



SOUTHWEST OHIO ROCKETRY ASSOCIATION (SORA)

LAUNCH REPORT MAY 17, 2026

11:00AM TO 4:00PM NAR SECTION #624

Launch Conditions: clear skies, temps in low 80s, wind 7-12mph

Total Number of Launches: 55 **Rockets Recovered:** 53 **Lost:** 2 **Found Rocket (not launched today):** 0

Total Number of 100% Fully Successful Flights: 46 **Success Rate:** 83.6%

Number of Individuals Who Launched Their Rockets: 17 **Number of Family/Friends/Observers:** 4

Number of First-Time flyers: 5

Teams and Competitions: 0 **NARTREK:** 1 Junior Bronze, 2 Senior Silver

Scouts/Home School/4-H Groups: 0

Types and Number of Motors: 61 total

Micro	1/4A	1/2A	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
0	0	2	11	11	30	2	2	1	1

2-motor clustered rocket	0		Two-stage rocket	6
3-motor clustered rocket	0		Three-stage rocket	0
Other: 0				

Total Impulse: 559 N-s for low/mid power 0 for high power at Cedarville
(Note: the mid-point of each impulse range for a motor class is used)

(April launch had 585 N-s Total Impulse)

Year To Date Total Impulse: 1269 N-s

Failures: 9 total 3 chute failed to unfurl after ejection, 1 fin can fell off rocket at apogee, 3 chute tangles, 2 lost in woods due to arcing after launch (improper thrust)

Ground Fires: 0 **Damage to vehicles/facilities:** 0 **Medical Incidents:** 1

FINANCES:

ITEM	COST EACH	# PURCHASED	TOTAL INCOME
Straight out donations	NA	-	\$56
t-shirts	\$20	0	\$0
Polo shirts	\$30	0	\$0
Baseball Caps	\$14	0	\$0
Food and Drinks	\$1	15	\$15
Stickers	\$0.25	0	\$0
Mugs	\$10	0	\$0
New/Renew Memberships	\$5	0	\$20
TOTAL			\$71

Rocket Topics and Issues:

1. It was good for flying with 55 launches by 17 different rocketeers!
2. We had three NARTREK (National Association of Rocketry Training Rocketeers for Experience and Knowledge). This was the most attempts on a single day in the last several years. All were successful. Great jog!
3. We had the greatest ratio of scratch-built rockets with 18 of 55 being flown today.
4. One medical incident occurred due to being scratched on thorn bushes while retrieving a rocket. Band-Aids and alcohol prep took care of the problem easily.
5. Rick and Robb will be practicing their drone piloting skills in attempts to locate their two rockets that landed in high weeds and the forest. Best wishes on locating the Estes Sasha and the Aerotech Arreus!
6. It was nice to see so many two stage rockets go up as well as several rockets that had altimeters. It is always good to go beyond the basic simple rocket format.

Next meeting: Tuesday June 2nd at 6:00PM - 7:30PM. Lebanon Library lower-level meeting room.

Next Launch: Sunday, June 7th, 2026. Meet at Hisey Park. Setup 11:00, launch 1:00PM

Please remember to renew your SORA membership for 2026. It's a great club!

Also, please renew your membership to NAR!



Ready to fly!



3 of 55 launches for the day



A blast from the past!



One chute and two streamers!



Big Daddy is a Go!



Harold and his scratch built Tianyi Titan



Learning the ins and outs of setting up a high power launch pad



Beautiful rocket and beautiful launch!



A family that launches together, stays together!



Ensuring a good nose cone fit.



Rick's first and last launch of an Estes Sasha (lost in woods)

FUN FACT: Are you stuck on tape?

There are a variety of tapes that can be used on model rockets to give clean edges to your painting. Three questions you need to ask yourself about the tape:

- 1) Does the tape allow bleeding underneath?
- 2) How easy is it to remove without damaging or lifting the underlying tape?
- 3) Does it leave residue?

Tamiya	Excellent but expensive, comes in a variety of widths, no residue, usually have to go to hobby store, comes in paper and vinyl for flat and curved surfaces
Frog tape – Delicate Surface	Very good, sold in big box stores
Scotch Tape – Delicate Surface	Very good – sometimes hard to find
Neeho Artist Tape	Poor, designed for watercolors and fabric surfaces
Unbranded generic masking tape	Poor, tears easily, bleed through often a problem, can be hard to manipulate, very inexpensive, can be used for larger projects to hold protective papers in place

Tape should be removed when the paint is just touch dry. Don't allow the tape to remain on the rocket for a day, days, or weeks! I forgot about a nosecone I painted and, after two weeks, the tape pulled all the paint (including the primer) off the rocket.

After putting tape on the rocket, be sure to carefully go over all the edges and press the tape firmly down onto the surface. This is especially important where pieces of tape cross each other.

Tamiya has vinyl tape designed to go around curved surfaces and comes in various widths. I used it extensively on several Saturn rockets. Use the narrow vinyl tape for the clean edge and then use fatter or alternate tape to tape to the protective paper for the rest of the rocket.

Always store your tape in a plastic bag or plastic bag. Don't lay it down on your work surface. This prevents dirt and debris from attaching to the edge of the tape which then causes bleeding through and not crisp edges. Protect the edge of the roll from getting dented or damaged. Tamiya and Frog tapes come in plastic dispensers.

Residue can often be removed with a small amount of alcohol on a wipe.

Happy painting!

The Club's Motto..... "Sapientia ducet ad astra" – "Wisdom leads to the stars!"