

TRIPOLI

Vegas

3

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

March 1997

February Launch

by Dale Miller

A beautiful day and launch. I arrived, as usual, at sunrise and set up my launch controller and pads. The temperature was quite cold about 38 degrees but warmed and was quite pleasant after the sun was up for a few hours. I took the advise of several members and choose a site several thousand feet south of the radio controlled airplane area. This kept us well away from the paratroops and I move that we should consider relocating ur launches to this new area.

The ultra-lite pilots were a minor nuisance. I also move that we contact them and provide information as to our intended launch site and schedule so they won't intently fly over for a look see. Steve Ainsworth provided a radio receiver at launch control to monitor aircraft transmission and I picked up several transmissions that warned us of over flights. In the future we should consider two way aircraft communication.

Late in the day it was requested that I write this report of our launch. Being a relatively new member I am not familiar with most members names and club procedures. I can report that 41 rockets were launched. These ranged from small Estes with A motors to several J motors.

Due to very good weather conditions, most launches were perfect. Some awesome launches were flown. Several clustered motor rockets had successful launches. A few rockets were lost out in the sagebrush but were later recovered.

Many rockets utilizing the AeroTech Copperhead ignitors failed to ignite. Several of these blew the 50 Amp fuses in the launch system! I provided custom built Thermolite Ignitors and matches sold to me by Delta V and these rockets went off with no problem. One rocket took off at a low angle and separated near the ground. There was no damage to the rocket but upon examination we found that the Aerotech Mantis launch pad had come apart at the angle adjustment, not a good day for Aerotech accessories.

I apologize to the members that I can not name or give proper credit for their participation. I think we all had a very successful launch and a lot of fun. I'm looking forward to our next meeting at the LDRS launch and the next club meeting . At the next meeting I will bring plans for a new launch control system that I will build and donate to our club.

Launch Dates

March 22.....	El Dorado Dry Lake Bed
April 19.....	El Dorado Dry Lake Bed
May 17.....	Delamar Dry Lake Bed
June 21.....	El Dorado Dry Lake Bed
July 19.....	El Dorado Dry Lake Bed
August 23.....	El Dorado Dry Lake Bed
September 20.....	El Dorado Dry Lake Bed
October 18.....	El Dorado Dry Lake Bed
November 29.....	El Dorado Dry Lake Bed

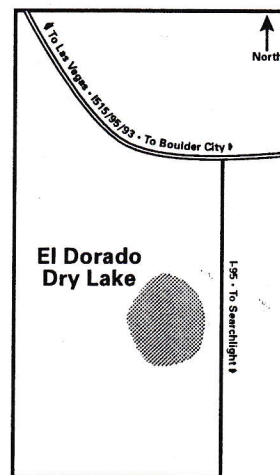
Meeting Dates

Every Thursday prior to a launch date

Graphic Design Courtesy of
Brent McNeely & Planet Design, 233-8222

PLANET DESIGN

GRAPHIC SOLUTIONS



Leadership List

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

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