



# Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

December 2012

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXVI Number 12

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**John Lovins**

The year is coming to an end, and as I reflect back on another successful year for RMSA a few things stand out. Lenny Keer making the F5B team. Jim Monaco leading another winning F3J team, and Cody taking 3rd at the worlds in Africa in the snow and freezing weather!!! RMSA hosting the 2nd F3K team selects. With difficult weather, and a TFR thanks to Mr. Obama (in the middle of the best weather of the 3 days), all still agreed the best team was selected. There were many other accomplishments by quality pilots that I'm forgetting I'm sure.

Some of the most satisfying for me personally is seeing a couple of Sportsman open pilots hone their skills, the HUGE participation in hand launch, and my first year as pres. of this prestigious club. It has been a rewarding experience, and in the future, given the opportunity, I will be happy to step up again. I would encourage everyone to do the same.

Please attend the banquet to get a glimpse of 2013. For starters the Southwest Classic is coming in Feb, winch re-hab day in Jan. at my shop to be organized, and planning to train for the coming F3J season. It will be another great year of chasing thermals, and good friendships.

See you at the field.

John

## Annual Awards Banquet Information

The RMSA annual awards banquet will be held on [December 9](#) at 11:00AM at Baker Street Pub in Westminster.

2831 W. 120<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Westminster CO 80234  
[720.382.1026](tel:720.382.1026)

It is in the plaza on the NE corner of 120<sup>th</sup> and Federal Blvd.

The menu is à la carte and very reasonably priced. Individual checks will be provided. A good time should be had by all...

Please email Jim ASAP if you are coming; he can accept late reservations. They have set up a room for us so they do need a count.

See you there...**Jim**

**Jim Monaco**

*Technical Consultant*

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[Jim.Monaco@FlatironsSolutions.com](mailto:Jim.Monaco@FlatironsSolutions.com)

Jim

## November Open Contest Report

After a weeks delay due to weather, we held our last Open contest for 2012 on the 18th. Weather was good and lanes were set out to the south with a light breeze. With 6 pilots we started at 10:00 to allow it to warm up a little. Lift was around, but far apart and light. No one made all there times, it was a cover other pilots contest. If you took your own read and things didn't work out, you better have an out or you were going to get hurt. I guess that's the story of EVERY contest, a combo of read plus cover is the strategy to follow. I'm gaining experience, but the learning curve seems long....

In round 3 the wind came up out of the west at 15-20 mph making launching treacherous. We took a lunch break after 3 rnds. to see what the wind would do. After 30 min. it was worse. We started rnd. 4 but I couldn't launch Jim Rogers safely, and after about a minute of trying he said to forget it. Mike V. and Blayne flew out the round, but agreed to drop it as it would not have had an effect on the contest, or the club standings. All agreed to live to fight another day and called the contest after 3 rounds.

I look forward to next year and hopefully more participation due to being a F3J team select year. Please come out and take advantage of the opportunity to learn from the best F3J club in the country.

John

### SCORES

November  
Open Contest

Contest Date: 11/18/12

Class	Name	Place by Class	RD 1	RD 2	RD 3	Raw Total	Total	Norm by Class	Norm by Contest	Place by Contest
M	Open									
M	John Lovins	1	1000.00	1000.00	1000.00	3000.00	3000.00	1000.00	1000.00	1
M	Mike Verzuh	2	1000.00	960.42	1000.00	2960.42	2960.42	986.81	986.81	2
M	Blayne Chastain	3	927.27	1000.00	493.51	2420.78	2420.78	806.93	806.93	4
M	Lenny Keer	4	909.61	661.89	803.03	2374.53	2374.53	791.51	791.51	5
M	Jim Monaco	5	639.39	997.13	471.29	2107.82	2107.82	702.61	702.61	6
S	Sportsman									
S	Jim Rogers	1	995.70	870.83	770.33	2636.86				

## FOR SALE

None this month

## Renewal Reminder

It's time to renew your memberships for 2013. Renew with the application in this newsletter, (below)

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

## RMSA 2012 CALENDAR 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	<del>Open/HL Skills Day (Canceled due to weather)</del>	<del>Sod Farm</del>	<del>Open/HL Skills Day</del>
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 Cory Shantz
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 18	Open Class Contest	Sod Farm	CD John Lovins
Sun Dec 9	RMSA Awards Banquet	Baker Street Pub	Jim Monaco

# 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**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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:

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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](mailto:judcaissons@gmail.com)  
**303-786-7461** mail to: [gis.smith@comcast.net](mailto:gis.smith@comcast.net)  
**720-581-3099** mail to: [briceflyer@q.com](mailto:briceflyer@q.com)  
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**303-464-9895** mail to: [jimmonaco@earthlink.net](mailto: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](mailto:flyingdogtwo@comcast.net)  
 Scorekeeper & Jim Monaco 303-464-9895 [jimmonaco@earthlink.net](mailto:jimmonaco@earthlink.net)  
 Web master  
 Librarian: Tracy Cochran 303-934-8838 [Tcochran@idcomm.com](mailto:Tcochran@idcomm.com)  
 Newsletter: Tony O'Hara 303-948-2576 [tonyoco@q.com](mailto:tonyoco@q.com)

**Winch Master**

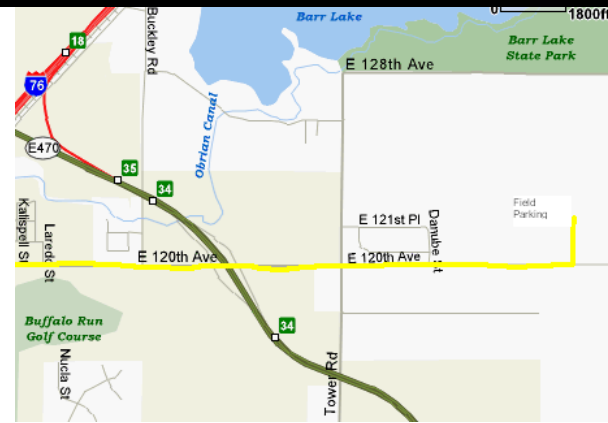
Steve Suntkin 303-477-6184 [flyingdogtwo@cs.com](mailto:flyingdogtwo@cs.com)

**Battery Masters**

Bob Lewan  
 Skip Miller  
 Mike Verzuh  
 Cody Remington  
 Dr. Dan Williams  
 Steve Sunken  
 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 on 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 farm.

*Flying for RMSA members and accompanied guests only.*



**Rocky Mountain Soaring Association**  
 1860 S Vrain St  
 Denver CO 80219

**First Class Mail**

*Forwarding Address Requested*