

Western Rotorcraft

December 2012



***Webinar: ArrowCopter AC10
ARC's Coolidge Campout
Tracking Your Goal***



Regional Organizations Meetings & Contacts

Arizona Rotorcraft Club ([PRA 15](#))

Third Saturday, 11am MST, various locations (AZ)
Jan 12, 10am MST, Fly-Out from San Manuel
Jan 19, 11am MST, Stellar Pkwy, Chandler
Carl Matter: keenuk@aol.com

Ken Brock Rotorcraft Assoc. ([PRA 1](#))

Next Meeting: Feb 9, El Mirage Dry Lake (CA)
Terry Smith: terry.smith@earthlink.net

San Diego County Rotorcraft Club ([PRA 31](#))

Third Thursdays, locations vary (CA)
For info on next meeting contact
Dave Bacon: davesconcretepumping@msn.com

Colorado Rotorcraft Assoc. ([PRA 38](#))

Locations, dates & times vary (CO)
For info on next meeting contact
Mark Shook: Mark@CopterPilots.org

Great NW Sport Rotorcraft Assoc ([PRA 73](#))

Jan 12, Noon PDT, NWAAC Clubhouse
Scappoose Industrial Airport (OR)
Jon Dailey: jon@sportcopter.com

Bonneville GyroFlyers ([PRA 2](#))

Jan 12, 10am MDT, online meeting
URA Webmeeting Channel
Doug Barker: president@utahrotorcraft.org

Utah Rotorcraft Association

Next Members Meeting TBA
Next Board Meeting TBA
Details to Members by E-mail
info@utahrotorcraft.org



2013 Calendar

Thursdays, Jan 10 - Feb 28

[PRA Online Ground School](#)

Sat, Jan 12, 10am MDT (Online)
URA Winter Webinar Series
Claudius Klimt, ArrowCopter AC10

Thu-Sun, Jan 17-20 (FL)

[US Sport Aviation Expo](#)

Wed-Sun, Apr 17-20 (FL)

[Bensen Days](#)

Fri-Sat, May 17-18 (AZ)

[ARC Gyro Buddy Camp-Out](#)

Thu-Sat, Jun 6-8 (UT)

[Rotors Over The Rockies](#)

Mon-Sun, Jul 29 - Aug 4 (WI)

[EAA AirVenture/Oshkosh](#)

Tue-Sat, Aug 6-10 (IN)

[PRA Convention & Fly-In](#)

Fri-Sun, Sep 13-15 (CO)

[CO Rotorcraft Assoc. Fly-In](#)

Fri-Sun, Sep 27-29, (CA)

[50th Anniv. Ken Brock Freedom Fly-In](#)

This Month in WR - Chapter news, 5-8; URA
Webinars, Calidus & MTOSport Arrive at Airgyro,
PRA Ground School, 4; Classifieds, 12.

On the Cover: Gillan Bradley flies his Sport Copter
Vortex near Scappoose Industrial Airport in Oregon.

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[Paul W. Plack](#).

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Tracking Your Goal

Paul Plack, Editor



I've been dreaming of owning and flying my own gyroplane for over a decade, ever since I saw Jim Vanek's demo flight at the Hillsboro airshow in Oregon in 2001. I've made some progress, earning a Private / Airplane certificate in 2003, and adding Sport Pilot / Gyroplane this year. The next step is flying my own machine, and it's a big step. I've come close a couple of times, but employment or other financial setbacks intervened. I'm finally on track to be in a position to get a gyroplane soon. How soon? Next year. Or, at least I *think* so...

I've heard it said, "a plan is the difference between a dream and a goal." Over Thanksgiving weekend, I decided I needed a more definite plan before I could really start calling my dream a goal. I created a spreadsheet which tracks net income and monthly expenses. It includes cells in which I can add surprises on both the expense and income sides, and winds up with a column on the right which shows what my accumulated discretionary income will be.

Seeing the numbers in that column has sharpened my focus. I'm looking at expenditures much more carefully now that I can see the effect they have on delaying or expediting my goal. And I've also spotted moments along the time line where a little infusion of cash from part-time work or liquidating unused possessions could make a big difference.

My spreadsheet isn't perfect, but a rough outline is much more defined than random imagination. For example, I know how much sooner I could buy a gyro if I decide to get a loan instead of waiting till I could pay cash. I can also estimate how much more deluxe my gyro could be if I wait a little longer to buy it.

It can be fun to sit and wonder what it would be like to own an aircraft. It is much more satisfying to run the numbers and see when it might actually happen, or what needs to change in your life to make it happen. Consider creating an actual budget with a time line this winter. You may be surprised at how even little changes can get you to your dream sooner.

Now, if you'll excuse me, I need to go turn down my thermostat!

Submissions to WR

Do you have an interesting story to pass on to readers of WR? Don't be intimidated or shy. It's always a nice surprise to get them, and get a taste of what's happening in the sport in other areas of the west. I'll be happy to polish up raw stories, but here are some basic tips to guide your writing.

Length is wide open, and we'll run a lengthy submission in multiple parts in some cases. But interest in your story will be highest among readers if you avoid tangents and stick to the main theme. Everyone has a tendency to want to include too much detail or background when they write. If you'd like some guidance, contact me before you start.

Photos can make or break a story. When you take photos, make sure to get the people, not just the machines. Turn off any camera feature which puts time and date or other tagging info in the picture.

Take at least a few of your photos in portrait orientation, (taller than they are wide,) so they can be considered for use on the cover. (Leave a little space at the top for the "Western Rotorcraft" title and below the subject for the normal headlines.)

Make sure to include notes about who and what is in each photo. Please get correct spellings of first and last names, and include mention of where they live, whether they're members of or visitors to your group, and other interesting data. Send photos as individual JPEG files when possible, not embedded in another document. And don't crop, resize or compress photos. Send them along full size, so we can preserve best quality.

Style is not critical, but be aware that if you include lots of "white space," we'll work to close some of that up in the editing process. Don't indent paragraphs, but use a double line-break to separate them. Don't put more than one space between the end of a sentence and the start of the next one.

Deadlines are flexible, but generally we like to have an idea what's going to be in each issue by the third Saturday of each month.

Links to external resources are welcome. One of the unique advantages of an electronic format is the ability to include links to videos or more info.

Subjects of greatest interest are flying adventures, building, training, events, cost-saving tips and technical advancements.

If you write a technical article, be careful to avoid repeating misconceptions. I'll do some fact-checking if there's something I believe is misstated, but it's much better if you can attribute qualified sources for claims or statements that could be controversial.

Make 2013 the year you become a WR contributor!

Fly Safe!





URA Webinar: ArrowCopter

The first installment of the Utah Rotorcraft Association's 2013 Winter Webinar Series will be a presentation by Claudius Klimt on the ArrowCopter AC10. This new gyro from Austria boasts a structural carbon fiber airframe with Rotax power. Claudius will bring us photos and news and be available for questions after his brief presentation. The event is scheduled for Saturday, January 12 at 10:15am MST on the URA Webmeeting Channel. There is no cost but the session will be limited to 200 attendees. Watch for final details in January WR. (Manufacturer's photo above.)



New Gyros Arrive at Airgyro

It's been a long wait with a couple of false starts, but three new Autogyro aircraft have arrived at Airgyro Aviation at the Springville-Spanish Fork Airport in central Utah. Construction has begun on a new MTOSport and two new Caliduses (or is it Calidi?) which will be used for instruction by CFI Mike Burton and available for sale. Airgyro plans to be the only Autogyro distributorship in the US to carry machines

in-stock, eliminating ordering and shipping delays. Watch for these exciting new machines at Rotors Over The Rockies and other selected events throughout the intermountain west during 2013. (Manufacturer's photo shown.)

PRA Ground School

[PRA](#) VP and CFI Tim O'Connor reports about a dozen students have reserved their spots in his online ground school, which runs for eight consecutive Thursday nights starting January 10, 2013.



Tim (above) prepares participants for the Sport Pilot / Gyroplane knowledge test. The course will total 24 hours of virtual classroom instruction, and students will be assigned homework. You'll need a computer running Windows (XP or newer), fast internet, sound card and headphones.

Other required class materials include:

- Electronic E6B Flight Computer
- Sectional charts (one must be Cincinnati)
- FAA Airport Directories (one must cover Ohio)
- A bound notebook
- A copy of FAA FAR/AIM 2013
- A selection of FAA handbooks, circulars, fliers and publications relevant to your exam
- Several packs of index cards and Post-It notes

Students achieving a 90% or higher score on test prep will receive a logbook endorsement to take the knowledge test at an FAA authorized testing center.

The course is available exclusively to PRA members in good standing, and the cost is \$150. Get complete details and a registration link at www.pra.org.



Welcome to...

Ken Brock PRA Chapter 1 ***of Southern California***

November 17 Meeting Report

Chapter 1's November 17 meeting was called to order at 11am by President Terry Smith.

Members present: Dee, Karen, Jim, Wbaldo, Teddy and Doug. We had a visitor David who came early and joined in on using the glider, and after the meeting became a member of Chapter 1. David said he got interested in helicopters first and now is interested in gyros. Said he and a friend attended the fly-in the last day.

Wbaldo said he will be picking up one of Teddy's gyros next year! Jim said he has an Air Command sitting in his garage. He is going to solo in January.

Terry has changed the flyer for the 2013 fly-in (KBFFI.com) to reflect Chapter 1's 50th Anniversary.

Terry showed his shirt he had bought from PRA Mentone to show everyone the logo. We all liked the color of the shirt. We wanted to get some ideas on how to design shirts for 2013 fly-in. Karen suggested getting some long sleeve shirts this year. We need input on a design for the shirt. Karen liked the picture that was on the fly-in website.

We talked about putting something on the back of the t-shirts for the 50th anniversary and the chapter logo on the front where a pocket would go.

Teddy mentioned he had been looking at old magazines and found some pictures that he was going to scan and see if they would be ok for the t-shirts. Terry said that on flyer he had added a Friday night movie night. We thought it would be nice to show movies after dinner Friday night. Dee said she would be in charge of serving popcorn during the movie.

Dave Wilson has been working on the trophies. He was unable to attend the meeting. Teddy is still planning on making more chocks for the raffle. Said this year he was going to start earlier.

After the holidays we will be working on a speaker system for the fly-in so things run smoothly.

Dee suggested when it gets warmer to have an evening meeting with bbq and fire pit and we could test out the speaker system and projector.

We discussed having another DVD for the goody bag. Tim Chick had sent Karen three DVDs and Terry said he would try to get them duplicated for the goody bags. We talked about showing the video of Ken Brock and others flying to Las Vegas with Viva Las Vegas as the music.

We talked about having patches made and Karen said she had all the information and a patch from Chapters 20 and 62 that she had purchased.

Teddy brought a picture of Jim Corvinus who use to be a member of Chapter 1. He passed away November 6, 2012. Services were held Friday, November 16, 2012 in San Diego, CA.

Everyone who went up in the glider before the meeting had a wonderful time and the weather was perfect.

Terry moved the meeting be adjourned and Dee seconded the motion. This was the last meeting of PRA Chapter 1 for 2012. Our next meeting will be in February, 2013. We wish everyone a Wonderful Holiday Season!

Secr'y/Treas. Message - Just a reminder chapter dues (\$25) is due in December. Check payable to PRA Chapter 1. Send to: Karen Keene, P.O. Box 1752, Westminster, CA 92684-1752.

Bonneville GyroFlyers



PRA Chapter 2 November 10 Meeting Report

The start of [Chapter 2's](#) meeting was delayed by the first major snowstorm of the season, so attendees watched El Mirage video until all known to be en route had arrived. The meeting was called to order at 10:45am by President Doug Barker in the classroom at [Airgyro Aviation](#). Also in attendance were Secretary Paul Plack, Treasurer Steve Pearson and members Glenn Kerr and CFI Mike Burton.

The minutes of the October 13 meeting were approved as published in the November issue of Western Rotorcraft. Doug reported on the treasury balance, since Steve is not yet set up for account access. Doug's report of \$180 total on-hand was approved. Paul noted that sometime in the next month, he expects to have a PayPal account set up for members to join and renew online.

There was no old business pending. Under new business, the group approved a plan to have a holiday party on Saturday, December 8 at 6pm at the home of Paul and Cindy Plack in Murray, UT. The main dish will be baked ham with potato casserole, and Paul will confer with Cindy and get back to the membership as soon as possible regarding foods members could bring. Dinner will be followed by a "white elephant" gift exchange, with each member to wrap and bring a novel or humorous gift with a suggested \$20 value limit.

Paul reported that the 2013 URA Winter Webinar Series is expected to feature an update on the development of the ArrowCopter presented by Claudius Klimt, building the AutoGyro Calidus presented by CFI Mike Burton, and a third program yet to be determined. As in the past, presentations will follow Chapter 2's online meetings in January, February and March on the [URA Webmeeting Channel](#). Details will be publicized in the December issue of Western Rotorcraft.

The group discussed upcoming 2013 personal rotorcraft events throughout the western US, and which would be likely candidates for group outings. It was informally agreed that we should support open house events at [Whirlybird Helicopter](#) whenever possible; attempt to bring gyroplane demo flight and static displays to both the [CAF Utah Wing](#) airshow in Heber City, UT and the [Wendover Wheels & Wings](#)



event on the Utah-Nevada border; participate in the informal Alvord dry lake fly-in in July; make the 50th anniversary of the [El Mirage](#) fly-in a priority; and support whenever possible meets organized by other PRA chapters in the west.

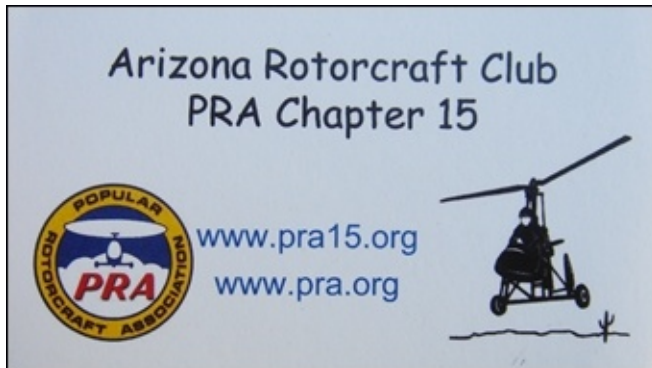
One new event idea discussed was a "Gyro Safari" to scenic areas of southern Utah. Centered on the [Bryce Canyon National Park](#), this weekend event would allow participating pilots to enjoy aerial views of the world's most spectacular rock formations, but require considerable planning for safety and logistics. There are small, public-access airports at Bryce Canyon and Hanksville. This planning will be undertaken at future meetings, tentatively targeting an October event.

Following formal business, attendees enjoyed more video from El Mirage brought by Glenn Kerr and Steve Pearson. The meeting was formally adjourned at 12:43pm.

There is no meeting scheduled for the month of December. The next three meetings of Chapter 2 will be held via internet on January 12, February 9 and March 9, 2013, at 10am, on the URA Webmeeting Channel. (Paul Plack, Secretary)



Top of page - Wasatch Mountains after Utah's first major snowstorm of the season on November 10; scene from a neighborhood in Murray, UT after snowstorm. Above, Chapter 2 members get an update from CFI Mike Burton on progress building his new SparrowHawk trainer at Airgyro Aviation.



November 17 Meeting Report

We had a great turnout for the November meeting. The [Coolidge Airport](#) has something for everyone. The FBO complimented our group for keeping the camping area clean and we thanked him again for letting us meet there. There were seven gyros, two fixed-wings, eight off-road vehicles, 14 members, 10 guests, seven dogs and one banjo. The actual meeting was brief and informal. I welcomed the guests, read the upcoming schedule, passed out the new business cards (pictured above) and called for nomination of club officers for next year. There are no new choices and the current officers are willing to remain so we will continue unchanged for another year. We talked about inviting a local TV news crew out to give the sport some coverage but decided that might be more exposure than we want. I ended by encouraging the visitors to mingle with the members and ask questions. We posed for a photo in front of Walt's gyro and then there was some flying. My part of the meeting was over quickly but a friend commented that the meeting everyone came for

was still going on all around us as people continued to fly, work on and talk about gyros with each other.

That evening Bruce set up a community grill fueled with local Mesquite logs and a bunch of us cooked dinner together and listened to my friend John play his Banjo. We told bad jokes and stood around the fire like it was cold outside, but I wasn't cold. I was wearing the ski hat and coat just to be stylish.

Marv and Sarah flew over in their Mooney for the meeting but Marv returned just before sunset in the [Sport Copter II](#) and gave us a little airshow. January 19th we will meet for a BBQ at their home at Stellar Airpark. I'll send directions closer to the date.

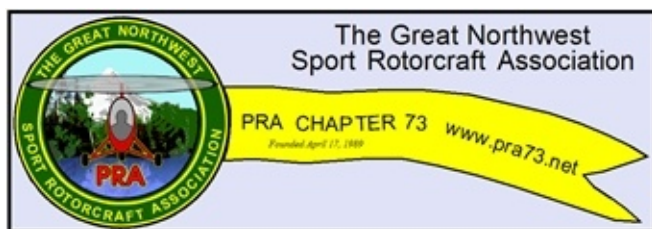
Speaking of Sport Copter, I called them a couple weeks ago to ask about some of their parts that may fit my Air Command. A nice woman said everyone was busy but someone would return my call. A little while later Jim Vanek called me himself. We talked about the parts I need and he gave me some good ideas based on the construction of their own machines. I told him I liked Walt's new M912 machine and complimented him on the brand new Sport Copter II flown by Marv. Jim said there were many new problems to solve with a new design and the cooling issue was the last one.

Driving an air cooled VW van with the engine stuck in the back and covered up with sheet metal I understand cooling issues. Beyond that there is no comparison. The SC II is much more aerodynamic and performs more like a race car than my van. I hope you get lots of orders Jim. If any of you are in the Oregon area, Sport Copter sells their parts, and provides service and training for any gyroplane at the Scappoose airport.

Al is thinking about the March meeting at his place in Marana. We will gather at the airport café for a short meeting followed by lunch. Anyone who wants to stay longer is welcome to camp at Al's place next door. We decided to meet at the airport and talk to the FBO and restaurant manager about our group getting together. It will be nice to hand them business cards (pictured on page 7) when we go in to represent the club. If anyone needs more cards to pass out to interested people just let me know.

Our next get-together is the holiday party December 15 at the [Oracle Inn](#) in Oracle Arizona. Britta is planning the event, contact her if you are able to attend, Brittaglo@yahoo.com.

Happy Holidays everyone, see you next year.
(Carl Matter, President)



The November 10, 2012 meeting of [Chapter 73](#) was called to order at 12:45pm. Board members present: Jon Dailey-President, Bob Johnson-Treasurer and Richard Ecker-Secretary. Approx. 12 members/visitors present (Three gyros flew in for the meeting).

Jon announced that Gary donated a Winchester .22 caliber single shot rifle to raffle. It was decided that tickets are \$10 each, and we will hold the raffle in January's meeting. There was a motion to keep the current 2012 PRA 73 officers for upcoming 2013 year. It was seconded, voted on and passed. Jon asked the members to approve the minutes from last month's meeting. They were approved. Bob gave our Treasurer's report for the club.

Member's project updates: Brock now has 31 hours on his Sparrowhawk. Old Business: No old business. New Business: Richard has redesigned our PRA 73 logo and it was presented to the members in attendance. There was discussion on some minor changes to the new design. They will be implemented and the logo will be reviewed again in the January meeting.

Bob asked for more club interaction and participation in the next [NWAAC](#) Fly-In next year. It would be nice to have our club represented with some gyros and members present and interacting with visitors.

Our next annual club B-B-Q will be April 13th, 2013. There was an idea of turning it into a club fly-in and invite other gyro clubs to participate. Richard offered

to make a fly-in flyer to distribute to other clubs via email, send printed ones to other clubs, and to have them available for visitors at Tillamook Air Museum, Evergreen Air Museum and at The Pearson Air Park.

Kent stated he had been crow-hopping and flying a Windryder gyro in Utah in October with Michael Burton. He also mentioned they [filmed his first flight](#) in a Windryder.

It was also brought up that at our last meeting, Marc went up for the first time in a gyro (courtesy of Jim Vanek in his two place trainer). He later wrote an article about his experience and it was printed in the last Western Rotorcraft newsletter. It is a great article and a very good read. Marc is also building a Snowbird, and it is 85% completed.

Corrections for the Last Newsletter: The distance to Albord desert from Portland is approx 400 miles. It was brought up that when we go to Alvord desert next year, that we should invite CA, ID and UT clubs.

Our next meeting will be at NWAAC again. The meeting was adjourned at 2:06pm. Thanks to the NWAAC for letting us use their clubhouse for our meeting. (Richard Ecker, Secretary)



FOR SALE: BENSEN GYROCOPTER - Bensen blades. Brock joystick, 8-gal. seat tank. Subaru EA-81 twin-carb, converted to single Holly 1920 carb, direct drive. Some gauges, radiator. No prop. \$4,000 or may trade for an original British Mini car. Bill Yule, acecrenshaw@gmail.com, Tucson. (AZ, 11/12)

Classified ads are free to members of participating PRA chapters. Contact your chapter for details.