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NIGHTFLIGHT A SUCCESS



It turned out to be a beautiful Fall day in Kansas as a nice group of KOSMONauts gathered at the Hutchinson field for an afternoon and early evening of our favorite hobby. Because of scheduling conflicts of members we ended up combining our last two launches into one as so NighFlight took place on November 8. This slightly later date meant we were now in Central Standard Time and our night launching portion could begin an hour earlier. Evan Beckman brought an enthusiastic crew down from the Salina area to join our regulars. The forecast which looked windy even a day and a half in advance changed Friday afternoon and after 3pm Sat. the winds were almost nil.

John Palmer who always comes ready to rock and roll put up 12 flights. "Other than the starters and recovery systems I like to have my rockets ready to go when I get to the field. When I get to the field I like to launch rockets!" Can't argue with that philosophy. Guess that's why 95% of the time John is also first on the launch log at our gatherings. John whom your editor affectionately calls "Mr. Scale" had great success and his flights included a Gemini Titan on two C6's, a Saturn on an E20, another Saturn with cluster ignition, and a V2 on a D21. One of the best flights in my memory of his V2. That D21 provided a very nice boost.

It was good to see Ron Snow join us on the field. Because of his commitment to the care of his mom he misses most launches. Ron had some really good flights and I love the simplicity of the names for these rockets, "Bright Orange and Yellow Rocket", "Quad T-tail." or "Tall and Skinny Rocket." About the only flight that didn't go well was his ancient Intrepid. Quite honestly it has never flown quite right and yet never seems to really get damaged. Keep working on it Ron !!



Illustration 1: The NightFlight Gang



Illustration 2: John Palmer's Saturn

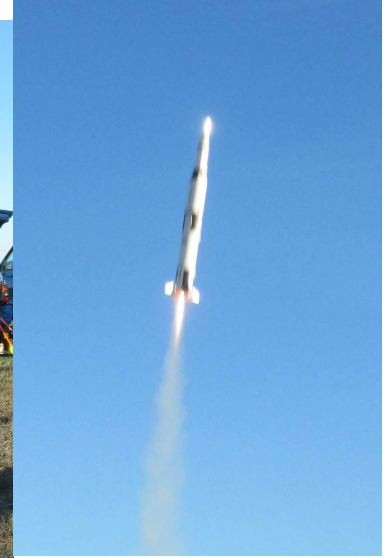


Illustration 5: Ron Snow's Intrepid

Illustration 3: Evan Beckman prepares his Interceptor for launch



Illustration 4: Fred Smith's nicely crafted model



Illustration 7: Steve Saner's Night Rocket on the pad



Illustration 6: Duane Lanterman's Mini Fat Boy



Duane Lanterman contributed 9 launches to the total. He had fun launching his Quest Planet Probe on C engines. That high drag model is just fun to watch and his Mini Fat Boy made it maiden voyage.

Steve Saner had 6 rockets take to the sky including his Big Bertha which always put in an absolutely straight flight. He and Duane had an impromptu Jr. Drag race which was very close but Steve just pulled out a hole shot for the win.

Evan Beckman lead the Salina caravan and had good flights with his Zenith, Interceptor, and Space Ship One model.

Richard Grumbianin also from the Salina area flew several models. Didn't get the names of the models in the log.

Fred Smith from just down the street had 3 nice flights with his self designed models. All powered by C motors his Moon Shot flew twice along with his Falcon II. Fred has been working with tower launchers for sometime and showed us a new technique he has developed for making the support rings. Nice work Fred.

The sunset just before 6 and Evan, Steve, John, and Duane each had models to fly in the now dark Kansas sky. As the sunset, the temperatures also began to drop quickly. Though it was chilly, 7 models made it to the pad and showed their tongues of fire beneath beacons of LED or glow sticks. (wow, what a descriptive sentence.) Anyway, that wrapped up a day of fun and the launch season for KOSMO. We had a great year, had a number of sport launches at the Hutch field, our high power launch in Ellinwood, a great Regional two day meet in Hutch, and a great group of KOSMONauts out at NARAM this year in Colorado. On a sad note, we lost long time member Ron Shipley to cancer in July. Looking forward to 2015 and the 35th anniversary of our club. It's just good clean fun @ Mach 1 !!



*Illustration 1: Evan Beckman's
Space Ship One*



*Illustration 2: John Palmer readies his
Saturn*

COSMOSPHERE'S DINE AROUND FLY AROUND- by John Palmer

On August 23 my wife and I attended the 3rd annual Dine Around Fly Around fund raiser at the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center. This was wonderful event for my wife and I. The event really started on Thursday when Duane Lanterman and I attended the SR 71 lecture. On Saturday when we arrived I was surprised to see many of the guests in the crowd. Last year we did not see any guests until after the main speakers had their turn. After consuming a wide variety of fine Hutchinson cuisine I had the opportunity to talk with Gen. Gil Bertelson. He had a lot to say about how nice the Cosmosphere was and that it was nice that the SR71 on display was able to be touched by the visitors. We also talked about how our KOSMO group has interacted with the Cosomosphere. When he found out that I work for OfficeMax he told me how he liked his local store but unfortunately that was one of the stores has been closed in the merger. Next I talked with RSO John Manzi; I asked him how big of an arc the SR71 takes to turn around. His answer surprised me, they call it a lollipop roll and it takes about an hour at 2100 mph. That's a big circle! Also available for questioning was current astronaut Dr. Catherine Coleman. She showed up wearing her jump suit so she stood out in the crowd. I did not get a chance to talk directly to her but listened in on others conversations. She has been to the ISS. One thing that surprised me about so many of the astronauts, pilots and RSO's is how short everyone was, but then they have to fit in little space crafts. At 7:45 everyone was introduced and walked down the red carpet. A really cool thing was the SR71 pilots and RSOs were escorted down the aisle by Wichita State Univ. female engineering students. It was good to reach out to other communities to take part in the event. OK, eventually Fred Haise, Jim Lovell and Charlie Duke were introduced. They spoke about their adventure on Apollo 13. Remember Duke, the backup pilot, was exposed to measles and as a result bumped Mattinly for Swigert. Originally if one member of the crew was compromised they would use the backup crew but since the backup was also compromised they just swapped the command module pilot. After they spoke my wife and milled around for a while taking with other friends. We went home to a good night sleep. I am looking forward to next year, who will attend?

PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES @ DINE AROUND FLY AROUND



Illustration 1: John Palmer with RSO John Manzi



Illustration 2: John visits with SR71 pilot Gil Bertelson



Illustration 3: Female WSU Engineering students escorted the dignitaries



Illustration 4: Fred Haise smiles as a question is directed to him



Illustration 5: Astronaut Jim Lovell speaks of his Apollo 13 flight



It's that time of year again !

The KOSMO Annual Meeting
Saturday January 10 2015
Meeting begins at noon with a lunch.
(\$5 suggested donation)

**Where? Lanterman residence north of
Great Bend, Ks.**

Meeting concludes about 3pm

What will we do ? - Elect our 2015 Officers

Set the launch calendar for 2015

Pick the contest events for KRAMO 35

Share our Winter Projects (bring some stuff)

Award Traveling Trophy ?

Discuss shirts, hats, hoodies, etc

for our 35th Anniversary

(bring your graphics and ideas)

Pay your 2015 Dues

ALL CLUB MEMBERS and INTERESTED PARTIES ARE INVITED TO COME !!

For last minute updates check the club website

www.kosmo427.org or call 620-792-9531

please note this is a SATURDAY meeting this year !

**THE LANTERMAN RESIDENCE IS LOCATED AT 642 N. HOMESTEAD RD. GREAT BEND
IN THE BARTON HILLS SUBDIVISION WHICH IS LOCATED ON 281 HIGHWAY 5.3
MILES NORTH OF THE KWICK SHOP AT MAIN AND 24TH IN GREAT BEND. TURN AT
THE SIGN THAT SAYS "BARTON HILLS", THEN MAKE 2 LEFTS AND YOU ARE ON
HOMESTEAD RD.**

OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE HIGH POWER MOTORS – ROCKET KITS, PARTS

At the annual meeting we will place an order for AeroTech, Estes or Cessorini Motors. Go to wildmanrocketry.com and check out their motor selection. Your price will be the CLUB PRICE listed plus your share of the shipping. Bring a check or cash to cover your purchase. ALSO, you may order a LOC kit 4" and down for 40% off list and over 4" at 20% off. This applies to parts as well. Once again bring cash or check to cover your purchase and a portion of shipping. Also Keith Ravenstein will be ordering parts to make his KRAMO L1 L2 kit. This 3" dia. kit is Keith's design and has been used successfully by two of our Jr. members to get the Level 1 cert. It is also suitable for Level 2. Has LOC tubes, nose cone, 28" chute, plywood thru the wall fins, and tubular nylon shock cord. Keith hasn't nailed down the price for sure but should be about \$62-\$65. Bring check or cash to cover purchase. (note a pattern here) You may pick up your orders at Springfest in Ellinwood.

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