

## Hangar Happenings for March and April 2019



### Rotorheads,

The start of spring this year came in a little cold and rainy, putting a slight damper on things but work went on. Work continued and the weather improved with things happening on the HRP, 37, 21, Drone and our latest arrival the Huey November. Another issue that's come to attention is that several people have said that

they can't copy or download pictures. That's because they are embedded in the pdf file and can't be taken out like they can in a word file. I'm looking for options but in the meantime if you want a particular picture/s, email me and I will send them to you.

The HRP had been moved previously across the hangar and jacked up to accommodate work on the main landing gear oleo struts. This work started in the last issue. The struts were detached and the oleos removed, disassembled, repaired and rebuilt for reassembly and installation. This was all a major bit of work requiring hours of cleaning and repair. A new bolt had to be found and reworked for strut to airframe attachment. Work on the H-37 Mojave included the flight controls below the cockpit flight deck as well as more work on the cockpit windows. H-21 blade rack adjustments continue to be made with the hope to have it finished this summer. On the Quadrotor Drone the retardant tank attachment was secured.

A big arrival this time was the HH-1N Huey, called an H-1 November or Huey November in striking China Lake SAR colors. After arriving at the hangar, the Huey was lifted off its trailer, the ground handling wheels attached and then rolled into a space between the R-22 and H-46. The tail pylon, cabin and cockpit were cleaned. The nose and skids were prepped and painted as well as painting a new star and bar emblem on the tail pylon. The bird arrived without instrument panel gauges and cockpit avionics, so all were replaced with on-hand stock. In addition to cosmetic work,



HRP oleo ready for assembly



HRP oleo strut repair finished



Landing gear attachment bolt



Working HRP upper strut mount



H-37 cockpit windows work



Cleaning HH-1N Huey cabin



HRP rebuilt gear strut



H-37 cockpit control work



Huey nose and skids painted



**Huey star & bar repainted**



**Huey TR drive cover replaced**



**Lifting the R-22 off the trailer**



**Blade dolly**



**Relocated conex**



**Support equipment garage**

the cabin door was adjusted, part of the tail rotor drive shaft cover was replaced and the tail rotor gearbox worked on.

There were other projects with the 22, 37 and November. Museum placement of the newly arrived R-22 started the first weekend in March. The beautiful little helo, affectionately called a Robbie, was lifted off the trailer, movement wheels installed and rolled into its new space in the hangar. The display was finalized with the addition of carpet, backdrop drapes, hanging display signs, information placard and closed-loop video. We are also working on a landing pad to put the Robbie on which is duplicated in the video. This project is intended to result in a display diorama for this beautiful helo. A new closed-loop video was set up in the Huey cabin enhancing the display with Huey historical information. Other projects with the H-37 included inventorying and moving more Mojave parts and assembling parts storage racks adjacent to the 37 work area (see Jan-Feb Happenings).

Infrastructure-wise, a wheeled dolly was built to hold rotor blades that were previously stored in the south ramp conex. Many of the other blades that were in the conex were placed in blade cans and then trailered for future movement up to Adelanto. The conex was completely cleaned out and moved to the other side of the ramp and put up for sale. Another infrastructure project was organizing a support equipment parking garage for our electric carts, tow tractors and forklifts.



**Huey instrument panel**



**Working on Huey TR gearbox**



**New R-22 display**



**Building R-22 landing pad**



**College tour group**

Tour-wise, many people and groups came to check out the museum. The biggest group was over a hundred people from the San Diego Community



**Setting up heaters**



**Bell XH-40**



**Bell 205/UH-1E**



**AH-1Z Viper**

College District in two classes for touring points of interest locations in San Diego County. There were so many people that the group had to be divided into four different days over two weeks. Each day tour was divided into three docent led groups ending in Q&A sessions. Both college tour groups were in the middle of March with the first one being cold and rainy so heaters were set up in the Q&A area resulting in a comfortable session with lots of great historical information and questions. Many other tours took place during this two month period.

History-wise this time focuses on the Huey. In March 1960 the Army ordered the Bell model 204 designated as the HU-1 followed in March 1962 with the Marines ordering the Bell model 205 designated UH-1E for an assault support helicopter. The venerable Bell H-1 airframe is still going strong today after more than 60 years of service. The development program started with the Bell XH-40 later designated the model 204 and called the HU-1 Iroquois by the Army and first flew in October 1956. The HU-1 represented a tremendous advancement in helicopter design being powered by a light weight gas turbine engine with vastly improved power to weight ability over previous piston engines. It was powered by a single 700 HP Lycoming T-53 gas turbine and quickly garnered the nickname of Huey. The Model 204 is the short fuselage with the longer fuselage Model 205 first flying in August 1961. The retooled basic airframe is still flying today as the UH-1Y Venom. The design has grown from a 8500 lb max gross

weight 700 SHP aircraft to an over 18000 lb 3800 SHP ship. The Huey in all of its variants has been flown by numerous countries worldwide, and with over 16000 airframes, it is one of the most prolific aircraft ever produced. The UH-1 Venoms and their cousin the AH-1Z Vipers often make passes through Ramona's airspace. So, Hop into your own personal "Huey" and bop on up to the museum to check out our Huey along with many of the other unique rotary wing aircraft on display, you might even see a fly-by if you're lucky. In the meantime, have a nice Spring.

Chip out



**Tour group Q&A session**



**Bell 204/HU-1**



**Bell UH-1Y Venom**



**Venom-Museum fly-by**