

COUNTDOWN

Official Newsletter of SPAAR

THE SOUTHERN PENNSYLVANIA AREA ASSOCIATION OF ROCKETRY



Craig Myers's Aerotech Initiator on an Aerotech E23-5T RMS at SPAARSPAM. (Brust)

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COUNTDOWN

Volume 10, Issue 6
November/December 1997

President
Dale Greene

Vice President
Roger Dwyer

Secretary-Treasurer
George Beever

Section Advisor
Glenn Feveryear

Member at Large
Mark Kamide

Tripoli Prefect
Ed Miller

Newsletter
George Beever, Randy Brust

COUNTDOWN is the newsletter of SPAAR, the Southern Pennsylvania Area Association of Rocketry, NAR Section #503, as well as Tripoli Susquehanna #71. **COUNTDOWN** is published 6 times a year for the benefit of SPAAR club members. Any information contained in **COUNTDOWN** may be used as long as proper credit is given. Please address all correspondence to:

SPAAR
PO Box 127
Reamstown, PA. 17567

Visit the SPAAR website at:
<http://www.cyberia.com/pages/feveryear/index.htm>



The Editor's Corner

A letter to the new editor:

Dear Randy,

I have about eight years to go before my son gets to borrow the family car for the first time, and about that long until my daughter goes on her first real date. In either case, I think I already know how I'll feel.

It's been about a year since you came on board the newsletter staff. The initial idea was for you to work your computer magic to make the Countdown "look good". You have done that, and much more. As the year progressed, you have assumed more of what I call the "bull work" - copying, sorting, stapling, stamping, mailing, and all of those other joyful chores that go with putting out a newsletter, so, I think it's time to recognize reality. You're The Man, The Big Cheese, in short, the editor.

Without going into too much ancient history, as you know I did The Countdown from its inception in May, 1988. It's a lot of work, as I'm sure you realize. At the risk of sounding maudlin, it became a labor of love, even though I grouched a lot about it. You'll find that for it to be successful, you have to put a lot of yourself in it. If I may, here are a few things that you might want to keep in mind (believe me, it comes from experience!):

Be objective. This is a tough one sometimes. The printed word is a powerful tool. Sometimes you have to grit your teeth and remain neutral, even after something or someone really ticks you off. Let others express their opinions, even if at times it means taking some heat (like me, for instance).

Try to use every submission from the membership. If people are going to take the time to write something, print it. Sometimes you might have to straighten it out a bit, or change some punctuation here and there. Just remember, these folks are doing the best they can. Oh, and don't make the mistake I've seen a number of short-lived newsletter editors make: put limitations on the format of submissions. A few years ago, when all of the sudden everyone in the world got a PC (except

me), I saw things like this: *All submissions to the Monthly Blab shall be in XYZ Format, yadda yadda.* Who is kidding who? I can't think of a better way to discourage submissions. After all, submissions from the members are the only way to avoid complete newsletter editor burnout.

Network with other poor souls in your position. You'll find an amazing fraternity among rocket club newsletter editors. Talk about a support group! Like, they've been there, man. I'm sure they are out there in cyberspace. Are you listening, Kevin Funk and Bruce Canino?

Humor. Use it. This is a hobby, it's supposed to be fun, remember? Even though my sense of humor is admittedly a little offbeat, and was lost on some people, I tried to inject as much humor into the Countdown as I could without getting stupid. And the person who was my primary target? Me.

Speaking of Newsletter Editor Burnout. Oh, it'll happen, mark my words. The best that you can do is try to minimize its effects. You'll know its onset when you find yourself yelling at the kids and kicking the dog because the printer screwed up and you are short two copies. Relax. Relieve the stress by taking your little Estes Alpha, load it up with a C6-7, and let 'er rip. In the house. But above all, never, I mean never, take yourself, the club, the newsletter, or this hobby too seriously. Once you do that, you're done. Toast.

Well, I think I'm ready to let go now. This isn't easy, ya know. I'm sure you'll do just fine, if this past year's efforts are any indication. I'll be around if you need anything, and I'm sure I'll be a pain in your neck with my submissions.

So, here's the kids. Have fun.

George

This month, thanks go out to Guy DeStefano and Frank Sombers for contributing to this issue of the Countdown. Guy submitted launch reports and pictures for the October 19th club launch, RATS 6, and the Maryland Tripoli launch. Frank contributed the launch report for the November 2nd club launch. Thanks again guys!

Randy

Section News Notes

by George Beever & Randy Brust

NASM Trip Planned:

Mark Kamide is organizing a SPAAR club trip to the National Air & Space Museum in Washington, DC. The date will be Saturday, January 31st, 1998. If you've never been to the NASM, or are a regular visitor, you'll be amazed at what is there. It is definitely worth the trip. A car-pool is planned but drivers are needed. Contact Mark at 717-738-3957.

SPAAR Family Dinner:

The annual SPAAR Family Dinner is planned for Saturday, January 10th at 6PM. Since details are still being worked out, members will be receiving a flyer in the mail shortly regarding the dinner.

VOTE!

A ballot for the 1998 club officers is

included with this issue of the Countdown. Take the time to fill it in and voice your preference.

Launch Specials:

1998 will see a full-blown return to theme launches. Check out the *SPAAR 1998 Calendar of Events* located on the last page of this issue.

Lost & Found:

A cooler was found at the October 19th launch at Kirkwood Farms. It is a red and white *Igloo Little Playmate* with *Academy of Model Aeronautics* and *C/M Cycle* stickers on it. Inside are two ice packs. If it's yours, or you know who's it is, contact Randy Brust at 610-282-1217.

Upcoming SPAAR Events:

Friday, December 19th, 1997 - SPAAR Monthly Meeting, 7PM to 9PM, APRIA Community Room, Lancaster, PA.

Sunday, December 28th, 1997 - SPAAR Sport Launch, 1PM to 5PM, Cocalico High School, Denver, PA.

Sunday, January 4th, 1998 - SPAAR Sport Launch (Best Science-Fiction Rocket), 1PM to 5PM, Cocalico High School, Denver, PA.

Saturday, January 10th, 1998 - SPAAR Family Dinner, 6PM, Location unknown at this time.

Saturday, January 17th, 1998 - SPAAR Monthly Meeting/Winter Workshop, 9AM to 1PM, APRIA Community Room, Lancaster, PA.

Saturday, January 31st, 1998 - SPAAR Trip to National Air & Space Museum, Washington, DC.

Sunday, February 8th, 1998 - SPAAR Sport Launch (Best NASA Sport Scale Rocket), 1PM to 5PM, Cocalico High School, Denver, PA. **CD**

Section Meeting Minutes

by George Beever

October 17th, 1997

Meeting called to order at 7:17PM.

Present: G. Beever, G. Feveryear & Family, D. Greene, M. Kamide, E. Miller, D. O'Neal, T. Rossi, D. Weinhold.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Reported by George Beever. Balance at the end of last meeting: \$366.91. Expenditures: \$203.74 for newsletter, August meeting postcards, and HPR launch flyers. \$12.00 for post office box. Income: \$12.50 in dues. Current balance: \$153.12.

Section Advisor: Glenn Feveryear passed around a new listing of recently decertified motors.

HPR: Ed Miller advised that Tripoli Mary-

land is having an HPR launch this weekend, October 18th-19th, RATS is scheduled for the weekend of October 25th-26th, and a launch and motor school is scheduled for November 7th-8th in Orangeburg, SC. Also advised that the lower portion (the end with the RMS casing!) of John Yost's Falcon was recovered from the tree that tried to eat it at Kirkwood Farms.

Competition: Glenn Feveryear advised that VACUUM (NOVAAR) was due to be held October 18th, weather permitting. NARMAMS will be holding an Open Meet in Middletown, MD. in March of 98, and ECRM is scheduled for May. Also, he will be submitting the contest sanction for RAMTEC-6 early next month.

Newsletter: No report.

Old Business: Mark Kamide discussed some changes and price increases concerning the Mercury-Redstone Winter Workshop project. These are listed in the newsletter.

Mark Kamide asked for suggestions for the award categories for the November

and December launches. After discussion, it was decided that SPAARSPAM-8 will be Best Scratchbuilt Model Day (November 2nd) and the December 25th Sport Launch will be Best Old Time Rocket Day. And as always, any type of graft or bribery will be accepted by the judges, Mark and Roger.

President Dale Greene brought up the meeting place issue, which was discussed at the last meeting. Dan Weinhold stated that he saw no problem with using the Apria Community Room in 1998. He was directed to go ahead and make the arrangements.

New Business: Glenn Feveryear announced that NARAM-40 will be held during the week of August 8th-14th, 1998, at the AMA field in Muncie, IN. Glenn will serve as Contest Director. He further advised that even though he is the CD and SPAAR will be listed as the host section on the sanction application, this will in reality be the first of a new type of NARAM, in which a core group made up from a number of different NAR clubs will run the meet.

The events, which as of October 17th are tentative, will be: 1/4A Parachute Duration, 1/2A Flex Wing (Multi), A Boost/Glide, B Helicopter Duration, B Streamer Duration (Multi), B Altitude, D Dual Eggloft Altitude, Sport Scale, and Research & Development.

The AMA field is about 1,000 acres of mowed grass. The NARAM hotel will most likely be a Ramada Inn, about a mile from the site. A 10,000 ft, 10 lb. waiver will be sought. Glenn added that the events for RAMTEC-6, in June of next year, will most likely come from this list.

George Beever brought up the flying field situation. Question: could we fly at Kirkwood Farms during those months when there are no crops, and at Cocalico the remainder of the time? This would be one way to relieve the limitations that we now find at Cocalico. Discussion: Ed Miller stated that since Roger Dwyer was not present, the issue couldn't be decided with certainty at this time. Mark Kamide expressed some concern about flying from Kirkwood during periods of bad weather, for example, we have to drive through a grassy area to get to the launch site, which might be turned to mud and cause damage to the owner's property. A number of members expressed reservations about having a large number of people at Kirkwood. After discussion, it was decided to schedule four launches during 1998 at Kirkwood, pending approval of the owner: April, May, September, and October. The remaining launches will be at Cocalico.

George Beever offered to hold a seminar on basic building and finishing techniques, aimed at the younger members or those older members who are new to the hobby.

Dale Greene advised that Aerotech now has a website on the internet.

Rita Feveryear presented a draft of the 1998 club schedule. During discussion, several dates were changed, and the special awards were listed for each launch. After these changes are incorporated, the schedule will be printed in the Countdown.

Models that were brought for display and discussion were Dale Greene's Estes/NCR Big Brute, Mark Kamide's Mercury-Redstone, and George Beever's

Mountainside Hobbies 2.6" V-2.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10PM.

November 21st, 1997

Meeting called to order at 7:15PM.

Present: G. Beever, R. Brust, G. Feveryear, R. Feveryear, D. Greene, D. Grumbine, R. Hackman, M. Kamide, D. O'Neal, T. Rossi, D. Weinhold.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer: Reported by George Beever. Balance at the end of last meeting: \$163.12. Expenditures: none. Income: \$40.00 in dues. Current balance: \$203.12.

Section Advisor: Glenn Feveryear wanted to remind all members that our NAR Section Charter will be up for renewal at the end of the year. In order to have club insurance through the NAR, five senior NAR members, who are members of SPAAR, must have insurance through the National Association.

HPR: No report.

Competition: Glenn announced that RAMTEC-6 will be held over the weekend of June 20th-21st, 1998 at Allentown College. The events will be 1/4A PD (M), A B/G, B SD (M), 1/2A SRD, D DELA. These are all events that will be flown at NARAM-40 (Hint - start building now!).

NARHAMS will host an Open Meet in March 1998. The events: 1/2A FW, 1/2A B/G, PMC. They will also hold the East Coast Regional Meet, ECRM, over the weekend of May 16th-17th, with the following events: 6xC Cluster Altitude, 1/4A Scale Altitude, B Eggloft Duration, and 1/2A Flex Wing.

Newsletter: No report.

Old Business: George Beever asked the Section Advisor if there was any update on the site insurance for Cocalico. Glenn reported that he had contacted NAR HQ, who advised that due to financial considerations, it would be better simply to add Cocalico to the insurance policy when we

renew the section charter in January.

Mark Kamide reminded the members that the Best Scratchbuilt Model will be judged at the rescheduled SPAARSPAM on November 28th.

Mark also stated that he needs 2 or 3 more drivers for the club trip to the Air & Space Museum scheduled for January 31st. Contact Mark at 717-738-3957 (see Section News Notes for more info).

Randy Brust asked about wording on the schedule. The draft of the 1998 schedule labeled the launches planned for Kirkwood Farms as *High Power Launches*. Randy felt that this might infer that only HPR would be flown, and that model rockets (G and under motors) would not be welcome. After discussion, it was decided to add wording to the schedule, stating the power limits of the two fields used, Cocalico and Kirkwood.

Dan Weinhold confirmed that we have use of the Apria Community Room for 1998. Thanks Dan!

New Business: Rick Hackman inquired about reimbursement of postage when he mails photos to Randy Brust for possible use in the newsletter. This totals about \$5.00 per year. No action taken due to lack of motion.

Mark Kamide suggested printing an NAR application in the newsletter. Randy Brust advised that he has printed both the NAR and TRA addresses in the past, and will in the future when space permits.

Glenn discussed the recent death of NAR founder G. Harry Stine, and passed around some downloads concerning this.

The president then took nominations from the floor for the 1998 club officers: President - Dale Greene, Mark Kamide; Vice President - Guy DeStefano, John Yost; Secretary/Treasurer - Ed Miller, George Beever; Member at Large - Rene Feveryear, Mark Kamide; Section Advisor - Glenn Feveryear, Dale Greene. Motion made by R. Feveryear to close nominations, second by D. O'Neal. Motion carried.

Mark Kamide advised that the Mercury Redstone kits will be delivered at the next meeting, December 19th.

General discussion followed. Meeting adjourned at 8:35PM.

SPAAR Sport Launch

October 19th, 1997

by Guy DeStefano

OK rocketeers, I need some advice. When I give mother nature a call, do I read the riot act or beg and plead to have better weather for upcoming launches? Windy, cold, cloudy, lots of planes and more wind. Well, let's stop complaining and get down to business. We had the usual rocketeers show up, but the intention to put up anything higher than a G seemed to be a mute point due to you know what. Let's take a moment to talk about some highlights.



Randy Brust's modified Fat Boy is off on an Aerotech F24-7W. (Brust)

Let's congratulate Rich Canfield, for not flying any rockets! Just kidding. He took his level 2 certification written test and aced it. Rich, do us all a favor and don't tell your fiance that you are now in the next *expensive* level of rockets. Don't forget, spending money on rockets is cool, but the wedding of her dreams is also a priority. Just work a lot of overtime.

What's it gonna be? J415? J350? Good luck!

Now, I warned Randy Brust, so here goes! This man has earned his position on the Olympic walking team. He has the absolute best luck finding rockets. He flew his new Dart-29 on an H128W. Awesome flight, but it landed far away in a variety of high sticker bushes! Luckily, he walked right up to the rocket engulfed in the high sticker bushes. Well, after he came back to camp to put on boots and borrow Glenn Feveryear's extendable fishing pole, he escorted his son to the bushes and fished it out. I'm sure he has band-aids all over him.

Ben, Les and Matt Weaver fell victim to a tree. Sorry guys, you win some, you lose some, but the flight was neat.

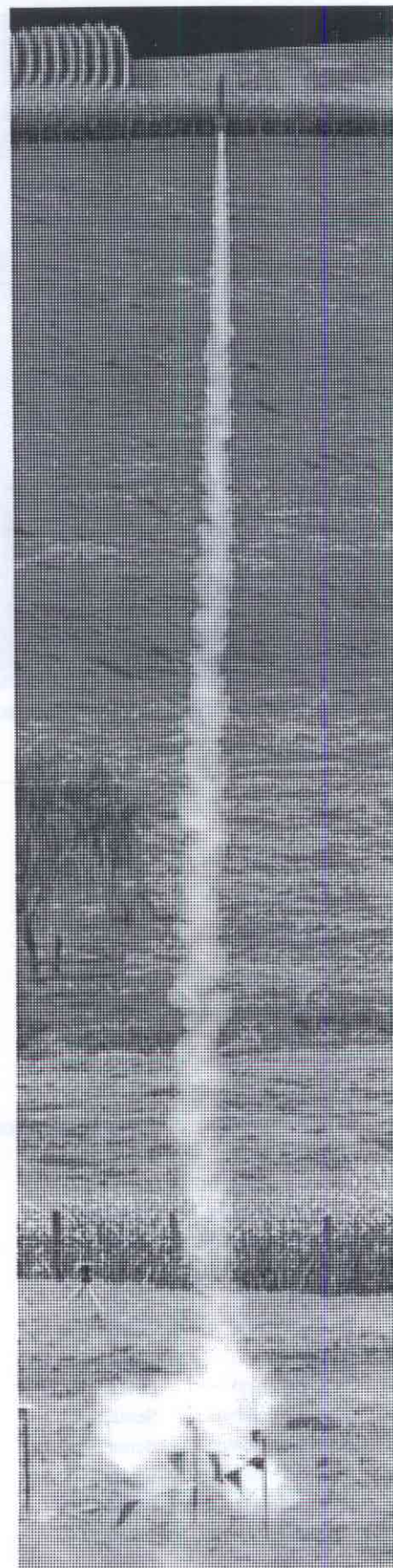
Other notable flights were Ed Miller's G200 with 6 D12 air starts. He more or less won the cluster award. *Best Cluster* was the theme for this launch. Ed lost this bird to the trees. There will be a memorial service at a later date.

Gary Kulp packed an F25 in his Baracuda for a nice long burn and lots of smoke. Guy DeStefano contemplated some H flights but called them off due to the wind [*Editor's Note: Good move!*]. He chuffed out a lot of black smoke with a G33 Blackjack in his Ibis.

Tom Rhymer flew a G80 in his Sandia Sandhawk. The flight was neat, but upon ejection, the chute tangled, then the chute untangled and it landed soft as a feather. You're lucky Tom. It could have been a lawn dart.

Doran Schultz was biting his nails all day over the F50-9 he put in his Initiator. He thought the delay was gonna be too long. It was perfect. Hey Doran, get rid of those Fs and Gs and certify level 1. Dave Grumbine flew a Magic Marker. Hey Dave, how about a pencil?

We all should thank Roger Dwyer and Ed Miller for their hard work getting the land and waiver. It's greatly appreciated. Thanks to all who contributed to range officer and lookout duties. And if I said it once, I'll say it again. For those who missed the launch, shame, shame, shame. Even if you don't have rockets, come out anyway to meet new members, talk rockets, ask questions and learn. It's fun! Until next time, build rockets! **CD**



The view from the hill. (Brust)



Gary Kulp and son prep their Aerotech Barracuda with an F25-9W while Mark Kamide looks on. (DeStefano)

Flight Log 10-19

#	Flyer	Manufacturer	Model	Motors	Result
1	Allan Bawell	Scratch	Red Rider	Estes D12-7	Good Flight
2	Allan Bawell	Scratch	Scud II	Aerotech RMS F24-4W	Good Flight
3	Allan Bawell	Estes	Shadow	Aerotech RMS F24-4W	Early Ejection
4	Allan Bawell	Scratch	Tear Drop	Estes B6-4	Good Flight
5	Joey Brust	Estes	Mach-12	Estes C6-5	Good Flight
6	Randy Brust	Scratch	Dart-29	Aerotech RMS H128W	Good Flight
7	Randy Brust	Estes	Fat Boy	Aerotech RMS F24-7W	Good Flight
8	Guy DeStefano	Thoy	IBIS	Aerotech RMS G33-7J	Good Flight
9	Guy DeStefano	Scratch	Juice	Aerotech RMS G64-7W	Good Flight
10	Guy DeStefano	Mountainside Hobbies	V-2	Aerotech RMS G64-4W	Good Flight
11	Guy DeStefano	Scratch	X-165	Aerotech RMS G64-7W	Good Flight
12	Glenn Feveryear	Aerotech	Arreaux	Aerotech E15-4W	Good Flight
13	Glenn Feveryear	Aerotech	Arreaux	Aerotech E15-4W	Good Flight
14	Glenn Feveryear	Scratch	Grumpy Dog	Estes D12-0/D12-3	Good Flight
15	Kathy Gilliand	Estes	Impulse	Estes D12-7(2)	Good Flight
16	Kathy Gilliand	Estes	Maniac	Estes D12-5	Good Flight
17	Kathy Gilliand	Estes	Pathfinder	Estes D12-7	Good Flight
18	Kathy Gilliand	Estes	Phoenix	Estes D12-7	Good Flight
19	Kathy Gilliand	Estes	Python	Aerotech E15-7W	Good Flight
20	Dave Grumbine	Scratch	Red Eye	Aerotech RMS E18-4W	Good Flight
21	Dave Grumbine	Scratch	Yellow Magic Marker	Estes 1/2A3-2T	Good Flight
22	Mark Kamide	Scratch	Hermes	Aerotech F50-4T	Good Flight
23	Mark Kamide	Scratch	Mercury Redstone	Aerotech F50-4T	Good Flight
24	Gary Kulp	Aerotech	Baracuda	Aerotech F25-9W	Good Flight
25	Gary Kulp	Estes	Fat Boy	Estes C6-3	Good Flight
26	Gary Kulp	Estes	Fat Boy	Estes C6-3	Good Flight

27	Gary Kulp	Mountainside Hobbies	V-2	Estes D12-3	Good Flight
28	Ed Miller	Scratch	Hercules	Vulcan G200/Estes D12(6)	Good Flight
29	Ed Miller	Scratch	Hershey Kiss	Aerotech RMS G64-4W	Good Flight
30	Ed Miller	Scratch	Tarsis	Aerotech RMS G75J	Good Flight
31	Tom Rhymer Jr.	Estes	Shadow	Aerotech E15-7W	Good Flight
32	Tom Rhymer Sr.	Scratch	Neptune	Estes A8-3	Good Flight
33	Tom Rhymer Sr.	Mountainside Hobbies	Sandhawk	Aerotech G80-4T	Good Flight
34	Tony Rossi	Estes	Fat Boy	Estes C6-5	Good Flight
35	Tony Rossi	Estes	Flying Saucer	Estes B6-0	Good Flight
36	Tony Rossi	Estes	MK109 Stingray	Estes A8-3	Good Flight
37	Tony Rossi	Estes	Nova Payloader	Estes B6-4	Good Flight
38	Tony Rossi	Estes	R2-D2	Estes C6-5	Unstable
39	Tony Rossi	Estes	R2-D2	Estes C5-3	CATO
40	Dorran Schultz	Aerotech	Initiator	Aerotech F50-9T	Good Flight
41	Bob Utley	Estes	Fat Boy	Estes D12-7	Good Flight
42	Bob Utley	Aerotech	IQSY Tomahawk	Aerotech E15-7W	Good Flight
43	Bob Utley	Rocket R&D	Robin	Estes D12-7	Good Flight
44	Bob Utley	Scratch	Sandhawk	Aerotech E15-7W	Good Flight
45	Bob Utley	Aerotech	Tomahawk	Aerotech E15-7W	Good Flight
46	Ben Weaver	Estes	Blackbird	Estes C5-3	Good Flight
47	Ben Weaver	Estes	Corkscrew	Estes C6-5	Good Flight
48	Ben Weaver	Estes	Corkscrew	Estes C5-3	Good Flight
49	Ben Weaver	Scratch	Thunderbolt	Aerotech RMS G64-4W	Good Flight
50	Matt Weaver	Mountainside Hobbies	ADR 4.0	Aerotech RMS G64-7W	Good Flight
51	Matt Weaver	Estes	Skywinder	Estes C6-5	Good Flight
52	Matt Weaver	Estes	Skywinder	Estes C5-3	Good Flight
53	Matt Weaver	Scratch	Thunderbolt	Aerotech RMS G64-4W	CATO
54	John Yost	LOC/Precision	Onyx	Aerotech F25-4W	Good Flight

Launch Statistics - October 19th, 1997

Number of Flyers: 17 Weather: Cool, Overcast, Breezy

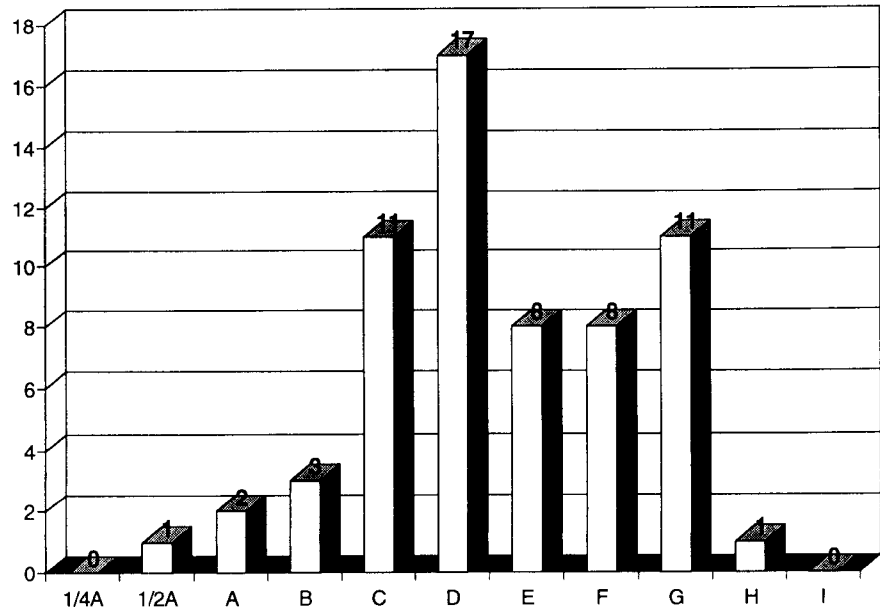
Models Flown:

Estes	19
Scratchbuilt	17
Aerotech	5
Mountainside Hobbies	4
LOC/Precision	1
Rocket R&D	1
Thoy	1

Motor Usage:

Estes	34
Aerotech RMS	14
Aerotech	13
Vulcan	1

Impulse Distribution:



SPAAR Sport Launch

November 2nd, 1997
by Frank Sombers

A Window of Opportunity - Despite my wife's observation that I wasn't playing with a full deck I headed over to Cocalico High School around 12:45PM to see if anyone else was goofy (I mean dedicated) enough to show up for the

scheduled sport launch.

It was still raining as I arrived to discover that Kathy Gilliland and Bob Utley, from Gaithersburg, Maryland (2 1/2 hours drive), were already there hoping for a break in the weather. We were soon to be joined by Steve Knight of Harrisburg (1 hour drive).

As we were deciding whether to wait and see if anyone else would show up,

launch, or just go home, the rain stopped, the sun came out, and those who were present decided to take advantage of the break in the weather and fly some rockets.

Just as quickly as it got nice, however, the weather suddenly took a turn for the worse. Increasing winds and rapidly approaching storm clouds made the decision to call it a day around 2:30PM relatively easy. **CD**

Flight Log 11-02

#	Flyer	Manufacturer	Model	Motors	Result
1	Kathy Gilliland	Estes	Python	Estes D12-5	Good Flight
2	Kathy Gilliland	Launch Pad	SAAB	Estes D12-3	Good Flight
3	Stephen Knight	Launch Pad	Bullpup	Estes D12-7	Good Flight
4	Stephen Knight	Scratch	LRD-D-1	Estes A10-3T	Good Flight
5	Stephen Knight	Estes	SR-71	Estes C6-5	Good Flight
6	Bob Utley	Scratch	20oz Pepsi Bottle	Estes A8-3	Good Flight
7	Bob Utley	Estes	Fat Boy	Estes D12-5	Good Flight

Launch Statistics - November 2nd, 1997

Number of Flyers: 3 Weather: Cool, Breezy, Rainy

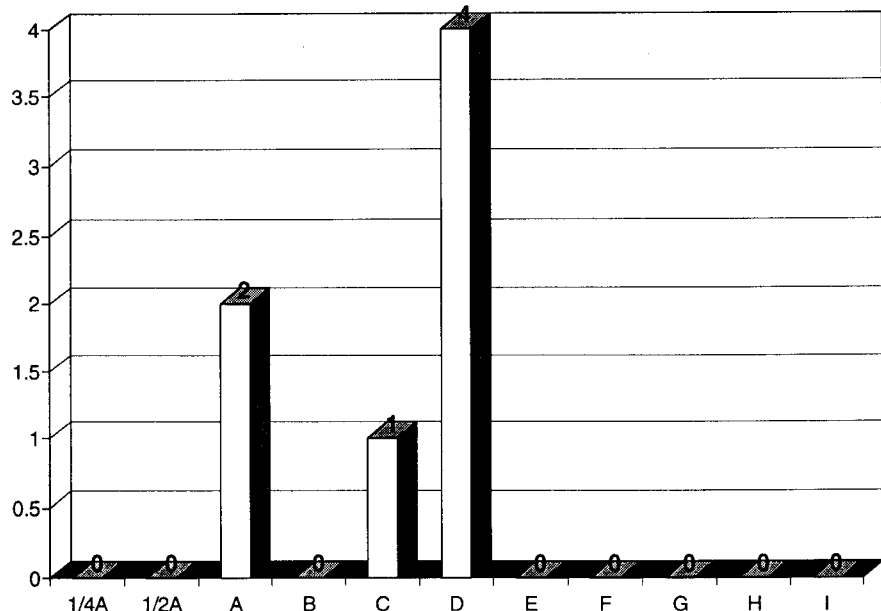
Models Flown:

Estes	3
Launch Pad	2
Scratchbuilt	2

Motor Usage:

Estes	7
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Impulse Distribution:



National Association of Rocketry

P.O. Box 177
Altoona, WI 54720
800-262-4872 or <http://www.nar.org>

Tripoli Rocketry Association

P.O. Box 280
Bessemer, AL 35021-0280
205-424-8357 or <http://www.tripoli.org>

SPAAR Sport Launch

November 28th, 1997

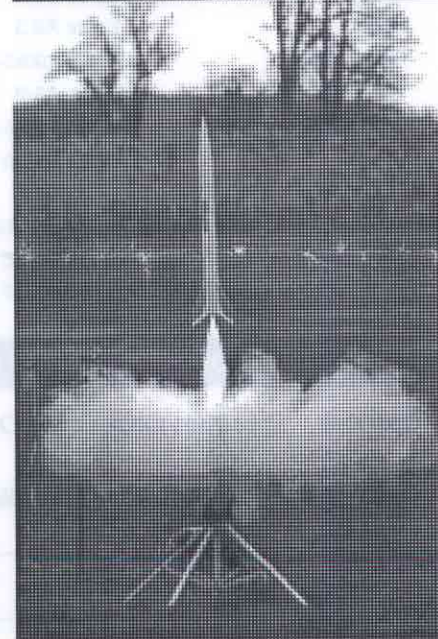
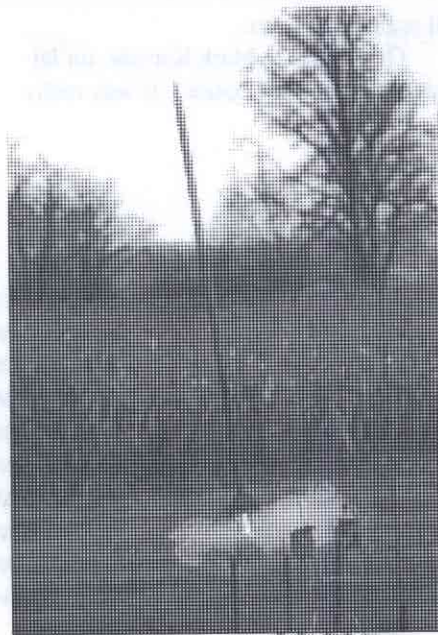
by George Beever

The Strange Tale of SPAARSPAM-8, or Blame it on El Nino: The SPAARSPAM-8 Eatathon was originally scheduled for November 2nd, but it rained, which it has done just about every weekend since Labor Day around here. It was moved to the annual Turkey Day + 1 launch on the day after Thanksgiving, at 9AM. A decent crowd showed up right on time, and, well, you know what happened. It started to rain. Heavily.

So, after standing around for about twenty minutes, sharing umbrellas and good humor, Mark Kamide suggested that we adjourn to his place to eat. The day wouldn't be a complete washout after all!



George Beever's scratch built Saturn 1B is off on an F50-4T. (Brust)

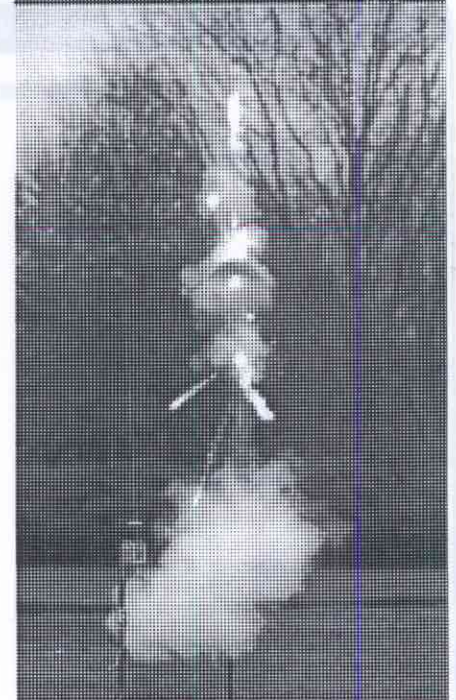
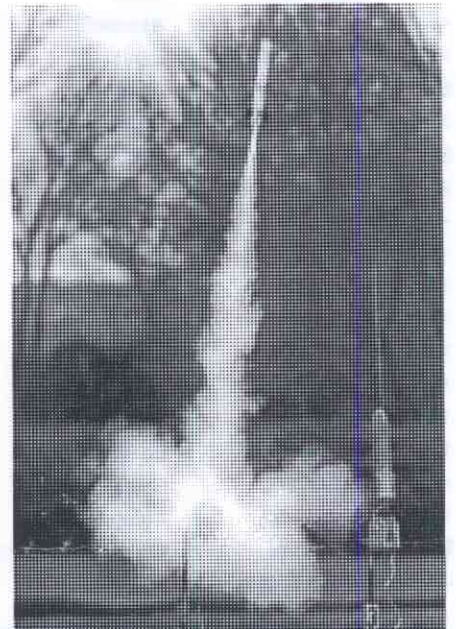


Two youngsters flew at this year's SPAARSPAM. Matthew Myers with his Matt's Machine, and Joey Brust with his Initiator. (Brust)

We all chipped in and helped Mark clear out some space in his garage, and in no time the buffet line was in business. There was lasagna, chili, cheese, cornbread, rolls, turkey, stuffing, lunchmeat, chips, dip, cookies, pies of all kinds, and, well shall we go on? The only thing missing were the two guys who came out of the corn last year, ate everything not nailed down, and went back into the corn (Who were those guys anyway?). Chili for brunch - a new trend?

About 11 o'clock the rain slowed enough for some people to suggest going back to Cocalico for some (burp) flying. Guy DeStefano commented that he hated to go home grumpy, which he would if he didn't fly. So, back we went.

As the flight log indicates, there were some pretty interesting flights. The *Best Scratchbuilt Model* award went to George Beever and his 1/70 scale Saturn 1B.



Rick Hackman shows the good and bad sides of rocketry. His T-5 flew great on an A8-3 but his UFO-24 fell victim to an Estes D12 CATO. (Brust)

which he promptly dumped into the parking lot with the expected damage. As John Yost said, macadam parking lots are where

all scale models go...

Our thanks to Mark Kamide, for letting us invade his house. It was really

appreciated! And Cindy, don't worry, I'm sure the silverware will show up somewhere. **CD**

Flight Log 11-28

#	Flyer	Manufacturer	Model	Motors	Result
1	George Beever	Mountainside Hobbies	ASP	Estes C6-3	Good Flight
2	George Beever	Scratch	Saturn 1B	Aerotech F50-4T	Good Flight
3	George Beever	Estes	V-2	Aerotech RMS D9-4W	Good Flight
4	Joey Brust	Aerotech	Initiator	Aerotech F25-6W	Good Flight
5	Randy Brust	Estes	Fat Boy	Aerotech RMS F24-7W	Good Flight
6	Randy Brust	Aerotech	Initiator	Aerotech F25-6W	Good Flight
7	Guy DeStefano	LOC/Precision	Legacy	Aerotech RMS F52-8T	Good Flight
8	Guy DeStefano	LOC/Precision	Lil Nuke	Aerotech RMS F52-5T	Good Flight
9	Guy DeStefano	Rocket R&D	Peacock	Aerotech RMS F52-5T	Good Flight
10	David Grumbine	Scratch	Yellow Crayola	Aerotech RMS F22-5J	Good Flight
11	Rick Hackman	Ed Miller	Birdie	Estes 1/4A3-4T	Good Flight
12	Rick Hackman	Scratch	PetruL	Estes B6-4	Good Flight
13	Rick Hackman	Scratch	PetruL	Estes A8-3	Good Flight
14	Rick Hackman	Scratch	Sidewinder	Estes 1/2A6-2	Good Flight
15	Rick Hackman	Scratch	T-5	Estes A8-3	Good Flight
16	Rick Hackman	Scratch	Turbo Tiger	Estes 1/2A6-2	Good Flight
17	Rick Hackman	Ed Miller	UFO-24	Estes D12-0	CATO
18	Craig Myers	Estes	Fat Boy	Estes C6-3	Good Flight
19	Craig Myers	Aerotech	Initiator	Aerotech RMS E23-5T	Good Flight
20	Craig Myers	Estes	Mean Machine	Estes D12-5	Good Flight
21	Matthew Myers	Estes	Matt's Machine	Estes D12-5	Good Flight

Launch Statistics - November 28th, 1997

Number of Flyers: 8 Weather: Cool, Calm, Overcast

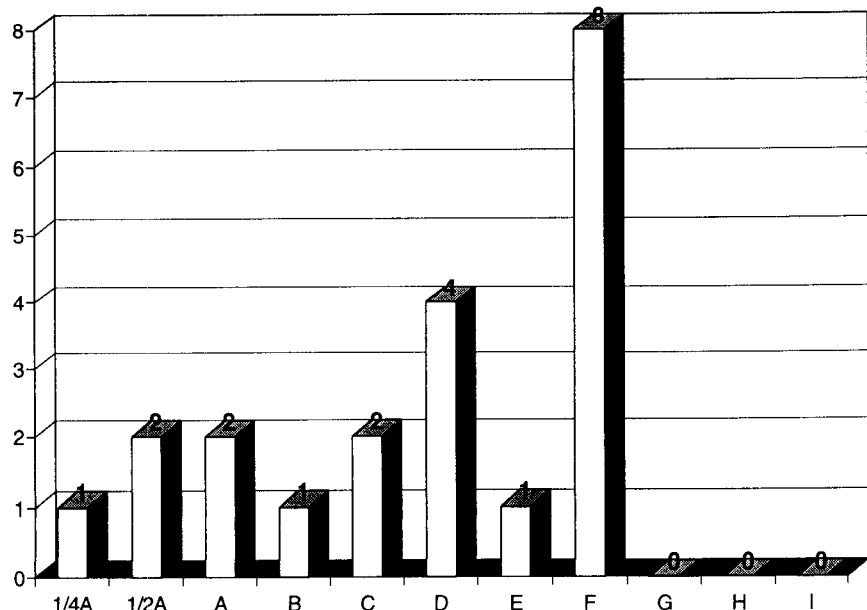
Models Flown:

Scratchbuilt	6
Estes	5
Aerotech	2
Ed Miller	2
LOC/Precision	2
Mountainside Hobbies	1
Rocket R&D	1

Motor Usage:

Estes	11
Aerotech RMS	7
Aerotech	3

Impulse Distribution:



Roar at the Shore 6

October 25th, 1997

by Guy DeStefano

Don't even ask what the weather was like! OK, you convinced me. Foggy, cloudy, windy, cold, etc. Enough of this nonsense. Well, what can I say? Not the best turnout for this launch and as for Bruce Kelly, president of Tripoli, and all the other big shots... no shows.

Launching didn't take place until 10:45AM because of a 700 foot cloud ceiling. There was a lot of big stuff, but everything was grounded. Those who flew were afraid to lose their rockets in the clouds and wind. There wasn't anything larger than a K motor until late afternoon. Lots of H motors, however.

There was only a small handful of SPAAR members launching rockets. Doran Schultz, a new member, was biting his nails all day whether or not a G80-7 would put his Aerotech Initiator out of sight. Well, it did, and it took about a minute to look for it in the sky. You gotta

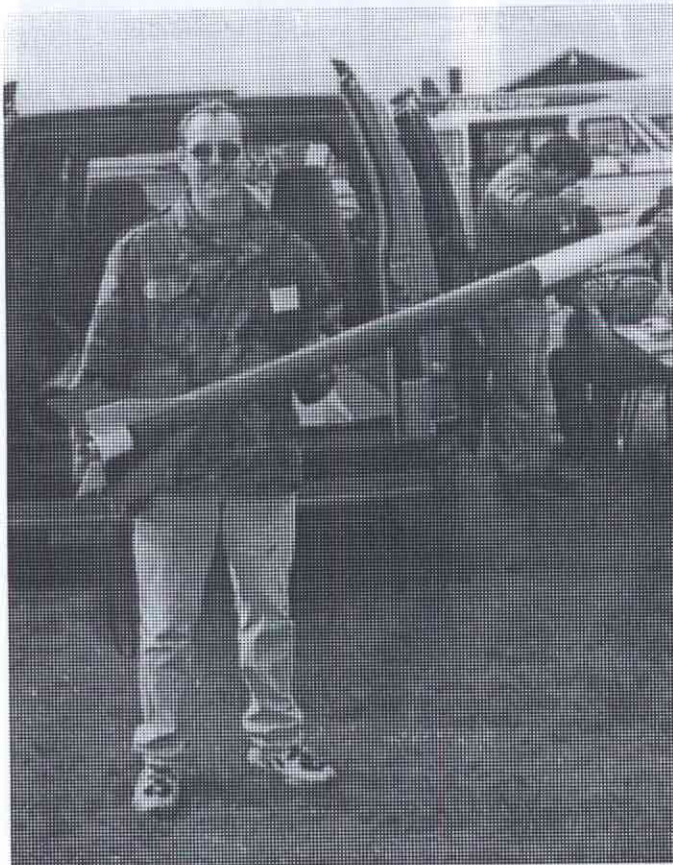
understand, this launch site is large, but when you angle your rocket to one end of the field and it lands about a half to three quarters of a mile to the other end, that's not good. His rocket drifted and barely missed the trees!

Guy DeStefano put up his quarter scale Patriot on an H180W. The motor tube was forced up the motor mount slightly which caused the rocket to arc off the pad. Good flight otherwise though. Roger Dwyer kinda hung out all day because he had big motors to fly but the weather was a factor. Ed "Mr. Flamethrower" Miller proved that he's the man! He blistered the cold weather by putting a K458 in his flying saucer. Long burn, slow lift-off, smoke, and a **big** flame! He got a lot of heads turned on that flight.

Congratulations goes out to Tom Rhymer Sr. After some convincing and watching him salivate over the rockets and flights he saw, he went the distance and certified Level 1 and is now a member of Tripoli. Watching Tom prep an Aerotech H238 in his Sandia Sandhawk was

like watching a kid with candy. Ed Miller and Guy DeStefano helped Tom get mentally prepared for his moment of truth. This motor has a 0.8 second burn time! The rocket screamed up into the clouds. Perfect flight! After he retrieved his rocket, he was welcomed with handshakes and smiles. He took advantage of the vendors and bought a new casing. Hey Tom, welcome to the next level of spending!

After a few hours, toward the end of the day, the M motor from hell was stuffed into an upscale Estes Fatboy. This was a Level 3 certification attempt. The flame at ignition was unbelievable! The rocket soared to about 3000 feet. It was spooky in that at that low altitude, the ejection charge of a motor like that sounds like a cannon. Well, no one heard an ejection or saw a rocket falling from the sky. After about a minute, there it was, under chutes! The chutes weren't fully inflated, however. No certification. Too bad, lots of money down the tubes! Well, shame, shame, shame if you weren't there. See ya at the Spring launch. **CD**



Tom Rhymer Sr. is all smiles after certifying Level 1 with his Sandhawk on an H238T. (DeStefano)



The 5.4x upscaled Fatboy returns after a ride on an Aerotech M1419. (DeStefano)

Maryland Tripoli Launch

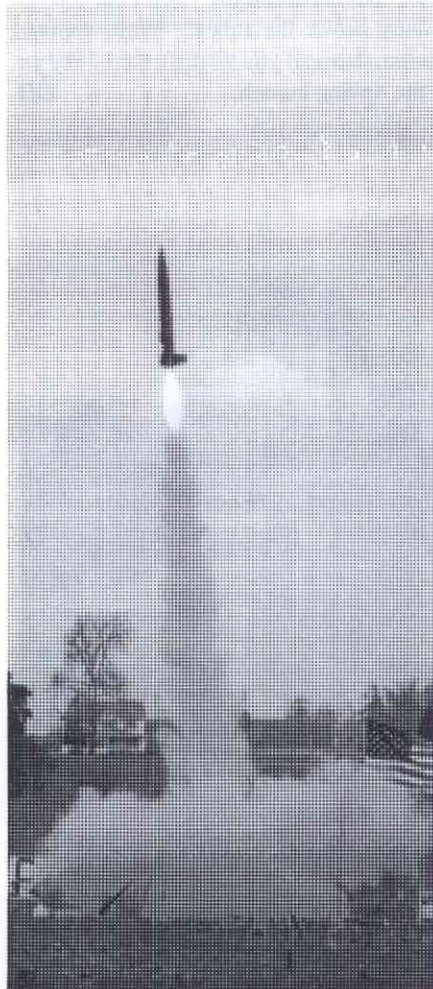
November 15th, 1997

by Guy DeStefano

Higgs Dairy Farm in Price Maryland is *Huge!* Ladies and gentlemen, may I have your attention please. In order to launch big rockets you have to use some fuel and drive to these sites. You have nothing to lose.

Anyway, I spoke with Ed Miller and Randy Brust the night before the launch and convinced only Randy to go. Well, to say the least, he was glad he went. It was mostly cloudy, windy and cold up to 1PM but after that, the sun started coming out and the winds died down to nothing!

There were a lot of flights ranging from B to L motors. Randy flew a few rockets but his last flight was awesome. He flew his scratchbuilt Dart-29 on an H180. This rocket snapped off the pad



Guy DeStefano's LOC I-ROC on an I161W. (Brust)



Bob Utley and Kathy Gilliland waiting in line for check-in. (DeStefano)

and punctured the sky! Great flight.

Kathy Gilliland and Rob Utley, SPAAR members from Maryland, also joined in on the fun. They teamed up to fly some nice birds. One was an Estes Shadow named Tweety Bird. Kathy named it this because she has a nice yellow paint job and upon ejection, not only does a parachute come out, but also a tweety bird attached to a chute. Hey Kathy, does Tweety have a reserve chute if the main doesn't open? Next, Rob and Kathy flew an Estes Impulse. This kit can fly on two D motors but Kathy kicked it up a few notches and stuffed two E30s in it. Very quick and high flight! Nice paint job too.

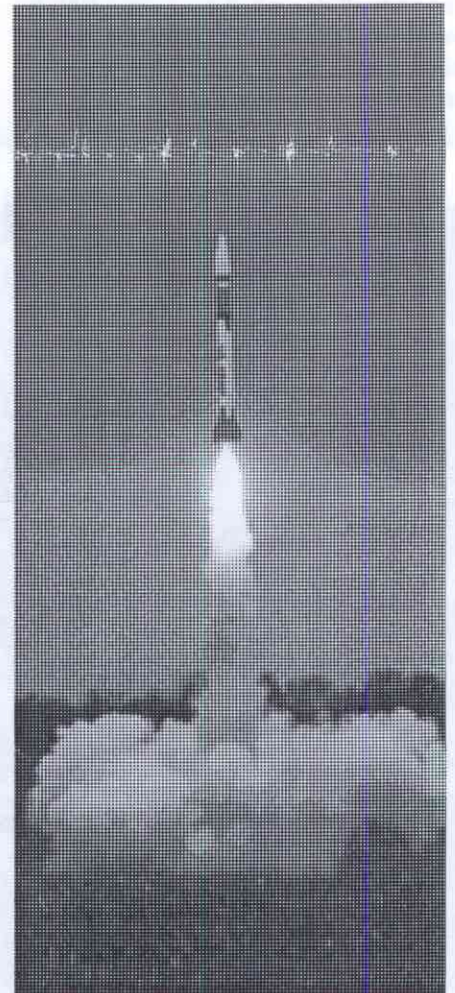
Last of the SPAAR members that flew was Guy DeStefano. He was looking forward to flying his brand new LOC I-ROC. He flew it on an I161. Nice big flame and straight flight!

Tripoli Maryland's prefect Dave

Bullis flew the largest motor of the day in a rocket that really looks homemade. To see it makes you wonder. An L750 put it up a few thousand feet. This motor really chuffs out the air pollution.

There were a number of failures also. Some rockets sat on the pad and chuffed out smoke without moving. A few ended up as lawn darts, meaning a few core samples of the farm were taken. One upsetting flight was a homemade 1/2 scale Patriot on a K550. The RSO inspection showed that this gentleman had the center of pressure ahead of the center of gravity. We all know that this is not a good situation, so he couldn't fly it without adding two pounds of weight to his nosecone. Well, lift-off was great but an aerial fireworks display was the result. Too bad.

Well, that's the story folks! I will conclude by saying again, if you didn't go to this launch, shame, shame, shame. **CD**



An end of the day launch of a 1/2 scale Patriot on a K550. (Brust)

SPAAR

1998 Calendar of Events

January

Sunday 4th Sport Launch (Best Sci-Fi Rocket), Cocalico High School, Denver, PA, 1PM-5PM
 Saturday 10th SPAAR Family Dinner, 6PM
 Saturday 17th Workshop/Meeting, APRIA Community Room, Lancaster, PA, 9AM-1PM
 Saturday 31st SPAAR Trip to Air and Space Museum

February

Sunday 8th Sport Launch (Best NASA Sport Scale Rocket), Cocalico High School, Denver, PA, 1PM-5PM
 Saturday 28th Workshop/Meeting, APRIA Community Room, Lancaster, PA, 9AM-1PM

March

Sunday 8th Sport Launch (Best Military Sport Scale Rocket), Cocalico High School, Denver, PA, 1PM-5PM
 Saturday 14th Opossum 2, Open Meet, Hosted by NARHAMS
 Saturday 21st Workshop/Meeting, APRIA Community Room, Lancaster, PA, 9AM-1PM

April

Sunday TBA Sport/High Power Launch (Best Upscale Rocket), Kirkwood Farms, Chester, PA, 9AM-5PM
 Friday 17th Business Meeting, APRIA Community Room, Lancaster, PA, 7PM-9PM

May

Sunday TBA Sport/High Power Launch (Best Mercury Redstone Rocket), Kirkwood Farms, Chester, PA, 9AM-5PM
 Friday 15th-Sunday 17th National Sport Launch, Muncie, IN
 Saturday 16th-Sunday 17th East Coast Regional Meet(ECRM), Hosted by NARHAMS
 Friday 22nd Business Meeting, APRIA Community Room, Lancaster, PA, 7PM-9PM
 Sunday 31st Sport Launch (Best use of a C6-5, altitude tracking available), Cocalico High School, Denver, PA, 9AM-5PM

June

Saturday 20th-Sunday 21st RAMTEC-6, Hosted by SPAAR-Center Valley, PA.
 Friday 26th Business Meeting, APRIA Community Room, Lancaster, PA, 7PM-9PM
 Sunday 28th Sport Launch (Best Staged Rocket), Cocalico High School, Denver, PA, 3PM-7PM

July

Sunday 12th Sport Launch (Ugliest Rocket), Cocalico High School, Denver, PA, 3PM-7PM
 Friday 17th Business Meeting, APRIA Community Room, Lancaster, PA, 7PM-9PM

August

Sunday 2nd Sport Launch-3PM-7PM
 Saturday 8th-Friday 14th NARAM 40, Muncie, IN
 Friday 21st Business Meeting, APRIA Community Room, Lancaster, PA, 7PM-9PM
 Sunday 30th Sport Launch (Best Sport Scale Rocket, altitude tracking available), Cocalico High School, Denver, PA, 9AM-5PM

September

Friday 18th Business Meeting, APRIA Community Room, Lancaster, PA, 7PM-9PM
 Sunday TBA Sport/High Power Launch (Best Non-Ed Miller Paint Scheme), Kirkwood Farms, Chester, PA, 9AM-5PM

October

Friday 16th Business Meeting, APRIA Community Room, Lancaster, PA, 7PM-9PM
 Sunday TBA Sport/High Power Launch (Best Cluster Rocket), Kirkwood Farms, Chester, PA, 9AM-5PM

November

Sunday 1st SPAARSPAM (Best Scratch Built Rocket) 1PM-5PM
 Friday 20th Business Meeting, APRIA Community Room, Lancaster, PA, 7PM-9PM
 Friday 27th Sport Launch, Cocalico High School, Denver, PA, 9AM-1PM

December

Sunday 13th Sport Launch (Best Old Time Rocket), Cocalico High School, Denver, PA, 1PM-5PM
 Friday 18th Business Meeting, APRIA Community Room, Lancaster, PA, 7PM-9PM

Note: Cocalico High School supports up to F impulse motors and Kirkwood Farms supports up to I impulse motors.

COUNTDOWN

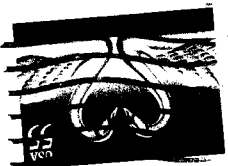
is the Official Newsletter of SPAAR
THE SOUTHERN PENNSYLVANIA AREA ASSOCIATION OF ROCKETRY

17522-9742 01

Please make sure your membership is up to date!

George Beever
231 Weidmansville Road
Ephrata, PA 17522
Membership Expires: 12/31/97

SPAAR
PO Box 127
Reamstown, PA, 17567



COUNTDOWN