



Launch Reports

Statistics by Jack Hagerty, LUNAR #2, NAR #55105

Editor's note: many folks post photos to the picture gallery. You can find the gallery by clicking "Gallery" on the left side of the LUNAR website main page (<http://www.lunar.org>), or directly from <http://www.lunar.org/gallery2>. Some of my favorites are printed here, but many more are available online – maybe even a picture of your rocket. Or maybe you could post a picture of someone's rocket and make their day.

July 19th, NASA Ames

Total Flights:	254
Motors consumed:	269
Total Impulse expended:	4223 - A mid-range "L"
Total Fliers:	298 + over 1,500 spectators

Average Impulse	
Per motor:	15.7 - A mid-range "D"
Per flight:	16.6 - A mid-range "D"

Safety Statistics:		
Total Flights:	254	100.0%
Successful:	245	96.5%
Motor Failure:	0	0.6%
Unstable:	3	1.2%
Recovery Failure:	6	2.4%

Moonfest 2009: Huge Celebration, Enormous Crowds

Event Report by Alan M. Marcum, LUNAR #392, NAR #63357

July 16, 1969, Cape Kennedy, Florida: a rocket launch. AS-506, topped by LM-5, SM-107, and CM-107, begin the epic flight that, four days later, saw a small light inside LM-5—Eagle—illuminate and heard the words “Contact light!” lost amid the more dramatic (and off-script) words “Houston, Tranquility Base here.”

July 19, 2009: Moffett Field, California: a celebration.

LUNAR worked with NASA's Ames Research Center and Lunar Science Institute to participate in Moonfest 2009, marking the 40th anniversary of that historic first moon landing of Apollo 11. NASA had planned a big event: exhibits on the Moffett parade ground, food, wine, buses running from the parade grounds to the parking locations and the airfield (for our launch), etc., etc. In addition to our launch (moved from Saturday, so we could participate more fully), our exhibit booth joined others ranging from telescopes and a moon rock to driving a small wheeled rover-like robot around a small course and discussions of the current LRO/LCROSS mission. Speakers included Dr. Anthony Colaprete, LCROSS Principal Investigator and Dr. Susan Hackwood, Executive Director of the California Council

on Science and Technology, to Dr. Donald Pettit, a member of ISS Expedition 6 and STS-126 crews. Indeed, Dr. Pettit joined us for a ceremonial launch of a Saturn V model—after which, he commented, “That was cool!”

