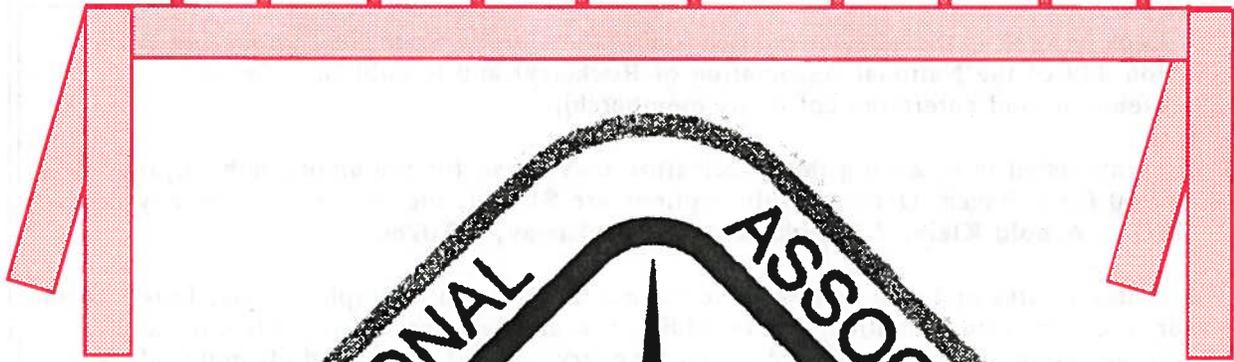


# LAUNCH RACK



**NARAM 40**

August 8-14, 1998 at Muncie, IN

**ISSUE 124(57)**



# The Launch Rack

The Official Publication of The  
*Garden State Spacemodeling Society*

MAY/JUNE 1998

ISSUE 124

**The Launch Rack** is the official publication of the *Garden State Spacemodeling Society* (Section 439 of the National Association of Rocketry) and is published for the enlightenment and entertainment of its membership.

Others interested in receiving this publication may do so for the annual subscription rate of \$7.50 for 6 issues. Overseas subscriptions are \$17.50. Please send this money payable in USD to **Arnold Klein, 2 Oneida Avenue, Rockaway, NJ 07866.**

The Editor invites and encourages all to submit articles, photographs, plans, letters to the editor, etc., for future publication. In addition to articles, the Editor welcomes and encourages constructive feedback on each an every issue. Please send all material to:

Jack Sarhage  
875 River Road  
Piscataway, NJ 08854-5549

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## LAUNCH WINDOW:

Anyone wishing to attend any GSSS activity should call the GSSS hotline (908) 658-9417 the morning of, to verify the event is still on. If the event is cancelled, the recording will be updated at 9AM.

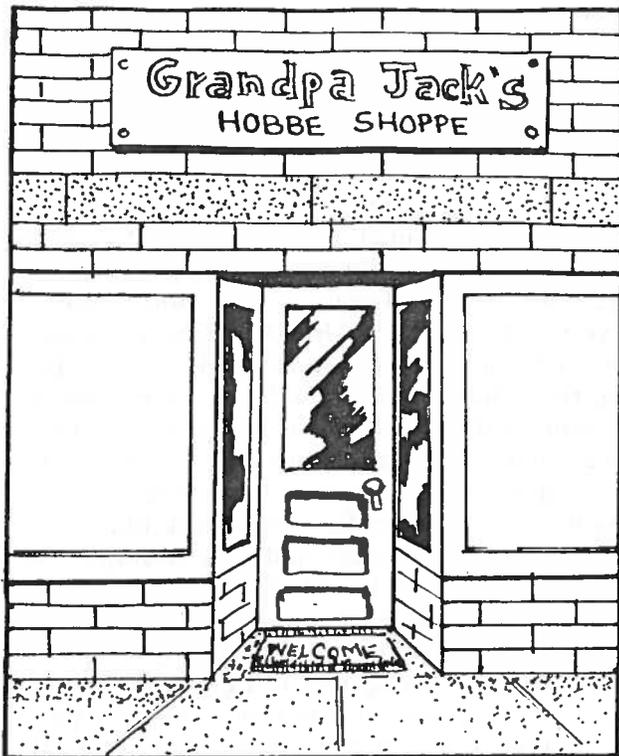
**A NOTE ON NORTH BRANCH PARK.** Please keep in mind that the park and weather conditions dictate what we allow to fly. Just because a rocket is under the one pound limit, do not assume it is an automatic launch. If the RSO does not feel the model can be safely flown or recovered within the park's boundaries, it will not be flown regardless of the weight or impulse. If some other activity shows up and starts using the adjoining fields, the RSO will reduce impulse for all flights. So, bring some small stuff just in case. **REMEMBER, WE SHARE THE PARK.** We do not pay a fee and most of us are not a resident of that county. Rocket flying fields in New Jersey are in short supply, and we are protective of the fields we have. If you're unhappy with this limitation, then we invite you to help us in gaining legal access to privately owned, large, open fields.

| Sat., May 30, 1998                            | Sat., June 27, 1998                                  | Sat., July 25, 1998             |
|---|--|---------------------------------|
| 10:00 am - 3:00 pm                            | 10:00 am - 3:00 pm                                   | 10:00 am - 3:00 pm              |
| Fun Fly: A Parachute<br>Duration (Alpha Type) | Fun Fly: A Glider Duration<br>(Anything that glides) | Fun Fly: A Streamer<br>Duration |

**ALL OF THE ABOVE LAUNCHES WILL BE HELD AT NORTH BRANCH PARK**

**ON OUR COVER:** This is to logo of this year's NARAM. It is the 40th anniversary of this annual competition and gathering of model rocketeers from all over the country. This issue is dedicated to NARAM-40 and we hope that you will plan to attend after reading some of the experiences of members at past meets

**NOTE: DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS JUNE 27!!**



"The section that competes together, stays together." Though I cannot say who spoke these words of wisdom, I can say that in the case of GSSS the "old-timers", those that have remained members for many, many years, have competed together in one or more competitions. And **THE COMPETITION** is around the corner on August 8-14, 1998 in Muncie, Indiana.....**NARAM 40**.

This issue is dedicated to those "warriors" that have represented GSSS "under fire" and is an invitation to you to join them.

Why compete? Why go to a competition? Why go a NARAM? Those questions are best answered by those that have been there. Earlier, I asked several GSSS members that have gone to previous NARAM's to tell us why. So turn to page 4.....and, then plan to attend NARAM 40!!  
**AN OPEN LETTER TO GSSS.....**

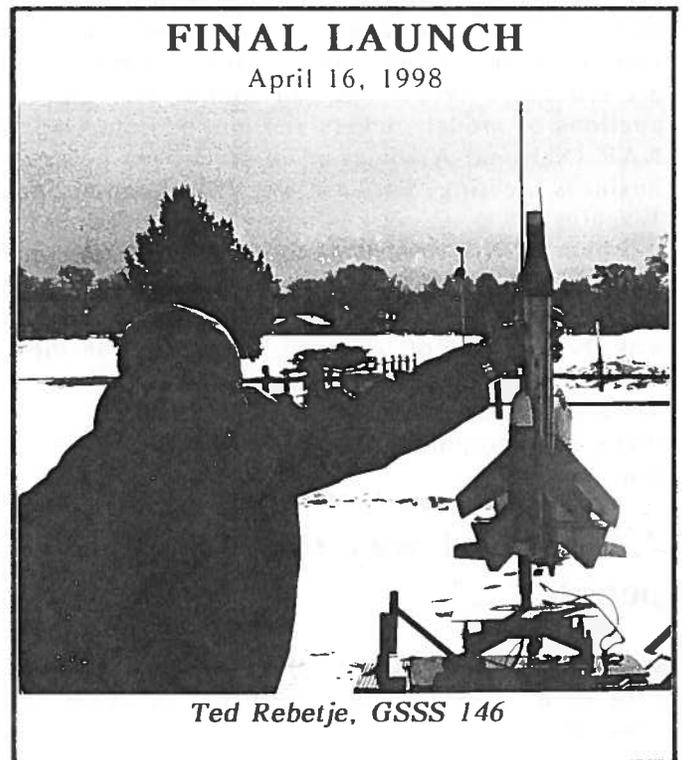
"Dear Bob, Arnie, Jack, et al,  
I have just gotten out of Deborah Lung & Heart Hospital, a week of testing and research on me. Having been a member since 1985 I have totally enjoyed the experience, looked forward to every launch I could make and hope to be with you guys again this summer. Being there with the help of my sons, GSSS has been and will be one of the few things that drives me. Thanks again for being there for me and the many guys that

derive pleasure from our group. Keep 'em flying.  
Sincerely,  
Ted Rebetje"

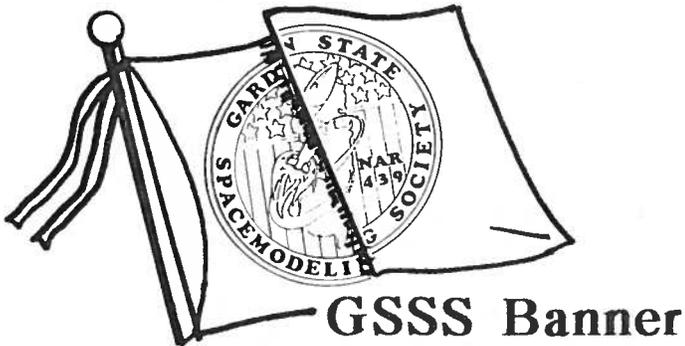
(Shortly after this letter was received I wrote to Ted to tell him that he helped to give GSSS the character that makes it a "cut above the rest", and that we looked forward to seeing him and the famed double shuttle. A few days later Mrs Rebetje called to tell me that Ted had died on April 16, 1998.

I know that everyone here at GSSS joins me in sending our condolences to the whole Rebetje family and for them to know we will miss him at the launches.)

**SECTION MEET:** On page 5 in the report of the Club Meeting held at the April 25 launch you will read that it was decided to hold a Section Meet. A Section Meet is a contest for Section members only. The date is September 26, 1998 and the name of it is the "Ted Rebetje Memorial" and the events in this contest will be as follows: **Open Spot Landing (OSL), ½A Boost Glider Duration (½A BG), ½A Parachute Duration (½A PD) and A Streamer Duration (A SD)**. A Section Meet has a Weighting Factor of 40 and a Contest Factor of 1. So get building and practicing at the monthly launches.



## Fighting under the



Or, Why Should I go to a NARAM.....

*(The following are the experiences of several of the GSSS members that have attended and competed in past NARAMS. Enjoy.)*

Section Advisor, Bob Zabriskie writes....."If you fly model rockets I recommend attending a NARAM, at least once. At the time I went I was very active in competition. However, even if you are not interested in competing it is still a fun thing to do. I drove down to Manassas, VA for NARAM 31 with Arnie Klein and Jude Mikolajczyk arriving on Sunday afternoon and checking into the hotel. The next day started 5 days of competitive flying. Usually two events are flown each day. You are also required to do two shifts of range duty. This is a good way to meet other people attending. Then at night there are scheduled events you can attend, such as auctions of model rockets and equipment. The NAR (National Association of Rocketry) holds its business meeting. Because we were near Washington D. C. as bus trip was included to the Air and Space Museum. I thought I did very good getting a second place in both 1/2A Parachute Duration and B Boost-Glider, though it was through lots of luck and little skill. On the last night the awards banquet is held. All I can say about that is, good food and if your were lucky good trophies. Why go? It was a lot of fun.

**"....a good way to meet other people...."**

*(Past Vice President Jude Mikolajczyk has the following impression of NARAM's in Texas and Chicago.)*

So, you want to know about NARAM experiences. Well, they are lots of fun. It's like having a 24 hour a day party in the hotel for a week, or beer party if you're Doctor Bob. Everyone usually leaves their rooms open and people go in and out talking, observing and helping each other day and night. There were dinner party's with the Whymark family. BBQ's everyday at the launch site. Dominos delivering pizza to Dr. Bob while he was in the outdoor swimming pool in Texas. Or Dr. Bob at the Olive Garden at the NARAM in Chicago sucking down a helium balloon and singing the lollipop song right there in the middle of the restaurant. We even told the people in the Olive Garden that is was Dawn Whymark's birthday and asked them to embarrass her in front of the whole restaurant. Which they did. then Erin Whymark blurts out, "it's not Dawn's birthday and why couldn't you tell them it was my birthday instead." The people at the restaurant played along with the whole thing and even brought out a birthday cake for dessert. The only negative thing I can say is sometimes the competition aspect gets people so intense that they yell and scream and argue, like Dr. Bob, otherwise it's load of fun and a great experience.

**"....it's loads of fun and a great experience."**

*(Past President Tom Whymark and Editor gave these impressions of NARAM-33 in Issue 74 of the newsletter. GSSS was Reserve Section Champion that year, 1991.)*

"As a section, GSSS likes to go out and party at dinner time. After all we fly all day and build most of the night."

Tom describes the launch site in terms of the baseball field in "The Field of Dreams" where "weeds replaced cornstalks. Add the swamp, the railroad tracks.....Fortunately, most if not all, model rocketeers are very nice. If they were already in the area, recovering their model, and they see your model land near them or happened to come across it in the brush, they'll pick it up for you."

(Please turn to page 6 for the continuation)



## News From Section 439

April 25th was launch day at North Branch Park and was a twin to the March launch with its wind and cool temperatures. Attendance was down at the April march though those present had fun. Notable launches were Arnie Klein's "chad" staged flying saucer. Bob Zabriskie made a couple of nice flights with his Astro-bee and a Tarter. Our favorite oak tree "caught" Bob Novak's Bandit while Bob Nee with trusty extension pole de-caught a rocket decorating said tree for sometime. He got a set of plastic-motor-fin mount assembly for his efforts. Steve Pantuck launched a couple of saucer type models. Prez Sarhage launched a Tri-F-O twice. Tony (sorry I did not get last name) and his family were there with some nice rockets. Grandpa and Grandma Whymark with now 2 year old Alex arrived for some afternoon flying. Tom said a bout of car sickness almost scrubbed their launch. As is was Alex was scrubbed and re-outfitted. And speaking of "scrubbed", the Open Spot Landing was put on hold until the May launch. Why? We forgot to bring a tape measure. Also at the May launch we will have the A Parachute Duration Fun-Fly. *(Is there anyone or anytwo that regularly attend the monthly launches that would like to volunteer as reporter and write a short column, as above, for each of the monthly launches???? PLEASE.)*

**APRIL CLUB MEETING:** A short club meeting was held at the April launch. The first order of business was a decision to donate \$50-dollars to the NAR Capital Campaign and another donation of \$50-dollars to the G. Harry Stine Space Pioneers Memorial Fund. It was also voted on and approved to hold a Section Meet at the September 26 launch. Hopefully we will still qualify for the Free section meet sanction at offered by Tom Lyons as reported by Northeast Contest Board Chairman Jeff Vincent. Monmouth County 4H Club asked for volunteers to help out with their "First Flights" launch on May 2. Prez Sarhage will attend and thought no one else stated for sure they could be there, there was some indication others would be able to help. Plans for the Membership Drive were put off

until the May meeting as Vice Presidents Kurt Koegel and Ken Goddard were not present. Steve Pantuck donated a Estes "Star Wars" Electron Beam Launch Controller and Porta Pad II to be used as prizes at some future event the club will hold. GSSS Section Advisor Bob Zabriskie announced that his son Karl was getting married on Saturday, May 2. Karl was a member of this section for many years and I am sure that I am joined in wishing him and his bride much happiness and many "little rocketeers". Okay, Karl now that you have a career and wife it is time to build and fly model rockets again.

**OPPORTUNITIES:** GSSS has two chances to promote the club and model rocketry. First is on May 16th at Solberg (is that spelled right?) Airport. Robert Nee, our FAA liaison, was contacted by airport administration to ask if we would be interested in setting up a display and having a launch. No only can we promote our club we can show the pilots that fly in/out of that airport that this is a mature hobby and we take every effort not to endanger them or their aircraft when over our launch site. Contact Robert Nee at 201 798-1344 Jack Sarhage at 723 463-1484 and let them know you want to help out.

The second chance is on June 6th at Dorbrook Park. This is the raindate for the Monmouth County 4-H Club "First Flights" competition. GSSS has been asked to provide judges. The models are judged on appearance and quality of construction, preparation for launch, launch and recovery. Sports launches will be allowed as time permits. Again contact Jack Sarhage to volunteer. This is another way to get in extra sport launch flights while promoting GSSS.

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### SKY WATCH

*Contributing Editor: Bob Zabriskie*

During the month of May 4 of the 5 "naked-eye" planets will be visible in the predawn sky. Mercury and Saturn are close together low in the East on the 12th and 13th. Saturn and Venus have a close conjunction on the 28th and 29th. Venus and Jupiter are the two brightest. First Quarter of the Moon is on the 2nd, Full on the 11th, Last Quarter on the 19th and the New Moon on the 25th.

June continues the drought of planets in the evening sky. Mercury is almost impossible to see (Continued on page 6)

**SKY WATCH** continued.....

as it sinks lower in the predawn sky and toward its reappearance in the evening sky very low in the West the last days of the month. Mars is also in the Sun's glare and not visible. Venus is lowest in the Eastern sky. Then Saturn higher and to the right, then come Jupiter still higher and to the right. They are all in a line from the East to the Southeast. June 21st is the Summer Solstice. The longest day of the year (and the shortest night). Moon phases are June 2nd First Quarter, June 10th Full Moon, June 17th Last Quarter, and June 24th for the New Moon.

After sunset do you know when night begins and twilight ends? Did you know that there are 3 kinds of twilight? **Civil Twilight** ends when the Sun is 6-degrees below the horizon. **Nautical Twilight** ends when the Sun is 12-degrees below the horizon. **Astronomical Twilight** ends when the Sun is 18-degrees below the horizon.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**FIGHTING UNDER THE GSSS BANNER.....**

".....GSSS had started forming recovery teams. We would position a member, with binoculars, on the railroad tracks and put at least two members in the weeds. Even with this coordinated effort over 1/3 of the duration flights were never found.

".....we flew in the rain on Thursday, Almost everyone sported designer garbage bags. If was fun, Honest! Where else but at a model rocket meet, can adults wear garbage bags and run with abandon into 10 foot tall weeds, while looking skyward.

".....NARAM is more than a contest. It's a chance to share your love of the hobby with others. Make new friends and see old ones.

**"Make news friends and see old ones."**

"Parties where held everywhere. Stories, supplies, information, all were exchanged As a club everybody went to NARAM to have fun and hopefully win some trophies along the way. We knew we had a chance. After all, going into NARAM our section was in second place with 18,000 points. Three thousand behind the leader. Many of our members were listed in the top ten.

"We did it all, and we did it together. I will never forget the feeling I had when Bruce (Canino) jumped on my back after Matthew's (Whymark) two stage peanut scale WAC Corporal worked. The two of us were like little kids.

"The team work paid off. The section finished second with over 28,000 points. Only 1200 points behind the winner. Our teamwork paid big dividends on the individual front. Eleven of the thirteen GSSS competitors placed in at least one event. The two that didn't barely missed. Three of our members won National awards. Matthew Whymark won the 1990-91 A Division National Championship. Jason Whymark won the A Division fourth place trophy. Dr. Bob Kreutz won the 1990-91 C Division Reserve Championship.

"I believe GSSS had the largest contingent of A Divisioners I'm proud of these kids. They built their models, often late into the night. They tried their best, worked hard, and had fun.



The above cartoon is one of several that graced the pages of Issue 74 by Jason Whymark.

Now to help you get in the mood we are providing two plans by GSSS members that have been flown by them in competition.

# Zip.....

by Bob Zabriskie  
NAR 36036

This is a model for 1/2A and A parachute or streamer duration. Build as any model keeping in mind light weight. Attach shock chord to fin at root and run along body tube. Attach other end to nose cone. Insert spent engine to balance so body tube hangs horizontal. Launch from tower.

For parachute duration (PD) use 18-inch dry cleaner bag chute. For streamer duration (SD) use 4-inch by 40-inch folded tracing paper or mica film streamer attached at corner of streamer.

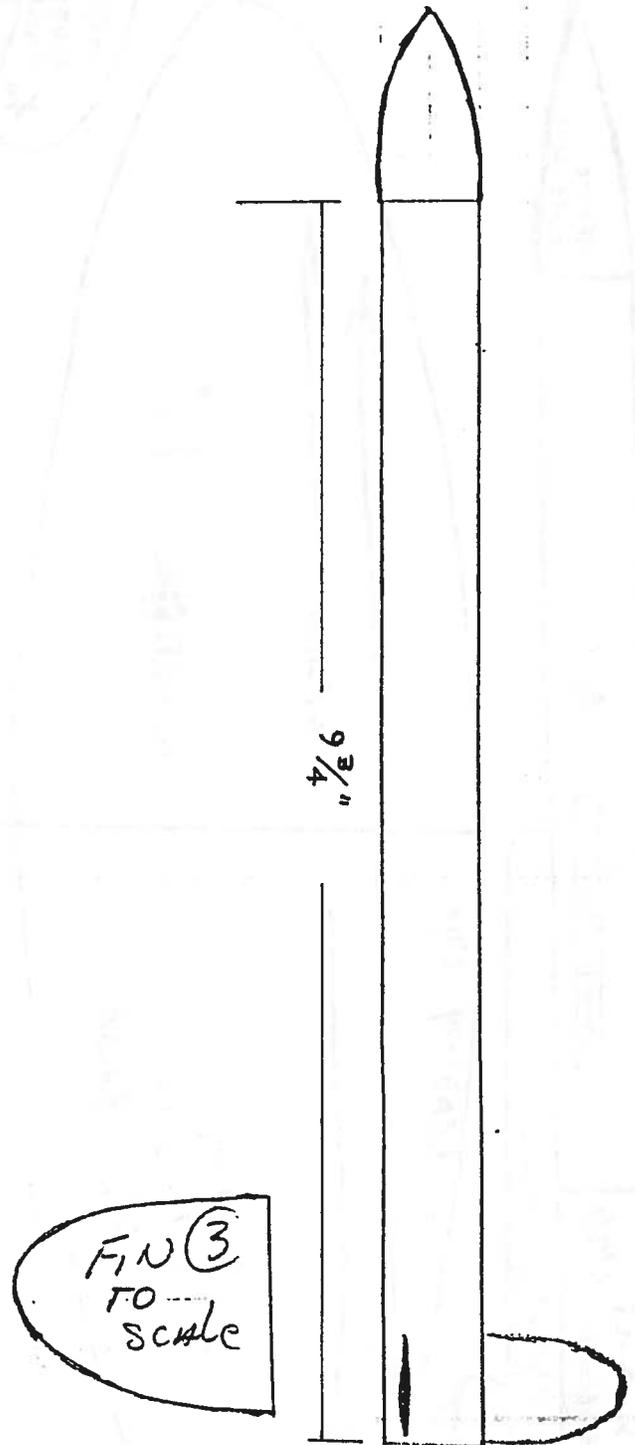
Fly with 1/2A3-4T or A3-6T

### Parts List

- Body tube: BT-5 9 3/4 inches long
- Nose cone: Any that will fit the BT-5 from Apogee or North Coast)
- Fin stock: 1/32 ply or balsa
- Use squidd line for shock chord.
- Engine block such as 1/4' of used 13mm engine.

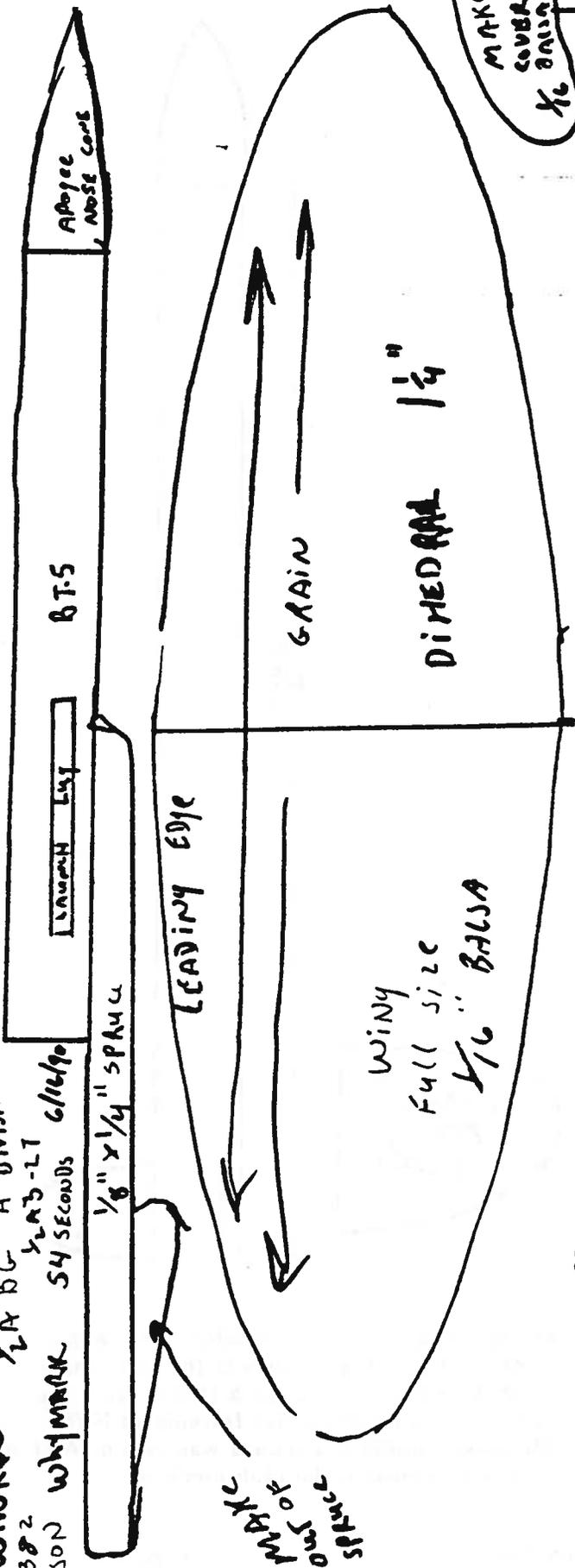
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### FIFTEEN YEARS AGO IN The Launch Rack

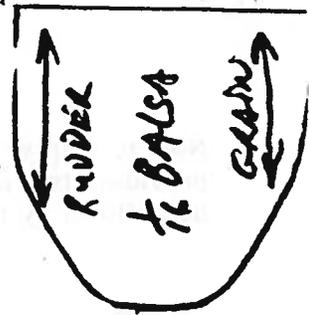
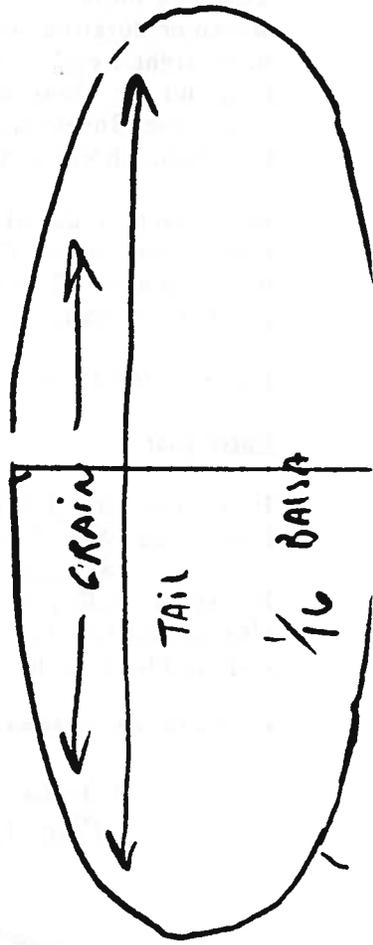
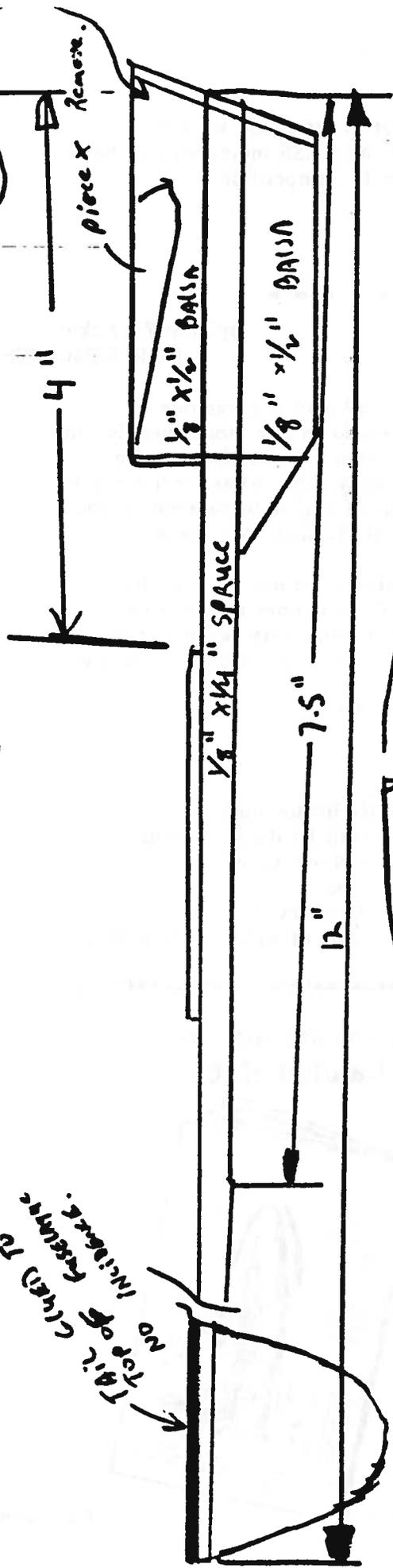


Results of our very first Section Meet was reported. Chris Rendenna was the big winner. Plans were being made for a launch from the deck of the aircraft carrier Intrepid in NYC. The All-Season Rocketeer Award was begun. A slide show was shown at the club meeting.

Twinkiee 1/2 A B C "A" Division  
 44382 1/2 A B C - LT  
 JASON WHYMANK 54 SECONDS 6/16/90



MAKE ONE COVER OUT 1/16 Balsa



ALL PARTS FULL SIZE EXCEPT FUSELAGE WHICH IS TOO BIG TO FIT ON PAGE.



**DIRECTIONS TO NORTH BRANCH  
PARK LAUNCH SITE**

North Branch Park is very near the traffic circle junction of NJ Routes 22, 28, 202, and 206, near Somerville. Follow 202 South from the circle for 2 miles, past Ortho Pharmaceutical and Harris Corp. under railroad trestle marked "4H is Tops", to right turn onto Milltown Road. Make first left after firehouse and 4H Center on right; follow path to open field. Monthly launches from 10-4.

**FROM NORTH**  
NJ Turnpike South to Exit 10, 287 North to Exit 13, 202/206 South to Circle

**FROM SOUTH**  
202 North to Milltown Rd.; or 206 North to Circle

**FROM EAST**  
287 North to Exit 13, 202/206 South to Circle

**FROM WEST**  
Rt. 78 or Rt. 80 East to 287 South to Exit 13, 202/206 South to Circle

**GSSS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
NAR number \_\_\_\_\_ GSSS number \_\_\_\_\_

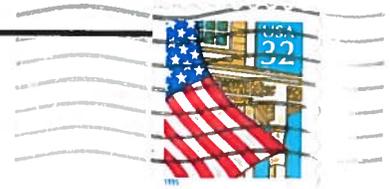
Membership Category (Check One)  
 ( ) Junior (Under 16) .....\$5.00  
 ( ) Leader (16 through 20) .....\$7.00  
 ( ) Senior (21 or over) .....\$10.00  
 ( ) Family Plan (Deduct \$2.00 for each additional family member, only one Launch Rack will be sent.)

I pledge to abide by the NAR/HIA Safety Code and GSSS Constitution and Bylaws in all my non-professional rocketry activities.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Send this application along with check for dues payable to: Arnold Klein,  
2 Oneida ave Rockaway N.J. 07866

**GARDEN STATE SPACEMODELING SOCIETY -- NAR SECTION #439**  
 Robert Zabriskle  
 3 Peachtree Road  
 Basking Ridge, NJ 07920



TO:

Robert Nee  
 222 Willow Avenue - #2A  
 Hoboken NJ 07030

**THE LAUNCH RACK**  
 NEWSLETTER OF NEW JERSEY'S SPACEMODELING SOCIETY

07030X3667

