

SORA Minutes of Meeting

Date: July 1, 2025

Number of Attendees: 20

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Robb White. The meeting was held at the Lebanon Public Library.

Our next launch will be at Hisey Park on Sunday, July 6, from 1 to 4 p.m. Setup starting at 11:30 a.m. The current forecast is for hot weather with a 30% chance of rain.

Rick Forrester gave the treasurer's report: Our current balance is \$1092. Income for the last month was \$135 from the sale of shirts and mugs, donations and new member dues. The expenditure were \$270 on rocket kits to be distributed for promotion of our club.

Reminder:

We will again be volunteering for cleanup at the Lebanon Optimist Blues Festival on August 1st and 2nd. Work times are approximately Friday, 6-11 p.m. and Saturday, 4-11 p.m. The Optimists Club gives SORA a \$1000 donation for our help. We appreciate all the volunteers.

Robb White participated in outreach at the East Ridge Junior Optimists Club last week with 12 participants building rockets. We hope to see some of them at our next launch.

We are still looking for alternate launch sites, especially ones that will accommodate high power launches.

Rick Forrester gave a summary of our June launch report. We had 41 launches with no lost rockets. Our successful launch rate was 76%, somewhat below our target of 90%. One rocket was retrieved from the roof of the barn by a team led by John Detroy. Harold was a master rocketeer with eight launches.

Harold displayed his *Bellatrix Bull(et)* two-engine cluster rocket which had crashed at last month's launch due to only one engine igniting. There was a discussion of possible causes of the failure and possible redesigns including canted engines to help prevent a crash if only one engine ignited on future flights.

Bob Maxwell showed his partially completed Level 2 rocket.

We have two new members: Loren Kotch and Aaron LoPresti. Welcome to both.

We watched a video by Tim van Milligan of Apogee Components on how to attach cameras to model rockets for the best results.

Robb White stated that although model rocketry was a safe hobby, membership in NAR provided members of SORA with insurance for accidents at club sanctioned launches. He also said the club has a couple of cameras that can be attached to rockets, altimeters, and trackers that are available for anyone to use.

Kevin and Josie Enser related their experiences at the NARAM launch in Muncie, Indiana last week. One highlight was a seven-motor cluster rocket that had a successful flight after several attempts.

Pat Counts talked about the physics class he teaches at Wyoming High School. They built rockets last year and launched them at Hisey Park with SORA. This year he is preparing his students to write Python programs to simulate their launches and compare calculated altitudes with altimeter readings. We look forward to working with them on launches again this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.