



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

SEPT/OCT 2007

SENIOR PATTERN PILOTS make SMOOTH PASSES !

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Bruce Underwood—
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Scott Sappington—
Vice President

Steve Byrum—
Sec/Tres

MICKY WALKER—
Founder Emeritus

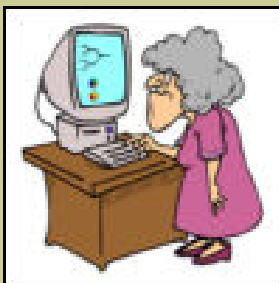
Ed Hartley—
Webmaster

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.



IN LOVING MEMORY

James Arnold Ivey, Jr.

(August 10, 1940 - July 17, 2007)

Mr. James Arnold Ivey, Jr., age 66, of Buchanan, GA formerly of Mableton passed away Tues. July 17, 2007. Mr. Ivey was born in Bradley County, Tennessee on August 10, 1940. Mr. Ivey was a retired X-Ray machine technician.

Survivors include his wife, Frances Victoria Medlock Ivey of Buchanan; two daughters and sons-in-law, Kecia and Jack Morton of Douglasville and Lisa and David Kesler Douglasville; one son and daughter-in-law, James Arnold and Daphne Ivey of Hiram; one sister, Judith Hunter of Rossville; eight grandchildren; and a number of other relatives. Funeral service was conducted Thursday, July 19, 2007 at 4:00 P.M. from Hutcheson's Memorial Chapel with Dr. Thomas Ward officiating. Music was by Rev. Buddy Gentry.

POINTS STANDINGS THRU HODGES

NOVICE		SPORTSMAN	
1. Mike Robinson	63	1. Chris Gregory	39
2. Don Eiler	28	2. Jim Rogers	27
3. Duane Wilson	22	3. John Baxter	22
4. Rich Ernst	19	4. Joe Holton	16
4. Karl Gerth	19	5. Phil Spelt	12
EXPERT		SENIOR EXPERT	
1. Jamie Strong	29	1. Bruce Underwood	31
2. Cass Underwood	25	2. Ed Hartley	26
3. Jerry Black	18	3. Mickey Walker	12
4. Randy Roberts	15	4. Marty Barry	11
5. Scott Sappington	11	5. Dennis Hunt	6
		5. Keith Watson	6

The SEASON POINTS Championship "fly-offs" at the MASTERS in September are nearing the "short rows". Perhaps the HIGHLIGHT of the entire season are the "fly-offs".

This issue a bit early due to extensive Contest coverage and FLYER included for the MASTERS. Next issue will contain coverage of the Prattville, AL contest and the MASTERS in September with loads of results, photos, columns, etc.

KNOXVILLE, TN (MASTERS) Sept. 15 & 16
DENNIS HUNT CD

Ed Hartley & Phil Spelt—Assistants

CULLMAN, AL.....Oct. 27 & 28
This is the TREAT (HALLOWEEN) in the preceding issue. It's official now and will be flown off the newly renovated BURDESHAW field in Cullman.
STEVE BYRUM CD

-0-

Webmaster Ed has arranged a "link" for joining or leaving our SPA Discussion List for awhile on the opening page of the website.

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



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Cass Underwood
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Gadsden Alabama!
June 24, 2007

Heat and warm weather is expected with it officially Summer-time. It was evident here....but in NO way did it prevent 22 wonderful SPA RC Pilots from a traditional week-end of precision aerobatic flying, fun and fellowship.

Gadsden was a SPECIAL occasion, when at the conclusion of Round 3 on Saturday afternoon, all pilots and their families, helpers and Gadsden RC Flyers and numerous spectators gathered in front of the clubhouse at Kidd Field to honor Mr. Dennis Hunt of Oak Ridge, TN who flew and participated in the contest on his 80th Birthday. What a pleasure to participate in this event, especially with the health problems Dennis has endured. Heart surgery and stomach removal in just the past few weeks. He is a SPECIAL individual! (I hear the chorus of "AMENS" from the membership reading this right this instant). Hunt was so humble when we in unison sang "Happy Birthday" and he responded with tears of joy and remarked "these people, right here, are the finest people I have ever known". Dennis had expressed a desire to "be flying SPA competition on his 80th birthday"....that desire became REAL in Gadsden on June 23, 2007. What a boon this fellow has been to SPA since its' inception. Doesn't it make you swell up with pride when you exclaim to someone, "I am in SPA and so is Mr. Dennis Hunt". This "party" was indeed the highlight of the week-end and Dennis responded like he always does, by sharing.....he sliced the cake and had all that wanted to, to sample it on the spot.

Jack Stephens, Richard Brooks, Fred Steward, the lovely ladies and other gents of the Gadsden RC Flyers tended all host chores nicely. Steve Byrum CD, did his terrific job of keeping things rolling. He programmed the flight order, appointed judges, input

scores, judged some himself, erected and took down judges tents. How could we exist without him? Kudos again, Steve. 22 pilots contested with 6 full rounds, 4 on Saturday and two on Sunday with awards and dismissal by 1PM CDT. Very orderly.

There were a couple of problems with runways overshot, engines quitting, stabs cracking due to G forces, etc. but nothing really critical. Man, what competition with two classes coming down to the very last round to determine a winner. Sportsman and Expert winners were decided by Round 6. Now, this kind of competition is exciting.

The Gadsden Times daily newspaper ran a terrific story in its' Thursday or Friday edition detailing the contest and as a result there must have been in excess of 200 spectators who attended just to view the flying on Saturday. Loads of questions regarding SPA airplanes, the organization, etc. were answered by any and all members to the guests. A reporter did a feature story on Saturday with some very nice pictures in the big Sunday morning edition. The Friday edition contained an excellent story captioned GADSDEN RC FLYERS HOST CHAMPIONSHIP FOR OLDER MODEL PLANES, Mr. Richard Brooks was pictured in a close up with one of his models and a nice shot of the field and clubhouse. The text of the article was "super". Sunday's edition carried a nice story titled MODEL ENTHUSIASTS ENJOY CLASSICS COMPETITION. The reporter interviewed a number of pilots on the scene including one with Michael Stern from London, England, Grandson of Mr. Dennis Hunt who attended to support his Grandfather in the event. This story contained a huge photo of Jim Slocum flying and John Baxter calling for him. Another of Curtis Comer carrying a Tiger Tail to the runway for a flight on Saturday. I have both editions hoping to submit to AMA for inclusion with our SIG designation in 2008 as AMA loves publicity such as this for RC Model Aviation.

Loads of fun came prior to the awards with the drawing for the raffle prizes. Mrs. Bob Wetzel was kind enough to draw each winning ticket, unable to view the box but reaching for its' contents from beneath it. (Steve held it over her head).

Gosh, what a short week-end..time zips when you're having fun and Gadsden RC FLYERS, this was a "dandy". President Jack Stephens told your President and PIO, "we hope to be on your list of contest sites in 2008".

Those of you reading this and missed the event.....Mr. Stephens said he belongs to the SPA Discussion List and wants you all to know we appreciate your attendance and keeps up with the pilots of our group that ailing...."you are in our prayers" he concluded.

It was a thrill to have Mr. & Mrs. Don Kidd, for whom the Gadsden field is named (they owned the site for 33 years before selling a year or so ago) visiting and reliving "old times" with us there.

Thanks GRCF.....we genuinely appreciate the "great times" !!



GADSDEN SPA CHMPIONSIPS - 2007

JUNE 23 & 24, 2007

NOVICE

- | | | |
|---------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. 3987 | Mike Robinson | Dalton, GA |
| 2. 3861 | Karl Gerth | Oak Ridge, TN |
| 3. 3766 | Don Eiler | Knoxville, TN |
| 4. 3650 | Matt Hampton | Marietta, GA |
| 5. 3513 | Dave Johnson | Soddy Daisy, TN |
| 6. 3382 | Bob Wetzel | Temple, GA |
| 7. 3254 | Curtis Comer | Huntsville, AL |
| 8. 2962 | Danny Dougherty | Powder Springs, GA |

SPORTSMAN

- | | | |
|---------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1. 3989 | Chris Gregory | Resaca, GA |
| 2. 3934 | Jim Rogers | Marietta, GA |
| 3. 3575 | John Baxter | Dallas, GA |
| 4. 3360 | Bob Bixby | Acworth, GA |
| 5. 3193 | Jim Slocum | Temple, Ga |
| 6. 2942 | Phillip Spelt | Oliver Springs, TN |

EXPERT

- | | | |
|---------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. 4000 | Jerry Black | Jonesboro, TN |
| 2. 3963 | Cass Underwood | Guntersville, AL |
| 3. 3636 | Jamie Strong | Prattville, AL |
| 4. 3198 | Scott Sappington | Dallas, GA |

SENIOR EXPERT

- | | | |
|---------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. 4000 | Bruce Underwood | Guntersville, AL |
| 2. 3829 | Ed Hartley | Knoxville, TN |
| 3. 3336 | Mickey Walker | Kennesaw, GA |
| 4. 3179 | Dennis Hunt | Oak Ridge, TN |

Just want to thank you and your group of SPA Flyers for making things happen at Gadsden. It was certainly good to see you flying at Kidd Field again. Seemed like old times. I can see where the SPA Flyers are a good group to be around. We certainly appreciate their generosity.

Our club got three prospects for new members and hopefully one or two of them will join the club.

Our efforts and the SPA members helped our club "kitty" by \$740.00, which is not bad. We just want you to know that we appreciate all of you.

Thanks, Richard Brooks

The above note was E-Mail from Mr. Brooks "Jack-of-all-trades" in the Gadsden RC club. A welcome note, indeed.



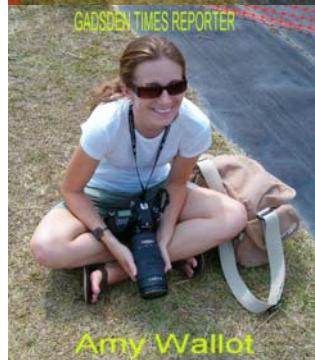
Pledge of Allegiance and Anthem opened festivities



Jerry Black lost a Dirty-Birdy due to radio failure in Hotanta .worked tirelessly to finish this one for Gadsden. Great win as result.



Isn't this a GREAT shot. These two have had lots of companionship as a result of the model airplane hobby mutual interest !



THE GADSDEN TIMES daily newspaper did two features on the contest and result was a huge number of spectators attending, especially on Saturday all day.

The SPA camera caught reporter AMY during a break between rounds of competition. She was one of two reporters dispatched by the editor to cover the event.

Excellent PR by GRCF.



The photo to left was just before the "HAPPY B-Day" chorus from all the attendees.

What a JOY, to be flying SPA on 80th birthday.

After the song Dennis sliced his cake and shared with all.

LAND OF THE SKY..A TREAT FOR THE EYE !!

The CHIEF has made a lot of wonderful geography in this good ole USA but some of his most beautiful works has to be.....the Asheville, NC area. Nestled in and near the Great Smoky Mountains, the area is a masterpiece and the scene from the flying field..... centerfold.

The SPA Fun and Fellowship you read about in the July edition of Model Aviation by Duane was evidenced totally this weekend of July 14 & 15, 2007. With assistance from the loyal and hard-working ABA (Asheville-Buncombe Aeromodelers) and SPA Boardmembers and members, this weekend was a treasure.

The tradition of "help your' buddy" from SPA pilots couldn't have been more evident than for SPA President and contest veteran, Bruce Underwood who through force-of-habit fueled up on Saturday morning for Round No. 1.....but fueled up another airplane for Duane and, recalling fueling up an airplane, proceeded to attempt a take-off with his TIGERTAIL with the engine running only on the residue left in the tank from Thursday practice....the engine quit just as it lifted off. A quick eyeing revealed a leaky-looking pump slug seal, that was the initial diagnosis of the problem. Jerry Black loaned his nice Dirty-Birdy for that round which was "zeroed" but what a thrill flying Blacks' DB. Still assuming the original problem, Ed Hartley loaned his Daddy-Rabbit back up after programming his neat radio to operate on Underwoods' Mode II. Hartley was in the process of "pulling" his engine to place in Underwood's airplane when the "fogeish" error was discovered while attempting to de-fuel. NOTHING to de-fuel! Underwood spent most of the next couple of hours bending over for a SKITB from all he encountered. But, this is the kind of camaraderie amongst SPA modelers and friends. It was the late Alabama Coach Bear Bryant who used to say, "be kind to your opponents, for "what goes around comes around"! **It does and will.**

In one of the photos Dan Dougherty is shown presenting Mrs. Penny Wilson a dozen red roses. Here's why. Friday afternoon Ed Hartley volunteered to fly his camera-equipped electric airplane over the area where Duane's King Altair is supposedly lodged in a tree or somewhere. He took Duane WAY down below the mountaintop runway and they stayed and stayed and stayed shooting pics of the area.....all the while Duane was to have been home helping Penny prepare for the Friday night feast at the Wilson home. Needless to say, when he arrived much later than planned and Penny had done the prep for the feast, **alone**, he was given a thorough "wife-scolld". Someone in the party suggested he get her a dozen roses to "make amends". He was so busy he overlooked this duty, so "along came Dougherty".....and thought to run by the florist department of the variety store and make the purchase, subsequently, the presentation. I was there to catch it on camera. Penny laughingly blushed a bit and in thanking Dan said "Dan is the Prince, Duane, the Smuck" What a gesture. Dandy Dan did it. Whatta guy.

Will and Debbie Hicks of Will's Hobby & CB Shop did Yeoman's duty as announcer, computer scorer and Jacks and Jills of all trades and masters of them. Will has a huge trailer of contest supplies pictured in the photo section. His website is: willshobbies.com and toll-free number 800-313-TECH (8324).

Prior to the awards came the raffle....here are the lucky winners. The SPEKTRUM radio was won by Doug Wheeler, the King Altair kit donated by Jeff Petroski of Home & Hobby goes to Jerry Lyn Robinson (Mrs. Mike), the electric battery packs to Bruce Underwood and Dave Bowman.

Two new members joined SPA this weekend, welcome to William G. (BILL) Dodge of Oak Ridge, TN and Brian Stevens of Concord, NC. There were loads of spectators visiting, viewing, shooting pictures, asking questions and indicating a desire to join our association. Most a result of Duane's story in Model Aviation.

Look what Jamie Strong (who served as Chief Judge) posted on the Discussion List: *What De Wayne may have lacked in contest skills, certainly made up for with hospitality. He and Penny knocked themselves out again. Its hard to imagine all the prep work and extra \$'s it takes to put one of these things on, especially the Friday stuff that comes out of pocket that doesn't come out of contest funds.. Thank's for the great timeand you'll be a Pro in no time.*

ABA, Will, Duane and others, thanks for that North Carolina hospitality. GREAT JOB.

SPA PIO



Looking to the SOUTH from flying area



Will & Debbie Hicks and trailer loaded with supplies. Debbie did scorekeeping, Will the announcer, etc.



Bill Dodge

Brian Stevens

ASHEVILLE RESULTS

July 14 & 15, 2007

NOVICE

1. 4000 Mike Robinson Dalton, GA
2. 3855 Don Eiler Knoxville, TN
3. 3796 Karl Gerth Oak Ridge, TN
4. 3735 Vic Koenig Kingsport, TN
5. 3567 Mike Miller Knoxville, TN
6. 3561 Duane Wilson Asheville, NC
7. 3383 Rhea Starnes Kingsport, TN
8. 3368 Carter Pounders Asheville, NC
9. 3297 Dan Dougherty Powder Spg, GA

SPORTSMAN

1. 3964 Chris Gregory Resaca, GA
2. 3861 Bill Kite Kingsport, TN
3. 3757 Brian Stevens Concord, NC
4. 3750 Phil Spelt Knoxville, TN
5. 3730 Jim Rogers Marietta, GA
6. 3498 Bill Didge Knoxville, TN

EXPERT

1. 3967 Jerry Black Jonesboro, TN
2. 3953 Jamie Strong Prattville, AL

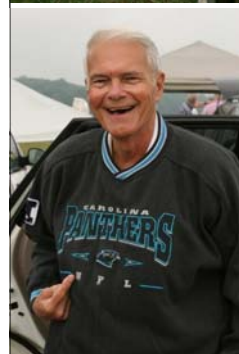
SENIOR EXPERT

1. 4000 Bruce Underwood Guntersville, AL
2. 3932 Ed Hartley Knoxville, TN
3. 3352 Dave Burton Bolivia, NC



The PRIMUS won by Carter Pounders last year

Donated by Jeff Petroski of Home & Hobby Solutions
E-Mail Jeff at: jjpetro@comporium.net



CD Duane says, Pres. shows allegiance with the North Carolina Jersey on at left.

-0-

At right is official LAND OF SKY chair for NOVICE JUDGES.



JUNIOR CHAIR for NOVICE JUDGE



We Knew You were coming.....so:

Duane & Penny



Friday night feast at Wilson' home.



Karl Gerth is SPA all the way.

Why waste a good label on an RC airplane

A new fashion !



FRANCES ROGERS

R
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JERRI LYN ROBINSON

1st HODGES HOBBIES SPA CHAMPS—July 28 & 29

You ever have a "dream" about the flying sights in Paradise? Chances are they are identical to Hodges' Hobbies site in Andersonville, GA.

On Friday afternoon upon arrival, Dan Dougherty was just outside the auto door and was the first to remark to the PIO "isn't this what you envision Heaven looking like"? From the opening remarks by CD Scott Sappington, the prayer by Chris Gregory, there was that feeling of "togetherness". Laughing about the heat of "Dawg Days" which is what one expects in the SW part of Georgia and the sharing of the OFF and SKINTASTIC and other repellents for containing the hungry gnats. Gregory remembered in his remarks to the "CHIEF" our dear friends Dennis Hunt and Joe Holton recuperating from illness and asked for consolation to the family of our departed comrade, Jim Ivey.

Scott Sappington CD of his initial event was assisted by a "team" of experienced personnel, take a gander at the photos to see Steve and Scott relieved of their scorekeeping chores by Jannell Gregory, Rebekah Walker and others. Rebekah celebrated birthday number 77 this week-end, sharing her cake with all on the scene, hustling to each flight line to "run" scores and then check for accuracy when Jannell keyed them in. What teamwork! Retired Georgia Coach Vince Dooley would love to see this kind of team play.

Duane Wilson posted this on the website next day (Copied & Pasted)
We held our own version of the "gnats" out at Hodges, but that's why bug spray was invented. Other than that, for those who weren't there, you missed a "modeler's dream"---an air-conditioned hobby shop totally dedicated to R/C within feet of the runway--models hanging from the ceiling to drool over--and "indoor plumbing". Steve Vergamini, Cass and I even took advantage of a garage on site--with electric power so models could be left assembled while they charged overnight--no models in the motel room!! Is that luxury or what??

Electrical outlets were even available outdoors so some of the canopies had electric fans!! We sure could get used to the facilities and amenities out there. For example the condition of the runway is rivaled only by Triple Tree, the Joe Nall site, (I love grass---it's softer and has some "give ' to it), and the A/C etc is easy to get used to TOO EASY too much of this would spoil us, and that wouldn't be good--we need to take this kind of luxury in small doses for our own good.

Part of what makes and keeps SPA so interesting is that new venues are mixed in with the familiar established sites, and each contest has it's own flavor. This meet was no exception--there was no PA system, (so we'd yell messages down the flight line; sometimes it worked, and sometimes the flight order or judges would be readjusted if people were "indisposed" at the time they are supposed to fly---remember there was a hobby shop on site).

There was no pilots meeting Sunday morning, (a first for me). Engines started up at 9AM after a groundswell of impatient pilots, (led by Bruce), started yelling "let's get going..."; everybody "assumed their positions", and we were "off like dirty shirts" as my dad used to say. To me, it is interesting to experience the different contests--- you're never quite sure what to expect. When Scott was asked about Saturday night dinner he said "what dinner" --- so that too was different. Scott did a great job with minimal help--several people, (as Bruce mentioned), pitched in to pick up score sheets, post scores, and as in Asheville two weeks earlier, Jamie did a great job of coordinating judging, (Asheville was good experience for him). In the end, as always, everything came together, and everybody had a great time.

At Friday practice, a "gremlin" caused Randy Roberts' radio to give up and he lost his lovely CURARE. Fellow clubmember Steve Byrum loaned Randy his airplane and Roberts' showed his appreciation by scoring higher than Byrum. (Some Buddy, huh Steve?)

Scott used "above bare expenses" to purchase a \$100.00 gift certificate from Hodges and a new OS 91 4S engine and at the awards a drawing was held to determine the winners from just the 21 pilots who paid entry and participated. Lucky Jim Slocum won the \$100.00 Gift Certificate and Les Smith the OS engine. Proud for you guys and congratulations.

Contestants and spectators alike just regretted the ending of this week-end for it was such a grand "get-together". I visited with many of the spectators, one from out of the US who learned of SPA via the stories in Model Aviation.

Scott & Crew, we're going to remember this week-end a long time just because of the GRAND facilities and that traditional SPA Contest fellowship. Many Thanks.



Noone asked about take-off directions with this almost SCALE-SIZE windvane.

Right above the HQ area used by officials.

NOVICE

1. 4000	Mike Robinson	Dalton, GA
2. 3849	Rich Ernst	Brooksville, FL
3. 3840	Duane Wilson	Asheville, NC
4. 3679	Matt Hampton	Marietta, GA
5. 3676	Steve Vergamini	Greensboro, NC
6. 3622	Bob Wetzel	Temple, GA
7. 3462	Les Smith	Corinth, MS
8. 3457	Dan Dougherty	Powder Spr., GA

SPORTSMAN

1. 4000	Chris Gregory	Resaca, GA
2. 3792	Jim Rogers	Marietta, GA
3. 3775	Richard Witt	Cullman, AL
4. 3530	Jim Slocum	Temple, GA

EXPERT

1. 4000	Cass Underwood	Guntersville, AL
2. 3944	Jamie Strong	Prattville, AL
3. 3853	Randy Roberts	Cullman AL
4. 3671	Scott Sappington	Dallas, GA
5. 3581	Robbie Walker	Cullman, AL
6. 3536	Steve Byrum	Cullman, AL

SENIOR EXPERT

1. 4000	Bruce Underwood	Guntersville, AL
2. 3668	Mickey Walker	Kennesaw, GA
3. 3617	Keith Watson	Marietta, GA



Plaque to Bill Davenport



Bill Davenport



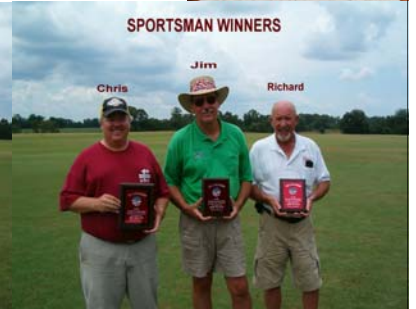
One of the "best-stocked" Hobby Shops in the country right on the flying sight. SPAers LOVED IT!



July 28, 2007 HODGES HOBBIES FIELD Andersonville, GA



Chief Judge Jamie kept things moving with judging assigns and shared his "secret" model airplane cleaning "stuff" pictured at left. Get it from your HONDA dealer. Makes his TWIN DR's really shine!



Randy Roberts flew Steve Byrum's CURARE after Friday afternoon disaster with his airplane.

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**

