The Arrowcopter Has Arrived in Houston

Southwest Regional Chapters of the Popular Rotorcraft Association
Chapter 6 Mid-South Rotorcraft Club
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Chapter 65 Central Texas Rotorcraft Club
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Chapter 78 Texas Rotorcraft Association
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This Months Contributors:
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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.

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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 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.

On the Cover
Jason Knight of Arrowcopter NA took possession of his AC20 in Houston on Wednesday, February 4th.

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.
We strongly encourage all SWR readers to become members of the PRA. By joining you will be supporting the organization that promotes our sport by representing us to the FAA and assist them on making gyro flying available for all of us. The new PRA website has several members only benefits including: PRA’s electronic Rotorcraft magazines along with past issues chocked full of great information and historical data, downloadable plans, and a PRA supported forum. Please join today, you won’t be disappointed.

www.pra.org

From The Editor

Looks like 2015 will be the year we see some new gyros enter the market place in the US.

The Arrowcopter, from Austria, has just arrived in Houston. Jason Knight is the owner and the North American representative for Arrowcopter. This is the Lamborghini of the gyro world.

We are all clinging to the edge of our seats awaiting the arrival of the TAG gyro from Australia. Jim and Chris Toevs from Kansas, and also members of Chapter 62, are currently in the process to getting their new titanium framed gyro over here to the US. Since it will be arriving in Houston, we are all hoping to be some of the first in the nation to get a look at this one.

Advances in gyros and gyro designs are moving quickly with the popularity of the Euro type gyros. In other countries, these are certified aircraft, but the US is still labeling them as experimental and the must be built under the 51% amateur built rules. Maybe some day the gyro will be recognized and some models become classified as certified aircraft in the US.

I believe with the new breed of gyro and their popularity, this will spawn more activity amongst the home builds as many of us, and I for sure, cannot afford the $70,000 plus gyros that are now coming into the market. But, this new generation may make gyros as common as the Cessna.

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

Steve Weir Memorial Fund

The family of Steve Weir, with the support of the PRA, has set up a memorial fund in Steve’s name. The funds will be used by the PRA for education and training. If you would like to contribute, please visit the PRA website’s donation page, http://www.pra.org/donation.aspx?id=48, check “other” and put Steve’s name in the box. Fill in the amount you wish to contribute, check the payment method, and hit “Donate”, it’s that easy.

If you can’t, or would rather not contribute via internet, you can send a check to the PRA at:

PRA
Steve Weir Memorial
P. O. Box 68
Mentone, Indiana 46539

Make sure you clearly mark the check with Steve’s name to assure the funds are deposited into the right place.

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.
January Meeting

On January 17th, the January meeting of PRA Chapter 62 was called to order by Secretary Mike Grosshans. Members in attendance were Danny Whitten, Bobby Munroe, Antony Thomas, Chauncey Surry, Keith Johnston, Dean Dolph, David Trammell, Michael Ransleben, Stacy Manes, Becky O'Brien, Kyle Neal, Will Templeton, and Mike Geyer.

Dean discussed the new PRA forum and asked everyone to visit.

Danny presented the monthly Chapter bank balance.

Bobby Munroe brought up a discussion about balancing on the mains. This turned into quite a group discussion covering some of the pros and cons and why this practice is important.

The newly acquired (donated by Dean) boom trainer was discussed and what should be done with it in the near future.

There was not much to discuss at this meeting but, Mike did ask the group to think about possible 2015 goals and what the chapter needs to do this year to progress to the next step.

Progress reports were: Mike Ransleben has purchased a new Bensen is beginning work on it, David Trammel has installed a stabilator on his RAF and is currently working on getting it to work properly. David also showed the group a couple of ground school apps he has been using.

The meeting was adjourned and lunch was served.

Next meeting will be February 21st at Anahuac, David has volunteered to provide lunch.
Jason Knight’s Arrowcopter AC20 arrived at Hooks airport (Tomball, TX) on February 4th. Jason (PRA# 42592, Chapter 62 member) is the North American territory representative for Arrowcopter which he initially intends to market to law enforcement until a kit version is available. It was removed from the shipping container and final assembly of the landing gear, rotor, and markings were completed in with assistance from Mike Stone (PRA# 17740, Chapter 62 member) in preparation for Saturday's appointment with the DAR.

If you are unfamiliar with the Arrow Copter, prepare to drool. Let’s just start with the carbon fiber unibody construction which provides superior structural integrity and crash protection. The 2nd notable difference is the extremely stable wide stance provided by the triple purpose landing gear / fuel tanks / and functional stub wings. Other features unique to the AC20 are floor sliding rudder controls, cyclic controls, and rotorhead designs not seen before in a gyroplane.

You will be able to see the AC20 in person at all the major fly-ins such as the upcoming Sun-N-Fun event.

Visit www.nagyro.com to find out more about the Arrowcopter AC20.
Welcome to the New Modern PRA!

The New MODERN PRA has changed, and here is just a taste with so many more chapter and member benefits coming soon.

1) **New PRA Member Benefits** - We NOW PAY YOU to join us! Click the link below to learn how.

2) **PRA Group Insurance Offer** - Please ACT NOW! PRA has set it up... now it is up to YOU!
Click the link below to learn the whole story:
This could save you thousands of dollars!

3) **2015 Convention on it way to be one of the largest attended EVER!!**
Click the link below to learn more:

4) **Manufactures, Dealers, Vendors, and Suppliers meet PRA member's needs!**
Click the link below to see how the Modern PRA is changing to meet your needs.

5) **Chapters man your MARKETING Announcement & Questions Forums.** You are the only ones who can answer questions about joining your chapter!
Click the link below to learn the details...
Click the link below to see your new virtual marketing Forum.

6) **Chapters brothers and sisters** - PRA will market with batch emailing for you!
Check this out = Click the link below:

7) **PRA Chapters, we invite you to write a Blog on our forum and describe your chapter.**

8) **Chapters Private Virtual Office & Meeting place with voting polls.**
Click here to learn the rest of the features:
Click here to see where you will be listed with the others using it now:

Welcome to the NEW MODERN PRA!
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.

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!

Happy New Year!
Doug Barker,
PRA President
Jim and Chris Toevs New TAG Gyro

Time to share a bit of our new gyro build.

While in Australia for my annual visit to family, we were both able to work on building (with factory build supervision), our custom-fitted for Jim's size new two seat gyro. A sleek red Titanium Explorer! We both enjoyed separate visits to the assembly site near Tamworth and I was able to spend time with the design developer Neil Sheather at his home near Canberra working on finish details just prior to my return home.

Presently awaiting the all new composite rotors to be delivered, everything will be checked out and test flown, then secured in a container and headed to Houston (hoping for no wharfie strikes to delay a tight shipping schedule) hoping to arrive early April. Working on getting all the paperwork in correct order and get airworthiness done at (or prior to) Bensen Days!

Chris

Attaching wiring harness to top frame

Mast/keel units (supply storage area in loft)

Extended adjustable pedals ... for Jim

Assembled front fork (with ingenious internal bump/bounce absorbing bushings)

Custom cut panel ... to give Jim more knee room. (Wonderful instrument layout & grouping!)

The weathercover costs Autogyro owners extra big-bucks ... all included with the Titanium.
Very close to finished

Final assembly piece—fitting the little door - front seat entry.

Rear seat instruments (CFI package)

Neil Sheather

Rotorhead

Stout prerotator with manual cable engager (in case of pneumatic line failure...in a remote area)

Rear view of mast & motor mounts
The Yellow is serial # 5, Blue is #6, Toevs Team’s is the Red one #7 and the white one #8 will be traveling to the US with Team Toevs.
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:

Born Free - My Life In Gyrocopters

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

To Order By Mail
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Email: ddaota@earthlink.net

Gyro Books For Sale

Great books, DVDs, and CDs at www.gyrobooks.com
Chapter Patches
If you would like to get a chapter patch for your flight suit, favorite shirt, ball cap, or just whatever you want to stick it on, contact:

Chapter 20; Rudy Graffeo at RLGraffeo@eatel.net
Chapter 62; Danny Whitten at dannywhitten@embarqmail.com

New Bensen/Brock Rotor Blades
B & B
Rotor Blade Price List
July 9, 2012

Blades, either Bensen or Brock attach points $1,295.00
Hub Bars: 25”, 36”, or 48”
Blades and Hub Bar Sets: 21’, 23’, or 25’
Contact Roger Farnes at rotorsnradials@msn.com or (909) 519-4427
FOR SALE

Classified ads 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.

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

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

RAF wheel pants, two mains, one front, and one tail wheel. $200

Contact Mike at mike484@aol.com or (832) 547-2836.

GYROS FOR SALE

MTOSPORT 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

Bensen

Mac engine, new Dragon Wings and Tennessee prop. Asking $6,500. Contact info: Bobby Martin - bobby@bobcatventures.com

Air Command Low Rider

Rotax single carb 503. Asking Price: $6,000. Contact info: Bobby Martin - bobby@bobcatventures.com or Coda Riley - coda.riley@yahoo.com

VW Gyro with an 1835

Runs great call Walt at (479) 641-0307 Price $6850.00 with trailer PS. Does have N No. and Flight worthy tag.
**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.

Contact Mike at mike484@aol.com or (832) 457-2836

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**Golden Butterfly**

Golden Butterfly, flown regularly, for sale. Comes with two radios, two helmets, spar 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 dcarr4321@hotmail.com

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**TWO SEAT AIRCOMMAND**

$30,000.00

Experimental Light Sport Airworthiness Certificate, Approx. 25 hours since new, Light Sport test time completed, Subaru 2.2 with cam grind (engine professionally overhauled prior to installation), two helmets, intercom, radio (not installed), spare Subaru 2.5, spare hub bar, logs and data sheets included, airframe factory built, Rotordyne blades, three blade prop, Wunderlich pre-rotator, Nav lights and landing lights.

Contact: Robert Stark at (940) 564-2938, Olney Municipal Airport, Olney Texas

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**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

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**Older RAF For Sale**

This is a A&P built with a EA 82 w/ 78 hrs , It looks very well built . It has built in 2004 . NEW price lowered to $11999 FIRM My number is 864-985-1774 My name is Redd
**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-gilmore1959@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

**For Sale by Ron Menzie**

I have one more RAF, Fuel injected Subaru, 350 hours total, has never been damaged. $24,000.

ronsgyros@gmail.com, (501) 766-6456, ww.ronsgyros.com. Located in Searcy Arkansas
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.