

April 2017

WHAT'S UP



Newsletter of the Syracuse Rocket Club / NAR section 566 / TRA Prefecture 53
Volume 12 Number 2



Upscale Saber
progress

CONCISENESS

This is a brief newsletter because, look, it was winter, there's not that much to report. No club launches since November. Monthly meetings, a build session. I don't think any of us went to NARCON. Presumably some TARC activity but I have no info.

The January meeting started off with a treasurer's report. Our balance was \$1269.59. Membership so far is down compared to the previous year, and we need to find ways to bring more members in.

We reviewed the 2017 club calendar and talked about possible meeting topics and presenters, contest ideas, and launch directors.

At the February meeting it was decided James Shattell would get a couple of welding blankets for us to evaluate as ground protection. The April meeting will feature checking of our launch equipment. Tom Kopp talked about his in-progress 8' Nell scale model and he got some suggestions for it. Paul Gagnon told us about a relatively new piece of equipment, the Jolly Logic Chute Release.

I was absent for the March meeting.

Paul, Scott Sellers, and Rich Holmes met on January 15 to work on our upscale Saber club rocket. After some sanding the top and bottom sections were put together, giving us a first look at the full stack before we drilled for shear pins. We checked weights for simulation input. The bottom section still needs finishing (Brian Morse did a fine job on the top), and it needs a recovery system, but not much more before selecting a motor and launching. Should be flying at a field near you this season.



Scott sands, Paul checks the electronics bay

Dear Rocket Enthusiasts,

Every June the Museum of Science and Technology (The MOST) in Syracuse sponsors the Central New York Rocket Team Challenge. This is a contest in which middle school and high school teams build and fly mid-power rockets, competing in areas including rocket construction, aesthetic design, egg payload protection, flight performance, apogee prediction and rocketry knowledge. This year's competition will be held on Saturday June 3 at the Skytop parking area on Syracuse University's South Campus.

The Syracuse Rocket Club assists in this event by staffing the launch pads, launch control systems, and technical support station. We could use your help to make this year's Rocket Team Challenge a success. We need volunteers with rocketry experience to:

Perform pre-flight inspections

Assist students with rocket repairs and preflight prep at our technical support tent

Staff the launch pads

We start launching at 9:00 AM and finish by 1:00 PM. Volunteers arrive as early as 7:00 AM the day of the launch, but your help would be appreciated for any time you can spend at the event. It is great fun and will be worth the trip. Please email me back or call me if you or anyone you know would be willing to help us out.

Scott Sellers, sseller1@twcny.rr.com (315) 440-7076



Scenes from the 2016 Rocket Team Challenge



About the Syracuse Rocket Club

The Syracuse Rocket Club (SRC), serving hobby rocketry in central New York, is section 566 of the National Association of Rocketry (NAR) and Prefecture 53 of the Tripoli Rocketry Association (TRA) and was founded in 1997.

SRC holds a monthly sport launch in Van Buren once a month, May through October, typically on the third Saturday (weather permitting); see our calendar elsewhere in this newsletter for specifics. Launches are open to the public, with a \$5 launch fee for non SRC members who wish to fly rockets.

SRC welcomes all prospective new members to our monthly meetings. They are held on the first Monday of the month (second Monday if the first is a holiday) from 7:00 to 8:30 PM at Walt's Hobby Town on Dwight Park Drive, near the State Fair Boulevard exit of I-690.

For more information see our website: <http://syracuserocketclub.org>. We also are on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SyracuseRocketClub>.

SRC officers are:

President:	Scott Sellers
Vice President/Treasurer:	James Shattell
Secretary/Editor:	Rich Holmes
Web Master:	Scott Sellers
Prefect:	Roger Forell

About *What's Up*

What's Up is the official newsletter of the Syracuse Rocket Club.

What's Up is published five times a year and is distributed electronically on the SRC website; latest and back issues may be downloaded at <http://syracuserocketclub.org/newsletters.html>.

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UPCOMING SRC EVENTS

(Abbreviated; for details and full year see <http://syracuserocketclub.org/calendar.html>)

Date	Time	Location	Event
Apr Mon. 3	7:00–8:00 pm	Walt's HobbyTown	Club Meeting. Discussion Topics: Reloadable motors and preparation of club launch equipment for May launch
May Mon. 1	7:00–8:00 pm	Walt's HobbyTown	Discussion Topic: Central New York Rocket Team Challenge preparation
May Sat. 20	10:00 am–3:00 pm	Weigand's Field	SRC Sport Launch and Test Launch for MOST Rocket Team Challenge Teams. Theme: SciFi; Contests: 1/2A Streamer Duration and 30-sec Target Duration
May Sat. 27 – Mon. 29		Geneseo	NYPOWER

Please check web site (<http://syracuserocketclub.org>) for changes, cancellations, and last minute events! Go/no go status of each launch will be posted on the web the evening before.

Directions to Walt's HobbyTown: From I-690, take Exit 5 (State Fair Blvd./Lakeland). Turn right onto Van Vleck Rd. Take the first right onto Dwight Park Dr. Walt's is immediately on your right.

Directions to Weigand's Field: From I-690, take Exit 2 (Jones Rd.). Turn left onto Jones Rd. Take the first right onto Van Buren Rd. After 1.6 miles turn left onto Connors Rd. After 1.0 miles turn left onto Canton Street Rd. Launch site is about 0.4 miles on your left; look for sign. Park in designated area. Please do not drive onto field without launch director's permission.