



Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

May 1998

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXVI Number 5

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Springtime in the Rockies plus El Nino make for some very unsettled weather patterns as we have/are/will experience in some form for the remainder of the year. Keep your eye on the sky as well as your plane while doing your R/R thing at the sod farm. Mother Nature has a habit of sneaking up on the blind side with dust devils, micro-bursts, tornados, lightning storms, etc. Be wise; read the signals. Pack up in plenty of time to fly another day! We have had to postpone a few events already this year and there will probably be other weather related postponements beset us down the pike! If in doubt as to the status of the contest, the burden of responsibility rests with the contestants.

Mike O'Hearn and Bob Douglas have been raving about the "Dynamic Soaring" tape that will be presented at the May meeting. "Birdman" Wurts will show us how it's done - - can't wait!

The April 19th contest was very well attended and for most of the day the thermal gods smiled on the event -

until the last 45 minutes or so when the 14 minute task was looming before us - enter stage left "El Nino's" henchman "El Sinko" to make it a very interesting 6th flight! Congratulations to Jim Barr for a nice contest! !

Phil Weigle's HLG contest was postponed to May 3rd, Sunday. Registration is 8:30 AM. Pilot's meeting is 9:00AM. Projected weather looks good - cross your fingers!

We need to have each winch/retriever caretaker go to the hardware store and pick up an Allen hex wrench on a LONG handle (short keys do not work) to remove the spindle quickly when snarls occur and they will. We are still having some problem with line twist as the swivels we are now using are not free under load. I have located four 250 lb. test ball-bearing (not barrel) stainless steel swivels for the winch connection. Need some spares! Look in your fishing store for me, please! "Berkley" 250 lb stainless steel ball bearing swivels. Also need some 150 lb variety for the retriever line. Please call me if you have these items located.

Next Meeting

Date/Time: May 5, 1998 7:00 PM

Location: Newgate Apts.
10400 W. 44th Ave.
Wheatridge, Co.

*Steps to meeting room are behind
the building near the pool.*

Program: Dynamic Soaring Video Tape (Joe Wurts does incredible things...)
Since we could not do it last meeting...



Continue to use the "Launching/Landing" warning. Seems to be working well. Tag all flight equipment with fluorescent tape so the mowing crews see it before they chew it up. Already we have lost one highstart and one winch turn-around. The score is: Mowing crew - 1 : RMSA - zero. Seems we have an act to clean up before the consequences set in!

New members are in the fold! As usual, help them at every turn. Let's see if there aren't some more Glider Guiders out there just needing RMSA's help to get safely into the air. RMSA is growing and progressing in many areas. Keep up the good work. **Jack Zika**

May 17th Open Contest – CD Jim Monaco (303) 924-3393

Entry Fee: \$5.00
Registration: 8:30
Pilot's Meeting: 9:00

Current (1998) AMA membership is required and must be shown.

Please be registered and have planes assembled by Pilot's Meeting

Winchmasters: Please be at the field by 8:00AM. If you are unable to attend please contact the CD to arrange to have your winch/retriever available.

Tasks: Rounds 1 thru 6 - T1 International Duration
Landing Option L4

- All rounds will be Called Flight Order format
- Retrievers will be used
- Awards 1 - 5 for Novice, Sportsman, Master

May 31st HL Contest – CD Jack Zika (303) 279-1549

Entry Fee: \$5.00
Registration: 8:30
Pilot's Meeting: 9:00

Current (1998) AMA membership is required and must be shown.

Please be registered and have planes assembled by Pilot's Meeting

Tasks to be announced at the pilot's meeting.



Spring Thermals '98 Report

Six, eight, ten, twelve, fourteen = fifty minutes total airtime possible if you flew in the April 19th contest! Sunday was an ideal thermal contest day – cool at 9:00 AM but quickly warmed up to shirtsleeve weather by 11:00 AM. Winches remained set up all day with very few downwind launches necessary!

Although a great deal of effort has gone into perfecting the retrievers – there were several tangles causing delays. We are probably 90% along the way to acceptable contest winch retriever performance.

Novice Charlie Miller (Thermal Eagle) flew very well, earning a little over 80% of the possible points with Gary Lewan (Spirit) and young Marc Monaco close behind. Marc experienced an unusual winch retrieval tangle which damaged his Sagitta.

In the Sportsman ranks, Bob Douglas flew his purple/white Airtronics Legend (built-up) to a class win, followed closely by Bob Rice (Thermal Eagle), and Jim Monaco (Pelican) doing double duty as official scorekeeper and flying! This class was decided in the last round as these three fliers were separated by only 70 points after the fifth round.

Masters class had Mark Howard (Pelican) nipping at Skip Miller's (Emerald) heels all day long, and when the dust settled, mark was only 33 points back! At the end of 5 rounds Mark and Skip were separated by only 18 points, but the last round cost Mark the race! Jack Zika (Super-V) trailed by 60 points for 3rd, and close behind among all this moulded fiberglass and carbon fiber, is the RMSA stalwart, Matt Sheldon with his 2 meter Sagitta. We all know Matt can thermal with the best!

A special THANK YOU to those flyers who have taken the time to learn retriever operation – it's simple, efficient and makes contest flying pure pleasure!

Jim Barr

April Contest Results

April Open

Date: April 28, 1998

ID	Class	Name	RD 1	RD 2	RD 3	RD 4	RD 5	RD 6	Total	Normal
N Novice										
3	N	Charlie Miller	217.00	428.00	558.00	135.00	797.00	891.00	3,026.00	1,000.00
11	N	Gary Lewan	130.00	287.00	478.00	87.00	755.00	864.00	2,601.00	859.55
4	N	Marc Monaco	240.00		199.00	653.00	331.00	840.00	2,263.00	747.85
16	N	Bob Lewan	266.00	338.00		640.00	713.00	147.00	2,104.00	695.31
2	N	L. Mac Arthur	203.00	75.00	305.00	72.00	718.00	125.00	1,498.00	495.04
10	N	Gib Lichstein	225.00	150.00	81.00	171.00			627.00	207.20
S Sportsman										
8	S	Bob Douglas	307.00	392.00	187.00	480.00	781.00	421.00	2,568.00	1,000.00
6	S	Bob Rice	167.00	355.00	219.00	597.00	749.00	168.00	2,255.00	878.12
5	S	James Monaco	290.00	434.00	558.00	289.00	506.00		2,077.00	808.80
M Masters										
13	M	Skip Miller	327.00	448.00	577.00	696.00	815.00	926.00	3,789.00	1,000.00
17	M	Mark Howard	331.00	442.00	572.00	683.00	817.00	911.00	3,756.00	991.29
7	M	Jack Zika	320.00	446.00	542.00	678.00	791.00	918.00	3,695.00	975.19
9	M	Matt Sheldon	277.00	401.00	560.00	599.00	804.00	868.00	3,509.00	926.10
12	M	Dust Milller	295.00	440.00	559.00	692.00	301.00	932.00	3,219.00	849.56
14	M	Bob Pederson	192.00	417.00	536.00	598.00	380.00	912.00	3,035.00	801.00
1	M	Jim Barr	283.00	350.00	285.00	443.00	727.00	815.00	2,903.00	766.17
15	M	Lenny Keer	280.00	396.00	405.00	673.00	409.00	250.00	2,413.00	636.84



Club Standings

-- MASTERS --	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	PPSS	Other	Best 6	Place	97 Points/ Wins	98 Points/ Wins	Total Points/ Wins
Howard Mark	801	991										1792	1			
Sheldon Matt	777	926										1703	2			
Keer Lenny	1000	637										1637	3			
Zika Jack	637	975										1612	4			
Pederson Bob	654	801										1455	5			
Barr Jim	567	766										1333	6			
Miller Skip		1000										1000	7			
Padilla John	899											899	8			
Miller Dusty		850										850	9			
Weigle Phil	759											759	10			
Pearson John												0	11			
---- SPORTSMAN ----																
Douglas Bob	977	1000										1977	1	11/1	5/1	16/2
Monaco Jim	1000	809										1809	2	7/0	4/1	11/1
Rice Bob	428	878										1306	3	18/3	2/0	20/3
Port Don	917											917	4	10/3	1/0	11/3
---- NOVICE ----																
Miller Charles	866	1000										1866	1		5/1	5/1
Lewan Gary	615	860										1475	2	6/1	2/0	8/1
Monaco Marc	700	748										1448	3		2/0	2/0
Lewan Robert	482	695										1177	4	6/2		6/2
O'Hearn Mike	1000											1000	5	4/1	3/1	7/2
Mac Arthur	327	495										822	6	9/1		9/1
Beggs Bill	246											246	7			
Lichstein Gib		207										207	8			
Grau Terry												0	9	5/0		5/0
West David												0	9	3/1		3/1
Curtis Matt												0	9			
Kentner Matt												0	9			
Delponte Gino												0	9			
Butler Jim												0	9			



Contest Pictures

Here are a few pictures from the April contest...



Skip Miller shooting another great landing with his Emerald (Dusty Miller timing)



Gary Lewan flying and Bob Pederson Timing



Skip and Dusty with the Emerald

No Guts – No Glory

Decisions, Decisions –that is what soaring is all about. In the April contest the Sportsman class was bunched all up at the end of 5 rounds with Bob Douglas leading by 70 points, Bob Rice was in 2nd with 60 points behind him, and I was 10 points behind Bob. In the last round the conditions began to deteriorate quickly, Bob Rice flew first in the called flight order working on his 14 minute flight, and got a mere 2:48 flight. A few minutes later Bob Douglas launched and scratched around for 7:01 –the pressure was on –and I was the last flyer of the day. Mark Howard and Lenny Keer did their best to help me sandbag –carefully examining my rudder linkage –hoping to avoid a nasty downwind launch into very cold

Barr, the CD, put the kibosh on that strategy by generously holding the winch line for my hookup... After a horrid launch, I followed the directions of my timer(s) and found a little tiny bit of lift way downwind. It was so light my ham-fisted maneuverings weren't smooth enough to go up –but I held my own for a few minutes. Mark assured me that the reason I bought the Pelican was for just this type of lift and that it WOULD go up... Well –I'm sure with him driving it would have... At about 3 minutes I knew I had a lock on 2nd –all I needed was to get back to the field. Hmmm –decisions, decisions –break for home now and clinch 2nd or try to hang in there? Let's go for it. Actually I flew the smoothest I have ever flown, under the watchful eyes and coaching of Lenny and Mark, but a couple of bobbles and I was out of the lift. Uh Oh –head home –darn, that sprinkler is between me and the zig to ensure I'll miss it –I likely won't make it back. Monaco rule 1 takes over –"save the plane"... I landed short of the field and lost the flight points but saved the plane to compete another day.

Now this is fun... Anybody can fly in LIFT... Come to a contest –and have fun –Thermals –**Jim**

Treasurer's Report

Checking	\$845.95
Savings	356.05
Cash	41.00

John Pearson

Contest Format Proposal

Recently we have had a request by a member to advance in class prior to achieving the prerequisite wins and points as proscribed by the current contest format rules. In evaluating this request we have determined that the current rules do not allow for movement up or down after the initial classification of a new flyer. To remedy this situation I intend to propose for vote at the next club meeting the following addition to the current "ROCKY



MOUNTAIN SOARING ASSOCIATION CONTEST FORMAT" document:

A flyer may petition for advancement to a higher class, by submitting a request to the board of directors who will evaluate the request to determine if the movement of the competitor to the other class is in the best interest of the flyer and the club. Approval of the change takes effect at the next club contest.

Winch Motor Reference

Here is some information on winch motors, gleaned from the RCSE, and contributed by Doug Boyd the manufacturer of "Real Balls" which were described in our Presidents column in January.

From: Winch doc <Winchdoc@aol.com>
Date: Thu, 4 Dec 1997 16:05:21 EST

The Question:

Subject: [RCSE] Which models (of car) had a Ford longshaft?

OK We got a drum kit from NSP, now all we need is a Ford longshaft... so the next question is: Which models (of car) had a Ford longshaft starter motor? It will be a little easier to buy if I can tell the parts guy what car it came from.

The Answer:

OK, here's the SECRET NUMBERS you need:

Tell the parts guy to look in his big book for the "LESTER NUMBER" this is a number that starter rebuilders use and it will save you some time at the parts store.

#3110 6v 2 field coils
#3112 12v 2 field coils
#3115 12v 2 field coils, 1 shunt coil (a smaller coil)
#3136 12v 4 field coils, runs backwards

Get the #3110 6v motor and run it on 12 volts. Launch high.

If they still give you a stupid look, tell them it is for a 1956 straight six and you want the SIX VOLT ONE. If you want MORE POWER, (and who doesn't?) put a set of

"Real Balls" ball bearing end plates on it. Launch higher. Ask any man who has them...

DISCLAIMER/CLAIMER:

I manufacture and sell "Real Balls" ball bearing end plates for the Ford long shaft starter motor. I get to buy more R/C gliders whenever someone buys a set. I am also a happy customer. I will gladly E-mail a propaganda sheet to anyone that asks.

hope this helps, Doug Boyd

Radio Control Soaring Exchange (RCSE)

By the way – the winch data presented here and many other fine tidbits of data are often found on an internet mailing list called Radio Control Soaring Exchange (RCSE). It is a public service of Model Airplane News and is administered by previous MAN soaring columnist Mike Lachowski. Many of the current top soaring pilots monitor and contribute to the exchange, including Joe Wurts, Daryll Perkins, and our own Skip Miller. To subscribe send a note to soaring-request@airage.com with the word SUBSCRIBE in the body of the message, but be prepared to receive at least 100 e-mail messages a day. Subscribing as described above can be overwhelming, but it is easy to respond to individuals this way. The method I prefer, is to send the same format e-mail to soaring-digest-request@airage.com. This type of subscription collects a set of e-mail messages on the server, typically 25 to 30, and packs them into one e-mail message sent to you. You will get about 3 to 5 of these daily. The downside is that it is more difficult to reply to the list or an individual since the e-mail is all packed together. For those of us who lurk far more than post, this is far better. When you want to post to the list, simply send a normal e-mail message to soaring@airage.com. Your message will then be sent to the list and all of the subscribers. To reply to a message I simply cut the note I want to reply to from the digest and paste it into a new e-mail to be sent to soaring@airage.com.

Note that to use this system you do not need an internet subscription. This all can be accomplished for FREE using an e-mail system like JUNO. If you need some help getting started, drop me a call and I'd be glad to help you out. All you need is a computer, a modem, and some time! Hope to see ya there – Jim



What's New?

The "Bob" plane. Here are his specs: (Yes, Bob is a "he" plane.)

Blue foam and light ply construction (1/64 thk.). Bob's wings are sheeted with super thin non-filament packing tape (or econocote or similar). Bob looks like any other competition HLG

Bob may be built polyhedral,



or.....WINGERON!!



Aileron to follow.

Other than color, Bob does not look like a foam plane.

Bob's wing >> 60" span 7.5" root 4.5 tip; relatively high aspect! When Bob's blue foam wings are done, they are as pretty and accurate as a bagged wing (we think). They are also sparred with spruce. The polyhedral wing is strong enough for any throw, any speed any maneuver. Poly Bob's weight: 10.2 oz at a wing loading of about 4.25 oz/sq/ft Wingeron Bob weighs about .5 ounces more than Poly Bob.

Weight is calculated WITH >>>> two servo HS-80's (NOT sub micro 60's) 4 cell 270 mah battery (big)

Hitec Micro FM RX IN CASE
brass quickee conns. at controls

Using SUB-Micro gear and an anal builder, Poly Bob may come in as light as 9 oz!

Bob can be built/covered/rigged in about 4-7 hours by a diligent individual and foam safe CA.

There is NO melting of foam to build Bob.

Bob is built from common materials using some clever engineering. Bob is very clean and very fast. Spent a portion of X-mas eve '96 throwing and flying Bob in a local church parking lot. Actually managed to hit the sign in the lot that said, "Thou shalt park between the lines and not on the turf!". Bob has already spent an afternoon at the park with 12 other HLG pilots and their planes. These included Corndoggers etc. Bob was not handicapped in any way. In fact, he was able to out launch every HLG there, regardless of who threw him. After some flight tips and practice, most of the pilots preferred Bob's airfoil to their own. Bob's airfoil is significantly faster than commonly seen on other HLG's. Bob will run downwind like a sloper. If Bob is flown at the proper speed, it will "circle" other

Boultinghouse of Corndogger fame has since flown Poly Bob and Wingeron Bob versions. He said that when they go into production that he wants to be the first person to win a HLG contest with both a wingeron and foam plane at the same time! Not to mention a "he" plane.

Fred Mallett has seen Poly Bob and flown the prototype; although not with the final airfoil design.

The design intent of Bob is NOT for durability or combat. Bob was never intended to last a lifetime. The idea is that any person interested in flying HLG's can get involved for a minimum of time and money combined with a maximum of performance. Bob was designed for both experts and pilots new to HLG alike. We feel that Bob equals the best performance + cost + time invested HLG you can buy. There are cheaper HLG's and there are prebuilt HLG's. We feel that Bob is the only plane that totally fills the equation above. We are not going to make Bob out of EPP foam this year, so don't bother asking yet. EPP is heavy, very flexible and hard to glue to in a "light" fashion. Our view of HLG's is LONG SKINNY, HIGH ASPECT wings with a wing loading below 4.5.

Even though Polyhedral Bob and Wingeron Bob are made out of the same parts, I have only finished the manual for Polyhedral Bob. Wingeron Bob will not be available with an assembly manual for another month and a half or so.

Cost is \$55.00 + 8.00 shipping and fondling. Visa/ Mastercard accepted by phone or E-mail.

E-mail at Foameron@aol.com if you would like additional information.

Joe Galletti
Torque and Recoil Club distributing and mfg.
7004 Chinook
Austin, TX 78736
512-454-0061 ph
512-301-1782 fax



RMSA Library List

The Following tapes can be made available to members by contacting our Club Librarian, Tracy Cochran. See the last page of the newsletter for phone number and e-mail information.

Hr/Min	Titles	Comments
1:30 0:18	Cutting Foam cores and making templates plus High Start/Winch Retriever. 2 copies	Shows manual and automatic cutting plus details of making templates.
0:18	High Start / Winch Retriever	By VMC Flight - showing their Model 20 retriever
0:35	Vacuum Baging Composite Wings. 2 copies	introduction to building fast, strong & efficient wings
1:45 0:15	Model Construction - Building Falcon 880 plus Bagging Techniques	
0:38	Aero Space Composite - From trade show	poor copy. shows types and uses of fiber carbon.
0:35	Moulding Fiberglass	demos making a copy of a cowling.
1:05 1:00	Foam Shop # 1 Cutting Foam Wings plus Hot Stuff Demo - both poor quality	
1.11	Monokote # 1, poor quality copy	Hard to see details. Pt.1 show basics covering.
0:55	Monokote # 2 Same tape	Pt. 2 talks about color schemes and design.
0:45	Battery Basics (by ACE) poor copy	
0:45	Workshop '92 Composite Structures Tech.	
0:43	Old Buzzard Goes Flying!	Good intro for new flyers. graphics of air / thermals
1:15	Composite Aircraft Engineering & Supply	Composite, vacuum-bagging using a hand pump kit
Hr/min	Newly received tapes	
0:27	Aviation Expo 1990 at Ida Grove Iowa	Air show mix of large scale RC & full size aircraft. (with simulated air to ground battle w/pyrotechnics)
0:27	AMA's Discovering Aeromodeling (PR tape) What a Father and Son Learn	General introduction to all types of modeling.
	RC Video Magazine Vol 5, 1986	Various topics as listed
0:01	Introduction	
0:07	Video Plane	
0:25	1985 Scale Masters	
0:06	RC Pterodactyl	
0:14	Soaring NATS	
0:03	AMA Radio Test	
0:10	Pietenpol 4 Review	
0:23	"How to fly Helicopters"	
0:10	85 Las Vegas Quarter Scale	
Hr/Min		
	RC Video Magazine Vol 10, 1988	Various topics as listed
0:04	Introduction	
0:20	Southwest Fun Fly	
0:10	Scale Detailing by Dave Platt	
0:10	Byron Originals B-29	
0:25	AMA Working For You	
0:25	87 Scale Masters Championships	
0:26	Harris Hill Soaring (incomplete copy-PBS)	A history of gliders featuring a mass cross-country.
1:15	1988 Nats (home video)	
2:00	Building With Foam (both on same tape) 1	cutting cavities in foam, using micro-balloons & K-B primer as prime coat on non bagged fiberglassed.
2:00	Techniques with Fiberglass (same tape)	modifying a fiberglass F51-D



1998 Contest/Event Calendar

Date	Type	CD	Notes
Jan 6	RMSA Meeting		Newgate Apts – See Cover
Feb 3	RMSA Meeting		Newgate Apts – See Cover
March 3	RMSA Meeting		Newgate Apts – See Cover
March 8	RES	Bob Douglas	Restricted to Rudder/Elevator/Spoiler controls only
March 15	Open*	Mark Howard	
April 7	RMSA Meeting		Newgate Apts – See Cover
April 19	Open*	Jim Barr	
April 26	HL**	Phil Weigle	Points towards club HL championship
May 5	RMSA Meeting		Newgate Apts – See Cover
May 17	Open*	Jim Monaco	
May 31	HL**	?	Points towards club HL championship
June 2	RMSA Meeting		Newgate Apts – See Cover
June 7	Open*	Phil Weigle	
June 21	FunFly	Bob Douglas	Fathers Day Family BBQ and Fun Fly
June 28	HL**	Lenny Keer	Points towards club HL championship
July 7	RMSA Meeting		Newgate Apts – See Cover
July 12	Open*	Bob Rice	
July 26	HL**	Jack Zika	Points towards club HL championship
August 4	RMSA Meeting		Newgate Apts – See Cover
August 9	Open*	Jim Monaco	
August 16	LSF Tasks	Bob Douglas	LSF Tasks and Fun Fly
August 23	2 Meter *	Mark Howard	Restricted to 2 meter models
Sept 1	RMSA Meeting		Newgate Apts – See Cover
Sept 13	Colorado Challenge Cup*	Matt Sheldon	Open Class
October 6	RMSA Meeting		Newgate Apts – See Cover
October 11	Open	Bob Rice	
October 25	Fun Fly	Bob Douglas	
November 3	RMSA Meeting		Newgate Apts – See Cover
November 8	RES	John Pearson	Restricted to Rudder/Elevator/Spoiler controls only.
December 1	RMSA Meeting		Newgate Apts – See Cover
December 6	Awards Banquet		Annual RMSA Family Banquet with Awards – location TBD

* Indicates contest included in club Open Championship points

** Indicates contest included in club HLG Championship points

Shaded events are historical



1998 Board Members

President: Jack Zika (303) 279-1549 (303) 505-9488 (Pager)
VicePresident: Mike O'Hearn (303) 693-6925 mjohearn@ccgate.hac.com
Treasurer: John Pearson (303) 770-0797 jpearso1@ix.netcom.com
Secretary: Bob Rice (303) 745-5269 bohr@tobindatag.com
Past President: Phil Weigle (303) 341-9256

Member Support

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Bob Rice (303) 745-5629 bohr@tobindatag.com



Directions to Field

Take I-76 to exit 17. Take 120th East to Tower Rd. Left on Tower Rd to sharp right curve onto 128th. Directly on the right is a dirt road thru the sod farm. We generally fly from the dirt road in the center of the farm.



Rocky Mountain Soaring Association
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Aurora CO 80012

Forwarding Address Requested

First Class Mail