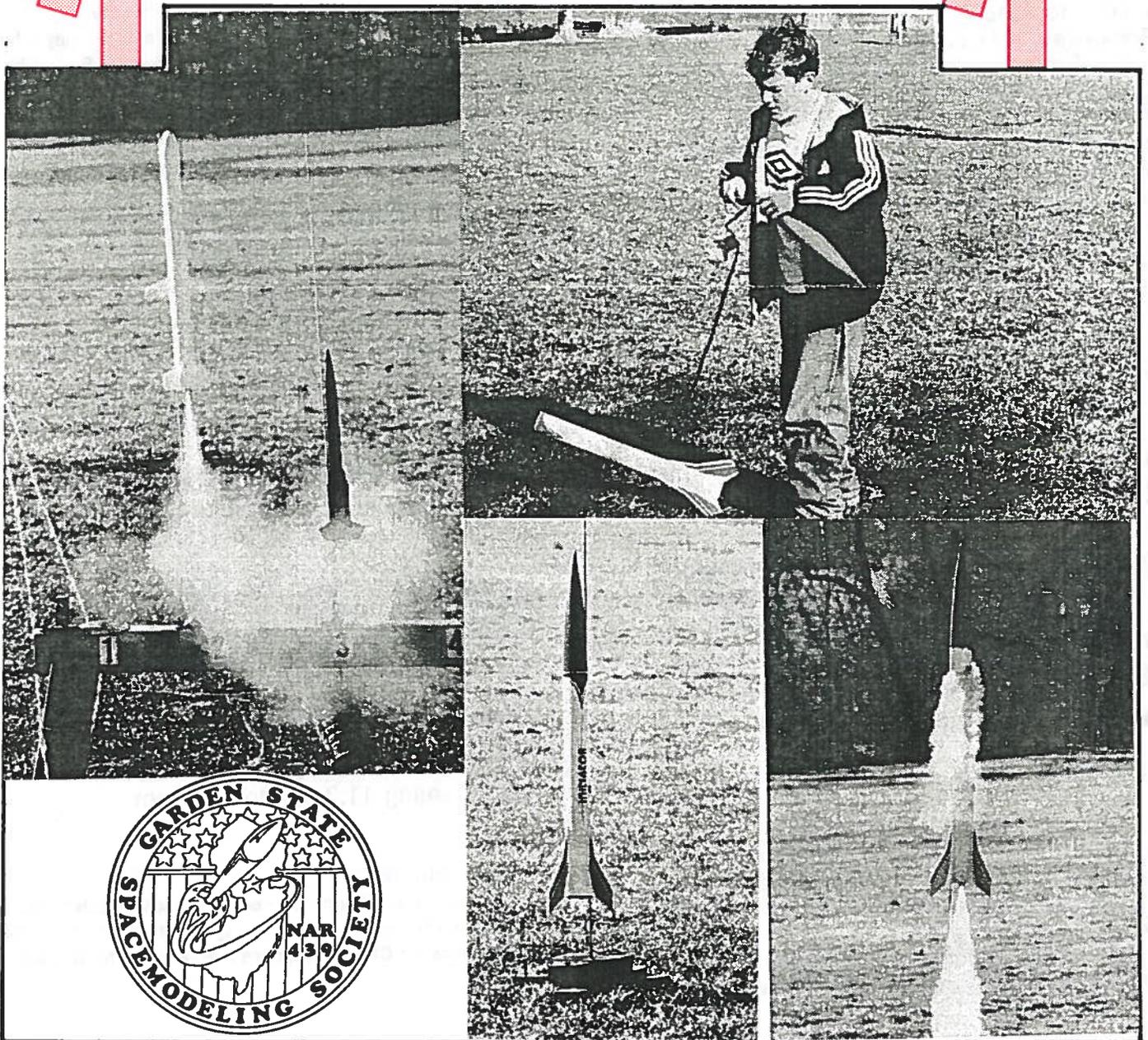


LAUNCH RACK

Journal of New Jersey's Oldest NAR Section

ISSUE 131(64)



The Launch Rack

The Official Publication of The
Garden State Spacemodeling Society

JULY/AUGUST 1999 ISSUE 131(64)

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 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, etc., the Editor welcomes and encourages constructive feedback on each and every issue. Please send material to:

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875 River Road
Piscataway, NJ 08854-5549
732 463-1484**

Visit our WEB site at: <http://www.agron.com/~rnee/gsss/>

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YOUR CLUB OFFICERS

President:Jack Sarhage
Vice-president:Ken Goddard
Vice-president:Kurt Kogel
Treasurer/Sec:Arnold Klein
Section Advisor:Bob Zabriskie

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: AUGUST 21

ON OUR COVER:

A collage of photos by our favorite film exposé, Steve Pantuck, of happenings at an earlier launch from Ye Ole Editor's file.

I can use some more photographs as the file is about depleted.

I also Need articles, plans, kit reviews, building tips, cartoons, and/or drawings.

LAUNCH SCHEDULE

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 9:00am.

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 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.

UNLESS NOTED ALL LAUNCHES WILL BE HELD AT NORTH BRANCH PARK.

Saturday, July 31, 1999

Sport launch 10:00am to 3:00pm
Event: **Saturn Rocket Launch**
Club Meeting 11:30am to 12:30pm

Saturday, August 14, 1999

Sport launch 10:00am to 3:00pm
Event: Fun-test '99; **Ping-Pong Ball Duration**
Club Meeting 11:30 am to 12:30pm

Saturday, September 25, 1999

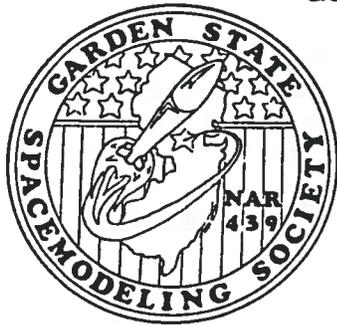
Sport launch 10:00am to 3:00pm
Event: Fun-test '99; **C Egg-loft Duration**
Club Meeting 11:30am to 12:30pm

Saturday, October 30, 1999

Sport launch 10:00am to 3:00pm
Event: **Old-time Model Rocket Launch**
Club Meeting 11:30am to 12:30pm

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Reports on the April and May Sport's Launches, Estes Launch Controller Modification - Part II, Sky Watch, Announcing that Nominations for Club Officers are due, Around the Cracker Barrel.



News From Section 439

RENEWING MEMBERS.....

First of all it is a pleasure to welcome these renewing members; David Sutter, Kevin Creamer, and The Mastrolia Family. Thank you. We also want to give a **BIG THANK YOU** to Jude Mikolajczyk and Paul Stager. They have been members of GSSS for 12-years. Jude and Paul it has been some time since we have seen you at a launch, so come on out.

CLUB ELECTIONS COMING UP.....

This is the first announcement that the present club's officers' terms are up at the end of this year. Per our by-laws Section 2.3, "Nominations, seconded, must be submitted to the Secretary/Treasurer by **October 31** in order to be published in the Society's official publication." The persons making the nomination and seconding it must both be members in good standing (read, "dues paid"). Nominations with a short bio will appear along with the ballot in the November/December issue of this publication. You may nominate yourself or anyone that you feel will be an asset to the Executive Board.

Club Offices are President, two Vice Presidents and a Secretary/Treasurer. They serve a two year term.

NOTE: We must have these officers to be a Section of the NAR and as a GSSS member it is your responsibility to elect them.

THE BREATH OF AEOLUS or, April's launch..

"Listen! Is it a moan, a sigh, or a musical tone? NO! It's Aeolus."

That is how the ancient Greeks, referring to their god of the wind, might have greeted the flying conditions at our April Sport Launch. And, those of us regularly launching at North Branch Park would be hard pressed denying "something" whipped up the breeze more than

usual. This kind of day is why we remind you to have "some small stuff just in case".

This was the first launch using the "flight logs". This idea as suggested by several members, is done by many of the NAR Sections around the country. It is easy to use by filling in the name of the rocket, the engine and your name. Remember, enter your flight on the log.

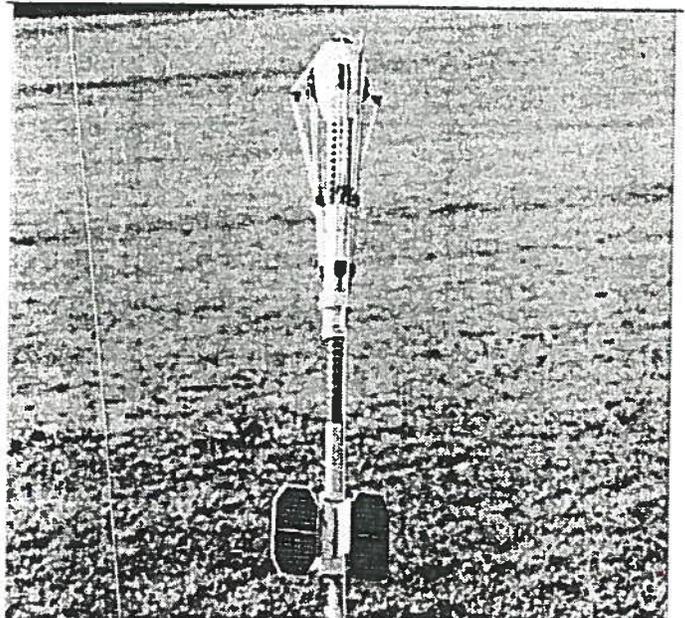
The log has 64 flights recorded, though we are sure at least 15 to 20 may not have been logged due to the newness of this system.

The first flight of the day was an *Asteriod Hunter* on an A8-3 belonging to DK. The last launch was a *Hawkeye* by Alex Bruccoleri on a C6-3. This rocket appears a total of 6 times on the log for the most flown rocket of the day. Another rocket having several flights was that of Tony Grieco's (? make sure your name is legible) *Fire Stream*.

Notable rockets flown where a *WAC Corporal/Tiny Tim Booster* built by Ye Ole Editor from the plans by Kevin Wickart that appeared in the Jan/Feb '99 issue of *Sport Rocketry*. Kurt Koegel flew his familiar *Flush Roc* on a D12-7 and later on an E11-3 (Kurt I am still waiting for the plan. Ed. Note).

The first event of Fun Test '99, A Streamer Duration was flown (results not know at this time).

Who had the most flights? Alex Bruccoleri with a total of 11 recorded flights.



What is it? From and earlier launch. Photo by Steve Pantuck
Continued on next page.....

GSSS - Home of "Grass Roots" Model Rocketry

News From Section 439 continued.....

SOUSA AND SUNSHINE or, the May Sport Launch makes if 5 for 5.....

With the strains of John Phillip Sousa drifting over the launch pad, from a band concert, and the sun being just warm enough, we were reminded of what's special about summer in New Jersey. How great it is to be outdoors.

The Sport Launch Flight Logs lists a total of 85 flights. The first of the day was that of Ye Ole Editor's *Bullet* (Custom Model Rockets) on a D12-5. There was just enough breeze to carry it out over the North Branch and the trout fisherman to disappear. The final launch of the day was Robert Nee's *Cyclone* on an A3-4T.

In between these flights were many, some of which need to be recorded in these pages. Our Section Advisor, Bob Zabriskie flew his scaled-up *WAC Corporal/Tiny Tim Booster* from the Kevin Wickert plans in the Jan/Feb '99 issue of *Sport Rocketry*. It flew flawlessly on an A10-3T. I hope that you got a look at this rocket because as usual Bob's meticulous craftsmanship showed throughout.

Tony Romano was there and launched scratch-built rockets including a *V-2, D-Region Tomahawk, and Tartar*.

Several people went back to the "flight log" to make note in the margin next to their rocket of the results of the launch. Like Chris Taylor's *Exo-Skell™* (Estes 2163). After the first flight he entered "good" and after the second flight of the same rocket he went back to mark it "splat". Next to another flight of Chris' of a, all I can make out is something "deep surface probe", he wrote "cato" for the attempted launch on a D21-4.

Some of the other flights listed are; Robert Nee's, *SRX* on a C6-3, Alex Schelle's A3-4T powered *Buck Rodgers*, Branden Garland and his *AstroCam*. There was a *Mercury-Atlas* launched on a D12-3 by Peter M. (sorry can't make out spelling). Dawn Romano flew a *Moon Dog* on a A10-3.

The A Parachute Duration Fun Test '99 event was flown. The only time I know of was that of yours truly, Ye Ole Editor, 76-seconds with my *Curler* (nee Ozone Baby). No further results of this event is known at this writing.

I think that most will agree that the May was a success. Hey, we're still batting 1,000! SO COME ON OUT AND JOIN THE FUN!!!!

May Launch Recap:

Total Number Logged Flights.....	85
Total Number Pilots Logged in.....	25
Total Number of Engines Used.....	93

Those Making 5 Flights or more:

Robert Nee.....	9
Tony Romano.....	8
Chris Taylor.....	8
Bob Gill, Sr.....	6
Mark Wagstrom.....	6
Tony Grieco.....	5

MOST LAUNCHES OF THE DAY:

Robert Nee with 9

GEORGE TIGER

T & T ROCKETRY, INC.

Model Rocketry at Affordable Prices

3907 Cutty Sark Rd.
Baltimore, MD 21220

www.nexilis-hobbies.com/tandt/
Phone: (410) 335-0701

George and Terry Tiger, with sons Brandon and Matthew drive up from Baltimore, MD each month. With them is a display of mostly Aerotech models and engines for sale.

sky watch

Contributing Editor: Bob Zabriskie

JULY

Venus gets as bright as it will all year this month. On July 10 and 11 the star **Regulus** will be to the upper right. On the 15th The Moon joins the duo to form a tight triangle. This should be a very nice sight about an hour after sunset looking due West.

Mars Visible all month in the Southwest although fading and moving away from the star **Spica**.

Mercury will be visible at dusk, very low and to the right of **Venus** the first few days of the month.

Continued on the next page

sky watch continued.....

Jupiter is visible in the early morning hours in the East.

Saturn also "rises" in the East about 3/4 hour after Jupiter.

The Moon on the 15th is close to Venus and Regulus to Mars' upper right on the 20th. The 30th anniversary of the first moon landing. On the morning of the 28th a partial eclipse best visible in the Western States, as The Sun will almost be up for us.

AUGUST

Mercury is very low in the East just before dawn.

Venus disappears behind The Sun, but reemerges the last few days of the month in the pre dawn sky.

Mars is the only bright planet in the night sky. Still fading in brightness.

Jupiter and Saturn at the start of the month rise around midnight, then around 10 at the end of the month looking East Southeast.

The Moon is under Jupiter on the 4th then under Saturn by the 5th. It is above Mars on the 18th and again near Jupiter on the 30th and Saturn on the 31st.

Perseid Meteor Shower 1999 should provide a perfect display. The Moon won't interfere. The best night will be August 12th and the morning of the 13th. After midnight to 3:00am is best. I have observed this shower the last time everything was favorable was around 10 years ago and it was unbelievable.

You don't need any optical aid. Just sit in a comfortable lounge chair and look to the Northeast.

(Editor's Note: I just want to give a special **THANK YOU** to Bob Zabriskie for his continued support of your newsletter. Bob, I wish I had a couple of more folks as dedicated to these pages and GSSS as you. **THANKS!!**)

"AROUND THE CRACKER BARREL".....All topics of interest to model rocketeers are welcome in this column whether pro or con.

"Now is the time for all good NAR members to come to the aid of the hobby."

During the next several months the words, elections, voting, candidates will be read and heard hundreds, thousands of times. Those subjects are made for a column such as this. Even more so, with the arrival of *The Model Rocketeer* that NAR members should have received in the mail recently.

In that June 1999 issue there are two ballots on which to place **your** vote. The outcome will affect model rocketry and **you**. As members of NAR voting is not only a privilege, but a responsibility as well.

The first ballot asks you to vote for or against proposed changes to the Model Rocket Sporting Code (Pink Book). And, don't think just because you are not contest oriented these changes have nothing to do with you.

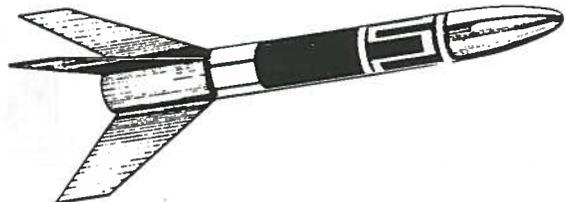
I believe each of us should follow the example of Jeff Vincent when voting on these changes. Jeff is a long time competitor, has been contest director of more contests than he probably wants to admit, and is presently the NAR Northeast Contest Board Chairman. His reasoning is sound and based upon many years of experience.

The other ballot asks you to elect trustees to the NAR Board. Though you are asked to "vote for no more than three" I urge to to vote for no more than two; those from the Eastern Region **only**.

Help yourself, model rocketry, the National Association of Rocketry, and the future of the hobby by voting **before** the July 15th deadline.

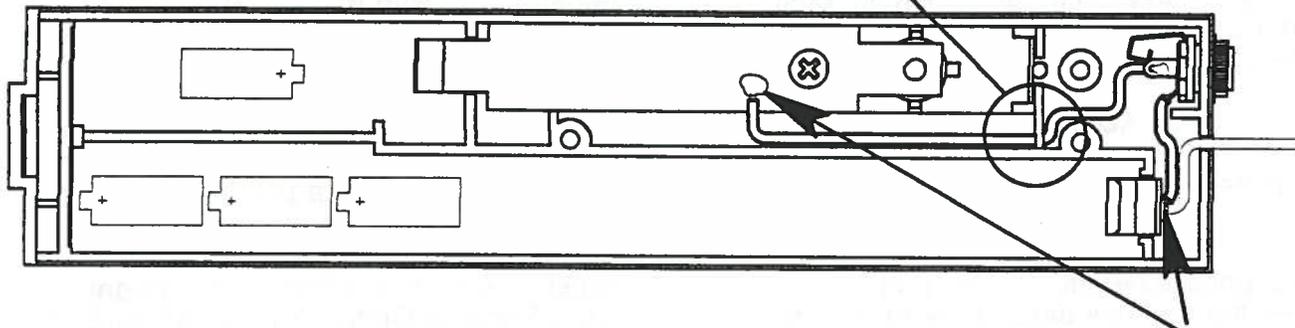
Jack Sarhage
NAR 31745

NOTE: The opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of The Garden State Space-modeling Society or its membership.



STEP 5

YOU MUST MAKE A HOLE THROUGH THIS BULKHEAD TO ROUTE ONE OF THE LEAD WIRES. SINCE IT IS DIFFICULT TO USE A DRILL AT THE NECESSARY ANGLE, USE THE 4D FINISHING NAIL TO PIERCE A HOLE THROUGH THIS BULKHEAD. TO DO THIS, BEND THE NAIL IN THE MIDDLE TO 90 DEG. THEN WHILE HOLDING NAIL WITH PLIERS, HEAT THE NAIL POINT IN AN OPEN FLAME OR USE YOUR SOLDERING IRON TO HEAT THE NAIL. PUSH THE HOT NAIL POINT THROUGH THE PLASTIC BULKHEAD, ENLARGING THE HOLE SO THE LEAD WIRE WILL PASS EASILY THROUGH. REHEAT THE NAIL AS NECESSARY UNTIL THE HOLE IS LARGE ENOUGH.

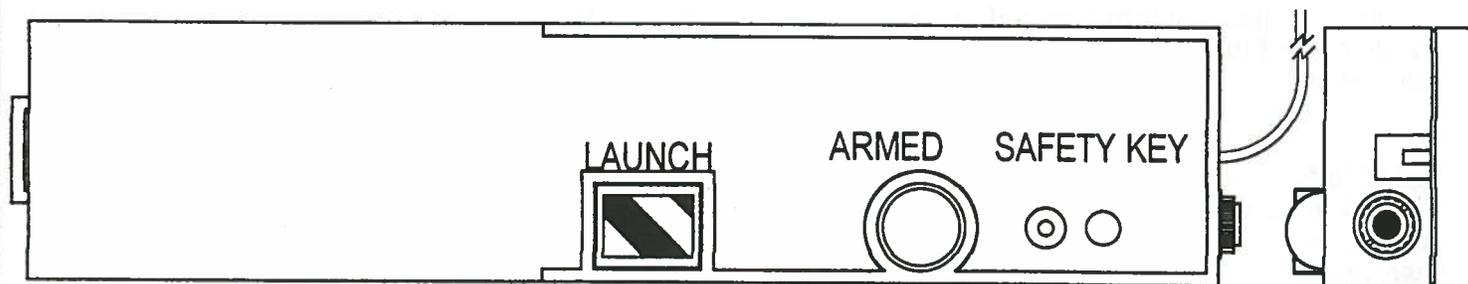
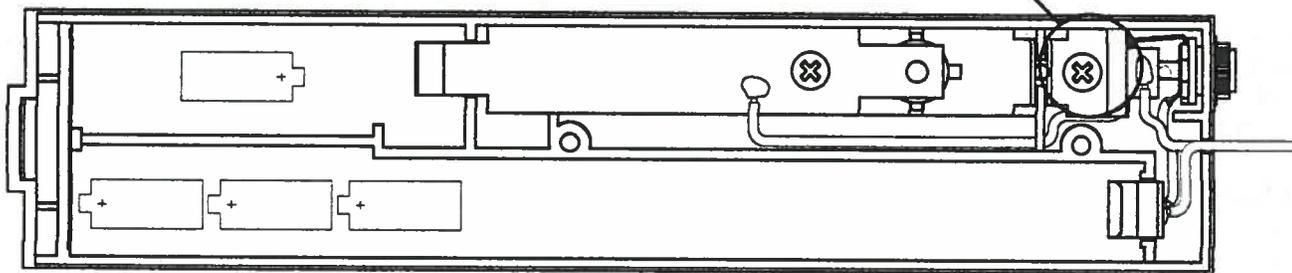


TIP: TIN WIRES AND SOLDERING POINTS BEFORE FINAL ASSEMBLY. USE ROSIN SOLDERING FLUX. CARE SHOULD BE USED NOT TO OVERHEAT THE COPPER TERMINALS

SOLDER THE LEAD WIRES AT THESE POINTS

STEP 6

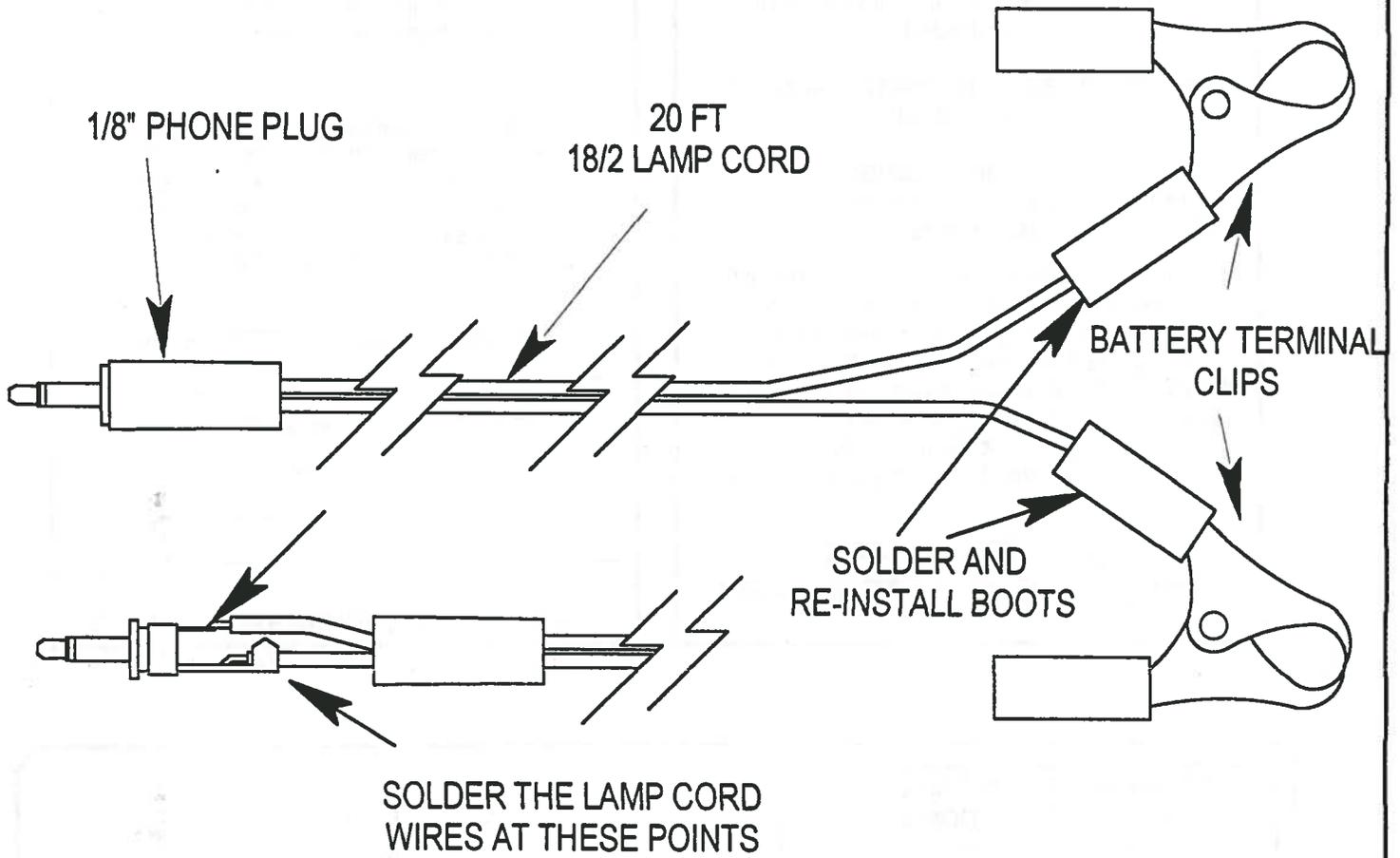
RE-INSTALL TERMINAL AND RETAINING SCREW, THEN REPLACE COVER AND COVER SCREWS



COMPLETED LAUNCH CONTROLLER

STEP 6

BATTERY CABLE ASSEMBLY



		Wild Weasel	
		Rocket Engineering	
		ESTES LAUNCH CONTROLLER MODIFICATION	
SIZE C	DRAWN BY: SOS		
DATE 2-18-99	DRAWING NO. 99-218-1		

**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