

Yankee Rotors

Dec 2011

The Official Newsletter of Yankee Rotors

December 2010 Association Officers

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**Regular meetings every
3rd Sunday of each
month at 1:00 p.m.**



Next Meeting

Sunday January 22nd, 1:00 PM at John's house. Elections will be held. Also the lower plates to make the trainer a drop keel design are ready to be made. If you wish to come early, 10 AM works for me, the heat will be on. It is my hope we can cut these plates and make a rough sketch as to how our trainer will be reconfigured. This shouldn't be too difficult. Hope to see members there.

Get Well Guys

Members of Yankee Rotors wish a hearty Get Well to Rusty Blake and Uncle Ray Mahue. Both are founding members and are undergoing some medical procedures. We miss you guys and



One of the first pictures of hands off flying in John's modified RAF after its first 25 hour inspection. Further adjustments are still necessary. Thought the gyroplane does have heat, below 0 temperatures are keeping John on the ground.

So let's see some participation this Sunday. This organization is not a private club, it belongs to all of us, so the more the merrier. See you this weekend.

For Sale

Parsons two-place gyro for sale. Contact Rusty Blake: 207-663-4404. B8-

Bensen B8-M

This is a dismantled, frame, packed and ready for shipping. It includes the wheels and other items. It is a project, half the price of any pre-made airframe. The price is \$500 plus shipping. Interested parties should contact John Christopher. Phone number is 603-744-6232.

Barnett JB-4

We have a near complete two seat Barnett for sale. Normally for about 5k, this rolling frame needs an engine, rotors, and some instruments. Then up you go. Price reduced to \$1,000. This is pennies on the dollar for what it would cost.

Drop Keel Gyro

This Dominator style drop keel gyro, Tail w/ HS, 1100 cc Kawasaki Engine, seats two, a great flyer, Many options. A steal at \$12,500 Call Ray Mahue at 207-465-3203 This is a beautiful machine.

Original Bensen B8-M with 72 hp Mc Colloch engine, 22' Dragon Wings rotors, mufflers, electric pre-rotator. A beautiful example of a flying modified Bensen, very clean. \$2,000.00

The 25 Hour Inspection

There comes a time when the 25 hour inspection is due, and John's Modified RAF is at that point. Rather simple but very complete. Similar to a helicopter, the oil and filter are changed, spark plugs are removed and inspected, changed if necessary. All connections are checked, hoses, exposed wires, exhaust system, fuel lines, push pull tubes, rod end bearings, and anything else not already mentioned. I had the benefit of using the factory manual as a guide as to what to inspect. Not very, just very thorough. This is not something you can do in an hour or two!



The rotor blades must come off and unless you have friends hanging around, prepare to hoist it up. There is no way one or two men can lift this heavy rotor. There are needle bearings in the teeter bolt that must be removed with snap ring pliers and the bearings must be re-packed with fresh grease. In addition, inspect the teeter bolt for wear, trueness, anything that doesn't appear right. Inspect the rotorhead for cracks, the hub bar for cracks, anything that is loose or appears to be loose, inspect the ring gear and the rivets that attach it. There are many items and they all need to be inspected.



At left is the tower needle bearings, on the right side is the snap ring that must come off to remove these bearings for repacking. It is a factory requirement so just do it. It's your backside up there and never forget that. A little preventive maintenance goes a long way.

Take care of your ship and it will take care of you. At right is John with John Scabelli. He is a gyro/helicopter CFI who flies for a living. J.S. has agreed to help John in his endeavor to become a CFI also. Js. Is very enthusiastic about gyros and has been looking towards an RAF also. All I can say is "thanks John" for your help. If only out other members were as enthusiastic about flying as he is. Are you? Meeting this Sunday at John's house.



Our 2011 Christmas Party

Sometimes we travel up north, sometimes we remain in the Lakes Region, sometimes we travel south to Manchester. This Christmas was different. Mike Paquin invited our club to his home, his wife Jane provided dinner complete with all the amendments. It was a smorgasbord of great food, all the shrimp you can eat, all kinds of goodies normally found at exclusive restaurants. Exotic beverages were available to those who wish to indulge.



Mike is a very unique member. He listens to what we have to say, brings a new level of creativity to the Chapter, and is making great progress in building his gyro along with attaining flight training. His flight time is accumulating and will probably be flying solo soon. We attract many people who think flying gyros is a simple thing, and it is with proper training. Unfortunately this does have a price tag attached but this is as cheap as it gets. Mike's creativity does come with special tooling to aid him in this endeavor



Welcome to Mike's workshop. I never took the machine known as a "Smithy" seriously until now. It is a combination lathe and milling machine, and it can handle large work. With it Mike made his own rotorhead, all parts, mounts, airframe. He is taking his time and doing everything right.



Mike's engine is an air-cooled, Italian two-stroke as is the gearbox. The pre-rotator is also a small two-stroke. These are just two points of his creativity. It doesn't seem to end, from these motors down to the brakes. It was a great get together for the holiday, a combination of social fun, a little gyro fun, what more could you ask for. And there is always more to experience, but that means you must come to a meeting to join in on the fun. We overlooked elections which will happen at the next meeting which is this coming Sunday. Be there or call.

