

## Chapter 35, July Meeting

The July 7<sup>th</sup> meeting was held at Smartt Field in St. Charles Co. Greg and Steph flew in from Ste Genevieve; Dave Herrmann flew in and his family arrived by car; Craig Finnegan and Dave Kaiser also attended and later that afternoon, John Wohaska and his daughter arrived with gyro in tow.

Bob and Darren's open hanger party started around noon with an estimated 50-60 people stopping by. A neighboring hangar tenant donated 80 hamburgers and a case of hotdogs from Gateway Foods. Jen Twellman made a great mostaccioli dish, Dave Kaiser brought a fresh fruit platter for the meeting, Donna Herrmann made a delicious casserole and all the soft drinks, beer, and extras were provided by Bob and Darren. There were organized games, complete with prizes, for the kids and nearly 25 people were treated to an aerial tour of the surrounding rivers, beaches, and bluffs. Neighboring tenants arrived in trikes, powered parachutes and fixed winged aircraft. The last guest left the airport around 8:00 pm, with one exception; John Wohaska and his daughter set up camp and spent the night. The next morning, John was able to fly several hours before packing-up to go home.

A large number of people were introduced to our sport on Saturday and all of them left with a very positive gyroplane experience.

A special thanks Cathy Heimberger and Jen Twellman for all of there work hosting the event. When Darren and I planned the open house, we left out most of the details. Cathy and Jen quickly took over, working very hard, and made the event a success.

The next scheduled meeting is August 4<sup>th</sup>, the same date as Mentone. I hope to see a great turnout of chapter 35 members at the national PRA conference; however, those that can't make it are encouraged to hold the normally scheduled meeting at Greenville. This is also a good time to check the expiration of your PRA membership and renew if your membership is expired.

### Ste Genevieve Fly-in

The dates for the Ste Genevieve-fly in are August 11 & 12. Greg advises that the fields surrounding the airport are planted with corn this year. This means that a 9 foot wall surrounds the 1600 foot grass runway. With a slow, turf runway, high density altitude, and 9 foot obstacles at the end of the runway, Greg recommends that arriving aircraft, especially two place and heavier machines, carefully review their aircraft performance data to determine if the conditions are adequate for safe flight operations at the field.

The Ste Genevieve Fly-in is a great family event. The city hosts its annual Jour de Fête craft fair with plenty to do. Please plan to attend & bring lawn chairs and a cooler with plenty of drinks. *More to come when additional plans are made.*

### Shelbyville Fly-in

The dates for the Shelbyville Fly-in are September 7, 8, and 9. Mark Greene will contact the Shelbyville Airport manager and make arrangements to have the Porta Potties onsite for the event.

Last year Mark Greene served as the event organizer and did an outstanding job. This year we would like to see more volunteers step-up and help with the event planning. Mark also included these notes, and asked for input and volunteers from our club members:

- Bob has asked me to coordinate the dinner plans, which I have also agreed to do. My home phone number is: 309-527-5344. Best time to catch me is weeknights from 7:30-9:30pm. I will be at Mentone

Wed. thru Fri. for sure, maybe Saturday. I'm in the Repairman's class on Wed. & Thurs, but will be out and about Friday. Mentone will be a good place to talk to me about volunteering.

- Cathy Greene is making Sloppy Joes, Italian beef, and a variety of cookies including Triple Threat Chocolate Chip cookies for the dinner. We'll provide the buns, too. Janet Knight is making three different kinds of salads. We need other members to volunteer to bring other foods/supplies. We're making enough for 50 people. If you are coming for sure, give me a head count for your group/family, so we can adjust our food if we need more.
- Contact Mark Greene if you can bring balloons, a gas supply, and flour bags/flour. We need volunteers lined up ahead of time to run the contests.
- Please bring shade canopies if you have one, and extra lawn chairs. It helps a lot to get out of the sun if it's hot. It also contributes to more conversation while people are relaxing in the shade, and having a drink.
- We need coolers to hold beverages/water, and volunteers to purchase beverages/water before the event. There won't be a concession stand, so we need to step up and take care of this ourselves.
- Is there someone close enough to Shelbyville who could check out the grass strips a couple days, or a week, ahead of the fly-in? I had called about a week earlier last year to see if everything was ok, and they had just started mowing what looked like a hayfield when I arrived on Friday.
- Please let everyone know we are not eating until Sunset. I'll make a couple of posters announcing the dinner time and the menu. We'll charge \$5 just like if we were doing pizza. We'll use that money to reimburse the cooks, and give the rest to the club fund. We also give the Airport Manager money for all his work out of this, too.

There is not much time until the fly-in so we will have to move quickly. Please call me and let me know how you wish to participate. **Thanks!**

#### **House keeping issue:**

The Greenville airport is very supportive of chapter 35 activities and as recently as last week voiced their continued support for our club. There was, however one issue that they wanted Bob to address with our fliers. When flying within the airspace over the airfield, pilots should follow a normal traffic pattern and not crisscross the field. These unpredictable flight paths cause alarm for other pilots approaching the area as well as aircraft preparing for taxi. So let's remember to fly the pattern and if possible, announce our intentions.

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