



"Thanks to everyone who helped keep the field clean"
Russ Durkee.

President's Launch Pad

MASA Members!

What a Fantastic First Year for NAR #576! As this year's summer flying season came to an end, we can look back at twelve successful MASA launch events in 1998 and approximately 1000 rockets flown!

As all of you know, the main focus of our club is launching model rockets. So a good launch field is at the top of the list as a club priority. Early this year we received permission to hold club launches at the Fricke sod farm in Blaine and we have established a solid relationship with the landowner over the year. Thanks to everyone who helped keep the field clean. MASA received enough donations to provide Mr. Fricke and his family with a nice holiday gift, a crisp \$100 bill and a card expressing our thanks for allowing us to take over his sod fields one Saturday a month. Thanks to all of you who gave generously to this cause.

Just as our relationship with the landowner is a top priority, so is our relationship with the FAA and the Anoka airport. The Anoka ATC has made it very clear that it wants us to move our launch field to another location. But as long as we can follow the safety code, the FAA regulations, and keep our eyes on the skies, we will continue to keep flying at the Blaine field. Who knows, the Anoka ATC may eventually warm up to us. But we also must keep in mind that there may be an even better field out there away from the Anoka airport. Keep your eyes peeled.

At the end of this first year MASA did have a small amount of funds available to purchase two copies of Stine's "Handbook of Model Rocketry" for donation to local schools. The remainder of the club funds were used in part for a gift for Mr. Fricke and the club's 1999 section dues.

Next year's dues have been raised to \$10 for NAR members 18 and over, \$5 for those under 18, and \$5 for those with NAR insurance. Family memberships are \$12 for up to four people. If you do carry NAR insurance, please notify me as soon as possible so we can acquire insurance for the entire club. Club dues are for the calendar year.

We started the year with about 10 members and at last count there were nearly 60 MASA members! Thanks to everyone who helped out with the launches and planning our activities, and thanks for all the great flights. I cannot wait

until next year.

Fly High,

Russ

Support Crew

As our first year winds down, our thoughts turn towards next year and all the things we would like to do. Our first year saw many milestones. It will be tough to duplicate this again.

I will be putting together a generic MASA brochure for next year. This will eliminate the need for multiple printing sessions throughout the year and will reduce some of the club overhead. A newsletter will be sent out on an as needed basis to inform the members of special information (If you have an interest in helping with a newsletter - Please let me know). The MASA's web site is the best place for the most up-to-date information on club activities. If we are planning an unscheduled event and if there is time, we will post this information on the web-site. Otherwise we will try to call or e-mail you ahead of time.

The new membership cards (for those of you that have renewed your membership) will be sent out around mid January. These new cards will be different than last years card.

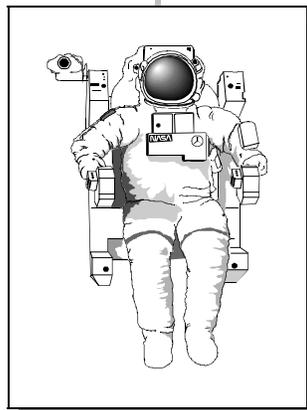
I had a few MASA water transfer decals sheets made. They are a 4" x 5" size sheet with the "MASA" worm logo on it in various sizes. Very nicely done. Contact me if interested.

Some members have indicated a desire to help with club activities. The launches are an area we can always use help (show up early or stay late to help). We also need fresh ideas for the monthly meetings. If you have any suggestions or ideas, please let the officer(s) know.

As a reminder - your MASA membership will expire the end of December. Don't forget to renew today. With this Newsletter you will find a copy of last quarters brochure, use it to renew or you can pass it along.

Let's Have A Blast,

Damian



For the Latest,
greatest information
on current
MASA events

Checkout Our Web-
site at:
[http://www1.minn.net/
~estenson/masa/in-
dex.htm](http://www1.minn.net/~estenson/masa/index.htm)