

**Ted Strader's**

# **“CHICKEN HAWK”**



**From Flying Models Magazine, August 1963**

**Built by Doug Weaver**

January 25<sup>th</sup> 2018: I committed to staff the VRCS booth at the AMA Expo East on the weekend of February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> 2018. I was asked by Michael Denest, the president of the VRCS, to bring an airplane to enter in the vintage R/C category of the static competition. I've had the plans for the "Chicken Hawk" for about seven years and always liked the looks of it. I finally had some inspiration to build this project.

I chose to build this plane with the techniques and materials that would have been used on Ted Strader's original model with a few exceptions. No CA was used in the construction of this model. Ambroid cement was used for the majority of the gluing tasks with the exception of a small amount of epoxy used on the firewall and some Weldbond PVA (white glue) adhesive used for affixing the servo mount rails to the fuselage side. The model's wings are covered with K&S 000 silkspan with Peck Polymers tissue as trim. The finish is Pactra Aero Gloss dope from the late 1970's



A vintage Cox Baby Bee .049 engine is used to power this vintage 1/2A biplane. Modern radio gear is used for control in the form of a FrSky 2.4 GHz V8R4-II 4 channel receiver, two Electrify Nano servos, an FMA S-90 servo and a 4.8V 480 mAh 1/3 AA NiMh battery. The transmitter is a mix of vintage and new. It is an 8 channel Heathkit GDA-405-S single stick transmitter that has been gutted and refit with a Gordon Anderson MicroStar 2000 encoder. The Heathkit three axis gimbal has been replaced with a modified metal open gimbal from an MRC 775 transmitter of late '70s vintage and the RF section is a 2.4 GHz FrSky DHT DIY module.

The building of Ted Strader's "Chicken Hawk" was an enjoyable endeavor that has been rewarded with a first place at the 2018 AMA Expo East static competition in the Vintage RC category and third place in the Vintage RC category at the 2018 Toledo Weak Signals Expo. It has also won the

Concours d'Elegance event at both the first annual Lancaster County Celebration & Triathlon VRCS event in Lancaster, PA and the Spirit of Selinsgrove VRCS gathering in Owego, NY.





**Doug Weaver**  
preparing his Concours winning Ted Strader designed Chicken Hawk  
at the Selingsgrove 2018 event



VRCS Concours was won by Doug Weaver with his beautiful Chicken Hawk. One of the judges awarded the Chicken Hawk the maximum of 100 points. Doug bested a very nice Junior Falcon by Jeff Troy. Frank Iacobellis had a very nice Midwest Tri Squire but forgot his plans which disqualified him.

2 photos above from the September-October 2018 VRCS newsletter.