

SZD Ogar-Powered bird of Poland

Unique in concept, the Polish SZD Ogar powered soarer is a natural for modeling. Stand-Off Scale/Howie Applegate

I suppose all of us want to build a model that's a little bit different from the rest. While going through a soaring magazine, I saw some three view drawings of several sailplanes. Ogar caught my eye as "the" different airplane. A powered sailplane without a power pod seemed quite novel. Before starting construction, let's take a minute for some background on the full-sized machine.

Ogar is a Polish design, built by SZD. It has a 17.5 meter span (approximately 56.5 ft.), two place seating configuration, with the student in the front seat and the instructor in the rear. The seats are staggered so the occupants' shoulders overlap (the student's right with the instructor's left). Power is a 68 H.P. (a V.W. engine modified for aircraft). The ship has a partially retractable wheel in the belly and is equipped with wing tip casters to help prevent ground looping.

PHOTOGRAPHY: HOWIE APPLEGATE

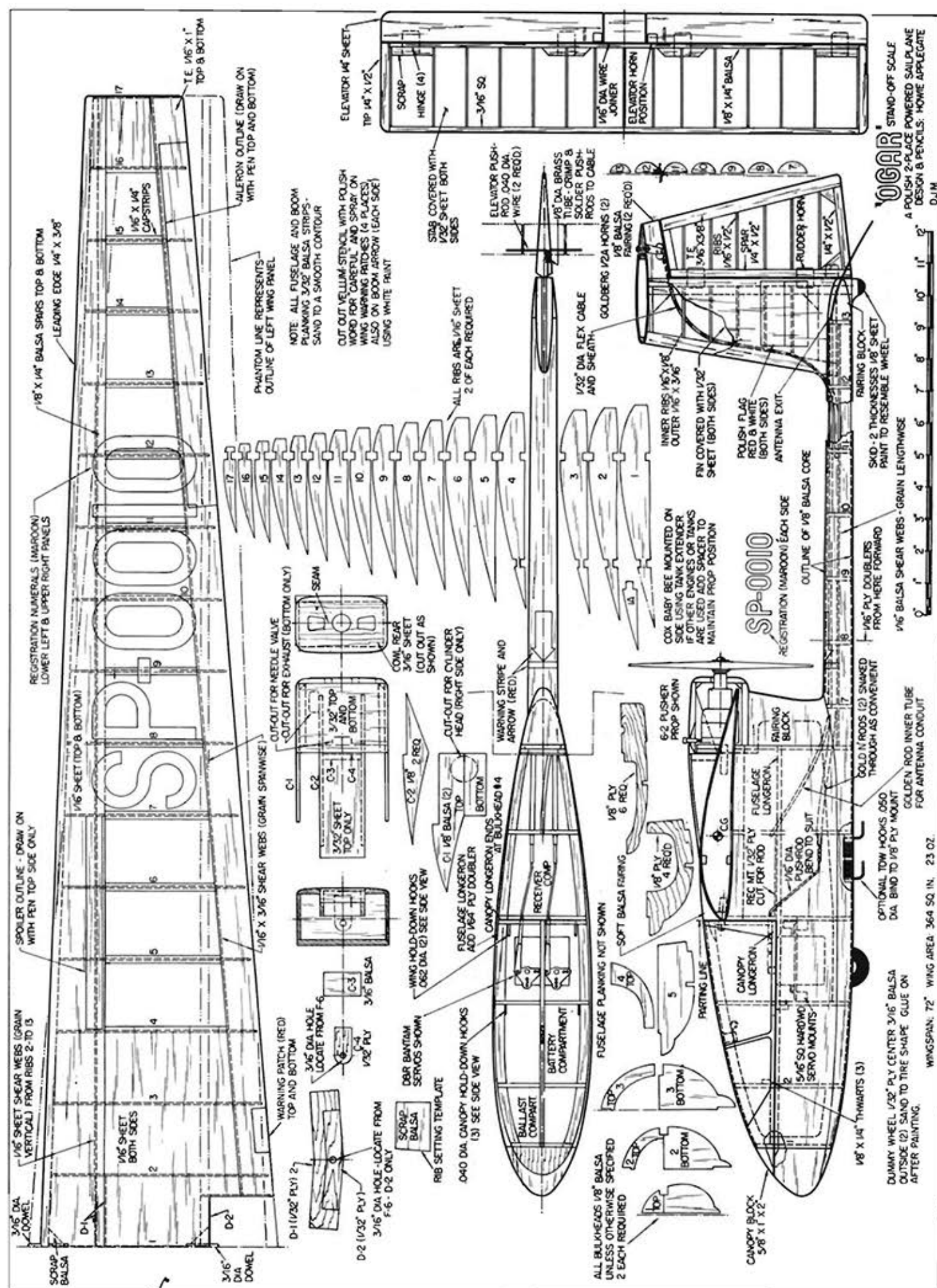
I took a few liberties with this ship to ease construction and still insure good structural qualities. I decreased the aspect ratio of the wing from 16 to 1 to 14 to 1. This permitted me to place the spar near the maximum curvature of the wing and still keep the leading edge planking from becoming too wide. Naturally the tail area was increased and the wheel is a dummy glued to the belly. The wing tip casters were omitted, and a set of optional tow hooks were added. The fuselage was slimmed down also.

Now let's get down to building.

Fuselage and Boom

The fuselage is definitely the most difficult part to build. The construction is 1/8" sheet profile reinforced with 1/4" plywood on both sides. This profile can be pinned directly onto the plans. Use some scrap strips of 1/4" thick plywood as shims to

Ogar is about to demonstrate the wing mounting system. Cartwheeled in, popped free, undamaged. Photos below: Lunchtime at Grumman. Howie gets it off, no hi-start required. A cowled in .049.



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