

Flight Feathers

The official publication of OneWingLowSquadron.org

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NEXT MEETING

OCT. 3RD
@ 11:00 AM

**FIELD CLOSED
FOR SAILPLANE
EVENT
NOV. 20TH-22ND**

WISE OWLS


MIKE FLICK
PRESIDENT
~
JERRY FLICK
VICE PRES.
~
RON SANDERS
SEC./TREAS.
~
ROB GRANT
SAFETY OFFICER
~
GALE MOORE
CONTEST
DIRECTOR

The Hand Launch Event...

Labor Day Sunday saw a scattering of glider pilots competing in a hand launching event at KennyWorld. The day started out rather hazy until the sun burned through revealing a beautiful (albeit hot) day. The popular holiday weekend kept attendance at a minimum with only 6 pilots participating, at least while I was there in the morning.



The Wind Up

It was amazing to see how a vigorous launch by hand would send these sailplanes airborne hundreds of feet. According to the rules, there are multiple timed events in which pilots launch, fly, retrieve, and launch again according to progressive lengths of time within 10 minutes. All of the events challenge the pilots' ability to use the thermals to their advantage. 



The Delivery



The Follow Through

VOWL
Video

Watch the Video at:
<https://vimeo.com/groups/onewinglow>





Tidbits from Fernando

"I have used Megasmicros to repair the mainboards on the MCPX. The guy has done great work for me. No complaints here. He now repairs the UMX Airplane too. So if you know anyone that needs to repair the UMX, here's the link:"

http://www.megasmicros.com/product_p/a-c-repairs.htm

"Sportsman S+ by Hobbyzone has GPS, can land on its own, fly on its own, and you can set boundaries. The GPS unit knows the pilot takes off into the wind and therefore it lands into the wind. I'm not really pitching the plane, but the technology. If this is successful, we will see more models with it."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jc41GlbVCtA>



Innovative Technology...

Okay! just when you thought it was safe to go in the water, along comes the Mariner drone: a fully waterproof and submersible drone (I sure could have used that when mine ended up in the Gulf).

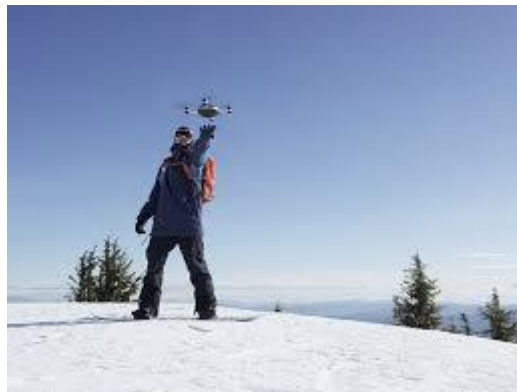
Yes it flies like all the other drones, BUT invert it in water and the props act like boat propellers to guide it around like a submarine.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UaRpTclSwX0>



As if the above was not thrilling enough for you to get your wallet out, there is the Lily Camera drone. As long as you are wearing the controller, which is about the size of a hockey puck, this drone will follow you to the ends of the earth. Not only follow but lead or circle you all the while taking HD video or snaps of you performing whatever activity you tend to do. Once it is turned on, you just throw it up into the air (and I do mean literally throw it) and it does all the rest.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4vGcH0Bk3hg>



The QUAD(rant)...

Last month I bemoaned the fact that drone abuses by morons (and there are plenty of them) were risking stringent government intervention over and above our current AMA regulations. Thankfully, AMA has logged in and exposed that the FAA (and sensational media reports) may have been a little too zealous in their reporting of incidents.

I assume we all received AMA's email regarding this subject, but the bottom line appears to be that AMA analyzed 764 reports in the FAA dataset and determined that only 27 reports were classified as "close calls" with 10 incidents resulting in evasive action by the reporting pilots. Many of the 764 were military or commercial incidents and many sightings were misrepresented as drones while actually being balloons, birds, model rockets or mini-blimps.

All said and done, in this editor's opinion there are way-too-many incidents of abuse by "hobbyists" due in part from the manufacturers and retailers that distribute these models with impunity and careless abandon to low-information pilots. I would be willing to bet that if we could determine how many abuses occur that are not reported (such as a quad that decides to fly off to Mexico over the Gulf from the shores of Inglis) the numbers would be staggering. Hey! I'm just saying! 🦋



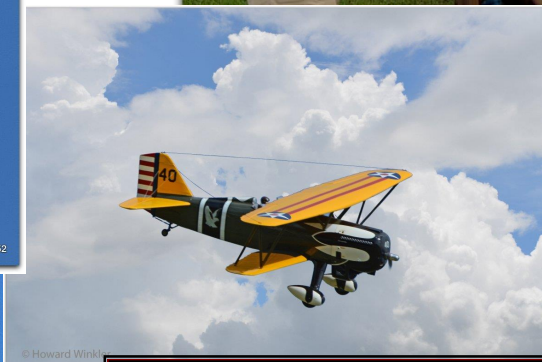
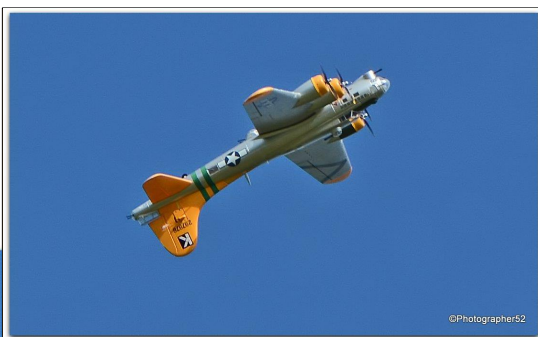
Name This Plane for a Chance to be Revered by Your Fellow OWLS.

Ornithopter is an aircraft that flies by flapping its wings.

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The OWLS Nest Gallery... See all the videos at <https://vimeo.com/groups/onewinglow>



Photographer & new friend of mine, Howard Winkler, shared these super shots taken at Tri-County and Ocala's fields. See more of his images at: <http://www.photographer52.com/RC-Model-Aircraft/>

Got Photos? Catch me at a meeting or send a copy to: keukadiver@gmail.com

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