

# Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

September 2012

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXVI Number 9

John Lovins

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

August was the peak of activity for Cody and Jim Monaco with a very successful US team and 3rd place for Cody in South Africa. Congrats on a job well done. We are lucky to have such quality guys dedicated to the sport in the club. I'm sure there will be a write up, look for it.

The club DLG community, with the help of the Jensen clan and other family members, hosted the 2012 F3K team selects at our field over Labor Day. We had 35 pilots competing for 3 senior, and 3 junior spots. The weather and Mr. Obama's visit held us to 16 3/4 rounds instead of the desired 23 rounds, but even with the delays I think all agree the best team was selected. Congrats to Jun Catacutan, Mike Smith, and George Morris (seniors), Adam Weston, Alex Trussell, and our own Jason Friedman (juniors). Thanks to all that made it happen.

Its time to recognize the great folks at the sod farm with an appreciation day. Jim Smith is heading up the effort. Its easy to take our field for granted, it just seems to happen. There are big efforts behind the scenes by key club members and sod farm employees that make it happen, and its time to say thanks. Please support the effort by coming out and participating. Look for the announcement in this newsletter.

I'm still wiping the dust out of my eyes from last weekend, so that's all for now. See you at the field. Thanks, John

# Saturday Sept 15<sup>th</sup> ScienTurfic Appreciation Day

Our annual ScienTurfic Appreciation day is attentively planned for Saturday Sept 15<sup>th</sup> beginning around noon. I will confirm via an email to everyone after Kevin of ScienTurfic confirms. I plan on providing box lunches for the ScienTurfic team and attendees. I hope that we can get a few Radians out for them to fly. Stay tuned,

#### Jim Smith

# Sunday Sept 16<sup>th</sup> Challenge Cup / Club Open Contest—CD Jim Monaco

REGISTRATION Before 8:30 AM PILOT'S MEETING: 8:30 AM FIRST FLIGHT: 9:00 AM TASKS: International T1 - TD

BATTERY MASTERS: Please be sure to have your batteries at the field by 8:30 AM charged & "topped up" This is our annual competition with the Pikes Peak Soaring Society. Every year we have an event hosted by the previous years winning team. We won the event last year so the event is in Colorado this year. This is a standard thermal duration event – no simultaneous launches. We will use the more generous FAI landing tapes instead of the AMA tapes. Skegs are allowed. The top 5 scoring pilots from each team are totaled to comprise a team score. Medals are awarded to the top 5 pilots from each team. The winning team earns the Challenge Cup, and the top scoring pilot on the winning team keeps the trophy until next year. The winning

team also earns home field advantage for the following year. The more pilots that come out to support the club the better!

It is always a fun event – be sure to attend.

#### Jim

#### Labor Day Weekend DLG Team Selections for 2013--Report

RMSA hosted 35 DLG pilots from across the USA over Labor Day weekend. The purpose was to select the three best Senior and three best junior DLG pilots who will represent the US at the world F3K championships contest in Denmark next year. We were faced with numerous challenges including a presidential visit that shut down the contest for most of a day. We had unusually high winds, and dust storms that shut down flying for an hour at a time. We lost count of how many times we had to take down and re-install canopies. We ended up flying 16 complete rounds out of a planned 23 rounds. It was almost 17 rounds but a huge dust storm rolled in when we were 3/4ths done with the round and we had to quit. We intentionally designed the flight tasks to stress the pilots and make it hard to achieve a maximum score. Things like starting each day at 8:00 AM with two 4 minute flights and ending the day at 7:00 PM with the Poker task brought the best pilots to the top of the list.

Note that 22 out of 32 senior pilots were within 10% of the winners score. This is an indication of how closely matched these contestants were. In the end, the winners were:

Seniors:

First	Jun Catacutan 100%	Junio	ors:
Second	Mike Smith 99.18%	First	Alex Parkyn 84.83%
Third	George Morris98.94%	Second	Alex Trussel 74.35%
Fourth (Alt)	Mike Seid 98.67%	Third	Jason Freidman 63.25%

	ai Scores.																			
	Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Penalty	Score	%
1	Jun Catacutan	1000	1000	-905	994	1000	1000	1000	1000	998	1000	-847	1000	962	-891	1000	1000		12,954	100.00%
2	Mike Smith	1000	981	1000	993	-762	1000	1000	950	-743	1000	-924	1000	1000	1000	924	1000		12,848	99.18%
3	George Morris	1000	989	1000	991	1000	1000	1000	-902	977	1000	-807	911	994	1000	955	-392		12,817	98.94%
4	Mike Seid	1000	993	981	994	-755	1000	1000	977	1000	1000	-501	890	967	-638	986	994		12,782	98.67%
5	Mike Maurer	-729	989	1000	1000	977	-771	1000	-554	1000	1000	883	952	998	868	994	945		12,606	97.31%
6	Gary Jensen	-408	993	979	919	-707	1000	863	934	972	1000	971	924	981	1000	-809	1000		12,536	96.77%
7	Jim Schoon	-796	998	964	1000	829	-571	1000	885	1000	1000	861	-395	993	988	996	1000		12,514	96.60%
8	Bruce Davidson	1000	949	894	974	1000	1000	-640	910	1000	1000	840	-755	984	960	-829	1000		12,511	96.58%
9	Charlie Morris	1000	1000	-501	998	888	-400	-663	969	991	1000	1000	1000	935	992	1000	674		12,447	96.09%
10	James Hohensee	1000	1000	877	998	816	1000	1000	-700	849	-487	1000	958	978	939	1000	-774		12,415	95.84%
11	Jon Finch	-646	993	1000	991	966	-571	1000	865	1000	1000	1000	-515	989	751	976	866		12,397	95.70%
12	Ryan Gonsoulin	-810	969	946	994	853	-771	1000	1000	991	1000	822	890	1000	928	-730	983		12,376	95.54%
13	Paul Crittenden	-750	1000	1000	971	1000	1000	-663	852	970	1000	883	863	1000	860	-516	973		12,372	95.51%
14	Oleg Golovidov	-665	996	831	1000	1000	1000	-602	674	1000	952	-624	1000	996	1000	851	1000		12,300	94.95%
15	Jon Padilla	-624	940	1000	1000	998	1000	1000	-759	923	-85	928	795	994	929	878	859		12,244	94.52%
16	Donnie Langdon	-620	991	844	993	1000	1000	-727	1000	842	-795	946	831	1000	802	993	916		12,158	93.86%
17	Skip Miller	797	937	898	989	1000	1000	1000	-498	823	1000	1000	812	960	-739	-515	848		12,064	93.13%
18	Sean Porter	-675	983	933	991	-575	1000	1000	924	-675	750	759	702	993	931	1000	1000		11,966	92.37%
19	Phil Barnes	-366	998	974	964	-694	1000	1000	768	959	-500	840	767	947	891	829	940		11,877	91.69%
20	Skyler Raver	875	891	-714	978	924	771	-700	0	796	1000	981	884	894	977	971	903		11,845	91.44%
21	Gavin Trussell	727	993	1000	998	868	771	-554	1000	-663	1000	848	-558	930	1000	747	951	100/5	11,733	90.57%
22	Tom Siler	-755	974	940	1000	811	771	1000	-680	815	1000	951	770	968	892	817	-666		11,709	90.39%
23	Adam Weston	-720	976	922	921	783	1000	-620	768	726	735	822	870	890	986	918	-588		11,317	87.36%
24	John Jonke	706	971	639	978	-546	-571	1000	-629	988	866	772	722	939	886	964	820		11,251	86.85%
25	Aradhana Singh Khalsa	1000	917	-616	700	733	-571	1000	771	836	881	755	-554	878	782	998	1000		11,251	86.85%
26	Dave Runyon	706	1000	679	983	846	-571	-493	736	871	1000	736	818	893	1000	-630	1000	200/4,8	11,068	85.44%
27	John Lovins	1000	971	679	962	877	771	723	610	-159	-458	843	-595	954	802	877	944		11,013	85.02%
28	Adrian Dybwad	764	954	600	994	766	571	0	482	789	1000	-472	-456	912	996	911	972		10,711	82.68%
29	Jim Cokonis	662	-199	1000	952	668	-571	600	-378	912	1000	658	802	755	848	969	603		10,429	80.51%
30	Cory Shantz	-533	983	-364	893	957	771	603	804	760	745	545	816	844	-332	576	885		10,182	78.60%
31	Rick Jay	-535	797	764	757	611	571	-278	655	769	733	-506	618	828	859	897	875		9,734	75.14%
32	Richard Proseus	612	923	1000	986	0	0	0											3,521	27.18%
1	Alex Parkyn	750	922	-500	778	905	1000	1000	762	742	-581	-615	676	809	994	927	724		10,989	84.83%
2	Alex Trussell	480	942	0	-412	838	571	1000	742	725	472	725	-429	747	782	867	740		9,631	74.35%
3	Jason Friedman	-314	664	722	843	783	-257	-234	398	377	320	563	586	602	658	957	720		8,193	63.25%

A "-" next to a score indicates a dropped round. F3K rules allow a drop round for each 5 rounds flown. Credit has to be given to the contest organizers and helpers. They performed marvelously under very challenging conditions. Dave Runyon got the whole thing going and wrote the team select bid. This document will be the standard by which all future bids will be graded. Dave Jensen was the CD and I don't know how he did it. It was a mammoth effort but everything came together even with the bad weather, schedule changes and TFRs. The pilots and supporters were kept well hydrated and fed. The entire Jensen clan worked their tails off running the contest and setting up and tearing down the equipment. Special thanks to Rita and Chris Jensen for taking care of us. Gary Jensen kept generators running all weekend to power the scoring table and charging batteries. Thanks for the gas, Gary. Kelsey Jensen did the real time scoring and posting to the web. This is a big deal and was well received by the soaring community on RCG.

John Jonke was responsible for safety and even made the podium for the winners presentation. This should be available for any future contests. Thanks also to Denise Jonke for Scoring Table help and for always having a smile on her face.

Adrian Dybwad designed the F3K Master scoring program and provided the scoring equipment and real time support even though he was flying as a competitor. Thanks to Bruce Davidson and Red Weston for the large on-field window clocks. They were a great help to the contestants and the timers.

John Lovins provided material and technical support. He also provided housing for some of the contestants. The official contest timers were Jim Degroot, Jack Steinhauser, John Armstrong, Tony O'Hara, Bruce Martin, Harold Bailey, and Shawn Curry (also a judge). Most of these guys aren't even in the RMSA but are active local DLG'rs. They gave freely of their time and energy to support this contest. Cody Remington also supported the contest as a judge. To all, Thanks very much

#### Sponsors:

Many thanks to Skip Miller Models, Atlanta Hobby, Tom Siler (mfg of the Fr3aK), Bob Smith Industries, Tower Hobbies, Servo City and Soaring USA for providing discount certificates and merchandise. For a more complete understanding of how well the contest went, follow the contest thread here: http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=1632731&page=40

Bob Pederson Co-CD and Chief Judge

#### F3J World Championships Johannesburg SouthAfrica

Wow – that is all I can say... How to describe such an adventure in a few paragraphs? Instead of a blow by blow I think a few highlights will suffice. We arrived mostly uneventfully, except for our junior Dominick Lewis and his Grandpa Rich Burnoski. They tried to save a few dollars and against my advise connected their trip thru London Heathrow. As we all know the Olympics was going on and that made a bad thing worse. When they went to check in they discovered that new security rules were in place and no large boxes were being allowed into Heathrow. So they did not get on the airplane and proceeded to try other ways to get their models to SA. They ultimately repackaged the planes into sport tubes and sent then via FedEx. This meant that the planes would not arrive until the day before the WC at best. There was a lot of agonizing and lots of phone calls and meetings, but the planes finally arrived.

Original predictions for weather was a lot like Phoenix in winter. Chilly in the AM and warming up into the 60s/70s during the day – breezy at times... We wished for that. It snowed in Jo'burg for the first time in 35 years! It was the first time EVER that it snowed in every SA province on the same day.. I had to send helpers out to get hats, gloves, masks and long underwear for folks. If the cold was not bad enough – we had winds that at times exceeded the FAI limit – roughly 30MPH. We toughed it out and survived the conditions with all of our pilots doing well. By the end of the prelims we had 4 of our 5 pilots in the finals and clinched the Team Gold by almost 1000 points.

The flight of the event for me was one by Daryl Perkins. A rough throw by Cody caused him to exit the line early and low – some people thought he was taking a short tow... Nope. He then ran downwind and found a little thermal and stayed with it, barely climbing and all the time going further and further downwind. He managed to stay with it even while none of the spectators could see the plane and they were a LOT closer than him. He admitted later that there were times he could not see it, but one of the callers always had it in sight, and could help him re-acquire it. He managed to get back and get a good landing keeping him in the fly offs.

The finals were decent temps but windy again. I had rounded up towing help the night before, but in the morning they didn't show. The decided to save themselves for their Junior flights without telling me. I was going crazy trying to make sure everyone had towers and finally just before the prep time started I had everything done..

The finals were a test of eyesight with lots of downwind flying. Cody had a great flight that nearly equaled Daryls. It was close right to the end but Cody made it into the Bronze medal position.

For the Juniors Tristan Sherman flew awesome and was the top qualifier in the prelims. Dillon Graves flew very well and was barely edged out for a spot in the finals. Dominick had a rough event but did well for his first WC. These kids will be very tough next cycle.

So we came home with the Team Gold and Cody with the individual Bronze – a successful event by any measure. Now it's time to rest...

Jim

Scores can be gotten from http://f3j.kalinga.co.za/

# **August Open Contest Report**

The outlook was for a great weather day. It was going to be hot but very nice with light winds. We had a light turnout with all the activity surrounding the F3J World Championships, F5B preparations for Lenny and of course RMSA hosting of the F3K team selection. We had three Sportsman and three Masters attend so we set up Man-on-Man flight groups with the Sportsman always flying against Sportsman and likewise for the Masters. This worked

very well as we had balanced competition and we rotated callers throughout the day, giving everyone a chance to work together.

We had one of our newest members, Brody Wilson joined us. Brody is from the Mid-west and is finally getting settled here in the Denver area. He flew an Espada and did very well with it. It will be nice to see Brody at a few more events – welcome to RMSA!

We flew ten minute rounds all day. With six guys we ran two flight groups per round so we got a lot of flying in fast. I set a maximum round total at six which we finished by 1:30. This included a short lunch with watermelon break. The air was typical Colorado air. Light winds but things got a bit fickle and if you were in the wrong part of the sky your 10 minutes was in jeopardy. As it turned out Blayne was the only pilot to get his full time in all six rounds. Blayne flew very well all day. I was on with my landings but made too quick a decision just after launch on round 5, and I found myself in a whole pile of sink and could not get to John and Blayne.

One of our highlights came at the end when Blayne gave every pilot a copy of his new CD (Fiddle and Flute). It turns out Blayne is much more than a great sailplane pilot. This CD is fast becoming one of my wife and my favorites. You never know what will come your way at an RMSA contest!

In the end the flying and fun was great. Congratulations go to Blayne as the Masters winner and Jim Rogers as the Sportsman winner.

Class	Name	Place by Class	RD 1	RD 2	RD 3	RD 4	RD 5	RD 6	Raw Total	Rounds Flown	# Throw Outs	Safety Penaltys	Total	-		Place by Contest
М	Open															
М	Blayne Chastain	1	995.71	994.28	997.13	992.86	1000.00	994.28	5974.26	6			5974.26	1000.00	1000.00	1
М	John Lovins	2	742.86	995.71	998.57	998.57	997.14	979.97	5712.81	6			5712.81	956.24	956.24	2
М	Mike Verzuh	3	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	193.13	1000.00	5193.13	6			5193.13	869.25	869.25	4
S	Sportsman															
S	Jim Rogers	1	1000.00	780.00	984.17	1000.00	561.78	983.87	5309.83	6			5309.83	1000.00	888.78	3
S	Brody Wilson	2	986.08	848.00	1000.00	343.48	477.01	1000.00	4654.57	6			4654.57	876.60	779.10	5
S	Jim Smith	3	797.22	1000.00	978.42	328.99	1000.00	451.61	4556.23	6			4556.23	858.08	762.64	6

#### Mike Verzuh

# 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			
<del>Sat Feb 4</del>	Open/HL Skills Day (Cancelled due to weather)	Sod Farm	<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	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				

<b>Rocky Mountain</b>	Soaring A	Association	- 2012

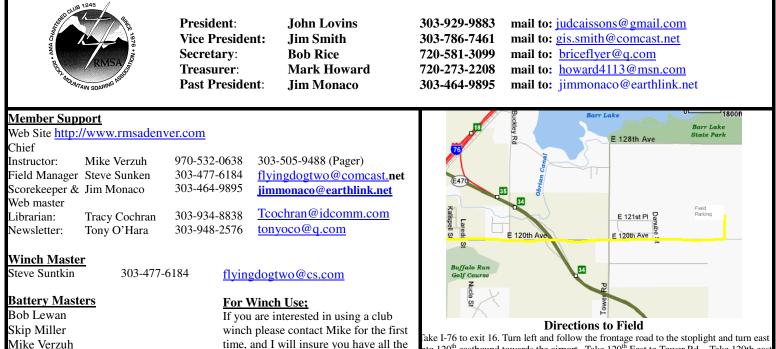
Year

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 120<sup>th</sup> eastbound towards the airport. Take 120<sup>th</sup> 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