

Lake-Geauga Helicopter Association

Editor: Mark Himmelman * (216) 486-7828 * Web Address: www.clublgha.com

425 Cary Jay Blvd. * Richmond Hts., Ohio 44143

Rotorheads

What is more exciting than seeing a scale helicopter with a multiblade rotorhead, and hearing the roar of many blades cutting through the air? The multiblade helicopters do not use a conventional flybar to control directional changes (Bell-Hiller system), but rather use phasing of the main multiple blades to achieve lateral movement. This alternative control may seem quite complicated, and can have very different flying characteristics from a flybar-type heli. One such odd characteristic of a multiblade head, is ballooning during the initial transition to forward flight. Once a pilot is comfortable with the odd sensations, he can maneuver the aircraft quite nimbly.

It is possible to convert a two-blade head to a multiblade head, with some modifications, and a sizeable fee. More information about conversions can be found on the Vario and Century Helicopter websites:

www.eastcoastvario.com
www.centuryheli.com

Both of these websites offer kits for three, four, and five blade rotorheads. Vario offers a multiblade gyro that connects between the receiver and the rotorhead servos, that essentially mimics the characteristics of a two-blade head with a flybar. Century also offers a multi-tail rotor unit, which can improve tail response speed.

It would be remiss to not mention the counter-rotating rotorhead machines, as found in the Hirobo XRB, or the tandem version, found in the Chinook helicopter. The main purpose of these two types of rotor configuration, is to eliminate the need for a tailrotor to counteract the effect of torque on the body. Although their use in scale aircraft is limited because of more mechanical complications, more low-cost toys are employing the counter-rotating head as a standard in production. The Chinook is still considered one of the best industrial heavies because of its lifting power.

Rotorhead Ramblings

March 2008

The February 6th meeting was attended by: Mark Himmelman, Jeff Venecek, Alex Rodriguez, Dave and Matt Klein, Andy Jones, Dan Greathouse, Richard Walker, Mike Louie, John Balanik, George Wasickanin, John Gelsimino, Bill Takacs, Rick Haynes, Steve Zuzek, and Doug Wagner.

The members talked about upcoming events for the year, including continuing the Club Picnic events that have become quite popular.

Alex Rodriguez showed off his Hirobo Electric Lepton 500, and Matt Klein showed off his Raptor 30 to 50 conversion. Matt claims better performance from the heli now that it has a bigger engine.

Dan Greathouse was still promoting his new light kit that he has offered on his website: www.lazertoyz.com. This light kit will be offered at the Toledo Show, as well as a new foam flyer that he is introducing. Dan has made more improvements to his Lazer foam plane, and will offer this kit as just the aircraft, and also available with radio, battery, servos, motor, and hardware, for a very reasonable cost.

March Meeting

The next LGHA meeting will be held on March 5th, at 7:00 PM.

LaBamba Mexican Restaurant
28611 Euclid Ave.
Wickliffe., OH 44092
(440) 833-0472
1/4 mile east of I-90
and Euclid Ave. exit, on the north
side of the street.

Coming Heli Events

Align Las Vegas Competition
March 19-21, 2008
Las Vegas, NV

Weak Signals R/C Expo
April 4-6, 2008
Toledo, OH
www.toledoshow.com

2008 Hirobo Cup USA
June 20-22, 2008
LaSalle, MI

Mid-America R/C Heli Fun Fly
June 27-29, 2008
Detroit, MI

2008 IRCHA Jamboree
August 14-17, 2008
Muncie, IN
www.ircha.org

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