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Southwest Regional Chapters of the Popular Rotorcraft Association
Southwest Regional Newsletter

- Club news and upcoming events
- Member profiles
- Member's machines
- Chapter meeting minutes
- Projects, builds and modification
- Photos
- Family news
- Classifieds

**Newsletter Past Issues**
If you have missed an issue of our newsletter just go to www.gyrosaway.com to download past issues. Also available at www.pra.org.

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**This Months Contributors:**
Dean Dolph
Bill Wieger
Mark Carmouche
Stacy and Barbara Maness
Desmon Butts

Editor: Mike Grosshans

You don’t have to be a member to receive the newsletter, just email Mike and ask to be added to the distribution list. Please feel free to forward our newsletter to all your friends and family.

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**Send Us Your News**

**Project Reports**
Send us pictures of your project to include in future editions of the newsletter. We will post anything you have on your build, modifications, training, etc. Just send an email to tell us what you are doing and include some pictures if you have any. Progress reports are probably the most interesting things to read about and see.

**Your Pride and Joy**
Send us pictures of your machine to include as a feature in future additions. If you include some information on the details of your machine or a short bio of yourself we'll also include this with your pictures. Brag about your aircraft!!

**Events and Meetings**
Next time you’re at a fly-in or just out flying with a buddy, take some pictures and let us know about it. Have your club secretary send us your club news and tell us about your meetings.
Send us names of new members so we can welcome them to our sport. We are interested in anything your club is doing.

**Family News and Announcements**
Our newsletter isn’t just all about the machines, it’s about the people of our region also. Any family news or announcements you want to share please feel free to send us so we can let everyone know.

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Power Lines Are Very Deadly

In early May there was a power line accident that took a life. Power lines are something we must always be aware of. Even though they can be easily seen from the ground, once you become airborne they become invisible. You have to watch for the poles. When you have an engine out, the pressure makes it even harder to look for phone and power lines. It is suggested to avoid roads (with houses especially) in engine out choices and take a field instead. The idea is to be more concerned about survivability than not damaging the craft. Roads more often than not have power-lines and with houses, lots of lines crossing the roads.

DETAILS: On May 3, 2011 at 1340 Hours, the Gage County Sheriff’s Office, Gage County Emergency Management, Beatrice Rescue, Wymore Rescue, and Blue Springs Fire responded to a helicopter accident near Highway 77 and Walnut Street in Blue Springs, Nebraska. Statements from witnesses and a preliminary investigation concluded that 68 year old Ernest L. Norris of Blue Springs had attempted to take off in a single seated “Gyro” helicopter. During take off, witnesses advised that Norris failed to get enough altitude and lost control of the helicopter. Norris then collided with a phone line which caused the aircraft to crash onto Walnut Street in Blue Springs and burst into flames. Witnesses responded immediately to the crash scene and pulled Norris from the burning wreckage.
A fortuitous weatherwise event (as scheduled of course) was enjoyed by a sizeable Pelican (Chapter 20) contingent involving 10 aircraft and 15 members, which is the spring Chapter Gathering and annual Crawfish Boil. Steve Alexander was the host at the airport where he has a hangar housing his Cessna and 2 gyroplanes.

We had the unusual duo of Helicycles from opposite ends of southern Louisiana, being those of Clarence Abadie of Tickfaw (east), and David Lyons who flew in from Sulphur. Clarence trailed his and flew it off the deck during his continuing hours of fly-off. At least 4 more gyros would have made the scene, except for unusual events precluding their appearance. Rudy Grafefo stopped by for the day from a trip to Texas which did not include his machine. Special guests were Lyons, and Gary Hall from Little Rock, AR.

Weather was mild with a significant breeze which made for a comfortable hangar without the need to set up the canopies. The breeze was steady and a continuation of the windy pattern which has prevailed since the Gonzales gathering, when we enjoyed the most ideal conditions of the year, and best ever for Gonzales.

Mark Carmouche compiled another masterful video of Pelican events. Jennings can be viewed via: http://youtube.com/watch?v=rHTPb3sowsso. From the scenes you’d never know that there was a substantial wind.

The CRAWFISH BOIL is the hype for Jennings, and is produced by Steve Alexander. This year’s feast was notable in 2 special ways. The crawfish are always very large and cooked for “peelability,” but this year they were the largest and best ever. Cooking was accomplished via a compact “patented” cooker created by one of Steve’s friends at the airport, which is perfectly suitable for on-site cooking for any size group. As the picture shows, the tray holding the crawfish for cooking is hinged, thereby allowing emptying of the cooked critters right into a holding chest, making it very easy to cook according to the feasting demand.

Steve flew both of his gyros, and demonstrated their spectacular performance, as machines which are for sale, being a Bensen with 90 hp Mac, and a Bandit with Subaru engine.

Although quite few departed in the late afternoon, several regrouped in the evening at the restaurant in the Inn for continued hangar flying, jocularity, and healthy sustenance.
People and Machines at Jennings Were:

Clarence Abadie - Tickfaw; Helicycle
Steve Alexander - Jennings; Bensen & Bandit
Mark Carmouche - Woodworth; KB-4
Bill Wieger - Pineville; Bensen
John Churchman - Lake Charles; Dominator
Gary Hall - Little Rock, AR
David Yant - Abbeville
Mike Gaspard - Kaplan
Rudy & Lisa Graffeo - Gonzales

David Lyons - Sulphur; Helicycle
Mark McDonner - Zachary; Air Command
Scott Bordelon - Echo; Butterfly
Dean & Scott Sharkey - Amite; Air Command
James Chowns - Rayville; Bensen GyroGlider
Richard Hogarth - Lake Charles
Mike Morgan - Kaplan
Terry & Debbie Young - Carencro

James Chowns
Bastrop, LA
James trains in a tow glider at the Morehouse Memorial Airport (KBQP) two miles south of Bastrop. This is a great training aid for anyone just entering training in gyros. This was the way training was done before the introduction of powered two place trainers.
gyrochowns@yahoo.com

Paul Patterson, Edmund Oklahoma
Paul trains in a modified RAF at the Guthrie/Edmond Geoport (KGOK). His RAF includes both a stabilator and a horizontal stabilizer.

CHAPTER SHIRTS
Chapter 62 has two styles of T-shirts available, if you are interested please contact Danny Whitten. He usually has these available for purchase at the meetings.

They are $20 each
May Meeting Pictures

We had seven gyros at the May meeting, three of them were flying afterwards.

Antony and Danny trailered Antony’s Air Command out from Sport Flyer’s to try it out on a Paved field, Danny and Desmon took it for a spin.

Anthony Vallot writes:

Last February, 2010, I purchased my Sparrowhawk Gyrocopter from www.airgyro.com in Springville Utah. After putting 68 hours on it and several repairs later, I have found that the rotor brake has lost it’s effectiveness. So I have ordered a replacement brake shoe from Aircraft Spruce and will get the rotor brake replaced as soon as I can have time away from my office.
Chapter 62 of the PRA is holding its first fly-in in conjunction with the Annual Texas Gator Festival. There will be many activities associated with the festival for everyone to enjoy. For more information on the Gator Fest or local accommodations please visit www.texasgatorfest.com.

Chambers County Airport is also hosting a pancake breakfast fly-in on Saturday so plan to support them and have a great breakfast with other aviation enthusiasts.

We are anticipating a great turnout of rotorcraft from all around our region, Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Oklahoma; currently we are expecting between 20—30 gyros and we also are inviting all other light sport aircraft to attend. Feel free to arrive on Thursday and stay until Sunday.

September 16th and 17th 2011
Chambers County Airport (T00), Anahuac TX

A limited amount of T-Shirts with our Anahuac logo will be sold so if you want one please pre-order to assure one will be available for you. The cost will be determined when we place the order, please contact Danny at dannywhitten@embarqmail.com.

If you are planning on staying at a local motel, please reserve early since festival normally draws quite a large crowd. Food will also be available on site.

We want as many gyros there as possible so even if yours isn’t quite ready for flight, bring it anyway, I’m sure everyone will be interested in seeing it. Along with gyros, we also invite any other rotorcraft or light sport aircraft of any type. If you know anyone in an ultra light, powered parachutes, or other organizations please pass on the information to them.

If you would like to volunteer a little of your time to help us please contact Keith Johnston at 409-673-8737 or KRJohnston5459@me.com.

As we get more organized, and have more information, we will be posting updates in our monthly newsletter. Please keep up with us by checking out the Southwest Rotorcraft each month.
**NEWS RELEASE**

Desmon Butts and Monty Redick of Texas Auto Gyro and Light Sport will be flying to Washington, DC June 15th to pick up the first private owned MTO Sport AutoGyro and launch the dealership of AutoGyro products and provide flight instruction in Texas. They will be team flying the AutoGyro back to Hooks Airport near Tomball, TX. The AutoGyro MTO Sport has an improved long range of over 300 miles with a cruise speed over 90 kts. They will be flying at altitudes up to 7,000 ft. This Gyro is equipped with transponder, mode C & S capabilities for use in class B air space with night lighting and also a touch screen Garmin 500GPS.

Our goal is to provide up to date and safe training. Cutting edge equipment and service for the Texas and surrounding areas. We can help take existing Gyro pilots to the next level such as improved cross country and other practical uses. The MTO has a 650 lb useful load and can take up to a 40 kt cross wind.

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### Who is AutoGyro?

More information about the MTO Sport is listed below off of the web.

The AutoGyro GmbH is a world leader in the development, production and distribution of gyroplanes. Since its inception in 1999, the specialist in air exercise equipment is growing steadily and has now a team of more than 80 highly qualified specialists and engineers. Since 2007 the company is producing gyros in series and is able to put together one gyroplane per day. With distributors in nearly 30 countries, AutoGyro utilizes a global network with the aim to limitless implement the joy of flying in a safe and versatile gyro.

The gyro is designed for a variety of conditions and events. It can be flown in bad weather and turbulences, and still combines the pure joy of flying with maximum security. Our production conforms to the highest standards, ensuring fine detail and excellent work. Each gyroplane represents what AutoGyro stands for: safety, quality, value.

Our long experience in aviation, highly qualified and motivated staff and devotion to quality, have characterized our products since the series began in 2007. Every day a gyroplane is completed and delivered to some parts of the world.

A total of over 90% of all built-in parts of the gyro are an in-house production at AutoGyro. The gyro cabin is made from fiber composites (fiber glass and carbon) in in-house developed forms and then painted in an in-house paint shop. Even the propeller blades and the propeller hub are made in-house.

The framework - the heart of the gyro - is welded of electro-polished high grade stainless steel and can withstand the strongest pressure. Computer-controlled CNC machines produce all the individual parts that are then assembled.

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### Would You Like to See Your Aircraft Featured in Southwest Rotorcraft?

We really like to share pictures and stories of each others machines. Just take a few pictures of yours and send them to us to include in future additions. If you include a short bio of yourself or tell us about some of the details of your machine we will include that too.
49th Annual PRA Convention
August 2 - 6, 2011
Mentone, Indiana

Forums/Seminars  Food  Flying
Camping Competitions  Vendor’s Showcase
Powered Parachute Extravaganza*

*Registration for the Extravaganza can be found at www.powrachute.com

Register early at www.pra.org or 574-353-7227
Mentone Airport C92 • 12296 W 600 S • Mentone, IN 46539
May Meeting Minutes

Member roll call
Danny Whitten, Dean Dolph, Mike Grosshans, Antony Thomas, Chauncey Surry, Anthony Val- lot, Stacy Manness, Mark Spies, Monty Redick, Steve McDaniel, Keith Johnston, Cliff Massey, Mike Stone, Michael Luttrell, Justin Gehl, Des- mon Butts

Visitor Introduction
Jim Gardipee
Don Gardipee

PRA News
Ron Menzie and Ernie Boyette have both re- signed from the PRA BOD, they will keep the BOD at 10 for now due to the membership being low.

Reading and Acceptance of Minutes from Previous Meeting
Minutes were not read but accepted.

Treasurer’s Report
The chapter balance sheet was emailed out to the members.

Safety Reports
There have been several fatal accidents in the last few weeks, one was in Nebraska where a power line was struck. There was a short discus- sion on the dangers of power lines.

Old Business
Waiting for a reply from the IRS on our tax ex- empt application

New Business
1. BOD Report; Mark reported that the BOD had a meeting in May, the fly-in was the topic of dis- cussion, volunteers are needed
2. Chapter fly-in; The date has been set for Sep- tember 16th and 17th. Keith asked for volun- teers and began filling our needs list.

Project Reports
1. Justin purchased the on the trailer trainer and has begun rebuilding it into a flyable Bensen
2. Tony has plans for a dual brake system
3. Chauncey is building a new motor mount

Cliff Massey reminded everyone that Carl Win- ters gyro is still for sale, he will bring it out to Sport flyers for the next meeting and leave it there for people to look at.

Presentation

Plans For Next Meeting
Next meeting to be held at Sport Flyers June 18th, Cliff Massey volunteered to provide lunch

Adjournment
Lunch was provided by Justin and donations were accepted.
Seven gyros were present, three were flying

More detailed minutes can be found on the members only forum.

Clean Your Garage and Help the Club
Danny is taking up collections of scrap steel to take in for recycling. The price of is up and it doesn’t take much to add up to a few dollars. If you have any steel laying around and just rust- ing away or is something you meant to get rid of long ago and just haven’t gotten around to it now’s the time to help the club by bringing your scrap to the June meeting at Sport Flyers. Danny will gather all of this up and take it in, all proceeds collected will be donated to the Chapter.

Chapter 62’s Members Only Forum

Please visit our forum, it is a benefit of being a Chapter 62 member. Read posts from other members and post your thoughts or ideas, don’t be shy. If you forget your user name just check your email for the updated members list, your forum name will be included on this. If you don’t know your password just click “forgot password” and our administrator will send you your pass- word. There’s also an option to “stay logged on” which when checked your computer will remem- ber you and you won’t have to log on every time you visit the forum unless you clean out your cookies on your computer or use a different computer. Looking forward to seeing you on the forum.
7'x 13' trailer for a single place gyro. It has a single axel and both tires and spare are new. Bearings are good as well. There is a winch toward the hitch for helping the gyro on to the deck so a single person can load the gyro. It is a project and needs to have it's deck replaced. Asking $350 PM or email for pictures. Paul 512-680-1835 or perbgyro@sbcglobal.net

Selling a set of RAF 2000 wheels (15x6.00x6 1in axle) and brakes (mechanical-cable) good rubber. $150 + shipping or will trade for ? jack jjp777ex@yahoo.com

I started to build a Zenith CH-650 but my cancer has returned and I am no longer able to work on it. I have several sheets of 6060 T6 aluminum that I need to sell.
5 pieces — 6061 T6 .025 X 48" X 144" (4' X 12') asking $50 each piece or best offer.
1 piece — 6061 T6 .032 X 48" X 144" (4' X 12') asking $55 or best offer.
Whoever buys it (them) will have to pick it up from my house as I have no way to transport them.
Jim Ley
6209 Hancock Road
Rowlett, TX 75089-8255
(214) 703-9144
EAA875705
Jim@LeyTech.com

Air Command low rider
Rotax 447
Powerfin 3 blade prop
5 gallon seat tank
23 ft Dragon Wings
No damage history
Asking price $4000

Contact:
Linda Barton
Dodson, Louisiana
318-628-7817
dannybarton@netzero.net

Selling a set of RAF 2000 wheels (15x6.00x6 1in axle) and brakes (mechanical-cable) good rubber. $150 + shipping or will trade for ?
jack jjp777ex@yahoo.com

HAIRE AVIATION LLC
Jerry T. Haire / Richard N. Haire
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www.haireaviation.com
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9335 Freeman Rd.
Sanger, TX 76266-5914
Bus 940-458-4603
Fax 888-275-3149
Res 940-458-3894

www.aircraftspruce.com

Classifieds are free, just email mike484@aol.com with the information. Classifieds are open to everyone in our region and is not limited to rotocraft only.
EAA Chapter 59 in McGregor, TX is raffling off this beautiful Wag Aero Sport Trainer Cub Replica along with 50 other great prizes. Only 1500 tickets will be sold. Tickets are $100 each. Your chance of winning a prize is 1:30.

1st Prize:
- Air Frame 0 time
- Engine 0200 970 hours
- New Sensenich prop
- Hydraulic toe brakes
- Dual 13 gallon gas tanks
- Electric trim
- Javalina laser cut instrument panel
- Sport pilot eligible
- Fly from the front seat

2-50 Prizes:
- Custom PNR headset
- Flexible boom mic
- Gold Plated plugs
- Padded headband
- Extended Comfort ear seals

Drawing to be held on 1st Saturday Event September, 2011 at the EAA Chapter 59 Hangar
You do not need to be present to win, but you must have your ticket to claim your prize.
Chapter 59 reserves the right to extend the date for the drawing if all tickets are not sold and the right to move the date should tickets be sold before the first Saturday in September, 2011.
Tickets can be purchased from a Chapter member, by contacting a Board member or donating via paypal on the website http://eaas59.org

Anyone is eligible to win including members of Chapter 59, Waco, Tx
A non involved third party shall draw the winning tickets from randomly generated numbers assigned to each ticket.
The purchase of five tickets receives a free EAA Chapter 59 tee shirt.
All proceeds shall be the property of EAA Chapter 59 and shall be used as determined by the Board of Directors and approved by the Chapter Membership for aviation related activities, items, or projects or any other venue deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors.
All taxes, transfers, registration fees or any other costs involved in the acceptance of any prize are the responsibility of the winner. Title must be transferred prior to the aircraft transferring hands and must be transferred and moved within 30 days of award.