



The *SENIOR PATTERN ASSOCIATION*

Official S I G (Special Interest Group) of AMA

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

SPA NEWSLETTER

JULY/AUGUST 2007

SENIOR PATTERN PILOTS make SMOOTH PASSES !

CONTEST REPORTS—2007 SEASON UNDERWAY !!

1st SERMA SPA “Invitational”.....Pages 2,3,4
HOTLANTA 2007.....another “HOOT”Pages 5 & 6
2007 Season POINTS-STANDINGS.....Page 6
CULLMAN field “upgrades”.....Page 7

OFFICERS

Bruce Underwood—
Pres.

Scott Sappington-
Vice President

Steve Byrum-
Sec/Tres

MICKY WALKER-
Founder Emeritus

Ed Hartley-
Webmaster

Jamie Strong-
Chair Special Projects

Keith Watson-
Appointed

SPA website is:

www.seniorpattern.com



Join our Discussion list from within the webpage or inform any officer and we'll "sign you up". It's like a gigantic Mailing-list, but at NO CHARGE. A service to membership and potentials from SPA.



From the President-Bruce Underwood

Guntersville, AL.....I can't think of anything I'd rather be doing than flying SPA Precision Aerobatics with the "finest, most fun-to-be-around folks" on this good Earth. We were LATE with our 2007 season start due to circumstances but this season has "hit-the-ground-rolling" to coin an old phrase used by my ole Uncle Nathan. There was a photo of the torn-up asphalt that used to be the Cullman field in this publication last month, the reason the "opener" was cancelled.

When the CD for the 2nd event said "no contest"....that's when the SERMA contingent of 5 active members enlisted the aid of SEC/TRES Steve and put together the "season-opener" at SERMA (Suckegg Road Model Airfield) here in Guntersville, AL. The CHIEF smiled on us all way through the week-end with just light winds and perfect weather. The SERMA field is just ideal for practice but lacks a firm foundation in event of inclement rainy weather. It rained .38 of an inch the Wednesday prior to the contest. An ideal amount at the ideal time. Details of the hugely successful event are included in this edition.

Remaining 2007 Contest Schedule (A possible TREAT to be added in October-Pg 7)

Asheville N.C. July 14 & 15.....Duane Wilson, CD
Andersonville, GA July 28 & 29.....Scott Sappington, CD
Prattville,AL August 18 & 19.....Jamie Strong, CD
Knoxville,TN (MASTERS) Sept. 15 & 16.....Ed Hartley, CD

Chances are, if according to past years, you'll receive a mailed flyer for each of the meets from the CD/sponsoring club about 30 days prior to contest. See website for later details regarding each.

New Website: WWW.topnotchtrophies.net
2044 O'Brig Avenue—Guntersville, AL 35976



(256) 582-0606

SCREENPRINTING
Trophies-Plaques
Banners—Signs
Embroidery
Trophies for ALL events

Visit our website or e-mail us
Cass Underwood
topnotchtrophies@bellsouth.net

SERMA - SUPER

Guntersville, Alabama May 19 & 20, 2007

What a SUPER weekend it was for SPA pilots who "burned-holes-in-the-sky" over SERMA here. All of the 27 flyers, friends and family now know and understand the true story behind the name SERMA (Suckegg Road Model Airfield) for it was delivered as a sort of history lesson....just prior to the Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation and our National Anthem by Lee Ann Rimes. This was "prelim" to the Pilots briefing Saturday morning.

Some pilots arrived on Thursday, most all on Friday where some 35 folks consumed the better part of 4 tasty smoked Boston Butts with all the trimmings provided by Bill Collins, Sr. and Jr. of Collins' Auto Parts. RV's, Tents and other camping-like vehicles lined the allocated region from about mid-day Friday til conclusion. Saturday morning, the winds of Friday diminished to a steady 5 to 10 from the North and right down the runway, described by many as "just the right speed". We never failed to thank the Chief for the good shower on Wednesday and the comfy low humidity throughout the entire weekend. As advertised, flying started promptly at 9:30 AM and 4 rounds pushed a 6 PM departure for the Outlaw Steakhouse and a Saturday night banquet, fellowship and a good program. 42 attended the Saturday night gathering which saw special awards to locals Bob Wilkes and Wendell Cornelius for their excellent prep of the field. Steve Vergamini of Greensboro, NC received a special award

for "furtherest travel". A special upright desk stand of walnut and GOLD, with a genuine Scribes' pen was given CD Steve Byrum for his tireless duties performed. A beautiful evening indeed.

Sunday, as advertised, flying started promptly at 9:30 AM. two terrific rounds with conclusion about 1:15 PM with a combo "judged and announced" performance by Mr. Ed Hartley for the spectators and family friends. Hosts Cass Underwood and Bill Collins presented 27 plaques.....YES, every pilot received a permanent memento for his constant reminder of the fun and fellowship at the 1st SERMA SPA Invitational. (ALL RC flyers were invited). A pewter replica of a Bar-B-Q cooker went to Bill Collins for his excellent food preparation. The word of the weekend was "THANKFULNESS"....from the SERMA group of 5 + Steve to the participants which was the identical number at the "best attended contest of the 2006 season". 2007's contest season is "off and running" now with one of the finest contests I have ever had the honor of co-CDing. Not one, no not one single negative was voiced, what a delightful way to kick-off a contest season. Cass U., the Host and initiator of the event, shared the gratuities as he presented the trophies and MC'd the concluding session. (Remember that DR beauty in the last newsletter owned by Mr. John Baxter.....??) It was chosen "most beautiful bird" by pilots at SERMA and earned John a nice award.

I said "co-CD'd in the paragraph above, Steve Byrum was OFFICIAL CD. It was Steve that obtained the emergency "last minute" AMA Sanction for the event. He removed himself from competition and did ALL the punctual scoring himself.



If anyone was "deserving" of a golden Scribes' desk-stand, it is Steve.

After "postponement" of the initial contest of the 2007 season, then the THREAT of cancellation of the 2nd one....it was EVIDENT that SPA flyers were ready for "judged" competition flying. This was confirmed by the excellent attendance at SERMA.

This edition of the newsletter contains loads of results, contest photos and a "matrix" of what airplanes, engines, props and fuel were used by the pilots. Info of this nature has been requested by readers so "request" is honored in this issue.

Ernestly as I can put it "thank you" for flying with us at SERMA.

Bruce.....SPA 15

SERMA INVITATIONAL - Guntersville, AL May 19 & 20, 2007

SPA NOVICE

1. Chris Gregory Resaca, GA	4000 13/9 prop	A-6 INTRUDER – SAITO .90 4S 15% Cool Power
2. Mike Robinson Dalton, GA	3864 13.5/9	A-6 INTRUDER – OS 91 P 25% Cool Power
3. Duane Wilson Asheville, NC	3702 14/8	KING ALTAIR – OS 91 4S 30% Heli Cool Power
4. Don Eiler Knoxville, TN	3599 13/8 APC	A-6 INTRUDER – OS .91 4S Wildcat 15%
5. Sammy Hamrick Dalton, GA	3461A-6 13/9	INTRUDER – Saito .90 4S 15% Cool Power
6. Doug Whitaker Morristown, TN	3454 12/8	JAVELIN - .70 OS 4S Wildcat 15%
7. Steve Vergamini Greensboro, NC	3258 12/8	SUNFLI III - OS .91 4S 25% Cool Power
8. Les Smith Corinth, MS	3192 11.5/8	SUPER DUCK – Webra BH 60 2S Powermaster 15%
9. Danny Dougherty Powder Springs, GA	3189.7 11/8 APC	CUTLASS Super Tigre .60 2S 15% Omega
10. Curtis Comer Huntsville, AL	3189.3 11.5/7 APC	KILLER KAOS Thunder tiger .61 2S Wildcat 10%
11. Bob Wetzal Temple, GA	3152 12/5	MIDWEST AEROBAT .46AX OS 10% OMEGA

SPORTSMAN

1. Jim Rogers Marietta, GA	3998 13.5/9	DADDY RABBIT – OS .91 4S 30% Heli
2. John Baxter Dallas, GA	3934 13/8	DADDY RABBIT – OS .91 4S 30% Heli
3. Joe Holton Acworth, GA	3894 13/8 APC	DADDY RABBIT – OS .91 4S 30% Heli
4. Wendell Cornelius Guntersville, AL	3804 13.5/9	DADDY RABBIT – OS .91 4S 30% Heli
5. Philip Spelt Oliver Spr, TN	3738 13/8 APC	PANZER D-20 OS .91 P 4S 25% Cool Power
6. Jim Slocum Temple, GA	3648 13/8	DADDY RABBIT – OS .91 4S 30% Heli
7. Berry Roper Smyrna, GA	3177 13/8 APC	SUPER KAOS OS .91 4S 30% Heli

EXPERT

1. Randy Roberts Cullman, AL	4000	CURARE OS 91 4S 13.5/9 APC 30% Heli
2. Jamie Strong Prattville, AL	3808	DADDY RABBIT OS .91 4S 13.5/9 APC 30% Heli
3. Robbie Walker Cullman, AL	3383	CURARE OS .91 4S 13.5/9 APC 30% Heli
4. Scott Sappington Dallas, GA	3242	DADDY RABBIT OS .91 4S 13/8 APC 30% Heli
5. Cass Underwood Guntersville, AL	2000	TIGER TAIL OS 91 4S 13.5/9 APC 25% Cool Power

SENIOR EXPERT

1. Ed Hartley Knoxville, TN	4000	DADDY RABBIT OS .91 4S 13/8 25% Cool Power
2. Marty Barry Hiawassee, GA	3921	COMPENSATOR YS Heli .61 2S 12/7 15% Cool Power
3. Dennis Hunt Oak Ridge, TN	3680	DADDY RABBIT OS .91 4S 13/9 25% Cool Power
4. Mickey Walker Kennesaw, GA	3276	DIRTY BIRDY Thunder T .60 2S 11/8 15% Omega

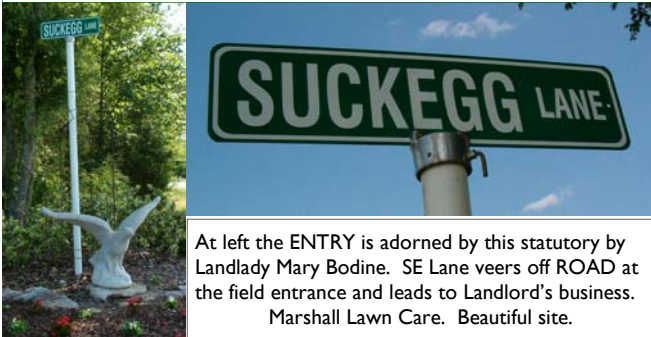


ALL pilots received awards to remember the delightful week-end. Not one single crash nor mid-air. Comfy temperatures prevailed with highs in the upper 70's on Saturday and 82 degrees on Sunday. Winds 5 to 10 from North "right down the runway".



**25 of 27 at SERMA
May 19, 2007**

SERMA PHOTO-PHUN



At left the ENTRY is adorned by this statuary by Landlady Mary Bodine. SE Lane veers off ROAD at the field entrance and leads to Landlord's business. Marshall Lawn Care. Beautiful site.



Special awards to Steve Vergamini for "LONGEST TRAVEL" and John Baxters' Daddy-Rabbit voted "PRETTIEST BIRD"



OLD GLORY flew all weekend, to which event opening pledged "Allegiance" and was saluted while Lee Ann Rimes sang our National Anthem. Just barely enough wind to initiate a "wave". It was 5 to 10 MPH.



One of the highlights of the Saturday night gathering at OUTLAW STEAKHOUSE was celebrating Debbie's birthday with song, cake and ice cream. This is Mrs. John Baxter, whose hubby CD's the Hotlanta contest.



Above is Les Smith from Corinth, Mississippi. First contestant from that state in a long time. Les not only flew competition but was tremendous "judge" for all classes. Much experience.

NOVICE WINNERS

Chris Gregory Mike Robinson Duane Wilson Don Eiler



SPORTSMAN

Jim Rogers John Baxter Joe Holton



EXPERT

Randy Roberts Robbie Walker Jamie Strong Scott Sappington



SENIOR EXPERT

Ed Hartley Marty Barry Dennis Hunt



It was a genuine JOY having all at SERMA for the "KICK-OFF" to the 2007 SPA contest season. Let's hope this is just the "beginning" of a terrific year of "flyin fun and fellowship" Thanks much to all who came and was a part of this WONDERFUL weekend.

HOTLANTA "HOOT"

Sun. June 10, 2007.....Hotlanta's SPA contest this weekend was, as implied by the Caption, a HOOT!

Sometimes you wonder...."how can this PCMA club have as good a contest as they have had in the past?" In keeping with the PCMA tradition....this years' was really good. CD John Baxter and staff left nothing undone to entertain and delight the 25 pilots, families and friends.

Several models collided with "terra-firma".....however none the result of "mid-air". One, a tree grabbed, another actually broke an elevator push-rod in flight, a couple overshooting the landing area and one was just unknown, Jerry Blacks' DB (Dirty Birdy no. one)...just dived on its' own to the earth. All for the most part, had "back-ups" or you know the spirit of SPA flyers, had the use of a Buddies' bird. You can't beat the "helpfulness" of SPA pilots, confirmed by Rich Ernst of Florida before the gathering at the awards ceremony.

Baxter announced flying to begin at a specified time each morning...and it DID....an airplane was in the air at THAT announced time....four rounds in a good deal of wind on Saturday and two on Sunday with winds diminished.

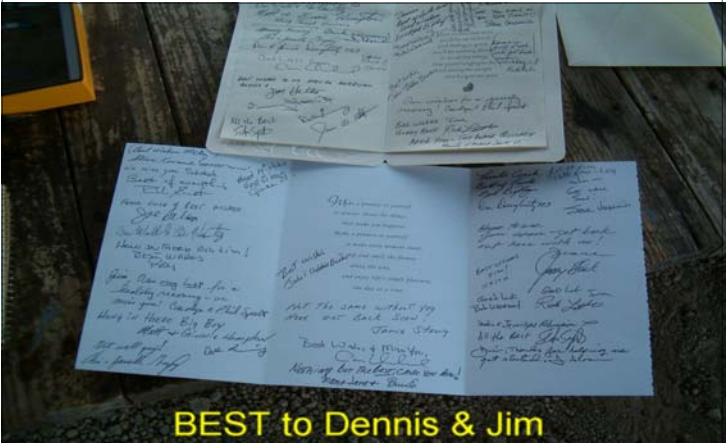
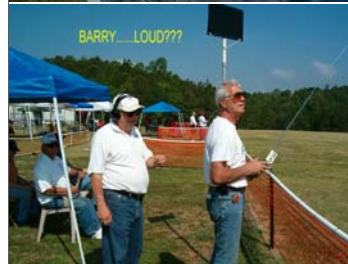
The luckiest guy at the shindig found out his good fortune Saturday night at the banquet at EL NOPAL, when Mr. Jim Slocum won the new SPEKTRUM radio at the raffle drawing. Shortly after the raffle came the drawing from only the pre-registers for the deluxe Dremel accessory set.....guess who? Jim Slocum again! Wow, what good fortune. We were all proud for Jim and congratulated him on the winnings. Jerry Black of Johnson City, TN won a 20.00 certificate for servo leads donated by Scott Anderson. Joe Holton won the PCMA shirt and caps went to Matt Hampton, Mike Robinson and Scott Sappington.

All the attendees issued their "best wishes" to Dennis Hunt and Jim Ivey, both having health problems preventing their attendance. Cards with signatures of all were sent each by CD Baxter letting them know how much they were loved and missed.

Darren Lanning of Dalton, GA entered his very first contest at this event. He's gonna be a good one.

One of the most interesting sidelights of the event was the EXACT tie in Round 3 of the SPORTSMAN class. Scorekeepers Tracey and Christina Gibson double-checked raw scores and both Chris Gregory and Joe Holton were awarded 1000 points for the round. This doesn't happen often.

PCMA, thanks for a tremendous contest.....like the comedian Cable Guy



HOTLANTA 2007 RESULTS

NOVICE

- 1. 3997 Mike Robinson
- 2. 3949 Sammy Hamrick
- 3. 3740 Rich Ernst
- 4. 3674 Steve Vergamini
- 5. 3565 Bob Wetzel
- 6. 3466 Dan Dougherty
- 7. 3435 Darren Lanning
- 8. 3411 Matt Hampton
- 9. 207 Marc Sobolewski

SPORTSMAN

- 1. 4000 Chris Gregory
- 2. 3922 Joe Holton
- 3. 3835 John Baxter
- 4. 3640 Phil Spelt
- 5. 3522 Jim Slocum
- 6. 3284 Berry Roper
- 7. 1961 Scott Anderson

EXPERT

- 1. 4000 Cass Underwood
- 2. 3951 Jamie Strong
- 3. 3860 Jerry Black
- 4. 3367 Scott Sappington

SENIOR EXPERT

- 1. 4000 Bruce Underwood
- 2. 3855 Ed Hartley
- 3. 3664 Marty Barry
- 4. 3423 Keith Watson
- 5. 3340 Mickey Walker



2007 Points Standings Jamie Strong—CSP

These standings through HOTLANTA contest. Good luck to all pilots for the remainder of the season. Some very nice awards will be presented to season points CHAMPS at the MASTERS in Sept.

NOVICE

- M. Robinson 26
- S. Hamrick 18
- D. Wilson 11
- S. Vergamini 11
- D. Eiler 9
- R. Ernst 9
- D. Dougherty 5
- D. Whitaker 5
- B. Wetzel 5
- L. Smith 3
- D. Lanning 2
- C. Comer 1
- M. Hampton 1
- M. Sobolewski 0

EXPERT

- J. Strong 13
- R. Roberts 9
- C. Underwood 9
- R. Walker 5
- S. Sappington 5
- J. Black 4

SR. EXPERT

- E. Hartley 15
- M. Barry 11
- B. Underwood 9
- D. Hunt 4
- M. Walker 3
- K. Watson 3

SPORTSMAN

- J. Baxter 16
- J. Holton 16
- J. Rogers 11
- C. Gregory 11
- P. Spelt 8
- W. Cornelius 5
- J. Slocum 4
- B. Roper 1



S.



Mike Miller and his new KAOS to the left. Look for this one soon.

-0-

A member sent pix to right with text saying: "an SPA member on way to his club-meeting.



<http://go.fuapie.hu>



SEC/TRES STEVE BYRUM says:
Look at our progress on
the CULLMAN field !

We have all come to know and love the Cullman ramp. This is the easiest 10 take off in pattern. Just drive straight and apply throttle. The ramp will put you in the air at a perfect angle, and the judges are SO impressed with your skill.



Well, you can all forget that. Cullman Aeromodelers have spent most of \$10,000 this Spring, finally making much needed repairs to our primary flying site. At 7:00 AM on April 21, instead of making final preparations for the SPA season opener, this was going on in Cullman.



By the next day....we had:



Looks like a farmer would prepare his future field for planting of his prized crop, doesn't it.....but.....read on:

Several work days were held, and a LOT of rocks were removed. More dirt was added over Memorial Day weekend, and a contractor again graded the field. We are most fortunate that we have a diverse membership. One of our members works for a company which builds industrial sites and highways. As things worked out, they are working on a site about five miles from our field. Our member arranged for a grader and operator to spend some time on our runway when it was not needed at the site. The result :



We bought 90 rolls of sod 100 feet long. We were able to surface a runway 60 x 460, a pit area and pilots' boxes 40 x 110 and a spectator area 40 x 50 in front of our sunshade. We have also graded and expanded our parking lot. The unsodded areas have been seeded in preparation for today's rain which actually happened. We now have:



Lots of rolling and mowing remain to be done. We expect to begin flying off the new runway about July 1st. Our first planned event will be an SPA Trick or Treat to be held Oct 27 and 28. More details will follow. STEVE

(Editor Note)....This project has been "a long-time coming". But is a terrific "step in the right direction" for the Cullman Aeromodelers. That event Steve refers to above, is, IMHO going to be more of a TREAT...and that's no trick!

Steve and the group were simply "heartbroken" when the field had not been prepared for the season opening SPA contest event this season.....but, based on the photos and the text in this story, it's going to be well worth the wait to fly off this renovated and improved field in Cullman. Should you desire to e-mail Steve a remark or two regarding this excellent story, his e-mail address is:

spbyrum@hiwaay.net

Visit

our

website

at

www.seniorpattern.com

SENIOR PATTERN ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____ Phone () _____

City-State-Zip _____

AMA Number _____ Club Affiliation _____

Membership dues \$20. Make check payable to **SENIOR PATTERN ASSOCIATION**

Mail to:

Steve Byrum

1326 3rd St. SE

Cullman, Alabama 35055

**Bruce Underwood
1412 Patterson St.
Guntersville, AL 35976**

