

install both wing panels. can be removed in a few minutes to large window opening. The windows On the opposite wall of the garage is to be assembled in a temporary tee, side to allow one wing panel at a time in the front and also a door on the doors. There is a large door opening which is complete except for the er, and father-in-law built the garage stalled by back trouble and recent spinal fusion surgery. My brothers, father, and father-in-law built the garage is being erected in the back garage is being built in my basement while the project waiting to be assembled. The project All the wood parts are completed, fittings. Cuts like butter!

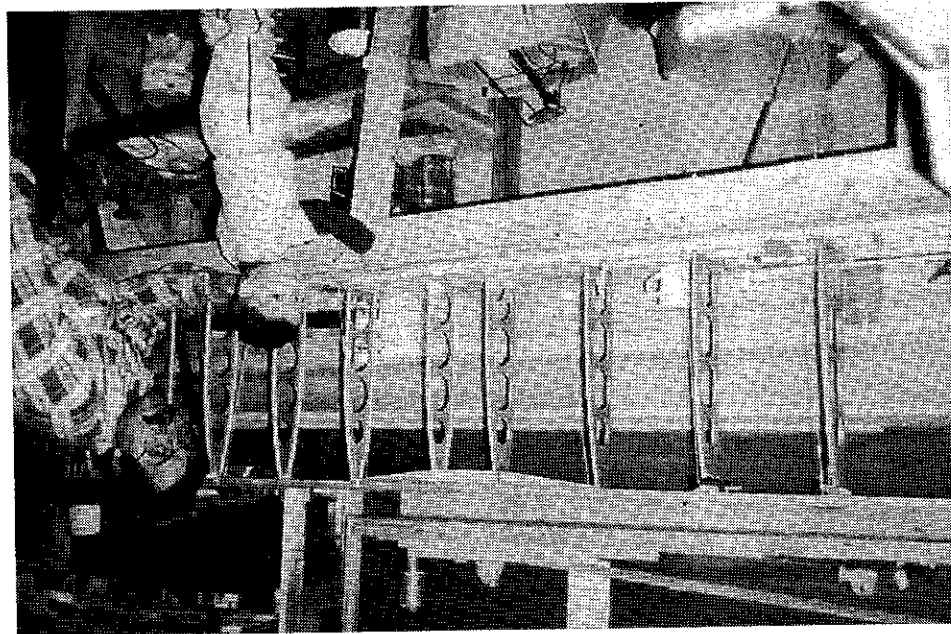
bandsaw to cut out the aluminum fittings. Cuts like butter! ordinary coarse wood blade in the and a bandsaw. Incidentally, I used an tools would probably be a disc sander mum of tools. The main woodworking wood and can be built with a mini- anyone who enjoys working with The Osprey II is perfectly suited to things I've always enjoyed.

an extension of the same sort of making little gadgets. My airplane is up I spent my time woodcarving and I'll continue to do so. While growing enjoyed every minute of it and know amphibian for two years now, and I have been building an Osprey II

I'll bet. ent story, one that's shared by many comes to writing however, it's a different subject of homebuilts. When it and I'll probably talk your ears off on Sit down with me in a coffee shop

by: Rod Pritchett RAAC 2047

# OSPREY II AMPHIBIAN



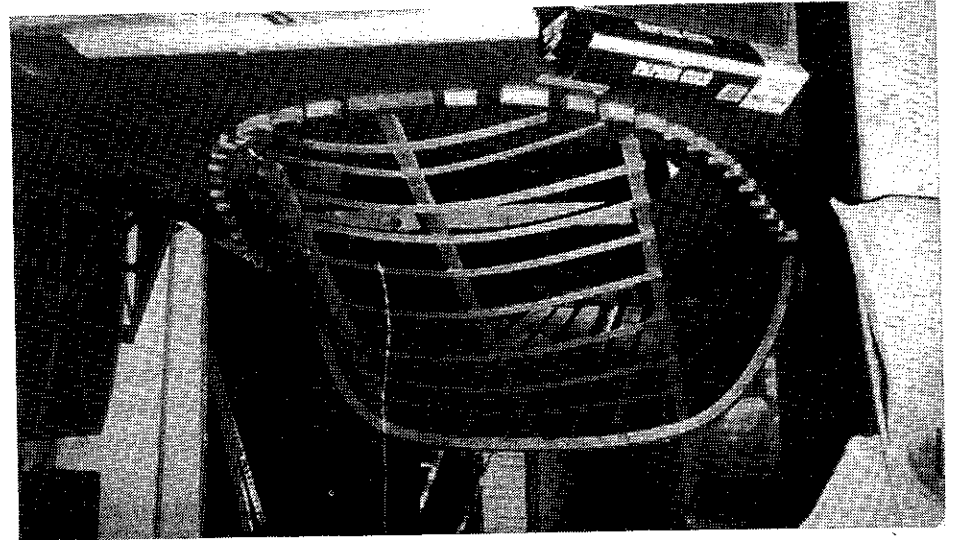
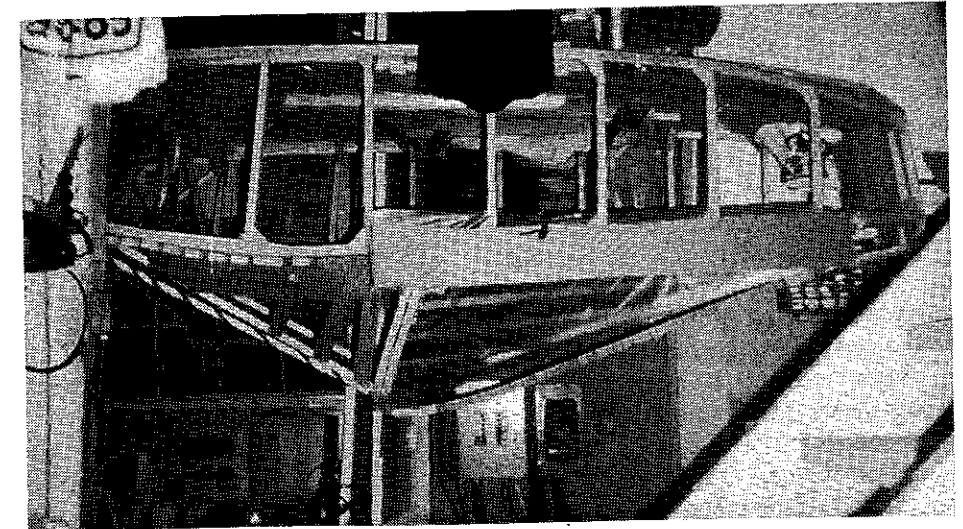
Son Andrew and Rod are checking out work on the stabilizer (note the stack of sitka on back of bench).

The Osprey II has a nine foot center section in which the retractable gear is housed. The two outboard wing panels will make up a wingspan of approximately 28 feet. This is a modification from the original 26 feet to help builders who anticipate birds of 1000 lbs. or more. The prototype weighs 960 lbs. A source of amusement for visitors has been my reply to their unanimous question---"How are you going to get it out?" The place for the hole is marked out under a window. This may seem to be inappropriate to them, but as other homebuilders know, the basement is one of the best places to build. The time and money I'll spend fixing the hole will seem insignificant to the all-over cost of the project. The extra hours I am able to spend on the Osprey will more than offset the cost. Much of the work done on my project is a few minutes here and there while waiting for meals, etc. If I had to get ready to go outside or drive to a hangar, a lot of this time would be lost to television. It seems television is a homebuilders fiercest enemy. Back to the hole in the wall. It took

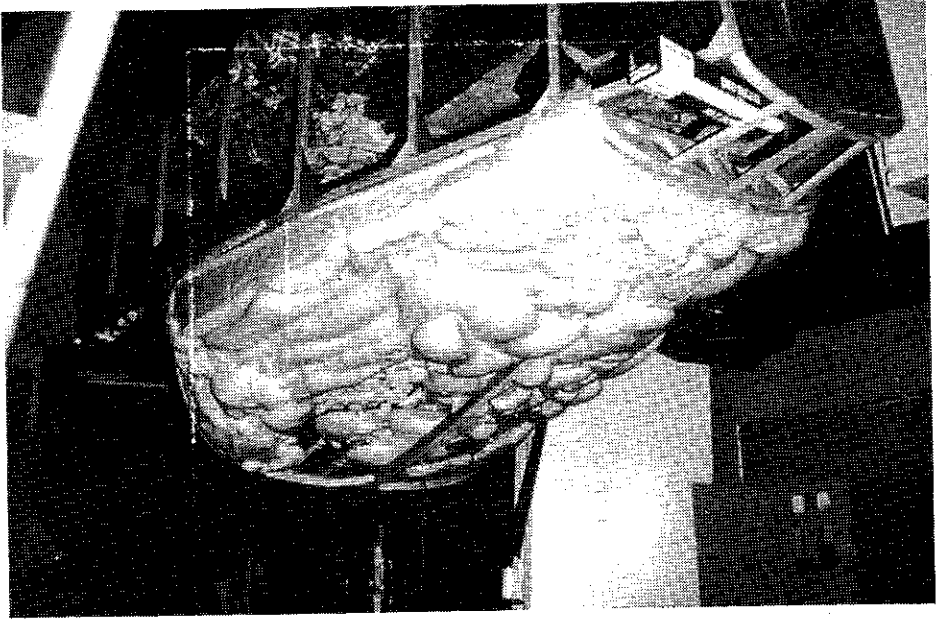
This is my first homebuilt project and am glad I chose the Osprey. It has a good cruise and a fairly low stall speed which is important on the water. Anyone who has been to Newfoundland probably realizes wheeled airplanes are nervous here. The number of off-airport sites where you could land a Cherokee safely for instance, are few and far between. There are hundreds of lakes and ponds however, for float-equipped aircraft. My Osprey will feel right at home here for sure.

When I started the project I realized there would be an added risk to the house insurance. I have the oil tank insured because it's in the basement. The insurance would replace anything ruined by oil from a ruptured tank. I am in the heating and air conditioning business and know this occurs often. Upon checking with my insurance agent he informed me the aircraft will not be covered, as it is not considered a normal item to have in a basement. Even when the project is nestled in the garage, it will take extra coverage to insure the project. The amount they want would be more than all of my other insurances combined. This is one area other homebuilders might want to check out. If your agent says he'll cover you, get it on paper.

It was obvious that I wouldn't be able to weld in the basement. I thought, however, I could varnish the hull. I have used T88 glue and decided to use T88 mixed with Dupont thinners to make my own epoxy varnish. It works very well but the fumes are too much to bear in an enclosed basement. It's a sure way to take a trip and never leave the farm. I only mix enough now to do areas which will be difficult to do later.



Preparing for foam.



Foaming the canopy (in small batches).