



the KOSMOonaut

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KOSMO MOVES INTO SUMMER SCHEDULING

by Duane Lanterman

With temperatures on the rise, as well as the humidity, the months of July and August usher in club morning launches that end shortly after noon. A nice group of members were at the field on July 11th including Mike Stewart from the KC area and John Palmer from the Dallas area. Club president Steve Saner had family at the launch including his exuberant nephew and niece. During our three hour window we manged 38 flights and at the conclusion we found a/c and some good Mexican food in downtown Hutchinson. A secluded table allowed us to catch up on all things rocketry as well as what is going on in our families.



D. Lanterman, S. Hamous, S. Lanterman, J. Lepel, J. Palmer, F. Smith, S. Saner, M. Stewart -front row Steve's niece and nephew



If "famous" Hamous is at the launch you can count on a smile



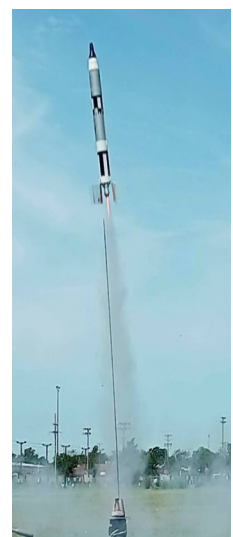
Our club treasurer, Sharon, joined the fun.



Newsletter editor, Duane, poses with his project



Mike Stewart made the long drive and launched 7 rockets



Gemini is GO!

July morning launch – Continued

John Palmer (KOSMO/DAR member) was up from the Dallas area to help with the grandkids back in Kansas and brought along a number of his Sport Scale models, the most anticipated of which was his scratch built Soyuz powered by 4 “C” engine boosters and a main engine D12. It flew flawlessly in Texas but suffered an anomaly at our launch. Apparently the C5’s lit a micro second before the D12 causing the D12 to spiral towards the ground and of course unable to ignite the second stage D12.as the rocket roared upward. The damage was not substantial and John’s signature motto is “I can fix it” and we all knew that he would . And he did!



A nice variety of rockets ready to go.



President Steve Saner gets advise from his nephew



Jeremy Lepel with his Super Falcon.

ROCKET CAMP COMPLETES ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Steve Hamous

Another two EAA#88 Rocket Camps are in the books, both successful. The first camp was June 18-20 and the second July 23-25, held at Jabarra Airport in Wichita. The camp includes learning about rockets and spaceflight followed by building and flying the rockets we built.

In the photo below is my two pad setup using Estes Pro Series launchers and adapted camera tripods. I used 6 C batteries in them but plan to upgrade to Lipo batteries next year. I may also go to a 4 pad setup rather than just 2. This picture also shows a camper with the first successful Skill Level 4 build, a Mercury Redstone. This is a tough task for a 2 1/2 day camp. Also shown is me sitting at Mission Control and my expert pad man, Michael Mitchell (far right) who I have been launching rockets with for more than 50 years. It has been fantastic to reconnect with him. Also shown is Channing (standing near Mission Control) who hasn't missed a rocket camp for the last 5 years. He told me that it's his highlight for the year. It's mine too.



EAA FLY IN UP COMING Sept 5th

This Sept 5th at the Jarbara Airport there will be an EAA fly in with free airplane rides for young people under 18. Also at the event will be KOSMOnaut and EAA member Steve Hamous where he will be promoting the summer rocket camps for 2027. If you are in the area or know a young person interested in a plane ride in the Wichita area head that way on the first Saturday of September. Thanks again Steve for paying it forward !!

How I do

by Michael Mitchell



Sealing spiral tube ends

A model rocket body tube end either has something glued into it (coupler, nose, or bulk head), has something to be removed from it (nose, payload section, or engine), or it may be left open (rare).

I've noticed spiral wound paper body tubes can fray or separate at the ends when items like noses, payload sections, engines, and the like are inserted and removed repeatedly. The problem seems to be worse when fittings are tight. What I've done to significantly reduce this annoying fraying is to seal my tube ends. It's my first step when I build any rocket.

For a smooth finish and to keep the sealer from building up too much, I have and use a supply of Pactra and Midwest sanding sealer. Those are lacquer based products that when applied rather thinly leave a deposit that closes up the ends of my tubes, thwarting fraying. If you don't have those "dope" products, a similar lacquer based sanding sealer provided at hardware and DIY stores may be tried. (I haven't yet used those.)

First, I lightly mark the outside of one tube with a T for top. This is important if one end is not to be sealed on its inside. Start with a clean, lightly sanded end of the tube you want to seal. I use 220 grit paper wrapped tightly around a dummy engine casing to remove any burrs and to assure me a good fit with the item intended to later be inserted (e.g. engine, nose, coupler, etc.). I also lightly sand the very end of the tube with a motion perpendicular to the tube.

Second, I apply a small amount of sealer to my brush. As shown in the first photo, I then lightly stroke the tube end with a near perpendicular motion moving from the inside of the tube top to the outside, applying the sealer to the tube end. I do this all the way around the end of the tube. With this technique there may be some sealer that ends up at the inside top of the tube but none on the outside. If this tube end is to be glued in place (e.g. coupler, bulk head), I stop there, and I wipe away any sealer from the top inside wall of the tube. Product should then remain to soak in only at the end of the tube.

When a tube end will NOT have something glued in place but rather have items inserted into it repeatedly (e.g. nose, payload section or separation point, or engine), while my brush is still wet I apply more sealer, using a sweeping motion starting down inside the tube towards and terminating at the end, thus applying sealer to the inside tube wall. (See second photo.) I do this all the way around the inside of the tube. Note: If something is to be glued down inside the tube such as a shock cord mount, I don't apply sealer beyond that glue point. I go only as deep as the top of what may be glued in place.

Finally, I set my tube aside to dry completely. After several hours, I lightly sand the tube ends and any interior surface for a smooth and easy fit.

I've also noticed ejection charge residue tends to build up less on areas where I've sealed my tubes, or at least it's easier to clean with a damp cloth.



PHOTO ONE



PHOTO TWO

KOSMO AT THE WETLANDS

duane lanterman reporting

Your club secretary received a message on Facebook the early part of August by a friend of mine who was aware of our club. Would be we interested in participating in the Perseid Meteor Shower event at the Kansas Wetlands Education Center outside of Ellinwood Kansas ? After procrastinating a bit I emailed club members to see if there was interest. I got a number of positive responses. The event from the beginning was subtitled Rocket Revolution as a number of fun interactive crafts and projects were planned by the Wetlands staff. Our club decided to give away four Estes Starter kits in a drawing at the event.

The day of the event it was evident that meteor watching was not going to happen as the skies were mostly cloudy (something we hadn't seen in sometime.) In fact there was quite a lighting storm about 60 miles away that was quite visible.. However the show went on and we had a nice turnout of kids and parents. Fort Hays State University, who is affiliated with the center, brought out their portable planetarium. It was quite cool and the narrator was very knowledgeable. The event ran from 8:30 to 10:30 and at about 9:15 we launched four night rockets to the excited countdown of the kids ! Afterwards the fire pit got very busy as a line of folks made some delicious s'mores. All in all it was a fun busy evening and thanks to the seven KOSMONauts who brought rockets to display and talk about.



WETLANDS – CONTINUED

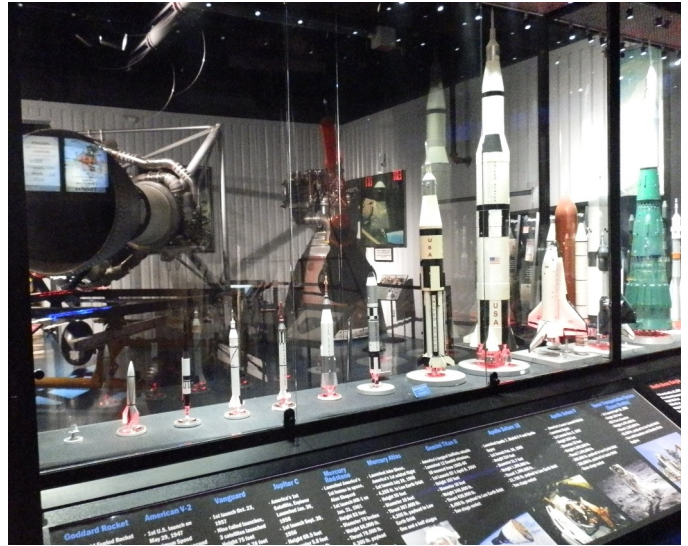


Contributors to this issue of “The KOSMONaut” include John Palmer, Duane Lanterman, Michael Mitchell, and Steve Hamous.

My Trip to the Stafford Air and Space Museum

John Palmer – KOSMO/DAR member

Many of you are familiar with the Kansas Cosmosphere but just a short 3 hours away from Wichita in another exciting space museum the Stafford Air and Space Museum. Tom Stafford was only one of two Apollo astronauts to command two missions, Apollo 10 and Apollo/Soyuz. Earlier this year I had the opportunity visit the museum in Weatherford Oklahoma. What was really a pleasant surprise was that since Weatherford is on Route 66, they were celebrating the 100th anniversary of the road. One of their slogans was “Welcome to Space City”. They had many cool space related displays as you drove down Route 66 but the museum is why I came. Also on my drive in there were many airplanes from the past to present on display outside. They were working on a kids park outside that has since been completed.



Entering the museum, they focused on the history of airplanes from the Wright brothers to modern aircraft including a F117. On the space side of things there is a really cool display of rockets from Dr Godard to the SLS all in the same scale. They had Gemini 6A on display as well as the Skylab 4 command module. Some of the other displays include a Titan missile and a display Gemini capsule with the service modules. They now have an Apollo /Soyuz display just like the Cosmosphere, still cool to see. They also had many planes on display including a Mig 21 flown by his friend Alexei Leonov. I hope some of you take the time to visit this museum to keep our space history alive.



LOOKING BACK

Check out these KOSMONauts from the photo archives. Can you identify them? Answers at the bottom of the page.



UPCOMING LAUNCHES

SEPT 12 - FINAL FRONTIER FUN FLY – HP FIELD IN ELLINWOOD
-10AM-3PM **ALTERNATE DATE SEPT 26 -10,000' waiver**

OCT 10 - ROCKET-OBER – HP FIELD IN ELLINWOOD – 10AM-3PM
ALTERNATE DATE OCT 24 – 10,000' waiver

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

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



Updates on launch status on our Facebook Page – Club email list – and club website

CURRENT CLUB OFFICERS -

PRESIDENT/SR. ADVISOR - STEVE SANER

VICE PRESIDENT -ZAC TWIGG

SECRETARY – DUANE LANTERMAN

TREASURER – SHARON LANTERMAN

CURRENT COMMITTEE LEADS–

HISTORIAN – MARK JOHNSON

RSO – DUSTIN WYANT

CONTEST DIRECTOR – JEREMY LEPEL

FAA WAIVERS – DUSTIN WYANT

FLYIT/TAKE IT – BILL LINDSAY

WEBMASTER – STEVE SANER

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answers: Keith Ravenstein, John Palmer, Steve Saner