

Bruce Hinds

From: "Bruce Hinds" <brucehinds@earthlink.net>
Date: Thursday, April 29, 2004 4:35 AM
To: "bruce hinds" <brucehinds@earthlink.net>
Attach: 20004 Upcoming Events.doc
Subject: May '04 Seabee letter

The Northwest Seabee Club



Hello everyone,

Saturday May 1st (day after tomorrow!) at **American Lake** is this year's opening season **splash-in** celebration by the Washington Seaplane Pilots Association. It was a good turn out last year... Hope to see you there. For information call John Kittelson at American Lake Seaplane Base 253-582-3777.

I have a tendency to forget how much stuff you have been sending in to me over the course of a month, so I put off trying to get the newsletter together. Then it's a rush to include it all. I apologize for my mistakes and as always there will be controversy and disagreement. The Key West Bee seems to be one of these issues. I received a call from someone whose opinion I really respect. He had the exact opposite story to tell about the condition of that airplane. I try to forward most of what information I get, unfortunately I then fall in to a news reporter category. I hate that. I only want to give you important and timely information. Without having to put a disclaimer on everything, I guess you are best advised to seek out our own opinions.

Some interesting things are happening, some new products and more classifieds. Browse through for information on Don Kyte's new book. Steve Lantz is making big progress with his Robinson Bee, the "Tahoe Special." And, there is a really neat new product now available, Bubble Windows! I've also included the State airport Status from the WSDOT and I found some interesting facts and figures from a 1947 FLYING article, "Light Plane Bust or Boom."

News

FLIGHTSEEING S.E.ALASKA'S GLACIERS AND WHALES. sub titled: A CLOSE UP VIEW OF S.E.ALASKA'S SPLENDOR WITH ONE MAN'S VINTAGE AIRCRAFT. by Don Kyte It is about 50 pages plus some pictures. It is soft cover and more booklet than book. It is about the 10 years he flew his Seabee in his one man, one airplane company, Glacier View Airways. He is selling it for \$14.95 plus \$4.50 shipping and handling. Send checks to: Seabee Publishing, 257 Ostego Dr., Ft. Myers Beach, FL 33931

The Tahoe Special Most of what Steve is doing is not for publication due a specific plan he has for certification of the project. He does report... "It is based on a 1947 stripped seabee fuselage. Plans are for certification as a homebuilt aircraft. I am well in to the project at this time and hope to have it completed by summer. Some of the items that are completed or nearly completed are the installation of 32 gallon wing tanks, gull wing doors for the pilot and co-pilot, a 405 HP Robinson corvette conversion with factory air and heat. Large baggage door, large fuel tank access, extended wings, new spray guards, new fuel system, complete rebuild from NOS stock of right wing, tear down and rebuild of all Hyd. components, replace and rerig all control cables, redesign and rebuild electrical system, upholstery and paint." Steve Lantz can be reached at 775 720 4157 stevelantz@aol.com

Three more state airports open. **Avey, Easton and Skykomish State Airports** are now open for the 2004 flying season, according to Jim Scott, WSDOT Aviation State Airports Maintenance Supervisor.

Avey State recently received its spring inspection and is ready for use. Since the runway straddles the border between the US and Canada, pilots landing at Avey are encouraged to check in with the US Customs office, located across the street from the strip.

After receiving new runway lights, **Easton State** is also ready for use. The Harvey Field Chapter of the Washington Pilots Association (WPA) will host a work party there on May 1 to develop a new aircraft campground and install tie downs.

Skykomish State is open earlier than expected due to drier weather and rapid snow melt. Maintenance efforts planned during a June 5 work party will include smoothing the taxiways and trimming the brush.

State Airport Work Party Dates:

Sullivan Lake	April 24	Hosted by Deer Park WPA RSVP to Bill Loomis @ 509-238-4267
Easton	May 1	Hosted by Harvey Field WPA
Ranger Creek	May 8	Hosted by Green River WPA
Lake Wenatchee State	May 8	Hosted by Wenatchee WPA
Stehekin State	May 22	Hosted by Jan Liberty and friends
Skykomish State	June 5	Hosted by Paine Field WPA
Bandera State	June 5	Hosted by Seattle WPA

State Airports Open for the Season:

- **Avey State** - located in Laurier, WA
- **Easton State** - eastern approaches to Snoqualmie and Stampede Pass
- **Skykomish State** - located east of Skykomish, WA
- **Methow Valley State**- five miles south of Winthrop
- **Woodland State** - between Kelso and Vancouver
- **Rogersburg State** - southeast Washington
- **Lower Monumental State** - five miles south of Kahlotus
- **Little Goose State** - ten miles northeast of Starbuck
- **Lower Granite State** - 14 miles south of Colfax
- **Copalis Beach State** - located at the mouth of the Copalis River

I was lucky enough to meet a co-worker who collects aviation stuff. He loaned me the March 1947 Issue of FLYING. This has been facinating! I thought I'd share some facts and enthusiasm with you from 1947. The following are portions of "Light Plane Bust or Boom" by Scott Hershey that appeared in that issue.

[Production in the personal plane field, as the Aircraft Industries Association points out, will be determined largely by the element of salesmanship, plus the availability of facilities for private flyers. Several personal plane companies ran into financial difficulties in the year just closed but they are expected to be back in the brisk competitive market before 1947 has run its course. The market for trainers, and other two-place light planes seems fairly well saturated. A number of manufacturers now are turning to production of four-place business and family planes.

A Flying survey of personal plane manufactures in mid-January revealed a backlog of 15,230 orders for planes of more than two-places among five of the six builders contacted. Omitting the Stinson Voyager, which also has a substantial backlog, planes on order include the Beech Bonanza 1,500; Bellanca Cruisair 1,008; North American Navion 711; Piper Super Cruiser 7,000; and the Republic Seabee a total of 5,000....

Mundy I. Peale, new president f Republic, reports that "Dealers state unusual utility of

Seabee Amphibian warrants optimism that Seabee market will hold up despite possible sales reductions of other types. We Believe the four-place market will be good, but much is still to be accomplished in facilities, airports and other plane needs."

Piper is operating at its highest rate in history, with 3,000 employees, The Lock Haven plant is producing 30 Super Cruisers per day in two shifts.]

Luscombes and Cubs were selling for \$1000-\$3500, a Staggerwing was \$12,000 and an AT-6B 855TT and 164 on the engine for \$2250! No joke! What a hoot! I'll have this in my possession for another week or so, if any of you want me to see what your baby sold for back then. No Bees were listed, I guess since they were so new.

Safety Section "IT WILL NEVER HAPPEN TO ME!" Please help out and share your mishaps? I'll keep it confidential if you wish.

Nobody wants to own up huh?

Planes and Parts (new listings) New listings will only be new for 2 months, then I'll run them in "old listings" (now listed after new products) for another 4 months unless I hear from you. After that, they will be gone...renew as long as you like!



Tim MacEwan had s Sea Bee Project for sale Ser.# 612. It's been in a heated shop since 1969. he has a brand new Lycoming GO-480 G2D6 and New Hartzel prop. (Not Rebuilds- Brand New in the crates). Everything is complete, a pristine project, he reports that only needs final assembly. (250)991-6429 Canada.\$65000.00 Contact Tim at tmacewan@telus.net 1

Robert Fudold has a B9F Franklin engine (0 time since overhaul) for sale? - \$10,000.00 he has no need for it now that they have converted to a modified Corvette engine. Contact him at tru-flite@massnet1.net 1
Hartzel Prop: Model HC 12X20-3, Serial 5114, Blade design L8427, Blade #s55011/205 and 66092/205. Complete with reverse valve and ring. \$6500 Franklin B9F, Mark 15, serial 23580, Complete \$2000 RC-3 Seabee, Complete, disassembled, Serial #172, Hull sealed and painted inside, All exterior paint removed. No engine. Good panel. \$21000.00 Molded fiberglass headliner panels for RC-3 Seabee. \$500 Contact Steve Lantz, Carson City NV (775) 720-4157 1



"We are going to sell our N6713K which has the Franklin engine. The airframe has TT 1126 hrs, the engine 350 SOH, Prop same, with AD's complied with. It has the extended wings, transponder, K155 NavCom. It was repainted 2 years ago and is a good looking airplane. It's based at the Elmira Corning Airport in upstate NY. We're asking 65K." Contact Clyde Robbins clyder@epix.net Phone: 570-297-2080 2

How about a Porta-Boat!



These are great for all of you float plane guys. It folds to just 4 inches flat, carry it under your arm like a surf board and you can attach it to the struts, almost no drag. See their website <http://porta-bote.com/> they even have a picture of a Helio on floats with one tied on! This is the small one, they call it an 8' model, but it's actually 9'3". It only fits in the our Seabee because we've removed the bulkhead, but I think we'd rather have an inflatable. This boat is NEW, never in the water. It's a \$1200 value, How about \$950 ?? Call Bruce 360-710-5793 or brucehinds@earthlink.net Northern Pilot had a write up in their June/July 2002 Seaplane Special issue. I've only unfolded it twice. The second time I put the seats and transom in it only took me 4 minutes!



Seabee Products

Bubble Windows 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 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 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 jdickson@intcd.com 360-701-1119 or 253 851-6315.

<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 a least 15 useable gallons per side. They are made of carbon fiber and kevelar 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 Mojonier, 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 smestler@bellsouth.net **I have them both, they're a great reference!**

Planes and Parts (old listings)



RC-3 REPUBLIC SEABEE (1947),

TT3200. Engine 120-SMOH 20-STOH. Excellent condition. Multiple Mods all 337 complied with. KX155 NavCom, Intervox intercom, Apollo Loran, Narco AT-50, JPI Engine Monitor, Cleveland brakes, SW oil cooler, Airwolf Air filter, SS tailwheel yoke and collar mod, Quick Engine Cowl Mod. \$75,000. With new interior \$80,000. Contact John Barnett TX/(210) 844-4463. Email jmbmd@ktc.com for photos and video. ¹

FOR SALE $\frac{1}{4}$ SHARE Cessna 180



Based American Lake/Tacoma, Washington 1957 Cessna 180 Float plane based at American Lake, Tacoma, has a 1/4 share for sale. A well maintained aircraft, desirable 4 way corporate partnership. More Info Call Wiley Moore 253-988-4722 cell 253-671-0777 home 1

Lou Fitzpatrick writes..."We're looking for a tailwheel fork. Ours has granular corrosion." If anyone can help him please contact Lou at loufitz@aol.com 1

Robert Wells is about 20 mile north of Grand Rapids, Michigan. If anyone needs parts, let him know. He has lots of wing struts, control surfaces, engine case halves, prop controls, one complete engine(Needs overhaul) some fuel pumps, wheel assy, etc. rwcopter@uis.net 1

Bill Lawson needs one good blade for a two bladed Franklin Prop. Blade model LV8433N Contact him at wlawson@frontiernet.net or 715 247 3242 4

Seabee propeller items "I've had them for a couple of years now, and it would help on our Seabee travel expenses this year to sell them. 1) 3 propeller blades for a Franklin Engine-LV8433. 2) 3 Propeller blades for a Lycoming engine- VL9333C-3. 3) Associated for Lycoming engine- HC-A3VF-5AL. Prices are negotiable." Contact E.T. at (954)557-6340, or etseabee@yahoo.com. 4

Super Seabee serial number 330,



N6144K is a Daubenspeck conversion with top hatch access. Aircraft TT is 3780, 340 HP Lycoming GSO-480 Supercharged. 170 hours SMOH. Air wolf spin-on oil filter. 6 cylinder CHT. Prop AD done April '03. Prop TT 445. Hartzell reversible. New paint June '01. New droop tips. Dual landing lights in each wing which can flash inboard and outboard lights alternately via a Pulselite. Wing tip strobes. Custom instrument panel (shock mounted) with a new Edoair engine driven vacuum gyro horizon and electric trim coordinator, Garmin GNS-430 NAV/COM, Garmin GTX-327 transponder and a Standard Galaxy Marine VHF/FM Transceiver. Full IFR. Three David Clark and one telex ANR-1D headsets. Bucket seats mounted on tracks. Spare Piper pilot and co-pilot seats provided.

Doors open 180 degrees. Wide spray rails. Heavy hull bottom. 24 volt system. 24 volt marine bilge pump which can pump any of the five hull compartments. Seven inch main wheels with Cleveland brakes recently rebuilt. Stainless steel brake pistons and sleeves. New starter and solenoids, April '03. New engine oil and gas hoses, new oil cooler, new vacuum pump, October 2000. Hydraulic system and elevator trim system refurbished April '03. New plane cover, anchor, full tool kit, new heater ready to install. Three spare propeller blades available for separate purchase. New tinted glass to be installed prior to sale. No corrosion. Annual done May '03 by Henry Ruzakowski who has been maintaining the airplane. Asking \$150,000 now, and will be may be adding new interior soon. Will deliver anywhere in North America. wjmcnamara@earthlink.net 252-634-9538 H 252-349-9538 C 4

Tod writes... "I was in the process of having a Seabee built with a 375 hp Continental GTSIO 520 with a new Hartzel reversing 93 in prop when WE Aerotech went bankrupt. Engine sold, but prop, turbo, and mounts (and partially completed airframe). Don Wallace has already done some engineering on this conversion."

Contact TodDickey@aol.com 4

The Experts

Simuflight is Back Joe McHugh's family has joined forces with Ken Thompson of Kenair in northern California to recreate Simuflight. The long term goal for Simuflight is to be a complete resource for Seabee's regardless of what conversions or kits you want or already have on a Seabee. They are also interested in Seabee parts that may still be out there that don't have a home. They will be setting up shop in Fallon, NV and are accepting work as of October, 2004 for now, maybe sooner. All inquiries should be forwarded to the following contact information. Scott Henderson
McHugh Aviation Inc., dba Simuflight, 3763 Image Drive, Anchorage, Alaska 99504
Phone: 907.337.2860, Fax: 907.333.4482 scott@finite-tech.com

IRSOC (International Republic Seabee Owners Club) Now at www.republicseabee.com
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.

Jim Poel's database and clearing house for all Seabee 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 Northport, 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!" brummricken@aol.com
 Phone: 631-757-2216 Office: 516-885-5879

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Seabee> This is a great Discussion group that gets lots of activity. If you post a question, you'll be sure to get a response with good experience behind it. 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. The author has also done a great job on a **new web site**, check out <http://www.seabee.info/seabee.htm>

Interesting Web Sites

New <http://www.hu-16.com>

New <http://www.aerocheck.com>

New <http://www.americanwarbirds.com>

New <http://www.flightcontractservices.com>

<http://www.norcalaahs.org/> interesting pictures

www.rcairplane.net The flying Seabee model! This is cool! Easy to build with a 72" wing span, check it out!! Contact Bill Price bprice@puc.edu

<http://www.bcfloatplane.com/> **Interesting pending legislation in BC similar to our own Lake Isabel issue!**

<http://www.alertbay.com/eagleair/> Looks like a great place to go, **let's plan a trip!**

<http://www.canadianseaplane.com/index.htm>

I hope you've enjoyed this. Feel free pass it along to anyone who may be interested. Please call if you get to the Seattle Area, or want to go out and play!

Bee Sea n'ya,

Bruce Hinds
 360-769-2311 home
 360-710-5793 cell