

Oregon Rocketry February 2012 Meeting Minutes

Giovanni's Restaurant, February 2, 2012: The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by Gary Goncher. Officers present: Paul Bogdanich (Secretary), Gary Goncher (President) and Ken McGoffin (Publicity Director). The meeting was very lightly attended with only 3 officers and 13 members present.

Annual Meeting Review

The results of the annual meeting were briefly reviewed and it was noted that as of the February meeting there were 76 paid members, 12 regular flyers and 2011 members that have not paid yet for various reasons and 22 other 2011 members who's status was unknown. Following that the basics of the 2012 Membership Enhancement Programs were reiterated and those were:

Program One

Be a member of good standing in OROC and recruit a new adult OROC member (over 18 years of age with \$30.00 to their name) and you will be entered into a drawing where one winner is to receive his or her choice of one of the following gifts:

Qty (1) Aerotech K550-W reload; or,
Qty (2) Aerotech J350-W reloads; or,
Qty (5) Aerotech H128-W reloads; or,
Qty (6) Aerotech 40-120 reloads of the winner choosing; or,
Qty (2) Estes Blast-Off Flight Packs.

The recruitment period ends December 31, 2012, with the drawing to be conducted at the OROC 2013 Annual meeting. The winner need not be present to win however the winner is required to select a gift that is commensurate with their HPR certification level at the time of the drawing.

Program Two

Attend any OROC launch or monthly club meeting, join NAR, and receive a free Aerotech 29/180 reload and loaner hardware for your certification flight where said certification flight must occur at an OROC sponsored launch.

Attend any OROC launch or monthly meeting, join NAR and join OROC (or be a first time member of OROC for less than 12 months and not already an NAR member), and receive a free Aerotech 29/240 or 38/240 reload and loaner hardware for your certification flight where said certification flight must occur at an OROC sponsored launch.

It was then noted that we need to formalize a procedure for valid entry into the contest and the Secretary will work on that.

2012 Launch Schedule

The 2012 launch schedule was reiterated as:

Spring Thunder:	May 11, 2012, through May 13, 2012;
Summer Skies:	June 8, 2012, through June 10, 2012;
NorthWest Extreme Rocket Show:	June 29, 2012, through July 1, 2012;
Desert Heat:	July 27, 2012 through July 29, 2012;
September Sage Extravaganza:	August 31, 2012, through September 2, 2012;
Fillible's Folly:	September 28, 2012, through September 30, 2012;
Rocketober:	October 19, 2012, through October 21, 2012.

There was also a call for a trailer party prior to the May launch and David Armstrong tentatively agreed to host the party.

Trailer Hauling

The subject of trailer hauling was discussed and it was noted that the “critical” haulage was over the hill in May, back to the Willamette Valley in September and then back over the hill and back to the valley again in October. The issue of hauler remuneration was again discussed and an informal survey was taken. All in attendance supported reasonably compensating the haulers. Almost all in attendance (one abstention) indicated that they would support an increase in the annual OROC dues to fund the expense. There was also discussion of adding a second axle to the trailer to reduce the tongue weight to make the trailer compatible with lighter vehicles.

N.X.R.S. / Insurance Discussion

The next item on the agenda was scheduled to be a discussion of N.X.R.S and the attendant policies and procedures relating thereto. However, because neither of the N.X.R.S. sponsors were in attendance the discussion was abandoned. There was some discussion about TRA vs. NAR insurance and whether one insurance was broader than the other and the advisability of keeping all OROC launches as TRA sponsored. It was noted that Sheridan is all commercial and the absence of research flyers at S.S.X. makes that launch a candidate for an all commercial launch as well. The President asked for a volunteer to compare the various insurance coverage and nobody volunteered. The issue was then raised that whatever the insurance coverage, all high-power and complex model rocket flyers needed to be members of one or the other national organizations to have any coverage at all. The Secretary noted that having made inquiry of both the T.R.A. and N.A.R. office staff both advise that the only way to check a members status is to look at their membership cards as neither web-site has a on-line search capacity that lists the flyers name and expiration date and none are planned. It was then suggested that having a valid national membership card in order to launch any high-power or complex model rockets be a formal O.R.O.C rule. There was also some discussion of enforcement, or lack thereof, of the dog leash rule at O.R.O.C. events.

Wilsonville & EuRoc Announcements

It was noted that the last Wilsonville launch took place in inclement weather and that the next Wilsonville launch will be the second Saturday of the month. The next scheduled EuRoc launch is on Sunday, February 19, 2012, with their full launch schedule available at www.eugenerocketry.org. There was then some discussion of promotional materials and it was decided that a separate flyer for Wilsonville launches will be promulgated to selected hobby shops and other venues.

Survey of Commercial Launch Controllers

The initial results of the survey of various wireless launch controllers showed that most of the commercial systems for rocket use are European or Australian in origin and the only domestic control systems were designed for fireworks to fire e-matches in series. It was noted that this schema is generally at odds with rocket requirements (fireworks imply 10,000 volts at 200mA – rockets imply 6 A at 12 V). The general feeling was that this was not an issue because the fireworks box could still be used as a controller with the controller outputs sent to a relay box that increased the current and reduced the voltage to the lines out. The costs of the systems seemed reasonable starting at around \$1,250.00 for a wireless expandable control setup and the research is continuing.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer was absent so the President reported that the current bank balance was \$5,245 after \$2,035 In deposits inferring expenses for the annual meeting and other things totaled approximately \$420.00 since the last meeting. There were also \$560 in pending deposits and \$50 in expenses.

Adjournment

There being no other business, announcements or pleasantries the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:25 p.m. Please send any corrections to Paul Bogdanich @ tra11654@iinet.com