

# **Thermals**

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

April 2004 AMA Chartered Club 1245 Volume XXVIII Number 4

# **President's Message**

Spring is here and the last time I was out to the field it is starting to turn green and the harvested areas are beginning to grow in so it will not be long before we have a great big green field to fly on again. I do not know about you all but I can not wait for everything to be green again. It feels good to be done with winter and moving on to the new season.

We now have tested the winches in two contests and only had some minor problems that were easily fixed. Take the time to thank Jim for all the hard work he has put into getting all this done for the start of this season. I have not had anyone that was qualified to CD the Spring Soaring Festival contact me. So unless someone steps up the Spring Soaring Festival is officially cancelled. I will not have the time to CD this event and to make matters more difficult I have not had time to get my CD certification with the AMA, and this contest needs a "real" CD to make the AMA happy. If no one steps up to CD this one in the next week, I am going to have to cancel this event due to club apathy on the part of our CD's... It is a shame because there are many that are willing to step up and help, just no one to take the head CD spot and because of this I am afraid that the SSF is dead unless one of you will step up to the plate.

On a brighter note one of our previous members, Neil Schmoker, has just opened a R/C hobby Shop in Longmont. It is "R/C Wheels and Wings" I asked Neil to send me some information so we could put it in the news letter but he has been rather busy and missed this addition, So that is a good sign because every time I stop by he is busy with something making his new shop better. Anyway if you are up in the Longmont area Look up R/C Wheels and Wings and see what he is up to and say Hi.

Neil Schmoker

R/C Wheels & Wings Inc.

303 776-2796

So let the Spring Soaring Begin, Yeee Haaa it's Spring agian!!!

Dr. Dan Williams

# **Next Meeting:**

Date/Time: April 6, 2004 – 7:00 PM

Location: Broomfield Advanced Chiropractic

26 Garden Ctr

Broomfield CO 80020-7012

**Program**: Swap Shop – buy, sell, trade your old stuff

# Sunday April 18th Open Contest CD Don Ingram

Entry Fee: \$5.00 Registration: 8:30 AM Pilot's Meeting: 9:15 AM First Flight: 9:30 AM

Current (2001) AMA membership is required and must be shown – if you haven't renewed – get to it...

Please be registered and have planes assembled by Pilot's Meeting. We will be flying on the WEST field, the same one we ended the season last year on.

**Tasks:** Tasks will AMA T1- International duration - man on man. The task times for all rounds will be based on weather conditions. Please have your models assembled and ready to fly *before* the pilots meeting.

**Landing:** Regular AMA (L4) landing tapes will be used.

# Treasurer's Report

John Pearson has begun keeping the RMSA books in electronic form and will be providing regular club expense/revenue statements. Thanks John

Here is the first report.

10/1/2003 Through 3/27/2004

Num	Date	Payee	Category	Amount	Running Balance
Opening Balance as of 10/1/2003					1692.6600
Month Ending 1/31/2004					
1800 1801 Total Month Ending 1/31/2004	2004-01-08 2004-01-08 2004-01-24	AMA Bob Rice Jim Monaco	Reimbursement Newsletter Winch Stuff	938.9600 -165.4000 -530.0000 243.5600	2631.6200 2466.2200 1936.2200
Month Ending 2/29/2004 1802 Total Month Ending 2/29/2004	2004-02-03	Jim Monaco	Winch Stuff	-147.0000 -147.0000	1789.2200
Month Ending 3/31/2004  1803  1804 1805 Total Month Ending 3/31/2004	2004-03-10 2004-03-22 2004-03-24 2004-03-24	Jim Monaco PayPal Charlie Miller Jim Monaco	Winch Stuff Club Dues Repairs Repairs	-768.5500 506.3400 -260.0000 -100.0000 -622.2100	1020.6700 1527.0100 1267.0100 1167.0100
Grand Total				-525.6500	1167.0100

# Pro/Am Report Jim Monaco CD

The 6<sup>th</sup> annual Pro/Am was held on March 7 with good soaring conditions. We had 8 teams compete in a low-key fun environment. The first round we did an open winch format to allow everyone to get tuned up and trimmed, then the rest of the rounds were flown in our normal man-on-man format. The new winches were used for the first time and they worked very well, with no line breaks and plenty of power for the entire contest. The only problems we had were that one of the winches had a brake attachment bracket that was too long and if the line got loose the loops would snag the bracket. Also the brake belts needed to be broken in and initially were not stopping the drums quick enough. We attached rubber bands to the brake and anchored them to the frame to put some tension on the arm and all the problems went away. After the belts broke in, we removed the rubber bands and all was well.

Everyone got into the MOM routine and things went very quickly. We ran the MOM format slightly different than usual, because this was a team event, we needed to keep the teams members from flying against each other. To do this we scheduled the Pros together and the Ams together. Everyone did a great job with substitute shagging to keep team members working together.

We flew 5 rounds of tough competition. As it happened, the top amateur (Ryan O'Hara) and the top pro (Bob Lewan) were on the same team – that made them the top team as well! Congratulations guys...

The point of this event is to give everyone some time to get ready for the contest season and to help the less experienced flyer advance their skills. This was accomplished and in addition, everyone had fun – so everyone was a winner. Thanks VERY MUCH to the Pros that came out and participated. All the amateurs (and myself) appreciated that they came to fly and help.

Thanks to Bob Vixie for the Pictures included below. **Jim** 

The final scores are below:

# 2004 Pro/Am March 4, 2004

Class	Nome	Place by Class	RD 1	RD 2	RD 3	RD 4	RD 5	Raw Total	Rounds Flown	Total	Norm by	Norm by Contest		Team
														I Calli
	D - Bob Lewan				1000.00					5000.00	1000.00			
Α	D - Ryan O'Hara	1	975.66	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	4975.66	5	4975.66	1000.00	995.13	1	9975.66
Р	B - Bob Vixie	3	991.15	962.75	953.22	988.37	1000.00	4895.48	5	4895.48	979.10	979.10	2	
Α	B - Cody Remington	2	926.99	1000.00	927.84	990.20	927.05	4772.07	5	4772.07	959.08	954.41	2	9667.56
Р	H - George Blair	7	849.56	966.73	936.42	798.45	461.39	4012.55	5	4012.55	802.51	802.51	3	
Α	H - Jim Newcomb	3	984.51	888.02	1000.00	849.67	1000.00	4722.20	5	4722.20	949.06	944.44	3	8734.75
Α	C - Jeff Ellsworth	4	931.42	500.00	898.97	1000.00	772.04	4102.42	5	4102.42	824.50	820.48	4	
Р	C - Rich O'Connell	6	924.78	675.15	974.66	1000.00	537.40	4111.99	5	4111.99	822.40	822.40	4	8214.41
Α	G - Chuck Stasek	5	904.87	414.68	647.42	735.29	626.02	3328.28	5	3328.28	668.91	665.66	5	
Р	G - Don Ingram	5	982.30	603.92	1000.00	715.71	992.28	4294.21	5	4294.21	858.84	858.84	5	7622.49
Р	E - Joseph Newcomb	2	971.24	1000.00	976.88	974.81	990.16	4913.08	5	4913.08	982.62	982.62	6	
Α	E - Ken Jochim	6	785.40	206.29	369.29	553.07		1914.05	4	1914.05	384.68	382.81	6	6827.13
Р	A - Dr. Dan	4	944.69	992.16	994.15	556.66	826.25	4313.91	5	4313.91	862.78	862.78	7	
Α	A - Steve Suntkin	7	261.06	200.40	244.81	718.95	132.11	1557.34	. 5	1557.34	312.99	311.47	7	5871.25
Р	F - Byron Blakeslee	8	986.73	812.13	996.10	620.28	570.87	3986.10	5	3986.10	797.22	797.22	8	]
Α	F - Tony O'Hara	8	265.49			871.51	240.12	1377.12	3	1377.12	276.77	275.42	8	5363.22



Jim Monaco Landing



General Launch Picture



Jo-Ellen shows it was cold in the morning

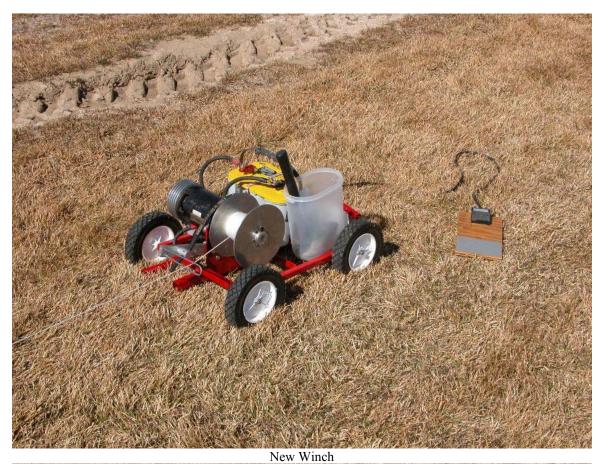


Cody with his Emerald



Dr, Dan Landing

Bob Lewan Landing





New Winch

# RMSA March 14 Contest Report Rich O'Connell CD

It was obvious that the weather forecast from earlier in the week had made an impression on a large number of the active contest pilots in the club as attendance was less than I had expected. On the plus side we were able to get in six rounds of flying by 2:00. The down side being we quickly remembered how much manpower is required to smoothly run a man-on-man sailplane contest. Everyone pitched in and lent a hand timing and shagging where needed and the contest ran very well.

A special note of thanks to all of those that worked at building the new club winches. The new equipment worked flawlessly, and gave good strong consistently reliable launches all across the flight line. Well done.

The day started overcast and a little on the cold side but by the start of the first round the cloud layer had blown off and the field and the thermals began to heat up. The format was International Duration using the AMA landing tapes. The time tasks for the first two rounds were six and eight minuets and the final four rounds were all ten minuets. The flying conditions were almost too good and it quickly became a landing contest. After it was all said and done the point spread for the nine pilots who flew in Masters Class was forty four points after six rounds of flying, and the spread for the first five places was an amazing eleven points.

Congratulations to Danny Dermer for winning his first contest as a Sportsman, and Bob Dixon for first place in Novice. The first five places in Masters went to;

First Lenny Keer
Second Rich O'Connell
Third Jim Monaco
Forth Dr. Dan Williams
Fifth Charlie Miller

ID	Class	Name MASTER	Place by Class	RD 1	RD 2	RD 3	RD 4	RD 5	RD 6	Raw Total	Rounds Flown	# Throw Outs	Safety Penaltys	Total	Norm by Class	Norm by Contest
7	M	Lenny Keer	1	995.56	1000.00	1000.00	994.21	997.12	997.09	5983.97	6			5983.97	1000.00	1000.00
9	M	Richard O'Connell	2	993.32	993.06	989.94	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	5976.32	6			5976.32	998.72	998.72
6	M	Jim Monaco	3	997.77	1000.00	995.68	1000.00	964.91	1000.00	5958.37	6			5958.37	995.72	995.72
13	M	Dr. Danny Williams	4	1000.00	991.32	1000.00	966.71	997.12	979.35	5934.50	6			5934.50	991.73	991.73
10	M	Charles Miller	5	953.33	1000.00	1000.00	968.07	1000.00	1000.00	5921.40	6			5921.40	989.54	989.54
8	M	Bob Lewan	6	942.60	994.79	945.40	985.49	1000.00	1000.00	5868.29	6			5868.29	980.67	980.67
2	M	Bob Vixie	7	1000.00	951.30	981.32	1000.00	950.29	969.65	5852.57	6			5852.57	978.04	978.04
1	M	Joseph Newcomb	8	993.38	970.43	979.89	908.45	978.48	995.63	5826.26	6			5826.26	973.64	973.64
5	M	Byron Blakeslee	9	1000.00	993.06	971.22	866.86	901.00	989.68	5721.82	6			5721.82	956.19	956.19
	S	SPORTSMOMASTERS														
12	S	Danny Dermer	1	581.29	972.22	861.87	959.36	967.00	959.54	5301.28	6			5301.28	1000.00	885.91
3	S	Cody Remington	2	706.67	664.93	992.82	914.62	978.39	570.80	4828.21	6			4828.21	910.76	806.86
4	S	Steve Suntken	3	719.38	285.22	364.03				1368.62	3			1368.62	258.17	228.71
	N	Novice														
11	N	Bob Dixon	1	671.08	154.78	293.10	545.77	219.30	260.55	2144.59	6			2144.59	1000.00	358.39

# **Swap Shop**

This meeting will include a Swap shop. Bring your old, unused, unloved stuff and see if anyone else wants it. Planes, Parts, Accessories are all eligible.

See Ya there

Jim

# **Stylus Tip**

For quite some time Mike Verzuh and I have been frustrated by the seemingly random changes in flight surface trim, often between flying sessions, and sometime during the sessions. We at first attributed it to servos drifting, then observed that no such behavior happened on planes we flew without the Stylus and it did not matter what brand or model of servos we were using. This seemed to narrow it down to the Stylus and we blamed it on temperature related pot drift. One hazard of this is that it seems that if one adjusts the elevator centers YOU MUST also check your launch and reflex settings because they are adversely affected by changing the elevator trim. Several exciting launches after adjusting the elevator trim and failing to check the launch setting has ingrained this check in out minds. One day in perusing the Stylus manual, I discovered the TRIM-M setting. As it happens, this setting is designed to allow you to fly your model and trim the surfaces using the trim tabs. When you shut your model off it REMEMBERS those trim settings, allowing you to set the trim tabs back to the center and having the model flying with the saved trim in the surfaces. I surmised that this behavior was actually what was causing all out problems. Here is the scenario: Fly a bit and modify the trim setting (usually the elevator) and land. Turn transmitter off without resetting the trim tabs to save battery. Turn radio on and center the trim tabs for flight – Hmmm why are the surfaces messed up? OK – go to centering and fix. Go to Launch and Reflex and Fix – fly and have fun... Repeat stupid procedure next flight.

The answer is simple – unless you really LIKE that feature and are disciplined enough to center all the controls before you shut the radio off, disable the stupid setting. Do this at home before the flying session. Go to TRIM-M and hit the + and – buttons at the same time to inhibit this function. You will see the surfaces go to some unusual positions. This happens because the offsets kept in the trim memory are gone. You could just use the radio center function to recenter all the surfaces, but I prefer to recenter the surfaces on the bench mechanically – set the radio centers to ZERO – then mechanically adjust the surfaces as close as you can get, then use the CENTER function to fine tune them. Guess what – after doing this you will find the servos stayed centered for every flight... WOO HOO...

Another issue is that many of us start a new model by copying an old model setup, we zero out the centers, then mechanically set the trims and fine tune with the CENTER adjustment. If you did not have the TRIM-M set INHIBIT before you did this, you did not really have the servos set at zero to start, the servo center is offset by the trim memory (which can be significant – some of mine were 80%!). If you want to keep the TRIM-M feature – be sure to zero the trim offsets in the TRIM-M menu when you start a new model. If you INHIBIT the TRIM-M then only the CENTER setting adjust the servo centering.

Hope this helps and explains some odd behaviors you have observed with the Stylus...

Jim Monaco

### **New Products**

Here is an interesting receiver that needs no crystals – a great thing to have when selecting frequencies at the flying field. This is not an endorsement – just information. I think I am going to try one though ©

Jim

#### **SKY & TECHNOLOGY RECEIVER 8 CHANNEL**

THIS IS THE MOST ADVANCED RECEIVER ON THE MARKETPLACE TODAY. IT INCLUDES FEATURES ONLY FOUND IN THIS RECEIVER AND IS THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE.

Features include

- Master Control Recognition Technology
- Compatible with ANY FM transmitter all brands
- Program 2 seperate transmitters to one receiver
- The smallest and lightest in the World weighs 11 grams
- Measure 2" X 1 1/8" X 7/16" very small
- Simple to programm
- PLL technology, no crystals
- Advanced Automatic Gain Control
- This receiver uses Phase Lock Loop channel frequency synthesizing so there are no crystals. It will operate on all channels within the chosen frequency band that means complete freedom of channel selection from 11 to 60 in the 72 mhz. band.
- The lowest signal detection on the marketplace, an outstanding 1 microvolt means range beyond anything you have experienced so far but controlled sensitivity using the AGC. The Master Control Recognition feature will allow you the best opportunity to work through outside interference if a transmitter is accidentally turned on using the same frequency.
- This is simply an outstanding receiver product and you owe it to yourself to give your plane the best chance at a safe and controlled operation. There is nothing else close to the integrated use of these technologies in a radio control receiver today. Fly the best.
- This price is far below what you will pay for any current fully synthesized receiver.

Sales Price: \$75.00

# For Sale

**Emerald** – Some battle scars but in pretty good condition. Freshly painted fuselage. Built-up rudder installed (original molded rudder comes with it). 2 HS-85BB servos on ailerons. 2 HS225BBMG servos on Flaps. 2-HS85BB for rudder elevator. No receiver or battery. **\$450** 

Jim Monaco JimMonaco@Earthlink.net (303) 464-9895

**Tragi 705X**. Yellow/Red. 72 oz. Awesome build quality - Mueller +. Jr Digitals throughout. I have had this bird out only twice. Great L/D and sink rate. \$1850 including fuse stand.

Tom Gressman Office 303-744-3535 X1101

North Wind Class 36 600 Sailing Yacht Kit complete with instructions ---- \$50.00 Clarence Dollmeyer ---- 303 457 2708

#### PFALZ – DIII slow flyer / Park Flyer

COMPLETE PACKAGE

(Includes wing alignment device)

\$99.00
incl.
\$16.00
\$ 3.54
\$11.70
\$24.95
\$27.60
incl.
\$42.00
\$69.00
<u>\$282.59</u>
\$182.00

Here is a PIX of a simular model. http://www.hobby-lobby.com/nieuport.htm

Guy Russo

flyguy@adelphia.net 208-659-4747

**Graphite Wings and two fuselages**, one configured for electric operation (JR Servos in the tail, ready for motor), the other fuse is standard for TD operation with light built up v-tail. Fuselage condition is very good, wings have had repairs to the tips only. Voltz flap servos with Hi-Techs in ailerons and TD fuse– For Sale at \$475 Mike Verzuh (970)532-0638 or Mike.Verzuh@Seagate.com

# 2004 RMSA Contest/Event Calendar

Date	Туре	CD	Name/Notes
January 25	Open (PPSS)	Bob Avery	Fun Fly
February 3	RMSA Meeting		
February 7-8			SWC - Phoenix
February 22	RES (PPSS)	Chris Keller	Snow Fly
March 2	RMSA Meeting		•
March 7	Pro/Am	Jim Monaco	
March 14	Open*	Rich O'Connell	
March 21	Open (PPSS)	John Read	March Madness
April 6	RMSA Meeting		
April 18	Open*	Don Ingram	Spring Fling
April 25	RES (PPSS)	Joel Zellmer	Humps and Bumps
May 4	RMSA Meeting		
May 8	Electric (PPSS)	Jack Dech	Watts O' Fun
May 16	Open*	Bob Moffett	Summer Fun
May 23	Open (PPSS)	Chris Keller	May Fly
June 1	RMSA Meeting		
June 13	Open*	Tony O'Hara	
June 4-5	9,500		IHLG - Torrey Pines
June 19-20	F3J in the Rockies*	Mark Howard	Tentative schedule
June 20	RE (PPSS) !	Dave Kurth	Memorial
June 26	HLG**	John Kappus	Tablio in
June 27	Scale Fest	Lenny Keer	Scale Fun Fly
July 6	RMSA Meeting	Denny 12001	500.01 0.111
July 11	Open*	Jim Monaco	Sparks Flying Open
July 18	HLG**	John Kappus	2 p 2 2 j g 2 p 2 1 2
July 24-31	1120	V 01111 1245 P 415	Soaring NATS - Muncie ID
July 25	Open (PPSS)	Bob Avery	Height O' the Season
August 2-8	5,500 (2.5 2.2)		F3J World Championships - Red Deer Canada
August 3	RMSA Meeting		
August 7-8	Spring Soaring Festival*	Dr. Danny Williams	Spring Soaring Festival (Sat Aug 7 will count as the club monthly contest) Tentative
August 14	Open (PPSS)	Austin Cleis	Howling Coyote (night fly)
August 22	RES (PPSS)	Greg Tarcza	Dog Daze
August 29	HLG**	John Kappus	
September 7	RMSA Meeting	•	
September 12	Open*	Bob Rice	Colorado Challenge Cup
September 26	Open (PPSS)	Gus Gustafson	Soar Bash
October 2-3			Visalia Fall Fest
October 3	HLG (PPSS)	Bob Vixie	Fall Fling
October 5	RMSA Meeting		
October 10	Open*	Mike Verzuh	
October 24	RES (PPSS)	Dave Meyers	Witches Brew
November 2	RMSA Meeting		
November 7	Open*	???	
November 21	Open (PPSS)	John Read	Turkey Shoot
December 5	RMSA Banquet		

<sup>\*</sup>Club Open points contest (Best 6 Scores)

#### Italics indicates PPSS events held at their location

<sup>\*\*</sup>Club HLG points contest (Best 3 of 4 including the PPSS HLG event)

<sup>!</sup> Planes will be limited to rudder and elevator controls, but the wing span limitation has been lifted.

#### 2004 Board Members

**President**: Dr. Danny Williams **Vice President:** Mark Howard

Secretary: **Bob Rice** John Pearson Treasurer: Past President: **Shannon Bingham**  (303) 278-7519 (303) 745-5629 (303) 306-6800

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#### Member Support

http://www.rmsadenver.com

Chief

Instructor: Jack Zika Instructor: Mark Howard F3B/F3J: Mark Howard

(303) 279-1549 (303) 505-9488 (Pager) (303) 278-7519 Mhoward@spaceimaging.com (303) 278-7519 Mhoward@spaceimaging.com

Librarian: Tracy Cochran (303) 934-8838 Tcochran@idcomm.com Newsletter: Jim Monaco (303) 464-9895 JimMonaco@earthlink.net

Winch Master

(970) 532-0638 Mike Verzuh mike.e.verzuh@seagate.com



#### Directions to Field

Take I-76 to exit 16. Turn left and follow the frontage road to the stoplight and turn east onto 120<sup>th</sup> eastbound towards the airport. Take 120<sup>th</sup> East to Tower Rd. Turn left (North) on Tower. Look for a left turn onto a dirt access road on the North side of the sod farm. We are on the Northwest corner of that part of the sod farm. Flying for RMSA members and accompanied guests only.



**Rocky Mountain Soaring Association** 1123 S. Oakland St Aurora CO 80012

Forwarding Address Requested

First Class Mail