Texas Wings SPA Contest – 17 June 2017
Bernie Olson – CD

Pilot's Lounge was well-secured

The third SPA West contest for 2017 is in the books and Mother Nature is reminding us that summer weather is taking hold. Winds ran 15 to 20 mph out of the south with gusts approaching 30 mph. Temps had been forecast to reach 100° but a thin layer of haze helped hold highs down to the mid-nineties which provided some relief that we were all thankful for.

The fine members of Texas Wings shared their beautiful grass field with us and cooked up burgers for all. Interesting to note that flying improved markedly after those burgers so I'd like to know what was in them! The Expert flyers put on a clinic for the rest of us with some really excellent flying in that round.

Frank Cox won Novice with his Kaos

Unfortunately, turnout was light – nine flyers participated. Some of the engines were acting up, possibly from the heat and one plane went in due to disorientation. Bright, hazy sky conditions silhouetted the planes making it challenging at times to keep track of which way was up.

Tommy Scarmardo won Sportsman with his Sun Fli

Frank Cox won the Novice class with Gene Roy taking second.

Tommy Scarmardo came out on top in Sportsman followed by Gerry Stanford.

Bernie Olson won Advanced but no other participants were able to attend which is a shame

Bernie Olson won Advanced with Blue Angel

Pat Ensign and his Curare continue to dominate Expert

since this is usually our best-attended class.

Pat Ensign continued to set the standard by winning Expert class followed by Robert Redmon.

Senior Expert was won by Ken Knotts. We need to get more of the over-65 flyers out to give him some competition. Ken also won the raffle prize – a glass Blue Angel kit donated by Bernie Olson.

Ken Knotts owns Sr Expert in the West

Huge thanks go out to Leslie Ensign for her administrative support and excellent computer skills!

Hope to see all at the July contest. It's bound to be cooler.

Thanks for all the help Leslie!