

## Buzzard Patrol in force at annual SPA contest in the West



(Above) Flyers are ready to begin at the annual Buzzardaire SPA contest at the Texas Wings field in Newark Texas.

June 9, 2018. The annual Buzzardaire SPA contest took place at Texas Wings field in Newark Texas. Special recognition and many thanks go to the Wings club, a long-time supporter of SPA, for hosting us again this year. Their cheerful volunteers were invaluable in set up and clean up, running scorecards, keeping generators running, and serving a fantastic taco lunch.

15 flyers, a decent turnout for June heat, flew 5 rounds in temps of hi 90s and south winds varying from 8-17 with gusts to 23, a nice breeze for a hot Texas day. There were no crashes or even dings. These guys really have been practicing, reflecting the fact that many SPAers are out every weekend at Tbirds making lots of smoke and noise. Many classes are ending up with placing too close to call until after the last round.



(Above) Samuel Corlett shows off his ARF Kaos used in his first SPA contest. New SPA flyer Samuel Corlett did a fine job in Novice, with very smooth flying, winning that class.



(Above) Paul Mayhan and his winning Sweet Tator.  
Paul Mayhan and Frank Cox took First and Second, respectfully, in Sportsman.



(Above) Sam Corlett and (his son's) ARF Kaos brought on the competition in Advanced.

There were 6 in Advanced with Sam Corlett (Sr) taking first, Chris Berardi second, and Bernie Olson a close third.



(Above) Pat Ensign and his glass Curare take Expert.

In Expert Pat Ensign took first out of 5, with a close second place showing by Wayne Galligan, and a third place earned by new SPA flyer Stephen Byrd.



(Above) Robert Redmon uses his electric Curare to win Senior Expert.

Senior Expert rounded out the contest with Robert Redmon in first place and Ken Knotts taking second.



(Above) Gary Alphin wins the grand prize drawing.

Thank you to JT Hobbies in Fort Worth, a great SPA benefactor, for supplying another outstanding group of prizes including an O.S. Max .65AX engine for raffle (won by long time SPA flyer Gary Alphin). We could not do it without JT

The day ended with a dinner, this time at the Blue Bayou Bar and Grill, where several topics were discussed, food was hot and beer cold.

~Pat Ensign,C.D.