

# the KOSMONAUT



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# NIGHTFLIGHT - "KINDA"

For quite a number of years now November on the KOSMO launch calendar has been an afternoon launch followed by night rockets as soon as the sun sets. Years before that that the November launch was called "Low and Slow" as the launch usually took place in someones yard and the rockets were low on the impulse scale. This years launch appeared to be victim of the Kansas winds, but as Saturday approached it became apparent that the winds would be just below limits and a nice group of members showed up at the State Fair Parking lot.

Keith Ravenstein brought out the launch equipment in the "club" trailer and has made some nice upgrades including a workbench.

Fred Smith came out early and didn't fly but displayed his newest creations which featured some intriguing air ducts to enhance performance. There were some interesting flights with Doug Bailey flying some micro rockets and slightly larger models. Among Duane Lanterman's flights was his Pringles rocket complete with 2 ounces of chips on a D motor (which were quickly devoured by Sharon Lanterman and Carol Bailey) Others that did fly included Steve Sanerand Keith Ravenstein. Members who were on hand but didn't fly included Dustin Wyant, Zac Twigg, and a surprise visit by Bill Lindsay. Bill has been battling colon caner and is also scheduled for knee replacement in January but managed to make the trip to Hutch. It was certainly good to see him out on the field. Duane and Sharon had family to see in Kingman and left early so his three night rockets remained in the car and as Steve Saner was the only other with a night rocket that portion of the event was scrubbed. Perhaps next year we can inspire others to build lighted rockets. As it was Veterans Day we honored Keith Ravenstein and Bill Lindsay.

And so our 2023 season came to an end. We managed to hold every scheduled event, 9 all together. The remainder of this newsletter will include a short recap of each of these launches. Our annual meeting is scheduled for Jan. 20 of 2024 where we will partake of some delicious food at the Hamous residence, set the 2024 calendar, pick contest events for KRAMO 43;

and various other matters. Plan to be there!



Doug Bailey, Fred Smith, Carol Bailey, Keith Ravenstein, Dustin Wyant, Steve Saner, Duane and Sharon Lanterman



Zac Twigg and Bill Lindsay

# Nightflight photos



Fred Smith showed off his new creations from his workshop hoping to take advantage of some ducting to enhance performance.



Doug Bailey launched several micro rockets including this Quest Space Fighter and a Dare to be Square kit.



Doug's Rocketarium Cerberus was grounded because of the wind, but the cluster model which he had detailed looked very nice.



D. Lanterman brought out his Joe Peklicz Pringles Kit loaded with 2 oz of chips.



Sharon L. and Carol B. enjoying the chips once returned to earth.



Steve Saner prepares to launch his Estes model.

# 2023 KOSMO YEAR IN REVIEW

January – Our annual meeting each January sets the launch calendar for the year, elects offices, pick events for our annual contest KRAMO, lets us share our winter project and more. We eat and then hash out what we think will happen in the year ahead. This past January we had a change in officers, something that doesn't happen too often. After 15 years of outstanding leadership Keith Ravenstein stepped down with Steve Saner assuming that role. Zac Twigg became the new VP, Jeremy Lepel took over the job of Contest Director, and Dustin Wyant accepted the office of RSO. Duane Lanterman remained as Secretary, Sharon Lanterman continues as Treasurer and Mark Johnson as Historian. Retro T-Shirts were ordered and an auction of rare rocketry kits at the end of the meeting, belonging to the late Joe Warnock, raised \$520 for his wife Peggy and \$223 for the club.

April 1-After two weeks of unfavorable weather our opening event for 2023, Springfest, took place at our high power field in Ellinwood. This gave some of our members an opportunity to launch some of their bigger projects but most of the day our members kept supper busy administering written test and inspecting rockets built by the Jayhawk High Power Rocketry Club based out of Kansas University. We also had two members of the River City Rocket Club from the University of Kentucky make the very long haul to the middle of Kansas. After the smoke had cleared we had 9 successful Level One flights and 2 Level Two flights. Two additional Level One flights failed to produce a successful flight. Tom Freeman of Wichita rejoined the club.



Jayhawk High Power Rocketry Club

River City Club



**KOSMOnauts** 

April 29 – Action moved to our low/mid power filed in Hutch to end April. Doug and Carol Bailey joined our club having recently moved from Oregon. It was a bit windy so we kept most flights to streamer recover and ended early in the afternoon. That gave some of us an opportunity to eat at Firehouse Subs and of course time to discuss our favorite hobby.



KOSMO crew in Hutch (April)



Steve Saner with Doug and Carol

May – The month of May saw members in Washington DC (TARC), Colorado (NSL) and back home in Hutch.



While our crew was in Kansas we received updates on TARC



Jeremy L and Duane L with New Shepards. RTF and Builders editions.

#### YEAR IN REVIEW

May (Continued) – While our club was launching in Hutch, the Air Capital STEM team was competing at The American Rocketry Challenge (TARC) in DC. The team was accompanied by KOSMO member Bill Lindsay and various other KOSMO members served as mentors throughout their preparations. Making the top 100 is always satisfying and this year they placed 59<sup>th</sup> in Washington.



AIR CAPITAL STEAM Club



Bill Lindsay and team at White House

At the end of May 5 KOSMOnauts traveled to the rare air of Colorado to attend NSL. They absolutely loved the Estes Tour and the surprise visit by Mr and Mrs. Estes. Out on the field the guys had a mix of success and heartbreak but enjoyed the chance to fly on this outstanding field.



DJ and Dustin Wyant, Zac Twigg, Steve Saner,

Keith Ravenstein

June – Since the beginning of KOSMO the month of June has meant our annual contest event call KRAMO. This year we were joined by a large contingent of young people from Sylvan Grove a 120 mile drive. Called the Hometown Helpers they had just finished making Apogee Apprentice kits. They must have put up about 40 flights! Our competitors launched 54 contest flights in 6 events and 19 sport flights. The weather was nearly perfect but Sundays planned day two was scrubbed with the forecast of wind and rain. It was a great day of competition and fun!

PHOTOS TOP RIGHT: KRAMO COMPETITORS

PHOTO BOTTOM RIGHT: HOMETOWN HELPERS





## YEAR IN REVIEW - continued

July — As summer rolled into central Kansas our start time changed to 9am for launches at the Hutchinson field with things concluding shortly noon. Prior to our scheduled launch through the week we experienced scatter storms but Saturday morning arrived with nearly perfect weather. Attendance was up as KOSMO president Steve Saner brought along 14 relatives gathered for a family reunion. Many had traveled from the northern tier of states including family members from Canada. To say that they enjoyed Steve's hobby would be an understatement and to top it off Steve's mom brought some homemade cookies to share with everyone. We also had some visitors from the Great Bend area. 33 rockets in 3 hours made for a very enjoyable Saturday morning.



A lot of these folks claim to be related to KOSMO president Steve Saner

July – Long time KOSMOnaut and now a DAR member John Palmer took in scale day at the World Space Modeling Championships. Saturn V in prep area.



This young man from Canada was absorbing everything about our sport.



August – A bit warmer than July but still a nice August morning in Kansas. Mike Stewart who recently rejoined the club made the long haul from the KC area. A slightly different mix of members in attendance and a nice variety of models flew into the sky. Jayla Wyant had just returned from a 4 week stay in Japan so we had a chance to visit and she shared shared some delicious and interesting candies she had brought back.

August – Duane Lanterman, KOSMO Secretary and two of his grandkids visited the world famous Cosmosphere while in Hutchinson. Check out that moon rock!



August crew above and Mike in photo to right





September – Action in September moved to our high power field and we had a very nice turn out including long time KOSMO member Bob Wingate from Independence MO and Mike Stewart and wife Sharon making the drive from the KC area, Austin Streit from Salina, Steve Saner from Andover, and a contingent from Great Bend including Keith Ravenstein, Duane Lanterman, Rick Calvert, Dustin Wyant and Cody and Parker Lanterman. Among notable flights were Duane's Eagle 428 on a H135, Steve Saner's "The Reckoning" beeping out 8605' on a K550, Austin's Hi-Tech on a G67R, Keith's Little Squat making multiple flights on E9's. Bob Wingate's nice fleet of rockets included a Der V-3, Goblin, and Nu-way Mark 4, and Cody and Parker with some of their Estes rocket kits. One of the more anticipated flights of the day was Mike's level One HP flight. His rocket was one of the last remaining KOSMO club rocket kits version 2 and it flew successfully on a H135W. The temperatures during the day were in the low 90's but the winds remained very favorable, always a good thing in Kansas.



Top photo: Bob and Rick Bottom: Steve and "the Reckoning"

September – KOSMO member Jayla Wyant receives the Jay Apt Scholarship for academics, potential, and participation in sport rocketry.

October – Our turnout at the last high power launch was somewhat disappointing but the flights were not! Among Duane Lanterman's flights were an Argent on an F26 and a Star Orbiter with E 15. Steve Saner's Spool ripped off the pad on a H123 and Keith Ravenstein's Ford Explorer made numerous flights on E9's. Zac Twigg made the most of the field with flights on an I205, H100, and a I500. Sharon Lanterman delivered pizza and pop out to the group making for an enjoyable day.

November – see cover story





Keith and Ford Explorer



Zac at the HP pad



# From the President's Pen



# A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to the entire KOSMO family.

Our next big event is the 2024 annual meeting. For those that have not yet attended an annual meeting, this is the time when we address a variety of business items for the club. We elect any new officers, plan the launch schedule for the new year, choose events for the KRAMO contest, and a few other items. I am including a tentative agenda below. If you have any other agenda items that you feel should be discussed, please let me know.

Another purpose of the annual meeting is simply an opportunity to get together and share some food and conversation. You are encouraged to bring any winter projects that you might be working on to share. If you have any questions or problems that you are trying to work out, this is a good opportunity to talk to others about it.

The annual meeting is also the time that most KOSMO members choose to pay their annual membership dues (\$15 for individual or family).

# Tentative Agenda – KOSMO 2024 Annual Meeting – January 20, 2024

- Call meeting to order
- Reading of last meeting's minutes
- Treasures report
- Committee Reports
- Discussion of any old business
- Discussion of new business
  - Election of 2024 officers and committee chairs
  - Planning of 2024 launch schedule
  - Planning of KRAMO and KRAMO events
  - Launch site insurance updates/changes
  - NAR member sponsorship
  - Jr L1 kit sponsorship
  - Kit Bash Contest
  - NAR Safety Grant ideas
  - Awarding of the traveling trophy
  - NSL Discussion (lodging etc)
  - Other new business
- Adjourn meeting

### **Current Officers**

President/Sr Advisor: Steve Saner

Vice President: Zac Twig Secretary: Duane Lanterman Treasure: Sharon Lanterman **Current Committee Chairs** 

Webmaster: Steve Saner RSO: Dustin Wyant

Contest Director: Jeremy Lepel Historian: Mark Johnson FAA Waivers: Keith Ravenstein

Fly-It Take It: Bill Lindsay

#### **KOSMO ANNUAL MEETING**

# **SATURDAY JANUARY 20 2024**

STEVE AND JANET HAMOUS RESIDENCE 2615 WILDERNESS COURT WICHITA KS

### **NOON UNTIL 3PM**

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED AT NOON (IF IT'S NOT ROCKETS STEVE OTHER PASSION IS FOOD) SUGGESTED DONATION FOR LUNCH IS \$10

The Hamous's will graciously give lunch donations to the Wichita Area TARC Team.

# **PARTIAL AGENDA -**

- Call meeting to order
- Reading of last meeting's minutes
- Treasures report
- Committee Reports
- Discussion of any old business
- Discussion of new business
  - Election of 2024 officers and committee chairs
  - Planning of 2024 launch schedule
  - Planning of KRAMO and KRAMO events
  - Launch site insurance updates/changes
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  - NAR Safety Grant ideas
  - Awarding of the traveling trophy
  - NSL Discussion (lodging etc)
  - Other new business

"SHOW AND TELL" OF YOUR NEW OR ONGOING PROJECTS

FOR UPDATES ON THE MEETING, POSSIBLE WEATHER ISSUES, AND DIRECTIONS TO STEVE'S HOME CHECK OUR EMAIL LIST, WEB-PAGE AND OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

#### **KIT BASH ROCKETS AND CONTEST**

KEEP YOUR EYES PEALED FOR EMAILS FROM OUR PRESIDENT STEVE SANER IN REGARDS TO THE KITS HE PLANS ON MAKING AVAILABLE FOR THE KIT BASH EVENT. <u>YOU WILL NEED TO RESPOND TO HIS UPDATES BY THE END OF DECEMBER IF YOU PLAN TO PARTICIPATE!</u>

### **OPPORTUNITY TO BUY SOME COOL STUFF**

FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL MEETING BILL LINDSAY WILL BE OFFERING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS THAT YOU MAY WANT TO TAKE HOME. CASH OR PERSONNEL CHECKS ACCEPTED.

Animal Works Blue Baboon kit – Already built- 54mm mount 3" dia. Fiberglass and an additional Fiberglass kit already built with 54mm mount Several Peanut Scale Guillows rubber band kits – unassembled

Control line airplane unassembled .49 cox motor

And several unbuilt plastic model kits.

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