I/We claim:

1. A fan comprising:

(a) a motor assembly;

(b) a rotatable hub assembly having an inner anchor assembly, wherein the rotatable hub assembly is rotatably coupled to the motor assembly;

(c) a plurality of fan blades, each fan blade comprising:

i. a first end securably coupled to the rotatable hub assembly,

ii. a second end,

iii. a leading edge,

iv. a trailing edge, and

v. a channel extending from the first end to the second end; and

(d) a plurality of cables, each cable having a inner end and a outer end;

wherein each cable extends through the channel of a corresponding fan blade of the plurality of fan blades, wherein each cable is coupled at the outer end to the second end of the corresponding fan blade, and wherein each cable is coupled at the inner end to the inner anchor assembly of the rotatable hub assembly.

2. The fan of claim 1, wherein the inner anchor assembly comprises a plate and a plurality of inner anchor members angularly spaced about the plate, wherein each cable of the plurality of cables is coupled at the inner end to a respective inner anchor member of the plurality of inner anchor members.

3. The fan of claim 2, wherein the inner end of each cable of the plurality of cables comprises a threaded shaft, a spring, and a nut.

4. The fan of claim 2, wherein the inner anchor assembly further comprises a disc-shaped plate and the plurality of inner anchor members are positioned angularly spaced the disc-shaped plate.

5. The fan of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of outer anchor members, wherein each outer anchor member is coupled to a fan blade of the plurality of fan blades at the second end of each fan blade.

6. The fan of claim 5, wherein each outer anchor member comprises an outer anchor plate, wherein each cable of the plurality of cables is coupled at the outer end to the corresponding outer anchor plate.

7. The fan of claim 6, wherein each outer anchor plate defines an outer anchor hole, wherein the outer end of each cable of the plurality of cables comprises a swaged tip sized and configured to prevent passage of the swaged tip through the outer anchor hole.

8. The fan of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of winglets, wherein each winglet is coupled to a fan blade of the plurality of fan blades at the second end of each fan blade.

9. The fan of claim 1, wherein each cable of the plurality of cables has an exterior surface and wherein each cable comprises a cushioning material disposed about a portion of the exterior of each cable.

10. The fan of claim 9, wherein each fan blade has a length, wherein the cushioning material is disposed about the portion of the exterior of each cable that is substantially coextensive to the length of each fan blade.

11. The fan of claim 1, wherein the inner anchor assembly comprises a plate and a plurality of inner anchor members angularly spaced about the plate, wherein each cable of the plurality of cables is coupled at the inner end to a respective inner anchor member of the plurality of inner anchor members, wherein each inner anchor member of the plurality of inner anchor members comprises a rear anchor portion and a fore anchor portion.

12. The fan of claim 11, wherein each inner anchor member has an offset angle, wherein the rear anchor portion and the fore anchor portion of each inner anchor member are angularly offset by the offset angle.

13. The fan of claim 12, wherein the rear anchor portion is substantially aligned with a trailing edge of a first fan blade of the plurality of fan blades and wherein the fore anchor portion is substantially aligned with a leading edge of a second fan blade of the plurality of fan blades.

14. The fan of claim 11, wherein the rear anchor portion comprises a first hole and the fore anchor portion comprises a second hole, wherein the first hole has a first longitudinal axis that is parallel to the trailing edge of a corresponding fan blade, and wherein the second hole has a second longitudinal axis that is parallel to the leading edge of a corresponding fan blade.

15. The fan of claim 11, wherein a first cable of the plurality of cables is coupled at the inner end to the rear anchor portion of a first inner anchor member and a second cable of the plurality of cables is coupled at the inner end to the fore anchor portion of the first inner anchor member.

16. A fan, comprising:
    (a) a plurality of fan blades, each fan blade defining a respective channel;
    (b) a disc-shaped plate;
    (c) a plurality of inner anchor members positioned angularly spaced about the disc-shaped plate; and
    (d) a plurality of cables, each cable extending through a respective channel of the fan blades, wherein each cable is secured to a respective inner anchor member of the plurality of inner anchor members, wherein each cable is further secured relative to the corresponding fan blade.

17. The fan of claim 16, wherein each fan blade includes a winglet, wherein each cable is secured to the winglet of the fan blade associated with the cable.

18. The fan of claim 16, wherein each fan blade includes a respective free end, the fan further comprising a plurality of anchor plates, wherein each anchor plate is located at the free end of a corresponding fan blade, wherein each cable is secured to the anchor plate of the fan blade associated with the cable.

19. The inner anchor assembly of claim 18, wherein each fan blade includes a winglet, wherein each anchor plate is positioned outbard relative to the winglet of the associated fan blade.

20. A fan comprising:

(a) a rotatable hub assembly having an inner anchor assembly, wherein the inner anchor assembly comprises a plurality of angularly spaced inner anchor members;

(b) a plurality of fan blades, each fan blade comprising:

i. a first end securably coupled to the rotatable hub assembly,

ii. a second end,

iii. a leading edge,

iv. a trailing edge, and

v. a channel extending from the first end to the second end;

(c) a plurality of winglets, wherein each winglet has at least one hole and wherein each winglet is coupled to the second of each fan blade; and

(d) a plurality of cables, each cable having a inner end and a outer end, wherein the outer end of each cable comprises a swaged tip;

wherein the swaged tip of each cable is positioned outboard of a corresponding winglet of the plurality of winglets,

wherein each cable is threaded through the at least one outer hole of the corresponding winglet and through the at least one channel of the corresponding fan blade, and

wherein each cable is coupled at the inner end to a respective inner anchor member of the inner anchor assembly of the rotatable hub assembly.

CLAIMS

1. A fan, comprising:

(a) a motor assembly;

(b) a rotatable hub assembly having an inner anchor assembly, wherein the rotatable hub assembly is rotatably coupled to the motor assembly;

(c) a plurality of fan blades, each fan blade comprising: i. a first end securably coupled to the rotatable hub assembly, ii. a second end, iii. a leading edge, iv. a trailing edge, and v. a channel extending from the first end to the second end;

(d) a plurality of cables, each cable having an inner end and an outer end; wherein each cable extends through the channel of a corresponding fan blade of the plurality of fan blades, and wherein each cable is coupled at the inner end to the inner anchor assembly of the rotatable hub assembly; and

(e) a plurality of outer anchor members, wherein each outer anchor member is coupled to a fan blade of the plurality of fan blades at the second end of each fan blade wherein each outer anchor member comprises an outer anchor plate, and wherein each cable of the plurality of cables is coupled at the outer end to the corresponding outer anchor plate.

2. The fan of claim 1, wherein the inner anchor assembly comprises a plate and a plurality of inner anchor members angularly spaced about the plate, wherein each cable of the plurality of cables is coupled at the inner end to a respective inner anchor member of the plurality of inner anchor members.

3. The fan of claim 2, wherein the inner end of each cable of the plurality of cables comprises a threaded shaft, a spring, and a nut.

4. The fan of claim 2, wherein the plate is a disc-shaped plate and the plurality of inner anchor members are positioned angularly spaced the disc-shaped plate.

5. The fan of claim 1, wherein each outer anchor plate defines an outer anchor hole, wherein the outer end of each cable of the plurality of cables comprises a swaged tip sized and configured to prevent passage of the swaged tip through the outer anchor hole.

6. The fan of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of winglets, wherein each winglet is coupled to a fan blade of the plurality of fan blades at the second end of each fan blade.

7. The fan of claim 1, wherein each cable of the plurality of cables has an exterior surface and wherein each cable comprises a cushioning material disposed about a portion of the exterior of each cable.

8. The fan of claim 7, wherein each fan blade has a length, wherein the cushioning material is disposed about the portion of the exterior of each cable that is substantially coextensive to the length of each fan blade.

9. The fan of claim 1, wherein the inner anchor assembly comprises a plate and a plurality of inner anchor members angularly spaced about the plate, wherein each cable of the plurality of cables is coupled at the inner end to a respective inner anchor member of the plurality of inner anchor members, wherein each inner anchor member of the plurality of inner anchor members comprises a rear anchor portion and a fore anchor portion.

10. The fan of claim 9, wherein each inner anchor member has an offset angle, wherein the rear anchor portion and the fore anchor portion of each inner anchor member are angularly offset by the offset angle.

11. The fan of claim 10, wherein the rear anchor portion is substantially aligned with a trailing edge of a first fan blade of the plurality of fan blades and wherein the fore anchor portion is substantially aligned with a leading edge of a second fan blade of the plurality of fan blades.

12. The fan of claim 9, wherein the rear anchor portion comprises a first hole and the fore anchor portion comprises a second hole, wherein the first hole has a first longitudinal axis that is parallel to the trailing edge of a corresponding fan blade, and wherein the second hole has a second longitudinal axis that is parallel to the leading edge of a corresponding fan blade.

13. The fan of claim 9, wherein a first cable of the plurality of cables is coupled at the inner end to the rear anchor portion of a first inner anchor member and a second cable of the plurality of cables is coupled at the inner end to the fore anchor portion of the first inner anchor member.

14. A fan, comprising:

(a) a plurality of fan blades, each fan blade defining a respective channel and including a respective free end;

(b) a disc-shaped plate;

(c) a plurality of inner anchor members positioned angularly spaced about the disc-shaped plate;

(d) a plurality of cables, each cable extending through a respective channel of the fan blades, wherein each cable is secured to a respective inner anchor member of the plurality of inner anchor members; and

(e) a plurality of anchor plates, wherein each anchor plate is located at the free end of a corresponding fan blade, wherein each cable is further secured to the anchor plate of the fan blade associated with the cable.

15. The fan of claim 14, wherein each fan blade includes a winglet, wherein each cable is secured to the winglet of the fan blade associated with the cable.

16. The inner anchor assembly of claim 14, wherein each fan blade includes a winglet, wherein each anchor plate is positioned outboard relative to the winglet of the associated fan blade.

17. A fan comprising:

(a) a rotatable hub assembly having an inner anchor assembly, wherein the inner anchor assembly comprises a plurality of angularly spaced inner anchor members;

(b) a plurality of fan blades, each fan blade comprising:

i. a first end securably coupled to the rotatable hub assembly,

ii. a second end,

iii. a leading edge,

iv. a trailing edge, and

v. a channel extending from the first end to the second end;

(c) a plurality of winglets, wherein each winglet has at least one hole and wherein each wing let is coupled to the second end of each fan blade; and

(d) a plurality of cables, each cable having an inner end and an outer end, wherein the outer end of each cable comprises a swaged tip;

wherein the swaged tip of each cable is positioned outboard of a corresponding winglet of the plurality of winglets, wherein each cable is threaded through the at least one outer hole of the corresponding winglet and through the at least one channel of the corresponding fan blade, and wherein each cable is coupled at the inner end to a respective inner anchor member of the inner anchor assembly of the rotatable hub assembly.