**January 2000 meeting minutes (1/11/2000)**

On January 10, MASA members gathered at the new Science Museum in St. Paul for the first club meeting of 2000.  About 20 people were in attendance as Russ started the proceedings at about 7 pm.  Some of the information passed along by Russ:

* The monthly meetings will be held in classrooms at the Science Museum at least through May of this year.
* The next launch will be on January 29th at Sunrise Park Middle School in White Bear Lake.
* For continuing members, your year 2000 dues are now payable.  You may pay at an upcoming launch or meeting or fill out the [form](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CCarol%5CDesktop%5CMASA%20Club%20and%20website%20info%5CWebsite%20-%20old%20files%20from%20Alan%5Cmasa%5Cmem_app.htm)and mail it in along with a check.  Remember, your dues help the club meet its financial obligations.
* We need 5 insured NAR members in order to get NAR section insurance.  If you carry or plan to carry the NAR individual insurance, please let Russ know.  [It looks like we won't have a problem coming up with 5 people.]
* The Events schedule on the web site will be fleshed-out soon with more details of upcoming meetings.
* On that note, any ideas for topics or events to enliven club meetings this year would be very welcome.  Last year, the most popular meetings were those when we had some sort of building session.
* Joe Kimmes and Art Gibbens have volunteered to work together to produce the MASA Planet newsletter.  The newsletter will come out at least twice this year and possibly four times.  If you have ideas, suggestions, or material to contribute to the newsletter, please talk to Joe or Art.
* Additional volunteers are being sought to:
1. Find topics for club meetings and plan club events, and
2. Help coordinate launches, find people to serve as RSO/LCO's, and/or store the boxes of launch equipment between launches.
* Please contact Russ if you're willing to serve!  [To have a successful club, we need people who are willing to pitch-in and help!]
* A short discussion ensued about the NAR/TRA joint action against the BATF.  Alan Estenson and Bob Brashear contributed some information on the current situation.  If you fly or plan to fly large motors, your donation is essential to funding this ongoing legal action.  See the [NAR web site](http://www.nar.org) for more information.
* Russ and Damian informed us that the club financial situation looks good as we begin the new year.  We did give a gift again to the owner of the sod farm in Blaine.  There will be no increase in dues.
* Russ also passed along "thanks" to Alan for keeping up the web site and to everyone who helped-out at the launches last year.

Bob Brashear told us that the Southern Minnesota Tripoli group is investigating information that recently came to light.  It seems that, back in 1957, Minnesota had its own version of the "Rocket Boys".  In southern Minnesota, there is a "historical marker" along a highway that commemorates some amateur rocket flights by local youth.

To finish the "official" part of the evening, MASA President Russ Durkee presented the second annual "MASSY" awards.  [These are just-for-fun awards that Russ dreams up.]

First, Russ had a red ribbon for Ken Jarosch for the "**Made My Day Award**".  At the July launch, Ken brought along a box of rockets and gave them away to kids that came to the launch.

**Prang Awards**

* A white ribbon was presented to Glen Overby for his Aerobee 300 lawn dart.
* A red ribbon went to Larry "Horse Killer" Schwartz for the cruise missile flight of his 2-stage Fat Boy at the November launch.  [We won't elaborate any more on that subject except to disclaim "No horses were harmed during the shooting of this rocket"]
* A blue ribbon went to John Knoll for the heartbreaking [but really spectacular] loss of his incredible NCR X-Wing.

**Upstanding Rocketeer Awards**

* A white ribbon was presented to Lee & Mollie Frisvold for both the great flights of their 2-stage Fat Boy and for their ability to dominate the streamer duration competition.
* A red ribbon was presented to Art Gibbens in honor of his incredible 2-stage Saturn V.
* A blue ribbon went to Bud Herema.  In July, Bud drove a long distance to come to our Apollo 11 Commemorative launch with his impressive Saturn V, launch pad and gantry.  It was the highlight of a great day of launching rockets.

The **Rocketeer of the Year Award** went to Carl Persson.  Carl comes up with interesting and unique projects such as his "Humpty Dumbty" and the Saturn 7.  What's more, he keeps developing and improving his rockets until they work perfectly.  Carl also is known for his incredible rocket photos.

To finish off the evening, rocket talk and rocket projects were discussed and examined as we watched some of Carl's video footage of recent MASA launches.

*(Alan Estenson)*

**February 2000 meeting minutes (2/8/2000)**

On February 7, MASA members gathered at the Science Museum in St. Paul for our monthly meeting.  About 18 people were in attendance, and Russ ("gimpy") Durkee started up the meeting about 7 pm.

* The February launch will be held on the 26th at Sunrise Park Middle School in White Bear Lake.
* The topic for the March meeting will be "reloadable motors".  Several people have requested this topic, so we will discuss pros-and-cons, assembly methods, economics, tips and tricks, and whatever else comes up.  If you're interested in adding reloadable motors to your rocket activities, be sure to attend.  If you've already entered the world of reloads, you might learn something new.
* Reminder to continuing members - your dues for 2000 are now payable!
* Let Russ know if are carrying NAR insurance for this year.
* Work on the newsletter is "gimping" forward thanks to Art and Joe.

The "topic" for the meeting was "Saturn rockets - bring yours!".  A number of examples, both in stock form and highly modified, made an appearance.

Mike Kutzke brought his beefed-up Saturn V.  It has a 29mm motor mount, slightly larger fins, plywood centering rings, an Aerotech ejection baffle, and an internal launch lug.  It has flown once (last October) on a G35-4.

Art Gibbens had his 2-stage (D to D) Saturn V.  He built it from an old, partially-started kit which someone gave to him.  He has launched it twice.

Damian Kostron brought several rockets.  He had a stock Saturn V, a big Saturn 1B that he plans to kit (some day...) as a Kosrox model, and a smaller Saturn 1B that was modified from an old Estes kit into a 2-stage rocket.  The upper stage has "fins" that hide in the body tube and flip-out when the booster drops away.  Damian also had a Saturn V Skylab which he is in the process of modifying for 2-stage flight.  It will use an electronic timer to ignite the upper stage motor, and it will also have flip-out fins on the upper stage.

Carl Persson brought his sci-fi "Saturn 7".  This is the rocket that looks simply incredible when it launches on a cluster of seven (yes, 7) D12's.  Also, although it wasn't a Saturn, we made Carl talk about the new rocket that he brought along.  It's a sorta-Nike/military 2-stager that will have seven (yes, 7) C motors in the booster and a D motor in the sustainer.  [Carl seems to have a thing for the number 7.]

Ted Cochran brought along his (very nicely done) Saturn V.  Ted's has an internal launch lug, and it was modified so that it can fly with the molded plastic F1 rocket nozzles in place.  It has flown once on an E18.

*(Alan Estenson)*

**March 2000 meeting minutes (3/7/2000)**

MASA members and visitors gathered at the Science Museum on March 6th for the regular club meeting.  22 people were in attendance, and Russ Durkee started the meeting at 7 pm.  Because there were several new faces in the crowd, we first took the time to go around the room and have everybody introduce themselves.

* The next launch will be on the 25th.  If the Blaine site is dry enough, the launch will be held there.  If the sod is still too wet, the launch will be held at either White Bear Lake or Elk River.
* A big thanks went out to Art & Joe for the production of the first MASA Planet newsletter of the year.  Everyone was reminded that submissions of nearly any type are welcome for the newsletter (and the website, too.)
* Russ announced that he will be establishing an email "listserv" mailing list for the club.  When it is ready, he will email out the details of how to join and use the listserv.  (Instructions will also appear on the web site.)  Hopefully, this will facilitate more discussion and correspondence between MASA members who have email.
* The current NAR insurance will officially be ending on April 5.  After that date, there will be no further official MASA launches until such a time as new insurance becomes effective.  If this situation persists for more than a few weeks, we will probably fall back on having occasional, "informal" member-organized launches that will be arranged via email.  These will probably be at the White Bear Lake site because both the Blaine and Elk River sites are private property, and we should not launch on private property without NAR section insurance.
* Alan Estenson brought the group up to speed on the dwindling selection of kits (and other rocketry products) from Estes.  Estes has published a fold-out pamphlet this year instead of a real catalog.  The free pamphlets should be available at local hobby stores.
* Ted Cochran reminded everyone that he is looking for volunteers for the Westwood Elementary school launch.  If you can help out, please contact him.
* In general, if you are willing to volunteer at local rocket events involving schools, scouts, etc., please let Russ know.  This time of year, he gets a lot of requests for assistance from teachers and group leaders.

The topic for the evening was reloadable motors.  Russ described the basics of reloadable motors and then discussed the various size casings and the different motor reloads available for them.  As an example of the procedure, he then assembled an E16 reload in the 29mm casing.  Questions flew back-and-forth while tips and tricks were dispensed by those with reload experience.  Alan Estenson then discussed the economics of reloads versus single use and talked a bit about which motors represented the best deals.

The evening ended with a bit of show-and-tell.  Ted Cochran had brought his big, upscale Mars Lander which he built from the Tango Papa kit.  It was very impressive!  Ted said that it will be very heavy and will probably only go up about 700 feet on an "I" motor.  Art Gibbens showed us his unusual triangular rocket that he constructed from (empty) Toblerone boxes.  Finally, Alan Estenson showed off his newly-constructed rocket that has a siren whistle in the nose.

The next meeting will be on April 3rd.



*(Alan Estenson)*

**April 2000 meeting minutes (4/4/2000)**

A good-sized crowd packed the room at the Science Museum on April 3rd for the regular club meeting; 23 people were in attendance.  Damian Kostron and Alan Estenson started the meeting just after 7pm. MASA President Russ Durkee was not present; due to other matters, he will not have an active role in the club for the next month or so.

* Much of the discussion revolved around the impending demise of the old NAR insurance, how to have an informal (non-MASA) launch, and the fact that official MASA launches could not take place without insurance.  This discussion is now irrelevant.  While we were having our meeting, NAR President Mark Bundick was announcing via the Net that the NAR had acquired new insurance.
* Given that there will be no interruption in the MASA NAR section insurance coverage, the next MASA launch will be on April 22, as scheduled.
* Mike Martens and Mark Thell announced that they would be doing a rocket demo for a high school ROTC group in a few weeks.  They will let us know how it goes.
* Ted Cochran reminded us that he has several large, school, rocket launch events coming up this spring.  He will be looking for volunteers to help.
* Steve Hum brought along a very nice PML AMRAAM-2 for us to admire.  It was the first time that some people had closely examined a rocket made from PML's Quantum Tube.
* Damian Kostron had a completely scratchbuilt replica of the old Estes Mars Lander.  He had downloaded the dimensions for all the parts from the JimZ web site and then laser cut the parts.  Everyone present told him that, if he offered it as a kit, he could sell a lot of them!

The official topic for the evening was "egglofters".  The various kits available on the market were discussed.  They include the Custom Elite, Quest Courier, and several kits from QCR.  Several Estes egglofters have now been discontinued including the Scrambler, the Omloid, and the Shellshocked (starter set rocket).  Alan Estenson sold over a dozen Estes Scrambler kits to hopeful eggloft fliers.  Hopefully, we can have an eggloft competition at a launch later this summer.

While some people took advantage of the time to begin construction on their egglofters, others simply "talked rockets" until it was time to go home.

The next MASA meeting will be on May 1.

 



*(Alan Estenson)*

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| **May 2000 meeting minutes (5/2/2000)**MASA President Russ Durkee started the May meeting at just after 7pm on Monday, May 1.  Several topics were discussed:* The weekend of the May launch coincides with "Discover Aviation Days" at the Anoka County Airport.  Due to the greatly increased air traffic and out of consideration to the airport tower, the May launch will not be held at the Blaine sod farm.  The launch will probably be held at the Elk River site and the date changed to Sunday, May 21.  (The field gets used for soccer on Saturdays.)  Our use of the field for this date has to be confirmed, so keep an eye on the web site for the final word.
* In the future, the club "business" meetings will be announced in advance and open to any MASA members who wish to attend.  It's at these meetings that the nitty-gritty details surface and specific club issues get planned and discussed.  Be warned, however, that those members who attend these meetings invariably end up "volunteering" to do something!
* Another round of "thank you's" was given to everyone who helped in Russ' absence and with the last launch.
* Topics for the club meetings have been set through October.  Ideas for topics & activities at future meetings are still being solicited.
* Alan Estenson mentioned that the "launch themes" listed on the website are things that he dreamed up while at his computer.  If anyone has other ideas, let him know.  Alan also announced that he is working on the 3rd generation MASA web site.  Ideas and suggestions for the new site are welcome!
* Alan also said that he's been thinking about the club picnic in July.  The past two years, it's been held at a club member's house.  However, Alan suggested that, this year, we look into holding it in a public park.  He has been looking into the parks near where he lives in New Brighton.  The picnic "pavilion" in these parks can be reserved by a group for a nominal fee.  If someone wishes to volunteer to host the picnic at their house, that would be fine.  If we wish to have it in a park, we should set a date soon so the reservation can be made.
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The topic for the evening was "tips and tricks for building and repairing rockets."

* Russ Durkee passed along a few tips.  He showed various kinds of fillers and a nifty Olfa circle cutter that's good for making centering rings.
* Damian Kostron showed us his completed, replica Mars Lander. [It looks great!]  He also showed us how to reverse a clothespin to make a tool for holding small pieces.
* Glen Overby brought along two scratchbuilt rockets that he has under construction.  One was a scale Apache and the other was a potential 5-motor cluster.
* Art Gibbens told us how he uses small emery boards (sold for fingernails) for sanding.  He passed along a hint for securing the top of a payload section with an extra piece of shock cord; that way, you can't loose it.  Phil Gibbens brought along his completed Scrambler egglofter for everyone to admire.
* Ted Cochran brought a variety of styles of small clamps.  He also had an Edmonds RGX boost glider; it flies on the small Apogee micro motors.

The next MASA meeting will be on June 5.





*(Alan Estenson)*

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| June 2000 meeting minutes (6/5/2000)MASA President Russ Durkee started the June meeting at just after 7pm on Monday, June 5.  A few things were brought up:* Tonight's meeting was in a different room than normal.  The August meeting will also be in this room. [It's on the way to the regular room and on the same floor.]
* The next launch will be on the 24th.  We hope to have it at Blaine.  Watch the web site for the final decision.
* Ideas were solicited for the "Fat Boy Flyoff" at the June launch.  We will probably have some sort of duration contest as well as a popular vote for the best Fat Boy rocket.  Details will be posted to the web site.
* The location, date, and time of the July club picnic and swap meet have not been decided yet.

Joe Kimmes gave an interesting and informative 40 minute presentation on aviation and airspaces.  (As he put it, his "ground school class for rocketry".)  Joe talked about the two classes of rockets that MASA launches and how they're governed by the FAR's (Federal Aviation Regulations).  He also educated us on the 5 types of airspace, how altitude is defined in two different ways, airways, navigation, and how to understand the weather report. Thanks, Joe!For show-and-tell, Ted Cochran brought his little G-Wiz accelerometer that he won through the rmr design contest.  Alan Estenson brought a miniature Fat Boy - scaled down to bt-60 size.  Steve Robb brought his scratchbuilt rocket that he plans to use this weekend to attempt his level 1 high power certification.  Art Gibbens had some 1970 vintage Estes engines.The details of the July picnic will be announced on the web site as soon as we know what they are...(Alan Estenson) |

**MASA summer picnic (7/10/2000)**

**A really hot time...**

MASA members congregated on Saturday, July 8, at Veterans Park in New Brighton for the [3rd annual MASA summer picnic](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CCarol%5CDesktop%5CMASA%20Club%20and%20website%20info%5CWebsite%20-%20old%20files%20from%20Alan%5Cmasa%5Cnews%5C2000%5C2000-09.htm).  The weather was incredibly hot and humid, but everyone persevered and had a good time.

Over 30 people braved the heat to sit in the shade around the gazebo, talk rockets, eat their fill of picnic fare, look at photos, and make a few transactions at the MASA swap -n- sell.  People started arriving around 4:30 in the afternoon.  After resting awhile, the grill was fired-up, and large quantities of burgers, brats, and dogs sizzled-away.  In typical Minnesota pot-luck fashion, there was more food than the group could possibly eat.

**Lots of prizes!**

Just after 7pm, Alan Estenson drew for the free "door" prizes.  Eleven free prizes were given away!  The lucky winners were:

* Nancy Grimm - Estes Alpha kit (donated by MASA)
* Bradley Jerve - Estes Comanche-3 kit (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)
* Brandon Durant - Estes Zinger kit (donated by MASA)
* Philip Gibbens - Star Wars Sith Infiltrator (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)
* Mike Martens - Estes Mean Machine kit (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)
* Art Gibbens - Estes Athena kit (donated by MASA)
* Connor Gevaas - PVC launch pad (donated by MASA)
* Russ Durkee - Estes Bullpup kit (donated by MASA)
* Mathias Gibbens - PVC launch pad (donated by MASA)
* Susan Fergus - Star Wars Naboo Royal Starship (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)
* Michelle Swanson - Star Wars Trade Federation Battleship (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)

Raffle tickets were exchanged for $1 donations during the picnic with the prize being a PML Phobos rocket kit (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada).  The winner of this raffle was Kevin Cochran.  All money from the raffle went to pay the $45 permit fee for using the park and to pay for the consumables (plates, cups, etc.) used during the picnic.  Enough money was raised to cover these expenses!

During the picnic, Mike Martens was also awarded a Quest Spin Fin kit for winning the spot landing contest at the last launch.

While we had permission to launch rockets from the softball field, everyone preferred to sit in the shade and save the rockets for the next club launch (a few water rockets did take to the air).  The festivities wound down early in the evening as everyone headed home in search of someplace cool...

A big "Thank You!" to:

* Art Gibbens for sweating over the hot BBQ and cooking everything to perfection.
* Russ Durkee for acting as Art's sidekick.
* Steve Robb for bringing the condiments.
* Glen Overby and Tom Schmidt for bringing beverages.
* Chuck Jerve for bringing outdoor toys.
* Alan Estenson for organizing the whole shebang.
* Everyone else who helped with the picnic and bought a raffle ticket!

*(Alan Estenson)*

**August 2000 meeting minutes (8/7/2000)**

The monthly meeting started about 7 pm on Monday, August 7.  A summer-weight turnout of 9 people attended.

The next launch will be on Saturday, August 26th.  The location has not been determined, yet.  If the location ends up being Elk River or White Bear Lake, the launch will be shifted to Sunday, August 27th.  Watch the web site for the official word.

A discussion went around for a while on the subject of changes and improvements to the MASA launch procedures and equipment.  This was based upon the recent discussion on the egroups masarocketry mailing list.  No big changes will be implemented in the near future.  Some suggestions that will be implemented will be to restrict each person to signing up for only one pad per rack.  We will also encourage members to bring along their Estes porta-pads (or equivalent) so that we can have one large and one small pad at each station.  This will help minimize the time-consuming process of changing launch rods.  A column will also be added to the pad sign-up sheets where the RSO can initial his approval.

At next month's meeting, Alan Estenson, Ted Cochran, and Glen Overby will describe their recent experiences at NARAM 42 in Colorado.  (Lots of photos and such, so be sure to attend!)

For the evening's presentation, Art Gibbens first showed us various altitude measurement devices (such as the Estes AltiTrak and another theodolite-style device) and the old Estes flight "computer".  He then discussed the location of altitude tracking stations and led the group through the basic math involved in reducing angle and distance measurements to an altitude reading.  Thanks, Art!

*(Alan Estenson)*

**September 2000 meeting minutes (9/16/2000)**

The September meeting started, as usual, just after 7 pm on Tuesday, September 12.  Russ Durkee was out of town, so Damian Kostron and Alan Estenson took charge of things.

The next launch will be on Saturday, September 23rd.  The location has not been determined, yet, but we will try to have it in Blaine if possible.  If the location ends up being White Bear Lake, the launch will be shifted to Sunday, September 24th.  Watch the web site for the official word.  On this same day, Tripoli Southern Minnesota is having an afternoon and night launch which could be lots of fun.  (See their website for more info.)

Glen Overby announced that the NAR National Sport Launch will be in Utah at the end of May next year.

Steve Robb showed us his new "super duper" Swinger.  He built it with a 24mm motor mount and reinforced pretty much everything with either carbon fiber or fiberglass.  Steve also brought along his new scratchbuilt 2-stage rocket.  It's designed to fly on two G104's with an onboard blacksky timer to ignite the sustainer motor and an altimeter to deploy the parachute.  He went to great pains to keep it under the 3.3 lb weight limit and plans to fly it at Blaine.  Damian Kostron showed us some vacu-form wraps for his Kosrox Saturn 1B kit.  Another person is making and selling them; there's a link on the Kosrox web site.  Steve Hum showed us his new multi-pad launch controller that he built into a toolbox.

Next month's meeting is "photo night".  Bring along your model rocket photos, real rocket photos, rocket posters, rocket books, rocket videos (we'll try to have a TV & VCR), etc...

For the evening's presentation, Ted Cochran, Seth Cochran, Glen Overby, and Alan Estenson talked about their experiences this summer at NARAM 42 in Colorado.  Many photos, stories, newspaper articles, and other things were shared.  Ted and Seth also brought along their trophies; Ted won 1st place in A boost glider, C division, and Seth won 4th place in D SuperRoc, A division!

*(Alan Estenson)*

**October 2000 meeting minutes (10/15/2000)**

The October meeting started a bit after 7 pm on Tuesday, October 10.  A very small group was in attendance - only 7 people.  Before getting started, we discussed the increased traffic due to an event across the street at the X-cel Center.

The next launch will be on Saturday October 28.  The location will be decided during the week before the launch.  If possible, the launch will be at Blaine.  The theme for the launch is "Missiles of October".  Bring along your scale model missiles and rockets.  Perhaps we'll have a mass launch of Sidewinders, or something.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 7.  Yes, this is election day, but you should have time to vote and come to the meeting.  In keeping with that theme, the official nominations for new MASA officers will occur at this meeting.  (See accompanying news item for more information.)

There is no theme or presentation planned for the November meeting.  If you have an idea, or if you would like to volunteer to do something for this meeting, please let us know!

Art has published a new issue of the MASA Planet newsletter.  MASA members should have received a copy in the mail.  It is also available for download from the web site in PDF form.

Being "photo night", we admired the contents of each others albums for a while before breaking for the evening.

*(Alan Estenson)*

**November 2000 meeting minutes (11/9/2000)**

A group of 12 gathered at the Science Museum on election night, Tuesday November 7.  We first discussed the new policies at the Museum's parking ramp.  They now charge $7 for event parking after 5pm whenever there's an "event" in the area (pretty much every night).  On nights when there's a Wild game, they charge $10.  (Normally, it costs about $3 to park there during a typical MASA meeting.)  Fortunately, Russ was able to get us all vouchers for the evening so that we only had to pay the normal rate.  Russ said that he'll look into it further for future meetings.

Damian announced that the club treasury is doing well.  There is money set aside to pay the expected bills through the beginning of the year.  Because there was a surplus, MASA sent a $150 donation to the NAR for the "versus BATF" legal fund.  Damian also told us that there are currently 51 paid MASA memberships.

Art told us that there will be one more issue of the MASA Planet newsletter this year.  It will probably come out in December.

Ted Cochran has volunteered to organize the MASA holiday party!  The date and details will be announced soon, so keep an eye on the web site.

The big business of the evening was the nomination of club officers for 2001.  Nominations and names were thrown about for quite a while.  The details are on a new web page, [Officer Nominations for 2001.](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CCarol%5CDesktop%5CMASA%20Club%20and%20website%20info%5CWebsite%20-%20old%20files%20from%20Alan%5Cmasa%5Cnews%5C2000%5C2000-14.htm)  Please take a look and read about it.  (You'd better take a look; you might have been nominated!)

The next club launch is scheduled for Saturday the 18th.  The location will be announced later.

The night's topic was parachutes.  Ted Cochran, Alan Estenson, Steve Robb and others discussed various chutes and their merits.  Examples of chutes from LOC, Estes, RocketVision, PML, and Rocketman were on hand.

*(Alan Estenson)*

**December 2000 holiday party (12/12/2000)**

It was a cold and snowy Saturday evening, but that didn't stop MASA members and their families from gathering at the Cochran residence in Minneapolis to share some holiday cheer.  Thanks are due to our host, Ted, and the entire Cochran family!  You did an admirable job of hosting this group without running screaming into the night...

While watching rocket videos next to the fireplace, we heartily enjoyed the snacks and holiday treats that everyone had brought to share.  (Wherever 20 or 30 Minnesotans gather, there is food for 40 or 50.)

The first of several activities was a gag (or serious) gift exchange.  After piling the wrapped gifts around the "rocket tree" (Ted's LOC IV with lights strung on it), each person could choose a gift and unwrap it, or steal someone else's gift.  Things got swapped back and forth including a multi-tool, an astronaut bank, various rocket kits, and a nosecone glued into a roll of bathroom tissue (labeled "Self Contained Streamer Recovery System")

Next, Alan Estenson thanked our three retiring officers and club founders: Russ Durkee, Mark Thell, and Damian Kostron.  He first presented them with NAR momentos (stickers, decals, and a lapel pin).  Each was also presented with a framed 8x10 liftoff photo of one of their rockets.  Thanks guys, we really appreciate everything that you've done over the past 3 years!

Club President Russ Durkee then presented the 3rd annual "**MASSY**" awards.  These "just for fun" awards are devised & awarded every year by the club president.

* The incredible flying combo of Lee & Mollie Frisvold were given blue ribbons for tallying up over 90 flights at MASA launches this year!
* Ted & Seth Cochran were presented with blue ribbons for the Distinguished Achievement Award.  Both Ted & Seth placed in competition at NARAM 42 this past summer.
* One Prang award was given this year: Steve Robb was presented with a blue ribbon in honor of the spectacular shred of his Swinger on a D21.
* Alan Estenson was presented with a blue ribbon as "Rocketeer of the Year" for his activities in support of the club.

**Best Flights**

* Jeff Hove was awarded a white ribbon for his flight of a MicroMaxx-powered rocket (complete with tiny parachute) made out of a Bic pen
* Tony Pray was awarded a red ribbon for his impressive flight of a Mean Machine on an E30 motor.  A Mean Machine looks strange when moving that fast!
* Tim Bush was awarded a blue ribbon for the flights of his Ringhawk glider.  It was incredible to see this sliding ring-wing glider just hang in the air.
* Winning a special "Whiplash" award, Joe Schneider and Chuck Jerve were given blue ribbons for flying Machbusters on F72 motors.

To top off the evening, drawings were held for some free door prizes.  The prizes were donated by MASA and by Hub Hobby Center in Little Canada.  The lucky winners were:

* Glen Overby - Estes Zinger
* Pam Jerve - Estes Athena
* Russ Durkee - Estes Fat Boy
* Seth Cochran - Estes Pathfinder
* Kevin Cochran - Estes Alpha
* Dave Fergus - Quest Quasar
* Art Gibbens - Estes Maxi Alpha 3

Thanks again to our hosts and to everyone who attended.  It was a fun evening!

*(Alan Estenson)*