LUNAR is Section #534 of the National Association of Rocketry (NAR). We are a non-profit club of about 300 model rocketry enthusiasts that is organized for the purposes of youth education and community involvement. But LUNAR is much more than a youth group with a wide spectrum of participants of all ages that gather together to learn rocketry, teach rocketry, exchange modeling techniques, and, of course, fly model and high-power rockets.

We are located in Livermore, California, about fifty miles southeast of San Francisco along Interstate 580. LUNAR has meetings six times a year in the Carnegie building in downtown Livermore. Hobbyists come from all around the Bay Area to fly rockets once a month on the soccer fields of Robertson Park on the south side of Livermore. Many of these launches include organized events for youth groups such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H and Gate classes. In addition, we promote and demonstrate rocketry at local community events, schools and parks.

LUNAR follows the NAR and Tripoli Safety Codes. These codes have allowed hundreds of millions of model rocket launches by hobbyists since the late 1950’s without any serious injuries.

As a section of NAR, LUNAR launches are covered by NAR liability insurance.

**Launches**

Our monthly launches are generally held from 8:30am to 12:30pm on the third Saturday of the month at Robertson Park in Livermore. We currently have 24 launch pads arranged in racks of 6 so that 18 pads can be loading while 6 are launching. Generally, we hold *sport launches* where you are free to launch any rocket that conforms to the NAR and Tripoli safety codes. All rockets are subject to a pre-flight safety inspection by the Range Safety Officer and are flown following our established field procedures.

LUNAR’s launch site has been certified by the Fire Marshal up through “H” power and is one of the few places in Northern California where this level of power can be legally flown. Note, however, that you can only count on flying motors up through “G” on a drop-in basis. Flying “H” motors requires both HPR Level 1 certification (NAR or TRA) and the presence of a licensed Class III Pyrotechnician to supervise the flight. There are a few licenses in the club, so it is likely that someone will be on-hand but not guaranteed.

To fly motors more powerful than 160 newton-seconds (H motors and above), hobbyists must be certified by either NAR or Tripoli. Hobbyists can gain their L1 certifications at LUNAR launches.

A number of vendors attend launches with motors, igniters, rocket kits and the usual accessories for sale.

LUNAR launches are community events with a friendly atmosphere and many helpful participants and spectators. There is a wide range of rocket models from large rockets on exciting high-power motors to complex rockets with cameras and other payloads to simple rockets built and flown for the simple joy of seeing something fly.

A per-flight launch fee (25 cents for A-E motors, $1.00 for F-H motors) is charged to fund development and maintenance of our highly regarded launch equipment. Non-members are charged a $5/day flying fee in addition to the launch fees to help us cover our costs for insurance and equipment maintenance.
**Contests**

Each spring and fall we hold sanctioned contest launches for points in the NAR national contest standings. These are often organized in conjunction with other rocket clubs in the area (BayNAR, AeroPac) but you don’t have to be a member of any of them (or even the NAR) to participate. You are welcome to join just for the spirit of competition.

**LUNAR Education and Rocket Science Events**

In keeping with our youth education and community involvement charter, LUNAR will support, where possible, the rocketry activities of community youth groups. We have in the past supported launches and build sessions for the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4H, Indian Guides, Livermore Science Camp and local schools. For these launches the young people are not required to join or be members of the club, and each will receive 3 free flight cards for the day of the launch.

LUNAR members also promote rocket science at local Air Shows, Model Rocketry meetings and other public gatherings.

**Resources**

There are a number of resources that the club provides, including LUNAR’clips our newsletter that is mailed to all LUNAR members. At different club meetings LUNAR members have made presentations on different aspects of modeling and rocketry. We maintain an archive of these and the LUNAR’clips newsletters on our web site, http://www.lunar.org. The web site is a great place to find information about LUNAR activities and rocketry in general. We also maintain links to many member web sites detailing their own rocketry successes and failures. If you can’t find what you’re looking for on any of the web sites, you can always post a question to one of the several Email lists that club members use to keep up on the hobby and LUNAR news.

**Membership**

We try to keep membership affordable to encourage participation, especially by families and kids. Despite the high value of the club’s equipment and the NAR insurance coverage, the maximum dues are only $15/year and a variety of discounts are available. Aside from special rates for young people, LUNAR also prorates memberships for folks who join late in the year.

The basic annual dues are:

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Membership</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adult member (18 and over)</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior member (15-17)</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior member (12-14)</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth member (11 and under)</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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For those wishing to support the club at a higher level, we also have the category of Contributing Member for $35 annual dues.

A Membership Form is attached. Please fill it out and send it in or bring it to the next launch.

**LUNAR Contact Information**

Go to our website, http://www.lunar.org, to find out pretty much everything about LUNAR.

For last minute updates on launch conditions, be sure to call our hotline at (925) 443-8705.

You can reach the Jack Hagerty, LUNAR President, at (925) 455-1746 or via email at jhagerty@juno.com.

Steve Kendall, LUNAR Vice President, can be reached via email at vp@lunar.org.