

# SHROUDLINES

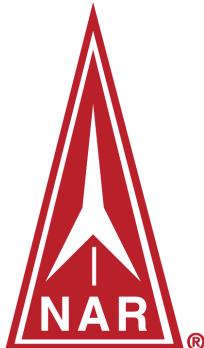
A Dallas Area Rocket Society Production



DARS  
NAR Section #308  
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2011

Volume 20, Issue 5

## Dallas Area Rocket Society ("DARS")



Member - National Association  
of Rocketry ("NAR").

### Special points of interest:

- "Ignition!"
- Gary Briggs runs down the latest DARS Fall Classic!
- Gary also give the results of the giveaways
- A collection of DARS Classic photos by Stuart Powley
- Do you want to be in print? Page 13 tells you how!



*The winners of the 2011 DARS Fall Classic! Well, actually, not ALL of the winners. Somehow I missed Marissa Collins. Sorry! Left to right we have; Frank Elias, Jack Groves, Daren Groves, Gary Briggs, Scott Cook, Greg Collins, Adam Amick. For a full list of the winners, see Gary's article!*

### Inside this issue:

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Well, here we are at the beginning of another great flying season in the D/FW area. The weather is now a much more kind to us, with cool temperatures, and even a smattering of rain to keep things nice and flame-proof. We have just had a great contest, and we have another one coming up!

The one we just had was, of course, the DARS Fall Classic VII. Gary once again did a great job of heading up this combination contest/ museum exhibit/ huge demo. He writes about it here and provides some great pictures to go along with it!

Speaking of pictures, I had tons of

them, so I threw in a few of my favorites here. I hope you enjoy them!

And now on to the next contest coming up. It is scheduled for December 10, 2011, and is called **The DARS Triple A Local**. The events are:

A Helicopter Duration  
A Parachute Duration  
A Super-Roc Duration

Three A's...get it? Anyway, it should be a lot of fun, so plan to come on out and join the festivities!

Now, just sit back and enjoy this issue of Shroudlines...then get ready to go out in this great weather and fly!!

## The DARS Fall Classic VII – The After Show

By Gary Briggs NAR 76909 L2 and Fall Classic Instigator

I wanted to change some things up for year 7. Not drastically, as the formula appears to be working with the increasing size of the crowds year after year, but something to maybe pull in a few more folks than standard. I usually start thinking about The Classic when my summer vacation to Michigan is over and it has gotten too hot in Texas to realistically think about being in the garage working on rockets. This year that happened by early July. I had some plans around what I wanted to build this year and had even acquired a kit or 2 in anticipation. But then something started calling to me from 1976. I never saw the Super Kits as a child, but discovered them awhile back when perusing the Centuri Memories site. I hadn't given it that much thought but then started looking around the Semroc site and seeing parts. The USS America got my attention since Carl now had virtually all the hard to find parts. Once I figured out I could get everything I needed I decided that I must build one for this year's Classic. The observant folks will notice that it showed up on the shirts, the web site, and the store sign, so I was obviously thinking about it a lot. That got me to thinking about a theme. It wasn't until much later that I realized that this year was Centuri's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its' founding, but despite that, I thought doing a Centuri themed event would be fun for

Classic number VII.

Flash forward through several months of planning, building, and finding sponsors, and we find ourselves at October 15, 2011. I got out early that morning as I had to take Josh to the school to catch a bus to an Orienteering meet. Then after a quick errand in Frisco, I landed on the field about 8:15 am. This year I had 4 of the 5 tables needed to set up with me, so after picking a suitable location and taking a few pictures with my new camera, I started set up. Soon afterward came Sam Barone with the launch equipment, and then Jack and Suzy, Greg Collins, Adam Amick and Stuart Powley. We knew that we had cub/boy scouts coming but not that they would be occupied early in the day with Alka Seltzer rockets. That relieved some of the pressure on set up. Set up was a snap with

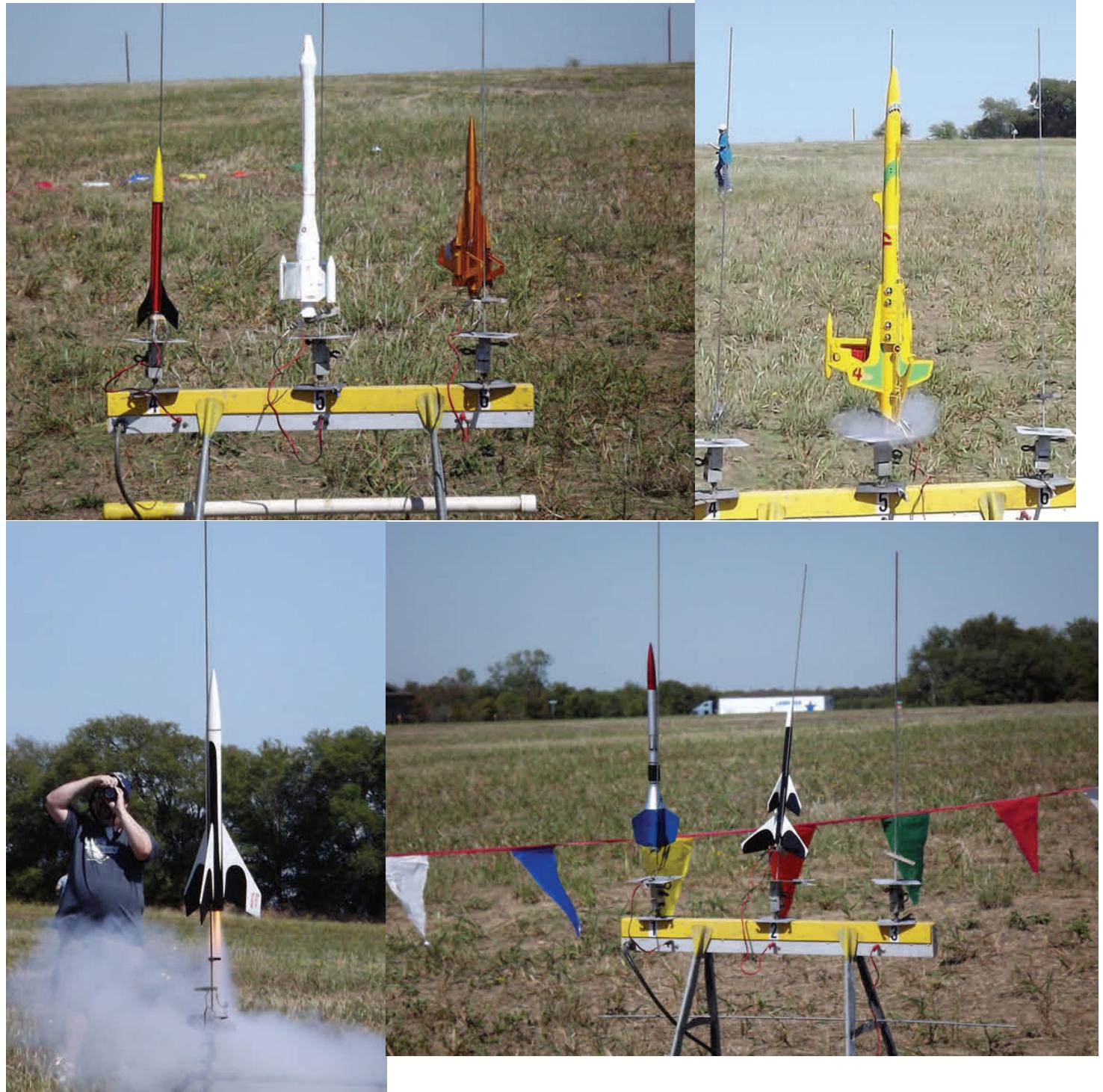
that many hands which pushed us into registering rockets for the event.

Jim Gassaway and his grandson Rome Garcia dropped by early to pick up the shirts they had ordered. Suzy Sprague had tipped me off that it was Rome's birthday and he was 7 years old just like the Classic. I got them their shirts and got their rockets registered after wishing Rome a Happy Birthday. Interestingly, Rome won the very first prize of the day in the kids drawing. At 1:00 pm we had the Centuri Salute, where we stopped the launch to do a feature with just Centuri designs. It included rockets from Sam Barone (a Black Widow and a Starfire), Stuart Powley (an upscale Vector V and a Skylab), Marissa Collins (Draconian Marauder), Gary Briggs (Upscale Black Widow), Greg Collins (1969 paint scheme Laser X), and a late entry by Andrew Conders with his original SSV Scorpion, aka the fiddly bits rocket. All rockets had nominal flights although the Marauder made a scale landing as if being shot down by Buck Rogers, but



*Figure 1: I got there early enough to try a panorama shot with the new camera. Makes the field look huge!*

ended up no worse for the wear. The Salute complemented a day full of great flights, with range as active as I have ever seen it in Frisco.



This year again, we had enough rockets to support drawings for the young rocketeers in attendance every hour starting at 11:00 am. We had kits donated by myself and James Turner, and Jack Sprague pulled out some vintage posters to add to the mix. In addition, there were kits donated by R/C Zone, Quest, and Red River Rocketry, plus a gift certificate from HobbyTown USA Dallas. Late in the day Billy James dropped by and threw in a Quest Falcon kit that we gave away as well. Marissa Collins had been patiently waiting to hear her name called throughout the day. Her sister Shay, had picked up a prize relatively early, but by the end of the day and the last drawing, nothing had happened yet for Marissa. Since kids need to be present to win, we emptied the box calling some names of cub scouts who had left for the day, and then we hit bottom, with no Marissa. I called her name anyway and she took home the Estes Solar Flare Launch Set from R/C Zone. A little later we found Marissa's entry in the ballot box rather than the kids drawing box. See the list below for all the prizes and winners.

Billy James came by in the afternoon to display some of his vintage rockets. Of special note was an early Centuri Aerobe Hi with a rubber nose cone and a parallel wound tube. He also had an early Estes Astron Apogee II, still loaded with the old motors and a solar igniter, held in place with Kleenex, as we used to do. He had some other museum pieces, but the other one that I will note had an origi-

nal 18mm motor mount that he had modified to use a hand rolled 21mm mount for FSI motors. It is always great seeing some old rockets and hearing the stories that went with them.



Figure 2 Aerobe Hi, Apogee II, and rocket with 21mm FSI mount.



Figure 3 You have to zoom in pretty tight to see the Kleenex, but it's there.

And then there was the competition...

In Classic Upscale, there was strong competition all day across the top 3 contestants. There were 10 rockets entered by 7 contestants in the category. I mistakenly noted on the field that I had tied with Greg Collins' Laser X for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, but that was just plain wrong. In actuality Greg Collins' Estes Phoenix AIM 54 A 4X upscale cleanly took home 3<sup>rd</sup> place and the Red River Rocketry Slip Stream that went with it. First and second were separated by one point, and both tallied flight points during the day. In the end, second place and the Quest Lil' Grunt went to Scott Cook's beautiful Starship Vega upscale (built in 3 weeks) and 1<sup>st</sup> place in the event went to a young competitor, Jack Groves, with his Estes Interceptor E. Jack took home a \$25 HobbyTown USA Dallas Gift certificate, and data for his science fair project to boot!

In Starship there were 13 rockets, entered by 9 contestants and the top 3 were separated significantly from the rest of the field. In 3<sup>rd</sup> place, taking home the Quest Super Bird was Frank Elias' original Bone Daddy design and scratch built, Orianthi. In second place, taking home a Sirius Rocketry Interrogator, was Gary Briggs' Centuri USS America. First place went to a familiar face and rocket, since it won last year's Classic Classic category. Adam Amick's original Estes Strike Fighter won



rules.... Adam took home a Red River Rocketry Predator for the victory.

The Classic Classic had 25 rockets this year across 15 participants. Centuri rockets ruled supreme in this category as the top 3 all took home bonus points for Centuri designs as well as flight points. 3<sup>rd</sup> place and a Quest Courier went to Daren Groves' excellent Centuri Hustler. First and second interestingly went to the same rocket design. Both were original kits from the late 70s/ early 80s but one was purchased back then and the other much more recently.

The 70s purchase was a Centuri Buck Rogers Draconian Marauder, entered by Marissa Collins (with a little help from Dad), which took home second place and the Red River Rocketry Stratos. The more recently purchased and freshly built (i.e. something about applying decals at 1:30 am the day of the event!) Marauder of Adam Amick, took first place and the Quest Aerospace One kit. It also took the Best in Show honors by a pretty wide margin, winning Adam an Aerotech Arreaux from HobbyTown USA in Plano.

the Starship category and has now been ruled out of competing in those categories again, not that anyone ever reads the



Figure 4 Orianthi, Strike Fighter, and the America on the far end

Congratulations to all the competitors and thank you for coming out and putting on a great show. I would also like to thank everyone who voted for their favorites and came out to take in the action. A big THANK YOU goes out to this year's sponsors including HobbyTown USA Plano, R/C Zone (kids drawings), HobbyTown USA Dallas, Red River Rocketry, Quest Aerospace and Sirius Rocketry. Their contributions make the event fun for all so please support them with your purchases. I personally want to thank many folks who helped out including Sam

Barone (web site and range), Jack and Suzy Sprague (tables and motors), Greg Collins (table and banner), Adam Amick (set up) and Stuart Powley (he helped me keep things together all day while battling a migraine).

Figure 5 Centuri Buck Rogers Draconian Marauder in flight.





*Figure 6: Prizes everywhere!  
The sponsors were most generous this year!*

Winners of the contestant drawings:

Contestant	Prize	Sponsor
Robert Vanover	\$10 Gift Certificate	HobbyTown USA Dallas
Chaz Russell	\$10 Gift Certificate	Sirius Rocketry
Marissa Collins	Decal Sheet	Sirius Rocketry
Bob Melton	Decal Sheet	Sirius Rocketry
Stuart Powley	Decal Sheet	Sirius Rocketry
Shay Collins	Decal Sheet	Sirius Rocketry

Kids' Drawings Winners:

Contestant	Prize	Sponsor
Rome Garcia	Semroc SAM-3	Gary Briggs
Maggie Hatton	\$10 Gift Certificate	HobbyTown USA Dallas
Gedeon Bring	Custom Rockets Freedom + Poster	James Turner and Jack Sprague
Owen Garner	Custom Rockets Tristar + Poster	James Turner and Jack Sprague
Calliope Bring	Custom Rockets Venture + Poster	James Turner and Jack Sprague
Caleb Hammons	Custom Rockets Game Over + Poster	James Turner and Jack Sprague
Alex Andrade	Bright Hawk	Quest Aerospace
Dean Hunt	Cobalt + Poster	Quest Aerospace + Jack Sprague
John Hunt	Estes Chrome Domes	R/C Zone
Shay Collins	Estes Star Stryker	R/C Zone
Hannah Newburn	Estes Ricochet	R/C Zone
Rachel Webb	Estes Sky Hawker	R/C Zone
Jack Groves	Zip + Poster	Red River Rocketry + Jack Sprague
Tristan Smith	Lil' Scout	Red River Rocketry
Marissa Collins	Solar Flare Launch Set + Poster	R/C Zone + Jack Sprague
Mathew Sherill	Quest Falcon	Bill James

As usual, I will end the article with an impassioned plea for your input. If you have ways to make the event better, please let me know your thoughts. So that wraps us up for another year. Hopefully everyone had fun and will be ready to do it again next year.



*Andrew Condens loads up his beautiful Centuri SSV Scorpion.*

*Powley Photo*

**DARS Classic VII Picture-Palooza!!!**

J. Stuart Powley NAR 29573

Ok, so I had quite a few pics of the event that I wanted to share, so here goes!

*Far right: A Centuri Sky Lab in flight!*

*Near Right: Sam Barone's Black Widow turned in a great flight! The first stage even glided!*

*Below: Gary mans the tables...*



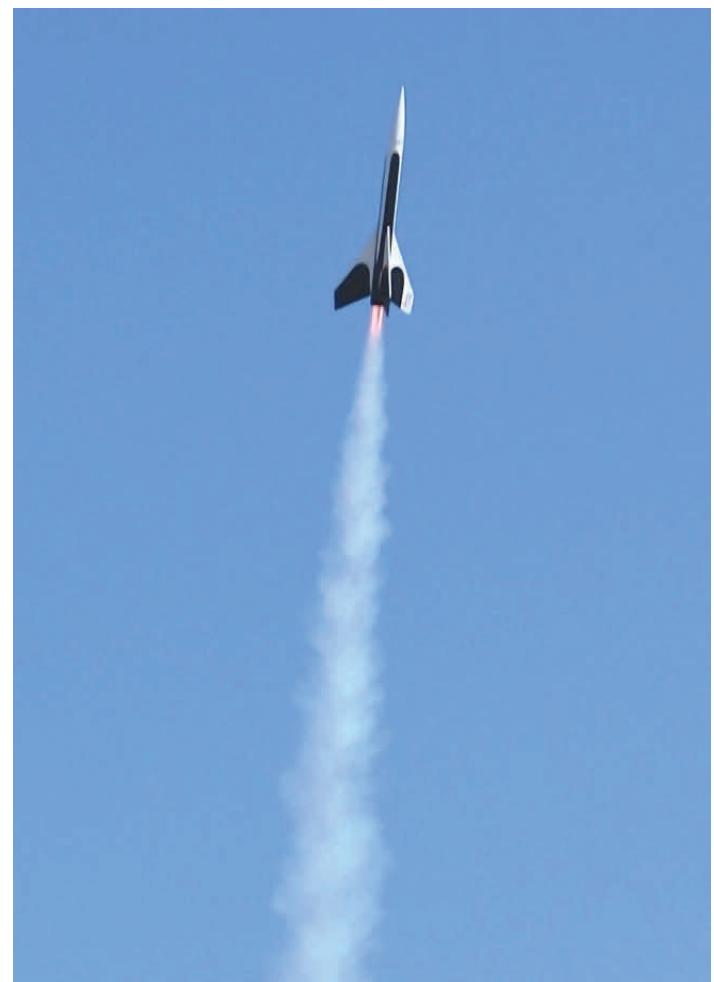


Above: The SSV Scorpion in the air!

Above, Right: A Semroc clone of the Centuri Defender takes flight on multiple motors.

Right: Gary shows off one of the cool posters that Jack Sprague donated for the give aways





*Above, Right: Doug Sams' really cool retro FSI bird takes flight.*

*Above: If you didn't know better you might think this was Sam's Black Widow. The multiple flames give it away as Gary's upscale!*

*Left: Now here's something you don't see every day! Two Interceptors (one, an upscale) in a drag race!*



Above, Left: An upscale Estes Scamp rips into the sky!

Above: Scott Cook's upscale Vega looks as good in the air as it does on the ground!

Left: Scott Cook shows off his....unique side....



## How to Contribute to Shroudlines

And now for the “last page begging part” of our publication. As I have made clear in the past, without you, we have no newsletter. We all have differing interests and areas of expertise, and that is exactly what this newsletter needs!

Once again, I’d like to thank all of those who have contributed material so far. You are very much appreciated! Still, we need more! Therefore, if you have any kind of article, picture, cartoon, rambling, etc., just send it to [stu29573@yahoo.com](mailto:stu29573@yahoo.com). I usually work best with Word documents, and JPEG files, but I can make just about anything work if I have to. I can also handle stuff that is written down, but that means I have to type and that can be a bit touch and go... But I'll take it anyway!

You can also give me things at the meetings (which I almost never miss...almost), and I promise to try my best not to lose them. I can return stuff at the next meeting if need be.

As I have said many times in the past, I really want this newsletter to be by the club and for the club. You guys can think up much better stuff than I can (as is evidenced by the articles we've been getting lately). So, stop just thinking about maybe writing something and actually do it! You'll be glad you did! (as will everyone who reads it!)



## DARS Officers

<b>President</b>	<b>Jack Sprague</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Dave Shultz</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Suzie Sprague</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Bill Gee</b>
<b>NAR Senior Advisor</b>	<b>Sam Barone</b>

# DARS

The Dallas Area Rocket Society is a non-profit chartered section of the National Association of Rocketry (“NAR”). Its purpose is to promote the hobby of consumer rocketry in the Dallas/Ft. Worth metropolitan area.

Membership in DARS is open to all interested persons. Membership in NAR is encouraged, but not required. Annual dues are \$10.00 for individuals and \$15.00 for families. The entire family, including children, are welcomed to the meetings. Go to the website and fill out and send an application to join or renew your membership.

The club normally meets on the first Saturday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

Visit the DARS website for the meeting location: [www.dars.org](http://www.dars.org)



Stay connected! All of us will reach greater heights with your attendance at the club meetings.

**Vendor Links (\* DARS member discount—confirm before ordering)**

[Aerospace Specialty Products](#)

[Apogee Components](#)

[BMI Hobbies \(\\* 10%\)](#)

[CLE Enterprises](#)

[Excelsior Rocketry](#)

[Hawks Hobby](#)

[JonRocket](#)

[Mercury Engineering Co.](#)

[Public Missiles Ltd](#)

[Quest Aerospace, Inc.](#)

[Red Arrow Hobbies](#)

[Roadrunner Rocketry](#)

[Semroc Astronautics Corporation](#)

[Sunward Aerospace Group Limited](#)

[RC Zone \(\\*10%\)](#)

[Aerotech Consumer Aerospace](#)

[Art Applewhite Rockets \(\\* 20%\)](#)

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[FlisKits, Inc.](#)

[HobbyTown USA—Dallas, Walnut Store \(\\* 10%\)](#)

[MadCow Rocketry](#)

[Pemberton Technologies](#)

[Qmodeling](#)

[QuickBurst](#)

[Red River Rocketry \(\\* 8.25% on field\)](#)

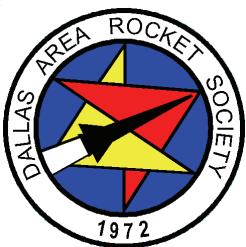
[Rocket.Aero](#)

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