

Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

June 2012

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXVI Number 6

John Lovins

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This month emphasis shifted from hand launch to F3J in the Rockies. The pilot list was a who's who in the soaring world, and another feather in the cap for RMSA. Jim Monaco, Hal Remmington, and Tom Tate ran a flawless contest with weather conditions from foggy thick air to 15 mph. downwind launches. It really served the purpose of challenging the US team. Look for Jims write up.....

June brings us to Blue Skies Over Colorado DLG contest on the 23/24th. This is one of a series of contests held in New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, and Arizona. We currently have about 30 pilots signed up, but plenty of room for more. Although it is a more competitive contest than our usual monthly's, we still go out of our way to help new pilots. Don't be shy! Come on out and see DLG at its best......

The sod farm is harvesting in the NE corner where we have been flying. Please move to the SE corner where we used to fly. I will try to get the old freq. board and trash can back out there to mark the spot. I want to thank Steve Suntkin for continuing to be the field liaison. Steve has been building a new house that has consumed his time for the last year.

I guess that's all I have for this month. See you at the field.

Thanks, John Lovins 303-929-9883

judcaissons@gmail.com

SUNDAY June 9th Open Contest CD TBD

F3J format with winches Pilot's Meeting 8:30 AM First Flight 9:00 AM

June 23/24 Blue Skies Over Colorado DLG CD Dave Jensen

The Blue Skies DLG Series returns to Colorado the weekend of June 23-24. We'll begin the weekend with some fun flying on Friday night, including our Poker Night. We'll plan to fly 3 rounds of Poker DLG-Style, with the winner taking the pot (\$5 buy-in). Immediately after the Poker, RMSA member and DLG Pilot Gary Jensen will be providing a free spaghetti dinner -- in the past years, this dinner has been a big hit, and promises to be again this year. Saturday will get underway beginning with the Pilots Meeting at 8:30am, with Contest Flying beginning at 9:00am. We'll plan on getting in 9 rounds on Saturday before taking the rest of the evening off. Sunday will begin again at 8:30, and we'll fly another 4-5 preliminary rounds, followed by 4 rounds of fly offs for the top portion of the pilots. Registration for this contest is open and can be completed online at bsoc.zapto.org. Lunch is provided separate from the entry fee, to keep costs down for those who need that. But all the hydrating beverages for the weekend are included in the registration fee. There are several folks we're expecting to fly with that aren't yet signed up, so we encourage you to do so quickly. BSOC will provide the final qualification opportunity for those

seeking entry into the F3K Team Selection Contest which will be held September 1-3 at our home field. A truly unique opportunity. The top 30% of the finishers in the preliminary rounds of BSOC will be fully-qualified to fly at the TS.

We're looking forward to a great weekend of Blue Skies Over Colorado!

May Open Contest Report

CD Mike Verzuh

We ran the May contest as a bit of a warm up for F3J in the Rockies by using several of club members B-winches. Thanks to those that let us use their winches and thanks to everyone for the help setting up. We had ten pilots arrive for the event. That included three strong Sportsman, Jim, Tom and Jim. It is really good to see that class growing a bit. As per our custom even though we ran F3J format it was pilot friendly. Actually using the B winches with half braided and half mono is an easier launch than the all braided club winches. The all braided line tends to be less forgiving and really "snatch" the plane out of your hand.

The weather for the day was predicted to be a bit sketchy as per Colorado in May, but we were able to get in five rounds before any wind came up. Things were very competitive with all the Masters scoring in the 900s. Cody had some bad luck as he had to switch airplanes and borrowed one of mine. In the end he dropped out of the last two rounds to be conservative with a borrowed plane. Blayne, Lenny and John all flew great taking the top three spots. I had a Duh moment by taking a too low landing approach just when a thermal went through. I got pounded by the sink and wind and landed short off the tape. Skip had a plane failure and without that flew awesome. Everyone was pleased as the event was indeed a good warm up for F3J in the Rockies. Congratulations to Blayne in first place. He would continue that great flying in F3J in the Rockies J - very well done!

Mike

<u>Scores</u>

ID	Class	Name	Place by Class	RD 1	RD 2	RD 3	RD 4	RD 5	Raw Total	Rounds Flown	# Throw Outs	Safety Penaltys	Total	0.00 0.00		Place by Contest
200	М	Open	1						[
5	М	Blayne Chastain	1	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	998.07	1000.00	4998.07	5			4998.07	1000.00	1000.00	1
9	М	Lenny Keer	2	992.28	992.01	988.21	1000.00	987.30	4959.80	5			4959.80	992.34	992.34	2
2	М	John Lovins	3	983.22	991.75	994.89	994.52	994.13	4958.51	5		6	4958.51	992.09	992.09	3
1	M	Mike Verzuh	4	992.14	1000.00	1000.00	862.57	1000.00	4854.71	5			4854.71	971.32	971.32	4
10	M	Skip Miller	5	1000.00	993.98	832.48	1000.00	1000.00	4826.46	5			4826.46	965.67	965.67	5
6	М	Bob Lewan	6	785.25	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	997.57	4782.82	5			4782.82	956.93	956.93	6
7	М	Cody Remington	7	1000.00	925.13	994.09			2919.23	3			2919.23	584.07	584.07	10
201	S	Sportsman														
8	S	Tom Tate	1	915.22	971.30	891.31	941.03	959.58	4678.44	5			4678.44	1000.00	936.05	7
3	S	Jim Rogers	2	857.19	977.84	573.36	917.95	757.37	4083.71	5			4083.71	872.88	817.06	8
4	S	Jim Smith	3	394.88	615.96	511.59	857.44	856.93	3236.81	5			3236.81	691.86	647.61	9

May DLG contest ReportCD Cory Shantz

This months contest was postponed one day for rain but was worth the wait. Sunday dawned with beautiful weather and promised to be a great day for some F3K Colorado style. We did lose a couple of people but still had a very good turnout despite the delay. The day offered a little bit of everything for us to fly in. Light but flyable conditions early, increasing lift as the day went on, strong thermal and sink cycles mid day, windy conditions early afternoon, and more consistent conditions as the clouds rolled in.

Highlight of the contest for me was round 6, a 5 minute max, last flight task. The previous group just finished and was dominated by a windy sink cycle with fast moving, small thermals (Jens, real sweet flying in that group!!). So we are out on the field during the countdown to the start of the window but Bob Pederson was the only one that launched at the buzzer. The rest of us start taunting him when we all notice the streamer on the field suddenly pointing up towards Bob's plane, which is going up like a rocket. Taunting turned to panic quickly!! The rest of us all launched as quickly as we could toward the boomer. All of us hooked that monster thermal and flew it as high as we dared go. Or in my case further than I should have but loops and rolls are good ways to regain sight of your plane. Thanks Bob for pointing out that lift for us.

Gary Jensen won the contest by flying his new Concept superbly. CG of this one agreed with him. Skip Miller was close on his heels for second, recovering from back surgery and all. Thanks Alex for throwing for Skip.

On second thought, maybe that wasn't such a good idea. I finished third and Brandon Blair got fourth. Skip, Brandon, and I got another half point and have now fully qualified for the Team Select contest. Scott Statz made it through his first contest in one piece, only to have some mechanical issues while we were hanging out and flying after the contest. He will be back though.

Next DLG contest is the Blue Skies Over Colorado event, June 23-24 at the Sod Farm. This is part of the Blue Sky series of contests and will have some of the best F3K pilots in the USA attending. This is a good chance for those who will be flying in the USA F3K Team Selection contest to fly at the host site with some of the pilots that will be there. This is also the last local contest where pilots can fully qualify to participate in the Team Selection contest. Hope to see all of you there.

<u>Scores</u>

RMSA May 20, 2012

Place Pilot I	Rnd 1	Rnd 2	Rnd 3	Rnd 4	Rnd 5	Rnd 6	Rnd 7	Rnd 8	Total	Pct
1 Gary Jensen	1000	996	959	1000	1000	1000	-957	1000	6,955	100.00%
2 Skip Miller	1000	1000	1000	948	-743	989	1000	1000	6,937	99.74%
3 Cory Shantz	912	934	981	989	823	1000	-802	1000	6,639	95.46%
4 Brandon Blair	923	1000	1000	1000	-360	668	1000	1000	6,591	94.77%
5 John Jonke	-676	871	887	877	946	1000	948	1000	6,529	93.87%
6 Alex Kenyon	867	953	990	871	915	956	864	-518	6,416	92.25%
7 Dave Runyon	842	1000	720	1000	1000	-462	1000	771	6,333	91.06%
8 Ian Purdue	600	910	664	945	1000	1000	608	-518	5,727	82.34%
9 Jens Aarnaes	358	781	1000	730	-286	1000	991	700	5,560	79.94%
10 Bob Pederson	496	541	843	697	-362	1000	888	1000	5,465	78.58%
11 Shawn Curry	595	790	1000	840	434	0	689	1000	5,348	76.89%
12 Scott Statz	411	424	788	605	278	-168	434	333	3,273	47.06%
13 John Lovins	1000	0							1,000	14.38%

F3J IN THE ROCKIES Report

Jim Monaco

We had 26 pilots on 6 teams show up for this years F3J in the Rockies Event. The US team (seniors and juniors) were there to provide competition and practice. Early in the week the weather looked perfect, but degraded all through the week. Friday was a pretty breezy day but flyable for practice. Looking at the forecast we were supposed to get 50+ mph winds in the afternoon on Sat. I huddled with the pilots that were practicing on Friday and we decided to start early to get at least some flights in during the morning. First flight - 7:00 AM! Morning dawned with a light breeze out of the south as predicted. The field setup was good so we got off at about 9 minutes after 7. Hal Remington was the CD and kept thing running smoothly. About half way thru the 3rd round the wind switched to the north, 180 degrees from the prediction. We finished the 3rd round with downwind launches that really hurt the US hand tow teams. Hal called a pilot meeting before starting the 4th round and offered to switch the launch direction. Looking at the forecast, nothing had changed and big wind was still predicted out of the south around noon time. The winch folks decided to leave the change decision up to the US team and they decided that we might not have much more flying to do, so as to not waste time we left the lanes as they were and launched downwind for the 4th round. The food came as we finished round 4 and as we were planning the lunch break it was like someone flipped a switch. Huge winds started out of the south and we clocked them well over 30mph. That sealed the deal and we called it a day. The US team folks had struggled a bit – Daryl was still on his game as was Tom Kiesling, but Cody and Bob McGowan had 2 throw-outs already. Mike Verzuh was leading and flying great along with the rest of the Skip Miller Models team. The prediction for Sunday was much better with light winds out of the south until evening – then picking up.

Sunday dawned with a breeze out of the south and we got off promptly at 8:00 AM. The bad news was that there was a big change in the forecast and now big winds were predicted again from the south by noon. I decided that

we would not have fly offs and everyone would fly until the wind stopped us. The morning was decent conditions with most folks getting their times and good landings. The US team looked much better and short tows were happening making things quite competitive. We had a short lunch break after round 7 and conditions began to deteriorate. The wind began swapping around and picking up. We again considered changing lanes but instead kept flying. Rounds 8, 9 and 10 were brutal. Downwind launches were the norm and there were a lot of low launches and re-launches. Some people, including our towers were unaware of a recent F3J rule change allowing unlimited re-launches (previously you were allowed 2). Tom Kiesling had 2 short flights, and we still had over 5 minutes left! The towers were somewhat nonchalant about getting the line back because they thought we were done – and thought I was nuts as I ran down to grab the chute and send them back for re-lite #3. He made a 3:26 on the 3rd flight and the round was won by Skip with a 4:15 and a 98 landing. The best time was actually Junior Dom Lewis, with a 4:54, but he missed his landing and it cost him the round. As Skip ALWAYS says – get back and get the landing!

In round 10 I had the flight of my life as the last flight of the contest with my brand new Aspire. I put 12 oz in it. launched downwind in about 20mph and barely got short hi-start height. Bob McGowan and Tom Kiesling were calling for me and put me in some decent air just east of the launch. I managed to work it out fairly far downwind (at least for me) while they wanted me to keep going, I had to come back - I could barely see it. I would work back upwind and hit a bubble and take it back a way and the rinse and repeat. It was very turbulent and small and you really needed to wrap them to make it work - miss it and the sink was a killer. I finally hung on until the last guy in the group headed for the landing area and then I made a beeline for home. My callers were reminding me to be sure to get the landing, as I made a final turn while inbound (thanks guys!!) - And since everyone was down I just did a straight in approach to win the round. Some flights you will remember for a while - that was one for me.

There were a lot of land outs in the last round, and people we all over trying to fetch airplanes. When we finally got everyone back on the field for the awards Blayne Chastain took top honors. Blayne has been flying very well recently and he kept it up for this event. Skip Miller took second only 3 points behind... Rich Burnoski took third followed closely by Tom Kiesling in 4th with Mike Verzuh grabbing the last spot in the wood! I think we can all admit that this was not a landing contest!!!

Another great event is in the books. We are looking at some changes for next year to make the event eve better....

Special thanks go out to Hal Remington who did duty as a CD for the first time. He had some interesting decisions to make and did a fantastic job. Tom Tate was our scorekeeper and he kept the online system humming... Sue Remington chipped in for whatever we needed and ran the food concession for us. We ran a few meals short when we had some non-pilots that bought some lunches before we passed out all the pilot lunches – oops – sorry. But Sue ran down to subway and made sure everyone got something to eat... Next year we will need to take a poll of how many non-pilots will need meals before the event so we can be sure to have enough meals... <u>Scores</u>---(See next page)

Rank	Name	Score	Rnd	Knd	Rnd	Rnd	Rnd	Knd	Knd	Rnd	Rnd	Rnd
1	Blayne Chastain	8989	1000	1000	1000	0	998.3	996	996.6	1000	998	1000
2	Skip Miller	8986	1000	1000	996	994.5	999	924.6	999.8	996.4	1000	1000
3	Richard	8979	1000	1000	670.7	992.2	995.4	997.9	1000	997	999.5	996.68
4	Thomas	8975	1000	998.7	997.3	993.9	1000	1000	988.1	998.8	998.1	850.42
5	Mike Verzuh	8966	999.4	1000	1000	1000	996.5	1000	975.9	998.5	579.6	996.21
6	Robert Lewan	8935	997.3	997.4	1000	548.1	997.1	997	994.5	981.1	992	978.2
7	Dillon Graves	8895	990.4	995.5	994.5	1000	920	994.9	1000	1000	1000	0
8	Rick Shelby	8890	990.7	989.5	992.2	1000	989.9	984.2	981.8	980.1	981.8	926.45
9	Tristan Sherman	8576	1000	999.5	1000	742.3	899.5	987	984.6	983.1	979.6	0
10	Gordon	8488	583.3	907.4	1000	1000	933.5	980.9	993.2	988.2	992.8	691.66
11	Buzz Averill	8449	900	995.8	988.6	985.7	812.2	977.1	816.1	790.6	990	983.59
12	Cody	8380	840.5	1000	540	0	1000	1000	1000	1000	999.8	1000
13	Rick Bothell	8303	585.5	995.5	795.6	989.5	986	990.2	988.6	985.8	986.7	0
14	John Lovins	8139	997.6		835.1	813.2	943.5	992.1	984.3	589.2	990.9	395.97
15	Bob McGowan	7999	0	999	0	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
16	Jim Monaco	7999	879.6	438.1	0	990.7	980.7	1000	1000	812.7	896.6	1000
17	David Clarke	7896	689	980.8	942.5	966.4	953.2	810.1	984	588.3	981.7	247.7
18	J1m Rogers	7833	821.6	974.4	609.2	858.4	995	989.9	990.8	593.9	1000	0
19	Dave Bradley	7383	539.1	400.8	716.6	717	989.1	955.1	978.1	973.7	980.8	533.96
20	Duane Cassidy	7259	980.8	993.2	986	306	828.3	988.2	234	973.3	969.7	0
21	Dominick	7064	918.3	932.7	0	972.2	644.1	993.1	773	0	1000	831.03
22	Bruce Twining	6806	996.3	477.5	398.4	585.1	994.7	602.1	992.7	773.5	985.3	386.09
23	Paul Sherman	6321	0	991.7	575.6	0	1000	761.1	993.1	1000	999.6	0
24	Don Scegiel	5987	695.3	979.2	390.8	-	0	950	632.6	657.4	981.5	699.65
25	Daryl Perkins	4992	999.4	997.4	998.5	0	1000	997	0	0	0	0
26	Jim Smith	2134	962.3	495.6	598.8	77.28	0	0	0	0	0	0

Jim Monaco Technical Consultant

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See you next year – Jim

FOR SALE

None this month

RMSA 2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u>(click for</u>	online version that may be more current) Not	e:-Italicized entries are changes from original				
Date	Event	Location	Description			
Sat Feb 4	Open/HL Skills Day (Cancelled due to weather)	Sod Farm	Open/HL Skills Day			
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	CD Jim Smith			
Sun Apr 22	DLG Contest	Bob Pederson's field	CD Bob Pederson			
Sun May 6	Open Class Contest	Sod Farm	CD Mike Verzuh			
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 A	Association	- 2012

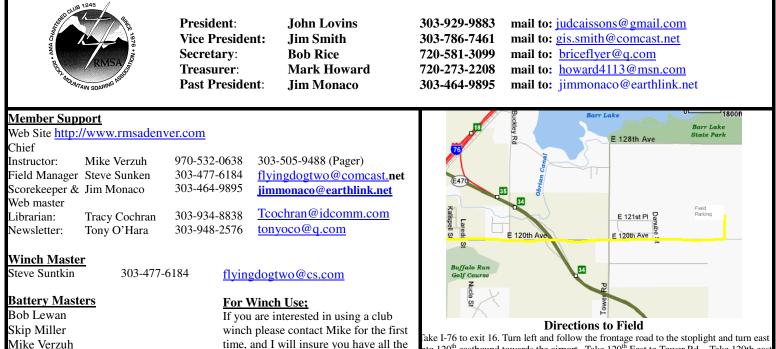
Year

RENEWAL	NEW MEMBER	SPONSOR
	Please complete	e the following information for our records:
Family Memberships -	Please make and complete a copy	y for EACH flying family member!
Name :		Need name badge? Yes
Address: Joined RMSA:		
		_ Home Phone:
		Work Phone:
AMA #:	AMA Contest Director?	Yes No
AMA Class Open Yout	h Family Birth Da	ite://
LSF #:LSF LEV	EL: NSS #: E-M	Mail:
	ass Senior Only Senior W/Fami y receive THERMALS - other F	ly Associate Family amily members check Family Box)
	ass Novice Sportsman M	
RMSA Offices Held		
F3B X-C contes	T/D contests HLG Contests NSS ts Slope contests Other	
\$ 7 \$ 35 \$ 40 \$ 8 Make checks payable t		address)
	ions are ENCOURAGED! Please SIGN THE FIELD RULI ISA	

- **ROCKY MOUNTAIN SOARING ASSOCIATION FIELD RULES** The sod farm operations take precedence over ALL activities. We use the field at the convenience of the owner. 1. All members will follow ALL instructions from ANY sod farm personnel without question. 2. When sod farm operations are occurring during a flying session it is OUR responsibility to ensure that we will 3. 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. Park only in the designated parking areas Do not park on grass, dirt or roads. 4. 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. Parking and pit areas should be as condensed as possible for the safety of launch and landing. 7. Establish flight line areas for winch launch, high start launch, and hand launch that are separate for the sake of 8. launch, flight & landing safety. Flying over the parking/pit areas at less than 30 feet is prohibited. Doing so in competition WILL result in a zero 9. flight score and during R/R flying a disciplinary action by the club. No aerobatics or speed runs over the parking/pit/Launch/Landing zones. 10. Do not launch if a plane is circling in a launch zone: vacate the launch zone as soon as possible if someone is 11. waiting to launch. When entering a thermal occupied by other aircraft, enter in the same direction as the first aircraft 12. Landing aircraft have the right of way! 13. In the event of no mechanical retriever, please shag your own chute/line for the flight 14. Please share the usage of club equipment so that all have equal flight time. 15. Please be courteous and helpful to your fellow flyers as well as informative to all guests/spectators. Enjoy 16. yourself and others!! 17. Absolutely no debris or trash is to be left on the field! Please take it home with you for disposal. Make sure that your plane and electronics are airworthy before each flight. Exercise good safety sense in your 18. 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:

Signature



details for trailer access. Also if you

will coordinate that.

are a new member and have not had a

winch operation and safety briefing we

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



Cody Remington

Dr. Dan Williams

Steve Suntken

Bruce Martin

Rocky Mountain Soaring Association 1860 S Vrain St Denver CO 80219

Forwarding Address Requested

First Class Mail