**2010 Meeting Reports**

**January Meeting Report**

The January 2010 MASA meeting was held on the 7th at the Science Museum

A total of 12 people attended the meeting.

**Launch:**The next club launch will be on Saturday, January 23 at Sunrise Park Middle School in White Bear Lake.  This will be a mod-roc launch (max 1 lb).

**Meeting:**  The next club meeting will be Thursday, February 4 at the Science Museum.

**2010 MASA Officers**

* Since there was only one candidate for each club office, MASA tradition & precedent allowed those candidates to be placed directly into office by a majority vote of acclamation of those club members present at the meeting.
* A motion was made and seconded to place the three officer candidates directly into office and skip the electoral vote.  This motion was approved by a unanimous oral vote of all present.
* **The 2010 MASA club officers are:  President - Carol Marple, Vice President - Neal Higgins, Secretary/Treasurer - Jason Colt.  Congratulations, and thank you!**

**Dues:**2010 dues for new and renewing members may be paid anytime.  Dues remain at $12 family, $10 individual, and $5 junior.  If you choose to have paper copies of the Planet newsletter mailed to you, there is an additional fee of $6 to cover printing and postage.  (PDF versions of the Planet are always available for download from the MASA web site.)  The membership forms will be updated ASAP with Jason's address.

**Treasurer's Report:**  Prior to transitioning duties and transferring funds to Jason, outgoing Secretary/Treasurer Rick Vatsaas reported the status of the club treasury.  He also reported the 2009 membership levels:  30 Family Memberships, 18 Single Memberships, 2 Junior Memberships = 60 unique memberships.  115 persons are listed as Single, Junior, or Family memberships.

**Planet:** Jeff welcomes submissions of content for the next issue of the newsletter.

**Show and tell:**

* Alan Estenson showed a miniature video "gum" camera and the old "Fat Boy" rocket that he modified to carry it.
* Neal Higgins also had a gum camera and a pen camera.
* Rick Vatsaas showed a Der Red Max styled "cup rocket" that he is scratchbuilding.
* Dave Schaffhausen showed his "Kawasaki" scratchbuilt high power rocket.

**Part of the meeting was spent brainstorming ideas for meetings and launches this year.  (Thanks to all who submitted ideas!)**

**Meeting Ideas**

* Steampunkin' - discussion and show-n-tell
* Baby Bertha kitbash with a steampunk theme (part of the Steampunkin' meeting)
* L1/L2 certification discussion
* NARTREK program
* UFO building
* Outreach/TARC mentoring
* RMS
* Safety - LCO/RSO, plus training on using the range equipment
* Vacuum bagging
* Contests/Competitions - events, how to prepare, etc.
* RockSim
* "other" kitbash - general, goony-themed, etc.
* Electronic deployment (Glen has volunteered to lead this meeting. Thanks, Glen!)

**Launch ideas**

* Viper drag race
* Other drag races
* Comanche-3 drag race
* Clusters
* Multi-stage
* Duece/Tres drag race
* July "4th" launch with a patriotic theme
* High-power "smackdown"
* Cameras
* Hey, It's Snowing! (more details on this shortly)
* Holiday-themed rockets (Halloween, Christmas tree, etc.)
* "Beauty" contests (for rockets, not club members!)

**February Meeting Report**

The February 2010 MASA meeting was held on the 4th at the Linden Hills Library in Minneapolis.

A total of 6 people attended the meeting.

**Launch:**The next club launch will be on Saturday, February 27  at Sunrise Park Middle School in White Bear Lake.  This will be a misfire-alley style mod-roc launch (max 1 lb and D engines).

**Meeting:**  The next club meeting will be on Thursday, March 4 at the Science Museum.  Alan Estenson will be leading a discussion of Level 1 and Level 2 high power certification.

**Reminders:**

* A good-sized group brainstormed meeting topics and launch themes at the January meeting.  A list can be found in the January meeting report.  Let Carol know if you have additional ideas.
* Remember the NAR membership drive - "52 by 52"
* MASA Membership Renewals - In an effort to make membership processing and badge printing more efficient, we're going to hold our own version of a membership drive!  Anyone who renews or joins by March 4th will have the opportunity to win a $10 Hub gift card (a total of two cards will be awarded.)  Two names will be drawn at the March club meeting.  You do not need to be present to win.
* Buzz McDermott is coordinating an outreach opportunity with a couple of Girl Scout groups in Minneapolis, coming up in early March.  There will be a build session on March 1 and a launch on March 8 for one group.  The other group will build with their scout leader and will launch on March 11.  Details will be sent out on the email list.
* MASA Planet - the next two issues are "sweeps" before NARAM and the LAC Trophy judging.  We really need contributions from across the club.  One cool note - MASA is the only club to win 2 years in a row on their first win (only rookie winner to have back-to-back wins).
* We've been invited to have a display at MARSCon in March.  Is there any interest?
* Carol is still looking for donations for the NARAM 52 Fly-It / Take-It.  She's looking into the possibility of buying Starlight Zippy kits to be used as a club build/donation to the FiTi.  Details will be coming up soon.
* MASA's 2nd Regional Contest is coming up in early June.  Mike Erpelding is the contest director, and he'll be providing details in the coming months.
* Ted Cochran talked about his participation in the recent NFPA meetings.

**Winter Project Show and tell:**

* Neal Higgins brought his modified Custom Land Viper, and a scratchbuilt Jayhawk with cluster motor mount.
* Carol Marple brought a neat rocket birdhouse that Michaels is selling.

**March Meeting Report**

The March 2010 MASA meeting was held on the 4th at the Science Museum in St. Paul.

A total of 20 people attended the meeting.  This was the biggest meeting turnout in some years!

**Launch:**The next club launch will be on Saturday March 27,  at the VFW soccer fields near Elk River.  This will be a misfire-alley style launch.  Local TARC teams are welcome to come and make qualification flight attempts.  There will also be discussion about adding an extra launch opportunity for TARC teams.

**Meeting:**  The next club meeting will be April 1 at the Science Museum.  Glen Overby will be talking about electronic recovery and electronic payloads.

**Discussions**

* Remember the NAR membership drive - "52 by 52"
* Outreach:  There are several upcoming opportunities to help in outreach launches with Girl Scout groups.  More outreach events will be coming up in April.  Keep an eye on the mailing list for more details.
* Remember to keep sending stuff Jeff's way for upcoming issues of the Planet newsletter.
* Keep working on those Fly-It / Take-It donations for NARAM 52.  If you are building one or more rockets for the FiTi, please let Carol know.
* MASA's 2nd regional contest is planned for the first weekend in June.  Watch the web site for the details.
* MASA S/T Jason Colt reported that over 80 members have joined or renewed their MASA memberships so far this year.
* The MASA membership incentive drawing was held.  The names of everyone who had joined MASA or renewed memberships for 2010 were placed in a hat.  The two winners of $10 gift cards to Hub Hobby Center were:  Laura Carpenter and Cindy Whitaker!
* Todd Schweim and Caleb Boe will be heading to Serbia this summer as members of the U.S. FAI Spacemodeling Team.  Todd let us know that a winery in St Croix Falls will be holding a fundraiser to help raise money to pay for their trip expenses.  They'd like to fly some rockets during the fundraiser, so he'll be looking for some MASA members who are willing to come and help out.  He'll make more details available at a later date.
* NARCON is coming up on March 13-14 in Worcester, MA.  At least two MASA members are planning to attend.
* Several MASA members are already making plans to attend NARAM 52 in Pueblo, CO.

**Show and tell:**

* Lyle Merdan showed an Aerotech parts guide tray that he made.
* Jeff Taylor showed his mega-cool Steampunk ACME Spitfire.
* David Whitaker showed the A-10 boost glider that he made from plans in Sport Rocketry magazine.

**Level 1 and Level 2 High Power Certification**

The evening's meeting topic was on Level 1 and Level 2 high power certification.  Alan Estenson lead the discussion.  Many people brought along high power rockets to the meeting.

If you missed the meeting, or didn't get a copy of the packet, you may download a PDF of it:  [L1 and L2 cert meeting handout March 4 2010.pdf](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Crocke%5COneDrive%5CDesktop%5CMASA%20website%5COld%20website%20from%20Alan%5Cmasa%5Ctech%5CL1%20and%20L2%20cert%20meeting%20handout%20March%204%202010.pdf)

Of these in attendance, about half had their L1's and three had their L2's already.  Several people in attendance were planning on pursuing their L1 and/or L2.

Over the years, there have been 24 Level 1 certification attempts at MASA launches.  22 of those were successful.  The most popular motor used has been the Aerotech H128.

A bit over an hour was spent on the topic.  Alan went through some tips and recommendations, talked about motors and rockets, and discussed the certification processes and the L2 written test.  There was a lot of good discussion and questions.

Lots of information on Level 1 and Level 2 certifications may be found on the [NAR web site](http://www.nar.org/hpcert/NARhprintro.html).

*[Alan Estenson]*

**April Meeting Report**

The April MASA meeting was held on the 1st at the Science Museum in St. Paul.  Approximately 10 people attended.

**Launch:** The next club launch will be on Saturday April 24, at the Nowthen sod farm, if the weather cooperates.  A theme and special events will be announced prior to the launch.

**Meeting:**  The next club meeting will be a build session at Alan's house.  A date and time will be announced soon.

**Discussions**

* NAR Membership Drive - remember that the "52 by 52" NAR membership driveRruns through the end of July.  The NAR is offering a bonus of $5 per member for each new member recruited by a current member (they must include your name on their application), plus the new member will receive freebies worth more than $30.
* Outreach opportunities:
April 15 - outreach launch with 5-7 Girl Scouts.
Late April (date TBD) - build session and launch with Girl Scout group.
* MASA Planet - Jeff is still looking for articles for the Planet newsletter.
* NARAM 52 Fly-It/Take-It donations - the deadline is the June MASA launch.  If you are building one or more rockets for the FiTi, please let Carol know.
* MASA's 2nd regional contest - our second regional contest is planned for June 5 and 6 at Nowthen.  A sport launch will be held both days in conjunction with the contest, and the waiver will be in place on Saturday (only).  Please note that contest flying will take priority over all other flying.  Watch the web site for the details.
* WSMC Fundraiser and Launch - Todd Schweim and Caleb Boe will be heading to Serbia this summer as members of the U.S. FAI Spacemodeling Team.  A fundraiser dinner and auction, plus a rocket launch/demo, will be held on May 23 at the Chateau St. Croix Winery. Details will be posted on the email list and the website.
* HPR "Cert Day" - several people are planning their HPR certification flight within the next few months.  We will hold a special event at the May launch (and possibly June launch) for anyone who is ready for their certification flight.  A "cert tent" will be set up to give the cert flyers some quiet space to work with their cert team.
* Off We Go Rocketry - Tim Melody of Off We Go Rocketry is offering a 10% rebate to the club for all purchase made by MASA members.  The 10% rebate will be in the form of a donation to the club, made at the end of the year.

**An Introduction to Electronic Recovery**
The evening's meeting topic was an introduction to using electronic recovery in rockets.  Glen Overby explained the various options for using electronic recovery, showed examples of avionics bays and methods of installing alimeters, and passed around different types of altimeters for the group to look at.

*[Carol Marple]*

**May Meeting Report**

The May 2010 MASA meeting was held on the 15th at Alan Estenson's house in Maple Grove.

A total of 15 people attended the meeting.

**Launch:**The next club launch will be on Saturday

**Meeting:**  The next club meeting will be

*[Alan Estenson]*

**MASA summer picnic (7/17/2010)**

MASA members gathered on Saturday, July 17, 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 [13th annual MASA summer picnic.](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Crocke%5COneDrive%5CDesktop%5CMASA%20website%5COld%20website%20from%20Alan%5Cmasa%5Cnews%5C2010%5C2010-03.htm)

Approximately 30 MASA members gathered on Saturday, July 17, at the Elk River & Rogers VFW post for the 13th annual MASA summer picnic.  The site was the VFW soccer complex where occasional MASA launches are held.

Although the weather forecasts initially looked promising for a picnic (though hot and muggy), the storm clouds quickly rolled in.  Rocket launching began around 2:00, but was put on hold around 2:15 due to lightning.  After waiting nearly an hour for the weather to improve, the launch was officially called off at 3:00 and the picnic began around 3:30.

Todd Schweim brought his "grill on a trailer," and he and Art quickly grilled hot dogs for the crowd.  And, Neal brought his propane corn-on-the-cob smoker, and made a whole batch of steamed/smoked, mouth-watering corn-on-the-cob for the group.  As always, there was a lot of food and a lot of hungry people!

Although Mother Nature didn't give us perfect rocket launching weather, she did provide us with a really cool lightning strike about 200 yards from the picnic shelter.

**Launchin!**

This was also an official MASA launch.  The [launch report](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Crocke%5COneDrive%5CDesktop%5CMASA%20website%5COld%20website%20from%20Alan%5Cmasa%5Clreports%5C2010%5C2010-09.htm) tells that side of the story.  A misfire-alley range was set up on the soccer fields.  Launching began about 2:00 pm and ended a mere 15 minutes and 7 flights later due to a thunderstorm.

**Lots of prizes!**

At about 6:00 pm, drawings were held for the free "door" prizes.  There were a HUGE number of prizes, and everybody who stayed for (and entered) the drawing went home with a prize.  Thanks to everyone who donated prizes!  Here's the list of who donated the door prizes and who won them:  *[apologies for any misspelled names!]*

* Donated by Hub Little Canada:
	+ FlisKits USS Grissom - Julie Hoyme
	+ Quest Courier - Ted Cochran
	+ Quest Terrier-Orion - Jeff Taylor
	+ Quest MLAS - Cindy Whittaker
	+ Estes Speed Freak w/engines - Ben Ericksen
	+ Estes Spin Control w/engines - Dave Schaffhausen
* Provided by MASA:
	+ Semroc Golden Scout - Neal Higgins
	+ Estes Renegade-D - Dwayne Shmel
	+ Estes Cosmic Cobra - Hieu Murphy  (I need to verify the spelling of her first name)
	+ Estes Skywriter - Nancy Schaffhausen
	+ Estes Taser Twin - Levi Anderson
	+ 1 oz. bottle of CA - Amy Whittaker
	+ One pack of D12-5 engines - Dave Fergus
	+ Six Estes C6-5 engines w/igniters - Mike Erpelding
	+ Six Estes C6-5 engines w/igniters - Lance Murphy
* Donated by Ken Jarosch:
	+ Semroc Sky Hook - Hunter Anderson
	+ Sunward Rocket Glider - John Carlson
* Donated by Alan Estenson:
	+ MASA cap - Scott Murphy
* Donated by Carol/Ben:
	+ Estes Patriot - Ken Hoyme
	+ Estes Guardian - Ethan Erpelding
* Donated by Dwayne Shmel:
	+ Estes Blue Ninja - Lyle Merdan
* Donated by Ted Cochran:
	+ ARV Condor - Susan Shmel
* Donated by Hub Richfield:
	+ Estes Eagle - Austin Whittaker
	+ Estes Stratocruiser - Todd Schweim
	+ Estes Phoenix Bird - Cheryl Anderson
	+ Estes Cosmic Explorer - Kevin Anderson
	+ Estes Reflector - Alissa Hoyme
	+ Pack of Estes D12-7 engines - Rick Vatsaas
	+ Pack of Estes D12-7 engines - Andy Heren
	+ Pack of Estes B6-4 engines - David Whittaker
* Donated by Lyle Merdan:
	+ Blast Deflector - Lance Murphy
	+ Blast Deflector - Dwayne Shmel
	+ Blast Deflector - Amy Whittaker
	+ Blast Deflector - Rick Vatsaas
	+ Blast Deflector - Neal Higgins
	+ Blast Deflector - Kevin Anderson
	+ Blast Deflector - Alissa Hoyme
	+ Blast Deflector - Mike Erpelding
	+ Blast Deflector - Dave Fergus

*(Carol Marple)*

**August Meeting Report**

The August MASA meeting was held on the 5th at the Science Museum in St. Paul.

**Launch:** The next club launch will be on Saturday August 28, at the Nowthen sod farm. A number of special events are planned.

**Meeting:**  The next club meeting will be on Sept 2 at the Science Museum.

**FLASH news bulletin:  At NARAM 52, the MASA Planet newsletter won the LAC trophy for best NAR section newsletter for the third year in a row!  Congratulations to editor Jeff and thanks to everyone who contributed!  As always, Jeff needs your contributions for upcoming issues.**

From MASA VP Neal Higgins:

In attendance at the August MASA meeting were Jason and myself. We waited until 7:15 to see if anyone else would show but no one did.

Here are the items Carol was going to have me talk about:

1. Membership is now around 105 people, including new members from Iowa and Illinois.

2. Club funds are in good shape.

3. Jeff REALLY needs articles for the next newsletter.

4. A number of people are attending NARAM; the September meeting topic will be NARAM 52.

5. We donated 50 rockets to the N52 FiTi. As far as I know, nearly all of our rockets were selected. I've received a lot of positive feedback. A HUGE thank you to everyone who built and donated rockets.

**September Meeting Report**

The September MASA meeting was held on the 2nd at ASE in Plymouth. Thanks to Alan for hosting! Approximately 12 people attended.

**Launch:**
The next club launch will be on Saturday, September 4, at the Nowthen sod farm, to make up for the cancelled August launch. The theme is "A Day at the Races." Special events include the 12th Annual Great UFO drag race; the 9th Annual Commanche-3 drag race, and a "Back to School" crayon rocket drag race.

The next regular club launch is planned for Saturday, September 25 at Nowthen. The theme is "Walk on the Wild Side." Special events include a Deuces Wild drag race, a Deuces Wild beauty contest, and cluster drag races.

**Meeting:**The next club meeting will be on Thursday, October 7, at the Science Museum. The topic will be a discussion of reload casings and reload motors.

**Reminders:**

* **Congratulations to Jeff Taylor, MASA Planet Editor, for winning the LAC Newsletter Award/Trophy for the 3rd year in a row!! Thank you to everyone who has submitted articles, photos, etc., this past year.**
* NARAM 52 Fly-it/Take-it - A HUGE thank you to everyone who built and donated rockets to the NARAM 52 FiTi. We donated 50 rockets to this year's event.
* Safety Grant - We requested and received a NAR Safety Grant in the amount of $216, to be used toward the purchase of a "smokechaser," an air horn and refills, and a new first aid kit. The NAR recently announced another round of safety grants, so we will be applying for additional funds to cover the purchase of another set of PA speakers, additional fence posts and rope, plus a few miscellaneous items.
* NAR Membership Drive - The drive ended on July 31st, with approximately 4850 total members (an increase of 400 members). This is the highest membership level since 2002.
* We've had a large number of members achieve their L1 and L2 high power certifications this summer:
L1 - Steve Brown, Art Gibbens, Caleb Griswold, Ken Hoyme, Bob Moyle, and Dave Schaffhausen
L2 - Caleb Boe, Todd Carpenter, David Gensler, Neal Higgins, Carol Marple, and Dwayne Shmel
(in the first 10 years of MASA, approximately 25 people achieved their L1 or L2 cert; we've certified an additional 12 people just this summer)
* MASA Planet - Jeff is still (always) looking for articles for the Planet newsletter.
* WSMC in Serbia - Todd Schweim and Caleb Boe attended the WSMC in Serbia.
* Membership Update - Our membership levels are strong, with approximately 110 members registered, including new members from Iowa and Illinois.
* Treasury - Club funds remain in good shape.
* Sirius Rocketry - David Miller of Sirius Rocketry is offering a 10% discount to all MASA members through early December.
* Off We Go Rocketry - Tim Melody of Off We Go Rocketry is offering a 10% rebate to the club for all purchase made by MASA members. The 10% rebate will be in the form of a donation to the club, made at the end of the year.

**Show and Tell:**

* Dwayne Shmel brought an Altimeter One that he purchased at NARAM. The Altimeter One is an easy-to-use, USB-style altimeter. They are currently available only through Apogee (for about $50), though there are plans make them available through retail sources. Hub is planning to carry the Altimeter One once they're available.
* Ken Hoyme mentioned Aerotech's recent announcement of a "Delay Drill Tool." Alan plans to stock these at Hub as soon as they're available.
* Rick Vatsaas showed off a neat "Der Red Max styled" rocket that he built using a coffee cup.
* Alan Estenson shared an MPR-capable launch pad he designed, at a cost of about $12. Look for a feature article in the upcoming issue of the MASA Planet.  Alan also brought a newly built Quest "Planet Probe".
* Carol Marple brought her PML Endeavour "Rocket Girl" which she used for her successful L2 cert flight at NARAM 52.

**Meeting Topic:**
The topic for this month's meeting was a discussion of NARAM 52, a discussion of the World Spacemodeling Championship, and the viewing of the LAC Newsletter Trophy and Annex box.

Jeff Taylor, Dwayne Shmel, and Carol Marple shared many pictures from NARAM 52. Carol showed off the medal that was given to each person who achieved their L1 or L2 HPR cert at NARAM.  Caleb Boe shared the impressive hardware he brought home from NARAM 52 (1st in 1/4A BG, 1st in R&D, and 3rd overall in B Division). Also, Buzz McDermott placed 4th in B Streamer (C Division), and Daniel Boe placed 3rd in 1/4A BG (B Division). Jeff presented the LAC Newsletter Trophy to the group, and everyone had a chance to view the contents of the super-secret Annex Box.

Caleb discussed his trip to the World Spacemodeling Championship in Serbia. He mentioned that the days were very long, which included breakfast at 6 a.m., departing the hotel at 7:00 a.m., being at the field all day, and finally eating dinner at 9:00 p.m. Don Boe told a story of helping to recover parachute duration rockets that had drifted nearly 6 miles away. They both had an amazing time and have many more stories (and a lot of pictures) to share.

*[Carol Marple]*

**October Meeting Report**

The October MASA meeting was held on the 7th at ASE in Plymouth. Thanks to Alan for hosting! Approximately 14 people attended.

**Launch:**
The next regular club launch will be on Saturday, October 23, at the Nowthen sod farm. The theme is "OddTober” (Goony rockets, Halloween-themed rockets, odd-rocs, SteamPunk, Birdies, or anything else out of the ordinary)

**Meeting:**
The next club meeting will be on Thursday, November 4, at the Science Museum. The topic will “Journey to the WSMC (World Spacemodeling Championships) in Serbia” - presented by WSMC Team Members Todd Schweim and Caleb Boe

**Reminders:**

* The MASA Badge Design Contest is back! All MASA members are invited to submit their designs for next year's MASA member name badge. All entries must be submitted by November 1 to Jason Colt. All of the entries received will be voted on at the November MASA meeting, and the winning design will be used for next year's name badge. Details can be found on the club website.
* Congratulations to Caleb Boe for setting a new national record in B Division for 1/4A BG, which he set at NARAM on 8/3/2010!
* We are planning to implement a club FiTi, so visitors at our launches have an opportunity to select and fly a rocket of their choosing. I’m looking for rocket donations (prefer new/never flown) and motor donations (A, B, C only). Thanks!
* The 2010 MASA Holiday Party is in the process of being planned. It will be held at the Chaska Community Center (same location as the last two years).
* Officer elections open at next month’s meeting. If you’re interested, please contact Carol.
* Important reminder – the Yahoo email list is the primary method of communicating within the club. If you’re a member and are not on the email list, please sign up ASAP. This is the best way to find out about last-minute schedule changes, or to hear important club information.
* Outreach opportunities:
	+ Cub Scout Pack 232 in Lino Lakes – build session on Tuesday, October 12th at 6:30, Living Waters
	Lutheran Church in Lino Lakes. They plan to have 35-40 scouts participating, and they’ll be building SpaceLoft, Wizard, and Viking rockets.
	+ The launch for this group will be at Blue Heron Elementary School in Circle Pines, on Saturday, October 16th starting at 10am. The address is 405 Elm St, Circle Pines, MN. Alan and Buzz are bringing launch equipment, and setup begins at 9:30 a.m.
	+ Boy Scout troop (232) in Lino Lakes - Oct 25 build, Nov 6 launch (this is a partner troop to the outreach opportunity mentioned above).
* Reminder that Jeff is always looking for articles for the MASA Planet!
* Membership Update - Our membership levels are strong, with approximately 130 members registered. This is great for our club, but it also bring additional challenges with launch logistics and safety. Please be patient if you experience any issues with our ‘growing pains’.
* Treasury - Club funds remain in good shape.
* Don’t forget to take advantage of Hub’s HPR sale! During the month of October, all in-stock Aerotech 29mm and 38mm high power reload kits will be on sale at \*25% off\* of the regular price. You must visit when Alan is working in order to get the sale price. (refer to Alan’s email for his work schedule)
* Sirius Rocketry - David Miller of Sirius Rocketry is offering a 10% discount to all MASA members through early December.
* Off We Go Rocketry - Tim Melody of Off We Go Rocketry is offering a 10% rebate to the club for all purchase made by MASA members. The 10% rebate will be in the form of a donation to the club, made at the end of the year.

**Show and Tell:**

* Gerald Meux brought along his impressive ShadowAero 3" diameter Phoenix rocket that's made from carbon fiber.  Gerald also brought some 98mm N motor casings, and a nozzle for a custom 6" diameter motor.
* Neal Higgins brought an Aerotech Electronic Forward Closure system.
* Jeff Taylor brought his Estes NARAM 52 Satellite Interceptor, and a custom cluster Fat Boy with canted motor mount tubes.

**Meeting Topic:**
The topic for this month's meeting was a discussion of reload casings and reloadable motors, with a snow 'n tell of various reload systems.

*[Carol Marple]*

**November Meeting Report**

The November MASA meeting was held on the 4th at the Science Museum of Minnesota. Approximately 19 people attended.

**Launch:**
The next regular club launch (and the last of this year) will be on Saturday, November 20, from 10:00 – 2:00, at the VFW in Otsego. The theme is "Walkin' in a Winter Wonderland” (winter or holiday themed rockets)

**Meeting:**
There is no December meeting, as the holiday party doubles as our December club meeting. The next club meeting will be in January. Normally, the meeting would be on Thursday, January 6, but there is a Wild game that evening. The meeting will need to move to a new location, or be rescheduled for a different day. Watch the club website and email list for an announcement.

**Reminders:**

* The October launch was dedicated to Tim Melody, who passed away on October 18th after a battle with pancreatic cancer. We flew some navy- and dark blue-colored rockets in his honor, and we took a photo of some members with their rockets (I’ll send a copy to the family). Please sign the card for the family. If you wish to donate toward a memorial to the family, tonight is the last night to do so.
* The 2010 MASA Holiday Party is being planned. It will be held at the Chaska Community Center on Saturday, December 4. The party will include a show ‘n tell and the following beauty contests: Scale (any scale model), Kitbash (anything you've kitbashed), Kid-constructed (anything that's been built by one of our younger members, open to those who are currently 17 and younger). The website will be available soon.
* Reminder that we are planning to implement a club FiTi, so visitors at our launches have an opportunity to select and fly a rocket of their choosing. I’m looking for rocket donations (prefer new/never flown) and motor donations (A, B, C only). Winter is a great time to build a few extra rockets!
* Outreach opportunities:
	+ Boy Scout troop 232 in Lino Lakes – build was held on Oct 25. The launch is this Saturday, Nov 6, from 9-11, at Centennial Middle School in Lino Lakes.
* The MASA Badge Design Contest is done. We received 6 designs. We’re working on setting up the voting. Jason has a copy of all the designs for everyone to look at.
* Important reminder – the Yahoo email list is the primary method of communicating within the club. If you’re a member and are not on the email list, please sign up ASAP. This is the best way to find out about last-minute schedule changes, or to hear important club information.
* Safety Grant – I requested and received a safety grant of around $210 earlier this year (used for a “smokechaser” and some misc items). I also submitted a request for another $188 to cover the purchase of a second set of speakers, a speaker stand, and additional posts. As our club grows and our launches get bigger, it’s important that we all keep safety in mind!
* Reminder that Jeff is always looking for articles for the MASA Planet!
* Membership Update – We currently have 136 members, which is double the membership we had this spring. Please take a few minutes to welcome new members and show them around at launches and/or meetings.
* Treasury - Club funds remain in good shape.
* Sirius Rocketry - David Miller of Sirius Rocketry is offering a 10% discount to all MASA members through early December.
* **Nominations for 2011 MASA officer positions** open tonight, and remain open until November 30th. Nominees have until December 10th to accept or decline the nomination. The election/vote will then be held at the January 2011 MASA meeting. You may nominate yourself or a fellow club member - either tonight, by email to me, or by posting the nomination to the Yahoo email list. Nominees do not become candidates until they accept their nominations. MASA officers must be current NAR members and MASA members. The three current club officers are willing to serve for one more year. If no other candidates come forward - willingly or not - by November 30th, MASA custom and precedent allows those club members present at the December meeting to vote and confirm the current officers as your 2011 MASA Officers.

**Show and Tell:**

* Bob Moyle brought his Big Red Bee radio tracker.  He described its capabilities and how he got his amateur radio license in order to buy and use it.
* David Whitaker brought his very cool Pemberton Space Ark
* Alan Estenson brought his "uber button"; it's a remote launch button that connects to his multi-pad launch controller for use at outreach launches.  Alan also brought little keychain video cameras.
* Jason Colt brought his custom designed rocket that he built from Hub clearance bin parts.  It has many onboard LEDs.

**Meeting Topic:**
Journey to the WSMC (World Spacemodeling Championships) in Serbia” - presented by WSMC Team Members Todd Schweim and Caleb Boe

Todd & Caleb described their experience as members of the Senior and Junior US teams that traveled to Serbia this past summer.  They also shared lots of neat photos.

*[Carol Marple]*

**2010 MASA Holiday Party**

On Saturday evening, December 4, about 30 MASA members gathered at the Chaska Community Center in the “Community Room” for the annual club holiday party.  There was plenty of food to eat and holiday treats to enjoy, plus a couple of rocket “beauty” contests, and rockets and other mementos to look at.  The party started around 6:30 pm and ended around 9:30 pm.

Thanks to Lyle Merdan for arranging the use of the room, and to everyone who helped with planning, set up, and clean up!  Thanks to everyone who attended!

Thanks to Todd Carpenter for again bringing the liquid nitrogen and keeping the crowd entertained!  Everyone had a great time freezing marshmallows, graham crackers, flowers, and pennies

Thanks to Jeff Taylor for the MASA holiday greeting cards.  Party attendees signed these cards to be sent to various friends of MASA.

The annual MASA gift exchange game was once again a popular activity with nearly all the attendees participating.

***2010 MASA Year in Review***

* MASA's 12th Year
* 10 meetings plus the summer picnic and winter holiday party.  Thanks to all the meeting topic presenters!  (Caleb Boe, Alan Estenson, Carol Marple, Buzz McDermott, Glen Overby, Dwayne Shmel, Todd Schweim, Jeff Taylor, and the many club members who participated in the “hardware and reload show-n-tell” at the October meeting).
* 15 club launches in 2010, including a 2-day regional contest:  910+ flights, 1,014+ engines burned, 29,962 N-s of total impulse, nearly $6,000 worth of engines used!  The total number of MASA flights to date is about 11,000!  We had 44 high power flights; that's the most ever in one year!  We had very few scheduled launches that had rocket-friendly weather; luckily, we were nearly always able to reschedule.
* MASA donated 50 rockets to NARAM 52 for the "Fly-It / Take-It".  Thanks to all who built and donated rockets:  Kevin, Hunter, and Levi Anderson; Steve Brown; Todd Carpenter; Mike Erpelding; Alan Estenson; Art and Philip Gibbens; Andy Heren; Neal Higgins; Carol Marple; Buzz McDermott; Bob Moyle; Dwayne Shmel; Jeff Taylor; Mark Thell; David Whitaker.
* The LAC trophy for best NAR section newsletter was awarded to the MASA Planet for the 3rd consecutive year!  Thanks to all the newsletter contributors:  Todd Carpenter, Jason Colt, Mike Erpelding, Alan Estenson, Art Gibbens, Neal Higgins, Ken Hoyme, Ken Jarosch, Ray King, Carol Marple, Tim Melody, Glen Overby, Todd Schweim, Alyssa Taylor, Jeff Taylor, and David Whitaker.
* We had a large number of members successfully complete their L1 and L2 high power certifications.  As a comparison, in the first 10 years of MASA, approximately 25 members completed their L1 or L2 HPR certification.  In 2010 alone, we had 12 members complete their L1 and L2 certifications (6 of each)!!
* We received two NAR Safety Grants, totaling approximately $400.  This money was used to purchase additional safety equipment including a “smokechaser,” an additional set of speakers, and additional stakes and rope.  Some money remains to purchase an updated first aid kit and an air horn.
* We supported many outreach events, including long-standing events like Westwood and new events with some boy scout and girl scout troops.
* MASA held its second regional contest.  Planning is already underway for our 3rd annual regional contest next summer.
* At least a few MASA members attended NARCON 2010 on the East coast.
* About 10 members traveled to Pueblo, CO for NARAM 52 (and some are already making plans for NARAM 53 in Cincinnati, OH).
* Caleb Boe, Todd Schweim, and Don Boe traveled to Serbia to compete in the WSMC.

***Recognition***

* Thanks to Neal Higgins for his service as MASA Vice President, and for ‘acquiring’ what is probably the coolest equipment trailer ever.
* Thanks to Jason Colt for his service as MASA Secretary/Treasurer.
* Thanks to Jeff Taylor for his service as editor of the (multiple award winning) MASA Planet newsletter.
* Thanks to Mike Erpelding for serving as director of MASA's regional contest (first, second, third, and counting).
* Thanks to Alan Estenson for serving as the MASA Webmaster, flight statistician, and Section Advisor.
* Thanks to Ted Cochran for his service as NAR Vice President, and for serving on the NFPA Committee.
* Congratulations to those with successful Level 1 certification flights this year: Steve Brown, Art Gibbens, Caleb Griswold, Ken Hoyme, Bob Moyle, and Dave Schaffhausen.
* Congratulations to those with successful Level 2 certification flights this year: Caleb Boe, Todd Carpenter, David Gensler, Neal Higgins, Carol Marple, and Dwayne Shmel.

·     Thanks to all those who volunteered their time to serve RSO/LCO shifts this year:  Todd Carpenter, Mike Erpelding, Alan Estenson**,**Art Gibbens, Neal Higgins, Buzz McDermott, Glen Overby, Dwayne Shmel**,**Jeff Taylor, Rick Vatsaas**,**and David Whitaker.  Our launches run smoothly and safely because of all of you!

* Congratulations to MASA's FAI Internats crew:  competitors Caleb Boe and Todd Schweim, and flight tracker extraordinaire Don Boe.

***2010 MASSY Awards***

Following MASA tradition, club president Carol Marple presented a few special awards.

·         "Pay it Forward Award", presented to Mike Erpelding and Buzz McDermott.

o             Mike single-handedly ran two major outreach events this year, including a launch at the Stearns County Fair and the 2-day Boy Scouts “Star Camp,” which celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts.  For this event, Mike built and wired several new multi-rocket launch pads in order to handle the high number of flights.  The Scouts built paper pyramid rockets and flew them on Quest B6-2’s.  Approximately 11,500 Scouts attended the event; of those approximately 700 Scouts built and flew rockets.

o             Buzz hosted a club build session, plus donated many rocket kits (and rockets) for the NARAM 52 Fly-it / Take-it.  In addition, he also handled many outreach builds and launches, often times by himself and on short notice, including one outreach event for a scout group that was planned, coordinated, and done within 3 or 4 days.

* "Frequent Flyer Award", presented to Alan Estenson for having the highest number of flights during 2010, in addition to also taking many shifts as LCO/RSO.

·    “Longest Distance Traveled to Fly Rockets Award”, presented to Caleb Boe, Todd Schweim, and Don Boe for their trip to the WSMC in Serbia in August.

***2010 Prang Awards***

There were a number of notable prangs this year.

**Prangs Worth a Mention:**

·         February launch:

o       Ken Jarosch’s "SpaceShipEarth" saucer was completely obliterated when a D5-4 motor CATO'ed.

·         May launch:

o       Lyle Merdan's "Wildman Jr" on a G46 had a motor failure, caught on fire, and didn't leave the pad.

·         Solstice launch:

o       Ken Hoyme’s Leading Edge Rocketry Alien, with 39 separately soldered and epoxied LEDs, on an E20-4W at the Solstice launch.  Lawn darted due to really long ejection delay.

·         June launch:

o       Todd Carpenter's "Steam Boy" on a D24 had a late ejection and lawn darted.

o       Mark Thell did loops with his "Colonial Viper" on a C6-3.  The comments say "unstable, mistook Bob for a Cylon".

o       David Gensler tried for his L2 cert with his Magnum on a J350. Unfortunately, he suffered a motor CATO.  The motor tore loose, flew through the rocket, punched into the payload section, and propelled it into the air while the bottom half of the rocket remained on the pad.

·         July launch:

o       Tim Barr exceeded the speed of balsa when he shredded his SLS Laser-X on a G77.

·         October launch:

o       Luke Brown launched the big and colorful "Bunny Storm" on 3 D12's.  The nose came off, but the chute never appeared and it core sampled.

***Prang of the Year Award:***

**Ken Hoyme’s Leading Edge “Rocketry Alien" on an E20-4W.**

 **Nomination -** Ken bought this kit shortly before the Solstice Launch, and spent many, many hours soldering and epoxying the 39 individual LEDs that come with this kit.  It was an awesome rocket, and we were all excited to see it fly.  Ken waited until right after sun down to launch it, to maximize LED visibility.  Winds were pretty calm when the button was pressed.  It wasn’t completely stable off the rod, but it stabilized as it picked up speed.  Unfortunately, it made a nice arc over the road and into the field across the street, where it crashed.  The nose cone was firmly planted in the body tube, and many of the little parts were completely shattered.  We’re pretty sure the delay was longer than 4 seconds, and I’m sure it felt more like a 40-second delay to Ken.

**Free Prizes for RSO/LCO volunteers and meeting presenters**

(The names of everyone who had served RSO/LCO duty OR presented a topic at a meeting during 2010 were placed in a "hat")

Todd Carpenter, Caleb Boe, and Alan Estenson’s names were selected, but I didn’t write down who took which prize

(The following prizes were donated by Carol Marple)

* Pack of Estes D12-5 motors
* “Journey to the Moon” DVD
* Semroc Aerobee-Hi rocket kit (NARCON 2008 commemorative kit)

**Free Door Prizes**

**Prizes donated by MASA club members (Thanks to Jeff Taylor, Dave Schaffhausen, Carol Marple, Ben Ericksen, Alan Estenson, and Neal Higgins!)**

* Estes Paveway kit - Ken Hoyme
* Estes Electron Beam Controller - Cheryl Anderson
* Estes Guardian kit - Kevin Anderson
* Custom Razor kit - Bob Moyle
* IMAX "Space Station" DVD - Ethan Erpelding
* IMAX "Destiny in Space" DVD - Don Boe
* NASA license plate - Dave Schaffhausen
* Paratrooper guy - Rick Vatsaas
* Tripod launch pad - Dwayne Shmel
* Keychain video camera - Susan Shmel

**Prizes donated by MASA**

* Six Estes C6-5 engines w/ igniters - Austin Whitaker
* Estes Photon Disruptor kit - Kevin Day
* FlisKits Long Overdue kit - Lyle Merdan
* FlisKits Thing-a-ma-jig kit - Nancy Schaffhausen
* Quest Totally Tubular kit - Jeff Taylor
* Certificate for free 2011 club dues - Ted Cochran
* water bottle - Ted Cochran
* water bottle - Levi Anderson
* 5 minute epoxy - Rick Vatsaas
* 30 minute epoxy - Linda Boe
* hobby knife set - Dave Schaffhausen
* tool set - Cindy Whitaker
* X-acto knife - Linda Boe
* X-acto knife - Alyssa Taylor
* Titebond glue - Cindy Whitaker
* Estes B4-2 engines - Todd Carpenter
* Estes B4-4 engines - Jeff Taylor
* Estes B6-4 engines - Todd Carpenter
* Estes B6-4 engines - Bob Moyle
* Gorilla glue - Aimee Whitaker
* CA glue - Cheryl Anderson
* CA glue - Alyssa Taylor
* Quest Q2G2 igniters - Levi Anderson
* 12" Top Flight nylon chute - Caleb Boe
* Certificate for free 2011 club dues - Caleb Boe
* FlisKits 24mm cluster mount - Aimee Whitaker

**Prizes donated by Hub Hobby Center, Little Canada**

* FlisKits Night Whisper kit - Neal Higgins
* Quest Terrier-Orion kit - Alan Estenson
* Semroc Golden Scout kit (#0579) - Hunter Anderson
* BMS nose cone assortment - David Whitaker
* Estes Spin Control rocket with engines - Craig Bowman
* Estes Speed Freak rocket with engines - Mike Erpelding

**Prizes donated by Hub Hobby Center, Richfield**

* Two packs of Estes B6-4 engines - Todd Schweim
* Pack of Estes B6-4 engines - Nancy Schaffhausen

Congratulations to the winners!  (apologies for any misspelled names)

*[Carol Marple]*