

RANDY HARRIS and the Skybolt 300

Press Trivia Guide



- Get ready for excitement with Randy Harris & the Skybolt 300. Randy's performance features many high energy, heart stopping maneuvers that defy gravity - the GroverOver, the HammerSlide, the Disappearing Vertical Torque Roll, and the Avalanche Loop. Hold your breath and don't blink! Fans can line up for a free autographed Skybolt picture after the show!
- Randy is flying a custom built biplane called a Skybolt 300. Randy built the two-place Skybolt from scratch using only drawings. The Skybolt is similar to the famous Pitts Special; however, its 25% larger size makes it easier for air show audiences to see. Randy has modified the original design with larger control surfaces and a much larger engine. With over 300 horse power, Randy's Skybolt will go well over 200 MPH and straight up over 1500 ft.
- Randy's Skybolt has won a number of top awards at air shows and fly-ins throughout the country for innovation and quality. It has also appeared in many aviation magazines and advertisements. Randy's greatest thrill was to win a Champion Award at the 1994 Oshkosh, WI, International EAA Fly-in.
- Randy flies his Skybolt in air shows around the country to demonstrate the capabilities and possibilities available to someone who wants to build his own "homebuilt" aircraft. Homebuilt aircraft are classified as Experimental airplanes by the FAA and can be used for personal transportation, aerobatics, or just old-fashioned fun flying.
- Randy and wife Linda live with their airplanes on Gundy's Airpark near Tulsa, OK. Linda supports Randy by attending several air show performances each year and even helped with the construction of the Skybolt.
- Randy's air show company is called Bearfeat Aerobatics. "Bearfeat" is a fun play on words, meaning 'huge undertaking'. This refers to Randy's building his Skybolt in the living room of a condominium! Now that's quite a feat!
- The Skybolt is constructed of steel tubing, wood and fabric. It weighs 1365 LB's empty, and normally carries 38 GAL of fuel, enough for a 350 mile trip. During air shows, only 13 GAL of fuel and 8 GAL of smoke oil are carried, bringing the total weight of the Skybolt to around 1650 LB's. To get maximum performance, Randy removes everything unnecessary from the airplane before the show, including the seat cushions.
- Randy learned to fly after graduating from the University of North Carolina with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. After college he went to work for aircraft manufacture McDonnell Douglas (now Boeing) as a Flight Test Engineer, flight testing new airliner designs. He has over 3000 flight hours in numerous aircraft from Cub's to military jets and is currently an engineer with American Airlines.
- In addition to performing in air shows, Randy attends aerobatic contests several times a year. All this aerobatic flying puts tremendous stresses on the Skybolt. The airplane is routinely inspected and updated with the latest technology.
- During his performance, Randy will pull up to 7 Gs as he starts a loop or goes vertical. Most of his maneuvers are started at 180 to 200 MPH. During vertical maneuvers the Skybolt will go straight up over 1500 feet. The airplane lands at 90 MPH.
- Randy is available for interviews during normal business hours. He can be reached at 918-292-3415, 8-5 CST. You can e-mail Randy at. Randy is quite the humorist and has many personal stories about first hand flying experiences. He has written numerous aviation articles and performed motivational speaking duties at group events.