



SENIOR PATTERN ASSOCIATION

News Letter

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WEB SITE-<http://www.rcpattern.net/spa/spa.asp>

2001 The Best Year Yet - SPA Simply Better

RICHARD W. (DICK) AUSTIN MEMORIALIZED

Cullman, AL.....A permanent monument to the memory of the Late "Dick" Austin was officially introduced to its show-place overlooking the Cullman Aeromodelers flying field on April 28, 2001.

Presiding at the gathering was SPA President Bruce Underwood of Guntersville, AL, longtime flying companion of Austin.

Underwood quoted Webster's' New World Dictionary and its definition of a memorial. "A memorial is a tangible thing such as a monument, event, etc., serving to help people remember some person or event".

That tangible memorial was the United States Flag, its' shining mast and marble monument in honor of Austin unveiled and shown to the gathering .

Emcee Underwood reviewed some of the many benevolent acts by Austin during his lifetime relating to the growth and development of Model Aviation in the US. Austin was a Lifetime Member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, a Charter Member of NSRCA and the US Pattern Judges Association as well as SPA. He served as judge at numerous National Pattern events as well as International events. His regional contributions included the establishment of at least two RC flying sights in the Cullman area with not only financial support but "in-kind" labors as well.

Those modelers throughout our nation and many international who had the pleasure of knowing Dick were richly blessed by their association with him....he is sorely missed and will be remembered honorably with each "salute" of that flag and memorial at Cullman Aeromodelers field.



In attendance was Austin's widow, Mrs. Mary Ellen Austin, known affectionately as "Dede", three of Dick's grandchildren and Daughter-in-Law, Melissa. Mrs. Austin introduced the family members and graciously thanked all for the attendance and the club for its' remembrance of her dearly beloved husband.



In attendance Left to Right-Katie Austin, Josef Austin, Melissa Austin, Courtney Wingo, Mary Ellen Austin, and Bruce Underwood - President SPA and Emcee

FROM THE PRESIDENT



This year I am getting to do something I had done on an annual basis for 20 or so total years....act as CD at a good contest.

As a result of the meeting by our members with the Floyd County RC Club in Rome, GA.... an AMA sanction has been issued for the initial FLOYD COUNTY SPA CONTEST this summer at the William Rose Memorial field

in Cave Springs, Georgia. Dates for the contest are August 11 & 12 and will serve as an excellent "tune-up" for the Masters contest in September. Look for more details forthcoming from FCRC President Troy Emmett who is the actual "contact-person" for the host club. Troy's address is 2315 Bellview Rd Rockmart, GA 30153. Phone is (770) 684-0537. His E-Mail address is:

HANGERONE127@aol.com

Dr. Charles G. Gray in Terre Haute, Indiana headed our SPA booth at the AMA's GRAND EVENT on June 9th at AMA headquarters in Muncie and I trust generated a lot of competitors for his Terre Haute contest in June (see contest calendar).

Mickey had "hand-outs" at the Cullman contest for the annual Hotlanta meet in July. Excellent PR, as usual.

It is wonderful to see SPA's membership swelling as more and more modelers realize the "affordable" fun and fellowship we enjoy in SPA....as webmaster Ed says "it's simply BETTER".

See ya' on the circuit-BRUCE

Top Notch Trophies Awards and Engraving Trophies, Plaques & Plastic Signs

We have been supplying the South with the best in plaques and Trophies for the last 8 years....Tired of paying to much \$\$\$\$.....??? That's what we are here for..On the average, An SPA meet uses 21 plaques....WOW!!!!.. Lot of money you say??... Not if you call **TNT**....We can use your club logo on the plaque or the SPA logo....PRICE, you say.... how about \$250.00 on average.....PLUS, I'll throw in a 4th & 5th place plaque for Novice.**FREE**!!..... **You read it right....FREE!!!!**

No matter what the event may be, WE PROVIDE THE **BEST** FOR ANY EVENT... That's why we are **TOP NOTCH**..... Cass Underwood

Top Notch Trophies
Guntersville, AL 35976
(256)582-0606

From The Chairman Of The Board



As I write this I am getting ready to go to the Knoxville contest. It sure looks like we will have a good turn out for this one. As you know this will be the second contest of the year. I went to the Cullman contest and it was a real good one, I will not give a report on it here as it has been covered in detail before.

My e-mail suggest interest around the country is really picking up. Many people want to know about airplanes not on the legal list. It is worth repeating there are still many airplanes that are legal that are not on the list. This is mostly because they are airplanes that are not really competitive and have been over looked because of this. If you have a favorite model and can document it let me know and I will be a happy to add it to the list.

I was out to the field this week for a flying session with the V.P. Tom Atkins he was flying his new T2A, it sure fly's good. Tom says the kits are being shipped now, I have one on order and am looking forward to starting on it. Tom has a two cycle on his and it is very fast, however I am sure a four cycle will work fine if you choose.

Looks like we are starting to get some kits available for SPA models now, if any manufacturers will let our editor know I am sure he would be happy to list them.

On this subject, has anyone tried any of the four cycle engines other than the OS line, like the Thunder Tiger, Magnum, etc. I would sure like to have some reports on other options for engines.

The Hotlanta contest is coming on fine and I will be mailing out flyers right after the Knoxville contest.

Well that is it for now see you on the contest trail!

Mickey Walker

Aztec Airplane Factory-SPA Legal Kits

Tanglefoot \$195 plus shipping
New Orlenian \$190 plus shipping
Jim Kirkland's A-6 Intruder \$210 plus shipping
The Equalizer \$195.00 plus shipping

Available soon - the original T2A by Tom Atkins
We have four (soon to be five) different kits. The kits are fiberglass, carbon fiber reinforced fuselages with foam wings. Deluxe kits are also available which include sheeted wings and stabs and precut bulkheads for an additional \$130.00.

George Truett-PO Box 1699-Chiefland, FL
32644
(352) 493-9656-gltruett@svic.net

From the Vice President

Hello SPA

I just got a report from Jeff Hanna on the Knoxville contest. It sounds as if everything went beautifully and there was another great turnout.

I had worked long hours trying to be ready for Knoxville, but the fickle finger of fate dealt me a hand that would not allow me to be there. Such is life.

I have around 15 flights on the T-2-A now, and I am really happy with it. I flew the prototype of this airplane in 1971. At the time the HP-61 schnuerle was touted to be the most powerful engine available. I designed the T-2-A for this engine, only to find that the hype was far overstated. The airplane seemed to fly very well, but the overall performance was poor because there was just not enough power. Mickey Walker said that all it needed was power and he was absolutely right. With the power setup that I am using now the performance is AWESOME! The YS with the performance Specialties muffler is a combination that is hard to beat. Getting this kind of performance from a bolt-on muffler is really great. The muffler is a bit larger than the stock mufflers, and a bit heavier, but the performance makes it all worthwhile.

During the trimming process with the T-2-A many people asked me about the no. 16 nail sticking out of the left wing tip of the airplane. The answer is that it is the first step in the trimming process. Nobody ever built an airplane with the wings being perfectly balanced, so the first thing that must be done when you begin trimming is to attain perfect lateral balance. If you use a side mounted engine, you will be surprised at how much weight you will have to add to get the wings perfectly balanced.

The technique that I use for balancing the wings is to trim the airplane for hands off upright trim. Make a couple of passes to verify the trim. Next, roll inverted and make a pass. You will get a wing drop. Notice which wing drops. With a heavy right wing you will have to roll in left aileron to carry the heavy wing. When you roll inverted, the left aileron trim will act in concert with the heavy wing, and the airplane will roll left. You can see that this would give you a situation that will be impossible to trim out until you get the lateral CG tweaked.

I add weight to the light wing with no. 16 nails that I have cut the heads off of. I drill a pilot hole in the light tip and tap a nail into it, letting it stick out 1/4" so I can pull it if needed. If this nail is not enough, push it all the way into the tip and add another nail. Repeat the trim steps above. If the added weight is too much, pull the last nail and cut 1/4" off and repeat until upright and inverted trim show no wing drop. When you reach this point in the trim process, you will be amazed how easy the rest of the trimming becomes. The remaining trim will consist mostly of rudder trim to optimize the loop tracking and vertical lines.

Experience has proven to me that it is not possible to achieve lateral balance statically. A static imbalance is magnified by whatever G forces you pull when looping or whatever, so trimming while flying is the way to go. By the way; when you get the lateral CG right, you can do a little touch-up on

the tip and no one will call you a Cretin.

The experience of building the all wood T-2-A has proven to me that my favorite medium is fiberglass. I got my first fiberglass for the T-2-A and have it virtually finished. The total time spent is about 4 hours. The wooden fuselage took about 30 hours and it is not as tough as the fiberglass one while the weight is the same.. No more wooden fuselages for me!!!!

I hope to see everyone at the Hotlanta contest in July. Surely my jinx will not last that long.

Tom



Tom Atkins new "T2A". I would bet we will get to see it at the **HOTLANTA** contest. Hope to see you there!

Contest Calendar

Sanctioned SPA Events Per Lamar Blair

6/23/01-6/24/01 Terre Haute IN, Senior Pattern Association, Event SPA-Terre Haute R/C Club

Dr. Charles Gray

800 North State Rd. 46. Terre Haute, IN. 47803

Ph. 317-931-4302 day between 4:00 and 5:00pm

Ph. 812-877-9215 eve. and week ends

e-mail cgray@hhcorp.org

7/28/01 - 7/29/01 - Dallas, GA, *Hotlanta SPA Contest*, SPA

Mickey Walker - 770-435-8158(D) Same(N)

311 North View Pl., Smyrna, GA 30080

mickeywalker@mindspring.com

Web Site <http://www.geocities.com/PCMAviation>

8/11/01 - 8/12/01 - Cave Springs, GA, *First Floyd County SPA Champs*,

Bruce Underwood - 256-582-0606(D) 256-582-3742(N)

1412 Patterson St., Guntersville, AL 35976

bunderwo@hiwaay.net

Site Map and such available here <http://members.aol.com/dsmithcom/frcrf/index.html>

9/15/01-9/16/01- Montgomery, AL, 2001 SPA Masters. Event (SPA)

Mike Hare-334-272-2537(D) 334-546-2699(N)

2413 Mary Lou Lane, Montgomery, AL 3611

6th Annual Cullman Senior Pattern Association Championships

The Cullman Aeromodellers of Cullman, Alabama, held their 6th Senior Pattern Association the weekend of April 28-29. Activities began with practice Friday afternoon. Pilots began arriving shortly after noon and continued to come until dark. Eventually, twenty-two pilots tried the calm Spring air. A fair amount of rather boastful talk followed many of the landings. If each pilot had actually done what he said on Friday that he intended to do on Saturday, the Judges would have been



**Bruce Underwood and Bill Hardin
Looking Serious!**

treated to an amazing display of aerobatic skill. Saturday morning featured calm air and bright sunshine. In Cullman, this is not necessarily a good thing. The field faces east, so starts are often delayed until the sun leaves the maneuvering area. The Pilot's Meeting began with the dedication of a memorial in memory of Richard W. Austin, L5098.



**Daryl Kampshror and Ralph Jones
Checking out the competition**

Dick was a friend and mentor to many. The club has erected a concrete foundation to hold a bronze plaque in his memory. Bruce Underwood then conducted a briefing to remind all present of changes in the rules.

The flying began about 10:20 with seven Novices on one line and five Pre-Senior Experts on the other. Of the seven Novices, one, Steve Murphree, was flying his very first contest. Four others, Larry Barksdale of Alpine, AL, Richard Tibbitts of Cabot, AR, Robert Bixby of Acworth, GA and Robert Chapman of Dallas, GA were flying their first out-of-town contest. After five rounds, Dale Shikle was first flying a Kaos, Larry Barksdale was second flying a World Models A-6 Intruder and 76-year-old Bob Colkitt was third flying a .40 size "Purdy Stick".

Senior Sportsman saw Ed Kirtley and Curt Diggs battle the entire weekend. Curt won three of the five rounds, but Ed won the contest 3955.66 to 3954.36. Ed's second places in three rounds were so close to Curt that the final total gave him the edge. Terry Carlson and Richard Witt fought for third, with Terry winning the trophy by winning the last round. Super Senior Sportsman drew only two pilots, but friends Ken Nix and John Duval traded rounds all weekend. John won



**Richard Tibbetts, Little Rock, Arkansas
Fires up his "Stik"**

three rounds, but again, Ken got the edge with more consistent seconds. John is 69 years old, and Ken is 66. These two guys had more fun than a couple of small boys and flew some pretty decent maneuvers. Both show major improvement from last year. You can teach old dogs new tricks.

The Pre-Senior Expert class provided the best overall flying of the weekend. Former Nat's Winner Mike Hare nursed a sick engine through two and a half rounds. Newcomer Steve Drake flew the Trion he'd found for \$100 at a garage sale to a creditable fourth. Tod Bennett flew well to place third, but the class of the contest was the battle between Jeff Hannah and Cass Underwood. Jeff's rolling maneuvers were almost

flawless, earning several 10s. Cass excelled in the looping maneuvers. Both did excellent inverted spins. Cass won two rounds and threw out a 967. Jeff won three rounds, throwing out 986. Jeff ultimately won by 1.2615 points after five rounds. These two guys have battled like this for two years. They're both in their late 30s. This could go on for years, with Mike, Steve and Tod adding to the interest. This class is almost never decided till the last round.

Senior Expert saw newcomer Mike Walker beat Jim Ivey by



Richard Tibbits, Ed Kirtley, Joe Holton and CD-Steve Byrum have got it all figured OUT!

30 points, again, winning the last round to take the class. Ralph Jones was a competitive third.

Super Senior Expert had Ed Hartley winning all five rounds, with Ray Craig, Darrell Kampshror and Mickey Walker applying pressure. We were especially glad to see the return of



Nancy Nix and Sandy Shikle along with hubby Dale add a touch of class.

Darrell Kampshror after several years of health problems. Darrell flew a Taurus powered by an OS70 at a level close to his skills of the past.

Thirty pilots completed five rounds over two days and were still done before 1:30 on Sunday afternoon. Pilot cooperation was the best I've seen. Everyone was ready for his turn, usually with the engine running when the previous pilot landed. This was truly a great weekend.

CULLMAN SPA CHAMPIONSHIPS **April 28-29 2001**

Super Senior Expert

- 1st Ed Hartley 4000.0000
- 2nd Ray Craig 3844.6750
- 3rd Darrel Kampshror 3728.6696
- 4th Mickey Walker 3598.6545

Senior Expert

- 1st Mike Walker 3984.7266
- 2nd Jim Ivey 3954.1791
- 3rd Ralph Jones 3744.0190
- 4th Frank Chick 3737.5394
- 5th Ken Blackwell 3207.9517
- 6th Ron Reed 2526.1491

Pre-Senior Expert

- 1st Jeff Hannah 3986.7158
- 2nd Cass Underwood 3985.4543
- 3rd Tod Bennett 3714.7067
- 4th Steve Drake 3504.4099
- 5th Mike Hare 1997.5546

Super Senior Sportsman

- 1st Kenneth Nix 3921.8596
- 2nd John Duvall 3832.2147

Senior Sportsman

- 1st Ed Kirtley 3955.6689
- 2nd Curt Diggs 3954.3650
- 3rd Terry Carlson 3679.1287
- 4th Richard Witt 3585.9180
- 5th Joe Holton 3363.0529
- 6th Bill Marchant 1695.1192

Novice

- 1st Dale Shikle 4000.0000
- 2nd Larry Barksdale 3726.2308
- 3rd Bob Colkitt 3671.7601
- 4th Richard Tibbits 3598.7721
- 5th Robert Bixby 3596.0890
- 6th Robert Chapman 3399.3783
- 7th Steve Murphree 3223.4313



Cullman ready box line one. All the contestants were ready to go on time every time. This made the contest move right along!

Secretary/Treasurer's Comments

By the time you get this deep into the newsletter, you'll know that we've had two pretty fair contests already this year. They have some elements in common. In both cases, we've had interesting weather. (I personally think I did a better job with the weather gods than Dennis.) At both contest, the pilots were an immense help by being prompt when called to fly, and by the willingness to judge. I believe the most important thing these contests had in common was the Novice class. This is the first year that I can remember a sizable Novice class that travels. At Cullman, we had seven Novices, but only two from our club. In Knoxville, there were twelve, of which seven came from out of town. Bob Colkitt from Hixson, TN, Larry Barksdale from Alpine, AL, Bob Bixby of Acworth, GA, and Robert Chapman from Dallas, GA have traveled to both contests. Additionally, Richard Tibbitts made the trip to Cullman from Cabot, AR, Dale Shikle traveled from Cullman to Knoxville, and Mark Crabtree went to Knoxville from Acworth, GA. We need to encourage these guys so SPA can continue to grow.

Mark Crabtree had an unfortunate landing just as the pilots' meeting was beginning on Saturday morning. Landing a little hot, the plane got away just enough to hit one of the poles KCRC uses to support their safety nets. The left wing panel was destroyed and Mark was done for the weekend. During the pilots' meeting, Mike Phillips from Talladega, AL, offered Mark the wing of the Intruder he had just bought. Mark accepted and flew all five rounds. Mike doesn't even compete, yet. He comes with Terry Carlson because SPA contests are a fun thing to do. Way to go, Mike!

Financially, SPA does well. We currently have 94 members paid for this year. Our newest members are Vic Koenig of Johnson City, TN, Allan Worrest of Lincoln, NE, Gene Stoehr of Kuttawa, KY, David Meier of Salado, AR and Dubby McGuire of Owensboro, KY. With Ed Kirtley and Steve Drake, we're beginning to get a fair representation from Kentucky. Maybe we can encourage someone up there to hold a contest next year. We also seem to be getting some new interest northeast of Little Rock, AR. SPA continues to increase its membership steadily and expand geographically. Our future looks bright.

Steve Byrum

KCRC BIGGEST CONTEST TO DATE

by: Bruce Underwood

Knoxville, TN.....When you attend and participate in a hugely successful contest like the KCRC meet the first week-end in June you find the newsman background erupting and become curious. That's why I approached CD Dennis Hunt for a Q & A session....longing for his opinions and methods responsible for this successful contest.

Q- Mr. Hunt, how many contests have you CD 'D in Knoxville?

(Hunt). I have CD'D all but two of the KCRC pattern contests since joining the club in 1984...the most novel of which was the infamous "Tennessee-Turnaround" in October of that year.

Q- Anything different about this years meet?

(Hunt). I get a great pleasure trying to make each one better than the last one through improvements in the way things are done. This year competitors pre-registered via E-Mail which was a gigantic help in that names, frequencies, contestant numbers and classes could be entered into the computer used for scoring days in advance allowing punctual starts each day. This method, when polished and refined will probably be adopted by many in the future.

Q- How does it feel to be the maker and producer of the majority of airplanes in SPA circuit competition?

(Hunt). Being British I am very conservative by nature and prefer wearing two distinct hats. I want no one to think I do the CD thing because it's good for my business. Factly, I feel guilty taking a completed airplane to show at the contest. I appreciate that it's not the American way and is probably foolish but that's the bloody way I am!

Dennis Hunt's accent, his charisma, his knowledge of our sport/hobby serve as a magnet and has for years now....drawing admiration from not only myself but everyone I know! Look for results elsewhere in this publication and make arrangements this minute to attend and participate in all future KCRC events. They are just "SUPER EVENTS".

Annual KCRC Senior Pattern Association Championships—Knoxville Tennessee

For lack of a better word the Knoxville contest was FANTASTIC! The pre-registering via email was a great success! Sandy Bolinsky had entered all the pre sign ups in the computer and flying started at 9:00AM on Saturday. The weather was just fine, a little wind, (so what else is new!), and we had about a five minute rain delay. On Saturday Lunch consisted of some of the best barbecue in the South. Sunday hot dogs and hamburgers were the fare. Each pilot started his engine when the last in-flight maneuver was finished. This really kept things moving.



Ken Nix had radio failure and the end result is shown below.



Cass Underwood surveying the remains of Ken Nix's DR
Picture by Terry Carlson



That Can't be Right! Joe Bolinsky and Joe Parrot check the scores.
Photo by Mike Foley

Dennis had the now famous "Unknown Round"! Eight contestants tried their luck. There were eight neat maneuvers, the real "killers" were the loop with two rolls and the loop with one and one-half snaps on top! These separated the men from the boys! No one did the loop with two rolls well except Bruce Underwood! Ed Hartley did a loop with a full roll up and a half roll down and exited inverted! The judges didn't care for that one either! There were two pilots who didn't zero anything, Keith Watson and Bruce Underwood. Bruce was the winner of the "Unknown Round"!

Senior Pattern Association Membership Application

Name _____ Date of Birth _____
Address _____ Phone _____
City-State-Zip _____
Current Club Affiliation _____
AMA Number _____

Membership Dues \$20.00 Make checks payable to
Senior Pattern Association

Mail to: Steve Byrum
1326 3RD St. SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

KCRC SPA Championships June 2 - 3 2001 Knoxville Tennessee

Super Senior Expert

1st Ed Hartley 4000.00
2nd Malcolm Rutledge 3721.54
3rd Ray Craig 3469.30
4th Daryll Kampschror 3218.11

Senior Expert

1st Bruce Underwood 4000.00
2nd Jim Ivey 3838.66
3rd Keith Watson 3800.25
4th Ralph Jones 3729.90
5th Steve Byron 3288.28

Pre Senior Expert

1st Jeff Hannah 4000.00
2nd Cass Underwood 3948.27
3rd Steve Drake 3723.18
4th Todd Bennett 3562.45

Super Senior Sportsman

1st Ben Oliver 3922
2nd Ken Nix 3737
3rd Bill Kite 2916

Senior Sportsman

1st Curt Diggs 3876
2nd Phil Cope 3858
3rd Ed Kirtley 3821
4th John Gausby 3587
5th Joe Holton 3549
6th Richard Witt 3507
7th Terry Carlson 3495
8th Rusty Miller 3339
9th Phil Spelt 3279

Novice

1st Joe Bolinsky 3958
2nd Dale Shikle 3906
3rd Larry Barksdale 3858
4th Robert Colkitt 3739
5th Don Martim 3858
6th Bob Bixby 3551
7th Rick Ormsby 3505
8th Carl Sten 3414
9th Jorden Foley 3386
10th Mike Foley 3342
11th Robert Chapman 3241
12th Mark Crabtree 2901



Who are these
"Masked Men"?

The Editors Corner

The Knoxville contest has now come and gone! My apologies for this new letter being a tad late. We wanted to have the results of Cullman and Knoxville in this issue.

It has become a tradition! Jane and Bruce Underwood celebrate their wedding anniversary during the KCRC contest each year.



Photo by Terry Carlson.

We had a great time in Knoxville and really enjoyed our visitors! We hope to see ya'll again next year!
Ed Hartley

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our sponsors. They support the SPA with their
advertisements in this news letter.**

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**Ed Hartley
221 Oran Road
Knoxville, TN 37922**

