



# THOR

**July/August 2000**

**VOLUME 7 NUMBER 4**

**T.H.O.R. - THE HEARTLAND ORGANIZATION OF ROCKETRY  
2000 Events Calendar**

Monthly Meeting Schedule for summer:  
Tuesday July 11<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday August 1<sup>st</sup>,  
and Tuesday September 5<sup>th</sup>.

As usual, each meeting will start at 7:00 PM at the La Vista Community Center.

**June 25 - Sport Launch**

Launch Coordinator ----- Rich Burney (402) 269-3716  
Description of event -- A low powered day of fun and flying.  
All rocketeers welcome to come and join in on the fun.

**July 1,2,3,4 - LDRS XIX**

Tripoli Nat'l Launch - South Carolina  
Description of event -- LDRS XIX yearly national high-powered event. Tripoli annual general membership meeting and board meetings will take place during the launch. For details call (402) 691-8420.

**July 15 - Fourth Annual Barbecue / Pool Party**

Description of event -- Will be held at the home of Bruce Lee its open to all club members and their family, there will be swimming and a barbecue.

**July 16 - Drag Race Competition**

Launch Coordinator - Richard Burney (402) 269-3716  
Description of event -- Two rockets launched simultaneously. Points are awarded for first motion, low altitude, and lands last. The winner goes on to the next "heat."

**July 29 - August 4 NARAM 2000 - Vernon Estesland. CO**

Description of event -- NARAM 2000 is the National Association of Rocketry's Annual Meet. There will be many contest events being held. Details in Sport Rocketry Magazine.

**August 5 - Pickrell Experimental Launch**

Launch Coordinator ----- Larry Drake (402) 895-1583  
Description of event -- This is a chance to fly your own rockets using experimental motors only.

**August 19 - Pickrell High/Low Power Launch**

Launch Coordinator ----- Larry Drake (402) 895-1583  
Description of event -- This is a chance to fly your own low & high powered rockets, and see others fly their rockets.

**September 2,3,4 - Air Fest 2000 - Regional Launch**

Description of event -- Air Fest 2000 is a yearly high powered event that takes place in Argonia, Kansas. Come join in the fun! For details call (402) 691-8420.

\* For Launch and activities information call T.H.O.R info line (402) 896-2069

\* 1<sup>st</sup> prize for events is valued at no less than \$10.00.

\* Cost to enter contest is \$1 for members \$2 for non-members.

**TRIPOLI NEBRASKA WEB PAGE**

[www.tripoli.org/tra\\_ne/nebraska.htm](http://www.tripoli.org/tra_ne/nebraska.htm)

**THOR WEB PAGE**

[www.tripoli.org/tra\\_ne/THOR/thor.html](http://www.tripoli.org/tra_ne/THOR/thor.html)

It is tra\_ne, underscore

**Rocketman Central**

By Richard Burney, Secretary and Newsletter Editor  
THOR#8, NAR# 69543, TRA# 6140

**The Syracuse Rocketman...**



Go figure, the Syracuse High School mascot is a rocket!!!

Early last month, I finally moved out of my parents' home, and moved down to the small rural town of Syracuse which is in the middle of Otoe county. I started working down here at Consultants and Designers back in January. The owner was my original boss at Radio Engineering and a number of my fellow employees from REI are working here too so it's just like old times! For four months I was traveling a 100 mile round trip four or five times a week. Ouch! I finally found a nice little house for rent in early May. Now I currently live just a few blocks away from work. Now I'm able to ride my bike to work instead of burning out my Ranger!

Though I am about 50 miles from Omaha, I plan on remaining fully active within the club. That also includes putting out each of these newsletters. In fact I threw this one together at work! I am also hopping to start up a chapter down here in Syracuse and maybe find a high power field that would be closer for everyone in the Omaha area.

Since I am low on time and materials, this will be a short newsletter. I have some data on Nebraska Heat III to throw around and I also have the first part of the Nebraska Heat III gallery. I have a few more pictures that need to be developed and I will show those in the September/October issue.

### Nebraska Heat III...

After Fire on the Farm III turned out to be more like Flood on the Farm III, Nebraska Heat III was by far a more successful event. All three days were sunny and quite pleasant. Friday and Saturday was slightly breezy (about 10 to 15 MPH) with a high each day around 80. Sunday was quite windy, though, and the high was around 70. Other than the wind on Sunday, the overall conditions were quite tolerable for early June.

On Friday, about a dozen flights (mostly experimental or lesser than G motor flights) were generated throughout the day and then about a half dozen at night. Unfortunately, I have only 5 flight cards for all these flights. From those flight cards, it looks like there were at least 2 E's, 2 H's, and 1 J burned. Jeff Barnes I believe flew more than anybody else (can this guy burn AP or what☺).

Saturday was the big day. There was about 70 flights altogether. Here is the motor breakdown: 6 A's, 10 B's, 8 C's, 5 D's, 2 E's, 4 F's, 9 G's, 5 H's, 6 I's, 8 J's, 2 K's, 1 L, and 4 M's. In fact more M motors were flown in one day than have been flown at all THOR/Tripoli Nebraska launches combined! Sadly, two of those flights were Levels 3's that did not qualify.

Sunday's windy conditions limited flying to a total of eleven flights. But even with these conditions there was an L motor flown (I don't think that Fred got his rocket back).

Since I have been very busy, the fully detailed article will be presented next issue.

### Nebraska Heat III Photo Gallery Part 1...

I have included a few pictures of some of the major flights of Nebraska Heat III. More to come next issue.



**Bruce Lee with his heavily modified THOY Falcon (payload section is from his old NCR Patriot).**



**Bruce's Falcon takes off on a home bred Thunder Flame Green motor (at 800 N/S, it's a low J).**



**Jeff Barnes gets ready for his first RC aircraft experience with a Hobby Labs SR-71 Blackbird.**



Jeff's SR-71 heads straight up on an E15. Though Jeff had no previous RC experience, he flew it pretty well and it suffered just minor damage to the nose.



Lyle and Geoff Woodrum and Kiel Tompkins pose with Lyle's Level 3 upscale of the Estes Gemini DC (M1315 powered... M motor of choice at N.H. III!).



Mike Collins (r) and Steve Thomas (l) pose with Mike's *Capella* (I435 power). Mike built the tower and used Blacksky rail.



Takeoff! The first few seconds of flight were awesome, but the PML Quantum tubing wasn't strong enough for the stress on the side pods which ripped off and then the rest of the vehicle came apart.



"Richard, leave me alone, I'm busy!" Jeff Barnes preps for his second Level 3 attempt... a Dynacom Anaconda on an M1315.



Tony Cochran with his veteran LOC EZI-65.



**Richard Burney (me!) with my scratch built *Macross Plus* rocket which would mark my first K flight (K550) and also the biggest rocket I've built, period.**



***Macross Plus* heads skywards. Awesome flight!**



***Macross Plus* managed to land about a few hundred feet away... so much for needing to use the club's transmitter! Other than a small zipper, the flight was completely successful.**

### **The Bombpop...**

I think most everyone in the group is aware of the 20 plus foot tall rocket that Bruce and Lyle have been working on for the last few months. It is using

PML's 12" diameter tubing and will be powered by two M1315's. It may possibly be the biggest and most powerful rocket at LDRS 19 (less than two weeks away!). Sponsors for this project are PML and Rocketman Enterprises.

The first picture I have of the Bombpop, as it's been dubbed, I took a few weeks ago at Nebraska Heat. Bruce sent me a picture a few days ago of him and Lyle with the completed vehicle. Good luck, Bruce and Lyle!



**Team Rocket(man) is blasting off agaaaaain!...**

If I ever get tired of building Macross themed rockets, maybe I can try Pokemon! Pokemon and rockets... hmmm. Maybe Estes and Nintendo can strike some sort of deal!

Until next time, have a fun and safe summer.

## **THOR Meeting Minutes: May/June**

Compiled by Richard Burney (Secretary) and Jon Damme

### **THOR Meeting Minutes 5/2/00**

Attendance: Bruce Lee, Jon Damme, Candy Davis, Arley Davis, Doug Holverson, Doug Deden, Ken Nafito, Eric Nafito, Dale Miller, Richard Burney, and Kevin Trojanowski.

Meeting starts at 19:16.

Doug Holverson shows off a few of his model rocket kits: the Zoomie, Tangent, and Silverhawk. Holverson

Designs now has a partnership with Funcraft. His kits are using tongue wood instead of balsa and are being manufactured in China.

Arley passes around the Centuri S.S.V. Scorpion kit which he plans on building soon. Also passed around the May/June issue of *Extreme Rocketry*.

A high power launch will be held at Pickrell on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup>. A waiver of 7,000 feet MSL was requested. Waiver officially runs from 9:00 to 6:00, but flying will probably take place between 10:00 to 5:00.

Nebraska Heat III launch – A convention for the new high school in Beatrice has resulted in most of the local hotel/motels to be full. New hotel/motel info will be posted on club web site. Experimental launch will be held on Friday (June 2<sup>nd</sup>).

Streamer Duration contest was rescheduled to be held in conjunction with the May 6<sup>th</sup> Pickrell high power launch (*Editor's note: due to only two or so people, including me, having brought rockets, the contest was scrubbed*). Egg Lofter on September 10<sup>th</sup>.

According to Dale, only 4 people made bids on the THOR online auction for some of his merchandise this time around. Dale will contact those individuals to finalize the transactions.

Rich shows up at about 19:45. Rich will now be residing in Syracuse, NE. Since Dale and Rich live in the same county, they both mentioned the possibility of maybe finding a new high power field that would be closer for most Omaha members.

The club's monthly meetings are back to being on on the first Tuesdays of the month (except the July meeting which will be on the 11<sup>th</sup>).

Aerotech has a new setup (RMS Plus) for its 29mm and 38mm delays to prevent blowby and make cleanup easier.

Arley will do a fiberglass demonstration next meeting (*Editor's note: the demonstration was moved to the July meeting*).

Meeting adjourned at 20:30.

### **THOR Meeting Minutes 6/6/00**

Attendance: Richard Burney, Bruce Lee, Candy Davis, Ken Nafito, Eric Nafito, Doug Holverson, Kathy McGinnis, Kevin Rich, Tyson Christiansen, , Devin Rich, Vicki Rich, Jon Damme, and Lyle Woodrum.

Meeting starts at 19:15.

Kevin Rich and family are introduced to the club.

Jon Damme – shows how a bed tray with legs can be used out in the field to set one's range boxes on to make its contents easier to reach. Jon reads off some wacked out rocketry poems.

Kathy – shows an Estes Black Brant and a few plastic models she bought recently.

Doug Holverson – shows off some of his new kit designs; designs include a 1/95 scale Saturn V, a two stager a cone shaped glider (similar to kits produced by Quest and Centuri), a glider Space Shuttle, a 1/205 scale Shuttle with fuel tank and boosters (Shuttle glides). As part of the partnership with Fun Craft, Fun Rockets will be the brand name now on the packaging of his kits.

Arley shows his beautiful LOC Onyx with its Chinese Year of the Dragon theme. Arley wants to do a high power replication of the Discovery One from the movie *2001: A Space Odyssey*. He plans on flying it next year (of course!). Arley will be using an ultra detailed model (procured through [www.monstersinmotion.com](http://www.monstersinmotion.com)) as his basis. Arley also passed around an idea he has for making a 50 foot tall rocket. The tubes would be telescoping.

Bruce Lee wrap of Nebraska Heat III – 4 M flights on Saturday (*Editor's note: to date, only 2 M flights have ever been flown in this state period!*), a minimum diameter L rocket broke Mach 2 (unfortunately it was lost), Larry Mills had the most energetic disassembly (AMRAAM 3 on a J570 – blew to bits on pad), and Lyle Woodrum's minimum diameter rocket hit 802 MPH on a J350.

Bruce shows the club's Lloyd Electronic's transmitter and receiver set. It was put to very good use at Nebraska Heat III.

Aerotech will be manufacturing Frank Kosdon's motors and casings.

Ellis Mountain will soon be manufacturing 54mm motors.

Black Sky Research and Cesaroni will be coming out with a new 38mm motor set.

Jeff Barnes is Tripoli's new insurance man.

Mike Collins will probably not be coming to any more of our local launches this year. Club members will have to pay for shipping of any motors they buy from him during the rest of this year.

An email from Jon Jeys suggests we start some THOR subchapters for communities outside the Omaha area. (*Editor's note: I hope to do such a thing done here in Syracuse sometime in the future months*).

Meeting adjourned at 21:20.

## CLUB OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

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The Heartland Organization of Rocketry ("THOR") is an officially sanctioned section, #562, of the National Association of Rocketry (NAR).

Tripoli Nebraska #46 is an official Prefecture of the Tripoli Rocketry Association, Inc.

If you are interested in joining The Heartland Organization of Rocketry (T.H.O.R.) simply fill out an application and mail it to:

**T.H.O.R.**  
**6211 South 141 St.**  
**Omaha, NE 68137**

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month, 7:00PM at the LaVista Community Center at 8116 Parkview St, La Vista NE (turn east at the Sinclair Gas Station on 84<sup>th</sup> St.). Visitors are welcome to attend. For club launch time, launch location or general information call The Heartland Organization of Rocketry at 402-896-2069. THOR strictly follows the safety guidelines set for by the National Association of Rocketry and Tripoli Rocketry Association, Inc.

For more information call The Heartland Organization of Rocketry at 402-896-2069 and leave a voice mail that will be returned in a few days.

## T.H.O.R Membership Application

### Personal information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Hobby information

How long have you been involved in Rocketry? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of a national Rocketry Organization:  
NAR# \_\_\_\_\_ TRA# \_\_\_\_\_ NERO# \_\_\_\_\_

Rates (1/2 year memberships divide by 2 and add \$1)

**Family membership - \$36**

**Senior (18 and up) - \$24**

**Junior (under 18) - \$12**

**Correspondence - \$10**

(people over 50 miles from Omaha)

**Newsletter only - \$6**

(6 issues per year)

**Membership in The Heartland  
Organization of Rocketry is open to  
all interested parties.**

I agree to comply with the THOR policies as pertains to the safety guidelines set forth by the NAR and Tripoli. Failure to do so is grounds for expulsion.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_