



# 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**

**NOV/DEC 2008**

**SENIOR PATTERN PILOTS make SMOOTH PASSES !**

## OFFICERS

**Bruce Underwood**—  
Pres.

**Scott Sappington**-  
Vice President

**Mike Robinson**-  
Sec/Tres

**MICKEY WALKER**-  
Founder Emeritus

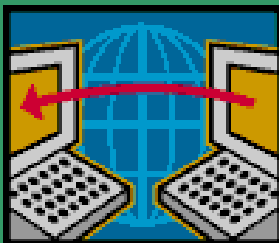
**Ed Hartley**-  
Webmaster

**Jamie Strong**-  
Chair Special Projects

**Keith Watson**-  
Appointed

SPA website is:

[www.seniorpattern.com](http://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.

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I want to remind everyone that it is time to pay your 2009 dues. Please fill in the form on the back of this newsletter and send them in right away. Make sure you fill in the form completely, so I can make sure I have the latest information. Your dues of \$20.00 does a lot of good in the promotion of the SPA way of flying. Of course it pays for the publication of the newsletters, but it also helps in the cost of our year end Masters Tournament and sponsors promotional booths at events like the Perry Show.

Thank you so much for your support. The SPA is alive and thriving because of members like YOU!

*Mike Robinson, Secretary/Treasurer SPA 70*

## MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEWYEAR !!

This is the sincere wish from your Officers and Directors. This has been the best year ever, in terms of growth and participation in our beloved SPA !!

Note, there is NO ballot in this issue as has been the tradition in past years. That's because, despite numerous pleas for candidates, NO one has avowed their desire to replace our current officers. So, as suggested by a number of the Discussion List, the current slate remains for 2009 by ACCLAMATION.

We are very grateful to Mike Robinson to agree to handle the chores of being our SEC/TRES for 2009. This is a time-consuming task that Mike has already mastered after having been thrust into it as a result of Steve's misfortune.

His plea for remittance of 2009 Dues is in the column above. This is a GREAT help to him in updating the database he has established for 2009.

My wish is nothing but the BEST for all SPA in the coming year. **Bruce U.**



**Bruce & Jane Underwood**

**TOP NOTCH TROPHIES**  
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Guntersville, Alabama

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**Here are the ANTIQUE pattern schedules for the "BLAST FROM THE PAST" contest Nov. 15 & 16 at PCMA near HOTLANTA**

**NOVICE**

- 1-Take Off
- fly by for trim
- 2-straight flight out
- 3-procedure turn
- 4-Straight flight back
- 5-3 inside loops
- 6-1 horizontal roll
- 7-Immelman turn
- 8-Stall turn
- 9-Landing.

**EXPERT**

- 1-Proto taxi and take off
- fly by for trim
- 2-touch and go
- 3-3 horiz. rolls
- 4-Top hat
- 5-4 point roll
- 6-Double Immelman
- 7-Slow roll
- 8-Rolling circle(note must be done from the left fly by permitted if needed)
- 9-Tail Slide
- 10-landing
- 11-Taxi to Hanger

**SPORTSMAN**

- 1-Proto taxi and take off
- fly by for trim
- 2-touch and go.
- 3-3 rolls
- 4-three inside loops
- 5-four point roll
- 6-3 turn spin
- 7-FAI horizontal 8
- 8-Cuban 8
- 9-3 outside loops
- 10-landing
- 11-taxi to hanger



Charlie Johns, Brewton, AL shared this photo and info on his "homebrewed" "Duke's Mixture" "tailored" transmitter. I asked Charlie at Andersonville to share its "make-up" .

Once upon a time long long ago, RC aviators could be seen using radios with only one button, one stick or two sticks. As time went on and things changed as they always do, the single button Mule and the single stick all but disappeared. With the memories of times past the SPA was born and has been steadily growing. In an effort to update my retired single stick I was directed to Jamie Strong. As I found out more about SPA from Jamie and the SPA web site I new this was where I wanted to be. Thanks to Jamie and Tony at Radio South I was able to acquire the needed parts to update my single stick to what it is today.

Using an electronics background I proceeded to cut up a Futaba 9C and install it in my JR Century VII which holds special memories for me. I installed a ProLine Competition series gimbal and 1700 NiMH battery pack. In the process I installed an earphone with volume control to help with hearing the various alarms from the 9C. Recently I added a Futaba 2.4 Fasst module. With the support of SPA friends behind me and my Century 9C Pro in front, I can remember the good old days and build on memories for the future. Thanks SPA. **Charlie Johns SPA 413**

Charlie is retired from AT&T after 33 years service and is a part-time commercial radio engineer. Charlie would be happy to share via private e-mail at:

[johns20640@bellsouth.net](mailto:johns20640@bellsouth.net)

Scott Sappington—CD [mrmay2006@comcast.net](mailto:mrmay2006@comcast.net)



Chances are you'll see several of these planes at the ANTIQUE contest. It's the Daddy-Rabbit-1 flown to NATS championships in the 60's by Jim Whitley. Jim Eide's model is shown above. Schedules of patterns are above. Practice.

## ANDERSONVILLE, GA - AUGUST 16 & 17, 2008

SPA VP and contest CD Scott Sappington, amassed a team of contest officials and workers that performed like a "sewing machine" this week-end at Hodges Hobbiesfield in Andersonville, GA.

Precisely dubbed "premier flying site"...this site is one of the best in the nation, 1700 X 300 of turf that is likened to a golf green. Nothing but pure bermuda with no crabgrass nor "misfits" at all. Lots of contestants were overheard saying "this is like flying RC Models in Paradise"! Weather on Saturday was overcast and mild temperatures for August in SW Georgia. Sunday morning was cloudless and sunny yet still mild for the season.

Invocation on Saturday launched the days flying under overcast skies and didn't end until 7 PM with the conclusion of Round 4 by the 32 contestants. The first half of the day was almost calm and toward noon the wind blew in the pilot's face up to about 17 MPH. The activity ceased around noon when TEAM HODGES flew a demonstration of the famed B-29 known as "Fertile Myrtle", powered by four (4) ZDZ 80's....2 strokers turning 4 blade 24/8 props. The crowd was "awed" by the release of the model Bell X-1, "Glamorous Glenice" which is a model replica of the vehicle that first broke the sound-barrier with Chuck Yeager flying it. Team Hodges consists of Mac Hodges who flew the B-29, Sam Williams is the crewman, Mike Stevens the Bell Pilot and Charlie Evans is the announcer. Charlie Evans told me the craft has a 22 foot wingspan, uses a JR 12X2.4 radio, 17 servos and is 6 years old now. Mac flew many maneuvers with it including a very low inverted pass. He and the team were in Denver, CO flying it during the 2007 meet at his field.

There were a few mishaps, on Friday afternoon Larry Hill of Greenville, AL put in his SPOT-ON 50 ARF...but is repairable. In Round one, Franklin Smith's ULTRA-STIK was re-kitted when he told me he was "disoriented". Frank Chick had double bad luck going in with his Compensator and then later putting in an Intruder loaned him by Ray Craig. There were some other mishaps, I just wasn't privy to them all.

It was so good to meet and fly with several entering their first SPA contest. Old Timer Mel Richardson brought out his 38 year old Compensator and entered his first SPA meet.

Pilots elected to fly one round on Sunday morning and what a round it was in the EXPERT Class. Scores were very close among the top three in the class and CD Scott Sappington had them fly that round by themselves with the crowd looking on, cheering maneuvers very much he said, "like the "fly-offs" are held annually at the MASTERS contest. Scott said, "I'm going to have to burn lots of fuel to compete with these guys. The guys he referred to were (in flying order determined by the flip of a coin ) Randy Roberts, Jamie Strong, Sid Austin. It was a joy just eyeballing these guys do their "thing". I could just feel our recent departed members enjoying this display from above.

The lucky folks at the drawing (no tickets sold..just for entries). Scott said "at this contest we are putting ALL proceeds back into the prizes". The OS 91 4S went to Duane Wilson. Three \$100 gift certificates to Hodges Hobbies went to Doug Harvel, Scott Sappington and Charlie Johns. The \$46.00 Cash for Gas money went to Dandy Don Eiler. What a splendid gesture.

Scott explained prior to the awards ceremony the photo contained on the Cass E. Underwood Memorial awards. It was the photo, made by Scott of Cass acting as if he were "propping" Mac's J-3 Cub that, ironically was crashed by Mac's brother the following week. Cass would have loved every second of good flying and good fellowship shared all

this delightful week-end.

To Mac for hosting, to Scott for Cding, John Baxter and Bob Bixby for scoring, and the host of helpers who ran scores, went for pizza, etc, many thanks for everything.

Attendees from last year recalled the little black Georgia gnats that plagued all.....well, notable SPA pilot Tom Stennis shared a defensive idea with us that really provided some relief from this problem...he said "get you some BOUNCE, the anti-static cling stuff you use in the clothes dryer, rub it on you and leave it in your shirt collar....they will leave you alone". Doggoned if it didn't work. That has since earned the title of the "Stennis Revelation".

The "Most desired spouse award" went to Pat (Mrs. Bob) Permenter of Rutherfordton, NC. She was caught by your newsguy, cleaning hubby's airplane while he was jawing with friends. (Sigh)



Left: "Piano-Finish" awards. Above: Huge wind-sock at HODGES HOBBIES FIELD



Jim Slocum & "Servo"



Look up there wives, Mrs. Pat shows how the cleaning project is done



Chief Judge Joe Holton and CD Scott Sappington directing Saturday morning "Pilot's Meeting". Comfy temps.

**RESULTS: ANDERSONVILLE, GA AUGUST 16 & 17  
NOVICE**

- |          |                  |                   |
|----------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. 4000  | Kevin Clark      | Fletcher, NC      |
| 2. 3821  | Doug Harvel      | Forest, MS        |
| 3. 3797  | Don Eiler        | Knoxville, TN     |
| 4. 3791  | Alan Harper      | Marietta, GA      |
| 5. 3749  | Julio Arrietta   | Hephzibah, GA     |
| 6. 3672  | Mike Williams    | Alabaster, AL     |
| 7. 3670  | Steve Vergamina  | Greensboro, NC    |
| 8. 3591  | Tom Stennis      | Starkville, MS    |
| 9. 3450  | Charlie Johns    | Brewton, AL       |
| 10. 3442 | Dan Dougherty    | Powder Spr. GA    |
| 11. 3354 | Robert Permenter | Rutherfordton, NC |
| 12. 3351 | Duane Wilson     | Asheville, NC     |
| 13. 197  | Frank Smith      | Brewton, AL       |

**SPORTSMAN**

- |          |                |                 |
|----------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. 4000  | Jeff Owens     | Tallahassee, FL |
| 2. 3747  | Ken Blackwell  | Enterprise, AL  |
| 3. 3738  | John Baxter    | Dallas, GA      |
| 4. 3723  | Bob Gaskill    | Albertville, AL |
| 5. 3647  | Skip Getelman  | Sharpsburg, GA  |
| 6. 3631  | Joe Holton     | Acworth, GA     |
| 7. 3590  | Ron Reed       | Marietta, GA    |
| 8. 3272  | Jim Slocum     | Temple, GA      |
| 9. 3187  | Mel Richardson | Six Mile, NC    |
| 10. 3166 | Bob Bixby      | Acworth, GA     |
| 11. 2748 | Rich Ernst     | Brooksville, FL |

**EXPERT**

- |         |                  |                |
|---------|------------------|----------------|
| 1. 4000 | Randy Roberts    | Cullman, AL    |
| 2. 3923 | Jamie Strong     | Prattville, AL |
| 3. 3922 | Sid Austin       | Cullman, AL    |
| 4. 3456 | Scott Sappington | Acworth, GA    |

**SENIOR EXPERT**

- |         |                 |                  |
|---------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. 4000 | Bruce Underwood | Guntersville, AL |
| 2. 3542 | Ray Craig       | Anniston, AL     |
| 3. 3314 | Mickey Walker   | Kennesaw, GA     |
| 4. 2945 | Frank Chick     | Roswell, GA      |



**TEAM HODGES in ACTION**



Old-Timer Mel Richardson displays his anchor when running 2S engine in 38 year old Compensator. Mel lives near



Pilot's Briefing Sat. AM



SHUX—Franklin's Ultra-Stik wounded



Mac and TEAM HODGES ready B-29 for DEMO

Mac preparing the Bell X-1 to be released from the Mother-ship with a big BANG simulating the breaking of the sound-barrier as it did with Chuck Yeager flying it. In this case, Mike Stevens, with the transmitter in hand, flew the little replical Charlie Evans, Announcer barely shown behind Mike.

## 09-21-08.....Prattville was perfect !!

CD Jamie Strong likened this weekends contest to "a family reunion". At the awards presentation, he exclaimed "an SPA contest is MORE than just flying RC model airplanes skillfully, its' like seeing "FAMILY".

The requests for PERFECT weather were fulfilled with very comfortable temperatures like lows in the upper 60's and daytime highs in the lower 80's. An easterly wind of 10 to 20 MPH tested a pilot's skill for execution in a due crosswind but made for very comfy conditions.

Friday afternoon early arrivals were treated to HOMEMADE ice cream and brownies with absolutely NO limit on either one. Nearly every one of the 22 contestants had pre-registered and this enabled scorekeeper Gary Arthurs to have all info already entered into the computer and expedited an early start on Saturday morning. Can you believe, for the first time I can recall, there were more SPORTSMAN contestants than NOVICE ones. One more as a matter of fact. Just a GREAT contest among these two classes.

Experts and Senior Experts were limited to one OLD pilot who flew one round to make it official, then judged 4 of the remaining 5 rounds. 6 rounds were flown in total, 4 on Saturday and 2 on Sunday.

Round 4 was completed about 4 PM CDT on Saturday, a shower and then the traditional gathering for a Saturday night feast. This year Fountain City Flyers reserved a nice meeting room in the CATFISH HOUSE, a swanky seafood restaurant near the motel area which made it doubly convenient

for most to attend. The food was REALLY good and service also.

Two mishaps, I am aware of marred the activity, Mel Richardson of near Clemson, SC had his Compensator with the new OS .91 4S in its' nose go into a "thicket" of oaks and pines about 150 yards South of the strip. It was a beautiful airplane which Mel had had for some 35 years. He displayed a lot of "class" in accepting the reason being his "misjudging" on the approach. Larry Hill of Greenville, AL participating in his first contest became a bit disoriented and allowed the strong easterly wind to take over his Sport 40 and push it into John Baxters EZ UP tent. Neither the model nor the tent survived.

Our Association was so proud of the 3 "newbies" who contested with us, Ed Lyerly of North Carolina, Larry Hill of Greenville, AL and Garry Singleton of Wetumpka, AL. Tom Henry of Birmingham was tutored at the recent NOVICE I-day contest in Alabaster and flew his first full contest in Prattville.

Our FAITH is an integral function of an SPA event and CD Jamie talked with the CHIEF on our behalf both at the outset of Saturday mornings' flying and at the evening festivities at the CATFISH HOUSE. The CHIEF responded with a GREAT weekend!

At the raffle drawing....Tom Henry won a gift certificate from World Models for 50% off on the kit or purchase of his choice. Ed Lyerly won the ARF KAOS kit provided by Jamie and the Fountain Flyers. FCF held a drawing for "gas money" and \$60 to \$65 dollars went to Ken Blackwell to help with his gas going back to Enterprise, AL. The SPORTSMANSHIP award is going to Rutherfordton, NC with Mr. Ed Lyerly who made the long trip to Prattville to compete in his 1st ever SPA contest and flew the only ELECTRIC powered A6 INTRUDER in the event. Whatta guy!

This was truly a week-end you'd like to last forever, unfortunately, time marches on...but as folks were departing, there were handshakes, hugs, gleeful jabs and commitments to "see you at the MASTERS next month in Cullman".

Jamie named the individual clubmembers who "worked their fannies off" to see that the visitors to FCF field enjoyed themselves. I'll not name them individually here, but FCF you did just that and SPA is genuinely grateful.

Jamie, had the newspaper, there on Saturday and a delightful story, complete with good photos appeared in the Sunday morning newspaper. Not only is he an excellent Chairman of SPA Special Projects and a highly talented CD, he is a "heck" of a promoter as well for our association. Wouldn't his world be a better place if everyone patterned himself or herself after Jamie Strong?

### NOVICE

- 1 Bob Wetzel 3998.6430 Temple, GA
- 2 Doug Harvel 3946.62989 Forest, MS
- 3 Mike Williams 3943.47898 Alabaster, AL
- 4 Tom Stennis 3807.02649 Starkville, MS
5. Dan Dougherty 3753.95846 Powder Springs, GA
6. David Phillips III 3742.75884 Hueytown, AL
7. Tom Henry 3723.47945 Birmingham, AL
- 8 Ed Lyerly 3682.18922 Rutherfordton, SC
- 9 Charlie Johns 3519.10348 Brewton, AL
- 10 Garry Singleton 3414.43981, Wetumpka, AL
- 11 Larry Hill 816.17014 Greenville, AL

### Sportsman

- 1 Bob Gaskill 3976.15946 Albertville, AL
- 2 Joe Holton 3968.93177 Acworth, GA
- 3 John Baxter 3904.00602 Dallas, GA
- 4 Ken Blackwell 3842.55317 Enterprise, AL
- 5 Dave Phillips II 3837.86739 Hueytown, AL
6. Skip Getelman 3796.31728 Sharpsburg, GA
- 7 Jim Slocum 3746.44264 Temple, GA
- 8 Ron Reed 3640.01084 Marietta, GA
- 9 Bob Bixby 3274.43925 Acworth, GA



These weather conditions are like CD's yearn for. It just couldn't have been any better than this particular week-end !

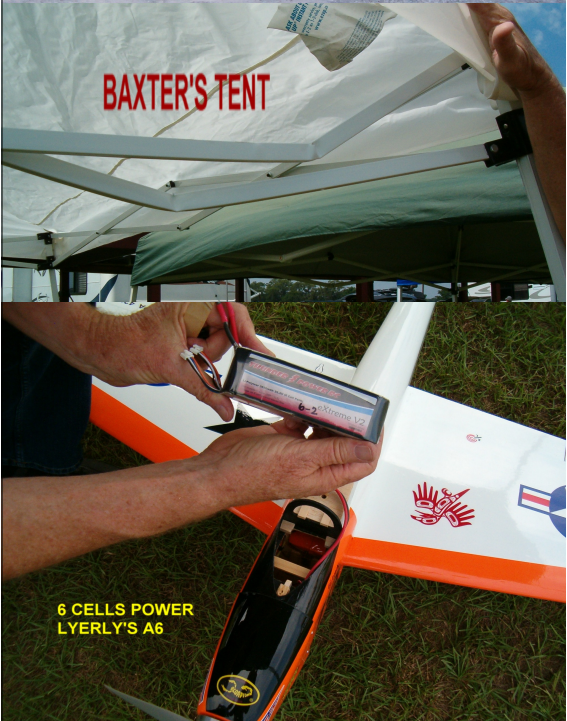


**WELCOME "NEWBIES"**

ED LYERLY GARRY SINGLETON LARRY HILL



**WISH YOU WERE HERE !**



**BAXTER'S TENT**

**6 CELLS POWER LYERLY'S A6**

This is the battery pack for Ed's SCORPION 4025-10 electric motor. It is 6 cells rated at 3850 MAH. Ed turns an electric 13/8 prop. The combo's consume 1300 watts delivering roughly 1.7 HP. Canopy is held on with two 2/56 servo screws easily removed for a recharge between rounds. Ed says the "all-up" weight of the model is 7.8lbs. A nice performer.



**SUNDAY AWARDS**

**IT WAS LIKE A REUNION**

**THANKS FOR COMING**



**THE "WINNERS"**



**TOM STENNIS'S NEW OS-81 4S**

Tom Stennis, at the extreme left in the picture above flew his COMPENSATOR with the newly released OS-81 4S with the stock muffler. He burns 20% fuel and the 13/8 APC prop tached 9810 static. Tom allowed your editor to tach it on Friday afternoon. He constructed the COMPENSATOR from original plans from Southern RC who made the kits years ago. He allowed your editor to fly the airplane Friday afternoon. NICE.



**RAFFLE PRIZES**

See the text for ID's of the lucky winners of the Sunday Raffle.



Field easily found thanks to the "welcome" sign above.

ALABASTER, AL TOP NOVICE CONTEST SEPT. 6, 2008

by: Ed Waldrop

RESULTS

Beginner Class

- 1. Mike Wizorick ARCA
- 2. Joe Georgia

Novice Class

- 1. Mike Williams ARCA
- 2. Tom Hensley
- 3. David Phillips Jr. ARCA
- 4. Eric Thomas ARCA
- 5. Charlie Johns Brewton, Alabama

The Top Novice Contest Saturday was great. Of course the weather did not offer us any help but we hung in there and pulled off a great time by all. We had 10 registered pilots, 8 Novice and 2 Beginner Novice. And the best of all even with a late start we managed to fly 6 rounds. We had contestants from Mississippi and Georgia with our club having a great turnout. I want to give a personal thanks to David Phillips his wife Peggy, my wife Lori, Nate, Bill, John, Bob, Ray, Mike, Fred and alot more I can't remember at the moment.

We also had a great turnout of observers some from other clubs and locals stopping in to see what it is all about, seems our sign at the end of the road is helping with visibility.

Just a thanks to everyone who entered, watched, helped and had a hand in making this contest a nice experience.

Austin Wingo was the big prize winner of the Carl Goldberg Skylark from Bo Lovell and Home-wood Toys and Hobbies.

Thanks to Sid Austin of Pyramid Hobbies for the nice plaques and door prizes.

I hope everyone had as much fun and enjoyment as I. THANK YOU EVERYONE!!!!

Here is a link to the pictures we (Lori and I) took enjoy:\

<http://picasaweb.google.com/EdWal07/TopNoviceContest#>

Thanks again,  
Ed

This is (a 1 day NOVICE and BEGINNER contest) certainly a good method of initiating new and potential SPA Precision Aerobatic flyers to actual competition. Some of these folks we see on the regular SPA pattern circuit while others were just needing the wee "nudge" afforded by this event to stimulate their interest to improve their flying skills and get a "taste" of the good fun stuff that goes on at an organized contest. Thanks Alabaster for getting up this event and to your sponsors for their contributions. (EDITOR)



Pit area before contest—Photos by Sid Austin



Mr. & Mrs. Ed Waldrop received the SPORTSMANSHIP award.



Austin Wingo won the BIG prize the RTF SKYLARK



Mike Williams

Visit

our

website

at

[www.seniorpattern.com](http://www.seniorpattern.com)

**SENIOR PATTERN ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail address \_\_\_\_\_

City-State-Zip \_\_\_\_\_

AMA Number \_\_\_\_\_ Club Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

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

Mail to:

**Mike Robinson**  
**2006 Brookhaven Circle**  
**Dalton, GA 30720**

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

