



Thermals

Newsletter of the Rocky Mountain Soaring Association

May1 2015

AMA Chartered Club 1245

Volume XXXIX Number 5

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Bob Pederson

This month's meeting will be held in South Denver near Cherry Creek. Member John Knott secured a meeting room in the Calvary Apostolic Church. The address is 5900 E. Yale Ave., Denver, CO 80222.

The room is set aside for the May 13th meeting at 7 PM. From I-25 and Yale Ave. go east to the first light, Holly St., turn right, south, 1/2 a block turn left into the parking lot and immediate left to park in the west parking lot along side of Holly St. Walk east along the north side of the chapel to the front of the chapel, fronted by the circle drive, the chapel double doors will be open.

This month's meeting presentation will be done by Harold Bailey. He will be discussing and demonstrating how he builds his DLG wings and fuselages. See Harold's summary elsewhere in this newsletter. I'm going to try and take a video of this presentation and post it or at least make it available to members who can't make the meeting.

Bob Pederson

April DLG Contest Report

We had a warm sunny day but significant winds to start with. It was around 5 - 7 meters/sec for the first round but winds lightened up after that and thermals and wave lift meant some of us could get 3 minutes . Conditions deteriorated after the third round as a front moved in.

Since we ended up with only 5 pilots, we decided to run All Up Last Down for each round with no timers. The first guy down got one point, second guy down got 2 points... last guy down got either 5 or 6 points depending on how many were flying that round. Out of Bounds got 0 points. We got in 3 full rounds of AULD before the high winds started and blew us off the field. For my first flight of the second round, I got the max with plenty of time and altitude to spare and then proceeded to land OOB for no good reason. Dumb Mistake 😞

Congratulations to John Jonke for the win. That Vortex is working great for you.

Here are the final results.

RMSA April 2015 DLG Contest																		
AULD	Rd 1					Rd 2					Rd 3					Contest		
	1	2	3	tot	Norm	1	2	3	Tot	Norm	1	2	3	Tot	Norm	Norm	Place	
Jonke	3	4	4	11	785.71	5	3	3	11	785.71	5	6	5	16	1000.00	2571.43	1000.00	1st
Lovins	4	5	5	14	1000.00	1	2	1	4	285.71	3	2	3	8	500.00	1785.71	694.44	4th
Roberts	5	3	3	11	785.71	5	5	4	14	1000.00	2	1	0	3	187.50	1973.21	767.36	3rd
Degroot	1	1	1	3	214.29	2	1	2	5	357.14	1	5	2	8	500.00	1071.43	416.67	5th
Pederson	2	2	2	6	428.57	0	4	5	9	642.86	6	4	6	16	1000.00	2071.43	805.56	2nd
Bailey				0	0.00				0	0.00	4	3	1	8	500.00	500.00	194.44	6th

Reid Roberts wasn't around at the December dinner to receive his Sportsman Award and the Monkey lamp so we presented all his swag to him at the contest. He's a Masters class pilot now.



Jim Monaco presents Reid with his plaque and the Monkey Lamp



Reid's Lamp and Award enshrined in a prominent place in his abode. I imagine his wife is ecstatic!

Blue Skies Over Colorado

BSOC was canceled for this month due to lack of a CD to take on this significant effort. This contest is a big deal and takes a significant number of helpers and organizers. We draw pilots from the surrounding 4 states and it is also a F3K team qualifier. We don't want to give up on this contest because of the tremendous effort that was put forth by the Jensen family and others to get it going. Historically, it is one of the largest contests during the year and we don't want to let it die. I will investigate a date later in the year to see if there is sufficient interest and participation. I understand Dave Runyon may also be pursuing this.

May DLG Contest Notice - Sunday May 17th

Even though we are not hosting BSOC this month, we will still have a monthly DLG contest on the 17th. Pilots meeting will be at 8:30 AM and flying will start immediately thereafter. Please get there 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&page=613> so we can set up the pilot matrix on F3K Master. As always, I'll have a few extra pilot slots available (Pilot Juan and Pilot Tool!) for those who can't decide until the last minute. Check and charge those batteries! Bob Pederson will be the CD.

Bob Pederson

May Meeting Program

Good morning all, here is a brief overview of what I thought I would present.

I would bring some of the tools and jigs I use to cut the cores for wings, stab's and fins.

Along with the foam blanks I use and the patterns I came up with to get a consistent result.

And talk about some of the materials I have used in making them, Fiberglass, Kevlar, carbon.

I will bring the fuselage mold I am using,

The theme will be, it does not have to be complicated, or expensive to do this.

A lot of the gear I use, hot wire foam cutter, vacuum bag set up and such, is made from inexpensive parts.

I will bring my latest ship to show. It's a High Aspect Ratio wing, which seems to be all the rage these days, and talk about the evolution that got me to this version.

I am amazed how much I learn from each years project, and how much better the ships get.

I know my hobby of building and flying model airplanes is quickly becoming a sport, rather than a hobby.

And while I love the sport too, If I can get someone out there to give building a try, even if its just to have extra fins or stabs on hand, then

That would be great !

Let me know if you think of any other subjects to talk about ?

Thanx !

Harold Bailey

April F5J Contest Report -- Lenny Keer CD

The April 26th F5J contest was rescheduled due to weather and flown the following Sunday. We may have lost a couple of pilots with the date change, but the weather was certainly much better. This was our first attempt at flying the new FAI F5J format and it went very well. Five pilots with electric sailplanes were on hand for this inaugural event, but unfortunately Mike Verzuh had to leave early due to a family emergency. The F5J task is man-on-man 10-minute duration and landing (similar to F3J). Each pilot chooses his own launch height and accrues launch penalty points accordingly. The higher you choose to launch, the more launch penalty points, but the better chance of finding lift. The variable launch height was very interesting and presents the opportunity to employ some strategy. Launch heights ranged from 85M to 223M. The lowest launch height to make 10 minutes was Mike's 96M launch in the first round, though the average launch height was probably 120-160M. Of course the conditions varied during the day and launch heights also varied to suit.

The day started out mostly sunny with a light breeze and got progressively more cloudy and windy. Small, but workable thermals were easy enough to find in the first round, but the air became less predictable after that. The electric launch offers the ability to drive way up wind if needed, and that was useful a couple of times to reach some wave lift that had developed up wind. We flew 6 rounds in total and quit before the rain moved in. Everyone seemed to enjoy this new format and hopefully we'll have a larger turn out for the next one coming up in June.

Welcome to new member John Hsu, flying his first RMSA contest!

I'd also like to say a big THANK-YOU to Bob Pederson who came out just to help and provide the sound system and canopy for the contest!

Rank	Name	Score	Norm	Rnd1 Dur	Rnd2 Dur	Rnd3 Dur	Rnd4 Dur	Rnd5 Dur	Rnd6 Dur
1	Keer, Lenny	4985.4	1000	985.4	1000	677.5	1000	1000	1000
2	Lovins, John	4933.5	989.6	982.8	1000	1000	950.7	1000	800
3	Hsu, John	4662.9	935.3	1000	940.5	505	1000	864.9	857.5
4	Bingham, Shannon	4074.5	817.3	797.3	792.5	1000	479.4	484.7	1000
5	Verzuh, Mike	1310.3	262.8	1000	310.3	0	0	0	0

F5J Roundup-- Over 3M models under \$1K

With F5J contests added to the RMSA calendar now, it's nice to have at least one electric sailplane in your hangar. Besides contest flying, they're pretty handy for sport flying too. One easy way to get into the electric game is to buy an E-fuse for a TD model that you're already flying. Another option is to pick up a moderately priced dedicated E model.

To help narrow the search in this area, I thought I'd share some of the suitable models that I'm aware of. Since electric sailplanes don't have to endure the high launch loads that winch launched models do, they don't have to be built with expensive molded wing and massive carbon spars.

There are also some very reasonably priced power systems available (under \$150 for motor, ESC, and battery) that could be used in many of them. I must add that I have not personally seen every one of these models, but have seen enough positive reports to believe they would be reasonable choices for contest and sport flying. My selection criteria was a wingspan larger than 3M and a price below \$1000. They all feature a composite pod and boom fuse, and most have a built up wing.

Osprey -- A molded wing model available from Soaring USA for about \$1000.

Topaz -- A built up wing model (either RES or full house) available from Skip Miller Models for about \$900-1000.

Pulsar 3.2E Pro -- A built up wing model available from Skip Miller Models, Soaring USA, and Esprit for about \$900.

Gracia 3.5 -- A built up wing model with V-tail available from Esprit for about \$600.

Ather (aka Aether) -- A built up wing model available from Hobby King for about \$250.

This is not intended to be an exhaustive list, but just interesting models that I'm aware of. There are also some slightly smaller models that could be used, as well as a number of more expensive options out there. I have an Ather ordered for evaluation. My intention is to assemble and test fly it, and then offer it for sale to someone in the club. I don't expect it to be a world class contest model, but it does look to be a very good value.

Lenny Keer

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
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

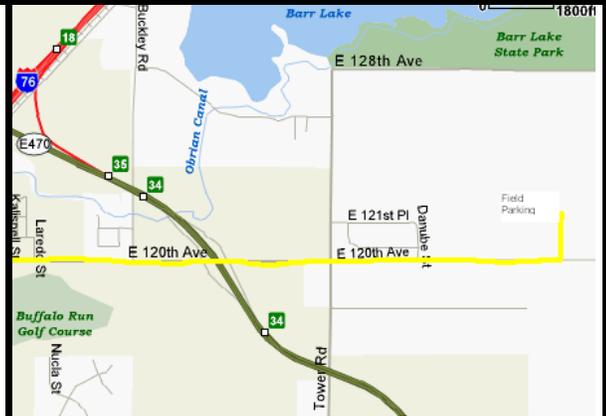
Cody Remington

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