



# Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

February 2008

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXII Number 2

## President's Message      Mike Verzuh

Well the holiday season is over and we are settling in for the New Year. The weather has been a bit more forgiving and has allowed some flying. I know the slope guys have been getting some wind – really unusual for the Front Range right. Also we have had a few good thermal days. Hopefully you are able to get out and get the rust off your fingertips.

The other nice thing about better weather is we are getting in a little practice before the South West Classic this year. By the way I see they have extended the entry deadline till the 4th or so. It is not too late to sign up and join the RMSA gang. Remember we defending 1<sup>st</sup> place team award this year again! Soaring in Phoenix this time of year is really great – come on down.

Relative to club affairs we held the contest planning meeting. We have established the contest dates and Mentor Day dates. However we still need more members to step up and CD or volunteer for a Mentor day. This year we are going to plan for a minimum of two members per Mentor Day, one Lead and an assistant. You don't need to be an expert pilot to assist, so don't hesitate to put your name in the hat. The following are the open slots we need volunteers for. Please drop me an email ([mike@verzuh.com](mailto:mike@verzuh.com)) with your first and second choice dates!

**CDs Needed for May 4<sup>th</sup> Open, June 8<sup>th</sup> Open, October 12<sup>th</sup> Open, and November 9<sup>th</sup> Open**

**Mentors Needed for May 3<sup>rd</sup> (2 Both Lead and Assist), June 7<sup>th</sup> (1 Assist), July 12<sup>th</sup> (1 Lead) August date tbd (1 Assist)**

This is a total of 4 CDs and 5 Mentors so get your names to me ASAP!

On other news I have been corresponding with one of the guys from the Magnificent Mountain Men Free Flight Club. They have lost their big flying field and are looking for alternatives. It could mean some additional membership to our club, which would be great. At this point they are looking for a practice field and our East field might work for them. They would not run any contests and I doubt there would be any conflicts for normal open flying days. We are talking about 5 or so additional fliers on occasion. There is one point I would like everyone's input, and that is regarding the potential use of power FF gliders. The rubber band powered gliders are no issue, but the glow gliders do run for a 10-15 second run without mufflers. Please send me your input on this subject.

That is it for now. All the best, and I look forward to a great year of fun and flying. See you in Phoenix!

*Mike Verzuh*

**Next Meeting: No meeting for month of February 2008**

## Support the US F3J Team (and Cody)

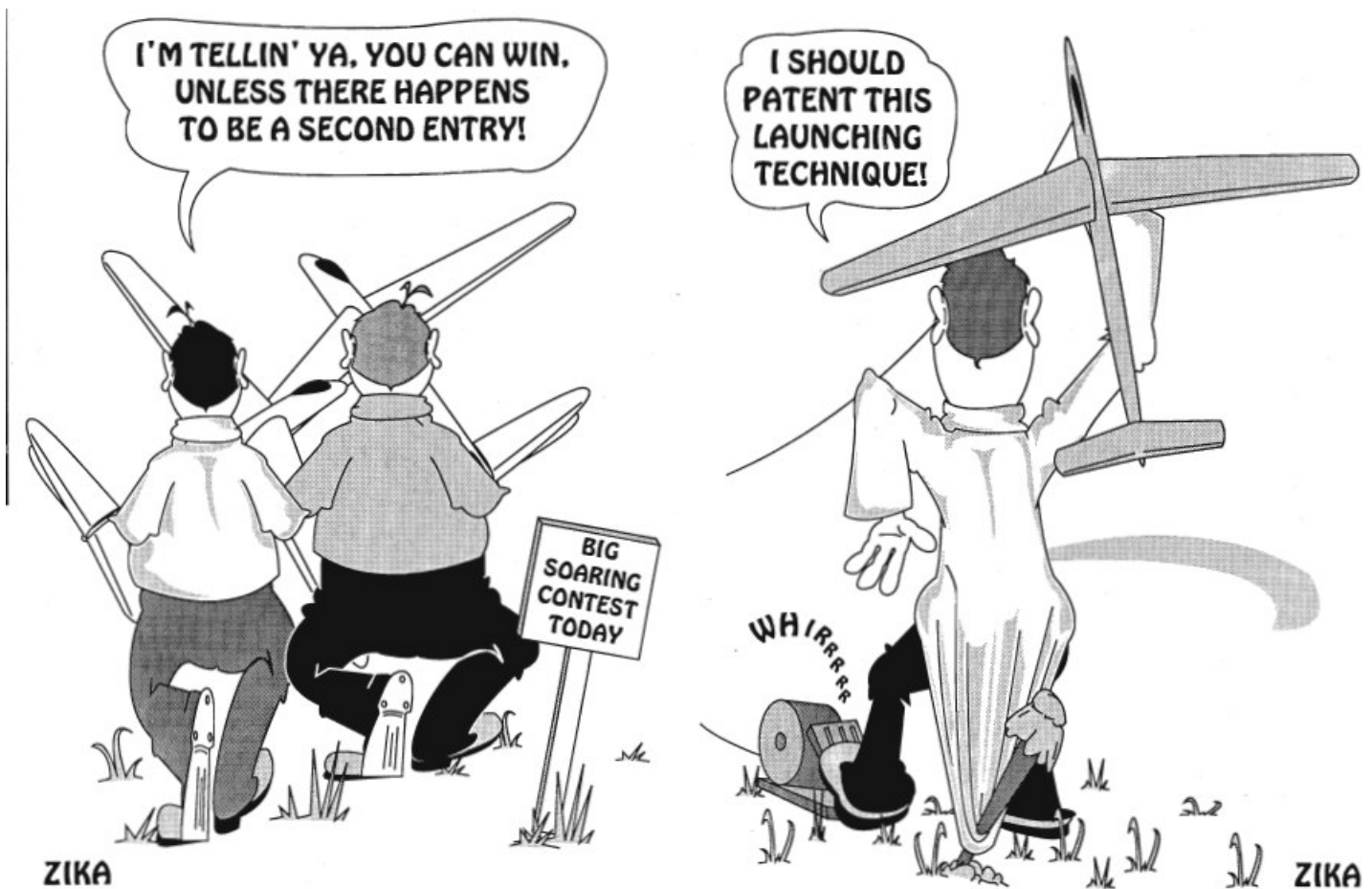
This year the US F3J team will be going to Turkey to compete for the 2008 World Championship. Our own Cody Remington is a member of the team, as the returning World Junior Champion and Jim Monaco is tentatively the returning team manager. This year the team is quite funding challenged by reductions in support by the AMA, very expensive tickets to Turkey, a larger team size (including Cody) and a much shorter funding cycle. You can support the team in a number of ways. We have lots of great merchandise for sale, with a variety of shirt styles and we even have sweatshirts this year! You can also get in to the great raffle with some terrific prizes including 2 F3J sailplanes (Supra and Experience Pro) and a JR 9303 radio. You can also contribute to the team with a cash donation. Your donation can be made as a tax deduction if you send the donation to the AMA (details on the website). Since AMA is a qualified organization, you may be able to double your contribution by using your employer matching donation program (just like they encourage on PBS...).

Please go to the website at <http://www.usf3jteam.com> and show your support!

Thanks – Jim Monaco

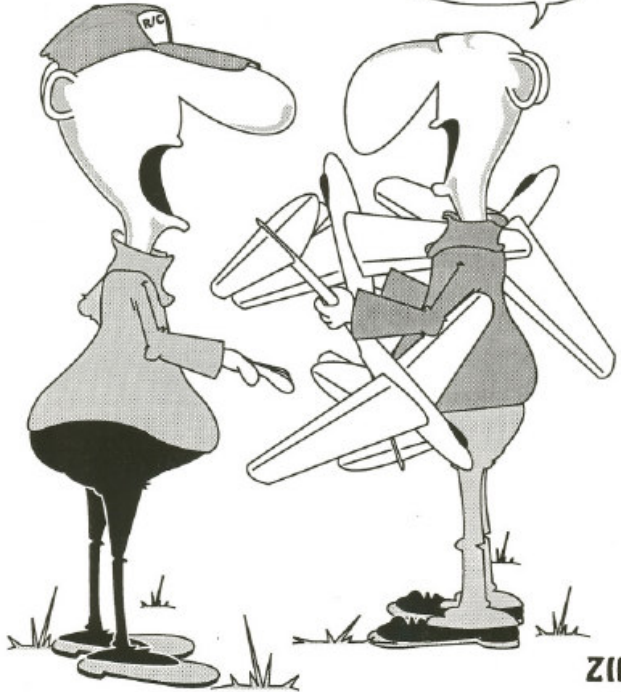
## Potpourri

These cartoons were created by Jack Zeka's brother and are courtesy of Jim Monaco. I'll be adding more to the newsletter each month as space is available. (Tony)



HERE, LET ME CARRY ONE OF YOUR GLIDERS!

WHAT, AND HAVE YOU LEARN ALL OF MY FLYIN' SECRETS!



ZIKA ZIKA

AND THE OVERALL TROPHY WINNER FOR TODAY IS ...



NOR RAIN, NOR SNOW, NOR GLOOM OF NIGH WILL STAY THE APPOINTED ROUNDS OF THE TRUE "GLIDER ENTHUSIAST!"

NEVER KNOW WHEN THE BATTERIES ARE GONNA GO ... THEN IT'S "HELLO CENTRAL MEXICO." SIMPLE LITTLE ADDRESS SHOULD SOLVE THE PROBLEM!



ZIKA



ZIKA

## For Sale

### Building Help Wanted

I'm looking for someone experienced in DLG building to complete a Gladiator DLG for me.

Call Randy Cheshire @ 303-805-2321 or email @ [rvchesh@comcast.net](mailto:rvchesh@comcast.net)

### Stylus Battery Packs

Just a reminder that I'm rebuilding Stylus battery packs with new cells. If your pack is old or may not be up to another season of flying, now is a great time to upgrade before the good weather gets here.

I'm using only Tenergy 2300 cells, which are the best AA flat top (so they fit the stock Stylus cartridge without hacking it up) Nimh cells that I'm aware of. These have a much greater capacity than the stock cells and have a very low self discharge rate too. I flew these cells in my Stylus all last season and have been happy with them. I use only good solder assembly methods for best reliability (I don't trust the spring type battery holders).

How do you get your Stylus pack upgraded?

Just send me your battery pack(s) and a check(s) for \$32.00 at the address below. I'll replace the cells, charge and test cycle the pack, and mail it back to you. Turnaround should be about a week. The old cells will be discarded unless you specifically ask to have them returned.

Thanks,

**Lenny Keer**

**5013 W. 9th St.**

**Greeley, CO 80634**

[Lenny970@AOL.com](mailto:Lenny970@AOL.com)

### **RTF, Carbon Supra,**

**\$1100. Stylus Programming Available**

Orange Top/ Blue Bottom Digital Servo's All around, Ballast Tube Installed, Good Condition, Just Add Rx and fly. . 67 oz RTF weight. Built by Larry Jolly.

### **RTF, Carbon Pike Giant,**

**\$1400 Stylus Programming Available**

JR Digitals All Around, two ballast chambers, Excellent Condition, Just Add Rx and fly. . 77 oz RTF weight. Suited for F3J/F3B/Slope.

### **RTF, AVA**

**\$700, Includes Airtronics Rx**

**Stylus Programming Available**

Ballast chamber installed, split spoilers in Center section, Excellent Condition, Includes an extra Flapped Center Section if not flying RES.

Call Jon Padilla 303-847-2300

## 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  
\$ 7.50 Junior - under 17  
\$ 35.00 Senior - individual 17 and over  
\$ 40.00 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





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

**2007 Board Members**

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

**Winch Master**

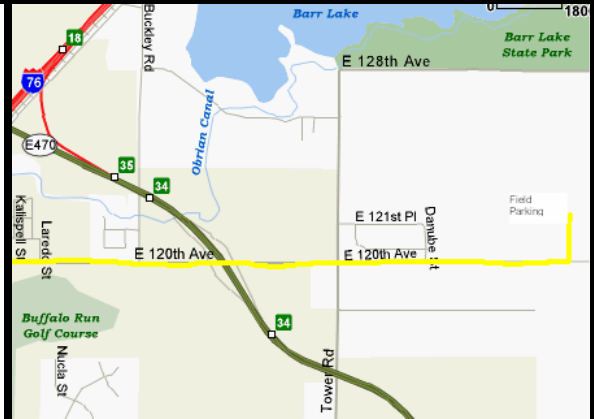
Mike Verzuh (970) 532-0638 <mailto:mike@verzuh.com>

**Battery Masters**

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

**For Winch Use:**

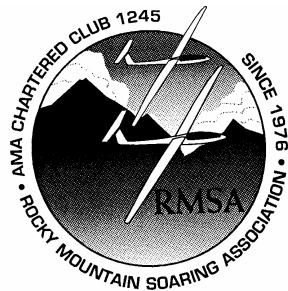
If you are interested in using a club winch please contact Mike for the first time, and I will insure you have all the details for trailer access. Also if you are a new member and have not had a winch operation and safety briefing we will coordinate that.



**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*