



OX5 NEWS

Celebrating 65 Years: 1955 - 2020



Volume 63 - Number 3

December 2020

Social Distancing Continues

Published for and by the Members of the OX5 Aviation Pioneers

Editor - Don Voland

(Our President, Rich Wilbur, has a web site <http://wilburswacore Restoration.com/> and we have been featuring a portion of his information in the OX5 Newsletters in each publication. In this issue we will be featuring additional information about the Waco Restoration Project. We hope that you will find this interesting reading.)

Wilbur's Waco Restoration The Anna Project - It'll be done on Thursday!



This is the final installment of the Wilbur Restoration Project. It is important to include the progress on the engine overhaul and rebuilding. Included are many pictures of this process. I hope that you will find this interesting.

Rich Wilbur - Dreaming!

(Picture Credits - Steve Hennessy)



The Wilbur Restoration Project - Continued



The Ohio Engine



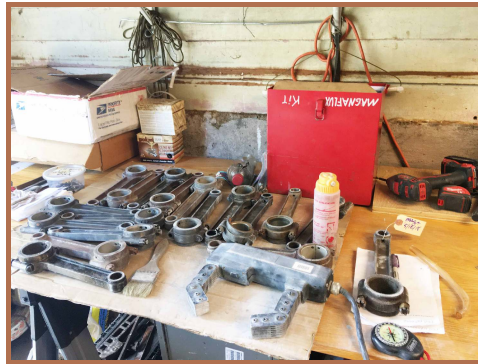
Disassemble And Clean



Disassemble And Clean



Clean And Inspect The Case



**Connecting Rod Inspection - New
Bolts - New Babbitt**



Old And New



**Connecting Rod Inspection -
New Bolts - New Babbitt**



Ship to KC For Babbitt



**Crank Main Cap Matching
Game**

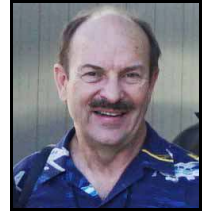


Message From The Officers



President's Message:

Greetings OX5ers! I hope once again that this newsletter finds everyone healthy as this Pandemic year has come to an end. I am sure that everyone looks forward to some kind of normal in 2021. I am excited for the prospect of having Sun n Fun and EAA AirVenture. I know that everyone missed it as much as I did.



The restoration progress is never what we think or hope it will be. I have made progress. The engine crankcase will be shipped back to my good friend Steve Hennessy along with the connecting rods as the rebabbiting is now complete. Assembly of the crankcase is the next part of the overhaul. Steve is currently assessing which of our 24 cylinders to use.

We are in the planning stages of our 2021 annual National meeting. We will be having it in Anchorage, AK as was planned for 2020. The dates will be confirmed soon. I am proposing that we have it August 13-15. Please feel free to contact me with any concerns over the selection of the dates of the annual meeting.

Please stay safe and healthy as we await the distribution of the vaccine.

Rich Wilbur
National OX5 President
719-439-8088
waconine@yahoo.com

Treasurer's Message:

Happy New Year All! I feel like I have been out of touch with the world and am looking forward to 2021 and re-connecting with everyone. I experienced some Zoom meetings –amazing but just not the same. I am still learning the art of the drive-thru and have extra masks in every vehicle. Holidays were drive-bys to drop off food and presents. I am wondering what the new “normal” is going to be.



Big highlight in late September was my visit to the Nicholas-Beazley Aviation Museum located on the airport in Marshall, Missouri- easy to get to - just north of I-70 – definitely worth the stop !! I was lucky enough to get special tour with Bryan Berlin who shared much of the local lore.

After returning from World War I, Russell Nicholas started Central Aviation Company reselling surplus propellers purchased from the government. The company name changed to Nicholas-Beazley Airplane Company after Howard Beazley became partner about 1921. They purchased many OX5 surplus engines (some in original crates) from the government and sold both engines and parts and started a highly desired supply catalogue.

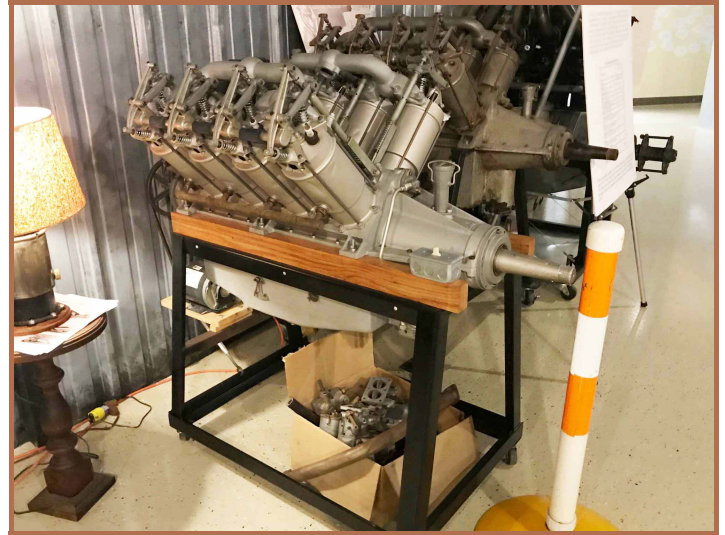
They started a school March 6, 1924 with Jennies and taught flying, barnstorming, parachute jumping, maintenance, and welding among other courses. They built the Barling NB-3 in 1929 – a three person plane used for training and tour flights.

Of course of special interest is the OX5 engine display. Flip a switch on one engine and it runs. The other engine is missing some parts and awaiting some restoration. Of course I don't know which parts are missing, but their e-mail is mccnbam@mmuonline.net if any member wants to offer a hand.

Message From The Officers - Continued

Last but not least – time to renew your dues and make donations for 2021. You can pay with check or use PayPal on the website. Thank you for all your support.

I had a couple of pictures of the Nicholas-Beazley museum- not very clear though - Patty



Patty Wagner
National OX5 Treasurer:
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Secretary's Message:

Greetings OX5 Members:

I hope that this finds you healthy and thinking positive. My family has been doing okay on the health issues up to this point. The **2020 National OX5 Aviation Pioneers Membership Meeting Minutes** can be found later in this Newsletter. As of January 1, 2021, National Governor Nicole Azzaro will assume the duties as the OX5 Newsletter Editor. Please send all Newsletter information to her at 13635 Brandi Dawn Drive, Lakeland, FL 33809 Phone 813-928-9326.



The Wisconsin Wing is looking forward to attending local aviation functions again this coming season and to be able to run our OX5 demonstration engine. It always gathers a crowd of spectators. It is sitting in my hangar ready to go.

Keep watching for updated news regarding the National Reunion, Sun-n-Fun, and AirVenture. We hope that we will be turning the corner on the Pandemic Issue before another season passes us by. Happy New Year and I wish you Great Memories.

Don Volland
National OX5 Secretary
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aerooptics@aerooptics.com



Wing Struts



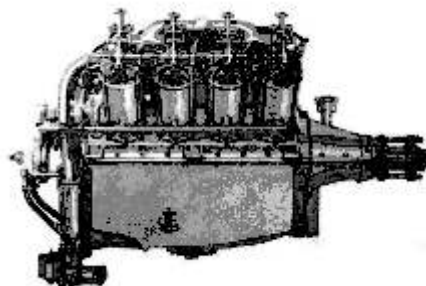
Kansas Wing: Harold Walter included the following article in their September 2020 Kansas News.

OX-5 and OXX-6 Aircraft Engines

By Jay McLeod

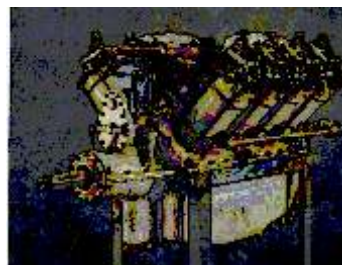
Among the most successful early aircraft engines marketed in the United States were those designed and built by aviation pioneer and inventor Glenn Curtiss. Early Curtiss engines were designed to power motorcycles which consumed his interest initially. Dissatisfied with the performance of engines designed by others, Curtiss started his own company in 1902. Development of motorcycles led to his January 1907 world record speed of 136.36 mph at Ormand Beach, FL making him the fastest man on earth for the next seven years.

The first Curtiss aircraft engine was a 5 hp modified motorcycle engine used to power the first successful dirigible in 1904. Early Curtiss aircraft engines evolved from his air cooled V-twin motorcycle units which were enlarged by bolting the V-twin units together eventually becoming a V-8 cylinder engine appearing in 1906. These engines continued to be refined using cast iron pistons and cylinder barrels. This configuration developed over heating problems on all but the shortest flights. By 1908 the engines became large enough so that air cooling gave way to water cooling. The OX-5 version first became available in 1915 during WWI. The engine served in training aircraft primarily the Curtiss JN-4 and the J-1 Standard through the war. The engines were continued in production through 1918 and 1919. During the decade that followed the war, the OX-5 powered a veritable explosion of Commercial general aviation aircraft producing 90 hp at 1400 rpm, providing a substantial cost advantage as war surplus.



Curtiss OX-5 Engine

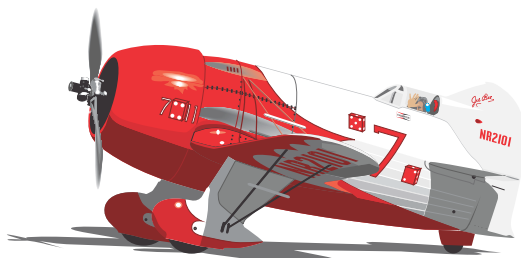
The O-XX-6 engine was an improved version of the OX-5. The principal improvements were ignition system reliability with the addition of a second magneto and two spark plugs per cylinder. The cylinder bore was increased from 4.0 to 4.25 inches. These changes resulted in an increase of 10 bhp



Curtiss O-XX6 Engine

The improved dependability and marginal increase in power output expanded the application of the OXX-6 to include US Navy N9 training aircraft a floatplane version of the Curtiss JN-4 as deployed during WWI, and other commercial aircraft.

Note: photos are from Jay McLeod.

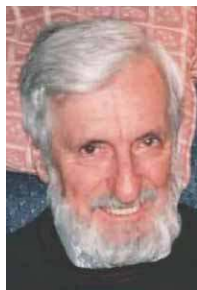




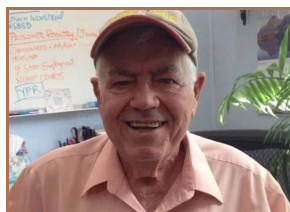
Flown West



It has been reported that the following members have Flown West:



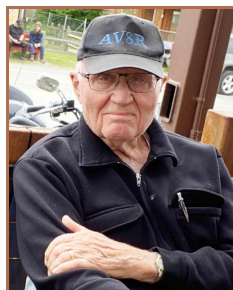
Donald A. "Doc" Mosher - OX5 Member Number 13715, Wisconsin Wing, flew west in October 2020. Born in Elmira, New York, he accomplished many admirable successes in aviation. He not only piloted gliders, sailplanes, and homebuilts, but also Pietenpols, turboprops and jets. He was a certified mechanic and FAA IA Inspector at the same time. Doc was one of the few people to be awarded the FAA Wright Brothers "Master Pilot Award" with over 30,000 hours of safe flying as well as the FAA Charles Taylor "Master Mechanic Award" for exercising his A&P for more than 50 years. Doc once said, "I was so fortunate to have been a part of the Golden Age of Aviation which took place after WWII when the skies opened up to corporate and private aviation."



Chuck Sassara - OX5 Member Number 23161, Alaska Wing, flew west in 2020.

Chuck Sassara served in the Alaska State House of Representatives from 1965 to 1970. Sassara and his wife Ann came to Alaska in 1955 from California, where he had graduated from UCLA. Sassara was a pilot, a mariner, business owner, and author. In 2015, he wrote "Propellers, Politics & People," memoirs of his life and adventures in Alaska, which can be found at Amazon.

"A master of aviation, an honorable legislator, a cherished and selfless husband, father, grandfather, and friend—Chuck Sassara was larger than life itself. His desire to serve others was a driving quality, one that set him apart from the rest. In his role as an Alaska State Representative, Chuck was a key proponent in pivotal legislation which shaped Alaska into what it is today," said Gov. Mike Dunleavy. "Rose and I extend our deepest sympathies to the Sassara family in their time of grieving."



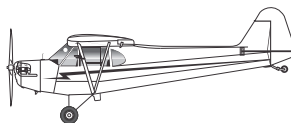
Jim C. Walton - OX5 Member Number 23151, Alaska Wing, flew west on Aug. 2, 2020.

This is the last known photo of my dad. Jim C. Walton passed away from complications of Covid 19. He was a couple months shy of 90. Whilst taking care of his estate, I received your newsletter. Your story on Fred Miller was special since dad passed here in Alaska. Keep up the good work. - Jimmy K. Walton.

Robert P. Grimis - OX5 Life Member Number L20655, Nantucket/New England, flew west in 2020.

Alvan Markle III - OX5 Member Number 20249, Pennsylvania Wing, flew west on May 29, 2020, my father died two weeks shy of his 102nd birthday. - Alvan Markle IV.

Carroll Rands - OX5 Member Number 22658, Wisconsin Wing, flew west on January 1, 2021. Carroll was a good friend and neighbor to me for many years at our Airpark - Air Troy Estates. He was retired from the USAF as an airplane pilot and helicopter pilot. He served in the Vietnam War as a helicopter pilot and was awarded the FAA Master Pilot Award. I will miss my good friend. - Don Voland - Editor.





OX5 AVIATION PIONEERS

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Colorado Springs, CO 80924
Richard Wilbur, President

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Patty Wagner, Treasurer

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N8680 Stone School Road
East Troy, Wisconsin 53120-2334
Donald Voland, Secretary

2020 National OX5 Aviation Pioneers Membership Meeting Minutes

Virtual Meeting - October 10, 2020 - 3:00 PM Eastern Time

We had a good group participating in the Virtual Meeting.

President's Report:

The financial health of the Organization remains good including our investments.

The National OX5 Organization is moving forward without difficulty during these challenging times. Rich Wilbur gave us all an update on his OX5 powered Restoration Project.

The scholarship program has been very successful and will be continuing for the 2021 season. Application forms were included in the last OX5 Newsletter as well as on the OX5 web site.

The President discussed removing some of the workload from the OX5 Secretary and Nicole Azzaro, National Governor, agreed to take over the OX5 National Newsletter as of January 1, 2021. The OX5 Secretary will continue to assist here with the email and US mail files. All OX5 Newsletter information should be directed to Nicole Azzaro after January 1, 2021.

Secretary's Report:

The Secretary briefed the Board Members on the various mailings both email and US mail that are generated from the Secretary's office throughout the year just to keep the National Organization moving forward.

1. Regular Members Dues renewal notice in the December OX5 Newsletter.
2. Life Members annual Membership Card in December - Donations come from the Life Members.
3. Regular Members annual Membership Card as their dues are paid.
4. Regular Members Dues reminder letter in January for Members who have not paid their annual dues.
5. Final Regular Members Dues reminder letter in March for Members who have not paid their annual dues.

All US mailings are first class so that we get the letters returned if they are not delivered. That along with the email bounces are how we are able to keep our Master Membership list up to date. The Secretary is the one who wrote the WordPerfect programs that are used in printing the Annual Membership Cards and the US mail envelope merge printings. It is highly recommended that someone else besides the Secretary get familiar with these programs if the situation would develop that he could no longer get these mailings sent out.

A discussion followed and the President suggested that possibly the younger generation Board Members could come up with suggestions of how to streamline the system. The problem is that we have 233 members on the US Postal mailing list including two in Canada and 135 on the email list. I know that the Life Members appreciate their annual membership cards and the Regular Members also have indicated an appreciation for the professional looking membership cards.

Membership Minutes - Continued

It was just announced that US Postal rates will increase again and that will certainly increase our expenses to annually process each member. The Secretary is using his business Xerox color printer to produce the quality print material that are being sent out at basic supply costs to the National OX5 Organization. This is something that needs to be considered if we establish an OX5 office to cover the duties of the Secretary.

Treasurer's Report:

The IRS return was filed in May and the Pennsylvania charitable return was filed in June - paid and in good standing through November 2021. The Directors insurance was also paid through November 2021.

The option to pay dues or join as a new member is functioning well through PayPal. We still welcome your payment via check for a new member, membership dues, and donations. Once the Treasurer receives the payment, it is updated on the Master Membership list (excel file) and transmitted to the Secretary for processing.

Patty Wagner gave an accounting of the various financial support payments to winners through the OX5 Scholarship Program for aviation educational studies. Many of the recipients have been featured in past OX5 Newsletters.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

The 2021 OX5 Reunion was discussed and the Board Of Directors decided to try again to hold it in Anchorage Alaska. Dates and schedule to be decided.

Sam Meek, Dennis Yerkey, and Don Voland have agreed each to serve another term as a National Governor. The Board Of Directors approved this recommendation to the General Membership Meeting. The motion was made, seconded, and approved by the General Membership in their meeting. The Board Of Directors approved President Rich Wilbur to serve the second year of a three year term.

Meeting Adjourned:



Don Voland, National OX5 Secretary





Membership Renewal Time



Our Life Members are exempt from paying annual dues but many of them as well as Regular Members like to give a donation to help support our outreach initiative.

Regular Members may renew *online* or by using the *form below*. We are now combining family membership listings on our master membership list. As a result of this change, you are expected to **send only one membership dues amount** for the combined listing as a family membership. The husband's membership number will be shown along with both the names of the husband and wife on the membership card. If a duplicate card is desired for the wife, we will be happy to provide that upon request. This will allow the electronic handling of the master membership list to function more smoothly. Only one hard copy of the Newsletter will be sent to each family membership listing. Hard copy Newsletters have only the front and back pages printed in color due to the cost. Email Newsletters are sent with all pages in color.

Mail the **completed** form below along with a check if appropriate to:
OX5 Aviation Pioneers, PO Box 769, Troy, Ohio 45373

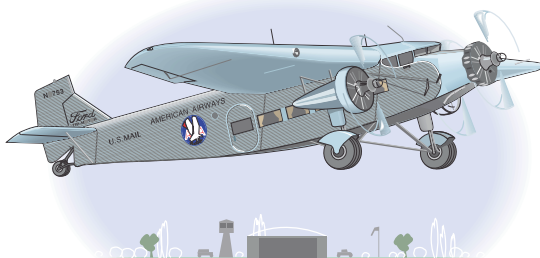
✂✂✂✂ Cut On Line ----- Cut On Line ✂✂✂✂

G Check This Box To Have Your Newsletter Sent Via Email

<i>PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS HERE</i>	
Name _____	
Street _____ _____	
City _____	
State _____	Zip _____
OX5 Membership Number If Known _____	
Email _____	
Home Phone _____	
Cell Phone _____	

Dues Renewal	\$ 30.00
(Your Next Membership Year Is Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2021)	
My donation is	_____
Total Enclosed	\$ _____

Web Site: www.ox5.org



OX5 Aviation Pioneers
P. O. Box 769
Troy, OH 45373



Web Site: www.ox5.org

Attention Regular OX5 Members - Dues Renewal Time - The annual dues year starts January 1, 2021 and extends to December 31, 2021. Regular Members who have not paid their dues by April 1, 2021 will be considered as "not in good standing". Regular Members who have not paid their dues for the past two years will be removed from the Master Membership List.