**2003 Meeting Reports**

**January 2003 Meeting Minutes (1/9/2003)**

The January 2003 MASA meeting was held on the 7th at the Science Museum.

**Upcoming events:**

* The next meeting is scheduled for February 4th.  The topic will be "converting the Estes Electron Beam launch controller to use 12 volts".  Thanks to Mark Thell for letting himself be talked into leading this topic.
* The next launch is scheduled for January 25th at White Bear Lake.  This launch may be misfire alley; details will be announced.

**Stuff:**

* Again this year, MASA will have a rocket display at the state Lego robotics tournament on Jan 25.  Volunteers will be needed to run the display.  Yes, we know that this is on the same day as the launch.  An email has been sent out with the details.  Please let us know if you can help out.
* The deadline for the next issue of the MASA Planet is February 15.
* The February MASA launch may be moved down to Apple Valley High School, and Team America Rocket Challenge teams invited to make their qualification flights at that time.  Final word on this at the February meeting.
* Ted Cochran discussed 2003 Minnesota Rocket League.  MASA will be reviewing / judging the entries at the April meeting.
* Stuart & Ellison Lenz volunteered to give a short rocket talk to a Cub Scout pack in Little Canada on Monday.  Thanks guys!
* Topics such as winter launch sites and alternate meeting locations were discussed.
* A lively brainstorming session was held to think up meeting topics for the year.

**2003 Officer Elections:**

**All paper and email ballots were tallied.  About 1/3 of eligible MASA members voted.**

* 2003 President - Glen Overby
* 2003 Vice President - Mike Erpelding
* 2003 Secretary / Treasurer - Lee Frisvold
* Selection for 2003 MASA badge design - "Space Ferry"

Please give the new officers your support and assistance as they assume their duties and throughout the coming year.

**Show'n Off:**

* Mark Thell brought his large "The Launch Pad" Nike Ajax.  This rocket flies on a 3-D cluster.
* Rick Vatsaas brought his West Coast Hybrid "I" motor.
* David Whitaker brought his scratchbuilt / cloned Astron Cobra.  He built it for the Nartrek Silver cluster flight requirement.
* Stuart Lenz brought two scratchbuilt / cloned rockets - the Excalibur and Dragon Ship.  He also brought his neat homemade MicroMaxx launch pad.
* Ted Cochran brought his MIRV Gryphon rocket.  It launches on 4 A10's and stages to 4 A10's separating into a total of 5 parts.

*(Alan Estenson)*

**February 2003 Meeting Minutes (2/4/2003)**

The February 2003 MASA meeting was held on the 4th at the Science Museum.

**Upcoming Events**

* Our February launch will be held on the 22nd at Apple Valley High School. We'll have a "fun theme" of egglofting. Why egglofting in winter? We're joining several Team America Rocket Challenge groups who will be making test flights, and their challenge is to loft two eggs.
* Our March meeting is Tuesday, March 11. Alan Estenson will be the featured speaker on the topic of *1 to 3 pound rockets.*
* The Minnesota Rocket League will be holding a launch in June. Contact Ted Cochran if you're interested in helping with the launch. We'll be judging MRL team entries at the April meeting.
* MarsCon is offering space in their Science Room for a rocket display. If you're going to be at marscon and would like to lead this, see [www.marscon.org](http://www.marscon.org) .

**Show & Tell**

* Several people brought rockets and launch controllers to show off.

**Project**

The remainder of the meeting was modifying Estes launch controllers to run on 12 volts. Mark Thell lead this off by passing out an article from the Sport Rocketry, Holiday 1996 issue on this subject. The soldering irons were brought out and the work began. Those of us who weren't rebuilding our electronics stayed and talked rockets.

*(Glen Overby)*

**March 2003 Meeting Minutes (3/11/2003)**

The March 2003 MASA meeting was held on the 11th at the Science Museum.

**Upcoming Events**

**Show & Tell**

**Project**

*(Glen Overby)*

**April 2003 Meeting Minutes (4/3/2003)**

 We held the April meeting on April Fool's day at the Science Museum of Minnesota. Attendance was a bit lower than last month with about a dozen attendees. Several people brought new (and old) rockets they're working on.

A few notables were

* A nice Jupiter C [Ken Corey-Edstrom's; a Truemodeler kit]
* Lee Frisvold brought a box of Estes Tornado kits he recently picked up; he sold them to those interested. At a future launch, we'll have a Tornado drag race and see how many parts we can end up with in the sky.
* The Lenz's brought their usual collection of eclectic stuff. Stuart had a box full of nicely painted MicroMaxx rockets and Ellison had a monster 2-stage egglofter that he plans to send to (exactly) 1500'.
* Alan brought a really old Estes kit [Manta Bomber] with a really old shock cord that snapped. Replace those shock cords [and parachutes] before you fly your antiques!

This month's launch is scheduled for Elk River; however it could move if the sod farm in Blaine is available.

**Team America Rocket Challenge**

Three teams from Minnesota are finalists:

Apple Valley 1570'

North Branch 1415'

St. Anthony 1370'

A big THANKS! to Ted Cochran and Art Gibbens for mentoring the Apple Valley and St. Anthony teams (respectively). Thanks to all of those who came out to the launches to show your support for the kids.

**Outreach**

The Metro Lakes District Camporee [Cub Scouts]  is May 17 at the Stearns County campground. Information was emailed to the masarocketry list; either check the list archives or contact Glen Overby if you're interested in helping.

**Presentation**

Ted Cochran gave a talk about rules and regulations surrounding our hobby. It was accompanied by a handout covering the major details of the relevant rules and regulations.  [A PDF of the handout may be downloaded from the [Tech](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Crocke%5COneDrive%5CDesktop%5CMASA%20website%5COld%20website%20from%20Alan%5Cmasa%5Ctech.htm) page]

*(Glen Overby)*

**May 2003 Meeting Minutes (5/23/2003)**

MASA met at the Science Museum of Minnesota on Thursday, May 22. Fourteen people attended the meeting.

The meeting started out with politics,  a discussion of BATF Notice of Proposed Rule Making #968. This notice places serious restrictions on high power motors, and may leave the door open to regulation of smaller motors. A two-page handout summarized recent NAR memos

* Letter from Mark Bundick
* Information on where to send comments
* "talking points" from the NAR

A copy of the handout is available from

[http//reality.sgiweb.org/overby/rockets/NPRM968.txt](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Crocke%5COneDrive%5CDesktop%5CMASA%20website%5COld%20website%20from%20Alan%5Cmasa%5Cmreports%5C2003%5Chttp%5Creality.sgiweb.org%5Coverby%5Crockets%5CNPRM968.txt)

**Outreach**

* Ted Cochran is running a launch at Westwood Elementary in Blaine on 5/23.
* Ted Cochran is running the INSciTE Rocket League launch on May 29th
* Glen Overby has been contacted by the group hosting the Girl Scout Council's National Jamboree in July, 2004 about teaching a class building rockets. He's looking for help!

**Launch Sites**

* We're still looking for a good launch site. Glen has been contacting sod farms, without much success.  If things work out, we hope to start flying from the Rockford site this summer.

Several rolls of pictures were passed around by Alan Estenson and Glen Overby.

There was a discussion about how the Team America Rocket Challenge flyoff went earlier this month.

Mike Erpelding gave brief discussion of the RSO and LCO procedures we use at our launches. Five "problem rockets" were handed around for evaluation by those present.

The meeting closed at approximately 830PM, a bit earlier than usual.

*(Glen Overby)*

**June 2003 Meeting Minutes (6/13/2003)**

The June meeting was held at the Science Museum of Minnesota on June 12th.

Glen went over highlights of John Kyte's reports on activity in the US Senate concerning Sen. Enzi's proposed legislation to ease the regulations restricting composite propellant.

Ted Cochran talked about the Minnesota Rocket League results.

Ted also put out a reminder that the comment period for the BAFE NPRM implementing Homeland Security provisions closes June 24th. There isn't much to say about them because they're a fairly straightforward implementation of the laws.

There's another deadline for the MASA Planet coming up. See Ted if you can contribute.

Our next launch will include a Super Rock competition. Dave Whittaker asked if an FAA notification could be in place; Glen agreed to look into it.

Our main topic of the meeting was Super Rock building. Ted Cochran handed out information on what a Super Rock is (from the "pink book"), an article by Tim Van Milligan, "Contest Strategy for Beginners "A" Superroc Duration and Pete Alway's Super Rock Rocket Gliders. Damian Kostron donated a large collection of tubes, which were sold for a token $0.50 each (proceeds going towards the July picnic).

*(Glen Overby)*

**MASA summer picnic (8/4/2003)**

**An evening's fun...**

MASA members gathered on Saturday, July 19, at the [Elk River & Rogers VFW post](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Crocke%5COneDrive%5CDesktop%5CMASA%20website%5COld%20website%20from%20Alan%5Cmasa%5Celkriver.htm)  for the [6th annual MASA summer picnic](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Crocke%5COneDrive%5CDesktop%5CMASA%20website%5COld%20website%20from%20Alan%5Cmasa%5Cnews%5C2003%5C2003-01.htm).  The temperature was milder than in past years although dark clouds did threaten for a while.  People started arriving around 3 pm to make use of the launch field before the picnic officially began.  Most people arrived around 5.  About 30 people attended.  The event wound down after the door prize drawings.

The site was the VFW soccer complex where occasional MASA launches are held.  The VFW kindly let us use their grill, tables and chairs, and picnic shelter.  There was rocket flying, eating, and a bunch of socializing.

**Launchin!**

Making use of the soccer fields, this was an official club launch, and people set up their equipment in a relaxed misfire alley style.  Using flight cards to record stats, the first launch took place not long after 3 pm.  When dark clouds moved in, the launch range was packed up around 5:30.  35 recorded flights took to the skies.

Read the [Launch report](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Crocke%5COneDrive%5CDesktop%5CMASA%20website%5COld%20website%20from%20Alan%5Cmasa%5Clreports%5C2003%5C2003-09.htm) for the other side of this story.

**Swappin'!**

As is traditional, the picnic also was the occasion of the MASA swap -n- sell meet.  Damian Kostron was selling body tubes and Mars Lander kits.

**Lots of prizes!**

Just after 7pm, drawings were held for the free "door" prizes.  Here's the rundown:

* Seth Cochran, Life Books "Man in Space" illustrated history - donated by Mike Erpelding
* Russ Lundstrom, Estes Banshee kit - donated by Hub Hobby Center
* David Whitaker, Estes Banshee kit - donated by Hub Hobby Center
* Damian Kostron, Estes Astro Sat LSX kit - donated by Hub Hobby Center
* Alexander Miller, Estes Astro Sat LSX kit - donated by Hub Hobby Center
* Tanner Eischen, Estes Maxi Alpha 3 kit - donated by Hub Hobby Center
* Tom Lawell, Estes Sky Writer kit - donated by Hub Hobby Center
* Hannah Gibbens, Estes Polaris kit - donated by Hub Hobby Center
* Brad Lundstrom Jr., Quest Nike Smoke kit - donated by Hub Hobby Center
* Cindy Whitaker, Quest Nike K kit - donated by Hub Hobby Center
* Brenda Everitt, Quest Lightning kit - donated by Hub Hobby Center
* Lee Frisvold, Custom Ion Pulsar kit - donated by Hub Hobby Center
* Renee Gibbens, Edmonds Aerospace Geminee kit - donated by Hub Hobby Center
* Amee Whitaker, ASP Versi-Loader 18 kit - donated by Hub Hobby Center
* Austin Whitaker, ASP Eggstravaganza 24 kit - donated by Hub Hobby Center
* Russ Durkee, ASP Sonda II B kit - donated by Hub Hobby Center
* Ted Cochran, ASP Kappa-7-1 kit - donated by Hub Hobby Center
* Ed Eastman, pack of Estes B6-4 engines - donated by MASA
* Margret Eastman, pack of Estes B6-4 engines - donated by MASA
* Mathias Gibbens, pack of Estes C6-5 engines - donated by MASA
* Michelle Eischen, pack of Estes C6-5 engines - donated by MASA
* Randy Miller, pack of Estes C11-5 engines - donated by MASA
* Travis Eischen, Estes Astrocams with film! - donated by Ken Jarosch
* Art Gibbens, Custom Ion Pulsar kit - donated by Leif Eischen
* Leif Eischen, Estes Alpha kit - donated by Ted Cochran
* Brad Lundstrom Sr., Estes Heliocopter kit - donated by Ted Cochran

**A big "Thank You!" to:**

* Everyone who participated!
* Lee Frisvold & Art Gibbens for doin' the grillin'
* The Eischen family for bringing condiments
* Glen Overby, the Whitakers, and Ken Jarosch for bringing beverages
* The Gibbens family for the water-rocket-melon
* Mike Erpelding and Ken Jarosch for running the launch range
* Everyone who helped set up and pick up.

*(Alan Estenson)*

 **August 2003 Meeting Minutes**

The August meeting was held at the Science Museum of Minnesota on the 5th.

Only 7 people were there, so it was really a non-meeting.  Nothing happened, so this page is a placeholder only.

You evidently got here by thinking you'd be smart and type in the URL directly...

 **September 2003 Meeting Minutes**

The September MASA meeting was held at the Science Museum of MN on September 4th. Attendance was very sparse, probably due to this being the first week of school.

The SuperRoc contest winners were announced:

B Division

#1 Ellison Lenz 702 points

#2 Alissa Hoyme 270 points

#3 Kristen Hoyme 180 points

C Division

#1 Dave Whitaker 420 points

Ted Cochran and and Stuart Lenz had flights that were disqualified.  We're giving out prizes to the four people who had qualified flights. If you're on the list, get a hold of Glen Overby to pick your prize.

The September monthly launch was announced for the 27th, at Rockford/Buffalo.  Several members expressed their dislike for that site, to the surprise of the club president. In fact, many attendees expressed a preference for the Rogers / Elk River VFW site in Otsego. Recognizing this, the October launch will be held there.

The meeting then ... transistioned ... into a "Junkyard Rockets" building session with two teams constructing some dangerous looking rockets.

 **October 2003 Meeting Minutes**

The October MASA meeting was held at the Science Museum of MN on the 2nd.

**November 2003 Meeting Minutes**

The November MASA meeting was held at the Science Museum of MN on the 6th.

**December 2003 Holiday Party (12/13/2003)**

On Friday evening, December 12, about 19 MASA-ites gathered at the Cochran residence in Minneapolis for the annual club holiday party.  While rocket talk filled the air and many delicious snacks disappeared from plates, the Discovery Channel's "Rocket Challenge" played on the television.

The annual gift exchange started out pretty slowly, but grew quite lively by the end.  Ted's Tethys was decorated as the "rocket-tree" this year.  Going in order of drawn numbers, each person could unwrap a gift or steal someone else's gift.  Lots of things got swapped around - some of the popular items were a Quest Nike Smoke kit, a tool box, a G64 reload, a custom launch controller, and an Estes Ram Jet kit.

Later in the evening, MASA President Glen Overby presented the annual MASSY awards..

First, Glen thanked all the RSO & LCO range duty volunteers for the year.  Putting all their names in a "hat", two were drawn out to receive "thank you" prizes.  Unlike the door prizes, these people didn't need to be present to win.  The winners of the RSO/LCO "thank you" drawing were:  Rick Vatsaas and Alan Estenson.

**2003 MASSY Awards**

In grand MASA tradition, President Glen Overby created this year's awards (possibly in an altered state of mind due to inhalation of AP fumes.)  Recipients were given a lovely paper certificate suitable for framing (or wiping glue off their fingers).

* **Distinguished Service Award for finding the new Buffalo launch site - presented to Rick Vatsaas.**
* **Distinguished Service Award for efforts to find a new launch site - presented to Larry Schwartz.**
* **Special recognition for hard-working TARC mentors - Ted Cochran and Art Gibbens**
* **Technical Achievement Award - presented to Larry Schwartz for his 2-stage AMRAAM flight.**

**2003 MASA Prang Awards**

**Prang Award of the 3rd Order:  David Whitaker's superroc "Mine's Bigger" on a D12-7**
Rocket sways in breeze.
Zooms around and out of sight
Gravel road kill now. *- Ted Cochran*Translation:  This 12 foot (at least) bit of super-bendy-silliness did a big loop before crashing into the parking lot.

**Prang Award of the 2nd Order:  Ken Corey-Edstrom's "lil' Johnny Rocket" on a F21 (1st "flight")**
Bif looked good, alas,
like Mark Thell's, in distant past
just the motor flew. *- Ted Cochran*L'il Johnny rocket
Can it fly do you suppose?
I can't prove it yet

Engine taped too loose
Run away! Run away fast!
Scary curlycue

Stay Back 30 feet
the motor flew between us
safety codes are good *- Ken Corey-Edstrom & Don Wiebold

(and limericks too?)*There once was a Biffy that flew
Twas all cardboard and plastic and glue
The motor got lit
And proceeded to split
Left behind on the pad was the loo. *- Ted Cochran*Translation:  This "flying" mini porta-potty might have stuck on the rail.  In any case, the motor shot clean through the "rocket", flipping and spinning its way past the flight line as everyone dove out of the way.

**Ken Corey-Edstrom's "lil' Johnny Rocket" on a F21 (2nd "flight")**Again 'twas readied
Launch! Loops! Horizontal Flight!
Reconstruction looms. *- Ted Cochran*
L'ill Johnny rocket
go back to the drawing board
More nose weight I think

busted plastic bits
green toilet smokes on the ground
Not worth forty bucks *- Ken Corey-Edstrom & Don Wiebold*Translation:  It got off the pad this time, but was unstable and pranged under thrust.

And the grand champeen...

**Prang Award of the 1st Order:  Mark Thell - Lifetime Achievement Award.**This year's contribution, the flight of his Nike Ajax.  Mark was presented with the new MASA Prang Award traveling "trophy" (a copy of the William Shatner Estes video).

Drawings were held for free door prizes.  The winners were:

**(The following prizes were donated by Hub Hobby Center of Little Canada.)**

* Austin Whitaker - Quest Falcon kit
* Russ Durkee - The Launch Pad Phoenix kit
* David Gensler - ASP Sonda IIB kit
* Ed Eastman - FlisKits Flea kit
* Stuart Lenz - BMS School Rocket kit

A BIG thanks to Hub Hobby Center for donating prizes!  A HUGE thanks to Ted Cochran and family for hosting the party again this year!  An enormous thanks to everyone who attended!

 *(Alan Estenson)*