

The Launch Rack

Newsletter of the Garden State Spacemodeling Society
Section 439 of the National Association of Rocketry

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Mother Nature Puts Damper on Launches

(Or, What's an Editor to do When there is Nothing to Publish?)

Newsletter editors rely upon activities of the organization and its members for content of each issue. The cancellations of the April and May launches, has Ye Ole Editor scratching his head for content. BUT, making news when there isn't any is the greatest challenge for an editor.

OR, as in this case, take the easy way out and put this issue on hold until after the June launch. What follows are the efforts of two of our most active members; **Steve Pantuck** and **Rob Nee**.



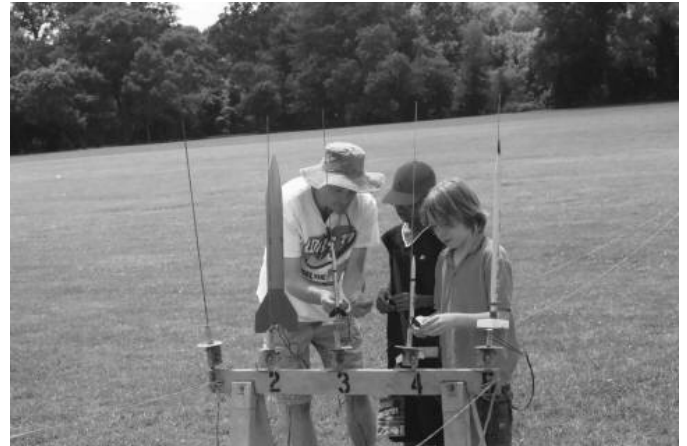
After a two month dry spell the gang really has turned out for this one. It is great to see all the young folks.

As a promotion GSSS offered (through the kindness of **Rob Nee**) the first five under 15 years of age flyers to show up would receive a RTF model rocket.

You can see from the next photo that this was a large success. We also signed up six new members we will introduce to you later in these pages.



The launch rack is loaded with some of the RTF models of the Junior members and are ready to go.



Rob Nee helps some of the Juniors hook up their rockets for launch. He reported that there are still four of the models ready to be claimed by new Junior flyers at the July 28th launch.



More Junior modelers hooking up their models.



Not all the models flown were those of the Juniors as this photo shows.

We have already thanked **Steve Pantuck** and **Rob Nee** for their efforts in a successful launch but, we need to thank **Arnie Klein** for transporting the equipment and setting it up so you can launch your rockets without any problems.

Our New Members

As was mention earlier we had six new members join GSSS at the June launch. They are:

Miles Ben-Egypt, Maplewood, NJ; **Joseph Prial**, Maplewood, NJ; **Connor, Duncan**, and **Michaela McLead** all from West Milford, NJ; **Stephen Scheremeta** of Cranford, NJ.

Make sure you welcome each of them and let them know you are glad they are with us.

We hope that they will take part in the activities of GSSS.

News from the National Association of Rocketry

NAR President Mark Bundick announced in the May 2007 issue of *The Model Rocketeer* that the “season” for this publication was over. And, after I volunteered to be the Section Activities Editor, too! Wonder if that had something to do with it.

Or, was part of it something I said in the April edition of that publication, which I personally never received, by the way. Oh, well.

I have gotten comments from NAR members that the way in which the decision was handled should have been different.

Now I do hope that all GSSS members that are also members of the NAR voted in the Trustee Election. I agree that there is a time for everything and maybe a change in the trustees is due.

There was also a ballot sheet for revisions to the NAR Sporting Code (aka “The Pink Book”) The deadline for this ballot was June 30th and I just made it due to the day my issue arrived.

I agree that “paper ballots” should continue to be sent to the members directly through the mail. Although it was said that “surveys of section members” were “indifferent” to the *Rocketeer*...hmmm, I don’t remember this ballot/survey arriving in the mailbox. Did you get one?

I saw a church sign the other day that read, “No matter how you slice it—baloney is baloney.”

“Rapier” Motors

First off, have you heard of them?

Like many of you I got my start in models that fly with model airplanes. Fact is, I still build and fly free-flight model airplanes. (Presently I am building a radio-controlled, two electric motor model of the Beech D18.)

In the 1950’s there was the line of Jetex motors and another line using CO2 as a propellant in small models. Through time these grew less and less available and are very hard to find these days, although the CO2 are making a come back.

About three years ago a small aircraft model jet/rocket propulsion systems arrived in the form of the “Rapier” motor from the Czech Republic.. They look very much like the Estes rocket motor, but have an extended burn time approaching 25 seconds. They are ignited with a hand-held electronic igniter.

I also assume that the thrust is very low seeing how most of the models using them are made with balsa and tissue.

The question I put to the NAR, to which I have not gotten a response is; Is there a future with these motors in the R/G and B/G events? Will they affect our special interest group should safety issues arise at some point? And do they come under the same umbrella that governs the motors we use?

Opinions are invited.

Calendar of Events

July 28th – Sport Launch.

August 25 – Sport Launch.

September 30 – Sport Launch. **(Sunday launch)**

October 27 – Sport Launch

November 24 – Sport Launch

December 22 – Sport Launch and Open House.

A Section Meeting will be held during the sport launches at times to be determined.

Anyone interest in working on, or finding out more about the NARTREK program ask the coordinator, Jack Sarhage. You can also check it out on the NAR web-site.

Plan of Issue

On the last page of this issue are plans of the “Romulan Revolver” designed by **Jason, Matt and Tom Whymark**. It is of a helicopter duration model for the B and C class events.

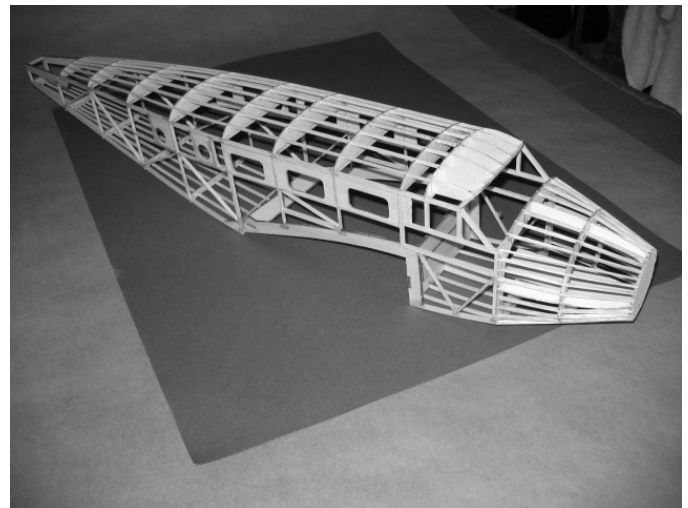
The plan first appeared in Issue No. 68 of *The Launch Rack* (February 1991). Tom Whymark, editor.

Tom reported in that issue the NAR’s final standings for the Contest Year 1989-1990 had GSSS listed in third place with a total of 20,142 points earned by members competing in various competitions. Four members of the Whymark family set USA records during that year as well. I don’t know but, they may still be records.

In the next issue of the newsletter we will have another plan for you that also appear for the first time in Issue No.68. It is of another helicopter duration model for 1/2A and A engines designed by Dr. Bob Kreutz. Look for it.

Build one, or both, for a future helicopter duration event.

A Parting Shot



Thought I would show you the fuselage framework of the Beech D18 that is under construction.

NEXT ISSUE: Will have information on our upcoming Club Officer’s election. How to nominate a member? Think about running yourself.