

VOLUME 35

**Special Edition
Model Rocketry**

August 19, 2023



**GODDARD
GAZETTE**

Cover Page

from Left to Right:
Cadets Manuel Catala, Zack Willette, & Oliver Hansell.



MAWG'S SECOND ANNUAL BASIC MODEL ROCKETRY IN A DAY

In order to register for this program, MAWG cadets had to study for and pass the Redstone, Titan, and Saturn exams online. Then, it was off to Lt Col Maffei-Iwuc's home in Hopkinton, Massachusetts to begin a ten-hour day of hands-on learning and fun.

Saturday, August 19th was a gorgeous day for completing CAP's Basic Model Rocketry program. The weather was in the seventies and there was not a drop of rain. More importantly, there were no thunderstorms on the horizon.

The first part of the morning was spent building and launching foam rockets under the supervision of Capt Leslie Kneipfer. She is a member of Bridgewater State University Composite Squadron as well as the lead External Aerospace Education Officer for MAWG. The cadets aimed at Capt Kneipfer without great success. Westover Composite Squadron's Cadet Manuel Catala was the reigning champion in regard to farthest flight distance for this initial launch.



**Captain
Leslie
Kneipfer**



**The
"HARI"
rocket!**

S

tomp rockets require little assembly but are fun to launch. The cadets basically had a round robin competition and after many cycles, Hanscom Composite Squadron's Cadet Evan Jenney took the lead.





Captain Antonio Fontes, commander of Goddard Cadet Squadron, is also this squadron's very own "Rocket Man." He took the lead in instructing cadets in the build of both single-stage and two-stage rockets. Lt Col Shelley Rosenbaum-Lipman, MAWG's Director of Aerospace Education, assisted in this endeavor. Building rockets takes patience and concentration.

Lt Col Kent Hartig, our planner. Kent is Goddard's Assistant "Rocket Man."



Capt Antonio Fontes



Lt Col Shelley Rosenbaum-Lipman, center, is MAWG's Director of Aerospace Education



A

fter a lovely lunch break by the pool and some finishing rocket touches, we headed out to Saint Joseph's Abbey in Spencer, Massachusetts. The fields here are vast, and the Brothers made sure to cut the grass prior to our launch date.

This is Goddard's fifth time utilizing this beautiful land for CAP's rocketry program. Thank you to the Trappist monks for making this event possible. While setting up prior to launching, Cadet Isabella Niemann from Coastal Patrol 18 led the cadets in drill!



What do you do in vast open fields while the launch field is being prepared? Drill, of course!

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afety is paramount with model rocket launches. Capt Fontes and Lt Col Kent Hartig, Goddard's "Assistant Rocket Man," repeatedly reviewed safety procedures

with the cadets and monitored each and every launch. While some cadets ignited the rocket engines, other cadets measured altitude using an altimeter.





Staff behind the scenes: 2d Lt Lydia Reid, SM James Devens, and Capt Karen Senk



One of many safety briefings with the cadets. Capt Fontes is talking about how to ignite the rocket's engine.





Kapish Kaza



Hari Koornala



**Left to right:
Jiaxi Zhang & Evan Jenney**



Nathaniel Del Valle is about to launch his stage 2 rocket, Estes "Mongoose."





Evan Jenney



Aidan Stoughton



Isabella Niemann



Akhil Bezawada



Zack Wilette



Bhavya Jonnalagadda





In this photo, the cadets are holding their single-stage rockets.

It is amazing to see not only how high these rockets fly but how far they travel from the launch site. The launching cadet has to gauge the trajectory of the rocket and try to determine where the parachute will come down. Some ran at top speed and still fell short of the mark of catching the parachute in mid-air. It was fun to watch!





The culmination of the day was graduation from CAP's Basic Model Rocketry syllabus. Truth be told, CAP's model rocketry metal device is handsome. No other CAP insignia can compare.

We had thirteen graduates representing four MAWG squadrons. As always, it is an honor and a pleasure to assist these adolescents in reaching another CAP Cadet Programs milestone.



**Cadet Akhil Bezawada with
Capt Antonio Fontes,
Lt Col KentHartig, and
Capt Leslie Kneipfer**



Cadet Manuel Catala



Nathaniel Del Valle



Cadet Oliver Hansell



Cadet Evan Jenney



Cadets Bhavya and Shriya Jonnalagadda



Cadet Saikapish Kaza



**Cadet Hari
Koornala**



**Cadet Isabella
Niemann**



Cadet Aidan Stoughton



Cadet Zack Willette



Cadet Jiaxi Zhang

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OK DESIGN

