

# STAR-DATE 6.87

Volume 1, Number 6  
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STAR-DATE is published by the Albany Schenectady Troy Rocket Enthusiasts (ASTRE), Section 471 of the National Association of Rocketry. STAR-DATE is edited by Jeff Vincent, Box 95, New Scotland, NY, 12127, (518) 439-2055. Articles, plans, or suggestions for publication should be sent to me at this address. Advertisers should contact me for information on publication of their ads. STAR-DATE is provided to ASTRE members as a membership benefit. STAR-DATE is available at a low-low subscription rate of \$4.00 for eight issues (approx. one year). Send subscriptions to the same address.

## EDITOR'S THERMAL

Hello again, everyone. First off, I'd like to congratulate everyone on the last meet. It was the best run one we've had yet. Its good to see how the club pulled together to put on this event (and we scored a few points in the deal, too). I hope we can repeat it for our NNNARAM meet.

The next item is WUBBA-10. ASTRE will be flying at this meet and I hope we can get a good turnout. WUBBA is The Regional in the Northeast region. Allentown College in Center Valley, PA provides a perfect site for flying, with the inexpensive dorms and the large adjacent flying field. The two day meet also allows one to meet and learn from the best competitors on the East Coast. If you don't believe me, listen to Chris Tavares: "...this is probably the primo flying field on the East Coast... [We'll have to get him to Bruce's.] The dorm is cheap and the field is right outside the door. There are trophies." Hey, what

more could you want? We will be discussing WUBBA at the June 2 meeting.

Well, that's about it for this issue. Keep sending in those articles (that's what all the empty space is for) and I'll be seeing you at WUBBA.

*Jeff*

## BALSA SCRAPS

NEW MEMBERS...ASTRE is happy to welcome three new members into the club. Mickey Gottung, a ten-year-old from Gloversville, made an impressive debut at ASTRO-5, beating everyone in C Division for first place in D EL Dur. Peter Hryniak Sr., an ASTRE regular for some time, has followed his son's lead and joined the club. Our third member is long-time rocketeer Will Safford from Bronxville. Will has a great deal of modeling experience which he is more than willing to share with other modelers. I wish to welcome you all into the club and I hope you enjoy your membership.

ROCKET AUCTION...George Purcell is conducting a mail auction of old and collectable models, engines, and accessories. Highlights include two Estes Saturn V's, an Honest John, and a Pershing 1A, old MPC kits, and a Centuri Flying Saucer. In the engine department you can bid on ancient (1970) Estes engines, Centuri engines, and rare Cox and MRI engines. The bidding will close June 25. The list of items will be available at the next meeting.

NAR MEMBERSHIP...has reached 4200 (as of February) and is projected to reach 5000 by the end of this year. Further projections indicate that the NAR membership shall exceed the population of the United States by the year 2525. (If man is still alive...)

## WUBBA PREVIEW

June is rolling around and it is once again time for the WUBBA regional, celebrating its tenth anniversary this year. WUBBA, sponsored by the Rose family and PULSAR, has become a tradition on the East Coast. It provides a chance for rocketeers from New Hampshire to Virginia to get together, renew old acquaintances, and test their skills.

Since WUBBA-3, the meet has been held at the Allentown College in Center Valley, PA. The large mowed field is roughly equivalent to FMCC's (although it is surrounded by corn fields and forests). The adjacent dorms make it practical to prep and fly a few models and then come in for a breather. The two day format also gives you a chance, after the flying is over, to socialize with other modelers.

WUBBA is the best attended meet in the Northeast, with an average of twenty entrants (mostly in C Division). The number and quality of the competitors in C Division make it important for you to make sure you qualify, as even a good performance may only give you flight points. (In this regard, the last open meet served as a good practice, with nine entries in C Division.) Those lucky enough to fly in A or B will find only a few competitors, but they will be tough.

Well, lets take a look at the events for this year's WUBBA. (This is oriented towards C Division, as most of our club will be flying in C. Those of you in A or B can count on a good place if you fly well.)

1/2A PD: An event we've flown before, although this event will require a return. It's best to fly this early (or late, if possible), trying to avoid thermals and get the return.

1/2A B/G: This will be tough as there should be a lot of good flexie fliers. Three flexies (two standard and

one DT'ed) is the best way to go here. This event was flown here at NARAM-23 and it took about nine minutes to win.

A R/G: This is one event which we haven't flown due to it's difficulty. While there will be fewer fliers, look for some good times (3-4 minutes total). A reliable slide-wing and some thermal luck are the keys to victory.

B HD: We've flown this one a lot, so we should have a good shot. The two most important factors are well-tuned rotors and thermals. The winning flights will probably be in the two minute area.

C EL Dur: We only flew this once with poor results. It's very important to have a good strong chute to qualify. Winning flights will be 2-3 minutes and returns may be a problem.

Sport Scale: This will be tough, as you will see models like my Super Loki Dart and the Rose's Jayhawk. Don't be intimidated into not flying though, just flight points is a fair return for one flight.

F SR Dur: The Rose's always schedule one bizarre event at WUBBA and this year is no exception. This will be a tough one, as we may see models in the 12-15 foot range. You also must achieve 60 seconds to qualify; not that easy. I feel the best approach is a conservative one, going for two qualified flights with a moderate (8-10 ft) length model. It will be helpful to have a flexible strategy so you can adjust to the competition and the wind conditions. Of course, you can always wait to see what everyone else is flying, but you must fly the event on Saturday. Practice is recommended, considering all the unknowns involved.

That just about covers the competition. I just hope we can get a good turnout and I hope everyone has a good time at WUBBA-10. See you there! (Look for coverage in the next issue.)

The Ultimate Space Trivia Sector  
by Pat Perrella

Most of you have been involved in the recent Star Trek revival and I'm sure all you "Trekkies" can name the characters, episodes, etc. of this great show, but how much of the "Real Stuff" can you recall?

After some research and review in my library of NASA and space volumes, I'm blasting off with the following "challengers" for the faithful followers of ASTRE's "STAR-DATE".

Good luck. The answers will be included with the next issue. (We would like to offer prizes for the most correct answers or something rewarding like that, but I'm afraid there will be too many perfect scores and our stingy Club Treasurer has therefore nixed this brilliant idea!)

1. Royalty and celebrities by the hundreds have attended manned launches from Kennedy Space Center, but only one incumbent U.S. president ever showed up. Name the man and the launch.

2. What was the official name of the project to get the German rocketeers from Peenemunde in 1946?

3. Name the first animal launched into space and the date of that launch.

4. Who was the only Mercury astronaut to walk on the Moon?

5. This Apollo flight was struck by lightning on the pad during its ascent. What was the flight and the astronauts aboard?

6. Name the first rocket launched at the Long Range Proving Ground in Florida, which later became the USAF Eastern Test Range and the Kennedy Space Center.

7. What three astronauts lost their chance to be on the last rescheduled Apollo flight to the moon and why?

8. Name the two spiders aboard Skylab 3.

9. What astronaut has flown on four shuttle flights, once as the pilot and three times as the commander?

10. The ascent stage of this Apollo Lunar Module is presently in a solar orbit while the descent stage remains in a lunar orbit. Name the LEM.

11. Which spacecraft had the lightest weight while in space? What happened to it?

12. This Mercury astronaut also spent a year submerged under the ocean in SEALAB. Name him.

HAD ENOUGH??? Well, hang in there, I have a few more.

13. Which X-15 pilot flew two missions to an altitude of over 62 miles to become an astropilot?

14. How many total pounds of moon rocks were brought back to Earth?

15. Which X-15 pilots became astronauts?

16. What was the first manned spacecraft to land at its own launch site?

17. What spacecraft was equipped with the first computer? Who operated it?

18. When was the first deployment of a satellite from a manned spacecraft? Name the mission and the satellite.

19. Who was the driver of the Luna Roving Vehicle presently parked at 8 degrees 59 seconds South, 15 degrees 30 seconds East, Descartes, the Moon?

20. Can you name all the U.S. astronauts married to other U.S. astronauts? (There are three couples)

Okay, space buffs, I hope you have enjoyed this and stay tuned for the next issue and the answers! In case you can't stand the suspense and need the answers so you can get some sleep, just write me at 16 Country Club Drive, Gloversville, NY 12078

ASTRE CALENDAR

May 30 - "Rocketry For Beginners" sport launch/demo. Canajoharie Library - 10-11 am. Volunteers should contact Linda Otto (673-2122).

May 31 - Sport launch.

June 2 - Club meeting. Meetings are held in room 223 of the Classroom Building of Fulton-Montgomery Community College. The Board of Directors meet at 6:00pm and the general meeting is 6:30 - 9:00 pm. This month we will be discussing the upcoming WUBBA-10 meet and the history of model rocket engines.

June 6 - MINUTEMAN II CMASS Open, Acton, MA. 1/2A IB/G (rigid-wing), A HD, B SD, B ELDur, B R/G, D SRDur. Contact Chris Tavares, 11 Ontario Drive, Hudson, MA, 01749, (617) 562-9484.

June 20-21 - WUBBA-10 Regional meet. Center Valley, PA. F SRDur, B HD, A R/G, C ELDur, Sport Scale, 1/2A B/G, 1/2A PD. Contact Art Rose, 8 Sandusky Rd., New City, NY, 10956.

June 30 - Club meeting.

July 28 - Club meeting.

August 1 - Not Necessarily NARAM Open meet. 1/2A IPD, A SD, A B/G (no flexies), B ELDur, B HD, Sport Scale, Pred Dur, DSL. (Rain date - Aug 2). Contact Jeff Vincent. (This replaces ASTRO-6.)

August 2-7 - NARAM-29 National meet. Fountain Valley (L.A.), CA. See AmSpam for details.

August 25 - Club meeting.

August 29-30 - Flight '87 Airshow.

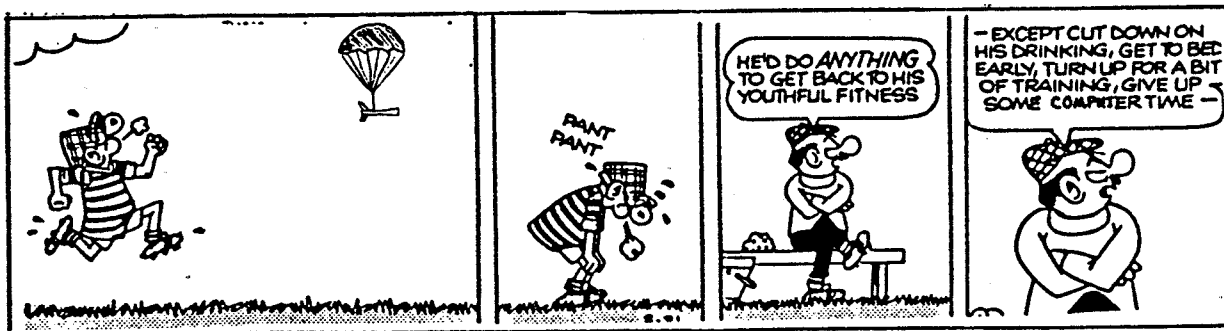
Planning should begin now if we want a demo or display.

early Sept - ASTRE Section meet.

early Sept - Open meet Goddard Society, NH. Events to be announced.

Sept 26-27 - JOISEE IV GSSS Regional. Bridgewater, NJ. Contact Bob Kreutz, 1301A Comanche Ave., Point Pleasant, NJ 08742.

Oct 10-11 - NEMROC-III New England Model Rocket Convention, Hudson, MA. Contact Jim Flis, 6 Thornton St., Merrimack, NH 03054.



ASTRE CONTEST SCHEDULE

Come Join the Albany Schenectady Troy Rocket Enthusiasts (ASTRE), the upstate New York NAR section. We'll be flying a busy schedule of meets this Spring and Summer and we hope to see you there. Whether you're a beginner or a grizzled veteran, you'll enjoy yourself.

ASTRE's field is a rancher's hay field about ten miles west of Amsterdam, NY (see map). While the terrain is not perfect, we have over 100 acres at our disposal in the immediate area and much of the surrounding area is open for easy recovery. ASTRE's launch system is a four pad satellite system equipped with 1/8" and 3/16" launch rods. You are welcome to bring your own launch pad to be used with our launch controller.

Our meets will be flown from 10 am to 6 pm. Sport Scale and Plastic Model Conversion turn-in will be by 12 noon. Spot Landing and Predicted Duration events may be limited to a specific window. Sport flights will be permitted, although contest flights shall have precedence. Ribbons will be given for First through Fourth places. The open meet entry fees are: A Div - \$2.00, B Div - \$3.00, and C Div - \$5.00. Be sure to bring your NAR card (and have your parent or guardian sign your CB-1-70 entry blank if you are under 21).

If you need additional information, write or call:  
Jeff Vincent, Box 95, New Scotland, NY 12127, (518) 439-2055.  
Chuck Weiss, 883-8805 (local).

April 18 (raindate April 25)  
Apollo 16 ..... Section Meet  
1/2A Int Parachute  
A Int Streamer  
B Helicopter  
A Super-roc Duration  
Sport Scale  
Unofficial event:  
1/2A Rocket/Glide

May 9 (raindate May 10)  
ASTRO-5 ..... Open Meet  
Predicted Duration  
1/2A Int Parachute  
B Streamer  
D Eggloft Duration  
1/2A Helicopter  
1/2A Int Boost/Glider  
Plastic Model Conversion

August 1 (raindate August 2)  
Not Necessarily NARAM  
..... Open Meet  
1/2A Int Parachute  
A Streamer  
A Boost/Glider (no flexies)  
B Eggloft Duration  
B Helicopter  
Sport Scale  
Predicted Duration  
Open Spot Landing

ASTRE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ NAR # \_\_\_\_\_ JR LDR SR (circle one)

Membership dues are \$4.00 per year Junior (under 15 as of Jan 1)  
\$6.00 per year Leader (under 21 as of Jan 1)  
\$10.00 per year Senior (21 or over as of Jan 1)

Make dues check or money order payable to Pat Perrella  
Send to: Pat Perrella, 16 Country Club Dr., Gloversville, NY 12078.

"I pledge to abide by the NAR Safety Code in my rocketry activities."

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## HOW TO GET THERE

Take the Amsterdam exit (#27) off the Thruway.

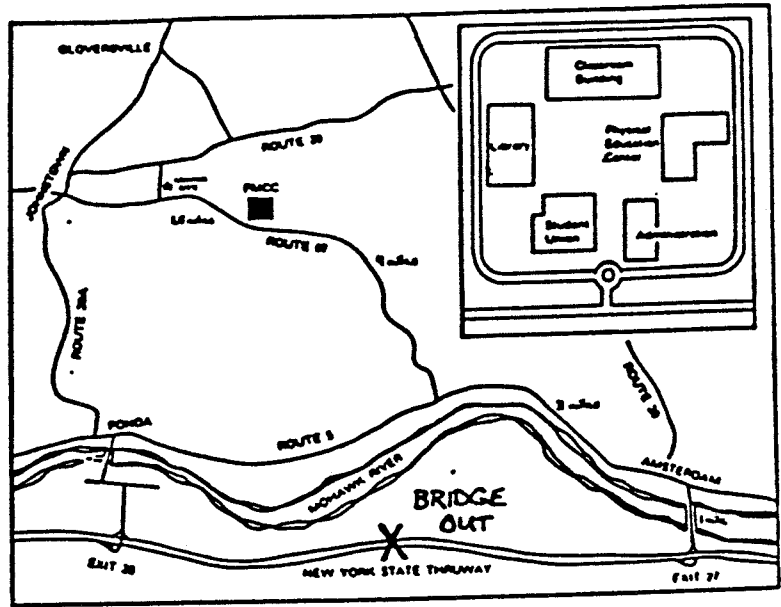
Take a right and follow Route 30 North for one mile.

Take a left at the second light after the bridge (Route 5 West).

Follow Route 5 for 3 miles. Take a right onto Route 67.

Follow Route 67 for 4 miles and FMCC will be on your right.

To find the flying field, continue 1.5 miles on Route 67. Take a right on the small road by Ed's Auto Service (look for the plane). After 1/2 mile you will see JBJ Equine on your right. Follow the driveway and park in the parking lot and walk to the range.



⑥

ASTRE  
Box 95  
New Scotland, NY  
12127