



What's Up ↓



The Official Newsletter of the
Syracuse Rocket Club

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Syracuse, New York

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What's New with SRC?

- ◆ Color Newsletters
- ◆ Now Flying "H" Motors-Become Level 1 Certified
- ◆ NEW Blast Deflectors and Clips on all pads
- ◆ NEW Digital Scale for weighing rockets
- ◆ NEW Equipment transportation vehicle



Meeting Minutes

By Jennifer Lioto, #71050 SR

March– Old Business- The launch equipment and P.A. system was purchased from Ron Lioto. In case of a dissolution of the club, all club property would be given to Walt's Hobby. Dennis Friend can use a plasma cutter to make new blast deflectors from the sheet metal. Bill Barzee has covered the launch sign with the UV coating. **New Business–** The changes in the BATF regulations were discussed. Ron contacted the NAR President concerning launching "H" motors, and we are safe to launch with modifications to the pads. A vote was held whether we should launch "H's" at every launch. Majority vote passed. Ron estimated it would be \$50 to add on the new set of 100 foot leads. Jennifer explained the difficulties she encountered trying to set up a SRC booth outside theaters for the "October Skies" premier. Due to various rules, this was not done.

Program– Rich Pitzeruse brought in his huge gigantic rocket he's been working on and told about construction and fiberglassing.



David Harbaugh standing with Rich Pitzeruse's huge rocket at the March meeting.

SRC Officers

President: Ron Lioto

Vice President: William Barzee

Secretary/Treasurer: Jennifer Lioto

Newsletter: Jennifer Lioto

All photos by Jennifer Lioto

April– Old Business– Scratch Built rocket contest would be held at May launch. There will be a senior and junior category. A discussion was held on what the contest prize should be, and everyone liked the idea of Walt's Gift Certificates. A newsletter would be out explaining rules before launch. Deadline for submissions for the newsletter would be May meeting.

New Business-Theo McDonald offered at the building session to do a program at the May meeting on his school science project—testing the thrust of Estes motors and his trip to Space Camp.

Program– Ron Lioto showed and explained the workings of the launch control equipment. Set-up, maintenance, and adding the high power pad was discussed.

May– Old Business– Jennifer explained that she would like to print the next newsletter in color on the bubblejet printer. We currently spend \$20 on printing and they look like garbage. Bubblejet ink will run when wet, but the outer page can be photocopied to help eliminate this. An amount for the scratch built model contest Gift certificates was discussed and the a vote was held and passed by majority to use 2- \$25 certificates.

New Business– We discussed needing a scale to make sure rockets are under 3.3 lbs. A vote was held to spend \$30-35 on a 5 lb. Digital scale.

Program- Theo McDonald gave a presentation on his 2 school science projects—Center of pressure vs. stability and the thrust of Estes motors.

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June– Old Business– Jennifer has been working on the newsletter, but it will be awfully boring with just minutes and launch reports. Marty Joyce offered to do “What’s Up With Who?” Ron and Jenn had gone to purchase a scale, and realized that they are \$70, another vote was held and passed unanimous to spend the \$70 on the scale. Ron explained what needed to be done to add the high power pad, and that it would cost about \$40-\$50. A vote was held and passed to purchase the parts for the high power leads.

New Business– Ron reviewed the new Level 1 and 2 certification rules, and the addition of Level 3 certification for M/N/O motors.

Program– Jennifer went over a hand out about Estes igniters and Educational programs available through the NAR.

July– July’s meeting was a very hot evening, not many people were there, and Walt’s had many people in the back racing. We had a short informal meeting in the rocket isle discussing new kits and parts.

Editor’s Note-

Please excuse the delay since the last newsletter. Due to Ron and I getting married, and me moving, and all sorts of things that happen in everyone’s lives, this spring and summer has flown by. The club is continuing to grow though. We now have 31 memberships, giving us a total of 63 members including children and spouses.

The club has a new web page at: <http://home.twcny.rr.com/rocket/> Currently we have launch dates, club information, and launch information. I soon will be adding a rocketry links page, a picture page with photos from our launches, and the minutes of the meeting will be posted also. Any comments or suggestions? Please let us know.

We need articles! Have you built a kit that was fun? Or a kit that was awful? Working on a scratch built project? Tell us about it. We also need articles for the “What’s Up With Who?” and tell us how you got in to rocketry.

Thanks!
Jennifer

Special Thanks To:

- ◆ **Russel Breckheimer** for his donation to the club.
- ◆ **Dennis Friend** for designing and cutting our new no-tilt blast deflectors.
 - ◆ **Ron Lioto** for adding "H" power leads to the launch equipment.
 - ◆ **Bill Barzee and ZBrothers Vinyl Graphics** for the launch sign.
 - ◆ **Theo McDonald** for his presentation at the May meeting.

Congratulations To:

- ◆ **Bob Piekel**- Winner of Sr. Scratch Built Model Contest and \$25 Walt's Gift Certificate.
- ◆ **Theo McDonald**- Winner of Jr. Scratch Built Model Contest and \$25 Walt's Gift Certificate.
- ◆ **Art and Theo McDonald**- Level 1 Certification at May Geneseo Launch.

What's Up With Who?

By Marty Joyce

Hello, My name is Marty Joyce. I became interested in rocketry when visiting a hobby store. The owner told me about the hobby of rocketry.

When I was a kid, the only rockets were the 4th of July type. No one was going to the moon then.

I bought an Alpha starter kit, I built an Alpha and Mosquito and flew them at a Gun Club I belong to. I lost the Alpha, and the Mosquito hit a truck in the parking lot. What Fun!!! The truck owner didn't, but so what let him buy his own rockets.

I built more rockets, the Estes Bullpup being one of my favorites. I was in Walt's one day in 1996 and saw a notice by Bill Barzee to start a local rocket club. I called him at the time and he said he would call when we had enough people interested. In January 1997 we had our organization meeting and was off and running.

Flying with a club is a lot more fun and you learn more about the hobby. I am starting to design my own rockets and getting into high power.

Well that's all for now, see you at the next launch.

April Launch Report

By Jennifer Lioto, #71050 SR

<u>Number of Motors Flown</u>	
1/4 A- 1	D- 3
1/2 A- 1	E- 1
A- 4	F- 1
B- 4	G- 1
C- 7	
23 motors total	
22 rockets flown	
7 fliers	

Saturday, April 24th The Syracuse Rocket Club held it's second launch of the season, after calling a raindate the weekend

before. Although the weather wasn't too bad, the field was rather muddy and parking would have been a problem. The following weekend was much dryer, it was a little windy but it was a perfect day to launch some smaller models.

I had the first launch of the day with my new Estes RTF Moon Dog which I flew on a A10-3. Ryan Reavis and I had the most flights for the day, both having 5 each. Ryan flew his new Venus Probe a couple times on a C6-3. These are not known to fly well, but both of these flights the alien came down safely. Ryan also launched his Skywinder, Darth Vader's Tie Fighter, and his RTF Moondog. I flew my scratch built Micro Mean Machine twice, the SR-71, the Moon Dog, and the little X-Wing Fighter.

David Harbaugh flew 4 flights that day. He launched his Nova Payloader, the Flash, the Snitch, and he flew his Mongoose single stage. Ron Lioto flew his little R2D2, his Lil' Nuke and also his son Jeffrey's Navy Seahawk. An Astro Cam loaded with film was flown by George Reavis twice that day both on a C6-7. Hopefully some good pictures came out. Mike Scicchitano brought his LOC Onyx and Forte. He launched hid Onyx on a F20-7, and the Forte on a G35-7. These were the highest power flights of the day.

Dennis Friend had the best flight of the day when he flew his Cloud Puncher 4 on a D12-0 to a D12-5. The booster motor exploded and fire ball flew through the air. It was the most spectacular cato I have ever seem. The booster section was ok, but the bottom of the sustainer was a bit burnt. We can usually expect something exciting when Dennis pulls out a Cloud Puncher.

All in all it was a great launch. I don't believe anything was lost or damaged besides Dennis'. We could use more launches to go like this!

NAR High Power Certification

From the NAR web page

<http://www.nar.org>

In order to purchase and use rocket engines beyond the G power range, you must be an adult who has been certified as qualified by a recognized rocketry research organization. Membership in the NAR empowers you to apply for this certification.

NAR high power certification is free to all adult NAR members, and is offered in three distinct steps.

In order to qualify to purchase and use engines of power classes from H to I, you must obtain a Level 1 certification, for which you are required to:

- make a safe and successful flight of a rocket using an engine in that power class...
- ... which is witnessed by two other adult NAR members (at least one of whom is certified to the desired level);
- have your witnesses sign a standard certification affidavit, available from NAR Headquarters or from our Filing Cabinet page);
- return the signed form to NAR HQ ...and your name will be added to our list of qualified high power consumers for that engine class.

Level 2 certification qualifies you to purchase and use J, K, and L engines. This level requires a written examination in addition to the flight requirement. Examination questions are taken from a publicly-available pool of questions which you can examine and study beforehand.

If you are interested in qualifying to use these high-power rocket motors, or you are an NAR member intending to certify the flights of others, you should become familiar with the full, formal procedure for Level 1 and 2 certification.

Level 3 certification qualifies you to purchase and use M, N, and O engines. Certification criteria are much more stringent, and are described in the full, formal procedure for Level 3 certification.

- * Editor's note— The Syracuse Rocket Club has the full, formal NAR procedure for certification and forms to become certified. We can launch certify Level 1 at our field. If interested, please contact Ron or Jenn for more information.

May Launch Report

By Jennifer Lioto, #71050 SR

<u>Number of Motors Flown</u>	
A- 3	E- 4
B- 7	F- 8
C- 17	G- 5
D- 20	
64 motors total	
56 rockets flown	
12 fliers	
6 Scratch Built Model Entrees	

Our May launch was held Saturday May 15 at Weigand's Hayfarm. It was a beautiful day with many fliers ready with rockets. This launch we held our Scratch Built Model Contest and awarded 2- \$25 Walt's Gift Certificates for the best Scratch Built Model. Dennis Friend kicked off the launch with a flight of his Estes Hornet on a B8-5, which was a beautiful flight.

Bob Piekel had 9 flights, the most for the day. He had a variety of sizes of rockets, from a Scissor Wing with a B4-2 to a LOC Caliber ISP and a Scratch Built Fat Cat both on a G35-4. Bob also flew his scratch built entry, the SST Glider, 3 times on a C5-3. These were beautiful flights, each gliding down and circling perfectly. Bob won the Senior category of the Scratch Built Model contest and a \$25 Walt's Gift

(Continued on page 6)



Mike Scicchitano loading up his LOC Forte at the April Launch.

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Certificate. Congratulations Bob!

Theo McDonald and Dennis Friend both had 7 flights for the day. Theo launched a wide range of sizes also, with a A10-3 in his Silver Jet and a G33-5 in his new LOC Forte. Theo and Erich Gauss drag raced their Callists'. Theo's flew on a F20-7 and Erich's on a G35-4. Theo won the Junior category of the Scratch Built Model contest and a \$25 Walt's Gift Certificate. Congratulations Theo.

Dennis flew his scratch built copy of an Estes Cassiopeia on a C6-5 which was a great flight. Once again Dennis flew his Cloud Puncher 4, this time it was a successful flight, but not as spectacular. His entry for the contest was his Thunderclap Missile that he flew on a C5-3. There is amazing detail work on this model.

Marty Joyce stepped up to some mid-power kits and launched first flights on his LOC Arora and Lil' Nuke. Marty also made his first scratch built model for the contest. This was a short fat 2 stage model called the J-O. The first flight was not successful, but after some crafty use of masking tape, the model was ready for flight again and made a couple great flights.

I had 5 flights that day including my scratch built entry The Lady Bug, this was the first scratch built model I made. Unfortunately the rocket was under powered and I lost it. After loosing this, I entered my nephew Jeremy's Mini Praying Mantis in

the contest. This is a down scale of my Rocketman Praying Mantis that we built.

David Harbaugh launched 5 models. His entry for the contest was cluster model called the Dragonfly Slayer that flew on 4 C6-7's. This was his first scratch built, first cluster, and the first flight. All the motors lit, and it was a great flight, however he lost the nosecone. David also flew his modified Fat Boy with a 24mm motor mount on a D12-3. The nosecone separated on one flight, but it was recovered.

Erich Gauss flew his first flight of his Public Missile Black Brandt on a F20-4, then repeated the flight. Bill Barzee flew his LOC Legecy on a F-14. This was a great flight with a nice slow take off. Shawn Piquet flew his Nike Arrow, a 2 stage Mongoose, and his new Python.

George Reavis launched his Astro Cam with film loaded a couple times, and a Skywinder. His son Ryan launched his Tie Fighter and his Venus Probe, once again the alien had a nice safe landing. Ron Lioto got one flight in that day on his modified Fat Boy on a D12-5.

This was a great launch with minimal damage to rockets. Everyone seemed to have a great time with the Scratch Built model contest. If anyone has any ideas for other contest or events to try, please let us know.



Mike's Forte and Jeffrey Lioto's Navy Seahawk are ready for flight.

Syracuse Rocket Club

Launch Rules

- All motors must be retrieved. No spitting motors unless in pod with streamer. (Ex. Mosquitos)
- Only flameproof, biodegradable wadding will be allowed.
- No running in the field. There are many woodchuck holes throughout the field.
- Parking in designated areas only. Along the road or in marked area of field is fine.
- When retrieving rockets, please try to bring a minimum number of people and walk in already worn paths. This is a private farm that is harvested, please try not to mat the crops.
- We must leave the field clean. All garbage including igniters must be placed in cans located at pads.
- No CHAD staging. (Motor must be retrieved.)
- Only certified motors are allowed. The RSO will have a list of currently certified motors.
- We have a "H" motor limit, rockets must weigh less than 3.3 pounds with motor. Motors cannot exceed 125 grams propellant weight. "H" flights are Level 1, and flyer must be Level 1 certified. Please ask if interested in becoming Certified.
- Flyers must stay behind flight line due to insurance reasons. Only the LCO on duty at that time may "push the button." Any insured member can volunteer to be LCO.
- SRC is not responsible for any lost or damaged rockets.

Flight Procedure

1. Prep your rocket. Load your motor and secure in rocket.
2. Fill out a flight card for each rocket launched. These will be available to you at the RSO table. A flight fee will be required for non-club members.
3. The RSO (Range Safety Officer) will inspect your rocket before flight and has the right to refuse any rocket unfit for flight.
4. Load rocket on pad and connect igniters. Please ask for assistance if needed.
5. Rockets are launched in groups by the LCO (Launch Control Officer.) After the whole group is launched, another group will be loaded. No rockets can be retrieved until whole group has been launched.

Rocket Calendar

Sept. 18– 10am-3pm– SRC Launch at Weigand's Hayfarm.

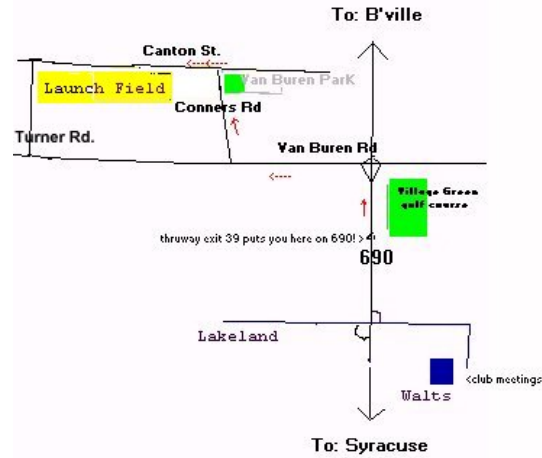
Oct. 6– 7pm–9pm– SRC Meeting at Walt's Hobby.

Oct. 16– 10am-3pm– SRC Launch at Weigand's Hayfarm

**Meetings continue thru winter
1st Wednesday of every month
7pm-9pm at Walt's Hobby**

Happy Rocket Building!

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 Canton Street, or around the Corner on Turner. Follow signs.

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