



What's Up!

The Official Newsletter of the
Syracuse Rocket Club



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Spring 2007

Syracuse, New York

Get Ready To Launch Your Rockets!

SRC Officers

President: David Harbaugh
Vice President: George Reavis III
Treasurer: Dennis Friend
Tripoli Prefect: Rich Pitzeruse
NAR Section Advisor: Ron Lioto
Secretary: Elaine Reavis

Next Month We Start Launching

May 19th will begin our **10th** season. Please take a few minutes to read the **NAR Model Rocket Safety Code** found under the **Launch Site** heading. At our launch site, the following rules also need to followed:

No running in field. There are some large woodchuck holes in the field and someone could get seriously hurt if they fell into one while running.

No free falling spent motors. Rockets that eject their spent motors are not permitted to fly, unless a way is devised to recover the spent motor.

No parking on the field. Parking is only permitted in the designated parking area. The only vehicle permitted on the field is the one that delivers the equipment to the site.

Thank You Mr. Weigand

On behalf of the Syracuse Rocket Club, I would like to thank Mr. Weigand for allowing us to launch from his property again this year.

I ask everyone (members and visitors) to remember that we are launching from an active farm. Please do not enter any of the buildings or play in or around any of the equipment you see on Mr. Weigand' property. Our club is allowed access to the fields only. Should you have any questions, please see any of the Launch Control Personnel with your questions.

New Members

The Syracuse Rocket Club proudly welcomes the following "new" members:

Cheryl Costa
Linda Poore
Alan Miracle

Club Minutes

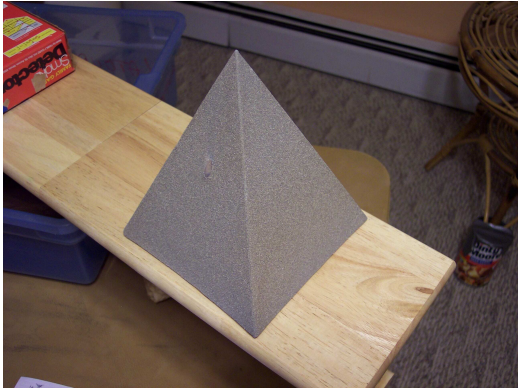
Our current club minutes are now available on our website. They can be found under **Meeting Minutes** along the left side of our home page.

What are you building?

By George ReaVIS

My newest creation is a rocket called Khufu's Pyramid. This kit is made by Sunward Aerospace Group Limited, Toronto, Canada. Walt's Hobby Shop carries several kits distributed by them.

www.sunward1.com



The drawing on the cover of the kit shows a white rocket in flight. The kit uses a template of card stock to cover the balsa wood sides. I thought a sand textured paint would be fitting. The Rust-Oleum Multi-color Textured spray paint - color: Desert Bisque caught my eye. It went on very easy with no streaking.

The picture on the next page is a shot of the rocket resting on one side. The challenging part will be placing the parachute and motor tube into the body tube. Here are the instructions to accomplish that task:

- ◆ Place the parachute around the motor tube, but avoid wrapping the parachute.
- ◆ Fold the streamer together and place around the engine tube. Do not roll the streamer as this may not allow the streamer to unfold in midair. As space is tight, place the streamer on the other side of the parachute.
- ◆ The shock cord should pass through the slot in the engine centering ring.



It will take a bit of practice, before I feel comfortable packing the parachute. There never appears to be enough room for everything. I still have to place wadding in with everything else.

Recommended Engines:

C11-3 (first Flight), D12-3, E15-4 .

Feedback on this kit: Moderate skill level.

I ran into a problem with the Main Engine Support Bulkhead which is the piece located on the bottom of the rocket pictured above. This piece is supposed to be fitted/installed when the sides are drying. Each side of the pyramid is made up of two pieces glued together. The idea is to square everything up as the glue dries. I missed the boat on that point and ended up sanding the bulkhead to compensate for the slight inward bend of the sides. It adds character. I suspect that it will fly just fine.

Got a rocket that you'd like to tell us about? We'd like to have you share it with us.

Please forward pictures and a description of how the building process went. Please forward your electronic submissions to:

greavisi@rochester.rr.com

Subject Line: SRC Newsletter "What are you building?"

CNY Rocket Team Challenge 2007

By Elaine ReaVIS

SRC has been asked by Peter Plumley, the Exhibits Director of The Most (Museum of Science and Technology), in Syracuse, to guide them through this event.

One of our jobs is to provide them with assistance at an informational meeting to be held at The Most on April 5th at 3:30 to 5pm. We will answer rocketry questions, and provide RockSim guidance to students, amongst other related help.

We will also assist at the June 2nd launch to be held at Syracuse University's Sky Top Field. They will need rocketry expertise and novice relief at this event for inspections, safety control and more!

What is the Rocket Team Challenge, you ask?

It is in part due to the U.S. grant to bring schools into the 21st century, and to Lockheed Martin for their continued support. It is open to middle and high school students grades 4 thru 12. Teams will compete for awards in aesthetics, presentations, successful flight, and payload recovery, along with precision estimations of apogee of their rockets. Each rocket will have a video and audio device with real time transmission.

What Rockets will be used?

Complimentary Loc IV's or Gradators will be provided to each team. "G" and "F" motors respectively will be used. Although they are allowed to build their own. Lockheed Martin, Technology Alliance of Central NY, a NASA NY space grant, and The Most are sponsors.

Each year this event gets bigger. Last year there were 40 teams from numerous schools across the state. This year will be bigger.

COME HELP AND HAVE A BLAST OR 2 WITH YOUR CLUB MEMBERS!

Volunteers are needed! Please contact

Elaine at: greavisi@rochester.rr.com.

Subject Line: Team Challenge Volunteer

NIKE SMOKE TEAM ROCKET

By Elaine ReaVIS

SRC has also been asked to Coordinate and Supervise another event with The Most. As time goes by and many a meeting with Peter Plumley and staff; he has ordered Performance Rocketry's NIKE SMOKE 11.5". As I write, the rocket is in transit as. Peter went through Wildman Rocketry for this kit and assorted other "baubles" needed for this monster! He also ordered "N" motors from Animal Works which have already been delivered.

There are many "teams" that will help build this rocket in the basement of The Most. We will coordinate and supervise this build. It will be ready to launch at the Geneseo NY POWER on July 27-29th.

Afterwards it will become an Aeronautical exhibit at The Most.

Helping in this build will be Syracuse University Engineering Students, SRC, Syracuse High Schools and others. This will be a fun build. The Basement has everything a Rocketeer *drools* about when thinking of building a dream rocket. *I have seen the drool!*

The schedule of this build is TBD'd. When all parts are in then we will send out a message to the list serve members asking for volunteers to help guide/build and whatnots. What a fun few weeks!!

Dennis can't wait to use the paint room! *I would suggest body suits for everyone standing near Dennis!*

What a fun filled summer we have planned. The weather will be gorgeous and every launch will be perfect. :)

Come to the next board meeting on April 4th at Walt's Hobby and find out more. 7pm be there or be square.

For more info:

http://www.most.org/2_ee_rocketteams.cfm

What's Up with Who?

By Rich Pitzeruse

For some, this is a bit of a repeat, but it's been 10 years since my last What's Up with Who, so I thought I'd write a new one in hopes that it might inspire some of you to write one also.

I started rocketry at the age of 12, back in 1976. My parents bought me a Citation Patriot starter set. I loved that rocket, it was a simple rocket, 3 fins and a nose-cone, but the graphics were very cool. A very patriotic looking rocket. I was anxious to put the thing together, and very anxious to launch it. Luckily, we were blessed with a large field behind our house, so I could do rocketry right in the backyard, whenever I wanted. For years my friends and I launched model rockets in the back yard.



All that time, I was under the impression that the 'Mighty D' was the largest model rocket motor available. That changed in 1985, when I learned about Flight Systems Inc. They were a model rocket company, smaller and less well known than Estes and Centuri, but they made E and F motors. I **HAD** to have some. I ordered some, and some of their rockets, and boy, were they cool! It was at that time that a few friends of mine and I decided it would be cool to cluster a bunch of these motors together, and build a BIG rocket. We designed an 8" diameter rocket, 8' tall, that would fly on a cluster of thirteen F100 motors. On July 4th, 1985, we flew the rocket and it was a big success! My very first high power rocket (before I even knew high power rocketry existed!) The following year we modified the rocket to fly on a cluster of eighteen F100 motors. The flight was a success, but the 'chutes tangled, and it crashed.

Fast forward to 1993, while browsing the shelves at Walt's Hobby, I discovered a magazine with a HUGE rocket on the cover. The magazine was called *Tripolitanian* (later renamed *High Power Rocketry*) and it was the official magazine of the Tripoli Rocketry Association. I had never heard of TRA before, or high power rocketry, but I soaked up the information in that magazine like a sponge. I kept buying the magazines from Walt's as they came out, but never took the high power plunge until 1996. I then joined the NAR and Tripoli. In June I did my Level 1 high power cert flight. In July I traveled to South Carolina to LDRS (the Tripoli national launch) and in October I did my L2 high power cert flight. You might say I was hooked!

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We formed the Syracuse Rocket Club in the spring of 1997. Bill Barzee, Ron Lioto and I helped organize the first meeting, and we were shocked at the turn out. It is my hope that 10 years later, we can jump start the club back to the excitement level we had 10 years ago.

In the 10 years since I've been flying high power rocketry, I did my Level 3 cert flight on a 7.6" diameter, 10' tall upscale of my very first rocket, the Citation Patriot. I have become a member of the NAR Level 3 Cert Committee (the L3CC are people who can certify others to Level 3), I have attended 3 LDRS launches, I have attended each NYPower at Geneseo, have been Section Advisor for SRC since we created the club(this year, Ron Lioto has taken over the role of Section Advisor), and have become Prefect for the Syracuse Tripoli prefecture. I have also become very interested in Research Rocketry, which is rocketry using rocket motors you make yourself. I have made, and successfully flown homemade motors up to N size.



I am currently employed at Syracuse University as a Photographer, I am married to a wonderful woman, Tricia, and have 2 amazing sons, Joey and Tony. Rocketry has taken a back seat to family life in recent years, but I still manage to get out and play with my toys when time permits.

I look forward to SRC's 10th anniversary this year. The club has some new blood, and I can feel it being re-energized. There are big things in store for SRC this year. Let's make 2007 a great year for the club!

Would you like to be our next **"What's Up With Who"** in our June edition of What's Up? If you are interested, drop me a line at:

greavisi@rochester.rr.com
Subject Line: SRC What's Up With Who

Have you attended a Syracuse Rocket Club meeting lately?

We'd love to see you at our meetings. The SRC meetings are held the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7 PM. They are an excellent opportunity to exchange ideas and information, plus we meet at Walt's Hobby Shop. **Remember, SRC members get 10% off their purchases at Walts.**

T-Shirts For Sale

We have the following sizes remaining.
Only 9 Adult size XL left - \$8.00 each
 (50/50 cotton/polyester blend)
 Contact David Harbaugh

Rocket Items For Sale

Beginning with the Summer Edition of What's Up, we will add a For Sale section. **This section will be updated quarterly, which means, every quarter you will have to "resubmit" any unsold items from the previous issue.** This section will be available to club members. To sell an item, please forward the following: Item(s) for sale, description, new or used, cost, picture(s) if available, contact name and telephone number. Please list items separately, unless they are a bundle sale.

Please send your For Sale Ads to:
greavisi@rochester.rr.com
Subject Line: SRC Rocket Items For Sale

Just a reminder

Keep your NAR and Tripoli memberships current. Each chapter requires a minimum number of active memberships. Don't forget to include your NAR/Tripoli membership numbers when you renew your yearly SRC memberships. This allows Dennis to monitor our National Memberships.

I encourage all of you to help me fill these pages with pictures, helpful hints or general information that would benefit the club.

Send electronic submissions to:
greavisi@rochester.rr.com
Subject Line: SRC Newsletter

2007 SRC Launches

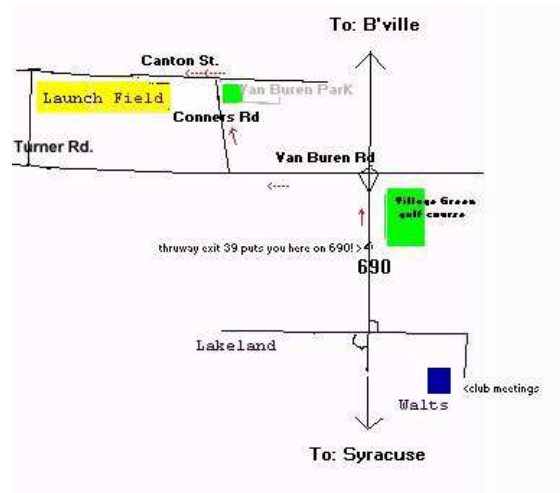
All launches are from 10 am to 3 pm at Weigand's Hayfarm

Dates are subject to change due to the weather and field cuttings.

Please check the SRC website <http://www.syracuserocketclub.org> the morning of the launch to confirm that the launch will be held.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Weigand's Hayfarm



From 690- take Van Buren Rd. Exit, turn left on Van Buren Rd. About 1/4 mile turn right on Conners Rd. Continue up Conners, Van Buren Park will be on your right, turn left on Canton St. Look for sign showing where to park. We launch either right across from the white farm house on