

THUNDERBIRD AVIATION

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The Official Newsletter of the
Hiperlight

[http://
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Another Oshkosh has come and gone, which means summer is going to start winding down. This year it seemed to have really flown by (no pun intended). There were too many highlights to list, but some of the more notable included a number of electric powered aircraft, that we were fortunate enough to see flying the ultralight pattern almost every day. It's amazing to see how fast technology has changed just since last year at this

time.

A couple of other aircraft that need to be mentioned are the Boeing 787 Dreamliner, and "FIFI", the world's only airworthy B-29. Even though neither one represents the lighter end of aviation, the 787 is one of the most technologically

advanced airliners in the world, and what can you say about FIFI? This is an irreplaceable piece of history.

On Saturday of that week, we were enjoying what is usually typical Oshkosh weather, when from out of nowhere, the sky

turned dark, and we had what was referred to as a 'gust front' show up. With winds in the neighborhood of 60+ mph, it was as Yogi Berra would say, "like déjà vu all over again" for those of us who were at Sun 'N Fun.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 8– Willow Run Airport (YIP) One Year anniversary Gala Hosted by Yankee Air Museum. 17:00-22:00. Contact Tracy Frink at 734-483-4030. tracy.frink@yankeeairmuseum.org

October 15– DuPont-Lapeer Airport (D95). Fall Color Fly-in. 11:00am– 3:00pm. Call Becky at 810-614-9346 for more information



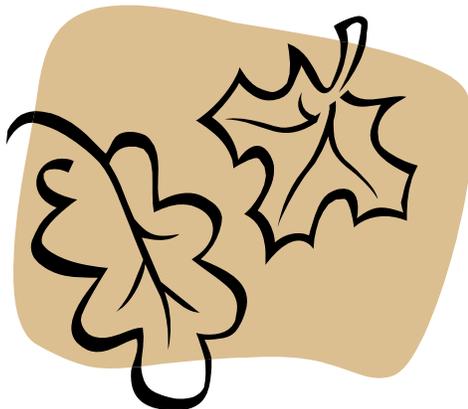
HIPERLIGHT HAPPENINGS



A Light Sport Hiperlight is still very much part of the game plan, however, with a limited number of personnel and only 24 hours to the day, it's not moving terribly fast at the moment.

What has been consuming a lot of time recently is our upcoming project at Van Hoosen Middle School. There has been a slight change of plans. After talking with Paul Jakey, our shop teacher, we quickly realized that since he had never built a Hiperlight, and I had never built one with 30 assistants ranging in age from 12 to 14, our best bet might be to make it an 'after school' project. Mr. Jakey asked kids who

were interested to sign up for the project. He then picked 12 who would be working on it for an hour or two after regular school hours. At the end of the project, since they are building a single place version of the Hiperlight, they will be treated to an airplane ride in the Macomb County Sheriff's Aviation Reserve Unit's Cessna 172. We are scheduled to pop the first rivet on October 12. It should be fun. Stay tuned.



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As many of you know from reading my ramblings, 2012 is the 30th anniversary of the Hiperlight. I'm trying to encourage as many Hiperlight owners to contact me as. I've talked with some of the folks at EAA, and was informed that the Piper Cub is going to steal our thunder. The cub turns 75 next year. But, that's OK. It should be quite an event when the Hiperlight celebrates its 75th.



FEATURED PILOT

DON NILES



I met Don almost 15 years ago when I joined MULA, the Michigan Ultralight Association. Don's Hiperlight is a 1985 edition. He purchased it in 1986, and still flies it with a Rotax 277. For those out there who have any doubts about the performance capabilities, and roominess in the cockpit, Don is 6' 4" tall and tips the scale at about 230 pounds. He seems to be perfectly comfortable, and the airplane performs as advertised on only 28 hp. When he's not flying his Hiperlight in the winter months, he can usually be found on one of frozen lakes in Michigan, involved in ice-boating.



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SNS-9 Hiperlight-

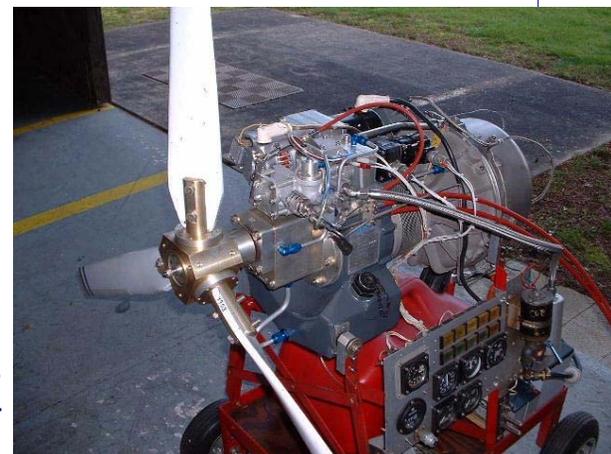
Mid time

HKS engine, Featured in Kitplane Magazine in May 2002. Asking 25,000. For more information contact Henry Schmidt at 732 492-6449 or hschmidt16@msn.com



SNS-8 Hiperlight- 2001 Model, 1/2 vw 37 hp engine. Approximately 150 hrs on the airplane and engine. Asking \$10,000. Contact Joe Maynard for further questions at awswater@sbcglobal.net

SNS-8 Hiperlight- Mosler engine. Always hangared, in excellent condition. Asking \$10,000. For more information contact Henry Schmidt at 732



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CARA'S CORNER

CHICAGO AIR SHOW



These past couple of months, I highly anticipated going to Oshkosh. But because of work obligations, I wasn't able to attend. Lucky for me though, I went to Chicago in late August, and low and behold, there was an air show going on!

It was beautiful. Right on the coast of Lake Michigan, you could find people sky-diving as an attraction, and as soon as I managed to find my way to the sandy shores of the lake, the real show started. The Thunderbirds flew right over our heads and dipped and dived and put on quite the show. It was excellent.

The Chicago show was the same weekend as the Selfridge Airbase show, and I have to say, I think the show I went to had a lot better weather, and an excellent view.

I stood in Lake Michigan for a long time getting splashed by the kids playing nearby, but it was totally worth it to see the show.



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Grimes Field is the home of
the MERFI fly in.
The Airport Cafe has a good
mix of good food, good pricing
and a great location.



"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."

- Mark Twain