

Fast Fannies

While at Oshkosh I started looking at the fast ones and asked the usual question, "What makes them stand out?" Obviously they are very well engineered, benefit from superb craftsmanship, and have been tweaked to within a gnat's hair of perfection; but what am I missing? "What in the end makes them stand out?"

That's it - - the end. Look at Klaus Savier's CAFE winning Vari-Eze and Miller's formula racer, Pushy Galore. They have modified boat tail close out on the lower cowl.

If fast fannies look like these I wonder why we are building the traditional blunt tail cowls. The aft end of our cowls are a mess of disrupted air flow that acts as a big suction cup holding back on the cowl.

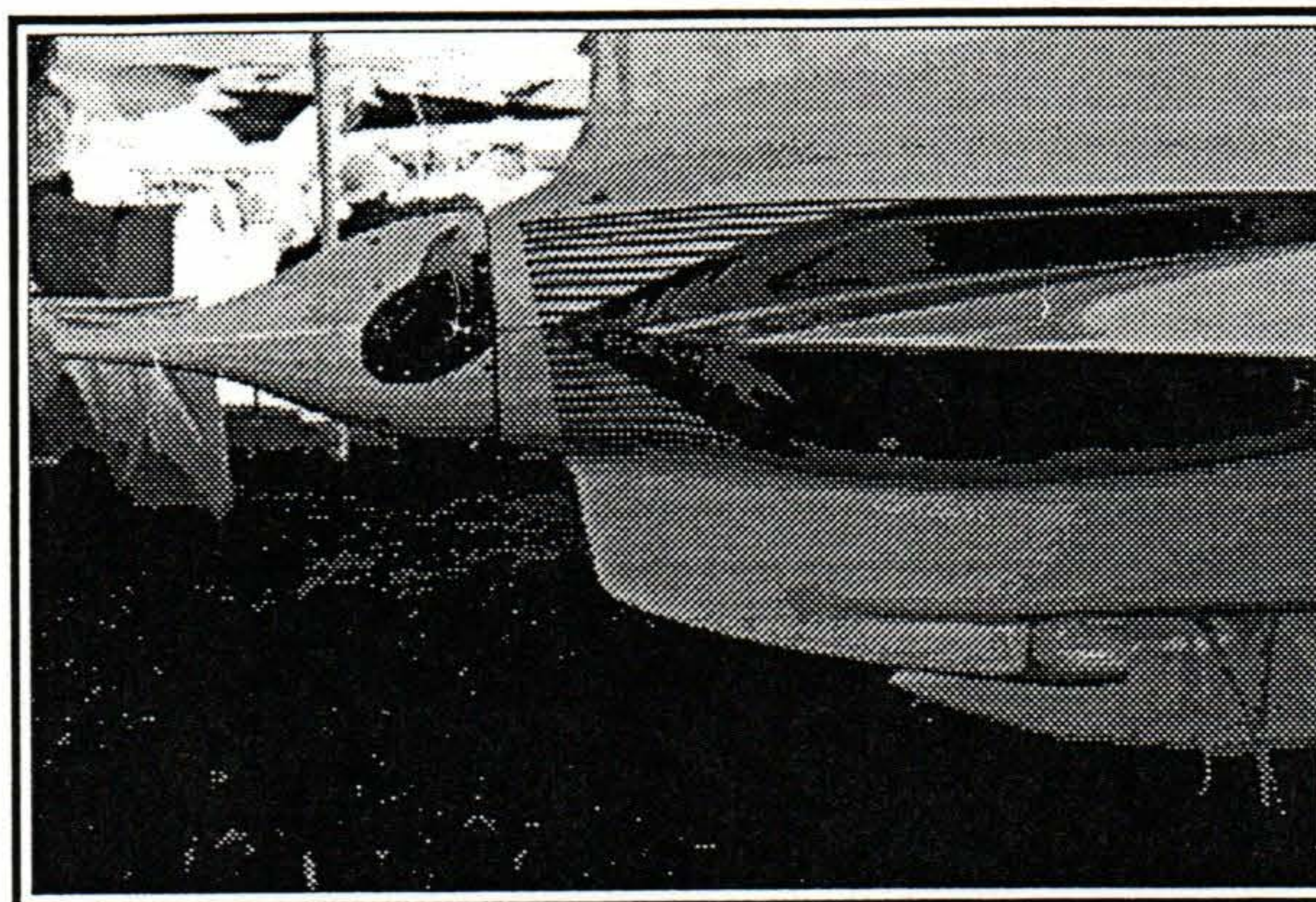
Klaus said a 7 degree angle is about all that air will bend around without becoming non-laminar. Our cowls certainly bend up at more than a 7 degree angle thus causing disrupted flow. What can we do to decrease that angle and keep the air attached to the aft face of the cowl?

Gus Sabo of Las Vegas, NV successfully used vortex generators to help keep the air attached to his cowl. His race speeds are impressive so this is probably doing some good.

Lets quit dragging our fannies around the sky and see what can be done to get more speed from these slick birds.



Klaus' boat tail winner



Miller's Pushy Galore sports a boat tail too

Discount Stainless Brake Discs

While in a display building at OSH 93 I visited the Flight Life, Inc. booth and looked at their stainless steel brake discs. They are heavy duty 5/8" thick and, importantly, have no holes drilled in the rotor portion to chip the brake pads.

They are compatible with all FAA approved brake pads and have no welds to crack or corrode.

I asked the vendor if a group discount was available for Central States Association and he replied he would sell them for \$275 to CSA members if they would identify themselves as

such when ordering.

The booth was closing and I didn't have the opportunity to pursue the subject further. You might contact them at:

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215-348-3275