



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

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

WEB SITE-<http://www.seniorpattern.com>

NOV/DEC 2005

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

THE PRESIDENTS PERSPECTIVE



MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR !

At left are the Boys (Santa Claus) on Christmas Morn 2004 with that delightful E Z- UP tent used on the SPA contest circuit all this year!

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VEEP VOCALS

by

Scott Sappington



Remember last December, we opined “SPA’s comin’ Alive in 2005”! Make no mistake about it...our Association did that, indeed! It just seems like yesterday we tearfully put off the season-opening contest in Cullman, now, the make-up contest was a resounding success and was the CHERRY on top of an ideal season of SPA Precision Aerobatics.

Our CSP, Jamie (see his comments on page 7) said more pilots were active in contesting this season than in the past. This is tremendously welcomed statistical information.

Now we look forward to the future which at this point is looking great for our growth in number and participation. This is the ELECTION edition of the Newsletter with an annual ballot on page 7. No one announced for elective office as of the annual MASTERS business meeting so each of our current officers have indicated a desire to remain in current offices. This is reflected on the ballot on P 7.

Please indicate your desires, clip and mail in SASE along with \$20 annual dues for 2006, Steve and his two auditors Marilyn and Amy will tabulate votes and announce your preference on New Years Eve 2005. Thanks much for your immediate attention.

Enjoy this edition. Hoping Santa is very good to you and your resolutions include more SPA fun in 2006.

Happy Holidays Bruce Underwood SPA 15

It was a disappointment to have to miss the Cullman event but another commitment evolved at the last minute. Reading the account of the wonderful event posted on the SPA website confirms what a successful year this has been. I believe Jamie said we set a new record of different participants with 51. Also, having Duane join us from North Carolina and John and Eric Nessler from Ohio is evidence that we are moving in the direction that Mickey Walker envisioned. The absolute fun, fellowship and flying without complicated equipment is SPA. I would like to again publicly thank Bruce for the countless hours he spends promoting our organization. The fruits of his labor are abundantly evident. There is the possibility of additional contests coming on line for 2006 so we have the opportunity to further enhance our participation. Let me close by wishing you all a safe, prosperous and blessed holiday season.

Scott



The above photo was taken by an RC Model Airplane with a digital camera aboard it above the Prattville, Alabama RC Club flying field which is to host an SPA contest in 2006.

Jamie Strong of the Prattville Club said: (Cut & Pasted)

My guys are ready to have it here, no worries on this end except, If we have it, will they come? Sure hope so, we have what I think is one of the best sites in the state, no trees for 400 yards either side and trees in front are 1000 yards away, not even a factor. Looking forward to getting the contest moved to be a seasonal thing, if we get a good showing we'll take the 2nd weekend of May from now on.

The photo was submitted early in the 2005 season.

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awards
& Engraving**

Look at this "MEMORY-MAKER" photo from webmaster Ed's scrapbook. Spark a recollection or two in your' memory-bank?

Jim Fosgate with his "Kitten" circa 1958. The transmitter was on 27.25 meg and had an output of ten watts . It used two 6V6 tubes. The fifty watter I spoke of was mounted in the trunk of a Mercury I had at the time.



The SPA "mail list" or Discussion list on the Internet now contains some 75 to 80 RC modelers throughout the USA and 3 International subscribers. From time to time we have some timely topics with lots of good input from members of the list adding various and sundry thoughts on them.

As an example of some of the fine topics on our Mail-list is the following post labeled: BASIC FLYING RULES

(Cut & Pasted).....

Basic Flying Rules: "Try to stay in the middle of the air. Do not go near the edges of it. The edges of the air can be recognized by the appearance of ground, buildings, sea, trees and interstellar space. It is much more difficult to fly there."

Copied from another source. JIM IVEY

You may enroll for the SPA Mail list from within the SPA website or notify Ed Hartley or Bruce Underwood and ask them to "sign you up". You don't want to miss such valuable input as the BFR's above, do you?

KNOXVILLE, TN—August 27-28, 2005

August 28, 2005.....KNOXVILLE, TN.....Dennis Hunt, CD remarked at the outset of the awards ceremony early this afternoon...."my thanks to all of you for attending and making the KCRC SPA Champs the largest in number of participants of any on the circuit this season". He continued "its' such a pleasure to have you here".

Skip Getelman vowed his gratitude for the help from others due to a problem with his airplane.

Cass Underwood lost power in some fairly strong winds in round one and banged the asphalt runway abruptly, resulting in a break or two and numerous abrasions to his **Phantom-1**. A number of modelers with epoxy, CA, etc. joined him in a "field-repair" and he was back in the air for round two on. He said, "its' folks like this that make this sport/hobby a genuine delight"!

27 precision pilots executed 6 complete rounds of pattern, fellowshipped and consumed Steak, Roasted Corn, Baked Beans, etc at the Saturday night session on the scenic flying sight.

Saturday night revelers were entertained by guitar and song favorites by Judging Guru Keith Watson. Keith's singing shadowed the anticipated appearance of the planet MARS. No one even thought about looking for a "closeup" of Mars...they were having so much fun partying at the field.

Jim Ivey's engine came uncranked a loooooong way from the runway...he displayed his expertise when he, with no power, guided his gliding Daddy Rabbit to a 10 point downwind landing...through a giant gum treetop. There's a photo to prove his experience.

Dennis and KCRC....you did a GREAT job...what a marvelous weekend.

Raffle winners were:

Steve Byrum.....Sure Cycle
 Mike Miller.....Accu Cycle
 Jerry Black.....Acco Peak Charger
 Phil Cope.....BN 2000 Battery Checker
 Mark Sobelewski.....Freq Checker



KCRC 2005 Results

Senior Expert

- | | | |
|--------------------|------|-----------------|
| 1. Bruce Underwood | 4000 | Guntersville AL |
| 2. Ed Hartley | 3851 | Knoxville TN |
| 3. Keith Watson | 3717 | Marietta GA |
| 4. Jim Ivey | 3628 | Mabelton GA |
| 5. Dennis Hunt | 1680 | Oak Ridge TN |

Expert

- | | | |
|-------------------|------|-----------------|
| 1. Cass Underwood | 4000 | Guntersville AL |
| 2. Jamie Strong | 3935 | Prattville AL |
| 3. Jerry Black | 3905 | Johnson City TN |
| 4. Sid Austin | 3851 | Cullman AL |
| 5. Randy Roberts | 3810 | Cullman AL |
| 6. Paul Funk | 3794 | Knoxville TN |
| 7. Steve Byrum | 3423 | Cullman AL |

Sportsman

- | | | |
|---------------------|------|-------------------|
| 1. William Kite | 4000 | Kingsport TN |
| 2. Phil Cope | 3968 | Knoxville TN |
| 3. Scott Sappington | 3926 | Dallas GA |
| 4. John Baxter | 3748 | Independance GA |
| 5. Warren Oliver | 3702 | Knoxville TN |
| 6. Phil Spelt | 3445 | Oliver Springs TN |
| 7. Bob Bixby | 3244 | Acworth GA |
| 8. Jim Solcum | 3051 | Temple GA |

Novice

- | | | |
|------------------|------|-----------------|
| 1. Denny Evans | 4000 | Knoxville TN |
| 2. Skip Getelman | 3767 | Fayetteville GA |
| 3. Bill Dodge | 3725 | Oak Ridge TN |
| 4. Dean Siems | 3712 | Prattville GA |
| 5. Deane Wilson | 3595 | Ashville NC |
| 6. Rhea Starnes | 3430 | Kingsport TN |
| 7. Vic Koenig | 2888 | Johnson City TN |



Told you we had a photo of Ivey's DR with the gumtree leaves on it to confirm our story in the text report of KCRC contest !

Marvelous Masters 2005

Guntersville, AL Sept. 18, 2005.....When a group of "great-to-be-with" RC Pattern Pilots convene for an SPA Precision Aerobatic Contest....it is more fun than eating Ice Cream (Homemade) on a 4th of July. Its' even greater than that when it is the SPA MASTERS contest!

Auburns RC Model Club, the PLANESMEN...stacked up the "goodies" this weekend for the annual SPA MASTERS there. Beginning with Friday afternoon's practice, the clubmembers greeted early arrivals with host hospitality and it lasted til after the awards ceremony on Sunday with nary a cessation. Each was presented with a neat "schedule of events"....and this schedule was closely adhered to.

Business was kept to a minimum at our Saturday night MASTERS annual Banquet in favor of good food, fun and fellowship! Our CSP has some great ideas for 2006 scheduling of contest events. All of our officers who were present at the Banquet have agreed to run for reelection to their current offices and Board Positions. The one unable to attend has since agreed and is eager to repeat in 06.

Glen, the chief Chef served up grilled hotdogs and hamburgers, cold soda pop, homemade desserts and even some Ice cold "bubbly" after flying ceased each day. The club provided and flew a Superstar 40 at which any and all visitors could fire "paintballs" at each low, slow pass. It met its' demise Saturday evening when some lucky contestant disabled its' control surfaces with some good shots.

Highlights of the MASTERS each year is the sudden-death "flyoff" for the honor of retaining the Memorial Trophy for one year. This year, as a result of our CSP Chairman Jamie and Webmaster Ed's BOARD motion back in January...a similar "sudden-death" flyoff was conducted for each Class. The top two contestants going into the Masters flew a one-time flight before 5 judges to determine winners. Of the 5 scoresheets, both the HIGH and the LOW was tossed out and the remaining three totaled for the determining score.

Can you believe the coincidence?? On Saturday afternoon, scores for the NOVICE class and the Senior Expert classes were exactly **tied!** What great flying..I had the pleasure of serving as one of the 5 judges on Saturday....all 5 of us agreed...these participants flew much better during the "shoot-out" than during regular competition. The two classes above had a "flyoff"- "flyoff" on Sunday to determine a winner! Man.....how is **that**, for close competition!

"Tongue-in-Cheek"...I urged each flier prior to the "fly-off" in a Coach Bear Bryant type pre-fly-off dissertation "not to screw up"....not even a "liddle-bitty bit". Several told me they enjoyed the feeling of flying without any pressure on them!

A terrific raffle saw a number of winners of prizes ranging from "trinkets" to the PRIMUS or modified TAURUS kit which went home with Randy Roberts of the Cullman, AL club.

To Henry Helmke, Rick Helmke, Brian Diez, Julian Gomez,.....others who hosted the Marvelous Masters this week-end.....we are extremely grateful, it couldn't have been better!

2005 MASTERS RESULTS

NOVICE:

| | | |
|---------------|------|------------------|
| Gary Cortney | 4000 | Huntsville, AL |
| Dean Siems | 3861 | Prattville, AL |
| Skip Getelman | 3586 | Fayetteville, GA |
| W.R. Starnes | 3530 | Kingsport, TN |
| Julian Gomez | 3491 | Auburn, AL |

SPORTSMAN:

| | | |
|------------------|------|----------------|
| Bill Kite | 4000 | Kingsport, TN |
| Scott Sappington | 3909 | Dallas, GA |
| Jon Lowe | 3788 | Huntsville, AL |
| J.T. Slocum | 3478 | Temple, GA |

EXPERT:

| | | |
|---------------|------|----------------|
| Jamie Strong | 4000 | Prattville, AL |
| Randy Roberts | 3856 | Cullman, AL |
| Steve Byrum | 3190 | Cullman, AL |

SR. EXPERT:

| | | |
|-----------------|------|------------------|
| Bruce Underwood | 4000 | Guntersville, AL |
| Jim Ivey | 3910 | Mableton, GA |
| Keith Watson | 3715 | Marietta, GA |

SHOOT-OUT & FLY_OFF Results

NOVICE:

| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Dean Siems 259 | Skip Getelman 252 |
|----------------|-------------------|

SPORTSMAN:

| | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Scott Sappington 324.5 | Bill Kite 318. |
|------------------------|----------------|

EXPERT:

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Randy Roberts 344.5 | Jamie Strong 335.5 |
|---------------------|--------------------|

SENIOR EXPERT:

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Keith Watson 338 | Jim Ivey 319.5 |
|------------------|----------------|





From the typewriter of:

Steve Byrum
Secretary/Treasurer

Others have described the high points of what went on at our Cullman contest. The results are on the website with lots of pictures. I'd like to comment from a CDs point of view.

First, the **Open** classes. This was a bit of a disappointment because of the limited participation. I had hoped to draw in four or five pilots in each class who like our concept but lack equipment. By giving them the chance to fly our format with existing equipment, I'd hoped to infect others. Among our own membership, we have pilots that prefer pipes and retracts and, therefore, do not compete. Even these were conspicuously absent. I will probably offer the open classes again in the Spring. If there is no further participation, I'll declare the experiment a failure and forget it, refusing to ever again react to "I'd compete, but you won't let me fly . . .". Please see Eric Nessler's comments about the differences in equipment on the Classic Pattern forum on RCUniverse. The competition in the Open Expert class was fierce. Who among us can remember when Bruce finished 5th in class????????? In truth, Bruce opted out to allow the young guys to fight for the win. I wish he had stayed in. Eric Nessler beat him the first round. Might it have happened again?

Close results. Please observe in the results that, after six rounds, Wendell Cornelius beat John Johnson by 2.75 point, Bill Kite won both Sunday rounds to beat Jon Lowe by 1.3628 points in Sportsman and Jamie Strong won both Sunday rounds to beat Eric Nessler by 4.90 points in Open Expert. That's keeping it interesting to the very end.

Good things that happened. No one complained to me about anything but the weather. Everyone was ready every time for his flight. We had very little down time. The only exceptions were while waiting for me to change lines as a judge. The last two pilots landed within about 30 seconds of each other to end round 6. Duane Wilson brought his wife to a contest on their anniversary and lived to tell about it. What a woman! How many of us could get away with that? Rhea Starnes counted four rounds better than 900. Ron Reed returned to competition. No one crashed, though some missed the runway early on Saturday.

Steve



CULLMAN RESULTS

SPA NOVICE

| | | |
|----------------------|------|------------------|
| 1. Wendell Cornelius | 3974 | Guntersville, AL |
| 2. John Johnson | 3972 | Ft. Benning, GA |
| 3. Rhea Starnes | 3708 | Kingsport, TN |
| 4. Michael Norton | 3340 | Huntsville, AL |
| 5. Duane Wilson | 3104 | Ashville, NC |

SPA SPORTSMAN

| | | |
|-----------------|------|--------------------|
| 1. Bill Kite | 3988 | Kingsport, TN |
| 2. Jon Lowe | 3986 | Huntsville, AL |
| 3. Philip Spelt | 3819 | Oliver Springs, TN |
| 4. Ron Reed | 3620 | Marietta, GA |
| 5. Jim Slocum | 3487 | Temple, GA |

SPA EXPERT

| | | |
|------------------|------|----------------|
| 1. Jamie Strong | 4000 | Prattville, AL |
| 2. Randy Roberts | 3963 | Cullman, AL |

SPA SENIOR EXPERT

| | | |
|--------------------|------|------------------|
| 1. Bruce Underwood | 4000 | Guntersville, AL |
| 2. Ed Hartley | 3865 | Knoxville, TN |
| 3. Keith Watson | 3683 | Marietta, GA |

OPEN SPORTSMAN

| | | |
|-----------------|------|--------------------|
| 1. Jon Lowe | 4000 | Huntsville, AL |
| 2. Philip Spelt | 2874 | Oliver Springs, TN |

OPEN EXPERT

| | | |
|--------------------|------|------------------|
| 1. Jamie Strong | 3923 | Prattville, AL |
| 2. Eric Nessler | 3918 | Dublin, OH |
| 3. John Nessler | 3805 | Dublin, OH |
| 4. Randy Roberts | 3780 | Cullman, AL |
| 5. Bruce Underwood | 2960 | Guntersville, AL |



What a team—Steve CDing, Judging, controlling flight order and lifetime companion Amy entering scores in novel tent pictured above. Great idea and protection from cold wind.

PHOTO-PHUN from the Cullman contest is posted on the SPA website and coming in JAN/FEB newsletter. (ED)

RECOLLECTIONS

from September 1976 Model Aviation
Ron VanPutte's Sport-Aerobatics column



Right: Ed Hartley assists Larry (Little Hoot) Gibson at the Huntsville, AL contest. Ed also won second in the Advanced class.



Above is the original Daddy-Rabbit 5 that Ed drew the plans from for the shortkit produced by Zimpro Models currently. It was loaned Hartley by designer, Jim Whitley. This was done shortly after the birth of the Senior Pattern Association.



RAMM had "live" welcome ready for arrivals at field



This replacement muffler for the OS 91 Surpass 4-Stroke engine was shown on TOWER's website parts listing as Part # LXCC08 with listed retail price of \$36.99

ABOUT THE OS MUFFLER

A word about the OS muffler. OS changed the muffler and intake about a year and a half ago.

Apparently, they wanted cleaner and quieter. They got both, but they also changed a very well behaved engine into one that can be really cranky. Engine runs have been very inconsistent. OS, of course, knows nothing about this problem. There are two fixes. The easiest is to find an old-style muffler, (like the one pictured above) or use one of an OS70. These mufflers have a bit smaller capacity, but give much better engine performance. The needle is much less sensitive, and you get an extra 400 rpm for free. Second, you could also modify the new muffler.

Carefully, cut the muffler around the last ring. The stinger is a press fit. Cutting only through the outer layer will release the stinger but leave an inner lip so it can be re-attached. Once the stinger is off, drill/grind the baffle out. When the baffle is gone, use JB Weld to glue the stinger back in. Drill the joint for a small sheet metal screw for added security. This also gets you an extra 4-500 rpm. Next, drill the stinger outlet to remove about half the wall. Gain is about 100 rpm. Disconnect the line from the crank case to the intake manifold.

Either replace the nipple in the intake with a screw (2mm, I think) or plug a short length of fuel tubing on the nipple. Let the line from the crank case vent into the air as with the older style engines. Gain

about another 100 rpm. The modified muffler is a bit louder than standard, but the performance gain is worth it. It does not exceed AMA limits.

Fuel - Senior Pattern Association standard has become Morgan Fuel's 30% Heli. The oils are a bit lower viscosity than regular fuels. They are 100% synthetic. They are designed to handle the higher temps which a heli engine experiences. We have found that our engines run noticeably cooler and live lots longer. My current OS91 pumper is preparing for its fourth season. It probably has 5-600 flights with only an occasional plug (OS-F) and valve check.

Steve Byrum

2006 SPA ELECTION BALLOT

(All 2005 Officers have agreed to serve during 2006, if desired)
Please indicate your preference and mail in SASE with 2006 dues.

| | | |
|-----------|------------------------|----------------|
| President | Bruce Underwood _____ | Write-in _____ |
| Vice-Pres | Scott Sappington _____ | Write-in _____ |
| Sec/Tres | Steve Byrum _____ | Write-in _____ |

————— (Please clip and mail with dues soon as possible) —————



The sign to the left is oftentime the most welcome addition to contest preparation as its' viewed by a first-time visitor to an SPA contest site!

(Isn't it a consoling sight to see such a sign posted a good distance to an unfamiliar field assuring you're on the right road to the contest field)



CSP COMMENTS

from

Jamie Strong

(Chairman—Special Projects)

Well another wonderful SPA season is drawing to a close, and I think it was the best year yet.

Haven't tallied the pilot totals for the year yet with Cullmans makeup Oct 8th and 9th, but at this point it looks as if another attendance record will be broken once again. Competition was tight throughout the year with pilots skills improving with every contest.

The new shootout format with each classes top two points leaders flying it off for a last chance to beat the top seed was just Fantastic. Three of the four classes top points flyer for the year fell second to the runnerup. The contenders really put on the best flying I've seen for one round that I've witnessed for the whole year. It was fun to see each classes involvement in this type of intense competition.

As I've said many times over, its been a real pleasure to have had the opportunity to have shared this year with each and everyone of you fellows, and to be able to call you fellows friends, you're the best.

What's a Friend? Well, A friend seems to always Multiply your joys and divide your sorrows.

Thanks Guys, *Jamie Strong*

CHRISTMAS IN DIXIE

We're going to try a *Christmas In Dixie* Swap meet and *fly-in* in Cullman on Saturday December 3rd. Plans are to have our BOD meeting at Pyramid hobby shop (Sids) at 10AM sharp, (Alls Invited). Any discussion of bylaws etc will be on the floor, most everything will remain the same for the 06 season but all inputs are welcome. Bring your year old or older equipment you're wanting to sell off and do it here. Mainly it'll be a fun filled day of shooting the bull and flying.

With December being a very busy month for most, it'll be a great time to reminisce and share what has been a wonderful year for the SPA and give thanks to our Lord for the blessings of friendships and times we share.

Thanks for the Memories,
Jamie Strong

(Steve Byrum—Cullman Aeromodeller CD added:)

Note the Christmas in Dixie will be held at our Childhaven Field on the north side of town. I told Jamie about this. Sid and I thought this would be good because few club members use it. The runway is better. It's only about a mile from Sid's shop if the weather is bad. We may also get some promo value out of it by being more accessible to the public at that time of year.

(Editor note)..Jamie says flyers for the event will be mailed notifying all of the location, schedule, etc.

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

