

May 2022 Launch Apache Pass

Saturday was as windy as anticipated: winds were consistently at 10 mph, frequently gusting to 15 mph, and occasionally to 20 mph. Anything over 500' or so drifted a *long* way, although we managed to avoid landing anything in the trailer park. Nonetheless, 13 intrepid flyers put up 24 flights.

New Southwestern grad Campbell Duffy (congratulations!) flew her Der Pink Max on a G77 and recovered it with only a modest walk. Doug Hodge was his usual prolific self and flew 6 flights, mostly on C6 and D12 motors. Matthew Criminale had 5 flights and pulled off the A-to-D quadfecta.

We also had several new faces attend. Two delightful young sisters, Vicky and Ana (I missed their last name), flew their new Alpha III's on A8-3 motors. Vincent Hutson learned just how high an Estes E2X can go on a C6-7, and more importantly, how far it can drift in 10-15 mph winds. And Joaquim Pacer joined us to fly a small rocket on a B6.

We also had three L1 certification attempts, all successful. Owen DelBene flew an Apogee Zephyr on a CTI H110 that was perfectly uneventful, just what you want for a cert flight. Don Wheeler also flew an Apogee Zephyr, this one on an Aerotech H130; that one landed on the hard-packed road, if I remember correctly, and suffered some inconsequential damage on one of the fins, but not enough to disqualify the attempt. Finally, Josh Ward flew a LOC IV on a CTI H225, again uneventful. Congratulations to all three fliers!

Because this launch fell on an unusual schedule, our next launch will be only two weeks from now, on June 4. Get your rockets ready!

All Photos Courtesy of
Harry Spears

Mark Scheevel



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