



SENIOR PATTERN ASSOCIATION

News Letter

Bruce Underwood - President

Steve Byrum-Secretary Treasurer

Jeff Hannah-Appointed Member

Ed Hartley-Web Site—Newsletter Editor

Ron Reed—Past President

Tom Atkins-Vice President

Mickey Walker-Past President

Jim Ivey-Chairman Special Projects

Frank Stewart-Appointed Member

Volume 11 Number 6

WEB SITE-<http://www.rcpattern.net/spa/spa.asp>

November-December 2001

2001 The Best Year Yet - SPA Simply Better

THE PRESIDENTS PERSPECTIVE



WINTER BRINGS BUILDING & ELECTIONS

What a delightful season 2001 has been....reflecting on all the activity for the year brings nothing but delight. I am sincerely grateful to the other officers, the Board, Special Events director, general membership, spouses, grandchildren, Sons & Daughters, Mothers-in-Law and just good friends and buddies for the success SPA has enjoyed this season.

You may find it confusing, my mentioning Mother-in-Law in the opening paragraph. It is due to my personal knowledge of a members Mother-in-Law loaning one of our members her vehicle to make a contest trip in...while keeping the members children for him and his spouse (her daughter) to enjoy the contest week-end. Recall Red Buttons doing the little bit on his TV show...where he holds his hand cupped to his good ear while belting out "hey-hey, ho-ho, strange things are happening"?

At another of this seasons contests....one of our members forgot his transmitter so a buddy lent him his spare which just happened to be FM and on the same frequency as the forgetful pilots'. Talking about coincidences, that probably wouldn't happen again in a hundred years. Oh, while on the subject of going to a contest and forgetting something...what about the Super Senior who forgot his teeth? No coincidental buddies to come to his rescue....needless to say, he sure got tired of milkshakes and mashed potatoes.

We had a great time with our "Tall Tale" contest...which allowed ALL members, competitive flyers or not a chance to win a handsome walnut trophy that sports a colorful smiley-button. I'm hoping Scotty Barland will bring this trophy along the contest trail this coming season so others that missed the Masters this year can see it.

It's that time of the year to cast your votes for our leadership for the coming season and submit your meager \$20.00 dues for the 2002 year. I am a believer in suggesting by example.. so by the time you read this, Steve will have my personal dues for next year. One of our current officers, not gonna mention the VP by name, has submitted dues for several years in advance. I suppose, based on that.....despite the increasing costs of printing, mailing, etc. we'll not be able to entertain a dues increase for awhile. Seriously, nothing has been said about a dues increase for the SPA, we just hope to absorb the increasing costs of being organized and operable with increased membership. Our feeling currently is "its' better to have five members at \$20.00 each than two at \$40.00 each".

Let me encourage each of you to acquaint a modeling buddy of yours to SPA and lets grow our ranks and maintain that reasonable membership rate. Steve and Ed usually send me a half-dozen or so extra copies of each newsletter which I have used in the past for recruiting....if you have a friend who would like one to sort of prime his interest, get me his or her mailing address and I'll get them one.

Details of the current election are elsewhere in the newsletter, let me urge you to give this your immediate attention, return your ballot to Steve, preferably with your dues payment and we'll "hit the ground running" in 2002.

My sincere wishes for a very Merry Christmas to you all. When making your new years resolutions...remain resolute.

BRUCE

2002

As soon as you have your contest dates please send them to

ed@rcpattern.net

Or the return address on this newsletter!

2002 The Best Year Yet

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We have been supplying the South with the best in plaques and Trophies for the last 8 years....Tired of paying to much \$\$\$\$.....???? That's what we are here for..On the average, An SPA meet uses 21 plaques....WOW!!!!!!.. Lot of money you say??... Not if you call **TNT**....We can use your club logo on the plaque or the SPA logo....PRICE, you say.... how about \$250.00 on average.....PLUS, I'll throw in a 4th & 5th place plaque for Novice. **FREE**!!.....**You read it right....FREE!!!!**

No matter what the event may be, WE PROVIDE THE **BEST** FOR ANY EVENT... That's why we are **TOP NOTCH**..... Cass Underwood

**Top Notch Trophies
Guntersville, AL 35976
(256)582-0606**

The Chairman of the Board



Hello Every body, well I was thinking about what to write about This month when all of a sudden my email lights up with an old subject, HOW TO EXPAND THE SPA, Here are some of my ideas, they are not new.

I researched some of my original notes, and early news letters, along with a box of letters from when the

SPA was first started, A lot of famous people in these letters by the way. I find my ideas then and now are about the same.

One of the e mails I read, and I admit at first got to me, was from A relatively new member, his idea is to get the SPA membership to bombard the magazine pattern news editors with pictures and letters about the SPA. He is right on here, no problem from me. So what is the problem?

Nothing except for the seven years I did the news letter I begged for people to do this, and the only pictures the editors received came from me, or possibly some other officer. Until the Spa membership as a whole takes some action here this will not change.

As good as our officers are they can not do it alone. Another thing when you start any organization in a new area it takes some one in that area to promote it hence the original idea to form chapters around the country. Also while looking at some of the early goals that I thought would help, I found two that I thought were very important. One has been carried out when we attained special interest status with the AMA, the other was to have an event at the AMA Nationals this has not been done, It could be, but it would take some one to run it. This would do more than any one thing to really get the SPA going on a national level.

On another note the old retract issue has surfaced again, surprise surprise, this has been going on since day one. It always seems to start with some one who has never flown in an SPA event, My advise here keep it simple.

Also I note the new OS91 engine for \$800.00 I think this should be declared not legal just like the YS air chamber engines for the same reasons, to expensive.

Well these are just my ideas they have been around for eleven Years now, will they work? Who knows they ain't been tried. Happy Holliday's
Mickey

ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

In mid October I E-mailed a nominating committee of three members appointed as per our By-Laws. They were Rusty Miller SPA 124 of Georgia, Ed Kirtley SPA 123 of Kentucky and Ray Craig SPA 114 of Alabama. I made an honest effort to select members from diverse locales, ages and class competition.

The slate I received from Ed Kirtley acting as a quorum spokesman was the following:

President - Bruce Underwood SPA 15 Vice Pres - Tom Atkins SPA 4 Sec/Tres. - Steve Byrum SPA 109

These are the 2001 and current officers and have offered to serve again during the coming year if elected by a majority of membership.

The By-Laws proclaim the month of December as election month.

Section 3 of Article VII says " The Nominating Committee shall submit no less than 2 members for each elected office, and this report shall be given at the November meeting, etc.

In keeping with the intent of the original SPA By-Laws, may I suggest this method of election participation. Clip the ballot attached to this newsletter which contains the officers nominated by the Committee and a section for "write-ins" of your choice....mail to Steve Byrum (preferably with your' meager \$20.00 dues payment) prior to December 30, 2001.

Section 6 calls for 3 tellers who shall tabulate the vote and report said vote to the President. Since the ballots will be mailed to the Sec/Tres in Cullman, AL I will appoint Steve Byrum SPA 109, Richard Witt SPA 173 and John Duvall SPA 118 the 3 tellers since all live in the same general area and can convene on Dec. 31, 2001 for the count. Totals will be posted on the SPA maillist on that date upon completion of the total count.

The above program will allow the new slate to "hit the ground running", schedule an official Board Meeting in January, etc. Thanks in advance for your participation.

PLEASE CUT OUT THE BALLOT AND THE RENEWAL FORM, FILL THEM OUT AND SEND IT ALONG WITH YOUR RENEWAL FEE TO STEVE!



**Don't put it
off Renew
Today!**

BALLOT - 2002 SPA OFFICERS

President () Bruce Underwood () _____

Vice - Pres. () Tom Atkins () _____

Sec/Tres. () Steve Byrum () _____

Senior Pattern Association

RENEWAL FORM/Membership Application

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City-State-Zip _____

Current Club Affiliation _____

Membership Dues \$20.00 Make checks payable to Senior Pattern Association
Mail to:

Steve Byrum
1326 3RD St. SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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From New Zealand

I guess that simplicity is what has attracted many of the pilots to the New Zealand series, there are serious (FAI) pilots down here but most of our pilots are either very new, or can remember flying the things when they were newer. Our rules are slightly different, construction is to be in the spirit of the original, so there is very little glass or foam around, and we allow retracts only if the original had them, ie, its on the plan. With a max engine size of .65 for two strokes (for the LA .65) and .70 for four strokes, we are not likely to get into big money engines either, even an OS .90 standard is exorbitantly priced here. The only problem we foresee is losing people to the bigger classes (FAI and IMAC) as our pilots improve... Which may not be a bad thing after all. Build 'em Quick!

Evan Pimm.

Thanks Evan for the info on SPA type activity in New Zealand....our Secretary says SPA's initial International member is in New Zealand, if memory serves me.

Yes, Simplicity is indeed a magnet quality of SPA interest...affordability is another, and just plain good fellowship and camaraderie I suppose is the vacuum of participa-

Your rules there are quite interesting...matter of fact, your statement regarding retracts prompted me to consult my reprint of the DADDY RABBIT column which was in the May 1967 issue of Model Airplane News just to see if the plans for the Daddy Rabbit flown to the championship of the Nationals multi class in 1966 had retracts or not....it did not...but rather fixed gear. I obtained the reprint of this article and several others from:

Wayne Cartwright P. O. Box 946 Pukekohe Auckland New Zealand j-w.cartwright@clear.net.nz

I assume you know him and his plans and article collection...its' probably the most comprehensive collection of model articles, plans, etc. that I have seen. I note he has articles and plans for Kazmirski's 1960 World Champion plane, the Orian as well as Ed K's Taurus.

I have an almost complete listing of Mr. Cartwrights' inventory on a WORD file stored on a floppy disc... would be happy to send it to you or anyone else via private E-Mail upon request.

Sorry about your' extra high prices for engines, etc there, I suppose we pilots in the good ole USA do have an advantage there.

Thanks again for your' sharing of SPA type activity there...we welcome this sort of input from like activity worldwide.

Best, Bruce Underwood

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Ed Hartley
221 Oran Road
Knoxville, TN 37922

