

Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

April 2012

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXVI Number 4

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

John Lovins

March is in the books and the season is off to a good start. We had a very successful skills day on the 11th with several Open and a couple of DLG guys. Jim Monaco did a great job of winch/ launch training, plane setup, and touched on flying strategy. I know the effort was appreciated, and it showed with a couple of the pilots flying in the March contest with more confidence. Thanks Jim...

DLG is gaining momentum with 16 showing up for the contest. That's the most I have personally ever seen locally. We even had a couple of guys from Utah for a 1 day contest! Competition was spirited with the usual dose of support from the vets. It looks very likely we will host the team trials this year. Dave Runyon did a superb job of writing the bid, and we have not heard of any other interest. With that in mind we are running all sanctioned contests through Blue Skies Colo. to give pilots an opportunity to qualify for the trials. If you are interested there is a shrinking window to qualify. Come on out and see what's involved. I am personally very gratified to see the large crossover group from Open. They include John Padilla, Skip, Mike V., and Jim Monaco, and I'm sure there are a couple of other lurkers..... Now I need to get some DLG guys to fly Open?

The next DLG contest is at Bob Peterson's house in Loveland. John and Denese Jonke have set the bar very high hosting DLG events at their place in Parker. You do not want to miss being pampered with lunch, drinks, and the great views at Bobs place. Look on RC Groups/hand launch for the April contest thread to stay up to date, and let them know how many to expect...

We are in need of 1 more battery master. This involves maintaining a club battery, and getting it to, or making arrangements to get it to the contests. Most of the more seasoned pilots have done their part in supporting this vital effort, and its time for someone else to pick up the slack. Please step up in this small way to support your club. Every time you launch on a winch you have the battery masters to thank.....

Thanks,

John Lovins

judcaissons@gmail.com

303-929-9883

USA F3J TEAM SUPPORT

Jim Monaco

For those of you that do not know – I am the US team manager again this year for the US F3J team heading to South Africa for the World Championships. Cody is also a member of the team that also has the 2 returning World Champions from the last WC (Junior and Senior WCs were from the US). It takes about \$62,000 to get the team there and back with about 25K covered by the AMA. We are in full fundraising mode, and our biggest draw is the HUGE raffle with products donated by our generous sponsors including Skip Miller Models. You can learn about the team and see the amazing raffle prizes including F3J planes at: <http://www.teamusaf3j.com/>

Please take a look and donate to the raffle and perhaps you will win one of the great prizes.. Note that I will also be shamelessly harassing you at club events for support as well. This is a fantastic team and we need your support to get to the World Championships and bring home the gold for the USA!!!

These 2012 World F3J Championships are in Johannesburg, S Africa

Our Team will arrive for practice on July 31, the warm-up contest is Friday/Sat August 3rd and 4th.

Team and model registration is Sunday August 5th.

The WC event is Monday August 6th through Friday August 10th.

Awards and closing ceremonies are Saturday August 11th.

Thanks – Jim Monaco 2012 US F3J Team Manager

MARCH Open Contest Report

What a difference a week makes... This contest was postponed from the previous Sunday due to 40mph winds – and the new date turned out beautifully. The prediction was for light winds and near 80 degree temperatures, alas this is Colorado and that was not exactly right... The day dawned with a pretty good overcast and chilly temps. This was still fabulous for March – but no where near 80. The morning air was very flat and required really smooth control inputs and far flying. The Masters guys mostly got their times for the first 3 rounds, and the Sportsman had their challenges as you would expect. Corey and Jim Rogers were working on their trims a bit during these flights and that affected their scores. We took a lunch break after 5 rounds and decided to fly 2 more. The air looked pretty good and someone said the rest of the fights should be easy... NEVER say that in Colorado. Round 6 was pretty easy with most of the pilots getting their times, but the Round 7 was a different story. The wind shifted around to a hard 90 degree cross. I popped off when the plan came out of my hand poorly in the crosswind – so we brought the group down and started over. No more “do-overs” left so I had to make this launch work. It still launched erratic, but I managed a full launch. Blayne immediately ran downwind, and I thought that was a poor strategy, so I decided to head north and then cross the wind and look for the bump. And look... and look... and look with nary a sign of lift. 3 of the 4 pilots were down in 3 ½ minutes. Blayne managed to make the downwind run work for just over 6 minutes and clobbered the rest of us.

Blayne and Mike were flying great all contest. Mike won 6 of his 7 rounds and Blayne won 5. The difference was when Blayne was flying against Mike and hit a perfect 10:00 and 100 landing. This gave him the 1.5 points he needed to edge out Mike for the Masters win.

Jim Rogers, Tom Tate and Corey Shantz battled it out for the Sportsman title with Jim Rogers clobbering everyone in his group in round 4 to claim his margin of victory.

Thanks to everyone that came out and had fun – we got a lot of flying in and learned a lot in the process...

Jim

SCORES

Contest Name

Contest Date: March 25th 2012

Class	Name	Place by Class	RD 1	RD 2	RD 3	RD 4	RD 5	RD 6	RD 7	Raw Total	Rounds Flown	Total	Norm by Class	Norm by Contest	Place by Contest
M	Open														
M	Blayne Chastain	1	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	998.57	997.13	1000.00	6995.70	7	6995.70	1000.00	1000.00	1
M	Mike Verzuh	2	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	994.29	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	6994.29	7	6994.29	999.80	999.80	2
M	John Lovins	3	991.39	997.13	987.09	792.70	998.57	1000.00	862.90	6629.78	7	6629.78	947.69	947.69	3
M	Jim Monaco	4	957.02	995.71	997.13	997.14	1000.00	1000.00	638.12	6585.12	7	6585.12	941.31	941.31	4
M	Lenny Keer	5	724.93	989.99	708.03	696.35	1000.00	991.38	482.26	5592.93	7	5592.93	799.48	799.48	5
S	Sportsman														
S	Jim Rogers	1	619.80	985.69	550.36	1000.00	814.92	491.38	503.21	4965.37	7	4965.37	1000.00	709.77	6
S	Tom Tate	2	489.24	673.35	722.63	632.12	809.18	634.67	556.75	4517.93	7	4517.93	909.89	645.82	7
S	Corey Shantz	3	511.46	501.43	497.85	357.14	715.93	859.60	229.03	3672.44	7	3672.44	739.61	524.96	8

March DLG Contest Report

Bob Pederson

This contest was a little different in that we wanted it to be AMA sanctioned and thus be eligible to qualify DLG pilots for the upcoming F3K team select contest. The TS will hopefully be held in Denver this summer and we are trying to get as many pilots qualified to make it competitive. We ended up with 16 pilots which meant that the top 30 % (4 pilots) would get a point toward qualifying for the team select contest.

The flying conditions were challenging to say the least. The weather was mild but the winds kept increasing during the day resulting in launching and surfing upwind of the field. If you went downwind which many brave pilots did, you really had to fight to get back to the field. Some didn't including Cory Shantz who had a long, leisurely walk home from about a half mile away. Sorry Cory; sometimes you're the Hero, sometimes you're the Zero.

We were very lucky to have two out-of-towners drive over from Utah to join us and fly. Jon Lemon and Adrian Dybwad showed up and flew very well. Jon had a new Helios glider that looked like it would be a good challenger for the Concepts and Stobels out there. You might remember that Adrian (Extrem ewing on RC Groups) is the author of F3K Timer which is a Droid phone app for organizing, running and timing DLG contests. We wanted to try out this app with the intention of using it for the Team Selects (assuming we are awarded the bid). There were a few glitches in the software but Adrian took good notes and will be updating the software in advance of our next contest (April 22nd). All in all it was an excellent contest, Thanks Dave Jensen.

Check out RCGroups thread: <http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=1598942>

for pics and video of the contest taken by Shawn Curry and Jason Friedman.

Results are shown below.

Place	Pilot	Score	Qualification points
1	Jon Padilla	100.00%	1
2	Ian Purdue	97.57%	1
3	Adrian Dybwad	97.48%	1
4	Skip Miller	93.56%	1
5	John Lovins	93.51%	
6	Jon Lemon	93.18%	
7	Alex Kenyon	91.07%	
8	John Jonke	90.73%	
9	Gary Jensen	86.20%	
10	Cory Shantz	85.43%	
11	Dave Runyon	81.59%	
12	Brandon Blair	77.05%	
13	Bob Pederson	69.30%	
14	Dale Terry	67.34%	
15	Shawn Curry	13.43%	
16	Dave Jensen	3.79%	

SUNDAY APRIL 15th

Open Contest

CD Jim Smith

Pilot meeting 8:30 AM first flight at 9:00 AM

F3J with winches

SUNDAY APRIL 22nd DLG contest

CD Bob Pederson

This is an AMA Sanctioned F3K Qualifier

The April DLG contest will be on the 22nd and will be held at Bob Pederson's field up in Berthoud Co. I'm about 45 minutes north of Denver and 40 minutes from Boulder. It should provide a different soaring experience, no flat land soaring here. I have a combination of hills and valleys to work with that will create some challenging and fun conditions. I'll be providing lunch so you don't have to bring your own. I'll have water and Gatorade so if you want something else, bring it. Since this is at my house, we'll have bathroom facilities so your wives, spousal units, significant others are invited and will be comfortable. Updates on the contest and task list can be monitored on RCGroups at: <http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=1617031>

This contest is AMA sanctioned so you will need to bring your AMA card and sign the safety waiver. If you're not an AMA member, you can sign up at the field. Entry fee is \$5.00. The top 30% of pilots at the end of the day will earn one point toward qualifying to fly the F3K team select contest this summer.

Pilots meeting will be at 8:30 with first flight around 9:00. I expect to finish around 3:30. We will fly as many rounds as we can in that time. I intend to do another trial run with Adrian Dybwad's "F3K Timer program. We intend to use this program if we get to host the F3K team selects so we want to get used to its operation. If you have a Droid phone, download Adrian's F3K Timer program and update it just before the 22nd. See this thread on RC Group if you want to learn about the program:

<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=1453871>

Map to field:

Google :

7130 Sedona Hills Dr.

Berthoud, Co. 80513

The field is about 1 hour north of Denver, and 11 miles west of I-25. Follow the signs to Carter Lake.

[http://maps.google.com/maps?oe=utf-8&rls=org.mozilla:en-US-official&client=firefox-](http://maps.google.com/maps?oe=utf-8&rls=org.mozilla:en-US-official&client=firefox-a&q=7130+Sedona+Hills+Dr.+Berthoud,+Co.+80513&um=1&ie=UTF-8&hq=&hnear=0x8769570f43951ee7:0xc72d94779671f884,7130+Sedona+Hills+Dr.+Berthoud,+CO+80513&gl=us&ei=EXtnT7rvG6mEsAK4_eC2Dw&sa=X&oi=geocode_result&ct=title&resnum=1&ved=0CCAQ8gEwAA)

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FOR SALE

WANTED

Does anyone have any extra Pike Perfect Kolb Joiners. Please contact me with a price.

Bob Vixie

bvixie@comcast.net

[719 528-6847](tel:7195286847)

Renewal Reminder

If you're not copied on this Newsletter it's because you haven't renewed your RMSA membership for 2012.

Renew with the application in this newsletter, (below)

Or on-line at <http://www.rmsadenver.com>

RMSA 2012 CALENDER 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	Open/HL Skills Day (Cancelled due to weather)	Sod Farm	Open/HL Skills Day
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 Dave Jensen
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 11	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

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:

Signature



President: John Lovins
Vice President: Jim Smith
Secretary: Bob Rice
Treasurer: Mark Howard
Past President: Jim Monaco

303-929-9883 mail to: judcaissons@gmail.com
303-786-7461 mail to: gis.smith@comcast.net
720-581-3099 mail to: briceflyer@q.com
720-273-2208 mail to: howard4113@msn.com
303-464-9895 mail to: 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
 Scorekeeper & Jim Monaco 303-464-9895 jimmonaco@earthlink.net
 Web master
 Librarian: Tracy Cochran 303-934-8838 Tcochran@idcomm.com
 Newsletter: Tony O'Hara 303-948-2576 tonyoco@q.com

Winch Master

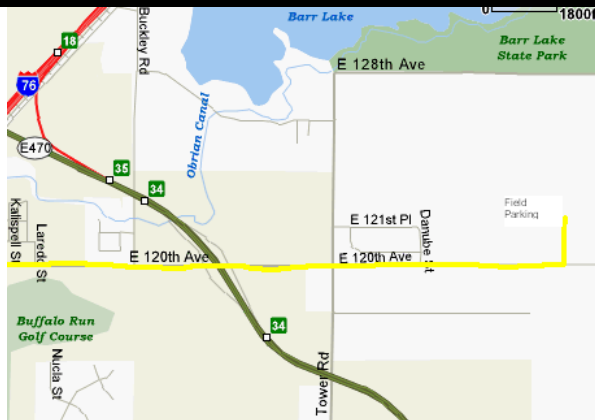
Steve Suntkin 303-477-6184 flyingdogtwo@cs.com

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 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
1860 S Vrain St
Denver CO 80219

Forwarding Address Requested

First Class Mail