

STAR-DATE 7.86 ^{Jeff}

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Section 471 of the NAR. STAR DATE is
not edited by Jeff Vincent, Box 95, New
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Oct 4 (5).....ASTRO-⁴~~7~~ Open meet
Oct 26.....SPOOK-86 NJ Open meet
late Oct.....ASTRE Banquet
Nov 4.....Meeting
Dec 9.....Meeting
Jan 13,1987....Meeting

THIS IS NOT A NEWSLETTER

Contrary to its appearance, this
is not a section newsletter. As our
club does not have a newsletter (and
more importantly, an editor), this is
simply a letter of news about the ASTRE
Section. Or something like that...

ASTRE-what?

ASTRE (or more properly, the
Albany Schenectady Troy Rocket
Enthusiasts) is a new section in the
upstate NY area. It was founded by Jeff
Vincent and Chuck Weiss in February of
this year. With our ten members, we are
holding meets, planning for demos and
classes, and having a generally good
time. Hopefully we will be seeing more
NAR members at our events. For further
information contact: Jeff Vincent, Box
95, New Scotland, NY 12127, (518)
439-2055.

ASTRE Calendar

July 12 (13)...ASTRO-²~~7~~ Open meet
see details elsewhere
Aug 3-9.....NARAM-28 and Fly-Offs
Champaign,IL
Aug 13.....Pat's Demo at FMCC
volunteers welcome
Aug 19.....Meeting
Aug 23-24.....Flight '86 Demo(?)
volunteers needed
Sept 2.....Meeting
Sept 6 (?).....ASTRO-~~7~~³ Open meet
Sept 27-28.....JOISEE-3 NJ Regional
Sept 30.....Meeting

ASTRO-1

On June 14-15, ASTRE held its
first open meet. Along with the usual
ASTRE contingent, we played host to
Allen Swackhammer and Scott Trelease
(the Boostin' Bandits Team) of
Binghamton and Carl Cufone, Jack
Sarhage, and Bob Zabriskie of NJ's
Garden State Spacemodeling Society. Our
thanks go to these visitors for coming
up to fly with us.

Saturday was bright and sunny, but
a persisent 15mph wind made recoveries
difficult. Many models were going
several fields downwind. Luckily,
Sunday was clear with a 5mph breeze.
Another difficulty was the unmowed hay.
Boy, that stuff can sure grow in four
weeks! Luckily, our generous host,
Bruce Whitcavitch, allowed us to set up
our range on his lawn, making flying
and prepping much easier. (We promise
it will be mowed for ASTRO-2.)

Predicted Duration was the first
event flown and the weather played a
key role. All flights made on Saturday
in the windy, down air were short, the
best being 10% error. By contrast, both
of Sunday's flights were 6% too long in
the better air. (The club is
considering a specific window for
flying this event to give everyone a
shot at the same weather.) In A/B Div,
Etienne LaVallee won with 33% error and
the Boostin' Bandits took second with
47%. First in C Div went to Bob
Zabriskie, who just aced out Jack
Sarhage. Both fliers had a two second

error, but Bob's one second longer prediction gave him 6.3% error to Jack's 6.5%. In third place was the Odd Couple's Chuck Weiss and John LaVallee took fourth.

1/2A IPD was won by Chuck Weiss of the Odd Couple Team. He made two maxes and even got one back for a 240 second total. Second was taken by Bob Zabriskie with three one-minute flights and a 177 second total. Carl Cufone took third and the Boostin' Bandits were fourth.

Surprisingly, 1/2A ISD was the least-flown event, with only five entries. (What's the matter, too tough guys?!) Despite a third round DQ, Chuck Weiss of the Odd Couple pulled a first with 112 seconds. Eight seconds back, with three consistent flights, was Carl Cufone. John LaVallee took third, Pat Perrella won fourth, and the Boostin' Bandits got the Golden Goose Egg Award for a triple DQ.

B ISD was a study in contrasts. The Boostin' Bandits blew away the competition with a 333 second total in A/B Div. Etienne LaVallee took second place. C Div was filled with mediocre scores: either only one good flight or two fair times. Pat Perrella took first with an impressive 96 second flight. Carl Cufone was hot on her heels with 93 seconds on two flights. Jeff Vincent of the Odd Couple salvaged a third after two separation DQ's and Bob Zabriskie finished fourth with 81 seconds.

C EL Dur was the toughest event of the meet with a 30% qualification rate. The Boostin' Bandits had a U.S. Record and an easy first, but they couldn't recover their 3-1/2+ minute flight in Saturday's wind. They settled for 46 seconds on their second try and won first in A/B Div. Chuck Weiss of the Odd Couple took an easy first with a graceful 112 second flight. Pat Perrella took second with her 42 second flight. Other modelers suffered separations, lost 'chutes, and kicked engines in this difficult event.

B SR Dur was won by Jeff Vincent of the Odd Couple. He made two picture-perfect flights (31 and 48 seconds) with his 275cm (nine foot!) monster. Bob Zabriskie took second with two good flights on his 184cm model.

Carl Cufone had a tough chase, but his short model's 2:43 flight beat out the Boostin' Bandits six-footer to decide third and fourth places. It looks like Super-roc is no longer a performance contest, but merely a test of how many body tubes you can get airborne.

In A/B Div, the Boostin' Bandits took first in 1/2A IB/G (rigid-wing only). Etienne LaVallee took second. In C Div, Jeff Vincent of the Odd Couple made two good flights, taking first with a 129 second total. Second place was the 80 second performance by Carl Cufone with his parasite gliders. Pat Perrella finished third and Bob Zabriskie placed fourth.

In the overall points, Etienne LaVallee scored 352 points in A Div. The Boostin' Bandits Team took home 668 points for their Kit-A-Ka Section in B Div. C Div was dominated by the Odd Couple, gaining 972 points towards their National Championship. Carl Cufone scored 484 points for GSSS, taking second. Pat Perrella narrowly beat GSSS's Bob Zabriskie for third, 408 to 388 points. In section points, ASTRE pulled in 1902 to GSSS's 966 and Kit-A-Ka's 668.

In conclusion, I think I can speak for everyone in saying that we had a great time at ASTRO-1. Hopefully, word of mouth and this non-newsletter will encourage others of you out there to come to one of our meets, try out our great field, and meet the people who make ASTRE what it is.

NON-EDITOR'S CLOSING

Well, I hope you're happy now. See what you get without an editor. Anyways.....

Maybe we'll do this again in a few months in a more organized format. We'll have a chance to report on more of our events and maybe even throw in a plan or something. Well, until then, keep those subscriptions rolling in and I'll see you at ASTRO-2.

Jeff

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 Summer and Fall 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 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, 883-5026 (local).

July 12 (raindate July 13)

ASTRO-2 Open Meet
1/2A Int Parachute
1/2A Int Streamer
B Eggloft Duration
B Boost/Glide
B Rocket/Glide
Sport Scale

September 6 (raindate Sept 7)

ASTRO-3 Open Meet
1/2A Int Parachute
D Int Streamer
B Eggloft Duration
B Super-roc Duration
1/2A Int Boost/Glider
Sport Scale

October 4 (raindate Oct 5)

ASTRO-4 Open Meet
Open Spot Landing
Predicted Duration
1/2A Int Streamer
B Helicopter
1/2A Boost/Glider
(rigid-wing only)
B Rocket/Glider
Plastic Model Conversion

Our meetings are held 6-9 pm Tuesday nights in the Classroom Building of Fulton Montgomery Community College. Our meetings are scheduled for:

August 19	November 4
September 2	December 9
September 30	January 13, 1987

Minutes of July 1, 1986 Meeting

presided over by Chuck Weiss

The treasury is at \$65.71, due to the revenue generated by the Freedom 7 and ASTRO-1 meets. The primary future expense will be ribbons for the fall ASTRO meets.

The meeting began with a discussion of the May 31 meeting. Due to a lack of a quorum, no official business was conducted at the May meeting.

The ASTRO-2 meet was discussed. The meet is scheduled for July 12 (13 - raindate) and we are anticipating some GSSS participation. We talked about Sport Scale Judging, with Chuck Hemker tentatively named as the judge. Bruce should have the hay down by this date.

The club agreed on a fixed weeknight meeting schedule, meeting from 6 to 9pm on Tuesday nights at FMCC (tentatively in Room 102). The meetings have been scheduled to immediately precede launch dates. The remaining meetings for this calendar year are:

August 19	November 4
September 2	December 9
September 30	January 13

The next item on the agenda was the scheduling of two fall open meets. The club decided upon the following:

ASTRO-3	Sept. 6 (7)
1/2A I PD	D I SD
B EL Dur	B SR Dur
1/2A I B/G	Sport Scale
ASTRO-4	Oct. 4 (5)
Open Spot	Pred Dur
1/2A I SD	B HD
B R/G	Plastic Model
1/2A B/G (rigid-wing only)	

The meet dates were selected as Saturdays, with the option of flying on Sunday if there is sufficient interest (or as a raindate)

John LaVallee proposed an amendment to the By-laws to limit the business portion of club meetings to less than one hour. While not adopted, the membership agreed in principle and will attempt to minimize the time spent on business. This should make the meetings more interesting to the younger club members and provide more time for instructional lectures.

Chuck mentioned the Boy Scout demo he would be conducting on July 15. Pat Perrella volunteered to help.

Due to a lack of quality in the entries thus far submitted, the membership postponed the Logo contest to the next (August 19) meeting.

The club discussed Chuck's idea of a seasonal banquet. The preference was for a dinner to close the fall flying season and late October was proposed. It is hoped that Bruce Whitcavitch and his wife will be able to join us. Further arrangements will be made at the August 19 meeting.

Minutes compiled by
Jeff Vincent
July 3, 1986

Jeff Vincent