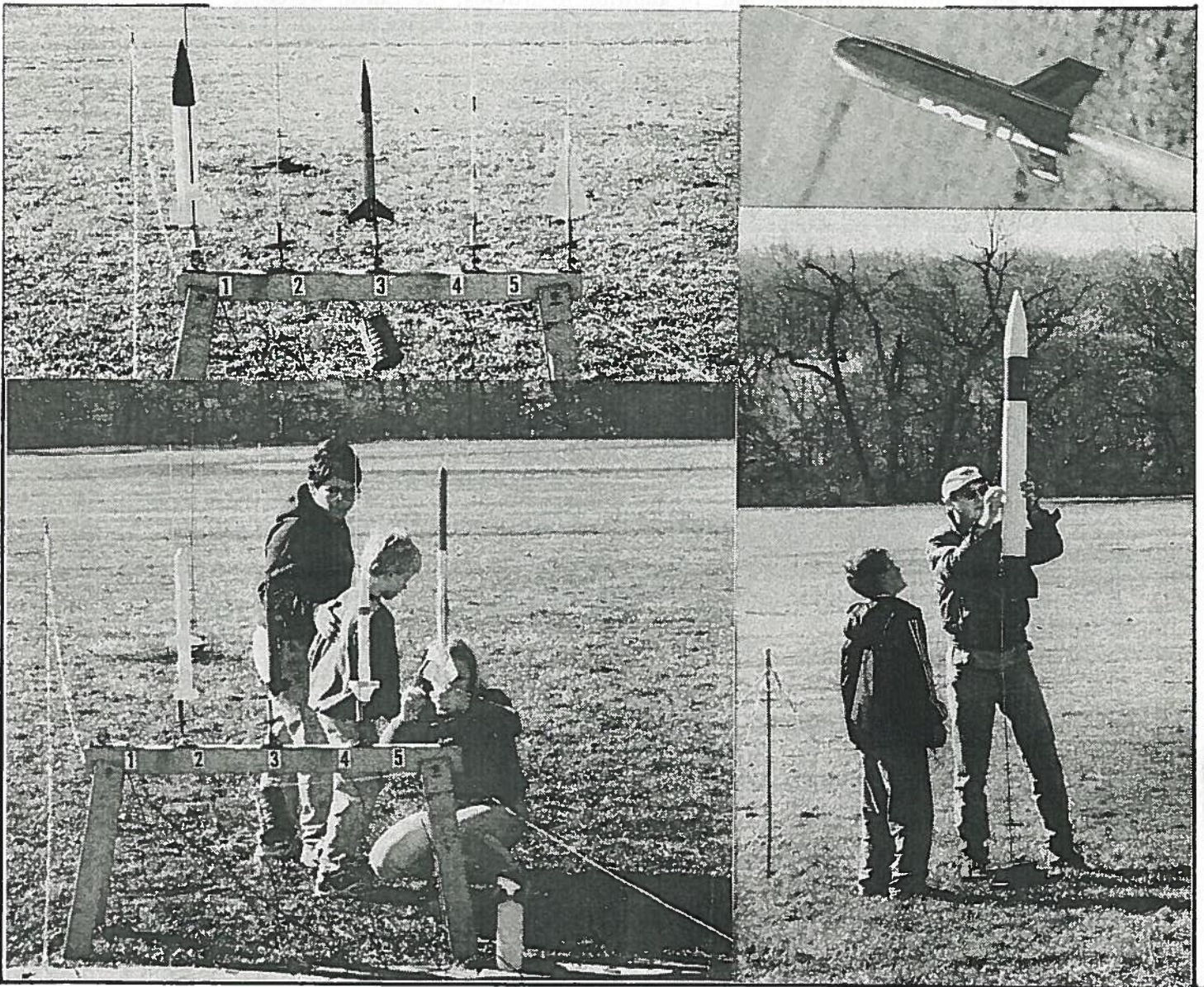


# LAUNCH RACK

Journal of New Jersey's Oldest NAR Section

ISSUE 128(61)



# The Launch Rack

The Official Publication of The  
*Garden State Spacemodeling Society*

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1999

ISSUE 128(61)

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.

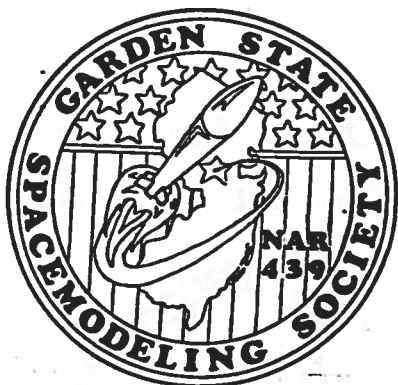
**A NOTE ON NORTH BRANCH PARK.** Please keep in mind that the park and weather conditions dictate what we allow to fly. Just because a rocket is under the one pound limit, do not assume it is an automatic launch. If the RSO does not feel the model can be safely flown or recovered within the park's boundaries, 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.

<u>Sat., January 30, 1999</u>	<u>Sat., February 27, 1999</u>	<u>Sat., March 27, 1999</u>
10:00 am - 3:00 pm	10:00 am - 3:00 pm	10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Section Sport Launch	Section Sport Launch	Section Sport Launch

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

**ON OUR COVER:** The photographs on our cover this issue are by our favorite photographer, Steve Pantuck. Steve has a friend that graciously scanned the originals. Hey, Steve! What's your friends name so we can give him credit for the fine job. Thanks to both of you.

NOTE: DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS FEBRUARY 20



GSSS - New Jersey's Oldest NAR Section

## News From Section 439

### HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

I am sorry I am late with this issue of the newsletter. There are all sorts of excuses I could blame, but they would just be excuses.

This is the first issue for 1999 and as you can see it has not started out on the "right foot".

Thank you are due to our ever faithful Bob Zabriskie for his "Sky Watch" and Steve Pantuck for his photos. OH! A special thank you to "Diane" who made the halftones of Steve's work that appear on the cover. I did not have her name when I put together page two.

This comes with best wishes to you all for a happy and healthy 1999.

### EDITOR SEARCH.....

Other than President of the United States I can think of only one other "thankless" job and that is that of the newsletter editor. Though everyone wants one, no one wants to make life for the person doing the job easier

With that in mind I thought I must be dreaming when I got a phone call from one of our members wanting to do the newsletter. I will not reveal his name at this time pending the receipt of his ideas and goals planned.

This is a good time to thank publicly all those folks that have taken on the job of Editor since Issue No. 1 in 1983. They are.....

ISSUES 1 - 46	Jack Sarhage
ISSUES 47 - 66	Bruce Canino
ISSUES 67 - 92	Tom Whymark
ISSUES 93 - 113	Bob Zabriskie
ISSUES 114 - 128	Jack Sarhage

*The Launch Rack* is one of the oldest continuously published newsletters in the NAR circle of Sections. It is also one of the very few that have won the "NORTH AMERICAN ROCKWELL TROPHY" - presented to that NAR Section publishing the outstanding Section

Newsletter." We won that in 1986. And, as I wrote then, "let me tell you guys that, that is some 'atta boy'". But, that year we published 84 pages of "enlightenment and entertainment" as compared to our 46 pages last year.

Would you like to see a repeat of this? I would. If so, it is up to you. Become a "contributing editor" and send in a plan, kit review, sport launch coverage, etc.

### WE ARE SOLVENT.....

Arnie Klein, Treasurer reports that we start 1999 off with \$957.30 in the club coffers.

As President, I am seeking ideas of how to go about spending some of it. Please send yours to me at the address on page two. As Editor, I will publish them in the newsletter to be discussed and voted upon at up coming club meetings.

### CLUB MEETINGS???......

Right! The month of March will see the start of monthly club meetings as per Article VI: "Meetings" which state, "Meetings of the Executive Board shall take place at least twelve (12) times per year." Who is the Executive Board? it's the President, two Vice Presidents, Secretary/Treasurer and the Section Advisor.

### ALL-SEASON ROCKETEER.....

Elsewhere in this issue you will find the "All-Season Rocketeer 1999" form. This is the easiest of awards to win. All you have to do is make one model rocket launch each month. Enter the date on the form and have your witness sign it. NOTE: This does not have to be at a Sport Launch.

### A HISTORICAL NOTE.....

Seventeen years ago, February 24, 1982 to be exact, Chris Rendenna, John Lyons, Richard Stukhart, Ron Leinberger and Jack Sarhage sat down at the dining room table in Englewood and formed the Garden State Spacemodeling Society, known then as the Bergen County Model Rocket Society. Then name was officially changed January 1, 1985.

**AGAIN, HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!!! LET'S RESOLVE TO MAKE IT A BANNER YEAR FOR GSSS.**

## SKY WATCH

Contributing Editor: Bob Zabriskie

### JANUARY

**Venus, Jupiter, and Saturn:** Visible at dusk in January with Venus low in the West-Southwest and getting higher each week.

**Jupiter:** High in the Southwest sky to the left of Venus. As the month goes on the distance between the two steadily decreases.

**Saturn:** Is in the South, Southwest sky high and to the left of Jupiter. As the year progresses the ring tilt will increase as seen in a telescope.

**Mars:** Rises around midnight and is best viewed just before dawn high in the South.

**The Moon:** Is to the lower right of Venus on the 18th, near Jupiter on the 21st and close to Saturn on the 23rd.

### FEBRUARY

**Venus and Jupiter:** Put on a spectacular display this month as the two brightest "stars" in the South Southwest sky. The distance between them getting smaller and smaller until on the 23rd at dusk they will be separated by only 0.2 degrees. This will be one of the best conjunctions ever. If you have binoculars this will be a beautiful sight.

**Saturn:** Is well to the upper left of Jupiter and Venus all month.

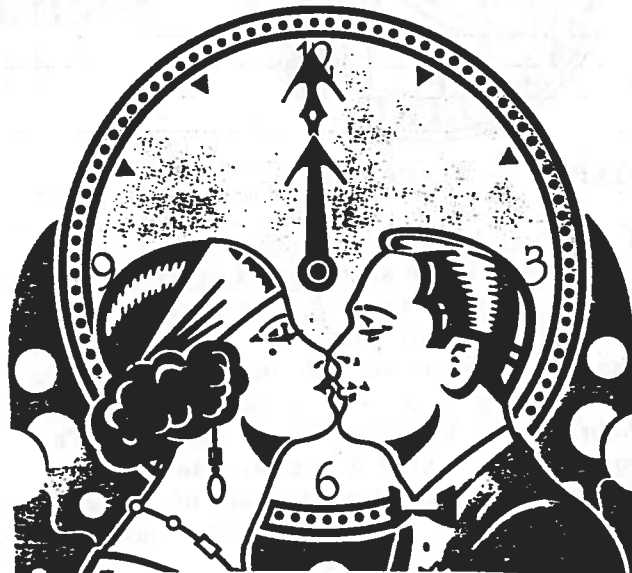
**Mercury:** Makes a showing very low in the West at sundown well below Venus. On the night of the 28th Jupiter will join the duo making a nice grouping.

**Mars:** Rises late, shinning red orange and getting brighter each week. By the end of the month it is as bright as the star Arcturus, far to Mar's upper left.

**The Moon:** On the 16th below Mercury on the 17th under Venus, and on the 18th to the upper left of Jupiter. On the 20th it will be to the left of Saturn.



## When Does the New Millennium Begin?



By now you may have caught wind of the debate over whether the next millennium begins Jan. 1, 2000, or Jan. 1, 2001. Although New Year's Eve devotees world wide are planning their fetes for Dec. 31, 1999, they will be a year early in ushering in a new era.

The next millennium begins after 1,999 years have passed, and that won't occur until midnight Dec. 31, 2000. Since the first day of the first A.D. year was called Jan. 1, 1, when the calendar turned to Jan. 1, 2, only one year had passed.

If the first year had been called 0, then the beginning of the second year would have been called 1, just like a person is after one year of life. And had the first year been 0 and the second 1, we would celebrate the new millennium Jan. 1, 2000.

But as it stands, that date marks the beginning of the 2000th year, which is the last year of this millennium, not the first year of the next millennium. So the current millennium ends Dec. 31, 2000, and we begin a new millennium Jan. 1, 2001.

But if you want to cover your bases socially as well as mathematically, throw a party on both dates: Dec. 31, 1999 and Dec. 31, 2000.

# 1999 FLYING SCHEDULE

## GARDEN STATE SPACEMODELING SOCIETY

All Season Rocketeer 1999

Month	Date	Witness
JAN		
FEB		
MAR		
APR		
MAY		
JUN		
JUL		
AUG		
SEP		
OCT		
NOV		
DEC		

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Section Advisor

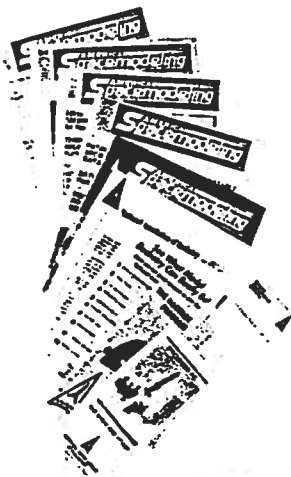
Just make one flight each month, date it, and have someone sign it. Turn it in before December 31, 1999.

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Come join us for a full year of sport flying. For all launch information and club information contact the GSSS  
Hotline : 908-658-9417  
or send mail to  
Bob Zabriskie  
RD#2  
3 Peachtree Rd Basking  
Ridge NJ 07920  
E-mail <Danielle@blast.net>

Visit our WEB site at:  
<http://www.agoron.com/~mee/gsss/>

## You Can Join the National Association of Rocketry



Founded in 1957, the NAR is a non-profit organization whose members participate in local, regional, national and international competitions; help establish rules and standards for contests; and benefit from the many books, slide shows, technical reports and scale rocket data available through the association.

Your initial NAR membership package includes a copy of the U.S. Model Rocket Sporting Code, containing the rules to over two dozen contests. Use this book to attend model rocket meets throughout the country, to hold your own local competitions, or to try to set official national records. You also receive a free 1-year subscription (6 issues) to American Space Modeling magazine, which includes model rocketry news, plans, photos, tech articles and contest reports.

You can also purchase, for a low annual fee, model rocket liability insurance—with \$1,000,000 coverage. The insurance covers bodily injuries and property damage while flying model rockets in accordance with the NAR Model Rocket Safety Code.

For membership information, write to:  
National Association of Rocketry  
P.O. Box 177  
Dept. OHKP  
Altoona, WI 54720



### MONTHLY SPORT LAUNCH Launch Times 10:00-3:00

Sat 30Jan	Northbranch Park
Sat 27Feb	Northbranch Park
Sat 27Mar	Northbranch Park
Sat 24April	Northbranch Park
Sat 22May	Northbranch Park
Sat 26June	Northbranch Park
Sat 31July	Northbranch Park
Sat 28Aug 14	Northbranch Park
Sat 25Sept	Northbranch Park
Sat 30Oct	Northbranch Park
Sat 20Nov	Northbranch Park
Sat 18Dec	Northbranch Park

MAXIMUM ENGINE THRUST  
80 NEWTON SECONDS  
"When park conditions permit"

**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 Zabriskie  
 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

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