



# TRIPOLI CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

# Central Valley Rocket News

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Ross Ohmen's PML Ariel  
takes flight on an I 161W



# April 21, 2007

In the last warm-up to Dairy Aire at the Maddox Dairy launch site, there were 22 flyers with a total of 54 flights and 59 motors burned.

There were 5 A's, 4 B's, 4 C's, 7 D's, 3 E's, 4 F's, 10 G's, 5 H's, 8 I's, 8 J's, and 1 K.

The day's only Level 1 certification flight was Danny Jack with his 61" tall, black and silver Mini BBX on an H128W. The 2 ½ lb rocket made good and a great flight garnered Danny his L1. Congratulations!



Danny Jack prior to his L1 flight

Marco Rose had a good flight for his Level 2 Certification with his 8' black and red Black Brandt X powered by a long burning J180T. Congratulations Marco!



Marco Rose's Black Brandt X L2 flight.

Jim Norton was Big Dog of the day with his white 5.5" diameter Nike Smoke. Roaring skyward on a K550W for a great flight the recovery was handled by a Perfect Flite altimeter. Jim also flew his Flis Kits Deuces Wild on a pair of C6's, a

Quest Two-Stager with a B6 in the booster and B6 in the sustainer as well. Jim rounded out his day of flying with an Aerotech Initiator on a G71R.



Jim Norton's Nike Smoke lifts off for a great flight.

Ross Ohmen of Union City was real busy burning motors as he ripped off a total of 13 flights in 13 different rockets. His 2-stage Lightning flew on D12's in booster and sustainer and his Double-X-Ray boosted on a B6 to an A8 sustainer. Ross's scratch 20" Nike Smoke flew on a C6, his 20" D-Dart on an E28, his Glow Worm flew on an E9 with a MAWD on board, a purple Screaming Mimi powered by an F39 and his purple Ranger went up on an F62. On the smaller end was a Mini-V2 on an A10-3, and his Mace and Orange Bullet both flew on ½ A3's. At the High Power pads Ross flew a green PML Io with a G77, a PML Ariel on an I161 with motor ejection and his khaki green 70" Honest John on an I300. WOW!



Ross Ohmen's Honest John.

Vito Orlandella repaired his upscaled Astron Cobra from last month's clustered launch and stuffed a J570 in it for a great flight. He also flew his Spare Parts Aero Bee 300 on a J350W and his little blue

Weasel on an H180! The Weasel is just 1 ½ " in diameter and just flat disappeared! Vito luckily spotted it out in a field just as he was driving out to go home!



Vito's Cobra and "Spare Parts" lift off.



Dave Cummings of San Jose got in 2 flights. One was his Aerotech Arreaux powered by an F24-7W. The other was the first flight of his 6' BSD Apache, using an MC2 for deployment and motor ejection as a back-up, and powered by an I284W.



Dave Cummings' Apache



Visalia's Ben Sandoval got in 2 flights with his 28" blue (w/ red flames) October Skies commemorative Gordon rocket. The first flight was using an H97 and the second a G77R. Ben also likes to really hammer his 59" gold and black Lost and Found rocket like he did this time with an H400 V-Max motor. It keeps coming back for more!



Ben Sandoval with his Gordon rocket.

Cliff Sojourner got in 5 trips to the pads starting off with his black and yellow, 4" Goblin with a J275W and sporting a Big Bee tracker. Cliff next launched a Polecat Raven on an I284W for a roaring flight. His red Dairy Aire Special - Lil Diter, equipped with "red-neck dual deployment", wasn't so fortunate as it came apart in flight under the influence of an H148. Cliff also got in a flight with his PML MR1 with a G64 before finishing the day with a nice 2-staged Apogee Rip Roar powered by D12's in both stages.



Cliff Sojourner's Goblin.

Fresno's own Merle Heggen ripped a nice hole in the blue with his little orange and black, 21" by 3" Polecat Goblin on a J350W and motor ejection. An onboard PerfectFlite Alt 15 recorded 4211 feet for the 3 lb rocket.



Merle Heggen's Goblin



No doubt prepping for the Dairy Aire V2 extravaganza, Erik Gilling of Oakland flew his big white 7 ½ inch diameter, 15+ lb. Polecat V2 on a J460T with an ARTS unit in the electronics bay.



Erik Gilling's V2



Newark's Chris Cabrales' sleek looking black, 6 foot Stealth was sponsored by Omega High Power and took to the sky on a J350W for a good flight.



Chris Cabrales' Stealth

Moshen Chan of San Francisco flew his black and white Level 2 rocket, Little 2 Ballistic, powered by a J135. Dual deployment recovery was handled by an ARTS flight computer.



Moshen Chan's Little 2 Ballistic



Kevin McGrath got in 4 flights over the course of the day. His 30" Edmunds EC Thunder boost-glider soared the dairy air once on a D12 and once on an E9. This glider is a beautiful sight as it floats effortlessly back to earth.



Kevin McGrath's boost glider.

Kevin's custom built grey SAAB R-05A roared into the air on an I300T for a quick jump off the pad and his 50" PML Ariel flew on an I154J with a GWIZ MC deploying the mains only.



Kerman's Rick Miller had a single flight with his red and green Skipper powered by a G33.



Rick Miller's Skipper

Mike Munneke also made a single flight with his black and yellow LOC Minnie Magg motivated by a Cesaroni I350 Smokey Sam for a cool flight. You gotta love those short stubby rockets!



Mike Munneke's Minnie Magg

Fresno's Charlie Puckett had 2 great flights of his blue LOC Aura on a G104T and G77R.



Charlie Puckett's Aura

Rob Stratton had 2 successful first flights with his orange and flamed Goblin motivated by 2 G185's.



Rob Stratton prepping his Goblin

Ed Vonderbeck amazed the crowd with his long rod-bending Estes Mean Machine. Starting out with the typical D12 for this rocket, he kept stepping it up with an F12 and finally ended with a G37. All great flights!



Ed Vonderbeck's Mean Machine

Also at the Estes pads were Brett Davis with his silver and red Fire Hawk taking to the sky on an A10, Tranquility's Matt Cantu launching his Chrome Dome on B6 and C6 motors and Glessner Roberson's custom 36" orange and black NO Name rocket had its first flight on a D12-5.

For one of the last flights of the day Tim McVey of Livermore flew a California Kid rocket kit by Binder Design, powered by a hybrid Hypertek I205. It lit on the first try for a great flight!!

# Tripoli Central California



Tim McVey & Chris Cabrales with Tim's California Kid

As of this LATE writing, Dairy Aire 2007 is a thing of the past so you all know that great weather, food and music punctuated this great yearly launch. The Dairy Aire newsletter is a work in progress, so let me end by reminding you all that the "next" launch is scheduled for Saturday, June 16th and the July launch is cancelled due to the date conflict with LDRS in Jean, Nevada.

Gary Walker - CVRN Editor

*All photos by Gary Walker except where noted.*



Tripoli Central California is a chapter of the Tripoli Rocketry Association, an international organization dedicated to high-power rocketry and governed by safety rules promulgated by state and federal agencies. Founded in the mid-1990's, Tripoli Central California welcomes new members. Annual dues are currently suspended. For more information, call one of our officers, call our club hotline and see our web-site at ...

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