

## Outbound Progress Report 30

8-1-19



Oshkosh was a tremendous success, because of the performance of the planes to and from, new orders, and the amazing customer base. We are very thankful to have such an outstanding clientele. Our flight to the show was fast! It ended up being a hurry up and wait situation. We were in a race with a line of thunderstorms that was approaching from the North. I say a race but, with the slower Rotax powered Outbound in tow, we were actually racing in economy cruise mode. The trip was an attempt to confirm and refine our best suggestions for economy cruise. This put us in a

losing race with the advancing weather.

We diverted to Watertown, as did many others, just in time to tie down, get a plane wash (provided by Mother Nature) and call Shelly for a ride to our accommodations in Oshkosh. The weather moved off and allowed some evening arrivals on Saturday, but we were happy to let things dry out in KOSH for at least 12 hours.

The Titan powered S-21 continues to prove out as an economical combination. The Garmin G3X records average GPH and has not been reset since we started flying this plane 70 odd hours ago. The end of trip average is 20 MPG. This is an interesting number, since it represents a wide range of power settings and speeds. The best economy cruise is between 2200 and 2300 RPM with GPH reading from 6 to 8, relative to altitude. Ground speeds are the pay dirt of any plane used for travel and on the return trip to Hays we averaged 121 MPH in economy cruise despite 9/10ths of the trip with cross or headwinds. The bottom line is, the S-21 uses less fuel over the average 20+ MPG auto because of the greater speed, straight line course, and low fuel burn. We completed the return trip in less than 5.25 hours using less than 35 gallons of fuel. Meanwhile, Shelly was plodding along in our Toyota Tundra making 13 MPG, averaging 50 MPH. She drove 833 miles using well over 50 gallons. This is nothing new, but it is fun to note that aircraft can consume more expensive fuel per hour, but end up being more economical due to straight line travel and time savings. The old adage of "time to spare go by air" has only proven to be the case in about 10% of my travels over the last 36 years.



Here are a few pics that we captured throughout the week. Everyone had a great time at the rudder builds. Thank you to all that stopped by!

RJS

