

## **OX5 NEWS**



Celebrating 66 Years: 1955 - 2021

Volume 65 - Number 1

**Summer 2022** 

**Aviation Interest Is Still Alive** 

Published for and by the Members of the OX5 Aviation Pioneers

Guest Editor - Don Voland

### Sun n Fun 2022



From April 5th through the 10th, the OX-5 Midwest Florida Wing once again welcomed fellow OX-5 members and the general public to Sun n Fun 2022 in Lakeland, FL. The Wing's on-site cottage served as a meeting place, a lunch site, and a rest stop for attendees. The Wing's 1918 OX-5 was on display and started hourly for all to see.

With only one partial day of inclement weather, the show was a huge success. Attendees were treated to daily flying displays by civilian and military aviators. The United States Air Force Thunderbirds demonstration team thrilled the crowd on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday to close out the days' activities.

Major certified, experimental, light sport, and ultralight aircraft manufacturers displayed their current product lines. Inside four hangars, vendors sold all things aviation. Hardware, software, avionics, parts, services, and flight schools were just some of those items attracting attendees to their booths (plus the freebies).

Meanwhile back at the cottage, Florida Wing members served over 700 lunches and a Saturday night lasagna dinner was attended by more than 200. Profits are used by the Wing to maintain and improve the cottage, and fund a scholarship to an aviation summer camp for a local high school student.

(Text & Photo Credits - Greg Gaynor)

### Sun n Fun 2022 - Continued

L to R: Denise Green, Chris Meek, Barb Gaynor, and Brenda Jones fire up the grill in preparation for the day's lunch.





OX-5 members take a break from preparing the cottage for SNF attendees. From L to R: Mac Meek, Ernie Lynam, Welton Green, and John Petersen.



The Midwest Florida Wing's cottage awaits the start of Sun N Fun 2022.

### Sun n Fun 2022 - Continued



Nashville singing legend and CFI, Aaron Tippin and wife They stopped by to watch the OX-5 engine come to life.



Sam Meek checks out a new Maule M-9-260.



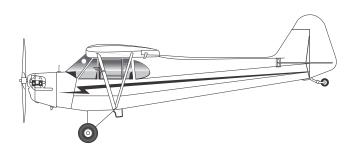
B25 Mitchell Bomber "Panchito"



We worked OX-5 member John Petersen way too hard.....



The United States Air Force Thunderbirds thrill the SNF '22 attendees.





## Message From The Officers



### President's Message:

It has been a privilege and an honor to serve as a National Governor and President of this historic organization. Unfortunately, I have recently experienced some serious health concerns and must resign from my position in order to focus on my health. I am hopeful this will be a short bout of turbulence along my otherwise smooth flight path through life.



I will continue to work on my own OX5 Project as time and energy allow. I wish you all the best and thank you for your dedication to keeping this organization going and your passion for aviation history.

Kind Regards,

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

### Treasurer's Message:

Hard to believe summer is half over. We celebrated the 4<sup>th</sup> of July watching the annual fireworks at Moraine Airpark with good food and lots of hangar flying. Sun n Fun was a success and Oshkosh promises to be better than ever. Our EAA Chapter 48's first event was Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup>. Weather not the best but good friends and good food made for a great day.



It's been a busy summer at WACO Field for aviation cadets and aviation camps to be followed by drone camps in August. Thank you for your donations. Camp scholarships can change lives.

Tim Pinkerton and Russ Berry have already hosted two events at WACO: Breakfast featuring Russ's secret pancake recipe in May and an evening cookout with hot dogs and baked beans finished off with hand scooped root beer floats in June. Makes it worthwhile to fly in or drive to WACO Field where tall stories and aviation lore is exchanged for good food.

Second dues billings have gone out. If you have not already paid, please do so. You can either mail a check or use PayPal on our website. Donations for the scholarship program are always appreciated.

Enjoy your summer to the fullest. Blue skies to all!

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

### **Secretary's Message:**

Greetings To Everyone - what a disturbing year with members going in and coming out of the hospital. I hope that everyone is on the mend! Putting this Newsletter together has been a real challenge this time but here it is. Sun n Fun was a great success and we are looking forward to seeing the same at AirVenture. I hope that you are holding your own and thinking positive. Because of the unusual course of events this year, we will only have a Summer and Winter Newsletter. We still need someone to step up and take over the Newsletter editor duties. Best wishes to all of you and stay healthy.



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

### The Jim Beisner WACO Airplane Restoration Area

Tim Pinkerton worked with Nancy Royer and they submitted the following update and pictures to us for this Newsletter:







Jim Beisner doing some work with campyoung people how to restore airplanes 50 plus years ago. He has logged hundreds of hours flying young Eagles before it was
cool. The naming of the restoration area at WACO field in his honor is well deserved. We are still looking for donors to help
with this effort. We are currently restoring two aircraft with our youth cadet group and are in need of Poly fiber products. If
you have some setting around, please let us know.



Thank you for your consistent generosity. Your donations are a gift that goes beyond just the Learning Center. So many students receive life changing experiences and often return to invest in the next group of students. It's a privilege to be part of and we thank you for helping us fundit.

Thankyan Nancys Jamete WACE Learning Center

### The Jim Beisner WACO Airplane Restoration Area - Continued

Jim Beisner has submitted the following report regarding their Aviation Summer Camp:

Don and All:

Hope all is well

Progress report on Aviation Summer Camp for young people, and Engineers Summer camp that has just completed. We have doing these activities for over a decade and the popularity keeps growing. The WACO Cadets program is also growing, and is starting it's fourth year. Some of them have grown to young ladies and gentlemen and are working on their pilots licenses. We have completed the restoration of the Gramman (N22L) and the WACO RPT alreraft. Another WACO and 2 Pipers are in-progress. The Vagabond will be dedicated to Janet Barnard.

Best to All!

Jim Beisner

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and building diriplanes
and more testing was
my forovite parte
thankyou for all owing
he po be a part of it.

You friendo
michael

# **WACO Aviation Cadets to restore plane**

TROY — The WACO Aviation Cadets is a multiyear educational program for students 10-16 years old and is held at WACO Air Museum & Learning Center. This program offers students a path to aviation education and activity that will inspire students to set challenging goals and develop their capacity for achievement.

The focus of this year's project will be on a restoration project of a one-of-a-kind WACO. Each student will be mentored by adults in restoration skills as they work together on

the 1946 WACO RPT.

The WACO RPT was built at the WACO Factory in Troy in 1940 as the sole low wing airplane ever manufactured by WACO. It was a prototype aerobatic trainer for the USAAF trials. The project was halted when a large order for UPF-7's came in. It was sold in 1962 and was transported to Hannibal, Mo., where a 125hp Warner Scarab engine was replaced with a 165hp Kinner engine, and a canopy and winglets were added.

The airplane traded

hands a few times, eventually being owned by the late Dean W. Mitchell of Wisconsin. Mitchell, or "Wally" to his friends, purchased the Capitol Airport in Brookfield, Wisc. in the mid 1970's and continued to own it until 2006. During this time, this hard working family extended the grass runway and laid a hard surface air strip as well. The family is known for always seeking to improve and promote aviation and its heritage. As well as being a member of the OX5 Aviation Pioneers,

Wally was a member of MAAC (Midwest Antique Airplane Club) which was founded to promote interest in antique airplanes and encourages preservation, restoration and flight of classic aircraft.

Upon the death of Mitchell, the five Mitchell children — Gary, Sharon, Dennis, Beverly and Shirley — donated his airplane to WACO Learning Center, in January 2018, for the purpose of being restored to original appearance by youth, under the tutelage of those experienced in

WACO aircraft restoration. The history and the stories of the 1940 WACO RPT will be told to visitors, world-wide, as it prepares to make a debut in the lineup at WACO Air Museum.

This project is made possible by the donation of the Wallace Family, and by a grant received from the National Aviation Heritage Alliance (NAHA). Aviation Cadets is also sponsored in part by The Duke Foundation. The Dean Wallace Mitchell legacy will continue through this project as the

youth involved are introduced to history, vintage aviation, and restoration techniques.

The goal of Aviation Cadets is to launch students into a lifelong path of high achievement and fulfillment. The students are motivated and excited to see their names on a plaque in the museum next to their handiwork. If you or someone you know is interested in WACO Aviation Cadets, please call the museum at 335-9226 or Visit the LEARN tab at www. wacoairmuseum.org.

### NAHA SUPPORTS WARNER 125 ENGINE SEARCH



NATIONAL AVIATION HERITAGE AREA Come, Discover, Fly!

The mission of the National Aviation Heritage Area is to preserve and develop the assets in the National Aviation Heritage Area (an eight-county area in Ohio) and promote the heritage and future of aerospace. Through the NAHA Grant Program, NAHA is proud to have supported the transportation of the 1940 WACO RPT from Wisconsin to Troy, OH. The Mitchell Family donated the aircraft and the WACO Aviation Cadets have been working to restore this one-of-a-kind low wing WACO to its original appearance, as it prepares to make a debut in the lineup at WACO Air Museum. WACO is grateful to NAHA for once again supporting this project with up to \$5000 of financial assistance related to acquiring, restoring, and installing a Warner 125 engine for the RPT.









### **Donations**



We want to acknowledge the many generous donations that our Life and Regular Members have sent in for the 2022 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

Joseph & Nicole Azzaro Wayne Baker

Robert C. Bejna Charles A. Boie

Joseph B Chambers Jr. Jerry L. Coles

James G. DeLong Cheryl Dewey

Elizabeth Dinan John R. Edmundson

Betty Eldridge John H. Emmert

Barbara Ball Ewing James W. Fowler

Estan L. Fuller Tim Gallagher

Paul B. Haggland Jr. Joan Hately (Deceased - William Hately)

John M Haynes Henry M. Hearne

Jeff Hill John Holtam

Arthur L. Honea Jr Thomas Imrich

George & Merritt Jenkins William W. Koelling

Robert King Lane Morton W. Lester

Joel McMillan Sam M. Meek

Ernest L Mitchell Charles E. Moore

Jack A. Nelson (Deceased-Donation) Ann Pleggenkuhle Park

Laura Ann Park Clifford M.& Kellee Pleggenkuhle Jr.

Fred R. Richards Jared Schexnaydre

B. Charlene Stewart Timothy & Kathryn Thompson

#### **Donations - Continued**

Bob & Patty Wagner Harry "Terk" & Lisa Williams

Ronald Wojnar Charles L. Wolff

Dennis G. Yerkey James B. Zazas

Ann Staub Cliff Ball Wing

Jerry Coles Cheryl Dewey

Sam Meek Ralph Kendall Jr.

Sharon & Fredric Taloff



## Special Wing News



### Cliff Ball Wing Report to President Wilbur

Feb 1, 2022

In 2001 we had 50 members in the Cliff Ball Wing. There are now 13 members remaining on the roster.

Only 7 members are paid up up to date.

Only 4 of these 7 live in Pittsburgh. The remainder are out of state.

We have not held a meeting in 10 years.

The last CBW newsletter was published in 2001 by Dennis Yerkey.

The little money balance remaining from the past has been disbursed by donations to Sun-n-Fun repairs (AC and Roof), scholarships and food expenses for the Florida Wing open house.

### Conclusion

It is the general consensus of the members that the Wing should fold and the operations be consolidated. Everyone has requested that the website be maintained as a central source of communication and information for the organization.

Dennis G Yerkey, Sec/Treas CBW





### **Special Wing News - Continued**





Photo - Paul Bowen

Date: April 14, 2022

From: Harold Walter, OXS KS Wing Pres & Newsletter Editor

7373 E 29th Street N. #W302

Wichita, KS 67226

----- Phone: \$16-733-2377

To: Donald Voland, OX5 National Secretary

N8680 Stone School Road

East Troy, Wisconsin 53102-2334

Phone: 262-642-3115

Subject: Status of OXS KS Wing

I appreciate being a part of the OXS Organization. I have been an OXS member for many years, as President most of that time. I have also had offices in OXS National, including Vice President, Secretary and President for the limited two years.

Our KS Wing Governor's Board has worked very well together. Two highly valued members of the Board have recently flown west.

Joe Lates, Vice President Jay McLeod, Secretary

We find it difficult to replace these two people. Also mine and my wife's ages, 94 and 93, don't help. The COVID has been a major factor for us as well as for many others.

We had a Board meeting and decided that our Wing must be dissolved. We plan to put together a short newsletter explaining the situation. As a part of the dissolution, we plan to present a donation to OXS National.

Sincerely,

Harold Walter

a Asovary

Special Note From Harold Walter - Congratulations Harold!

I, Harold Walter, want you to know that I have been nominated and accepted to receive the Kansas Aviation Hall of Fame Award.

Harold Walter



## Wing Struts



**Ohio / Midwest Florida Wing** - Jim Beisner Reports - Very good S N F this month!! Great Turn-out. Hundreds of visitors enjoyed the hospitality and meals that were served by the MWF wing and some OX5 noise!







**Wisconsin Wing -** Don Voland reports - Plans are being made for the WI Wing to have their demonstration OX5 engine at AirVenture again this year. We also expect to have a booth in the exhibit area. A successful appearance and engine demonstration runs were held at the Palmyra, WI Airport Pancake Breakfast. This is an annual Father's Day event and the crowd was large.

### **HELP WANTED**

Join the OX5 National Team And Be Our Newsletter Editor - Immediate Opening

Please Contact:

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



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, 2022 and extends to December 31, 2022. Regular Members who have not paid their dues by April 1, 2022 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.