

July to September 2009



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Section 205
Flying Since 1970

NOVAAR Free Press

July – September 2009

This is the official newsletter of the Northern Virginia Association of Rocketry (NOVAAR), Section 205 of the National Association of Rocketry (NAR). This newsletter is a benefit of being a member – *You are a member, aren't you?*

Section Officers

President:.....Joe Woodford
president@novaar.org
Secretary:.....Will Vargas
secretary@novaar.org
Treasurer:.....Will Marchant
treasurer@novaar.org
Senior Advisor:.....John Hochheimer
senioradvisor@novaar.org
High Power Coordinator:.....Mitch Guess
hp@novaar.org

Membership and Dues

To maintain the clubs launch equipment and pay for our website we collect dues. Dues are collected annually and are; \$5 for members age 13 and younger, \$8 for members age 14 to 18 and \$10 for everyone else. A membership application can be found at many local hobby shops and on our website.

Meetings

NOVAAR holds meetings on the first and third Tuesday of the month, from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm, at the Fairfax County Government Building and Library in Springfield, VA. The most current topics to be discussed and directions to our meeting room can be found on our website.

Launches

NOVAAR conducts monthly launches at [Great Meadow](#) which is located in The Plains, VA – approximately 50 minutes south of Washington DC on Route 66. Launches start at noon to 5 pm (noon to 4 pm during the winter). The most current schedule and directions to [Great Meadow](#) can be found on our website.

There is no charge to fly at club launches (*motor sizes A to F*). However, there is a \$5 charge to launch high-powered rockets (*motor sizes G to I -- the field is not large enough for bigger motors*). **AND**, you don't have to be a member to fly with us. Though, after you meet us and, realize that we don't bite – *as long as we take our medication – we know you will want to join*.

If weather threatens the launch day, our website will report the status of the launch by 8:00 pm the day before.

Website

The club's website (www.novaar.org) is where the most current information about future club activities can be found. The site is maintained by...

Webmaster:.....Dan Winings
webmaster@novaar.org

Newsletter

The club's newsletter is published 6 times a year or, as close to that schedule that is humanly possible for the editor to achieve. The newsletter reports on the club's activities and features articles written by club members about their endeavors within the Model Rocketry Hobby. The articles include, *but are not limited to*, topics on sport rocketry, competitive rocketry and high-powered rocketry. Send submissions to ...

Editor:.....Frank Prekel
nfp@novaar.org



Calendar

October 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6 NOVAAR Meeting	7	8	9	10
11	12 Columbus Day	13	14	15	16	17 Scout Launch
		Continental Navy established (1775)				
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 NOVAAR Launch
		Capital Cup FAI/Regional Competition				
25 NOVAAR Launch	26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween

November 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Daylight Savings End	2	3 NOVAAR Meeting	4	5	6	7
		Election Day				
8	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14
		US Marine Corps Established (1775)				
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 NOVAAR Launch
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Day	27 Black Friday	28
		SPARS Organized (1942)				
29	30					

December 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 NOVAAR Meeting	2	3	4	5 NOVAAR Launch
6	7 Pearl Harbor Day	8	9	10	11	12
13 Holiday Party	14	15 Bill of Rights Day	16	17	18	19
20	21 First Day of Winter	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Editor's Ramblings

This issue covers three months of NOVAAR activity – July, August and September. That included the Annual 4th of July demonstration at Great Meadows and four 4 sport launches.

A new section meet has been set, UCANDOIT 09, for November. The goal is to get more competitors to participate and the events have been selected so a competent flyer can participate. If you can build and fly a rocket, you can participate in this event. There is no entry fee, just a form to fill out and few motors to burn.

This month's cover is of Andrew Dobos' "Bullet" taking flight on a very smoky H97.

And as usual, here is my plea for pictures and articles about any rocketry topic – a completed design, research, or anything you just learned about and you think everyone else needs to know.

☆☆☆

NOVAAR Hatpins



Available from Frank Prekel -- fjprekel@aol.com.

The NAR pin is available from NARTS
(www.nar.org/narts)

The Flag Ribbon is out-of-print and no longer available.

Section News

"Section Meet" Set for November

Trip Barber (NAR 4322)

Fellow NOVAAR Members --

Four weeks from now (Saturday, November 21) we will be having a club (section) model rocket contest that is designed to encourage people who are NAR members and who have never flown in a model rocket competition to try competition flying for the first time. We encourage all of our NAR members in NOVAAR to come out and fly -- novice competitors and experienced ones alike. The contest [named

UCANDOIT 09 (*you can do it*) will be directed by] Jonathan Rains ([jrains@comcast.net](mailto:j rains@comcast.net)), and he has selected 4 beginner-friendly, simple events for this contest. They are listed below, along with some guidelines on how to fly them and what kind of rocket to use for them. Please consider giving this a try, and take some time soon to go buy or build the simple models required to do this. You can actually fly all 4 events with one single model (changing recovery system from streamer to parachute as appropriate), if you are lucky enough to not fly it away or damage it!

The contest will be flown in divisions, so that young fliers are not competing against adults. The age divisions are listed below. We will have ribbons for the winners (top 4 places) in each event, in each age division. NAR membership is required to compete, and you will have to show your NAR card at registration on the contest day. You can join the NAR now at www.nar.org and you will have your card by then.

Division	Age group
A.	13 years-of-age and below
B.	14-18 years-of-age
C.	19 years-of-age and up
Team	

If you want to read the full NAR competition rules for these events, see the US Model Rocket Sporting Code (called the "Pink Book") at the NAR website: <http://www.nar.org/pinkbook/>. I have provided the key elements of the applicable rules below to save you this trouble.

For all events, the rocket is timed from the moment of liftoff until the moment that the first piece touches the ground or goes behind an obstacle and can no longer be seen. The recovery device must come out of the body tube, but does not have to fully deploy in order to have a qualified flight -- although you want it to fully deploy so that you have a great flight! As a special rule for this NOVAAR meet (only), in order to make the competition more beginner-friendly, all models flown in the competition **must use a body tube with a diameter of 18mm or more**. All models must return as one set of connected pieces; no piece (nose, motor casing, and recovery device) may separate from the rest during the flight.

The 4 events for this contest are:

A-Engine Parachute Duration (multiround). Fly with an A8-3 motor. Use one of the designs listed below. Use a lightweight plastic thin-film parachute that is at least 12 inches in diameter; although one 18-20 inches diameter is better. The score is based on the sum of durations from 3 flights. You can use up to two

different models in doing this. You are not required to make all three flights, but your score is lower if you do not.

B Streamer Duration. Fly with a B6-6 motor. Use one of the designs listed below. Use a streamer that is 4 inches wide and 40 inches long, which has a single line attached to one end of it leading to the rocket. Good steamer materials include tracing tissue paper (available from Aerospace Specialty Products) or 1/2-mil Mylar (available from Qualified Competition Rockets). The score is based on the sum of up to two flights, highest score wins. One of these models must be returned after flight.

1/2A Streamer Duration (multi-round). Fly with a 1/2A6-2 motor. Use the same model and streamer as for B streamer. The score is based on the sum of durations from 3 flights. You can use up to two different models in doing this. You are not required to make all three flights, but your score is lower if you do not.

Set Duration. The goal is to get your flight duration of as close as possible to precisely 40 seconds in a single flight. Closest to this mark wins. You must fly this event first, before any of the other three, if you fly it at all. Your streamer duration model with an A motor is probably your best bet, but any model of any type (as long as its body diameter is at least 18 mm) can be used. This model must be returned after flight.

Rocket designs suitable for use for all of the duration events at this contest (body tube diameter of 18 mm) include:

Estes "Wizard" kit, bought locally at Hobby Hangar, 14014-D Sullyfield Circle, Chantilly, VA, 20151 Phone: (703)631-8820. Website: <http://www.hobbyhangarva.com/>

"Astre", built yourself from parts using the attached plan. "Sunward" brand rocket parts such as body tubes and nose cones can be obtained at Hobby Hangar.

"Straight Up 1" kit from Qualified Competition Rockets (run by Ken Brown, a local NOVAAR member), see his website at: <http://www.cybertravelog.com/qcr/rockets.html>. QCR also has mylar streamers and plastic parachutes.

18 mm Streamer Duration kit or 18 mm Parachute Duration kit from Aerospace Specialty Products, see their website <http://www.asp-rocketry.com/store/category.cfm?Category=176>. ASP also has mylar parachutes and tracing paper streamers.

See you at this "section meet" competition!

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Competition Rocketry

The Capital Cup – A FAI World Cup Spacemodeling Contest – this October at Great Meadows

The Dates:

Saturday and Sunday,
October 24th and 25, 2009

The Location:

Great Meadows,
The Plains, VA

The Host:

Northern Virginia Association of Rocketry
(NOVAAR -- NAR 305)

The Events and Schedule:

SATURDAY

- ❖ Model check in and contestant briefing..... 9 AM
 - ❖ S4A (A-engine boost-glider) 1st round 9:30 AM
 - ❖ S9A (A engine gyrocopter) 1st round 10:30 AM
 - ❖ S6A (A engine streamer duration) 1st round 11:30 AM
 - ❖ S6A (A engine streamer duration) 2nd round 12:30 PM
 - ❖ Lunch..... 1:30 -2:15 PM
 - ❖ S4A (A-engine boost-glider) 2nd round..... 2:15 PM
 - ❖ S9A (A engine gyrocopter) 2nd round 3:15 PM
 - ❖ S4A (A-engine boost-glider) 3rd round 4:15 PM
 - ❖ S9A (A engine gyrocopter) 3rd round..... 5:15 PM
 - ❖ S6A (A engine streamer duration) 3rd round 6:15 PM
- US 2008 Team Meeting At end of flying

SUNDAY

- ❖ Model check in 9 AM
- ❖ Flyoff Round S6 9:00 AM
- ❖ S8E/P (E-engine radio-controlled rocket glider) 1st Round..... 9:15 AM
- ❖ Flyoff Round S9 10:00 AM
- ❖ S8E/P (E-engine radio-controlled rocket glider) 2nd Round 10:15 AM
- ❖ Flyoff Round S4 11:00 AM
- ❖ S8E/P (E-engine radio-controlled rocket glider) 3rd Round 11:15 AM
- ❖ Lunch..... 12:15 -1:00 PM
- ❖ S8E/P (E-engine radio-controlled rocket glider) Flyoff Round 1:00 AM
- ❖ S1 (A-engine Altitude) 3 flights Open Round 1:00 – 3:30 PM

The Entry Fee:

\$15, advance registration not required



The Contest Rules:

This event is flown under the FAI Space Models Sporting Code.

All S1 flights will use altimeters. For details http://www.spacemodeling.org/WC2008/s1_guide.pdf

www.fai.org/aeromodelling/documents/sc4. Fliers with FAI Sporting Licenses, remember to bring them.

This event will be flown using rocket motors having current NAR approval for contest use in the US, as listed at

www.nar.org/SandT/NARenglist.shtml.

The Contest Director:

Contest Director: Tony Reynolds, tonyr@night.net, Richardson, TX (214) 869-6645

The On-site Coordinator:

Trip Barber, ahbarber@alum.mit.edu, Springfield, VA (703) 866-4710

The Directions to the Field:

Take Interstate 66 to Exit 31, 16 miles west of Manassas, VA. At the exit, turn left and follow the signs 1.5 miles to the Great Meadow Outdoor Center at "Old Tavern".

The Lodging:

All motels are at I-66W exit 47B in Manassas, VA (I-66E exit 47).

Best Western Battlefield Inn - 10820 Balls Ford Rd., Manassas, VA 20109 - (703) 361-8000

Quality Inn Manassas - 10653 Balls Ford Road, Manassas, VA 20109 - (703) 368-2800

Red Roof Inn Manassas - 10610 Automotive Drive, Manassas, VA 20109 - (703) 335-9333

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Hobby News

LAUNCH Magazine: sagging economy claims another victim

Taken from: Rocketry Planet

<http://www.rocketryplanet.com/content/view/2959/95/>
Monday, July 20, 2009

NEW YORK, New York USA — In a statement published on the front page of the LAUNCH Magazine web site today, magazine owners Mark Mayfield and Deb Martin have announced the closing of the print magazine, citing the struggling U.S. economy as well as the loss of promised funding which led to the April announcement of a June re-launch.

The statement on their web site reads:

A Statement from the Owners of LAUNCH Magazine

It is with deep regret that we must inform you that we are closing LAUNCH Magazine as a print publication. We are

looking into the possibility of continuing it as an online-only magazine. This is a decision we tried our best to avoid. We love the magazine, and we have tried our best to keep it alive. At the time we announced plans to bring LAUNCH out of hiatus, we had been promised new funding. But unfortunately, the economy—especially in the publishing industry—has continued to decline. In essence, the funds were not forthcoming. We have spent weeks searching for alternatives, but at this time we simply have no other choice but to discontinue.



We will make every effort to refund subscription payments. However, please be patient with us. We will contact all subscribers via email, mail, or both. You can also reach us via email at info@launchmagonline.com.

Thanks to all of you who have supported us in this great endeavor. We truly regret that we will not be able to continue to produce LAUNCH as a print publication.

Sincerely,

Mark Mayfield and Deb Martin

Hopefully, LAUNCH Magazine's website can continue through these difficult times, which may enable it to start a print publication again some day. We wish our friends at LAUNCH Magazine all the best, in all their future endeavors. Mark and Deb are truly two of the good guys, two wonderful people, two friends of hobby rocketry, and will always be considered friends here.

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www.cybertravelog.com/qcr

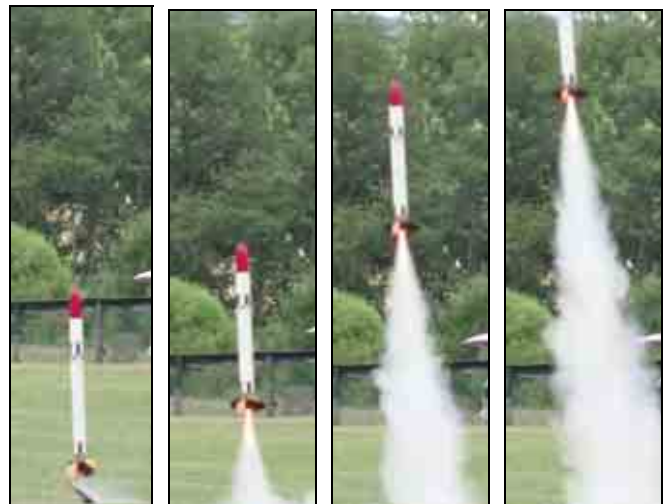
Remember: You can't fly the packaging or the illustrations

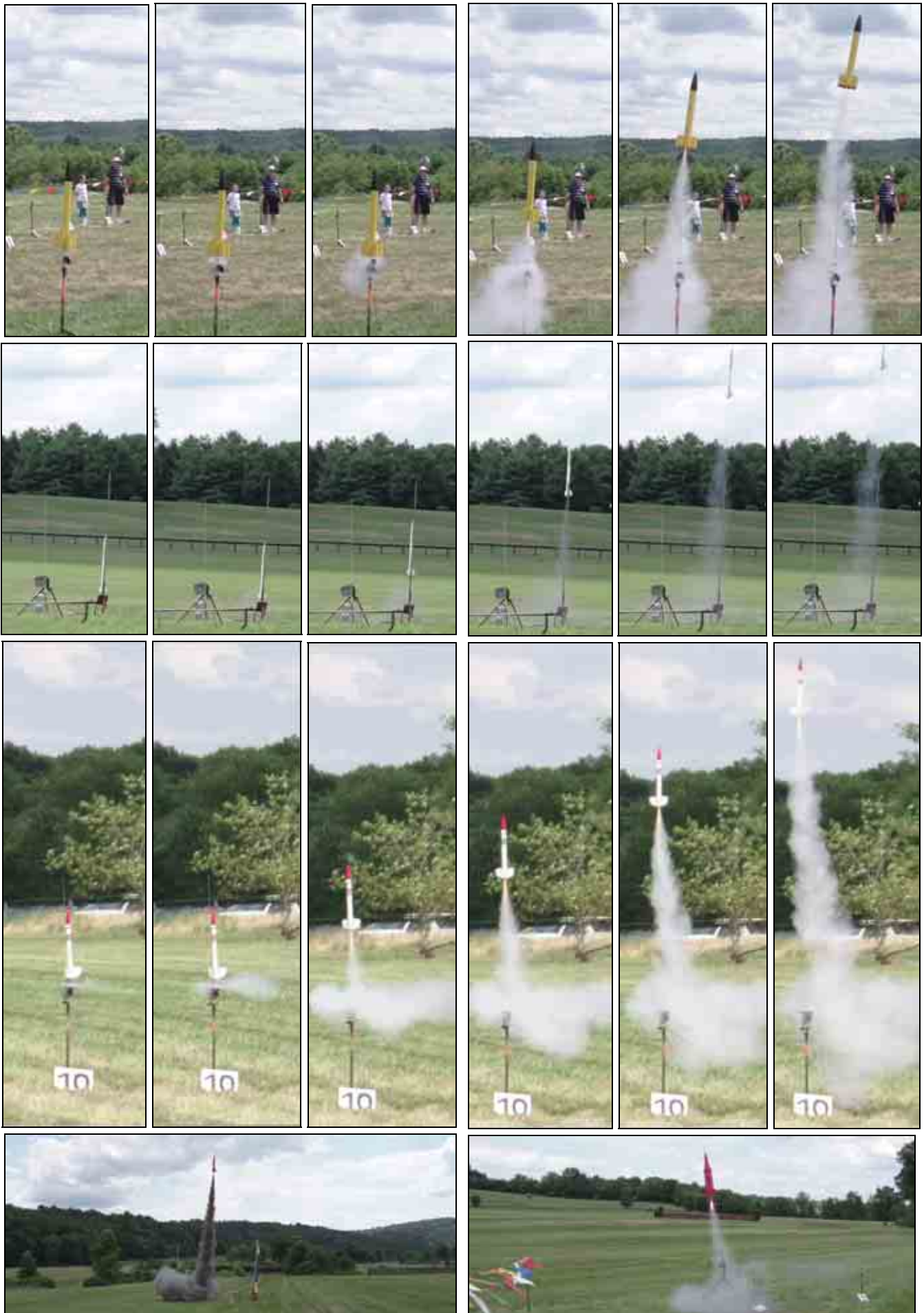
July 18th Club Launch

A beautiful day at Great Meadow.



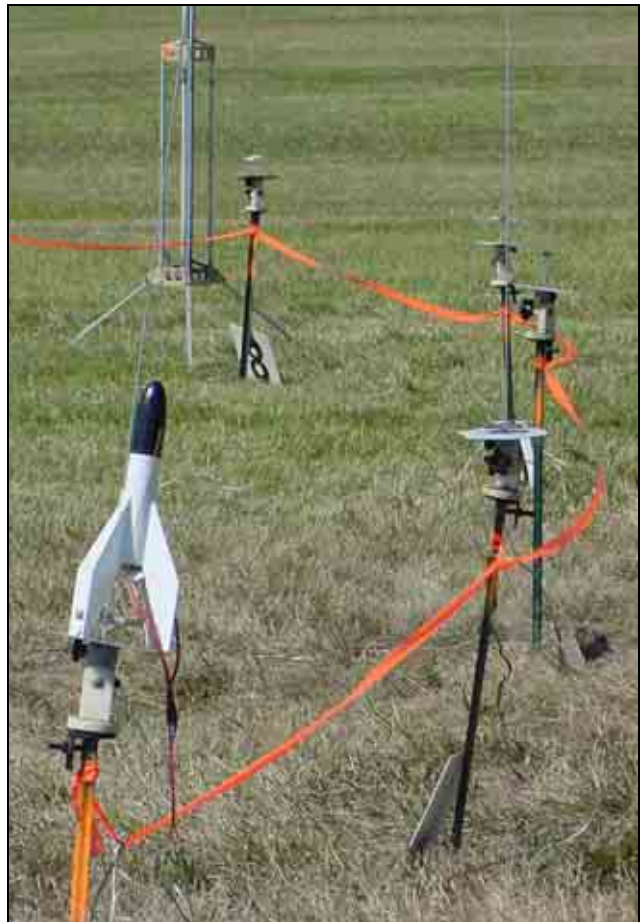






September 19th Sport Launch

Another beautiful day at Great Meadow.

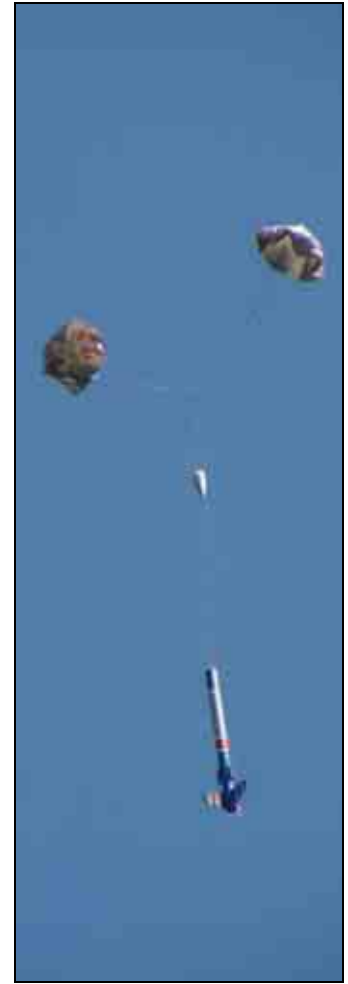


If you like to fly
Join the NAR

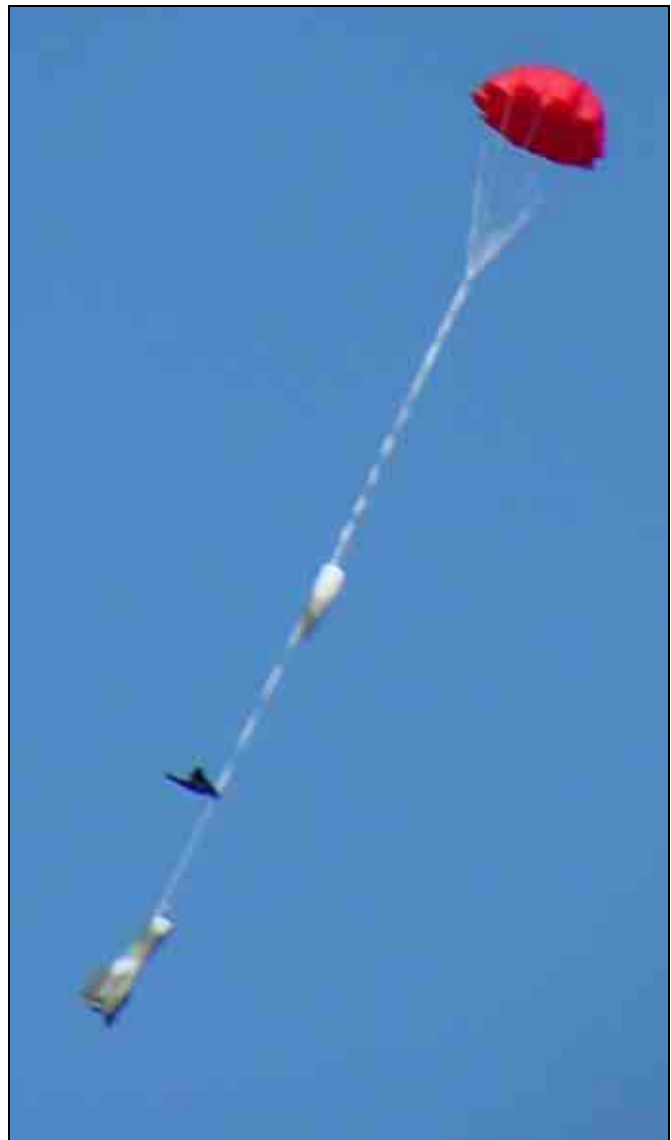
www.nar.org

















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