



# **SOUTHWEST OHIO ROCKETRY ASSOCIATION (SORA)**

## **LAUNCH REPORT JUNE 08, 2025**

### **1:00PM TO 5:00PM NAR SECTION #624**

**Launch Conditions:** Initially drizzly, then cleared, slight winds, low 70's

**Total Number of Launches:** 41      **Rockets Recovered:** 41      **Lost:** 0      **Found Rocket (not launched):** 0

**Number of First Time flyers:** 0

**Total Number of 100% Fully Successful Flights:** 32      **Success Rate:** 76%

**Failure:** 10, 1 chute tangle, 2 chute sep from rocket, 1 fin fell off on ascent, 1 shroud line wrapped over top of chute, could not inflate totally, 1 hard impact due to streamer not providing enough drag, 2 stuck on rod, 1 improper Cg/Cp, 1 motor of a 2-motor cluster did not fire

**Number of Individuals Who Launched Their Rockets:** 10      **Number of Family/Friends/Observers:** 6

**Teams and Competitions:** 0      **NARTREK:** 0      **Scouts/Home School/4-H:** 0

**Types and Number of Motors:** 42 total

1/4A: 0    1/2A: 0    A: 3    B: 15    C: 15    D: 7    E: 1    F: 1    G: 0    H: 0    I: 0    Higher: 0  
There was one 2-motor cluster of B motors

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

**Donations and drink/food sale, sale of merchandise:**

straight out donations:	\$55.00	t-shirts: 3 at \$20 =	\$60.0
mugs: 1 at \$10 =	\$10	stickers: 0 at \$0.25 =	\$0.0
food and drinks: 0 at \$1ea =	\$0	new memberships 2 @\$5 =	\$10.0
hats: 1 at \$10 =	\$0		
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$135.00</b>		

**Rocket Topics and Issues:**

1. It was a wild weather day with rain during setup but then the weather cleared and we were rewarded with a good day of launching 41 rockets. Just as we finished putting all the gear away, the skies let loose again as we headed home. We called it right to have a launch! Lots of interesting flights!
2. With the drone of insects screaming in the background, Bob launched Captain Cicada in an Estes Olympus on a C12-3. Captain Cicada was no worse for the wear after a successful flight and will have a good story to tell his offspring in 14 years!

3. Bob landed a Der Red Max on the barn and provided entertainment watching the winds blow the rocket on the roof for an hour until the Rocket Recovery Team used the telescoping poles to recover his brand-new rocket.
4. Xavier's Estes Patriot on a B6-4 won the Closest to the Pad contest and earned him a free rocket kit.
5. One rocket did a full 360 head over heels during launch even though RockSim said it should have been stable. The unique tubular fins might be causing the Cg/Cp calculations to not be correct. It could also be that the fins don't provide enough horizontal push for the rocket to stabilize during liftoff.
6. Jon gave us a nice showing of a planned CATO (Catastrophe on Take off) resulting in a RUD (Rapid Unscheduled Disassembly) of a Estes Mercury Redstone bash kit. The motor was a D12-5 and was a few decades old and in bad shape. The airframe was destroyed but the capsule survived which was what he was hoping for. So, I guess, Well Done??
7. Again, we had a rocket (in this case, 2 rockets) get stuck on the rods. Need to do a better job of cleaning the rods during launches and making sure the launch lugs are not too tight or filled with paint or glue blobs.
8. We had issues with the electronic launch system. Need to replace one battery terminal that was missing. We only had one working receiver out on the pads.
9. Merchandise and donations were a hit. We sold one of the new baseball caps with the SORA wording as well as t-shirts and mugs. Nice to see people supporting the club.
10. Harold was our Master Rocketeer today with eight launches. Well done!
11. Thanks to Rick for running Range Safety and launch control.

**Next meeting: Tuesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> at the Lebanon Library at 6:30PM.**

**Next Launch: Sunday, July 06, 2025. Meet at Hisey Park. Setup 11:30, launch 1:00PM**

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



**Scientists at work helping each other out!**





Rocket Recovery Team



Cars lined up mid-field



Yellow rocket, yellow pads. What a good combination!



Dave's rocket on the min-HPR pad





Almost ready to launch!



Storm Trooper keeping an eye out for the rain



Great design that flew well!





Captain Cicada ready to fly!



Jon safety checking his planned CATO



Love to see a full rack of rockets

## **FUN FACTS: Prang**

We've all seen it. The rocket launches, arcs over, and then screams back to the ground giving the rocketeer a nice core sample of the ground. This is called a "Prang". It is usually used in jest as no serious injury occurred and was usually the result of a simple error. Although the etymology (history of the word) is a little clouded it appears the term originally came from Britain in the late 1930s or early 1940s in the Royal Airforce fighter pilots when someone damaged their plane doing something stupid. As rocketeers, we often try to make words into acronyms where each letter represents a full word. "Prang" came to mean "Parachute Recovery Apparatus No Good". Welcome to the land of lawn darts....













