

MDRA General Members Meeting
Knights of Columbus
College Park, Maryland
July 15, 2010

Attendees

President - Bob Utley
Vice President - Neil McGilvray
Treasurer - Kathy Gilliland
BOD - Mike Tyson
Members - Jade Kukula
Shepherd Stein
David Chance

The meeting came to order at 07:37 PM.

Old Business

The meeting was held in the back corner of the bar due to the other rooms being too hot because of no air conditioning.

Those in attendance enjoyed a video of Jade's successful Level 1 Certification during ESL 145. Also, copies of the Discovery LDRS 29 video that aired on the Science Channel on July 5, 2010 were passed out to members who have not seen the episode.

It is believed that the tapping of the launch pads made a big difference. ESL 146 will be the final test. No patching of the away cell tower has occurred yet as the mouse refused to vacate the premises. MDRA should purchase or borrow a shopvac to clean the storage compartments of the away cell tower after the mouse is evicted. Shepherd Stein did a great job mounting the MDRA letters on the away cell tower at the sod farm and it looks great.

ESL 145 Report was provided. It was noted that if a rocket goes into the trees and becomes inaccessible, it will cost 300.00 dollars for the tree removal service to retrieve it. Also, if the rocket lands off the range on an adjacent landowner's property, and that landowner wants the rocket removed, the rocket owner must be reimbursed MDRA the 300.00 dollar retrieval fee before receiving their rocket. This is considered the cost of doing business and keeping the surrounding landowner's happy. The recovery zone boundaries are documented on the MDRA webpage under the various launch site locations.

All paid donations were disbursed to the Darren Leonard/Caring Bridges fund. MDRA thanks all who contributed.

Dave Olson is updating the MDRA website to include donations to the Maryland Koman Flight for the Cure that MDRA will collect during Red Glare IX. Other fund raising options in considerations include wrist bands, stickers, and toys to help promote this event for MDRA. All members are encouraged to share any ideas to improve reaching out to fellow members, families, friends, and co-workers during MDRA charity drives.

Dave Olson is also creating new web pages to show that latest status of Steve's and Vern's Saturn 1B projects. Both builds have been completed. Steve is working on the electronics and Vern is completing the painting and decaling. Steve's was on display at a weekend auto show over the July 4th weekend.

The field property boundaries/recovery zones were updated. The boundary demarcations were changed from green to white to provide better contrast when members print in black and white. The recovery zone boundaries were posted on the MDRA webpage under the various launch site locations.

Bob and Dave Olson will confer on the status of fall elections.

All other issues were closed out.

New Business

There was much discussion of what improvements or if any changes were necessary to the Mach Madness contest but in the end it was agreed to divide Mach Madness into Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 classes. Also, if enough prizes are available, then maybe further divide Mach Madness into motor classes such as H, I, J, K, and so on. More than likely not all class of motors will be used during Mach Madness. Also, the entry cost will be reduced from 10.00 dollars to 5.00 dollars. Prizes will be awarded twice a year, from Red Glare to Red Glare so each Red Glare will hold a new Mach Madness challenge. The intent is to encourage as many flyers to participate as possible and reward them for their successes.

Members in attendance expressed their thoughts on the LDRS show that aired on the Science Channel on July 5, 2010. All members but one saw the show. Four members liked it and one did not. Most agreed it was not what the rocket flying community is about but understood that ratings dictate that it appeal to the masses which is necessary to allow future continuation of filming the various rocket launches.

The meeting concluded around 09:00 PM. It was very noisy in the corner and hard to hear with the games and TVs distracting the members during the meeting. It was noted that better accommodations need to be made for future meetings at the Knights of Columbus.

All members and future members are welcome at the MDRA General meetings. The next MDRA meeting is scheduled for August 19, 2010. The schedule is available and is posted on the MDRA website at <http://www.mdrocketry.org/membership/meetings/meetings.html> Come and enjoy a drink and discuss all things rocketry with fellow and future MDRA members.

Special thanks goes to Bob Utley for taking the meeting notes during the club secretary's absence.