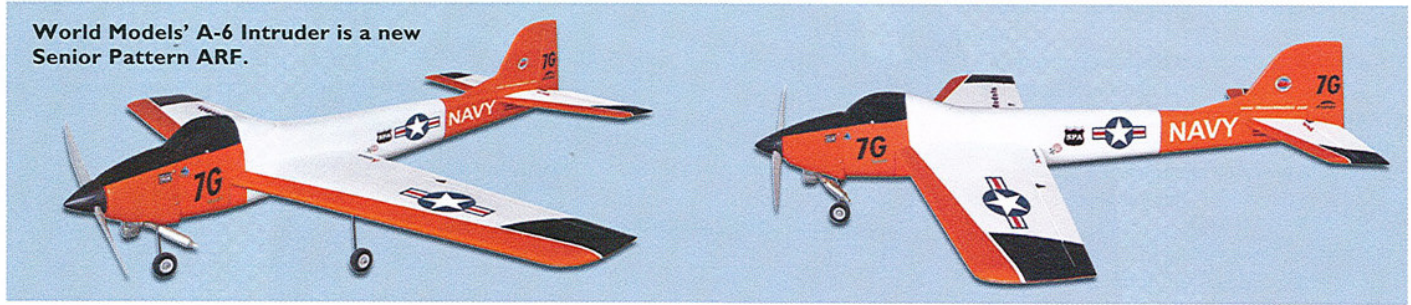


Jim Kirkland's A-6 Intruder is once again available in ARF form



World Models' A-6 Intruder is a new Senior Pattern ARF.

IN PREVIOUS COLUMNS I have looked at various aerobatic sport ARFs that would be good to use in developing your aerobatic skills. A new type of ARF hails from the world of the Senior Pattern Association (SPA).

I received a note from Duane Wilson, whose article about vintage RC Aerobatics (Pattern) was published in the July *MA*. It introduced readers to the SPA and the Vintage R/C Society (VR/CS).

One of the models Duane covered was Jim Kirkland's 1970 Nats-winning A-6 Intruder. World Models introduced this airplane as an ARF but then discontinued production. Duane sent the following pocket history of the A-6 Intruder's rebirth.

"... to make a long story shorter, I contacted World Models and somehow persuaded them to re-release the airplane! They intended to try to improve the original plane in the process and asked for any suggestions we might have. We had plenty—modifications that were routinely done to the ARF to make it more contest worthy in SPA.

"We worked with Airborne's chief designer and engineer who was an expert SPA Intruder pilot who had done all the mods (and had even won a current AMA contest with his WM ARF) and came up with many improvements that helped the plane fly better. These (mods) were eventually incorporated into the improved second generation Intruder.

"The new Intruder (fresh with a new Kirkland original color scheme) was finally

ready to be re-introduced in mid-January, and a few are about ready for test flying. The plane is now being promoted in WM ads as a Pattern plane instead of with the sport planes as before."

Duane asked if the new Intruder ARF could be given some exposure in an upcoming Pattern column. He remembered a 2002 *MA* column that covered Airborne's T-34 ARF as a Pattern trainer. He made the suggested

Also included in this column:

- Are Pattern fliers snobs?

modifications of the day, and his T-34 turned out to be a tremendous and economical Pattern practice model.

Duane had interviewed Randy Roberts, who was the first SPA pilot to build and fly the new World Models A-6 Intruder. Following is Randy's report on the changes and the flight characteristics.

"The original Intruder (after pilot modifications) was a very popular and competitive model in SPA circles. It also made an excellent sport and practice plane.

"The new ARF contains the changes SPA pilots routinely made to the original to make it

perform better (enlarged rudder, stretched fuselage, and airfoil stab). World Models worked closely with SPA to make the new Intruder fly well right out of the box—and they succeeded!

"An unexpected bonus was the attention World Models paid to making the new airplane lighter—about a pound lighter—so verticals are much better using the (SPA standard) .91-size four-stroke engine. My plane weighed in at less than 7 pounds (dry)."

Randy mounted his elevator servo near the horizontal stabilizer to help move the CG rearward approximately an inch. He recommends that the CG be placed back close to the main landing gear for overall improved handling in the air.

He closed with the following.

"The new World Models A-6 Intruder is a quality-built, high-performance, yet reasonably priced ARF whether you're using it for sport, practice, SPA, or other competition. In the right hands, it has even placed high in AMA competition—a good value at \$199.99."

So from another part of the precision Aerobatics world comes a different-looking but proven design for Aerobatics that is available as an ARF. It was designed to be aerobatic from inception. It has the pedigree to fly well and perform aerobatic maneuvers accurately and with grace.



The front view of the Intruder, showing practical tricycle landing gear. It is much easier to use on grass fields.



The A-6's mechanical linkage uses only one servo for the elevator halves.