



# Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

November 2012

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXVI Number 11

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**John Lovins**

'We are coming to the end of the year, and activity shows it at the field. We are trying to get in 1 more Open contest, but the weather is getting in the way. We will try to re-schedule the Nov. 11 contest to the 18th, but will close the contest season after that to allow time for awards to be ready for the banquet.

On the hand launch side Dave Runyon had neck surgery right after the team selects. Get well Dave, see you at the field soon. Also Cory Shantz has accepted a position in California. You gotta do what's best for your family, but we sure are going to miss you walking downwind to the horizon, best wishes. Cory is a great pilot that likes to go for it, no matter how far or low...

We still are looking for officers for the coming year. Come on guys, step up.

See you at the field.

Thanks,

John

## October Contest Report

We had beautiful weather for this lightly attended contest. A cool night, and quickly warming temps would seem like a good recipe for lift, but being Colorado things are not always as they appear.

3 Masters, and 2 Sportsman, a poor showing, makes it difficult to run flight groups. This is the 2nd or 3rd time this year we didn't have enough pilots, and frankly I'm tired of not being able to compete because of it, so we changed the format to fit the situation. We flew the Masters against each other, TD, with no callers allowed. One of the Sportsman timed for 2 pilots, a little bit of an issue when counting down, but not to bad for TD. The Sportsmen were allowed callers. The result was a very enjoyable contest that made you have a swivel on your shoulders keeping an eye on the other pilots, tune your air reading skills, and lots of flying. In addition thermals were few and far between. Blaine was the only one to make all his times for the win, well done.

I would recommend this format to any CD that finds himself short of pilots. Challenging and fast paced.

### October scores

Class	Name	Place by Class	RD 1	RD 2	RD 3	RD 4	RD 5	RD 6	RD 7	RD 8	Raw Total	Total	Norm by Class	Norm by Contest	Place by Contest
<b>M</b>	<b>Masters</b>														
M	Blayne Chastai	1	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	8000	8000	1000	1000	1
M	John Lovins	2	742.1	992.8	677.1	928.6	709.6	1000	998.6	857.1	6906	6906	863.24	863.24	3
M	Jim Monaco	3	793.7	546	124.3	134.9	990	625.2	998.6	994.3	5206.9	5206.9	650.86	650.86	5
<b>S</b>	<b>Sportsman</b>														
S	Jim Rogers	1	1000	1000	1000	767.3	783.7	1000	542	1000	7093.1	7093.1	1000	886.63	2
S	Corey	2	616.1	358.8	761.6	1000	1000	399.4	1000	997.1	6133	6133	864.64	766.62	4

## DLG Report

There is no detailed report for Oct DLG contest.

The DLG contest for Oct was canceled due to lack of sufficient entries. It turned in to a fun fly. We only had 4 flyers and that was too small for a contest. We just flew all up, last down for 3 hours and BS'd for the rest of the day.

I suspect this month will be the same.

## November Open

CD TBD

Date changed (tentatively) to Nov 18<sup>th</sup>

Details not available.

## FOR SALE

None this month

## MISCELLANEOUS

I am a returning member from the 1998-2000 time-frame and with my retirement my enjoyment of RC Soaring has returned.

The advances in electric launch technology have made ALES my primary interest and I propose adding this to our normal Open Class competitions on a trial bases.

It could be run along side the open match using the same launch line and tasks with or without landing tapes. If there were four winches on the line, add one or two more positions for electric.

Score it just like open but designate ALES.

### **Suggestions:**

Cutoff to be agreed upon with the CD to coordinate with Open class launch altitude.

Launch all in the same direction as winch until first aircraft is off line. Then if motor run time is left ALES is free to turn away.

Landing tape for points or no tape and designated landing boundaries away from open tapes.

Keep it as simple as possible see how it goes. Other clubs around the country have been using these simplified events to gauge interest and it appears that the turnout for our monthly Open competition could tolerate the additional entries.

If it turns out that I am alone in this, no problem, I'll just continue flying on week days until I develop enough skills to fly with the big boys.

**Thank You, Terry Grau**

[terrygrau@gmail.com](mailto:terrygrau@gmail.com)

303 246 7818

## 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>

## RMSA 2012 CALENDAR 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 (Canceled 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 18	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

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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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**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**

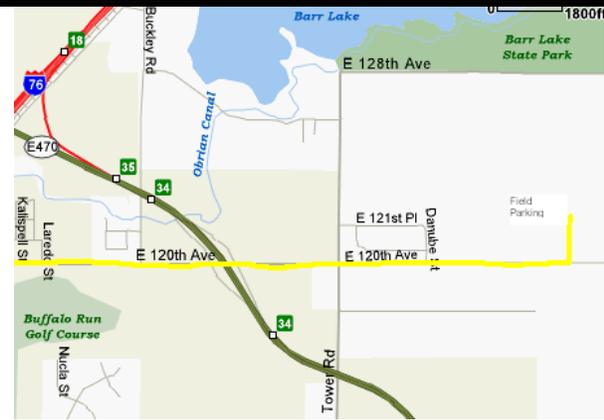
Steve Suntkin 303-477-6184 [flyingdogtwo@cs.com](mailto:flyingdogtwo@cs.com)

**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 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*