

Jackson Model Rocketry Club

JMRC NEWS



Volume 2, Issue 6

December 2008

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2009 Launch Dates

- January 31 (Gumbert's)
- February 29 (Gumbert's)
- March 14 (Gumbert's)
- April 11 (Gumbert's)
- May 9 (Location TBD)
- June 20 6 (MIS)
- July 11 (MIS)
- August 22 (MIS)
- September 11&12 (MIS)
- October 10 (location TBD)
- November 14 (Gumbert's)
- December 5 (Gumbert's)
- December 6 (Christmas party—Annual meeting)

NOTE: Launch dates are subject to change without notice. Be sure to call the "launch hotline" at

OCTOBER LAUNCH REPORT

JMRC's October launch was held Saturday, October 10th, at Michigan International Speedway, south of Jackson. The weather was quite nice, with temperatures in the 70's, clear skies, and variable winds. The ground was decent, with green grass, and October was one of our nicest weather days this year!

33 people flew rockets on the 10th, putting up 120 rockets on 138 motors, which ranged from A to J. Kathy Miller had a very busy day, with 21 motors being lit on 21 launches of 21 different rockets, all flying on A8-3s. By mid day, the crowd was reading off Kathy's motors along with the LCO! This gives Kathy the nod for the most flights in a day for 2008. Congrats Kathy!

While Kathy had the greatest number of flights, and motors used, her A8 motors, at 2.5NS each, didn't add up to a whole lot of propellant. It was Dale Hodgson who burnt the most propellant, with his 2 J-powered flights. Tom Kurecka, who flew 7 rockets ranging from C to J power, came in a close second for total thrust expended.

We had 2 members attempt certifications flights on the 10th. Rick Sharp is a new member who is the father of one of Ed Schwerkolt TARC team members. Ed got him interested in high power,

and Rick brought out his D region Tomahawk to try his hand. The Tomahawk flew on a CTI H143SS motor, with an 8 second delay. Rick's flight was textbook, and several of us welcomed Rick to Level one with the common refrain: "Welcome to high power, now get out your checkbook!"

The other member attempting a Cert flight was James Howells. James' rocket, Smoke'n, went up on a J280 (another CTI Smoky Sam motor!). The rocket had an ARTS 2 Board, and RDR Tracker, and was set for dual deployment out the top, with the



UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

The members below have birthdays coming up in the next few months, so if you see them at a launch, be sure to wish them a happy Birthday!

January

Gabe Osborn—1/4
Kathy Miller—1/14

February

Carl Wagner—2/18

March

Shawn Dalton—3/7
Steven Wagner—3/13

Remember, I can only post the birthdays I have, so if you don't see your name here, please let me know your birthday, and I'll get it posted!

Thanks!

AUGUST LAUNCH REPORT (CONT.)

main at 800'. James' flight went off perfectly; with the main deploying right on cue. Unfortunately, the rocket settled in the notorious grove of rocket-eating trees to the east of our launch area. It took James a couple of weeks to get his rocket down, but everything came down in good condition, and James was awarded his L2. Congratulations James!

James Fustini had 9 launches, ranging from C6 power, up to his Big Orange, which flew twice on H Smoky Sam motors. There was lots of smoke in the air above MIS in October!

Jeff Drongowski brought out the latest in his series of upscale SWAT rockets. The beautifully built rocket was flown today on a J350. While the flight was very pretty on the way up, something failed to properly



deploy on the way down, and some of Jeff's fine craftsmanship was lost to the blacktop on landing. Jeff is certain the rocket is fixable, and we'll see the 2X SWAT again soon!

Eldred Pickett's big flight of the day was his 5-tubed, 2-stage Hybrid Crayon. The rocket hosts a main motor and 2 strap-ons

in the 1st stage, and a 2nd stage above. It flew single stage today, on a J144 hybrid motor. The rocket flew dual deploy, with the main at 300', and Eldred plans to fly the rocket as a true 2 stager once warm weather comes back next year! See you in the spring Eldred!

Bill Poster ran the size range today, with 2 flights by his Estes R2D2 kit, flying under A-power, and his Bumble Bee, a SLIGHTLY larger rocket, which went aloft on an I405 motor. The Bee came back dual deployed with the main at 300'. R2 deployed his main at apogee, somewhere in the 25-30' range.

As the day wound down, the Debauchery brothers were up to their usual hijinks. This month, the drag race was to be between Dales' Big Fat Boy, and Fred's Captain Black, both flying on J240 motors. Dales Fat Boy upscale flew dual deploy, with main at 650', and the Captain was set to Deploy at 500' using one of Fred's new "Popper" tethers. The Debauchery Brothers were joined by one of the Debauchery cousins this month. Chris Palmer also joined the race, flying his 1.2 Lb V-maxx Surprise on a G185 CTI motor.

When the button was pushed, it was Captain Black that left the pad first, followed shortly after by Chris's V-maxx which simply disappeared off the pad. Fred's Fat Boy needed some igniter work, but did fly shortly afterwards. Fred's and Chris's rockets did recover fine, but the Captain must have only had a little B.P. in him, because he failed to deploy, and came in ballistic. I'm sure we'll see the



Debauchery brothers, cousins, and weird uncles again at an upcoming launch. Keep an eye out!

As always, it's the hard work of the volunteers that make these launches a success. Thanks to everyone who came early to help setup, or stayed late to help tear down, or both! Thanks to our vendors, Miller Motor Works, Red Arrow Hobbies, Impulse Buys, and Fade to Black Rocket Works for supporting our hobby. Pinky and crew for their contributions to the nice lunch everyone had. Lastly, thanks to Roger Sadowsky for bringing out the launch trailer, and serving as the driving force behind our club. You're the best, Roger!

Photo courtesy of John Potts and Eldred Pickett



NOVEMBER LAUNCH REPORT

Editor's Note: This month's launch report is being submitted by members Roger Sadowsky, and Dale Hodgson. Thanks to both of them for covering the launch.

JMRC Members

Today was one for the books and not for the weak of heart. It was a day for the Die Hards. As you may have read not a lot of rockets were flown but there were some. We showed up in Defiance of what **Mother Nature** was dealing us. We were keeping up "Foreign Relations" You know giving her the bird.

Even though not many rockets were flown the laughs were many and we had yet another family reunion with **good friends. That is the Most Important part** when it comes down to it.

Thanks Jessica for being a really good sport! :) **Daniel** and Tony "Rocket Hound Dog" Haga for helping me recover my Javelin from almost a certain death in Mr. Gumbert's combine had we not found it in

the corn maze.

Jim Russell, Man, kick that deer another time for me as well. That really stinks seeing how little time you have had that vehicle. I agree with you I would want to drink after that as well!

Scott and Jo-Anne, Wow ! That Izzy is growing like a weed... It won't be long and she will be telling Dad that her rockets need Bigger Motors! You know what Dad will say..."That's my daughter" with a big smile. :) That should be De'Javue for Mark. Seems I remember that on the "Rocket Challenge" video about a certain lady that was not able to be with us today...Hey Em we missed ya. You gotta get back to Gumbert's as there are horses to check on.

Zach, how did your glider repair turn out? I know that you were trying to repair it from the trip to the field. Mark, as always it was good to see you! I hope that you feel better as that Bug is not fun. Thanks for dinner it was really good! It's because of the company. :)

It was good to see Gabe, James and Art as well and get to hear what you guys have going on. Gabe Best of Luck on the House

stuff I hope it works out. James, good to hear that you recovered your rocket from MIS. Did you get the L2 Cert? Art, Yes We need to talk with Fred about our Tri- Pod pad either retire or fab a new one? I see that Ed found the field but because of the weather did not fly...

Dean, thanks to you and your Mrs. for walking in the corn to look for my rocket that we did finally find. :)

Dale, thanks for stopping and getting the dogs and chips it held us over until the OCB time KABLAAM! ;)

Jeff was good to see you as well, sorry about not a lot of time to visit as the recovery in the field was rather lengthy...The Chapins it was good to see you as well and have dinner at OCB. Oh yes, thanks to the O'Briens for stopping out as well.

For everyone that is going to Three Oaks next week we'll see you there. For everyone else have a Great **Thanksgiving** which is already coming up way to Fast!

Take Care and thanks for your support.

Roger...

DECEMBER LAUNCH REPORT

(Props to Ted Geisel)

The sun did not shine
it was too cold to play
so we sat in our houses on that cold, cold,
wet day.

We sat in our houses
and we looked at the sky
and we said "You'd have to be nuts to
want to go fly"!

But the Nuts, in their houses
they looked up as well
and they thought to themselves "Okay!
Sure! What the hell"!

Sure, a Rocket Nut's head
isn't screwed on too tight

sure, his psyche may not be adjusted quite
right.

Whether head screws or psyches
one thing is quite clear
when a Rocket Nut looks up, the sky's
always clear.

For they see through the clouds
they see clear to the stars
so they got out their rockets, and loaded
their cars.

They drove out to Gumbert's
from near and from far
then the wind first struck as they got out of
the car.

It billowed and swirled

full of sleet, ice, and snow
and they thought "My wife said I was crazy
to go".

They climbed into the trailer
which was warm, dry, and nice
full of other Nuts who, too, came to fly in
the ice.

So they stood in the trailer
to drink coffee and chat
until Sam spoke up "come on, guys! I'm
bored with that".

"Enough of this trailer
I came out here to fly!"
so they got out the tripod, and they gave it
a try.

NOVEMBER LAUNCH REPORT (CONT)

Hi Rob,

Roger did a pretty good job in writing up Saturday's events. I can add the following:

As far as the flights go there weren't any that used any electronics; we tried to "fly the field" because of the wind and close proximity of the corn. While Roger and Dan were doing their "Children of the Corn" thing a few other folks did manage to fly. I flew a LOC Scout 2 twice; one on an E-18-4 that managed to light only after 4 igniters and sanding the propellant grain. The other flight was on a new motor from Road Runner that Scott carries...it is a 29mm E-25; I used a 5 sec. delay. It was

a very nice flight that dropped back in the field. My last flight was a Weasel on a F-45-5 that landed in the corn but was easily found.

Mark Palmer had I believe one flight on an E motor. Tong Haga flew a rather large bird on a motor that took it to barely 300 feet or so. The rocket landed in the corral and was easily recovered but it only took two touches for Tony to realize that the electric fence was on! Tony is fine ;-).

Dan flew a Small Endeavor on another Road Runner motor but it was so windy he did not his flashpan, I think maybe that it was so windy that the BP wouldn't remain

in the pan long enough to light.

There were a couple of other flights as well, one ean an Executioner on a motor that took it pretty high...it landed well into the corn but a straight walk allowed for a quick retrieval.

The only other flight I remember was an Estes rocket with a digital video. I think the flight may be posted soon.

That's all I can think of for now...!

Dale

DECEMBER LAUNCH REPORT (CONT.)

Roger kicked off the flying putting up his small Scout it flew very well, though the wind swirled about.

Sam and Rob both flew snitches a good choice of ride as they fly nice and low, being short, fat, and wide.

The next flyer was Eric (no one knew his last name) his Competitor 3 flew on a blue Loki flame.

It was at four thousand feet That his rocket did top Then to earth it did settle, over by the rest stop.

Dale H. was up next flying a upscale fat boy painted bright blue and orange, looking like a Nerf toy.

At nine hundred feet his fat boy tossed it's chute then settled down close for a flight called "quite cute".

Scott doled out the motors

to those wishing to fly talking AP and igniters, with a gleam in his eye.

Roger grilled up some lunch cooking burgers and dogs and we squeezed in the trailer, eating stacked up like logs.

After food, pop and coffee it was back to the field for there was motors to burn, and rockets to wield.

A father and son team brought out rockets to fly powered by Estes, they shouldn't go very high.

But both rockets went sailing and man and son mourned for their rockets had drifted and were lost in the corn.

Then Dale flew again and we called it a day so we packed up the trailer. Roger towed it away.

And I hear him exclaim

as he drove out of sight "See you at the party tomorrow! Drive safe and sleep tight"!

A couple weeks later another cold, cold wet day and the editor sat there, not quite sure what to say.

We'd had a great time though the weather was crazy but how to convey that to those who were lazy?

In a trailer full of Nuts in a field full of snow spent with good friends who thought this the best place to go.

So the editor paused and he looked at the time then he opened up Word, and he started to rhyme.

CHRISTMAS PARTY—ANNUAL MEETING

JMRC's annual meeting and Christmas Party was held on Sunday, December 7, 2008 at the Grotto Club in Jackson.

It seemed like everyone who attended pulled out all the stops for the luncheon. There was So much excellent food! Anyone who left hungry was being WAY too picky!

As folks talked and ate, they were also buying raffle tickets. The LCD TV and DVD combo were very popular, and many tickets were sold for the general raffle as well.

Shortly after 3 PM, our Prefect, Scott Miller and Vice-Prefect, Roger Sadowsky, called the annual meeting to order.

The first order of business was to elect Officers for the coming year. The current Officers (Scott and Roger, plus Rob Dickinson as Secretary, and Paul Tobias as Treasurer) were willing to continue to serve, and were re-elected unanimously.

Special thanks were given to Rob Dickinson, who edits our newsletter, as well as Susan Fennelly, and Jo-Anne Miller for their rocket cakes, as well as members Buzz Nau, Eldred Pickett, Art Upton, and Tom Kurecka for their excellent launch pictures and videos that they've taken during the year.

Next, Paul Tobias covered our 2008 financials. We did raise enough money to cover our expenses this year, which consist of payments on the club trailer, and Club insurance. The loss of revenue from not working the Willow Run Airshow was mostly replaced by our "Avoid Willow Run" fund raiser, and the members voted to again not do the Airshow in 2009. We will run another fundraiser to compensate. Roger announced that all members who made contributions to the club during the year will have letter of donation sent to them for tax use.

Other PR events were discussed including participating in the 2009 Jackson County Airport Jubilee, the Jackson District Library Demo Launch, and the Mason Jewette Field Fly In.

Member John Potts also mentioned having JMRC create a display to be shown at Detroit Science Center, to coordinate with the new Star Trek exhibit that will be coming there next year. John will look into the possibility and get back to Roger.

It was decided that the 2nd Saturday of the month was the best weekend to fly, and other than having to move to meet MIS's track needs, we would fly on that weekend in 2009.

New Equipment – There is now a Snap-on toolbox in the trailer, housing a wide variety of tools for member needs. Please take care of the tools, and return them clean and ready for the next person. Also, if something should break, please let Roger know so a replacement can be obtained.

There will also be a new low power rack for 2009. This will let up have up to 18 low power pads available for launches this coming summer. Also, Fade to Black Workshops is currently working on a Hybrid GS cart that will make Hybrid flights even easier this coming year. FTB will also be working on some mid-power pads to replace the retired "Round 5" pad.

Finally, the Club hopes to have a 4' by 6' trailer put together during the coming year that will serve as the home for most of our launch equipment. The idea is that all launch equipment is mounted on this trailer, then the Mule takes the trailer to each location in the field, and the equipment is setup. After the launch, the trailer is re-loaded in the field, parked in the trailer, and we're done! Those of you who have helped with setup or takedown of the launch equipment know what a huge improvement this will be for the Club!

The last item for the meeting was discussion of the Club project, a 11.5" rocket currently being worked on by Roger and Tony Haga. Tony donated many of the components (Airframe, nosecone) for the project. The fins and motor mount are fabricated, the airframes have recently been fibreglassed, and Elite fleet Collision in Lansing has agreed to paint the project.

Several pieces of the project were at the party for members to admire, and it's hoped the rocket will fly at the 3 Oaks launch this April, and again at Black Rock at XPRS, later in 2009.

As the meeting was closed, the raffles were drawn. The small item raffle took a while, as there were so many prizes to raffle off! I doubt anyone who bought a ticket missed out. Then the larger items donated were auctioned off, with our Prefect, Scott Miller, acting as auctioneer. Several motor casings, a Booster Vision camera system, and A FTB Launch pad and controller were auctioned off. Member Dale Hodgson surprised everyone by outbidding everyone for the FTB launch system, then immediately, donating it back to the Club. Way to go Dale!

The last event of the day was the auction of the TV/DVD. Well over \$400 was raised in this raffle, and the system went to member Dave McVeigh. Dave was especially glad to win as he said his television at home recently died! Congratulations Dave!

After the final raffle drawing, the party wound down, with people cleaning up the leftovers, wandering into the parking lot to see Fred's work on the Hybrid cart, and generally enjoying each other's company. A special thank you was given to Scott's father, who arranged the use of the Grotto Club for the event. Hopefully, we'll be back there again next December!



Jackson Model Rocketry Club

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We're on the Web!
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Blast off with Rocketry!

The Jackson Model Rocketry Club (JMRC) is a prefecture of the Tripoli Rocketry Association (Prefecture 96), and the National Association of Rocketry (Club 620). JMRC is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization, and donations to the club are federally tax-deductible.

Prefect—Scott Miller

Vice Prefect—Roger Sadowsky

Secretary—Rob Dickinson

Treasurer—Paul Tobias

JMRC holds launches monthly (weather permitting) year-round from two primary fields in the Jackson area. The club has launch equipment sufficient to launch any rocket from the smallest Estes model to large high power rockets, including hybrids. Waivers are 5,000 ft. AGL or 9,000 ft. AGL, depending on location. To find our next launch, or for more information on JMRC, see our website, www.jmrconline.org, or call Roger Sadowsky at 517.764.7514.

OUR MEMBERS IN THE FIELD...

