



Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

October 2008

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXII Number 10

President's Message Mike Verzuh

What an "Indian Summer" we have going so far. This is really the best time of year for soaring. Our field conditions have been great. This is the time to get out and enjoy things before the snow flies and things become more hit and miss.

First I want to personally thank a few folks for their continued club support this year. Every club member supports our club with dues and attention, but the following folks continue to go the extra mile. At the top of the list are our "Field Marshal" and VP Steve Suntken. Steve has been able to attend every contest except one, and he always brings the winch trailer over and gives it his personal attention. This means Steve arrives before everyone and leaves after everyone (I know I have done that job). Steve has also been instrumental in building and maintaining relationships with the sod farm management and field crew. Never before have we enjoyed such great support. Why is this important? We are primarily a flying club so having such a great field to fly on (at no cost!) is outstanding. Next I want to acknowledge Tony O'Hara for his great support of the club newsletters. He has added some new features and has to put up with late entries (primarily from me) and in the end always puts out a great newsletter. Bob Rice our club Secretary and John Pearson our Treasurer have contributed year over year and their solid contributions to keep the club infrastructure going is amazing. Next our past President and board member Jim Monaco continues to maintain our website (no small task) scores most all contests and year end results and provides critical club input. We have several folks who have stepped forward to support as CDs and Mentor Day leaders. John Kappus led the hand launch series this year with great help from David and Gary Jensen. We hosted one of the stops on the Blue Skies HL tour! Here are the rest of our CDs and Mentor Day leaders, Steve Suntken, Dr. Dan, John Kappus, Jim Monaco, Don Ingram, Blayne Chastain, Bob Pederson, Bob Rice, Gary Slocum, Tom Gressman, Mike Verzuh, Mark Howard, and Bruce Martin. Finally I want to acknowledge Skip Miller for his continued support to bring everyone such great models, guide our club throughout the sailplane community and provide overall club guidance. THANKS EVERYONE!

On other matters I am still looking for input relative to holding some of our contests on Saturday next year. So far the input is that would be a good idea. I have not heard from anyone that disagrees with a shift of a few contests to Saturday. So if you have an opinion on this topic, please email me! Also we do need to get nominations for next year's club officers. I have completed two years as Pres and by club rules we will need a new President. We must also reaffirm the offices of Newsletter Editor, Treasurer, Secretary and Vice President. If you are interesting in supporting the club as an officer please contact me. We will affirm the new team at our year-end banquet.

I hope to see many of you at the flying field and we still have two club contests in front of us in October and November.

Regards,
RMSA President

Next Meeting: None
Date/Time
Location:

September Challenge Cup Contest Report Bob Rice

A beautiful September morning greeted the 19 pilots from RMSA and PPSS for the Challenge Cup. Sunshine, pleasant temperatures, and light winds. The winch lines were quickly set up and the contest was underway. Six rounds, with times from 7 to 11 minutes were flown. The winch equipment worked flawlessly/ Mother nature gave us terrific weather with light winds (generally down the lines), sun, and thermals most of the time. No aircraft carnage but the time sheets took a lot of hits – made for a great contest. Congratulations to RMSA for retaining the Challenge cup by the score of 29,692 to 26,742. Also, congrats to Bob Lewan, Code Remington, and Phil Jones for their 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishes in the RMSA September Open contest.. Thanks to the winch crews, battery masters, and Jim Monaco (scoring).

RESULTS

Colorado Challenge Cup Contest Date: 9/7/08

Class	Name	Place by Class	RD 1	RD 2	RD 3	RD 4	RD 5	RD 6	Raw Total	Round s Flown	Total	Norm by Class	Norm by Contest	Place by Contest
R	RMSA													
R	Bob Lewan	1	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	997.36	1000.00	1000.00	5997.36	6	5997.36	1000.00	1000.00	1
R	Cody Remington	2	980.66	988.87	1000.00	994.70	998.43	1000.00	5962.66	6	5962.66	994.21	994.21	2
R	Phil Jones	3	1000.00	988.94	985.83	997.35	990.49	994.20	5956.81	6	5956.81	993.24	993.24	3
R	Steve Suntken	4	976.52	977.88	984.13	1000.00	990.49	970.70	5899.72	6	5899.72	983.72	983.72	5
R	Skip Miller	5	1000.00	1000.00	990.58	988.08	1000.00	897.64	5876.30	6	5876.30	979.81	979.81	7
R	Mike Verzuh	6	798.84	988.87	971.74	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	5759.45	6	5759.45	960.33	960.33	8
R	Jim Monaco	7	984.22	990.46	1000.00	244.71	1000.00	1000.00	5219.39	6	5219.39	870.28	870.28	10
R	John Kappus	8	725.84	979.46	1000.00	470.36	564.87	980.43	4720.96	6	4720.96	787.17	787.17	12
R	Hal Remington	9	411.31	932.28	977.78	978.92	419.71	968.69	4688.69	6	4688.69	781.79	781.79	13
R	Jim DeGroot	10	353.97	966.93	968.25	1000.00	305.38	642.17	4236.69	6	4236.69	706.43	706.43	15
R	Bruce Martin	11	982.46	477.09	849.21	512.55	316.54	574.80	3712.64	6	3712.64	619.05	619.05	17
P	PPSS													
P	Dr. Danny Williams	1	1000.00	1000.00	985.83	990.75	996.84	978.52	5951.93	6	5951.93	1000.00	992.43	4
P	Bob Vixie	2	982.46	996.85	962.20	1000.00	944.88	990.23	5876.63	6	5876.63	987.35	979.87	6
P	Chris Keller	3	964.77	955.91	849.21	961.69	825.12	984.53	5541.22	6	5541.22	931.00	923.94	9
P	Mark Howard	4	933.46	1000.00	976.45	944.44	248.42	946.85	5049.63	6	5049.63	848.40	841.98	11
P	Bob Avery	5	378.17	985.69	984.25	990.74	216.77	767.89	4323.52	6	4323.52	726.41	720.90	14
P	Frank Deis	6	670.61	943.13	843.01	523.06	444.09	564.45	3988.36	6	3988.36	670.09	665.02	16
P	Skip Richards	7	416.17	842.02	220.63	860.93	852.61	305.12	3497.49	6	3497.49	587.62	583.17	18
P	Austin Cleis	8	444.87	969.98	942.86	372.86	364.07	223.09	3317.74	6	3317.74	557.42	553.20	19
N	Novice													

29692.84

26742.93

September HLG Contest Report John Kappus

The last hand launch contest of the year was held on a warm sunny September day. The morning started a little windy and thermals were not particularly well defined most of the day. Most lift was light, but some was small and turbulent. There were also periods where wave lift would set up and cruising in this was the best practice. Sometimes it was hard to determine if the lift was wave, or should you turn and go downwind with it, sometimes quite quickly.

We had 7 fliers with almost half of them being Jensens. Scott, Dave's son, came out for his first contest and proved Jensen blood and talent flows through his veins. He will be a contender now that the first time jitters are gone and he knows how the game is played. We also had a number of spectators with 2 joining the club!

The scoring stayed tight through out the contest with everyone taking hits. In some cases this was literal! Gary, who was leading the contest after the 5th round had a disastrous 6th round. This task was last 2 flights count with 4-minute maxes in a 10-minute window. Gary, Dave, and John L had all made their 4 minutes on their 1st throw when Gary decided he wasn't set up well for his landing and swept sideways to correct. Only problem was that his brother Dave was there and the two collided and landed just outside the field boundaries for a zero. Now there was just 6 minutes left for 2 4s John got his remaining second 4 minute flight, but Gary and Dave launching later after retrieving their planes could not get into John's thermal and got smoked for the round. That left John L 160 points ahead for the last round. Unfortunately for John, he had a tough last flight and didn't make his time while I got away. This contest could have had 3 possible winners right to the end.

It was a great season, so start building for next year and come on out and have hand launch fun! See you next year!

RESULTS

Name	1		2			3		4		5		6		7		Grand Total	Norm Score	Place
	norm score	total	norm score	total	total	norm score	total	norm score	total	norm score	total	norm score	total	norm score	total			
John Kappus	A 1000	2000	A 1000	2000	2000	B 978	2978	A 676	3654	A 912	4566	B 1000	5566	B 1000	6566	1000	1	
John Lovins	B 741	1730	B 989	1730	1730	A 1000	2730	B 1000	3730	B 1000	4730	A 1000	5730	B 807	6537	996	2	
Gary Jensen	B 1000	1990	A 990	1990	1990	B 1000	2990	B 820	3810	A 1000	4810	A 508	5318	A 1000	6318	962	3	
Dave Jensen	B 1000	2000	B 1000	2000	2000	B 834	2834	B 630	3464	A 728	4192	A 427	4619	A 945	5564	847	4	
Steve Suntken	A 741	1397	A 656	1397	1397	A 552	1949	A 1000	2949	B 905	3854	A 938	4792	B 769	5561	847	5	
Bob Pederson	B 741	1677	B 936	1677	1677	A 795	2472	B 373	2845	B 914	3759	B 407	4166	A 861	5027	766	6	
Scott Jensen	A 519	1153	A 634	1153	1153	B 815	1968	A 602	2570	A 953	3523	B 414	3937	A 1000	4937	752	7	

USA F5B team brings home Silver!



From left to right---Eric Weirman (pilot from CA), Lenny Keer (pilot from CO), Chuck Grim (team manager from CA), and Steve Neu (pilot from CA).

The 2008 World Championships for F5B (Electric Glider) was held in Kiev, Ukraine a couple of weeks ago. We left about 10 days earlier in order to adjust to the time change, get in some practice flying, and test several new power setups before the competition started. Barbara and I left from Denver, and everyone else left from San Diego. We all met up in New York to take the same flight direct to Kiev.

All our luggage and two very large model boxes arrived safely and we stuffed them into the rental cars and headed for the hotel. We spent some time reassembling all the models (the power systems had been removed for travel) and soldering connectors on about 30 new battery packs that we had brought. We were fortunate to locate a nice practice field near the hotel that worked out great.

The hotel itself was less than great. With tiny rooms, hot water sometimes unavailable, terrible food, and an unfriendly staff, it felt more like a prison than a hotel. Apparently, it wasn't really out of the ordinary for that area, but it certainly wasn't up to our usual Western standards. The US team was very fortunate to have arrive early enough to find another nearby hotel that was much better. We left the prison hotel just as many other teams were checking in.

We spent several days flying at our practice field and things were going well. The weather was nice – probably mid 70's and sunny. The flights were going well some of the new power setups were looking promising.

The Black Sea Cup is the open international F5B contest held prior to the Worlds as a “warm up”. It began on Saturday and the nice sunny weather was replaced with cold, windy, and overcast skies. We got a late start, but did complete one full round. Unfortunately, this turned out to be the best weather of the competition as it got steadily worse! Sunday brought some light rain along with the wind and we completed the final round of the pre-event. That evening was the opening ceremonies for the Worlds, along with the awards for the Black Sea Cup. Steve new took second place and I was fifth, so we were looking pretty good before the official start.

The first day of the contest started out gloomy. Overcast skies, windy, and chilly. It took a while for the organizers to get ready, and shortly after the round started, so did the rain. After waiting for the showers to pass, the flying resumed in a light drizzle and we completed the first round. Nobody was scoring very well in these conditions, but at least we were hanging in there.

On day two we arrived at the field in a light rain and very low ceiling. Models flying the distance course would be in danger of disappearing into the clouds. We spent the day under the rain shelters visiting with the other pilots. Every hour or so a test flight was conducted to see if the conditions had improved enough to fly, but by early afternoon it was decided to cancel flying for the day.

The third day started with some light rain, but the ceiling was higher so visibility was a bit better. The round was started and paused several times as conditions worsened. The rain increased throughout the day became a good, steady rain. The flying should have been stopped, but with one day already lost and an unfavorable weather forecast ahead, we hung plastic bags over the transmitter and kept flying. It was miserable. Everyone was cold and wet, but we did complete a second round.

The fourth day was more of the same. Back to the light rain, low ceiling, and cold. We completed a third round with several pauses for heavier rain showers. By now, the dirt road into the field looked like a mud rally course. Several cars had to be towed out of the muck and the road was pretty much impassible.

The final day was cloudy, with no rain, but since the field was no longer accessible, the contest was declared over. What should have been 8 rounds with a throw-out, turned out to be just 3 rounds and no throw-out. All of the scores were down due to the poor conditions, and anybody with a bad round had no chance to come back. We did have a nice banquet and the closing ceremonies that evening back at our hotel. In the end, Austria placed first, USA was second, and France was third. Individually, I placed 11th overall, Steve Neu was 22nd, and Eric Weirman was 30th.

We're all glad to be back home again and can start thinking about the next cycle. There's talk about holding the 2010 Worlds in Muncie, which would be a big improvement.

Lenny Keer
F5B Team USA 2008

SUNDAY OCTOBER 12th Open Contest CD Dr. Danny Williams

REGISTRATION 8:00 AM Masters \$10.00 Sportsman/Novice \$5.00
PILOTS MEETING 8:30 AM
FIRST FLIGHT 8:45 AM

AMA T1 – International Duration MoM

Times based on conditions

AMA tape landings

October contest is going to be a TD contest so skeg up for a standard AMA tape and some fun...

Battery Masters - Please be sure to have your batteries at the field by 8:00 AM charged & “topped-up”

Potpourri

WANDERER IS BACK!

Art Reis's old 2M poly Wanderer is available again for some new beginner to have, enjoy and learn from! It is old & battered, but flies well and is a complete system ready to fly (including Hi-Start) at no charge to the taker!

I only ask that it get's passed on (if still viable!) to some new person when you're thru with it!

Contact Tony O'Hara 303-948-2576 or email me at tonyoco@q.com if you know someone who would benefit from this model.

For Sale

Muller Escape Span 128” \$300.00

Yellow with dark blue under wings. This sailplane has had some damage to wings, fuse and V-tail mounting but all well repaired. Can take a full winch launch without problem!

This is a “perfect” sailplane for a pilot who wants to graduate to the large full-house composite Open Class F3J plane, or for anyone just looking for a cheap back-up plane! (without paying \$1000-\$2000!!)

It comes ready to fly including NiMH battery & Hitec RX configured for Airtronics Stylus TX. Just plug in crystal and go fly!

Ryan O'Hara 303-638-9913

Receivers for sale

Used JR R770S PCM channel 23 \$38.00

New in Package JR R790SUL. \$38.00

Scan Select PCM synthesized This is the same as the R790 but has a lightweight 'case' and light antenna 12 grams

Used Hitec 555s . \$15.00

Negative shift for Futaba/Hitec Still one of the best DLG receivers. Three available \$15each,

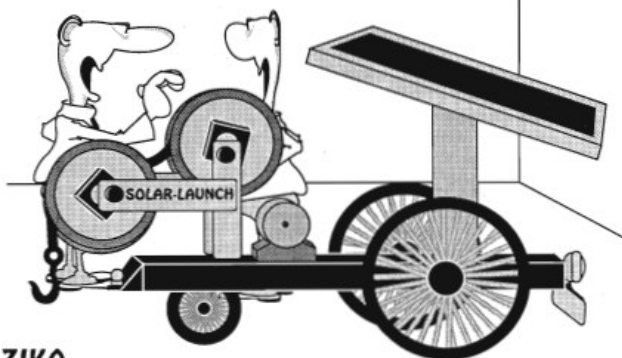
Used Hitec SuperSlim \$25.00

Negative shift for Futaba/Hitec

John Kappus <johnkappus@comcast.net>

LISTEN PAL, EVERYBODY'S GOT ONE 'CEPT YOU! NOW, FOR JUST A VERY SMALL DOWN PAYMENT, I CAN PUT THE "ZIPPO" BACK IN YOUR GLIDING CAREER!

SOLAR LAUNCH
PUT THE "POWER" BACK INTO YOUR "WIMPY" LAUNCHES!



ZIKA

LET'S SEE, I BELIEVE I HAVE 600 SQUARE FEET OF AIR SPACE IN SECTOR 8 AT AN ALTITUDE OF 400 FEET ON WEDNESDAY FROM 9:00 AM TO 10:30 AM. DO YOU WANT TO RESERVE THAT AREA, SIR?

RESERVE SOARING TIME HERE

CASH ONLY!



ZIKA

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 - 2009

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
Sat May 3	Mentor Day	Sod Farm	Don Ingram and Tom Gressman
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
Sat May 24	F3J in the Rockies	Sod Farm	CD - Jim Monaco
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/Sun Aug 23/24	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

2008 Board Members

970 532 0638 <mailto:mike@verzuh.com>
 303 477 6184 <mailto:flyingdogtwo@cs.com>
 720-581-3099 <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

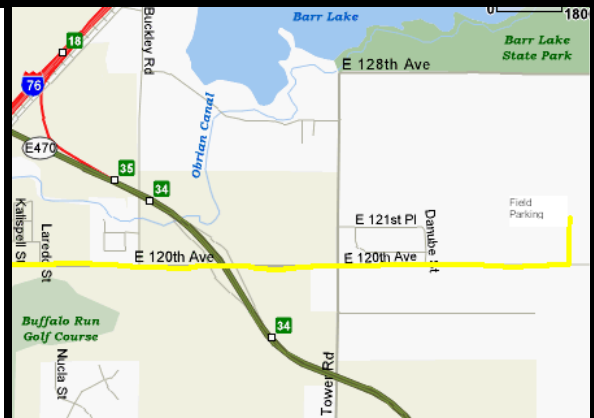
Mike Verzuh (970) 532-0638 <mailto:mike@verzuh.com>

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