

**Special
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Interest:**

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November 7, 2008
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Message From The President

Dear Fellow United Flying Octogenarians:

Another year has been wrapped up with our Executive Meeting and annual luncheon in Hartford, CT on October 5, 2007 at the A.O.P.A. convention.

Our numbers for the annual luncheon were down considerably from previous years; however 100% of the directors and executives of the U.F.O. attended, which was sincerely appreciated.

We have some new faces on the board as follows: John T. Wilson has retired from the News Letter/Publisher after five years of excellent and dedicated work and is replaced by Bill Webber of Spokane, WA. Our faithful Secretary Treasurer, Herb Sloane has retired after many years of dedicated service to our organization and has been replaced by Bart Bratko of Natick, MA. Former director Bill Webber who is now our News Letter/Publisher has been replaced by Don Wyatt of St. Johns, Newfoundland in Canada. Your returning board members are Alan

Blair of Montecito CA. Dick Spalding of Port Pierce, FL, Bob Fortnam of Pembroke, NH.

Our dues structure has not kept pace with inflation, therefore our board has moved and passed a small increase of \$3.00 from \$12.00 to \$15.00 a year effective immediately in order to cover printing and mailing costs of our new directory and the newsletter.

I wish to remind all members to mark you calendars now for our next annual meeting and A.O.P.A. Convention in San Jose, CA in November 2008. I wish to encourage all members to mail in your up and coming fling events to Bill Webber for publication in the newsletter.

Happy Flying,

President Walt Sellick



Meet your Board Members



Left to Right: Don Wyatt (Board Member), Dick Spalding (Board Member), Bill Webber (Newsletter/Publisher), Bart Bratko (Secretary/Treasurer), Herb Sloane (retired), Walter Sellick (President)



Left to Right: Bob Fortnam (Board Member), Alan Blair (Board Member)



Left to Right: Retired officers: John Wilson, Herb Sloane →



Plan for next year's UFO meeting

Put it on your Calendar for next year and Join Us at Our Next Annual Meeting

The annual UFO meeting is held in conjunction with the annual AOPA Expo

Date: Friday, November 7, 2008

*Place: San Jose McEnery Convention Center
San Jose, California*



Membership Directory

Enclosed with this newsletter is the new 2008 Membership Directory. This book will help you locate your fellow UFO members. Please look through your directory as you read this explanation.

The directory is divided into several sections. First section: Our history in a brief few paragraphs. In some of the following newsletters there will be additional information on the history of UFO. It is a wonderful story of 80+ year old pilots. Keep this page available for future use. This is where you send your dues, new members and any questions you have.

We have added the address of our Web Page www.unitedflyingoctogenarians.org, for those of you who have computers. There will be periodic news available which you can pick up between the newsletters.

Go to the Board Members Section. This lists all of the UFO's that help to make things work well. Feel free to contact any of them or Bart Bratko your Secretary/Treasurer with suggestions. Bill Webber wants you to send him an email or phone call with information that can be included in future newsletters. We want you involved. Give us a try.

Go to the section labeled **Membership Directory Alphabetical**

Here is the list of all of the members; 619 as of this printing. Make sure your name is here and all of the details are correct. Notice that the age is based on the print date (October 19, 2007) listed on the divider page. Any errors should be phoned, mailed or emailed to Bill Webber, 509-466-2026; wjwebber@comcast.net for corrections.

The corrections will be made in the next directory coming out after our meeting in San Jose.

Go to the section labeled **Membership Directory by State.**

This by far is the greatest improvement we have made from the old directory. Look at the state you are in. Count up the UFO's. Give them a call. Go see them. Talk about being 80 and still flying. Have a coffee fly-in. Have a hamburger lunch. This makes belonging to a group a lot more fun.

If there is a fly-in the state next to you, give them a call and meet with them.

Let me give you an example of how this is working. In the State of Washington there are 24 members, Oregon 19, Idaho 6, and Montana 3. We are

(Continued on page 3)

“The directory is divided into several sections”

Alphabetical and State listings

Membership Directory (continued)

planning a Northwest UFO lunch next May or June. We are going to meet at the Bird Aviation museum in Sagle Idaho. It is only 2½ hours away from all of these members. You are all invited. This museum was founded by inventor Dr Forrest Bird, who is an 86 year old UFO member and inventor of the respirator/ventilator. Go to his Website: www.birdaviationmuseum.com for more information. We hope to have many UFO members attending this lunch.

Here is another example on how we get together as a local UFO group. There are three UFO's in the Spokane area. They get together on every Tuesday morning at 10:00 for coffee and doughnuts. Then, we drive to Skeeter Carlson's home just south of the city. And usually, we are not the only ones there. We are joined by as many as 8 other pilots who are not quite old enough to join UFO yet. The stories that are told are great. Our get-togethers last for at least 90 minutes. The insert on the bottom and the back page will introduce you to these three Spokane pilots: **Skeeter Carlson, Doc Fowler, and Bill Webber.**

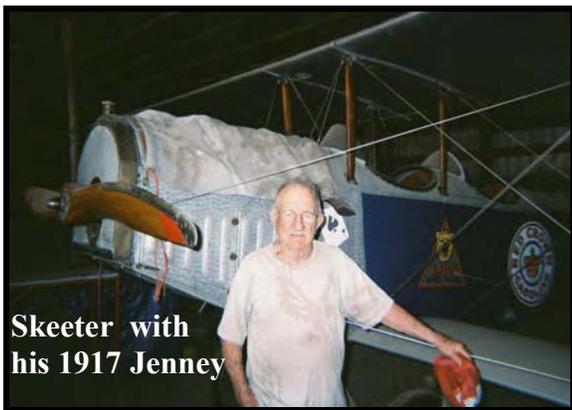
How would you like to be the member in your state to get this going? Most of the members have email. Most phones are not charging for long distance. How about a newsletter? Do it. Put something together this fall.

Send Bill Webber an email telling him what activities you are planning. We would like to get someone from each state to get communications started. Volunteer!!!!

Now go to the last section in the Directory called **Charter**. It explains the guidelines for the UFO membership.

Keep your directory handy. We hope you can use it to meet new members.

Speaking of new members. Each newsletter will include the new members since the last newsletter. Page 4 of this newsletter lists the new members since the 2008 Directory went to press. You should add these names to your Directory.



Skeeter with his 1917 Jenney

Skeeter Carlson 84

Meet Skeeter Carlson from Spokane, Washington. Skeeter is 84 years old and has been a UFO member for 3 years. He signed up for UFO at an AOPA convention.

Skeeter is standing in front of his 1917 Jenney, which was made in Canada. In fact, the Museum in Trail, British Columbia is looking at it to add to their collection. He has owned this plane since 1949. He flies it to biplane shows in the Northwest. He traded an NVR Ryan for it. The Ryan was needed for a movie being made of Lindberg's flight across the Atlantic.

Skeeter lives on a few acres of land just outside Spokane. He has a 2200' grass strip. He was an Aircraft Mechanic most of his life. He has refurbished

over 50 airplanes. At one time, he was able to put one together every year. He has 14 airplanes in various conditions ready for him to put back together, however his body doesn't move as well as it used to so it just takes longer now to do the work. He will finish up a Corbin Jr. Ace (1934) this year.

Doc Fowler 86

Meet Doc Fowler. Doc is 86 years old and lives just a couple of miles down the road from Skeeter Carlson. He has a 1500' grass strip on his property.

Doc has been a Dentist all his life. He flew his airplane to work everyday. Doc retired a few years ago. He and his wife spent many years from 1970 through 1996 flying to Mexico to provide dental care for children in that country.

Doc has owned many airplanes in his life. For many years, he was a Maule distributor. He would keep each airplane for a couple of years, then sell it and get another plane. Some of the airplanes he has owned are a WACO 8PS-7, Piper PA-20, J-3 Cub, Cessna 180 and Cessna 182.

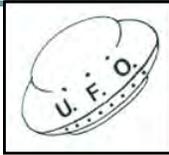
What does he fly now? Doc built a Marquart MA5 Charger. He started in 1986 and it took him 3 years to build it.



Doc Fowler



Marquart MA5 Charger



UFO

United Flying Octogenarians

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Our History...



Started in 1982 by a group of about 25 aviators over the age of 80, today the United Flying Octogenarians (UFO) has a membership of over 600 men and women. When each of our members joined, at the age of 80 or older, they were still flying. Today, many of them are no longer at the controls of an aircraft, but their love of aviation still binds them to this elite group.

An international, non-profit organization, UFO, has members in the United States (including the U.S. Virgin Islands), Canada, Argentina, Australia, France, and the United Kingdom.

To be eligible for membership you must have flown an aircraft on or after your 80th birthday, in compliance with the regulations required of your aircraft. You could have been licensed in whatever manner your aircraft requires, and actively flying an airplane, glider, helicopter, ultra-light, balloon, or similar aircraft on or after your 80th birthday.



...Now is the time to send in your dues of \$15.00 for 2008. Send to Bart Bratko.

Bill Webber 84

Meet Bill Webber, who is 84 years old. Bill lives in Spokane, Washington and has been a UFO member for 3 years. Bill has owned a 1976 Cherokee SIX for ten years, and had several other planes in the past.



Bill Webber on an Angel Flight Mission

Bill had a 30 year career as a salesman for Jantzen sportswear and he would fly to meet with department store clients around the Northwest. He is also an active Angel Flight West pilot and donates his time and airplane to transport patients to and from medical appointments. Bill has been a Financial Advisor for the last 25 years. He visits his 30 financial clients around the Northwest in his airplane. Frequently, he will also take four friends and golf clubs to Canada, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, Idaho and Montana for golf tournaments (yes, that Cherokee SIX hauls a big load).

In the picture, Bill (second from left) is with his last ANGEL FLIGHT mission in July. This flight was from Spokane to Seattle. The 4 year old in the picture was taken to Seattle Children's Hospital for a medical

procedure. Many of the Angel Flight patients are from remote areas in the Northwest where there are limited medical facilities and/or limited commercial airline services. Bill gets a great deal of satisfaction providing these flights.

New UFO Members

Welcome to the members that have joined since the 2008 Directory went to press on October 19, 2007. You can add these to your directory by cutting them off and putting them into their appropriate State section.

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