



OX5 NEWS

Celebrating 65 Years: 1955 - 2020



Volume 63 - Number 1

May 2020

Social Distancing

Aviation Activities In A Holding Pattern For 2020

Published for and by the Members of the OX5 Aviation Pioneers

Editor - Don Voland
Web Site - www.ox5.org

Commentary By The Editor

Where do I start for this Newsletter? I hope that this finds all of our Members and Friends healthy and safe as a result of the World Crisis Pandemic. Early on, the OX5 Board Of Directors decided to cancel our Annual Reunion in Anchorage, AK due to the concern for the health of our Members. Sun-n-Fun for this year was first postponed and then cancelled. As of the first of May, EAA cancelled AirVenture for this year as well. Much of our Newsletter information normally comes out of these three events. We will press on and do the best possible under the present circumstances.



Wilbur's Waco Restoration The Anna

**Progress Report
May 8, 2020**



Wilbur's Waco Restoration - Continued

(Our President, Rich Wilbur, has a web site <http://wilburswacorestoration.com/> and we will be featuring a portion of his information in the OX5 Newsletters in each publication. We hope that you will find this interesting.)

My Inspiration

My Dad

My inspiration to restore the Anna came from my Dad, Joe Wilbur. Born to a prominent and successful farmer and businessman of Arizona, Dad came from the sort who pioneered the southwest. Where Greatness was measured in a man by what he'd accomplished rather than what he might say or who he might be. Like his father before him, Dad always considered that anything was possible if you applied yourself and didn't allow the difficulties or challenges encountered to dissuade you from persevering. There was always a way to do what needed to be done and just because you may not have figured out what that was, didn't mean you wouldn't, unless you quit trying. While I am not sure exactly when or how Dad caught the flying bug, I do know he never got over it. We do remember stories of Piper J-3 Cubs and a Globe Swift in Arizona after the war, an airport that is now a residential neighborhood south of town and a Flight School full of GI Bill students. Dad was the kind of dreamer that doesn't come around that often. He realized his dreams the old fashioned way. Hard work and determination bound tightly with more patience than we've seen in any other man.

Dreams

- If an old school bus were converted into a camper with room for storage, he could move his belongings to Alaska and have a home for his family on a homestead out by Campbell Station, (now Arctic Boulevard) in Anchorage, AK while he built a small house for them to live in
- If an old converted school bus got some modification, like a big door in the side, it could be a mobile shop to start his own business out of when he wasn't on the clock at the Airline
- If an old travel trailer had the same big door to fit an engine of a Piper Super Cub or wing tip, he could un-hook his pick-up to go get parts without having to move the plane from his mobile shop
- If a J-3 Cub had a balanced elevator it would have better control at low airspeed like a Piper Super Cub. So Joe submitted the necessary documents to the FAA and received a Supplemental Type Certificate for the alteration so that Piper J-3 Cub, PA-11 Cub and PA-18-90 Cub owners could enjoy the improved performance.
- If a set of Piper Super Cub gear were bolted up to the lower fuselage tubing made from 4130 Chrome Alloy Steel one size larger than a cub's standard fuselage tubing, he could clamp up a set of temporary gear to ferry the Cub back to town to repair
- If a Super Cub had another set of fuel tanks, one on each wing outboard of the standard tanks, then the Polar Bear guides and outfitters could fly twice as long without having to land on the ice-pack and refuel at half as many fuel caches on the ice-pack, always a risky affair. Again, un-daunted by the enormity of the task at hand, another STC is approved by the FAA.
- If a Super Cub had a third seat, a Hunting Guide and Outfitter could ferry two at a time from the base camp to the hunting ground and have more daylight for hunting and guiding and less time flying. Joe also received STC approval from the FAA for a third seat modification.
- If a Maule M4-145, designed as an economical family cross country airplane was equipped with a two position propeller and larger wheels and tires, it could also be a fair Soft and/or Short Field Performance (STOL) aircraft. So, Dad arrives at Merrill Field with a brand new bird with a two position propeller, big tires and the first Maule Dealership in Alaska.
- If he used the Maule to land between the buildings at Whittier and fly the pass to Portage then have Al Mowry (one of his pilots) fly the Stinson or Pacer between Merrill and Portage he could move twice as many stevedores (also known as longshoremen) to town and back for their days off. The summer of 1964 saw Dad fly over 900 missions after the earthquake. For a time, Whittier was the only open port Alaska had.
- If, the flight testing requirements of an STC for Floats on the Maule was done in the winter in Anchorage, AK,

Wilbur's Waco Restoration - Continued

I recall there is some of that there, it could be done on a lake covered with snow just as nicely as one that was wet and rainy...and come spring a new Float plane enters the market.

- If a guy wanted to land on a snow covered lake in the winter one day and a plowed and sanded runway the next, a set of quick-change Skis would sure save a lot of time and effort. Hence, the Wilbur Tire Cushion Ski STC Approval

- If...the list would take hours to only share a part of what Dad accomplished in his aviation career.

Dad was a great father, a great mentor, a great friend, a great man who gave more than his share, and for all that, I can't recall him getting angry, except at me when I pulled some hair brained stunt or worse. You could always count on a smile and a warm reception with Dad. The strength of his heart shone brightly in his eyes and he spread it liberally on all he came in contact with. His "keep trying until you get it right" way of going about doing things, spilled over on most of those he came in contact with. Dad didn't talk much about "getting it done." He was all about doing it and moving on to the next thing to be done. Dad is one of the last of Alaskan Pioneer Aviators to close out his last flight plan. He completed Commercial Flight training in 1959 the summer of Alaska Statehood. He went on to earn a Certified Instrument Flight Instructor Rating and Multi-Engine Instrument Rating and then he came down with that dreaded "swing-wing bug." He flew several models of helicopters, Brantley's, Bells, Fairchild Hiller and even a Hughes 500. There was fish counting and Gold Mine grocery runs, surveyors to drop on mountain tops and communication repeater site generators to refuel. There were reindeer to herd and satellite dishes to be re-aligned, downed aircraft to retrieve from sandbars and beaches, to name only a few of his expeditions.

And then there were sons and daughters to raise, Steve, Anna, Rich, Ken, Meg, Paul and Bruce, seven in all. We all were immersed in and a part of Dad's dream day in and day out. His girls were pumping gas and scrubbing bellies of the airplanes right alongside the boys. And it seemed that if you were big enough it didn't matter how old you were. Dad would set you to doing what needed doing, answer your questions with "now you try it" and leave you to it. Dad's confidence in the abilities of his kids and a trust that we would get it right fostered in us the same independent pioneer spirit his father had given to him. So with the spirit instilled in us by my dad I decided to finish my brother Bruce's final project, The restoration of the Anna. Bruce had recently completed a restoration of a World War II Stinson L5 Bird dog. Bruce was never able to complete the Anna project as he was killed in a plane crash while working as a mechanic for Wilbur's Flight Operations in 1988.

Waco In Progress Photos



Rib building station in Colorado Springs, CO

Wilbur's Waco Restoration - Continued



My father-in-law Allan Thomas & I in Ludlow, IL



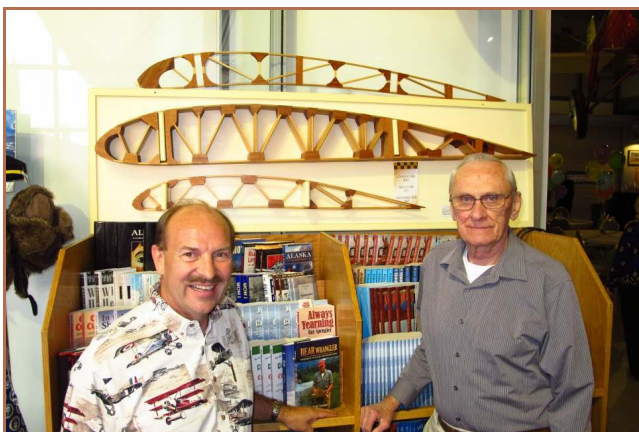
Building ribs in Louisa, VA at Dennis Harbin's workshop



Jeanne, building a rib.



Fuselage in Ludlow, IL



Mitch & I at the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum in Anchorage.



Steaming wood for rib production.

(More information in the next Newsletter)



Message From The Officers



President's Message:

Hello from your President. I was very disappointed that we had to cancel the Anchorage, AK Annual Meeting. I hope everyone is staying healthy in these trying times. The good news is that I have been able to accomplish a lot on my Waco Nine. The two upper wings are ready for fabric and I have started assembling the bottom wings. I hope to have the Waco fully assembled without fabric by the end of the year. My OX5 engine is still in overhaul with Steve Hennessy in Vancouver, WA. The camshaft has been chromed and reground to new specifications. The crankshaft and camshaft are straight. The main and rod bearings require babbitting. I have located a shop in Kansas City that can perform the work. I still need to find a shop that can line bore the bearings when we get them back from the shop. Some cylinder work still has to be done before assembly can start.



I would like to hear from as many of you as to whether we should try to have the Annual Meeting in Anchorage, AK or somewhere else next year. Please call, text, email or just write me a note. We are considering having this year's meeting using a digital format like Zoom or something equivalent. Our Governor Lindsay Martin has offered to set it up. We will be posting more information as to the date and time of the meeting on the club website so members can participate if they desire.

Tailwinds,

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



Treasurer's Message:

Thank you for all the special notes and renewal checks plus the many donations towards scholarships – paying it forward to the next generation. Hearing from our winners is one of the most rewarding perks of my job.



Once the weather warmed and our grass runway dried out, we rolled the Cub out of the hangar into the sunlight for the first of many spring flights – low and slow. After 50 years, each flight is still magical.

What a strange year in aviation. I never imagined that a “virus” could have the power to cancel Sun n Fun and Oshkosh plus our Alaskan reunion. Our EAA Chapter 48 had to postpone their 61st year of the May Funday Sunday Fly-in to August 9th. Although we had a chapter presence on our normal day – rain and low ceilings prevented flying activity – a virtual fly-in. However I flew the Cub in early Saturday to make sure it was there and Bob flew the Citabria in Sunday morning for breakfast. Bob won an award for longest distance (22 miles) and I won an award for best clipped wing Cub – the only “real” planes at our virtual fly-in. A nice quiet day with social distancing combined with many flying stories.

Although all of us will miss reuniting with our friends this summer, it is more important that we try to stay strong and healthy. Together we can win!

Patty Wagner
National OX5 Treasurer:
937-999-9594
nc7444h@aol.com



Message From The Officers - Continued

Congratulations Patty!

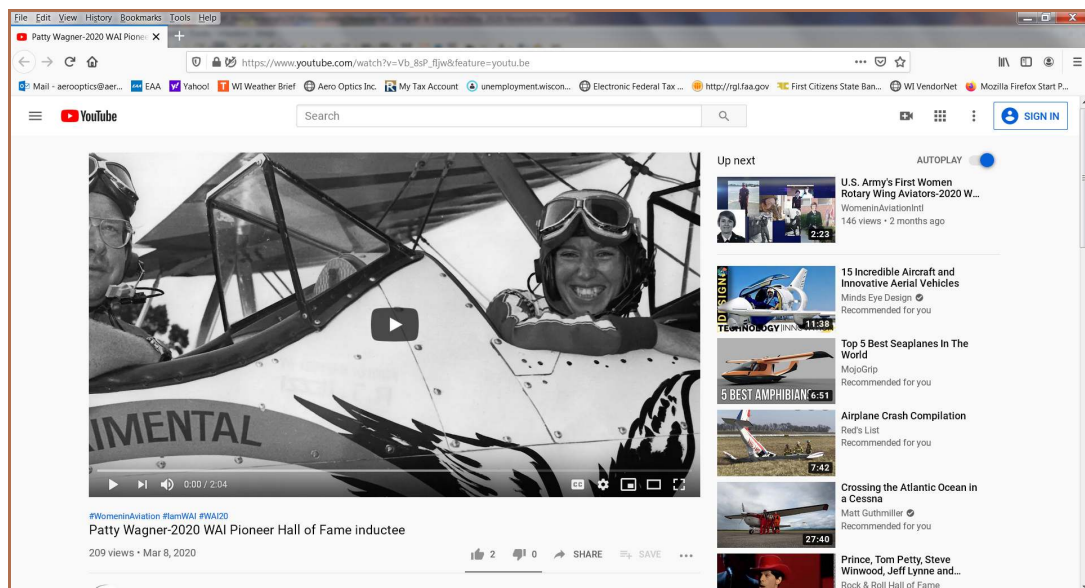


Patty Wagner Induction into the "Women In Aviation" Pioneer Hall of Fame

Patricia "Patty" Jean Wagner is an airshow legend, multi-rated pilot, and a devoted WAI volunteer. In 2019, Patty received the FAA Master Pilot Award for demonstrating professionalism, skill, and aviation expertise for 50 years. With her husband, Bob, Patty started an airshow wing-riding act called A Girl on the Wing. Six years after that first flight, the couple decided to go on the airshow circuit full-time, and have flown in all 50 states and performed in 47 states, as well as British Columbia, Quebec, every Canadian province in between, and in South America. After retiring from airshows, Patty volunteers her time to many aviation organizations, including the WACO Historical Society.

Follow this Youtube link and watch the story of her presentation. https://youtu.be/Vb_8sP_fljw

Courtesy of WACO

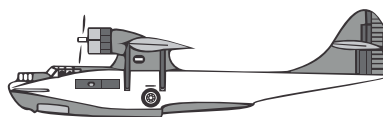


Secretary's Message:

Greetings OX5 Members:

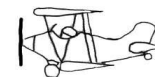
I hope this Newsletter finds you all healthy and looking forward to getting back to a new normal. I want to thank all our Members both Life and Regular who provided donations for the 2020 membership year. This provides the National Organization with the extra funds that are being used to support our outreach programs that are important for our future. Happy Memories,

Don Voland
National OX5 Secretary
262-642-3115
aerooptics@aerooptics.com





OX5 Scholarship News



Patty Wagner,

So sorry for the delay in responding to you! I see Katherine sent you a message. I wanted to share a few more pictures. She has flown the "Cheeto" the orange 152 for some time but it has been booked more often and hard to get. So she has been flying the white and red one that they call the "Fire Plug" or "The Rustbucket". She has been ready to solo for some time but we found out before the holidays that her instructor got a commercial job kind of leaving her in a lurch. Fortunately, a Civil Air Patrol pilot who just thinks the world of her is taking it on. The weather has been a bear! Rain, low ceiling, wind gusts, crosswinds - you name it. Last weekend was beautiful, but she got the flu. So we are praying for calmer weather for the next couple of flights.

There are also a couple of pictures of her working on the 1946 Piper Cub with the EAA in Frederick. She really enjoyed this project!

Also, she did apply for the WIA scholarships. Thank you so much for the membership for her. We haven't heard anything but were hoping the High Flight Aviation Scholarship seemed the best fit as you needed to be involved in at least 1 of a few organizations they listed and she is involved in both CAP and EAA. We will let you know if we hear anything!

All the best,

Linda Grasley



OX5 Scholarship News - Continued

From: Nancy Royer <lcdir@wacoairmuseum.org>
Date: February 21, 2020 at 2:07:57 PM EST
To: Patty Wagner <nc7444h@aol.com>
Subject: OX5 Support

Thank you OX5 for agreeing to support Ethan Griffith and Nate Reynolds with \$300 scholarships to be used towards their upcoming camp experience at the EAA Young Eagle Camp.

The entire families are truly excited. Below is an e mail I received from Nate's Mom:

"Oh my gosh, I have goose bumps. That is fantastic news!! I would love to get contact information for each of those contributing if that is possible. Nate is so excited about this and I can't thank WACO and staT enough for the difference you are making in his life with regards to his career goals. Thank you so much!"

Thanks again for supporting these WACO Aviation Cadets. They are truly deserving young boys.

Looking Up,
Nancy Royer
Learning Center Director
www.wacoairmuseum.org
937-335-9226

TO MR. TIM PINKERTON
I would like to thank you for the \$500
I WAS GIVEN. I WAS INFORMED THAT I WAS
AWARDED 3rd place for the OX5 scholarship
AND I WAS ALSO INFORMED THAT THERE WAS
ORIGINALLY ONLY supposed to be TWO WINNERS.
I VERY MUCH APPRECIATE OX5 AVIATION PIONEERS
FOR DECIDING TO ADD ANOTHER WINNER FOR
THIS SCHOLARSHIP WHEN THEY DID NOT HAVE TO.
THIS MONEY WILL GREATLY help me with my
EDUCATION'S FINANCIAL STATUS.
I WILL BE APPLYING THE \$500 TOWARDS
my TUITION. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

ROBERT SINICROPE
PITTSBURGH INSTITUTE OF AERONAUTICS

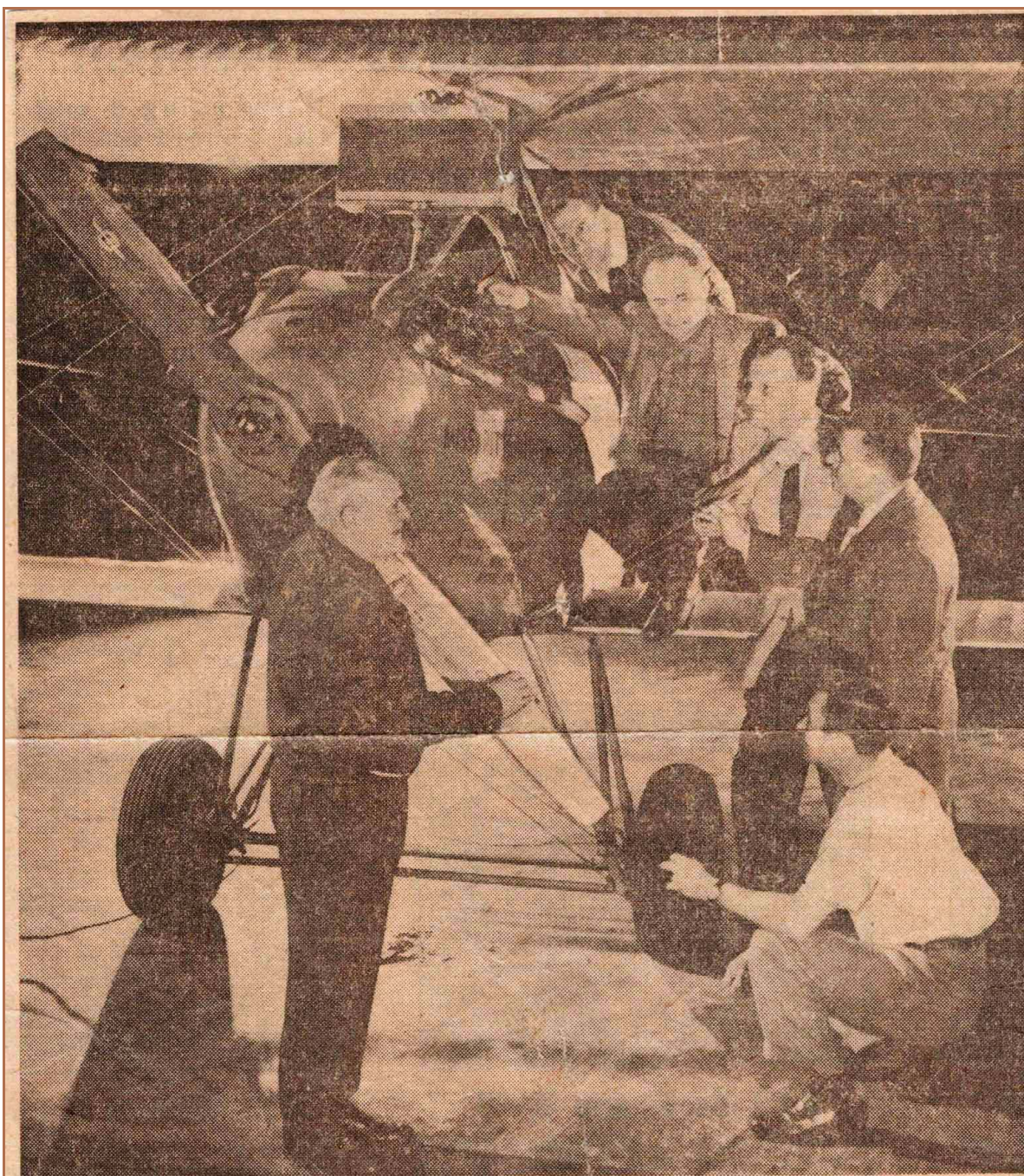




The start of the OX5 Wisconsin Wing

I received a picture from my good friend and neighbor Ron Wojnar that was in his collection from the Milwaukee Journal from 1956.

Don Voland,
Editor



A rebuilt Waco-9, the mail plane of the 1920's, was the center of attraction when a group of Milwaukee area men met at the Wisconsin air national guard hangar at Gen. Mitchell field to form a Wisconsin chapter of the OX5 club. The organization is named for the engine used to power the Waco-9. All of the men learned to fly planes powered by the OX5. From left are

Ray Anderson, 5510 W. Forest Home av.; Paul Poberezny, 9711 W. Forest Park dr., Hales Corners, temporary chairman of the club; Merle Zuehlke, 7903 Hillcrest dr., Wauwatosa, owner of the plane; John Schields, 2227 N. 73rd st., Wauwatosa; Lincoln Thomas, 1221 E. Crawford av., and Jessie Tribble, 1555 Alvin lane, Brookfield.

—Journal Staff

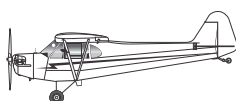


Donations



We want to acknowledge the many generous donations that our Life and Regular Members have sent in for the 2020 membership year. These donations allow the Organization to reach out to the public through our Scholarship Programs, Wing Newsletters, and Aviation Displays at Sun-n-Fun, AirVenture, and the Waco Museum. Thank you all for being a special part of this great Organization.

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| James W. Allen Jr. | Calvin J. Arter | Robert G. Bailey |
| Wayne Baker | Robert C. Bejna | LeRoy Blum |
| Lyle D. Bobzin | Charles A. Boie | H. Douglas Brown III |
| Joseph B Chambers Jr. | James Coy | Daniel H. Cullman |
| James G. DeLong | Cheryl Dewey | Barbara Ball Ewing |
| Estan L. Fuller | Tim Gallagher | Ann Guglielmetti Garino |
| Ronald L. Gilbert | Dennis & Patricia Griswold | David R. Haag |
| David Hardman | Henry M. Hearne | Donald C. Hegebarth |
| Ralph L. Kendall Jr | H. William Knauz | William W. Koelling |
| George Kreissle Jr. | Robert King Lane | Morton W. Lester |
| Gerald E Madden | Lindsay Martin | Glenn McGowan |
| Paul E. Middlebrook | Sharron Mitchell | Charles E. Moore |
| Stanley A. Myers | V. Lorraine Newhouse | Mike Pannone Sr |
| Ann Pleggenkuhle Park | Tim Pinkerton | Clifford M.& Kellee Pleggenkuhle Jr. |
| Carroll C. Rands | Ivan L. Reddington | Fred R. Richards |
| Thomas P. Roche Jr. | Jared Schexnaydre | Sylvester H. "Wes" Schmid |
| B. Charlene Stewart | James Thompson | Bob & Patty Wagner |
| Harold L. & Barbara Walter | Lee E. Wilkinson | Donald R. Witt |
| Dennis G. Yerkey | James B. Zazas | Richard Wallace Currie |
| Dave Hedgecock | Laura Park | |





Flown West



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

Steve Boone - OX5 Membership # L-7685 - Ohio Wing

Steve Boone(1947 - 2020)

Steve Boone died January 11.

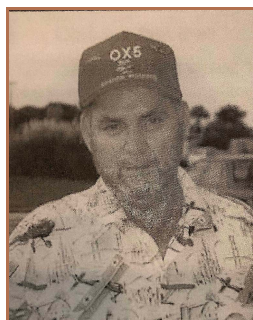
He was born February 12, 1947 to the late Raymond (Jack) Boone and Marilyn Alverson Boone.

He graduated from Sidney High School in 1965 and attended Troy State University in Troy, Alabama for two years before finishing his undergraduate degree at Urbana College (now Urbana University) where he was a member of the college baseball team. Steve was able to finish college due to an anonymous donation from an individual who knew of his personal need, a benevolence he never forgot. A master's degree in school counseling was conferred upon him by Wright State University in 1989.

He spent his entire teaching career at Troy High School, impacting untold thousands of lives. Passionate about fairness, lack of bias, democracy in all venues, and unerringly rational, he left a lasting mark in the minds of his students. A life-long athlete and the son of a semi-pro baseball player, Steve coached varsity football and baseball for much of his thirty-year tenure at Troy.

His other abiding love was aviation. He earned his private pilot certificate in 1978 and added additional ratings throughout his life. After retiring, Steve earned his FAA airframe and powerplant mechanic's license and then his FAA Aircraft Inspection Authority. He helped restore over a half dozen airplanes and enjoyed flying them all. He was a member of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, the Experimental Aircraft Association, and the Vintage Aircraft Association. Steve spent many happy weeks at the yearly EAA event in Oshkosh, Wisconsin where he volunteered hundreds of hours. He was also a member of the American WACO Club and the WACO Historical Society, an organization he served as president for several years.

Wayne Gordon - OX5 Membership # 20107 - Midwest Florida Wing



T. Wayne Gordon

Fort Mill, SC - Mr. Theron Wayne Gordon, 73, passed away on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at Atrium Health, Pineville.

The family will receive friends from 11:30 am-1:00 pm on Saturday, January 18, 2020 at Greene Funeral Home Northwest Chapel, 2133 Ebenezer Road, Rock Hill, SC.

Born in Fort Mill, August 3, 1946 Mr. Gordon was the son of the late Theron D. Gordon and the late Virginia Snyder Gordon. Wayne was also preceded in death by his step-daughter, Lisa N Ash and his brother, Larry Gordon. Wayne was a US Navy Veteran who served during the Vietnam War. He was retired from RHP&F with over 20 years of service. Wayne will be remembered for his love of airplanes. He was the former National President of OX5 Aviation Pioneer organization. Trips to OX5 Reunions and Sun 'n Fun Air Shows were some of his favorite pastimes. Any visit or package received from him always included light up necklaces and orange slices. Spoiling his grandchildren, his friends and beloved dogs was one of his best traits that will be greatly missed.

The OX5 Gang will certainly miss Wayne!! We appreciate all that he did for the Organization.

Don L. Kraft - OX5 Membership # 21003 - Midwest Florida Wing

Don L. Kraft passed away Dec. 14, 2019. He enjoyed his TWA years, the fly-In in Florida, and your OX5 Aviation Pioneers publication.

William Dudash - OX5 Membership # 21302 - Midwest Florida Wing - July 10, 2019

Dale Hunter - OX5 Membership # L13363 - Illinois - Date Unknown

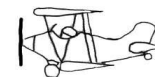
Clause Stricker - OX5 Membership # 20569 - Missouri - Date Unknown

Gloria Santucci - OX5 Membership # L4831 - Glenn Curtiss - Date Unknown

F. Samuel Snyder - OX5 Membership # 22077 - Kansas - Date Unknown



Wing Struts



Kansas Wing:

The Cessna 180 has real workhorse travel. Its power and payload country areas as well as general was the first woman to fly the Cessna



capabilities as well as general aviation capability are quite valuable in back airport operation. In 1964 Jerrie Mock 180 around the world.

At our December general meeting Harry Clements gave an excellent presentation about NASA's space projects, specifically concerning Kansas's favorite astronaut, Joe Engle.

At this next OX-5 general meeting, Harry will be talking about a particular Cessna 180 that was being tested by Cessna experimental flight test for production. The 180 carries a good payload and is reasonably fast for a fixed gear airplane in its category. I remember this specific airplane quite well when I was employed by Cessna. Darlene Kirkland was going through some of Richard's items, and found that he had a cooler that belonged to OX-5 Kansas Wing. EAA's Chapter 88 recently had a trailer stolen that contained items for attending fly-ins, etc. Since we have a second cooler that belongs to our Wing, I gave her permission to give the cooler to Chapter 88. I remember that we bought the extra cooler when we had the national reunion here in Wichita. I felt that was a very good idea to give the cooler to Chapter 88.



Harold Walter, Jay McLeod and Larry Hatteberg with the OX-5 display located at the Kansas Aviation Museum - Photo by Dale Krebs



Olive Ann Beech with Beech Model 17 Staggerwing customer - Photo by Frank Madson

Harold Walter, President KS Wing
OX5 Aviation Pioneers

Wisconsin Wing:

Cheryl Dewey, Wing Secretary, reports that due to the World Health Pandemic that the Wisconsin Wing has cancelled all Dinner Meetings until further notice.





OX5 Board Meeting Minutes Mar. 28, 2020



OX5 AVIATION PIONEERS
PO Box 769, Troy, Ohio 45373
501 (c)(3) Non-Profit Pennsylvania Corporation

Colorado Springs, CO Office:
8657 Coyote Creek Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80924
Richard Wilbur, President

Troy Ohio Office:
PO Box 769
Troy, Ohio 45373
Patty Wagner, Treasurer

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

This was an electronic OX5 Board Meeting Held On Mar. 28 - 29, 2020.

Order Of Business:

Rich Wilbur called me yesterday. He has great concerns due to the COVID-19 virus and our plan to hold the 2020 OX5 Reunion in Anchorage, AK in August. Most of our attendees would be older aged folks and with the great risk to older aged members traveling and group exposures, he suggests that the Reunion be cancelled this year. I concur with that suggestion. So here is your chance to vote as a Governor and let us know what your thoughts are regarding this issue.

Rich made the motion to cancel the 2020 OX5 Reunion in Anchorage, AK. Don Voland seconded the motion. Please let us know what your vote as Governor is regarding this motion.

Best wishes and stay healthy.

Don Voland

National OX5 Secretary

Results Of The Vote:

All Governors voted to cancel the 2020 OX5 Reunion in Anchorage, AK

Don Voland

Donald R. Voland
National OX5 Secretary



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, 2020 and extends to December 31, 2020. Regular Members who have not paid their dues by April 1, 2020 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.