

SEABEE NEWSLETTER

FROM CHICAGO---Despite the unusually long Indian Summer, Bee activity recently has been limited to just two, both belonging to Herb and Rita Maas (N6019K & 6755K). But winter suddenly reared its ugly head to spoil it all, and flying is now limited to skis or facilities with snow removal equipment, and exercising the Bee gets to be just a happenchance affair with a quick circuit of the field.

FROM NORWAY---Knut Solem (LN-IKK) sent photos of his Bee, and it looks just as much at home in the water there as our Bees do on a domestic lake. We couldn't help notice and comment on the photogenic Shepard and wonder if it is as good a crew member as our King was. Knut says his is the only Bee flying in Norway of the 20 operating in 1950, but Sweden still has five.

FROM THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST---The November combination Vancouver-Seattle Seabee meeting is now history, Bob Wells and Tony Jurcan copped the Carncross Award by leaving 2 inspection plates loose in the tail boom, then keeping a half submerged hull from sinking with forward speed. Needless to say, it finished off a well worn prop, which quite frankly is the preferred choice when compared to fishing the Bee out of the depths even if it was fresh water. Molt Taylor kept us well entertained with his stories and movies of the Coot and Mini-Imp. Too bad the weather didn't cooperate so we could have tried on the Coot in the water. As it was we had to be happy climbing over it while it was still on its trailer. Herb & Rita made it out (United jet: the Mickey Mouse Airline, you know) to steal honore from Sam Younker for the longest continuous ownership of a Seabee. They did find time during their altogether too brief visit to see where the big ones are put together, and for a personally guided tour by the designer of a new aircraft in the preproduction stages. Even tried on the full scale mockup for size. We even proved to them we have something out here but rain: all in one day too!--They tell us that winter came early this year, and it brought with it unusual conditions like hail, storms with lightning and real thunder (something the natives claim they haven't heard for years), and high winds that wake the natives out of a sound sleep, but nothing more than a mild zephyr to a mid-westerner, and now much flooding, 'cause winter didn't stay. And don't anyone suggest that this foul weather is being put on just for our benefit.

SWAP AND SHOP---Dave Flavan is looking for an airworthy B8 or B9 engine to bolt into a Bee for Wings of Hope, Contact him at: P.O. Box 144, St. Charles, MO. 63301.

Another year has passed, all too rapidly, and again December, when memory serves best to remind us of all the pleasant summer outings past, and stir the anticipation of those to come. It's also the month when St. Nick brings all those goodies we stuff into our own stockings that we so sorely need for our flying machines. And finally finishing off the month with those resolutions all too often quickly forgotten. So, we of the editorial staff extend our greetings by wishing everyone a VERY MERRY CHRTISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

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