



# Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

April 2005

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXIX Number 4

## President's Message

Jim Monaco

Well, the contest season has begun and we struggle with the weather at this time of year. The Pro/Am was not well attended this year and I was a bit disappointed. Perhaps it was the threat of high winds, but only 6 pilots showed up for the event. The March Open contest had to be postponed due to snow and I'm sure that the reschedule played havoc with spring break commitments because we were down on attendance there too.

We currently have a dearth of sportsman/novice pilots and a declining attendance at monthly contests. What can we do as a club to change this? I know it goes in cycles, but is there something the club can and should do to increase participation? To me a club contest is a good excuse to get out and fly all day. You get to be with friends and often learn a lot. I know there are a lot of members that are sport pilots. I encourage you to come out to a contest. You will learn more about keeping your sailplane up at one contest, than in a year of solo piloting. The biggest benefit is having someone time for you that can give you tips on finding lift and using it appropriately. Using these tips will increase your enjoyment while sport flying as well.

Please send me your comments and thoughts, all correspondence will be confidential. I really want to meet the needs of all of our members, please let me know what the club can do for you!

While there is a lot of controversy about the rules/guidelines for the coming F3J Team Selections, I think the probability is high that we will again host this event this year. We should know the site selection results in April. If we are selected we will need the support of our members to run a great event again. We have a committed staff of organizers that will be looking for help with their areas. Please consider volunteering at least a bit of your time to help make this event successful again.

This month's program will be by a member who flies indoor models. You will be amazed at the construction and performance of these models. We will be holding the meeting at Skips Office at Wood Logic so we can see some actual flying in the warehouse! Plan on attending an interesting meeting.

### Next Meeting:

**Date/Time:** April 5, 2005 – 7:00 PM

**Special Location:** Wood Logic Big Blue Building (Skip Miller's Business)  
West side of Colorado Blvd, Dacono ( Directions, next page)

**Program:** Indoor Model Flying

## Contest Rules Discussion

At the last F3J contest we chose to follow the F3J rules to allow 1 throw out if we reached 6 rounds, which we did. While this was a field rule, we have no written rule or guideline on this. At the next meeting we will discuss the pros and cons of using a throw out and create a summary for distribution to members. We will then vote via email on whether to allow throw outs in club F3J contests. I would like to close this issue prior to the next club contest in April.

Wood Logic Directions: North on I25 to exit 235 (Fredrick, Dacono) 30 miles North of Denver  
West on Route 14/52  
South on Colorado Blvd to Big Blue Building on West side.

*Jim*

### **April 2nd RES Contest CD Dan Williams**

April 2<sup>nd</sup> RES Contest

**Entry Fee:** \$5.00 (\$3.00 Jrs)

**Registration:** 8:30 AM

**Pilot's Meeting:** 9:15 AM

**First Flight:** 9:30 AM

**Tasks:** Announced at Pilots Meeting

### **April 10th Open Contest CD Don Ingram**

April 2<sup>nd</sup> F3J with Winches

**Entry Fee:** \$5.00 (\$3.00 Jrs)

**Registration:** 8:30 AM

**Pilot's Meeting:** 9:00 AM

**First Flight:** 9:15 AM

**Tasks:** At least 5 rounds of F3Jish flights – Flight times will be 15 minutes first and last rounds with 10 minutes in the middle.

## April 17<sup>th</sup> F5J Electric Soaring Contest CD Lenny Keer

**Date:** Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 9:00 pilots meeting

**Format:** This will be a fun-fly type event. No entry fee, no awards.

**Classes:** Two classes will be flown. Pilots may enter one or both classes.

Sp400 Class – for stock speed 400 motors only and up to 8-cell battery.

7 cell/open Class – for any motor and cell count. (7-cell models limited to 7 cells)

**Task:** Man on man electric soaring event based on F3J rules. We'll fly 10 minute rounds with unlimited motor run. Duration time commences following the motor run.

**Sport Flying:** I'm planning to make the field available for sport flying during the contest except for frequencies in use by the contest flyers.

## Cyprus Open 2005, F3J in Turkey

In case you haven't noticed, Turkey has become something of a world power in F3J, finishing in second behind Germany in the last world championship. They keep interest in the sport high by hosting an international invitational F3J contest which was held this year on March 3-5<sup>th</sup>. The top pilots from the world are welcomed to an expense paid test of skill. 106 pilots participated with a USA team comprising, our own Skip Miller, Joe Wurts, Larry Jolly, and Jim McCarthy. Unfortunately, the current world champion David Hobby was not able to attend.

After 6 preliminary rounds with one throw out, Skip was in first place ! Scores for the US were:

1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Skip Miller</b>	4999.1
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Larry Jolly	4995.8
9 <sup>th</sup>	Jim McCarthy	4934.1
11 <sup>th</sup>	Joe Wurts	4920.2

15 pilots qualified for the finals. 5 rounds were flown with one throw out. Final Scores were:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Reihard Valant	GER	3714
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Jan Kohout	CZE	3560
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Joe Wurts	USA	3383
4 <sup>th</sup>	Vitezslav Sterba	CZE	3145
5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Skip Miller</b>	USA	3075
9 <sup>th</sup>	Larry Jolly	USA	2863
14 <sup>th</sup>	Jim McCarthy	USA	2527

**Congratulations to Skip for an excellent showing !!**

More information and complete scores can be obtained from

<http://www.f3j.com/>

<http://www.hollandglide.nl/cyprus2005/cyprus.htm>

and <http://www.kkthk.net/>

## Open Contest Report, March by Jim Monaco

The weather forecast was great for this rescheduled event, and we were flying F3j so I expected a great turnout, but apparently the change in schedule conflicted with spring break commitments so only 10 pilots attended this contest.

Since there were only 10 pilots we flew groups of 5 with the other 5 pilots as timers. There was a choice of strategy for line retrieving since there were not enough pilots to also fetch the lines. Some pilots chose to send their callers/timers down the line during the prep time to hurry back with the lines after the launch. Others chose to keep the timers near them until they were established - then send them down to get the lines in case of a relight... The conditions were quite challenging. We had a strong overcast with occasional showers moving thru. There were periods of great lift and also much sink. Some rounds were won with 4 or 5 minute times. In accordance with F3J rules we allowed 1 throw out and in the end Skip Miller won 1.5 points ahead of me... Mike Verzuh did a great job pulling in third place, and Bob Lewan edged out Don Ingram for 4th place. Don finished "in the wood" in 5th place in his first contest in a long time. It was good to have him back. Steve Suntkin was the lone sportsman pilot and did a great job. In round 2 Steve put a serious hurting on his group, getting away for a 9:25 flight while everyone else fell out early.

There were some great flights in tough conditions. In the last round Lenny and Skip stared at each other trying to see who was going to launch first. Looking at the guys already in the air, neither was in any hurry to go. Skip finally saw a pilot with some buoyancy and launched milking out a 4+ minute round. Lenny held off and eventually launched getting a 1:59 with a good landing. While there was plenty of time for a relight, Lenny never saw anything worth relighting in and eventually let the clock run out and kept his 1:59 score. Skips 4 minute score won the round.

I had a couple of excellent flights where I got down to 50 feet or so and then managed to save the flight and get away for my times. Personally it was the best contest I have ever flown.

The F3J format is one of the most fun contest formats, there is the simultaneous launch and landings along with a lot of strategy for the optional relight. In challenging air - the strategy can make the difference! Come on out for the next one, Don Ingram will be running F3J again in April.

Class	Name	Place by Class	RD 1	RD 2	RD 3	RD 4	RD 5	RD 6	Raw Total	# Throw Outs	Total	Norm by Class	Norm by Contest	Place by Contest
<b>M</b>	<b>Masters</b>								0.00	1				
M	Skip Miller	1	998.39	704.17	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	5702.56	1	4998.39	1000.00	1000.00	1
M	Jim Monaco	2	996.82	982.43	1000.00	1000.00	962.41	1000.00	5941.66	1	4979.25	996.17	996.17	2
M	Mike Verzuh	3	998.95	733.11	989.49	605.77	1000.00	998.77	5326.08	1	4720.31	944.37	944.37	3
M	Bob Lewan	4	1000.00	1000.00	981.43	716.63	990.54	526.52	5215.11	1	4688.59	938.02	938.02	4
M	Don Ingram	5	732.57	954.82	991.36	664.77	996.47	998.20	5338.19	1	4673.42	934.98	934.98	5
M	Lenny Keer	6	902.32	867.81	994.22	558.12	983.91	554.79	4861.18	1	4306.38	861.55	861.55	6
M	Dr. Danny Williams	7	1000.00	857.02	690.56	0.00	784.24	627.01	3958.83	1	3958.83	792.02	792.02	7
M	Robert Moffett	8	811.39	777.61	795.91	492.26	967.92	305.56	4150.66	1	3845.10	769.27	769.27	9
M	Jim Barr	9	343.90	809.24	813.28	588.99	496.90	740.03	3792.34	1	3448.44	689.91	689.91	10
<b>S</b>	<b>Sportsman</b>													
S	Steve Suntken	1	740.46	1000.00	156.71	376.57	859.11	960.11	4092.96	1	3936.25	1000.00	787.50	8

## Pro-Am Contest Report, March by Jim Monaco

As discussed in the President's message - the Pro/Am was a bust this year. With only 6 pilots attending we had only 3 teams. I want to thank all the pilots that attended for their help in restringing the winches. Everyone pitched in and helped and it went very quickly. We set up 3 winches and allowed pilots to launch at will within the window. In the second or third round Ken Jochim damaged his plane and Rich O'Connell, who came all the way from the springs to attend, experienced radio trouble. That killed 2 of the teams leaving Joseph Newcomb and Cody Remington as the only intact team. We basically flew for fun the rest of the day and wound up with some great conditions later in the afternoon, where Joseph was whining about not being able to do very good rolling circles... Instead of scoring we did pilots choice and awarded Cody Remington the High overall and High amateur awards. As the last standing team, Joseph and Cody won the team event! Hopefully next year we can have some better attendance. There are no scores recorded for this event!

## 2005 Open Contest Standings

### 2005 Open Standings

	Mar	Nat. Lvl.	Name	Best 6	Place	Prev Pts	Prev Wins	05 Pts	05 Wins	Tot Pts	Total Wins	Promo
<b>Masters</b>												
Skip Miller	1000.00	989.01	SWC	1989.00	1							
Jim Monaco	999.68	987.08	SWC	1987.00	2							
Mike Verzuh	944.37	976.74	SWC	1921.00	3							
Dr. Dan Williams	795.09	984.49	SWC	1780.00	4							
Joseph Newcomb		992.89	SWC	993.00	5							
Dusty Miller		990.50	SWC	990.00	6							
Don Ingram	934.98			935.00	7							
Bob Lewan	938.02			938.00	8							
Cody Remington		917.29	SWC	917.00	9							
Bob Avery		912.44	SWC	912.00	10							
Bob Vixie		869.79	SWC	870.00	11							
Lenny Keer	861.55			862.00	12							
Bob Moffett	769.27			769.00	13							
Jim Barr	692.80			693.00	14							
<b>Sportsman</b>												
Steve Sunken	1000.00			1000.00	1	4	1			0	0	
Jim Newcomb		668.50	SWC	668.00	2	10	1			4	1	

## For Sale

**Cap 232 with Moki 210** complete and ready to fly!

\$550.00

**Sukoi with YS 140L** Complete and ready to fly. This is a dream to fly!

\$700.00

**Schedo Evo 50 Helicopter** ready to fly.

\$850.00

**Duo Discus. 3 meter**, ready to fly, All fiberglass! Has been towed dozen's of times, a great starter for scale towing.

\$500.00

**Multiplex Twin Jet**. New in box!

\$80.00

**White Fiberglass glider box**. The cool one like skip used before our wings got so big! Like new!

\$100.00

**Escape wing!** Left! Has typical stress fracture at dihedral break, spar seems solid. Skin is repairable.

\$100.00

Call 303-883-9042 or [asw20L@comcast.net](mailto:asw20L@comcast.net)

Charlie Miller

---

**G-Force DLG** New - in- box. Molded composite discus hand launch

Designed by Wolfgang Zach. See pictures at:

[http://www.espritmodel.com/sailplane\\_gforce.html](http://www.espritmodel.com/sailplane_gforce.html)

\$200

Peter Baur 303-758-0422

---

**Fazer -- F3J model**. Yellow/Blue brand new model. Will sell for \$1100

**Electric Thermal Dancer**, ready to fly -- From Denny Maize. This is a Phil Barnes bagged wing (kevlar/carbon over foam) full house sailplane that I converted to electric. It has been test flown and it flies great. Comes with JR368 servos in the wing and Dymond servos in the fuse, along with receiver battery. Ready for your receiver and power system. With a strong power setup this is a fully competitive F5J sailplane. It would also be a nice sport flyer with a moderate power setup. See details at <http://www.polecataero.com/> Will sell for \$800.

Lenny Keer [Lenny970@aol.com](mailto:Lenny970@aol.com)



# Rocky Mountain Soaring Association - 2005

RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_ NEW MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ SPONSOR \_\_\_\_\_

## Please complete the following information for our records:

Family Memberships - Please make and complete a copy for EACH flying family member!

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Need name badge? Yes

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Joined RMSA: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

AMA #: \_\_\_\_\_ AMA Contest Director? Yes No

AMA Class Open Youth Family Birth Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

LSF #: \_\_\_\_\_ LSF LEVEL: \_\_\_ NSS #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

RMSA Membership Class Senior Only Senior W/Family Associate Family  
(Note - Senior W/Family receive THERMALS - other Family members check Family Box)

Non-Flying Family members: \_\_\_\_\_

RMSA Competition Class Novice Sportsman Master

RMSA Offices Held \_\_\_\_\_

### MODELS OWNED

-----  
**PLANE**                      **SPAN**                      **COLOR** (Top,Bott., Fuse)                      **CLASS** (Open, HLG, Std. .)                      **FREQUENCY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Interests: Sports Flying T/D contests HLG Contests NSS Soar-ins F3J  
F3B X-C contests Slope contests Other \_\_\_\_\_

Past Achievements: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: \$ 7.50 New Member Initiation Fee  
\$ 5.00 Junior - under 17  
\$ 25.00 Senior - individual 17 and over  
\$ 30.00 Family - any number (same address)  
\$ 8.00 Associate (newsletter only)

Make checks payable to RMSA

Comments and suggestions are ENCOURAGED! Please include these with your form!

**REMEMBER TO SIGN THE FIELD RULES!!!**

Please send to: RMSA  
C/O Bob Rice  
1123 S. Oakland St.  
Aurora, CO 80012

# ROCKY MOUNTAIN SOARING ASSOCIATION FIELD RULES

1. The sod farm operations take precedence over **ALL** activities. We use the field at the convenience of the owner.
2. All members will follow **ALL** instructions from **ANY** sod farm personnel without question.
3. When sod farm operations are occurring during a flying session it is **OUR** responsibility to ensure that we will not interfere with operations. If it is unclear as to what is happening or where they intend to mow or work try to talk to workers or management and always move equipment or vacate the premises if necessary. Some workers do not speak very good English – in that case you must make every effort to avoid conflict or interference with operations.
4. Park only in the designated parking areas Do not park on grass, dirt or roads.
5. Avoid setting up on newly seeded areas or young grassy areas. The nice grassy areas are better to land on anyway!
6. Establish a frequency control pole and tag system! Frequency control is to be in effect at all times!! All members will post their frequency control tags on the pole and if there are conflicts, please exercise safety sense as well as share the flight time.
7. Parking and pit areas should be as condensed as possible for the safety of launch and landing.
8. Establish flight line areas for winch launch, high start launch, and hand launch that are separate for the sake of launch, flight & landing safety.
9. Flying over the parking/pit areas at less than 30 feet is prohibited. Doing so in competition **WILL** result in a zero flight score and during R/R flying a disciplinary action by the club.
10. No aerobatics or speed runs over the parking/pit/Launch/Landing zones.
11. Do not launch if a plane is circling in a launch zone: vacate the launch zone as soon as possible if someone is waiting to launch.
12. When entering a thermal occupied by other aircraft, enter in the same direction as the first aircraft
13. Landing aircraft have the right of way!
14. In the event of no mechanical retriever, please shag your own chute/line for the flight
15. Please share the usage of club equipment so that all have equal flight time.
16. Please be courteous and helpful to your fellow flyers as well as informative to all guests/spectators. Enjoy yourself and others!!
17. Absolutely no debris or trash is to be left on the field! Please take it home with you for disposal.
18. Make sure that your plane and electronics are airworthy before each flight. Exercise good safety sense in your flight
19. The aircraft will have an identification name/address or AMA number on or in the model in case of loss.
20. You **MUST** tag your winch/high start spikes or stakes with fluorescent tape so they are easily spotted on the field by all concerned. Members may be fined \$10 for each stake or nail not so marked. Previous damage to sod farm equipment from spikes left in the ground have made this rule **EXTREMELY** important.
21. Absolutely no alcoholic beverages will be consumed, prior to or during participation in any model event on the flying field.

I understand and will comply with all RMSA field rules:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

## Renewal Reminder

**It's time to renew your memberships. Renew with the application in this newsletter, or online at <http://www.rmsadenver.com>.**



## 2005 RMSA Contest/Event Calendar

<b>Date</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>CD</b>	<b>Name/Notes</b>
January 22	Open (PPSS)	Joel Zellmer	Fun Fly
February 1	RMSA Meeting		
February 5-6			SWC - Phoenix
February 19	RES (PPSS)	Greg Tarcza	Snow Fly
March 1	RMSA Meeting		
March 6	Pro/Am	Jim Monaco	
March 13	Open*	Jon Padilla	F3J with Winches
March 20	Open (PPSS)	Mike Fritz	March Madness
April 2	RES	Dr. Dan Williams	
April 5	RMSA Meeting		
April 10	Open*	Don Ingram	
April 17	F5J	Lenny Keer	Electric Event
April 24	RES (PPSS)	Chris Keller	Humps and Bumps
May 3	RMSA Meeting		
May 7	Open*	Bob Moffett	SATURDAY Event
May 21	HLG**	John Kappus	
May 21	Open (PPSS)	Austin Cleis	May Fly
May 28-29	F3J in the Rockies*	Mark Howard	
June 4-5			IHLG - California Event
June 4	Scale Fest	Lenny Keer	
June 4	Electric	John Read	Watts O' Fun
June 7	RMSA Meeting		
June 12	Open*	Rich O'Connell	
June 25	RE (PPSS) !	Dave Kurth	Memorial
June 25	HLG**	John Kappus	Tentative (Held ONLY if USA F3J Bid Approved)
June 26	F5J	Lenny Keer	
July 5	RMSA Meeting		
July 10	Open*	Bob Vixie	
July 17	HLG**	John Kappus	
July 22-29			Soaring NATS - Muncie ID
July 24	Open (PPSS)	Bob Avery	Height O' the Season
July 30	RES	Dr. Dan Williams	
August 2	RMSA Meeting		
August 6	Open (PPSS)	Greg Tarcza	Howling Coyote (night fly)
August 7	Open*	Jim Monaco	
August 14	HLG**	John Kappus	Tentative (Cancelled if USA F3J Bid Approved)
August 19-21	US F3J Team Selections	Byron Blakeslee	Tentative Pending Site Selection
August 21	RES (PPSS)	Austin Cleis	Dog Daze
September 6	RMSA Meeting		
September 11	Open*	Bob Rice	Colorado Challenge Cup
September 17	HLG**	John Kappus	
September 18	Scienturfc Appreciation Day		Also Family Day
September 24	Open (PPSS)	Chris Keller	Soar Bash
September 25	RES	Dr. Dan Williams	
October 1	HLG (PPSS)	Gus Gustafson	Fall Fling
October 1-2			Visalia Fall Fest
October 4	RMSA Meeting		
October 9	Open*	Mike Verzuh	
October 22	RES (PPSS)	Dave Meyers	Witches Brew
October 29	RES	Dr. Dan Williams	
November 1	RMSA Meeting		
November 6	Open*	Tony O'Hara	
November 20	Open (PPSS)	John Read	Turkey Shoot
December 3	Barn Fly	John Read	PPSS Members Only
December 11	RMSA Banquet		

\*Club Open points contest (Best 6 Scores)

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

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



**2005 Board Members**

<b>President:</b>	<b>Jim Monaco</b>	<b>(303) 464-9895</b>	<b>JimMonaco@earthlink.net</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Mike Verzuh</b>	<b>(970) 532-0638</b>	<b>mailto:mike@verzuh.com</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Bob Rice</b>	<b>(303) 745-5629</b>	<b>mailto:brice@p2es.com</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>John Pearson</b>	<b>(303) 306-6800</b>	<b>mailto:JTP1006@earthlink.net</b>
<b>Past President:</b>	<b>Dr. Danny Williams</b>	<b>(303) 903-2291</b>	<b>drdandc@juno.com</b>

**Member Support**

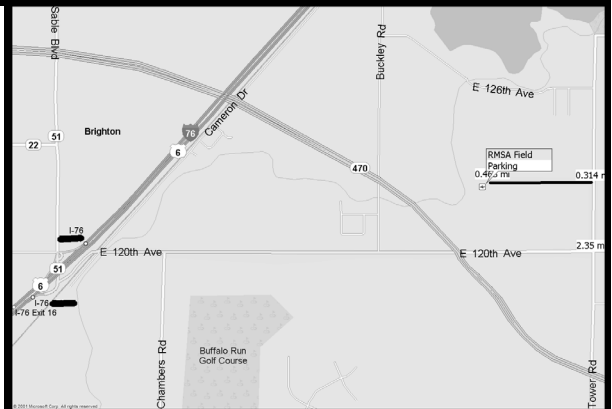
<http://www.rmsadenver.com>

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:	John Kappus	(303) 861-7121	<a href="mailto:john.kappus@alum.mit.edu">john.kappus@alum.mit.edu</a>
	Mark Howard	(303) 278-7519	<a href="mailto:Mhoward@spaceimaging.com">Mhoward@spaceimaging.com</a>

**Winch Master**

Mike Verzuh (970) 532-0638 <mailto:mike@verzuh.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

**First Class Mail**

*Forwarding Address Requested*