

Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

March 2015

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXIX Number 3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Bob Pederson

This month's meeting will be held at Skip Miller Models in Longmont. The date is Wednesday March 11th at 7:00 PM. I'm trying to standardize on having our meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. This month's meeting program will be a show and tell of your latest acquisition or creation. Show us what you have been working on. We will also have a swap meet so clean out your shop and bring your old gliders, equipment, and anything model related to sell, trade or give away. I know some of you have a lot of stuff to get rid of so bring it along.

Here comes March with its snow and nice days. You just have to be selective on when you decide to fly. The contest season is starting and a number of RMSA members have already participated in the F3J in the Desert and Southwest Classic in Mid February. Jim Monaco should have an article on that later in the newsletter. It should be an interesting read. Some vehicle problems, some plane problems, some injury problems, etc. but I'll let Jim tell you about all that.

- Notes from April meeting
 - We discussed adding a 12 volt alarm system to the club trailer. Last fall the trailer was broken into and we lost some tools. No decision was made but we will look into the usefulness and cost. If you have an opinion or suggestions, let me know.
 - Vote on rules change from last month re: # / type of contests for open class award. There were not enough members to hold a vote so the topic was tabled until the March meeting.
 - RMSA Hobby shop fliers - does anyone have a copy – electronic or hardcopy? We need to re-supply the local shops so they can hand out the club info to new glider buyers. We used to ask the owners to put one of our RMSA stickers on each glider kit box and offer a handout with club website and instructional info.
 - Who needs RMSA stickers to bling up your flight box, vehicle, airplane? New member John Knott has volunteered to update the RMSA logo and get some stickers printed. Thanks John. Cost to be determined by the interest and quantity made.
 - Anyone interested in a group buy of RMSA logo'd apparel like T-shirts, golf shirts, hats? We haven't done this in a long time and my old stuff is really tattered / doesn't fit anymore. If someone is interested in taking charge of this, please volunteer. It's always great to represent your club at out-of-town contests. Show your club pride.
 - Jon Padilla gave a great presentation on his contest methodology and how he is preparing to represent the US at the FAI F3K world champs in Croatia. Jon gave up some of his secrets which I intend to follow. One of the ideas that stood out for me is the round starts with the prep time not the window time. Don't waste the prep time standing around; develop your flight plane and find the air before the window starts.
 - We talked about low meeting attendance and the causes. One reason is the lack of meeting presentations and we are addressing that. Blayne will be organizing monthly presentations that should interest the membership and draw people to the meetings. Another reason that a number of members have mentioned is the present meeting location. While we are very grateful to Skip Miller for offering his facility in Longmont for our meetings, it is a long drive for the majority of club members. The club membership spans Larkspur to Fort Collins and Greeley. There are a few solutions to this dilemma. We can rotate meeting locations around the Denver area (assuming we can find some). We can meet at the field during good weather

so we can fly and have a short business meeting or presentation. We can meet at members homes if the situation warrants it. If any member knows of alternate meeting locations that are available free or for a low fee such as churches, fraternal organizations, beer distributor ware houses with a tap room (hint, hint...) please let the officers know.

A few business items to talk about. First, I have decided to change two of the DLG contest dates to increase potential participation. The March contest will move from the 15th to Saturday the 14th and the April contest (I'm the CD) will move from the 11th to Sunday the 12th. I haven't been able to talk anyone in to being the CD for the March contest. If necessary I'll set it up and leave it to one of the pilots to hit the start button on F3K Master. The software will run the contest so all the CD has to do is put out the cones and connect the sound system.

The second item of business is to vote on whether we will accept the proposed rule change concerning the number and type of contests eligible for the year end awards. Jim Monaco proposed at the last meeting and in the newsletter that we drop two F3J contest from the mix and add an F5J and cross country or other event to broaden the available types of contest that qualify for the year end awards. We need 7 for a quorum so if not enough people are at the meeting I will do an e-mail vote. We need a simple majority of votes cast to determine passage.

Mark Howard is in the process of updating the RMSA Website front page and we are also working on updating the information on the tabbed information. Thanks Mark.

Just a reminder to get your membership dues in by this month. See you at the club meeting.

Bob

March DLG Contest Notice - March 14th

Note the date change. We will have the contest on Saturday March 14th NOT the 15th. This was a change to get more participants. Monitor RCGroups, Colorado DLG Happenings thread to see what the tasks will be flown. Pilots meeting will be at 9:00 AM and flying will start immediately thereafter. Please get there a little early to help set up and get your planes tuned up. Also, if you plan to fly, please respond on the "Happenings" thread (<http://www.rcgroups.com/forums/showthread.php?t=1317529>) so we can set up the pilot matrix on F3K Master. Check and charge those batteries!

RMSA Facebook Group Page

RMSA has a new Facebook page – which is a great place to share ideas and information. This is a closed group.

The link is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/424146784408056/>

You can also get there by finding the group by name "Rocky Mountain Soaring Association"

You need to be a group member so you should either

1. Ask to join the group using your Facebook account at the group page
2. Send me a request to be added via Facebook message - <https://www.facebook.com/mark.howard.775>
3. Friend me on Facebook – message and I'll add you to the group
4. Email me (howard4113@msn.com) and I'll add you to the group

RMSA 2015 Calendar Of Events

[\(click for online version that may be more current\)](#) Note:-Italicized entries are changes from original

Date	Event	Location	Description
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Thu Feb 19 - Fri Feb 20	F3J in the Desert 2015	Schnepf Farms Queen Creek AZ	
Sat Mar 7	Open Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD Blayne Chastain
Sun Mar 15	DLG Contest	TBA	CD - TBD
Sat Mar 28	Red Rocks Utah DLG	St George UT	Red Rocks F3K 2 day contest and TS qualifier
Sat Mar 28 - Sun Mar 29	F3J in the Deep South	Houston Tx	F3J Tour Event
Sat Apr 11	DLG Contest	TBA	CD - Bob Pederson
Sun Apr 26	F5J Electric	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Lenny Keer
Sat May 2 - Sun May 3	IHLF Handlaunch	Poway CA	International DLG
Sat May 9	Open Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Jim Monaco
Fri May 22 - Sat May 23	F3J in the Rockies	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	F3J Tour Event
Sun May 24 - Mon May 25	Blue Skies Over Colorado DLG	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Need Volunteer
Sat Jun 6	DLG Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Sam Pendleton
Sun Jun 7	F5J Electric	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Lenny Keer
Sun Jun 21	Cross Country	Verzuh Ranch	CD - Mike Verzuh - Note this is Fathers Day
Sat Jul 11	Open Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Blayne Chastain
Sun Jul 19 - Sun Jul 26	DLG F3K World Championships	Croatia	
Sun Jul 19	DLG Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - TBD
Sun Jul 26 - Sat Aug 1	Soaring Nats	AMA Field Muncie IN	F3J July 31 - Aug 1
Sun Aug 9	Open Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Jim Rogers
Sat Aug 15 - Sun Aug 16	F3J in New Mexico	Albuquerque NM	F3J Tour Event
Sat Aug 15	DLG Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Jon Padilla
Sat Sep 5 - Mon Sep 7	F3J Team Selection	TBD	CD - TBD \nAlso F3J Tour Event
Sat Sep 19	DLG Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - TBD
Sun Sep 20	RMSA/PPSS Challenge Cup	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Jim Monaco
Sat Oct 3	Visalia Fall Fest	Visalia CA	TD Event
Sun Oct 4	Open Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Mike Verzuh
Sun Oct 11	DLG Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - TBD
Sat Nov 7 - Sun Nov 8	Blue Skies Arizona DLG	TBD	TBD
Sun Nov 8	Open Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - Shannon Bingham
Sun Nov 15	DLG Contest	RMSA Club Field - 120th Ave	CD - John Jonke
Sun Dec 6	RMSA Awards Banquet	TBD	

Rocky Mountain Soaring Association - 2015

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:

Signature



President:	Bob Pederson	970-532-3437	e-mail to: bpedersn@colomail.com
Vice President:	Blayne Chastain	970-405-5818	e-mail to: mailto:blayne@whistleanddrum.com
Secretary:	Bob Rice	720-581-3099	e-mail to: briceflyer@q.com
Treasurer:	Mark Howard	720-273-2208	e-mail to: howard4113@msn.com
Past President:	Jim Monaco	303-818-7576	e-mail to: jim@monacocasa.com

Member Support

Web Site <http://www.rmsadenver.com>

Chief

Instructor:

Field Manager Steve Sunken 303-477-6184 flyingdogtwo@comcast.net

Scorekeeper & Jim Monaco 303-464-9895 jim@monacocasa.com

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

Skip Miller

Mike Verzuh

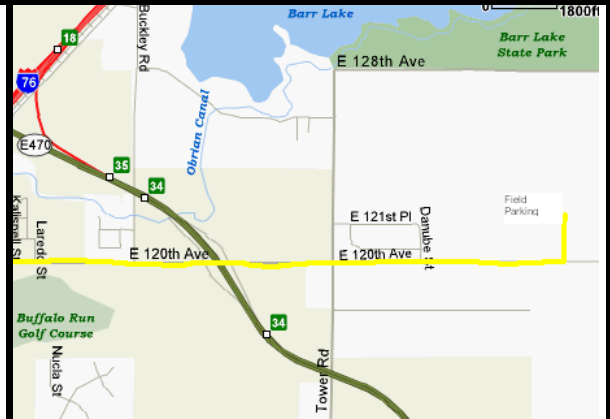
Cody Remington

John Lovins

Jim Rogers

For Winch Use:

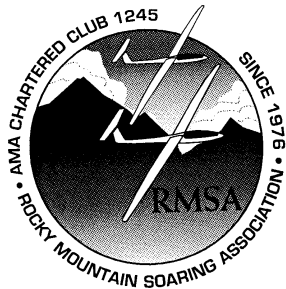
If you are interested in using a club winch please contact Mike for the first time, and I will insure you have all the details for trailer access. Also if you are a new member and have not had a winch operation and safety briefing we will coordinate that.



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

First Class Mail

Forwarding Address Requested