



# Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

June 2007

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXI Number 6

## President's Message    Mike Verzuh

The soaring season is in full swing. I know there is a great demand on everyone's time, and spending time soaring is really a luxury. Personally I have been extremely busy the last months completing a home project, and it is cutting into my free time. Others in the club have the same story, so I am very grateful for those members volunteering their time now as CDs, Mentors, and Club Support. I want to give a special thanks to our VP Steve Suntken for caring for the winch trailer this year, Jim Monaco for keeping the scoring, general support and website going, and finally Tony O'Hara for his great job on the newsletter. Tony has to chase everyone down for information, and as the case this month I am the cause for the delayed publishing.

I just have a couple of club business items for this month. The voting is complete on the contest rules change proposal and a year-end proposed rule change. The process for rules changes has been accepted. If the vote is to accept a rules change it will be accepted immediately, but not retroactive to events held prior to the change. The proposed change in this vote went down to defeat.

Second club item is a reminder to everyone that we are flying on the West field. I understand that the grass on the West side of the field may be harvested, but we will still have the other side of the field to use. If this happens folks will be able to reach the houses very easily. I encourage all members to avoid flying over the housing development whenever possible. You never know what will happen and we want to avoid a miss-hap over a residential neighborhood.

The contest fees for open contests have been finalized at \$10 for Masters with no change for Novice and Sportsman, and \$5 for Hand Launch events. For combo club events where we have more than one, class participants can enter any additional class entry fee will be \$5. Thanks again for everyone's great input on this important subject. We still have very cost effective entry fees when you compare to other flying events hosted.

On the contest front I want to remind everyone that Combo events (see the contest calendar) are a great event for beginners and novices to attend, but if you are a novice please don't hesitate to attend the F3J with winches format events. You will get great support from the senior flyers; you are scored against like level competitors, and there are couple of simple changes (Launch late and land early) you can make to take the pressure off the mass launch and land format.

Finally the Mentor Day season will kick off June 16<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Dan is hosting, and I would ask for senior members to come out and support Dr. Dan.

That's it for this month. I hope this message finds everyone truly able to enjoy the local soaring conditions, and I wish all your families the best!

**Mike Verzuh**  
**Rocky Mountain Soaring Association President**

**Next Meeting:**

**Date/Time**            **June 10th**  
**Location:**            **At Open contest**  
**Program:**             **TBA**

**May 6<sup>th</sup> 2007 Contest Report****CD: Steve Suntken**

Well. This month's contest just goes to show that you never/ever believe the local weather forecaster. Nor DIA's weather info, when it comes to "our" field. Cuz, they were BOTH were wrong this time around.

With only eight pilots, a new battle plan was devised. It was decided we'd hold an F3J comp. with "Histarts". This was fun and quite unique. Unique in that you either "got away", or you "didn't". Wasn't much in between. Having three histarts and holding the tasks to 5 minutes, we got in 8 rounds. And good practice in low level saves.

Thanks to those who showed. Pretty good time was had by all.

Steve Suntken

**RESULTS****May Open Contest****Contest Date: 5/6/7**

Class	Name	Place by Class	RD 1	RD 2	RD 3	RD 4	RD 5	RD 6	RD 7	RD 8	Raw Total	Rounds Flown	# Throw Outs	Total	Norm by Class	Norm by Contest	Place by Contest
<b>M</b>	<b>Masters</b>												1				
M	Skip Miller	1	978.75	1000.00	1000.00	994.94	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	7973.68	8	1	6994.94	1000.00	1000.00	1
M	Jim Monaco	2	1000.00	1000.00	292.04	1000.00	1000.00	984.89	1000.00	1000.00	7276.92	8	1	6984.89	998.56	998.56	2
M	Dr. Danny Williams	3	602.09	982.14	1000.00	1000.00	881.87	1000.00	940.26	1000.00	7406.36	8	1	6804.27	972.74	972.74	3
M	Bob Lewan	4	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	527.92	982.41	997.47	987.34	269.72	6764.86	8	1	6495.14	928.55	928.55	4
M	Charles Miller	5	1000.00	627.18	596.35	487.80	1000.00	994.85	1000.00	895.60	6601.79	8	1	6113.98	874.06	874.06	5
M	Lenny Keer	6	406.70	490.91	391.30	1000.00	419.69	1000.00	214.85	949.37	4872.82	8	1	4657.97	665.91	665.91	6
<b>S</b>	<b>Sportsman</b>												1				
S	Steve Suntken	1	847.82	940.26	437.50	731.65	718.59	929.47	759.49	941.48	6306.26	8	1	5868.76	1000.00	839.00	6
S	Gary Slocum	2	955.50	956.63	761.06	458.54	613.99	961.34	782.49	285.71	5775.27	8	1	5489.55	935.39	784.79	7
<b>N</b>	<b>Novice</b>												1				

**F3B in the Rockies Report Jim Monaco**

It was a fantastic weekend. We could not have asked for better weather or conditions. The event ran flawlessly with Hal and Sue Remington handling the scoring and Steve Suntken running the flight line.

Everybody pitched in to get things set up and put away. Cathy Monaco catered excellent lunches both days with superb BBQ sandwiches on Saturday and cold meat sandwiches on Sunday. MANY thanks to all that helped out to make this event so successful. I had great feedback from everyone that this was one of the best run events they have attended!

Saturday was a bit breezy with huge sink cycles. The wind stayed consistent the whole day and we never had to move. We got in 6 rounds and there was plenty of carnage. Skip Miller and Bob Lewan were at the top of the leader board after the 6 rounds without taking any significant hits. Cody Remington struggled through a tough day with a mid-air and then a land out into an irrigation canal filled with deep water. His brother jumped into the canal and swam out to retrieve the plane which was being swept away. He owes his brother big time!!! Even after that Cody was still in the top 5... Buzz Averill from Albuquerque (flying off of winches) and Joseph Newcomb rounded out the top 5 going into the second day.

On Sunday the conditions were much better. Light breezes and plenty of lift. Pretty much everyone was getting their times - so the landings became very important. As a result, the same guys that were in the lead at the end of the day on Saturday, managed to hold on to their positions through the rest of the preliminary rounds on Sunday. We got in 10 preliminary rounds total. At 2:30 we began the fl-off with Skip, Bob, Joseph, Cody and Buzz. The first three rounds were uneventful with everyone getting their times. This meant that time on line and landings was crucial. Cody and Joseph were really pushing the clock and had some good scores in the bag. For the fourth and last round everyone knew that just a few seconds separated everyone so short tows were in order for everyone. The bad news was that the air turned to crap.... Joseph ran downwind after something that he felt blow through and made a long trek and never got it and wound up short on time and landed out. Bob Lewan hit the smeg and had to relight. Cody, Skip and Buzz kept working several small bubbles jumping around as they petered out until they finally kicked and they got away in the last 5 minutes of the 15. Now the landings were crucial. The wind direction was swirling around making it hard to pick a landing direction - everyone was making last minute adjustments. For a few seconds it looked like it might be landings over the safety area so the helpers were putting the backup planes on their wingtips to ensure they did not approach under the 3m safety zone, but it finally shifted to the west and everyone had a decent approach.

When the final tally was done Cody edged out Skip for first place by just under 5 points. His margin of victory was completely due to his quick launches and great landing timing with perfect 100 landings. Cody had 9:55+ on 3 of his four finals flights.

**PRELIM: Results**

Name	Total	Plane
Skip Miller	8987.083	Pike Perfect
Bob Lewan	8980.36	Pike Perfect
Joseph Newcomb	8960.512	Espada RL
Cody Remington	8881.485	Espada RL
Buzz Averill	8664.709	Supra
Jim Monaco	8573.813	Pike Perfect/Supra
Rick Bothell	8570.649	
Gordy Stahl	8410.442	
Charles Miller	8398.322	Pike Perfect/Sharon
Mike Verzuh	8343.171	Pike Perfect
Jon Padilla	8253.303	Espada/Pike Giant
Bruce Twining	7945.085	Supra
Dr. Danny Williams	7917.35	ICON
Chad Sullivan	7604.258	Eraser Extreme
Gary Slocum	7025.397	Pike Superior

**FINALS**

Name	Total
Cody Remington	3998.784539
Skip Miller	3994.176406
Buzz Averill	3966.001501
Bob Lewan	3317.326488
Joseph Newcomb	3258.950205

**See RMSA website for complete results details**





**SUNDAY June 10th Open Contest      CD Jon Padilla**

**REGISTRATION**                      8:00 AM Seniors \$5.00 Juniors \$3.00  
**PILOTS MEETING**                8:15 AM  
**FIRST FLIGHT**                      9:00 AM

Battery Masters - Please be sure to have your batteries at the field by 8:15 AM "topped-up" and charged

TASKS F3J type with winches

Landing: AMA landing tapes.

Scoring: Man on Man, random flight group assignment.

Rounds: 6 rounds with 1 throw out.

Task: First and Last flights are 15 minute target time. All others are 10 minutes.

**SUNDAY June 17<sup>th</sup> HLG (Father's Day)      CD John Kapus**

**Entry Fee:**                      \$5.00  
**Registration:**                9:00 AM  
**Pilot's Meeting:**            9:15 AM  
**First Flight:**                 9:30 AM

**Tasks:** Tasks derived from the International Hand Launch Contest. 6-7 rounds will be flown.

## **F5B in the Rockies Contest June 23/24 CD Lenny Keer**

Saturday June 23<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday June 24<sup>th</sup> will be the dates for an F5B contest at the sod farm. We'll have entries from several states, possibly including the current US team members. Anybody with a hot liner type electric sailplane is invited to participate and beginners are certainly welcome!

For those who aren't familiar with the F5B format, this is the FAI class of electric sailplane competition flown world-wide. The event begins with the distance task in which the pilot must fly as many laps as possible in 200 seconds. Two markers on the field 150 meters apart dictate the distance course. The motor is used to climb to altitude before entering the course, and then the laps are flown while gliding. The action is fast and exciting! Once the 200 second distance time has ended, the pilot climbs to altitude for the 10-minute thermal duration task, followed by a spot landing.

This is the year for the F5B team selections in the US, so this contest will be a good warm-up for that. The 2008 World Champs will be held in the Ukraine and the USA may be hosting the event in 2010.

I'm hoping to enlist a couple of volunteers to help with signaling turns for the distance task. Anyone interested in helping out either Saturday or Sunday, please let me know.

Lenny Keer

Lenny970@AOL.com

## Potpourri

None this month

## For Sale

**For Sale: Photon II discus hand launch glider.**

**\$225 w/o receiver**

Includes JR 281 digital servos. Kit sells for \$350 from Kennedy Composites.

As new and built by Lenny Keer.

**Silent Dream electric thermal glider.**

**\$450 w/o receiver**

Includes Aviox F-10 motor and Aviox controller.

As new.

**Byron Blakeslee 303-738-1104.**

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# Rocky Mountain Soaring Association - 2007

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  
\$ 5.00 Junior - under 17  
\$ 25.00 Senior - individual 17 and over  
\$ 30.00 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**  
**1123 S. Oakland St.**  
**Aurora, CO 80012**

## 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 have 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

## 2007 RMSA Contest/Event Calendar (Revised 3-29-07)

Date	Type	CD	Name/Notes
February 5	RMSA Meeting		
February 10-11			<i>SWC - Phoenix</i>
<i>February 25</i>	<i>Combo (PPSS)</i>	<i>Bob Avery</i>	<i>Snow Fly</i>
March 7	RMSA Meeting	Wayne Angevine	Thermal structure and behavior as related to sailplane flying.
March 11	Open*	Mike Verzuh	Combo Event Open + 2m + RES
<i>March 24</i>	<i>Combo (PPSS)</i>	<i>Chris Keller</i>	<i>March Madness</i>
April 15	RMSA Meeting		On field at competition
April 15	Open*	Bob Moffett	
<i>April 22</i>	<i>Combo (PPSS)</i>	<i>Joel Zellmer</i>	<i>Humps and Bumps</i>
May 1	RMSA Meeting		
May 6	Open*	Steve Suntken	F3J with Winches
<del>May 13</del>	<del>HLG**</del>	<del>John Kappus</del>	<b>Rescheduled to June</b>
May 19	Electric (PPSS)	John Read	Watts O Fun
May 26-27	F3J in the Rockies*	Jim Monaco	
June 2-3	IHLGF		IHLG - California Event
June 5	RMSA Meeting		
June 10	Open*	Jon Padilla	F3J with winches
June 16	Mentor Day	Dr. Dan	
June 23-24	F5B Electric	Lenny Keer	F5B in the Rockies
<i>June 24</i>	<i>Combo (PPSS)</i>	<i>Dave Kurth</i>	<i>Summer Solstic</i>
July 1	HLG**	John Kappus	
July 3	RMSA Meeting		
July 8	Open*	Mike Verzuh	F3J with winches
July 22-28			<i>Soaring NATS - Muncie ID</i>
<i>July 21</i>	<i>Combo (PPSS)</i>	<i>Greg Tarcza</i>	<i>Height O' the Season</i>
August 7	RMSA Meeting		
August 12	Open*	Dr Dan	Combination event Open +2m + RES
<i>August 18</i>	<i>Combo (PPSS)</i>	<i>Austin Cleis</i>	<i>Howling Coyote (night fly)</i>
August 26	HLG**	John Kappus	
September 4	RMSA Meeting		
September 9	Open*	Jim Monaco	Colorado Challenge Cup
September 23	Scienturfic Appreciation Day		Also Family Day
September 30	HLG**	John Kappus	
<i>September 23</i>	<i>Combo (PPSS)</i>	<i>Bob Avery</i>	<i>Soar Bash</i>
October			<i>Visalia Fall Fest</i>
October 2	RMSA Meeting		
October 14	Open*	Shannon Bingham	
<i>October 20</i>	<i>Combo (PPSS)</i>	<i>Chris Keller</i>	<i>Witches Brew</i>
November 7	RMSA Meeting		
November 11	Open*	Don Ingram	
<i>November 18</i>	<i>Combo (PPSS)</i>	<i>Jerry Murphy</i>	<i>Turkey Shoot</i>
December 9	RMSA Banquet	Mike Verzuh	

\*Club Open points contest (Best 6 Scores)

\*\*Club HLG points contest (Best 3 including the PPSS HLG event)

*Italics indicates PPSS events held at their location in COS*



**2007 Board Members**

**President:** Mike Verzuh  
**Vice President:** Steve Suntken  
**Secretary:** Bob Rice  
**Treasurer:** John Pearson  
**Past President:** Jim Monaco

**970 532 0638** <mailto:mike@verzuh.com>  
**303 477 6184** <mailto:flyingdogtwo@cs.com>  
**303 745 5629** <mailto:briceflyer@comcast.net>  
**303 306 6800** <mailto:JTP1006@earthlink.net>  
**303 464 9895** <mailto:JimMonaco@earthlink.net>

**Member Support**

<http://www.rmsadenver.com>  
Chief  
Instructor: Mike Verzuh (970) 532-0638 (303) 505-9488 (Pager)  
Librarian: Tracy Cochran (303) 934-8838 [Tcochran@idcomm.com](mailto:Tcochran@idcomm.com)  
Newsletter: Tony O'Hara (303) 948-2576 [tonyoco@peoplepc.com](mailto:tonyoco@peoplepc.com)

**Winch Master**

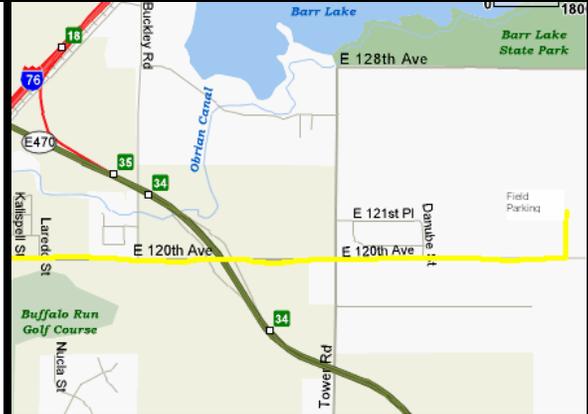
Mike Verzuh (970) 532-0638 <mailto:mike@verzuh.com>

**Battery Masters**

Bob Lewan  
Skip Miller  
Joseph Newcomb  
Cody Remington  
Dr. Dan Williams  
Steve Suntken

**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 120<sup>th</sup> eastbound towards the airport. Take 120<sup>th</sup> 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**  
1123 S. Oakland St  
Aurora CO 80012

**First Class Mail**

*Forwarding Address Requested*