

# Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

May 2012

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXVI Number 5

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

John Lovins

I love when a plan comes together. RMSA has been awarded the 2012 team select contest for F3K. Big thanks to Dave Runyon, Dave Jensen, and the other committee members that put together a good plan that was well executed. RMSA has a long history of putting on quality team selects, we will try hard to live up to those high standards.

On that note we had 14 at the last DLG contest. Jon Padilla is now qualified and several others are 1/2 qualified. This month's contest will be at the sod farm and we hope to finish the qualifying requirements for several RMSA pilots. We could potentially have 6-7 RMSA members fly in the team selects at the end of August, a very good showing. A web site has been set up pertaining to the contest with lots of good info. Check it out at this link: [2012 USA F3K Team Select Contest](#).

There is of course another F3 event coming up that the RMSA is very involved in. Cody Remington (pilot) and Jim Monaco (Sr. manager) will be headed to South Africa for the F3J worlds soon and we need to run them through their paces as best we can. This month we will have our regular club contest, and F3J in the Rockies. Let's make attendance large, put some pressure on them for practice, and send them off with the best preparation RMSA can muster. Go Cody, you can do it.....

As most of you know Skip Miller had long awaited back surgery. I hear he has been out flying and doing well. He won't ask, but if you see him out give him a helping hand. We wouldn't want to see him have a setback in recovery. I don't know about you, but I certainly could use the extra exercise to help him get setup. Speedy and full recovery Skip!!!!

Thanks,

John Lovins  
303-929-9883

judcaissons@gmail.com

## April Open Contest

## Report Jim Smith

The Open Contest was rescheduled from Sunday the 15 to Saturday the 21 due to rain and wind. Due to schedule conflicts, illnesses and even surgery recovery the attendance was light. However the two Masters and three Sportsmen in attendance took advantage of a warm but somewhat windy day to practice flying with and without ballast. We all had fun and enjoyed the camaraderie and flying that the club events make possible. Rumor has it that more club members will be able to join in on the fun at our May Open contest.

Thanks to Jim Monaco for use of his winch and to both Jim and John Lovins for the help and advice that they gave to Jim Rogers, Tom Tate and me. As usual we learned a lot and laughed quite a bit. Tom picked up the nickname of "Thermal Tom" since he took advantage of every hand launch thermal around to keep his Supra in the air for extended periods of time while the rest of us practiced our launch and landing skills.

Hope to see you at our next contest. Good flying and Happy Landings.

No scores

## April DLG Contest Report

Bob Pederson

The April DLG contest is in the books and by all accounts, it was very successful. For a change we had the contest up at Bob Pederson's house near Carter lake. He has 35 acres to fly on and some of it is even level. We had 14 pilots which is an excellent turnout for DLG. When DLG started at RMSA a few years ago, we had trouble getting 4 pilots. This was an AMA sanctioned contest which allowed us to help qualify 4 pilots for this year's F3K team select contest which RMSA will host on Labor Day. Each of the top 4 pilots got a half point toward the required 1 point necessary to qualify for the TS.

We got in a full 8 rounds of F3K tasks and were off the field by 4:00. The weather was beautiful with abundant thermals and just enough sink to make you work for your flights. Some pilots had the lift cycle really figured out and were flying cookie-cutter type flights. Launch; go to one corner of the field, sky out and land right on time. It didn't work all the time especially later in the day. John Lovins called a 9:58 in poker, got his time and then landed out. There wasn't much carnage at this contest, only two mid-air that I saw. Both resulted in minor, fixable damage.

We had some new pilots at this contest including Jason Friedman who is a junior, Jack Steinhauser, and Jim Degroot. All three flew well and are bound to get much better quickly. It was fun to watch Jason improve during the day. At 9:00 AM his launches were pretty low and without authority but by the end of the day his launch height had tripled and he was coring thermals. Brandon Blair in only his second contest came in first with Cory Shantz right on his heels.

Thanks to Dave Jensen for doing the scoring and announcing. That really helped the contest run smoothly. Here are the scores:

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Pilot	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Rnd 6	Rnd 7	Rnd 8	Total	Pct
1 Brandon Blair	905	1000	1000	1000	-885	1000	911	1000	6,816	100.00%
2 Cory Shantz	976	1000	740	977	1000	1000	-608	1000	6,693	98.20%
3 Jon Padilla	1000	1000	1000	1000	794	-786	1000	835	6,629	97.26%
4 Gary Jensen	1000	1000	-740	1000	838	950	805	1000	6,593	96.73%
5 Bob Pederson	614	663	518	927	-505	1000	1000	922	5,644	82.81%
6 John Jonke	895	540	740	-215	1000	807	1000	627	5,609	82.29%
7 Dave Runyon	1000	598	1000	765	766	545	855	-262	5,529	81.12%
8 John Lovins	860	793	740	1000	780	0	737	612	5,522	81.02%
9 Alex Kenyon	651	1000	1000	836	722	-363	868	440	5,517	80.94%
10 Harold Bailey	1000	559	740	901	877	-405	873	554	5,504	80.75%
11 Jens Aarnaes	704	-200	740	817	1000	363	977	500	5,101	74.84%
12 Jim DeGroot	567	1000	518	890	203	-83	697	463	4,338	63.64%
13 Jack Steinhauser	777	393	333	780	314	0	786	570	3,953	58.00%
14 Jason Friedman	333	-131	185	233	272	183	341	501	2,048	30.05%

## SUNDAY May 6<sup>th</sup> Open Contest CD Mike Verzuh

F3J with Winches

We will be using B winches which are really fun to launch on.

This event will be great as well for those that want to try out F3J. We will have lots of support for you.

Pilot's Meeting 8:30 AM

We will likely be on the North Side of the field. Come on out for an awesome event.

**SATURDAY May 19<sup>th</sup> DLG contest CD Cory Shantz**

No further info available at this time. However, it is scheduled for the Sod Farm

**SAT. May 26<sup>th</sup>/SUN. May 27th F3J IN THE ROCKIES CD Jim Monaco**

No further info available at this time

**FOR SALE**

None this month

## RMSA 2012 CALENDER OF EVENTS

[\(click for online version that may be more current\)](#) **Note:-Italicized entries are changes from original**

Date	Event	Location	Description
Sat Feb 4	<del>Open/HL Skills Day (Cancelled due to weather)</del>	<del>Sod Farm</del>	<del>Open/HL Skills Day</del>
Wed Feb 15 - Sun Feb 19	F3J in the Desert and SWC	Queen Creek AZ	
Sat Feb 25	WOTR Model Expo	Lowrey Air Museum	Wings over the Rockies
Sun Mar 11	Open Class Skills Day	Sod Farm	Launching Tutorials and Practice
Sat Mar 17	DLG Contest	Sod Farm	CD Dave Jensen
Sun Mar 18	Open Class Contest	Sod Farm	CD Jim Monaco
Sun Apr 15	Open Class Contest	Sod Farm	<i>CD Jim Smith</i>
Sun Apr 22	DLG Contest	<i>Bob Pederson's field</i>	CD Bob Pederson
Sun May 6	Open Class Contest	Sod Farm	<i>CD Mike Verzuh</i>
Sat May 19	DLG Contest	Sod Farm	CD Cory Shantz
Sat May 26 - Sun May 27	F3J in the Rockies	Sod Farm	CD Jim Monaco
Sat Jun 2 - Sun Jun 3	California Challenge DLG Contest	California	
Sat Jun 9	Open Class Contest	Sod Farm	CD TBD
Sat Jun 23 - Sun Jun 24	Blue Skies Colorado DLG	Sod Farm	CD Dave Jensen
Sat Jun 30 - Sun Jul 1	The Bruce DLG	Kentucky?	
Sat Jul 7 - Sun Jul 8	Blue Skies New Mexico	ABQ New Mexico	
Sun Jul 15	Open Class Contest	Sod Farm	CD TBD
Sun Jul 22	DLG Contest	Sod Farm	CD Dave Jensen
Mon Jul 30 - Sun Aug 5	Soaring Nationals	Muncie IN	
Mon Aug 6 - Fri Aug 10	F3J Worlds	Johannesburg South Africa	
Sat Aug 11 - Sun Aug 12	Blue Skies Utah DLG	Utah	
Sat Aug 18	DLG Contest	Sod Farm	CD Dave Jensen
Sat Aug 25	Open Class Contest	Sod Farm	CD Mike Verzuh
Fri Aug 31 - Mon Sep 3	DLG US Team Selections (Proposed)	Sod Farm	Contact Dave Jensen
Sun Sep 16	RMSA/PPSS Challenge Cup / Club Open Contest	Sod Farm	CD Jim Monaco
Sat Sep 22 - Sun Sep 23	Soaring Masters	Muncie IN	
Sat Oct 6 - Sun Oct 7	Visalia Fall Fest	Visalia CA	
Sun Oct 14	Open Class Contest	Sod Farm	CD TBD
Sat Nov 3 - Sun Nov 4	Blue Skies Arizona	Phoenix AZ	
Sat Nov 10	DLG Contest	Sod Farm	CD Dave Jensen
Sun Nov 11	Open Class Contest	Sod Farm	CD John Lovins
Sun Dec 9	RMSA Awards Banquet	TBD	

# Rocky Mountain Soaring Association - 2012

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

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:** John Lovins  
**Vice President:** Jim Smith  
**Secretary:** Bob Rice  
**Treasurer:** Mark Howard  
**Past President:** Jim Monaco

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**720-581-3099** mail to: [briceflyer@q.com](mailto:briceflyer@q.com)  
**720-273-2208** mail to: [howard4113@msn.com](mailto:howard4113@msn.com)  
**303-464-9895** mail to: [jimmonaco@earthlink.net](mailto:jimmonaco@earthlink.net)

**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**

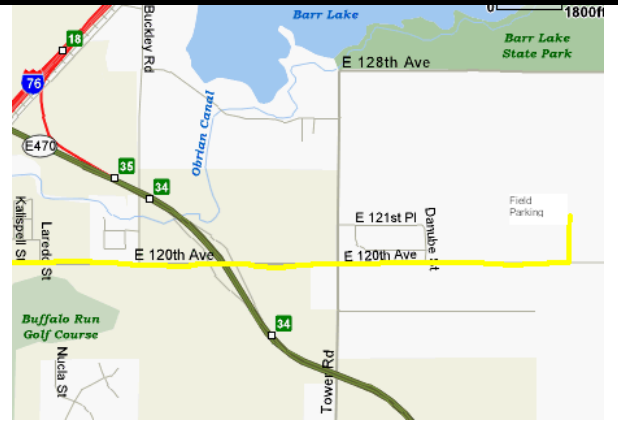
Steve Suntkin 303-477-6184 [flyingdogtwo@cs.com](mailto:flyingdogtwo@cs.com)

**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 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**  
**1860 S Vrain St**  
**Denver CO 80219**

*Forwarding Address Requested*

**First Class Mail**