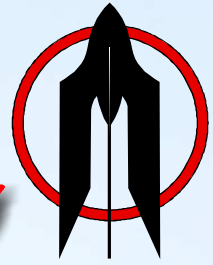


TRIPOLI GERLACH

Research Rocketry



NOVEMBER, 2011

TRIPOLI PREFECTURE # 138

Vol 01 No 06



WWW.TRIPOLIGERLACH.ORG

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November 2011

Vol. 01 No. 06

**PUBLISHED EXCLUSIVELY FOR
THE MEMBERS OF TRIPOLI GERLACH**
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Tripoli Gerlach was founded as a National Prefecture under the Tripoli Rocketry Association, Inc. Devoted to Research Rocketry and the Black Rock Desert area of Nevada, we welcome all qualified Tripoli Members having a Level 2 certification or higher.

Our Executive Officers are;

Tom Blazanin (003)
Prefect
Valencia, PA
shadow@pghmail.com

Dave Rose (7126)
Treasurer
N. Huntingdon, PA
drose191@comcast.net

Deb Koloms (9021)
Secretary
Watertown, NY
rktdoc@twcnv.rr.com

If you have anything to contribute in the way of information, articles, photos or whatever, please send them to Tripoli Gerlach Headquarters. Visit our WebSite on-line at;

WWW.TRIPOLIGERLACH.ORG

ON THE COVER

Nearly everyone except Ken Good loads Ken Good's DRAKE II onto the pad. The DRAKE II, an internally staged single airframe rocket failed to ignite the second motor for the second year in a row! - He'll be back next year!

Over the BALLS 20 event in Black Rock we picked up several new members, two of which live overseas and are regular visitors to the Gerlach, Nevada area. New members listed here in alphabetical order :

Cathrine Bashford (8616)
Huntingdon, Cambs, UK:
tripoli.gerlach@bfo.org.uk

Brandy Bruce-Sharp (1312)
Mesa, AZ
azbrandy@cox.net

Mark Canepa (5918)
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Bob Utley (6103)
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Dave Wilkins (6593)
Carlton, Victoria, AU
dwilkins@aat.com.au

This now brings our membership to 31, which is a pretty good growth since our inception still less than a year ago.

More info may be found on these new members along with a complete listing of Tripoli Gerlach Members on our WebSite at:

WWW.TRIPOLIGERLACH.ORG

If you think you are a Tripoli Level 2 or higher and would be interested in joining Tripoli Gerlach, please download a Membership Application from our web site, fill it out and send it to our Treasurer. If you're into Research Rocketry and love Black Rock you may find us just what you need!

IMPORTANT UPDATES

Of most important interest at the First Annual Member's Meeting of Tripoli Gerlach was the radification of the By-Laws. Until this time we had a By-Laws in progress. At the meeting the By-Laws and changes and/or suggestions from the membership was accepted by all attending and are now placed as our working By-Laws.

The second most important item set at the meeting was our dues. Until this time they were set at \$20 per year and the second year was pro-rated based on what month you joined the first time.

This has been changed to match our fiscal year of January 1st to December 31st. ALL full \$20 dues are due January 1st, no matter what time of year you originally joined. Notice for renewals will be sent out to all members in mid November.

If you wish to renew now please download an Application from our web site, fill it out and send it in with your \$20 for 2012.

A reminder of dues renewal shall be mailed to all members in mid November. Please respond.

NEW YORK LDRS

LDRS 21 will be held at the Potters Farm Launch Site near New York's Finger Lakes area. The same site as the last New York LDRS. The dates are July 12 thru 16 with the 15th & 16th as Research Days.

Members agreed to set up and represent Tripoli Gerlach as a unified group. To this end we would like to know who plans to attend. We are attempting to acquire a substantial front line area to contain all Tripoli Gerlach members and represent their home prefectures as well.

Please contact Tom Blazanin with your intentions and we will begin a logistics outline to make sure we have bases covered to give Tripoli Gerlach a great image.

MERCHANDISE

At BALLS this year we had several members ask if we had Tripoli Gerlach T-Shirts and stuff available. We only sell our Prefecture Merchandise through our WebSite.



In addition to our Prefecture T-Shirts and Sweat Shirts, available in Sand or Chocolate and any size desired, we now have standard Ceramic Mugs, Thermos Mugs and License Plates. and more.

Remember the only place to get this stuff is on our WebSite,so for those of you who asked now is the time to visit.



Looking For TRIPOLI Apparel & Merchandise
VISIT

THE TRIPOLI STORE

Shirts • Jackets • Hats • Mugs
Clocks • Logos • License Plates & More



VISIT US ON-LINE
www.thetripolistore.com

WWW.TRIPOLIGERLACH.ORG

TRIPOLI GERLACH MEMBER'S MEETING 2011



The first Annual Meeting of Tripoli Gerlach occurred on September 30, 2011 at 7:30pm in the WayBack Room of Bruno's Country Club in Gerlach, Nevada.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Blazanin: Prefect, Deb Koloms: Secretary, Dave Rose: Treasurer, Ken Good, Paul Holmes, Robin Meredith, Mark Clark, Brandy Bruce-Sharp, Francis Graham, Bill Good, Mike Leenellett, Dave Wilkins, Chris Pearson, Craig Brewer, Bruce Kelly, Gary Dickinson, Jerry McKinlay, Larry Benek, Les Derkovitz, Oliver Schubert.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jim Callahan, Dave Cooper, Ron Frieheit, Doug Gerrard, Rich Hagensick, Andy Limper, George Pike, Christine Rial, Mark Canepa, Bob Utley.

FINANCES

Dave Rose presented a Treasurer's Report stating that with new memberships acquired at the BALLS 20 launch we held \$655.00 in the treasury, a lot of which will be paying for the Member's Spaghetti Dinner.

Dues were discussed and the attending members voted to set the annual dues of \$20 a year to be due January 1st of every year. New member's joining through the year will be required to renew January 1st following their initial membership. If a person wishes to join in the later times of the year, this requirement will be made known to them and if they wish to join they will still be required to renew the by the 1st on the year.

BYLAWS

Tripoli Gerlach By Laws were ratified and made official after a review of possible changes as submitted member previous to the meeting. Most important, other than the Dues schedule was the redefining of the Vice Prefect position. Tripoli Gerlach will have an executive committee consisting of a Prefect to lead the group, a Secretary (replacing the Vice Prefect position), and a Treasurer.

ELECTIONS

The floor was then opened for nominations and elections of an Executive Committee for 2012. In rapid-fire sequence the current officers were elected placing Tom Blazanin as Prefect, Deb Koloms as Secretary and Dave Rose as Treasurer.

STORAGE

A storage place in Gerlach was reviewed for the purpose of storing equipment in town and reduce carrying equipment back and forth to Black Rock. Gerlach resident Chuck Duffy offered some limited space in his barn. It is hoped this space can be expanded but time will tell.

HAMSTER DANCE

The 1st Annual HAMSTER DANCE was discussed. While the launch itself was never intended to be a large event it did prove itself to be fun. It was agreed to hold HAMSTER DANCE II in 2012 on the Thursday before BALLS. Location will be at Area 52 behind Black Rock Point. Same rules will apply.

LDRS 32

The entire attending membership voted yes to pursuing host of an LDRS at Black Rock. The date agreed upon will be mid July 2012. An LDRS Committee will be formed to organize and conduct the event. Two areas will be set: The range and everything no the range. APHRA members volunteer to oversee Range Activities, which will not be run as a BALLS type launch. A "standard" LDRS type range will be in operation.

It was agreed, by all attending, to set the Host Hotel in Fernley. The Annual Banquet will also be at the Host Hotel in Fernley. The LDRS committee will be house at the ever-popular Bruno's. A shuttle will carry LDRS personnel to Fernley the evening of the Member's Banquet and return the committee back to Gerlach afterwards. This way it will be no imposition to attendees, who will have to travel the 80 some mile each day to the Playa, which is no different than many past LDRS'

TRIPOLI GERLACH NEWS

The little informational on-line “TRIPOLI GERLACH NEWS” was discussed. All members seemed to like the idea and voted to its continuance.

GROUP PROJECT

A Tripoli Gerlach Group Project was discussed. A moderate two stage is available for launch at LDRS 31 in Potter New York. Ohio members said they would supply the K & four Js for the Sustainer and Deb Koloms will



HAMSTER DANCE was all it set out to be, a group of big people flying weenie rockets to the amusement of many. Only three of the 10 registered flyers found the launch site and about 14 spectators showed up to cheer and harass them on. It turned out to be a good time for all, especially the spectators.

Held at a remote site just east of the Black Rock playa, HAMSTER DANCE proved itself a success. Ten people registered but only three showed up. Later reports found some people could not find Area 67/8, while others registered but didn't take it serious!



The three flyers: Bill Good, Dave Rose and Larry Benek presented their entries to the RSO for inspection and approval, then out to the pads under hoots and hollers from the spectator section.

Larry Benek was first up with a beautiful Pad Cato

supply the 3" L for the booster. More will be forthcoming on this project.

It was agreed Tripoli Gerlach will present a showing at LDRS 31 in Potter, NY as a unified group.

NEXT MEETING

The 2nd Annual Members Meeting of Tripoli Gerlach will be held Friday evening of BALLS 21 at Bruno's WayBack room.

causing the spectators to cheer with approval. Next up; the team of Bill Good and Gary Dickinson. They left the pad under strong thrust with a nice curving arc over the spectators and a ballistic landing not too far off Area 67/8. Their rocket sustainer was recovered!

Dave Rose was last. He had test fired his motor design the day before and it chuffed and sputtered before catching ignition to a strong burn. He was the odds on “loser to be” however, after a few chuffs he took skyward with a decent flight and full recovery. This made him the Alpha Hamster of 2011, and the only winner of a free Ravioli Dinner at Bruno's!



Motors flown were interesting and all passed inspection as being handmade. Larry Benek's Cirrus Dart blew up an I-323. The Good/Dickinson WildChild had a nice operation with an I-360. Dave Rose's scratch built Hexed flew great on an H-ish sort of motor.



All said and done HAMSTER DANCE was FUN. So much so that a vote of people attending and a vote at the Tripoli Gerlach Member's Meeting showed that there will be a HAMSTER DANCE II the Thursday of BALLS 21 in 2012. The location is already set for AREA 52 in the Black Rock desert. Plan to attend but don't bring a car, a truck will be minimum requirement to get there – and it will be worth the trip!



TREKKING BLACK ROCK 2011

Each year several members of Tripoli Gerlach arrive early for the BALLS event. They take this time to trek about the Black Rock Desert in search of unique places and activities.

2011 had our Trekking plans thrown out the window with the failed attempt to access the Needles area north of Pyramid Lake. We also lost our access to Fly Geyser because the owner scheduled some special guest for that weekend and ask us not to go.

The fact we blew two tires, both on Jungo Road, put a big damper on things as well. We did however enjoy some activities.

We searched for and found the old mining town of Leadville. Not really so much a town as an old mining site up in the hills west of Rt 34, north of Gerlach.



Dave Rose, Larry Benek, Deb Koloms and Tom Blazanin stand in the last remaining structure at Leadville.



Not much remains here with one building still standing and three collapsed flat. A partial trestle system still exists which carried ore cars out of the mine and dumped their loads on the hillside. The mine entrance is walled closed and collapsed from time while water works its way out and down a ravine.



The mine entrance has long been walled up. The hillside is sliding down and polluted water drains out. Below is a view of the mine area. The swamp area is from the mine drainage. In the center to the left of the roadway is the remains of the ore car trestle.



While not all members find this stuff interesting, a growing number have found exploring the isolated areas in and about Black Rock more interesting each year.

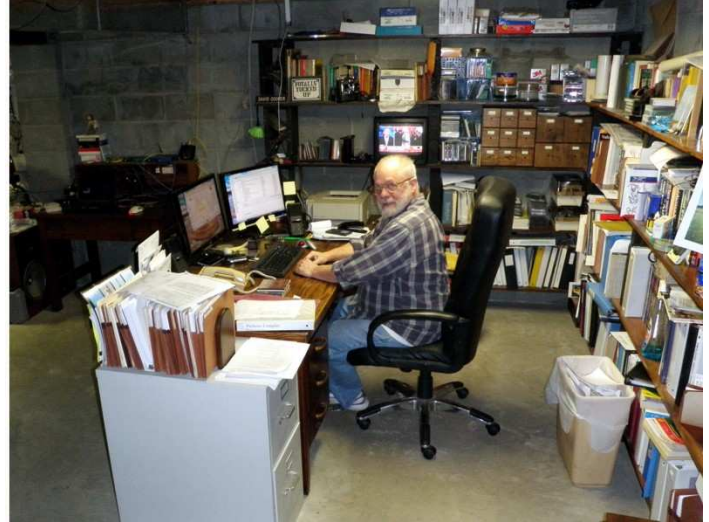
Watch for more info and join us in 2012!

LET'S VISIT DAVE COOPER

Dave "Coop" Cooper is relatively new to High Power Rocketry, compared to most of our members, but he has made giant leaps behind the scenes; some that benefit the entire High Power Rocketry Community.

Coop is a Software Programmer versed in several machine languages that would astound you. He designs and fabricates mini computers and devices directly applicable to rocketry use. He is responsible for the Control Computer which oversees Ken Good's internally staged DRAKE Rocket Series. He rewrote Oliver Schubert's NASSA TC LOGGER into a USB friendly system for Test Stand data collection and internal self contained propellant characterization.

Most import to all is he wrote RASAero, Chuck Roger's current Altitude Prediction Software. bringing Chuck's long time standard ALT4 program into modern Windows Compliance, with great improvements.



Dave Cooper at his Primary Work Station

Coop works out of his basement in Warren, Ohio. When he's not Programming he designs and fabricates electronic things. Thus is secondary work area is a collection of wires, diodes, jacks, circuit boards and soldering irons. Seems like he's always creating electronic solutions for everyone. He should go into business but he prefers to specialize in unique solutions.

At the far end of his basement he has an area for building things. Current "thing project" is a portable Launch Tower for his future altitude attempt rockets.

Last is his "Work Shop" with all the power tools he needs to make nearly anything that he's capable of - and he's capable of making just about anything.

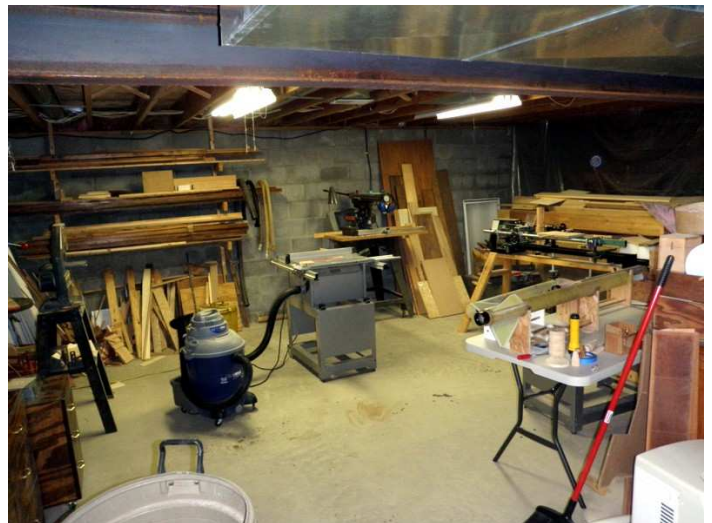
WWW.RASAERO.COM
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Coop's Electronics Work Shop with everything handy.



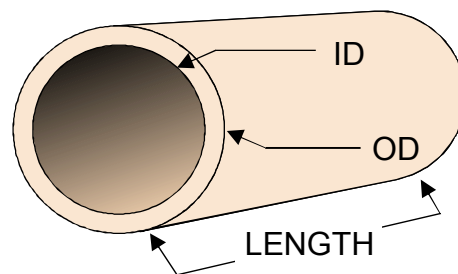
The Rocket Building Area.



The "dirty" Shop Area where fabricating is done.

PIPE SPECIFICATIONS

Being as we are all involved in a hobby and endeavor directly associated with cylindrical structures in both rocket motors and rocket airframes, it seems appropriate to list a number specification we should be aware of when dealing with metal tubing (PIPE).



1. All pipe is to be made of a long hole, surrounded by metal or plastic, centered around the hole.

2. All pipe is to be hollow throughout the entire length - do not use holes of different length than the pipe.

3. The ID (Inside Diameter) of all pipe must not exceed their OD (Outside Diameter) - otherwise the hole will be on the outside.

4. Pipe is supplied with nothing in the hole, so that water, steam or other stuff can be put inside at a later date.

5. All pipe is to be supplied without rust; this can be more readily applied at the job site.

NOTE: Some vendors are now able to supply pre-rusted pipes. If available in your area, this product is recommended, as it will save a great deal of time at the job site.

6. All pipe over 500ft (150m) in length should have the words "LONG PIPE" clearly painted on each side and end, so the contractor will know it's a long pipe.

7. Pipe over 2 miles (3.2km) in length must also have the words "LONG PIPE" painted in the middle so the contractor will not have to walk the entire length of the pipe to determine whether it is a long or short pipe.

8. All pipe over 6ft (1.83m) in diameter must have the words "LARGE PIPE" painted on it, so a contractor won't mistake it for a small pipe.

9. If the pipe has a Flange, or Flanges, they must have holes for bolts, quite separate from the big hole in the middle.

10. When ordering 90 or 30 degree elbows, be sure to specify left-hand or right-hand, otherwise you will end up going the wrong way

11. Be sure to specify to your vendor whether you want level, uphill or downhill pipe. If you use downhill pipe for going uphill, the water will flow the wrong way.

12. All couplings should have either right-hand or left-hand threads, but do not mix the threads, otherwise, as the coupling is being screwed on to one pipe, it is being unscrewed from the other.

13. All pipes shorter than 1/8in (3mm) are very uneconomical in use, requiring many joints. They are generally known as washers.

14. Joints in pipes for water must be water tight. Those pipes for compressed air, however, need only be air tight.

15. Lengths of pipes may be welded or soldered together. This method is not recommended for concrete or earthenware pipes.

16. Other commodities are often confused with pipes. These include; Conduit, Hose, Tunnel, and Drain. Use only genuine Pipes.

The advertisement features a dark background with a stylized, glowing rocket or aircraft silhouette. The text is in a bright, cyan-colored font. At the top, it reads "Roger's Aeroscience RASAero Simulation Software". Below this, a smaller line of text states: "The RASAero aerodynamic prediction methods are the most accurate available for model, high power, and amateur rockets, and are of equivalent accuracy to professional engineering method aerodynamic analysis codes used for missiles, sounding rockets, and space launch vehicles. Best of all it's FREE!". At the bottom, the website address "WWW.RASAERO.COM" is displayed in a large, white, sans-serif font.

Roger's Aeroscience RASAero Simulation Software

The RASAero aerodynamic prediction methods are the most accurate available for model, high power, and amateur rockets, and are of equivalent accuracy to professional engineering method aerodynamic analysis codes used for missiles, sounding rockets, and space launch vehicles. Best of all it's FREE!

WWW.RASAERO.COM