Gyrocopter Lands on West Lawn of Capitol Hill
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: Mark Spies
Houston, TX
Phone: 713-469-2462
Email: MarkHSpies@gmail.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:
Dean Dolph
Chris Toeys
Jim Toeys
Rudy Graffeo
Bill Weiger

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
Upcoming Events

May 16; Chapter 62 Monthly Meeting at Anahuac

DATE CHANGE
May 23; Chapter 20 Meet in Opelousas

June 9—13; Rotors Over the Rockies, Brigham City Utah

June 20; Chapter 62 Meeting at Anahuac

July 18; Chapter 62 Meeting at Anahuac

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

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

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 also. Any family news or announcements you want to share please feel free to send us so we can let everyone know.

On the Cover
Rendering of Doug Hughes flying his gyro into Washington to Capitol Hill
From The Editor

Boy, what an exciting month, just as Bensen Days was starting, the news buzzed about a gyro landing on the west lawn of Capital Hill. Bensen Days was first class this year with a great show of gyros, mixing in the old with the new, the Eurogyros made a huge and very welcomed presence but the home built gyros still showed up in a very large fashion.

Then just a couple weeks after Bensen Days, the first Australian Titanium gyros hits US soil at the Chapter 62 hangars. Their permanent location will be at Propwash Airport near Justin Texas.

The sales of Eurogyros, or as some call them, modern gyros, is really booming and Texas is leading the way with more new gyros coming here than anywhere else in the US. We also have dealers for Autogyro, Magni, Arrowcopter and now TAG, located within our borders. It seems as though these newer gyros are breathing air back into our sport and helping us to grow and become a much stronger force than what we have been in the last few years. The modern design gyros, being more accepted among the general aviation community, are now having pilots who would not have considered flying the home built models. With law enforcement and other government agencies moving towards gyros as a means to reduce costs over the use of helicopters, we are more into the public view.

Really looking forward to this year and anxious to see how much more we can grow.

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

On April 25th, the April meeting of PRA Chapter 62 was called to order by President Mark Spies. The April meeting was moved back one week due to most of the BODs being out of town on the regularly scheduled date. Members in attendance were Mike Grosshans, Danny Whitten, Cliff Massey, Bobby Munroe, Antony Thomas, Chauncey Surry, Keith Johnston, Dean Dolph, Mike Ransleben, Becky O’Brien, Charles Brazil, and David Trammell.

Danny presented the monthly Chapter bank balance.

Old Business; The group discussed the purchase of the travel trailer, Mark motioned for a vote and Chauncey seconded. A vote was taken and it was unanimously voted to make the purchase.

Dean presented his idea for the chapter donation of the seminar board for the International Convention. He and Danny will work on getting this put together.

New Business: Cliff and Mark will be working on the by-law revision and will present them at a later date.

Cliff explained the bolt bin log and how it will work. We are asking that anyone using the bolt bin to please fill out the log.

Danny gave a brief presentation on Bensen Days. We had seven club members attend along with two others from our area, a great show of people from the Texas group.

Progress Reports: Mike has disassembled the gold Bensen he recently purchased and has painted it yellow. Chauncey and Danny have located a new set of blades for the modified RAF. Cliff has recently soloed at Dayton’s. Tony is very close to getting a test flight in his new Dominator.

The meeting was adjourned and lunch was served. Lunch was provided by Cliff Massey.

Next meeting will be May 16th at Anahuac, Keith Johnston has volunteered to provide lunch.
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.

For more information, please contact Rudy Graffeo at rlgraffeo@eatel.net or Bill Wieger at bwieg-er@suddenlink.net.
Bensen Days 2015

In April, several of the Southwest Region members made homage to Wauchula Florida for the annual Bensen Days convention. Chris and Jim Toevs made their travels through Texas to stop and pick up Mark Airey’s MTO to take to Florida. They then made a visit to Anahuac, though short, we had a great time visiting and eating lunch. Don Bouchard trailered his newest creation to the event, and Anthony Spagnoletti, with the help of JC Hopkins, took two gyros to the fly-in. Mike Grosshans and Danny Whitten took the easy route and flew with Southwest. Desmon Butts trailered his MTO, and Mark Airey was also on hand.

Bill Wieger, as well as Mark McDonner who traveled with his friend Jerry, from Chapter 26 were also present. It is such a pleasure when you can travel half way across the US and spend time with others that you know so well.

This year had a great showing of several types of euro-gyros; Auto Gyro, Xenon, Apollo, and the newest, Lightning. The older models were very well represented also with of course the Dominator being a mainstay.

For a more comprehensive report, please read Chris Toevs write up in the latest PRA Rotorcraft eZine.

The Texas representatives left to right: Mike Grosshans, JC Hopkins, Anthony Spagnoletti, Chris Toevs, Jin Toevs, Danny Whitten, Mark Airey, and Desmon Butts; Don couldn’t be found at this time.
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!

Doug Barker,
PRA President

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

4th of JULY TREASURE SALE
ONE MAN'S JUNK IS ANOTHERS TREASURE
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY—ALL DAY

AIRCRAFT PARTS
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LOCATION: Stark’s Aviation, Olney Municipal Airport, Olney, Texas

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Titanium Autogyro
Hits US Soil

Chris Toevs

Around the Lone Star Rotorcraft Club Hangars ....

May 1 & 2 2015 .... a few pics of members working on their projects & also Ira getting acquainted with details of our (Jim & Chris's) Red Titanium Explorer!

Friday was an exciting & much awaited day for the TAGNA crew ... finally our shipment of 2 Aussie gyros arrived @ Anahuac for unloading. A local tow-truck "tilt-bed" was engaged to assist as a mobile dock. This solution to the lack of having a loading dock .. which is the US norm for unloading container freight ... was suggested to us by Jason Knight. It worked out great & we had a sharp young truck operator who did an excellent job ... also he was extremely interested in the gyros and the club ... I'm betting we will see more of him around in his free time!

The container trucker was waiting on the unloading to be completed ... so it was good it was done in 2.5 hours .... We were very relieved to see how well the gyro's had been anchored to the container floor ... we knew they had been through a severe Pacific storm ... on the ship - just out of Sydney ...and also had been transported by rail ... from Long Beach CA. All was solid ... nothing had shifted ... gyros in pristine shape ... in spite of the close quarters in the 20ft container!

Keith was on hand to see the fun! Later in the day Ira stopped by to take official pictures of the latest version of a "modern-type" gyro to come to US soil! By chance of Jim & Chris having their truck-breakdown @ Huntsville we ended up staying an extra day ... which worked out great ... to visit with the Saturday group of club members working on projects and allow a few more to get the first good look @ Titanium Explorer!

We thoroughly enjoyed a relaxed Saturday hanging out with our friends @ Chap 62 LSRC! Sunday we loaded "FSTE" AKA "Festy" onto our old gyro trailer ... hoping the new one under construction in Corsicana will be ready ... for the next move on to Kansas in a couple more weeks ... for now we are based @ Mark's hangar @ Propwash airport near Justin TX.

A thorough check-over, finish up applying US stickers/placarding... receive the rotors , prepare for airworthy inspection, then the transition training and begin Phase I fly-off ... lie ahead!
Titanium AutoGyro

“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

What does it do?
This product will be shown at ROTR in Brigham City Utah!!
RUSKIN, Fla., Posted April 19, 2015 (AP) -- The letter carrier who caused a full-scale security review in Washington when he violated national airspace by landing his gyrocopter on Capitol Hill expressed frustration Sunday that his message wasn't getting through.

Doug Hughes had hoped to raise awareness about the influence of big money in politics by deliberately breaking the law to deliver 535 letters, one for each member of Congress. Instead, the overwhelming focus of news coverage has been about the gaps he exposed in national security.

"We've got bigger problems in this country than worrying about whether the security around DC is ironclad," Hughes told The Associated Press. "We need to be worried about the piles of money that are going into Congress."

Hughes, 61, spoke as he returned to his home in Florida to await prosecution on charges of violating national airspace and operating an unregistered aircraft. He said his house arrest begins Monday, and he will wear an electronic monitoring ankle bracelet until a May 8 court hearing in Washington.

Hughes said people weren't scared when they saw his gyrocopter. He says they waved to each other as he flew in low and slow over the National Mall, over the reflecting pool and onto the Capitol's West lawn. Hughes spent a night in jail after Capitol Police arrested him. The ultralight aircraft and its cargo -- a U.S. Postal Service bin carrying the letters -- were seized.

"The message was two pages long to Congress that they are going to have to face the issue, OK, of campaign-finance reform and honesty and government so that they work for the people," Hughes said. Hughes' Russian-born wife, Alena, told the AP that her husband acted out of patriotism for the United States.

"I am very proud of my husband. He is a countryman," she said.

Asked Sunday if he too thinks he's a patriot or simply crazy, Hughes said "everyone gets to make up their own mind about me, that's what I'd say."

"But do you consider yourself a patriot?" a reporter asked.

"No, I'm a mailman," he said.
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.

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

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Click on the movie poster to see the first trailer of *Gyronauts, Aviation's Best Kept Secret* by Mitchel A. Jones.

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Click on the movie poster to see the first trailer of *Gyronauts, 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.

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Gyro Books For Sale

Great books, DVDs, and CDs at www.gyrobooks.com
The entire TAGNA group at Bensen Days; Jim Toeys, Chris Toeys, Desmon Butts, and Mark Airey.

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
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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.

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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, 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 dcar4321@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

For Sale By The Same Owner
2 KB3s and an RAF, Contact Mike at mike484@aol.com or (832) 457-2836. Prices are negotiable and may consider short term financing.

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

1999 RAF 2000 Carbureted Subaru 2.2

Rebuilt from the upper mast up, new rotorhead, new blades. Fresh repaint, tinted glass, radio, intercom, David Clark head sets, Parham stab, Parham landing gear. Comes with gyro but not installed: transponder, nav and strobe lights, fuel injection system (wiring done by Don Parham).
Asking $20,000, make offer.

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, Rot- tor Brake,
Shine plated muffler, am asking $15k but will consider all reason- able offers. Rex Byrns, 361-655-4987, .

RAF 2000

Subaru 2.2 Carbureted, 30Ft RAF Rotors, Built in 2006, Cab- in 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 in- cluded. $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

For Sale by Ron Menzie

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

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

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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

ARIZONA

Proper training is the best money spent.

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