

Hangar Happenings for September and October 2019

Rotorheads,



Oiling the HRP eng

September and October were pretty quiet with several people, myself included, gone for several weeks of the period. The weather remained hot with no rain, not even starting to cool off until November. Still work was done, mostly cleaning, but a “new” aircraft was recovered. Some badly needed infrastructure work was done mostly it was tours. A lot of tours were conducted including two school groups. We have photos from 30 tours which probably represent about half of those conducted.

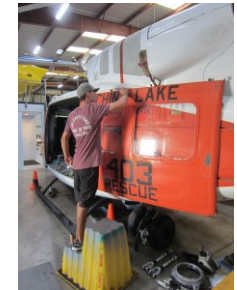


H-1N ground handling wheel



H-37 tail rotor gear box

A lot of minor work has continued on the HRP including oiling the engine cam shaft. The H-1N saw work on the ground handling wheels and the H-37 Mojave tail rotor gear box. Cleaning was done on the H-1N Huey door, the H-21 Shawnee and H-



Cleaning Huey door

46 Sea Knight cabins. The H-21 and H-46 cabins are quite large requiring a lot of time and work, note the side by side comparison in the pics.



Cleaning H-21 Cabin



Cleaning H-46 Cabin

A new arrival during this period was the de Lackner model 125 Cloud-Buster. The de Lackner 125 is a single place 1940's vintage tandem



Picking up the de Lackner 125

helicopter which was recovered from a location in Texas and trailered to the museum. I'll talk more about the 125 at the end of this Happenings. The aircraft was in pretty rough shape requiring a lot of cleaning and reassembly. The aft transmission fairing needed to be installed as well as working on the instrument panel and rear landing gear mounts. We have yet to figure out where this rather unique helicopter will fit into the museum collection.



Cleaning the de Lackner 125



De Lackner aft trans fairing



De Lackner rear gear mount

Work continued in the model room with some new models including the U.S. pioneers first successful helicopters and models of the



De Lackner instrument panel

different rotor system configurations. Additionally some of the display cabinets were moved and



Rotor system configurations



Inventoring HRP parts



Ramona Air Fair visitors



College group Q&A session



De Lackner 125 Cloud-Buster

reorganized. Inventoring parts continued for the HRP and H-1N while rotor blades were canned and trailered for movement. Major infrastructure work went on outside where a roof was being installed on the parking garage on the north side of the hangar.

Tour-wise September started off with two school groups. School group tours require extra work in that they are large and need to be broken into smaller groups for guided tours. Additionally, a Q&A session is set up at the end for the smaller groups to come together and ask questions of us. They were followed by the Ramona Air Fair in October when the doors are opened for paid admission and unlimited self-guided walk-throughs of the museum. All of this while fire season is in full swing with numerous fixed and rotary-wing fire-bombers and EMS as well as military and law enforcement helos at the airport.

History-wise, we now have a de Lackner aircraft. The Model 125 was a small lightweight tandem rotor helicopter designed by Donald de Lackner. It was built by de Lackner Helicopters in 1946 and dubbed the Cloud-Buster and powered by a 135 HP Lycoming O-290 engine. It was primarily used for RDT&E work and never further developed. De Lackner also designed and built the DH-4/HZ-1/YHO-2 Aerocycle in the early 1950's. The DH-4 was a one man flying platform which first flew in 1954. It was designed for Army reconnaissance and designated as the YHO-2 first and then the HZ-1. The project was cancelled in 1956 after a couple of accidents. You can see a video of this one flying at the Hughes Ring Wing display in the museum and on YouTube. I couldn't find any videos of the Model 125 tandem. Hop into your own personal reconnaissance craft and come on

up to check out ours. In the meantime, have a happy and safe Thanksgiving

Chip out



Moving model room cabinets



Trailered rotor blades



Adding on a garage roof



Fire Huey loading up



HZ-1 Aerocycle