



# 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    www.seniorpattern.com    JAN/FEB 2015

## **PRECISION AEROBATICS from PATTERN'S Golden Age**

### OFFICERS

#### PRESIDENT-

Jeff Owens

#### VICE PRESIDENT-

Ken Knotts

#### SEC/TREASURER-

Eric Nessler

#### PAST PRESIDENTS-

Mickey Walker

Bruce Underwood

#### WEBMASTER-

Jim Johns

#### SPECIAL PROJECTS

Dan Dougherty

#### APPOINTED-

Phil Spelt

#### ELECTED-

Open

#### EDITOR-

Duane Wilson

[avwilsons@charter.net](mailto:avwilsons@charter.net)



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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## **Election Results for Vice President**

**On January 1st, Secretary/Treasurer** Eric Nessler tabulated the ballots he received for the available SPA office this election cycle. Because the position of **President** was open and unopposed, Jeff Owens became only the fourth SPA president in its 24 year history. Jeff will have big shoes to fill. You will be hearing more from Jeff later in the newsletter as he thanks the **only president most of us have known**, Bruce Underwood for his many years of service to SPA, and as its new president, outlines his vision of SPA's future.

The office of Secretary/Treasurer was also unopposed, with Eric Nessler offering to continue in the great job he has been doing, which meant that only the office of Vice President was being contested. There were **82 paid members** at the time of the election with **58 voting, (a good 71% of the eligible voters), resulting in Ken Knotts from SPA-West becoming our new Vice President with 37 votes. Former V.P. Scott Sappington received 21 votes.** We thank both of these fine candidates for being willing to run and serve the association.

An organization like SPA can only function well and be strong if good, capable, dedicated, and caring people are willing to step forward to serve, (and I do mean "serve"), as officers. There often isn't a great deal of "glory" there IS work, but it is often a "labor of love", (and a whole lot less money). As an officer, you are more likely to hear complaints than praise, and the times when there is a **lack of complaints** means things are going well, and the acts of the Board of Directors are benefitting the membership.

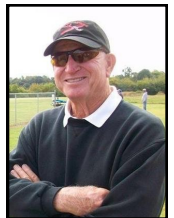
So please congratulate Jeff and Ken as the new president and vice-president of SPA, and show your appreciation to Eric by "re-upping" your membership early this year, (or make membership renewals hassle-free and a thing of the past by becoming a "lifetime" member).

Duane Wilson—editor

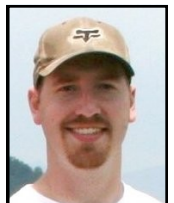
### ELECTED OFFICERS



Jeff Owens



Ken Knotts



Eric Nessler

**"Be there or be SQUARE"—fly SPA**



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Custom Canopies



**FROM THE PRESIDENT...** With the turn of the new year it is now my turn to step into the office of President, a position so ably filled by Bruce Underwood for the past many years (he couldn't tell me the exact number, but it is a lot!) I remember very well a scene at the Perry Swap Meet in 2004. I stopped by the SPA booth to find out what the organization was about. In no time I had Bruce on one side and Steve Byrum (then Secretary/Treasurer) on the other. Bruce and I started exchanging stories of pattern contests in the North Florida area in the late 70s-early 80s and we realized that we had flown in many of the same contests. While all that was going on, Steve came up and handed me a Competitor's Guide with a number written on the cover. He said "That's your membership number - now just give me \$20 and your in!" Well, the rest is history and now I've run my first Board of Directors meeting!

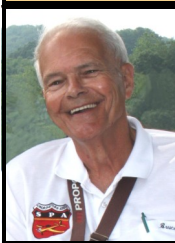
The annual Board of Directors meeting was held on Saturday January 31, 2015. The room at the Oakwood Cafe in Dalton, Georgia was packed with Board members and a good selection of SPA members who came to participate as well. Our thanks go to Mike Robinson for arranging such a wonderful meeting venue - the breakfast was great! Certainly the award for the longest travel went to our new VP Ken Knotts who came all the way from Texas! As an organization we are growing and spreading - Board members and officers now travel from Texas, Florida, Ohio and points in between.

This was my first Board meeting as President. It was gratifying to have both Bruce Underwood and Mickey Walker in attendance as Past Presidents. Certainly we, as an organization, owe them both a great deal of thanks. Mickey for his original idea for SPA and his leadership in getting the organization off to a great start and Bruce for his enthusiastic and steady guiding hand for the past many years as we grew well past Mickey's original concept.

The agenda for the meeting was packed and the meeting itself lasted around two and a half hours - longer than usual. You will be able to read details of the agenda items elsewhere, but I would like to summarize some of the developments here. We agreed to update the Bylaws to bring them into accord with the actual SPA operating practices. Some recent changes had not been incorporated and you will soon see the updated version on the web site. There will be no substantive changes from previous years - just updates. Another significant item is to transition to a fully email distribution of the Newsletter in addition to the versions that can be found on the web. No more printing, folding, stapling, and stamping! (I've done it the past three years so I am relieved that that duty will be greatly lessened.) Several years ago the Board voted to add an elected member so as to allow the membership to have greater representation in addition to the elected officers. That position is currently vacant, but an election will be held this spring and nominations will be solicited soon. Our new Webmaster, Jim Johns, gave a report on the many changes he has been making to the web site - all of which are greatly appreciated. Dan Dougherty updated us on the contest schedule - don't forget the Friday Antique contest at Hodges before the regular weekend meet in June. Look for another Antique event later in the season! Phil Spelt gave an update on the changes to the Competitor's Guide with the new patterns being included.

All-in-all it was a great get together and it was wonderful to see so many familiar faces after a long winter. I'm looking forward to hitting the circuit and getting some good flying done. See you on the contest trail!

Jeff Owens - SPA L243



**FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT—Gosh, I just can't recall** which year I assumed the Presidency but it has been a great ride, following Mickey Walker and Ron Reed who preceded me.

Duane asked that I share a memory or two regarding the development of the SPA. This should be a joy, for (as Mickey and I were recalling at the 2015 BOD meeting the last day of January), at the outset of the association we didn't deal with electronic and/or "hard copies" of a newsletter, we only had a mimeograph (hand cranked) for printing a newsletter and it could be mailed for less than 9 cents. The majority of the airplanes were Daddy-Rabbit 1's, Kwik-Flies, Kaos's, Ugly-Stiks and a few others. We had no decisions to make regarding propulsion, for there were no electrics and/or 4-strokes in use in the early days of the association.

None of our flying sites had air-conditioned potties like the ones at Hodges, Prattville, etc. The more affluent clubs sponsoring meets would rent a "Port-a-John", while others had a cotton field or corn field adjacent to it's runway that afforded some "privacy" when a contestant desired relief from a full bladder or colon. I can just visualize some of you "Ole-Timers" nodding your head up and down as you reflect on these "fond" environments.

Even the eldest of SPA'ers have to admit, things and times for pattern fliers have never been better than they are currently. Golly, who would have thought we'd be debating and haggling over such things as engine displacements, classes, and whether or not to allow gasoline and/or electric powered models? It's a pleasant sort of burden isn't it?

Continued.....

Continued...

We oldsters recall the shaky hands syndrome when performing before club-judges were caused from “nerves”, rather than age and medications! In the beginning years, a sponsoring club would provide trained judges rather than impose on contestants to do double duty, judging and competing. Ah, them days when distant contestants were overheard in private conversations grousing about “home-cookin”! I am not that naive to realize this was real, in most cases.

Many clubs, in the early days of SPA, would solicit award sponsorship from local businesses with the sponsor’s business name engraved on the trophies. Many times, several contestants would “pool” travel, with a pull trailer to haul their airplanes in and split the cost of gasoline, after all Regular was 29.9 and Ethyl 31.9 cents per gallon and the kids thought they ought to have clothes and shoes, while the wife wanted to spend one’s income on food and stuff like that, rather than “squander” one’s earnings on model airplane contest expenses. They just didn’t understand our “passion” now, did they?

With the incoming 4<sup>th</sup> President, (the Jeff Owens Administration), I see this as an “embellishment” of the current trend toward more fun and more fellowship than ever before! It’s never been easier to outfit a contestant’s fleet of top quality/top performing airplanes, what with the availability of vintage ARF models, and the dependable 2.4 gig radios negating the need for frequency pins. With the availability of the up-to-date “privies” referred to in an earlier paragraph, more of our spouses and family members are making the contests now. With all of us using electric starters now, you seldom see, (with a few notable exceptions), a first-aid kit in our flight boxes, (but now we have 911 and Urgent Care clinics). Quick chargers relieve the need for overnight charging in the motel room. In the early years, the more affluent contestants who could afford a motel room would accommodate us “sleep-in-the car at the field” minions, by toting our fuse and xmttr to their room and charge them. With all the improvements we’ve come to depend on, one wonders if there’ll be anything else to come out of this high-tech age to pamper us in the future?

We’ve officers now from the East, West, North and Southern parts of our good nation, mixing with the originals from primarily Georgia and Alabama, while creating what I perceive as a “mushrooming” membership in the finest Special Interest Group to ever affiliate with the Academy of Model Aeronautics! Just comprehend the numbers and expense of the miles travelled by incoming President Jeff Owens in both his Cessna 182, and his rented and personal autos.....the expenses incurred by VP Ken Knotts to travel to the East Masters twice and the 2015 annual BOD meeting in Georgia. Consider the miles driven by Eric Nessler from Ohio to the South both to compete and to perform his clerical chores as Secretary-Treasurer! All these are the epitome of dedication, by these elected officers to insure the healthy future of our Association. This likewise applies to the other appointed members of our Director’s Board. Duane, Jamie and others who have displayed their affection for SPA with their participation and willingness to put forth their efforts toward anything and everything I have requested. I can’t begin to articulate in one column, (such as this one), my gratitude for these efforts, (Bruce, you are free to “articulate” all you want in future issues—editor).

Let me conclude by saying, “I am grateful to the incoming Officers for allowing me to join Mickey and Ron in the “Emeritus class”.....I intend to input the PIO jargon as well as participating as much as possible in contesting, etc in the future, and pledge my personal support to the new administration”! May the Chief add His blessings to our future .

Gratefully, Bruce Underwood PIO Emeritus, and SPA LI5



Charlie Johns' 1st plane



Ken Knott's 1st plane



Greg K

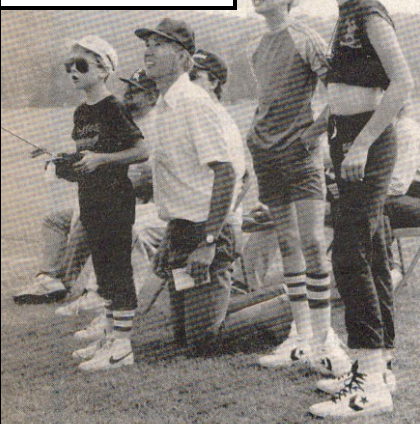


Not so cool Duane at 16

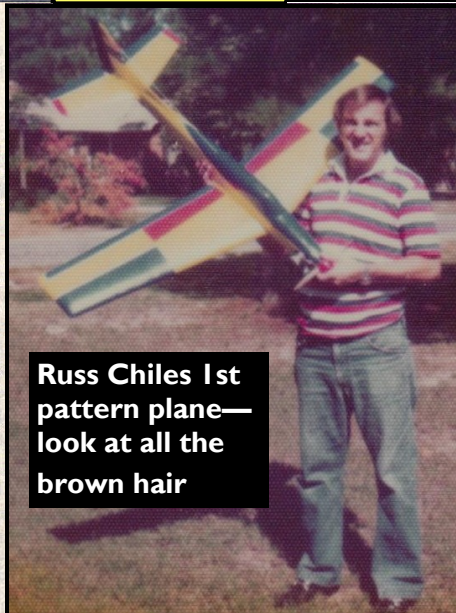
## FLYING LOWE Oldies!

Don Lowe

Nessler's always stick together



A Nessler family affair at the Ravenswood, West Virginia, contest. L to R: Eric (flying), John Jr. (Pop), James and John III.

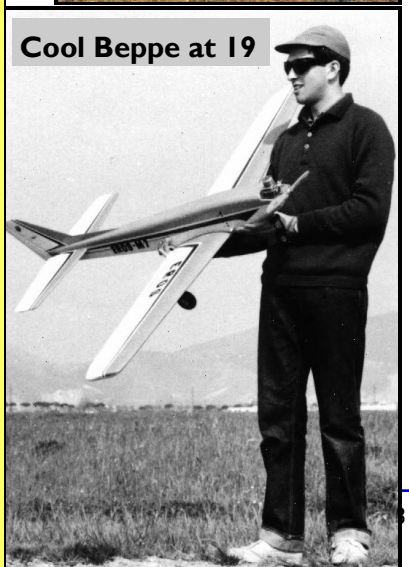


Russ Chiles 1st pattern plane—look at all the brown hair

The way we were!

Early planes

Part One



Cool Beppe at 19



## Meet the new SPA Webmaster—Jim Johns

**My name is Jim Johns, the new SPA Webmaster.** I'd like to thank Jeff Owens for offering me this opportunity when Lindy decided to step down. Many thanks go to Lindy for his hard work during his tenure.

I live in the thriving metropolis of Dutton, population 309, in the mountains of beautiful northeastern Alabama. Our home is about 4 miles as the crow flies from Lake Guntersville, the center jewel in the 9-lake chain that makes up the Tennessee River. I've been married to Bobbie, my best friend and the love of my life, for 33 years and we have two grown children and two grandsons. I started flying in SPA competition in 2013 and was the East Sportsman points leader that year. Previously, I flew AMA pattern in all classes from Novice to F3A between 1981 and 2000. I'm a member of the SERMA R/C Club where I regularly fly with Past President Bruce Underwood and I attend all contests I can on the SPA East circuit. I hope to visit at least one SPA West contest during 2015.

I hold a BS in Computer Science and I worked for Boeing and Spirit Aerosystems in Wichita, KS for 26 years before my retirement in 2010. My final 13 years were spent as a PC/database programmer and webmaster for their Quality Assurance department. I also owned a small side business for several years, developing and maintaining its website.

I hope all of you have had an opportunity to visit the newly updated SPA website located at [www.seniorpattern.com](http://www.seniorpattern.com). Duane asked me to share some insight into my thought process on the changes I've made to the site since becoming webmaster.

Old habits die hard, so I view every website I visit with a critical eye toward its design and function. I see a few great sites, a lot of average sites and some sites that really need attention. My conclusion about the SPA website was that the content was OK, but the **aesthetics and functionality** left something to be desired. Therefore, a complete redesign and rebuild was in order.

One thing the website needed was a common format to **better highlight** the many great things the SPA has to offer. That format needed to be easily updatable and expandable. With that in mind, I built a single template for the entire website. This template contains all the page background, header, and navigation information for the entire website, and is the basis for every page on the site. Any information on the template can be very easily changed and then propagated throughout all pages of the website immediately without further programming. I built the pages to be **eye catching and colorful**, but not gaudy. I chose to use various shades of blue on the site because we fly in the blue sky. I hope the use of minor color variations to delineate topics – such as the contests on the Contest Calendar page – is helpful to you. I added photos of our Board of Directors so new folks would be able to recognize them at contests, and a PC Tips page to help our users with common website related situations. I'll add other topics to this page as questions arise.

Some of the pages of the old website have not yet been updated. Specifically, the Contest Results and associated photos from previous years are not complete. The 2013 and 2014 seasons are complete and posted, but I'm still working on the previous years. This is a time consuming, labor intensive process that will take a while to complete so please be patient.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or problems with the website or any suggestions for additional content or changes. The website is a work in progress, so feel free to contribute your ideas. There's an email link at the bottom of the home page specifically for that purpose. I hope to hear from you soon. ...Jim



## Newsletter Changes... SPA adopts e-format.

**Bob Dylan immortalized the expression "...and the times, they are a'changin'..."**, through his song lyrics, and **now is one of those times**. For a number of good reasons, things need to change in the way the NL is distributed. **This will be the last mailed newsletter for the majority of SPA members.**

Almost everyone has an e-mail address and can receive the NL as an e-mail. We can make **special provision** for those members that don't. Those who **must** have a mailed version of the newsletter can still get it the "old way".

Things came to a head recently when Jeff, (after losing his "folding helper", and being elected president of SPA), asked for a volunteer to take over the newsletter folding and mailing duties, and nobody stepped forward. Once we began to discuss what we could reasonably do at the BOD meeting, we discovered other benefits, (besides not having to fold and mail), the e-version has for the membership:

- **Speed**—The e-version will be available both on the Discussion List and in your e-mail INBOX almost immediately after it is finished rather than waiting for nearly two weeks for "snailmail" to deliver it.
  - **Quality**—Colors are truer, font size is adjustable, it is more interactive and useful since links can be added to feature stories.
  - **Flexibility**—Pages can easily be added or removed. I will be able to give you a better looking, and hopefully more enjoyable newsletter to read. During the contest season, with two active regions, and corresponding contests, it has become increasing difficult to squeeze everything into a stiff seven page format. I've had to limit photos, or make them smaller than I'd like just to fit it all in there. The e-format will allow me to show everything as it should be, (especially the pictures).
  - **Less expensive**—Mailing the newsletter is the single largest expense we face in the budget. We spend about \$2,000/year. Printing and mailing expenses will be reduced by going to the electronic-only version. The money saved could be better used to benefit the membership by allowing purchase of computers or other equipment for the regions.
  - **Less work**—Receiving, folding, adding mailing labels, and mailing the 125 newsletters six times a year is a labor-intensive job, (as the lack of a ready volunteer would seem to confirm). We can greatly reduce this thankless task, so why not do it?
  - **Getting with the times**—Several other organizations, (such as VR/CS), have already changed to this format with success.
- Think about it**—If YOU don't have a computer and e-mail, this might be a good time to join the 21ST CENTURY. You'll like the end results, (just in your enjoyment of the newsletter if for nothing else), and wonder why you didn't do it earlier.

## **BOD Meeting Summary & GENERAL ELECTION NOTICE**

**Although there were no major or controversial issues** to be decided during this annual Board of Directors meeting, (held in Dalton, Ga. Saturday, January 31 2015), there were a number of requests for small changes and improvements.

Prior to the meeting, the By-laws were carefully reviewed by the BOD members and suggestions were made to bring them more into alignment with actual practices. For example, the rule regarding the need for a frequency pin was removed, and typos etc were corrected. The **Competitor's Guide** has been diligently maintained by Phil Spelt for some time now, (much thanks to Phil for all your work on the "Guide"). Phil discussed updates to the "Guide" as well as the By-laws.

Jim Johns was recently appointed to be Webmaster when Lindy Quinten (regretfully) stepped down to better mind the "home front". (Thankfully, Lindy should be able to be more active in SPA soon). Jim has a lot of web experience, (and enough free time to devote to it). Since his appointment, (as anyone who has visited the website recently can readily see), he has totally revamped the site, with new changes coming. Jim discussed his changes while receiving feedback and suggestions.

**THE ELECTION:** Eric Nessler was elected to the BOD back in 2011 as a direct result of requests for **more membership input** to the BOD. As a result, half the members are now appointed, with one general appointment, and three to fill needed SPA administrative functions, (Webmaster, NL editor, CSP), while half are elected, (President, VP, Secretary/Treasurer, and one general membership position). When Eric later responded to the need for a new Sect/Treasurer, the open position he held became vacant, but was somehow overlooked when the recent election for Vice President took place. This was recently pointed out to the president who proposed an **additional election to fill the generally elected member spot**. **If you would like to run**, please indicate your desire to run to Jeff Owens, and **submit a candidate statement** to me, (newsletter editor) by March 1st, 2015. Those candidate statements will appear in the MAR-APR newsletter, and the election held shortly thereafter.

Running for the BOD requires both commitment and dedication to the organization. You are expected to attend the annual BOD meeting and the majority of SPA events if you live within a day's travel from the meeting site. (NOTE: SPA West members can meet by phone, though Ken took it upon himself to fly out to be with us, (thanks Ken—having you there personally was great). You are required to participate in the BOD e-mail group, and may be asked to serve in some other way if needed....editor

### **SPA EAST SCHEDULE**

<b>April 25-26th</b>	<b>Alabaster, AL</b>	<b>Dave Phillips CD</b>
<b>May 16-17th</b>	<b>Knoxville, TN</b>	<b>Phil Spelt CD</b>
<b>June 19th (Friday)</b>	<b>Hodges Antique "Shootout" Americus, GA</b>	<b>Dan Dougherty CD</b>
<b>June 20-21th</b>	<b>Cass Underwood Memorial Americus, GA</b>	<b>Dan Dougherty CD</b>
<b>July 18-19th</b>	<b>Cullman, AL</b>	<b>Steve Byrum CD</b>
<b>August 15-16th</b>	<b>"Hotlanta" Atlanta, GA</b>	<b>Dan Dougherty CD</b>
<b>Sept 12-13th</b>	<b>Pat Hagan Memorial, Asheville, NC</b>	<b>Will Hicks CD</b>
<b>Oct 3-4th</b>	<b>SPA EAST MASTERS, Chattanooga, TN</b>	<b>P J Wright CD</b>

### **SPA WEST SCHEDULE**

<b>TBD</b>	<b>Little Rock, AR</b>	<b>Bobby Moran CD</b>
<b>April 25th</b>	<b>Thunderbirds, Ft Worth, TX</b>	<b>Gary Alphin CD</b>
<b>Sept 26-27th</b>	<b>SPA WEST OPEN</b>	<b>Ken Knotts CD</b>

# Senior Pattern Association – Board of Directors Annual Meeting

January 31, 2015 The Oakwood Café - Dalton, GA

## All Directors in Attendance:

Founder Emeritus - Mickey Walker, Past President – Bruce Underwood, President – Jeff Owens, Vice President – Ken Knotts, Secretary / Treasurer - Eric Nessler, Appointed - Phil Spelt, Newsletter Editor - Duane Wilson, Scheduling / Special Projects - Dan Dougherty, Webmaster – Jim Johns

Guests in Attendance: Dave & Peggy Phillips, Bill Collins, Bob Wilkes, Keith Watson, Scott Sappington, Scott Anderson and Missy Varner, Bobbie Johns, Mike Robinson & Tom Hopkins

## **The Meeting was called to order at 9:16**

• **President Jeff Owens** initiated a brief discussion and reminder about the upcoming Perry event and asked for volunteers to bring airplanes and help man the tables.

• **A discussion ensued regarding the SPA Bylaws**, and their need for revision to reflect changes to the Association since their adoption. The Following Changes were agreed upon:

Article IX has no Sec 1. It was agreed that Article III Sec 2 will be moved to this position

The SPA Webmaster will be listed officially as an Appointed Board Member

The Elected Board Member position that was added in 2011 will be officially added

In the Safety Regulations, “C. Frequency Control System” will be deleted

Article VI – Sec 2 “Dus” will be corrected to “Dues”

Article V – Sec 4, “Designated by the SPA” will be corrected to “by the Board of Directors”

Jeff Owens made a Motion to accept these changes and add them to the SPA Bylaws. The Motion was seconded by Phil Spelt, a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously 9-0

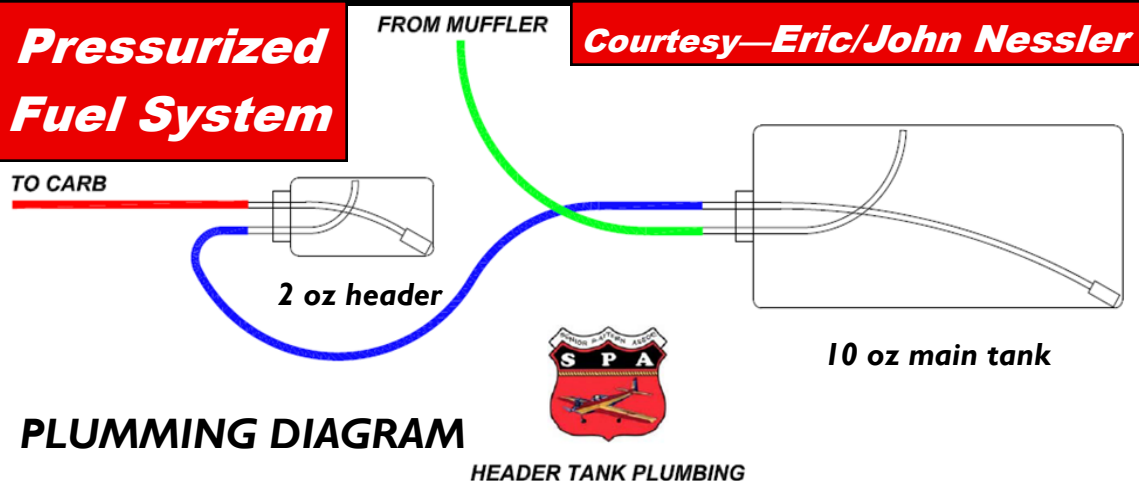
- A discussion ensued regarding Advertising Rates in the SPA Newsletter. Meeting guest and SPA Member Scott Anderson distributed copies of the VR/CS advertising rates for reference. Bruce Underwood made a motion that for inclusion in the Newsletter as an advertiser, potential advertisers must either:
  - (a) Make an Annual monetary contribution of \$100 to the SPA Treasury, or
  - (b) Make an Annual material/product contribution valuing \$100 to a contest. The Motion was seconded by Dan Dougherty, a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously 9-0
- Dan Dougherty made a Motion to have a page on the SPA Website dedicated to SPA Vendors / Suppliers. The Motion was seconded by Phil Spelt, a vote was taken and the Motion passed unanimously 9-0
- Webmaster Jim Johns gave us the update on the website rebuild project and also detailed how he's rewritten the SPA Membership Application. He also proposed moving the website host company to GoDaddy. Dan Dougherty made a Motion to move the site to GoDaddy. The Motion was seconded by Ken Knotts, a vote was taken and the Motion passed unanimously 9-0
- President Jeff Owens has appointed Jim Johns the new season points race scorer since that assignment will work in concert with his website updating duties.
- Phil Spelt updated the group on his Competition Guide revisions/updates
- Jim Johns informed the group of a company he is working with to source official SPA logo patches of approximately 3" that can easily be sewn onto shirts/hats, etc. He had proposed 2 designs, one with a white background behind the “Logo Kaos” and one with a red. After a short discussion:
  - (a) A Motion was made to order 200 patches with white background. The Motion was seconded by Phil Spelt, a vote was taken and the Motion passed unanimously 9-0. Duane Wilson thereafter suggested that some members may want the red background version, and proposed an Amended. Motion to split the order and have 100 red and 100 white ordered. The Amended Motion was seconded by Phil Spelt, a vote was taken and passed by majority 8-1, with Eric Nessler voting against.
  - (b) Chairman of Special Projects Dan Dougherty updated all on the 2015 Contest Calendar and reminded attendees of the Antique contest to take place on Friday June 19th, the day before the regularly scheduled Hodges SPA Contest. Dan also thanked all Contest Directors in attendance for getting their dates set early.
- Judging Clinics were discussed for 2015, but there was no new business or dates to announce at this time
- President Jeff Owens led a discussion regarding the chore of folding and mailing the SPA newsletter, and input was added from Secretary / Treasurer Eric Nessler regarding the cost of roughly \$2000 per year in printing and mailing the hardcopies. The discussion turned to Electronic Distribution of the newsletter, via Email and the Website. It was determined this would be beneficial for the Association and would free up funds to finance other needs such as scoring computers/printers for host sites, judging clinic projectors/screens, etc. The Board will determine which members do not have electronic means and printed copies will be mailed to those individuals
- Jeff Owens made a motion to distribute the Newsletter electronically and end the practice of mass printing for the entirety of the Membership. The Motion was seconded by Dan Dougherty, a vote was taken and the Motion passed unanimously 9-0
- President Jeff Owens made a motion to hold an election for the Board of Directors position vacated by Eric Nessler when he assumed the Secretary/Treasurer position. The Motion was seconded by Dan Dougherty, a vote was taken and the Motion passed unanimously 9-0
- Founder Emeritus Mickey Walker reminded all that next season, (next year, the 2016 season) would mark the SPA's 25th anniversary, and prepare now to attend the 25th Anniversary Contest in the Atlanta area.
- Secretary / Treasurer Eric Nessler presented the Perry Show receipt and table assignment and also the annual financial report. Being no further business before the Board of Directors, the meeting was adjourned at 11:19.

Are you having CG shift as your fuel is used, and/or fuel draw problems during high -G maneuvers? Well, you could buy an OS .91 pumper to allow tank placement on the CG, or you could try this system presented by the Nessler brothers.

The idea isn't new, (see sidebar below).

## Pressurized Fuel System

Courtesy—Eric/John Nessler



**Picture below** taken of my King Altair using John's set-up. Note the 12oz. DuBro fuel tank which is about on the CG of the airplane. The fuel tubing runs up into the area behind the firewall where I've mounted a 2 oz. Dubro tank which is a "header" tank. "CL" stands for "clunk", and "V" stands for "vent". Compared to the diagram the tube position is switched but remember, "header vent goes to main clunk."

From Eric's description... "No need for you pumped engine runners to consider this, as your' pump will supposedly allow tank placement as desired, but for us folks that gave up on the pumped engines and their tendency to leak profusely on our models, this is the "better mousetrap".

The 2 oz. header tank stays full at all times till the (larger) one is emptied, then the draw begins on the little tank. The pick-up of the 2 oz tank is connected to the fuel filter then to the engine carb. The vent tube from the little tank is connected to the pick-up of the (larger) tank. The vent tube on the (larger) tank is then vented to the outside. John's .95 never missed a lick due to fuel uptake problems."

"There have been pros and cons regarding tank placement to control center of gravity. This set-up has been proven to provide a very good enhancement to fuel draw for a non-pumped engine, while at the same time saving weight by eliminating stick-on lead".

Thanks John for sharing !! (ed)



## 1965--Tom Brett's TBX-1 used pressurized system



**Fifty years ago** in 1965, former world champ Tom Brett used his own ingenious pressurized system to move fuel from the rear-mounted tank to a small header tank behind the firewall of his TBX, (futuristic plane won design award at 1965 NATS). Note the tubing on the fuselage side. Without muffler pressure, Tom relied on manually pressurizing with a squeeze bulb. In an age before mufflers and muffler pressure, the system wasn't quite as reliable as today due to occasional pressure leaks.

March 6-7

## Perry Model Show- "Be There"



(held each year at Perry, Georgia), **after the fact** by reporting what happened, and telling you how much you need to go **NEXT YEAR**. This time let's talk about it **beforehand** so more of us SPAers can hopefully plan on being there. There are a lot of good finds to be made among the piles of used parts old engines/kits, and dusty, half-built airplanes hauled out of the basement. Get there early, (it opens Friday at 11AM). Make a quick tour of the three buildings and see if something "jumps out at you".

Perry is also the unofficial beginning of each season as we come together for fellowship and lots of talk about airplanes. Come over to the SPA booth in the Miller Bldg., and join us. We have three tables so bring your new "secret weapon" to display and fascinate all the visitors. Bring something you no longer need to sell and make some modeling money—one man's old, forgotten project might be another's "terrific find". You never know!! See you there! LINK: [www.gamarc.com/SMS2015.html](http://www.gamarc.com/SMS2015.html)

For several years now I have written about the Southeastern Model Show,

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