



LUNAR Club Meeting Report

Dave Cummings, Secretary, LUNAR #450, NAR #78453

Minutes from July 16, 2009 Club Meeting

This evening was a preview of the Apollo 11 40th anniversary celebration launch coming up on July 19 at NASA Ames. Club members brought in their rockets to show off in the theme of the Apollo missions and other manned space flights.



From left to right in the picture above are: Paul Pittenger, Tom Desmarais, Alan Thym, Steve Kendall, and Alan Marcum. Photo by David Cummings.

Alan Marcum, along with Dave Raimondi, were very instrumental in organizing our LUNAR launch at Ames in conjunction with the NASA Ames Moonfest 2009 event.

Other topics of the evening were the following:

An incident at the Ames June '09 launch was mentioned. A person had their finger burned by an accidental launch of a rocket. It is not known who this person was. The equipment was checked and nothing could be found wrong with the equipment. While this was an unfortunate incident we hope it was a onetime issue and will not occur again.

The July launch at Ames is coming up soon and LUNAR will be holding their launch in conjunction with the NASA Moonfest event celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing. Large crowds are expected to come out for this launch.

Charlie Wittman brought in a Space Shuttle tile for show & tell to the meeting.

Still looking into a possible new launch site in Livermore. Club president, Dave Raimondi, will be looking into this further.

2010 TARC Season Starting!

Cliff Sojourner, LUNAR #1212, NAR #82864

The Team America Rocketry Challenge (TARC) 2010 Season is beginning! TARC is a national rocket competition, the premier event for middle school and high-school teams.

More information about TARC is available on the National Association of Rocketry (NAR) website:

<http://www.nar.org/TAchallenge.html>

and on the Aeronautical Industries of America's (AIA) website:

<http://www2.aia-aerospace.org/tarc/>

NAR President Trip Barber writes:

There quite a few key differences from TARC 2009 in the TARC 2010 rules. These changes were made to do a "reset" putting long-time experienced TARC teams on an equal footing with newcomers -- everyone has to learn from scratch how to meet the new challenge. The major ones are as follows:

- Altitude goal is 825 feet rather than 750 feet
- Duration goal is a range of 40 to 45 seconds rather than a point value of 45 seconds; and flights with a duration less than 35 seconds are disqualified as unsafe
- Recovery of the egg/altimeter section must be done with one or more streamers (only), not parachute -- and there is a whole new chapter in the TARC Team Handbook to teach teams about how to do streamer duration (hint: build light!)
- Maximum liftoff mass of the rocket is reduced to 1.0 kg (2.2 pounds) and maximum combined total impulse of motors in any rocket is limited to 80.0 N-sec
- Three qualification flight attempts are permitted rather than two, but only 2 of the 3 may be made after March 1, 2010
- The single egg may fly in any orientation, it does not have to fly in a sideways orientation
- No pyrotechnic charges of any type (pyrodex, black powder, etc) are permitted except those built in to the motor or reload kit

Sounds like fun! Get your team together now! You can register after September 2nd. To get a mentor for your team, contact the LUNAR TARC Coordinator, David Raimondi. The TARC mentor list shows 9 LUNAR members, so we have plenty of support for your team.