

HERE WE GO AGAIN

A LOT PEOPLE MAY KNOW ME BUT MANY MAY NOT, SO I WILL GIVE YOU ALL A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY. MY DAD NICK SMITH SR AND I STARTED AN AVIATION BUISINESS MANY YEARS AGO BUILDING SUPER CUBS. NICK SR HAD STARTED OUT MANY YEARS BEFORE THAT AS A HOME BUILDER BUILDING A BABY GREAT LAKES. AT THIS TIME THERE WAS REALLY NO AVIATION KIT BUISINESS TO SPEAK OF, ONLY SCRATCH BUILT PLANES.

AFTER SITTING IN THE NEWLY BUILT FRAME IT WAS APARENT THIS PERHAPS WASN'T THE BEST PLANE FOR HIM. THIS PROJECT WAS SOON SOLD AND AN AERONCA CHIEF WAS PURCHASED. USING THE SKILLS



SMITH AVIATION SUPERCUB

FROM BUILDING HIS OWN PLANE AND HIS SHEET METAL WORKER BACK GROUND, NICK SR STARTED A SMALL BUISINESS BUILDING AIRPLANE PARTS. ALONG WITH HIS SHEET METAL WORK THIS KEPT HIM PRETTY BUSY. IN THE EARLY 90'S I, STARTED GETTING INVOLVED WITH THE BUISINESS USING MY OWN SHEET METAL WORKER/WELDING EXPERIENCE. THINGS PROGRESSED TO WHERE A COMPLETE SUPER CUB KIT WAS BEING MANUFACTURED AND SMITH AVIATION WAS BORN. THINGS STARTED SLOW BUT ONCE THINGS STARTED PROGESSING SALES REALLY TOOK OFF. EVENTUALLY WE HAD 10 PEOPLE WORKING FULL TIME WITH APROXIMATELY 30 KITS BEING PRODUCED PER

YEAR. A PA-12 SUPERCUISEUR AND THE TUNDRA BOSS WERE ADDED TO THE PLANES BEING BUILT AT SMITH AVIATION. AT ONE TIME THERE WAS SOMEONE CALLING EVERYDAY WANTING TO PURCHASE A PLANE. WE NEW WE WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO EXPAND THE BUISINESS TO MEET CUSTOMER DEMAND. AROUND THIS TIME A CUSTOMER WHO HAD PURCHASED THREE SUPER CUB KITS SHOWED AN INTEREST IN BUYING THE BUISINESS. IT WAS DECIDED AT THIS TIME THAT SELLING THE BUISINESS TO KEEP UP WITH DEMAND WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST AS LONG AS THE WE COULD STAY ON TO WORK WITH THE NEW OWNERS. AFTER THAT RELATIONSHIP SOURED IT WAS DECIDED TO GO IN A NEW DIRECTION WITH THE EPIC SERIES AIRCRAFT BEING BORN. USING THE SKILLS FROM YEARS OF AIRPLANE BUILDING, A TWO SEAT



SMITH AVIATION SUPERCUB

INLINE, A TWO SEAT SIDE BY SIDE VERSION AND A FOUR PLACE WAS ALSO DEVELOPED. USING THE BEST IDEAS OF ALL THE MANUFACTURES, INCLUDING, DUAL DOORS, WELD ON FLOAT PKG AND MODERN WING DESIGN AND STARTING WITH THE LIGHT SPORT ELIGIBLE AIRCRAFT, NEW KITS WERE BUILT WITH THE IDEA OF ECONOMICS BEING A MAJOR FACTOR. OUR IDEA WAS TO OFFER THE KIT IN VARIOUS PACKAGES SO PURCHASING IN STAGES WOULD MAKE PURCHASING A NEW AIRCRAFT MORE AFORDABLE. WITH THE ECONOMY BEING VERY SLOW IT WAS DECIDED TO START SLOW AND BUILD UP STEAM AS HAD BEEN DONE WITH THE SUPER CUB BUISINESS. I WOULD INVITE ANYONE WHO HAS QUESTIONS TO FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US ANYTIME.



THANKS NICK SMITH JR

EPIC SERIES AIRCRAFT

I THOUGHT I WOULD DO A STORY ABOUT THE EPIC SERIES AIRCRAFT WE HAVE DEVELOPED. MANY PEOPLE KNOW WE'VE BEEN IN AVIATION FOR A LONG PERIOD OF TIME AND HAD A VERY SUCCESFUL KIT MANUFACTURING BUISINESS BUILDING SUPERCUB AIRCRAFT. AFTER SELLING THAT BUISINESS TO ONE OF OUR CUSTOMERS IT WAS TIME TO FIND SOMETHING ELSE TO DO. NICK SR, LIKE USUAL, HAD A PILE OF PROJECTS IN THE SHOP. THERE WAS ONE THAT KIND OF CAUGHT MY EYE, IT WAS AN OLD AERONCA CHIEF FUSELAGE. WHILE THE PIPER AIRCRAFT ARE WONDERFUL PLANES, FROM A MANUFACTURING PERSPECTIVE THEY ARE VERY TIME CONSUMING TO REPRODUCE. THEY DEFINITELY WERE BUILT DURING AN ERA WHEN LABOUR WAS CHEAP. I REALLY LIKED THE SIMPLICITY, FROM A MANUFACTURING PERSPECTIVE, OF THE AERONCA SERIES AIRCRAFT. THERE DEFINITELY WAS SOME THINGS I DIDN'T LIKE ABOUT THE AERONCA SERIES AIRCRFT. SOME EXAMPLE S ARE; WOOD SPARS, GAS TANKS IN THE FUSELAGE, NO STICKS IN THE CHIEF, WOOD FORMERS AND SOME OF THE SHAPE. I ALWAYS DIDN'T LIKE THE POT BELLY OF THE CHAMP AND THE BULLNOSE OF THE CHIEF, BUT THERE WAS A LOT OF THINGS I DID LIKE. I DECIDED TO BUILD THE SIDE BY SIDE VERSION FOR MYSELF AND MAKE THE IMPROVEMENT S

I WANTED. NICK SR MENTIONED THAT HE WOULDN'T MIND A NEWER VERSION OF HIS CHAMP WITH THE SAME IMPROVMENTS I HAD IN MIND. AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT, A FRIEND OF HIS HAD A PERFECT CHAMP FRAME EXCEPT IT WAS REALLY CORODED WHICH DIDN'T MATTER TO ME BECAUSE I WAS GOING TO JUST USE IT TO MAKE A JIG. I PROCEEDED TO BUILD NEW JIGS FOR THESE FRAMES AND WE BUILT ONE SIDE BY SIDE VERSION FOR ME AND ONE INLINE VERSION FOR NICK SR. FOR THE CHAMP VERSION WE MOVED THE TORQUE TUBE ABOVE THE FLOOR, SO THESE PLANES HAVE NICE SMOOTH LINES SIMILAR TO THE SUPER CUBS. WE ADDED WELD ON FLOAT FITTINGS, LEFT SIDE DOOR FOR FLOAT FLYING, MADE THE DOORS SWING UP, ALUMINUM FORMERS, METAL SPARS , TWO 14 GALLON WING TANKS. FOR THE SIDE BY SIDE VERSION I INCORPORATED ALL THESE IMPROVEMENTS PLUS I



ADDED STICKS, INCREASED THE DOOR SIZE ELIMINATED SOME TUBES NEAR YOUR FEET AND INCORPORATED THEM IN THE EXTERIOR FRAME AND ADDED FLOAT FITTINGS. FOR THE WINGS WE USE ALUMINUM SPARS, 2 - 14 GALLON WING TANKS AND THE SUPERCUB AIRFOIL. THE FIRST CUSTMER WAS A FRIEND OF MY DAD'S WHO WAS WATCHING THE PROGRESS WE WE'RE MAKING AND HE PURCHASED AN EPIC 3000-LS EVEN THOUGH HE WAS RESTORING A CHAMP AT THE TIME AND ALREADY OWNED ONE OF OUR SUPERCUB KITS. THESE PLANES ARE MEANT FOR UP TO 115 H.P. AND ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE LIGHT SPORT CLASS. WE

HAVE BROKEN THESE KITS INTO THREE PACKAGES SO YOU BUY JUST ONE PACKAGE AT A TIME TO MAKE IT MORE AFFORDABLE. THE PRICING IS VERY COMPETITIVE AND I HOPE PEOPLE WILL HAVE A GOOD EXPERIENCE BUILDING THERE OWN KIT. I ALSO DEVELOPED A VERSION THAT CAN TAKE UP TO A 180 HP ENGINE SIMILILAR TO THE CITABRIA STYLE PLANE. THESE FRAMES ARE BEEFED UP, INCORPORATED A LARGE BAGAGE AREA, INCREASED GROSS AND ADDED FLAPS. WE ALSO OFFER A 150 HP VERSION OF THE SIDE BY SIDE. ANOTHER ONE OF OUR PROJECTS THAT HAVE BEEN KEEPING US BUSY IS STRETCHING TRI PACERS, PACERS AND COLT FUSELAGES. THESE PLANES ARE CALLED BUSHMASTERS OR IN ALASKA THEY HAVE A CERTIFIED VERSION CALL THE PRODUCER. WHEN YOU STRETCH THE FUSELAGE AND PUT FULL SIZE WINGS ON, IT PRODUCES QUITE A UTILITY AIRCRAFT. WE DEVELOPED A VERSION OF THE BUSHMASTER WE CALL THE SUPER BUSHMASTER. THIS PLANE TAKES UP TO 260 HP AND CAN SEAT 6 PEOPLE(4 ADULTS AND 2 SMALL CHILDREN) THIS PLANE IS SIMILAR TO THE TUNDRA BOSS WE USED TO BUILD. IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL ANYTIME.

PICTURES FROM AROUND THE SHOP



A SET OF EPIC 3000 WINGS READY FOR COVER, DON MCKAY



**FIESELER STORCH UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN OUR SHOP,
OWNED BY MIKE PHRATERS, ST. JOSEPHS, ONTARIO**



**EPIC 3000-LS UNDER CONSTRUCTION BELONGING
TO DON MCKAY OF WOODSTOCK ONTARIO**



PA-18 FUSELAGE REBUILD READY FOR SHIPPING



EPIC 3000 UNDER CONSTRUCTION