

# ❖ Tri City Sky Busters ❖

Volume 3 Issue 1

NAR # 535

February 1997

## Sky Busters Elect Officers for 1997

At our meeting on Feb 2, 1997 we held elections for club officers. The current club officers ran unopposed. Neal Bade remains as President, Mark Sadowski remains Vice President, Dan Harold remains Treasurer and club Advisor, and Gerry Freed was elected as club Secretary.

Also discussed was the addition of yearly club dues. Previously, we tried to get by with just the range fees as a revenue source. This did not work out because of a bad launch year in 1996. The weather just did not cooperate and we were forced to cancel many launches. Starting in January 1997, there will be a \$5 per year membership fee. This fee is payable at the beginning of each year. If you have not paid your fee for this year, please do so as soon as possible. (You know who you are!).

Also discussed was the schedule for the upcoming model show. Thanks to all of you who volunteered to spend some of your precious weekend hours to help out with our display booth. This is much appreciated. Since I forgot to bring the raffle tickets to the meeting, please contact one of the club officers if you need any tickets.

I would like to thank of all of you who participated in this meeting. It was my fault that we had such short notice of the meeting, I will try to do better next time. Hope to see many of you at the model show or our next launch. Remember, Spring is just around the corner!

*By Neal Bade*

## Sky Busters prepare for the 46th National Model Plane Show

The Sky Busters are again preparing for the annual National Model Plane Show. This will be our third year of participation in this event. Our displays from previous years have won the "Best Club Display" award two years in a row. Many club members have won trophies and certificates for their efforts.

This event is sponsored by the Cleveland Aeromodel Society and is being held at the WestGate Mall in Rocky River, OH. The show starts on Friday February 21st and runs through Sunday February 23rd. The show is open to all types of model planes, boats, cars, and of course, rockets. Judging of models is done on Saturday

night, with awards being presented Sunday at 4:30PM. The mall will be open from 10AM to 9PM on Friday and Saturday, and 11:30AM to 6PM on Sunday. Models need to be brought in on Friday or Saturday. If you help set up on Thursday night (9PM) you can also bring your models at that time.

We need volunteers to help set up on Thursday night and to help tear down on Sunday night. We also need people to help with the display booth the three days of the show. If you would like to help, please contact one of the club officers (see page 8 for more information).

This is a great time to present model rocketry to the general public. People of all ages seem very interested in the hobby. Many older persons recall rocketry activities from their youth, and will spend much time talking about their early years. The high power kits always grab attention, as many people have never seen anything bigger than a typical Estes kit. Our display of spent motors (live motors are not allowed in the mall) ranging from "1/4A" up to "L" cause some wide eyes when people see where the hobby has progressed to. A lot of people have never seen a reloadable motor and are fascinated by the technology.

I urge all club members and anyone else interested in any modeling activity to bring your models and enter them into the show. You may win a trophy or certificate. If you bought raffle tickets, maybe even a vacation! You have nothing to lose and everything to



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## Message from the President

First off, I would like to apologize to everyone for the lateness of this newsletter. Our last newsletter was published in May of last year. Some people that I had talked to thought that the Sky Busters had folded. This is definitely not the case. Although we have not published a newsletter in quite a while, we have been busy doing many other things. See the article "1996 in Review" on page 8. Hopefully, this year will get us all back on track, with this newsletter as a good start.

We have planned an ambitious launch schedule for 1997, with Saturday and Sunday launches each month. Because of the limited time available for launching at the Medina Airport (8AM until NOON one Sunday each month), and many members having family or church commitments on Sundays, we created this schedule. Alternating teams of range personnel will coordinate each launch. It would help greatly if we had more volunteers to help out with the range duties.

This year is starting out like last year. We are very busy preparing for numerous events. We just recently completed a rocketry class for young people at the Lakewood High School. The kids assembled Estes Alpha III kits and launched them the following weekend. Up next is the annual Model Plane show, a 3 day event that keeps us all busy. It looks like we are again invited to have a display at the Medina County Air Show, and also the Lorain County Air Show. Last year, we were allowed to launch several mid-power kits (E-F-G powered). These turned out to be real crowd pleasers, with many people stopping by after the launch to talk about rocketry.

The Winter here in Northern Ohio has been terrible. All of our launches were canceled, and we have not had a regular launch since October 1996.

One launch day had temperatures near zero degrees! Of course, we canceled it. Other days we had so much rain that the field was under water. We just hope for the best and wait for better weather. Spring always comes (once a year!) and then we are happy again.

As I am finishing up this newsletter, I would like to say a few final words. We need more input from you in order to produce the next newsletter. With the help of my wife Linda, and my good friend Gerry Freed, we managed to write and produce this newsletter. We have a little overflow from this newsletter, and a recent launch report, but we need more material for the next newsletter. I have already started it and we are on schedule for completion in



## And from the First Lady

*By Linda Bade*

Well, here it is almost a year ago that you last heard from us. You think that getting a newsletter out was easy, but with so much going on in everyone's life, there just isn't enough time. First and foremost, we had to say a tearful good-bye to Dave and Deborah Falkner. Neal will miss Dave very much. He was a great organizer and cheerleader to keep all of us going. I know Neal will miss the chutes that Deborah made, too. She did an excellent job on them. It's never easy saying good-bye to friends-especially ones that move to warmer climates and e-mail you about the great launches they have while we're in the middle of a blizzard. Thanks a lot, Dave! Do you know what it's like being cooped up with a rocket man who had to go cold turkey during the winter? Next

time you do this, I am sending you a plane ticket to get back here and get Neal off of the ceiling and walls where your e-mail has driven him! Better yet, I will send Neal there to live during the winter and he can drive you bananas about launching!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the wives and girlfriends of the rocket men who give up a lot of personal time to get together and organize the club and activities. It's never easy giving up personal time with the family to do all of the things that the club needs, and a lot of guys pitch in and help. I know this takes away from the family time and I really appreciate all the help from all of the guys and ladies. THANKS TO YOU ALL!!!

I would like to hear from the ladies, too. We have moved and our new address and telephone number are: 14055 Kathleen Dr., Brook Park, Ohio 44142 the phone is 216-265-3093. Please feel free to drop me a line or call. Let me know if you agree or disagree with the columns, or what you would like to see in the future newsletters. Like, when the guys go to a launch, what do you really do at home? Do you watch TV or rent a really sappy movie? Do you go shopping or mall walking? Finally curl up with the book you have been meaning to read for ages? You know, the one you get to open and have your man or kids start talking to you non-stop so you can't read? Or ask you where they put their shoes, gloves, boots, rocket parts, paint, decals, etc., etc., and etc.? Yes, that novel. What do you really do? I'd like to hear from you, so don't be shy.

I hope to see some of you at Westgate Mall this year. I will be there again, but probably on Saturday this year. Last year I got to help break down the tables and meet some of the people that Neal always talks about. We had a great time, and this year should be even better! Hope to see you soon!

## Dave's Farewell

Dave Falkner e-mailed me the following farewell letter back in August 1996. He asked that it be included in our next newsletter. It is reprinted here in its entirety. Goodbye Dave, we all miss you.

Farewell Fellow Skybusters

Well, as many of you now know, my family and I are moving back to Phoenix, Arizona. Therefore, the August 25th launch at Medina Airport will be my last one with the Skybusters for awhile.

I'm glad that the Skybusters were there when I became a YABAR. As we have grown together in our rocketry skills by building bigger rockets and moving on to HPR, the bonds of friendship also grew, making this departure even harder. I've enjoyed the past couple of years we spent together doing the Mall shows, Airshows, rocketry classes, etc. I have also immensely enjoyed being your Newsletter Editor / Publisher during this time.

I would like to thank the club for the going away gift of the Titan IIIIE kit. When I get it built, I'll be sure to send back some pictures of it for the newsletter.

I do intend to keep in touch with many of you via email, etc. I will maintain my America On Line account, and can be reached there at DaveEF@aol.com. Please keep me up to date on what's happening with the club, and I'll act as a reporter on what's happening out West! I'll be with you in spirit out there in the trees looking for that model that got away!

Here's wishing you clear skies and happy landings!

Dave.

(Note, Dave's email address is now davef@inficad.com)

## September 1996 Launch Report

The Tri-City Sky Busters held a sport launch on September 21, 1996 at our Richfield OH launch site. Nine flyers showed up on this relatively clear day, although it was a little too windy. Sixty-six motors were fired for sixty-three launches total. Breakdown is as follows: 3 1/2A, 12 A, 24 B, 14 C, 10 D, and 3 E motors. Quite a few models were lost due to the wind carrying them into the tall trees that surround the field.

Jim Gibbons and his grandson Brandon Fabris had 7 flights for the day. They started off with an Astrocam on a C6-7 for a fine flight. A "Sport" flown on a B6-4 had no chute deployment. The Astrocam again on a C6-7, which unfortunately got "eaten

*Quite a few models were lost due to the wind carrying them into the tall trees that surround the*

by a tree". A Mercury on a B6-4 for a fine flight was followed by a Reigle III also using a B6-4 for another fine flight. An Excalibur using a B8-5 also had a fine flight. Their X-Wing Fighter launched on an A8-3 must have crashed, as the flight log has the comments "picked up all the pieces".

George Christ had 5 flights for the day, starting with his Estes Patriot on a C6-3, which was also flown later on a B6-4. He lost his Bertha to the trees using a C6-3. His Reliant flown on a A8-3 had ejection trouble which blew out the side of the body tube. George's first E powered flight, a North Coast Tempest, was flown on an Aerotech E30-7T for a fine flight.

Gerry Freed had 8 flights for the day, starting with a modified Estes Delta-7 using a D12-3 motor which went

straight and high and wound up in a tree. An Alien Space Probe on a B8-5 did not go very high and broke a fin dowel. A scratch built Nike-Apache on a B6-4 proved to be a bit unstable. His Red White & Blue scratch built from Quest and Estes parts flew high and straight on a B6-6 for a great flight. A Red Max flown with a B6-6 also had a great flight. Another scratch build called Santa-Roc had a great flight powered by a C6-7. His Vaughn Bros. Blobo flew great on a C6-5. To end the day, he lost his Purple Passion, which was powered by 3 A3-4T mini motors.

Mark Hanna, son Josh and his friend Seth Plaskach had a total of 19 (Wow!) flights that day. Mark started the day with his Estes EAC on a A10-4T, followed by a Estes Bullpup on a B6-4. Seth then launched a Raider using a B6-4, then his Custom Light'n on a D12-3. Josh then launched a Bullpup on a B6-4, then his Jayhawk on a D12-5. Mark then flew his Aerobee 300 on a D12-7, followed by Josh flying his Aerotech WartHog on an E30-4T. Mark flew an Interceptor with a C6-5, then an X-16 on a B6-4. Seth then launched his Light'n again, this time on a C6-3. He then flew an Estes F22 on a B6-4, a Custom Stealth on an A8-3, and something called a "Space/Sparrow" on a B6-2. Mark then launched his Starship Excalibur, first on a C6-3, then an Aerotech D21-4T (which he commented on the flight log "WOW"). Josh then launched his Jayhawk again, this time on an Aerotech E15-7. Unfortunately, the model was lost. Seth then capped off their day by launching the F-22 with a B6-4, then an Estes Raider on an A10-3T.

Mark Sadowski, the Sky Busters Vice-President, started off with a great flight of his Bullpup 12D on a B6-4. His Estes Shadow flew OK on a D12-5,

*(Continued on page 4)*

(Continued from page 3) September Launch followed by a great flight of his Super Vega on a D12-3. A Phoenix powered by a D12-5 flew great, as did his Shadow again on a D12-5. His Estes Magnum flew on a C6-5, but the parachute tangled. A Big Bertha on a B4-4 and Scrambler on a B8-5 both had good flights. His Estes Wizard suffered a broken shock cord when flown with a 1/2A6-2. His homemade D-Roc flew on a D12-5 but managed to get stuck in the trees. An Estes Sentinel flown on a B8-5 was his last flight for the day.

I managed to get in 13 flights for the day, which is unusual for me because I am usually helping out as LCO at our launches. I started off with 2 flights of my Estes Neptune, first with a A8-3 for a nice straight flight, then with a B4-4 for a super flight, although it broke a fin on landing. Next up was a Cobra 1500 on a C6-5 for a very nice flight. An Estes Patriot was up next with a B4-4. My Estes Arrow flew very fast using an Aerotech B6-4T 18mm reload. My old Estes Blue Bird Zero had a strange flight using an Aerotech C4-5W 18mm reload, which got it stuck in a tree (the rocket was later retrieved, minus the nose cone and parachute). I lost an Estes Mini Cobra when I flew it 2 stage using an A10-0 booster and A10-3 sustainer. Next was two flights of an Estes Patriot, first with a B4-4, then a C6-5. The second flight floated into the trees, but the model was found later. My Estes Sparrow disappeared when flown on a 1/2A3-2T. It was followed by an Estes Mini Patriot, also with an 1/2A3-T. My final flight of the day was the Mini Patriot again, this time on a A3-4T, it also disappeared.

Except for the rocket eating trees and a few broken models, it was great day and we all had lots of fun.

## October 1996 Launch Report

The Tri-City Sky Busters held a sport launch on October 13th, 1996 at the Medina County Airport (Freedom Field). Twelve flyers showed up to launch on this nice Fall day. The sky was cloudy early in the morning, but quickly cleared up. Winds were variable and from the southwest. The field here is much larger than our regular launch site in Richfield OH, so we all got a chance to launch some E, F, and G motors. Seventy flights were logged using a total of 80 motors. The motor breakdown is as follows: 2 1/2A, 11 A, 10 B, 13 C, 17 D, 13 E, 11 F, and 3 G motors were fired that day.

Terry Matthew's started off with an Aerotech Arcas flown on an F25-4W for a beautiful flight, which he recovered from a tree with a little help from me. Next he flew a Quest Delta Clipper on a C5-3 which he thinks was underpowered. His Estes V-2 on a D12-5 must have crashed, as he wrote "It's dead Jim!" on his flight log. Next up was his Arcas again, this time on a G40-7W. It floated away into the woods and was not seen again. His last launch for the day was an Estes Strike Fighter on a C6-5 for a fine flight.

Matt and Jon Hudak had 5 flights for the day starting with Matt's LOC Lil Nuke "zooming" off the pad on an E30-7T. Jon's Custom Servall had a good flight using a B6-4. Matt stuffed 4 D12-7's into his LOC Viper 4 for a great flight. Next was his LOC HiTec 45 on an F25-4W for an "awesome" flight. Jon then flew his Estes V-2 using a D12-5 for a "mahhvelous" flight.

Jonathan and Matthew Ross logged 13 flights for the day, starting with an Estes Space Racer on a A8-3 for a good flight. Next, an Estes Mongoose with an A8-3 suffered a broken fin. A Red Alert flew on a 1/2A3-2T and bent the body tube slightly. An Estes

Dagger had a good flight on an A8-3. The Space Racer also had another good flight, also on an A8-3. The Red Alert flew again on a 1/2A3-2T for a good flight. They almost lost their Dagger when flown with a C6-5. An Estes Ninja on a A3-4T got stuck in the ground but was retrieved. They lost the Space Racer when it was flown on a C6-5. Their Red Alert "blew up" with an A3-4T. A two stage Estes Mongoose had a "gooood" flight using a C6-0/B6-5 combination. A Hornet had a good flight but was lost when flown with a C6-7. Lastly, the Ninja again on a A10-3T for another good flight.

Mark Hanna, son Josh and his friend Seth logged an impressive 20 flights for the day. Mark started off with an Estes Dart on a B6-4, followed by an Aerotech WartHog on a F25-6W. He then launched an Estes Thor Agena B using a B6-4. A LOC Legacy on an E15-7 was followed by an Estes D-Region Tomahawk flown with a D12-7. Seth was up next with a Mean Machine flown with a D12-5, then an F-22 using a B6-4, the Light'N on a C6-5, then the Mean Machine again using another D12-5. Mark flew an Estes Phoenix on a D12-5, then an Estes HLC Beta using 2 A10-3T, a C6-0, and a B4-4. Mark then launched an Estes Saros on a B6-6, an Estes Saturn V on an E15-4W, and an Aerotech Mustang using an E16-7W 29mm RMS motor. Seth launched the Mean Machine one more time on another D12-5. Mark's LOC Expediter was impressive when flown with a G80-4T. Josh finally got in some flights starting with an Aerotech Initiator on an E18-4W RMS, followed by a LOC Vulcanite on an F25-4W. Josh then finished off their day with an Aerotech HV Arcas on a F40-6W RMS and an Estes Impulse with 2 D12-5 motors.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4) *October Launch*

Mark Sadowski, the Sky Busters Vice President had 6 flights for the day starting with his LOC StarBurst flown on 2 D12-5 motors. His Estes Shadow was up next, flown with an E15-4 for a good flight. A modified LOC Forte took to the skies powered by an F52-5T RMS. Another modified LOC kit, his Legacy+ flew good on an E30-4T. The Forte+ flew great on a G64-7W RMS. Finally, an Aerotech HV Arcas had a good flight when flown with a F25-6W motor.

Wayne Edwards started off with a Mini Mean Machine powered by an A3-4. Up next was his uprated Cobra-1500 powered by a D12-5. His scratch built "Lifting Body Racers from Planet Neox" was first flown with a D12-5, followed by a flight with an E15-4W. Another scratch built, "Project Stepping Stone", was powered by an F50-6T and used an electronic timer for parachute deployment.

George Christ, his wife Brenda, and their son Herbie had a total of 11 flights for the day starting with a Tornado rebuilt from an Estes design flown with an A8-3. Next, an Estes Skywinder on a C6-3 followed by George's Estes Patriot on a B4-4. George then flew his NCR Tempest twice, first with an E30-4T, then an E15-4W. The Tornado and the Skywinder both flew again using B4-4 motors. The Patriot was then flown again with a C6-5. The NCR Tempest was loaded with an E30-4T for another fine flight. The Skywinder disintegrated when flown with a C6-3. George always impressed us by CHAD staging various rockets and this time was no exception. His Estes Patriot had a C6-0 staged to a C6-5 for a super high flight. George was gone for quite some time but finally returned with the rocket.

I started off with my Aerotech IQSY Tomahawk using an E18-4W 24mm RMS for a very nice flight. Everyone was given a "heads up" warning before

I launched an NCR Lance Beta using a SynerJet F57 29mm reload. It arced over and did a funny wobble but was recovered intact. Next up was my trusty old Aerotech WartHog, which flew very nice on an E23-5T 29mm RMS. My Aerotech Strong Arm was then flown with an F24-4W 24mm RMS. Finally, the Lance Beta gave a nice flight using an Aerotech F25-4W.

We did not know it at the time, but this was the last Sky Busters launch for the year. Our launches scheduled for November and December were canceled due to bad weather. It was raining, snowing, or just too darn

## Born Again Rocketeer Flash-Back

By Gerry Freed

It all started innocently enough about 3 weeks ago while my 13 year old son Charlie and I were looking through so old comic books of various types that he had just gotten from a neighbor. All of a sudden, I saw it. It was placed right between the SEA MONKEYS and the X-RAY GLASSES, an ad for the 1973 ESTES MODEL ROCKETRY CATALOG.

It was then that I went through what I have come to call a "BAR FLASHBACK". My wife feels that the potential for this condition may have been caused by a prolonged exposure over the years to a combination of Black Powder and Ammonium Perchlorate fumes, and was triggered by the smells and sights of musty old yellowing newsprint. I seemed to have been transported back to another time and place. 1973 !! I am quite sure that Mr. Peabody's WAY-BACK Machine was used involved in some way or another with this process. (I loved watching the Rocky & Bullwinkle and still do to this day)

There I was in my room clipping out a

coupon for the then NEW ASTRON ALPHA ROCKET KIT. This was no meager endeavor. For me to pull this off it would take every bit of a month's worth of lawn cutting. We are not talking Chump-Change. This would be a total investment of \$2.00 cold hard cash Plus Postage !! Thank GOD in Heaven this included 2 motors.

As an elbow nudge from Charlie brought be back to 1996. I then understood just how much Rocketry has meant and still means to me. We spent the next hour or so going through the other comic book issues looking for more gems. They were all there on the fragile pages. 1,000 SOLDIERS IN A BOX, ONION GUM, JOY-BUZZERS and some other ROCKETRY ADS.

I have through this "BAR FLASHBACK" I was able to share some of Charlie's Rocketry discoveries.

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(Continued from page 5) BAR FlashBack Discoveries that I once made for the first time myself many many years ago. All of this has made a month of Lawn Mowing worth a lot more to me. Looking through the comic books we noticed how many Rocketry and Space related pictures there were. From Archie to Pop-Eye. From Spiderman to Batman. From Sad-Sack to Baby-Huey.

I don't think I will ever look at a comic book in the same way I once did. One would hope and pray that others have and will continue to have this same "BAR FLASH-BACK" linking our lives to others through Rocketry.

Some day this old BAR wants to see this gleam in the eye of his grandkids as they open their first Model Rocket Kit. I only hope I am able to muster the needed will-power to hold off and allow them to push the launch button.

A few old Estes advertisements:

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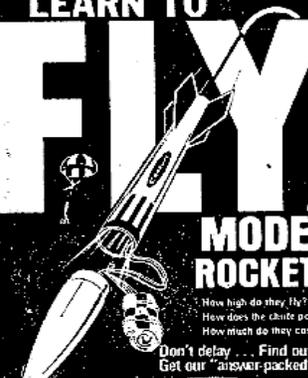
STREET \_\_\_\_\_

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An ad for Centuri Engineering (I remember them!). A few more old ads, one from Rocketworld, the other is unknown.

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## Estes SkyWinder Kit Re-Review

I picked up an Estes SkyWinder Kit for my son about a year ago. Since building it we have had probs with the deploy charge pitting or burning holes through the plastic Rotor Hub. We were able to patch the melt-holes a couple of times, but alas there was only so much good plastic left... We just chalked it up to the fortunes of flying model rockets....

This past September Charlie received a replacement kit as a birthday gift. In building it he brought to my attention that there were parts that seemed to have been added. Ones that were not in his original kit. He showed me 2 cardboard pieces... 1-blue tube and 1-white ring. Per the instruction sheet both were to be placed inside the Plastic Rotor Hub. I went back and checked the plans we had saved from the original kit. I thought that we had just forgot to put the 2 pieces in before... WRONG GERRY !!

In the original plans the 2-mentioned cardboard parts are not included or mentioned. I then called Estes and they have now sent us a replacement SkyWinder kit. GREAT SERVICE & SUPPORT ESTES !!!!

If you have had problems with this kit as outlined above, you might want to check the instruction sheet/parts list and call Estes as we did.

Gerry & Charlie Freed

*(Continued from page 10) Area Launches*  
May 18 Launch

Sport launches start at around 2:30-3:00. Competition launches start at 11:00

We now have a new launch site. If you are coming down 71 south, get onto 270 west, then take the 33 north exit.

Follow 33 N to 42, turn left and follow 42 to Hickory Ridge Rd. Turn right. The launch site is a sod farm about 3/4 mile from 42.

### Oil City, PA. High Power

Sam Gordon of WRJS Radio News at Oil City, PA has sponsored high power launches for many years. These launches are held at a large farm near Oil City. Attendance is high and geographically diverse. I have seen rocketeers attend from Pittsburgh, Erie, Cleveland, and New York.

Oil City people are friendly! For example their fire department retrieved Mort Binstock's 110 Camera Booster. They shot it down with a water canon. A dramatic recovery!

All '97 launches will be on a Saturday between 9AM and 2PM. Sam is requesting FAA ceiling between 3,000 and 8,000 feet.

The dates for the '97 launches are:

- \* April 26
- \* June 28 (Tentative Adonis Launch)
- \* July 5 (June 28 BACKUP)
- \* August 2 (4-H Launch)
- \* October 4

Instructions to the launch site from Pittsburgh are:

- I-79 North - I-80 East-Off at exit 4
- 308 North (Left) to Clintonville
- 208 East (Right) to Emlington
- 4 miles. See launch pad on left behind a white farm market; can't miss it!

Sam Gordon can be reached at the Radio Station:

Sam Gordon  
WRJS  
P.O.BOX 1127  
Oil City, PA 16301

1-814-676-5744 Radio Station Phone  
1-814-676-6922 Radio Station FAX

### Pittsburgh Space Command

Sport launches and Competition events are held at the Seven Fields launch site.

### PSC/Seven Fields Launches

February 16  
March 16  
++ April 20  
++ May 18  
++ June 22  
\*\* July 13  
\*\* August 17  
September 21  
October 19  
November 16  
December 14

++ NAR Sanctioned Competitions  
\*\* Launches at Camp Lutherlyn

### High Power Launches

Contact Rod Schafer (412) 845-7439 or Bob Johnston (412) 224-1901 for additional information. \$5 launch fee for G motors and larger. Area-51 launch times: 9:00am-5:00pm.

### PSC/Area-51 Launches

March 29  
May 3  
June 29  
September 27

Editors note: our space was limited here, so this is only a partial listing of other launches in the area. Please contact the Sky Busters for a complete schedule.

## Launch Field ?

As usual, the Sky Busters continue to search for a large launch field in Northern Ohio. We have had several leads in the past, but these did not work out. Several people have mentioned possible launch sites, and we are looking into these. If you know of any available launch site, please contact one of the club officers. Thank

## The Top Ten List

Seen on the Internet newsgroup rec.models.rockets around December 1996

The Top 10 reasons you know that model rocketry is controlling your life:

- 10) Your toilet paper starts looking like recovery wadding.
- 9) You begin testing the elastic in your briefs for shock cord usage.
- 8) Your wife wonders where all the tubes have gone from her Christmas wrapping paper.
- 7) Your launch controller starts looking like a homemade bomb.
- 6) You feel worse after losing a rocket than your kids do.
- 5) You're at the drug store and the tampon applicators all of a sudden look like they'd make great motor mounts.
- 4) You actually enjoy waiting for glue to dry--and let it.
- 3) You begin to seriously wonder if you can apply enough clear coat to a sugar cone to withstand an ejection charge.
- 2) Your waiting for your doctor to give you a physical, freezing with your shirt off, and all you can think of is all the neat rocket making material is in this room.

And the Number 1 reason you know model rocketry is controlling your life...

You're watching the OJ trial, this fellow named Cato arrives, and you wonder how many rockets this guy musta blown up!

## Humorous Bits

If you have any humorous bits like the stuff above (we will accept serious bits also), or a rocketry story, kit review, etc., please send it to me so I can publish it. We are in desperate need of more rocketry bits to fill these pages. See page 10 to find out how to get these rocketry bits to me.

## Serious Bits

Just a little reminder about NAR insurance, please sign up for it! We have had problems renewing our section because of a lack of insured members. If you can afford the extra \$21, get the insurance. You will be helping yourself and also helping Sky Busters. Remember, we need at least 5 insured members for section renewal.

## Phone Numbers

Important Phone Numbers:

Neal Bade	(216) 265-3093
Mark Sadowski	(330) 666-5235
Dan Harold	(330) 673-7482
Gerry Freed	(216) 476-2496
Jim Phillips	(330) 898-5851

## 1996 In Review

*By Gerry Freed*

WOW !!! What A Year !!! (And it looks like '97 will be a DITTO !!)

With a sum total of 1-Mall Show, 2-Air Shows, 1-Rocketry Class, 6-Club Road Trips, & 12-Regularly Scheduled Launches. Our Rocketry Racks were very full !!

Well where do we start ?? How about with The 45th National Model Plane Show, March 15, 16, & 17, 1996 saw approximately 150+ rockets in 4 School Grade and 4 Open categories. Our club display took Best-Of-Show for the 2nd year in a row. How about 3 years in a row ???

We had static display booths and launch demos at both the Lorain County Air Show over a 3 day period and then 1 day at the Medina County Air show.

George Christ, Dave Falkner & I held a 2 day Rocketry Class in Westlake, Ohio. First day we taught about model rocketry, did a demo launch, and then the students built their very own Estes KNOME kit. The second day of the class was held by George and Dave. This time the 10 or so students in the class got to launch the kits they built.

We took a total of six Club Road Trips in 1996. Four were to Pittsburgh's AREA-51 and two to Tripoli Mid-Ohio's MAGNUM V & MAGNUM VI.

Scheduled club sport launches were spotty at best, as the weather in Northern Ohio continues to Bless & Curse them at will. Because of this we have made an aggressive 1997 launch schedule to include two launches per month. One Saturday and one Sunday per month. Our hope is that we couldn't have bad weather conditions twice in one month on a scheduled launch day.. or could we ??

Thus far in 1997 we have had a two day rocketry class/launch, a mall show, and three scheduled club launches (two of which were cancelled due to extreme weather conditions) and we are only 3 months into the year !!

Many many thank you's to all of you that have made these events possible!!! And to the others; COME ON OUT !! We are in need of your help in 1997.

**TRI-CITY SKY BUSTERS****NAR #535****1997 LAUNCH WINDOWS**

**All Launches will be subject to the NAR MODEL AND HIGH POWER ROCKETRY SAFETY CODES (i.e. U.S. Model & High Power Rocketry Sporting Codes.)**

The following is our 1997 Sport Launch Window Schedule.

Standard Launch Dates will be the SECOND SUNDAY, and FOURTH SATURDAY of each month. With weather re-schedule dates of the THIRD SUNDAY and FIFTH -or- FIRST SATURDAY of each month as needed.

SUNDAY LAUNCHES will be held in Medina, Ohio at the Medina County Airport, (Freedom Field) on US Route 18, just East of I-71. Launch times will be 8:00/am to 12:00/Noon ET. ("G" motor limit conditions permitting)

SATURDAY LAUNCHES will be held in Richfield, Ohio at Mr. Davis' field, (3457 Southern Rd.). Launch times will be 12:00/Noon to 5:00/PM ET. ("F" motor limit conditions permitting)

<u>SUNDAY LAUNCHES</u>	<u>SATURDAY LAUNCHES</u>
January 12, 1997	January 25, 1997
February 09, 1997	March 01, 1997 (Adjusted)*
March 09, 1997	March 22, 1997
April 13, 1997	April 26, 1997
May 04, 1997 (Adjusted)*	May 24, 1997
June 08, 1997	June 28, 1997
July 13, 1997	July 26, 1997
August 10, 1997	August 23, 1997
September 14, 1997	September 27, 1997
October 12, 1997	October 25, 1997
November 09, 1997	November 22, 1997
December 14, 1997	December 27, 1997

\* February 22, 1997 Launch Adjusted to March 01, 1997 Due to 46th Cleveland National Model Plane Show, February 21-23, 1997 at Westgate Mall Rocky River, Ohio.

\* May 11, 1997 Launch Adjusted to May 04, 1997 Due to Mother's Day.

**If a launch is canceled or postponed for any reason, we attempt to notify everyone by email or telephone. If you have ANY doubts about the status of a launch, please call one of the club officers (see phone list on page 8).**

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 should fill-out & hand-in a flight log sheet before departing the field. These sheets are provided at the time you pay your launch fee. The flight log sheets need your Name, NAR or Tripoli number and launch date, as well as your flight information. Please fill in flight information such as rocket name, motor used, and any comments about the flight. We use these logs to write up launch reports. If you haven't joined the NAR or Tripoli, please do so, as it is necessary if you want voting privileges within our section.

**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 was edited and produced by Neal Bade. If you would like to submit an article or photos, or have a suggestion for future issues please send it to me via one of the following methods:

1. Email to Neal\_Bade@compuserve.com, or if using Compuserve at 71431,141. Please send either ASCII text or Word for Windows file format.
2. Mail to Neal Bade, 14055 Kathleen Dr., Brook Park, OH, 44142. I can be reached at 216-265-3093 in the evenings.

**Other Area Launches**

The following is a listing of other launches being held in our vicinity. Contact one of these clubs for more information.

**Magnum VIII**

Tripoli Mid-Ohio has the 2-Day MAGNUM VIII Launch scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, April 5th and 6th, 1997 in Irwin, Ohio. There are 5 "M" motor launches planned !!!

Anyone going, should meet at the store by 8:00am/et that morning, as there is a mandatory flyers meeting at magnum between 8:00 & 9:00am/et. He said that the launch site is less than 2 miles from his store. He also said if anyone is late there will be directions at his store

to the launch site. I suspect that if anyone is in need of motors you should be able to buy them before the launch. I am not sure that Ross takes motors to sell to the launch site. There is a Launch Fee of \$5.00 for Tripoli and/or NAR members or \$8.00 for all others. This is a Tripoli launch, with a waver to 7,000 agl.

**CSAR**

- Feb. 23 Launch
- Mar. 9 Launch, planning for WMAA R/C & Model show
- Mar. 22 Model show
- Mar. 23 Launch
- Apr. 6 RED BARON XXV open meet-events TBA
- Apr. 20 Launch
- May 4 SNOOPY XXXIV local meet-events TBA

*(Continued on page 7)*

**Tri City Sky Busters**

c/o Neal Bade  
14055 Kathleen Drive  
Brook Park, OH 44142



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