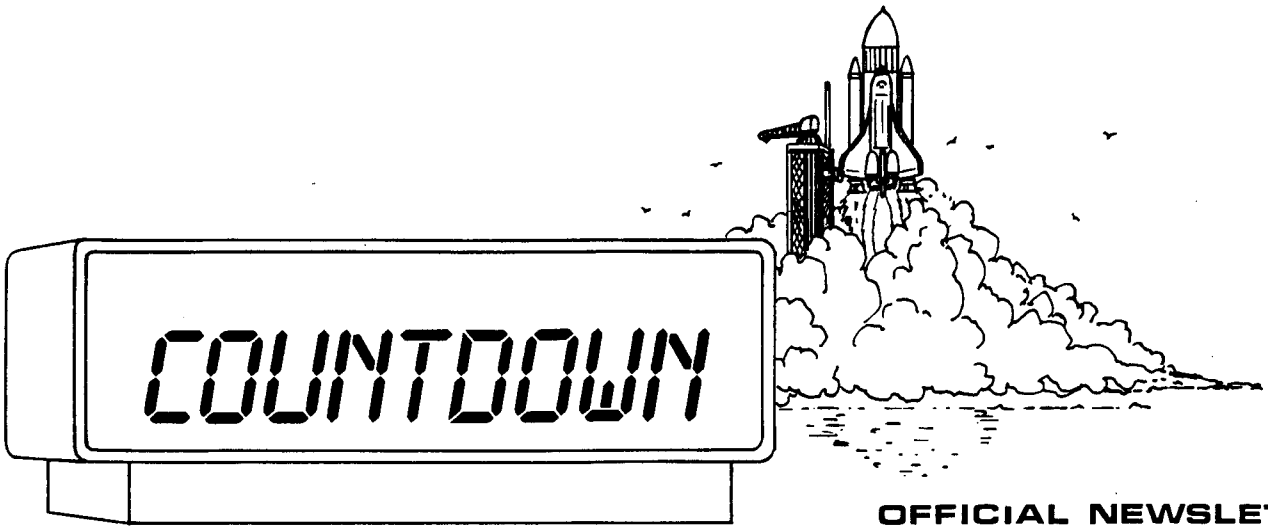

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE SOUTHERN PENNSYLVANIA AREA ASSOCIATION OF ROCKETRY

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 4 JULY/AUGUST 1996

"The highest Flying Production Model Rocket Kit Using "B" Engines or Less"

-See Page 9

PROPOSAL:

SPAARTREK

- Page 11

Competition Plan:

B PARACHUTE DURATION

The **Countdown**

Volume 9, Issue 4

July/August 1996

The **Countdown** is the newsletter of SPAAR, the Southern Pennsylvania Area Association Of Rocketry, NAR Section #503, and Tripoli Susquehanna #71, PO Box 127, Reamstown, PA 17567. Material may be used with proper credit. [yea, right]

President: Dale Greene
Section Advisor: Glenn Feveryear
Tripoli Prefect: Ed Miller
Editor: George Beever

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SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 7-9PM: SPAAR Meeting, Homedco Community Room, Lancaster.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1-5PM: SPAAR Sport Launch, Cocalico High School, Denver, PA.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1-5PM: SPAARSPAM-VIII Club Tailgate Picnic and Sport Launch, Cocalico High School, Denver, PA.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 7-9PM: SPAAR Meeting, Homedco Community Room, Lancaster.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 9AM-1PM: Turkey Day +1 Sport Launch, Cocalico High School, Denver.

SPAAR SPORT LAUNCHES

May 26, 1996

The Memorial Day weekend Sport Launch was well attended, with 19 flyers attending, as well as a large number of spectators.

The weather was overcast and somewhat chilly - a preview of the summer weather we had in these parts.

Almost all flights were good ones, and a few were a bit more memorable than others. For example, George Fetter had an inspiration to put an Aerotech D21 in an Estes Alpha III. It made a rather unique whistling noise on the way up, but stayed together. Robin Shepard tried the same thing, but suffered a CATO, destroying the rocket. And then there was George's Flying Launch Lug, made out of a length of 1/2" diameter, well, launch lug. Didn't fly too well. Then he tried to lose or otherwise divest himself of his LOC IV. George doesn't like this model, but in spite of that it kept coming back.

Brian Royer flew a model he calls the Scorcher. It's a 29mm model, and flown with a G40 it leaves the building in a hurry. Bill Jordan flew a nice scratchbuilt, 2.6" diameter Maxi-Mosquito. Those plans would look great here in the newsletter, wouldn't they? [hint, hint].

Bill Rhoat has a nice LOC Vulcanite that just keeps having CATO problems. This time it was an F50. Rick Hackman got 212 seconds on a flight in D Parachute Duration, which could have been a national record had he been an NAR member. Oh well.

June 30, 1996

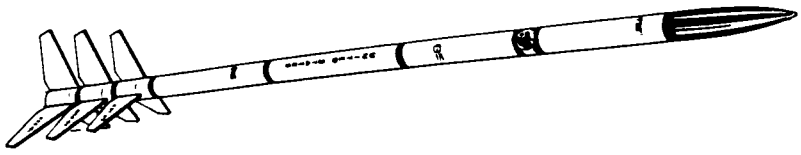
June 30 saw the new and old of SPAAR together. The new, in the form of many of our newest members, and the old [not literally] in the form of Mark Snyder. Mark was one of SPAAR's original 1988 members, and made it to a launch for the first time in a few years. He kept using that long drive from Baltimore as an excuse. Yeesh. Well, anyway, George Fetter tried again to divest himself of his LOC IV... hey, wait, this sounds like last month! It's still there, George... Guy Destafano flew a bright orange THOY Peacock a few times on Aerotech F50's. Said Guy, "I like that rocket/motor combination!" Guy also flew the first PML kit ever seen at a SPAAR Sport launch, a Phobos on a G40 for a nice flight.

Brandon Gromis made it to his first club launch, flying a G40 in a LOC Onyx. Real nice flight. Roger Dwyer flew a vintage original edition Mercury Redstone on a C6-3. Put that one on the shelf, Roger, it's a collector's item!

FLIGHT LOG

May 26, 1996

#	FLYER	MODEL	MANUF	MOTOR[S]	RESULT
1	Courtney Sombers	SR-71	Estes	E C6-5	Separation
2	Ben Weaver	Big Bertha	Estes	E B6-2	Good Flight
3	Ben weaver	Phoenix	Estes	E D12-3	Good Flight
4	Ben Weaver	Phoenix	Estes	E D12-3	Good Flight
5	Ben Weaver	Intruder	Estes	E A10-3	Good Flight
6	Ben Weaver	Intruder	Estes	E A10-3	Good Flight
7	Ben Weaver	Big Bertha	Estes	E B6-2	Good Flight
8	Ben Weaver	Big Bertha	Estes	E B6-2	Good Flight
9	Ben Weaver	Big Bertha	Estes	E B6-2	Good Flight
10	Ben Weaver	Intruder	Estes	E A10-3	Good Flight
11	Matt Weaver	Nova Payloader	Estes	E B6-2	Good Flight
12	Matt Weaver	Broadsword	Estes	E D12-3	Good Flight
13	Matt Weaver	Skywinder	Estes	E B6-4	Good Flight
14	Matt Weaver	Intruder	Estes	E A10-3	Good Flight
15	Matt Weaver	Delta Clipper	Estes	E D12-0/D12-3	1/2 GF!
16	Matt Weaver	Skywinder	Estes	E B6-4	Good Flight
17	Alan Shepard	Spaceracer	Estes	E A8-3	Good Flight
18	Alan Shepard	Spaceracer	Estes	E A8-3	Good Flight
19	Alan Shepard	Spaceracer	Estes	E A8-3	Good Flight
20	Alan Shepard	Spaceracer	Estes	E C6-5	Good Flight
21	Alan Shepard	Mosquito	Estes	E A10-3	Good Flight
22	Alan Shepard	Mosquito	Estes	E A10-3	Good Flight
23	Alan Shepard	Mosquito	Estes	E A10-3	Good Flight
24	Alan Shepard	Mosquito	Estes	E A10-3	Good Flight
25	Alan Shepard	Skywinder	Estes	E C6-5	Separation
26	Alan Shepard	Corkscrew	Estes	E B6-4	Good Flight
27	Alan Shepard	Corkscrew	Estes	E B6-4	Good Flight
28	Alan Shepard	Corkscrew	Estes	E B6-4	Good Flight
29	Alan Shepard	Corkscrew	Estes	E C6-5	Good Flight
30	Rheilly Knauer	Manta	Estes	E A8-3	Unknown
31	Rheilly Knauer	Alpha	Estes	E B4-2	Good Flight
32	Rheilly Knauer	Eagle	Unknown	E B4-2	Good Flight
33	Rheilly Knauer	Alpha III	Estes	E A8-3	Good Flight
34	Frank Sombers	SR-71	Estes	E C6-5	Good Flight
35	Frank Sombers	V-2	MTSH	AT E15-4WL	Good Flight
36	Matt Zimmerman	USAF	Scratch	E C6-3	Unknown
37	Matt Zimmerman	John Deere	Scratch	AT F40-4RMS	Good Flight
38	Matt Zimmerman	USAF	Scratch	E C6-7	Good Flight
39	Matt Zimmerman	Astrocam	Estes	E C6-7	Good Flight
40	Matt Zimmerman	Astrocam	Estes	E C6-5	Good Flight
41	John Yost	D Altitude	Scratch	E D12-7	Good Flight
42	John Yost	Yost-A-Roc HD	Scratch	E D12-5	Lawn Dart
43	Robin Shepard	V-2	MTSH	AT E18-7RMS	Good Flight



44	Robin Shepard	Sandhawk	MTSH	AT G64-4RMS	Good Flight
45	Robin Shepard	Sandhawk	MTSH	AT G64-4RMS	Good Flight
46	Robin Shepard	Sandhawk	MTSH	AT G64-4RMS	Good Flight
47	Robin Shepard	Firestreak	Estes	E C6-5	Good Flight
48	Robin Shepard	SR-71	Estes	E C6-5	Good Flight
49	Robin Shepard	Alpha III	Estes	AT D21-7T	CATO
50	Bill Jordan	Broadsword	Estes	AT E30-7T	Good Flight
51	Bill Jordan	Maxi-Mosquito	Scratch	AT E15-7WL	Good Flight
52	Bill Jordan	Maxi-Mosquito	Scratch	E D12-5	Good Flight
53	Bill Jordan	Lil' Nuke	LOC	AT F50-9T	Good Flight
54	Bill Jordan	Bullpup 12B	TLP	E D12-5	Good Flight
55	Bill Jordan	Phantom 4000	NCR	AT F40-4RMS	Good Flight
56	Brian Royer	Lil' Blaster	Scratch	E 1/2A3-4	1/2A SD 19.5s
57	Brian Royer	BAR-1	Scratch	AT G64-4RMS	Good Flight
58	Brian Royer	BAR-1	Scratch	AT G64-4RMS	Good Flight
59	Brian Royer	Scorcher	Scratch	AT E23-5RMS	Good Flight
60	Brian Royer	Scorcher	Scratch	AT G40-10W	Hmmm....
61	Brian Royer	Sky Ripper	Scratch	AT G80-10T	Ditto
62	Brian Royer	Sky Ripper	Scratch	AT G64-4RMS	Good Flight
63	Brian Royer	Bailout	Estes	E B6-4	Good Flight
64	Brian Royer	Big Bertha	Estes	E B6-4	Good Flight
65	Brian Royer	Mosquito	Estes	E 1/2A3-4	Good Flight
66	Don Ewing	Ninja	Estes	E A3-4	Unstable
67	Don Ewing	Ninja	Estes	E A3-4	Good Flight
68	Don Ewing	IRIS	MTSH	AT E11-3RMS	Good Flight
69	Don Ewing	IRIS	MTSH	AT E11-3RMS	Good Flight
70	Don Ewing	IRIS	MTSH	AT F24-7RMS	Good Flight
71	Don Ewing	IRIS	MTSH	AT F24-7RMS	Good Flight
72	Don Ewing	Ninja	Estes	E A3-4	Good Flight
73	Don Ewing	Ninja	Estes	E A3-4	Good Flight
74	George Fetter	Astrobee-C	Scratch	AT F25-4W	Good Flight
75	George Fetter	Bullpup 12D	Estes	E B6-4	Good Flight
76	George Fetter	Aura	LOC	AT E15-4W	Good Flight
77	George Fetter	X-99	Scratch	AT G40-10W	Gone
78	George Fetter	Alpha III	Estes	AT D21-7T	Yikes!!
79	George Fetter	Extreme 38	Vaughn Bros.	AT F14-6J	Good Flight
80	George Fetter	Flying Launch Lug SB		E A3-4	Ejected Motor
81	George Fetter	Sandhawk	MTSH	AT G40-4W	Good Flight
82	George Fetter	V-2 4.0	MTSH	AT G64-4RMS	Good Flight
83	George Fetter	V-2 4.0	MTSH	AT G64-4RMS	Good Flight
84	George Fetter	LOC IV	LOC	AT F50-4T	Good Flight
85	George Fetter	LOC IV	LOC	AT G40-4W	Separation
86	George Fetter	LOC IV	LOC	AT G40-7W	Good Flight
87	Rick Hackman	XR-76A [D PD]	Scratch	E D12-5	Separation
88	Rick Hackman	XR-76A [D PD]	Scratch	E D12-5	Wad-O-Chute
89	Rick Hackman	XR-76A [D PD]	Scratch	E D12-5	GF-212s !
90	Rick Hackman	XR-54	Scratch	E D12-7	Good Flight
91	Rick Hackman	XR-77A	Scratch	E C6-5	No Chute

92	Rick Hackman	F3A Tiger	Scratch	E D12-5	Good Flight
93	Rick Hackman	XR-54	Scratch	E D12-7	Good Flight
94	Glenn Feveryear	1/2A HD	Scratch	E 1/2A3-4	37.5s-GF
95	Glenn Feveryear	Arreaux	Aerotech	AT E15-4W	Good Flight
96	Rick Knauer	Eliminator	NCR	AT F50-4T	CATO
97	Rick Knauer	Corporal	NCR	AT G40-4W	Good Flight
98	Mark Kamide	HL-20	Quest	E C6-3	Good Flight
99	Mark Kamide	Black Brant II	Estes	E D12-7	Good Flight
100	Mark Kamide	Trans-Wing Glider	Estes	E C6-3	40s - cool!
101	Mark Kamide	Skywinder	Estes	E C6-3	Separation
102	Mark Kamide	Broadsword	Estes	AT E15-4W	Good Flight
103	Bill Rhoat	X-15	Estes	E A10-3	Good Flight
104	Bill Rhoat	Big Rage	Estes	E C6-5	Good Flight
105	Bill Rhoat	Evader	Quest	E B6-4	Good Flight
106	Bill Rhoat	Skyhook	Estes	E A8-3	Good Flight
107	Bill Rhoat	V-2	MTSH	AT E18-4RMS	Good Flight
108	Bill Rhoat	Vulcanite	LOC	AT F50-4T	CATO
109	George Beever	A SD	Scratch	E A3-4	97s - GF
110	George Beever	AGM-117	TLP	E D12-3	Good Flight
111	George Beever	Legacy	LOC	AT E15-4W	Good Flight
112	George Beever	Big Brute	NCR	AT F25-6W	Good Flight
113	George Beever	Phantom 4000	NCR	AT F25-4W	Good Flight
114	George Beever	Viper III	LOC	E D12-7[3]	Good Flight
115	George Beever	Onyx	LOC	AT E15-4W	Good Flight
116	George Beever	Jupiter-C	Estes	E C6-3	Good Flight
117	George Beever	A PD	Scratch	E A3-4	69s - GF

Launch Stats:

Number of flyers: 19

Weather: cloudy, temp high 60's

Models:

36 Estes
7 Mountainside Hobbies
5 North Coast Rocketry
1 Aerotech
7 LOC/Precision
1 Vaughn Bros.
2 Quest
2 The Launch Pad
16 Scratchbuilt

Motors:

77	Estes
23	Aerotech SU
16	Aerotech RMS

Failures:

2 F50 CATOS

Impulse:

1/2A	3
A	22
B	16
C	17
D	19
E	13
F	12
G	15
Total	**117**

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FLIGHT LOG

June 30, 1996

#	FLYER	MODEL	MANUF	MOTOR[S]	RESULT
1	Chris Snyder	Turbocopter	Estes	E A8-3	Good Flight
2	Justin Baylor	Ninja	Estes	E A10-3	Eject motor
3	Justin Baylor	Helicat	Estes	E C6-3	Good Flight
4	Matt Baylor	F-22	Estes	E B6-2	Good Flight
5	Matt Baylor	Helicat	Estes	E C6-3	Good Flight
6	Matt Baylor	F-22	Estes	E C6-3	Good Flight
7	Matt Baylor	Helicat	Estes	E C6-3	Good Flight
8	Michael Snader	Skywinder	Estes	E C6-5	Good Flight
9	Michael Sauder	Skywinder	Estes	E C6-5	Good Flight
10	Michael Sauder	Alpha III	Estes	E B6-4	Good Flight
11	Michael Sauder	Mosquito	Estes	E A3-4	Good Flight
12	Michael Sauder	Sparrow	Estes	E A10-3	Good Flight
13	Michael Sauder	Skywinder	Estes	E C6-5	Good Flight
14	Courtney Sombers	Sidewinder	Estes	E C6-5	1st Flight
15	Gerard Hertzog	Mean Machine	Estes	E D12-5	Good Flight
16	Gerard Hertzog	Little Joe II	Estes	E A10-3	Good Flight
17	Gerard Hertzog	Unknown	Estes	E B4-4	Good Flight
18	Gerard Hertzog	Icarus	Quest	E C6-5	Good Flight
19	Gerard Hertzog	Phantom 4000	NCR	AT G80-7T	Good Flight
20	Steve Biers	Blue Bird	Unknown	E A3-4	Good Flight
21	Steve Biers	Space Shuttle	Estes	E C6-3	Good Flight
22	Steve Biers	Dagger	Estes	E C6-3	Good Flight
23	Roger Dwyer	Onyx	LOC	AT E15-4WL	Good Flight
24	Roger Dwyer	Mercury Redstone	Estes	E C6-3	Good Flight
25	Roger Dwyer	Patriot	Estes	E A3-4	Good Flight
26	Ricky Snader	Arreaux	Aerotech	AT E15-7WL	CATO
27	Ricky Snader	Barracuda	Aerotech	AT E15-4WL	1st Fl/GF
28	Ricky Snader	Arreaux	Aerotech	AT E15-4WL	CATO
29	Ricky Snader	Arreaux	Aerotech	AT E15-4WL	Good Flight
30	Ricky Snader	Astrobee-D	Aerotech	AT G40-7WL	Good Flight
31	Ricky Snader	Mirage	Aerotech	AT G40-7WL	1st Fl/GF
32	George Fetter	X-1	Scratch	E D12-3	Good Flight
33	George Fetter	Astrobee-C	Aerotech	AT F25-4WL	Good flight
34	George Fetter	ADR 4.0	MTSH	AT F50-4T	Good Flight
35	George Fetter	Mirage	Aerotech	AT G64-4RMS	Good Flight
36	George Fetter	V-2	MTSH	AT G64-4RMS	Good Flight
37	George Fetter	LOC-IV	LOC	AT F25-4WL	Good Flight
38	George Fetter	LOC-IV	LOC	AT F25-4WL	No Chute
39	Brian Royer	Thunderbolt	Scratch	E C6-5	Good Flight
40	Brian Royer	Nice Machine	Estes	E D12-3	Good Flight
41	Brian Royer	Nice Machine	Estes	AT E15-4WL	Good Flight
42	Brian Royer	BAR-1	Scratch	AT G64-4RMS	Good Flight
43	Brian Royer	Sky Ripper	Scratch	AT F52-5RMS	Good Flight

44	Brandon Gromis	Onyx	LOC	AT G40-10WL	Good Flight
45	Mark Snyder	Patriot	Estes	E C6-5	Good Flight
46	Ed Miller	Monocopter 32-8	Scratch	AT G12RCT	Good Flight
47	Ed Miller	Tekyon	Scratch	VS G200-7	Good Flight
48	Ed Miller	UFO 24-10	Scratch	AT E15-7WL	Good Flight
49	Ed Miller	UFO 29-10	Scratch	AT G64-4RMS	Good Flight
50	Ed Miller	Super Big Bertha	Estes	FSI F100-6	Good Flight
51	Ed Miller	Tarsis	Scratch	AT G75-6RMS	Good Flight
52	Ed Miller	Eliminator	NCR	AT F50-4T	Good Flight
53	Ed Miller	Trailblazer	MRC	D13-7RMS	Good Flight
54	Doug Gardei	Big Bertha	Estes	E C5-3	Good Flight
55	Doug Gardei	Broadsword	Estes	E D12-3	Good Flight
56	Doug Gardei	Shadow	Estes	E D12-3	Good Flight
57	Doug Gardei	Patriot	Estes	E C5-3	Good Flight
58	Doug Gardei	GEO SAT LV	Estes	E C5-3	Good Flight
59	Doug Gardei	Initiator	Aerotech	AT E18-4RMS	Good Flight
60	Doug Gardei	Initiator	Aerotech	AT F24-4RMS	Good Flight
61	Doug Gardei	Broadsword	Estes	AT E18-4RMS	Good Flight
62	Doug Gardei	Shadow	Estes	AT E15-4WL	Good Flight
63	Doug Gardei	Broadsword	Estes	AT F24-7RMS	Good Flight
64	Doug Gardei	Shadow	Estes	AT F24-4RMS	Good Flight
65	Doug Gardei	Broadsword	Estes	E D12-3	Good Flight
66	Guy Destafano	ADR 4.0	MTSH	AT G80-7T	Good Flight
67	Guy Destafano	Peacock	THOY	AT F50-6T	Good Flight
68	Guy Destafano	Peacock	THOY	AT F50-6T	Good Flight
69	Guy Destafano	Peacock	THOY	AT F50-6T	Good Flight
70	Guy Destafano	Phobos	PML	AT G40-7T	Good Flight
71	Guy Destafano	Legacy	LOC	AT F50-9T	Good Flight
72	Guy Destafano	Astrobee-D	Aerotech	AT G40-4WL	Prang
73	Guy Destafano	Lil' Nuke	LOC	AT E30-4T	Good Flight
74	John Yost	Rose-A-Roc	Scratch	E A8-3	No Rotation
75	Frank Sombers	V-2	MTSH	AT E15-7WL	Good Flight
76	Frank Sombers	V-2	MTSH	AT E30-7T	Good Flight
77	Frank Sombers	SR-71	Estes	E C6-5	Good Flight
78	Frank Sombers	Arrow	Scratch	E D12-5	1st Fl/GF
79	George Beever	Phantom 4000	NCR	AT G40-7WL	Good Flight
80	George Beever	Saturn V	Scratch	E D12-5	Good Flight
81	George Beever	Outlaw	Scratch	AT G64-7RMS	No Chute
82	George Beever	V-2	MTSH	E D12-5	1st Fl/GF
83	George Beever	Mercury-Atlas	Estes	AT E11-5RMS	Good Flight

MANUFACTURER NEWS

APOGEE COMPONENTS shocked the modeling community at NARAM when it announced that it will be awarding a prize of $500 to the winner of a selected number of events at next year's NARAM. This contest-within-a-contest is called "The Apogee Challenge". This prize is part of an effort by Apogee Components to increase participation in rocketry competitions, and will be awarded to a single winner [teams are not eligible] of just a few of the events at the annual national competition. The contest events will be chosen by Apogee Components from those that are selected by the host NAR section. There are other rules that apply, so those interested in competing for this prize should contact Apogee as early as possible.

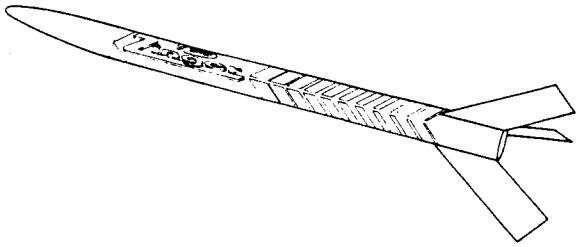
Apogee also announced that it is releasing a new rocket kit this month called the "Centrix". Launched on the new micro-motors [1/4A through B], this minimum diameter model is capable of flying over 1/2 mile high. This is the "highest flying single stage production model rocket kit using B engines or lower". Other features of this 8.8" long model include: full die-cut balsa fins, a balsa wood nose cone, and complete step-by-step assembly instructions. The price for the kit will be only $3.99.

Apogee Components' new catalog is also nearing completion, and it will contain many new rocketry items. This catalog will feature some additional great news for modelers - reduced shipping fees. This will help bring the overall cost of the products down, making them even more affordable and enjoyable to use.

Printing of the new book "69 Simple Science Fair Projects for Model Rocketry" will take place within the next few months, and orders for this 104 page book are now being accepted. This book not only presents great ideas for the projects, but also shows how to gather the data, and where to start looking for the background information. Most of the projects are simple in scope, so that even younger children can take part and perform great projects. The same topics that make great Science Fair projects also make good topics for R & D competitions.

Those interested in the products from Apogee Components should request a catalog by sending a SASE to: Tim Van Milligan, Apogee Components, 708 Piedra Drive, Suite C, Canon City, CO 81212-2253.

[More **Manufacturer's News** on next page.....]



BOYCE AEROSPACE HOBBIES has entered the market with the introduction of a 4" diameter Mercury Redstone kit, priced at $99.95. Follow-on kits are referred to as "Micro-kits": the Saturn V and Saturn 1B. The little Saturns are $12.00 each, or both for $20.00.

All kits feature molded plastic capsules and fins, decals and detailed instructions. The Mercury Redstone flies on F or G power, and the Micro-kits on 13mm mini-motors.

For more information, contact:

Boyce Aerospace Hobbies
3430 Old Meadow Rd.
San Diego, CA 92111
619-277-6385, 9-5PM PST

MOUNTAINSIDE HOBBIES: Mark, Cindy, George & Sweitzer have had a busy summer, trying to keep up with the demand for all kinds of rocketry stuff.

A walk through the store will give you an idea how things have changed. Gone are most of the R/C car parts and related equipment. However, if you are an R/C aircraft or rocket flyer, you're in hog heaven.

Mountainside carries their own line of kits, as well as those from LOC/Precision, Estes, Rocket R&D, Public Missiles, Ltd., Aerotech, AAA Model Aviation, and The Launch Pad. Parts are available from LOC, PML, and Estes, as well as Estes black powder motors, and Aerotech composite motors. In addition, they carry a full line of Aerotech reload kits in the 18mm through 29mm range. A full line of adhesives is also on the shelf.

In addition, if they don't have what you are looking for, let them know; they'll get it for you, such as kits from Boyce Aerospace Hobbies and Cosmodrome Rocketry.

At the time of this writing, a Black Brandt VB kit is being test flown. For more details, call Mountainside Hobbies at 717-733-4140.

ESTES is rumored to finally be ready to release composite rocket motors in the F and G range under their North Coast Rocketry label. These appear to be a different product than what NCR was "almost ready to ship" a few years back. However, the old North Coast kit line that Estes was supposed to release this spring may still be Lost In Space.... **Quest** was bought out by Toy Biz, Inc., a few months back, and allegedly is ready to make it's presence felt in the model rocket market. Hope they get rid of those dumb parachutes.... **LOC/Precision** bought itself back from the investment group it sold itself to earlier this year. Confused? Nah. A new catalog is available; Mountainside Hobbies has some.

PROPOSAL : THE SPAARTREK PROGRAM

At a recent SPAAR meeting, Bill Rhoat submitted a proposal for a program that he dubbed "SPAARTREK". Based on the NAR's "NARTREK" program, it is aimed at those modelers, young or old, who are new to the hobby. By building models that meet the requirements of each level, the modeler learns valuable lessons on just how model rockets work. In short, there is more to it that simply building a kit and sticking a motor in one end. Here is the proposal in it's entirety:

"A proposal to enact a program similar to the old NARTREK program, only operated by SPAAR. The rules would be similar to the NARTREK program, however some modifications would be made. The program would consist originally of a BASIC Level, an INTERMEDIATE Level, and an ADVANCED Level. Additional levels above ADVANCED would be added as interest dictates.

The BASIC Level would consist of a parachute flight of at least 60 seconds and a streamer flight of at least 30 seconds. The maximum motor class allowed would be B.

The INTERMEDIATE Level would consist of a payload flight, a D or higher powered flight, and a two-stage flight. The two-stage flight must use black powder motors. The BASIC Level must be achieved before flights can be made in INTERMEDIATE.

The ADVANCED Level would consist of a 30-second glider flight, a cluster flight, and a sport-scale flight. The glider flight must use a class B motor or smaller, and may be a boost/glider, a rocket/glider, or for the adventurous, a flex-wing. The cluster flight must be more than one motor and must be single-staged. The sport-scale model would be judged by the sport-scale rules in the Pink Book [the NAR's contest rules book - editor] and must be accompanied by the required substantiation data before it can be judged. The BASIC and INTERMEDIATE Levels must be completed before any flights can be made for ADVANCED.

There are some general rules that must be stated that apply to all levels. The first is that any model can be used to make the flights required to achieve any level. There is no requirement to use kits. The modeler must have built the model themselves. A modeler must prep the model themselves, but may have someone watch them to make sure they have everything right. There will be special flight cards prepared to be handed in to the LCO or the card collector to keep track of all flights. Only one timer is required for timed flights. All flights must be made at SPAAR launches,

contests, or Record Trials. A level is considered achieved when the program director is in possession of all required documentation and has acknowledged that the level has been achieved. This can be done at a launch, if the program director is present.

The charging of a fee to register for SPAARTREK has not been decided upon. We would have to see how much it would cost to run such a program and if the club would be able to support it without charging a fee. Registration forms would be required of all participants to aid in data entry. Also, some sort of pamphlet containing helpful hints would have to produced as an aid to participants and a book of plans developed. You are welcome to make comments and suggestions. No levels beyond ADVANCED were stated in this proposal, as I do not know where everyone's interests lie. Two that I have thought of are HIGH POWER and COMPETITION, but I am sure that others are feasible. I thank you for reading this proposal and welcome your comments."

COMMENTS: Being the newsletter editor has it's advantages once in a while. Like now. I can put my 2 cents in right here.

Personally, I think this is a great idea. But let's make sure the intent here is understood. For those out there that don't like "the C-word" [Competition - oh, what he said!], this proposal is not competition oriented; it is GOAL oriented. Levels of achievement or performance are set out as a goal to reach. They are a challenge to the individual. And what is possibly more important, an education is received. While I agree at times with the notion that putting the motor in the right end and making sure the pointy end is facing up, and making a successful flight is satisfaction enough [after all, this is a hobby], it is nice to be secure in the knowledge that you know just how and why the things work. I have to wonder sometimes about folks across the country who are introduced to rocketry by means of an Aerotech kit and an F or G motor. Are they really aware of what's going on here? Do they really understand how the motors work, much less which one is right for their model? Do they understand the various construction techniques and materials used in the range of model rocketry, mid-range model rocketry, and high power? We can't influence what goes on elsewhere, but within SPAAR we can. I think Bill's idea is a great way for folks new to the hobby to learn about the things mentioned above, and for some of us old guys to have a refresher course. All of this, of course, would translate into a greater awareness of safety, too.

Dale Greene suggested we could incorporate SPAARTREK into our Winter Workshop Program. Another great idea. Come to the October 18 meeting, and voice your opinion.

SPAARSPAM

SPAAR'S ANNUAL TAILGATE PARTY

NOVEMBER 3rd
1:00 TO 5:00pm

BRING FOR EACH OF YOURS:

-plates with eating utensils
-cups
-napkins

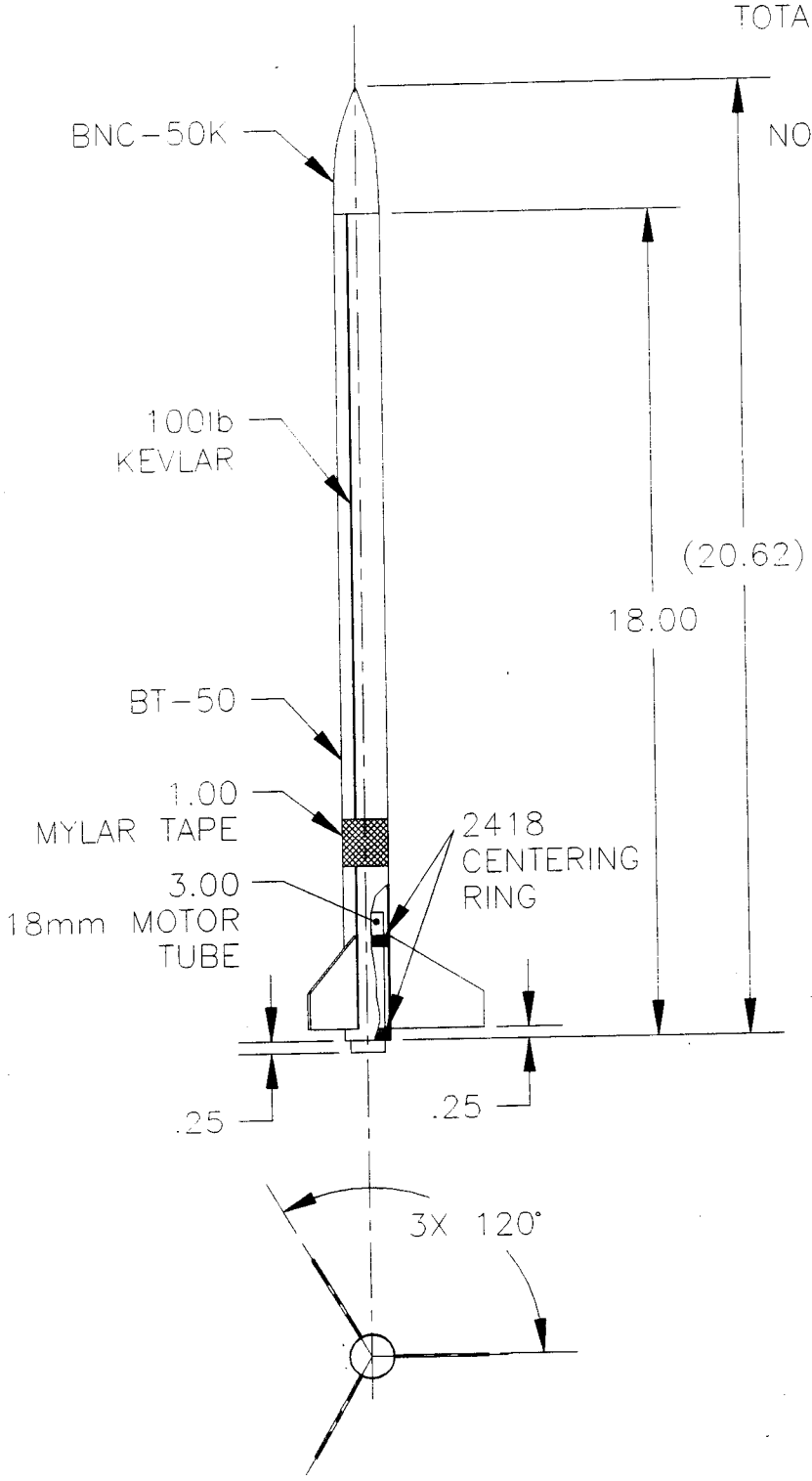
BRING TO SHARE:

- a main dish with serving utensil
- a dessert with serving utensil
- a drink{water, ice tea, soda, etc}

B PARACHUTE DURATION

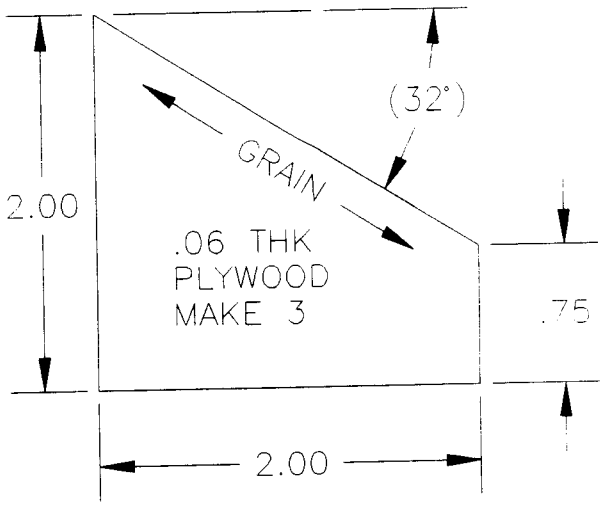
BY: Glenn Feveryear, NAR 24931

TOTAL WEIGHT w/o ENGINE: 17g



NOTES:

1. ATTACH SHOCK CORD TO FIN ROOT w/ EPOXY FILLET.
2. FILL ALL BODY TUBE SEAMS AND WOOD GRAIN. SAND SMOOTH.
3. USE 16", 18" OR 24" DRY CLEANER BAG PARACHUTE.



SCALE 1/1

RECOMMENDED MOTOR(S):
18mm - B6-6

96-8-13

24PD1.DWG

SCALE 1/4

THE SOUTHERN PENNSYLVANIA AREA ASSOCIATION OF ROCKETRY

Membership Application

Name_____ **Address**_____

Phone_____ **Age**_____ **Date of Birth**_____

NAR #_____ **Tripoli #**_____

I have been flying rockets for_____**years. I have not yet flown a model rocket**_____**.**

DUES: 18 years of age or older: $10 per year.

15,16,17 years of age: $7 per year.

16 and under: $5 per year

Family Plan: Oldest member joins at full price, all other family members 1/2 price; one issue of the Countdown per family.

Return this form to: SPAAR, PO Box 127, Reamstown, PA 17567.

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THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ROCKETRY

For more information on the NAR, write:

NAR Headquarters
PO Box 177
Altoona, WI 54720
1-800-262-4872

TRIPOLI ROCKETRY ASSOCIATION

[HIGH POWER ROCKETRY]

For more information on the TRA, write:

Tripoli Rocketry Assn.
PO Box 339
Kenner, LA 70063-0339