

From: [Gary Brown](#)

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To: [IPPGA](#)

Subject: REPORT: Sunday Evening Flying Report & Photos

Sunday evening flying at the Polo Field was GOOD! I took my two youngest kids -- Jenna and Jonathan -- arriving at the field about 5:30 (I'm always 30-minutes late it seems). Hmm... No one but us was there yet. The windsock was indicating a safe, but surprising 10-MPH NW wind. So I setup for a quick launch and planned a single, but long, circuit in the pattern to test the new (are they really new when you do it repeatedly) muffler repairs. But, just after lift-off and climb-out, I sensed something wrong... No, not my muffler... I had no slack in the right brake line and she was pulling me to the right just a tad. Glancing up, I realized the difficulty... There was a knot in the upper right brake lines. UGH! It wasn't causing a severe braking, but I still GINGERLING circled back for a SWIFT landing. The untangling of the brake lines was easy! Ready for re-launch! But wait! By this time, the kids were getting restless... So I took-out the parafoil kites for them to play with! They were content... For a little while.

I setup for my second launch and, just as I'm tugging the A-Risers, I see a strangely familiar truck pulling into the airfield. I launch and circle around to inspect the "visitor(s)" and instantly recognize the "prodigal couple".... It's CHRISTY & MARC DAMON! WOOHOO! Long time to see! We exchanged waves and I felt a big smile creeping upon my face... I missed seeing them last year! It was gonna be GREAT to see old friends again! I flew the pattern -- mostly testing the still brisk breeze aloft and safely dropping the polo ball the kids insisted I drop for them from above (bombing runs are always a hoot) -- but landed again after maybe just 15 minutes.

Marc & Christy stated they took a little "sabbatical" from PPG last year -- seems they bought a new boat and spent the season [and \$\$\$\$] with the "new toy" instead (I think we can forgive 'em) -- but they are back to flying this year! YEAH! :-). They remarked how much my "little kids" had grown (must be the Miracle Grow) and then we quickly chatted PPG. Christy is still flying the Top-80 and Mark is flying a new Cors-Air machine (it looks BEEFY).

As they were setting-up, another familiar car pulls up... RON JOHNSON and one of his young girls. Ron is the "Welding God" from DeKalb that fixed my frame many years ago and shares an interest in the sport. He drives by our "airfields" frequently and stopped by when he saw the action. It was GREAT to catch up with him too!

Marc & Christy both setup and did several short flights -- testing the air -- and I eventually joined them for a little longer one as the winds started to mellow more. There were no further issues with equipment and everyone enjoyed splendid flights in the cool air. Dave Moore stated he may try to join us... But we didn't see him (we missed you buddy). I forgot my high-resolution camera at home... So only had my mobile phone camera to take the shockingly-unshocking photos attached below.

Man was it good to get back up in the ultralight and see so many old friends again. That's what I call a GOOD DAY! Rinse and repeat!

PHOTO 1: Jenna and Jonathan with their new Parafoil Kite (Jonathan "flies" it just like a Paraglider)



PHOTO 2: My motor with freshly welded muffler -- the welds at the muffler root appear to have done the trick (thanks for the suggestion Lance)



PHOTO 3: Gary, Jonathan & Jenna



PHOTO 4: Marc kiting



PHOTO 5: Your truly (unsuccessfully trying not to squint while flying and shooting a self-portrait into the sunset)



PHOTO 5: I attempted to other aerial photos of the area -- including the activity at the field -- but this is the only one the darn mobile phone camera produced when I got home



The flying season is in full swing! See you all again very soon at an airfield near you! :-)

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