

❖ Tri City Sky Busters ❖

Volume 6 Issue 1

NAR # 535

February 2000

Sky Busters Elect Officers for 2000

At our meeting on January 16th we held elections for club officers. Unlike previous years, this year we actually had multiple candidates for the offices of President and Vice-President. Both Neal Bade and Les Kramer were running for President, and Mark Sadowski and Pete Pflingsten for Vice-President.

Les Kramer (with 12 votes) beat incumbent Neal Bade (with 6 votes). Pete Pflingsten (with 12 votes) beat incumbent Mark Sadowski (with 6 votes). Dan Bihary ran unopposed as club Secretary/Treasurer.

Also voted on was raising the yearly dues from \$5 per year to \$10 per year. This is to offset rising costs and to give a little "push" to our bank account, which has remained static for the past several years. It seems we spent nearly the same amount we took in, and the account grew very slowly. The increase in club dues and the new high-power launch fees started in 1999 will give us more working capital in the year 2000.

The club dues payable at the beginning of each year (first quarter). If you have not paid your dues for this year, please do so as soon as possible. (You know who you are!).

We have a lot of things going on this year: the Euclid Square Mall show in March, the Chapel Hill Mall show, the Medina Air Show at the Freedom Field in Medina. The Euclid Mall show is discussed in detail in this newsletter. If you can help with one of these events, contact a Sky Busters club officer. Fly safe and have lots of fun this this year!

Sky Busters prepare for the 47th National Model Plane Show

The Sky Busters are again preparing for the annual National Model Plane Show. This will be our fourth 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 Euclid Square Mall in Euclid, OH. The show starts on Friday March 10th and runs through Sunday March 12th. 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 12AM 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 then 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 gain from this rewarding experience.



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Coming Soon! "BORF"

Coming soon to these very pages! The new Sky Buster Newsletter Cartoon Strip "The Continuing Mis-Adventures of BORF"



CHRISTMAS IN JANUARY

Who would have thought that Santa Clause would have shown up at our January Club meeting but he did! Marty Dorociak bought a brand new launch pad from Magnum complete with a launch rod and **DONATED** it to the club!! With this fine addition we have two Magnum launch pads. Vice-Pres Pete Pffingsten is working on constructing two more high power launch pads similar to the Quod-Pod design from Rocket Vision. With these pads we will have four heavy duty high power pads to go with our four pad high power launch controller donated by myself in 1998.

Along with the materials to construct the two pads, Pete has also ordered more stainless steel launch rods in 1/4", 3/8" and 7/16". We also have obtained two FREE launch rails from Black Sky Research. The rails are equivalent in stiffness to a 1/2" launch rod and can handle up to a 25 pound rocket! All the free rail guides are taken but additional ones can be purchased from Black Sky and other vendors. The cost is \$5.00 for two pairs of guides with screws. Once you've tried the rail, you may NEVER use a rod again. The rails are available for transport to other clubs launches. Next time you see Marty give him a big handshake and say THANKS!

Extra Shirts and Caps Available

Extra Club T-shirts, sweat shirts and caps are still available. Here's the list: 7 Caps @ \$6.00 each, 2 Large T-shirts @ \$10.00 each, 1 X-Large T-shirt @ \$10.00, 1 Large sweat shirt @ \$18.00, 1 X-large sweat shirt @ \$18.00.

To purchase, contact me, Les Kramer, 216-941-4554 or ZC412@aol.com

WAIVERS GALORE!!

We have more good news on the waiver front! Our Amherst site (3000 feet by 3000 feet) was previously granted waivers for different launch dates with a ceiling of 5200 feet and a "K" motor limit. That is still the same. What is different is that my contact at the FAA, Mr. Tim Branscum, has allowed us to obtain a blanket waiver which covers the entire calendar year 2000.

This means we can launch any day we want to with a minimum of a three hour notice. You just can't beat that deal with a stick! Mr. Branscum was very curious about these BIG rockets I was telling him about. He came to one of our launches with his children and was thoroughly amazed! He was impressed with our concern for safety. He was also satisfied with our meeting the conditions of the waivers (making necessary notifications by phone, etc.). All of these things played a part in him allowing us to have this year long waiver. Please make sure we ALL do our part not to tarnish our good reputation.

I have also obtained a waiver for the Oberlin site. The good news is this field is a LOT BIGGER than we had thought. It runs the full length between Quarry Road and Baumhart Road (at least 3300 feet) and is 2500 feet wide! The bad news is that this

field is just outside an emergency approach to Hopkins. This will limit our waiver to 2500 feet but we can still launch rockets using the larger motors (I, J and maybe K depending on rocket weight). This waiver will also be issued in an annual format for the entire calendar year 2000.

I don't know of a club that has the luxury of having to decide WHICH wavered field to use! Next time you see Vice-Pres Pete Pffingsten thank him for lining up these two fields for us. As always, our launching depends not only on the weather but ALSO the field conditions such as mud, field access, etc.

Amherst Launch Site Improvements

Mr. John Born (the farmer who owns the field) stated that sometime this spring he will put some gravel down on the access road between and behind his barns. This will allow us better access to the field without having to drive directly on the field itself. The farmer is doing this for both his benefit and ours. He would prefer that we do not drive on the field unless we have to (other than to set up equipment), as he does not want the field to get full of ruts.

Our suggestion was that if the access road was accessible to car traffic we would be glad to use it. He said he was planning on improving this road by the barns anyway. We would need to have the part of the road that goes back into the fields improved in several spots.

We have offered to pay for some of the gravel needed and he will pick it up and distribute it. If Mr. Born needs some help, I may be asking for some volunteers to lend some elbow grease and a shovel. I don't know at this point how much money we are talking but I can't imagine it being more than a couple of truck loads of gravel and several hundred dollars.

TRI-CITY SKY BUSTERS**NAR #535****2000 LAUNCH WINDOWS**

ll Launches will be subject to the NAR MODEL ROCKET, HIGH POWER ROCKET and RADIO-CONTROLLED ROCKET BOOSTED GLIDER ROCKETRY SAFETY CODES. (i.e. U.S. Model & High Power Rocketry Sporting Codes.)

Standard launch dates will be the 1st WEEKEND, & 3rd WEEKEND of each month. With weather reschedule dates of the 2nd WEEKEND & 4th WEEKEND of each month as needed.

The location of a launch varies from one launch to the next. This is especially inconsistent from about November to April each year. We also have impromptu launches throughout the year. These may be to test new launch locations or for special events. To find out where the next launch is located, check the Sky Busters web page (address at bottom of page), contact a Sky Buster club member, or call one of the phone numbers at the bottom of this page.

FIRST WEEKEND LAUNCHES

January	8-or-9, 2000
February	5-or-6, 2000
March	4-or-5, 2000
April	1-or-2, 2000
May	6-or-7, 2000
June	3-or-4, 2000
July	1-or-2, 2000
August	5-or-6, 2000
September	2-or-3, 2000
October	7-or-8, 2000
November	4-or-5, 2000
December	2-or-3, 2000

THIRD WEEKEND LAUNCHES

January	22-or-23, 2000
February	19-or-20, 2000
March	18-or-19, 2000
April	15-or-16, 2000
May	20-or-21, 2000
June	17-or-18, 2000
July	15-or-16, 2000
August	19-or-20, 2000
September	16-or-17, 2000
October	21-or-22, 2000
November	18-or-19, 2000
December	16-or-17, 2000

If a launch is canceled or postponed for any reason, we attempt to notify everyone by email or telephone. If you plan on attending a launch, please call one of the club officers a few days before the launch (see below). Remember, this is only a tentative schedule; launch dates are variable due to weather, field availability, and other conditions.

An "All-Day Range Fee" of \$1.00 per Any person launching will be charged, with a max. "Family-Fee" of \$2.00. **Note that Persons launching High Power (G-M) rockets will have a higher launch fee of \$3.00 -or- \$5.00 for Non-Club-Members** These fees are 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 and hand-in a flight log sheet before departing the launch 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 data info. 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 NAR or Tripoli, please do so asap, as it is necessary for membership and voting privileges within our section. Year 2000 Club Dues are \$10.00 and should be paid by the end of the 1st quarter (March 31,2000)

The Tri-City Sky Busters web page is at <http://www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/Lab/5528/nar535.html>

President Les Kramer (216) 941-4554 (Lakewood, Ohio) Vice President Pete Pfingsten (440) 965-4895 (Amherst, Ohio)
Sec./Tres. Dan Bihary (216) 288-3409 (Lorain, Ohio)

North Promo Gerry Freed (216) 476-2496 (Cleveland, Ohio) East Promo Jim Phillips (330) 898-5851 (Southington, OH)
South Promo Joe Picking (419) 281-1135 (Ashland, Ohio) West Promo Mike Bear (419) 669-2377 (Bowling Green OH)

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:

Email to: nealbade@ameritech.net
Please send either ASCII text or Microsoft Word format.

Mail to:
Neal Bade
14055 Kathleen Dr.
Brook Park, OH, 44142.

Call me at 216-265-3093 for more info

We need your input!

This newsletter is written *by* Sky Busters members *for* Sky Busters members. We need your contribution to make this newsletter worthwhile to other members. Articles can be written about anything rocketry related.

If you have built a kit recently, we would like to hear about it in a kit review. Maybe you've come up with some technique that would be useful to your fellow rocketeers, we would like you to share it with us. Like many of us, maybe you are a BAR (Born Again Rocketeer) who has rediscovered the hobby after many years. We would like to hear about your experiences.

See "Newsletter Information" (at left) to submit your article for publication.

Club Membership Dues

Please remember that your \$10 yearly club dues need to be paid for 2000. You can make payments to any of the club officers. Make checks payable to "Tri-City Sky Busters". Reminder: If you have NAR insurance, it also needs to be paid for 2000. You can reach the NAR headquarters at 1-800-262-4872 or the NAR web site at www.nar.org



Tri City Sky Busters

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