

## Chicago Classic Pattern Championships: May 29, 2010

By Rusty Dose

The Chicago Classic Pattern Championships was created to celebrate the growing interest in "Classic Pattern", the golden age of R/C pattern flying, from 1968 to about 1985. The scheduled one day event combined the rules and structure from the Senior Pattern Association ([www.seniorpattern.com](http://www.seniorpattern.com)) and the Ballistic Pattern Association ([www.ballisticpattern.com](http://www.ballisticpattern.com)) by offering two classes from each classic pattern special interest group. Each organization has a similar "eligible" airplane list which mandates that the models must have been designed prior to 1988. The BPA allows the use of retracts and tuned exhaust systems while the SPA does not allow retracts, no tuned exhaust systems, select 4-strokes (no YS) and the original airplane designs may be modified.

Dave Guerin agreed to be my Co-CD (Dave should know to screen all calls from me by now!) and we were thrilled to host nineteen pilots who traveled to the Fox Valley Aero Club ([www.foxvalleyaero.com](http://www.foxvalleyaero.com)) field located in St. Charles, Illinois (a western suburb of Chicago) from as far away as North Carolina, Ohio, Alabama and California to compete, meet new friends and experience the nostalgia from their youth. The FVAC flying site may very well be one of the finest facilities in the country with its' 50' x 800' asphalt runway on an 8.3 acre site with a covered shelter, work benches and the new "Juice Bar" AC/DC charging station.

Official practice began on Friday May 28<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00AM with no fewer than ten classic pattern models sitting in the pits ready to fly...Tiporare, Phoenix 8, XLT, Blue Angel, Calypso, Intruder, Kaos 40, Arrow, Aurora! There is nothing quite like the sound of a classic pattern model coming out of a 500 foot split "S" with a .61 turning an 11" prop at 14,000+ rpm!

The event also attracted a few special modelers and their airplanes. Mark Radcliff, USA F3A Team member 75,77,79 and 81, brought his Phoenix 8 that he flew to a 5<sup>th</sup> place finish in the 1981 world championships...and man can he fly it! Mark also brought his 1978 Tournament of Champions entry, Webra .91 powered Kraft Super Fli which he graciously flew during the noon break. Mike McConville of Horizon Hobby, brought the new Hangar 9 Phoenix 7 designed by pattern legend Don Lowe. The model will be released in August as an ARF (\$339.99) featuring a painted glass fuselage, plug in built up flying surfaces and is covered in Ultracote using Mark Radcliff's signature color scheme. The kit comes retract ready and many will chose the new E-Flite electric retracts.

The four rounds of flying were contestant judged with Larry Larsen, Chicago Pattern Animal "Hall of Fame" scoring master, modifying the NSRCA scoring program by adding the SPA and BPA schedules. The event could not have taken place without Larry's tireless work...he is the best! The Fox Valley Aero Club was very supportive in allowing me to have this experimental event and based upon the positive feed back, will more than likely let me host it again in 2011.

It appears that the interest in Classic Pattern flying is growing and to assist in your efforts to host a contest, I have created a "Classic Contest in a Box". There is actually no box, rather a collection of electronic files consisting of the scoring program, event flyer template, club meeting presentation with volunteer list and basic promotion methodology. If you chose to have a "Concours d'Elegance" class which celebrates model design, craftsmanship, equipment installation, finish and graphics, I will personally supply the plaques for Champion and Runner-up! Contact me @ JP Morgan (312) 580-6838 or [boyd.dose@att.net](mailto:boyd.dose@att.net).

**SPA Novice**

Austin Wingo	3000
Dave Phillis III	2682
Gary Stephens	2621
Brandon Sobolewski	2582
Ed Bywalec	2541
Chris McMillin	2384
Mark Kosco	2016

**BPA Advanced**

Tim Redelman	3000
Tony Coberly	2660
Mike Hilderbrandt	2605
Dave Phillips	2264

**BPA Masters**

Michael McConville	3000
Rusty Dose	2913
Mark Radcliff	2893
Michael Wingo	2718
Gary Courtney	2681
Ralph White	2467
Robert Satalino	2335
Steven Rosenblatt	2263

**Concours d'Elegance**

Champion	Rusty Dose/Dave Guerin	1973 World Champion Blue Angel "Replica"
Runner-up	Michael Wingo	Aurora