

Oregon Rocketry March Meeting Minutes

Giovanni's Restaurant, March 5, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Robert Krausert.

Officers present: Robert Krausert, Gary Goncher, and Yvonne Moscoe.

Randy Birzer and J.P. Roberts were connected via a conference link from Eugene.

Trailer towing Update

After much e-mail traffic in the past week regarding compensation for trailer towing for the upcoming launches this summer, it appears that we have all but one towing slot covered without any compensation other than reimbursement for gas. The only slot currently remaining to be filled is towing the trailer from the July Summer Heat launch in Brothers to Mark Gholston's home in Sherwood.

Robert Krausert made the suggestion that a lottery be instituted with tickets given to all those who tow the trailer during the year (longer trips might get more tickets). This idea will be explored at future meetings.

Wilsonville Memorial Park Model Rocket Launch

Much fun was had by participants in the second launch at Memorial Park in February. A raffle was held for young participants, with tickets handed out to those under 18 years old for a chance at a rocket gear tool box with approximately \$35 of materials useful for prepping and launching model rockets. It was reported as a great success, and the suggestion was made that this be continued at future launches including possibly those at Brothers and Sheridan. Tim Ryerse asked for suggestions and donations.

Promotions Director Volunteer Board Position

Robert Krausert proposed to the board of directors in February that a volunteer position be established on the board for someone to promote the club to the community. Four of the five members of the board approved the idea if someone could be found to fill the position. Robert proposed Tim Ryerse, who agreed to serve in that capacity. Members at the meeting were asked if there were any objections to establishing the position on a trial basis, and none were expressed.

Membership Survey Highlights

Additional member profiles from the survey e-mailed out earlier this year were presented by Robert. Approximately 45 surveys were returned; Robert presented 5 at the March meeting. The following members were profiled: Tim Ryerse, Lloyd Humez, Jeff Bennett, Michael Lockhart, Jeff Moore, and Adrian Carbine. Those present had an interesting time guessing the members' names from the profiles.

Club Member Project Highlights

Three projects were presented by club members at the meeting. First up was Joe Bevier, with a modified 4" Binder Raptor. Dual deploy capability was added, as well as a bay for a video camera in the coupler. All tubes were fiberglassed (nice job!). The project weighs 7.5 lbs. without motors and is L-capable.

Keith Packard then discussed development of a flight computer for rockets as small as 29 mm diameter. A board was developed with a USB connector that can collect data during a flight, then be plugged into a USB port to download data after the flight. The board is powered by a 3.3V Li polymer battery, with a 5V regulator supplying a 1000 uF capacitor to drive an e-match for deployment. The board has a 440 MHz 10 mW transceiver, and a GPS can be plugged in via a serial link. The boards have been fabricated but not yet fully debugged and tested. The design is open source, meaning that anyone can download and build the circuits.

Gary Harris then discussed a 2-stage, 2" scratch-built project made using parts from Mike Fisher at Binder Design. Both booster and sustainer have 38 mm motor mounts, capable of J420 and J570 respectively. Electronics for the booster and the sustainer are contained in the same coupler: an ARTS-2 for the booster and a Perfect Flite altimeter for the sustainer. A very nicely designed and built rocket.

Motor Certification Testing Presentation

John Lyngdal gave a short presentation on testing methods for NAR certification of commercial motors. John is on the NAR board of directors, and is head of the committee for motor certification. Two test sites are used, one at MIT on the east coast, and the other in Oregon in the west. An example of the test stand used for motors up to 100 lbs. of thrust was demonstrated.

TARC Team Presentation

The Oregon TARC (Team America Rocketry Competition) team gave a short presentation on last year's competition in Virginia, at which they placed 9th out of 100 teams at the final competition. Rules for this year's competition were discussed: 1 egg lofted in a horizontal position to 750' altitude with a flight duration of 45 sec. Good luck to the team this year!

Treasurer's Report

Yvonne Moscoe reported the following financial figures for Oregon Rocketry (totals include the land fund):

\$465	New memberships since the February meeting (not yet deposited)
\$810	Payments since 1/15/2009 (Brothers lease payment, Oregon registration)
\$5306.25	Total funds

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Gary Goncher, Oregon Rocketry Secretary

Please send any additions or corrections to the minutes to garyg_nwr@verizon.net