



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 SEPT-NOV 2018

VINTAGE PATTERN FLYING FOR ALL AGES!

OFFICERS

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Jeff Owens

VICE PRESIDENT-

Jerry Black

SEC/TREASURER-

Keith Watson

PAST PRESIDENTS-

Mickey Walker

Bruce Underwood

WEBMASTER-

Jim Johns

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Jamie Strong

APPOINTED-

Phil Spelt-At large

ELECTED-

Scott Sappington-East

Pat Ensign-West

EDITOR-

Duane Wilson

avlwilsons@charter.net

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WEST OPEN AND EAST MASTERS CAP 2018 SEASON

Well, the 2018 season is in the record books with the completion of last weekend's Open. It's time to review "finale" events of 2018, and begin to reflect upon this past season with all it's memories as we approach the holiday season. It's time to total up the points and make official those we already know are the best pilots in each region.

We had some firsts in 2018 beginning with our first ever appearance at the annual Toledo show this past April, and the first East-West Shootout in August. Up 'till 2018 the only time East and West pilots could meet would be if they traveled to the other guy's turf, and many from each region have done that.



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.

Trying to make that kind of interaction a more regular thing, the BOD proposed the first joint **East-West Shootout** at the truly beautiful Clover Creek Aerodrome near Toone, Tn, roughly at the half-way point. The event was a fantastic success with East and West pilots mixing on the field while sharing the judging duties, and fellowshiping in general. Just look at the combined group photo and all the smiling pilots from all over and you'll agree it was worth the trip, and worth repeating next year. A special thanks goes out to Scott Anderson for being the driving force behind this event as well as CD.

In the West, as reported in this newsletter, Wichita Falls, Tx, (115 miles N/W of Ft Worth), held their first ever SPA event with Bob Redmon as CD. That's a good sign as SPA expands out of the immediate Dallas/Ft Worth area. We hope there are many more in the future. Firsts are good—it means we're moving forward rather than backward.



**Bruce & Jane
Underwood**

TOP NOTCH TROPHIES
Awards and Engraving

TOP NOTCH TROPHIES
2044 O'Brig Avenue
Guntersville, Alabama

Work: 256.582.0606

Home: 256.582.3742

Email: topnotchtrophies@bellsouth.net

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FROM THE PRESIDENT – Jeff Owens—What a strange few weeks we have had weather-wise! Lori and I were on our way home from Chattanooga when my daughter called to say Michael was headed our way as a Cat 4! I asked where that came from. Seems that it just blew up in a matter of a day or two while we were having fun at the contest. We were spared the worst of it, but the folks to the west of us sure took a beating. And then the Seagoville TX contest was rained out! I'm sure glad there was good, (but cool) weather for the **SPA West Open!**

This year is an election year for SPA as well. Well, sort of. The following positions had only one candidate each – President (Jeff Owens), Vice-President (Frank Cox), Secretary/Treasurer (Keith Watson), and West Representative (Pat Ensign). The terms for these new or continuing members will start in January 2019. The position of East Representative does have two candidates – Scott Sappington (incumbent) and Scott Anderson. Each has been asked to provide a position statement and these appear elsewhere, (on page 6 editor), in this issue. The Bylaws specify that ballots be mailed to members in November and voting is to take place in December. In this case it is the East Division members who will be voting. The Board of Directors has unanimously interpreted the phrase “ballots be mailed” to include the possibility of email. So stayed tuned. A procedure for email voting is being crafted by our trusty webmaster, Jim Johns.

The position of East Representative has two candidatesEach has been asked to provide a position statement and these appear elsewhere in this issue. The Bylaws specify that ballots be mailed to members in November and voting is to take place in December. In this case it is members of the East Division who will be voting. The Board of Directors has unanimously interpreted the phrase “ballots be mailed” to include the possibility of email. So stayed tuned. A procedure for email voting is being crafted by our trusty webmaster...

The Pattern Committee consisting of Jeff Owens (chair), Jim Johns, Duane Wilson, and Pat Ensign has completed the drafting of the new schedules and they have been approved by the Board. New call cards and maneuver descriptions were posted following the West Championships. This year each maneuver description will include the year of the rulebook from which it is taken. This new feature is being put in place because different years sometimes had minor variations in the downgrades and descriptions. The intent is to reduce confusion when looking at the rulebooks.

Jamie Strong is hard at work finalizing the contest calendar for next year. It is hoped that things will be settled towards the end of the year, in plenty of time for members to schedule their contest trips – weather permitting!

This is the time of year when folks tend to their airframes, think about what went wrong or right during the season, and make plans for next year's secret weapon (s). Already a number of members have posted pictures of planes in the process of construction/reconstruction. I have no doubt that more will be coming soon. —Jeff

We Always Need Member Profiles—Why Not You?

The idea of featuring individual member profiles was suggested by the membership itself more than once since I've been doing the newsletter. Finally we started the feature in the MAR-APR 2017 issue. The first lucky “victim” was Les Smith and we've had a lot of interesting profiles since then. I thank each of the contributors for them, but time goes by and we need to keep them coming. I have one more for the next issue, then this feature will go away unless some of you go to the “Members Only” section, click on “profile” and simply answer the questions already there for you. You don't need to be an author, or worry about how it will look—that's why we have an editor—to make you look good, (or as good as you can look anyway, (I say, that's a joke son as Foghorn Leghorn would say.) I have asked many of you for a profile because I KNOW you have led cool lives outside of SPA that would make a great story, (you know who you are.) Even if I haven't personally asked you, if you have an interesting history outside of SPA, send one anyway. People enjoy them—they really do.



Ben Oliver Memorial Knoxville 2018



KNOXVILLE, TN.....August 25 & 26, 2018....Phil Spelt and Jimmy Russell shared the Contest Directors' position for this delightful weekend. It was "old hat" for Spelt but a new "gig" for Russell. They worked like the inside of an electric clock....."never stopping for a power failure"!

These guys have dominion over the "most scenic flying site in the South". I hope every modeler reading this has a chance to at least visit the KCRC flying field if you haven't already. From the instant you round a slight curve and see the welcoming "marquee" it is indeed an impressive facility. The club of about 100 or so members has the political favoritism of the county commission in this Tennessee county. The site is shared with a huge waterfront dock and launch which is some few hundred yards beyond it on the rivers edge way below the elevated runway, central building and the covered flight preparation areas. Each of us contestants were provided with an elevated model service area completely covered just behind us with cushioned benches and 110 volt power. "As comfy as any flying site in the country, maybe even more so"! There's a few feet, maybe 100 or so to traverse from the parking area to the prep area, uphill, but well worth the exercise gained by the short trip from the vehicle. For those unable to make the short climb the club allows an unload visit in one's vehicle to the area.

One "crash" was experienced during round one when returning pattern pilot Vincent Vlassick, SR's model ran out of space between it and terra-firma and it was "re-kitted". Another "overfly" of the rather short asphalt runway was experienced a time or two, but nothing major in the way of damage. Spelt and Russell got the ball rolling just as advertised, at about 9 AM both mornings with 4 complete rounds in most classes on Saturday and two on Sunday. Awards given by about 12:30 on Sunday. 20 names appear on the "print-out" of the results. Jim Johns opted to devote his entire week-end to scorekeeping as he has done so many contests this season. His expertise on the computer was certainly evident again this weekend. Jim, and the folks who assisted, "so many thanks!"

From the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance, the playing of the National Anthem (Phil used a recording this year due to the illness of Mr. Hebert) the invocation and pilot's briefing, the weather couldn't have been nicer. Maybe a tad warm for some, but the humidity was low enough to eliminate much of the "dog-days" stickiness that sometimes accompanies this time of year. Engines performed nicely as did all 19 of the contestants.

After Vincent Vlassick lost his model in round one, Terry Boston sailed to first place in NOVICE. Terry put away his model after a couple rounds and set forth assisting KCRC in the chores such as judging, running and the like. In SPORTSMAN, Jim Strong took 1st with three K's and a 4 round total of 3927. Vic Koenig flew 4 rounds on Saturday earning 2nd place score of 3825. Duane Wilson carried 3rd place hardware back to Asheville, NC with 3823. Ken Vandenbosch scored 3792 and Charlie Johns 3661. Jimmy Russell posted 4 K's in ADVANCED for the win with fellow KCRC clubber Bill Dodge scoring 3900 with two rounds won. The EXPERT class was another display of the rule book maneuver descriptions as Jerry Black amassed 4K's for the win. Jamie Strong with his electric-powered Curare just back of him at 3972. Local pilot Warren Oliver was 3rd with 3793 and Steve Drake (trying his 1st electric power) kept them honest with 3616. In the SENIOR EXPERT class, it was a joy to welcome Dave Patrick to our competition with his old Rossi blackhead 61 equipped with a Top-Flite super maple 11-7 3/4 and Jett tuned-muffler. Dave said it tacked at 13,500 RPM's. It really pulled his recovered Tower KAOS ARF with ease and with Dave's talented thumbs he made it look easy to best this class with a perfect 4000. Your old reporter managed a 2nd at 3942, and Jeff Owens won 3rd scoring 3854. Russ Chiles powered his pretty model with a SAITO 91 to 4th with 3276. That SAITO was so eager to start, one time it "backfired" and ruined a nice tru-turn spinner and APC prop. (See photo). Great to have Dave Phillips back in action...Dave kept us honest with his 3145 4-round tally. As I mentioned earlier, Jim Johns opted to devote 100% of his time to scorekeeping.

We were able to get about an hours "nap" at the motel prior to gathering at our nations' foremost BAR-B-Q RIB restaurant, Calhoun's. This place is known, even INTERNATIONALLY" for it's tasty ribs. Take a look at some of the photos of the gathering and just imagine you're hearing a "slurp" sound as you enjoy them (the pictures), because that's what you would have heard had you been alongside us at the annual CALHOUN's gathering.

It was so consoling to have the newer pilots from our President's state of Florida. President Owens confessed he has told the SPA story to many modelers in his sunshine state and to have them show up and fly with us in Knoxville was a joy. They all contend "we'll be in Chattanooga in October". KCRC had two raffle awards, one a PULSAR BIPLANE which was won by Mr. Phil Cope, a former pattern flier and KCRC member. The other award was donated by Mr. Warren Oliver. It was a Ken Blackwell COMPENSATOR which Warren had won at the contest last year. Just as Dee Vandenbosch was drawing the winning ticket, someone was overheard saying "wouldn't it be something if Warren won it again"? IT HAPPENED! Warren purchased a pile of tickets and one of them was the winner. What a benefactor to the Knoxville club. Phil and Jimmy, and KCRC we salute you again for the hospitality and the "smooth" contest you guys ran, thanks ever -so-much to the KCRC members who assisted, it was a "super" weekend. SPA PIO



Yes, everyone that is THE David Patrick. As Jimmy said, he is as down-to-earth as a guy can get. His wife Alesha is also super nice, very quiet, but a gem, also. She handled registration for us --she said, it was an easy job. I told her it is very important, as that report goes back to AMA as a record of the contest (I know she knows that...).

David was a TOC champion in Las Vegas, but his weekend, he flew a re-covered Tower KAOS ARF like it was the greatest, most finely-tuned pattern plane that ever was.

BTW, if you look at the scores for the rounds, you will see that our PIO Bruce Underwood. has his "moxy" back, as he took a round from David Patrick and was close on others. Coach flew very well this past weekend. Practice at SERMA has served him well this summer!

Another great aspect of this contest is that Dave Phillips from near Birmingham (Alabaster) came to his first contest in a couple of years, and brought dear Peggy with him. Peggy is now a cancer survivor, and Carolyn (also a cancer survivor) came out to the field Saturday afternoon and all the Ladies had a good visit.



I want to express my sincere thanks to all who motored out to fly with us at KCRC, and especially to Jim Johns for his usual efficient and great job of running the scoring for us. Bobby Johns polled the crowd for attendance at our Saturday night dinner, again at Calhoun's BBQ place. We had 27 folks at dinner on Saturday night. She also circulated around the flight line and got signatures from all who wanted to, for Joel Hebert, our traditional scorer, who has been seriously ill all summer, and was not able to join us for the contest. We even used a recording for the Anthem, because he could not sing. **THEN, after** the recorded anthem

during the Saturday morning flying, I found out our own Jim Johns sings, and would have done the anthem live!! Well, if ya don't know nothin' ya can't do nothin'.

Also, my sincere thanks to Jimmy Russell and Phil Spelt for their wonderful help running the contest. They created a matrix of flyers and judges to get us going Saturday morning, and generally was there to pick up when I let things drop. He shepherded the raffle. That was a hoot, that raffle. Phil Cope, who used to fly pattern with us at KCRC, looked at the Pulsar biplane I had donated, then asked if the raffle was open to everyone, I said yes, so he bought some tickets.

Warren Oliver had donated a Ken Blackwell Compensator kit that he didn't want last year -- then he built his other Compensator, and likes it so much he wanted his donated Compensator kit back. Well, Jim Johns, who won the kit last year, didn't want it so he donated it back to us for this year's raffle. Guess who won the two planes? Phil Cope got the Pulsar biplane, and Warren got his Compensator back. Dee VandenBosch did the drawing for us, and the winners were both quite happy.



I should also mention specific KCRCers who contributed: John Basalone (our Superintendent of Grounds, lol) had the field in top shape and stayed most of Saturday to run score-sheets, and generally help out. Gary Striker (F-4 pilot during 'Nam) was out for a lot of Saturday, also. Justin Long was there all day Saturday, and came back Sunday noon so I could help him trim out a plane and coach some landings. Michael Catlin took numerous pictures Saturday. Michael runs our FB page, and he has already posted a nice picture of Dave Patrick working on his plane during the contest. I could say a lot more about these KCRC guys, but that'll be for another time & place.

Again, many thanks to KCRC, and to all the SPAers who made this contest the success it was!!

The New 2019-2020 Pattern Sequences

Here is a first look quick and dirty side-by-side comparison of the past pattern cycle and the brand new sequences developed by this years Pattern Committee, (Jeff Owens, Jim Johns, Pat Ensign and Duane Wilson.) We encouraged input from both West and East about what should be changed and what should stay, then tried our best to make workable schedules out of all the suggestions we received. After a LOT of back and forth discussion, I think we've put together some fun, yet challenging maneuvers for 2019-2020.

NOVICE-Basics are basics, so the pattern stays much the same as last cycle. Each maneuver is a building block for the more challenging stuff to follow. Keep practicing, and re-read my two articles on flying Novice.

SPORTSMAN-Being in this class, I already felt the patterns were about as good as they could get, however, we found ways to make it even better. The Cuban-8 and old 180-Degree Turn are replaced with the even more beautiful Reverse Cuban-8 and Rolling-8 from a few years back.

ADVANCED-The 3-Outside Loops, Cobra Roll, and Triangle Loops are replaced by a regular Cuban-8, Rolling-8, and 3-Reverse Outside Loops. The Reverse Double I goes away in favor of a "normal" Double I.

EXPERT--SR EXPERT-Lots of input and changes here. 3-Outside Loops becomes 3-Reverse Outside Loops.

Reverse Knife Edge and Double I become Reverse Point Rolls and Rev. Top Hat. The Square Loop turns to Running-8. Old 180 Degree Turn is replaced by a basic 3 Horizontal Rolls. The Cobra Roll has fans and remains. Biggest news is a first ever Avalanche!

Current Patterns

SPA Novice 2017-2018		
		K
1.	Takeoff (U)	1
	<i>(Downwind Trim Pass)</i>	
2.	Straight Flight Out (U)	1
3.	Procedure Turn	2
4.	Straight Flight Back (D)	1
5.	Stall Turn (U)	2
6.	Immelmann Turn (U)	2
7.	2 Inside Loops (U)	2
8.	2 Horizontal Rolls (D)	2
9.	Reverse Cuban 8 (U)	2
10.	Straight Inverted Flight (D)	2
	<i>(Fly By For Landing - 2 Allowed)</i>	
11.	Landing Perfection (U)	1

SPA Sportsman 2017-2018		
		K
1.	Takeoff (U)	1
	<i>(Downwind Trim Pass)</i>	
2.	Double Stall Turn (U)	3
3.	3 Horizontal Rolls (D)	2
4.	Double Immelmann (U)	2
5.	Slow Roll (D)	3
6.	3 Inside Loops (U)	2
7.	180 Degree Turn (D)	3
8.	Cobra Roll with 1/2 Rolls (D)	2
9.	1 Reverse Outside Loop (U)	2
10.	Cuban 8 (D)	2
11.	3 Turn Spin (U)	2
	<i>(Fly By For Landing)</i>	
12.	Landing Perfection (U)	1

SPA Advanced 2017-2018		
		K
1.	Takeoff (U)	1
	<i>(Downwind Trim Pass)</i>	
2.	Figure M (U)	4
3.	3 Horizontal Rolls (D)	2
4.	Reverse Double Immelmann (U)	2
5.	Slow Roll (D)	3
6.	Square Loop with No Rolls (U)	3
7.	4 Point Roll (D)	4
8.	Top Hat (U)	4
9.	3 Outside Loops from Top (D)	3
10.	Cobra Roll with Full Rolls (U)	3
11.	Triangle Rolling Loop (D)	4
12.	3 Turn Spin (U)	2
	<i>(Fly By For Landing)</i>	
13.	Landing Perfection (U)	1

SPA Expert/Sr Expert 2017-2018		
	<i>Use for Expert and Senior Expert</i>	K
1.	Takeoff (U)	1
	<i>(Downwind Trim Pass)</i>	
2.	Figure M with 1/4 Rolls (U)	5
3.	3 Outside Loops from Top (D)	3
4.	Cobra Roll with Full Rolls (U)	3
5.	Reverse Knife Edge (D)	4
6.	Reverse Double Immelmann (U)	2
7.	4 Point Roll (D)	4
8.	Square Horizontal Eight (U)	5
9.	8 Point Roll (D)	4
10.	Square Loop with 1/2 Rolls (U)	5
11.	180 Degree Turn (D)	3
12.	Triangle Rolling Loop (D)	4
13.	3 Turn Spin (U)	2
	<i>(Fly By For Landing)</i>	
14.	Landing Perfection (U)	1

New Patterns

SPA Novice 2019-2020		
		K
1.	Takeoff (U)	1
	<i>(Downwind Trim Pass)</i>	
2.	Straight Flight Out (U)	1
3.	Procedure Turn	2
4.	Straight Flight Back (D)	1
5.	Stall Turn (U)	2
6.	Immelmann Turn (U)	2
7.	2 Inside Loops (U)	2
8.	2 Horizontal Rolls (D)	2
9.	Cuban 8 (U)	2
10.	Straight Inverted Flight (D)	2
	<i>(Fly By For Landing - 2 Allowed)</i>	
11.	Landing Perfection (U)	1

SPA Sportsman 2019-2020		
		K
1.	Takeoff (U)	1
	<i>(Downwind Trim Pass)</i>	
2.	Double Stall Turn (U)	3
3.	Reverse Cuban 8 (D)	2
4.	Double Immelmann (U)	2
5.	Rolling 8 (D) (Inside Loops)	2
6.	1 Reverse Outside Loop (U)	2
7.	Slow Roll (D)	3
8.	3 Inside Loops (U)	2
9.	3 Horizontal Rolls (D)	3
10.	3 Turn Spin (U)	2
11.	Cobra Roll with 1/2 Rolls (D)	2
	<i>(Fly By For Landing - 2 Allowed)</i>	
12.	Landing Perfection (U)	1

SPA Advanced 2019-2020		
		K
1.	Takeoff (U)	1
	<i>(Downwind Trim Pass)</i>	
2.	Figure M (U)	3
3.	Cuban 8 (D)	2
4.	Double Immelmann (U)	2
5.	Slow Roll (D)	3
6.	3 Reverse Outside Loops (U)	3
7.	4 Point Roll (D)	4
8.	Square Loop (U)	3
9.	3 Horizontal Rolls (D)	3
10.	Top Hat (U)	3
11.	Rolling 8 (D) (Inside Loops)	2
12.	3 Turn Spin (U)	2
	<i>(Fly By For Landing)</i>	
13.	Landing Perfection (U)	1

SPA Expert/Sr Expert 2019-2020		
	<i>Use for Expert and Senior Expert</i>	K
1.	Takeoff (U)	1
	<i>(Downwind Trim Pass)</i>	
2.	Figure M 1/4 Rolls (U)	5
3.	3 Horizontal Rolls (D)	3
4.	Cobra Roll with Full Rolls (U)	3
5.	Slow Roll (D)	3
6.	3 Reverse Outside Loops (U)	3
7.	Reverse Point Roll (D)	4
8.	Reverse Top Hat (U)	4
9.	8 Point Roll (D)	4
10.	Avalanche (U)	3
11.	Running 8 (D)	2
12.	Inverted 3 Turn Spin (U)	3
	<i>(Fly By for Landing)</i>	
13.	Landing Perfection (U)	1

SPA Election for East Representative—The elected positions of president, (Jeff Owens). Vice President, (Frank Cox), Secretary/Treasurer (Keith Watson), and West Representative, (Pat Ensign), have all been settled since there was ONE candidate for each position. Those in the East will need to vote for East Representative—we have two good candidates. Position statements are provided below. Ask (politely), questions of them on the DL or contact them directly. Remember that a position on the BOD should not be a popularity contest—it is a decision about who will best serve the organization?



Scott Sappington:

Greetings my SPA East friends!! I am requesting your consideration to allow me to continue to serve as your elected member to the Senior Pattern Association Board of Directors. I have been a member of SPA for well over 15 years and during that time have served as

Vice President under Bruce Underwood and have served on the BOD for the last several years. Professionally, I have a degree in Industrial Management from the Georgia Institute of Technology and married to my incredible wife Beth who is also a member of SPA. If I could only get her to understand which way to move the stick when the airplane is coming toward her to level the wings.....that is a story for another day!! In my early years of SPA we saw a lot of participation in contests with basically a set number of locations. As time continued we expanded to allow the use of electric power plants and really did not see a major increase of participation from that move but allowed some that were interested to switch to that methodology. I know that Jamie, Warren, Vick to name a few are very proficient with electrics. We have also tested on at least two occasions to allow an open class flying aircraft with pipes and retracts. Unfortunately that did not expand our participation as we had hoped. Today we face an aging membership and some flying site issues. Scott Anderson has done a great job of adding sites like Toon, Tennessee and Jamie has ideas of expanding into some traditional AMA sites. The point of this, I do not see a need to radically alter the foundational principles of our organization in an attempt to gain new members. I believe as we expand our contest site scope we will attract new members as they experience SPA fellowship.

I am also opposed to move away from our organization name of Senior Pattern Association but believe we can add verbiage to our marketing material to clarify that SPA is open to participation from all ages.

I close with the thought that although I have not had the opportunity to participate in contests the last couple years due to my work demands, through the discussion list I am able to understand what you the members are discussing. My passion for the organization has not wavered. I strongly want to preserve what Mickey Walker built and see the organization remain on a growing path forward. With your vote we can be successful in that mission.

Respectfully Submitted,
Scott Sappington



Scott Anderson:

AMA# 227026

SPA# 239 NSRCA# 529

If elected I feel it is important to increase participation at events, support those vendors who support SPA, keep promoting SPA by increasing visibility at the local and national level, listen to all members with focus on the main goal of flying old school pattern and having fun. My 30 plus years in pattern on the local and National level has been very beneficial to me on many levels and helps me keep current on AMA issues. I'm willing to **listen to you**, and to discuss our great hobby.

I think it is important that all SPA members and especially BOD members/Officers be active in SPA either by actively competing, or by holding a contest. One cannot have a good feel of what's going on unless you're in the trenches. I feel it is important to keep promoting and retaining members. Board members should listen to all and not have the attitude that if you don't like SPA as it is—to go elsewhere.

Background

SPA 239 – Joined and flew first contest in 2003 Knoxville.
NSRCA 529 – Past District 1 NSRCA Vice President
SPA Contest Director 2015 – Current
2015 – Masters CRCC
2016 – SPA 25th Anniversary CRCC
2017 – CRCC Contest
2018 - East-West Shootout – Clover Creek – Toone TN.
2018 – Masters – CRCC

SPA Accomplishments —Promoting SPA

- 1st East – West Shootout
- Obtained Booth at 2018 Toledo R/C Show to increase SPA visibility.
- Increased internet presence by promoting SPA thru social media (FaceBook) and have over 370 national & international members.
- SPA 25th anniversary – Worked with AMA to obtain our SPA brick in the Walk of Fame (AMA HQ).

Leadership

1. AMA National Leader Member Coordinator —Sit on leader Member Committee to develop programs/work with AMA Executive Council.
2. AMA District 5 Associate Vice President
3. AMA Contest Director / Leader Member
4. AMA National Leader member Coordinator

Thank you, and I look forward to work hard for you the SPA membership!

P. Scott Anderson

The Inaugural Wichita Falls SPA Contest...Fantastic!



Wichita Falls Radio Control Club (WFRCC) hosted its inaugural SPA event on Saturday, September 15, 2018 at Lake Park RC Flying Field in Wichita Falls, Texas. Much thanks to all who competed and all those who helped or just came out to watch and support the contest. WFRCC wish to especially thank Leslie and Pat Ensign from Fort Worth for all of their help and support before, during, and after the contest. In addition everything else they did to make this happen, Pat made judging assignments, and Leslie calculated scores and created the awards. Pat and Leslie are the heart of SPA West.

Due somewhat to a rather sketchy weather forecast, attendance was lower than hoped, but the pilots who did make the trip were treated to almost perfect conditions. The wind remained light all day, and a few high clouds in the morning blocked the sun and made the early rounds much more comfortable to fly. Later in the day, the sky became partly sunny and the temperature remained abnormally mild and pleasant all day. Those who stayed away missed a wonderful contest experience.

Twelve pilots and their helpers flew in this first attempt at hosting a SPA event. For many of the local flyers, it was their first exposure to competition precision aerobatics of any kind. If the talk amongst WFRCC members is any indication, it won't be their last.

Flying was relaxed and pleasant all day. In addition to the regular SPA skill classes, an introductory class was offered, and two excited pilots enjoyed their very first pattern flying experience. As most flyers were from out of town and faced several hours of driving after the contest, only four rounds were flown. Eddie Bernaldez from far east Texas traveled the farthest.

Fantastically delicious charcoaled burgers, hot dogs, and sausage sandwiches were provided by WFRCC at lunch. It was the best contest food the author can remember. Following the presentation of flying awards by WFRCC president Tony Breyen, several kits, an engine, and a gallon of fuel were raffled. Tony committed WFRCC to continuing to sponsor SPA events in the future. All WFRCC members present all seemed to be in enthusiastic agreement. I am certain all those who took part and all those who participated are looking forward to the 2nd Annual WFRCC SPA event.

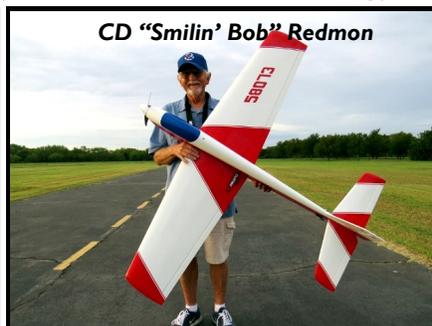
Overall, the flying was exceptional, and a great time was had by all! Photographs, scores, and winners of the contest are posted elsewhere in the report. Special recognition should be give to Dusty Bayley for taking and publishing all those WONDERFUL photographs of the contest....the perfect contest history. Thanks! Bob Redmon (SPA #635 and CD in name only)



Pat Ensign and Club pres Tony Breyen with SPA check for club



The mark of an Expert pilot-Pat Ensign takin' it easy



CD "Smilin' Bob" Redmon



Dave Dingman's Beautiful Compensator

SPA West**Wichita Falls SPA West contest****SPA Sportsman Standings - Round 4****9-15-2018 Page: 1**

The Scores for all contestants have been entered through Round 4
 These are the final standings at this time. '*' Indicates score included in total.

Pos.	Name AMA No.	Total Score	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
1	Samuel Corlett 997867	3000.0000	856.74	1000.00*	1000.00*	1000.00*		
2	Eddie Bernaldez 159402	2912.4441	1000.00*	976.56*	935.88*	851.30		
3	Paul Mayhan 891050	2902.1557	974.71*	985.67*	732.42	941.75*		
4	Frank Cox 5810	2163.5460	602.52*	790.36*	770.65*	0.00		

SPA Advanced Standings - Round 4**9-15-2018 Page: 2**

The Scores for all contestants have been entered through Round 4
 These are the final standings at this time. '*' Indicates score included in total.

Pos.	Name AMA No.	Total Score	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
1	Sam Corlett 102920	3000.0000	1000.00	1000.00*	1000.00*	1000.00*		
2	Michael Clements 53786	2541.0967	829.41*	857.38*	854.29*	804.06		

SPA Expert Standings - Round 4**9-15-2018 Page: 3**

The Scores for all contestants have been entered through Round 4
 These are the final standings at this time. '*' Indicates score included in total.

Pos.	Name AMA No.	Total Score	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
1	Pat Ensign 41158	3000.0000	1000.00	1000.00*	1000.00*	1000.00*		
2	David Dingman 75189	2776.5962	912.23*	940.67*	923.68*	704.84		

SPA Senior Expert Standings - Round 4**9-15-2018 Page: 4**

The Scores for all contestants have been entered through Round 4
 These are the final standings at this time. '*' Indicates score included in total.

Pos.	Name AMA No.	Total Score	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
1	Robert Redmon 58073	3000.0000	1000.00	1000.00*	1000.00*	1000.00*		
2	Ken Knotts 619520	2739.4963	934.95*	878.27	894.19*	910.34*		

2018 EastMasters...

CHATTANOOGA, TN

October 6-7, 2018

While listening to the car radio en-route to Chattanooga Friday, the weather report

called for "Winds light and variable up to 3 miles per hour". The spouse and I just smiled and sort of mimicked the radio guy for that forecast. But lo and behold, CD Scott Anderson must have colluded... (with a friend in "high places"), for that forecast was COMPLETELY ACCURATE! Honest Injun, a few of us veteran SPA attendees agreed, "this was the best weekend weather-wise we've attended in "a coon's age". In the associated photos, take a glance at the windsock, that photo was taken when the wind was at it's strongest. I think the weather-maker was listening intently to our invocation plea.

Scott's worthy assistant Missy was unable to be with him and us this weekend because of an illness. She is between hospital stays but was able to visit with us via the internet and modern cell phones equipped with all the modern gadgetry that's available nowadays. We were able to wave to her via this gadget and wish her a speedy recovery.

John Davis, President of the Chattanooga host club, ran the raffle side of things and another member or two assisted with the cooking on Saturday. Several clubbers pawned their food-prep talents on Friday afternoon and treated us early arrivals to a "social mixer". They furnished numerous goodies, soft drinks and sweets as well as fellowship while the practice was taking place. This was just another of the Chattanooga RC clubs bonuses for attending an event at their great field.

As we've grown to expect, there were a few mishaps. We all shared the misery of those that lost airplanes. Charley Johns lost his ARF KAOS when it spun in. Dave Phillips crash-landed his nice bird when, evidently, the whisker antennae on his receiver dislodged allowing those numerous cell towers in the neighborhood to take over. Someone told me of some mishap down on the flightline one. Jim Johns saved his bird from what could have been catastrophic. His black wire to the throttle servo broke some way in flight resulting in no throttle control, so Jim just went way high and flew it out of fuel and landed nicely. As he recovered the model, a black and red wire mingled causing a direct short which literally melted all his servo leads that were neatly bundled. This inferno happened AFTER the landing so the damage was limited mostly to "scorching" the immediate area of the fuse.

Now that the BAD has been dispersed...on to the GOOD. There was lots of GOOD. It was sooo GOOD to welcome 16 year old Nathan Fisk to the competition. Nathan is a member of the Chattanooga club and this was his first shot at competition. He flew a PULSE foam bird he obtained from Horizon Hobbies complete with it's electric motor, servos and even a 2200 MAH battery. There's a photo of Nathan with his little "foamy" in the associated pictures. This is just what the NOVICE SPA class is intended to do, attract new comers, regardless of ones' age. Nathan's dad was with him and filming most all of his flights and his winning the trophy in the Novice class, 3rd place. Congrats

Nathan, hope this is the beginning of a long period of association with us in SPA.

It was good to welcome a couple Mike's to the contest. Mike Mc Conville who is well known from publicity associated with his participation in many of the TOC events up to 2002. Mike and I did a lot of "memory-makin" about the Tournament of Champions as I had the pleasure of serving as the "Voice of the TOC" the last ten years of it's existence and defined his performance to the crowds on the public address system in Las Vegas, NV. Mike shot a picture of he and I with his smart phone and put it on "twitter" or one of the electronic media pages resulting in 30 or more responses from other participants in past TOC's who recognized us from years gone by. Mike flew the SPA maneuvers with his "back-up" TAURUS he obtained from a swap-meet somewhere in Illinois some 15 years ago. It is powered by an EVOLUTION .52 2-stroke engine spinning an 11-7 1/4 power prop. Mike Hildebrandt and Mike Mc Conville helped each other during the weekend...Mike Hildebrandt flew a Norm Page designed Mach-1 that was finished beautifully (photo next page) and a 2-stroke that really "wound-up". It was indeed the fastest model in the contest with it's fairly thin airfoil. Lots of lookers "ooed and awed" over it's pretty finish.

A traditional part of the annual MASTERS is the Memorial Trophy "fly-off" which pits the top points competitor up to the MASTERS against the current Memorial Trophy holder, unless the current holder has won it 3 times. Well, this year it would have been Keith Watson and Jim Johns to compete since Jeff Owens has won it three times now. But, Keith wasn't able to attend due to illness and Jim Johns had his "burn" mishap in round one...so it fell to Russ Chiles and Dave Phillips...but Daves' crash eliminated that matchup...so with no other Senior Expert present to participate, Jeff took the trophy back to Florida and we'll see who qualifies for 2019. You can read the history behind the Memorial Trophy on the Senior Pattern Association website.



Results are as follows:

In the NOVICE class, Terry Boston K'd 4 of the six rounds to win with 4000. Joe Grant finished in 2nd with a total of 3953, Nathan Fisk flew to 3rd with 3136.

In SPORTSMAN class, Jim Strong K'd 4 rounds for number one, Scott Anderson flew to a total of 3879 for 2nd and 3rd went to Vic Koening who totaled 3759.

The ADVANCED class saw Jimmy Russell telling me he won with his Daddy Rabbitt. His score was 4000, Mike Hildebrandt and the speedy Mach 1 was 2nd with 3760, Bill Dodge only flew Saturday and scored 3539.

In EXPERT, it was again rulebook execution and a whisker difference in finishes, Jamie Strong won 1st with 3998, Mike Mc Conville 2nd at 3989 and Warren Oliver 3rd with 3950.

It was even closer in SENIOR EXPERT with Jeff Owens winning 4 of the 6 rounds for 4000, Bruce Underwood just 4 back for 2nd at 3996, Russ Chiles 3rd with 3436. Jim Johns and Dave Phillips both had their bad things occur in the initial round one.

POINTS CHAMPIONSHIP-Annual "points champs" are awarded each year at the MASTERS contest. Scott Anderson announced and presented awards to the following, *for the first time in history through 3rd place in each class:*

NOVICE: 1. Terry Boston 2. Joe Grant 3. Fred Robertson

SPORTSMAN: 1. Jim Strong 2. Scott Anderson 3. Duane Wilson

ADVANCED: 1. Jimmy Russell 2. Bill Dodge 3. Mike Hildebrandt

EXPERT: Jamie Strong 2. Jerry Black 3. Greg Hoke



SR EXPERT: 1. Jeff Owens 2. Bruce Underwood 3. Jim Johns

Big rounds of applause were sounded for the host club, cooks and Jim Johns for his adept computer skills utilized extensively this season in keeping scores. The attendees all thanked Scott for his **GREAT job** as CD for the MASTERS. Scott received his awards from Mr. William Tuggle, (pictured in the striped overalls) who served as temporary MC.

William is the "facilities manager" at this excellent flying site —part of the Chattanooga Park and Recreation facilities.

Thanks to John Davis teaming with Scott for the raffle, there were a "host" of prizes drawn — too many of the smaller ones for the PIO to list...but the big winners were: **Bootlegger kit with the already-sheeted wing by Scott, to Peggy Phillips. Bob Wilkes won the Novarossi 2-stroke engine and the special Jett-like muffler. Charles Johns won the \$50.00 cash prize furnished by the CRCC.**

Just like EVERY one of our 2018 contests, everyone who attended the MASTERS this year were "winners", for we were able to enjoy each other company for another weekend. There were some tears shed realizing it'll be several months till the new year of 2019 and the next SPA East contest.



Russ Tom Bruce

Mr. Tom Stennis drove by himself from Ocean Springs, Mississippi and visited awhile on Friday before a terrible sinus condition forced him to depart for the long return drive home. We're all

"rootin" for a speedy recovery for Tom and a speedy recovery for Missy.

Scott, a grocery-bag full of "thanks" for the exceptionally great job directing our SPA East Masters. It was an exceptionally good ending to the contest season of 2018. To you and to Chattanooga's club, we are so grateful for your' efforts providing the "cherry" on top! Bruce Underwood, SPA PIO



**NOVICES
Joe Clark Terry Boston Nathan Fisk**



Raffle goodies-thanks go to John and Scott



John Davis & William Tuggle



Unofficial SPA East ambassador Jamie Strong and Komet



**Mike Hildebrandt with his Norm 10
Page Mach 1-nice finish!**



Fort Worth THUNDERBIRDS

Western Open

2018



Unusual to see the Texas crowd with jackets on, but here is the proof. They do look happy however!

The SPA West Championships competition is in the books and what a wonderful event. Saturday was brisk with temperatures in the mid thirties with light winds and bright sunshine. Sunday as a little warmer but increased winds made it seem cooler. Sixteen competed in all classes and there was some magnificent flying and very close scores. When we added the scores for the Annual Points Champion in each class, there was a tie for the Advanced Champion.

There are so many people to thank for a successful meet. Gary Alphin did a great job organizing the contest and getting things going (just ask those that were late for pictures and the pilots meeting!). My wife Joyce cooked enough chicken and dumplings for all the pilots, helpers and visitors. Tab Bowland stepped in as Air Boss and the kept lines moving and judges in their chairs. Brian Alphin again and Kelli Shaw did the score entry with Ian Waring and Mel Wells running scores both days. Our normal entry to the park was closed due to high water so we had to go through a locked back way and Ian and Mel manned the gate Saturday and Sunday mornings.

Leslie Ensign and Kelli helped with pilot registration and raffle registration and serving lunch. Keith Knotts took individual pictures and group pictures, edited them and made a certificate for each pilot so that we only had to enter the place they finished. And Brian printed certificates and framed them. It takes a lot of people to put on a contest!

It was a pleasure to have Jamie Strong, Jim Strong and Dave Phillips from Alabama. We also had new SPA pilot Anthony Blair from College Station, Texas and Tommy Scarmardo from Houston, Texas.

Pilots were great about having their airplanes fueled and ready to fly as soon as the previous pilot landed. It can be a real challenge to get judges and pilots in position when running two flight lines and Tab did great in keeping them going.

Now for the important stuff, competition. Anthony Blair was the lone Novice pilot. He was practicing looking into the morning sun, got disoriented and you know the result. Fortunately, he brought a backup and finished the contest. The Sportsman division had young Samuel Corlett winning four rounds with Jim Strong winning the other two. Sam won with Jim in second, Eddie Bernaldez was third and Paul Mayhan in fourth.

Advanced class had a separation of only five points with Chris Berardi and Sam Corlett winning three rounds each. Chris had a total of 3989 and Sam 3984. Bobby Zikes was third with Gary Alphin fourth and Tommy Scarmardo fifth.

The Experts put on a real show in the light winds. Wayne Galligan led after the first day then Pat Ensign turned it on again and won with a total of 4000 points with Wayne taking second. Jamie Strong came in third even with a battery ejection through the canopy in one round. Dave Dingman flew very well for a fourth place finish. Senior Expert had Ken Knotts and Dave Phillips competing. Ken took first.



A couple of guys who know how to relax. Unofficial SPA East "ambassador" Jamie Strong and new VP elect Frank Cox share judging duties. No shade canopy necessary.

West High Points Champions

Presented by our new Vice President elect Frank Cox

Novice

Anthony Blair

Sportsman

Samuel Corlett

Advanced
Chris Berardi
Sam Corlett

Expert
Pat Ensign

SR Expert
Ken Knotts

NOVICE

Anthony Blair 4000

SPORTSMAN

Samuel Corlett 4000

Jim Strong 3899

Eddie Bernaldez 2752

Paul Mayhan 3453

ADVANCED

Chris Berardi 3990

Sam Corlett 3985

Bobby Zikes 3699

Gary Alphin 3303

Tommy Scarmardo 3060

EXPERT

Pat Ensign 4000

Wayne Galligan 3956

Jamie Strong 3871

David Dingman 3805

SENIOR EXPERT

Ken Knotts 4000

Dave Phillips 2494



Below: Pretty Deception from Frank Cox. Note the nice graphics!



First Tito I've seen since the legal period was extended-beautiful plane from Tony Scarmardo. The extension opens the door for many good designs to be used at future contests.

Dave Dingman inspects (or whatever) Ken Knott's (I think) Curare with unidentified well-clothed onlookers

SPA Member Profile-Bruce Underwood

Name/SPA Number: Bruce Underwood SPA LI5

City/State: Guntersville, Alabama

Occupation/Former Occupation: Commercial Radio Disc-Jockey, News Announcer. Radio Station WTWX FM 95.9Mhz Morning announcer and show with Guntersville Broadcasting since Oct.3, 1958. (*Damn-Eisenhower was president..editor*)

Years in Model Aviation: (*Forever-editor*) Loved Model Aviation since rubber powered and glider models assembled and flown at age nine, (that's a long time ago if you'll subtract the current age in January of 2018 shown in the profile photograph). Many thanks to the Directors for the card and the well-wishes and even the song at the 2018 BOD annual meeting in Cartersville, GA. They gave me this same card one year ago and I refused it since they had me a year older than was the case!

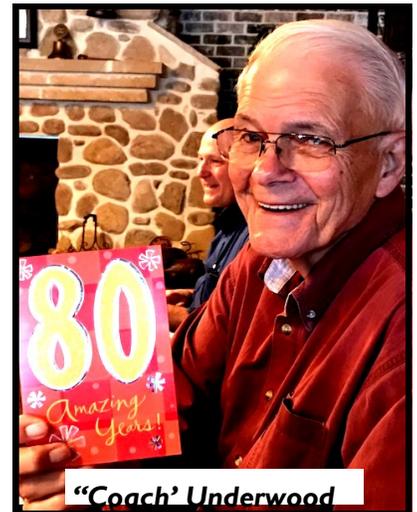
I fell in love with model airplanes as soon as I was old enough to assemble and fly them. In the early days it was Jim Walker gliders and Comet "stick" kits that could be had for as little as 10 cents up to 50 cents at the local dime store or local hobby shop, which was usually a part of a sporting goods or hardware store, etc. Gosh, what a progression to today's deluxe radio controlled SPA pattern models. Seems the first RC model was a single-channel polyhedral winged RC assisted free-flight equipped with a single tubed receiver and escapement powered by rubber. My initial "pattern" competition was with a single channel dihedral model and the maneuvers required were much simpler than required to be done in today's SPA schedules.

When did you join SPA: In 1991. Mickey Walker, Founder of SPA was a modeling buddy of mine who served as Georgia State Vice President for NSRCA District 5 the years I served as The NSRCA District Vice-President. He always accommodated AMA's desires to advance precision aeronautics.

How did you find out about the SPA and why did you decide to join?: Through Mickey. In 1991, it was a pleasure to be one of the original members of the Senior Pattern Association (SPA 15), which was "birthed" under his leadership that year. I just could not "afford" to travel to the original annual contest but missed very few since 1993. I was pleased to serve as SPA's President for about 15 years as well as it's Newsletter Editor almost as long. I am fortunate to have been succeeded in those two positions by such capable Pattern pilots as the current pair, Owens and Wilson.

Are you or have you been a full-scale pilot? If so, when, where and what do you fly?: Radio control is my mode of flight, I "dueled" a few hours in full scale Cessna's but became aware, my first love was flying RC Models. It's my humble opinion, "there's nothing comparable to the beauty of a precisely performed maneuver by an RC airplane".

Do you or have you competed in other organizations-have you gone to the NATs: It was my pleasure to serve as the *official announcer* for the last ten years of the Tournament of Champions pattern tournament in Las Vegas, NV. This was heralded as the "most prestigious" pattern contest in the world featuring invited pattern pilots from many different countries. It was sponsored by the late William Bennett who was director of two very successful casinos during that era. During the formative years of the TOC, some of the same pattern maneuvers flown by the SPA were flown in NON turnaround patterns. These early non-turnaround patterns exhibited a "cleanness, precision and grace" that is replicated by the current pattern schedules utilized by the Senior Pattern Association. It is this type of pattern that tends to "pacify my passion".



Something others may not know about you (other or past hobbies

and interests) I'd say the majority of my closest friends came about from associations via precision RC Aerobatic contests down through the years or an even earlier free-flight or control-line competition. I was joined in RC contesting for lots of years by my late Son Cass Underwood, who, unfortunately died suddenly in September of 2007 at the young age of just 47.

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Mail this form along with check/money order made out to The Senior Pattern Association for \$20.00 to: Keith Watson 1411 Farmington Court Marietta, Ga. 30008

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