

August 2017

WHAT'S UP



Newsletter of the Syracuse Rocket Club / NAR section 566 / TRA Prefecture 53
Volume 12 Number 4



A smoky in July

FOOD FLIGHT

It's that time of year again! Be at Weigand's Field on August 19 for our big one: the annual Family Picnic launch.

We get lots of families (and individuals) for this event, and for anyone who's never flown a rocket before, we'll help. Kids without a rocket will get a free one and a motor to fly it with before they take it home.

Or they (or you) might take home more than one rocket, if you win them in our raffle. Proceeds help fund the club.

Stay for lunch — hot dogs and hamburgers and other free food for all.

Stay late — we'll have our fifth annual night launch after sundown, using low power rockets lit up with LEDs and glow sticks!

During the day our usual FAA waiver of 3200' AGL will be in effect, so if you have a suitably high power rocket, fly it! Lower down, there also will be lots of odd-rocs, because that's always our August theme.

While one can never be entirely sure, a couple of significant rockets *may* be flying for the first time that day: the club's upscale Saber (see page 3), and James Shattell's Extremely Fat Boy, a monster of a rocket for James's Level 3 certification. You won't want to miss those.

Range opens at 10:00 and we fly past dusk! See you there.

The Family Picnic Launch will run on August 20 from 10 am to 10 pm at Weigand's Field in Van Buren. See back cover for directions.



SABER SIGHTINGS

The club's project rocket, a 5x upscale of the Starlight Saber, has put in appearances at the last couple of launches and it looks better every time.

On the right, in June, it's on the ground behind Brian, who at the time was in the midst of getting the lower body section ready for paint.

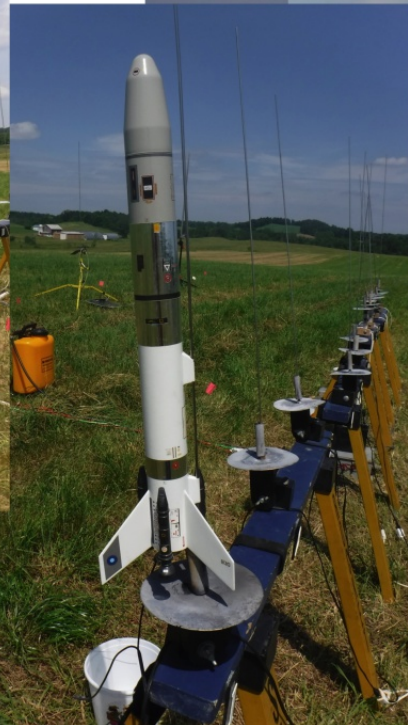
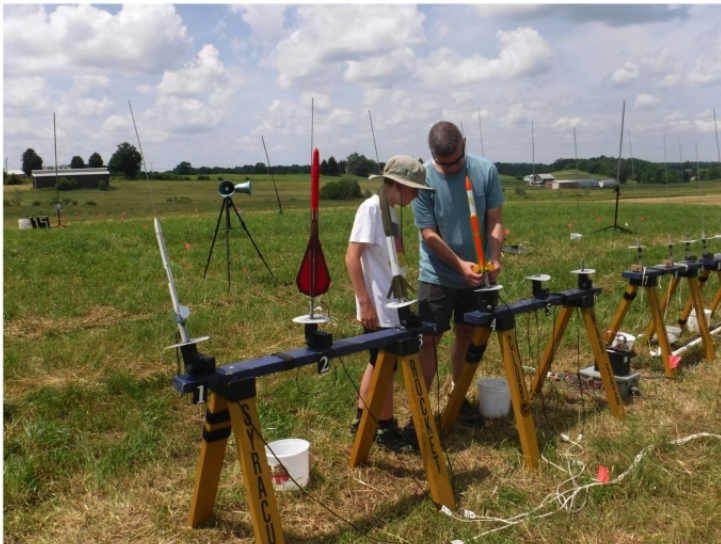
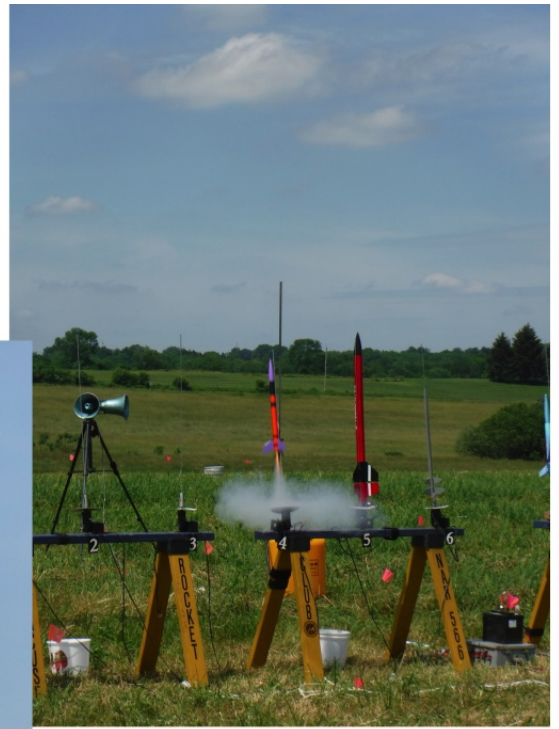
Below, in July, it's upright and fully painted on the left. On the right, Brian and Paul look it over. Still needs a chute and harness, rail buttons, nose weight, and, what the heck, a motor.

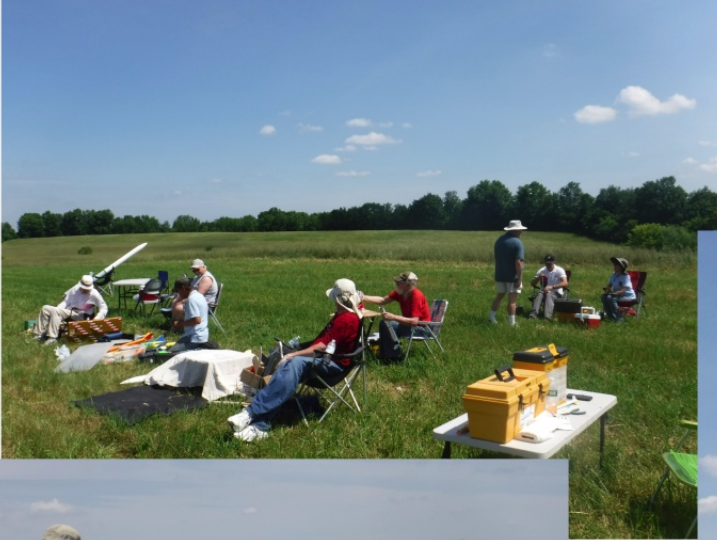
Flying in August? There's hope!



JUNE LAUNCH PHOTOS

by Kristof Bajorski





FLY JULY

Other than the wind gusts up to about a quarter of a mile per hour, it was pretty good weather on July 22 at Weigand's Field. Overcast, and a few occasional drops fell but no rain showers worth of the name.

We had lots of guests: Peter Plumley's summer college aerospace class, armed with lots of LOC IVs and G80s. In fact that was why the launch was the fourth Saturday instead of the third, to allow them to participate.

The usual suspects were around too. Dennis Friend was accused of having hit a closeout sale on A3-4Ts, but he claimed he merely was sticking to a theme, airplane-style rockets, and most of his — Lynx, Scorpion, Puma, Crossbow, F-15 Eagle — just use that motor. (There was an official launch theme, egg lofters, which mostly was observed by the summer college students.)

On the other end of the impulse spectrum, Paul Gagnon flew his Gitty-Up on an experimental J370, and a somewhat unusual suspect, former club President Mark Riffle, sent up his Escape Velocity on an H226 SK and his Painkiller 3 on a J250 sparky. His 429SS had what would have looked like a good flight on two H175 Smoky Sams to anyone who didn't know there were supposed to be two G106 sparkies air starting too. Disappointing but no harm done.

Congratulations to Andrew Beck, who flew his Artemis for a Level 1 certification on an H97. Tim Flew Mark's Discovery on a G106.

Rich Holmes worked up from a C6-5 for his Photon Disruptor to a D21-4 powering his Sea Sting to an E9-6 on his Big Daddy. Rick flew a couple of scale models, a Mercury Redstone on a C6-3 and a US Army Patriot on a B6-4. Roger Forrell's Big Skeetie went up on a G75. Dave Grimes's flights included an Onyx on an F52 and a Super Alpha screaming upward on a D13-7W.

As for the LOC IVs, they mostly flew well. Mostly. A couple of lawn darts, and one with an extra bit of black powder to prevent that instead broke its shock cord. Late in the day a somewhat shortened rocket with its body tube held together with duct tape redeemed itself on its second flight.





Clockwise from top left: A LOC IV; Rich's Big Daddy; The subtle art of field repair; Tim's Mark's Discovery.





Clockwise from top left: Dennis's Lynx; Rick's Mercury Redstone; Roger's Big Skeetie; Loud!; Good recovery; Dave's Super Alpha.

MEETINGS

At the July meeting Treasurer James Shattell reported a treasury balance of \$901.17. Membership cards were distributed. People who joined before August last year, but who didn't get cards, have had their memberships extended through this year.

James will go ahead with an order of two light duty and one heavier duty welding blankets.

There was discussion of the upcoming monthly launch and the Family Picnic.

James proposed bestowing a Life Membership on President Scott Sellers; approved by acclamation.

Dennis Friend gave a parking lot demo on rocket finishing.

(June meeting: No report.)



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
Aug. Mon. 7th	7:00 PM	Walt's Hobby	Club Meeting, Discussion Topics: Planning for annual picnic and night launch
Aug. Sat. 19th	10 AM-10 PM	Weigand's Field	SRC Sport Launch, Family Picnic, and Night Launch, Theme: Odd-rocs, Contests: A Helicopter Duration and 30-sec Target Duration
Sep. Mon. 11th	7:00 PM	Walt's Hobby	Club Meeting, Discussion Topic: TBA
Sep. Sat. 16th	10 AM-3 PM	Weigand's Field	SRC Sport Launch, Theme: Gliders, Contests: A Glider Duration and 30-sec Target Duration
Oct. Mon. 2nd	7:00 PM	Walt's Hobby	Club Meeting, Discussion Topic: Planning for Winter Club Projects
Oct. Sat. 21st	10 AM-3 PM	Weigand's Field	SRC Sport Launch, Theme: Scale Models, Contests: Sport Scale and 30-sec Target Duration

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.