

# TRIPOLI

# Vegas

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Official Newsletter of Prefecture #24 of the Tripoli Rocketry Association, Inc.

August 1996

## New Policies

by Les Derkovitz

Both during and after the last Delamar Launch, several of us spent a lot of time grumbling about so few of the club members participating in set up and operation of our launches. With at least 15 good members, it seems the same three or four members get stuck transporting, setting up, trouble shooting the launch equipment. These same people serve as RSO and LCO as well as tearing down and cleaning up. We want all of our launches well attended—not only with participants launching—but also participants conducting the launch. Everyone should have a good time (an opportunity to fly), that is what this hobby is all about.

Along with these frustrations, one other problem really bothered me at Delamar. When we had to test the launch system (especially the far pads), it was impossible to communicate between launch control and the pads. People always promise to bring CBs, but some how they never show up.

We brought up all these issues at the last Thursday night meeting and had a productive discussion where several ideas were offered to solve these daunting problems. Lance and I volunteered to donate a CB (which will be kept in the club range box) to help insure adequate communication; one problem solved.

Now for the big problem: club participation. Ron suggested one solution used by his archery club to solve the problem; Ron's solution later gained a vote of approval. The nice thing about his solution is it provides an easy method of accountability. Here's how it will work: When you pay your dues this year (they are due now), you'll get a membership card with numbers ranging from one to twelve around the outside edge. Each time you spend an hour working to help the club, you get a number punched. Also, you may get one or more numbers punched if you build something for the club like launch equipment or donate items to the club etc. The executive board will discuss and decide how many numbers get punched on an individual basis for these special cases. Every member is expected to get 12 numbers punched (a rough equivalent of 12 hours of time) during the fiscal year (May to May). For each unpunched number, you will be required to pay an additional \$10 over and above the \$15 membership fee in order to renew your membership in the club. If you never do any work during the year and have no punches, you'll have 12 numbers unpunched at \$10 each (\$120) plus the \$15 for a total of \$135 required to renew membership in the club. I should mention that we will prorate the number punches

required as well as the membership fee for someone joining during the year.

It is our hope that this system will be as well received by those of you who couldn't make the June meeting as it was by those attending. The system is intended to be a positive incentive to work for the club and its members. I hope you will feel that way about it. On thing that is super important, especially for our big launches (Turkey and Delamar), when you promise to be there and work some duties, *you must show up no matter what and be there on time.* You have no idea how embarrassing and frustrating it is in front of people from around the country when we have to say we can't start or do what they need because the guy didn't show up (or he hasn't arrived yet).

It is election time; at the end of the June meeting the following were nominated for office:

President:

Tom Blazinin  
Les Derkovitz  
Steve Ainsworth

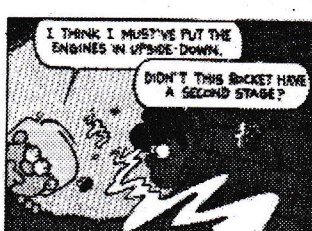
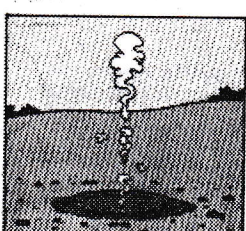
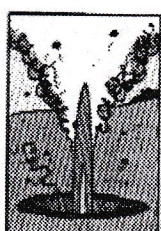
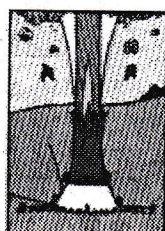
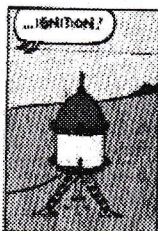
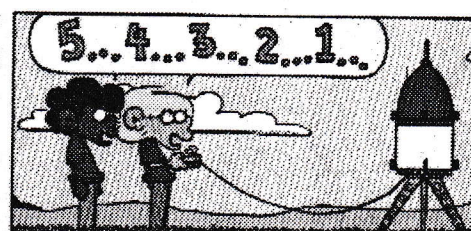
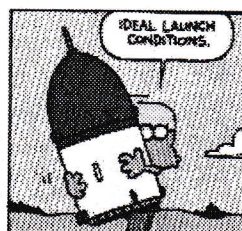
Vice President:

Tom Blazinin  
Brent McNeely

Secretary/Treasurer  
Lance Tharpe

## FoxTrot

BILL AMEND



## From the Editor: Changes

### Late Again

Well, look for more timely mailings of the newsletter in the future. In the past I've been designing the thing, laserprinting it and setting it out front in my office for Lance to pickup. Lance then picks it up, photocopies it, and hand addresses all envelopes for mailing. Needless to say that all takes a while to get done.

To speed things up, Lance gave me the mailing list this last week and I put it on my computer in a database so that I can run labels here. I can cut about three days off the production time by doing the photocopying, labeling, mailing, etc. myself. So, from here on out, if the newsletter is late there is no-one to blame but me.

### Web Site Change

I got a bill in the mail this last month for \$45 for the club's web site which I thought was being provided free. I guess there is not such thing as free anymore. Anyway, rather than incurring additional bills like this, I moved the site over to my regular internet provider, Wizard.com, where I get a free Web Site included with my monthly regular fee. This change equates to no cost to the club and no additional cost to me. I've already contacted all the other Tripoli Web Sites and provided them with the new address and I contacted Yahoo! to get our site listed in their directory (Yahoo! is one of the biggest and best directories on the Web). The new address is: [www.wizard.com/~planetds](http://www.wizard.com/~planetds)

## Leadership List

President ..... Leslie Derkovitz • 875-1004  
Vice President ..... Tom Blazanin • 388-  
Secretary/Treasurer.... Lance & Robbie Tharpe • 262-9131  
Prefect..... Tom Blazanin • 388-9644  
Newsletter Editor..... Brent McNeely • 873-8222

## Launch Dates

August 17..... Cancelled for Fireballs  
September 21..... El Dorado Dry Lake Bed  
October 19..... El Dorado Dry Lake Bed  
November 23-24..... El Dorado Dry Lake Bed  
December 21..... El Dorado Dry Lake Bed

## Meeting Dates

Every Thursday prior to a launch date

Graphic Design Courtesy of  
Brent McNeely & Planet Design, 873-8222

PLANET DESIGN  
GRAPHIC SOLUTIONS

Doug Alber's Cobra Lawn Dart  
The second stage didn't deploy; no streamer

## August Meeting & Launch Cancelled

At the last meeting the club decided too many members were going up to Fireballs at Blackrock the same weekend as the scheduled launch at El Dorado. We hope to see everyone at Fireballs.

Visit Tripoli Las Vegas on the Internet  
[wizard.com/~planetds](http://wizard.com/~planetds)

