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.

**Family News and Announcements**
Our newsletter isn't just 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.

**Upcoming Events**

- Central Texas Airshow - May 3-5
  http://www.centraltexasairshow.com/
- Kingsbury Air Fair - May 11
  http://pioneerflightmuseum.org/
- May 18; Chapter 62 Meeting at Anahuac
  **Date Change**
  May 31, June 1 and 2; Chapter 20 Meet in Opelousas
- June 6 - 8; Rotors Over The Rockies
- June 8 - Chapter 65, Luling T91 - Informal Fly-in?
- August 6 - 10; PRA Convention, Mentone Indiana
  June 15; Chapter 62 Meeting at Anahuac
- July 13 - San Marcos Municipal KH¥I - Specialized Aero Hanger
- Jul 29 - Aug 4; EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2013 Oshkosh, WI
- August 27 - 29; Ken Brock Freedom Fly-In
- PRA International Convention; August 6—10, Mentone Indiana
- September 12, 13, and 14; Chapter 62’s Gatorfest Fly-In, Anahuac Texas

**Send Us Your News**

**On the Cover**
Desmon's new MTO Sport at Sun and Fun, Florida.
From The Editor

I am a very proud father this month. Two of my daughters graduated from the University of Houston, both with Masters in Science, one in Accounting and one in Geology. Such an accomplishment for both of them.

Unfortunately, last month we also saw another tragedy in the gyro community. Scott Adair lost his life in an accident in Florida April 29th. Our prayers and condolences go out to his family and friends.

Scott happened to be another low time gyro pilot which just shows again how important proper training and slow progression into flying gyros is so important. Let's all make an extra effort to protect our new pilots and let them know that taking their time in learning to fly is the best way to enjoy a long adventure into the sport. Taking short cuts or trying to fly before you are really ready can just make your journey un-enjoyable and possibly, very short.

Let's put training on the forefront and support our CFI's as they are the most important part in making our sport safe and fun.

Until next month, fly safely.

Mike Grosshans, Southwest Rotorcraft Editor

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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
Re-write and update text on the PRA web site. No programming experience needed. All work can be done through email.

Web Interface Programmer
Help make the PRA web site more user friendly and more modern. Programming experience is required and a commitment to finish projects.

Manufacturer Information Ambassador
Help gather information about manufacturers, vendors and products of all kinds of interest to personal rotorcraft fans, owners, builders and pilots. All work can be done through phone and email.

Airport Activities Manager
Help bring other clubs, companies and events to the Mentone Airport. We have excellent facilities that are only fully utilized by three clubs a few weeks a year. Help us expand utilization of the airport, expand our sport and other sports. If successful, this can become a paid position.

Web and Content Ambassador
Contact speakers for PRA webinars and find people to submit their videos for exclusive use on the PRA members-only website. All work can be done through phone and email.

Advertisement Coordinator
Help arrange for vendors to advertise in the PRA Rotorcraft magazine and web page. This can become a paid commission position. All work can be done through phone and email.

Social Media Ambassador
Update and post content to PRA social media outlets like Facebook. All work can be done through the web and email.

Curator Volunteer for the History of the PRA
Dr. Charnov has given the PRA a great gift of a documented 50 year history of the PRA. We need a volunteer to copyright this work and suggest to the board of directors how this work can best be utilized by the membership.

For info about any of these opportunities, email praglobalsupportteam@gmail.com.
Chapter 62 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. 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 password. There’s also an option to “stay logged on” which when checked your computer will remember 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.
From Chuck Burgoon

Last Saturday at Anahuac (April 20th) we had a PRA Chapter 62 gathering of pilots who are based there and flew in from several other airports. Three of us from RWJ, guys from Beaumont, Hooks, Winnie and elsewhere. We had over 20 guys show up.

There were gyros, trikes, airplanes of various types. Lots of flying and ridesharing before and after the barbeque lunch. A good time was had by all. I tried to get more local pilots to come. Hope you can make the next 3rd Saturday of every month.

I got my gyro's annual inspection done afterwards, then headed up to Texarkana to pick up a KB-2 (modified) gyro I bought. We flew it in Atlanta (they have a fly-in in May) and hauled it back to Anahuac. It's just something to play with while I'm finishing my 2-Entendre project. It will be a twin engine gyro/trike.

Rickie Segrest bought my-son-in-law's trike. He's never flown in "anything" before. He was able to get a flight in Coda's Starduster bi-plane, my trike, and Desmon's brand new MTO-3 Sport gyro...you couldn't wipe the smile off his face. Not bad for his first day in the sport.

Reflections From Bensen Days
Wachula, Florida April 4th—6th
Bill Wieger

Two Pelican members attended, being Bill Wieger and Kirk Grover. Kirk didn’t have his machine but he provided a good bit of assistance for the host, Sunstate Wing and Rotor Club. Bill brought his gyro for the first time leaving it off early while pursuing other interests in southeast Florida and then flying several times during the normal days of activities.

The Sunstate Chapter does a great job with this event and the airport is an excellent facility. Sunstate contains members who are very accomplished flyers and craftsmen. A Yamaha 3-cylinder, maybe about 130 HP, demonstrated colossal climb performance; such that from breaking ground climbing at a steep angle to being a speck at about 1,300 feet! Another guy showed similar performance along with flying backwards and blasting out heavy doses of smoke.

Of course there were many particularly quick lift-off machines. There were several CFIs and they were consistently busy. Desmon Butts from Texas was one, as was Steve McGowan. Also from Texas was Steve Weir who flew quite a bit. Danny Whitten was on hand along with Chuck Burgoon, Don Bouchard, and Keith Johnston.

The Saturday evening banquet was a fine event with numerous wood and crystal trophies being awarded. One of the last was to Bill Wieger via the announcement of an N-number which was his. The inscriptions were very refined artwork, along with the identification of what the award was for.

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Wieger’s reads “Dude, that's one ugly gyro Award”. Well, the award sure is attractive and makes a unique remembrance of being there, and, I don’t think the machine is all that ugly.

No doubt, this is a class event and anytime anyone can make it, it would be a great experience.

Pictures: Bill flying, Desmon’s awards, Desmon giving rides, Bill on the tarmac, Steve getting ready to fly, Steve and Chuck doing a little hangar flying, Don digging in, Bensen Days shirt back.

LOOK WHAT WAS AT OUR HANGAR

Chapter 62 was very fortunate to have both, an MTO Sport and an MTO Calidus at our hangar on April 27th.

Desmon has been working with Gary on building his new Calidus then they brought it out to our hangar to run the engine and try the taxi way to begin tweaking the build. Desmon and Cliff Massey flew in with Desmon’s new machine. What a treat, something that we have not had before and something that probably has not happened at very many other club hangars.
Information

St. Landry Parish Airport—Arhart Field

The airport is northwest of the city, entry is easy from Route 749. It is best accessed by turning north from US 190 onto LA 182 (which is one way going north). Travel north until coming to the Super Stop gas station on the east side. Turn left, this is Martin Luther King Drive which connects over to 749 and the airport access. If you have any questions you can contact Dave Toussant, airport manager, at 337-407-1551. The gate code for access to the airport is 1948.

Travel trailers and motor homes can be located at the airport by calling ahead. The airport has a well appointed terminal building.

The airport is a large expanse of concrete (an old military field). We’ll probably operate from just a corner of the expanse, more or less our private flight ops area near the hangar We’ll expect to operate outside of the hangar as we have done before, we expect to need canopies, everyone should bring a chair.

For overnight storage we expect to be able to store the aircraft in the large hangar.

Main runway 360/180 and is 6,000 feet. 6/24 is 4,000 feet. There is practically no general aviation in the afternoon.

Evangeline Downs Racetrack is near by and provides all sorts of entertainment from horse racing to casinos to food and some bands, located just east of I-49. Accommodations include Days Inn, American Best Value Inn, Holiday Inn, and Super 8.

Activities

Arrivals welcome on Friday including flying.

Saturday we intend to conduct some fun competitive events, after chow, such as bomb drop, slow fight, pylon race, and spot landing. Chow (around 1 to 1:30), The menu will be determined by the attendees. Cost will be bargain for members and a few dollars more for non-members, including drinks.

Group pictures after chow.

Planned discussion will be about locations for future musters, with the idea for incorporating some different airports as a matter of learning more about different places and facilities.

Evening; we intend to have a social at one of the establishments in town, or at the Downs, to include spirits, kibitzing, and hangar flying for all of those that can stay for it.

Sunday flying is expected for all who are interested until everyone departs.

Summer Chapter Meet; Maybe mid-September, maybe jointly with Texas. Also fall events scheduled at Marshal and Petit Jeann Mountain, AR.

Fall Chapter Meet; We will be returning to Bastrop in October.

For more information about our upcoming meets or to get more information on Chapter 20 please contact Rudy at RLGriffio@eatel.net
April 20th Meeting

On April 20th the April Meeting of PRA Chapter 62 was called to order by President Steve Wier. Members in attendance were Mark Spies, Dan Carr, Tim McCullough, Will Templeton, Chuck Burgoon, Stacy Maness, Dean Dolph, Chauncey Surry, Keith Johnston, Mike Stone, Danny Whitten, Becky O’Brien, Mike Ransleben, Bobby Martin, Coda Riley, Desmon Butts, and Mike Grosshans, along with three visitors.

Danny presented the monthly Chapter bank balance. Danny also asked the club about sending our CPA a gift certificate now that tax season is over; the CPA does not charge the chapter for his services. It was agreed by all to go ahead and send one.

Steve opened up new business discussing Jakes drill jigs. He asked the membership to vote to acquire one; it was unanimously decided that the club could use one.

The Fly-In discussion was started by Steve telling the group that anyone wanting to submit a flyer to advertise, to please do so. We will then look at all submitted flyers and decide which one the club should use. Other items for the fly-in that were brought up were, hats, hat pins, coffee cups, towels, and name tags. Mike will look into these items and get pricing.

A round table discussion on project reports was next. Chuck told the group about his recent purchase and his plans to try and build a dual purpose machine that could be used for both, a gyro and a trike. Mike is working on his RAF and KB3, the RAF is getting much closer to being completed. Mike S is working on the wiring on his MTO Sport. Dan is putting the blades back on his Golden Butterfly and is hoping to be back in the air soon. Mike R is working on the cooling and fuel systems on his Bensen. Chauncey is doing some carb work.

The meeting was adjourned. Lunch was provided by Mark, donations were accepted. Stacy and Barbara will be providing next months lunch.

Next meeting is set for May 18th at Anahuac.

Chapter 62 wishes to welcome it’s newest member.

Ron Clifton joined us in May.

Welcome aboard, we’re glad to have you with us and hope to see you achieve your gyro dreams.
HANGAR FLYING
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

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 $15 each.
We strongly encourage all chapter members 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 will have 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
GYROS FOR SALE

Starbee

Starbee gyro rolling frame Rotax 503, 24ft dragon wing rotor blades, electric pre-rotator. It has never flown, contact Glenn Duohon for information. Asking $6000.

Phone # 337-519-0606
grduohon@att.net

RAF 2000


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.

EXCEPTIONAL RAF2000 GTX-SE

REduced price.
RAF2000 GTX-SE with Phase II Subaru 2.2L FOR SALE. $22K OBO. 450 hours TT. Features include Keith Dorton 500 cfm racing carb, tuned exhaust headers, dual fuel pumps, Sigtronics dash-mounted intercom. REDUCED PRICE includes spare main drive belt and sprocket, spare fuel pumps, new tires / tubes, GPS (Garmin 195) and mount, Icom handheld radio (A5), spare mast bushings and extra hardware. Hangared in Waycross, GA. Contact Jerry at 912-449-1140 or jrtiahr@atc.cc.

Bensen, Waco Texas Area

Bensen/KB2 gyro for sale or trade or combo cash and trade. Has Wunderlich pre-rotator, brakes on mains, instrument pod with usual basic instruments, 90 HP Mac, Troyer 50x30, 2x11’ rotor blades w/3’ hub bar (built by Neil Carnes). Will trade for a good used small car like a Mini Cooper, Tracker, Samauri, or fully rigged Goldwing or Goldwing trike. Cash of 6,700. Going with this gyro is a hand held portable Navcom, a hand held flight calc computer, a spare holly single carb, some little odds and ends. A pretty good entry package. Contact Larry Murphy at: loop_m@hotmail.com

Air Command

I have decided to sell my gyroplane which is hangared at Ron Menzie’s in Searcy, AR. It has the Rotax 503 engine and DragonWings main rotors. I am including Sporty’s transceiver and helmet. Also including most of the airframe components for a Benson and a spare parts Rotax 503. The Air Command has Airworthiness Certificate as well as current Annual Inspection which is good through 12/31/13. I am asking $12,000 or best offer. Any reasonable offers will be considered. I can be contacted at stockdale.mark@gmail.com or Ron could be contacted with questions or to set up time to show it.

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.
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

Arkansas

Louisiana

Anthony Spagnolo
Since 1984

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PRA