



# Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

March 2010

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXIV Number 3

## President's Message

**Bruce Martin**

The Southwest classic has come and gone and it was another great contest. This year we can thank Mike Verzuh and Jim Monaco for making the SWC contest worth it this year. With the addition of F3J at the front end it truly made what could have been a Ho-Hum trip well worth it. The main contest was plagued with some rain from mother nature. The fact that we were able to put two solid days of flying in beforehand in the competitive F3J format made all the difference in the world. Not only did the additional format bring at least 20 extra competitors to the SWC, raise some great money for the team, it also gave the US F3J team some much needed practice. The F3J event is certainly building on past momentum and will help to continue building support for this format. I expect us to have an F3J in the Rockies this year with as much participation that we have seen in a while. You better get your entry in early. The F3J contest also showed that we need to tweak the launch length of F3B winches with hand tows. A solid launch on a F3B winch by a good pilot at the current length when downwind can definitely out launch a hand tow.

The F3J contest had 40 participants and the competition was very competitive. Mike Smith won the contest without taking any major hit. With the challenging air that was an accomplishment. Cody was our top flier getting a 6 place, Mike Verzuh came in 8 and Jim Monaco rounded out the top 10. Well done guys! It was a very tuff field. With the extra participation in the SWC from the F3J contest it made the SWC also a very tuff field as well. The SWC also had a lot of rain which made the flying very challenging at times. It definitely proved that thermals still happen in the rain. Overall, the lift seemed allot lighter in the general swings and it took skillful flying to get your times. Skip Miller took 2nd place only 10 points out of first out of a field of over a 100. That 10 points could easily be a one inch difference on any single landing. He made some just incredible flights that just had to be seen to be believed. One flight he spent the majority of the time less than 200 feet for virtually the whole flight. Another flight was completed low over trees in a pouring rain. I guess the new SG has to be a little water proof ; ). Mike Verzuh pulled in a 6th place only 38 points out of first. The contest had a very small landing zone that was not very kind. Not only was it very hard to get good landing points, it was also very easy to slide into the fence and zero a flight. Hopefully we can work with Chico and get a more balanced zone next year.

We can also give a very BIG thanks to Bob Lewan for driving Skip's van down to the contest. It took taking extra time off work and enabled the majority of us to get our planes down there with out having to deal with the airlines or shipping. THANK YOU BOB!!

I have noticed not everyone's name on the membership rooster. Please update your membership when you get a chance. Also speaking of that please glance at your contact info on the membership page. Please send in corrections to Jim Monaco if it is not correct. I know some of the phone numbers are out of date.

Our club contest season up here kicks off in March. Hopefully the weather will cooperate and we will be able to get some good flying in. For the club meeting this time no one has expressed interest in the indoor flying this time so we will just do it at the contest.

See everyone at the field!

Good flying all,

**Bruce Martin**

RMSA President

H 303 862 8451

W 303 963 5019

C 303 249 7272

**Field Manager Report Steve Suntken**

Another new season will soon be upon us. Let's start boning up those field rules. Particularly the section dealing with getting yer stuff off the field when your done flying. Don't want to go thru the fiasco we did a few years ago, when roughly six stakes had been left in the ground throughout the year and messed with the mowers.

Few weeks ago I found a small yellow landing tape still on the field. And...just a few days prior to the SWC aluminum turn around was found. I had left it at the frequency flag. But when I went out there few days ago, it was still there. It kinda bothered me to leave something out there, soooo I got it.

Thanks ..Steve

**FOR SALE**

None

**POTPOURRI**

**MODEL AIRPLANE  
SWAP MEET**

The Casper Airmodelers Proudly Presents  
their first and hopefully annual Swap Meet

March 20th 2010

From 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM

Located at the Central Wyoming Fairgrounds  
in the Hall of Champions Building

Admission is FREE --- Tables \$10.00 in advance  
on a first come first serve basis

For Info: Bruce Luck 307-267-6447

**Renewal Reminder**

Only those who have already renewed their membership are getting this Newsletter!

## 2010 RMSA Contest/Event Calendar

Date	Type	CD	Name/Notes
<i>Feb 10th</i>	if interested		TBA- possible indoor fun fly
Feb 18-19	F3J at SWC	Mike Verzuh and Jim Monaco	SWC - Phoenix
<i>Feb 20 Saturday</i>	<i>Open/RES/2M</i>	<i>Jim Schoon</i>	<i>PP Snow fly</i>
Feb 20-21	Open,RES,2M and other		SWC - Phoenix
Mar 3rd Wednesday	RMSA meeting		TBA- possible indoor fun fly
<b>Mar 13th Saturday</b>	<b>Open*</b>	<b>Dr Dan</b>	<b>RMSA club contest</b>
<i>Mar 21st Sunday</i>	<i>open,RES,2 meter</i>	<i>Bob Vixie</i>	<i>PP March Madness</i>
Mar 21st Sunday	Hand Launch**	Dave Jenson	multiple tasks
Apr 7th Wednesday	RMSA Meeting		TBA- possible indoor fun fly
<b>Apr 11th Sunday</b>	<b>Open*</b>	<b>Mike Verzuh</b>	<b>RMSA club contest</b>
Apr 24th Saturday	Hand Launch**	Dave Jenson	multiple tasks
<i>Apr 24th Saturday</i>	<i>open,RES,2 meter</i>	<i>Joel Zellner</i>	<i>PP Humps and Bumps</i>
Apr 30th-May 2nd			IHGLF-Poway
May 6th Thursday	RMSA Meeting		TBA- possible indoor fun fly
<i>May 8th Saturday</i>	<i>Electric</i>	<i>Milt Woodham</i>	<i>Watts 'o Fun</i>
<b>May 8th Saturday</b>	<b>Open*</b>	<b>Bruce Martin</b>	<b>RMSA club contest</b>
<i>May 23rd</i>	<i>Open/RES/2M</i>	<i>John Read</i>	<i>PP May Fly</i>
May 23rd	Hand Launch**	Dave Jenson	multiple tasks
May 28-30	F3J in the Rockies	Jim Monaco	RMSA national contest
Jun 5-6th	Blue skies- H/L		New Mexico
Jun 9th Wednesday	RMSA Meeting		TBA- possible indoor fun fly
Jun 12th	Mentor Day	Blayne Chastain	LSF task day as well
<b>Jun 13th Sunday</b>	<b>Open*</b>	<b>John Padilla</b>	<b>RMSA club contest</b>
<i>Jun 19th</i>	<i>Open/RES/2M</i>	<i>Austin Cleis</i>	<i>PP Summer Solstice</i>
Jun 26th	Hand Launch**	Dave Jenson	multiple tasks
Jul 7th Wednesday	RMSA Meeting		TBA- possible indoor fun fly
<b>Jul 11th Sunday</b>	<b>Open*</b>	<b>Jim Monaco</b>	<b>RMSA club contest</b>
Jul 18th Sunday	Hand Launch**	Dave Jenson	
<i>July 25th Saturday</i>	<i>Open/RES/2M</i>	<i>Greg Tarcza</i>	<i>Height o' the Season</i>
July 24th-Aug 1st			Soaring NATS - Muncie ID
July 27th-Aug 8th			World's F3J
<b>Aug 8th Sunday</b>	<b>Open*</b>	<b>Bob Lewan</b>	<b>RMSA club contest</b>
Aug 11th Wednesday	RMSA Meeting		TBA- possible indoor fun fly
<i>Aug 14th-15th</i>	<i>Blue Skys H/L Series</i>		<i>Colorado</i>
<i>Aug 14th Saturday</i>	<i>Open</i>	<i>Frank Deis</i>	<i>Howling Coyote and picnic</i>
Aug 21st Saturday	RES	Blayne Chastain	
Sep 8th Wednesday	RMSA Meeting		TBA- possible indoor fun fly
<b>Sep 12th Sunday</b>	<b>Colorado challenge cup*</b>	<b>TBA</b>	<b>RMSA club contest/vs PP</b>
Sep 19th Sunday	Hand Launch**	Dave Jenson	multiple tasks
Sep 19th Sunday	<i>Open/RES/2M</i>	<i>Chris Keller</i>	<i>Soar Bash</i>
Sep 24-26th	<i>Soaring Masters</i>		Soaring Masters
Oct 1-3rd	Visalia		Visalia
Oct 6th Wednesday	RMSA Meeting		TBA- possible indoor fun fly
<b>Oct 10th Sunday</b>	<b>Open*</b>	<b>John Lovins</b>	<b>RMSA club contest</b>
Oct 16th Saturday	Hand Launch**	Dave Jenson	multiple tasks
Oct 22-24th	Texas TNT in Dallas	TBA	H/L, RES and two days of
<i>Oct 23rd Saturday</i>	<i>Open/RES/2M</i>	<i>Barry Welsh</i>	<i>pp Witches Brew</i>
Oct 23rd Saturday	Scienturfic Appreciation Day		Also Family Day -
Nov 3rd Wednesday	RMSA Meeting		TBA- possible indoor fun fly
<b>Nov 7th Sunday</b>	<b>Open*</b>	<b>Skip Miller/ Cody Remington</b>	<b>RMSA club contest</b>
<i>Nov 21st Sunday</i>	<i>Open/RES/2M</i>	<i>Jerry Murphy</i>	<i>pp Turkey Shoot (Members</i>
<i>Dec 11th</i>	<i>HLG etc</i>	<i>John &amp; Jo-Anne Read</i>	<i>pp Barn Fly (Members Only)</i>
Dec 12th	RMSA Banquet		

\*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*

# Rocky Mountain Soaring Association - 2010

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 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



**22008 Board Members**

<b>President:</b>	<b>Bruce Martin</b>	<b>303 963 5019</b>	mail to: <a href="mailto:rbrucemartin@aol.com">rbrucemartin@aol.com</a>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Hal Remington</b>	<b>303-661-9244</b>	mail to: <a href="mailto:hal@hill.com">hal@hill.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Bob Rice</b>	<b>720-581-3099</b>	mail to: <a href="mailto:briceflyer@q.com">briceflyer@q.com</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>John Pearson</b>	<b>303-306-6800</b>	mail to: <a href="mailto:JTPI006@earthlink.net">JTPI006@earthlink.net</a>
<b>Past President:</b>	<b>Mike Verzuh</b>	<b>970-532-0638</b>	mail to: <a href="mailto:mike@verzuh.com">mike@verzuh.com</a>

**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	<a href="mailto:flyingdogtwo@comcast.net">flyingdogtwo@comcast.net</a>
Scorekeeper &	Jim Monaco	303-464-9895	<a href="mailto:jimmonaco@earthlink.net">jimmonaco@earthlink.net</a>
Web master			
Librarian:	Tracy Cochran	303-934-8838	<a href="mailto:Tcochran@idcomm.com">Tcochran@idcomm.com</a>
Newsletter:	Tony O'Hara	303-948-2576	<a href="mailto:tonyoco@q.com">tonyoco@q.com</a>

**Winch Master**

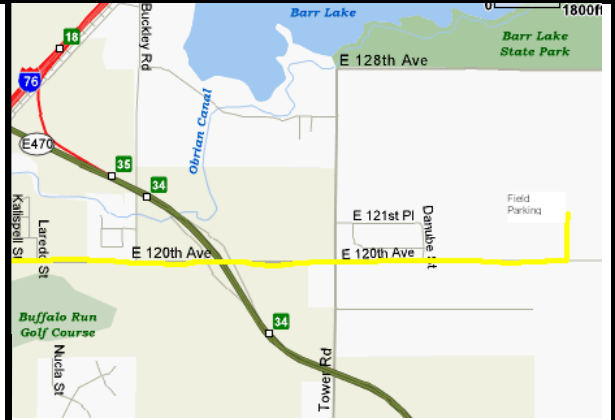
Steve Suntkin 303-477-6184 [flyingdogtwo@cs.com](mailto:flyingdogtwo@cs.com)

**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 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

Forwarding Address Requested

First Class Mail