

FINAL FRONTIER TAKES PLACE DESPITE WEATHER CONCERNS

by Duane Lanterman

Once again the forecast for our upcoming launch just didn't seem too promising as winds were forecast well over 20 for the morning and rain was a possibility . By Friday the forecast looked a little better with winds after 1 or 2 pm at 16mph . The word went out to come to the field with the possibility of a not so ideal day.

Saturday morning there were showers around the field with a beautiful rainbow off to the West but no rain on the field . The winds were above 20 but not in the upper range. As folks arrived at the field the winds dropped below the 20 mph range and of all things after noon the winds died down to almost nothing. As forecast, as it neared 5 pm the winds changed direction and picked up but by that time we were packing up the launch equipment and heading into Ellinwood for supper. Six rocketeers launched 29 models into the air with an interesting variety of rockets. We had a family associated with the Boy Scouts, the Collins, from the KC area come out and observe the launch and Sharon Lanterman grilled hot dogs for those in attendance.

Marvin Applegate who is in his first year of membership with us took the crown for the most flights with 9 edging out perennial frequent flier John Palmer with 8. John did get in the first flight of the day however continuing that tradition. John Palmer and Keith Ravenstein each had their 2017 KOSMO Club Rockets ready to fly , Keith doing so on an I 205 and John powering his with an G76. Both flights went well. John had a number of sport scale models with multi-motors in different configurations. Rarely heard from his mouth were the words, " I can't fix this" as his Saturn V suffered multiple boo boos in a flight that didn't go as planned. He did say though, "I can build another !" Duane Lanterman successfully launched his Crossfire 2X rocket again with a F15 to D12 flight and his Eagle 7X flew well on an H120 as well as his recently finished Estes Star Orbiter on an E16. Marvin's rockets all flew on E, F, or G motors and included kits such as the Eliminator XL, Ascender, Partizon, Mammoth, and Trajector.

Steve Saner spent quite a bit of the afternoon preparing his scratch built Sky Hog for what he and we hoped would be a flight to remember. Previously flown on a single K motor, this flight was to feature a center K695 with two J270 motors that would ignite at main motors burnout. He had added a fairing that housed a digital video camera . In Steve's words, "It was a successful failure." The two "J" motors did not ignite. "Still it was a good flight, the recovery system worked perfectly and it landed unscathed and ready to fly again. Also, for the first time got some on-board video that turned out pretty good." Steve then flew his Crayon on a H242 for good measure. A good day overall as is any day we launch rockets together !



Illustration 3: John's "Club Rocket 2017" on a G67



Illustration 1: Duane's Crossfire 2X loaded with a F15 to D12

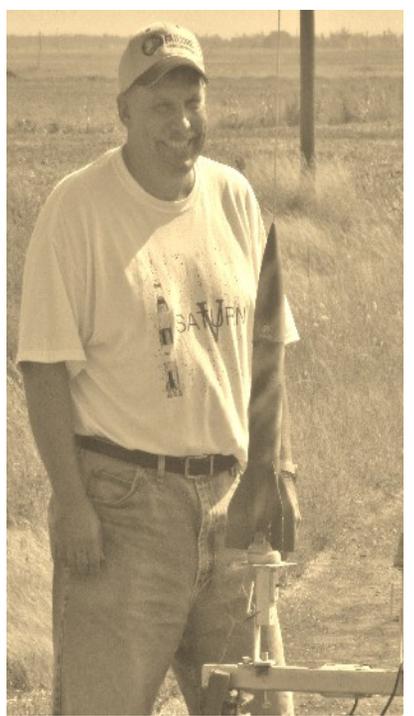


Illustration 2: John is all smiles prior to a D21 launch in his V2



Illustration 5: Keith and Marvin



Illustration 4: Steve readies his Sky Hog



Illustration 6: Steve poses with his sister, mom, dad, and Sky Hog. At right – LIFTOFF !



Space Education at Faith Lutheran School

by John Palmer - KOSMONaut

My enthusiasm for all things space related is well known, which led to a teacher at Faith Lutheran reaching out asking if I could educate students about the eclipse, rocketry and space. Of course, I agreed, and on Friday, August 18, I visited the school.

Students from grades K-5 participated, with most being second and third graders. I started the day telling them about my adventure at space camp and showed the video of me in the multi-axis trainer.

Next, I walked the students through a PowerPoint explaining what an eclipse is and included images of the 2015 lunar eclipse. I also brought props of the Earth and moon, using the projector as the sun to simulate how the moon was going to cast a shadow on the Earth.

Following the presentation, with the help of the teachers, we built pinhole boxes to view the eclipse. The school also provided students with eclipse glasses, but I figured younger students might lose interest with the glasses and this gave teachers another option to keep students engaged during the eclipse.

Following the eclipse demonstration, I brought space coloring sheets and a space shuttle to color, cut out and glue together—some of the students actually had good, flyable shuttles.

Finally, after construction time the students enjoyed eclipse cake, and then it was out to the rocket field. It was perfect weather for launching rockets—no wind. I had already set up the launch pad and prepped the rockets so it was 5 4 3 2 1 LAUNCH! I replaced the parachutes with streamers to make recovery easier, and we launched six rockets which were all recovered. Only two minor issues, my Baby Bertha, went through three starters before success and one rocket landed on a car in the parking lot about 10 feet from the launch table.

Overall it was an awesome day, and kids and adults alike were excited and had a great time.

August 21—The Eclipse

With my time off from work I was able to go to Kingston, Missouri to see the total eclipse of the sun. I traveled to Kansas City the Sunday before to spend time with my father, who is in a rehab facility recovering from a car accident in June. I'm pleased to share he is doing much better.

My brother, who also lives in the area, invited me out to his boss's house to view the eclipse. With the long distance it's been a while since we've spent time together, so I took the opportunity to spend the day with him and share the experience of viewing the total eclipse.

I was disappointed as we drove out to the property because it rained pretty much the whole way, and I was concerned we wouldn't be able to see the eclipse. As we drove, I saw several people setting up on the side of the road or any grassy area that was available to view this once-in-a-lifetime event.

When we reached our destination it was still raining, but we set up a canopy and waited. Luckily, the rain stopped and the clouds opened in time for us to see totality. Watching the sun disappear was an amazing sight, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Story continued on next page

SPACE EDUCATION – CONTINUED

On our drive back we encountered another storm front, the sky darkened and rain came down again, which made the traffic of everyone heading back to Kansas City even slower. Once out of Kansas City, the weather cleared, but after stopping for gas and food in Emporia the rain once again found me. I finally made it home about 8 p.m. that night excited to share the events of the day with my family. What a great day it was!



Illustration 1: Road side eclipse viewing



Illustration 2: John enjoys the break in the cloud and the total eclipse



KOSMOnaut Suffers Stroke

A number of KOSMOnaut attended Airfest in Argonia, Ks. Labor Day weekend. Traveling together were Duane Lanterman, Keith Ravenstein and Dennis Elder all from the Great Bend area. On an absolutely picture perfect day for rockets this group was heading home having enjoyed a great day. As the crew approached Anthony, Ks. To stop in McDonald's for a quick lunch the totally unexpected happened. Dennis suffered a serious stroke in the car. EMT's responded from Anthony and after a short stay at their hospital he was transferred to St. Francis in Wichita. Later Dennis was transferred to St. Teresa's Rehab Hospital for a 30 day stay and he is now receiving therapy at Healthcare Resort of Shawnee Mission in Overland Park, Ks. His wife Edith gave us this update several days ago, "He's making small gains everyday – but recovery is slowing down a little – speech is not gaining much but 'they' say it's the last to recover." A fund raiser is planned in Bison, Ks. his home town on Nov. 4th. As more is know on this it will be posted to our club's email list as well as details on his location if you'd like to send a note or card. Pictured above are some of the participants and spectators at the Final Frontier Fun Fly with a sign "KEEP GETTING BETTER DENNIS." Your thoughts and prayers are appreciated for Dennis and his family.

If you have photos you'd like included in the DVD that Evin Beckman is working on (which will include the past 10 years of The KOSMOnaut) put them on a zip drive and bring in along to one of the two remaining launches this year. Thanks.

President's Update

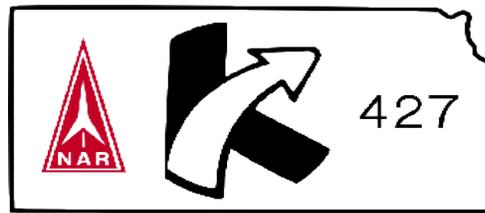
As you are aware early this year KOSMO's president Keith Ravenstein was diagnosed with cancer. He began chemo and radiation treatments after the 4th of July. Just prior to Labor Day Keith finished his treatments and things are looking up. His final lab test and scan are due just prior to Christmas with the anticipation of the announcement that he is "cancer free". Keith's latest posts say "I'm eating more food and enjoying it and have gained some weight. Life is good. "

WELCOME NEW MEMBER !



KOSMO'S newest member is Bill Lindsay Jr. of Wichita. Here Bill is shown after his successful Level 1 flight in Argonia. Bill is married and very active as president of EAA Chapter 88. Welcome Bill !

KOSMO 2017 LAUNCH CALENDAR



KOSMO - NAR #427

The launch year is nearing an end. Come on out to the field for fun before the snow flies !!

Rocket-tober Fest – Saturday Oct. 28 2017

Lanterman Family Farm

Ellinwood, Ks.

10,000 FAA Waiver

Bring your rockets and sack lunch for a fun fall day of launching. (Cold water provided)

Launch fee \$3 -*check website for last minute weather updates*

Nightflight – Saturday Nov. 11, 2017

Kansas State Fair Parking Lot

Hutchinson, Ks.

3pm – 7pm

Lighted rockets from sunset until 7pm

In case of inclement weather we will still meet on the field at 3pm and move inside somewhere .

from the KOSMO Archives -

This photo is from a launch we used to hold in November called “Low and Slow” for small model rockets. This one took place at the home of Mark and Bonnie Johnson in Wichita , Ks. The featured event was UFO type rockets. From left to Right: Ron Shipley, Mark Johnson, Joe Warnock, John Palmer, Steve Saner, Duane Lanterman, and Keith Ravenstien.



The article on John Palmer's Space Camp experience will appear in the Nov./Dec. Issue of The KOSMONaut. Stay tuned for this out of this world experience.

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