

Greater Midwest Rotorcraft Club



Monthly Newsletter

In B&W (color version available online)

Members: FREE

September 2006

Editor: Jim Schuler

Next Club Meeting

Date: Saturday, September 16th

Time: 2:00 PM Sharp

Where: Club Hangar

Special Topic(s):

- Reports on ASC & Shelbyville
- Hangar Committee Recommendations

Gyro Bash '06 Reminder

This is just a friendly reminder that the picnic and movie will be at the club hangar in Lansing following the monthly meeting on Saturday, September 16th. We will be grilling up some hot eats in the afternoon & evening and viewing *The Great Skycopter Rescue* later on at night. We will have meat, buns, chips, and beverages available; but feel free to bring side dishes or desserts.

If you come and do not have a gate card, call Adam or Jim (phone numbers at bottom of first page of this newsletter), and we'll let you in.



Nick Costa flies the club prototype gyro at the Shelbyville fly-in.



Adam Helwich flying in Shelbyville... he's either trying out his smoke system or something has gone terribly wrong.

Shelbyville Report

This past weekend, we enjoyed some great flying, good company and excellent weather in Shelbyville, IL. In all, there were some 18 gyros in attendance, 4 hailing from our chapter. On Saturday evening, a large group of gyros made the traditional trip to Lake Shelbyville. The evening was picturesque and the flight was described by Matt Novotney as "the highpoint of the fly-in." As every year, it seems like the weekend flew by and was over too soon. We'll look forward to attending again next year.

Article by Adam Helwich



Nick Costa sits cold and alone, lost in a field somewhere in central Illinois.

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Matt Novotney uses actions, rather than words, to indicate that he is upset that the Shelbyville fly-in is over so soon.

ASC Report

During Labor Day Weekend, Aero Sports Connection held its nationals in Marshall, Michigan; and on Saturday, the 2nd, Chapter 18 was there. Matt Novotney and Adam Helwich each brought and flew their gyros. In addition to Matt and Adam's gyros, there was also another Gyrobee and an RAF there and flying.

In a heated moment, Salty Joe Mahr and one of the ASC directors/volunteers had a brief shouting match regarding our club's gyros/pilots, which was later determined to be a simple misunderstanding. Apologies were made and hands were shook, leading to the directors of the event arranging to have a gyro demonstration. Unfortunately, Adam couldn't participate since his gyro developed a flat tire, but Matt and John Anderson flew their bee type gyros much to the crowd's enjoyment.



Matt Novotney enjoying the windy-gusty conditions in Marshall, Michigan during the ASC Nationals.

Monster Hangar Build Team Progress Report

We have begun cutting aluminum for three more gyros since Adam, Tom, and Nick each want to get started on their machines. The pieces have been cut for the axles, vertical struts, drag braces, and the rear and forward keels. Because each machine will vary slightly due to engine, instrument, propeller, and seat configurations; we have not yet cut the aluminum for the masts, instrument pods, engine mounts, and seat mounts.

After flying at Shelbyville, Nick and Adam have also reported that the new control ratio configurations to the prototype machine have made the controls more responsive than the original setup.

The club is still waiting on the tall tail to try out on the prototype machine, but we know new club member Joe Tracey is working diligently on it. We should have it soon!

...and as a heads up, we have switched the weekly meetings back to Wednesday nights. We have also begun getting ice cream again during the meetings, which is fun for everyone.



Adam and Matt prepare to cross the grass runways at the ASC Nationals in Marshall, Michigan.

Gyro Videos

Several club members and other rotorcraft enthusiasts have been posting various gyro videos on the web. You can check them out by searching on You Tube (www.youtube.com). There are a ton of videos on this site, so search for things like "gyroplane" or "gyrocopter".

Upcoming Events

September 13th – Monster Hangar Build Team Meeting – Club Hangar
 September 16th – Club Meeting at 2:00 at the Club Hangar
 September 16th – Picnic and Movie at Club Hangar (Gyro Bash '06)

*The Monster Hangar Build Team now meets on **Wednesday** evenings in the club hangar.*