

## **Oregon Rocketry November 2015 Meeting Minutes**

Giovanni's Restaurant, November 5, 2015.

Meeting called to order at approximately 7:30 PM.

Officers present:

Gary Goncher (President)  
Wilson Alness (Secretary)  
Robert Braibish (Treasurer)  
Alan Hammond (Launch Director)  
David Armstrong (Safety Officer)  
Tim Ryerse (Promotions Director)  
George Rachor (NAR Section #555 President)

### **Board of Directors Meeting**

Prior to the business part of the meeting, a BOD meeting was held by Dave Armstrong in which he talked about NAR/TRA insurance coverage.

### **Call for New Members**

A call for new members was made, revealing Marlan Bell.

### **2016 Board of Directors Nominations**

The President Gary Goncher announced that nominations for the 2016 Board of Directors are now open, and will remain so until the December meeting. Nominees for 2016 are currently as follows:

- President – Gary Goncher
- Secretary – Wilson Alness
- Treasurer – Robert Braibish
- Launch Director – Alan Hammond
- Safety Officer – David Armstrong
- Promotions Director – Tim Ryerse
  
- NAR Section #555 President – George Rachor
- TRA Section #049 Prefect – Keith Packard

All BOD members will be running for their same positions as they did this year, with the exception of our current TRA Prefect Joe Bevier. It was mentioned with great importance that we elect a Prefect who can attend the vast majority of launches. Ballots will go out the first week of December, following the December meeting. The President also reminded us that there are lots of other ways to help support the BOD, such as assisting with education outreach, safety protocols, and searching for new launch locations. Furthermore, please email the BOD as soon as possible if you wish to see any ballot measures or other issues voted on next year.

### **Woodburn Maker Party Report**

Our President Gary Goncher thanked all who helped run the Woodburn Maker Party at Washington Elementary School in Woodburn, OR, namely Frank Burke and Stefan Jones for bringing models to fly. A great time was had by all.

### **Garden Home Launch Planning**

The next model launch at Garden Home Park will be taking place this Saturday, November 7 from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. George Rachor has the GSE and will be there to run the launch. Flights are limited to C impulse due to the size of the flying field.

### **Rocketober Launch Review**

The President Gary Goncher reported on the Rocketober 2015 launch in Brothers, OR. Friday and Sunday had great weather while it rained for most of Saturday. Despite the weather, this launch had a higher than usual attendance rate for October. 167 total motors were flown – 31 low power, 66 mid power, and 68 high power. Of these flights, 40 took place on Friday, 70 on Saturday, and 57 on Sunday. Congratulations to Paul Bogdanich who certified L3 at this launch. A good weekend was had by those who went.

### **Other November Launches**

The planned November 6-8 pickup launch in Brothers was cancelled due to weather and lack of availability. It was also announced that there are several other launches held by neighboring clubs taking place this month:

- Jack Frost AP Fest, Mansfield WA – November 7-8, 2015 (WAC, 14K waiver)
- Tri-Cities November Launch, Pasco WA – November 14, 2015 (Tri-Cities Rocketeers, 10K waiver) *Cancelled Due to Weather*

### **Flying Into Clouds**

Our President Gary Goncher facilitated a discussion on whether it is OK to fly into clouds or not. Several legitimate points were raised, including that one can apply for an FAA waiver which allows launching into clouds, flying to high altitudes does not allow one to see a rocket that high anyways, or the fact that the NFPA is a for-profit organization and therefore its regulations are arbitrary. However, flying into clouds is not permitted by either NAR or TRA. The President then answered member's questions such as whether flying when there is 50% cloud coverage is allowed, or if one can angle launch rails.

### **RSO Staffing**

The President informed us that RSO duties have recently been understaffed at Brothers launches. He also explained that 87 out of 150 club members are qualified to help run RSO duties. In order to help better staff RSO, trainings will be held at the first Brothers launch of the year. A discussion about proper safety protocols followed. The President then tabled this topic.

### **New Mid Power Launch Site Search**

The President Gary Goncher informed us of his recent search for a mid-power launch site closer to the Portland Metro area. One possible candidate for this is a field owned by Dan Feller located at the corner of Cascade Hwy and Sunnyview Rd in Silverton, OR. Several other options were talked about including the Twin Oaks Airport, a location in East Salem, OR, or an Indian Reservation.

### **Treasurers Report**

Our Treasurer Robert Braibish reported that as of the meeting date, the bank balance was \$5,931.08 with \$255.24 in deposits made last month and \$275.94 in expenses paid. The Treasurer also announced that he will be preparing his annual budget sheet for the club at the December meeting.

### **Membership Report**

Our Secretary Wilson Alness reported that OROC has a total of 153 paid memberships, with that number increasing to 155 at the end of the meeting. (15 more than 2014, again a new record for OROC.) The Secretary then informed everyone that ballots will be mailed out to all paid members shortly following the December meeting.

### **Trailer Equipment Maintenance Party**

Robert Braibish announced the tentative date for this year's trailer maintenance party will be December 5, 2015. While this is a bit early in the season yet to be doing so, plans are moving forward for said event. Several repairs need to be made; most notably the FM transmitter and Vaughn Brothers launch system. It was also mentioned with great importance that all wired controllers remain in the trailer as backup systems.

### **Possible Cub Scout Launch**

Gary Goncher informed us of an email he received from a gentleman named Mike Labbee in regards to possibly holding a Cub Scout launch. Tentative dates are either November 21 or December 6.

### **Possible Annual Meeting Raffle**

Erik McKee expressed interest in administering a club raffle at the annual meeting in January. Said raffle was previously done in 2014 with great results. This will depend greatly on interest and donations from club members. For further information, please contact Erik at [erik.mckee@gmail.com](mailto:erik.mckee@gmail.com).

### **Sunriver Nature Center Sale**

Erik McKee announced that Sunriver Bob will be holding his annual December sale in late-November this year, and for a shorter duration. He will once again be coordinating a group buy on Aerotech reloads.

**Other Business**

Several other business items were brought up by members, including the possibility of compensating Robert Braibish for heading up road work in Brothers, the usual issues with Aerotech DMS motors, and the availability of Quest Q2G2 igniters.

**Adjournment**

A call for other business was made and being none, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:44 PM.

Please send any corrections or additions to Wilson Alness, at [wa@wilsonalness.com](mailto:wa@wilsonalness.com).