

**TRIPOLI** CENTRAL CALIFORNIA  
*Central Valley Rocket News*

Serving the Central Valley Chapter of the Tripoli Rocketry Association – September 2006



*August  
Launch  
Report*

**Andy Woerner's BIG Mosquito lifts off on an M1315.**

# OCTOBER SKIES



OCTOBER 13,14,15, 2006

HOW THE WEST IS DONE

TRIPOLI CENTRAL CAL  
MADDOX DAIRY  
RIVERSDALE, CA

*Artistry courtesy of...*

*Rod Lovley & Alpha Graphics*

August 20, 2006

August 20th was a great day for flying rockets. The high temperature was in the 90's and the flight line was set in a green field of short alfalfa. Ideal.

It was a slow day though as 15 flyers got 34 flights off the ground. The motor breakdown was as follows...

1 A, 2 B's, 6 C's, 1 D, 3 F's, 1 G, 13 H's, 6 I's, 2 J's, 1 K, and 1 M.

Fresno's Kyley Heggen started things off with her LOC Onyx, dubbed *Bio-Hazard*, for a good flight on an F42-8T. It flew so well she repeated the combo later in the day for a second flight.



The Heggen Family and Kyley's Bio-Hazard

Merle Heggen also made a pair of flights with his 5.5 inch diameter red, custom *Stumpy*, once on an I357T and also on an I600. Wow!



Kyley's Bio-Hazard and Merle's Stumpy

Ben Sandoval, of Visalia, crammed an H180 into his slightly glassed *Big Daddy* for a screamer of a flight and followed up with an H238T in his LOC October Skies *Gordon Rocket*. He also flew his *Lost & Found* rocket with a long-burn H45 motors provided by Larry at Mojave H.P. AND made a demo flight for Andy Woerner flying a new Polecat *Army Hawk* kit on one of the new H565 motors.



Ben readies his Big Daddy

TCC's own equipment guru Jim Abrames' launched his LOC *Taz Attack* on a J350.



Jim Abrames' TAZ ATTACK

Santa Clara's Dave Flynn tested out a new "Motor Topper" electronics board in his stubby lookin' 3 foot tall *Big Bertha's Uncle Ed*. It was powered by an H123 for this test flight and used motor ejection

as a backup. The flight went well and the electronics worked as planned. Look for this unit on the vendor racks soon! More info can be found at... [DMF-ROCKETS.com](http://DMF-ROCKETS.com)



scheme for a test flight. The motor was an M1315!! Andy was predicting that the somewhat flexible fins would likely shred about 4 seconds into the burn from flutter. The man does know his rockets! The liftoff was a beautiful launch rising on a long column of white smoke, and yes, about 4 seconds in, 2 fins ripped away and the BIG Mosquito buzzed around the sky briefly before deploying the chute. While the fins did break, the bond to the airframe was sound. Maybe some 1/2" G10 next time Andy ;-)



Bill Puckett made 3 flights with his black and purple Sarah II, twice on H165R's and once on an H242T. All deployments were handled by a Perfect Flight altimeter.



Andy's new 10" POLECAT Mosquito - Jim Norton Photos

Andy Woerner strutted out a 10 inch diameter Polecat *Mosquito* with a bright red and yellow paint

Matt Cantu of Tranquility launched his *NASA Express*, including twin gliders, on a C6-5, his *Thunderbolt* on a D12-5, *Chrome Dome* on a C6-5, and *Firestreak SST* on an A10-3T.



Matthew Cantu's NASA Express with gliders.

Rick Miller launched his freshly built red and white LOC Dairy Aire 2006 commemorative kit on a G77R and an H220, both great flights.



Fresno's photographer/frequent-flyer Jim Norton made 5 flights. He flew a Sunward Pyramid kit on a C11, a FlisKits Praetor on a B6, his LOC October Skies kit on an F40, a BSD 38 Special on an I218, and his Mini Magg on an I212.



Jim Norton's BSD 38 Special

Mark Jackson made 2 good flights for the day. His blue PML Eclipse was powered by a J315R and his green Sudden Rush by an I284W. Both sported PML Co-Pilot electronics for dual deployment recovery.



Mark Jackson's Eclipse and Sudden Rush  
Photos by Gary Walker(Left) and Jim Norton(Right)

Fresno's Michael White kept the Estes pads humming throughout the day flying his Bullpup 12D on a C6, a Baby Bertha on a B6, his Stormcaster on a C11 and a Patriot on a C6.

TCC Prez. Jack Garibaldi flew a 24" tall Tango Papa Mars Lander for a cool flight on a smokey I212, right off the ground. The parachute seemed to hang up and the Lander came in hard.



Jack Garibaldi's Mars Lander

Hope to see you all out at the September launch!  
~GW

## Tripoli Central California

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, check out our club hotline at 559-447-5888, or see our web-site at ...

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All Photos by Jim Norton & Gary Walker



Mars Lander before, and after - Jim Norton Photos

Shawn Stephens flew a cluster of 2 H180's in an ER Systems kit for a good test flight.



Shawn Stephens cluster flight - Jim Norton Photos

San Jose's Gary Dwyer teamed up with Larry Frieson of Mojave Desert High Power to fly Gary's 92 inch custom *Phoenix* on a central K695 Redline and 2 H97's. Electronics was an Adept ALTS2.



Gary Dwyer's Phoenix lifts off on a K695 - Jim Norton Photo

Only one more month until OCTOBER SKIES!!!





Jim Norton Photos





**Gary Walker  
Photos**

