

July 2019

WHAT'S UP

Volume 14
Number 2

Newsletter of
Syracuse Rocket Club / NAR section 566 / TRA Prefecture 53



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May launch

First launch of the year and we probably had our best launch weather for 2019. No need to describe it, just imagine ideal launch weather, and that was it. Scott Sellers was the launch director and the theme was cluster ignition.



Dennis of course gave us a bunch of clustered flights including his USS Prometheus on four A3-4Ts, SLBM Vesuvius on the same, Krakatoa ICBM on three of those, Saturn 1B of five of them, and Saturn 1C on two B6-4s. Apparently all those motors lit. He did some single engine flights too, among them: Jackhammer (C6-3), Aerobee 300 (B4-4), and Sea Killer Missile (C6-3).

Rich entered the 3A Cluster Duration contest with his Callisto on A3-4Ts and Ranger on A8-3s. Tom Butler's Well It Went Better Than I Thought, which looked a lot like another Ranger, won it on three A8-3s.

The ongoing contest contest for 2019 is B Streamer Duration, and Rich's Yankee won this first round.

Scott Renshaw's Tri-X, made from plans in a 1971 Rocketeer issue, had a good stable flight on a C6-5 once it found its preferred orientation, which was not exactly vertical. His Mega Blaster flew on an E30 and Flying the Bird on an F32. Sue flew a Citation Patriot on a C6-5, twice, and a Quinstar on a C6-0.

Rich's other rockets were a cardstock Mini Satellite Interceptor on a 1/4A8-3 and a Dr Zooch Saturn V on a C6-3, a maiden flight that was a notable example of skywriting.

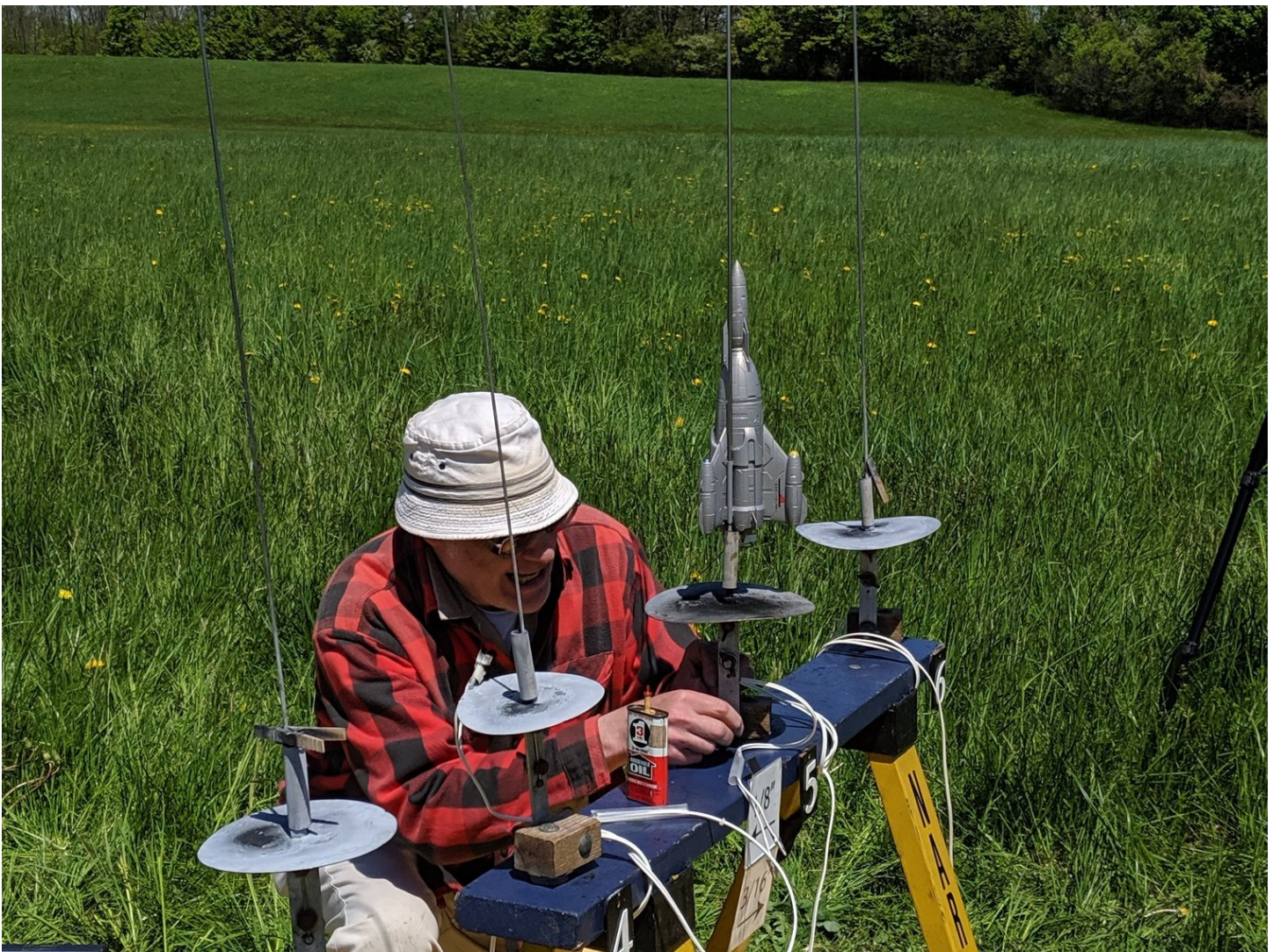
Tim flew his White Wolf on an E22 and AGM-33 Pike on an I-180 Skidmark.

The American Dream, a Rocketry Team Challenge team, test flew its Old Glory on a G77.

John Dolan's flights included Y0, Star Orbiter, and Partizon, the latter on a G64 that observers nominated the best flight of the day.

Other flights included Colin's Curvilinear, Joe's Honest John, Kevin's Long Tom and Galaxy Rescue, and Scott Sellers's Nike Smoke.

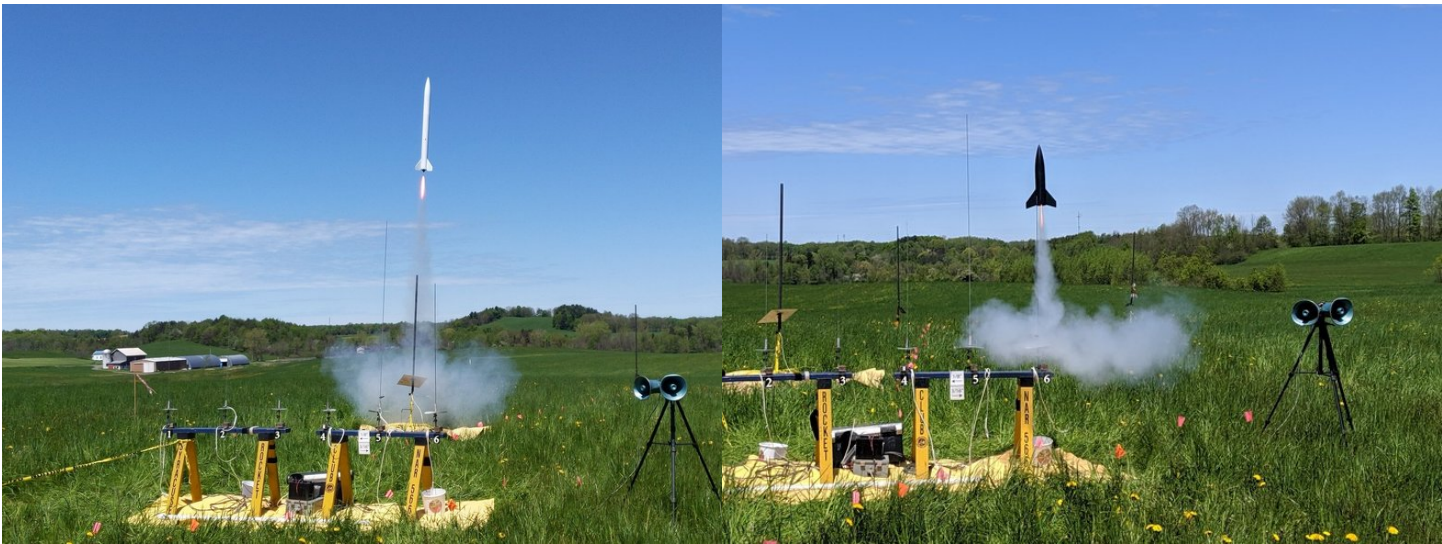
Highlight of the day was a drag race between two Mega Der Red Maxes on H115 Dark Matter motors, one by John Dolan and one by Dave Grimes. This wasn't just a drag race, it also was John's Level 1 certification flight! It went well for both.





Clockwise from top left: John Dolan's Star Orbiter, Rich's Mini Satellite Interceptor, Tom Butler's Well It Went Better Than I Thought, unknown rocket.





Clockwise from top left: Two unknown rockets, Tim's AGM-33 Pike, American Dream and giveaway rockets setup, one of Dennis's cluster models.

NYPOWER

The Syracuse Rocket Club was represented at NYPOWER Memorial Day weekend in Geneseo by Angel, Craig, James, John Dolan, Milt, Rich, Scott Lazar, Scott Sellers, and Zyjuan (and maybe some others). Our big tent was up on the flight line serving as a hospitality space, prep space for SRC, and the giveaway rockets site. We gave away roughly 30 rockets over the weekend to kids flying for the first time.



Saturday couple of storms went through during that day, and the evening's night launch was rescheduled for Sunday; then around 9 pm or so an especially severe line of storms came through and took down the SRC tent. Sunday's weather was vastly better, and we got the tent back up pretty readily.

The whole month's been pretty soggy, enough so that vehicles could not go out into the middle of the field, so the flight line was set up right along Big Tree Road. The wet conditions also meant the field hadn't been mowed yet so was up around knee high. But by about noon at least the field was fairly dry, with none of the ankle deep standing water we had a couple years back. It was good flying for the rest of the weekend.

Scott Lazar certified Junior Level 1 with his Estes Argent.



Above: Angel's scratch built cluster model. Left: Rich's scratch built Mega Sprite. SRC tent in background.

Meeting notes

Meeting discussion topics, February through July:

Good financial shape, memberships (and dues) are way up this year.

Rocket Team Challenge in June went well. It made the local news. SRC awarded prize for best team name to Mango Dragon Fruit Refresher With Lemonade.

July launch plans: Several Saturn V models were shown off in February:

(Smallest) Scott Sellers: FlisKits MMX

Rich Holmes: Dr Zooch

Scott Sellers: AMT plastic model conversion

Dennis Friend: Saturn V Skylab plastic model conversion

(Largest) Tom Kopp: Apogee

All will, we hope, fly in July. Rich's was unstable on a test flight in May but he's added nose weight and will try a lighter motor.

Scott Renshaw donated to the club an unbuilt, in the box 1994 Revell 1:96 Saturn V static model. It will be raffled off to raise funds.

There's been discussion of replacing our launch controllers. A nice system commercially available is being considered, but will require more money than we have: NAR grant(s), raffle proceeds, donations?

Launch equipment refurbishment: Cleaning rails and rods (Tom Butler), replacing clips (Rich), checking batteries (Paul), LP pad hardware (Dennis), checking controllers (James, Daniel).

School launches this year include Clary, Roberts, Willow Field, Franklin. We also worked with Civil Air Patrol.

We're continuing to put SRC stickers on rocket kit packages at Walt's.

Lots of rockets given away at NYPOWER and URRF, more being built all the time.

Experimental Aircraft Association breakfast

SRC attended the July 14 Oswego County EAA Chapter 486 Chapter breakfast fundraiser in Fulton. Photos by Scott Renshaw.



2019 statistics so far

Compiled by Scott Sellers

2019 Summary	Flyers	Total Flights	Total Motors	Total Impulse (N-sec)			
May	24	81	105	2,011.00			
June	14	55	77	631.3			
July							
August							
September							
October							
Yearly Total		136	182	2,642.30			

2019 Contest Summary	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Total
Tom Butler	8	10					18
Scott Sellers	1	6					7
Rich Holmes	6	0					6
Dennis Friend	3	0					3
David Gilbert	0	1					1

May Contest 1: A-Cluster Duration			
Name	Place	Time (min:sec)	Contest Points
Tom Butler	1st	1:00.07	5
Dennis Friend	2nd	24.54	3
Rich Holmes	3rd	20.55	1
Scott Sellers	4th	DQ	0

May Contest 2: B-Streamer Duration			
Name	Place	Time (min:sec)	Contest Points
Rich Holmes	1st	1:03.61	5
Tom Butler	2nd	40.37	3
Scott Sellers	3rd	27.81	1
Kevin Gonci	4th	24.66	0

June Contest 1 - 2-Stage Spot Landing			
Name	Place	Distance	Points
Tom Butler	1st	69'-3"	5
Scott Sellers	2nd	94'-3"	3

June Contest 2 - B Streamer Duration			
Name	Place	Time (min:sec)	Points
Tom Butler	1st	38.6	5
Scott Sellers	2nd	36.56	3
David Gilbert	3rd	16.32	1

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 (but not invariably) on the third Saturday (weather permitting). 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 usually on the first Monday of the month (second Monday if the first is a holiday or if otherwise necessary) 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.

See calendar elsewhere in this issue for dates of launches, meetings, and other events.

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 four 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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Comments, correspondence, and articles or proposals for articles may be addressed to:

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Syracuse, NY 13219

or e-mail rs.holmes@gmail.com.

Next issue target publication date is November 2019.

Upcoming SRC Events

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

Date	Time	Location	Event
Feb. Mon. 4th	7:00 PM	Walt's Hobby	Club Meeting. Discussion Topic: Saturn V projects. Bring your Saturn V project to display and discuss.
Jul. Sat. 20th	10 AM–3 PM	Weigand's Field	SRC Sport Launch. 50th Anniversary of Apollo 11 Moon Landing. Theme: U.S. Manned Space Flight. Contests: Lunar Spot Landing and B Streamer Duration.
Aug. Mon. 5th	7:00 PM	Walt's Hobby	Club Meeting. Discussion Topic: Planning for annual picnic and night launch.
Aug. Sat. 24th	10 AM–10 PM	Weigand's Field	SRC Sport Launch, Family Picnic, and Night Launch. Theme: Odd-rocs. Contests: Drag Races and B Streamer Duration.
Sep. Mon. 9th	7:00 PM	Walt's Hobby	Club Meeting. Discussion Topic: SciFi rockets. Bring your SciFi rockets to display and discuss.
Sep. Sat. 21st	10 AM–3 PM	Weigand's Field	SRC Sport Launch. Theme: Helicopter Recovery. Contests: 1/2A Glider Duration and B Streamer Duration.
Oct. Sat. 5th	10 AM–3 PM	Weigand's Field	SRC Sport Launch. Theme: Halloween. Contests: Sport Scale and B Streamer Duration.
Oct. Mon. 7th	7:00 PM	Walt's Hobby	Club Meeting. Discussion Topic: Winter Club project ideas.

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.