



Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

September 2015

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXIX Number 9

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Bob Pederson

Presidents Message October 2015

New members

To all the new members this year, please drop me a line and let me know about yourself and what you are looking for in RMSA. My e-mail address and phone number are on the last page of the newsletter.

October contests

We have an open contest on the 4th with Mike Verzuh as CD. Our monthly DLG contest will be held as the Blue Skies over Colorado event on the 10th and 11th.

Blue Skies over Colorado. Oct 10th and 11th.

John Lovins will CD the annual Blue Skies over Colorado F3K event this month. This is a big deal and John will need a lot of help to pull it off. We have pilots coming from the surrounding states and we need to show them a good time. Please offer your help to John even if it is only for one day of the contest. John's number is 303-254-9602 and you can e-mail him at jolovins@aol.com

No club meeting for October

I don't have any program ideas and no one has suggested anything.

Nominations for Club Offices

Nominations for club offices should be made this month. Blayne Chastain and I are ending our term as Vice President and President. I hope that several volunteers will step forward prior to our December banquet. This is a great opportunity to guide the club's future direction and give back to the club. I didn't get all the things done that I wanted to this year so I will offer my services again for 2016. If you don't like the way things went, here's your chance to make it like you want it.

[Added 10-6 – ed]

Originally, I did not intend to have a meeting this month and said so in our newsletter. After the newsletter went out, I found a good reason to have a club meeting. It seems there has been a number of UAS (Unmanned Aerial Systems) incidents around Denver Int'l Airport. DIA hosted a meeting recently and has formed a working group to study the problem and its resolution. I have included the notice of the meeting and have attached the list of incidents to this e-mail. Please review both documents. Especially note that UAS's have been observed at altitudes greater than 3000 feet and within 7 miles of airport operations. Our club flying site at the sod farm is within 7 miles of DIA. Note that the DIA group does not discriminate between "Drones" and model airplanes. We are all "UAS's". The possible impacts to our club flying may range from nothing, to increased oversight, limitations of on our flying activities, or loss of our flying site.

I would like to have a club meeting to discuss the UAS issue and our possible response. The meeting will be at Skip's facility at Longmont airport. The address is 229 Airport Rd, East Hanger, CO 80503. The meeting will start at 6:30 on Wednesday, Oct 14th. Please put this meeting on your calendar and plan to attend.

There is another open UAS Working Group meeting scheduled for Oct 28th and we should decide if we will participate or at least attend. One of our members, Ken Roberts, works at DIA and has been keeping me informed of the working group's progress.

Bob Pederson

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Denver International Airport, FAA Address Unmanned Aircraft Systems

- *Airport, FAA Officials Call for Education, Reporting of Unauthorized Uses*
- **DENVER — Sept. 30, 2015** — Denver International Airport (DEN) today announced the formation of a regional working group to identify collaborative solutions to the potential hazards posed by unauthorized and unsafe uses of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) near Colorado airports.
- The primary purpose of the working group is for representatives of regional airports, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and law enforcement agencies to share their experiences with UAS issues and help develop future policy recommendations as new regulations are made at the federal level. The group will also work to share best practices for documenting and responding to UAS incidents, and will consider how future procedures might enable safe commercial UAS uses at airports. The working group will also explore public outreach and education about the safe operation of UAS.

The working group is comprised of representatives from the following agencies:

Denver International Airport

The Federal Aviation Administration

The Colorado Department of Transportation's Aeronautics Division

Centennial Airport

Front Range Airport

Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport

Heath Montgomery

Media Relations Ph: (303) 342-2250

D'NVER ntERNAnëNAi. Recorded media line: (303) 342-2280 DEN Pager: (303) 342-2288 heath.montgomery@flydenver.com

HANDOUT - sept. 30, 2015

There have been seven documented reports of I-JAS activity on or near DIA property in 2015:

- June 19, 2015 — Up to four I-JAS were reported between 1,460-3,660 feet near Barr Lake near the path of landing aircraft
- June 20, 2015 — A single I-JAS was reported interfering with departing flight at 660 feet
- July 22, 2015 — A single I-JAS was reported seven miles north of the airport at an altitude of about 500 feet near an approaching aircraft
- July 22, 2015 — A single I-JAS was reported 12 miles north of the airport at an altitude of about 660 feet near an approaching aircraft
- July 26, 2015 — A single I-JAS was reported seven miles from the airport at an altitude of about 1,660 feet and near an approaching aircraft
- July 26, 2015 — A single I-JAS was seen by Denver police officers on airport property
- Aug. 14, 2015 — A single I-JAS was reported about five miles north of the airport at about 3,000 feet

September F5J Fun Fly

After some unfortunate carnage at the F3J team selection contest, a couple of pilots didn't have flyable models to use in for the F5J Fun Fly, and a couple others had scheduling conflicts. John Lovins, Terry Grau, and I came out to fly though and had a great time. The weather was just about perfect with sunny skies and light winds. We decided to run the F5J audio countdown and all fly together, without timers. It worked fine for a fun fly and we were able to fly 7 rounds in just a couple hours. We didn't keep an exact score, but John clearly out flew Terry and I.

We'll have a couple more fun flies coming up, and hopefully we will have a few more guys flying.

Lenny

I wanted to pass along some F5J news to the club.

The Phoenix club will be hosting a 2-day F5J contest on December 5/6 at the Schnepf Farms field. It should be a fun event and weather should still be pretty nice there.

To help prepare for that contest (and also because the F5J format is just fun and interesting to fly), I would like to organize a few F5J fun flies at the sod farm. These will be just for fun, with no entry fees, and will be a great opportunity to gain some experience with this new format. All that's needed is any electric sailplane and an F5J specific limiter, such as the Altis V4. I will also have a couple spare limiters to lend out during the fun fly, if needed. As a reminder, the F5J task is just a 10-minute duration flight and landing within a 10-minute window. Each pilot chooses his own launch altitude and the higher the launch, the more launch penalty points are accrued.

The following are the proposed F5J fun fly dates (weather permitting). Note that the field will remain open and available for anyone else wishing to fly.

I'll send out a reminder a few days before each fun fly.

Sunday, Sept 27th

Sunday, Oct 18th

Sunday, Nov 22nd

Finally, a few months ago HobbyKing came out with a new electric sailplane called the Aether.

http://www.hobbyking.com/hobbyking/store/_44761_Aether_3700_EP_Glider_Balsa_Composite_3715mm_ARF_.html

This is a 3.7M full house model with built up wings, fiberglass fuse, and carbon boom that sells for about \$300 shipped to your door. I bought one to build and evaluate and must say that it's a very good value. This isn't the next world beater model and it does fall short compared to a \$2K molded airframe, but it flies very well and can't be beat for the price. I've got about a dozen flights on it, all landed on grass, and it's in mint condition. Having served its purpose for me as an evaluation model, I would like to pass it on locally for just what I have into it. With 6 servos, motor, ESC, battery, prop, and spinner installed, I will sell it locally for \$585.00. Just install your receiver and you're ready to fly. (SD-10G program available)

Thanks,
Lenny

RMSA 2015 Calendar Of Events

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

Date	Event	Location	Description
Thu Feb 19 - Fri Feb 20	F3J in the Desert 2015	Schnepf Farms Queen Creek AZ	
Sat Mar 7	Open Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD Blayne Chastain
Sun Mar 15	DLG Contest	TBA	CD - TBD
Sat Mar 28	Red Rocks Utah DLG	St George UT	Red Rocks F3K 2 day contest and TS qualifier
Sat Mar 28 - Sun Mar 29	F3J in the Deep South	Houston Tx	F3J Tour Event
Sat Apr 11	DLG Contest	TBA	CD - Bob Pederson
Sun Apr 26	F5J Electric	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Lenny Keer
Sat May 2 - Sun May 3	IHLF Handlaunch	Poway CA	International DLG
Sat May 9	Open Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Jim Monaco
Fri May 22 - Sat May 23	F3J in the Rockies	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	F3J Tour Event
Sun May 24 - Mon May 25	Blue Skies Over Colorado DLG	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Need Volunteer
Sat Jun 6	DLG Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Sam Pendleton
Sun Jun 7	F5J Electric	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Lenny Keer
Sun Jun 21	Cross Country	Verzuh Ranch	CD - Mike Verzuh - Note this is Fathers Day
Sat Jul 11	Open Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Blayne Chastain
Sun Jul 19 - Sun Jul 26	DLG F3K World Championships	Croatia	
Sun Jul 19	DLG Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - TBD
Sun Jul 26 - Sat Aug 1	Soaring Nats	AMA Field Muncie IN	F3J July 31 - Aug 1
Sun Aug 9	Open Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Jim Rogers
Sat Aug 15 - Sun Aug 16	F3J in New Mexico	Albuquerque NM	F3J Tour Event
Sat Aug 15	DLG Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Jon Padilla
Sat Sep 5 - Mon Sep 7	F3J Team Selection	TBD	CD - TBD \nAlso F3J Tour Event
Sat Sep 19	DLG Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - TBD
Sun Sep 20	RMSA/PPSS Challenge Cup	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Jim Monaco
Sat Oct 3	Visalia Fall Fest	Visalia CA	TD Event
Sun Oct 4	Open Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Mike Verzuh
Sun Oct 11	DLG Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - TBD
Sat Nov 7 - Sun Nov 8	Blue Skies Arizona DLG	TBD	TBD
Sun Nov 8	Open Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Shannon Bingham
Sun Nov 15	DLG Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - John Jonke
Sun Dec 6	RMSA Awards Banquet	TBD	

Rocky Mountain Soaring Association - 2015

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:	Bob Pederson	970-532-3437	e-mail to: bpedersn@colomail.com
Vice President:	Blayne Chastain	970-405-5818	e-mail to: mailto:blayne@whistleanddrum.com
Secretary:	Bob Rice	720-581-3099	e-mail to: briceflyer@q.com
Treasurer:	Mark Howard	720-273-2208	e-mail to: howard4113@msn.com
Past President:	Jim Monaco	303-818-7576	e-mail to: jim@monacocasa.com

Member Support

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

Chief

Instructor:

Field Manager Steve Sunken 303-477-6184 flyingdogtwo@comcast.net

Scorekeeper & Jim Monaco 303-464-9895 jim@monacocasa.com

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

Skip Miller

Mike Verzuh

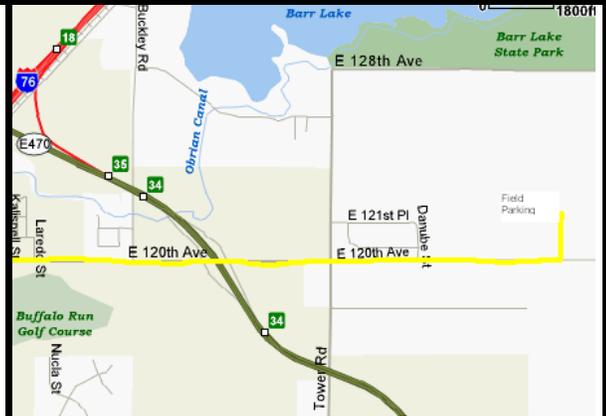
Cody Remington

John Lovins

Jim Rogers

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 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 sod 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