Southwest Regional Chapters of the Popular Rotorcraft Association

August 2015
Southwest Regional Chapters

Chapter 6 Mid-South Rotorcraft Club
Contact: Thom Francis
210 S 8th Street
Gurdon, AR 71743
Email: thomefran@netscape.net
Phone: 870-403-2888

Chapter 20 Pelican State Rotor Club
Contact: Bill Wieger
112 Gayven Dr.
Pineville, LA 71360
Phone: 318-640-5656
Email: bwieger@suddenlink.net
Website: www.pra20.com

Chapter 62 Lone Star Rotorcraft Club
Contact: Mike Grosshans
9535 Coast Bridge Street
Houston, TX 77075
Phone: 832-457-2836
Email: Mike484@aol.com
Website: www.gyrosaway.com

Chapter 65 Central Texas Rotorcraft Club
Contact: Paul Erb
9901 Brodie Ln. 160-283
Austin, TX 78748
Email: perbgyro@sbcglobal.net
Phone: 512-680-1835
Website: www.centexpra.org

Chapter 78 Texas Rotorcraft Association
Contact: Bob Stark
PO Box 428
Olney, TX 76374
Phone: 940-564-2938
Email: rgstark@brazosnet.com
Website: www.txrotorcraft.org

Oklahoma
Contact: Robbie Hyde
Duncan, OK
Email: Robbie.hyde@yahoo.com
Phone: 580-475-5261

This Months Contributors:
Becky O'Brien
Cliff Massey
Danny Whitten

Visit The Lone Star Rotorcraft Club on Facebook.

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 http://www.gyrosaway.com/newsletters.php to download past issues.

To subscribe to Southwest Rotorcraft just click the button below. Subscribing to Southwest Rotorcraft also automatically subscribes you to the Western Rotorcraft. At the beginning of each month you will be sent a link to Southwest Rotorcraft and Western Rotorcraft where you can read them online or download them to your computer.

Click Here to Subscribe Now
**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 editions. 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. Any family news or announcements you want to share please feel free to send us so we can let everyone know.

---

**Upcoming Events**

July 18; Chapter 62 Meeting at Anahuac

July 27—August 1; PRA International Convention, Mentone Indiana

August 15; Chapter 62 Meeting at Anahuac

September 19; Chapter 62 Meeting at Anahuac

September 25—27, Ken Brock Freedom Fly-In, El Mirage Dry Lake Bed, California

October 15—17; Chapter 62’s Anahuac Fly-In, Anahuac Texas

---

**On the Cover**

Stacy Maness and Mike Ransleben of Chapter 62.
From The Editor

I want to first apologize for being so late this month. Since returning from Mentone, I have not had the time to devote to get the newsletter done. Over the last couple weeks I have had some medical issues too which ended up in me having to get two more stints installed into my ticker. All is fine now.

This month’s edition will be somewhat condensed and next month I will include a Mentone report with some pictures.

Mentone was very fun this year and Chapter 62 was still able to make a presence with six members attending. It is such an enjoyment to belong to a chapter with so many active members and to be able to travel so far to an event and have some of the members there with me.

Until next month, fly safely.
Mike Grosshans, Southwest Rotorcraft Editor

PRA ANNOUNCEMENT:

YOUR FORUM is now available to share our passion, camaraderie, and learning from experts! We invite you to come hang-out in your new virtual hanger today. Just log into your PRA.org account and follow the instructions at:
Not a member? We invite you to join us at http://www.pra.org/default.aspx?p=join&i=4

Greetings PRA brothers and sisters:

This is just the first of many new member’s benefits to follow!

Brent Drake, PRA President

PRA Volunteer Opportunities

The PRA is not a self-standing separate entity; the PRA is the expression of the effort by the members who donate some of their time to our wonderful sport. Please consider lending a hand by pitching in and volunteering for PRA activities like writing articles, helping at the convention or some of the following positions.

- Web Content Editor
- Web Interface Programmer
- Manufacturer Information Ambassador
- Airport Activities Manager
- Web and Content Ambassador
- Advertisement Coordinator
- Social Media Ambassador
- Curator Volunteer for the History of the PRA

For info about any of these opportunities, email praglobalsupportteam@gmail.com.
July 2015 Chapter 62 Meeting

On July 18th, the July meeting of PRA Chapter 62 was called to order by President Mike Grosshans. Members in attendance were Mike Grosshans, Danny Whitten, Bobby Munroe, Antony Thomas, Chauncey Surry, Keith Johnston, Dean Dolph, Michael Ransleben, Stacy Manes, Becky O’Brien, Kyle Neal, Will Templeton, and Cliff Massey. Two guests from the Houston area, Julie F. and Tom K. were first time visitors.

General Discussions:
- Dean recognized how well the club reacted to reorganizing the BOD with the sudden vacancy of the president position.
- Danny presented the monthly Chapter bank balance.
- Mike discussed the various revenue streams for the club and emphasized lunch donations.
- The upcoming annual Mentone meeting was discussed. The sign for Chap62 has been completed, but will need to be brought in out of the weather.
- Awards for the annual meeting were discussed again this month. Suggestions were furthest driven, furthest flown, best in class, innovation, Murphy’s law, Penguin award (trying the hardest to fly).
- Voting on the annual fly-in budget will have to be postponed until a quorum is available for the vote.
- A trip to Hearne July 25 will be coordinated by Cliff Massey if enough interest is generated. Emails will be sent out this week.

Progress Reports:
- Chauncey flew the pattern early in the morning solo for the first time.
- Mike R’s renovated Benson had its maiden flight several times around the pattern by Danny.
- Danny also flew Kyle’s single seat for the first time.
- Will mentioned that he will be buying a gyro from Ron Menzie.
- Tony is still having oil pressure issues with his Subaru, but may have found the problem.
- Cliff tested his electric pre-rotator, but was not successful.
- Cliff received his Sport Pilot – Gyro rating on July 4th.

The meeting was adjourned and Cliff provided lunch.

Next meeting will be August 15 at Anahuac. Barbara has volunteered to provide lunch.
CHAPTER SHIRTS
Chapter 62 has two styles of T-shirts available, if you are interested please contact Danny Whitten. He has these available for purchase at the meetings. They are $15 each.

Lone Star Magni to Expand Operations to Houston

Dayton Dabbs of Lone Star Magni is planning to expand his training operations to the Houston area. He is wanting to be in the Houston area on a set schedule to accommodate anyone interested in training and who would prefer to do it here rather than travel to his place in Taylor (about 45 minutes north of Austin).

If you are interested in getting training in the Houston area please contact Dayton at:

Dayton@lonestarmagnigyro.com
(800) 241-0924 Office
(512) 750-0332 Cell

The International Association of Professional Gyroplane Training

I.A.P.G.T.
Nurturing the culture of Great Gyro Pilots!

Camping & Conventions

It's all available:
• An Airport, C92
• RV & Tent Camping
• Cantina
• Shaded Tables
• Classroom with A/C
• Restrooms & Showers
• Electrical Hookups
• Paved & Grass Fields
• Hangars
• Observation Tower
• PA System and more

Convention & Camping Grounds! Everything you need at very low rates for the most memorable drive or fly-in experience.

Book early... open dates at our low rates will not last long!

Mentone Airport
12296 N 600 S
MENTONE, IN 46539
(574) 353-7227
http://www.PraMentoneAirport.com
THOUGHTS FOR WANNA BE GYRO PILOTS

If you have an interest in flying gyros, allow me to pass along some food for thought on your trek to become a gyro pilot. My name is Richard Kennedy and I have flown gyros since 94' and have 975 hours on gyros and 300 on fixed wing. Given a choice between the two, gyros win hands down as far as I'm concerned.

Over the years I've seen several people go get training first to start their gyro adventure and that's fine, but often times not the most cost effective way to do it. Let me explain:

After you have a certain number of hours in your training, say 12 hours for example, your instructor will probably start you taxiing in your own gyro. You'll spend many hours just going up and down the taxiway/runway learning rotor blade management and ground handling. But wait...what if you don't have your own gyro yet? Many times students stop training to get a gyro and the next thing you know a year has passed. If they finally have an airworthy gyro much of the training has to be repeated, possibly at $125/hour or more. Also, during your first 50 hours of solo work you are most likely to damage your gyro from a ground handling uh-ho. So here's my suggestion for the most cost effective way to go from desire to gyro pilot and the logical order.

First, go get an hour's flight with a flight instructor or licensed pilot in a two seat gyro. I don't mean an hour flight instruction, but an hour of flying around and seeing what the gyro can do and if you REALLY like it and want to continue. By the end of the hour you'll probably either LOVE it or HATE it. If you love it and want to continue, find someone qualified that can help you find a good used low cost open framed gyro and make sure it's airworthy. Once you have the gyro ready, ABSOLUTELY DO NOT try to do anything with it. Now you're ready to go take lessons and you'll have your gyro ready when the instructor wants you to start working with it. THE LESSONS ARE ABSOLUTELY CRITICAL - NO EXCEPTIONS. Save enough money back to take about 20 hours of instructions and keep the lessons going at a good rate so you can learn and build on your last lesson. Don't drag the lessons out over a long period of time because it will take more hours.

I know many people don't want to own a single open frame gyro forever, but fly the first 100 hours on it. While you're flying it you're getting experience and have time to look around and see what you really want in the long run. Also, you'll have enough experience to give you a better chance of successfully flying what you really want. Sell the open frame single seat gyro. If you ground loop your gyro in the first 50 hours, you ground looped a $4-$6000 open frame Bensen style rather than a nice $20000+ machine.

Anyway, that's my two cents worth for learning to fly a gyro. Good luck and let me know if I can answer any questions or help you. Richard (richardk501@att.net)
Titanium  
"TAGNA"  
Your SOLOSHOT DEALER for the Gyro World!

It zooms, pans, and tracks you a full 360 degrees and tilts up and down for close to 1/2 mile away. This will give you some very nice videos of your flying with out the crowds or pressure. It can be combined with multiple cameras in the pattern or aircraft! It also works with still SLR cameras.

Systems start at 399.00 full HD Sony camera bundle starts at $650.00.

For more information: (907) 841-2409
usautogyro.com soloshot.com

Chapter 62’s 5th Annual Anahuac Fly-In

October 15, 16, and 17 at the Chambers County Airport (T-00), Anahuac Texas.

Food and camping on site, motels and RV parks near by.

Plan on attending as this should be our best year yet.

Click on the movie poster to see the first trailer of *Gyronaughts, Aviation's Best Kept Secret* 
By Mitchel A. Jones.
Light-Sport Gyroplanes
An introductory guide for discovering these unique aircraft
This non-technical book is for persons who are interested in gyroplanes, especially those who may not know much about them, but are curious to discover more. Even persons who think they know a lot about gyroplanes may be surprised to learn about developments that are making gyroplanes better, safer, and more inviting to fly for novices new to aviation as well as pilots who fly all kinds of aircraft.
In brief, whether you're avidly interested in gyroplanes or simply curious, this book is for you.

Available on Amazon.com.
Also available on Amazon:

ORDERING INFORMATION
Born Free ................. $ 19.95
Sales Tax @ 8.50 % .. $ 1.69
(California residents only)
Shipping .................... $ 4.00 in USA

To Order By Mail
Send check or money order payable to:
Marion Springer
720 Mirage Lake Rd.
Adelanto, CA 92301

Pay Online Through PayPal
Email: ddakota@earthlink.net

Gyro Books For Sale
Great books, DVDs, and CDs at www.gyrobooks.com
NEW GYROS

MAGNI

LONE STAR MAGNI GYRO, INC.
Dayton Austin Dabbs
President
www.lonestarlagnigyro.com

Phone: (800) 241-9924
E-Mail: dayton@lonestarlagnigyro.com
Taylor Municipal Airport (T74)
Taylor, Texas 76574

DOMINATOR

ROTOR FLIGHT DYNAMICS, INC.
Fax (813) 833-3296
Ernie Boyette
CFI Gyroplane
19242 Grange Hall Loop
Wimauma, FL 33598
(813) 634-3370

AVIOMANIA

Aviomania USA
"The world's safest gyroplane"
Heath Lowry Sr.
Independent Sales Associate
PO Box 45
Custer, SD 57730
605-440-0900
heath_lowry@yahoo.com
Rotary Forum: Gyrodeputy

APOLLO

SOUTHWEST GYROPLANES LLC
Cliff Massey
(281) 726-7773
Cliff@swgyro.com
Danny Whitten
(713) 240-0607
Danny@swgyro.com
Mike Groschans
(832) 457-2836
Mike@swgyro.com
Southwest Gyroplanes, LLC is an authorized agent of Silverlight Aviation. Visit us at www.SWgyro.com.

AUTOGYRO

Silverlight Aviation
Greg Spicola
Production & Sales
(813) 505-0881
40417 Chancey Road
Suite 101
Zephyrhills, FL 33542
http://www.silverlightaviation.com

TITANIUM AUTO GYRO

Blue Skies Autogyros
Craig McPherson
Certified Flight Instructor
Cell: (817) 517-3283
Maintenance & Repair
Annual & 100 Hour Inspections

Titanium AutoGyro North America LLC.
15603 Cessna Rd
Justin TX 76247 -6638

Contacts:
Jim Phone: 316 435 2238 - President
Chris Phone: 316 435 2091 - Secretary
Mark Phone: 214 697 0155 - Treasurer
Desmon Phone: 907 841 2409 - Vice president

ARROWCOPTER

Represented in the USA by
North American Gyro
281-826-9005
FOR SALE

Classified are free, just send some pictures and a description along with your contact information to mike484@aol.com and we will post whatever it is you have for sale, trade, or looking for.

72 Hp. McCulloch Cylinders

Manufactured years ago but never used. Some still in original packaging. Price Cylinders $ 300 ea. plus shipping. Email for shipping cost.

To order by mail, send check or money order payable to: Marion Springer
720 Mirage Lake Rd.
Adelanto, Ca. 92301

Or pay online through PayPal to ddakota@earthlink.net.

Heavy Duty Warp Drive hub for Rotax. New, bolted on once, ran for engine test, then changed out. $200.

Also have 3—64” Warp Drive blades, turns counter clockwise when viewing from the back, $400

Contact Tony at: thomasant@hotmail.com or (281) 799-5115
GYROS FOR SALE

Golden Butterfly
Golden Butterfly, flown regularly, for sale. Comes with two radios, two helmets, spare parts, aluminum custom built trailer, and a “Find Me” transmitter. This can be seen at the Anahuac Texas hangar. Taking confidential bids via email at d carr4321@hotmail.com

Snowbird Avenger Tandem Gyroplane Kit
Has a Honda Cam engine with Mikuni carb. 115 HP.
$16,500.00
Contact Mark at 225-936-3527 or mmcdonner@bellsouth.net

MTO SPORT AUTOGYRO N832TX
Rotax 912, Garmin 695 GPS, Funkwerk ATR833-LCD and TRT800H-LCD Transponder, seat heater, dual controls, Autogyro cover, etc - 98 hours total
$67,500 Contact Jason Knight at 281-826-9005

Turn Back Time
Ken Brock KB3. 100% original, looks like it just came from Ken Brock Manufacturing. Rotax 582, 60” IVO prop, pre-rotator, rotor brake. Asking $9,000 but will consider serious offers. For the right price, I will include the original build manual, original build drawings, and a Ken Brock catalog from the year this was purchased.
Flying Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xs9UnOCfIs

KB3
Rotax 582 Blue head (fresh rebuild, 0 time), 23’ McCutchen blades, 60” Warp Drive prop, RFD 58” tall tail, electric start. This is a project that only needs instruments, all is new except the blades and electric start, everything else is there, just needs to be completed.
Asking $10,000, make offer.
Air Command

Rotax 582ul DCDI Model 99 with electric start, 25 ft Dragon Wings, high torque pre-rotator, 9 gallon seat tank, RK Clutch on the Warp Drive 68" 4 blade prop, EIS Model 2000 control panel, Rotor Brake, Shine plated muffler, am asking $15k but will consider all reasonable offers. Rex Byrns, 361-655-4987.

RAF 2000

Subaru 2.2 Carbureted, 30Ft RAF Rotors, Built in 2006, Cabin Heat, Pitch and Roll Trim, Belt Driven Pre-Rotator, Carb Heat, Rotor Tach, Engine Tach, Altimeter to 20,000 Feet, Air Speed Indicator. Reduced to $29,500.

Contact: Thom Francis, email thomefran@netscape.net, phone 870-403-2888. Located in Gurdon Arkansas

Aggressor, Plans Built

27' Dragon Wings, 1982 1.8 Turbo Bratt engine, Tennessee prop, Aggressor air frame. Also have a 2.2 Legacy engine included. $8,000 Gyro is located at the PRA headquarters in Mentone.

Contact John at john-gillmore1959@yahoo.com or 317-840-2697

Bensen

Bensen, has the McCullough 72 just put a new cylinder and piston and rings and a starter kit on it also 10ft 3 in rotors with a 24 inch hub bar. $5,500, may have a small trailer to throw in if needed, ready to fly. Contact Hoppy at 512-488-2440

Sportcopter Super Vortex M Series

Completed in Aug. '13, Fresh Annual, 71 hrs. TT. This is a proven machine. Viking engine rated at 110 HP @ 5800 rpm...118 HP @ 6600 red line. Direct fuel injection. No carb icing. Custom cold air deflectors. Has 70" X 3 blade Warp Drive w/spinner. MGL full color readout E.I.S. including fuel level gauge and fuel/air mixture. S/C rotors are 8" X 27" and turn S/L ± 360 rpm. Smooth as silk. 4 way elec. trim control. Very stable machine. High inertia blades allow for more 'hang time' making landings a breeze. This is the sister ship to Doug Smith's that won grand prize at Mentone in 2014. They are nearly identical except for the paint 'wrap'. 18 gal. w/aux. tanks. Funkwerks radio & mode A/C-S transponder w/built in alt. encoder. This ship has ALL the bells/whistles for the pilot who wants 'the works'....and the best thing of all: you won't have to wait a year after ordering it!! PRICE REDUCED!....$54,995.00 .... some 'extras' included. All Inquiries promptly answered; contact Mark Treidel 303-475-9156
James Chowns  
Bastrop, LA  
James trains in a tow glider at the Morehouse Memorial Airport (KBQP) in Bastrop. This is a great training aid for anyone just entering training in gyros. This was the way training was done before the 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.  
405-826-8443  
PaulPatterson1@cox.net

Henry Foster  
Trains at the Olney Airport in a Modified RAF, a SparrowHawk, and an Air Command  
hsf66@yahoo.com  214–692-0727

Proper training is the best money spent.  
It’s amazing how many accidents happen on the ground before the aircraft sees it’s first flight, training can greatly prevent and reduce accidents. One set of rotor blades can buy about fifteen hours of training..