



the KOSMOⁿaut

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MAY SPORT LAUNCH RESULTS IN FUN MORNING

by duane lanterman

We'd had a bit of a lay off from our last launch so it was great to get back together with our group. The weather at 10am was ideal and 22 rockets made successful flights but a bit after noon a shower that we'd been watching approach let loose and we had to quickly pack up the equipment. Some of us hung around to eat at the local Boogie's before heading home. The morning was marked by a bit of excitement as the new launch controller constructed by Jeremy Lepel was put to the test and our new tripod launch pads adapted for rocket use by Steve Hamous were also used. The purchase of both of these was aided greatly by a grant by the National Association of Rocketry. A big THANK YOU to our organization for the financial assistance.



Duane Lanterman, Steve Hamous, DJ Wyant, Dustin Wyant, Jeremy Lepel, Doug Bailey, Carol Bailey, Steve Saner, and Fred Smith



The new pads were quickly loaded for flight



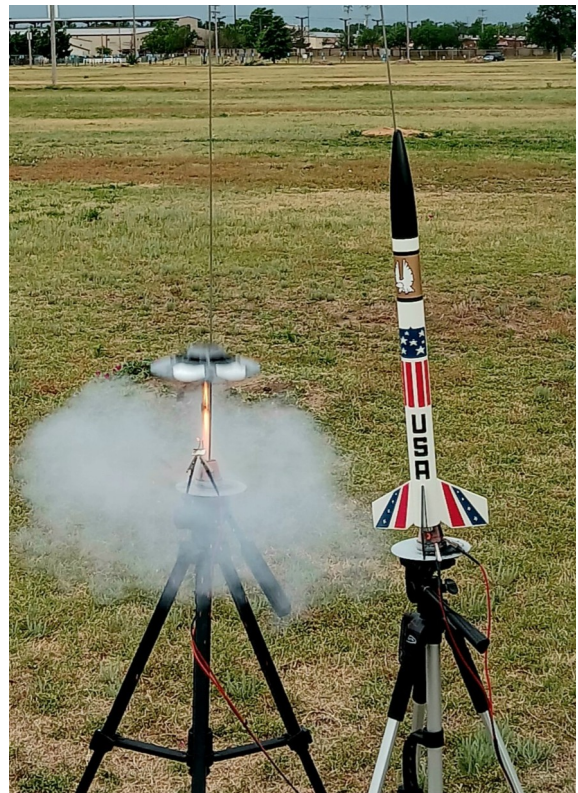
Doug and Carol with their kit bash rockets



Doug and Duane with their Estes Low Boom SST's

More May Photos

Top Row: (L to R) Steve Hamous's Classic Models - 85 years young, Fred Smith builds some great tower launched minimum diameter models - Jeremy Lepel's Nike Apache
Bottom Row: (L to R) Steve Saner's Pringle rocket is a crowd pleaser - Steve Hamous's UFO blast off next to the always visually pleasing Citation Patriot built by Jeremy Lepel



ANNUAL CONTEST CONTINUES ITS TRADITION

by Duane Lanterman data courtesy of Jeremy Lepel

It's as old as our club itself. Dating back to 1980 the founders of our club decided a NAR sanctioned contest should happen in June of that year and so for decades now that event has been a tradition in the month of June. The event name KRAMO stands for Kansas Rocket Aero Modelers Open. Back in the day there were open, regional, and national contest. KRAMO over the years waffled between an open and regional meet. The way the points system was originally set up encouraged folks to travel for points and so KRAMO had contestants from Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Wisconsin, Missouri, Arkansas, and other places and until the last couple of years it was a two day event. As competition has waned in recent years the contest now is mostly club KOSMO club members and a single day event. Still, the event prompts us to move from sport models or high power models and accept the challenge of a contest format. This year had four challenging events as well as time for sport flights. Jeremy Lepel has done a great job the past few years running the event. Doug and Carol Bailey provided the very limited edition ribbons and certificates and the club provided some cool prizes for the winners.

The events were – Baby Bertha Spot Landing – Contestants used a stock Baby Bertha with their choice of recovery method to land closest to a spot on the field. Each contestant got 2 chances at the event. This was a very popular event with all 7 contestants giving it ago and the winner was Austin Streit followed by Carol Bailey and Duane Lanterman in third.

The second event was 1/2A Streamer Duration. This event saw Duane Lanterman in first edging out Jeremy Lepel by two seconds and Austin Streit third.

A unique event called “A” scale duration again saw Duane Lanterman in first followed again by Jeremy Lepel and Carol Bailey in third. Doug Bailey might have had a dog in the race if not for the fact that his model was left behind on the kitchen table.

The final event was 1/2A parachute duration multi-round. Each contestant had three flights to achieve the highest total duration. Getting the big chutes to deploy was a common problem. Steve Saner walked away with first place followed again by Jeremy Lepel in second and Austin Streit in third.

At the end of the day first place overall went to Duane Lanterman, second place belonged to Jeremy Lepel, and Carol Bailey took home third place honors.

Besides the contest flights 20 sport flights were made including those of Fred Smith, Michael Mitchell, Sharon Lanterman, and a fly it take it participant who did not complete in the contest.

A few photos of the event on the next page.

PHOTO MEMORIES FROM KRAMO 46

TOP ROW LEFT TO RIGHT -

Carol Bailey in her third KRAMO did quite well with a third place overall finish.

Mike Mitchell flew an interesting variety of classic models as a sport flier.

Bob Wingate made a return to competition at KRAMO and also flew some very nice sport models.

BOTTOM ROW LEFT TO RIGHT -

Sharon Lanterman joined the fun with an arrow straight flight with her kit bash model.

Fred Smith put up some really high flights out of tower and collected some data with his altimeter.

Doug and Carol Bailey really out did themselves by providing the certificates and ribbons given out to first through third in each event and overall placing. Thanks!!



Me and my Soyuz

Story and photos by John Palmer KOSMO'DAR Member

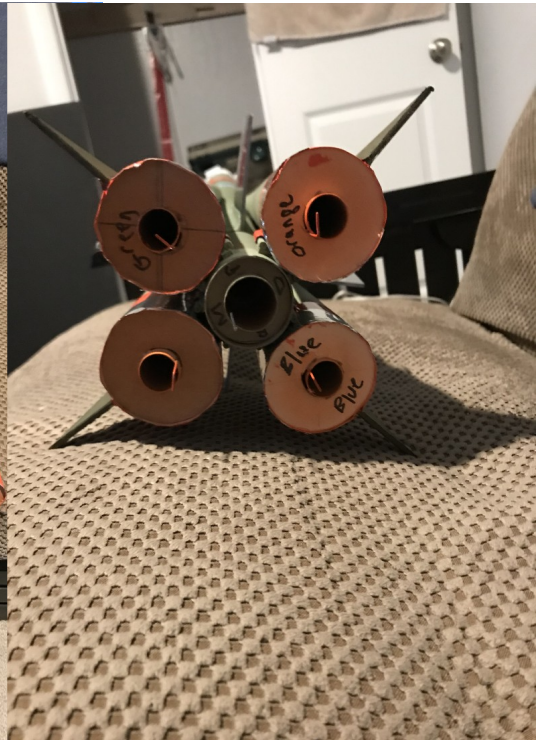
For many years I have thought about a staged and cluster Soyuz. Using the Estes Soyuz as a guide I ordered some parts from BMS. I often wondered how I would deploy the boosters then I came up with the idea of gluing the nose cones to the main body, when the ejection charges fire the booster will be released and a red streamer is deployed. You know trying to find an army green rocket parts in a cow pasture would not be fun. The boosters were a challenge. How to taper the booster. I made some templates with BT20 attached to a BT70 tube. I cut thin strips of paper long enough to reach from the top to bottom. Gluing them one at a time till it made a complete circle. Then I cut them off and I had a template to layout on my 11x17 cardstock. I then rolled them around the BT20 template and after a few practice attempts, I finally had 4 good ones. I cut some fins out of balsa and anchored them to the engine mounts and the lower centering ring. Attaching the boosters at the bottom of the rocket was accomplished with small dowels and lugs. The main body is BT70 transitioning to BT60 just like the Estes. Nose cone and transition is from BMS. I drilled out the transition so the BT50 motor tube would fit through it so the ejection charge does not have to fill so much volume. Nose cone was balsa and I drilled it out also to install the launch escape motor and added some weight. The escape motor bells are made from old pen caps. It helps to have worked at an office supply store. For guidance I cut out clear fins from a piece of Lexan and epoxied them on in between were the boosters mounted. After painting I made some of my own decals. I decided to put a little joke on the rocket. Notice the Ukrainian flag next to the Russian flag. I also use a Ukrainian space logo for some more fun.

Launch day was next. The day was damp and humid. I set the rocket up in the morning before I left the house. First stage had 1 D12-0 and 4 C5-3s, second stage was a single D12-3. I put the rocket on the pad. Waited for the countdown then LAUNCH!! Fire, smoke and liftoff all five motors ignited. Straight up, then came staging and while not the Korolev Cross they all separated beautifully. Then the second stage kicked in and again straight up. At apogee the 24" chute came out and the rocket floated down with no damage. I was excited that everything went so well.

Me and my Soyuz – photo gallery

TOP ROW OF PHOTOS MOVING LEFT TO RIGHT
ESTES SOYUZ AND JOHN'S MODEL OF THE RIGHT – SCRATCH BUILT BOOSTERS
WITH RED STREAMER RECOVERY – THE BUSINESS END OF THE MODEL

BOTTOM ROW OF PHOTOS MOVING LEFT TO RIGHT
LIFT OFF ! – STRAIGHT BOOST – SECOND STAGE IGNITION AS BOOSTERS SEPARATE
AND HEAD BACK TO EARTH



How I Do by Michael Mitchell



(not) attaching parachutes

One rocket kit instruction step I **ALWAYS** skip is attaching the parachute to the rocket. Instead, I maintain a supply of plastic, aluminized mylar, and fabric parachutes of various sizes, each one attached to a snap swivel. I do this for four reasons, all important to me: 1) This provides me the flexibility to select a variety of parachute sizes, depending upon the flying conditions and/or desired rate of descent; 2) I tend to err on the side of using less (rather than more) recovery wadding, as I fear clogging my rocket with material that might not be ejected, hence a failed recovery. This has occasionally resulted in singed or melted parachutes. When that happens, I can easily select and use another ‘chute next time (and likely use a bit more wadding); 3) I believe I experience less tangling and twisting of my parachute lines when a snap swivel is in play; and 4) I always have an ample supply of parachutes.

I locate my snap swivels of various sizes in the sporting goods departments at Walmart, Target, and also online. Metal screws eyes in wooden noses make excellent attachment points, as do many of the loops or tangs included on plastic noses. If an attachment point is too big for my snap swivel, I can easily attach a small metal ring or loop I find at Hobby Lobby in their craft area.

If anyone is concerned about added weight with a snap swivel, I say don't be. The snap swivel is a very light weight device, simple and easy to use, and it provides me more benefits than concerns.

CURRENT CLUB OFFICERS -

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VICE PRESIDENT -ZAC TWIGG

SECRETARY - DUANE LANTERMAN

TREASURER - SHARON LANTERMAN

CURRENT COMMITTEE LEADS -

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RSO - DUSTIN WYANT

CONTEST DIRECTOR - JEREMY LEPEL

FAA WAIVERS - DUSTIN WYANT

FLYIT/TAKE IT - BILL LINDSAY

WEBMASTER - STEVE SANER

“The KOSMONaut” is published bi-monthly by the Kansas Organization for SpaceModeling NAR Section #427. Hard copy subscriptions are \$8 for 6 issues. Membership in KOSMO is \$15 a year and includes the “The KOSMONaut” (please specify hard copy or digital) and all club launch fees except for our annual contest KRAMO. Newsletter editor is secretary Duane Lanterman. Submissions are always welcome! Membership and subscription checks should be made out to KOSMO 642 N. Homestead Rd. Great Bend, Ks. 67530



John Palmer's StarShip



UPCOMING 2026 LAUNCH CALENDAR

JULY 18- MORNING SPORT LAUNCH – HUTCHINSON FAIR GROUNDS – 9AM-1PM

AUG 15 - MORNING SPORT LAUNCH – HUTCHINSON FAIR GROUNDS – 9AM-1PM

SEPT 12 - FINAL FRONTIER FUN FLY – HP FIELD IN ELLINWOOD -10AM-3PM ALTERNATE DATE SEPT 26

OCT 10 - ROCKET-OBER – HP FIELD IN ELLINWOOD – 10AM-3PM ALTERNATE DATE OCT 24

NOV 7 - NIGHTFLIGHT – HUTCHINSON FAIR GROUNDS – 2PM- 6PM

Details on launch fields can be found at our club’s website www.kosmo427.org

Editors notes – Hope you enjoy this issue of “the KOSMOnaut”. Contributors include myself, Michael Mitchell and John Palmer. We had two fun launches in a span of two weeks and now head into summer. The article by John Palmer is an amazing story of a complex sport scale model both in build and flight. Congratulations John! Those of us who know John are used to his multi piece Shuttle recoveries.
Duane Lanterman – editor
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THE KRAMO 46 CREW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT-

Duane Lanterman, Steve Saner, Jeremy Lepel, Austin Streit, Doug Bailey, Carol Bailey, Bob Wingate, Fred Smith, Chris Wingate, Michael Mitchell, Sharon Lanterman

