

THE SOUTHERN PENNSYLVANIA AREA ASSOCIATION OF ROCKETRY

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 5 NOVEMBER 1995

IN THIS **ISSUE:**

SPORT LAUNCH COVERAGE

U.S. PERFORMANCE RECORDS

A TRIBUTE TO BIG BERTHA



PLUS

Club News Meeting formation Election Ballot

The Countdown

Volume 8, Issue 5

November 1995

The <u>Countdown</u> is the newsletter of SPAAR, the Southern Pennsylvania Area Association Of Rocketry, NAR Section #503, & Tripoli Susquehanna #71, PO Box 127, Reamstown, PA 17567. Please make all submissions to address above. Material may be used with proper credit. [as if anyone wants to]

Section President: Glenn Feveryear Tripoli Prefect: Ed Miller Newsletter Editor: George Beever

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SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16: CLUB MEETING AT GLENN FEVERYEAR'S HOUSE. SEE BACK PAGE FOR DETAILS.

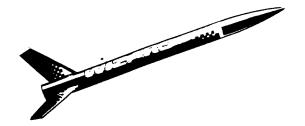
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1 - 5PM: SPAAR SPORT LAUNCH, COCALICO HIGH SCHOOL, DENVER, PA. BRING YOUR OWN LAUNCH SYSTEM AND BUN WARMERS.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1996, 6PM: SPAAR FAMILY DINNER, LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED.

In The Next Issue

1996 Schedule... Doug Gardei's Jayhawk Review

Sport Launch coverage



SPAAR SPORT LAUNCH

SPAAR's October 1 Sport Launch was attended by 22 flyers who made a total of 95 flights. Despite competing with youth league soccer games, everyone had a chance to fly as much as they wanted.

One of our younger members, Nate Minnich, got some really nice flights from his fleet of Estes models. Very impressive was his Maxi-Force with 3 D12s.

Gerard Hertzog, with help from his dad, got a couple of nice flights out of their North Coast Phantom 4000, one of three that were flown that day.

Daniel Feveryear flew his Athena 3 times, using his sister's pack of B4-4s. Sorry.

Casey Miller and his dad Andy flew their Estes Twister, Alpha, Phoenix, and Mean Machine, as well as their NCR Patriot. All had good flights.

Rich Good and his son Marcus flew their ever-present Mean Machine, which just keeps on flying. The best flight was on an Aerotech E15-7 White Lightning.

Matt Musselman used C6-7 motors to fly his Estes Nova Payloader and the top stage of the Comanche-3, as well as his scratchbuilt "Mix & Match". Jeff Aughey had some hard luck when one of those "dern C5-3s" CATO'd, severely damaging his

Estes Deep Space Transport. Jeff did get some nice flights from his other models, though.

Rick Hackman had some of the usual ["usual"?] "XR" series, as well as the "TurboTwister", another scratchbuilt, spin-fin design. He also flew one he calls the "Turbo Tiger", which doesn't spin much but sports a wild paint job.

The Mountainside boys, Mark Kamide and George Fetter, were there, too, flying a number of kit prototypes. George's ASP 18mm flew well again, and should be available in kit form soon. Mark's "Titan IIIC" may not. Stability problems still have to be overcome. Go for it, Mark!

Glenn Feveryear flew his LOC Onyx on the motor that he swears was made just for that kit, the Aerotech E15-4WL. It does put on a good show.

George Beever flew an Exocet kit from The Launch Pad, straight into, what else?, the corn. Some very helpful young guys plunged in and recovered the model in one piece. Thanks guys!!

Gary Rubright flew his Estern Rascal, Athena, and Cajun 4... on B motors, for nice flights Thanks to all who helped with range duty. You gays really made this a great launch!

FLIGHT LOG

October 1, 1995

井	FLYER	MODEL	MANUE	MOTOR[5]	RESULI
1	Steve Biers	Dagger	Estes	E C6-5	Seperation
2	Mark Beever	Manta	Estes	E 86-2	Good Flight
3	Drew Kibler	SR-71	Estes	E 84-4	Good Flight
4	Drew Kibler	Space Racer	Estes	E 84-2	Good Flight
5	Drew Kibler	SR-71	Estes	E 84-4	Good Flight
હ	Drew Kibler	SR-71	Estes	E 84-4	Good Flight
7	Daniel Fevryr	Athena	Estes	E 84-4	Good Flight
3	Daniel Fevryr	Athena	Estes	E 84-4	GF - 30s
9	Daniel Fevryr	Athena	Estes	E 84-4	GF - 315
10	Nate Minnich	Sizzler	Estes	E C6-5	Good Flight
11	Nate Minnich	Maxi-Force	Estes	€ 012 - 5[3]	Good Flight
12	Nate Minnich	Dark Star	Estes	€ C6-5	Good Flight
13	Nate Minnich	Sizzler	Est es	E 06-5	Good Flight
14	Nate Minnich	Maniac	Estes	E D12-5	Good Flight
1.5	Casey Miller	Twister	Estes	E A8-3	Good Flight
16	Casey Miller	Mean Machine	Estes	E D12-7	No 'chure
17	Casey Miller	Alpha	Estes	E A8-3	Good Flight
18	Casey Miller	Mean Machine	Estes	E D12-5	No 'chure
19	Casey Miller	Twister	Estes	E 84-6	Good Flight
20	Marcus Good	Mini Patriot	Estes	E A10-3	Good Flight
21	Marcus Good	Gnome -	Estes	E A10-3	Good Elist.
22	Marcus Good	Gnome	Estes	E A10-3	Good Fills
23	Marcus Good	Gnome	Estes	E A10-3	Good Flian
24	8en Young	Alpha III	Estes	E 1/2A6-2	Good Flig"
25	Ben Young	Alpha III	Estes	E C6-5	Good Flight
26	Gerard Hertzog	Phantom 4000	NCR	AT F25-4W	Good folian
27	Gerard Hertzog		NCR	AT F25-4W	Good Flight
128	Jesse Stauff <mark>e</mark> r		NCR	AT F25-4W	Good Filling
29	Jesse Stauffer		NCR	AT F25-4W	Good Flight Good Flight
30	Jesse Stauffer		NCE	AT F25-4W	Good Fill
31	Jesse Stauffer		NCR	AT F50-4T	Good Fig. 2
32	Michael Rausch		Estes	E 86-4	Good Filiania
33	Michael Rausch		Estes	E 86-4	Good Firiant
34	Michael Rausch		Estes	E 06-3	Good F
35	Michael Rausch		Estes	E 06-5	Good Fill
36	Michael Rausch		ESTAS	E 06~5	Good First
37	Michael Rausch		Estas	£ 06 ~5 £ 06 ~5	Good Flight
38	Michael Rausch		Ester Sctos		Good (1.137)
39	Michael Rausch		ESTAS De	た U6m5 元 O5m3	Good Flight
40	George Fetter	ASP-18mm	56 NCD	AT F25-4W	Good Flight
41	George Fetter	Phantom 4000	NCR SO	and the same of th	Good Flight
42	George Fetter	ASP-24mm	58		Good Flight
43	George Fetter	Mirage -	Aerotech	AT F50-4T	MOOM FRAGIS

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44
        George Fetter
                         Astrobee-C
                                                     AT F25-4W
                                                                      Good Flight
                                          Aerotech
45
        George Fetter
                         Space Clipper
                                                     E 06-3
                                          Quest
                                                                      Good Flight
46
        George Fetter
                         ASP-24mm
                                          58
                                                     AT ELL-SRMS
                                                                      Good Flight
47
        George Fetter
                         Astrobee-D
                                          Aerotech
                                                     AT
                                                        G64 ~4RMS
                                                                      Good Flight
43
        George Fetter
                         Phantom 4000
                                          NCR
                                                     AT
                                                        F25-4W
                                                                      Good Flight
49
        George Fetter
                         Phantom 4000
                                          NCR
                                                     AT G80-4T
                                                                      Good Flight
50
        Rick Hackman
                         XR ~54
                                          58
                                                     E D12-5
                                                                      Good Flight
51
                         F-3A Tiger
        Rick Hackman
                                          58
                                                     E
                                                      012-5
                                                                      Good Flight
52
        Rick Hackman
                         XR-70
                                          58
                                                     Ε
                                                      A8-3
                                                                      Good Flight
53
        Rick Hackman
                         XR-71
                                                     Ē
                                          SB
                                                       A8-3
                                                                      Good Flight
54
        Rick Hackman
                         XR ~ 72
                                         58
                                                     \mathbf{E}
                                                       A8-3
                                                                     Good Flight
55
        Rick Hackman
                         Rogue
                                                       A3-4
                                          Estes
                                                     E
                                                                      Good Flight
56
        Rick Hackman
                         TurboTwister
                                         58
                                                     E D12-5
                                                                         'chute
                                                                      NO
57
        Rick Hackman
                         Turbo Tiger
                                         58
                                                     E 84-4
                                                                      GF - 40.0s
58
        Mark Kamide
                         Titan IIIC
                                         38
                                                     AT E15-4W
                                                                      Hmmm...
59
        Mark Kamide
                         Broadsword
                                         Estes
                                                     AT E15-4W
                                                                     Good Flight
60
        Mark Kamide
                         Saturn V
                                                      012-5[2]
                                         Cox
                                                                     Good Flight
61
        Andy Miller
                         Patriot
                                         NCR
                                                    AT G80-7T
                                                                     Good Flight
62
        Andy Miller
                         Phoenix
                                                     E 012-7
                                         Estes
                                                                     Good Flight
63
        Andy Miller
                         Phoenix
                                                    Ε
                                                      D12-7
                                         Estes
                                                                     Good Flight
64
        Jeff Aughey
                         Deep Space Ir.
                                         Estes
                                                     E 05-3
                                                                     Good Flight
65
        Jeff Aughey
                                                    E C5-3
                         Deep Space Tr.
                                         Estes
                                                                     CATO
        Jeff Aughey
66
                         Bullpup 12D
                                         Estes
                                                    E A8-3
                                                                     Good Flight
67
        Jeff Aughey
                         Condor
                                         Estes
                                                    Ε
                                                      86-4
                                                                     Good Flight
68
        Jeff Aughey
                         Star Fighter
                                         Estes
                                                     ε
                                                       86-4
                                                                     Good Flight
69
        Jeff Aughey
                         Egglofter
                                         SPAAR
                                                    8
                                                      - A8-3
                                                                     Good Flight
70
        Matt Musselman Mix Match
                                         58
                                                    E
                                                      06-7
                                                                     Good Flight
71
        Matt Musselman
                        Nova Payloader
                                         Estes
                                                    E 06-7
                                                                     Good Flight
72
        Matt Musselman
                        Comanche-3
                                         Estas
                                                    E C6-7
                                                                     Good Flight
73
        Ed Miller
                        Monocopter 24-12 56
                                                    AT E15-7W
                                                                     Good Flight
74
        Ed Miller
                        Monocopter 32-18 SR
                                                    AT G12 RCT -
                                                                     Good Flight
75
        Ed Miller
                         BiCopter 32/18/120 58
                                                    AT G12 RCT
                                                                     Good Flight
76
        Ed Miller
                         Tekyon
                                         SB
                                                    Vulcan G200-5
                                                                     Good Flight
77
        Ed Miller
                        Hyperon
                                         35
                                                    FSI F100-8[3]
                                                                     Good Flight
78
        Ed Miller
                         Tarsis
                                         511
                                                    AT G75-6J
                                                                     Good Flight
79
        Rich Good
                        Mean Machine
                                         ESTAS
                                                    E D12-5
                                                                     Good Flight
80
        Rich Good
                        Mean Machine
                                         ESTAS
                                                    E D12-5
                                                                     Good Flight
31
        Rich Good
                        Mean Machine
                                         ESTAG
                                                    E D12-5
                                                                     Good Flight
82
        Rich Good
                                         Ester
                        Mean Machine
                                                    AT E15-7W
                                                                     Good Flight
83
        Rich Good
                        Alpha III
                                         ESTAS
                                                    £ C6-5
                                                                     Good Flight
84
        Glenn Fvryr
                        X-30 Space Pl
                                         Que: *
                                                    Ε
                                                      C6 ±3
                                                                     Good Flight
85
        Glenn Fyryr
                        1/2A 8G
                                         58
                                                    Ë
                                                      1/2A3-2
                                                                     Red Baron
        Glenn Fvryr
86
                        Onyx
                                         LOC
                                                    AT E15-4W
                                                                     Good Flight
87
                        A PD
        Glenn Fvryr
                                         58
                                                    E A8-3
                                                                     48.5s - GC
83
       Gary Rubright
                        Rascal
                                         ESTAF
                                                    6
                                                      86-4
                                                                     Good Flight
89
       Gary Rubright
                        Athena
                                         ESTA
                                                      84-4
                                                                     Good Flight
90
       Gary Rubright
                        Cajun
                                         ESTAG
                                                    Ę
                                                      84-4
                                                                     Good Flight
91
       George Beever
                        Titan Mk. IV
                                         58
                                                      86-2
                                                                     Good Flight
92
       George Beever
                        Titan IIIE
                                         ESTA =
                                                      012 - 5
                                                                     Good Flight
93
       George Beever
                        Bullpup 128
                                         TLP
                                                      D12-5
                                                                     Good Flight
94
       George Beever
                        Exocet MM40
                                         TLP
                                                    Ξ
                                                      012-5[2]
                                                                     Hmmm...
95
       George Beever
                                         FSI
                        Javelin
                                                    AT E30-4T
                                                                     Good Flight
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Launch Statistics

Models Flown:

- 33 Estes
- 4 North Coast Rocketry
- 1 Cox
- 2 The Launch Pad
- 2 Quest
- 1 Flight Systems, Inc.
- 1 SPAAR
- 1 LOC/Precision
- 2 Aerotech
- 20 Scratchbuilt

Motor Usage:

- 73 Estes
- 18 Aerotech Single Use
- 6 Aerotech RMS
- 3 Flight Systems, Inc.
- 1 Vulcan

Motor Failures:

1 Estes C5-3 CATO

Meeting Minutes

November 17, 1995

Present: Bill Rhoat, Dale Greene, Dan Weinhold, Gary Feveryear, George Beever, Rick Hackman, George Fetter, Glenn, Rita, Renee, & Daniel Feveryear.

Treasurer: Reported 45 current members; expenditures: \$49.75 for newsletter copy costs. Income: \$10 in dues. Balance, \$556.46.

Competition: The RAMTEC-4 Regional Meet will be held at Allentown College, over the weekend of June 15/16, 1996. The events will be: B SD, C HD, D ELA, & Sport Scale.

Section Advisor: No report.

<u>Newsletter:</u> Submissions needed, as always.

High Power: No report.

Old Business: Dale Greene will be checking out the Hosses' Steak House in Elizabethtown for the Family Dinner. The

dinner will be held on Saturday, January 13, at 6 PM. More news as it becomes available.

Club patches are still available. See Dale Greene.

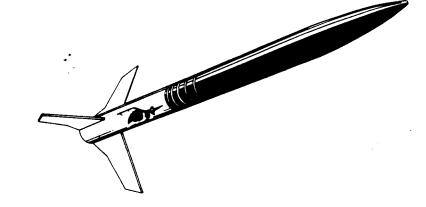
<u>New Business:</u> The club will seek permission to use the same meeting facility for 1996. Dan Weinhold will handle.

NARHAMS has announced the events for the East Coast Regional Meet, ECRM, to be held over the weekend of April 13/14, 1996, in Middletown, MD. They are: B HD, PMC, 1/2A BG, and 4 X A Cluster Altitude.

Nominations were made for club officials for 1996. See enclosed ballot.

NAR Records

November 6, 1995



A Division

Rule#				
19.	1/4A Alt	58 m	06/05/93	S Smith
19.	1/2A Alt	95 m	05/18/91	M Whymark
19.	A Alt	295 m	05/12/86	J Lyon
19.	B Alt	510 m	O8/11/81	H Rose
19.	C Alt	202 m	05/31/81	C Ramos
19.	E Alt	330 m	09/28/91	M Whymark
19.	F Alt	1820 m	09/27/81	F Craven
19.	G Alt	640 m	09/28/91	M Whymark
22.	C PL Alt	489 m	08/09/89	J Marsh IV
23.	B EL Alt	44 m	05/18/91	M Musarra
23.	C EL Alt	363 m	08/06/92	A Miller
23.	D EL Alt	428 m	04/27/91	A Miller
23.	F EL Alt	508 m	09/28/91	M Whymark
24.	D DEL Alt	412 m	08/07/90	J Marsh IV
24.	F DEL Alt	765 m	05/26/90	R McBroom
25.	1/2A Clstr Alt	113 m	06/05/93	S Smith
30.	1/4A PD	38 s	09/22/91	A Miller
30.	1/2A PD	77 s	06/26/95	M Filler
30.	A PD	180 s	08/03/92	S Smith
30.	B PD	65 s	08/20/95	J Shapiro
31.	1/4A SD	20 s	09/22/91	A Miller
31.	1/2A SD	104 s	03/18/90	J Kmetz Jr
31.	A SD	650 s	10/13/85	T White
31.	B SD	65 s	08/08/88	J Kmetz Jr.
31.	C SD	217 s	08/07/89	J Marsh IV
31.	D SD	137 s	04/15/90	R McBroom
32.	A HD	141 s	08/09/88	M Sias
32.	B HD	155 s	05/08/93	M Filler
32.	C HD	83 s	04/15/90	R McBroom
32.	D HD	139 s	08/04/92	R Lemon III
32.	E HD	124 s	04/28/91	A Miller
33.	B SR Dur	8316 p	10/15/95	J Shapiro
34.	B EL Dur	180 s	08/09/88	A Linder
34.	C EL Dur	151 s	10/20/90	A Miller

34.	DEL Durl :	26 s	02/28/88	V Bernatchez
35.	D Dual EL Dur	80 s	06/12/93	S Smith
36.	1/4A BG	55 s	05/08/93	S Smith
36.	1/2A BG	54 s	06/16/90	J Whymark
36.	A BG	247 s	06/26/82	M Beyers
36.	B BG	153 s	10/24/92	S Smith
37.	1/4A RG	17 s	08/05/92	A Miller
37.	1/2A RG	48 s	10/24/92	S Smith
37.	A RG	49 s	09/30/79	J Whitehead
37.	B R/G	22 s	06/26/95	M Filler
37.	C RG	11 8 s	09/09/90	L Barber
37.	D RG	30 s	10/03/92	S Smith
38.	1/4A Flex BG	62 s	05/08/93	S Smith
38.	1/2A Flex BG	169 s	05/17/92	S Smith
38.	A Flex BG	120 s	10/03/92	S Smith
38.	B Flex BG	487 s	06/13/93	S Smith
38.	D Flex BG	249 s	08/04/92	S Smith
			•	

B Division

19.	1/2A Alt	149 m	05/18/91	E Glembocki
19.	A Alt	284 m	10/16/93	B Gormley
19.	F Alt	1430 m	08/11/88	K Kmetz
22.	C PL Alt	325 m	06/08/93	B Gormley
23.	C EL Alt	216 m	06/26/95t	S Smith
23.	D EL Alt	316 m	07/04/81	C King
24.	E DEL Alt	416 m	07/27/94	K J Gormley
30.	1/2A PD	210 s	06/26/95	S Smith
30.	A PD	101 s	10/29/95	S Smith
31.	1/2A SD	80 s	09/24/88	E Glembocki
31.	A SD	118 s	06/18/94	B Gormley
31.	B SD	73 s	12/10/88	K Frazier
32.	1/2A HD	98 s	05/01/94	B Gormley
32. 32.	B HD	90 s	08/09/89	M Sias
34.	B EL Dur	74 s	12/10/88	K Frazier
34. 34.	C EL Dur	53 s	10/29/95	S Smith
3 4 . 36.	1/2A BG	55 s	10/29/95	S Smith
36.	A BG	88 s	06/18/94	B Gormley
36.	B BG	132 s	08/08/89	M Sias
	A RG	418 s	08/14/81	N Rivieccio
37. 27	B RG	157 s	08/03/93	K J Gormley
37.	C RG	99 s	05/19/91	B Gormley
37.	1/2A Flex BG	383 s	08/12/81	M Sykos
38.	1/2A Flex bu	2023		2.2 - 7 - 200

C Division

19.	1/2A Alt	163 m	09/03/95	G Feveryear
19.	B Alt	535 m	08/11/81	A Rose
19.	C Alt	756 m	08/07/90	J Sexton
19.	D Alt	1214 m	04/17/94	M McCauley
19.	F Alt	1741 m	09/27/81	D Frost
22.	A PL Alt	142 m	08/04/93	B Kreutz
22	B PL Alt	199 m	05/30/81	R Kaplow
22	D PL Alt	983 m	11/11/89	D Lucas
23.	B EL Alt	133 m	06/21/86	J Warnock
23.	C EL Alt	289 m	08/11/82	D Cook
23.	E EL Alt	932 m	08/10/83	J Zingler
24.	D DEL Alt	369 m	08/07/90	T Barber
24.	E DEL Alt	590 m	04/24/94	G Feveryear
24.	F DEL Alt	978 m	03/05/89	W Roush
25	1/2A Clstr Alt	222 m	08/05/93	B Kreutz
30.	1/2A PD	112 s	08/19/95	J Vincent
30.	A PD	272 s	09/17/95	B Dauphin
30.	B PD	106 s	08/20/95	K Smith
31.	1/2A SD	183 s	05/07/89	D Saukerson
31.	A SD	249 s	05/17/87	D Domina
31.	B SD	115 s	08/19/95	J Vincent
31.	C SD	231 s	12/27/86	R Santella
31.	D SD	335 s	12/03/88	T White
31.	E SD	303 s	04/27/85	M Steele
31	F SD	238 s	07/26/94	T Barber
31.	G SD	182 s	07/22/90	E Miller
32.	1/4A HD	31 s	10/10/93	J Distel
32.	1/2A HD	711 s	09/25/93	F Williams
32.	A HD	126 s	06/26/95	G Feveryear
32.	B HD	157 s	04/04/87	D Domina
32.	C HD	198 s	05/21/92	E Miller
32.	E HD	95 s	10/11/89	K Brown
33.	B SR Dur	5346 p	10/15/95	D Shapiro
33.	E SR Dur	45150 p	09/16/95	B Dauphin
34.	B EL Dur	308 s	08/11/88	S Maxwell III
34.	C EL Dur	622 s	09/06/81	A Nienast
35.	D DEL Dur	273 s	06/26/93	B Kilby
36.	1/4A BG	207 s	09/14/91	J Vincent
36.	1/2A BG	447 s	09/22/85	L Fuke
36.	A BG	311 s	09/09/89	T Barber
36.	B BG	260 s	04/29/90	G Feveryear
36.	C BG	157 s	10/20/90	T Barber



36.	D BG ·	463 s	05/19/91	D Klouser
36.	F BG	217 s	05/17/81	T Lee
37.	1/4A RG	16 s	06/13/94	J Distel
37.	1/2A RG	230 s	05/17/81	L Bercini
37.	A RG	750 s	10/10/81	M Huber
37.	B RG	276 s	09/16/95	A Jackson
37.	C RG	240 s	07/26/94	K E Gormley
37.	D RG	361 s	08/06/87	D Domina
37.	E RG	951 s	09/26/93	F Williams
38.	1/2A Flex BG	670 s	06/18/94	D Winings
38.	A Flex BG	1476 s	04/26/87	R Lambert
38.	C Flex BG	427 s	07/03/82	J Zingler
38.	D Flex BG	224 s	10/11/85	T White
J V.				

Team Division



19.	1/2A Alt	219 m	09/17/88	Neutron Tm
19.	A Alt	414 m	05/11/86	Odd Couple Tm
19.	D Alt	860 m	08/30/81	Lou Dick Tm
19.	E Alt	1387 m	05/11/85	Lou Dick Tm
22.	C PL Alt	553 m	08/09/89	Spaceman Spiff Tm
23.	B EL Alt	69 m	09/03/95	Flirtn' With Disaster Tm
23.	C EL Alt	91 m	06/26/95	Snowball's Chance
23.	D EL Alt	526 m	05/11/86	Omega Alpha Tm
30.	1/2A PD	1052 s	09/27/87	Jankov Pavlov Tm
30.	A PD	1039 s	04/25/82	Lou Dick Tm
30.	B PD	618 s	03/31/85	Lou Dick Tm
30.	C PD	447 s	04/14/90	Beach Bums Tm
31.	A SD	74 s	06/26/95	Snowball's Chance
31.	B SD	227 s	07/22/85	Dual Egglofters Tm
32.	A HD	498 s	08/09/88	Robyn & Randy Tm
32.	D HD	161 s	01/11/86	Lou Dick Tm
32.	E HD	202 s	06/11/94	Los Cohetedores Tm
32.	F HD	75 s	06/29/88	Jankov Pavlov Tm
29.	B EL Dur	698 s	11 11/90	Southern Comfort Tm
29.	D EL Dur	924 s	12/03/89	Ace Disaster Tm
36.	1/2A BG	75 s	10/29/95	Snowballs Chance Tm
37.	B RG	179 s	()8,09/90	Barber Girls Tm
38.	B Flex BG	237 s	02/20/82	Lou Dick Tm

A TRIBUTE TO BIG BERTHA

At a recent SPAAR launch, I noticed that three flyers all had Big Berthas to fly. Giving it just a little more thought, I recalled having seen everyone who was there with a Bertha at one time or another.

So what's the point? The point is, after being around for about 34 years, it's time to give 'ol Big Bertha her due. She is a true rocketry classic.

Big Bertha first appeared as a plan published by Estes in 1961. She was designed around an 18-inch length of 1.637" diameter BT-60 tubing, the same size as a paper towel tube. [Gee, how 'bout that] Four swept fins and a blunt balsa nose cone gave the Bertha her classic shape.

Bertha was first offered in kit form in 1965. Compared to the other offerings in the Estes catalog, she really was "big". In fact, the Estes catalogs of the period described her as, "a huge 24 inches long", with "slow, realistic lift-offs", making the Big Bertha "a perfect demo bird!" Not only that, but she was recovered via a "huge 18 inch parachute".

It all seems somewhat silly in this day and age, when 4 foot tall, 4 inch diameter g-powered models are almost commonplace at sport launches. But not so when I started flying rockets in 1968. Big

Bertha really was a big model rocket... all for \$2.00. Yup, two bananas, two clams, two bucks.

Over the years, Bertha shrank and grew. As a result of inflation in the early 70's, Estes introduced a line of "Mini Brutes", sport models powered by 13mm 1/2As and As. One was the "Mini Bertha", designed around an 18mm BT-20 airframe. Smaller, but still a Bertha.

The standard Bertha received a plastic nose cone around 1976, as well as pre-cut fins. But still a Bertha.

In late 1988, Estes came out with the Super Big Bertha, or as it came to be known, "the Bertha on steroids". Built around the 2.6" diameter BT-80, this version was designed to fly on 24mm Ds and eventually, E motors. Now called the Broadsword, she's still a Bertha.

I have even seen photos of monster-scale Berthas, 4" in diameter. Even when powered by H, I & J motors, the basic design remains stable.

The current standard Bertha sports a yucky color and decal scheme, and goes for about \$10. But no matter how big or small or ugly you make her, she's still a Bertha... and a classic!

HOW TO WIN IN COMPETITION

[Without Knowing Why]

by Kenneth Brown

[Editor's Note: Ken Brown, of the NOVAAR Section and "CEO" of Qualified Competition Rockets, wrote this classic piece a number of years ago. It has appeared in "The NOVAAR Free Press", and we thank Ken for it's use here.]

The following list is intended to help the new and average builders of competitive model rockets.

PARACHUTE, STREAMER, AND ALTITUDE

- 1. Use 12 inch tubes for all rockets.
- 2. The <u>slicker</u> the model, the higher it goes.
- 3. Put the shock cord on the outside, except on altitude models.
- 4. Make the fins oversize if the nose cone is light. Make the nose heavy if the fins are small.
- 5. The smaller in diameter, the higher it goes.
- 6. Hollow out balsa nose cones.
- 7. Peeling the inside of body tubes is not worth the time and trouble, except in altitude.
- 8. Worry about the basics and forget the fine tuning, except in altitude.
- 9. Painting models orange is worth the difference; timers see the model and you can find it in the weeds.
- 10. In streamer, make sure the streamer does not move during boost, or a prang is in order.
- 11. Use 2-stage models in altitude with 2-second delays instead of -0 delays in the first stage.
- 12. Use a piston in a tower always.
- 13. Use 14mm in 1/2A & A as you can insert larger 'chutes & streamers.

GLIDERS

- 1. Use only 4-6lb C-grain balsa for wings if you can find it!
- 2. Use one thickness greater that usual and don't tissue wings.
- 3. Use heavy [121b] balsa for booms, not spruce.
- 4. Build a turn in, then use clay but only if required.
- 5. Fly early in the morning and late in the evening; those times are calmer.
- 6. "Overbuild" one glider to use in bad weather & wind and to ensure a return.
- 7. Fly one with a tight turn for a return.

EGGLOFTERS

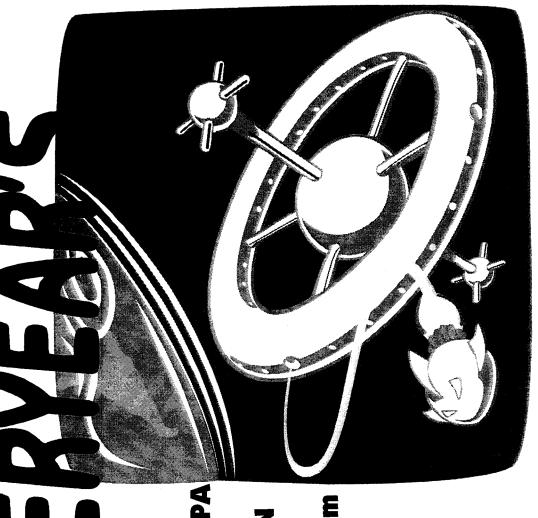
- 1. Cushion the egg with egg carton sections & a plastic bag.
- 2. Use wire lugs, 1 on a fin & 1 taped around the egg capsule.

WHERE: 701 MAIN ST. DELTA, PA

WHAT: MEETING & ELECTION

WHEN: SAT. DEC. 16th 6:00pm

QUESTIONS? CALL GLENN 717-456-5570



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