



# T.H.O.R.

**March/April 2001**

**VOLUME 8 NUMBER 2**

**T.H.O.R. - THE HEARTLAND ORGANIZATION OF ROCKETRY  
2001 Events Calendar**

**For More Information:** Check the rocketry hotline (402-896-2069) for any delays or cancellations if weather looks questionable.

Monthly Meeting Schedule for Spring:  
Tuesday March 6<sup>th</sup> (THOR Auction),  
Tuesday April 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Tuesday May 1<sup>st</sup>.  
As usual, each meeting will start at 7:00  
PM at the La Vista Community Center.

**April**

**March**

**Event:** Low Power Launch.  
**When:** Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup>, Noon to ?  
**Where:** La Vista Sports Complex.  
**Fee:** Free.  
**Description:** Low power sport flying.  
**For More Information:**

**Event:** Annual THOR Auction.  
**When:** Tuesday the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 to 10:00 PM.  
**Where:** La Vista Community Center.  
**Description:** Club's annual auction where members can auction off and bid on rocketry related goods... it's Ebay the old fashion way! 10% of the money made from each member's auction, unless arranged differently, will go to the club. The auctioneer will be the Big Scary Guy himself, Rob Skiba!©

**Event:** Fire on the Farm IV.  
**When:** Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> through Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM each day.  
**Where:** Carroll, IA.  
**Ceiling:** TBA.  
**Fee:** TBA.  
**Description:** Nearly rechristened "Flood on the Farm" after last year's debacle, this is the big annual high power launch that we conduct with the Iowa Society Of Amateur Rocketeers (I-SOAR).  
**For More Information:** Go to the calendar at [www.tripoli.org](http://www.tripoli.org). More details of the launch will be hammered out in the next two months.

**Event:** Low Power Launch.  
**When:** Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup>, Noon to ?  
**Where:** La Vista Sports Complex.  
**Fee:** Free.  
**Description:** Low power sport flying.  
**For More Information:** Attend March meeting.

**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)

**Event:** High Power Launch.  
**When:** Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.  
**Where:** Pickrell, NE.  
**Ceiling:** TBA.  
**Fee:** \$5.  
**Description:** Mainly a high power event, but regular model rockets are flown, too.

**\*\*\*\*RENEWAL TIME!!!\*\*\*\***  
Just a reminder that January was renewal time for most members. If you have not renewed, you will cease to receive this newsletter and other member benefits. Either mail your payment to Larry Drake or pay him at the March meeting.

## Bruce Lee on Junkyard Wars!



**THOR's own Bruce Lee (right) with the Long Brothers team at the filming of the Sky Rockets episode of Junkyard Wars back in September.**

**Bruce substituted for Homer Hickam who was the author of the book *Rocket Boys* (which was adapted as the movie *October Sky*). The episode aired on Wednesday January 24<sup>th</sup>. Of course, Bruce and the Long Brothers won the ostrich egg loft contest!☺ If you missed this episode, keep your eyes out for the rerun of this episode.**

## THOR Meeting Minutes: January/February

Compiled by Richard Burney, Secretary

### THOR Meeting Minutes 1/2/01

Attendance: Richard Burney, Bruce Lee, Dan Crammer, Kevin Rich, Kevin Trojanowski, Arley Davis, Jacob Davis, Candy Davis, Doug Deden, Dennis Gilbert, Jon Damme, Dave Pares, Alex Pares, Ken Nanfito, Eric Nafito, and Larry Drake.

Meeting starts at 19:15.

Bruce Lee shows a bunch of pictures from the episode of *Junkyard Wars* that he appears on. It will air on The Learning Channel on Wednesday January 24 8:00 PM. Bruce shows pictures of his and Ky Michaelson's brief

stop over in Paris. Shows enlarged shots of CSXT rocket and Bomb Pop rocket from LDRS XIX.

Dennis Gilbert's planning on doing his Level 1 this year.

Hypertek was sold to Cesaroni Technologies.

BATF court case to continue in upcoming weeks.

A new insurance carrier will be contracted for Tripoli Rocketry Association.

Arley passes around an old MPC model rocket kit ("Martian Patrol").

Alex's science fair project – an ion drive engine! 1/60<sup>th</sup> of a horsepower of energy. Wants to see what is more efficient... pulsing or a steady stream. Shows the assembly of his engine and how it works. Demonstrates vacume chamber to be used for demonstrating the ion engine.

Dave Pares shows the small model of his Level 3/manned glider design.

Treasurer's Report – We're broke! We only have \$14 left. Room rate is up to \$10 an hour. Motion is made to reduce meeting time from 8:00 to 10:00 PM. After motion was made Dave Pares made a check out to THOR for \$200 to help keep our meetings at 3 hours a night. Meetings to remain from 7:00 to 10:00 PM. (Editor's note: thanks, Dave!).

Auction for Scott Meinhardt and other club members' items at March meeting.

Fire on the Farm IV – no date yet. Perhaps April 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Nebraska Heat IV – planned for June 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Jon proposes to rename Nebraska Heat launch to memorialize our fallen members. Members to propose names at February meeting.

Jon wants Bruce to get interviewed by Otis 12.

Meeting adjourned at 21:45.

### THOR Meeting Minutes 2/6/01

Attendance: Richard Burney, Bruce Lee, Jeff Moon, Arley Davis, Jacob Davis, Candy Davis, Doug Holverson, Jon Damme, Dennis Gilbert, Kevin Rich, Dave Pares, Allyson Pares, Alex Pares, Kevin Trojanowski, and Kathy McGinnis.

Jeff Moon is introduced to the group.

## THOR 2001 Events Calendar

### 2001: A Rocketry Odyssey...

Below is the calendar for the upcoming rocket season. Some events have yet to be fully defined; I hope that we'll get some contests in at some of the low power launches and at least one high power launch (besides Fire on the Farm) will be at the Carroll, IA site. I will be updating the calendar as the year progresses. If you have any additional questions, phone or email Bruce or myself.

### March

**Event:** Annual THOR Auction.

**When:** Tuesday the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 to 10:00 PM.

**Where:** La Vista Community Center.

**Description:** Club's annual auction where members can auction off and bid on rocketry related goods... it's Ebay the old fashion way! 10% of the money made from each member's auction, unless arranged differently, will go to the club. The auctioneer will be the Big Scary Guy himself, Rob Skiba!☺

**Event:** Low Power Launch.

**When:** Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup>, Noon to ?

**Where:** La Vista Sports Complex.

**Fee:** Free.

**Description:** Low power sport flying.

**For More Information:** Attend March meeting.

**Event:** High Power Launch.

**When:** Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

**Where:** Pickrell, NE.

**Ceiling:** TBA.

**Fee:** \$5.

**Description:** Mainly a high power event, but regular model rockets are flown, too.

**For More Information:** Check the rocketry hotline (402-896-2069) for any delays or cancellations if weather looks questionable.

### April

**Event:** Low Power Launch.

**When:** Sunday the 8th, Noon to ?

**Where:** La Vista Sports Complex.

**Fee:** Free.

**Description:** Low power sport flying.

**For More Information:**

**Event:** Fire on the Farm IV.

**When:** Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup> through Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM each day.

**Where:** Carroll, IA.

**Ceiling:** TBA.

**Fee:** TBA.

**Description:** Nearly rechristened "Flood on the Farm" after last year's debacle, this is the big annual high

Starting in March going through to November, a low power launch will be held the second Sunday of each month at the La Vista Sports Complex. A high power launch will be held on the fourth Saturday each month (typically Pickrell).

Bruce shows more pictures from his *Junkyard Wars* appearance.

Bruce talks about Ky's Super Bowl weekend party (a week earlier). Bruce and Ky each rode a sled powered by a K700!!! Bruce got up to an estimated 30MPH. Bruce's wife, Kathy, used a K550 for her trip.

Richard Burney shows off his assembly drawing of his Level 3 rocket.

Alex Pares talks about the details of the ion engine that he and his dad, Dave, built for Alex's science project. Shows pictures of the assembly and layout. Engine generated a 1/4A equivalent thrust per second. Cold weather effected the Argon gas pressure thus effecting the engine's performance. Watch tape of Alex demonstrating the engine.

Doug Holverson shows his 1976 Star Trek calendar. Shows his rocket launch controllers that he has been developing. Also shows sketches of some of his comic book characters. Next Fun Rocket design from Doug will be a tubular rocket.

Rat Works hybrid motors – according to Kevin Trojanowski this new hybrid motor is fairly easy to assemble (comparable to an Aerotech RMS). Kevin has ordered off for some of the ground support equipment for the Rat Works hybrids.

Jon Damme makes the proposal to change the name of the Nebraska Heat launch to memorialize members of our group who have died with in the last few years (Scott Meinhradt and Bruce Furan) or to keep it the same. Dennis Gilbert seconds the motion. If we rename the launch this year, the number of the launch would coincide with the year. Arguments are made for keeping and for changing the name. Majority votes to keep the name the same.

Auction – starts at 7:00 PM at March meeting. No show and tell to be held. Rob "Big Scary Guy" Skiba to auctioneer.

Watch tape of rocket sled action near Ky's house on Super Bowl weekend!

Watch tape of tour of Ky's house (1998).

Need to get list from Larry of who owes membership fees.

Meeting adjourned at 22:00.

power launch that we conduct with the Iowa Society Of Amateur Rocketeers (I-SOAR).

**For More Information:** Go to the calendar at [www.tripol.org](http://www.tripol.org). More details of the launch will be hammered out in the next two months.

## May

**Event:** Low Power Launch.

**When:** Sunday the 13th, Noon to ?

**Where:** La Vista Sports Complex.

**Fee:** Free.

**Description:** Low power sport flying.

**For More Information:**

**Event:** High Power Launch.

**When:** Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

**Where:** Pickrell, NE.

**Ceiling:** TBA.

**Fee:** \$5.

**Description:** Mainly a high power event, but regular model rockets are flown, too.

**For More Information:** Check the rocketry hotline (402-896-2069) for any delays or cancellations if weather looks questionable.

**Event:** National Sport Launch.

**When:** Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> through Monday the 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Where:** Rush Valley, UT.

**Description:** NAR's annual sport launch.

**For more information:** See the link for the NSL at [www.nar.org](http://www.nar.org).

## June

**Event:** Low Power Launch.

**When:** Sunday the 10th, Noon to ?

**Where:** La Vista Sports Complex.

**Fee:** Free.

**Description:** Low power sport flying.

**For More Information:**

**Event:** Nebraska Heat IV.

**When:** Friday the 22nd through Sunday the 24th, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM each day.

**Where:** Pickrell, NE.

**Ceiling:** TBA.

**Fee:** TBA.

**Description:** THOR's big annual high power rocketry get together!

**For More Information:** Go to the calendar at [www.tripol.org](http://www.tripol.org). More details of the launch will be hammered out in the next two months.

## July

**Event:** 4<sup>th</sup> of July Party.

**When:** Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> (duh...), exact time to be determined.

**Where:** Bruce Lee's house.

**Fee:** Free... but bring your own food such as meat and chips!

**Description:** The club's annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July party. Bruce has a swimming pool, too, so bring your swimwear!

**For More Information:** Final details will be determined before the party.

**Event:** Low Power Launch.

**When:** Sunday the 8th, Noon to ?

**Where:** La Vista Sports Complex.

**Fee:** Free.

**Description:** Low power sport flying.

**For More Information:**

**Event:** LDRS XX.

**When:** Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> through Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Where:** Lucerne Dry Lake, CA.

**Description:** Large and Dangerous Rocket Ships number 20! This is TRA's big national high power launch of the year.

**For More Information:** See the link at [www.tripoli.org](http://www.tripoli.org).

**Event:** High Power Launch.

**When:** Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

**Where:** Pickrell, NE.

**Ceiling:** TBA.

**Fee:** \$5.

**Description:** Mainly a high power event, but regular model rockets are flown, too.

**For More Information:** Check the rocketry hotline (402-896-2069) for any delays or cancellations if weather looks questionable.

## August

**Event:** NARAM 43.

**When:** Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> through Friday the 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Where:** Geneseo, NY.

**Description:** NAR's week of model rocketry competition. Typically there is a lot of sport and some high power flying, too.

**For More Information:** Go to [www.naram-43.com](http://www.naram-43.com).

**Event:** Low Power Launch.

**When:** Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup>, Noon to ?

**Where:** La Vista Sports Complex.

**Fee:** Free.

**Description:** Low power sport flying.

**For More Information:**

**Event:** High Power Launch.

**When:** Saturday the 25th, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

**Where:** Pickrell, NE.

**Ceiling:** TBA.

**Fee:** \$5.

**Description:** Mainly a high power event, but regular model rockets are flown, too.

**For More Information:** Check the rocketry hotline (402-896-2069) for any delays or cancellations if weather looks questionable.

**Event:** AIRFest VII.  
**When:** High power flying from Friday the 31<sup>st</sup> through Sunday September the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Experimental day on Monday September 3<sup>rd</sup>.  
**Where:** Argonia, KS.  
**Description:** This is the awesome high power get together thrown together each year by the Tripoli Kansas Prefecture. The Kloudbusters have a very excellent field to fly from and this site has been used for several LDRS's. Many members from THOR have attended the AIRFest launch.  
**For More Information:** Check out the Kloudbuster's web site at [www.kloudbusters.com](http://www.kloudbusters.com).

## September

**Event:** Low Power Launch.  
**When:** Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup>, Noon to ?  
**Where:** La Vista Sports Complex.  
**Fee:** Free.  
**Description:** Low power sport flying. This may also be the date for John Carroll's Field of Wing's event.  
**For More Information:** To be determined.

**Event:** High Power Launch.  
**When:** Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.  
**Where:** Pickrell, NE.  
**Ceiling:** TBA.  
**Fee:** \$5.  
**Description:** Mainly a high power event, but regular model rockets are flown, too.  
**For More Information:** Check the rocketry hotline (402-896-2069) for any delays or cancellations if weather looks questionable.

**Event:** Balls 11.  
**When:** Saturday the 29<sup>th</sup> through Sunday the 30<sup>th</sup>.  
**Where:** Blackrock, NV.  
**Description:** The big national experimental high power rocket launch of the year!  
**For More Information:** Check out the launch calendar at [www.tripoli.org](http://www.tripoli.org).

## October

**Event:** Low Power Launch.  
**When:** Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup>, Noon to ?

**Where:** La Vista Sports Complex.  
**Fee:** Free.  
**Description:** Low power sport flying.  
**For More Information:**

**Event:** High Power Launch.  
**When:** Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.  
**Where:** Pickrell, NE.  
**Ceiling:** TBA.  
**Fee:** \$5.  
**Description:** Mainly a high power event, but regular model rockets are flown, too.  
**For More Information:** Check the rocketry hotline (402-896-2069) for any delays or cancellations if weather looks questionable.

## November

**Event:** Low Power Launch.  
**When:** Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup>, Noon to ?  
**Where:** La Vista Sports Complex.  
**Fee:** Free.  
**Description:** Low power sport flying.  
**For More Information:**

**Event:** High Power Launch.  
**When:** Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.  
**Where:** Carroll, IA(?).  
**Ceiling:** TBA.  
**Fee:** \$5.  
**Description:** Mainly a high power event, but regular model rockets are flown, too.  
**For More Information:** Check the rocketry hotline (402-896-2069) for any delays or cancellations if weather looks questionable.

## December

**Event:** Christmas Party.  
**When:** Friday the 7<sup>th</sup>.  
**Where:** Larry Drake's house.  
**Fee:** Free... but make sure to bring food and drinks.  
**Description:** THOR's annual Christmas party!  
**For More Information:** Final details for the party will be determined ahead of time. A map for directions to Larry's house is posted on the THOR web site.

## THOR 2001 Annual Auction

**Rich Burney bids \$4.99!...**

Below is a list of some of what will be up for auction at the March meeting (Tuesday the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM). As can be seen, there are some very excellent items up for grab! Make sure to bring yourself, and a lot of money, to the meeting!

Arley Davis			
COMPANY NAME	ITEMS	RET. PRICE	STARTING BID
North Coast Rocketry	Mid-powered Interceptor G "futuristic"	\$ 74.88	\$ 45.00

Vaughn Brothers	VP-Extreme 29 "Fiberglass Fins	\$ 29.95	\$ 15.00
Estes	Super Big Bertha (RR) "Over 3 Feet Tall"	\$ 29.95	\$ 15.00
Estes	Maxi Alpha 3 (RR) "easy-to-assemble"	\$ 29.95	\$ 15.00
Estes	SR-71 Blackbird "In Box"	\$ 17.95	\$ 6.00
Estes	Wizard "Beta Series"	\$ 5.95	\$ 2.00
Estes	Army Hawk "In Box"	\$ 10.00	\$ 2.00
Estes	13MM Mini-Patriot (opened )	\$ 5.00	\$ 2.00
Estes	Gemini DC (opened )	\$ 11.95	\$ 3.00
Quest	Flat Cat "Boost Glider"	\$ 8.00	\$ 4.00
Custom	Dynamic Carrier "Almost assembled"	\$ 10.00	\$ 4.00
Hand made	Igniters "Purchased at a launch"	?	\$ 2.00

<b>Richard Burney</b>			
<u>COMPANY NAME</u>	<u>ITEMS</u>	<u>RET. PRICE</u>	<u>STARTING BID</u>
Academy	Space Shuttle (Plastic Model)	\$ 18.00	\$ 5.00
	Rich Burney bag of goodies!		\$ 5.00
Custom	Bullet (24mm)	\$ 10.00	\$ 5.00
The Launch Pad	ASRAAM (2x 24mm)	\$ 22.88	\$ 7.50
Estes/NCR	Star Wars X-Wing (29mm)	\$ 79.88	\$ 30.00
PML	Callisto (29mm)	\$ 46.95	\$ 20.00
Estes	Saturn V (24mm - 1998 release)	\$ 59.99	\$ 25.00
Estes	Seahawk (24mm)	\$ 22.99	\$ 10.00
Estes	Commanche 3 (3 stage!)	\$ 14.89	\$ 5.00
Estes	Hyper X (18mm - heli nose!)	\$ 13.99	\$ 7.00
Estes	Blackhawk (18mm)	\$ 12.99	\$ 5.00
Estes	Space Shuttle Glider Set (18mm)	\$ 36.99	\$ 10.00
Estes	Star Wars Droid Fighter Beginner Set	\$ 24.99	\$ 10.00
Estes	Star Wars Naboo Fighter Beginner Set	\$ 24.99	\$ 10.00

Estes	Star Wars Y-Wing Beginner Set	\$ 36.99	\$ 10.00
Estes	Outlaw RTF Set (13mm)	\$ 9.99	\$ 4.00
Estes	Star Wars Mini X-Wing (13mm)	\$ 6.99	\$ 2.00
Estes	Star Wars Ep.1 mini Naboo Royal S.Ship	\$ 9.99	\$ 2.00
Estes	Star Wars Ep. 1 mini R2D2 (13mm)	\$ 9.99	\$ 2.00
Estes	Little Joe II (13mm)	\$ 11.99	\$ 5.00

<b>Scott Meinhardt</b>			
<u>COMPANY NAME</u>	<u>ITEMS</u>	<u>RET. PRICE</u>	<u>STARTING BID</u>
Aerotech	Partially built 7 motor rocket Initiator (built)  2 broken rockets  another partially built one  3 green fiber glass tubes		
Aerotech	I161 reload (38mm)	\$ 24.25	
Aerotech/Dr. R.(?)	180-240 29mm reload set	\$ 50.37	
Aerotech	H35 single use (29mm) (LEUP required)	\$ 20.00	
Aerotech	H242 reloads (2X)(38mm)  100 foot roll of thermalite (LEUP required)  igniters	\$ 15.00	
Robby Rockets	Robby's LES  2 kites		
Aerotech	F25 single use (7X) (29mm)	\$ 12.95	
Aerotech	G64 reloads (3X) (29mm)  large ammo box  small ammo boxes (2X)  bunch of misc. rocket parts  3" cardboard tubes (15X)  misc. electrical test gear	\$ 14.95	

## CLUB OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

Bruce Lee  
(402) 691-8420  
Email: bruce.lee@tripoli.org

### VICE PRESIDENT

Arley Davis  
(402) 346-7566  
Email: arleydavis@uswest.net

### TREASURER

Larry Drake  
(402) 895-1583  
Email: LarryDrake@tconl.com

### SECRETARY

Richard Burney  
(402) 269-3716  
Email: rcburney1@yahoo.com

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Richard Burney

### TRIPOLI NEBRASKA PREFECT

Mark Uhlenkamp (Iowa)  
(712) 663-4521  
Email: marku@netins.net

### NAR SECTION 562 Leader

Arley Davis

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 La Vista 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: \_\_\_\_\_