



# Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

January 2007

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXI Number 1

## President's Message    Mike Verzuh

I hope everyone has had great Christmas and New Years holidays this year, and that Santa was good to everyone, with lots of new planes to get airborne this year. I am excited to take on the RMSA club President's position this year. We have a great club, and I am sure we will continue to provide great contest forums, and other events that strengthen the interest in sailplanes and electric flight. I am also very pleased that Bob Rice and John Pearson will retain their positions of Secretary and Treasurer. We are also very lucky to have Tony O'Hara continue the newsletter production, and Jim Monaco will continue as our Web Master and chief scorekeeper. We are really lucky to have the continued support from Bob, John, Tony and especially Jim. Finally Steve Suntken has accepted the Vice President position, and he will do a great job.

First off this year we need to establish the 2007 contest schedule. I will propose a club meeting date in a separate email. We will plan the year out at that meeting. It will probably be next week or the week after at the latest. It will be important to have all our past and future CDs attend, and remember even if you have not run a contest before please don't hesitate to volunteer. There is lots of support and help. This is a very important meeting as we will set the schedule for the year and we need everyone's support – thanks in advance for your attendance.

In other club business I want to remind everyone to get your renewals in for the year. Also it looks like we need to update contact and frequency information, as the lists are a couple of years old. The simplest way to do this is checkout the web site; if your information is no longer current please drop Jim Monaco and Bob Rice a short email with your updates.

I am working to have more programs for our club meetings this year. To this end I would like everyone to consider topics of interest that you might plan and bring or even things you would like to see presented. It has been suggested by a couple of folks that we have meetings at a large indoor building so that we could get some electric indoor flying going. That is looking particularly good given the snow depth lately! If you know of any buildings that may be available I could use help to get something set-up. Please let me know even if you just have a location and potential Point-of-Contact.

Per my comments at last year's banquet, I am going to put together a short survey to pulse the membership relative to activities and event formats you like or don't like. Please send me any of your thoughts in this area so we can continue to have everyone involved in the club activities and structure events that attract stronger attendance.

Lastly I would like to put in a plug and plea for all you budding writers to submit your articles, musings or even just pictures to Tony for the Newsletter. The more we get the more interesting the Newsletters can be.

**Mike Verzuh**

**Vice President's Message      Steve Suntken**

Dear Members;

While I'm not accustom (nor problem won't be) to writing monthly articles for our newsletter, I do have a couple items I would like to pass along. First off, I want to give a big "Thanks" to our recently retired president..Jim Monaco. He has served this club far above and beyond what was needed to make this club run smoothly. Stepping in when nobody else would. Doing all those little tedious jobs which keeps us afloat. Which also brings me to passing along a personal "Thanks" to Jim.

About a month ago I ran into a very odd situation as where both my main & back-up trannies gave out. On the same day, no less. But thanks to Jim, he loaned me one of his back-ups. So I could be flying all last month. In-between the snowflakes, of coarse. Which leads into my last little tidbit I want to pass along. As said earlier, both my Stylus trannies gave out. After taking the back off I noticed something interesting. The wiring loom that connects the joystick to the rocking portion of the pot had some broken sections. While this is problem a highly unusual & unlikely break point, regardless.

It Can Happen. As my radios proved it. So it may just be worth your time to take the back off and look to see how you're wiring loom looks. It was the motion of the sticks that bent my wires back & forth. And over a period of time, that caused them to break.

**Steve**

**Treasurer's Report      John Pearson**

Treasurer's Report 12/10/06

Savings:      \$700.88      (11/30/06)

Checking:      \$1469.72      (12/05/06)

I want to apologize to the club members. I haven't kept Microsoft Money up to date.

As you can see the club is in good financial health for this time of the year.

**John Pearson.**

**Next Meeting:**

**Date/Time:** TBA

**Location:** TBA.

**Program:** Establish the 2007 contest schedule

## RMSA 2006 Hand Launch Season Standings

	6/24	7/23	8/20	10/1	06 Season Points Total		
Name	norm score	norm score	norm score	norm score	Best 3 Total	Normalize	Place
John Kappus	1000	1000	1000	1000	3000	1000.00	1
John Lovins	835	947	958	956	2861	953.67	2
Steve Suntken	934	840		875	2649	883.00	3
Lenny Keer	897		917		1814	604.67	4
Joseph Newcomb				988	988	329.33	5
Jim Newcomb				910	910	303.33	6
Shannon Bingham			906		906	302.00	7
Dave Jensen			532	116	648	216.00	8
Gary Jensen				103	103	34.33	9

## RMSA 2006 Open Contest Season Standings

	Mar	PI	Apr	PI	May	PI	SSF	PL	June	PI	F3JR	PI	July	PI	Aug	PI	Sep	PI	Oct	PI	Nov	PI	Nat. Lv	Name	Best 6	Place		
<b>Masters</b>																												
Bob Lewan			1000		905.35				999.04		988.71				997.47		1000		997.83							5983.1	1	
Cody Remington			936.42		919.41				999.83		614.38		973.79				996.8		999.39		1000		1000	F3JWC	5969.8	2		
Mike Verzuh			920.93		1000				968.05				999.67		986.52		987.16		994.97		995.59		985.61	SWC	5963.9	3		
Skip Miller					925.81				998.22		970.9		1000				998.99		997.91				980.82	SWC	5946.8	4		
Joseph Newcomb			904.8		938.83				1000		972.84		998.87		831.65				1000				988.01	SWC	5898.6	5		
Jim Monaco			883.84		776.09				580.78		940.44		972.57		1000		989.81		992.7		992.54		944.06	SWC	5891.7	6		
Dr. Dan Williams			971.64		870.6						918.11		996.59		979.62				997.18							5733.7	7	
John Kappus					924.39						967.26		998.72		911.06		919.41		989.44								5710.3	8
Charlie Miller			853.04		869.1				885.31						997.02		971.97		997.53				910.5	SWC	5631.4	9		
Lenny Keer			793.39		636.82				920.97		823.91				954.2				967.69		921.63						5381.8	10
Shannon Bingham															892.66				968.15		907.48		879.74	SWC	3648	11		
Bob Vixie					694.31				996.22														955.25	SWC	2645.8	12		
Byron Blakeslee															965.64				962.13								1927.8	13
Don Ingram			910.88		801.13																						1712	14
Bob Moffett			767.72		836.29																						1604	15
Tom Gressman															984.2												984.2	16
John Padilla											817.37																817.37	17
George Blair			724.98																								724.98	18
Jim Barr			702.22																								702.22	19
Mark Howard																							337.59	SWC	337.59	20		
Bob Avery																											0	21
Bob Rice																											0	21
Dusty Miller																											0	21
Jack Zika																											0	21
Phil Jones																											0	21
Rich O'Connell																											0	21
																											0	21
<b>Sportsman</b>																												
Steve Suntken			1000		1000				1000	1			1000		1000				1000		1000						6000	1
Jim Newcomb									269.26	3			183.05														452.31	2
Ryan O'Hara									367.71	2																	367.71	3
Chris Miller																											0	4
Chuck Stasek																											0	4
Daniel Kuik																											0	4
Danny Dermer																											0	4
Peter Baur																											0	4
Wayne Hollenbeck																											0	4
																											0	4
																											0	4
<b>NOVICE</b>																												
Jim Asbury															751.15						1000						1751.2	1
Tony O'Hara																											0	2
Brad Riegler																											0	2
John Jaugilas																											0	2
Steve Whitaker																											0	2
																											0	2

**For Sale**

(None)

## Renewal Reminder

It's time to renew your memberships. Renew with the application  
in this newsletter, (below)

Or on-line at <http://www.rmsadenver.com>

# Rocky Mountain Soaring Association - 2007

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**  
**% 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:

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Signature



## 2007 RMSA Contest/Event Calendar

*Coming next Month!*



**2007 Board Members**

**President:** Mike Verzuh  
**Vice President:** Steve Suntken  
**Secretary:** Bob Rice  
**Treasurer:** John Pearson  
**Past President:** Jim Monaco

**970 532 0638** <mailto:mike@verzuh.com>  
**303 477 6184** <mailto:flyingdogtwo@cs.com>  
**303 745 5629** <mailto:briceflyer@comcast.net>  
**303 306 6800** <mailto:JTP1006@earthlink.net>  
**303 464 9895** <mailto:JimMonaco@earthlink.net>

**Member Support**

<http://www.rmsadenver.com>  
Chief  
Instructor: Mike Verzuh (970) 532-0638 (303) 505-9488 (Pager)  
Librarian: Tracy Cochran (303) 934-8838 [Tcochran@idcomm.com](mailto:Tcochran@idcomm.com)  
Newsletter: Tony O'Hara (303) 948-2576 [tonyoco@peoplepc.com](mailto:tonyoco@peoplepc.com)

**Winch Master**

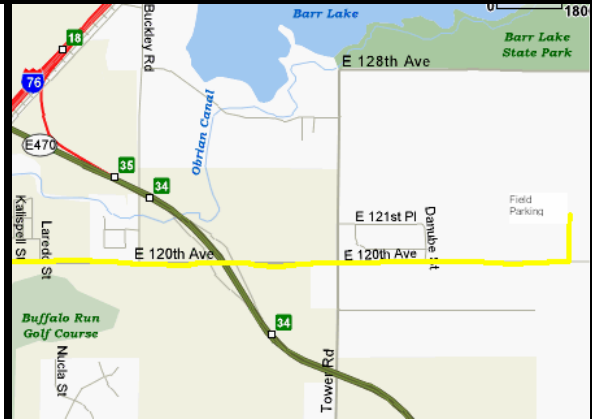
Mike Verzuh (970) 532-0638 <mailto:mike@verzuh.com>

**Battery Masters**

Bob Lewan  
Skip Miller  
Joseph Newcomb  
Cody Remington  
Dr. Dan Williams  
Steve Suntken

**For Winch Use:**

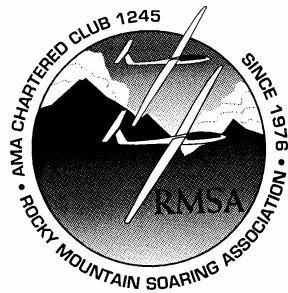
If you are interested in using a club winch please contact Mike for the first time, and I will insure you have all the details for trailer access. Also if you are a new member and have not had a winch operation and safety briefing we will coordinate that.



**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. Take 120<sup>th</sup> east of Tower Rd about 3/4 miles. We fly on the North side of 120<sup>th</sup> which is the SE quadrant 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*