



Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

March 2008

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXII Number 3

President's Message Mike Verzuh

Spring is just around the corner. We are starting to get some warm days, and the soaring season is getting going with a bang. Congratulations to team RMSA at the South West Classic. RMSA brought home 1st place team honors again this year. This is the second year in a row after many years of missing 1st place team. Our top place finishers were; Cody Remington 4th, Skip Miller 5th, Dr. Dan 12th, and Bruce Martin in 20th, great job guys!

As usual the SWC was full of excitement and some really fun soaring. The weather was mixed for the practice days. Thursday was windy, and Friday looked more like Seattle rather than Phoenix. I think they got over an inch of rain. The field was a bit soggy after all the rain compared to the usual sun baked hard turf. Saturday was overcast for most of the day, but the lift was good and no more rain. Sunday was a picture perfect, cloudless, 70-degree day. The CASL club did a great job this year. The reduced power winches worked great. They provided strong launches, but no line break issues at all. This year saw a couple of changes. First the plan was to get in 8 rounds between the two days and that worked out great. We flew five rounds on Saturday and 3 on Sunday. Also they did not run the usual add-em up so every round counted, no extra time or throw outs. The landing tasks were the now usual ladder task with points from 35 down to 5. The top finishers nailed 75 or more landing points, plus got all their times. In the end there were close to 100 pilots with almost 200 flights per round with RES, 2-M, Woody and Open classes. Here are links to the CASL web site for scores and info and Phil Jones' site for some great pictures of the event.

<http://casl.net/>

<http://www.airimaging.com/SouthwestClassic/index.html>

Our RMSA contest season is just around the corner with the first event next Sunday. Steve is planning a standard AMA TD format, which should be great to get everyone going. We have new line for the club winches, and we will take a few minutes prior to the contest start to restring the winches. Jim Monaco has procured the same excellent quality line we had last year (thanks Jim!). This will not take long. If you would like some of the old line for your winch just bring your winch or battery powered drill with line drum to wind up some of the line. The old line is really in pretty good shape.

Our March club meeting will be short and concurrent with the Open contest. Then in April I will be running an intro to F3J event.

If you are interested in F3J format, but have been a bit hesitant, the April contest will be a great way to get started. The contest will be just as competitive as usual, but we are going to add a couple of things that will really provide assistance for those folks that are either new to the format or want to get back into it. We will of course be running the event with winches rather than two-man tow. You don't need a molded sailplane to compete so come on out.

Relative to other club affairs, we have established the contest schedule and Mentor Day dates, and it is now posted on the web site, and in this newsletter. We have all the CD slots covered (**Thanks CDs for stepping up!**); however we still need more members to step up and volunteer for a Mentor day. This year we are going to plan for a minimum of two members per Mentor Day, one Lead and an assistant. You don't need to be an expert pilot to assist, so don't hesitate to put your name in the hat. The following are the open slots we need volunteers for. Please drop me an email (mike@verzuh.com) with your first and second choice dates! Also these mentor days are a great time for folks to come out and just fly. It really is nice to have a few folks to support any newcomers and worst case enjoy a day of soaring – better than work right.

Mentors Needed for June 7th (1 Assistant), July 12th (1 Lead)

This is a total of 2 Mentors so get your names to me ASAP!

I would like to thank Steve for putting down some important things to consider while flying at the club field this year. Remember we are the guests of the sod farm. We don't lease or pay anything for the privilege to be on the farm.

Lastly please get your memberships renewed for this year.

That is it for now. All the best, and I look forward to a great year of fun and flying.

Mike Verzuh

Next Meeting: Misc.

Date/Time **March 9th Prior to Competition**

Location: **Sod Farm**

Vice President's Message Steve Suntken

OK....Boys &...well..errr..Just the boys I guess. Here we go into another season of soaring. And "Yes" you guessed it. This seems to have to be brought to everyone's attention once again.

<http://www.rmsadenver.com/fieldrules.html>

Now I'm not going to harp on these as we're all big boys now. (to a point) But I do want to point out a couple of OUR RULES that are very important and are not always adhered to. First is rule #20:

"Please tag your winch/high start spikes or stakes with fluorescent tape so they are easily spotted on the field by all concerned."

A lot of effort and good will has been put forth, by our members, to our hosts (Scienturfic), in order to have an excellent relationship with these people. And thru our continuing diligence with our efforts to maintain these relations, can we always have a place to fly our planes. While so many around us are losing theirs.

My second point is probably the most important. Rule #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.

Few years ago I shelled out a few bucks and had a nice frequency board made to give our club that special look. For the most part it gets used. But there are a few holdouts. Whether it be cuz your flying alone or there's just a couple of you out for a little flying. It shouldn't matter. Please "PINUP". It's really not that hard, but if anyone finds it difficult, I'm sure we could arrange for a special meeting for those mechanically challenged on "How to use a clothes pin." I only bring this up as there was 'another' incident recently that could have resulted a "new plane or planes" being lost because there was no pin on the board. I'm not in a scolding mode, as I fine myself at fault too. Even though nothing happened, "I" realized on the way home that I had pinned up on my usual frequency and in reality, I was still on the channel I used at the SWC. This could have been disastrous as couple of fellas were on the field getting ready to fly their new planes. It was only after the three of us were together and turning on, nothing was wacky, so nothing was said. But it really hit me on the way home how this could have turned ugly..real fast. So needless to say let's all make a great effort and get that clothes pin on the board. Thanks --Steve

A couple points from our prez:

* Members must insure they are flying on the correct field. We use the East and West fields but NOT at the same time. The correct flying field is always posted on the RMSA website and most importantly the frequency board and trash can will be positioned at the active field. If you don't see the frequency board you are at the wrong location.

* All stakes and metal objects must be flagged.

* Please contact Mike Verzuh or Steve Suntken if you would like to use a club winch and need a winch check out briefing.

SUNDAY March 9th Open Contest CD Steve Suntken

Note: We maybe re-stringing the winches

REGISTRATION 8:15 AM Masters \$10.00 Sportsman/Novice \$5.00
PILOTS MEETING 8:45 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 AMA TD

Landing: AMA landing tapes.

Scoring: Man on Man, random flight group assignment.

Support the US F3J Team (and Cody)

This year the US F3J team will be going to Turkey to compete for the 2008 World Championship. Our own Cody Remington is a member of the team, as the returning World Junior Champion and Jim Monaco is tentatively the returning team manager. This year the team is quite funding challenged by reductions in support by the AMA, very expensive tickets to Turkey, a larger team size (including Cody) and a much shorter funding cycle. You can support the team in a number of ways. We have lots of great merchandise for sale, with a variety of shirt styles and we even have sweatshirts this year! You can also get in to the great raffle with some terrific prizes including 2 F3J sailplanes (Supra and Experience Pro) and a JR 9303 radio. You can also contribute to the team with a cash donation. Your donation can be made as a tax deduction if you send the donation to the AMA (details on the website). Since AMA is a qualified organization, you may be able to double your contribution by using your employer matching donation program (just like they encourage on PBS...).

Please go to the website at <http://www.usf3jteam.com> and show your support!

Thanks – Jim Monaco

Potpourri

Help/Discussion WANTED on RealFlight RC simulator 3.5

I've just gotten the RealFlight RC simulator 3.5 software and having lots of fun with it! I find it very realistic. However, it has very few gliders in its list. I am editing some (like Bird of Time) to be much closer to my planes. I also plan eventually to try to add as many of popular club models as possible.

If you have an interest in helping with that, or indeed have some models already done, or know where to get them, I'd love to hear from you!

Tony O'Hara tonyoco@q.com

WINGS OVER ARIZONA



Sponsored by:

The Arizona Model Aviators

1st ANNUAL GIANT SCALE FLY-IN

MAY 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 2008

Location: Superstition Airpark, Mesa AZ

IMAA Guidelines apply to all aircraft.

80" Monoplane, 60" Biplane or True Quarter Scale

Just come, fly and have a good time.

Food will be available Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Pilots Raffle will be drawn Sunday at noon.

Prizes for Pilot's choice and People's choice.

Planes must fly to qualify for any prizes.

Entrants must be present Sunday to win the raffle.

Landing fee \$20.00

One time fee for as many planes as you bring.

Pre-registration is recommended.

Pilot's raffle ticket and Parking is included in the Landing Fee.

Public Parking is \$6.00 per car as per Maricopa Parks dept.

No Overnight Parking At The Airfield. Limited free parking nearby.

Proof of AMA membership required.

For Turbines, a waiver will be required.

Contact: Paul Goldsmith 602-323-7753 or wiinger@aol.com

Arizona Model Aviators web site www.azmodelaviators.com

AMA Sanction Number 08-0246

For Sale

Brand New in Box, 7 CH Radio, Spektrum DX7 2.4Ghz DSM system,

Includes 4 DS821 Digital Hi Torque Servo's, and AR 7000 Dual Link 7-Ch Rx (Dual link means Rx and satellite Rx).

Cost \$349. Sale Price \$275 for RMSA members only.

RTF, Carbon Pike Giant,

\$1400 Stylus Programming Available

JR Digitals All Around, two ballast chambers, Excellent Condition, Just Add Rx and fly. . 77 oz RTF weight. Suited for F3J/F3B/Slope.

Call Jon Padilla @ 303-847-2300 or email jypadilla@comcast.net

VARIOUS ITEMS

Pike Superior-\$800, Pike Superior S/L-\$500, New Stylus Transmitter\$800, Used Stylus \$400, 2 F3j Highstarts-\$100 Each, Yellow Top winch Batty-\$100, Transmitter Case \$50, Carrying Bags-\$100 each,

pls call - Gary Slocum (720-236-4383)

A Schpotdorker, A slow flying, low sink rate, docile, precision landing F3J machine: \$600 with servos, receiver, new 1600mah NiMH battery. flies great with wing repair done by Byron. Also a "Hyper" DLG from Czech Republic. \$300 with 4 servos, receiver and battery, and it flies great.

Pls call - Gary Slocum (720-236-4383)

WANTED

Looking for an experienced builder to finish a Gladiator DLG. Name your price.

Contact Randy Cheshire @ rvchesh@comcast.net or 303-805-2321

Renewal Reminder

IMPORTANT. This is the last newsletter you will get if your RMSA membership is not renewed by the end of this Month

You can do it on-line at <http://www.rmsadenver.com>

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
\$ 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
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:

Signature

2008 RMSA Contest/Event Calendar

Date	Event	Location	Description
Sun Mar 9	March Open Contest	Sod Farm	CD - Steve Suntken
Sun Mar 9	March Club Meeting	Sod Farm	Concurrent with contest
Tue Apr 1	April Club Meeting	TBD	
Sun Apr 6	April Open Contest	Sod Farm	CD - Mike Verzuh–Intro. to F3J
Sun May 4	May Open Contest	Sod Farm	CD - Dr. Dan - F3J with Winches
Sun May 4	May Club Meeting	Sod Farm	Concurrent with contest
Sun May 18	May Handlaunch	Sod Farm	CD - John Kappus
Sat May 24			
Sun May 25	F3J in the Rockies	Sod Farm	CD - Jim Monaco
Tue Jun 3	June Club Meeting	TBD	
Sat Jun 7			
Sun Jun 8	IHLG	Poway (San Diego) CA	International HL
Sat Jun 7	Mentor Day	Sod Farm	CD - Don Ingram and ?
Sun Jun 8	June Open Contest	Sod Farm	CD - Bob Pederson
Fri Jun 27			
Sun Jul 6	F3J World Championships	Adapazari, Turkey	GO Cody and Jim
Sat Jun 28	June Handlaunch Contest	Sod Farm	CD - John Kappus
Sat Jul 12	Mentor Day	Sod Farm	CD - Jim DeGroot and ?
Sun Jul 13	July Club Contest	Sod Farm	CD - Bruce Martin
Sun Jul 13	July Club Meeting	Sod Farm	Concurrent with contest
Sat Jul 26	July Handlaunch Contest	Sod Farm	CD - John Kappus
Sun Jul 27			
Sun Aug 3	NATS	Muncie\, IN	US Nationals
Sun Aug 3	Mentor Day - Handlaunch	Sod Farm	CD - John Kappus
Mon Aug 4	August Club Meeting	TBD	
Sun Aug 10	August Open Contest	Sod Farm	CD - Jim Monaco
Sat Aug 23			
Sun Aug 24	Colorado Blue Skies HL Contest	Sod Farm	CD - John Kappus and D&G Jensen
Tue Sep 2	September Club Meeting	TBD	
Sun Sep 7	Colorado Challenge Cup	Sod Farm	This is also the Sept. Open Contest
Sun Sep 14			
Sun Sep 21	F5B Electric World Champ.	Ukraine	GO LENNY!
Thu Sep 18			
Sun Sep 21	World Soaring Masters	Muncie\, IN	
Sun Sep 28	September Handlaunch	Sod Farm	CD - John Kappus
Sat Oct 4			
Sun Oct 5	Visalia	Visalia\, CA	
Tue Oct 7	October Club Meeting	TBD	
Sun Oct 12	October Open Contest	Sod Farm	CD - Dr. Dan
Sun Nov 9	November Club Meeting	Sod Farm	Concurrent with contest
Sun Nov 9	November Open Contest	Sod Farm	CD - Gary Slocum
Sun Dec 7	RMSA Awards Banquet	?Cinzettis?	



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

2007 Board Members

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
Newsletter: Tony O'Hara (303) 948-2576 tonyoco@peoplepc.com

Winch Master

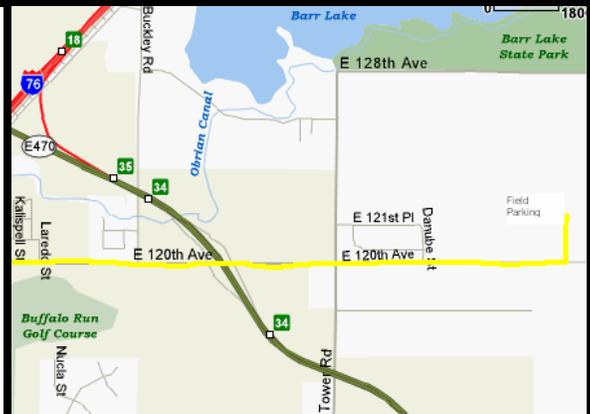
Mike Verzuh (970) 532-0638 <mailto:mike@verzuh.com>

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 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
 1123 S. Oakland St
 Aurora CO 80012

First Class Mail

Forwarding Address Requested