

MDRA General Members Meeting  
Knights of Columbus  
College Park, Maryland  
October 14, 2010

**Attendees**

President - Bob Utley  
Vice President - Neil McGilvray  
Treasurer - Kathy Gilliland  
Secretary - Peter E. Abresch Jr.  
BOD - Bill Cann  
- Mike Tyson  
Members - Troy Stanton  
David Chance  
Shepherd Stein  
Fred Wallace  
Cindi Wallace  
Dave Weber  
Jill Weber  
Stephen Harper  
Momoko Harper

The meeting came to order at 07:20 PM.

Round table introductions were made by everybody to new members Stephen and Moroko.

**Old Business**

There were no RSO or safety issues from last launch. No rockets drifted into the trees. Neil's truck was hit with a small rocket under chute with no damage and Fred's truck was almost hit by a larger rocket.

The new pad numbers for Red Glare IX were ordered and will be picked up this week. There are plenty rods of various sizes up to ½ inch and rails. The B rack will have ¼, 3/8, or ½ inch rods as well as 1-inch McMaster Carr T-Slot Rails known as 1000, 1010, or small rails. The C-Rack will also have some 1-inch McMaster Carr T-Slot Rails known as 1000, 1010, or small rails supplemented with 1.5-inch McMaster Carr T-Slot Rails known as 1500, 1550, or big rails. Flyers are always encouraged to use rails rather than rods.

Neil informed MDRA that the local press was notified including TV stations and newspapers, concerning MDRA's Maryland Koman Flight for the Cure. There are various

fundraisers in progress including wrist bands, stickers, and contests/raffles. Members should expect an email shortly that details the various fundraising events.

Pre-Orders for Red Glare IX were closed on Monday, October 11, 2010. Curt Newport will be autographing his book, *Lost Spacecraft - The Search for Liberty Bell 7*. For those that did not preorder the book, there might still be a limited number available at the launch. Dave W. will coordinate the pink motor drag race. Pink motors can be ordered from Wildman. There are still some drag race slots open. Red Glare IX parking and field boundaries will be marked at Higgs Farm on Saturday, October 16, 2010. Anyone wishing to help is welcomed. Red Glare IX field setup at Higgs Farm is schedule for Thursday, October 21, 2010, starting around 10:00 AM until completion.

Most of the crops at Higgs Field are harvested, including the surrounding corn. Soy Beans will be harvested the week of Red Glare IX, weather permitting. RSO coverage is completed. Bob reiterated that all RSOs must be current paid MDRA members. Additional RSO help will be needed during the busy times between 11:00 AM - 03:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday. As always, all members are encouraged to assist with whatever whenever they can. Fred W. informed MDRA that there will be at least five Level 3 Certifications attempts during Red Glare IX. Boy Scouts will be conducting parking during Red Glare IX. Parking will be slightly different. Spectators will be asked to park in a different area than the flyers. Poles will be setup so that parking is a little tighter for the flyers. The Red Glare contests will be operating including Mach Madness, Predict Your Own Altitude, 2000-Foot Contest, and 1-Mile Contest. Peter will run the contests. Prizes for the contests are still undetermined. Both Steve's and Vern's 1/10 scale Saturn 1B will be on display during Red Glare IX. Spectator turnout for Red Glare IX is expected to be higher than normal due to the Maryland Koman Flight for the Cure events. There are plenty of Red Glare IX banquet tickets available so order yours now.

Members are reminded to heed the Field Property Boundaries at Higgs Farm. Some poles with yellow tape will demark the property boundaries. Please see a MDRA BOD member if a rocket lands outside of these boundaries. These boundaries might be further restricted at Higgs Farm during Red Glare IX depending on the crops. The Higgs Farm property

boundaries will be posted to MDRA's website at <http://www.mdrocketry.org/Launches/HiggsFarm.html> soon.

There was a question whether the Radio Tracking Frequency link for members to record their frequencies was posted on the MDRA website yet. No link could be found. Once posted, it will be members' responsibility to record their frequencies. MDRA will not enforce or monitor members Radio Tracking Frequencies or conflicts. Members are encouraged to test their tracking frequency using their receiver before turning on or enabling their transmitter. If all members conducted this simple test and honored in-use frequencies, there should never be any conflicts.

The Pennsylvania College mentor requirements changed. It is unclear exactly what the requirements are. Bob will handle this.

No news on the MDRA logo signs.

There will be a link from MDRA's website coming soon that will link to Rockets Magazine Project Data Sheet. If anyone wants to see their rocketry project considered to be featured in Rockets Magazine, please complete this form and email. Until the link is posted to MDRA, the Project Data Sheet can be downloaded here:

<http://www.libertylaunchsystems.com/documents/ROCKETS-Project-Data-Sheet.doc>

The development of the field layout and the Google tour for the Higgs Farm Front Field will continue and is in progress.

All previous business was closed out.

### **New Business**

Future launch dates other than Red Glare IX have not been set for Higgs Farm. These dates are expected to be announced during Red Glare IX.

There was no other new business.

There was a round table for those in attendance to give an update or ask a question which was followed by the new Balls video teaser and some video of Curt's and Jeff's 72,000 foot flight at Balls.

The meeting concluded around 08:20 PM.

All members and future members are welcome at the MDRA General meetings. The next MDRA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 18, 2010. The schedule is available and posted on the MDRA website at <http://www.mdrocketry.org/membership/meetings/meetings.html> Come and enjoy a drink and discusses all things rocketry with fellow and future MDRA members.