



Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

April 2008

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXII Number 4

President's Message Mike Verzuh

RMSA Members,

I hope April finds everyone healthy and able to get out and enjoy soaring in Colorado. It seems like we are getting more nice flyable days than cold windy ones. I have had computer problems so I will keep my message a bit short this month and just cover a few club items.

The contest season is in full swing. We had a great turn-out for the March Open contest, and we were greeted with outstanding weather. Check out Steve's contest report. The April Open is set for this weekend, and this is one to attend as it will feature a chance for our less experienced F3J flyers to get involved with F3J and receive some great support. Please plan on attending. The weather forecast looks good so far.

I want to remind everyone to get your membership up to date. There are still a few folks that I know are active that need to submit the dues. We need to finalize the roster for this year so Jim can update the website member contact list. Get-Er-Done Folks!

Our first Mentor Day is coming up on May 3rd. Don Ingram and Tom Gressman are going to host it. This is on a Saturday so please come on out and give them some support. Also during the April contest I will have RMSA Mentor Day flyers to distribute to the local hobby stores. If you handed these out last year, we could really use your support to hand them out again this year. I really appreciate everyone's support for the Mentor days. It is really a chance to give a little back to new flyers and it does help to attract new RMSA members.

Finally I want to pass on a public thanks to Steve Suntken for getting our winch trailer cleaned and ready for the season. We could still stand for more improvements on the doors, but Steve has us in a good workable situation – Thanks Steve!

That is all for now. I hope to see everyone this Sunday.

Regards,
RMSA President

Mike Verzuh

Next Meeting: Misc.

Date/Time	April 6th	Prior to Competition
Location:	Sod Farm	

March Contest Report Steve Suntken

Well "Sports Fans", I don't have to point it out, especially those in the 'upper' age brackets (yes. I do include myself), our flying season has begun. And boy has the winter's effects made home in my bones. I didn't fly most of the winter and even less than usual as the new year came around. Yikes! Dusting off these creek & crackl'n joints isn't coming all that easily. I said it last month and it's worth saying again: March 9th was a day the soaring Gods kicked some serious booty outta the weather Gods. Confronted with the typical, nasty weather forecasts for this time of the year, I arrived at the field around 7:30 that morning. Seriously thinking I made a mistake being here. But, I couldn't believe my own eyes. Blue Skies!! No way could this possibly last, I thought to myself. Not in March. Not for our first comp of the year..AND especially NOT for a comp "I AM" CDing. But it did.!

As I said at the beginning of this article, and for the benefit of that "upper" age group (well least for me), I decided to do a very laid back format. TD flying. Even though we didn't actually get started till round 10:30, we still managed to get 6 rounds in. Even with a timeout for a winch switch. I'm sure using 5/7/9/10 minute windows also helped. But regardless, the whole day was just beautiful, relaxing and quite competitive. On a side note: I was even impressed with my flying. Considering my lack of being at the field. (Like I said, Jim, I really gotta learn to call it quits while I'm ahead. LOL). Twice, in as many rounds, we had a "two plane" battle to stay a lot. Was quite an awesome sight. Specially the two doing working lift around the 100' mark. Those are definitely worth the price of admission. Just too bad I can't remember who they were. Most likely Skip & Cody. But not sure. Maybe someone else can say. All-in-all, it was a Great Day!!

Also wanted to pass along:

"Thanks" to all joined in to re-string the winches. Made things go smoothly.

"Thanks" to Skip for putting me up for the Star Award. I'm flattered, but don't feel I did anything but what is needed to help an organization keep afloat. Just my nature. (Most of the time)

"Thanks" to John K, Gary & Dave J. for picking-up the Blue Skies series (DLG) for Colo. A two day event is a mighty chore.

"Thanks" to the 'new guys' for stepping up to CD a comp. Jim DeGroot-Bruce Martin & Gary Slocum.

Don't forget F3J in the Rockies May 25

In case you missed this..wanted to pass along a site to some awesome pictures of the SWC taken by Phil Jones & friend (naturally I forgot his name).

<http://www.airimaging.com/SouthwestClassic/index.html>

See you in April --Steve

RESULTS

See next page

March Open Contest

Contest Date:

Class	Name	Place by Class	RD 1	RD 2	RD 3	RD 4	RD 5	RD 6	Raw Total	Rounds Flown	Total	Norm by Class	Norm by Contest	Place by Contest
M	Masters													
M	Skip Miller	1	1000.00	991.33	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	5991.33	6	5991.33	1000.00	1000.00	1
M	Cody Remington	2	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	991.42	989.86	998.56	5979.83	6	5979.83	998.08	998.08	2
M	Jim Monaco	3	986.75	991.33	985.92	994.27	981.40	1000.00	5939.68	6	5939.68	991.38	991.38	3
M	Dr. Danny Williams	4	967.11	965.34	1000.00	1000.00	984.26	994.24	5910.95	6	5910.95	986.58	986.58	4
M	Jon Padilla	5	989.06	974.00	987.48	992.85	978.48	966.81	5888.68	6	5888.68	982.87	982.87	5
M	Tom Gressman	6	938.60	970.54	987.34	941.26	966.67	985.61	5790.01	6	5790.01	966.40	966.40	6
M	Chris Keller	7	975.88	982.43	739.40	962.80	914.16	992.78	5567.46	6	5567.46	929.25	929.25	7
M	Joseph Newcomb	8	988.96	951.47	609.18	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	5549.61	6	5549.61	926.27	926.27	8
M	Mike Verzuh	9	971.55	986.14	844.58	987.11	988.52	665.20	5443.11	6	5443.11	908.50	908.50	9
M	Bob Lewan	10	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	429.39	1000.00	997.12	5426.52	6	5426.52	905.73	905.73	10
M	Steve Suntken	11	969.09	974.00	965.57	977.08	971.39	427.34	5284.47	6	5284.47	882.02	882.02	11
M	Bruce Martin	12	991.17	934.97	458.86	954.22	985.51	857.14	5181.87	6	5181.87	864.89	864.89	12
M	Lenny Keer	13	908.10	989.46	935.64	239.19	988.52	997.08	5057.98	6	5057.98	844.22	844.22	13
M	Robert Pederson	14	980.26	678.38	956.04	975.50	982.78	328.95	4901.93	6	4901.93	818.17	818.17	14
S	Sportsman													
S	Hal Remington	1	980.26	1000.00	951.49	994.27	442.03	486.84	4854.89	6	4854.89	1000.00	810.32	15
S	Gary Slocum	2	944.81	459.27	212.03	855.51	291.25	961.15	3724.02	6	3724.02	767.07	621.57	16
S	Jim DeGroot	3	940.92	894.28	830.46	224.78			2890.44	4	2890.44	595.37	482.44	17
N	Novice													

SUNDAY April 6th F3J winch Contest CD Mike Verzuh

REGISTRATION 8:15 AM Masters \$10.00 Sportsman/Novice \$5.00
PILOTS MEETING 8:45 AM
FIRST FLIGHT 9:00 AM

TASKS F3J with winches

Landing: AMA landing tapes.

Battery Masters - Please be sure to have your batteries at the field by 8:15 AM charged & "topped-up"

Note: Mentors will be available for assisting new pilots

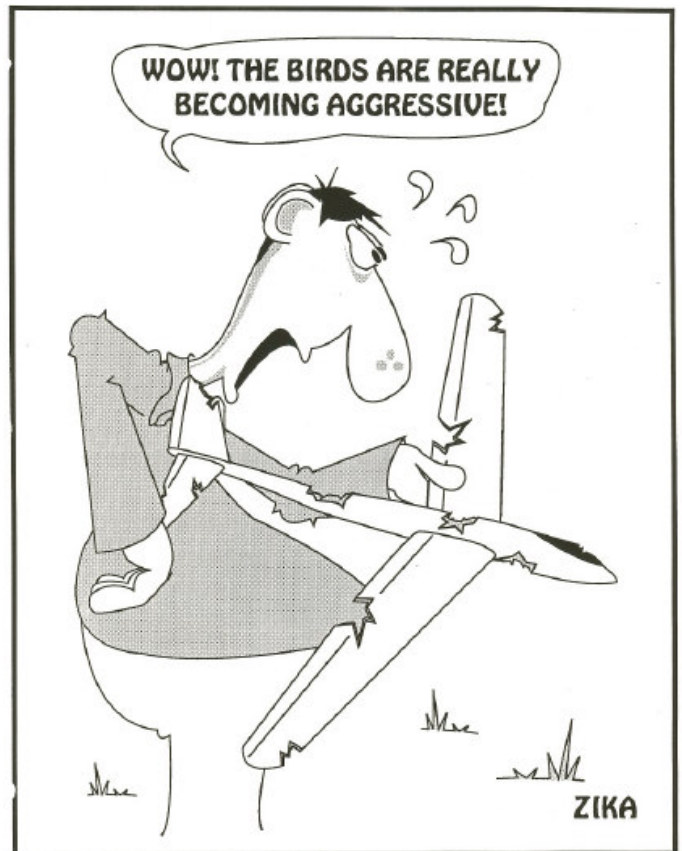
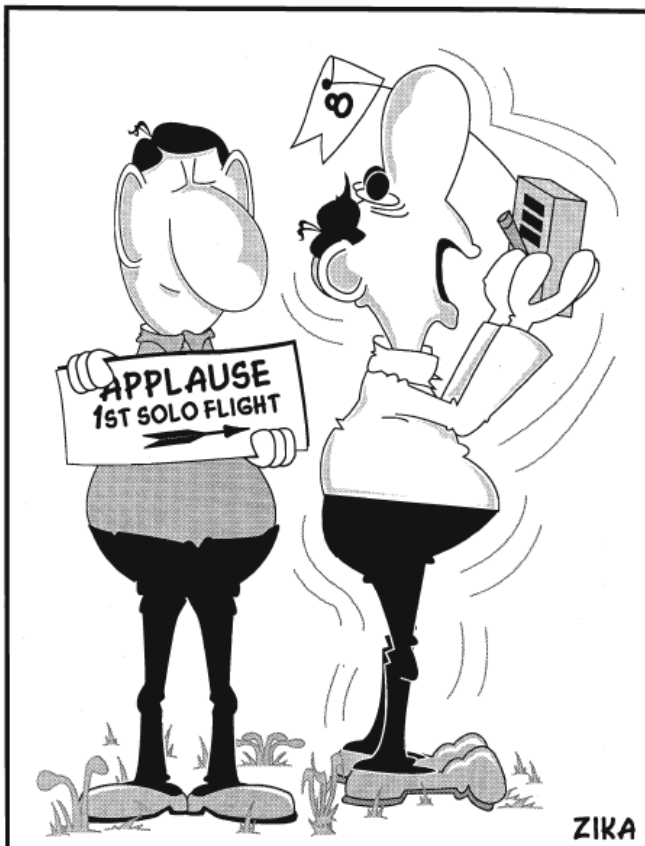
Winch testing Jim Monaco

After the April contest is over we intend to do winch testing for F3J in the Rockies. We intend to do a few F3J hand tows, and measure the launch heights with Don Ingram's Picoloario. We will then do some launch tests with an F3B winch and adjust the line length to obtain similar heights. We will then repeat the test with a club winch with braided line. This will give us the appropriate line lengths for F3J in the Rockies. I'm hoping a few of you can find some time after the event to help out with this testing. We will need a couple of folks to do 3-4 hand tows, and others to help move the turnarounds for adjusting the line lengths. Thanks for your support.
 Jim

F3J in the Rockies Jim Monaco

We will have a great turnout this year and we will need some help running the event. As usual we need help running the flight line, running the sound system, scoring and general setup. More hands make light work. Please let me know if you can help out for the event. In addition we will be having most of the US team participating. We are trying to find hosts for team members so we can help reduce their cost of attending by having them stay with club members. If you have some room and can host one or more team members, please let me know as soon as possible. Tony O'Hara has already volunteered – thanks Tony!

Jim



Potpourri

None this week

For Sale

Tsunami V-Tail

\$500

Yellow over blue. Ready to Fly (less crystal). Definitely well used and cosmetically challenged, but in good flying shape. Might need some work on an elevator pushrod to fix some double centering.

Eraser Extreme V-Tail

\$500

Yellow over Red. Ready to fly (less crystal). Excellent moving up sailplane. Again – cosmetically challenged wing. Like new Fuselage.

Sidewinder Discus HLG

\$125

Ready to Fly (less crystal). Strong repaired wing. Gyro included

Stylus – No glider card or module **\$225 or \$200** if sold with one of the above planes.

If you call me in advance that you are interested in one of the items above I will bring them to the April contest and you can actually fly them.

Jim Monaco jimmonaco@earthlink.net (303) 906-6965

WANTED

Looking for an **experienced DLG builder** to complete a **Gladiator II**. Pay negotiable.

Contact **Randy Cheshire** @ rvchesh@comcast.net or 303-805-2321

Shadow F3J

\$1100

New in box. 143", yellow dk. blue, cross tail.

Tom Gressman 303-246-3194

WINGS OVER ARIZONA



Sponsored by:

The Arizona Model Aviators

1st ANNUAL GIANT SCALE FLY-IN

MAY 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 2008

Location: Superstition Airpark, Mesa AZ

IMAA Guidelines apply to all aircraft.

80" Monoplane, 60" Biplane or True Quarter Scale

Just come, fly and have a good time.

Food will be available Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Pilots Raffle will be drawn Sunday at noon.

Prizes for Pilot's choice and People's choice.

Planes must fly to qualify for any prizes.

Entrants must be present Sunday to win the raffle.

Landing fee \$20.00

One time fee for as many planes as you bring.

Pre-registration is recommended.

Pilot's raffle ticket and Parking is included in the Landing Fee.

Public Parking is \$6.00 per car as per Maricopa Parks dept.

No Overnight Parking At The Airfield. Limited free parking nearby.

Proof of AMA membership required.

For Turbines, a waiver will be required.

Contact: Paul Goldsmith 602-323-7753 or wiinger@aol.com

Arizona Model Aviators web site www.azmodelaviators.com

AMA Sanction Number 08-0246

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:

Signature

2008 RMSA Contest/Event Calendar

Date	Event	Location	Description
Sun Mar 9	March Open Contest	Sod Farm	CD - Steve Suntken
Sun Mar 9	March Club Meeting	Sod Farm	Concurrent with contest
Tue Apr 1	April Club Meeting	TBD	
Sun Apr 6	April Open Contest	Sod Farm	CD - Mike Verzuh–Intro. to F3J
Sun May 4	May Open Contest	Sod Farm	CD - Dr. Dan - F3J with Winches
Sun May 4	May Club Meeting	Sod Farm	Concurrent with contest
Sun May 18	May Handlaunch	Sod Farm	CD - John Kappus
Sat May 24			
Sun May 25	F3J in the Rockies	Sod Farm	CD - Jim Monaco
Tue Jun 3	June Club Meeting	TBD	
Sat Jun 7			
Sun Jun 8	IHLG	Poway (San Diego) CA	International HL
Sat Jun 7	Mentor Day	Sod Farm	CD - Don Ingram and ?
Sun Jun 8	June Open Contest	Sod Farm	CD - Bob Pederson
Fri Jun 27			
Sun Jul 6	F3J World Championships	Adapazari, Turkey	GO Cody and Jim
Sat Jun 28	June Handlaunch Contest	Sod Farm	CD - John Kappus
Sat Jul 12	Mentor Day	Sod Farm	CD - Jim DeGroot and ?
Sun Jul 13	July Club Contest	Sod Farm	CD - Bruce Martin
Sun Jul 13	July Club Meeting	Sod Farm	Concurrent with contest
Sat Jul 26	July Handlaunch Contest	Sod Farm	CD - John Kappus
Sun Jul 27			
Sun Aug 3	NATS	Muncie\, IN	US Nationals
Sun Aug 3	Mentor Day - Handlaunch	Sod Farm	CD - John Kappus
Mon Aug 4	August Club Meeting	TBD	
Sun Aug 10	August Open Contest	Sod Farm	CD - Jim Monaco
Sat Aug 23			
Sun Aug 24	Colorado Blue Skies HL Contest	Sod Farm	CD - John Kappus and D&G Jensen
Tue Sep 2	September Club Meeting	TBD	
Sun Sep 7	Colorado Challenge Cup	Sod Farm	This is also the Sept. Open Contest
Sun Sep 14			
Sun Sep 21	F5B Electric World Champ.	Ukraine	GO LENNY!
Thu Sep 18			
Sun Sep 21	World Soaring Masters	Muncie\, IN	
Sun Sep 28	September Handlaunch	Sod Farm	CD - John Kappus
Sat Oct 4			
Sun Oct 5	Visalia	Visalia\, CA	
Tue Oct 7	October Club Meeting	TBD	
Sun Oct 12	October Open Contest	Sod Farm	CD - Dr. Dan
Sun Nov 9	November Club Meeting	Sod Farm	Concurrent with contest
Sun Nov 9	November Open Contest	Sod Farm	CD - Gary Slocum
Sun Dec 7	RMSA Awards Banquet	?Cinzettis?	



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

Winch Master

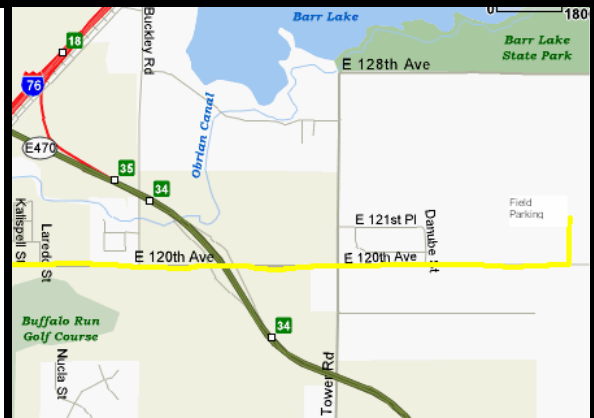
Mike Verzuh (970) 532-0638 <mailto:mike@verzuh.com>

Battery Masters

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

For Winch Use:

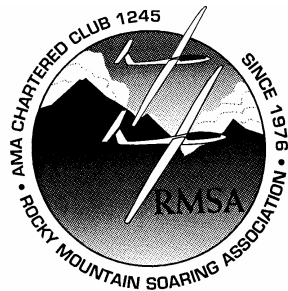
If you are interested in using a club winch please contact Mike for the first time, and I will insure you have all the details for trailer access. Also if you are a new member and have not had a winch operation and safety briefing we will coordinate that.



Directions to Field

Take I-76 to exit 16. Turn left and follow the frontage road to the stoplight and turn east onto 120th eastbound towards the airport. Take 120th East to Tower Rd. Take 120th 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