



celebrating 45 years as a nar section the KOSMONAUT

OFFICIAL OF THE KANSAS ORGANIZATION FOR SPACEMODELING NAR SECTION #427 MARCH/APPIL 2025 VOL 44 NO 2





SPRINGFEST EXPERIENCES OUTSTANDING WEATHER

as reported by Duane Lanterman

In a month that Kansas can include high 80's degree temperatures in the same week as a blizzard (as it did this year) our primary launch day selection turned out to be near perfect. Oh, and did I mentioned the almost omnipresent wind in March, the day featured nary a breeze. We saw some really nice flights throughout our the day and a first ever *G Power and up Spot Landing Contest* was hotly contested. We had a young man visit from Manhattan who also launched with us that day and we were blessed by the appearance of Mike Dickinson along with his son and brother. Mike who hails from Oklahoma City used to be a regular at our Final Frontier Fun Fly and is still active with Tripoli.





S. Saner, D. Wyant, DJ Wyant, A. Streit, Z. Twigg, K. Ravenstein, S. Hamous, D. Lanterman

MORE FROM SPRINGFEST -



KEITH'S 'SKETTER' MADEDJ AND DNUMEROUS FLIGHTS ON E9'SPHOENIX



DJ AND DUSTIN AND THEIR PHOENIX



AUSTIN PREPS HIS MODEL FOR THE "G" AND UP SPOT LANDING CONTEST



ZAC WITH HIS H283 "STRIKER" NARROWLY WON THE SPOT LANDING CONTEST



STEVE TOOK A CLOSE SECOND IN THE SPOT LANDING CONTEST. AMAZINGLY HIS CLOSEST ATTEMPT AT APOGEE WAS 9398'.



DUANE'S ESTES PROWLER FLEW WELL ON A F41

MORE SPRINGFEST

PAUL MORGENROTH WAS OUR GUEST FROM MANHATTAN KS. THIS WAS PAUL'S FIRST CLUB LAUNCH AND ADDED 3 FLIGHTS TO OUR LOG. GOOD TO HAVE YOU PAUL.

MIKE DICKENSON AND SON FROM OK CITY AND HIS BROTHER FROM GREAT BEND MADE AN APPEARANCE AT OUR LAUNCH. MIKE FLEW AT MANY SEPTEMBER LAUNCHES WITH US YEARS AGO. HE IS STILL ACTIVE MOSTLY WITH TRIPOLI.









DJ PREPARES HIS R/C SR71 FOR ANOTHER AMAZING FLIGHT





AUSTIN'S OLYMPIA MILLISECONDS BEFORE THE E12 CATO

Below is the obituary for Natalya (Tally) Shain. Natalya flew with the Wichita Area TARC Team and made the trip to the Finals in Washington DC in 2023 and was part of the team in 2024 which also qualified for the Finals. A number of KOSMOnauts got to know Natalya well as they assisted the team along with some fun activities. Bill Lindsay, team captain, was especially close to this amazing young lady. Our sympathy goes out to her family and friends.

Natalya Leigh Shain

March 18, 2011 - April 4, 2025

Natalya Leigh Shain was born on March 18, 2011 in Newport News, Virginia where she lived until she was three. While there, she was happiest outside and in the ocean. At three years old, she and her family moved to Wichita, Kansas. There the family joined Temple Baptist Church where Tally eventually started school at Temple Baptist Academy. Over her fifth birthday, the family took a spring break vacation to Dallas where they went to the Six Flags amusement park and visited the PEROT Museum of Nature and Science. Tally always said this trip was for HER birthday. Starting in 2016, Tally and her siblings spent a part of their summers with their grandparents in North Dakota where they went to museums and historic sites, rode horses in the Badlands, and attended Liberty Camp. When she was seven years old, Natalya trusted Christ as her Saviour at school, after a chapel service. She had asked questions about salvation for several months before choosing to trust Christ. That was followed by being baptized and joining TempleBaptist Church.

In 2022-2023, Tally was a member of the Wichita Team – American Rocketry Challenge which placed in the top 100 teams of the country, winning them a trip to Washington, DC to compete in nationals. Natalya loved her church and being involved with its many activities – services, revivals, camps, outreach, youth group nursing home ministry, and the school. She adored all of the littles in her church and was always seen holding or playing with the babies and toddlers. She also loved her small circle of faithful friends who did everything with her, including regularly climbing a tree after church. Animals were another of her loves. In addition to having had numerous dogs and several cats, she also had at times – chickens, turtles and a hedgehog. As an extension of her love for animals was a collection of stuffed ones -186 to be exact. Tally loved all things "Harry Potter," hailing from the Gryffindor House, and enjoyed fulfilling the roll of "Sorting Hat." Her favorite character was the house elf, Dobi and she was broken hearted when he died. Natalya was a unique individual who reveled in her individuality which included wearing mixed-matched colors and patterns. She was described by others as snarky, feisty, tough, faithful, playful, and above all else – LOVING! Among Tally's favorites were – the color purple, giraffes, the movie How to Train Your Dragon, the hymn "Love of God," the TV show Bluey, and the book Dogs of the Drowned City. Her favorite activity was climbing a tree to read a book. Her least favorite thing was butterflies. On October 30, 2024, Natalya was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia and began a battle which she fought bravely. Her stays at both Wesley and Children's Mercy hospitals touched many lives as she interacted with and was cared for by physicians, nurses, therapists, and volunteers (including a dog named Dusty), many of whom came to love her. Tally's battle with cancer ended in victory on April 4, 2025, when she left this temporary home, waking in the arms of her Saviour. Natalya is preceded in death by her maternal grandfather Kenneth Knight, Grandma Auntie (her title) Michelle Martin (Missy), and a cousin Lily Dahlia Hernandez. She is survived by her parents Jonathan and Ruth (Knight) Shain, her brothers Tyler and Wyatt, her sister Larissa, paternal grandparents Don and Peggy Shain, maternal grandmother Llora Knight, thirteen uncles, nine aunts, and thirty-three cousins.



45 Years? Really? No Way! Reflections on a Kansas Rocket Club Mark Johnson -Club Historian

Has it really been 45 years since KOSMO, and its signature contest event KRAMO, started? My gut tells me there's no way this could be true, but the calendar doesn't lie. Back in 1980, I was contacted by Ken McAlpine, an NAR member who lived in Rose Hill and worked at Boeing, with the idea of starting a NAR section. We got together a few times and got things rolling, adding some other local and not-so-local members along the way.

Our very first 'club launch' was held somewhat covertly, flying out of the Butler County southeast materials yard (gravel, asphalt waste, and dirt storage) just outside Rose Hill. The memory that sticks in my mind from that event was a vicious prang of a rocket powered by a Composite Dynamics F45 that suffered an ejection failure. It went straight up and came straight down, hitting the hard ground about 8 feet from me. It sounded like a shotgun blast from my point of view. Other flights that day were a lot more successful fortunately.

Within a few months, Bonnie and I had purchased a 5-acre lot outside Wichita and started on construction of our home there. We flew KRAMO-1 from that location – then surrounded by empty, unsold lots – using the foundation of our house as prep area and seating area. The house itself was a pile of lumber that had been delivered a few days before. We had a great time, and the one flight I remember was another less-than-successful one that came as a big surprise. Joe Warnock's C Egglofter suffered a partial 'chute failure and came down after only 14 seconds, landing on the lumber pile with a loud *thwack*. Amazingly, the egg survived and Joe placed either 2nd or 3rd in the event. Later, at KRAMO-4, he flew a similar B Egglofter to a then-record 133 meters, a record that would stand for quite a few years, and an altitude that is still quite respectable in B Eggloft.

Fast forward a few years – our field shrank as more houses were built, and we moved KRAMO to Lake Afton Park, west of Wichita. Lots of good times there – as long as the wind blew out of the north or south! East winds could put your birds into the tree line (really dense brush) or the wheatfield on the other side of it. West winds could result in a bit of a swim, although I only recall a couple of times that happened. We had no problem sharing the field with the model aircraft crowd, although one of them did once crash within 15 feet of our spot landing target...when he came over to pick up the pieces we told him he would have won the event!

The biggest change came as the 'center of gravity' of the club shifted to the north and west – Hutchinson and Great Bend. As a result, KRAMO and most of our other launches were moved to the State Fairgrounds parking lot – 160 acres, but surrounded by houses on 3 sides. Many thanks go to John Palmer, who was instrumental in getting us permission to use the field, and served as the contact with the fair board for many years. The Hutchinson site has the advantage for out-of-town folks in that it's only a short drive to motels and food, instead of 15 miles out in the country like Lake Afton. I'll close with an editorial comment: Competition rocketry, at least for our club, doesn't seem to be as much fun these days. The coming of the NRC system has meant that there is a lot less incentive to travel to regional rocket launches, so we don't get nearly as many out-of-towners as we once did...I can remember having guests from Texas, Colorado, Oklahoma, and even Wisconsin quite regularly 'back in the day.' But, I guess times change.

Anyway...hats off to the folks who have kept the club going for all these years. You're doing a great job and living now in Columbia Missouri I wish I could be around more!

UPCOMING CLUB LAUNCHES

KOSMO SPORT LAUNCH HUTCHINSON KS – MAY 10- STATE FAIR PARKING LOT -10 AM=4PM

This is our low/mid power field. Every effort must be made to keep your rocket within the bounds of the field. Close to lots of amenities in Hutch this is a great field for a fun day. Pick up your 45th Anniversary shirts here!



KOSMO'S 45TH ANNUAL CONTEST/FUN FLY KRAMO 45 – JUNE 7 (BACKUP DATE JUNE 8) CHECK FACEBOOK, CLUB WEBSITE, CLUB EMAIL FOR LAUNCH DAY UPDATE STATE FAIR GROUNDS PARKING LOT SATURDAY 10AM-4PM (SUNDAY 9MA-3PM IF NECESSARY)

ESTES ALPHA "B" STREAMER DURATION – any stock Alpha kit with contestants choice of streamer ESTES ALPHA "A' PARACHUTE DURATION – any stock Alpha kit with contestants choice of parachute YOU MAY REPLACE THE STOCK SHOCK CORD IN YOUR ALPHA MODELS WITH YOU PREFERENCE OPEN SPORT LANDING -

BOOST GLIDE "1/2A" DURATION

ESTES GREEN EGG "C" DURATION – kit must be stock with stock parachute C11-3 engines will be available for purchase from the club for \$3.75 on the field SPORT FLIGHTS ARE ENCOURAGED THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

CONTEST ENTRY FEE IS ONLY \$4.50 AS WE CELEBRATE THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THIS EVENT

PRIZES AND RIBBONS AWARDED AT THE END OF THE DAYS ACTIVITIES

The event will also allow any NRC EVENTS to be flown but contestant is responsible for providing appropriate altimeters or payloads for these events and events chosen must reasonably remain with in the bounds of the field.

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CURRENT CLUB OFFICERS -			
PRESIDENT/SR. ADVISOR - STEVE SANER	VICE PRESIDENT -ZAC TWIGG		
SECRETARY – DUANE LANTERMAN	TREASURER – SHARON LANTERMAN		
CURRENT COMMITTEE LEADS-			
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CONTEST DIRECTOR – JEREMY LEPEL	FAA WAIVERS – DUSTIN WYANT		
FLYIT/TAKE IT – BILL LINDSAY	WEBMASTER – STEVE SANER		

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