#### March 2010

# Seabee Club Newsletter



Foto courtesy of Herman Kurth!

#### Hello Everyone,

Isn't this great.... a guy calls and wants to know about the Bee that looks like a killer whale. He says everyone thinks he's nuts, but I tell him I know it exists. We actually went to BC and looked at it about 10 years ago, but I couldn't remember much about it and being before my digital camera days I was stuck for any information to offer him. So... a quick note to all of you and I get the photo and blurb within no time from our dear friend Herman Kurth. What a great network.

It's worked so well, I really need to put a time line together on the 6 place Bee story. Since I announced Mrs. Hensley's sale of the unique aircraft in Tennessee, I've had several more responses which I've stuck below in the history section. I'm also getting information from West Sanders and John Cuny about a collection of old newsletters and then Tom Danaher mentions that somewhere he has a whole set of Dick's newsletters. I'd venture to say that for such a small production run, our 'type club' is second to none!

Most all of the old newsletter can be found at the IRSOC under Archives. <a href="http://republicseabee.com/Newsletters.html">http://republicseabee.com/Newsletters.html</a> There's enough reading there to last you till summer. They're doing such a great job on the website, there always seems to be new information coming along, and they're even posting my old newsletters. Most of you know too about our friend Steinar's website, <a href="www.seabee.info">www.seabee.info</a>. Between these two sites, if you can't find the information you are looking for it may not have been discovered yet. But like I said, it's such a great network because everyone is contributing.

Shannon Waylon had called and mentioned that Grove Aircraft is making these now!



Brand new stainless flap actuation cylinders in stock. Aren't they pretty? You can contact them at 619-562-1268 or go to www.groveaircraft.com Robby is the guy there, and if anyone's interested in tailwheels... When I was having trouble finding a good one, we'd talked about using his 4" amphibious wheel for a replacement for the Seabee 10SC. He's got one that will do the job better than the original but he'd have to fit it with different bearings to fit the axle. It's a heck of a nice wheel, and he'd be willing to do some testing to make sure it would take the loads needed. I think it's statically rated at 900 lbs. The test he has to make for his wheels is to show that the tire will fail before the wheel does during side loads. With his shop and other PMA approved stuff you could probably do this on a 337. They make some REALLY nice stuff for the cub..... and amphibious floats! Oh yeah, speaking of the network. I'd gotten a call about a heck of a deal on Gaylin Tustison's airplane # 663, N60CB that's been parked in the California desert for the past two years. You know the story right.... I can't find it right now, but it's on the <u>republicseabee.com</u> site somewhere, I think. It is quite a story, he'd purchased the airplane and flown it across the country, not without many problems. He made it, but there it has sat for the about the last two years. That's sad enough, but Gaylin has flown west, hopefully where Bee's will fly forever. Well, his Bee recently went up for sale for \$15K. Sorry, but it's gone already. I guess it's going back to Florida via Indiana. By the way, it's the only one that I've seen with brakes on the right? Has anyone else done that?

## History ... regarding the conversations on the 6 place Bee....

"I can comment on #485 as it was once mine... #485, N444DL (DL for David Lehman), ex N6275K, was indeed built up by Smitty at the old Commodore operation at Sausalito... The airplane was used for seaplane rides on the SF Bay where sea level operating with a built in headwind provided the impetus for the Franklin to get 5-6 people off the water... I bought the airplane sitting in the Sacramento Delta area with a blown Franklin... When I pulled it up on shore, the hull was covered with barnacles and there was a lot of corrosion... I hauled it home to Concord, CA and "restored" her... The paint on her now is from my "restoration"... I moved to Spokane and flew her off Long Lake, primarily up to Priest Lake, ID... Somewhere, I have pictures of #485 sitting beside Don Kyte's old Bee at Long Lake... #485 is a very unique Bee, extended wings (extended flaps), no hydraulic system, cable operated flaps (Cherokee flap handle), six place seating with a "pedestal"

type instrument panel, extra windows in the side of the cabin, etc... I sold her to a guy in Sandpoint, ID who started using her for rides and in a short time, blew the Franklin... Last time I saw her, she was on a trailer headed to Texas...".

"Yes their was a five or six place Bee. It was built by Smitty and I flew in it with Charlie Clotere piloting it several times. It had a single pilot position moved up in the nose, two foot wing extensions on each side with ailerons moved out and flaps extended, the big side doors had lower window panels installed for better viewing and the second row seats were two individual buckets and the bench seat was in back. The landing gear was permanently removed so she was a straight boat not an amphibian and it had its own four wheeled cradle on an asphalt ramp for getting in and out of the water (using it's own power.) It was made for the sightseeing flights Bob Law used to give and was later owned by Chris Hansen and Charlie Clotere then bought by a man named Frank sometime in the seventies. Chris Hansen or Charlie Clotere would have more info. John Bambey Thanks for the stories guys!

# Safety

Hey all you old timers... if you are still holding a paper license they are no longer valid after the end of the March! You must get a new plastic one from the FAA. <u>Click here for details!</u>

(http://www.faa.gov/licenses\_certificates/airmen\_certification/certificate\_replacement/)

<u>Classifieds</u> Listings will be for 6 months unless I hear from you. After that, they will be gone... renew or update your ad as long as you like! Cleaning out your hanger, sell it here! Need some parts, let us know!

#### N3N Floatplane



This USN file photo shows an N3N (not mine) on floats. My N3N, N45129, is currently hangared in Colorado. It's in the landplane configuration, although I have a 100% complete set-up to re-configure the airplane for water operations.

My N3N was built in 1940 (S/N 1962). It remained in US Navy service until 1946, when is was surplused and became a crop duster. In 1969 it was placed in hangar storage in Texas, where it remained until 1980

when it was ferried to Arkansas for restoration. It underwent a ground-up restoration from 1980 until 1989 when it was certificated in Standard category. From 1989 until 2001, it had flown 401 hours when the owner died, then went into a hangar until July 2004 when it was purchased by me. I flew it to Texas and installed Redline disc brakes, using FAA Form 337 on a field approval.

In February 2005, I took a job in Singapore, flying the N3N to a museum in Arizona where it remained on display until April 2008. In April 2008, I flew it to Colorado and put it in a hangar there, where it remains today.

It has a 300-hp Lycoming 9-cylinder radial engine with Hamilton Standard 2B20 constant speed prop. Both engine and prop have 437 hours of operation. There is no wood in this airplane, as the US Navy manufactured them using aluminum extrusions left over from the dirigible program. The fabric is now 20 years old and shows its age, but is good for many years. It would benefit from a new paint job. Regarding spare parts, I have a core 300-hp Lycoming engine with mount, pristine upper wing, right and left lower wings, two elevators, rudder , vertical and horizontal stabilizers, "N" struts, eight ailerons and a multitude of spare parts too numerous to mention. My float set is 100% complete, including 20-foot centerline float, 6-foot wingtip floats, all struts, braces and attach fittings, and newly manufactured stainless steel flying wires.

I'm still working in Singapore and have decided to take up permanent residence in Asia, which is why I've put the airplane on the market. I have approximately \$105,000 USD invested in the airplane, spares and floats, but will consider any reasonable offer. Upon purchase, it will be given a fresh annual. I would also be able to provide delivery and a check out, with CFI endorsement. General historical and factual N3N information can be obtained via Google.

Should you have further interest, I'll send copies of logpages, 337s and other relevant maintenance documents.

Please reply to my Yahoo e-mail address: <u>usnavy n3n@yahoo.com</u> Best regards. Richard Ries 2/10



SuperBee! GO 480 Simuflight Conversion, fuel injected. NEW ENGINE and PROP!

Recent engine overhaul. New 3 bladed Hartzel propeller with Beta Ring pitch control, fully reversible. Droop tip extended wings. Collins microline VHF, transponder, ADF. VIR and Morrow Apollo Loran C. Digital fuel management system Miniflo L. Steerable tail wheel. To inspect airplane, call (253)752-4987 to arrange an appointment. Ben Blackett wbnsurgconsult@comcast.net 02/10

Lycoming Prop. and parts



I bought this new HC-A3VF-SAL / VL9333 CH-4 as a spare propeller for my Sea-Bea in 1980, later I cannibalized hub for few parts namely one clamp. There are three new blades and partial hub for sale. Asking \$9 000 -OBO. Also have pair of prefabricated longitudinal steps - STC - SA 575NW. No paperwork, \$200 8 feet of keel extrusion asking \$100. Location Miami

JAN BEM Tel# 305 866 1408 Cell: 786 999 9829 e-mail: janbem@centrum.cz Tel# in Czech Rep. 011 420 602 203 660 01/10

# 1954 C-180 Representing a 1965 U-17C of the RVNAF



Approx. 6900 hrs TTAF, 975 TTSMOH McCauley 88" prop installed 2006 MARCH annual KY-197, KMA-24, and Northstar M1 VFR only Same owner 20 years, always kept in hangar Located at Hicks Airfield Texas (T67) Seen in several magazines, books, video, and Trade-A-Plane cover. \$80,000 Phone: (817) 658-8637 wrsanders\_98@yahoo.com 12/09

Right Wing Needed for Seabee!
AS MENTIONED I NEED A RIGHT WING......, FOR NOW? RICHARD LAWRENCE 250-675-3008 or email richard@airspeedwireless.ca 11/09

#### Seabee Art!



Ginny Ivanicki is an artist and Seabee lover. Ginny does some incredible oil paintings of the 40's and 50's that include other seaplanes and warbirds too. You can see her works at <a href="www.elliottlouis.com/dynamic/artists/Virginia\_Ivanicki\_Strell.asp.">www.elliottlouis.com/dynamic/artists/Virginia\_Ivanicki\_Strell.asp.</a> Contact her at <a href="ivanicki@telus.net">ivanicki@telus.net</a> or 604-709-0190 9/09

#### The Remarkable Tahoe Special Experimental Amphibian is for Sale!



Grand Champion Oshkosh, Grand Champion Sun & Fun, numerous first place awards at airshows throughout the USA. The best single engine four seat seaplane in the world. Powered by 405 HP LS-6 Corvette V8. Corvette air conditioning and heat. Four bladed custom reversible MT propeller, custom upholstery and paint by Paul Shepherd. 446 hours aircraft and engine. 9.8 gallons per hour on auto gas, 120 gallon fuel capacity. Will consider trade/trade in for Husky, Super Cub, Bearhawk, American Champ High Country or Maule. \$185,000. Aircraft is at Carson City NV. Will deliver for expenses. Contact Steve Lantz at <a href="mailto:stevelantz@aol.com">stevelantz@aol.com</a> or call at 775 720 4157 10/09

## Turbocharged SeaRey



Options include; Hydraulic gear, Heel brakes, Electric trim, Whelen strobes, King com radio, King transponder, 121.5 mHz ELT, Nav lights. Rotax 914.turbocharged engine 115 hp. Full electrical system. Dual electric fuel boost pumps. 137 total hours. Built by an A and P mechanic. Always hangared. \$45,000. (A new Rotax 914 sells for \$31,000 by itself.) Contact Tom Watkins 253-549-4549 Cell 602-284-0770. 8/09

PRICE REDUCED AGAIN- SEABEE with Ground-Up Restoration FOR SALE



\$65,000 1947 Republic Seabee N6755K, S/N 1043, , T.T. 650, Engine & Prop 17 SMOH, Spare A/W B9F, Alternator, Airwolf oil Filter, new glass paint and interior 07, wide spray rails, wing ext's., overhead quadrant, Cleveland brakes., new fuel cell, inboard strakes, steerable T/W all logs G for two other photos, visit Barnstormers website <a href="http://www.barnstormers.com/ad\_detail.php?ID=171092">http://www.barnstormers.com/ad\_detail.php?ID=171092</a>

Contact Sam czechride@canby.com - located Wilsonville, OR phone: 503 678-5114 07/09

Harzite Blades 4 sale! (I would have jumped on this tailwheel had I not already found one, I believe the Bendix is superior to some of the others out there. Go ahead, ask me why? These blades are absolutely beautiful, they belong in a museum!)

2 Brand New Hartzite propeller blades Design # L8427... These blades were manufactured by Hartzell for the Seabee and Navion, in conjunction with Franklin engine, at the time they were called the first composite blades and I will sell both for \$1900.00.





Contact Kim dos Santos at <u>jaspat4kim@gmail.com</u>, (203) 915-2000 Cell, (203) 877-7750 is Home, or (203) 877-7750 Fax

WOW, Another Northwest SuperBeel GO 480 Simuflight Conversion, fuel injected.



Recent engine overhaul. New 3 bladed Hartzel propeller with Beta Ring pitch control, fully reversible. Droop tip extended wings. Collins microline VHF, transponder, ADF. VIR and Morrow Apollo Loran C. Digital fuel management system Miniflo L. Steerable tail wheel. To inspect airplane, call (253)752-4987 to arrange an appointment. Ben Blackett wbnsurgconsult@comcast.net 02/10

# LS-6 powered 350 HP Corvette "BEE" for sale, NOW U.S. registered!



Don't miss this rare "BEE",it is a great aircraft. No oil required between oil/filter chgs. BURNS LESS THAN 10 USG PER HOUR ON PREMIUM AUTO FUEL.

- -MGTW 3350 lbs., Usable load 1200 lbs., rate of climb, over 600 F.P.M. at Max Gross @ SL.
- -Hartzell wide cord composite fully reverse-able prop w/spare COMPOSITE & Metal blades.
- -Wide spray rails w/propellor" No-Spray shield " at hull step, works great.
- -Spectacular T/O performance, even off calm water, at full gross weight, 19 sec's
- -All new windows, all new stainless control cables, bow door w/auto hold open feature.
- -Aircraft totally re-wired, standby alternator, split-able dual battery system.
- -Cabin heater & defog system, free fall undercarriage with positive downlock feature.
- -Black stainless disc brakes, good tires and positive tail wheel lock, new 75 gal.fuel bladder.
- -Capacitance type fuel tank gauge system, Removable 15 gal long range aux fuel tank.
- -New paint & new upholstery & carpet 1 year ago. Short wings, splate tips, flasher beacon.
- -All new Inst. panel with COM, transponder, stdby nav/com, Garmin GPS, vertical compass,
- -Vac.gyro horizon, some spares, and many more extras too numerous to mention. Meets all specs for import into U.S.A.

Contact Ken at <u>winterhawk23@hotmail.com</u> or Phone 604-943-3380 (home) 604-813-7794 (cell) Asking price \$115.000.00 US 01/09

### Roger Duke's Super Seabee (New Price) and Home are 4 sale.....



Serial #56, Simuflight GO480-B1A6, 270 HP, logs since new in 9/16/46. Hangared, TTAF 2188, Engine only 600 since overhaul. Reversible Prop 322 since overhaul, 5 yr. AD last year (same as overhaul), Landing light each wing tip. Overhead engine controls, Large spray rails, Locking tail wheel, Cleveland brakes, Whelen strobe system, Daubenspeck droop wing tips, KT 76A transponder, KR 86 ADF, KY97A Comm., Narco 122 Nav., Northstar M2V Loran/GPS, \$95,000. Contact Roger Duke 360-321-1537. email rduke@whidbey.com 02/09

#### **Airpark Home on Whidbey**

Roger is also selling his home. If the following link doesn't work, go to Windermere's website WOW  $\frac{\text{http://www.windermere.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=Listing.ListingDetail\&ListingID=17411843}{\text{and type in the following MLS $\#$ 27025608. WOW}$ 

http://www.windermere.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=Listing.ListingDetail&ListingID=17411843

#### **G 21A Grumman Goose**



Serial Number B 32 is one of the best fresh-water Gooses in existence. It is a straight, corrosion free, always-hangared and well maintained aircraft perfect for long-range exploration. It has only 4,000 hours since it was rebuilt in 1982 for the late Bob Richardson of Seattle.

Total airframe time: 8,638 hours.

Clean, smooth-running P&W R985s with 890 hours and good compression.

Heavy Hartzell props and Twin Beech cowls.

Retractable water rudder and McKinnon retractable floats

Electric up and crank down landing gear.

Mallard Goodyear wheels and brakes (Great!)

Electric fuel pump and long-range fuel tanks

Bubble windows in cockpit, picture windows in cabin.

One-piece front bow hatch.

Full King IFR package including HSI, RMI, and Radio Altimeter

New interior with six quick-release original Goose seats on tracks.

Original paint since 1982 rebuild. Still has good gloss.

Complete logs, beginning with original 1943 delivery logs.

For more details and pictures, please see <a href="http://www.tanglefoot.org/gooseforsale.html">http://www.tanglefoot.org/gooseforsale.html</a>

Price: \$650,000 with new annual.

Editor's note: This owner KNOWS Grummans. If he says it's one of the finest, you can count on it. 1/09

## Other Interesting Web Sites

http://www.tanignak.com/More%20Amphibian%20Adventures.htm which has some wonderful Widgeon, Goose and other amphib stories,

More history from our friend Andy Shane if you are interested in the Pan Am flying boats. Check out....

http://www.flyingclippers.com/main.html or http://www.rbogash.com/B314.html

http://web.mac.com/chankwitz/BlueHorizons/Movie.html Carl Hankwitz's republished 1949/50 family Seabee movie.

http://shaunlunt.typepad.com/shootings/

www.dunk-you.com emergency egress training.

www.sfahistory.org Society for Aviation History

#### www.clearlakesplashin.com

www.aerocheck.com

www.hu-16.com

www.SeaPlaneOps.com

www.flightcontractservices.com

<u>www.rcairplane.net</u> Easy to build Seabee with a 72" wing span, other great models too. Contact Bill Price <u>bprice@puc.edu</u>

#### Canadian Information

http://www.alaska.faa.gov/flyak/

http://www.bcfloatplaneassociation.com/

http://www.floatplanepilots.com/

www.canadianseaplane.com/index.htm

# Seabee Products And Information

<u>Bubble Windows</u> Aircraft Windshields in Los Angeles is run by a lady named Judy. They do a great job according to Steve Lantz. The bubble molds are there and all she needs is your old windows as pattern for size. Call 562-430 8108

Wing Walks, those things you put on the wings when you want to get up and clean up the oil mess...

Jim Dixon's dad is a retired carpenter and will make these for \$100 each. He does a great job from the original plans, they just aren't quite as wide. Which is nice, they are a lot easier to handle. I have two one for each side. He also puts felt on the bottom edges so they don't scratch the wing and carpet on top. Contact Jim page@earthlink.net 253-973-9985 or at home 253-232-9463.

## Walk Around Inspection

http://www.aircraftwalkaround.com/seabee/seabee.htm is an interesting series of pictures of a walk around. Note the high polish job and a very interesting water rudder.

## Leading Edge Wing Tanks (I want some of these...)

Second generation Seabee Guru, Henry Ruzakowski, has developed tanks that will hold at least 15 useable gallons per side. They are made of carbon fiber and Kevlar and will gravity feed to the main tank with the operation of one lever. They will be done on a field approval, so you'll have to take your airplane to him in Florida. So, let's plan a trip to Sun and Fun!!! Call or email Henry for more information. 561-436-0821 amphibs1@aol.com

The Seabee CD and the new Newsletter CD! The Seabee CD contains all the Bulletins, Flight Manual, Parts Manuals, etc.. He states ... "Everyone I have sold this CD to has found it most useful. I have re-typed all of the Service Bulletins and reformatted the parts manuals for easier reading. The Newsletter CD contains most of the old Seabee news letters by George Mojonnier, and Richard Sanders. No special software is required. All files are in Adobe Acrobat format and I include a reader with the CD. Once the Acrobat Reader is installed, just put the CD in the computer and it starts automatically! Contact Steve at <a href="mailto:smestler@pbtcomm.net">smestler@pbtcomm.net</a> I have them both, they're a great reference!

# The Seabee Experts Simuflight

Ken Thompson runs the 6000 sq ft facility in Fallon NV and their engineering and operations are run by Scott Henderson out of Anchorage Alaska. They also offer a traveling A&P/IA Seabee expert supported by their shop that can handle anything that is wrong with a Seabee. Simuflight's Fallon facility is a complete Seabee maintenance station. Please contact Scott Henderson (<a href="scott@simuflight.net">scott@simuflight.net</a>) 907-339-8085 x6101. You can also visit their website at <a href="http://www.simuflight.net">http://www.simuflight.net</a> for more information. In addition to Simuflight's many STC'd and non STC'd kits they are also working with the FAA to begin producing replacement parts for the Seabee.

Scott is looking for intersted parties concerning replacement floats. They are working on a new design as parts are getting hard to find. He writes... The Floats will be STC'd

- \* I am guessing carbon fiber and should be very light.
- \* They will be one piece so no seam, they will look better. The actual shape will not change since changes like this would require flight and water testing. I am just going to get rid of the seam.
- \* Less drag? maybe but nothing to right home about.
- \* No corrosion we are going to make sure these have no parts that will corrode.
- \* Off the shelf replacement We spend a lot of time straighting bent floats because there is no more replacements. The one we are doing now have \$600+ in labor and heat treating in it.
- \* Price Who knows, FAA is going to beat me up a little but my hope is to bring each float in under \$1000 but I am guessing a starting point would be \$995 per float. This price would assume fairly good volume. The engineering on this is going to take some time to get through the FAA. I can't just make a look alike float out of carbon fiber I have to design the layup and write a specification for the resin and manufacture and then get it all approved. I am guessing I will have about 160 hours of engineering by the time I am done with the FAA. Then we still have to make them as well.

Bottom line is if there is no interest I am not going to jump into this project. Jereme still has a few float halves

available so we can work with those for the time being. The problem with his floats is, they are not heat treated and when we heat treat them they like to warp on us.

#### New From Simuflight\*

We have not officially announced it but McHugh Aviation completed an STC for an electric trim replacement for the Republic Seabee (RC-3) this last year. Due to the extensive FAA rules on PMA it is still not ready for shipping but we are taking pre-orders at this time and I am hopeful shipping will occur sometime this fall.

This STC was the final project my father (Joe McHugh) was working on for the Seabee and took an additional three years after I took things over to complete but is a nice kit. The FAA put us through the ringer on this one (primary flight system) but in the end they were very happy with the results. This system completely replaces the original trim system and replaces it with three servo motors (two for the elevator, one for the rudder), the entire installation weights less than a pound. This system also adds a rudder trim. The installation removes ALL the original hardware. Actuation of the trim is via a typical hat switch on the yoke and/or alternate panel switches.

The system was extensively flight tested (both our internal DER and the FAA flight test staff) with special attention to management of flight controls and the system in trim runaway situations. The result is a clean and simple system that addresses one of the high maintenance systems on the aircraft and of course adds that long desired rudder trim. For more information please check our website at: <a href="http://www.simuflight.net/content/view/30/29/">http://www.simuflight.net/content/view/30/29/</a> or e-mail me at <a href="mailto:scott@simuflight.net">scott@simuflight.net</a>.

Scott Henderson, McHugh Aviation Inc. <a href="http://www.simuflight.net/http://www.simuflight.n

<u>IRSOC</u> (International Republic Seabee Owners Club) Now at <u>www.republicseabee.com</u> It's still the best source of information and experts on the old beast that you will find. If you haven't checked out the IRSOC and Joined? Go ahead, it's free, with free classifieds for members. The <u>337 database</u> and clearing house for 337 forms and field approvals is also a free service to IRSOC members. For the time being all forms would have to be faxed to Jim: May to November (315) 531-9168; November to May (386) 767-0706.

"Frankenstein Guru" Rich Brumm in Long Island, N.Y. is also one of the experts. If you ever heard of a problem with the Franklin, he has the fix for it! He's also done some interesting things to fix other plagues that continue to give Bee owners headaches. Tired of changing wheel bearings? Ask him about the "Double Lip Seal!" brummrichkaren@aol.com Phone: 631-779-3178 Office: 516-885-5879

<u>Seabee Discussion Group</u> This is a great Discussion group that gets lots of activity. If you post a question, you'll be sure to get a quick response with good experience behind it. <a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Seabee">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Seabee</a> If you don't want to join the group right away, you can log in as "seabee guest" with a password of "Seabee". Enjoy, it's a great site with lots of great pictures and links.

<u>www.seabee.info/seabee.htm</u> The author of the discussion group has created this fabulous website that is fast becoming the place to go for knowledge and history on the old Beast. Steinar has done a great job and you can spend hours looking at all his information. <a href="http://www.seabee-transition.com/">http://www.seabee-transition.com/</a>

Bee Sea n'ya,
Bruce Hinds, President
Washington Seaplane Pilots Association
Seabee Club Newsletter
360-769-2311 home
360-710-5793 cell www.wa-spa.org