

Greater Midwest Rotorcraft Club



Monthly Newsletter

In B&W (color version available online)

July 2011

Next Club Meeting

Date: Saturday, July 23rd

Time: 11:00am - ?

Place: NEW Club Hangar, D-5
Lansing Municipal Airport
Glenwood-Lansing Rd. and Burnham Ave.
Lansing, IL 60438
Enter from Burnham Ave.
If you don't have a gate card, call any officer at the bottom of the newsletter to be let in.

Cook-out to follow meeting

Agenda Topics: - Mentone Planning
 - Upcoming events

Message from the VP

Gyroplanes have been getting more attention than I can remember in the last 35 years, and it's all good. There is a new TV show in the works, about people who build interesting things. Discovery channel (IIRC ?) just taped an episode with a gyro builder in Florida.

The US Justice Dept has several gyros in use and has just ordered more. Continued on Back →

Lots of Activity!

The past few weeks have seen as many as 5 gyros flying and on the runway at once! Activity has mostly been on Wednesday nights and Saturdays. Come on out and see what's happening! Call any club officer listed below for more info.

My Solo Experience

Article by Dr. Jack (Jacko) Fisher

Well, I've dreamt about it a thousand times; often I've had daydreams about it, and I have read about it for years. Most authors tell of their own nervousness, and it helped me to know that everyone who sits in this seat is going to be scared to death the first time.

But then the day comes when it's just you in control and there's no-one in the back seat to bail you out. "Yikes!". It was six-fifteen in the morning, calm, the sun was just up and the airfield very quiet. Yeah, no-one else around, not even any fixed wing guys. Well, this was good and bad. What happens if I do it again? Albert won't be here to bail me out if I roll her over again! Oh well, it won't happen again. Besides that, I've rehearsed over and over again what to do if I somehow get up only on one main wheel.

OK, I spun the blades up, announced, and took off down the runway with stick full back. When she came off the nose wheel I gave her a little forward stick and added power to get up to about 30mph air-speed. The left main lifted off so I immediately cut power and came back on the stick. Yeah baby, it worked just as I had planned!

OK, I came off the runway and started back to the end again as I wanted all that precious runway ahead of me this time. OK, here goes, this time all the way. Starting the same way, this time I gave her all the power and got up to 45mph airspeed with the nose wheel all the way on the runway. Then, just ever so slightly I let the stick come back and she came right off (and not just one main wheel this time). I started climbing immediately so I reduced the power a bit and brought stick forward.

Wow, amazing, I was finally flying! Yes!

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Kevin Tansor has been having some “out of this world” fun with his Air Command →



←Continued from Front
I flew to the end of the runway and pulled the power back, all the while keeping an eye on the airspeed, keeping at around 45 mph. Then, pulled more power off and settling, then stick back to flare. After several more of these straight runway flights, with the sun over the east, I looked to my left and could see my own silhouette flying just a few feet off the runway. What a sight!

There is no feeling like it. And, if someone has not experienced it, you just cannot explain that feeling of being up there, like a bird, all alone.

At this moment all of the effort, time and frustration, all of the hours, miles and dollars, all of it was worth it!

Without the Club, Tom Milton's patience, ALL of your support and advice, this would never have happened. My sincere thanks to a great, great bunch of guys.

-Jacko

Have something to add? Write an article for the newsletter, send a picture and let the club know what you've been up to. E-mail submissions to: ah_booms@yahoo.com

←Continued from Front
A principle player in a very large powered parachute company just bought a gyro.

The PRA Mentone convention looks like it will be even bigger than last year's show. The Heartland pyro club will return this year with an even better show. I am working on a mass Chinese Lantern ascension project with the pyro guys.

Next year is the PRA's 50th convention and promises to be a real blow out.

Join the fun. Start by coming to the meeting Saturday, July 23rd Meeting gathers at 11 am at our new club hangar.

We plan a cookout BBQ, bring a dish to pass or you may make a \$5.00 donation.

I hope to see you there,
Tom Milton, Club VP