



# Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

May 2004

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXVIII Number 5

## President's Message

I am typing this month's message and I am looking out my window today and I see nothing but white and it is still snowing rather hard and just to make matters worse Jim had called me and let me know that there was no snow in Longmont! WELL that is Colorado for you in the spring.

I am going to ask for help from the membership for programs for the meetings, as I have been rather busy and not really done my part nor have I had the time for finding programs for the meetings. So I am putting this on to the membership and I am asking for help here. So if you have something or know someone/something that has something that would be interesting for a meeting contact me. I have just not had the time to be able to put together anything for the meetings So I am delegating it to the general membership.

For those of you that Mike Fritz he was involved in a Auto accident a few weeks back. He had been treated at a hospital and then released a little while later blood clot's from a broken leg got in to his blood stream and caused an embolism. Mike is in Memorial Hospital in Colorado Springs as I write this. I stopped by yesterday and they are moving him out of ICU into a regular room. So this is all good information. If you want to get a hold of Mike please contact me and I will give you the information. If you want to send him a card the mailing address for the hospital is:

Memorial Hospital  
Attn: Patient, Mike Fritz  
1400 Boulder St.  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80909

*Dr. Dan Williams*

### Next Meeting:

Date/Time: May 4, 2004 – 7:00 PM

Location: Broomfield Advanced Chiropractic  
26 Garden Ctr  
Broomfield CO 80020-7012

## Sunday May 16th Open Contest CD Bob Moffett

**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

### Account Transactions

#### First Bank Checking

2/1/2004 Through 4/24/2004

Num	Date	Payee	Category	Amount	Running Balance
Opening Balance as of 2/1/2004					1936.2200
Month Ending 2/29/2004					
1802	2004-02-03	Jim Monaco	Winch Stuff	-147.0000	1789.2200
Total Month Ending 2/29/2004				-147.0000	
Month Ending 3/31/2004					
1803	2004-03-10	Jim Monaco	Winch Stuff	-768.5500	1020.6700
	2004-03-22	PayPal	Club Dues	506.3400	1527.0100
1804	2004-03-24	Charlie Miller	Repairs	-260.0000	1267.0100
1805	2004-03-24	Jim Monaco	Repairs	-100.0000	1167.0100
Total Month Ending 3/31/2004				-622.2100	
Grand Total				-769.2100	1167.0100

### Account Transactions

#### First Bank Savings

2/1/2004 Through 4/24/2004

Num	Date	Payee	Category	Amount	Running Balance
Opening Balance as of 2/1/2004					678.1600
Month Ending 3/31/2004					
	2004-03-31	1st Bank	Investment Income : Interest	2.2700	680.4300
Total Month Ending 3/31/2004				2.2700	
Grand Total				2.2700	680.4300

## RMSA April 18 Contest Report Don Ingram CD

For the past five years the weather has cooperated in April but this year Pilots were greeted with gusty winds in the eight to fifteen MPH range. Forecast estimates were for high winds in the afternoon which came true! I ran a standard International Duration event and because of the high winds we stayed with six minute rounds. Surprisingly a lot of pilots made there time.. The wind made flying very difficult, we did not have any novice class pilots. After the first round we took a vote to see if everyone wanted to continue. The vote was yes so the contest went on !. In the first round we had a Mishap-- Mike Verzuh experienced the Total Destruction of his new Pike on launch. Wind was heavy blowing a steady 14 and gusting--Maybe he hit a sheer on the way up not sure any way not much left of his plane Sorry Mike ! In round two on launch Charley Miller fluttered the wings on his Sharon And Lived to tell about it. In round three Bob Moffett had a spectacular save . On final approach with the wind blowing about twenty he was hovering above the tape and about 25 feet high when he hooked up and chased a thermal downwind to about five hundred feet high.--Nice job Bob !It was a difficult day but I think we still had fun and learned a lot. Thanks to the winch masters for their help, and to Jim Monaco for keeping score. Congratulations to Masters winner Dr Dan Williams, Byron Blakeslee came in second, Skip Miller came in third. In sportsman Wayne Hollenbeck was first, Cody Remington in second, and Danny Dermer third. See below for detailed contest results..

*Don Ingram*

ID	Class	Name	Place by Class	RD 1	RD 2	RD 3	RD 18	Raw Total	Total	Norm by Class	Norm by Contest	Place by Contest
	<b>M</b>	<b>Masters</b>										
18	M	Dr. Danny Williams	1	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00		3000.00	3000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1
6	M	Byron Blakeslee	2	949.66	1000.00	1000.00		2949.66	2949.66	983.22	983.22	2
16	M	Skip Miller	3	1000.00	909.09	1000.00		2909.09	2909.09	969.70	969.70	3
8	M	Charles Miller	4	1000.00	848.48	955.56		2804.04	2804.04	934.68	934.68	4
2	M	Jim Monaco	5	979.41	1000.00	804.47		2783.87	2783.87	927.96	927.96	5
13	M	Joseph Newcomb	6	1000.00	1000.00	757.58		2757.58	2757.58	919.19	919.19	6
9	M	Don Ingram	7	924.94	997.66	675.98		2598.58	2598.58	866.19	866.19	7
17	M	Robert Moffett	8	836.64	732.14	1000.00		2568.79	2568.79	856.26	856.26	8
1	M	Mike Verzuh	9	986.75	836.07	606.84		2429.66	2429.66	809.89	809.89	9
10	M	Robert Pederson	10	691.86	840.75	678.06		2210.67	2210.67	736.89	736.89	12
3	M	Jon Padilla	11	949.66	577.78	622.91		2150.34	2150.34	716.78	716.78	13
14	M	Bob Lewan	12	706.40	479.91	692.31		1878.61	1878.61	626.20	626.20	15
5	M	Lenny Keer	13	759.31	683.04			1442.34	1442.34	480.78	480.78	16
4	M	Bob Johnston	14	526.05				526.05	526.05	175.35	175.35	17
	<b>S</b>	<b>Sportsman</b>										
15	S	Wayne Hollenbeck	1	880.89	427.00	997.78		2305.67	2305.67	1000.00	768.56	10
7	S	Cody Remington	2	920.53	584.82	727.27		2232.62	2232.62	968.32	744.21	11
11	S	Danny Dermer	3	613.37	651.05	623.93		1888.36	1888.36	819.01	629.45	14
12	S	Jim Newcomb	4									18
	<b>N</b>	<b>Novice</b>										

## 2004 Open Class Standings

	Mar	Apr	Nat. Lvl.	Name	Best 6	Place	Prev Pts	Prev Wins	03 Pts	03 Wins	Tot Pts	Total Wins	Promo
<b>Masters</b>													
Dr. Dan Williams	992.00	1000.00	926.00	SWC	2918.00	1							
Jim Monaco	996.00	928.00	992.00	SWC	2916.00	2							
Charlie Miller	990.00	935.00	980.00	SWC	2905.00	3							
Joseph Newcomb	974.00	919.00	906.00	SWC	2799.00	4							
Lenny Keer	1000.00	481.00	985.00	SWC	2466.00	5							
Skip Miller		970.00	995.00	SWC	1965.00	6							
Bob Vixie	978.00		978.00	SWC	1956.00	7							
Byron Blakeslee	956.00	983.00			1939.00	8							
Mike Verzuh		810.00	990.00	SWC	1800.00	9							
Bob Lewan	981.00	626.00			1607.00	10							
Rich O'Connell	999.00				999.00	11							
Mark Howard			976.00	SWC	976.00	12							
Shannon Bingham			970.00	SWC	970.00	13							
Don Ingram		866.00			866.00	14							
Bob Moffett		856.00			856.00	15							
Bob Pederson		737.00			737.00	16							
John Padilla		717.00			717.00	17							
Bob Johnston		175.00			175.00	18							
Ali Ghaffari						19							
Bob Rice						19							
Dusty Miller						19							
George Blair						19							
Jack Zika						19							
John Kappus						19							
Phil Jones						19							
Tom Gressman						19							
						19							
<b>Sportsman</b>													
Cody Remington	911.00	968.00			1879.00	1	1	1			1	1	
Danny Dermer	1000.00	819.00			1819.00	2							
Wayne Hollenbeck		1000.00			1000.00	3	1				1		
Steve Suntken	258.00				258.00	4							
Chuck Stasek						5	6	1			6	1	
Jim Newcomb						5	2				2		
John Leutke						5							
Kevin Moffett						5	14	1			14	1	
Marc Monaco						5	4				4		
Ryan O'Hara						5							
Steve Lloyd						5							
						5							
<b>NOVICE</b>													
Bob Dixon	1000.00				1000.00	1							
Brad Riegler						2		2				2	
John Jaugilas						2							
Steve Whitaker						2							
Tony O'Hara						2		1					

## RCSD Free Online

RCSD is a monthly magazine dedicated exclusively to soaring. RCSD stands for Remote Control Soaring Digest. It has been around a long time and contains a wealth of information. It is mostly written by readers, and it has some outstanding contributors, like Dr. Mark Drela. It has previously been a subscription magazine, but printing and postage costs have forced them to turn to web publishing. With this change, RCSD is now free online and will no longer be published in hardcopy. Current and many back issues can be downloaded at <http://www.b2streamlines.com/RCSD.html> Look through the old issues much good information can be found there.

*Jim*

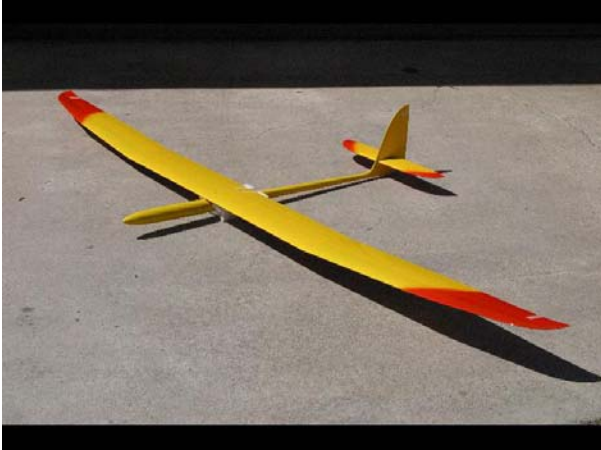
## For Sale

**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](mailto:JimMonaco@Earthlink.net) (303) 464-9895

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**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.



For reference only – not actual model

**Tom Gressman** Office 303-744-3535 X1101

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**Escape- JR 378** on ailerons and flaps, Hs-85s on ruddervators. Comes with Martha Stewart wing and fusealage bags. \$1100.00

**Power stuff:**

World Models, Fun World 3-D, no servos. Perfect for 1.2-1.8 4-stroke. \$145.00.

Goldberg, Extreme Extra 3-D fun flyer, no servos .46 2-stroke or .72 4-stroke. \$95.00.

**Bob Lewan** 303-655-1649 or [rlewan@earthlink.net](mailto:rlewan@earthlink.net).

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**Extreme** - Skip Miller Extreme he flew at the last F3J Worlds. Red Top Black Bottoms. Has one ding in the leading Edge that you have to look for. Jim Monaco repaired ( and put it there). \$750.00 With servos \$600.00 W/O. Voltz in the wing 141's in the Fuse. ~63oz

**Dr. Dan Williams** [drdandc@juno.com](mailto:drdandc@juno.com)

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**Enigma DLG** ready to fly hollow molded wing, carbon pod and boom excellent condition, with 4 servos installed  
\$225



For reference only – not actual model

**Lenny Keer**

(970) 352-1194 [Lenny970@AOL.com](mailto:Lenny970@AOL.com)

## Schedule Change

Please note that at the last meeting we discussed the date for the June Open contest. We originally scheduled it for the 13<sup>th</sup> to avoid conflict with the IHLG, unfortunately we subsequently changed the date for the F3J in the Rockies contest which placed those contests back to back. We decided that the back to back schedule presented more problems than the conflict with the IHLG so in hoping to get more participation and help for the F3J in the Rockies contest we moved the contest back to it's normal date of June 6. the calendar in the newsletter has been updated, as is the calendar on the website.

## AMA Safety Notice

The AMA recently issued the following safety notice and I republish it for your information.

### EMERGENCY SAFETY ALERT

#### Lithium Battery Fires

Lithium batteries are becoming very popular for powering the control and power systems in our models. This is true because of their very high energy density (amp-hrs/wt. ratio) compared to NiCads or other batteries. With high energy comes increased risk in their use. The, principal, risk is FIRE which can result from improper charging, crash damage, or shorting the batteries. All vendors of these batteries warn their customers of this danger and recommend extreme caution in their use. In spite of this **many** fires have occurred as a result of the use of Lithium Polymer batteries, resulting in loss of models, automobiles, and other property. Homes and garages and workshops have also burned. A lithium battery fire is **very hot** (several thousand degrees) and is an excellent initiator for ancillary (resulting) fires. Fire occurs due to contact between Lithium and oxygen in the air. **It does not need any other source of ignition, or fuel to start**, and burns almost explosively.

These batteries must be used in a manner that precludes ancillary fire. The following is recommended:

1. **Store, and charge, in a fireproof container**; never in your model.
2. Charge in a protected area devoid of combustibles. Always stand watch over the charging process. **Never leave the charging process unattended.**
3. In the event of damage from crashes, etc, carefully remove to a safe place for at least a half hour to observe. Physically damaged cells could erupt into flame, and, after sufficient time to ensure safety, should be discarded in accordance with the instructions which came with the batteries. **Never attempt to charge a cell with physical damage**, regardless of how slight.
4. Always use chargers designed for the **specific** purpose, preferably having a fixed setting for your particular pack. Many fires occur in using selectable/adjustable chargers improperly set. Never attempt to charge Lithium cells with a charger which is not, specifically, designed for charging Lithium cells. **Never use chargers designed for Nickel Cadmium batteries.**
5. Use charging systems that monitor and control the charge state of each cell in the pack. Unbalanced cells can lead to disaster if it permits overcharge of a single cell in the pack. If the batteries show **any sign of swelling**, discontinue charging, and **remove them to a safe place outside** as they could erupt into flames.
6. Most important: **NEVER PLUG IN A BATTERY AND LEAVE IT TO CHARGE UNATTENDED OVERNIGHT.** Serious fires have resulted from this practice.
7. Do not attempt to make your own battery packs from individual cells.

These batteries CANNOT be handled and charged casually such as has been the practice for years with other types of batteries. The consequence of this practice can be very serious resulting in major property damage and/ or personal harm

**Safety Committee**

**Academy of Model Aeronautics**

5161 E Memorial Drive

Muncie, IN 47302

## 2004 RMSA Contest/Event Calendar

Date	Type	CD	Name/Notes
<i>January 25</i>	<i>Open (PPSS)</i>	<i>Bob Avery</i>	<i>Fun Fly</i>
February 3	RMSA Meeting		
February 7-8			<i>SWC - Phoenix</i>
<i>February 22</i>	<i>RES (PPSS)</i>	<i>Chris Keller</i>	<i>Snow Fly</i>
March 2	RMSA Meeting		
March 7	Pro/Am	Jim Monaco	
March 14	Open*	Rich O'Connell	
<i>March 21</i>	<i>Open (PPSS)</i>	<i>John Read</i>	<i>March Madness</i>
April 6	RMSA Meeting		
April 18	Open*	Don Ingram	Spring Fling
<i>April 25</i>	<i>RES (PPSS)</i>	<i>Joel Zellmer</i>	<i>Humps and Bumps</i>
May 4	RMSA Meeting		
<i>May 8</i>	<i>Electric (PPSS)</i>	<i>Jack Dech</i>	<i>Watts O' Fun</i>
May 16	Open*	Bob Moffett	Summer Fun
<i>May 23</i>	<i>Open (PPSS)</i>	<i>Chris Keller</i>	<i>May Fly</i>
June 1	RMSA Meeting		
June 6	Open*	Tony O'Hara	
June 5-6			<i>IHLG - Torrey Pines</i>
June 19-20	F3J in the Rockies*	Mark Howard	Tentative schedule
<i>June 20</i>	<i>RE (PPSS) !</i>	<i>Dave Kurth</i>	<i>Memorial</i>
June 26	HLG**	John Kappus	
June 27	Scale Fest	Lenny Keer	Scale Fun Fly
July 6	RMSA Meeting		
July 11	Open*	Jim Monaco	Sparks Flying Open
July 18	HLG**	John Kappus	
July 24-31			<i>Soaring NATS - Muncie ID</i>
<i>July 25</i>	<i>Open (PPSS)</i>	<i>Bob Avery</i>	<i>Height O' the Season</i>
August 2-8			<a href="#"><u>F3J World Championships - Red Deer Canada</u></a>
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
<i>August 14</i>	<i>Open (PPSS)</i>	<i>Austin Cleis</i>	<i>Howling Coyote (night fly)</i>
<i>August 22</i>	<i>RES (PPSS)</i>	<i>Greg Tarca</i>	<i>Dog Daze</i>
August 29	HLG**	John Kappus	
September 7	RMSA Meeting		
September 12	Open*	Bob Rice	Colorado Challenge Cup
<i>September 26</i>	<i>Open (PPSS)</i>	<i>Gus Gustafson</i>	<i>Soar Bash</i>
October 2-3			<i>Visalia Fall Fest</i>
<i>October 3</i>	<i>HLG (PPSS)</i>	<i>Bob Vixie</i>	<i>Fall Fling</i>
October 5	RMSA Meeting		
October 10	Open*	Mike Verzuh	
<i>October 24</i>	<i>RES (PPSS)</i>	<i>Dave Meyers</i>	<i>Witches Brew</i>
November 2	RMSA Meeting		
November 7	Open*	???	
<i>November 21</i>	<i>Open (PPSS)</i>	<i>John Read</i>	<i>Turkey Shoot</i>
December 5	RMSA Banquet		

\*Club Open points contest (Best 6 Scores)

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

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

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



2004 Board Members

<b>President:</b>	<b>Dr. Danny Williams</b>	<b>(303) 903-2291</b>	<b><a href="mailto:drdandc@juno.com">drdandc@juno.com</a></b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Mark Howard</b>	<b>(303) 278-7519</b>	<b><a href="mailto:Mhoward@spaceimaging.com">Mhoward@spaceimaging.com</a></b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Bob Rice</b>	<b>(303) 745-5629</b>	<b><a href="mailto:bob.rice@tobin.com">bob.rice@tobin.com</a></b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>John Pearson</b>	<b>(303) 306-6800</b>	<b><a href="mailto:JTP1006@earthlink.net">JTP1006@earthlink.net</a></b>
<b>Past President:</b>	<b>Shannon Bingham</b>	<b>(303) 877-7557</b>	<b><a href="mailto:binghams@boulder.earthnet.net">binghams@boulder.earthnet.net</a></b>

**Member Support**

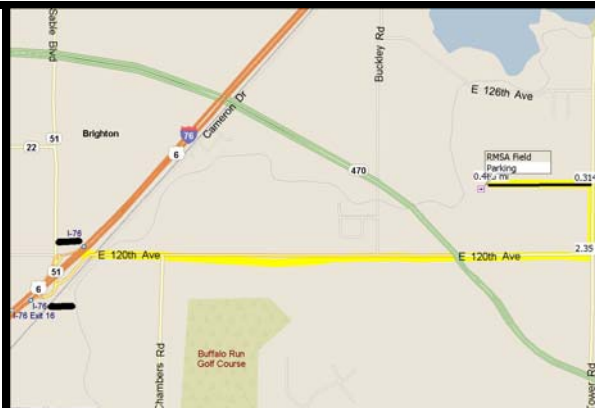
<http://www.rmsadenver.com>

Chief

Instructor:	Jack Zika	(303) 279-1549	(303) 505-9488 (Pager)
Instructor:	Mark Howard	(303) 278-7519	<a href="mailto:Mhoward@spaceimaging.com">Mhoward@spaceimaging.com</a>
F3B/F3J:	Mark Howard	(303) 278-7519	<a href="mailto:Mhoward@spaceimaging.com">Mhoward@spaceimaging.com</a>
Librarian:	Tracy Cochran	(303) 934-8838	<a href="mailto:Tcochran@idcomm.com">Tcochran@idcomm.com</a>
Newsletter:	Jim Monaco	(303) 464-9895	<a href="mailto:JimMonaco@earthlink.net">JimMonaco@earthlink.net</a>

**Winch Master**

Mike Verzuh (970) 532-0638 [mike.e.verzuh@seagate.com](mailto: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