

# June Launch 2022

Imagine my surprise when I was awakened at 5:30am by loud thunder. About an hour later it was followed by torrential rain and an outstanding lightning show. But radar suggested that Thorndale would be dry, so I loaded up and headed out. As I traveled east I saw several things in Pflugerville get slugged by spectacular lightning strikes, and there was a lot of water on 45, but by the time I got to 130 there wasn't much rain. And when I got to the field, it was dry, as advertised.

It never did rain at the field, and we benefited from the overcast and breeze for a very pleasant morning, although the breeze was from the east and caused several rockets to land in the corn fields to the west. After noon the clouds gradually cleared and the heat returned. We had a decent turnout and 55 flights, including a couple of certification attempts. Andrew Molnau made his long-awaited L1 attempt with a Apogee Zephyr on an AT H100; it was a nice flight with a good recovery, although it landed in the corn and he and Rick spent quite a while locating it (it's got to be helpful to have a tall goober like Rick when you're out in the corn :-). The second certification attempt was by Prithre Shekar, flying his Silver Bullet on a CTI J245. The flight was good, but it angled off to the northeast a bit and was never seen again. It was still missing while we were tearing down, but was later located in a tree to the southeast of the site with everything intact, so that was a successful attempt, too. Congratulations to both of those guys!

Another highlight of the day was Campbell Duffy flying some qualifying flights for FAI parachute duration. Her second flight, using a mylar parachute, was spectacular. The flights were all on 1/2A motors. The second flight probably reached only 100 ft (if that), but it dumped its chute out right at apogee, it opened quickly, and then it found a thermal. It was deemed to have touched down some 7 minutes and 58 seconds later, way north of the launch site. It was fascinating to watch.

I hope everybody had a good time. Thanks for the help setting up and tearing down, and thanks to Harry for making the trip even though the weather was questionable.

Mark Scheevel

## Motor stats

### By impulse

1/8A	0
1/4A	0
1/2A	4
A	2
B	3
C	18
D	9
E	1
F	5
G	4
H	4
I	5
J	2
K	0
L	0
M	0
N	0
Total	57

### By manufacturer

Aerotech	17
Apogee	0
AMW	0
CTI	3
Estes	37
Gorilla	0
Loki	0
NCR	0
Quest	0
RoadRunner	0
EX	0
Total	57

Flights 55



Photos by  
Harry Spears

