

TRIPOLI

Vegas

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

October 1996

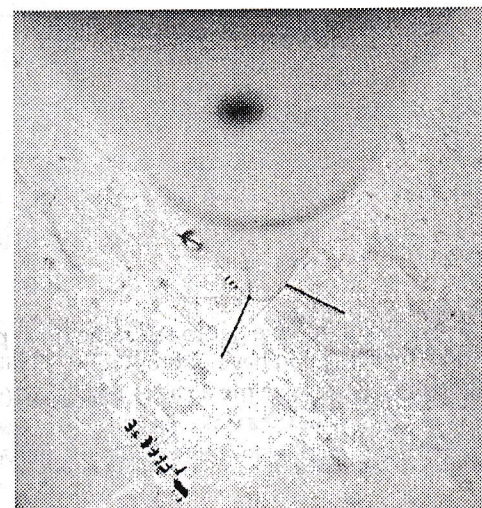
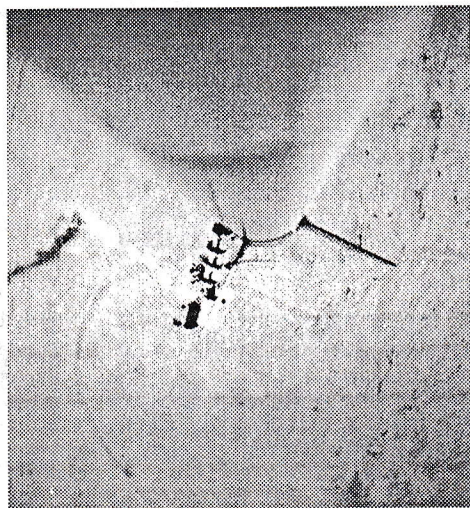
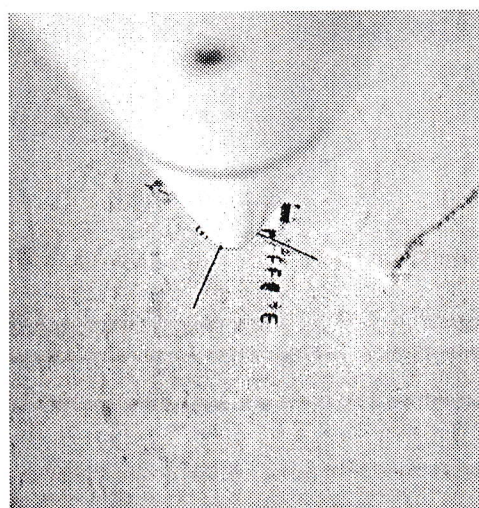
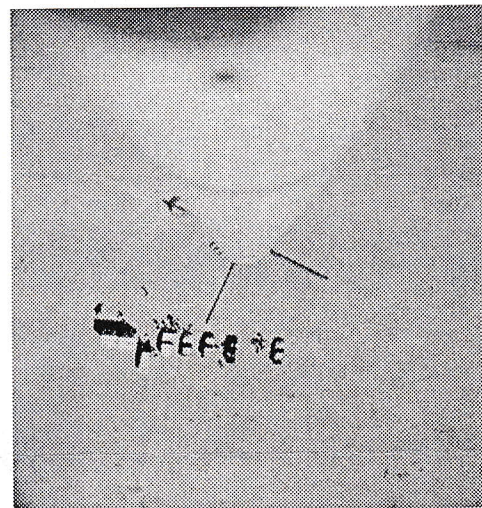
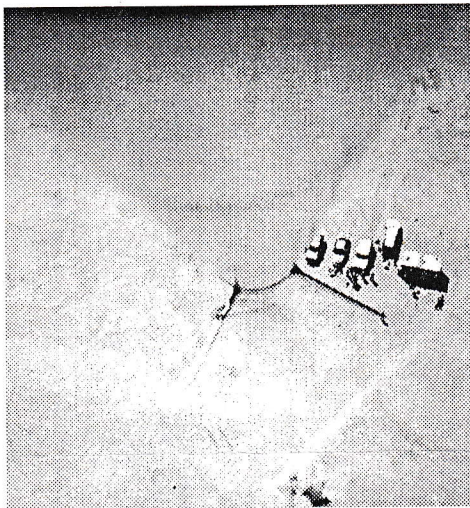
Drag Race on Film

by Steve Ainsworth

I have tried for several launches to fly my camera rocket alongside other rockets in an attempt to photograph another rocket during ascent from above the rocket. Up to now I have never succeeded in getting everything together at one time and place. At the last launch I finally got my act together and had the camera rocket prepped with two 35 mm cameras each looking down opposite sides of the airframe (sounds better than body tube doesn't it). The cameras cover an entire 360 deg. view looking down. The 12 lb rocket was powered by a J143 2-jet Aerotech hybrid with a

6 second burn. Brian Riorden designed, built and programmed the timer circuitry so the cameras would each take 18 photos at .75 sec intervals beginning with first motion (I used an Adept G switch to sense first motion). The cameras were servo actuated since they are cheap (\$3 each at the thrift store) and do not have electronic shutters. The other rocket was flown by a new club member. I regret that I forgot his name; he was flying his level 1 certification with a smaller rocket powered by an H180. His first flight had chute tangle problems, so he scrounged up another reload and was set

for a second attempt when I asked him to wait 5 minutes so we could both launch at the same time. As nervous as he must have been he accepted! The launch was done as a drag race and the heavy hybrid powered camera rocket shot off the pad instantly, with the H180 going up a second later. The camera rocket was underpowered (it should have had a 4-jet hybrid) and the wind cocked the rocket away from us—which was perfect to catch photos of the launch area AND the H180 as it was shooting up. Sometimes luck is worth more than skill.



The Delamar Launch has been moved to El Dorado.

From the Editor

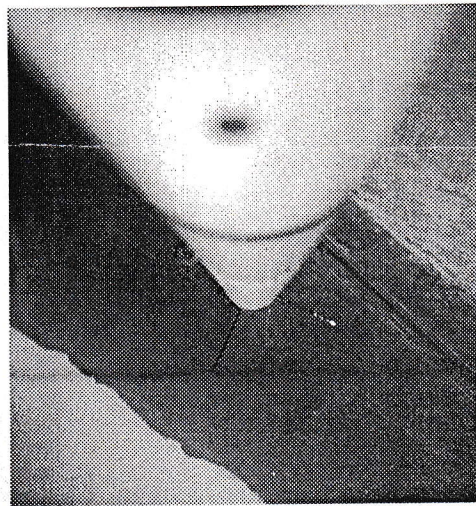
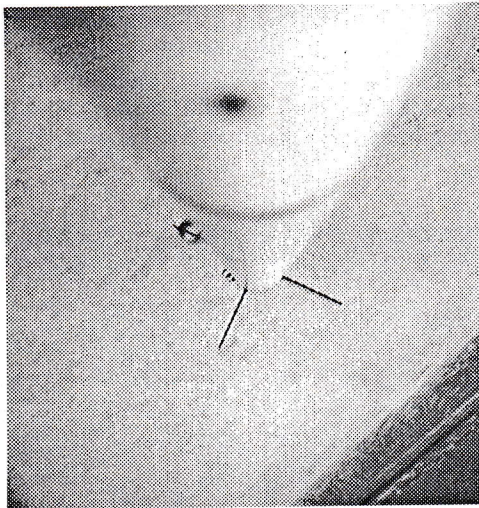
Well, this month we get to see some great photos from Steve Ainsworth's camera rocket. If you have photos or would like to write a short article for the newsletter, please give me a call at 873-8222 (work) or 256-8215 (home).

Delamar Launch Moved to El Dorado

At the last minute we were denied our waiver for the Delamar launch. Apparently Nellis is doing military aircraft maneuvers over the area on that weekend which means our waiver goes squashed. We decided against bumping Delamar to the next weekend because of Turkey Shoot which is coming up next month.

Election Results

Les was voted in to continue as president, Brent McNeely was elected at VP, and Lance will continue as secretary/treasurer.



Visit Tripoli Las Vegas on the Internet
wizard.com/~planetds

Leadership List

President Leslie Derkovitz • 875-1904
 Vice President Brent McNeely • 256-8215
 Secretary/Treasurer Lance Tharpe • 262-9131
 Prefect Tom Blazanin • 388-9644
 Newsletter Editor Brent McNeely • 873-8222

Launch Dates

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

