

# Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

October 2011

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXV Number 10

## President's Message

**Jim Monaco**

Boy this year went fast... It's already October and the season is winding down. For some of us the climax of the season is yet to come – the US F3J Team Selections will be held Oct 29-31 in Cocoa Florida. We have 6 strong pilots headed down to compete for 3 slots on the US team. I think this is one of the strongest, and most ready set of US pilots in a long time. Everyone has been getting up early for morning practices, shooting landings, measuring plane performances and getting support equipment ready. Our goal is to fill the team with RMSA pilots! Helping us make that easier is Bob Pederson who volunteered his time to drive the trailer down and back for us. This is a HUGE help for us ensuring we can take all the support equipment we need to be successful. For those of you that care to follow along – the scores will be posted in real time on the web and you can see all the details as they happen at: <http://f3jevents.com/dev/F3JScore-InternetMonitor.php?EVENT=F3J%20TS%202011> Wish us luck!

Speaking of Time – it's that time of year again – YES – ELECTIONS! My term is over and we are now accepting nominations or volunteers for the officer positions. As usual the President and VP offices need some new candidates. Many of us have served several cycles and it's now time for new blood. I think that I personally am getting a little stale and the club could use a good shot of youthful enthusiasm. Please consider serving the club or nominating a worthy candidate to shoot some life back into the club processes. Send your candidates to: [jimmonaco@earthlink.net](mailto:jimmonaco@earthlink.net).

We will conduct the club business at the field after the October contest. See you there..

## SATURDAY Oct 15<sup>th</sup> DLG Contest CD Dave Jensen

Our next DLG club contest will be Saturday October 15. Note that this contest will be at the Jonke DLG Ranch (e-mail [dave@integrity-inc.com](mailto:dave@integrity-inc.com) for directions). As always, we'll be newcomer-friendly, and will adjust the schedule to answer any questions that arise. We will be starting the pilot's meeting at 9:00, with flying to begin immediately afterward. We look forward to seeing y'all!

## SUNDAY Oct 9th Open Contest CD Bruce Martin

REGISTRATION	Before 8:30 AM Masters \$10.00 Sportsman/Novice \$5.00
PILOT'S MEETING:	8:30 AM
FIRST FLIGHT:	9:00 AM
TASKS:	F3J with winches
BATTERY MASTERS:	Please be sure to have your batteries at the field by 8:30 AM charged & "topped-up"

# SEPT. CHALLENGE CUP Report CD Jim Monaco

The September contest was the annual Colorado Challenge Cup. We had beautiful weather for the Pike Peak gang to come up and try to take the trophy back. Unfortunately a couple of the normal Pikes Peak guys had to work and could not make it so we only took the top 3 pilots from each team for the scores. Overall the scores were very close with only 16 raw points separating 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Skip took all the marbles with a perfect 6000 points beating Mike Verzuh by less than 6 points! The RMSA top 3 only dropped 16 points from the perfect 18000 points to beat the Pikes Peak team. As Bob Vixie said before he left – “We have to lose to you guys because we love to come fly on this field with you... J”.

Jim Rogers, our newest Sportsman flew a great contest and took the fifth spot overall and first in Sportsman. If you look at the scores below you will see he got all his times and decent landings.. Way to go Jim! John Lovins had one tough round and fought like the dickens to get his time, but wound up just a little short to hurt his placing. Jim Smith had some bad luck, hitting himself on landing. Damage to his pride was worse than the damage to his Pike.. J

All in all we had a great event. I wish we had a better turnout, but I’m hoping that next year we get more members out.

## Scores

Name	Place by Class	RD 1	RD 2	RD 3	RD 4	RD 5	RD 6	Raw Total	Norm by Class	Norm by Contest	Place by Contest	Team Score
<b>RMSA</b>												17984.52
Skip Miller	1	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	6000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1	
Mike Verzuh	2	1000.00	998.43	998.57	1000.00	998.57	998.57	5994.13	999.02	999.02	2	
Jon Padilla	3	990.38	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	5990.38	998.40	998.40	3	
Jim Monaco	4	1000.00	1000.00	997.13	992.84	997.13	997.13	5984.23	997.37	997.37	4	
Jim Rogers	5	980.69	995.29	1000.00	995.70	982.81	997.13	5951.63	991.94	991.94	5	
John Lovins	6	992.31	1000.00	997.14	997.12	1000.00	911.98	5898.54	983.09	983.09	6	
Jim Smith	7	302.55	993.73	995.66				2291.94	381.99	381.99	10	
<b>PPSS</b>												14486.69
Bob Vixie	1	905.70	996.86	966.71	858.17	992.84	1000.00	5720.28	1000.00	953.38	7	
Frank Deis	2	765.38	924.65	255.01	968.30	994.27	718.61	4626.23	808.74	771.04	8	
Austin Clies	3	158.30	987.46	835.48	230.66	971.26	957.02	4140.18	723.77	690.03	9	

## Current Open Standings

	Mar	Apr	May	Aug	Sep	Nat. Lvl.	Name	Best 6	Place
<b>Masters</b>									
John Padilla	907.94	931.60	993.02	910.57	998.40	995.85	F3J Nats	5737.38	1
Mike Verzuh		1000.00	999.80	1000.00	999.02	999.70	F3J Rock	4998.52	2
Skip Miller	994.11		1000.00	971.51	1000.00	999.41	F3J Rock	4965.03	3
John Lovins	941.55	969.40	946.10	955.36	983.09			4795.50	4
Jim Monaco	799.31	641.42		830.10	997.37	997.60	Nats F3J	4265.80	5
Bob Lewan	990.32	635.88	999.97			999.68	F3J Rock	3625.85	6
Bruce Martin	811.23	997.22	991.40					2799.85	7
Blayne Chastain	1000.00		999.16					1999.16	8
Lenny Keer			954.00	893.15				1847.15	9
Cody Remington	843.47					1000.00	Nats F3J	1843.47	10
Byron Blakeslee		379.34	810.77					1190.11	11
Mark Howard		810.58						810.58	12
Steve Sunkten	746.14							746.14	13
Mike Gibson			733.46					733.46	14
Bob Moffatt		246.43						246.43	15
									16
									16
<b>Sportsman</b>									
Jim Smith	1000.00		1000.00	1000.00	385.10			3385.10	1
Jim Rogers				710.22	1000.00			1710.22	2
John Christensen	815.66							815.66	3

## BLUE SKIES OVER UTAH Contest Report John Jonke

Blue Skies Over Utah 2011 was Utah's inaugural Blue Skies Series event and also a team-select qualifier contest. Mike Maurer and his team did a great job putting the contest together and there was nothing left to be desired. It was a first-class event from beginning to end. There were a lot of highlights to the experience and some interesting new stuff.

The contest venue was a luscious barefoot-grass sod farm near Orem, with a spectacular backdrop of the Wasatch Range to the East and Lake Utah to the West. A truly magnificent setting and a future "can't miss this one" event.

RMSA sent four pilots this year. Team Jensen (Gary, Dave and Kelsey) made an especially big impact. Gary was flying extremely well as usual and finessed his way to a second place finish to Jun Catacutan, a 2011 USA Team member that continues to dominate with amazing flying ability. Kelsey Jensen, Gary's daughter, dazzled everybody as she flew in the contest, timed for dad in every round she could and also flawlessly managed all the scoring duties and posted results to the internet even before the pilots could see their scores. Marvelous job, Kelsey! She finished #18. John Jonke managed to hold on to a fifth place finish.

Conditions were all there; we had calm dead air, breezy, drizzle, active thermals, flat air, zero lift and huge sink. Everyone's piloting skills got a good workout.

Highlights for this author included opening ceremony both days with hearing Our National Anthem and the display of the American Flag for the entire contest. We also got to experience a crawdad feast put together by Team Utah on Saturday night which proved to be a true Cajun-Style delight. A fantastic display of 3D aerobatics was our lunch-time show by Andrew Jesky, a member of the Gold Medalist F3A World Champion USA Team. Andrew also came away with a Bronze in the individual competition. His ability on the sticks is truly awesome.

RMSA finished the day with two of the top five positions, sharing them with two from California and one from Arizona namely George Morris, also a 2011 USA Team member, currently ranked #2 hand launch pilot in the World.

Team Utah has truly raised the bar with their excellence and every hand launch pilot should mark their calendars now for next year's BSOU event.

**FOR SALE**

**Dremel table saw.**

**\$10.**

**Call Byron 303-738-1104.**

**POTPOURRI**

None this month

# RMSA 2011 Calendar

[\(click for online version that may be more current\)](#)

Date	Event	Location	Description
Thu Jan 13	RMSA Meeting	Broomfield Public Library	2011 Schedule
Sat Jan 22	Trailer/Winch Day	7257 W 116th Place, Broomfield	Trailer and Winch Repair Day
Tue Feb 1	RMSA Meeting	To Be Announced	Club Meeting
Thu Feb 17-Fri Feb 18	F3J in the Desert	Queen Creek AZ	CD-Phil Renaud
Sat Feb 19	Southwest Classic	Queen Creek AZ	CD-Chico
Tue Mar 1	RMSA Meeting	Club Field	Club Meeting
Mar 6 <sup>th</sup> TBA	RMSA Pro/AM	Club Field	CD-Jim Monaco
Sun Mar 13	RMSA DLG	Club Field	CD-Dave Jensen
Sat Mar 19	RMSA Open Contest	Club Field	CD-Blayne Chastain
Sat Mar 19	RMSA Meeting	Club Field before contest	Club Meeting
Tue Apr 5	RMSA Meeting	To be Announced	Club Meeting
Sun Apr 10	RMSA Open Contest	Club Field	CD-Mike Verzuh
Sat Apr 16	RMSA DLG	Club Field	CD-Dave Jensen
Fri Apr 29-Sun May 1	International HLG	San Diego CA	
Tue May 3	RMSA Meeting	To be Announced	Club Meeting
Sat May 7	RMSA Open Contest	Club Field	CD-Jon Padilla F3J w/winch
Sun May 15	RMSA DLG	Club Field	CD-Dave Jensen
Sat May 28-Sun May 29	F3J in the Rockies	Sod Farm	CD-Jim Monaco
Tue Jun 7	RMSA Meeting	To be Announced	Club Meeting
Sat Jun 11	RMSA Open Contest	Club Field	CD-Cody Remington F3J w/winch
Sat Jun 18	RMSA DLG	Club Field	CD-Dave Jensen
Tue Jul 5	RMSA Meeting	To be Announced	Club Meeting
Mon Jul 11-Sun Jul 17	SOARING NATS	Muncie IN	
Sun Jul 17	RMSA DLG	Club Field	CD-Dave Jensen
Sun Jul 24	RMSA Open Contest	Club Field	CD-Mark Howard
Tue Aug 2	RMSA Meeting	To be Announced	Club Meeting
Sat Aug 6-Sun Aug 7	Blue Skies of Colorado DLG	Club Field	CD-Dave Jensen
Sun Aug 14	RMSA Open Contest	Club Field	CD-Bob Lewan F3J w/winch
Fri Sep 2-Sun Sep 4	US F3J Team Selections	Chicago?	Tentative
Sun Sep 4	RMSA DLG	Club Field	CD-Dave Jensen
Tue Sep 6	RMSA Meeting	To be Announced	Club Meeting
Sun Sep 18	Colorado Challenge Cup Open	RMSA Club Field	CD-Jim Monaco
Tue Oct 4	RMSA Meeting	To be Announced	Club Meeting
Sun Oct 9	RMSA Open Contest	Club Field	CD-Bruce Martin
Sat Oct 15	RMSA DLG	Club Field	CD-Dave Jensen
Tue Nov 1	RMSA Meeting	To be Announced	Club Meeting
Sat Nov 5	RMSA Open Contest	Club Field	CD-John Lovins
Sat Nov 12	RMSA DLG	Club Field	CD-Dave Jensen
Sun Dec 4	RMSA Awards Banquet	To be Announced	Jim Monaco - Coordinator

# Rocky Mountain Soaring Association - 2011

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  
1860 S. Vrain St  
Denver CO 80219

## 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 has 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:** Jim Monaco  
**Vice President:** Mike Verzuh  
**Secretary:** Bob Rice  
**Treasurer:** Mark Howard  
**Past President:** Bruce Martin

**303-464-9895** mail to: [jimmonaco@earthlink.net](mailto:jimmonaco@earthlink.net)  
**970-532-0638** mail to: [mike@verzuh.com](mailto:mike@verzuh.com)  
**720-581-3099** mail to: [briceflyer@q.com](mailto:briceflyer@q.com)  
**720-273-2208** mail to: [howard4113@msn.com](mailto:howard4113@msn.com)  
**303 963 5019** mail to: [rbruce martin@aol.com](mailto:rbruce martin@aol.com)

**Member Support**

Web Site <http://www.rmsadenver.com>

Chief  
 Instructor: Mike Verzuh 970-532-0638 303-505-9488 (Pager)  
 Field Manager Steve Sunken 303-477-6184 [flyingdogtwo@comcast.net](mailto:flyingdogtwo@comcast.net)  
 Scorekeeper & Jim Monaco 303-464-9895 [jimmonaco@earthlink.net](mailto:jimmonaco@earthlink.net)  
 Web master  
 Librarian: Tracy Cochran 303-934-8838 [Tcochran@idcomm.com](mailto:Tcochran@idcomm.com)  
 Newsletter: Tony O'Hara 303-948-2576 [tonyoco@q.com](mailto:tonyoco@q.com)

**Winch Master**

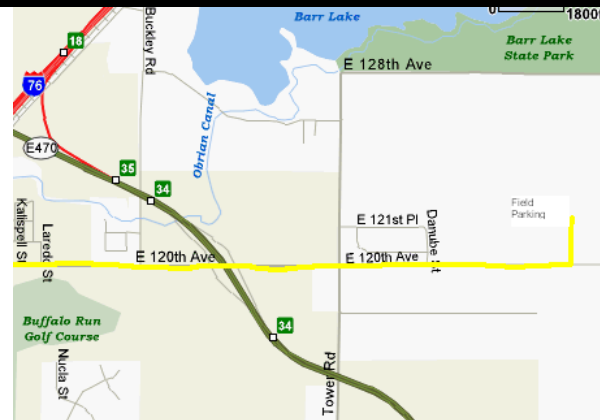
Steve Suntkin 303-477-6184 [flyingdogtwo@cs.com](mailto:flyingdogtwo@cs.com)

**Battery Masters**

Bob Lewan  
 Skip Miller  
 Mike Verzuh  
 Cody Remington  
 Dr. Dan Williams  
 Steve Suntken  
 Bruce Martin

**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

*Forwarding Address Requested*

First Class Mail