

Happy Landings!!

MOONLIGHT BBQ Owensboro, KY (Owensboro Daviess County Regional Airport OWB)

November 23, 2021

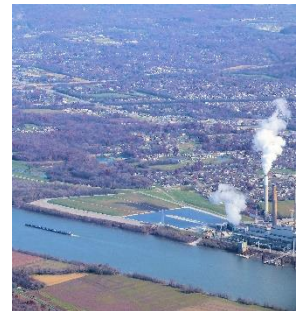
It may seem like we haven't flown for awhile because the last time I wrote an article was back in June. We've actually flown several times since then, but I didn't think you would want to read about the flights. We flew up to Sylvania, OH for the first time to see our oldest daughter and her family. That was absolutely the best! Being able to fly there is definitely something for which I am thankful! The grandkids were so excited to see us, we had lots of fun visiting, and it was much easier than driving for a weekend, and a bonus for my daughter too who didn't have to fuss with hosting guests! But today I'm writing about our trip to Moonlight BBQ in Owensboro – another delicious trip!



When we left Georgetown, temps were around 30 deg. I didn't know what to wear. I ended up going with a lightweight sweater and my ski jacket. I was quite comfortable for most of the hour flight. The last few minutes I debated about taking off my jacket. I also wore boots. Normally, I take my shoes off and fly in my socks, but I forgot this time, so my feet and calves are now permanently shaped like boots. Just kidding, but I sure remembered to take the boots off for the ride home.



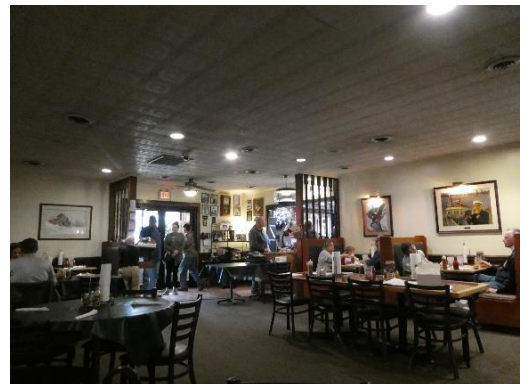
The flight itself was fun in both directions. It was a clear day, and smooth flying on the way there at 4500 ft. We left at 11:30am and landed around 11:30 due to the time change. I spent most of the flight playing with my new camera- trying to focus out the window. I managed to zoom in on a UPS jet but it was still a bit blurry. We chatted with Louisville, cut between a couple jets (on the display only), avoided Fort Knox and enjoyed crossing the Ohio River multiple times.



When we landed, we went to the part of the airport called Modern. I called for the free shuttle from Moonlight BBQ. (They have two vans that will hold at least 16 people.) There was a bit of confusion at the restaurant as to where they should pick us up. I couldn't describe where we were very well from inside the airport grounds, and it was impossible to see the exits from where we were parked. We went inside the FBO while we waited, and Mike the maintenance chief was working. He was so helpful! He asked, why don't we just take the courtesy car? (because I didn't call ahead so I didn't know they had one haha) That was an excellent surprise! I called Moonlight BBQ again and told them not to send anyone, and they were happy because they were prepping BBQ as well as lots of Thanksgiving take-out orders. Mike told us that there are lots of pilots who fly in on jets just to take home tons of BBQ from Moonlight!



The courtesy car was a rough ride, but it didn't stink from smoke, so I was happy. We were confident that Mike would come get us if it broke down, so off we went. Moonlight is only a couple miles from the airport and was easy to find. Because of the time change, we arrived at the restaurant before noon. The parking lot was filling up, but most of the crowd was there to pick up take-out orders. By the time we left, there was a short line.



The staff was very friendly and attentive. They gave us brochures about the place to take home. Tea and ice water was refilled without asking. Plates were removed promptly. They also explained that all the buffet food was homemade which hooked me. I typically am not a fan of buffets, but that's what they are known for, and it looked fresh. Lunch buffet was \$12.99. There was a guy talking into a phone on the wall next to the buffet that connected directly to the kitchen. He would let them know what items were running low. It was a very efficient system, and shortly after his call, fresh trays would arrive!

They had a typical salad bar, but soups included burgoo and ham and bean. The hot buffet had so much food: turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, macaroni and cheese, green beans, baked beans, BBQ chicken, BBQ pork, shredded pork, BBQ ribs, BBQ mutton, dinner rolls and more. Then there was a dessert bar with cherry pie, a lemon freezer box pie, brownies and apple crisp. I'm sure ordering a dinner only would have been plenty! Who goes to a buffet before Thanksgiving? My favorite was the ribs and the apple crisp! By the time we were done, I was afraid they would have to haul me out in a wheelbarrow! We picked up some of their secret BBQ sauce and their cookbook for my son-in-law who enjoys using his smoker- good stocking stuffers!



Since we had the courtesy car, we drove to the river walk downtown. For a small town of about 61,000 pop., Owensboro sure seems to have their act together! The river walk is beautifully landscaped with lots of seating. Barges were fun to watch. Trees were brilliant colors. We walked around a bit and thought (delusionally) that we might wear off some of our lunch! There is also an elaborate play structure for the kiddos. I had been there before for a pickleball tournament, and they have great courts at their park, too. We passed the Bluegrass Hall of Fame which would be fun to visit, a convention center, a museum, a music center and several nice hotels. This part of town seems mostly geared for entertainment, not window shopping.



We gassed up the car before we returned it, said thanks to Mike and took off. We had a tailwind, so it was a bit faster on the fly back. We made it home for evening pickleball at the Scott County Pavilion and tried to burn off some calories! This would be another fun place for the chapter to fly. We could meet at the Owensboro airport at 11am, reserve the vans and a large table at the restaurant, and have lunch at the #1 BBQ restaurant in Kentucky!

Happy Landings! Jill Baty

