

3

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“We discussed the possible problems, but Rick didn’t seem to want to take my advice.”

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[REDACTED] < - - - (the current kit builder of the Wheeler Express)

(e-mail on Feb 19 2015)

“Mr. Latson, after playing phone tag with Jack (Burt) we finally made contact on Feb 11 th. The message that he had previously left was that he was helping someone with his Wheeler Express & had some questions, I had no idea that it was about Rick's at the time, not that it would have made any difference.

When we finally made contact, he informed me that it was indeed Rick's plane & the questions to start with was about the propeller, I then informed him that ,the day before On Feb 10th I had sent to rick information on a three blade prop that we were using for that Lycoming Engine, he thanked me for that information.

The discussion went on about the slower speed, I suggested that beside the prop, he should check the rigging of the plane, the Wing dihedral, and the wing incidence and the horizontal stabilizer, he then informed me that he did not have anything to do with the building of the plane, That he was helping to fly the plane, to help Rick because Rick was a low time Pilot.

Jack, also informed me that when the plane was sitting on the ramp, that one wing appeared to be about 6" lower, I can't really remember which wing he said, But he did mention that Rick had previously had a hard landing?

Another item that we discussed was that they were experiencing very high engine temperatures, I informed him that we had a customer here with the exact same engine & we had the same problems, we added more cooling air in & more air out of the cowling& nothing seemed to work, Our AI mechanic recommended that we add another cooler in series, & that solved the problem. The other issue that I informed him about was to get cooling air to the engine fuel pump, because when we had a very hot engine it seemed as though our pump would begin to fail, I would move the throttle at slower speeds with little or no response, we added an air duct to the pump, with no further problems.. He did not indicate if they had air to the pump.

Jack & I were on the phone together hour for about 1/2 there was a lot of small talk, but this was the main conversation.”

Regards
Darrell M Peterson