

❖ Tri City Sky Busters ❖

Volume 2 Issue 1

NAR # 535

February 1996

Sky Busters Elect Officers for 1996

Although the weather has kept us from holding our regular launches for the past few months, the Sky Busters have been keeping busy building rockets and holding elections of new officers.

The new officers are as follows:

President.....Neal Bade

Vice President.....Mark Sadowski

Treasurer.....Dan Harold

Neal and Dan graciously accepted second terms on their offices. They did such a great job last year, that they ran unopposed; we just couldn't let them go that easily! Congratulations to the new officers, and thanks to Gerry Freed for his hard work as Vice President last



Important Notice!

year.

The Launch Windows schedule for 1996 in the December Issue is incorrect. The corrected schedule appears in this issue. Please

Sky Busters Prepare to Man the 45th Annual Model Plane Show at Westgate

The Cleveland Aeromodeling Society is sponsoring the 45th Annual Model Show at Westgate Mall, on March 15, 16, and 17.

Tri City Sky Busters are planning to once again have a display at the show, and have it manned for each of the three days. Setup will begin Thursday night at approximately 9:00pm, and the show will run Fri-Sat 9am -9pm, and Sunday 10am-6pm. Teardown will begin Sunday at 6:30pm.

We are in need of volunteers to set up, man the booth, and to help



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teardown. We are going to have additional space this year, including a "building booth" where you can build rockets while the public looks on.

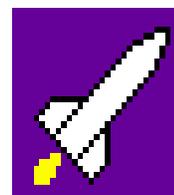
There will be model competitions for both Grade School kids and Adults, so bring out as many rockets as you can ! The more we have on display, the better. The classes of competition are:

- Sport
- Scale
- General

There will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place trophies for each class.

We are selling raffle tickets for the General raffle, and the model raffle. Cost is \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Contact Neal for tickets and info.

If you can work anytime during the show, please contact either Neal Bade or Mark Sadowski to volunteer. We need your help!



Message from the President

With Winter coming to an end and Spring just around the corner, the Sky Busters prepare for another busy year. The first major event on our calendar is the 45th National Model Plane Show. This show, sponsored by the Cleveland Aeromodel Society, has invited us back again this year. Our display last year was a big hit and won us the Best Club Display trophy. The show will be held at the Westgate Mall in Westlake Ohio on March 15th, 16th, and 17th 1996. Sky Buster members who are interested in helping set up the display need to be at the mall at 9PM on March 14th. You can also bring rockets at this time. Registration for other models is Friday and Saturday with judging on Saturday night. Good luck to all of you!

I would like to thank all the Sky Buster members who came to our last meeting and voted for club officers and to discuss other club business. Your input is always welcome. Thanks for having enough faith in me to elect me as your club President for another year. I will try not to disappoint you. My congratulations to Mark Sadowski, who was elected Vice President. Mark has always been very active in the club and will make a fine VP. Dan Harold will remain as the club Treasurer.

For those of you have access to the Internet, please check out our page on the World Wide Web. The URL (address) is <http://www.beacon.com/~frazer/nar535>. Point your web browser there and see what's new. Come back often because it is constantly being updated. The page contains launch

schedules, launch reports from previous launches, photos taken at various launches, and links to other rocket related pages on the web. Much thanks to Patrick Frazer who maintains the web page for us. Good work Patrick!

Thanks again. See you all at the next launch!

And, From the First Lady...

Neal Bade, President NAR #535 Tri City Sky Busters

YEA SPRING!!!! I sure hope it hurries and gets here. I don't know about the rest of you ladies, but having a rocketeer cooped up all winter underfoot can really get to you. They can only build so many rockets, sand so many fins, and then they are looking out the window, "Is the snow gone? Can we launch yet? Is it above 10 degrees? Can you see any grass yet?" I for one am going to be really glad to be a rocket widow this spring!

I hope some of the ladies are planning on looking in at the Aeromodel show at Westgate Mall later this month. I hope to be there to shop... oh, and look at the displays, too! If it was anything like last year, I can guarantee that the exhibit will be great! Thanks to all of the guys who can help out this year. I have to give Neal up for the weekend, but I think it will be worth it. Now I can finally have a few hours of peace and the rocketeers will be happy preparing for the spring launch.

Until next time rocket widows, rocketeers, and all that are connected or interested - I wish you clear blue skies, no mud, no wind, and beautiful launches!

Other Area Launches

The following is a listing of other launches being held in our vicinity by other clubs.

Pittsburgh Space Command

High Power Launches (K motor limit) on March 30, June 1, August 31, and Sept.28. Contact Rod Schafer (412) 845-7439 or Bob Johnston (412) 224-1901 for additional information. \$5 launch fee for G motors and larger.

Sport Launches on March 17, April 21, May19, June 23 at the Seven Fields location.

CSAR

Red Baron XXIII Open Meet

April 14, 10:30am Tuttle Crossing, Dublin, OH

Events: Predicted Duration, B Boost Glider Duration, C Eggloft Duration, D Super Roc Duration. Entry Fee \$1.00

New "Fred Williams" rules in effect for Super Roc. Contact Larry Rice for details.

Snoopy XXXI Local Meet

May 5th, 11:00am, Tuttle Crossing, Dublin, OH

Events: Predicted Duration, A Super Roc Duration, A Boost Glider Duration.

New "Fred Williams" Super Roc rules in effect. Contact Larry Rice for details.

We are currently planning a trip to the HPR launch on March 30. If interested, contact either Neal Bade, Gerry Freed, or Dave Falkner.

Range Store Open for Business!

Just wanted to let all of you know that we now have a RANGE-STORE !!

Our Range-Store carries anything and everything you would need to repair a Rocket On-The-Spot. We also stock limited numbers of 13mm, 18mm, and 24mm rocket motors. We even have a few great starter-Sets for the Beginner. All items in the club store are sold at-cost with NO mark-up!

If you have any questions, or special requests, contact Larry Freed.

Launch Notification Committee

I have recently accepted the position of Launch Notification committee. It will be my job to call everyone on our calling chain to notify that a launch has been scrubbed, or moved to a later date. I will also notify you of the location of our launch, whether it's at our regular field, or at a bigger and better field.

If you plan to regularly attend our launches, please notify me of your phone number or preferably your E-mail address by either:

1. Notifying me at one of our launches. If I'm not there, notify one of the officers, and they'll notify me. (Be sure to ask for Dan White, not Dan.)
2. Phone me at 216-734-2798.
3. Mail me at 3593 Beaumont Dr. North Olmsted OH 44070-1555.
4. Email me at G64WDan@aol.com

With your help and cooperation just about everybody should be notified of a launch cancellation. Of course, there may be some exceptions, like unexpected rain on the launch date, very high winds, blizzards, earthquakes, floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, volcanoes, locusts, etc. But for the most part, everybody should know if a launch is on or not. If this system isn't better than the previous one, may my Aerotech Astrobee D Power Prang, and my 29mm reload be driven three feet into the ground!

-Dan White



My First Rocket

By Jim Phillips

It was 1968. I was a typical fourteen-year-old (typical for 1968!). Everyone, at least everyone I knew, was captivated by the "race" to the moon. The Apollo missions were in full swing and things were looking good for NASA. For those who weren't there, you really can't appreciate the attention the Apollo program got. Remember, this was in the midst of the Vietnam Conflict, race riots, campus unrest, etc. - a very dark period in American history. We were all eager for whatever good news there was to be had. And the Apollo program was good news indeed. The space program in the late 60's was the bright spot, made even brighter by the darkness surrounding it.

One day in the spring of 1968, while reading *Popular Science*, I spotted an ad for Estes. At the time I had no idea who Vern Estes and Estes Industries were, all I knew was they advertised a catalog with "real, flying model rocket kits". At \$.25 it was too good to pass up (how much is a 1968 Estes catalog worth today?). So, I sprang for the quarter, and my mom paid the postage (\$.08 as I remember) and after what seemed a long wait (everything other than instantaneous response is too long for a teenager - one thing that hasn't changed), there it was! My very own catalog - full of cool rocket kits like the WAC Corporal, Streak, Mars Lander, Drifter, etc. What was more, they even sold Rocket Engines! I won't lie to you.

My best friend and I were tempted to make our own rocket engines. With only a high-school chemistry book and the Encyclopedia Britannica we had succeeded in compounding black powder and were poised to move on to other solid fuels. Only God's grace and my parents stopped us. But now, with a ready supply of manufactured engines, why make our own? This applies even more today - another thing that hasn't changed!

Well, my friend and I pooled our resources and sent in an order for a Streak, three engines, and the Porta Pad launcher. For those of you too young to remember: The Streak was a very light weight model. It was constructed of mylar tubing with three balsa fins and a balsa nose cone. Today, I would call it minimum diameter, minimum length; but back then, with a price of \$.49, we called it cheap! It used "lightweight recovery" which means that it ejected the engine at apogee and fell back to earth at the mercy of gravity and wind. This is very similar to some rockets today, but the Streak was *designed* to perform this way. The launcher was the original Porta Pad, made of wood. The engines we selected were the cheapest Estes had to offer - 1/2A's. As I recall, this entire order cost us under \$5.00 - fairly reasonable by today's standards (all right, dirt cheap), but quite expensive for us.

After another wait, the package finally showed up in the mailbox. After carefully unpacking the box, we spent hours painstakingly assembling the Streak. Ok, ok, we ripped that box open and slapped that baby together! In fact, I wonder if the glue was even dry the first time we tried to launch it? I know for a fact that we didn't waste any time painting it! I said "tried to launch" because as you may have noticed, we neglected to purchase a launch control system. This was deliberate on our part, because my father was into electronics and we had plenty of batteries and wire laying about. So, off we go to our backyard with a six-volt lantern battery and some wire. We wrapped the wire around the ignitor leads (alligator clips are for wimps!) and connected the battery. You probably know what happened - misfire alley! But, hey! At least we didn't use a fuse! Pre-dating Tim Allen, I knew right away what we needed was more power. So, back to the garage

and out with an extension cord and a battery charger. A looonnggg extension cord! Now with twelve volts and 20 amps, we tried again. Shooosh! Whoosh! There it went! My first rocket! And I even got it back again! Although our backyard was surrounded by trees and a pond was about 200 feet away, the Streak landed only 20 feet from the launch pad. Of course, I think it only reached 100 feet on the 1/2A engine, but any launch where the rocket goes up and comes back down in a condition to be launched again is a successful one.

Anyway, we flew that Streak many, many times. I'm not really sure what happened to it. I think I used to have the remainders of it in my old rocket box. The mylar finally dissolved after too many ejection charges and the fins had been re-glued too many times (those old B14's really had a kick!). My friend and I eventually built and launched several kit models (including the Camroc and Orbital Transport) and custom rockets (including multi-stage). I still see him from time to time and I'm trying to get him to one of our launches, but he's not very interested. Oh well, time marches on (and some of us have been marching way longer than others!).

Sport Rocketry Submission Guidelines

For anyone who is interested:

Deadlines for submission of material to Sport Rocketry magazine are as follows:

Issue Cover	Mailed	Deadline
May/June 96	4/26/96	3/12/96
Jul/Aug 96	6/7/96	4/23/96
Summer 96	7/19/96	6/4/96
Sep/Oct 96	8/30/96	7/16/96
Nov/Dec 96	10/11/96	8/27/96
Holiday 96	11/15/96	10/1/96

Submissions should be sent by mail to:

Thomas Beach, Editor
Sport Rocketry
432 Pruitt Avenue
White Rock, NM 87544
Phone: (505) 672-0249 evenings

Or, sent via electronic mail to:

71540.722@compuserve.com
or, beach@chicoma.la.unm.edu

The first e-mail address is preferred, but the second can receive MIME attachment files that Compuserve can't.

Always include your name, address,

phone number, and e-mail address (if applicable) with all submissions (and not just on the envelope). Receipt of your material will be acknowledged by mail or e-mail as soon as possible. If you have questions about the current disposition of a submission, contact the editor via e-mail, phone, or mail.

Content: We prefer articles which have at least one photo or diagram for every 750 words of text. Any type of rocketry related submission will be considered, including: plans, photos, launch reports, product reviews, articles, tips, techniques, historical, and club activities. Both model rocket and high-power rocket articles are accepted.

Articles may be submitted by e-mail, on computer disk, or as hardcopy (even handwritten). Be aware that publication of hardcopy submissions may be delayed until it can be keyed in. Computer files may be submitted on Macintosh or IBM PC compatible 3.5" disks; always enclose a hardcopy printout as well. Save the article as a plain ASCII text-only file. You may also save it as a word processor file to preserve formatting, but choose an old format (easier for our converters to handle).

Photographs can be submitted as prints or 35 mm slides. Prints should be glossy, color or black & white, no larger than 8x10 and no smaller than 3x5. Always affix the following data to the back of the photo: Your name and a caption. Do not write directly onto photos; use tape or post-notes. Ship photos with the faces protected.

Graphics may be submitted in computer form on disk, or as camera-ready hardcopy. Hand drawn sketches are accepted. Be aware that publication may be delayed if we must prepare publication quality drawings from hardcopy. Computer generated graphics are preferred in vector/object-oriented formats rather than bitmapped formats. Contact the editor

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TRI-CITY SKY BUSTERS

NAR #535

1996 LAUNCH WINDOWS (Revised)

All Launch dates will be subject to the NAR MODEL ROCKETRY SAFETY CODE

(i.e. Unites States Model Rocketry Sporting Code.)

The following is the 1996 Launch Window Schedule.

Standard Launch Dates will be the second Sunday of each month with a weather re-schedule date of the third Sunday of each MONTH as needed. A meeting will precede the launch, starting at 11:00am. Launching will begin at approx. 12:00am/ET to 5:00pm/ET (17:00-to-22:00gmt).

January 14, 1996
February 11, 1996
March 10, 1996
April 14, 1996
May 19, 1996 (Adjusted for Mother's Day)
June 9, 1996
July 14, 1996
August 11, 1996
September 15, 1996
October 13, 1996
November 10, 1996
December 15, 1996

An "All-Day Range Fee" of \$1.00 per Person launching will be charged, with a max. "Family-Fee" of \$2.00. This fee is in place to insure that ALL Range Equipment and Supplies are maintained with the NAR Safety Code in mind. ALL Persons Launching MUST fill-out & hand-in a LAUNCH REPORT flight log sheet before departing the field. These sheets are provided at the time you pay your launch fee. The LAUNCH REPORT flight log sheets need your NAME, NAR/Tripoli numbers and LAUNCH DATE, as well as your LAUNCH / FLIGHT INFORMATION. If you haven't joined one of these organizations, please do so, as it is necessary if you want voting privledges within our section.

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about file formats to use. Always submit hardcopy along with computer files.

Material submitted to Sport Rocketry must not be submitted to another publications, other than NAR section newsletters. You retain the copyright to your material. You grant the NAR the right to use your submission in Sport Rocketry magazine and in one possible reprint publication, unless otherwise specified. The physical media submitted becomes the property of the NAR and cannot be returned unless pre-arranged with the editor.

Newsletter Information

The Tri City Sky Busters Newsletter is published bi-monthly for the members of Tri City Sky Busters, NAR Section # 535. The newsletter is produced by Dave Falkner. If you would like to submit an article, or have a suggestion for future issues please send it to me via one of the following methods:

1. Email to DaveEF@AOL.COM, or if on AOL, just DaveEF, on Compuserve at 71510,1237. Please send either ASCII text or Word for Windows file format.
2. Mail to Dave Falkner, 13366 Yager Dr., Strongsville, OH, 44136. I can be reached at 216-572-1234 during the day, or at 216-572-4140 in the evenings.

**Tri City Sky Busters
Has It's Own World
Wide Web Page!**

For those of you who are out there "Surfing the Net", stop buy and check out the Tri City Sky Busters Web Page at:

<http://www.beacon.com/~frazer/nar535/>.

New things are being added all the time. Our thanks to Patrick Frazer for designing and maintaining our web page. He's done an outstanding job with it! Keep up the good work Patrick!

Tri City Sky Busters

C/O Dave Falkner
13366 Yager Drive
Strongsville, OH 44136



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