



Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

January 2013

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXVII Number 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jim Smith

I am pleased and excited to begin the New Year as the RMSA club president. John Lovins our past president will be our V.P. Mark Howard continues to act as the club treasurer, Bob Rice as secretary, Tony O'Hara as newsletter publisher, and Steve Sunken as field liaison.

Of course this is a club and clubs only exist with the input and efforts of all its members. Thanks to all of you who have lugged winches, moved the club trailer, setup safety areas, acted as CD's, performed equipment repair and maintenance, and volunteered your time, effort and facilities.

Special thanks to John Lovins for his contributions as President and to Jim Monaco for his tireless efforts which include running F3J in the Desert and F3J in the Rockies while throwing in being the USA F3J team manager of a first place USA team. Dave Jensen did an outstanding job of running the F3K team selects and Blue Skies Over Colorado and was recognized with the Star Award for his efforts.....Great job Dave. Thank you Skip for re-inventing the Star Award plaque.

Of course our **annual awards** banquet was held during December with good food, company and the awards ceremony. Awards given were:

F3J Masters

Club champion: Mike Verzuh

2nd Place: Blayne Chastain

3rd Place: John Lovins

4th Place: Jim Monaco

5th Place: Lenny Keer

F3J Sportsman

1st Place & Monkey Trophy: Jim Rogers

2nd Place: Tom Tate

3rd Place: Jim Smith

F3K

No awards¹

¹ Agreed by the F3K members that awards were not to be given this year due to the team selects.

Other **achievements** mentioned were:

1. Lenny Keer – making the F5B USA team
2. Cody Remington – 3rd Place F3J Worlds
3. Dave Jensen – Star Award recipient
4. Skip Miller – setting a new X-country World record (we forgot to mention this one.....sorry)

Finally on to **new business**:

1. RMSA first 2013 meeting

a. Thursday Jan. 10th

b. 7:00 PM

c. Broomfield Public Library 3 Community Park Rd 80020

d. Schedules, club direction and other matters will be discussed. Please attend.

2. F3J in the Rockies and Blue Skies over Colorado Survey

- a. Go to RC Groups "Sailplane Events" or "Hand Launch" to take survey regarding if these events should be combined in 2013. Your input is important!

3. Club Survey (I'll compile)

- a. What is your primary interest, club meetings, contest flying, access to the club for fun flying such as LMR Radian contest, other?
- b. What changes would you recommend to attract you to attend more contests?
- c. What other recommendations for the club do you have?

4. Winch and trailer maintenance day

- a. Saturday Jan. 26th
- b. John Lovins shop. It is:-
 Jud Caissons, Inc
 7257 W. 116th Place
 Broomfield, Co
- c. Start time TBD

Finally for those of you who are tired of winter and want an early start to competition the Southwest Classic registration is still open. F3J in the Desert was filled within hours and we have 6 pilots signed up to represent the RMSA.

Good flying and great landings-----**Jim Smith 303-818-7576 Gjs.smith@comcast.net**

FOR SALE

Below is all from Mark Howard <howard4113@msn.com>

I have FPV gear that I'm looking to sell. I used this equipment to set the US soaring altitude record in 2004. Was planning on pushing it higher - but the FAI/AMA no longer allows FPV to be used for records. A couple of years ago, I set up my Kangke Monocoupe-90A for testing. The Monocoupe was originally set up for towing sailplanes and still has a release. It's towed 20 lb sailplanes. The gear is mounted in that plane right now. The system is set up to be totally redundant (ground portion). The tracking GPS is set up to feed thru the audio via the Tiny Track TNC - decoded on the ground, and displayed on the computer via a tracking program. The tracking program uses ArcView so you can easily add your own background data sets such as streets.... Of course the video is down linked for display on the TV's - that's how you fly! The video is encoded with OSD info - speed, heading, altitude, RPM, and distance from starting point and direction to return. The plane is currently set up to fly on 72MHz on a Stylus transmitter. The transmitter can use a rubber ducky antenna - or a fine-tuned 1/4 wave antenna. I have a ham band module and receiver as well. The entire system is set up to run off 12v using a car cigarette lighter socket or 12v car/marine batteries. The mapping display will tell you the position and altitude of the plane and the vehicle, so this system can be used for XC. I have video of the sailplane record flight - and a more recent flight with monocoupe up to about 13,000 feet and 1.5 miles away if you're interested.

Of course, I'd like to sell this all as a package deal, but I'll consider splitting.

All offers considered - email howard4113@msn.com or call [720-273-2208](tel:720-273-2208) - Mark

Includes:

- (1) Kangke Monocoupe-90A set up for FPV +/- Aerotow. Custom tow release Moki 2.10
- (1) Stylus Transmitter on 72/50MHz (Ham) Includes adapter for tuned antennas.
- (1) Video Cam
- (1) Tracking GPS
- (1) Tiny Trak TNC
- (1) 3W 2.4GHz Transmitter - tested 3W
- (1) 3W 2.4GHz Transmitter - tested 1W
- (2) 2.4 GHz Receivers

- (2) Kantronics TNC Decoders
- (2) Laptop Computers - for tracking
- (1) Super Hi Gain Semi-Dish Grid Receiving Antenna
- (1) Ham Tuned Antenna for RC Transmitter
- (1) 72 MHz Tuned Antenna for RC Transmitter
- (1) SWR meter
- (1) 12/120v TV 13" RCA
- (1) 12/120v TV 9.5" Symphoic
- (2) Laptop computers for tracking w/USB/COM adapters
- (2) Delorme GPS's for tracking vehicle
- Several Patch Receiver Antennas

On-Screen Eagle Tree Systems Equipment:

<http://www.eagletreesystems.com/>

Original information:

LXVEU2	Eagle Tree Systems OSD Expander	\$41.99
LXTFS1	Eagle Tree Systems eLogger V3 w/Integrated Connectors	\$69.99
LXTYH8	Eagle Tree Systems GPS Expander	\$134.99
LXPBP2	Eagle Tree Systems Optical RPM Sensor	\$13.79

On-screen display (OSD) gives GPS info on the TV screen updated 5 times per second.

http://msh-co.com/altitude/sale/_cam.jpg

http://msh-co.com/altitude/sale/_test_board.jpg

http://msh-co.com/altitude/sale/_equip_in_plane.jpg

http://msh-co.com/altitude/sale/_logger.jpg

http://msh-co.com/altitude/sale/_osd.jpg

http://msh-co.com/altitude/sale/_realtime.jpg

http://msh-co.com/altitude/sale/_receivers.jpg

http://msh-co.com/altitude/sale/_tncs.jpg

http://msh-co.com/altitude/sale/_com_program.jpg

http://msh-co.com/altitude/sale/_tracks.jpg

Monocoupe

http://www.msh-co.com/soar_utah2008/monocoupe.html

<http://www.msh-co.com/RCFlying/DSCN2100.html>

<http://www.msh-co.com/RCFlying/aerotow/DSCN2151.html>

Radio:

<http://msh-co.com/altitude/transmitter/index.htm>

Station:

http://msh-co.com/altitude/DSC_4232.JPG

<http://msh-co.com/altitude/DSCN1002.jpg>

Vixen Setup:

http://msh-co.com/altitude/new_plane.html

<http://www.msh-co.com/record/DSCN1410.JPG>

Renewal Reminder

It's time to renew your memberships for 2013. Renew with the application in this newsletter, (below)

Or on-line at <http://www.rmsadenver.com>

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

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:

Signature



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

303-818-7576 e-mail to: Gjs.smith@comcast.net
303-929-9883 e-mail to: judcaissons@gmail.com
720-581-3099 e-mail to: briceflyer@q.com
720-273-2208 e-mail to: howard4113@msn.com
303-929-9883 e-mail to: judcaissons@gmail.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
 Scorekeeper & Jim Monaco 303-464-9895 jimmonaco@earthlink.net
 Web master
 Librarian: Tracy Cochran 303-934-8838 Tcochran@idcomm.com
 Newsletter: Tony O'Hara 303-948-2576 tonyoco@q.com

Winch Master

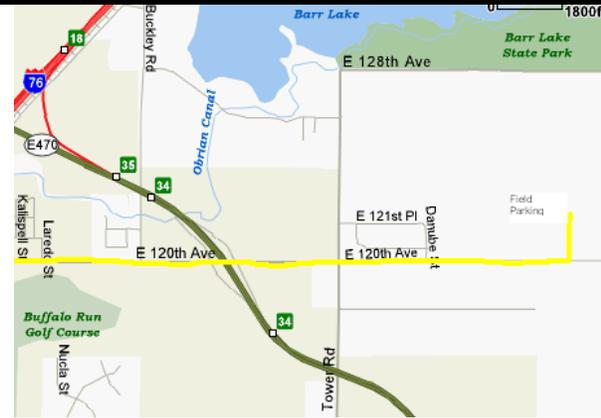
Steve Suntkin 303-477-6184 flyingdogtwo@cs.com

Battery Masters

Bob Lewan
 Skip Miller
 Mike Verzuh
 Cody Remington
 Dr. Dan Williams
 Steve Sunken
 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 on 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 farm.

Flying for RMSA members and accompanied guests only.



Rocky Mountain Soaring Association
 1860 S Vrain St
 Denver CO 80219

First Class Mail

Forwarding Address Requested