



# Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

May 2007

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXI Number 5

## President's Message Mike Verzuh

I am writing this month's message looking out at beautiful blue skies and trees in full blossom. This reminds me of the great connection with nature we have through soaring. I think this is one of the strongest pulls to soaring – it is like fly fishing for air. The thrill and challenge of taking a low level thermal out is truly amazing. We really are lucky to be able to participate in such a great hobby. The soaring season in Colorado is off to a great start. It looks like spring promises outstanding lift (unfortunately the usual serious sink as well) with the large temperature differentials between night and day. As usual I hope everyone has been able to get out and take advantage of the conditions.

Relative to club items, the voting is open on the contest rules change proposal and a year-end proposed rules change. Please hit the web site to vote. The other option is to vote by regular mail. Please vote or postmark your vote to me by May 15<sup>th</sup> as that is the "Polls Closing Date".

As an update to the fee change proposals it looks like we are settling in on increasing the contest fees to \$10 for Masters with no change for Novice and Sportsman and a small increase for the Hand Launch events. We should have all the fee changes finalized by next month, but for upcoming May contest we will implement the \$10 fee. Thanks for everyone's great input on this important subject.

The sod farm is completely harvesting the East field we have been flying on for the past couple of years so we are moving to the West field for ALL FLYING. This is effective immediately. The club winch trailer is still stored on the East field with the sod farm equipment as there is supervision on site for the equipment. As a reminder if any members would like to use the winch equipment all that is required is to check in with the club winch master (me) for a safety and usage briefing, bring your battery and go. All that is asked is you return the equipment as you found it and if any mishaps occur please let me know ASAP. So it can be corrected.

On the contest front we have F3J in the Rockies coming up over Memorial Day weekend. There are still openings on the winch teams and of course two-man tows. We have some towers available so please get signed up and let Jim Monaco know if you are looking for some tower support.

Finally the Mentor Day season will kick off in June as apposed to May. We have great support from our members distributing over 300 flyers to all the Denver metro hobby stores. Relative to mentor support, I have every month covered with the exception of July 14. I need someone to STEP UP and lead this day. We should have backup support, but I need a committed lead. Please let me know ASAP.

That's it for this month. I hope this message finds everyone truly able to enjoy the local soaring conditions, and I wish all your families the best!

### **IN CASE YOU MISSED IT**

The sod farm has harvested most of the grass on the East field so we will be switching all flying to the West Field at the corner of 120<sup>th</sup> and Tower Road. You enter off Tower about 1 block North of 120<sup>th</sup>. Steve tells me

there is quite a bit of water on the road back to the field, but the sod farm manager is going to do a little grading and things should dry up soon. This is effective immediately.

The club winch trailer will remain with the sod farm equipment on the east field, as there is supervision there. It is still ok of course to pick up winches and then drop them back at the trailer when finished.

Bottom Line

**ALL FLYING IS NOW ONLY ON THE WEST FIELD – NO FLYING ON THE EAST FIELD.**

**Mike Verzuh**  
**Rocky Mountain Soaring Association President**

**Next Meeting:**

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>Date/Time</b> | <b>May 6th</b>                              |
| <b>Location:</b> | <b>At Open contest</b>                      |
| <b>Program:</b>  | <b>TBD &amp; new Rules Proposals voting</b> |



**The Rocky Mountain Soaring  
Association  
Proudly Presents F3J in the Rockies  
May 26-27, 2007**

- DATES:** Saturday May 26, 2006  
Sunday May 27, 2007
- TASKS and LANDINGS:** F3J with allowance for winches. RMSA will supply up to 3 teams with 2 club winches per team. Line will be slightly used 200# braided nylon. There is no special allowance for line breaks. Teams using winches may load their own braided line if they so desire. No time is allowed during the event for restringing. Line length to the turnaround will be specified at the event. Retrievers not allowed. Winch teams are reserved on first-come first-serve basis.
- SITE:** RMSA Sod Farm – Denver, Colorado 120th Ave East of Tower Rd.
- A.M.A.:** 2007 AMA cards will be required at registration. All FAI rules apply, except as modified for the winch launch above.
- ENTRY FEE:** \$35 (non-refundable)
- AWARDS:** 1st-5th, will be awarded
- C.D.:** Jim Monaco jimmonaco@earthlink.net

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the people who showed up for the contest. We got the first round started around 10:00 after a short club meeting to take care of some club business. The conditions were fair to good but didn't stay that way. We managed to get 3 rounds in before the wind came up. So with 3 rounds in the contest is official.

Mike has the results which will be posted in the news letter. Thanks Mike.

It was great to see all the new models and all the talent to fly them. Looks like it will be a great year for the F3J people.

Regards  
Bob Moffett

## RESULTS

| ID | Class    | Name               | Place by Class | RD 1    | RD 2    | RD 3    | Raw Total | Rounds Flown | Total   | Norm by Class | Norm by Contest | Place by Contest |
|----|----------|--------------------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|--------------|---------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
|    | <b>M</b> | <b>Masters</b>     |                |         |         |         |           |              |         |               |                 |                  |
| 3  | M        | Joseph Newcomb     | 1              | 1000.00 | 1000.00 | 1000.00 | 3000.00   | 3            | 3000.00 | 1000.00       | 1000.00         | 1                |
| 11 | M        | Charles Miller     | 2              | 994.09  | 1000.00 | 989.53  | 2983.62   | 3            | 2983.62 | 994.54        | 994.54          | 2                |
| 4  | M        | Cody Remington     | 3              | 980.54  | 1000.00 | 1000.00 | 2980.54   | 3            | 2980.54 | 993.51        | 993.51          | 3                |
| 5  | M        | Mike Verzuh        | 4              | 1000.00 | 996.29  | 959.76  | 2956.04   | 3            | 2956.04 | 985.35        | 985.35          | 4                |
| 12 | M        | Bob Lewan          | 5              | 999.26  | 996.73  | 932.51  | 2928.51   | 3            | 2928.51 | 976.17        | 976.17          | 5                |
| 13 | M        | Dr. Danny Williams | 6              | 1000.00 | 857.72  | 930.36  | 2788.08   | 3            | 2788.08 | 929.36        | 929.36          | 6                |
| 9  | M        | Don Ingram         | 7              | 754.29  | 995.07  | 963.25  | 2712.61   | 3            | 2712.61 | 904.20        | 904.20          | 7                |
| 14 | M        | Shannon Bingham    | 8              | 1000.00 | 975.08  | 667.11  | 2642.19   | 3            | 2642.19 | 880.73        | 880.73          | 8                |
| 1  | M        | Jim Monaco         | 9              | 634.54  | 996.24  | 1000.00 | 2630.78   | 3            | 2630.78 | 876.93        | 876.93          | 9                |
| 10 | M        | Bob Vixie          | 10             | 666.76  | 989.88  |         | 1656.64   | 2            | 1656.64 | 552.21        | 552.21          | 12               |
| 7  | M        | Robert Moffett     | 11             | 825.32  |         |         | 825.32    | 1            | 825.32  | 275.11        | 275.11          | 13               |
| 8  | M        | Jim Barr           | 12             | 292.27  | 509.90  |         | 802.17    | 2            | 802.17  | 267.39        | 267.39          | 14               |
|    | <b>S</b> | <b>Sportsman</b>   |                |         |         |         |           |              |         |               |                 |                  |
| 6  | S        | Steve Sunken       | 1              | 943.30  | 991.92  | 542.84  | 2478.06   | 3            | 2478.06 | 1000.00       | 826.02          | 10               |
| 2  | S        | Gary Slocum        | 2              | 517.72  | 825.70  | 377.96  | 1721.37   | 3            | 1721.37 | 694.65        | 573.79          | 11               |
|    | <b>N</b> | <b>Novice</b>      |                |         |         |         |           |              |         |               |                 |                  |

## SUNDAY May 6th Open Contest

## CD Steve Sunken

**REGISTRATION** 8:30 AM Seniors \$5.00 Juniors \$3.00  
**PILOTS MEETING** 9:00 AM  
**FIRST FLIGHT** 9:30 AM

Battery Masters - Please be sure to have your batteries at the field by 8:30 AM "topped-up" and charged  
 TASKS F3J type with winches  
 Landing: AMA landing tapes.  
 Scoring: Man on Man, random flight group assignment.

## HLG

Look like the HLG for May has been rescheduled until June. Date TBA

## Potpourri

### NEW INPUT

**I lost my Pike Superior today.** (Sunday April 29<sup>th</sup>) It was very high and I had clear sight of it. It was almost directly above me but still in front of me. I gave it a turn and was thinking about bringing it down. I had two previous 15+ minute flights that day, and I had just charged my batteries. I turned it and was going to start easing it down when I lost sight of it. I called out for help and three guys came over to help me try to spot it. Being directly overhead, if it started to spiral I wouldn't have had much wing to see. Another good reason to not fly overhead. Cody said to ease in full flaps and full up elevator. I never saw it again. Expensive lesson. It was orange, and had my name etc. on it. It would be nice if it turned up someday. In the future I will use spotters if available. I won't let it get "that" small. I will take the rubber band off the flap control, and use the flaps to get down if I am too high, and I will try to avoid flying overhead.

I have another plane on order and it should show up in 2 to three months. I'm looking for a used, old, and cheap F3J that I could fly till my Pike Perfect shows up in July.

Gary Slocum [slocga@aol.com](mailto:slocga@aol.com)

## For Sale

I have a selection of like new Jm Bags. \$100 each.

Tom Gressman -303-246-3194

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### WANTED

I'm looking for a used, old, and cheap F3J that I could fly till my new Pike Perfect shows up in July.

Gary Slocum [slocga@aol.com](mailto:slocga@aol.com)

# Third Annual Reunion

## “Vintage Radio Control Society”

## & “Old Timers” Fun Fly

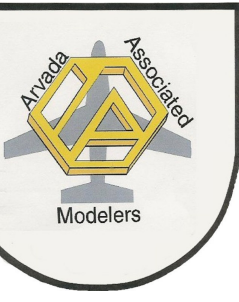
AMA Sanction #7-213

**Host:** Arvada Associated Modelers

**When:** Saturday, July 28, 2007  
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

**Where:** Arvada Associated Modelers Airpark  
GPS location 7608 Highway 93, Golden, Colorado 80403

For map and information go to: [www.arvadamodelers.com](http://www.arvadamodelers.com)



\* & Old Timer\* R/C Aircraft

(\* See websites below for plane descriptions)

**Who can enter:** Any AMA member having an R/C model that's listed on the eligible VRCS list. \*Go to: [www.vintagercsociety.org](http://www.vintagercsociety.org) for list of planes, classifications and definitions. **Events include: Open, Pattern Class II-III and “Concours” for Vintage models designed or kitted prior to 1970, including the featured VR/CS “One Design-Andrews TrainerMaster” for this year as a Class III plane. Electric, CO2 and/or glow power allowed and will be flown together. Scaling up and/or down allowed (no battery/motor restrictions apply).**

**A Timed Climb and Glide event for “Old Timer” models kitted or designed prior to 1943.**

\*Go to: [www.antiquemodeler.org](http://www.antiquemodeler.org) for Old Timer “R/C Assist” list of planes.

Original model engines of this era will have the muffler requirement waived if originally manufactured without a factory muffler. Engines manufactured after 1970 will use mufflers. **Glow, CO2 and/or Electric power as well as scaling up and/or down allowed. Electric powered planes will fly in separate Limited Motor Run (LMR) event (no battery/motor restrictions apply).**

**Pre-Entry fee: \$15/pilot 1<sup>st</sup> event + \$5 for 2<sup>nd</sup> event until July 16, 2007.**

**Entry after July 16, 2007 (postmarked) or at event: \$20/pilot 1<sup>st</sup> event + \$10 for 2<sup>nd</sup> event.**

**Awards & Prizes: Award Plaques + merchandise prizes**

Overnight parking spaces available at the Field for self contained campers/motor homes, no hookups avail.

Flying Field will be open Friday, July 20, for practice 10:00 AM till dark.

**Current 2007 AMA Membership required -See AMA website: [www.modelaircraft.org](http://www.modelaircraft.org)**

**AMA District IX website: [www.amadistrict-ix.org](http://www.amadistrict-ix.org)**

**Contest director:**

Travis McGinnis AMA L-418 (303) 422-5720 e-mail: [travismcginn@comcast.net](mailto:travismcginn@comcast.net)

Contact Contest Director after April 30, 2007 for pre-registration materials.

(2-15-2007)

# 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

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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 (Revised 3-29-07)

| Date                | Type                         | CD                     | Name/Notes   |
|---------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| February 5          | RMSA Meeting                 |                        |  |
| February 10-11      |                              |                        | <i>SWC - Phoenix</i>   |
| <i>February 25</i>  | <i>Combo (PPSS)</i>          | <i>Bob Avery</i>       | <i>Snow Fly</i>  |
| March 7             | RMSA Meeting                 | Wayne Angevine         | Thermal structure and behavior as related to sailplane flying. |
| March 11            | Open*                        | Mike Verzuh            | Combo Event Open + 2m + RES                                    |
| <i>March 24</i>     | <i>Combo (PPSS)</i>          | <i>Chris Keller</i>    | <i>March Madness</i>   |
| April 15            | RMSA Meeting                 |                        | On field at competition  |
| April 15            | Open*                        | Bob Moffett            |  |
| <i>April 22</i>     | <i>Combo (PPSS)</i>          | <i>Joel Zellmer</i>    | <i>Humps and Bumps</i>   |
| May 1               | RMSA Meeting                 |                        |  |
| May 6               | Open*                        | Steve Suntken          | F3J with Winches   |
| <del>May 13</del>   | <del>HLG**</del>             | <del>John Kappus</del> | <b>Rescheduled to June</b>                                     |
| May 19              | Electric (PPSS)              | John Read              | Watts O Fun  |
| May 26-27           | F3J in the Rockies*          | Jim Monaco             |  |
| June 2-3            | IHLGF                        |                        | IHLG - California Event  |
| June 5              | RMSA Meeting                 |                        |  |
| June 10             | Open*                        | Jon Padilla            | F3J with winches   |
| June 23-24          | F5B Electric                 | Lenny Keer             | F5B in the Rockies   |
| <i>June 24</i>      | <i>Combo (PPSS)</i>          | <i>Dave Kurth</i>      | <i>Summer Solstic</i>  |
| July 1              | HLG**                        | John Kappus            |  |
| July 3              | RMSA Meeting                 |                        |  |
| July 8              | Open*                        | Mike Verzuh            | F3J with winches   |
| July 22-28          |                              |                        | <i>Soaring NATS - Muncie ID</i>                                |
| <i>July 21</i>      | <i>Combo (PPSS)</i>          | <i>Greg Tarcza</i>     | <i>Height O' the Season</i>                                    |
| August 7            | RMSA Meeting                 |                        |  |
| August 12           | Open*                        | Dr Dan                 | Combination event Open +2m + RES                               |
| <i>August 18</i>    | <i>Combo (PPSS)</i>          | <i>Austin Cleis</i>    | <i>Howling Coyote (night fly)</i>                              |
| August 26           | HLG**                        | John Kappus            |  |
| September 4         | RMSA Meeting                 |                        |  |
| September 9         | Open*                        | Jim Monaco             | Colorado Challenge Cup   |
| September 23        | Scienturfic Appreciation Day |                        | Also Family Day  |
| September 30        | HLG**                        | John Kappus            |  |
| <i>September 23</i> | <i>Combo (PPSS)</i>          | <i>Bob Avery</i>       | <i>Soar Bash</i>   |
| October             |                              |                        | <i>Visalia Fall Fest</i>                                       |
| October 2           | RMSA Meeting                 |                        |  |
| October 14          | Open*                        | Shannon Bingham        |  |
| <i>October 20</i>   | <i>Combo (PPSS)</i>          | <i>Chris Keller</i>    | <i>Witches Brew</i>  |
| November 7          | RMSA Meeting                 |                        |  |
| November 11         | Open*                        | Don Ingram             |  |
| <i>November 18</i>  | <i>Combo (PPSS)</i>          | <i>Jerry Murphy</i>    | <i>Turkey Shoot</i>  |
| December 9          | RMSA Banquet                 | Mike Verzuh            |  |

\*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 in COS*



**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**

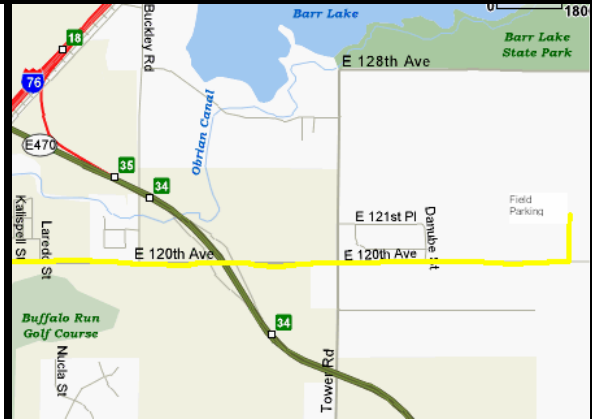
Mike Verzuh (970) 532-0638 <mailto:mike@verzuh.com>

**Battery Masters**

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

**For Winch Use:**

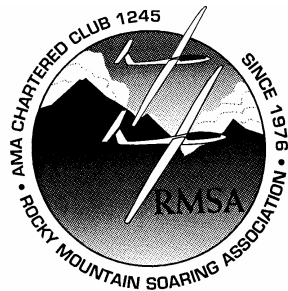
If you are interested in using a club winch please contact Mike for the first time, and I will insure you have all the details for trailer access. Also if you are a new member and have not had a winch operation and safety briefing we will coordinate that.



**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 120th 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*