their Hughes 500 and Fairchild-Hiller helicopters. The social hour and dinner followed, with no planned program, just chit-chat, like “I’ve been studyin’ mental telepathy and I don’t like what you’re thinkin’,” or “Up until now we’ve been friends,” or “What’s Tom got planned for tonight, an X-rated movie?” The Oregon Wing’s festivities were enlivened by the attendance of Washington Wing members Frank and Mary Barr, Jim and Anna Marie Dilonardo, Wilbur Gorst and Daughter Leanne, Jessie Woods, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Jarman and guest Clarice Syverson. Lloyd is writing a new book, about N.W. pilots.

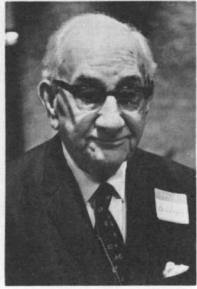
President Tom Taylor was presented a highly-polished R985 propellor by Floyd Goodat, inscribed “Presented to Thomas M. Taylor in recognition of his outstanding contribution and dedication to General Aviation.” Faithful attenders Ed and Irene Ball and Fred and Vera Norby were there. Ed Ball was Dick Rankin-trained in 1929 and that year became Hillsboro’s first FBO. He’s been flying from Hillsboro Airport ever since. Fred Norby learned to fly in DH4’s in 1921 at Mather Field, Sacramento. A fellow student was T. Claude Ryan. An Antiquer, Fred owns an AT6.

Interesting sidelight: Washington President Jim Dilonardo sold tickets for Oregon President Tom Taylor when Tom hopped passengers in Seattle years ago.

## FLORIDA WING

Although the past few months have been of terrific pressure to your President, we have at least given thought to the coming Annual Get-Together which this year again will be staged in the Fall – possibly in late October or early November. We have several nice spots in mind for this purpose and undoubtedly will be able to give you more definite information in the next issue of the NEWS. In the meantime we will have a meeting of our Governors at which time also we will conduct our annual election. We hope and plan that the coming months will give us more latitude of operation, and that the Florida Wing will again become more active than has been within our ability this year.

# WING STRUTS



Ben Gregory

## KANSAS CITY WING

By Carl H. Bruns, President

The Kansas City Wing's Spring Dinner Party at the TWA Breech Training Academy, Overland Park, was very successful with 104 members and guests attending, including a number of "Old Timers."

Norman R. Parmet, Vice President of TWA, presented a film on Lockheed L1011 which has been added to TWA's "stable" of airplanes. It was most interesting and

the L1011 appears to be quite an airplane.

The Wing was glad to see Ben Gregory, "Dean" of the Kansas City Wing and a true OX5 pioneer, at the dinner party.

## ALASKA WING

By John P. Gannon

The Spring meeting featured a fine dinner and the selection of a nominee to the OX5 Hall of Fame. Following discussion and consideration of three outstanding names, that of Noel Wein was submitted.

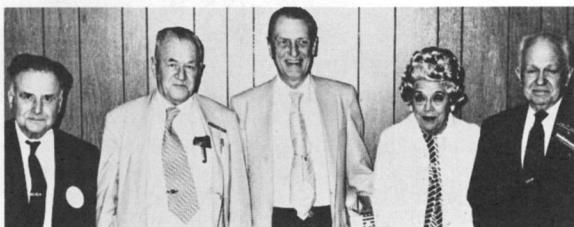
The matter of associate members was discussed and rejected. 75% of those present stated that the membership concept should remain "as is." Ray Petersen summed it up with "Let the last man make the decision."

A report on the progress of the OX5 Bird, now being rebuilt by the Wing, was given by Cecil Higgins, Operations and Maintenance Officer. Some vital parts are needed, including a wing and the engine. It is hoped the Bird will fly before summer is over. Several members are devoting a lot of time and experience to the project.

A request that all members keep current with their dues was made.

## MARYLAND WING

By John Landis



Paul Garber

Bill Kennedy

Bill Cox

Blanche Noyes

Ernie Hall

With 112 in attendance and two outstanding aviation personalities as speakers, the Maryland Wing held its Annual Spring Party at the Beltway Motel in Baltimore. Pete Goff, M.C., kept the program moving.

Ernie Hall, world's oldest active commercial pilot, who started building aircraft in 1908, and at 82, still is instructing at Hall Field in Warren, Ohio, was highly interesting with his stories and experiences of his early flying. Paul Garber, one of the world's leading authorities on the history of flight, presented an interesting and illustrated biography on Glenn Curtiss.

President Bill Kennedy and Chairman Bill Cox are to be congratulated for this outstanding meeting.

## WASHINGTON WING

By Anna Marie Dilonardo



Marian and Jim Galvin

The Washington (State) Wing celebrated Fathers Day at their June meeting. For center pieces at their dinner at the Commissioned Officers' Mess at Sand Point (U.S. Naval Air Station) they had 12 jugs of beer; 12 corn cob pipes, and 12 red and blue 'kerchiefs. They were handed out as door prizes together with four beautiful flower arrangements donated by Mrs. Curtis Hoyle.

Eighty-five members and guests were on hand. Walt Bohrer, President, Orange-San Diego Wing, donated more door prizes, three copies of his book - TALES UP - which he and Ann, his sister, made popular.

Paul E. Hovgard, guest speaker, showed slides taken during his years as a Keystone Engineer Test Pilot. Commander Jim Galvin, now heading up QB's in Seattle, was the recipient of two appropriately decorated sheet cakes.

Next assembly will be a dinner meeting and annual election on Saturday, September 30, at the Poodle Dog Restaurant in Seattle.



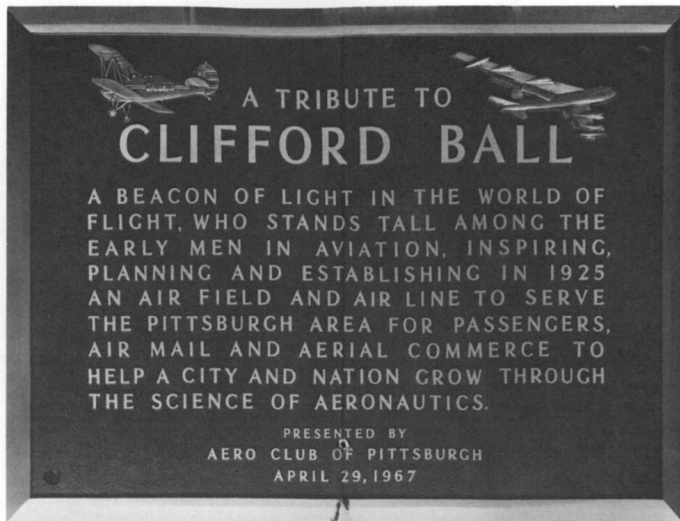
Pitcairn Mail Wing used for night Air Mail, 1928. 200 h.p., Wright J5 engine, 140 miles per hour, 700 lb. cargo. Dewey Noyes, pilot.



Pilots who opened Air Mail Service on daily schedule, April 27, 1927. Left to right: Kenneth (Curly) Lovejoy, Dewey Noyes, Merle Moltrup, John P. Morris.



Miss Pittsburgh — Waco 9. One of 3 Waco's used to open Air Mail Service for Pittsburgh — later merged with Pennsylvania Air Lines.

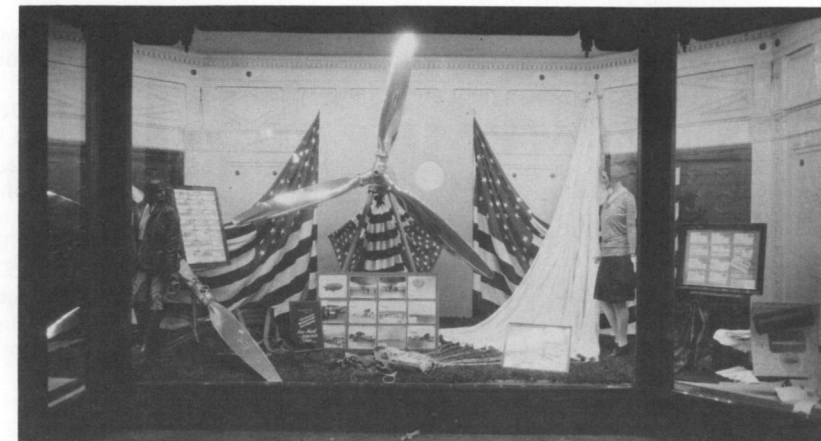


This plaque installed at Greater Pittsburgh Airport courtesy of Allegheny County Board of Commissioners. Dedicated on December 21, 1967.

On the 45th Anniversary of the Air Mail, Cliff was again honored by the County of Allegheny. Standing: Commissioner Foerster, OX5ers, Evans, Scholter and O'Connor, Commissioner Hunt. Seated: Griffin, Director of Aviation, Commissioner Staisey and Cliff.



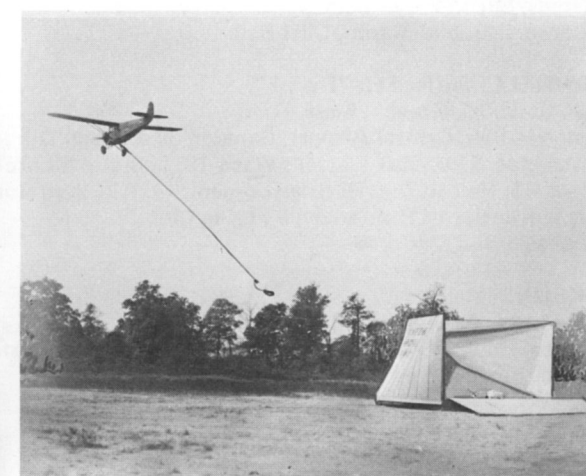
Miss Pittsburgh flies again. Marty Horan is the present owner. On the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the Air Mail, Bill Rhode flew the old route, Pittsburgh—Youngstown—Cleveland with a cache of mail. On hand to see her off were Johnny Evans, who spun the prop; Cliff Ball; Barr Peat, Cliff's early partner; Mrs. Peat; Anna Parker; Bill Rhode and Bobby Parker, first tower operator. Horan is in the cockpit. The plane rests at Cole Palen Museum at Rhinebeck, N.Y.



BOOST AIR MAIL WEEK — Youngstown, Ohio, May, 1927. Window display in McKelvy Department Store. Set up by Mrs. Clifford Ball and Kenny Scholter.



Tex Rankin visits Cliff Ball and his brother, Al, at Bettis Field.



Cliff Ball assisted Dr. Lytle Adams for several years in the development of an Air Mail Pickup system.

# MEET NEW MEMBERS

**BANKS, William N.**  
Roebuck Buildings Co., Inc., Roebuck, S.C.  
Mechanic. Attended Curtiss Wright Flying School, Baltimore, Md., dual instruction and Mechanics' Course specializing on OX5 and Millerized OX5. Barnstormed with flying group as mechanic. Sponsor: Cliff Ball

**BEASLEY, Robert Byron Sr.**  
Bend Route, Lometa, Texas  
Instruction in OX5 Robin, Brownsville, Texas, Clarence D. Green, instructor. Sponsors: Rubye Thompson and L. P. Meyers

**COGHLAN, Gene "Shinny"**  
Box 146, Wasilla, Alaska  
Soloed 1929, Curtiss Canuck, Pasture at St. John, N.D., Floyd Wright, instructor. Barnstormer, and helper to Wright. Sponsor: Floyd Wright

**DeCRESCENZO, Jules**  
986 Wildwood Rd., Oradell, N.J.  
Soloed 1937, Challenger, Mercer Field, Trenton, N.J. N. A. Hortman, instructor. Sponsors: David R. Fox, William H. Engle

**DOERR, Norman B. "Duke"**  
4163 Florida St., Apt. 10, San Diego, Calif.  
Soloed 1930, American Eagle, Ravenswood Airport, Chicago, Warren Malvick, instructor.  
Sponsors: Rex P. Robinson, Walt Bohrer, Bill Heyne

**DUIKER, Marion Arthur "Dike"**  
1974 Collingswood Rd., Columbus, Ohio  
Received flight time on test flights for assisting mechanics and flight line operations, 1928-29, Kent County Airport, Grand Rapids, Mich., Floyd Becker, instructor.  
Sponsors: Bob McComb, Cliff Ball

**DWINELL, Clifford H. "Dwink"**  
224 State St., Granby, Mass.  
Soloed 1935, Central Airport, Camden, N.J., John Dunlop, instructor. Flew Curt Wetzels Waco 10; Scorchy Monroe's Waco 10. Helped Doc Hartranft organize the "Cloud Combers," the University of Pennsylvania Flying Club.  
Sponsor: Bob McComb

**EKLUND, Ralph A.**  
Box 1475, Anchorage, Alaska  
Soloed 1926, DH6, Cleveland, Ohio, Willard Parker, instructor. Barnstormed around Ohio. Sponsor: L. E. Ratcliffe

**ELLINGRUD, Eugene R.**  
206 6th St. S.E., Rugby, N.D.  
Soloed 1932, Velie 65 Monocoupe, Hector Field, Fargo, N.D., Titus Richards, instructor. Barnstormed 1934-38. Taught owner of a Travel Air to fly it. Sponsors: Peter Bryn, Nels Lind

**ERARD, Michael R.**  
13666 Helen, Southgate, Mich.  
Soloed 1926, Waco 9, Flint, Mich., Edward L. Preston, instructor. Flew many OX5 type aircraft.  
Sponsors: Robert N. Baron, C. R. Sinclair

**FINCH, A. William**  
1903 Reynosa Dr., Torrance, Calif.  
Soloed 1929, Waco, Pasture at Globe, Ariz., Ralph Vaughn, instructor. Sponsor: Curt L. Davis

**FISHER, George W. "Smokey"**  
3801 Ridge Rd., W., Rochester, N.Y.  
Soloed 1934, Waco, Rochester, N.Y., Roy Harmon, Duke Zogahor, instructors. Sponsor: Charles L. Messenger

**FISHER, C. E. "Bud"**  
632 S. Cambridge, Schaumburg, Ill.  
Soloed 1935, Waco 10, Valparaiso, Ind., Leslie "Bud" Winder, instructor. Flew and owned above aircraft until it was destroyed by tornado. Sponsors: Herman J. Wilhelmi, J. S. Reynolds

**GARRETT, Monroe H.**  
11-32 Lexington Dr., Los Alamitos, Calif.  
Soloed American Eagle, Causey, N.M., Cleo Stratton, instructor. Sponsor: Cleo S. Stratton

**GARRISON, Marjorie L.**  
213 Driftwood Dr., So. Palm Harbor, Fla.  
Soloed 1931, Travel Air, Birmingham, Ala., Odell Garrison (husband) instructor. First student to solo at Birmingham Municipal Airport. Sponsor: Odell Garrison

**GERALDSON, L.S. "Jerry"**  
53 Goldenrod Ave., Auburn, Calif.  
Soloed 1919, JN4D, near Sacramento, Calif., Clyde E. Pangborn, instructor. Owned several OX5 powered aircraft.  
Sponsors: Victor Frizzi, E. Harvey Morrill

**GILB, Leo V.**  
Walnut Grove, Minn.  
Soloed 1934, K.R. Fairchild, Elmer M. Hifck, instructor. Owned Robin 1934, Claremont, Minn. Sponsors: Don Hansen, Art Noteboom, Tom Tyson

**GILBERT, Robert L. Sr.**  
4258 Dody St., Corpus Christi, Texas  
Mechanic—U.S. Navy Aviation Mechanics School, W.W.I, Pensacola, Fla. 1917-18. Flew with student pilots. Sponsors: A.R. Keethler, Rubye Thompson, J.D. Harrison, Jr.

**GLASS, Michael R.**  
291 Woodland Dr., Brightwaters, N.Y.  
Soloed 1938, Nassau Field, Nassau County, N.Y., Seth Yerrington, instructor. Flew and repaired engines on OX5 aircraft.  
Sponsors: Cliff Abbott, Busch Voigts

**HART, B.G. "Ben"**  
5217 W. 58th St., Mission, Kan.  
Soloed 1924, Laird Swallow, Wichita, Kan., Matty Laird and Walter Beech, instructors. Helped build and learned to fly OX5 Laird Swallows. He and 11 others helped build first Travel Air. Checked out by Beech. Sponsors: C.H. Bruns, Marion Wearth

**KRUGER, Edward J.**  
11695 W. 29th Pl., Lakewood, Colo.  
Aided in repair of engine on Travel Air 2000 in 1929.  
Sponsors: Peter Bryn, Nels A. Lind

**KRUGER, Henry**  
6015 N. Yale St., Portland, Ore.  
Mechanic — Jenny, 1918, World War I,  
Sponsors: Danny Grecco, Lowell F. Moore

**LAMB, George E.**  
Westland, Hoquiam, Wash.  
Student Pilot—Mechanics Helper, Line Boy and Repairman, Waco 10, 1932-35. Flew cross country, Hobert A. Hedrick, instructor. Sponsors: Hobert A. Hedrick, Leroy D. Bixler

**LAZENBY, Owen W. "Mo"**  
Rt. 1, Box 56, Floral City, Fla.  
Soloed 1929, Travel Air, Chattanooga, Tenn., Jersey Ringle, instructor. Owned Travel Air and Swallow. Flew many OX5 aircraft. Sponsors: J. T. Workman, Rupert E. Herr

**MELGOZA, Tony**  
Morelos No. 804, Oaxaca, Oax., Mexico  
Soloed 1930, American Eagle, Richards Field, Kansas City, Mo., Ben Gregory and John Tobiason, instructors.  
Sponsor: Edward Heintz

**MYERS, Philip E. "Ted"**  
3709 Albatross St., San Diego, Calif.  
Soloed 1924, Thomas Morse Scout, Ryan's Field, Dutch Flats, San Diego., Frank Paige, instructor. Sponsors: Rex P. Robinson, Harry H. Haw, Charles T. Briar

**NEWLON, R. J. "Bob"**  
516 W. Colorado Blvd., Dallas, Texas  
Soloed 1921, Jenny, Des Moines, Iowa, Carl Sturges, instructor. Barnstormed in Iowa and Nebraska. Sponsor: Virgil M. Payne, Jr. M.D.

**NOBLE, Warren C. "Slim"**  
P.O. Box 385, Mt. Clemens, Mich.  
Soloed 1928, Waco 10, Haggerty Field, Dearborn, Mich., Leonard S. Flo (Flo Flying Service), instructor. Maintenance for Flo Flying Service 1928. Sponsors: C. Russ K. Johnston, Mabel Laura Johnston

**ORMAND, Reagan D.**  
2112 Greenway, Arlington, Texas  
Taught himself to fly by building and flying gliders, 1929; flew OX5 powered aircraft; purchased Eagle Rock from Ovid F. Pinckert, Sudan, Texas. Sponsors: S.K. Baker, J.W. Marshall

**PALMER, Henry R. Jr.**  
182 Water, Stonington, Conn.  
Took dual instruction, 1929, Charlestown Airport, Charlestown, R.I., K.R. Challenger. Sponsor: Charles L. Messenger

**PANKHURST, Robert Foster**  
4331 W. Trade Winds Ave., Lauderdale by the Sea, Fla.  
Soloed 1923, Curtiss Jenny, Cleveland, Ohio, Cal Johnson, instructor. Sponsors: David H. Courtney, Audley D. Allen

**PATE, Ernest G. "Cootie"**  
534 E. 34th St., Hialeah, Fla.  
Helped barnstormer, Travel Air 2000, prior to Sept. 1929. Worked in return for hops from cow pasture (Georgia). Sponsors: John C. Ray, R. H. Weant

**PHELPS, Robert L.**  
519 Manlo, Wichita, Kan.  
Mechanic, 1923. Worked for Swallow, and for Winstead Bros. Airplane Repair Depot on field that is now Beechcraft. Sponsors: Guy D. Winstead, M. L. Wheeler

**PRESTIA, Art B.**  
6616 Valley View, Parkville, Mo.  
Soloed 1937, Travel Air, Lincoln, Neb. (Arrow Airport), Alva N. White, instructor. Routine maintenance and repair. Sponsors: Leonard Hylton, C.A. Roddy, C.R. McDonald

**PRIDDY, J. Walter III "Jack"**  
5 Beverly Court, Northport, N.Y.  
Soloed 1935, KR Challenger, Rocky Mount, N.C., Robert E. Lee, instructor. Sponsor: Francis L. Wallace

**SIEFFERMAN, Floyd E. "Butch"**  
631 E. College Ave., Decatur, Ga.  
Soloed 1921, Jenny, Cincinnati, Ohio. Flew many OX5 type aircraft. Sponsors: Joseph LeFevre, Mark Britt

**SMITH, Hamilton C. "Ham"**  
77 Glen Ave., Sea Cliff, N.Y.  
Soloed 1931, Waco, Coatesville, Pa., self taught. Flew charters and sightseeing out of Coatesville. Sponsor: Wynn Bradford

**SMITH, Kirby C. "KC"**  
1900 Palm City Road, Stuart, Fla.  
Mechanic 1920-28, Wilson Mueller Flying Service, Orlando, Fla. Engine overhaul, installation, etc. Sponsors: Col. C. R. Leach, A. P. Krueger

**STEINBACH, Karl F. "Doc"**  
Reese Crest, Conyngham, Pa.  
Assisted in overhaul of OX5 Engine and maintenance of OX5 Bird and Waco 10. Aircraft owned by Park Reed and Elmer F. (Bill) James. Sponsors: Jess P. and Kathryn Hackenburg

**THOMAS, Woodrow W.**  
693 Carina Dr., Lompoc, Calif.  
Soloed 1933, Kreider Reisner (Fairchild) OX5 powered, Pensacola, Fla. Flew and was mechanic on Waco 10, KR 21, and Bird. Sold tickets and traveled with Mabel Cody Flying Circus and Les Musgrove Flying Circus. Took part in Amelia Earhart search in 1937. Sponsors: William L. Harshbarger, William J. Norman and Daniel LaLee

**VanALSTYNE, Roy**  
8208 Canyon Rd., Puyallup, Wash.  
Soloed 1927, Jenny, Lake View, Tacoma, Wash., Byron Sandner, instructor. Mechanic and owner, 1927-1941. Sponsors: Arnold J. Cassidy, Ben Barry

**WEBER, Kenneth Charles**  
120 S. Missouri Ave., Belleville, Ill.  
Soloed 1939, Travel Air, Curtiss Steinberg Airport, E. St. Louis, Ill., Ken Hunter, instructor. Sponsor: Lorraine A. Bell

**WEHLER, John**  
Box 1386, Jamestown, N.D.  
Soloed 1932, Jamestown, N.D., Howard Burleson, instructor. Owned Standard, Waco 10, 2 Curtiss Robins; did all maintenance and repair work. Had 11 forced landings first 200 hours. Sponsors: Peter Bryn, Nels A. Lind

**WELLS, Fay Gillis**  
2601 Woodley Pl., Apt. 912, Washington, D.C.  
Soloed 1929, Curtiss Fledgling, Valley Stream, L.I., N.Y. "Sunny" Trunk, instructor. Charter member 99's. Arranged Wiley Post's fuel dumps in Siberia, World Solo Flight 1933. Sponsors: Blanche Noyes, W. Buriel Barclay

**WHITE, Joseph P.**  
4 N. 448 Jo Court, Addison, Ill.  
Student pilot, soloed 1940. Sponsors: Troy Dodd, Glen Courtwright

**WURTZ, James Francis "Red"**  
2616 S. West St., Falls Church, Va.  
Soloed 1931, Pittsburgh-Butler Airport, James T. Rinker, instructor. Flew Eaglerock. Had first ride with Jack Morris at Rogers Field, 1925. Sponsor: Harvey Werling

**ZELUBOWSKI, Bennie D.**  
328 E. Timonium Rd., Timonium, Md.  
Soloed 1928, Travel Air, Teterboro, N.J., Ed Gorski, instructor. Bought, rebuilt, and licensed OX5 American Eagle 1929. Was youngest licensed A&E in country at age 15. Worked at Fokker Aircraft, Teterboro, N.J. Sponsors: Wm. A. Kennedy, John Ganz



## FOLDED WINGS

BRYANT, Harold L.	20 Meadow Drive, Palmyra, N.Y.
BURRINGTON, Walt	11517 30th Place, SW., Seattle, Wash.
CHAPMAN, Carlton D.	2640 NW 118th St., Oklahoma City, Okla.
CRIDER, Paul E.	415 "B" St., Phillipsburg, Kan.
DALY, Vince	P.O. Box 190, Cody, Wyo.
DOYLE, Russell L.	Box 543, Valley Stream, N.Y.
EASLEY, Cliff W.	Route "B", Marietta, Okla.
EVANS, Jay C.	5410 East 2nd St., Tucson, Ariz.
HEINDELL, Howard J.	11059 Califa St., North Hollywood, Cal.
KARSNER, Clark	Monterey, Ky.
LaPOINTE, Bernard A.	35928 Gonja Court, Rockwood, Mich.
LEE, Harold	416 W. Lexington Drive, Glendale, Cal.
LITTLEJOHN, Lake	403 E. Rusk, Marshall, Texas
MacPEAKE, Stanley H.	504 14th NW., Mason City, Iowa
McGEE, Joseph N.	8232 Elgin, Dublin, Cal.
MORRISON, J.D.	55 NW 94th St., Miami, Fla.
NEWHOUSE, Sewell O.	Box 14, Wedderburn, Ore.
POWELL, Lloyd C.	407 Market St., Lemoyne, Pa.
SANBORN, Frank E.	Box 35-A, Algonquin, Ill.
SHERMAN, C.C.	3804 Hollyline Drive, Sherman Oaks, Cal.
SHUTE, Henry T.	3608 SE 7th., Portland, Ore.

## ILLINOIS WING

by Bill Truver



Dan Zervas Nancy Meyer  
Bill "Red Baron" Truver Troy Dodd, President

Last summer while swimming, Nancy Meyer, age 14, lost both legs as a result of a float plane crashing on take off.

An appeal was made to the aviation fraternity for financial assistance and the Illinois Wing responded.

Today, Nancy walks without the aid of a cane, and has learned to ski with artificial limbs. She was a guest at a recent Illinois Wing meeting where she received a standing ovation for her courage and determination.

## WE WILL REMEMBER CLIFF BALL

(Continued from Page 1)

President of the Aero Club of Pittsburgh for more than 30 years. It was through the cooperation and assistance of the Aero Club of Pittsburgh that the OX5 Club was founded.

During WW II, Cliff was Managing Director for Graham Aviation Company of Butler, Clarion, Oil City and Meadville Airports, where 1,400 instructors for military aviation and 7,000 pilots for the Army were trained.

No task was too large nor too small for Cliff, especially if it concerned aviation. His writings, best known as Editor of the OX5 NEWS, were patterned in the style of his old friend Ernie Pyle who formerly sat around the airport writing stories about pilots.

Cliff Ball was honored with distinction on many occasions. In 1965, upon the dedication of the Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics' new \$80,000 headquarters, it became known as the Clifford Ball Academic Building, and Cliff as the "Grand Old Man of Aviation." Cliff's name is in the OX5 Aviation Hall of Fame, which he helped develop and which he cherished.

The numerous phone calls and messages of sympathy received as the news of his death spread across the Nation, are a tribute to the high esteem in which he was held. The wire services carried stories in many of the leading newspapers everywhere.

In memoriam, we can only say there never was a better liked "guy" in aviation than Cliff Ball. He was one of the Nation's most outstanding aviation personalities. His almost continuous smile and his expressions of interest and confidence, will never be forgotten by those of us who knew him well. As one of our members has said: "A giant has been lost."

A fond farewell to our old friend as he wings his way to the West.

## IN APPRECIATION

Many members of the OX5 Club have responded to Mrs. Ball's request that in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to the Club in Cliff's memory. We are tremendously grateful to the following members for their donations in the name of our former National Secretary and for donations to the Club in general:

Byron Beasley, Elaine L. Crider, Ray Hegy, Homer H. Lowe, Byron C. Moore, George Pomeroy, A.A. Speegle, A.B. McMullen, Alford B. Johnson, Michael Murphy, Leonard J. Povey, Jimmie Donahue, Charles Hanna, Cliff Henderson, Roy McLain, John L. Piper, R. V. Trader, Luella D. Sawtelle, C.L. Messenger, Jack Schnaubelt, Edward J. Williams, Karl Ort, James Phillips, Robert Wallace, Edgar T. White, Buri Barclay, Bartle J. Allen, Henry Langer, William H. Cramer, Wm. H. Riley, Kathryn Moore, Rosalind B. Leuschner, W. C. Hearst, Russell Holderman, John J. Bellizia, Elona Kostishack, Vi (Moltrup) Skala, Gordon Thompson, Florida Wing and the Pennsylvania Wing.

# 17th ANNUAL REUNION

NEIL HOUSE – COLUMBUS, OHIO  
THURSDAY – FRIDAY – SATURDAY — SEPTEMBER 14 – 15 – 16, 1972

## ADVANCE REGISTRATION FORM

To: Foster Lane, President  
Ohio Wing, OX5 Club of America  
Port Columbus Airport  
Columbus, Ohio 43219

Date: .....

Please make checks payable to:  
**OHIO WING, OX5 CLUB**

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$..... to cover ..... registrations.

I will attend OHIO FUN NIGHT  
(Thursday, Sept. 14)..... \$ 7.85

I have decided to go for the  
**PACKAGE DEAL**  
(Thurs., Fri. & Sat.)..... **\$23.00**

I will attend the AWARDS DINNERS  
(Fri. & Sat., Sept. 15 & 16)..... \$15.60

(MY NAME AND ADDRESS IS ON REVERSE SIDE)

“BE SURE TO GET YOUR RESERVATION IN EARLY FOR THE 17th ANNUAL REUNION – NEIL HOUSE – COLUMBUS, OHIO, SEPTEMBER 14, 15, 16, 1972,” says Foster Lane, our Host and President of the Ohio Wing.

Ohio Wing members are anxious to meet and greet OX5ers from other parts of the country, to show them how it is done in Ohio.

The fun begins Thursday evening, September 14th with a bus tour and dinner. Bus departure at 5 P.M. from State Capitol Square for German Village, Battelle Research, Ohio State University, a real live OX5 airplane, etc.

**OHIO FUN NIGHT – DINNER – PROGRAM**  
**at Kahiki Polynesian Supper Club**  
**A FUN SPEAKER**  
**\$7.85**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 – 9:00 A.M.**  
Registration Desk opens.  
This will be the Information Center.

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**  
Women's Award Dinner – Banquet Room, Neil House

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**  
Awards and OX5 Club Hall of Fame Dinner  
Induction of 1973 National Officers and new Governors

**THIS PORTION OF THE TAB –**  
Registration, Friday and Saturday  
night banquets.....\$15.60  
Bus Tour and Fun Night  
Dinner Thursday..... 7.85  
\$23.45  
**ALL 3-NIGHT PACKAGE DEAL..... \$23.00**

If you arrive too late to enjoy this feature of the Reunion, the tab has been segregated from the Registration Fee and Awards Dinners Friday and Saturday Nights.

**Send REGISTRATION FORM at top to Foster Lane      Send ROOM RESERVATION FORM below to Neil House**

## OVERNIGHT RESERVATION REQUEST

To: The Neil House Motor Hotel  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Name..... Arrival                      Time A.M. ....  
Address..... Date .....                      P.M. ....  
City..... State..... Departure                      Time A.M. ....  
Date .....                      P.M. ....  
Zip Code .....      OX5 Membership No. ....

**Check Type of Room Desired – CIRCLE RATE PREFERRED**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Room .....	\$12.00	\$14.00	\$16.00	\$18.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Double Room (double bed).....	16.00	18.00	20.00	22.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Twin Bed (two single beds).....	19.00	20.00	21.00	24.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Suites: Parlor and 1 Bedroom....	35.00	45.00	60.00	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Parlor and 2 Bedrooms...	55.00	80.00	125.00	

If requested rate is not available, next higher rate will apply. Reservations held until 6 p.m. Deposit required for arrival after 6 p.m. Rates include FREE PARKING (one car per room) in Neil House Hotel Garage at rear of hotel and also in Statehouse Underground Garage (corridor to Neil House from upper level).



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Return Postage Guaranteed

### WINGS IN BRIEF

**IOWA WING** . . . reminds OX5ers and their guests attending the Antique Aircraft Association Fly-In at Ottumwa that they are cordially invited to the Annual Banquet of the Iowa Wing on Saturday, September 2, at the Red Lyon Inn. Cocktails 6:30 P.M., Dinner 7:30 P.M. Ralph Ransom, in charge of arrangements, requests you register at the OX5 Headquarters at the airport Saturday afternoon.

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WING** . . . still glowing with pride over the success of their Spring Meeting at the Miramer Hotel in Santa Monica. Frank Tallman presented an excellent program on W.W. I aviation.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WING** . . . continues with their regular 2nd Monday of the Month dinner meetings at the Roma Restaurant, Washington, D.C. Blanche Noyes, President, invites all OX5ers visiting in the area on their meeting night to stop by the Roma for dinner.

**OHIO WING** . . . Revving up for the National Reunion, Sept. 14-15-16, Neil House, Columbus. First night of the Reunion will be OHIO NIGHT, a fun night for Ohio members and guests who arrive early for the reunion.

**OKLAHOMA WING** . . . Al Young, Secretary, reports a successful meeting on June 2 at the Holiday Inn. Norman Orloff and Martin Casey were elected to the Wing Board.

## Coming Events

### **AUGUST 26 – PENNSYLVANIA WING**

17th Annual Dinner Meeting, Penny Hill Airport, Williamsport, Pa.

### **SEPT. 2 – IOWA WING**

Annual Dinner, Red Lyon Inn, Ottumwa in conjunction with AAA Fly-In

### **SEPT. 14–15–16**

**NATIONAL REUNION  
OX5 CLUB OF AMERICA  
Neil House, Columbus, Ohio**

### **SEPT. 30 – WASHINGTON WING**

Dinner Meeting, Saturday, Poodle Dog Restaurant, Seattle

### **OCT. 6–7 – NEW YORK WING**

Aero Historians Conference  
Perkins Hotel, Riverside, N.Y.

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2nd Monday of the Month, **WASHINGTON, D.C. WING** Dinner Meeting, Roma Restaurant

3rd Saturdays, odd numbered months –  
**OREGON WING** dinner meetings

### **NOTICE TO MEMBERS**

As at this time, the National Board of Governors is considering a revision in cost and types of life memberships, and as a final determination in this regard cannot be reached until our Annual Meeting at Columbus, Ohio, in September, please be advised that effective September 15, 1972, a moratorium will be in effect on the issuance of life memberships. On that date and until further notice, life memberships will not be available.