



# OX5 NEWS



Celebrating 58 Years: 1955-2013

Volume 56 - Number 1

February 2014

*Published for and by the Members of the OX5 Aviation Pioneers*  
Web Site – [www.ox5.org](http://www.ox5.org)

## Al Vollmecke, OX5 Hall of Fame Member & Bob Lock, Aviation Pioneer

### The Command Aire Story

The Command Aire was built by the Arkansas Airplane Company that was located in Little Rock and proved to be one of the best OX5 powered aircraft of its day. Of the nearly 200 aircraft produced, most Command Aires were powered by the OX5 engines. The outstanding performance was the cause of many the aircraft to be converted to crop-dusters due to their load carrying ability.



And see the rare *Command Aire* that Al designed and Bob Restored.

Of the five that remain today, Bob Lock's is the only one flying today.

**For additional information, please visit the OX5. Com website.**



## Meet and Greet the New Members!

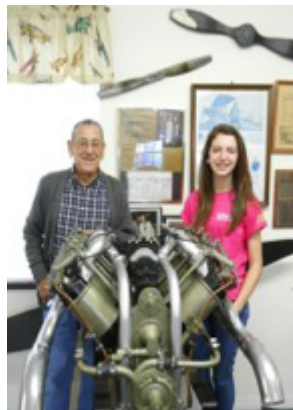
### **Welcome to Sylvia Buehl Elliman from California and daughter Rosanna Buehl from Montana!**

Rosanna's grandfather (Sylvia's father) joined the OX-5 Club on August 27, 1955 at the first organizational meeting at Latrobe Airport. Ernie Buehl was known as "the Flying Dutchman" and ran Somerton Airport. Sylvia has fond memories of flying with her father in his Fairchild KR-31 Challenger C-2 many times as a child. She is also a pilot herself, going against her mother's wishes who thought, "it was unseemly for a woman to be at an airport with 'all those men'". Ernie chaired a committee of the Pennsylvania Wing in 1973 to insure the perpetuation of the OX-5 Club. The club meant a great deal to Ernie and Sylvia and Rosanna wish to join to honor Ernie's memory.

Meet Brian Richardson from the Finger Lakes Region of New York. He is interested in learning more about OX-5 history and manufacturing of the engine and how the engine was used.

Stanley Myers is from Missouri whose hometown of Memphis has recently acquired an OX-5 powered Pheasant H-10 biplane manufactured in Memphis in 1928. He says that there are only 3 surviving examples out of a total of 37 that were built. He is an A & P and a member of the committee in charge of operation and maintenance of the Pheasant. He is interested in learning all he can about the OX-5 engine. He is a pilot and has owned several planes which now includes an Aeronca 7AC Champ and a Ford Model A powered Pietenpol project. Good luck with the Pheasant and welcome to OX-5 Aviation Pioneers!

### **Welcome Gianna Azzaro – Youngest Member of OX5 Aviation Pioneers**



Gianna has been sponsored by the MidWest Florida Wing at Summer Aviation Camps for the past two years. She hopes to attend Central Florida Aerospace Academy this Fall. She is pictured with her mentor Dean Tinton.

**Welcome back to Bob Lock of Florida** and thank you for historical information about the Arkansas Aircraft Company and Command-Aire Incorporated! Rob has also given OX-5 Aviation Pioneers a 6-part series on Mr. Albert Vollmecke who is part of the OX-5 Hall of Fame. Mr. Vollmecke was the Chief Designer for Command-Aire, Incorporated. Thanks again for this wonderful information!

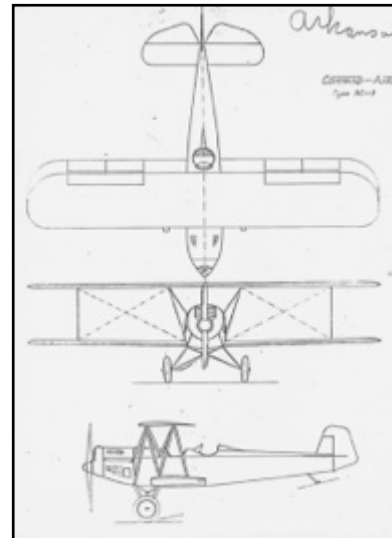




**Meet Tom Robinson,  
WWII Hump-Pilot  
... Hometown: Anderson, Indiana**

The first four-engine aircraft Tom Robinson ever flew was the tanker version of the B-24, the C-109. It was this unpressurized, unheated airplane he flew over the treacherous Himalaya Mountains, "The Hump,"

The B-29s that were tasked with bombing Japan could not make the trip from some of their Pacific and Philippine bases unrefueled. Tom delivered the vital 120 octane for these lethal giants, 4,000 gallons at a time. From Shanshargar or Daggar in India, Tom and his C-109 made 72 nine-hour round trips to Chentu, Kunming, and Lulang, the fields in China that serviced the massive 29s. After accruing the magic number 700 hours over icy wastelands, Tom spent the remainder of his over-seas duty time flying military cargo missions throughout India. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal for his skill and bravery.



Bob Lock

## *Messages from the Officers*

### **President's Corner**

Every OX5 member shares a responsibility for identifying and inviting prospective members to join an OX5 wing. The organization's future growth depends on the fulfillment of that responsibility. New members provide willing hands for service and fundraising and bring with them innovative idea, new outlooks and new enthusiasm that will make your wing grow.

As OX5 members, we must also be recruiters, identifying prospects, communicating the benefits of joining and then helping them become satisfied members who contribute to the club.

So, how do we get started? **GET OUT A PENCIL**

Make a list of the people in your aviation community who you believe would be strong candidates for membership. Think about your business associates, neighbors and people from other activities. What about people you socialize with?

Before approaching candidates, make sure you are ready to give a good, convincing pitch about the benefits of membership. You will need to be armed with information that will help you sell the OX5.

### **HERE ARE A FEW POINTS TO SHARE.**

Emphasize that as a member you can:

a       Belong to one of the oldest aviation clubs in the world with an

b       Share the camaraderie of aviation people  
c       Meet interesting flyers  
d       Learn interesting historic stories  
e       Participate and display at air shows  
d       Contribute to scholarships and projects  
e       Receive a quarterly newsletter  
f       Attend the annual Reunion/Board Meeting  
g       Share the prestige of belonging to a worldwide organization.  
h       Friendship and fellowship with men and woman to share your interest in aviation.  
i       Avail yourself of our excellent website.

### **MAKING YOUR POINT AND CLOSING THE SALE**

Now you are ready to approach prospects.

After briefing them on the values of membership, invite them to a meeting so they can see the club in action. Give them a newsletter and make them feel at home by introducing them to all members.

Give them a little background on the topic to be discussed and the meeting format. Don't be afraid to get the prospects involved. If they feel useful and included, they may be more willing to join.

**Please share the enclosed OX5 Brochure with a prospective member.**

James Beisner, President

### **Secretary's Letter**

Greetings OX5 Members:

I am looking forward to having more free time in the near future as my winter work decreases in my personal aviation business. For my first OX5 project I plan to start sending out the mailing that will include your annual membership card. I believe you will like the new system that includes the currency date printed on the card. We are making good progress in our overall management team program and appreciate your patience. Many of us have been blessed with a very cold winter season this year with an abundance of snow and ice. A good activity is to find a warm corner to visit with friends and relive aviation history. The price is right and each time you tell the story, it gets better!

Best wishes,

Don Voland

National OX5 Secretary

*Please help make the newsletter informative and send articles to your editor. Send all Wing news, reports, and information content to : **N K Francis***

**[OX5NEWS@ymail.com](mailto:OX5NEWS@ymail.com)**

*Mail Attn: N K Francis,  
Newsletter Editor*

**OX5 Aviation Pioneers**

**PO Box 769**

**Troy, Ohio 45373**

### **Treasurer's Letter**

Greetings to All and Happy New Year! I hope this message finds you well and the New Year begins many blessings to each and every one of you. I am really enjoying getting to know the members of this wonderful organization which is so rich in aviation history! Remember to send in your membership dues so that we can continue this important aviation heritage.

Anyone that is interested in helping to interview members about their OX-5 memories, please contact me at: OX-5 Aviation Pioneers

P O Box 769

Troy, OH 45373

Or [JBarnardOX5@gmail.com](mailto:JBarnardOX5@gmail.com)

Enjoy your New Year and I look forward to hearing from you,  
Janet



*Please remember to send your \$30 dues check to:*

*OX5 Aviation Pioneers*

*PO BOX 769*

*Troy, OH 45373*



## Donation List

Carol Osborne  
Ray Stits  
John (Bud) Walters  
Roy Stuart  
Dolores Cassidy  
Carroll Rands  
Charles Heide  
Sophie Schaarschmidt  
James Maple  
Gumard Rubini  
Kenneth Friesleben  
Charles Moore  
Dennis & Pat Griswold  
Norman Brush  
John Betts



**Notice:** Any member that would like the OX5 Newsletter sent by email; please notify Secretary Don Voland ([aerooptics@aerooptics.com](mailto:aerooptics@aerooptics.com)) of your preference.

Check out the  
Web Site – [www.ox5.org](http://www.ox5.org)

## **Folded Wings**

Travers David Stultz, had been a proud member of the OX5 Aviation Pioneers for many years. He passed away 9/16/13.



# Wing Struts



The attached picture was taken of us yesterday (1/10/2014) in Western Wisconsin while we were flying the WI DNR Deer Survey. I have flown over 22 hours this week in temperatures of -27 degrees C on two of the four flight days. The weather turned sour today and that is why I got to come home for a few days.

Best wishes.

Don

--

Aero Optics, Inc.  
N8680 Stone School Road  
East Troy, Wisconsin 53120-2334  
262-642-3115  
[aerooptics@aerooptics.com](mailto:aerooptics@aerooptics.com)



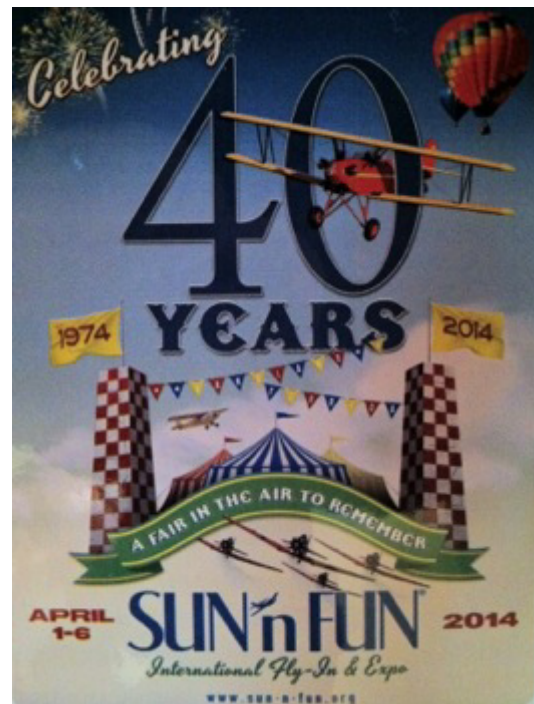
## Texas Wing

Our new Texas Wing President, Cade Woodward, at age 26, may be the youngest Wing President in the entire OX5 organization. In his President's Message, he promotes an invitation to Texas Wing members and their guests to a meeting next April in the Big Bend Country.

When we held the last Wing meeting in Alpine, in 2002, Cade was my 14 year-old student pilot. Now he is a commercial pilot, a flight instructor, and has taken over my tracking work with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and other agencies. Cade has exactly the thing the aging OX5 organization needs --- enthusiasm.

George Vose,

Editor/ Secretary Texas Wing



Return Address:  
**OX5 AVIATION PIONEERS**  
**PO BOX 769**  
**Troy, Ohio 45373**



Web Site – [www.ox5.org](http://www.ox5.org)

## **Meet Your OX5 Planning Committee For 2014 Sun-N-Fun !**



L-R Jim Beisner, Joe Azzaro, Nicole Azzaro, Dean Tilton, Gianna Azzaro, Brenda Jones, Meek, Evelyn Latorre, Wayne Gordon, (not pictured Christine Tilton)