



The **SENIOR PATTERN ASSOCIATION** *News Letter*

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

Bruce Underwood—President **Scott Sappington — Vice President**
Steve Byrum—Sec/Treas **Ed Hartley — Webmaster**
Jamie Strong—Appointed –CSP **Keith Watson—Appointed**
Mickey Walker — FOUNDER EMERITUS

Dedicated to the building, flying and competition of vintage Pattern aircraft

WEB SITE—<http://www.seniorpattern.com> July/Aug 2004

Precision Aerobatics - like the “good-ole-days”

THE PRESIDENTS PERSPECTIVE



Photo at left shot by **KCRC President Phil Spelt** in between rounds at KCRC’s AMA contest in June in Knoxville, Tennessee

We’ve a load of good photos and info in this edition of the SPA newsletter. Recall in the May/June issue, I shared a shot of a couple of “first-timers” who flew for their initial SPA contest in our “season-opener” in Cullman.

On page 6 of this edition, you’ll see a report on the Hastings Nebraska Skylarks contest on June 27th. A photo of the Expert class winners is on that page...but continuing the promoting of new participants to SPA and SPA-like contests, here are the photos of the top 3 in both Novice and Sportsman classes in Hastings:



In This Issue

MASTERS info.....Page 2
Newport News, VA report.....Page 2
3rd Annual Huntsville SPA Champs..... Page 3
AMA District VP Jim McNeill Obituary.....Page 4
Sec/Treas comments.....Page 4
Huntsville contest photos.....Page 5
Grand Island, Nebraska results.....Page 6
Hastings, Nebraska report.....Page 6
Judging—101.....Page 7
Veep Vocals.....Page 7



It is just great to see “SPA-like” activity in other parts of the country than just here in the Southeast. Many thanks to the modelers who just “grabbed the bull by the horns”...and set about promoting contests in their area.

Anyway our Officers or Boardmembers can be of help to interested modelers, regardless of locale...don’t hesitate to call on us. Let me urge all E-Mailers to join the SPA Mail-List and feel free to post to it at anytime. Need details? Just E-Mail me your’ queries. Best to all:

Bruce Underwood—SPA 15
bunderwo@hiwaay.net

Information regarding 2004 Masters Knoxville Tennessee

We will have our now famous **Tennessee Raffle**. The winner receives the spectacular Futaba 9C radio system. No tickets will be sold! Each contestant will be given one ticket.

If you pre-register on the SPA web site before September 10, 2004, you will receive two tickets. If you enter you must compete to be qualified to receive this prize!

For those who do not have internet access, you may receive your two tickets for our grand prize by pre-registering using the attached form. Your form must be postmarked no later than September 10, 2004.

Name _____
AMA # _____ SPA # _____
Class _____ Frequency _____
Home Town _____ State _____
Please attach any comments you may have and mail to:

Dennis Hunt
211 East Tennessee Ave.
Oak Ridge, TN 37831

TOP NOTCH TROPHIES

2044 O'Brig Avenue
Guntersville, AL 35976
(256) 582-0606
cassu@charter.net

Trophies for all events

All Occasion Plaques

Desk Plates—Name badges

**TNT for all your awards
&
Engraving**

NEWPORT NEWS, VA—June 26, 2004

by: Jerry McGhee, CD

Our SPA contest was a great success today. We had a 3 hour rain delay, but we were able to get 4 rounds in both Novice and Sportsman as planned. There were 7 contestants in the Novice class and 4 in the Sportsman.

Mr. Bill Kite won first place in Sportsman and is coming home with a nice trophy for his wall. 2nd place in Sportsman was Brian Foveaux from Newport News; he took a 10% point penalty for flying a non-SPA aircraft and still came in 2nd...Bill Kite was grateful for that! 3rd place went to Owen Dwire, President of the Newport News Club.

Joe Lupton won 1st Place in Novice with his Killer Kaos. John (forgot last name) from Williamsburg took 2nd and Dave Fisk from Newport News took 3rd.



Many more photos from Jerry of the 2004 Newport News contest are on the SPA Website. Click on "Contest Reports" 2004, then click PHOTOS.

3rd RCRC SPA Championships 3rd time is indeed a CHARM

HUNTSVILLE, AL - May 16, 2004: The above caption is a line voiced over and over by CD Ken Nix following this weekends' 3rd annual SPA Championships in the Space Capitol of the Universe.

Saturday was indeed delightful with temperatures in the upper 70's, light breezes straight up and down the runway and four complete rounds flown in all classes. The activity embellished by the sounds of laughter, fun and frivolity that is evident at a SUPER SPA Precision Aerobatic contest.

The weather bureau promised some shower activity on Sunday morning and it came at the conclusion of Novice's round 5. A vote among pilots resulted in calling the competition in favor of a GREAT awards ceremony in the spacious, air-conditioned and comfortable Chuck Facemire Memorial Clubhouse, one of the numerous amenities on the RCRC Capt. Wilbourn flying facility.

Nix and associates surprised the participants with awards for EVERY pilot....yes, ALL that flew and participated "brought home the personalized photo awards". There were SPECIAL awards for TOP GUN PILOT.....that flyer was deemed to exhibit the most promise and skill advancement in the young season; the award sponsored by Cass Underwoods' Top Notch Trophy Co. was presented Sportsman Talent Robbie Walker from Cullman, AL.

There was a "Best-Looking Bird" award given.....a vote of the participants resulted in that handsome award going to Steve Byrum of Cullman, AL for his lovely Curare which sports a painted fuselage, monokoted wings and stab and tri-colored wheelpants. Not only looks good but is a solid performer for Steve.

A "Hard-Luck" award complete with polished Tru-Turn Spinner mounted above the broken APC prop and golden colored engraved plates was garnered by Kingsport Tennessee's own Rhea Starnes. Starnes had completed his round two flight on Saturday...just after his landing decided to advance the throttle a bit on the KAOS, turn around and taxi back to himself...when a gust of wind got under the model and it was airborne again quicker than one could recite...*"Peter Piper Picked a Peck of Pickled Peppers"*. Starnes, astonished that his airplane was airborne again....attempted to regain his togetherness and fly it...but just before that confident feeling returned, the airplane flew into a nearby tree. Out of its' own garage came the RCRC "crash-site" conveyance vehicle (Motorized Golf Cart) and zoomed to the scene.....standing on the siderails of the aforementioned vehicle, his KAOS was retrieved from the tree with NARY.....A.....SCRATCH !! This event was the nearest to "hard-luck" experienced the whole week-end. See the neat photo of Mr. Rhea using his hand to describe what happened.

Tony Coberly- Pres. RCRC, Mary Long-PR Director RCRC....all members who assisted, we are so grateful. Always dependable Chuck Facemire (for whom the clubhouse is named)...registered as a contestant and never flew a flight just to be a part of the contest and lend his financial as well as physical assistance to the meets' success.

Scott Sappington, our VP, who voiced the opening invocation both days...summed up the feelings of the gathering when he said...."Chief, we thank you for answering our requests for ideal conditions, they were super". Numerous sounds of "AMEN" followed Scott's prayer.

Thanks all....that made for a **super** contest.

-0-

Post Contest Concert



Keith Watson and Ken Nix picked and harmonized for quite awhile Sunday afternoon following the Huntsville awards ceremony in the gigantic clubhouse. Ken's daughter Pam admires the pickers while Grandson Coyote Joe listens while flying the computer airplane used for training by RCRC.

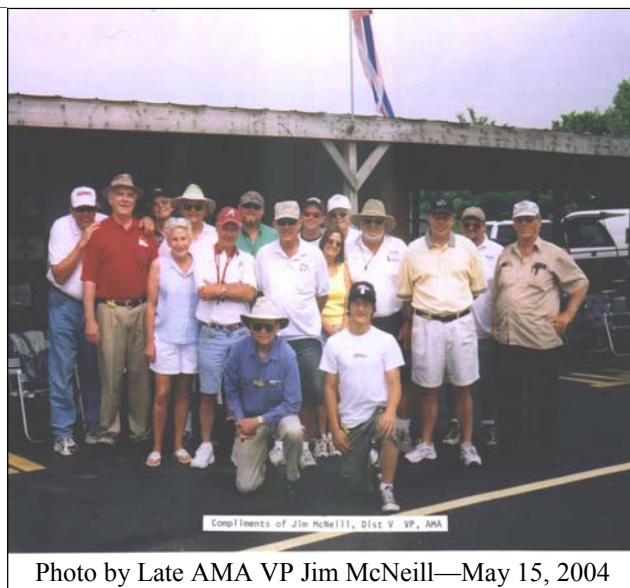


Photo by Late AMA VP Jim McNeill—May 15, 2004

AMA District 5 Vice-President Jim McNeill passes away suddenly

The group photo at the bottom of page 3 was taken by AMADistrict 5 VP Jim McNeill in Huntsville, AL at the contest on May 15, 2004. Jim had visited the contest for two reasons, to honor RCRC as the District 5 Club-of-the-month and to fellowship with SPA as it is an official SIG (Special Interest Group) of the Academy of Model Aeronautics.

Just 6 days after fellowshipping with the McNeills at the contest in Huntsville, we were **shocked and dismayed** when informed of his sudden death.

Funeral Services were Monday, May 24, 2004, at Ridout's Valley Chapel, Homewood.



SPA Vice-President Scott Sappington, AMA Vice-President District 5 Jim McNeill and SPA President Bruce Underwood at Huntsville SPA contest on May 15, 2004. Photo by *Toni Sappington*

Previews of coming attractions in the NEWSLETTER

*Complete RC Aerobatic Model Trimchart
KCRC flyer-table construction article
Photos of past F3A aerobatic champions
Trivia quizzes—"WHO DAT IS ??"
Building and construction tips
Fuel and engine discussions
Contest reports and info*

**Visit the SPA Website for photos and info at:
www.seniorpattern.com**



From Sec/Treas *Steve Byrum*

Steve, Warren Oliver, Bob Pannel
At
Knoxville AMA Contest
(Photo by Phil Spelt)

It's mid-July. It's hot as . . . well, hot as usual. We all have to work too hard. It rains when it's least convenient. No one goes to the field. There are lots of excuses as to why we don't fly as much this time of year. The last, biggest excuse why we don't fly a contest is because we haven't practiced. I sure don't want to look any dumber than usual. I guess I'll skip the next contest.

All that being said, let us remember why we are members of this organization. The stated reason is to promote the flying of vintage aircraft in a precise manner. Well, I don't do that very well, so there must be some other reason to participate. Basically, I go to contests to see old friends, to get away from the usual daily hassles and to test myself a little. We have a common goal to fly our planes perfectly. That's not possible, but any and all present at any contest will help me improve what I do and enjoy my chosen hobby more fully. When I least expect it, some other pilot will make an off-handed comment that provides a new insight into what we do for me. I like that. Surprises on the ground are a good thing. Even rehearsing old stories is fun. We all know that airplane stories grow faster than the fish that got away, but half the fun is seeing how the teller embellishes his tale this time. The last reason, testing myself, is where I get serious. I don't beat many other pilots, but I do usually beat me from last time. I continue to improve just a little.

Those are the things that keep me coming back. You won't probably get this until after Hotlanta. That leaves only the Masters remaining this year. If you haven't flown a contest for a while, join us in Knoxville in September and join the fun.

Steve Byrum

Announcing **Carolina Custom Aircraft**, a new kit manufacturer specializing in SPA Legal Classic Pattern Aircraft

Offering High Quality Fiberglass and Foam aircraft made from the finest materials and manufactured in Rougemont, North Carolina

SPA Legal kits: Tom Atkins T2A
Jim Kirkland's A-6 Intruder
Tanglefoot
New Orleanian
Equalizer

Please call (336-364-3120) or email CarolinaAircraft@aol.com for further Information, Prices and **Specifications**

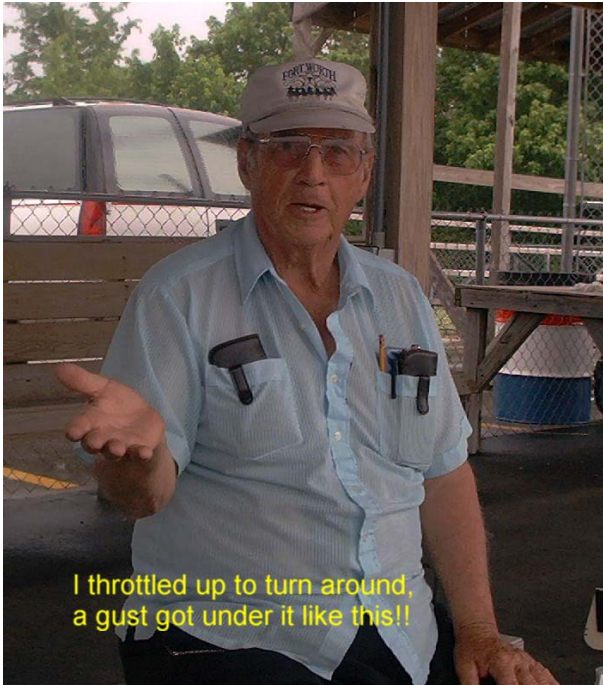
Discounts to SPA Members!

HUNTSVILLE PHOTOS

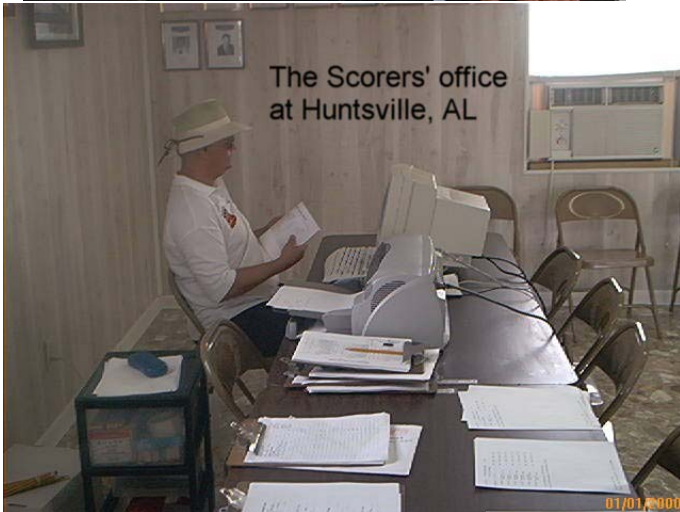


3RD HUNTSVILLE SPA AWARDS

Beautiful awards for EVERY contestant



I throttled up to turn around, a gust got under it like this!!



Thanks RCRC—What a beautiful and very palatial flying sight

Grand Island Modelers Contest—May 23

by
Allan Worrest SPA # 201

Bruce,

This is just a short note from an outside contestant on the Grand Island, NE contest which was held May 23. Like several other contests held here, the SPA schedule is flown with about any type of aircraft. The planes ranged from a state-of-the-art Excellence 2-meter pattern plane to my Killer Chaos. A couple of IMAC types were also present.

They had 13 entries, three in Novice, five each in Sportsman and Expert. They completed three rounds. The weather was good: clear skies and light wind. The club served a very good lunch prepared by the members wives. Personally, I had a good time. It would have been better if my engine had not unexpectedly quit in two rounds.

I have attached a picture of the flight line. John Willman's Excellence is in the foreground.



Flight line—Grand Island, Nebraska May 23, 2004

These are the results of the contest.

Expert Class: 1st Nick Reiss, 2nd, John Willman, 3rd Jim Reiss.

Advanced Class: 1st Jim Stulken, 2nd Marty Everhart, 3rd Stephen Foster

NOVICE Class: 1st John Boord, 2nd Roger Arnett, 3rd Floyd Trophel.

Jim Reiss Co- CD

Tell a “flying-buddy” about SPA
Have him duplicate the application
for membership on page 8 and send
with his dues to Steve.

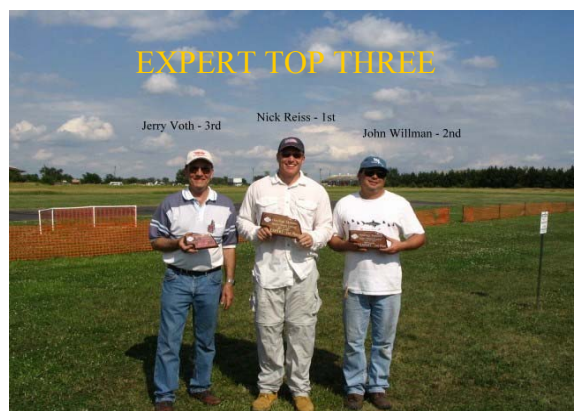
Hastings Skylarks 2004 SPA Contest Results

The Hastings Skylarks hosted their annual SPA pattern contest on Sunday, June 27th. The day dawned cloudy and cool, but turned into a fantastic day for flying. The temperature was in the 70s and the wind was light and variable all day. The wind started in the south then went to the west in the afternoon.

The Skylarks want to thank all of the individuals who contributed to make this a contest that was enjoyed by all: the people who organized and ran the event, the people who provided the great lunch, the contestants who gave their time to judge, and all others who assisted in many different ways. Thanks again!!

There were a total of 15 contestants at this contest. Six in Novice, three in Sportsman and six in Expert. There were two first-time contestants in Novice, which was good to see. Three rounds were flown in each class with the lowest round dropped for each pilot. There was a lot of great flying and some close results. I am glad to report that there were no mishaps in 45 flights. We hope see all of you and more at our contest next year.

NOVICE		SPORTSMAN		EXPERT	
John Boord	2000	Stephen Foster	2000	Nick Reiss	2000
Roger Arnett	1927	John Van Brocklin	1989	John Willman	1998
Floyd Treffer	1872	Mark Bergt	Missing	Jerry Voth	1917
Kevin Steigemeier	1870			Jim Reiss	1904
Dennis Towns	1779			Bill Boord	1791
Gary May	1569			Allan Worrest	1590





Judging—101

Tom Atkins, Sr

This month we are going to look at judging **loops**. For the most part, it makes no difference whether we are discussing inside or outside loops. The elements of judging are identical.

Loops are supposed to be **round**, should be done in exactly the same spot when doing three, should be on the same exact heading and altitude and stay in the same track over the ground. The wings of the airplane should stay parallel to the axis of the loop(s).

To begin the loop(s), the contestant should call "maneuver beginning now", fly 50 feet straight and level, then pitch up or down into the loop(s). The point at which the pitch up or pitch down begins should be precisely in front of you, the judge. This point determines the axis of the maneuver and it should be fixed for all loops in the series. Each consecutive loop should be superimposed exactly over the preceding one. Each loop pitches through a full 360 degrees.

A loop is round when it traces a path through the air that duplicates the path that you would get if the airplane were attached to a string that was attached to the axis of the loop(s). The loop axis is a line drawn parallel to the ground and that passes exactly through the center of the loop(s) perpendicular to the line of flight. Each loop in the three consecutive loops should be centered on this axis. If the loops creep forward, backward, up, down, left or right of the initial starting point, there should be a downgrade.

The airplane's wings should stay square to the loop track. This means that the wings remain parallel to the loop axis throughout the maneuver. Wing wagging is cause for a downgrade.

The size of the loop(s) should not be a judging factor unless their size makes the loops look cramped or overly large. The thing here is smoothness and precision.

The looping maneuver is completed by flying straight and level for 50 feet, at which point the contestant calls "maneuver complete". The 50 feet straight and level finish should be on the same heading and at the same altitude as the entry.

When doing the reverse outside loops the roll in and roll out are judged as part of the maneuver.

Prior to the roll to inverted that begins the reverse outsides, there should be a 50 foot straight and level entry. After the roll there should be a 50' straight and level prior to beginning the loops. After the loops there should be 50' straight and level, the roll executed, followed by 50' straight and level, at which point the contestant calls "maneuver complete".

This entry and exit should be on the same heading and at the same altitude. When judging three loops, you might think about how much to downgrade each error you see. This maneuver lasts so long that you could find yourself dealing with negative numbers if you are too harsh early in the maneuver. These things go around and around and around and the judges go down and down and down.

Take care

Tom



Veep—Vocals

by

scott sappington

Greetings.

What a wonderful time in Huntsville!! A tip of the hat goes to Ken Nix, Bruce and to all who assisted in this wonderful event. It was very sad to hear the news of Jim McNeil. To have seen him the last weekend of his life doing what he truly enjoyed was some what surreal. I was not fortunate to not have known Jim personally and did not know that we shared the same alma-mater. What I do know through Jim's ever presence at contests and events in his district was his passion for model aircraft. I can assume that it is a given that we all share Jim's passion. Of course there are various degrees but the point is our enjoyment of this wonderful hobby. It is times like this following so close to the loss of Jim Oliver that has really made me step back and truly cherish the enjoyment of our institution. This past weekend was a perfect example. Jim Rogers, Joe Holton, John Baxter and I were "practicing" for Hotlanta. The fun of the less than flattering comments and judging remarks such as "what in thewas that??" or "that maneuver is not in this sequence" was a wonderful time. Folks, let us make the most of these opportunities. John Baxter has an "army" ready to see that we all have a wonderful weekend at PCMA. Come on out and lets all have a great time.

God Bless

Scott

2004 SENIOR PATTERN CONTEST SCHEDULE

July 24 & 25...HOTLANTA, GA John Baxter - CD
rjbaxter2@comcast.net

July 25 WAVERLY, NE (Modified SPA) John Willmon - CD
(402) 474-0801

July 25, Lincoln Sky Knights (Legacy) Pattern Contest, Lincoln, NE
Contact John Willman 402-474-0801 LSK web site is
www.acsmagnum.com/lsk

September 18 & 19 KNOXVILLE, TN SPA MASTERS Dennis Hunt - CD
dehunt@nxs.net

October 3..AURORA, NE (Modified SPA)

October 3, Aurora, NE Use the G.I. Modelers contact and web site

October 2 & 3...AUBURN, AL Rick Helmke - CD
rick.h@charter.net

Senior Pattern Association Membership Application

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____ Phone () _____

City-State-Zip _____

AMA Number _____ Club affiliation _____

Membership Dues \$20.00 Make Check payable to Senior Pattern Association. Mail to:

Steve Byrum
1326 3rd St. SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

Bruce Underwood
1412 Patterson Street
Guntersville, AL 35976

