**2005 Meeting Reports**

**January 2005 Meeting Minutes (1/8/2005)**

The January 2005 MASA meeting was held on the 6th at the Science Museum.

MASA's first meeting of 2005 followed tradition by starting a little past 700 PM. Turn out was quite good, with about 17 members and members-to-be in attendance.

**Old business**

* Russ Durkee was thanked in absentia for hosting the Holiday Party. Hub Hobby and Damian Kostron were thanked for donating door prizes.
* Elections.  There was a slate of unopposed candidates
	+ Mike Erpelding, President
	+ Stuart Lenz, Vice President
	+ Dave Whitaker, Secretary Treasurer

Ted Cochran moved that the candidates be elected by acclamation. The motion was seconded by Andy Heren, and passed unanimously. They were duly applauded.

**New Business**

We brainstormed a list of about 15 ideas for meeting topics, and, as in previous years, dot-voted [another one of those corporate meeting processes has worked its way into our tradition] to narrow the field to fit the available dates. We then discussed, with a bit less vigor, ideas for launch themes and activities, and assigned them to dates as well. The resulting list:

February
"Build your own Cape Canaveral" [GSE] --Mike Erpelding

March
KSC Travelogue --Andy Heren
Launch: Green rocket drag race

April
Contest rockets --Mike Erpelding
Launch: MASA Sectional contest, events TBD

May
LCO/RSO Training --Ted Cochran to organize
Launch: Comanche Drag Race

June
Tube Fin Rockets --Alan Estenson (tentative, pending Alan's being strong armed into acquiescing -)
Launch: G80 & HPR Drag Race

July
Picnic
Picnic launch: Special fun event D Ice cube duration

August
Paper rocket construction session --Stuart Lenz
Launch UFO Drag Race

September
NARAM Highlights --NARAM attendees

October
Kit Bash --Glen Overby to organize

November
Rocket Finishing --Dave Whitaker

December
Holiday Party

We talked up, promoted, and generally encouraged everyone to go to NARCON in Kenosha, WI, March 11-13.

**Round Table**

* Ted Cochran handed out the new issue of the MASA Planet (Volume 8, Number 1) to everyone. It will be mailed in the next few days to all members in good standing as of the end of last year. This is the tradition with the first issue of the year, in order to make sure everyone is reminded to renew their membership for the year. The next issue only goes to members -)
* Ted also passed around a paper glider model from the NASA Ares Mars Airplane site--Get your own at http//marsairplane.larc.nasa.gov/platform.html!
* Stuart had another fleet of cool MicroMaxx rockets, including a couple of SF models and Phoenixes in two different sizes. He also had a paper Mercury Redstone. Folks asked about sources for paper models, so I'll list some here:
	+ Precision Paper Space Models <http://www76.pair.com/tjohnson/ppsm.html>(Includes Mercury Redstone, Mercury Atlas, Atlas Centaur, Gemini Titan, Saturn 1B, Atlas Agena)
	+ Currell Graphics <http://www.currell.net/models/mod_free.htm>(Includes SpaceShipOne, Japanese RVT, Soviet N1, Friede, V2)
	+ Philippus Lansbergen (click "Modelbouw") <http://www.lansbergen.net/>(Estes Mercury Redstone wraps, Delta 2 (different variations), Delta 3, Jupiter, Juno, Soyuz, Pegasus, Ariane Vega, B-1 Interkosmos, Titan IIIC, Diamant B, and a bunch of satellites, aircraft, science fiction, and other stuff)
	+ Delta 7 <http://www.delta7studios.com/>(MR-8, STS Columbia, Rosie Retrorocket, maybe others)
* Rick Vatsaas showed off his Hindrocket, and discussed some of the interesting construction details--in particular the removable fins and the paper nose cone. Rick will have details on his web site, sooner or later, but pictures are there now http//www.vatsaas.org/rtv/
* Finally, Andy Heren passed around an unopened, shrink-wrapped tube of 1/2A6-0 motors.

*(Ted Cochran)*

**February 2005 Meeting Minutes (2/4/2005)**

The February 2005 MASA meeting was held on the 3rd at the Science Museum.  There were 14 people in attendance.

* NARCON - March 11 through 13 in Kenosha, Wisconsin.  Quite a few MASA-ites plan to attend.  A few of them are even giving presentations!
* The progress of some of the local TARC teams was discussed.  We will possibly be scheduling additional launches at Apple Valley High School again this year to help TARC teams who need to make their qualification flights.
* The February launch will be at Sunrise Park Middle School in White Bear Lake.
* We need to vote on the 2005 badge design soon, so that production can begin on them.

**Show & Tell**

* Mark Thell brought a Semroc Rock-a-Chute clone and a Dr Zooch Saturn 1B kit.
* Dave Whitaker brought Squirrel Works Red Baron and X-RV rockets.
* Stuart Lenz brought a whole batch of new MicroMaxx rockets include a Vega, Sprite, Thor, and many more.
* Ted Cochran brought along an Estes Scissorwing Transport and an Edmonds ARCIE II boost glider

**Topic**

Mike Erpelding talked about GSE - Ground Support Equipment.  He brought along a bunch of the wide variety of equipment that he has constructed.  Mike will also be presenting on this topic at NARCON.  Ted Cochran and Alan Estenson also brought along some GSE.

*(Alan Estenson)*

 **March 2005 Meeting Minutes (3/4/2005)**

The March 2005 MASA meeting was held on the 3rd at the Science Museum.  It was a light turnout with 10 people in attendance including 2 guests.

* Mike E. reports that the February launch went well.
* MarsCon - local sf convention - Stuart Lenz and Mike Erpelding plan to display some rocket stuff on Friday March 4 and possibly on Saturday March 5
* NARCON - March 11 through 13 in Kenosha, Wisconsin.  Nearly everyone in attendance at the meeting was planning on going!
* The progress of some of the local TARC teams was discussed.
* The March launch will be at the Buffalo / Rockford field.
* Alan Estenson talked about some student teams at the U of M who plan to build and launch CanSats.

**Show & Tell**

* Dave Whitaker brought a FlisKits Corona.
* Stuart Lenz brought a scratchbuilt MicroMaxx SR-71 and also an Estes Phantom see-thru display rocket.
* Ellison Lenz brought along the rocket that he built for his HPR L1 cert attempt - a HyperLOC 300.  He plans to fly it at Bong during NARCON.
* Caleb Boe had an Estes Phoenix.  He modified it to take longer motors such as the E9 and F21.
* Glen Overby brought along a book of photos from the Apollo missions - "Full Moon"

**Presentation**

MASA member Andy Heren presented his "Kennedy Space Center Travelogue."  Andy was down at KSC back in January for an educator's workshop.  Andy shared many photos and stories of his tours around KSC and Cape Canaveral.  Some of the highlights were:  SSME's, the shuttle Endeavour in the OPF, the VAB, LC39A, author Andy Chaikin, the shuttle transporter (aka crawler), modules awaiting their trip to the ISS, the rocket garden, LC34, and the many historical items in the Saturn V Center.

Thanks Andy!

*(Alan Estenson)*

**April 2005 Meeting Minutes (4/16/2005)**

The April 2005 MASA meeting was held on the 7th at the Science Museum.  It was a good turnout with 16 people in attendance including several guests.

* The March launch was poorly attended.  There was discussion about whether people don't like the Buffalo/Rockford field.  The weather may also have been a factor.  The southern metro got lots of snow, but there was just a dusting at the field.
* TARC teams were discussed.  Lots of teams, many requests for observers for launches.
* The April 23rd launch will be at the new Nowthen site.  An FAA waiver has been approved for this site for 2005 allowing flights to 4,500 ft AGL!  [Thanks to Mike for all his work to get the waiver approved!]
* Alan Estenson spoke briefly about upcoming flights by U of M student teams at North Branch.  They'll be launching "CanSat" payloads on J motors.

**Show & Tell**

* Ellison Lenz brought a big rocket made of styrofoam cups called the "Re-Caffeinator".  He filled all the cups with expanding foam so that it could fly on a G motor.
* Ken Jarosch spoke about his efforts to figure out hybrid motors.
* Dave Gensler brought a newly built 2-stage cluster kit by U.S. Rockets.

**Contest Rocket Building Session**

Mike Erpelding organized and led a building session for C streamer duration rockets.  Mike brought a ton of supplies, and quite a few rockets were constructed by both MASA members and guests.  Hopefully, we'll see them fly at the April contest.

Thanks Mike!

*(Alan Estenson*

**May 2005 Meeting Minutes (5/9/2005)**

The May 2005 MASA meeting was held on May 5th at the Minnesota Science Museum. The meeting was reasonably well attended with at least 8 people present.

**Show & Tell**

* David Whitaker brought along a nicely finished Quest X-15 model.
* Ken Jarosch brought his LOC Hi-Tech with a Rattworks H70 hybrid motor installed. Ken had also fabricated a nice electronics bay in which he had installed a PerfectFlite MAWD altimeter. Ken had a lively discussion with
Ted and Glen Overby about how the ejection charges should be safed.

**Training**

Ted Cochran presented the meeting topic of RSO/LCO training.

As part of the talk Ted brought his laptop and a video projector. The initial part of the meeting involved looking at Keyhole imagery that Ted Cochran had brought of the new launch site in Nowthen. The ability to look at earth from
space and then zoom into the launch site was quite impressive! Ted could measure distances from likely launch sites in the Nowthen field to adjacent roads and fields. There was general agreement that the field was capable of at least "I"
motor launches.

As part of the RSO/LCO training, Ted showed images of a fin can/lower stage rocket that had punched a hole in the wind-shield of a Suburban at a Tripoli launch. Ted also related the story of a head injury at recent NAR launch in Texas.

There is growing recognition inside of NAR that ballistic recovery is one of the greatest dangers to rocketeers and spectators. NAR is looking at formulating some new rules to prevent rockets from being launched over
crowds of people and over parked cars.

Ted then gave his presentation on RSO/LCO training.
As part of the training, particular emphasis was placed on RSO training and what should be looked for during the safety check-in of a rocket.

Several people had brought rockets to be checked. Ted made a list of the rockets on the white-board and the attendees attempted to discern what was wrong with the rocket (if anything).

*(David Whitaker)*

**June 2005 Meeting Minutes (6/6/2005)**

The June 2005 MASA meeting was held on the 2nd at the Science Museum.

The attendance for this meeting was 9 people.

* The May launch was cancelled due to wet fields.
* The June 25th launch is planned for the sod farm near Nowthen.
* A web page for the MASA picnic will be up soon so that we can start planning.  It's not much more than a month away!
* Local rocketeer Darrel Kronemann has produced a new video:  "Exploring their Future - A Look at Model Rocketry in the New Millenium."  Planned air dates are June 6th at 6 pm on Channel 16, June 8th at 11 pm on Channel 16, June 19th at 6 pm on Channel 17, and July 2nd at 10 pm on Channel 16.   Check the listings for your local cable Public Access Channels to confirm the channel numbers.

MASA member Mark Nelson was in attendance along with several members of the Dakota County 4-H Federation TARC team - 2005 national champions!  The team traveled to Virginia to compete and cinched first place with a flight time of 59.9 seconds.  Their two-stage rocket used two D12-0's in the booster and a single C11-5 in the sustainer.  For recovery, they used a standard 36" Top Flite nylon chute.  The team put in a phenomenal fund-raising effort to pay for their trip.  Mark described some of the learning process experienced by the team in such areas as fin construction and choice of upper stage motor.  They also built a rig to allow testing of the staging process on the ground.

Big congratulations to the champion 4-H team and to the two other Minnesota TARC teams that made it to the national competition.  Hey, the Hope Christian Academy team placed fourth!  Way to go everybody!

**Show & Tell**

* Mark Nelson brought along two "Birdie" rockets that he had scratchbuilt.  Easy and cheap to build, Mark says that they make nice demo rockets.
* Mike Erpelding brought along his new "rocket retrieval" tool - a 40 foot telescoping electrician's hot stick.  Hopefully, Mike can write it off as a work tool because $ouch$!
* Alan Estenson brought along a book that was a look back three decades - "Model Rocketry, Hobby of Tomorrow" by Peter Lowry & Field Griffith (1972)

**Tube Fins!**

Alan Estenson gave a talk on rockets that use tubular fins instead of "normal" fins.  Flight behavior, design, construction, and other tips and tricks were discussed.  Lots of example rockets were on hand from 1/4A sized up to J-powered.

*(Alan Estenson)*

**MASA summer picnic (7/17/2005)**

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

MASA members gathered on Saturday, July 16, 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 [8th annual MASA summer picnic](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Crocke%5COneDrive%5CDesktop%5CMASA%20website%5COld%20website%20from%20Alan%5Cmasa%5Cnews%5C2005%5C2005-01.htm).  It was a very, very hot and sunny day.  It would have been unbearably hot without the breeze.

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.  They had also left a large shade canopy set up for our use, and it was greatly appreciated.  There was rocket flying, eating, and a bunch of socializing.  About 35 people attended.

**Launchin!**

This was also an official MASA launch.  A misfire-alley range was set up on the soccer fields.  Launching began about 11:00 am and ended at 5:00 pm.  Despite the heat, a respectable number of flights took to the skies.

Read the [Launch report](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Crocke%5COneDrive%5CDesktop%5CMASA%20website%5COld%20website%20from%20Alan%5Cmasa%5Clreports%5C2005%5C2005-05.htm) for that side of this story.

**Lots of prizes!**

At about 6:30 pm, drawings were held for the free "door" prizes.  There were a HUGE number of prizes this year, and everybody who stayed for the drawing went home with something.  Here's the rundown of who got the loot:

* Mathias Gibbens - Custom Raven kit (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)
* Hannah Gibbens - Custom Razor kit (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)
* Jeff Taylor - Custom Skybird kit (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)
* Justine Myers - Estes Mach 12 kit (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)
* Carol Marple - ASP Kappa 9M kit - 24mm (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)
* Daniel Boe - ASP Corporal kit - 18mm (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)
* Ted Cochran - ASP WAC Corporal kit -24mm (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)
* Ed Eastman - Estes Thunderstar kit  (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)
* Philip Gibbens - Estes Patriot rtf rocket (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)
* Alyssa Taylor - Quest MicroMaxx rockets (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)
* Art Gibbens - pack of Estes C6-3's (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)
* Tyler Ericksen - pack of Estes C6-3's (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)
* Joshua Boe - Estes Dude (donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada)
* Courtney Ericksen - pack of Estes A8-3's (donated by MASA)
* Mike Erpelding - pack of Estes B6-4's (donated by MASA)
* Andy Heren - Estes Alpha kit (donated by MASA)
* Seth Cochran - Estes Banshee kit (donated by MASA)
* Don Boe - Estes Banshee kit (donated by MASA)
* Calvin Schleich - Kos Rox Streadur rocket kit  (donated by MASA)
* Linda Boe - Kos Rox Streadur rocket kit  (donated by MASA)
* Heather Myers - Quest Totally Tubular kit (donated by MASA)
* Jim Myers - Quest Super Cruiser kit (donated by MASA)
* Caleb Boe - Custom Fiesta kit (donated by MASA)
* Eric Myers - Estes Gnome kit (donated by Mike Erpelding)
* Estes Banshee (donated by Mike Erpelding)
* Renee Gibbens - Quest X-15 kit (donated by Mike Erpelding)

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

* Everyone who participated!
* Everyone who donated door prizes!
* Mike Erpelding for organizing the launch range and bringing all the beverages
* Grillmeisters Art and Andy
* Everybody who helped run the rocket range out in the hot sun

*(Alan Estenson)*

 **September 2005 Meeting Minutes (9/2/2005)**

The September 2005 MASA meeting was held on the 1st at the Science Museum.

The attendance for this meeting was 13 people.

* The August launch was a great success.  Many nice flights with faces both familiar and new.  With the breeze, a few rockets did end up in the corn.  MASA's first two "I" motor flights took to the skies and were both successful.
* The September 24th launch is planned for the sod farm near Nowthen.  The theme is "clusters", and a Deuces Wild drag race is planned.
* Mike received the outreach package with product samples that Quest is sending out to all NAR sections.
* The opening of TARC 2006 registration is almost upon us.  As always, mentors will be needed for local teams.  Volunteers will also be needed to help organize and run local launches for TARC flights.
* MASA received several Thank-You notes from local TARC teams for our support.
* We discussed the possibility of having special raffles to raise funds to benefit such activities as TARC or various NAR funds.
* The NAR is planning special activivies for the 50th anniversary year in 2007.  It might be something like get 50,000 kids to fly a rocket nationwide.  (Inspired by the EAA's Young Eagles program.)  More details to come.
* NAR headquarters has moved.  You should be seeing a Iowa address on NAR correspondence instead of the old Wisconsin address.
* We discussed having a paper rocket building session at a meeting next year.  Possibly saucers, or qubits, or the free paper rocket designs from FlisKits.
* We discussed when to have future sectional contests, and we threw around the idea of having a regional contest.
* A new issue of the Planet will be out soon.  As always, submissions are welcomed!

**NARAM!**

A bunch of MASA members traveled to the Cincinnati area for NARAM 47 last month.  Those present at the meeting included Ted & Seth Cochran, Stuart Lenz, Alan Estenson, Glen Overby, and Mike Erpelding.

We talked about the NARAM experience for the benefit of those who had never attended one.  Ted Cochran showed a few short video clips.  Alan Estenson showed a small sampling of the thousands of photos that he had taken.

*(Alan Estenson)*

 **October 2005 Meeting Minutes (10/7/2005)**

The October 2005 MASA meeting was held on the 6th at the Science Museum.

13 people attended the meeting.

* MASA received another thank-you letter from the Dakota County 4-H Federation.
* MASA received a letter from Apogee Components, and a demo version of Rocksim that we may copy and give away.
* MASA has been asked if we'd like to have a model rocket display again at MarsCon (SF convention) next March.
* NARCON 2006 will be on March 10-12.  For the third year, it will be in Kenosha, WI.
* NARAM in 2006 will probably be in Tucson, AZ (but it's not official yet).
* Due to an event at the Excel Energy Center, the November meeting may be pushed back a week.  Watch the web site and mailing list for an announcement.
* It's time to start thinking about a location for the December holiday party!
* Alan has started laying out the 2006 MASA calendar.  Some meeting dates may be shifted due to Wild games at the Excel.  Discussed the idea of having the picnic in June instead of July.
* The 2006 officer nominations will open at the November meeting.  S/T David Whitaker has indicated that he is willing to serve for another year.  Prez Mike and V.P. Stuart haven't decided yet if they will retire or go for another year.
* We are going to attempt to get going early on the 2006 MASA badge art selection.  Hopefully, we can select a choice at the January meeting.
* Ted Cochran and Rick Vatsaas made a rocket presentation at the Bell Museum of Natural History in conjunction with a screening of "October Sky".  An outreach report should be forthcoming.

**Show -n- Tell**

Alan Estenson brought along a pair of Sputnik-style oddrocs that he made from little plastic Halloween pumpkins.  Thus ... (wait for it) .... "Pumpniks".  [groan]  He gave away a couple more lil' pumpkins so other people could create their own Pumpniks.

**Kit Bash**

Glen Overby organized a kit bash session using the Estes "GBU-24 Paveway III" kit.  The goal, of course, is to build a rocket (other than a Paveway) using only the parts that come in the kit.  Twelve people elected to participate by purchasing kits at the meeting at a special reduced price.  The participants were:  Glen Overby, David Whitaker, Mike Erpelding, Alan Estenson, Ted Cochran, Seth Cochran, Stuart Lenz, Buzz McDermott, Caleb Boe, Robert Rech, Dan Keppel, and Robert Herndon.  [If you weren't at the meeting, you can still participate by purchasing a Paveway kit on your own.]

Some people started to actively build their kitbash creations during the meeting while others contemplated what they could do with the parts from the kit.

The rules were:

* Can use any part that comes with the kit - including the instructions, face card, and plastic bag itself.
* Can substitute a shock cord & parachute of the builder's choice.
* Builder may substitute a 5" piece of bt-50 for one of the 5" pieces of bt-20 that come in the kit, but resulting rocket must then have a 24mm "D" motor mount.

Kitbash participants are encouraged to bring their completed creations to the November meeting.  Rockets must be in a flyable condition, but do not need to be painted.  Each person bringing a completed Paveway kitbash will get to throw their name in a hat, and we'll draw for a nice prize!

*(Alan Estenson)*

**November 2005 Meeting Minutes (11/5/2005)**

The November 2005 MASA meeting was held on the 3rd at the Science Museum.

12 people attended the meeting.

* The November 19th launch is planned for the Elk River VFW field (pending confirmation).  Mike is also looking into the possibility of having an extra launch on the 20th at the Buffalo/Rockford field.
* Mike discussed sending the annual cards and gifts to the owners of our flying fields.
* The 2005 MASA Holiday Party will be at the residence of Buzz and Kathy McDermott in Blaine on Saturday December 10.  Details will be forthcoming.
* We have very few Prang Award nominations for 2005.  If you know of some "worthy" flights, please nominate them on the mailing list.
* Mike has been making copies of the NAR/TARC DVD - "How to build and fly model rockets".
* Outreach opportunities - Lino Lakes Cub Scout Pack (build & fly on Saturday Nov 19, presentation at meeting on Tuesday Nov 22); opportunities at a 50th Anniversary of Scouting event in Maplewood in May of 2006.
* NARCON will again be in Kenosha, WI on March 10-12, 2006.
* Following MASA tradition and precedent, the 2005 MASA officers (Mike, Stuart, David), having indicated their willingness to serve in those positions for another year, were confirmed in their respective offices for 2006 by unanimous acclamation of all MASA members in attendance.

**Kitbash Update**

Five participants in last month's kitbash brought "completed" rockets to the meeting.  They were:  Dan Keppel, Stuart Lenz, Buzz McDermott, Ted Cochran, and Seth Cochran.  A prize had been promised, and, in a random drawing, Seth won a rocket "grab bag" donated by Hub Hobby Center.  (Look in the November 2005 Planet for a photo of the five rockets and articles about two of them.)

**Show -n- Tell**

* Stuart Lenz brought a clone of the old Estes Dragonship 7.  He also had a bigger version inspired by the Dragonship.
* David Whitaker had a Sunward Phoenix.
* Caleb Boe brought his new airbrush.  (We shall expect to see some fancy-looking rockets next year!)

**Rocket Finishing**

David Whitaker led a discussion on techniques, tools, and materials for rocket finishing (filling, sanding, painting, etc).  Thanks Dave!

*(Alan Estenson)*

**December 2005 Holiday Party (12/17/2005)**

On Saturday evening, December 10, about 30 MASA-ites gathered at the residence of Buzz & Kathy McDermott in Blaine for the annual club holiday party.  As usual, there was a lot of delicious food, rocket talk, non-rocket talk, and we got to gawk at Buzz's stash of rocket stuff and vintage kits.

The annual MASA gift exchange game was once again a fun time with a colorful homemade nylon parachute, a tool box, a display box, and a pair of Estes kits from the 80's being the hotly contested items.

Buzz ran a special basement session where the youngsters built and decorated Edmonds Tinee boost gliders.  Expert judge Mark Thell ranked the gliders for their holiday artistic merit.  All five participants (Philip Gibbens, Christian Vatsaas, Austin Whitaker, Daniel Boe, and Aimee Whitaker) received a prize!  A big thanks to Buzz for the Tinee kits and the prizes!

**2005 MASSY Awards**

* **Appreciation Award for hosting the MASA Holiday Party:  Buzz & Kathy McDermott**
* **Outreach Appreciation Award:  Ted Cochran**
* **MASA TARC Mentors Recognition:** Ted Cochran, Ken Corey-Edstrom, Art Gibbens, Buzz McDermott, Mark Nelson, Glen Overby, Rick Vatsaas
* **Prang Awards:**
	+ **"Honorable" Mention - Glen Overby:**for the flight that resulted in the naming of "Overby Pond" at the July launch.
	+ **"Honorable" Mention - Joe Schneider: LOC Aura on a D9** "Joe put up his Aura on a 24mm D9 reload with what proved to be far too long of a delay.  Rocket lawn darted in the soft ground just across the drainage ditch from the launch range.  Then, the ejection charge went off - propelling the RMS casing and its adapter arcing back through the air - back across the drainage ditch!  Very funny to watch although, to be a  great prang, the casing really should have landed in the [smelly green] ditch water.  Joe, I'm sure, is glad that it didn't."
	+ **"Honorable" Mention - Dan Keppel: "Spicy Meatball" on a F21-4**  "The most impressive shred that I've seen in a long time!  It was fine on an E9, but it definitely exceeded the speed of balsa on that F21."
	+ **and ... the PRANG award goes to ... Mike Erpelding for his L2 flights at NARAM 47!**  Mike gets to keep the "treasured" Estes William Shatner rocket video and a rocket-shaped sand pail until next year.

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

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

* Aimee Whitaker - ASP Tall Boy kit
* Michelle Heren - ASP Wac Corporal kit
* Hannah Gibbens - Quest Aerobee Hi kit
* Mathias Gibbens - Quest X-30 kit
* David Whitaker - Quest Apex kit
* Daniel Boe - Quest Tracer kit

**(The following prizes were donated by MASA.)**

* Lee Frisvold - Estes Guardian kit
* Caleb Boe - FlisKits Deuces Wild kit
* Austin Whitaker - Quest Tomahawk kit
* Ted Cochran - Quest Apollo kit

A BIG thanks to Hub Hobby Center (Little Canada) and MASA for donating prizes!  A HUGE thanks to Buzz & Kathy  for hosting the party this year!  An enormous thanks to everyone who attended!

Extra thanks to club officers Mike Erpelding, Stuart Lenz, and David Whitaker for a great year!

*(Alan Estenson)*

*from Rick Vatsaas:*

Thanks to Buzz and Kathy McDermott,  Mike Erpelding and the officers, and Alan Estenson on Door Prizes. The MASA Holiday party was again a great success! It was definitely worth the drive (wouldn’t you say Andy?) on a slippery night.   I am anxious to hear what Mrs. Boe thinks about having sewn the most coveted prize!   It was nice to see all of you, (and meet some of you for the first time).   We look forward to seeing you all at the next launch!

*(and later, with tongue planted firmly in cheek)*

Well, I knew it was going to be a great evening when I pulled up to the driveway and the parking valet stepped forward to open the door and a footman arrived to carry the crock-pot.   We had to push aside the paparazzi to reach the front door.  Cheryl got in a fist fight with a photographer.   I expect to see the pictures in the next issue of People.

Upon entry to the house, the butler took our coats and we entered the receiving line to greet the hosts. When we reached the top of the stairs, a trumpet blew and our presence was announced with much fanfare.

Shortly thereafter we were escorted to a 40 foot linen covered sumptuously adorned table.  The cocktail wieners marinated in ketchup were most succulent.    In the background played a tuxedoed five piece orchestra, however, they were having some difficulty with Buzz's Texas Ho-Down Music.

The coronation ceremony for the officers was quite resplendent.  I don't know how long it will take Buzz to clean up the confetti.

For the door prizes Hub Hobby donated a carton of G-motors, a full gross.  Your name was drawn first, but you had to be present to win.

Sorry you couldn't make it.

*and, from Buzz McDermott:*

Kathy and I both had a great time at the MASA Christmas party and wanted to thank all of you who were able to attend. It's obvious that MASA has a very warm and friendly membership. We certainly enjoyed meeting all of you and look forward to having some more gatherings in the future. And I want to especially thank MASA for the 'Official' Stomp Rocket kit. I have determined it \*will\* fit 24mm motors, so mine will be built for at least E power.

I have a request for those families who's kid(s) built Tinees. Is there any chance you could get a photo of the builder and glider? During the build session I forgot all about taking pictures! For those who couldn't make the party,  five of the kids build Edmonds Tinee gliders and decorated them for awards as the best 'Christmas Colors' glider.

There was also a great gift exchange. Everyone drew a number and got to pick a gift in order. When it was your turn, you got to pick a new gift from under the tree or 'swipe' a gift from someone else (who then got the chance to do the same thing). It was a lot of fun. The most popular gifts were a beautiful 24", multi-gore, homemade parachute, a nice tool/range box, a wooden display case and a pair of 80s OOP kits. There was also this one person who was absolutely determined to get a particular hobby knife....

Numerous awards were given out, including the annual Prang award. I suppose the club officers should elaborate on those.