

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE KANSAS ORGANIZATION  
FOR SPACEMODELING

# the **KOSMONAUT**



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*Illustration 1: LOW AND SLOW AT THE FAIRGROUNDS*

## **Inside this issue:**

- \*Launch Coverage of "Nightflight" and "Low and Slow"**
- \*UPCOMING ANNUAL MEETING DETAILS**
- \*AND MORE !**



## **"Nightflight" at the Hutch Fair Grounds**

**When we first arrived at the launch site it appeared the winds might present a problem, but they quickly died down and as the evening set in, the full moon presided over a calm and beautiful evening.**

**We had seven members launching and between 3pm and 8pm put up 52 flights, 10 of them after the sun had gone down. We also held our Jr. Dragster class of drag races.**

**The Jr. Dragsters are basically rockets with at least .75" of dia. and powered by a single A motor. KOSMO rules give points for first off, highest altitude, and first safely down. Six competitors signed up and in the first round John Palmer defeated Duane Lanterman, Steve Saner took the victory over Evan Beckman (who failed to leave the pad), and cousin's Brayton took out Kyler. Round two saw John Palmer taking out grandson Brayton and Steve Saner received a bye due to an uneven field. Steve elected to race Evan in an unofficial round since Evan failed to launch in round one. Steve's flight resulted in damage to the model but he quickly repaired it and took on John Palmer for the finals. Steve won the round and the blue ribbon. I believe this is Steve's third straight year to win the Jr. class. Looks like someone in the club needs to work on reaction times and prevent Steve from doing a Four-peat in 2014.**

**In the sport flight segment John Palmer put up 10 flights followed by Duane Lanterman with 8 and 6 each for Fred Smith, Steve Saner, and Evan Beckman. John Palmer's grand kids Kyler and Brayton put up 5 flights between them. John had an interesting fleet of sport scale models including the Future Launch Vehicle, Amram, Sidewinder, Saturn 5, SR71, and Gemini Titan. Duane was finally able to launch his two Shrocket inspired rocket dragsters against each other with very cool results. (In their initial outing the one rocket found a power line in Ellinwood, had to be rescued and required some shop time to be flight worth again). Fred Smith had successful flights of his Falcon, BT50, and his X2013. He appeared to have lost two of the models, but thanks to Keith and Monica Ravenstein both models returned to the very surprised and thankful owner. Evan had a very nice Zenith II, good looking Interceptor, and a rarely seen SpaceShip One that flew very nicely. Kyler and Brayton had some nice Estes kits including the Metalizer, Crome, and Red Max.**

**The night portion of the launch had 10 flights and it was apparent after doing this for a number of years we are finally getting some much brighter lighting on the models, making for better night launches. It is amazing how what seems very bright in testing in one's shop is so much harder to see once its several hundred feet in the air and stars can look like one's model as you gaze upward. Think we all had a good time with this portion of the launch. Our trusty president Keith Ravenstein ran the drag pads and helped with the launching. He had spent several hours in a parking lot in Salina earlier in the day replacing a serpentine belt on his car and had put in a full day by the time he and his wife pulled into Hutchinson. We left the Hutch field in the dark making plans to be right back there in two weeks for the clubs final launch of 2013.**

## **"LOW AND SLOW" WITH PIZZA PLEASE !**

Our "Low and Slow" launch has been around for a number of years and originally got its name because the launches were generally held in someone's front or back yard and rockets were limited to micro rockets or those that generally didn't go over 2 or 3 hundred feet. Food was always associated with these launches (generally pizza) and unfortunately wind or cold weather hampered a number of these resulting in mostly talk, videos, and of course food. So regardless of weather, we have always hold our November launch whether we launched rockets or not. This year the Hutchinson Fair Grounds parking lot has worked out so well for our non-highpower launches that that field was also chosen for the "Low and Slow" allowing for a wider range of rockets to be flown.

As the 2pm launch time arrived the wind was a little brisk and it was definitely jacket time. By 3pm the winds had died and launch conditions were near perfect. Four members showed up along with 3 of their wives and a guest. In the three hours at the field we had 32 launches, four of them being clusters and two of them being two stage flights. Keith Ravenstein had the most launches of the day, most of them from his high drag model, Dare 2B Square. Keith had a bunch of B6-0's that he wanted to burn. Following in launch count was John Palmer who had a virtual history of manned space flight in his arsenal along with several other sport scale models. His launch log for the day included a Chinese Scenzhou, Atlas Agena, Delta 2, Harpoon, Mercury Atlas, Gemini Titan, Saturn 1B, Saturn 5, and Space Shuttle. Duane Lanterman had several "tube" finned rockets and his 2-Stage Crossfire on hand. Steve Saner had his smokey Wildcat at the pad on a cluster of 3 D's and his beautiful Big Bertha that always flies arrow straight. Also on the field was Adam, a chemistry teacher from a nearby high school. He had just purchased a number of rockets the day before at Hobby Lobby where he ran into John Palmer . John invited him out for the day and it appeared he thoroughly enjoyed the day, asking lots of questions and telling us chemistry facts and stories we enjoyed. We are hoping Adam will bring a number of his students out to KOSMO launches in 2014!

The day ended with a great meal at Ken's Pizza just a few blocks from the field. It was decided to have the annual meeting at the Lanterman home outside of Great Bend in January 2014. See information page this issue.

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**WELCOME NEW MEMBER-** A big welcome to our newest member Kwinter Hartshorn from Timken, Ks. Kwinter is a junior member and we hope to see him at most of our launches next year. President Keith Ravenstein will be helping Kwinter get his Jr. Level One next year. Welcome Kwinter, glad to have you aboard ! Thanks also to Dennis Elder for introducing Kwinter to the club.



# NIGHTFLIGHT



*Illustration 2: BRAYTON AND KYLER LOAD UP*



*Illustration 3: NIGHTFLIGHT CREW*



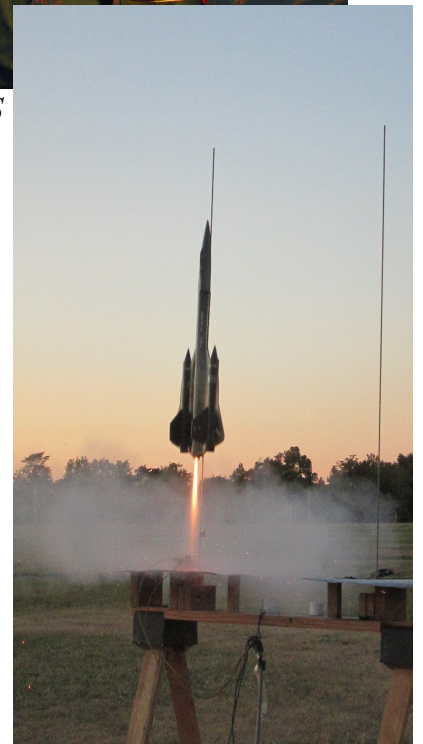
*Illustration 4: DRAG RACE WINNERS*



*Illustration 5: EVAN BECKMAN AND SPACESHIP ONE*



*Illustration 7: STEVE SANER'S NIGHT ROCKET*



*Illustration 6: JOHN PALMER'S SR71 AT DUSK*



# LOW AND SLOW



*Illustration 8: JOHN'S MERCURY REDSTONE*



*Illustration 9: JOHN PALMER AND HIS DELTA 2*



*Illustration 10: STEVE SANER AND HIS 3 CLUSTER "WILDCAT"*



*Illustration 11: YUP, JOHN'S AGAIN, THIS TIME A SATURN*

# NEWS AND NOTES

**Ron Shipley update-** About 15 months ago we were shocked to receive the news that long time KOSMO member Ron Shipley had cancer. I visited with him several days ago by phone and here is an update for all of you who have been inquiring about his health. Ron seemed very upbeat as we visited although he has a long way to go with his battle with cancer. In November an MRI revealed no cancer in his brain. This is great news. His CT scan showed that other areas that were effected have shown no increase, perhaps a little decrease. Ron is quite weak in the legs and so unfortunately he is unable to go down stairs and work in his rocket shop or on his model railway. He did express interest in attending the annual meeting in January and will be making an effort to attend with his wife Caroline. It would be great to see you Ron. We have all missed you so much at the launches. Continue to get better, our prayers are with you and your wife.



*Illustration 12: Ron with Vern and Gleda Estes Aug. 2010*

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IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR A GAIN !

**The KANSAS ORGANIZATION FOR  
SPACEMODELING'S  
ANNUAL MEETING.**

**SUNDAY JANUARY 12 2014**

**LANTERMAN RESIDENCE – NORTH OF GREAT BEND, KS.**

**642 NORTH HOMESTEAD DR. (BARTON HILLS SUBDIVISION)**

**LUNCH BEGINS AT NOON (\$5 SUGGESTED DONATION)**

**MEETING WILL CONCLUDE AROUND 3PM**

**ALL CLUB MEMBERS AND THOSE WISHING TO JOIN ARE WELCOME**

**BRING YOUR WINTER PROJECTS TO SHARE**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**TRAVELING TROPHY AWARD**

**LAUNCH CALENDAR FOR 2014 WILL BE SET**

**KRAMO 34 EVENTS WILL BE CHOSEN**

**FOR LAST MINUTE UPDATES CHECK OUR WEBSITE AT**

**[www.kramo427.org](http://www.kramo427.org) OR CALL 620-792-9531**

**BARTON HILLS SUBDIVISION 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 ROAD.**