



November 2013
NEXT MEETING

Volume 12, Issue 6
TBD

THE BIGGEST LAUNCH DAY IN 2013

Club members proved that a 100 launch day will be possible off our glider field sometime in the months ahead - probably on a good weather day in the Spring of 2014.

If you were able to join in the fun on Saturday the 19th you will probably agree that a good and disciplined operational system is needed but also that such club activities are the kind that make flying gliders in our club so much fun. Such an event does not just "happen" so next time you see any of the organizers (Rick, Duke, Mark and Lynn come to mind) please thank them - it takes lots of planning to prepare and they did it well .

As 45 flights were made on the day , even after rain and a slow start after mid day to say nothing of a mid launch switch of runways when the winds strengthened . It seems like 100 launches could be easily accomplished with better weather conditions and some "tweaking" of the launch, landing and retrieve arrangements. It does seem like we should plan for a future day when takeoffs to the east and landings back to the west are possible as that worked best .

Our "Airboss" who has much experience in air shows contributed to some re thinking of the best way to keep it all safe and efficient and we believe he will be willing to return to help with our next big launch day plans .

If the flying was good so too were the meals and thanks to all who helped prepare and cook the meals at lunchtime and in the evening .

Below are some pics taken during the event , and if you are interested John Earlywine has a thumb drive you could borrow to view many more pictures taken by one of our Kendallville visitors



We're ready, but is the weather?



First we lunch. Then we launch!



Now the conditions will let us fly!



The 1st of 45 launches! Wa-HOO!

(All photos courtesy of Dick Hutchinson)

The Future of CISS

Our club owns an airport! This ownership comes with a great responsibility.

General aviation in general is crashing and we own a general aviation airport.

We get no help from the government except our non profit status. We need to use all our resources and our wits to make this work long term.

Guest rides, including Fast Flights, are a very important part of our club's continued existence. Yes, I do think they are that important.

We need to give as many guest flights as we can to entice people to join our club or just enjoy a flight in a glider.

Over the last couple of years we have sold about 40 gift certificates for rides @ \$99.00 each, we have given some away to various fundraising events and we have made them available to members for \$50.00 so they can give them for their own purposes.

People do want to learn to fly and people want to ride in a glider. For many it is a "bucket list" item. Many give a certificate as a gift at Christmas or birthdays.

Frankfort has a skydiving operation and the front page article a couple of days ago was about a 96 year old grandmother who had jumped. When I read the article she said she always wanted to ride in a glider plane but figured this was the next best thing.

Mike Nichols



Mike Nichols waiting in 87Z during a GREAT day of mid-week soaring

Got an idea for a Wing Tips article? Send it in! Did you take a good photo at/above the field? Show it off! Found an interesting soaring-related link while web-surfing? Share it with the rest of us! Send your submissions to our WingTips editor, Chris Hall at bestbrain@aol.com. Deadline for our December issue is December 20th.