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FW: 28 Cleveland 80" Playboy Senior - Starting Over

1 message

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From: Tandy Walker [mailto:aerotan1503@outlook.com]
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Cleveland 80" Playboy Senior

April 24, 2017

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Approaches to Model Building

Many of us are lifelong modeler builders and have enjoyed the same wonderful hobby for years. However individually, we are all hard wire a little differently depending our background and preferences. Some like to expedite a model build so as to concentrate on flying, while others enjoy the building more, but still like flying and competition. These traits are neither good nor bad, they are just how we individually enjoy our hobby. After all, personal perception and enthusiasm are what keeps us interested in any given project. Having had a career as an engineer, I enjoy the details involved in building models, especially when faced with various complex problems to solve. For me, the real measure of my building skill is the accuracy to which I am able to achieve. Some will say, "who cares about accuracy when your model up so high you can't tell anyway". Well, I do care!

I received new Playboy Senior plans from Bob Holman today. The wing chord measured 11.0" and each wing panel span measured 20.0" providing a total wing span 80.0". This plan is accurate and was used to assessed the errors in the components I have already built. The

primary structure of the fuselage is too short by $\sim 1/2"$. The stab's span is too short by $\sim 0.4"$. The left panel of the wing is too short by $1/4"$ so the wing span is too short by $1"$. The calculated wing area is 780 sq. in. which is short by ~ 20 sq.in. Everything I have built so far is in error! My choices are (1) to continue the project knowing what the errors are, (2) scrap all that I have built and start over, or (3) just abandon the project altogether.

I still have three models that have not been test flown yet so there is plenty to do at the flying field. Besides, at this stage in my life I enjoy model building and I am really in no hurry.

As you may have already guessed, I have decided that to build the true size Cleveland Playboy Senior. I will scrap everything that I have built over the last nine weeks, buy all new strip wood, and start over from the beginning.....Tandy