

October 2018

WHAT'S UP

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

Volume 13 Number 4



Inside:
Club launches
Saturn V update
Meeting notes

Prepping an August odd-roc

Summer flying

July

Peter Plumley's class turned out with their LOV IVs. It was windy but they had fun.



Photos by Scott Renshaw.

August

It rained the night before the August Family Picnic launch, and there were some sprinkles in the area up until noon, but the weather improved as the day went on. Considering the weather turnout was excellent, including a number of first timers. There was at least one time when all sixteen pads were loaded up for flying!

It was a day for Snitches. Dennis flew his cluster modified Snitch on three C6s. Mark went to even higher impulse, a J45 sparky, for his Big Snitch. Tim also went sparky with a G100 in his Honey Badger.

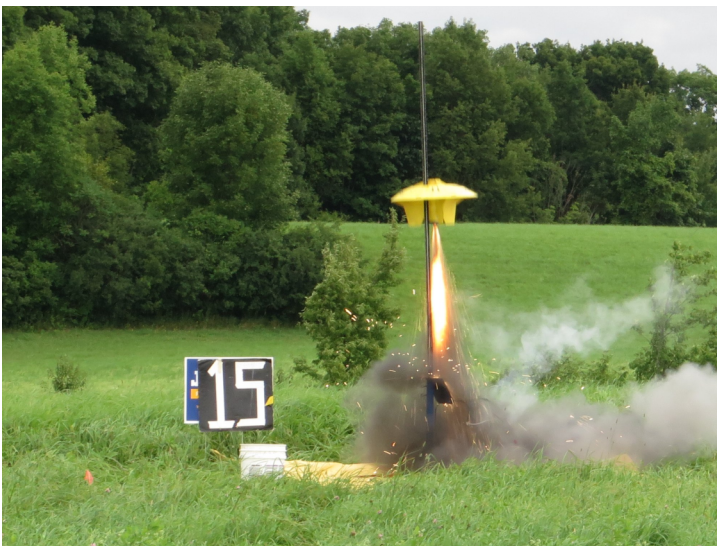
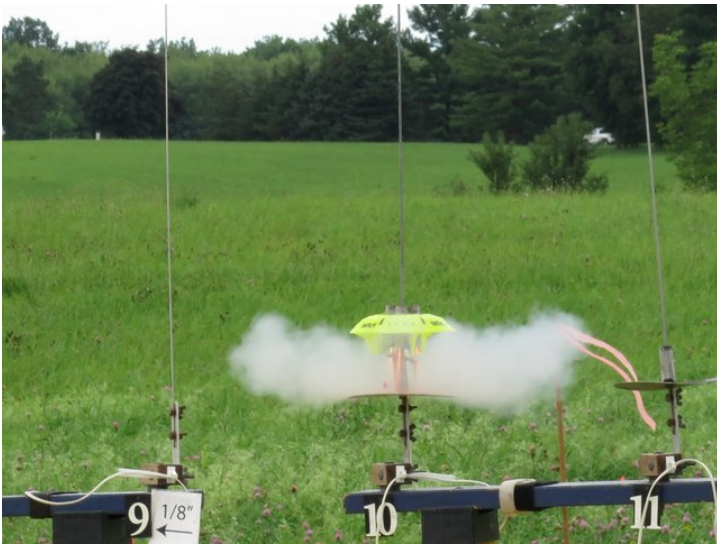
Joshua Middleton made a successful Level 2 certification flight. Congratulations!

Rich got odd with his Square In the Air, Too Square, Flat Boy, Point, and Bohica's Dead Ringer before returning to normal with his Blue Bird Zero. Other oddities included Scott Renshaw's Scotch Built, and someone flew a Porta Pot Shot.

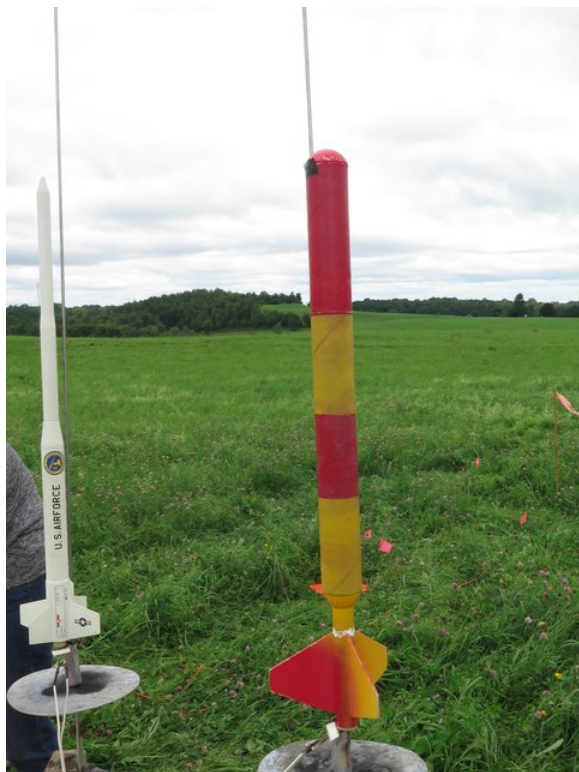
Thanks to a stash of rockets donated by MARS we had lots of prizes for the raffle. Some of them even flew right after being won. Roger flew his "Raffle Winner" once, then replaced the nose cone with a hot dog and launched it again as the "Raffle Weiner".

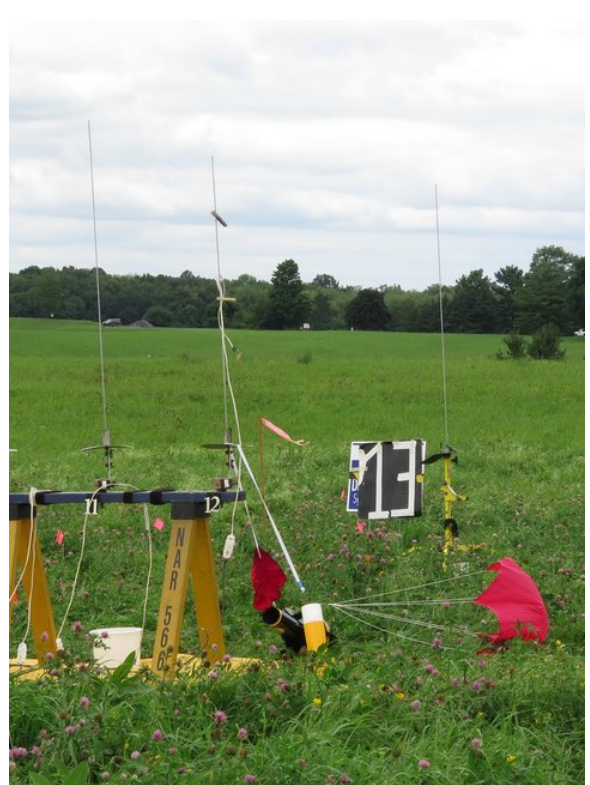
You may recall the club's upscale Saber flew last August and went up well, but the down part was problematic and it sustained some damage. Repaired, it flew again on a K500. It went up well, but the down part was problematic and it sustained some damage. This time the shock cord stayed intact, but it tangled around the chute and prevented it from opening. Third time will be the charm?

Did you see the September/October 2018 Sport Rocketry? It included an article by James Shattell on SRC's outreach activities at the National Sport Launch. Nice job, James!



Clockwise from top left: Dennis's clustered Snitch; Tim's Honey Badger; Rich's Too Square; Roger's egg lofter; Mark's Big Snitch.





Clockwise from top left: Mark's Buzz A Bee; last of 16 rockets going on the pads; Brian's Circulus lands close to the pad; Roger's Raffle Weiner; intent watching



Clockwise from top left: Joshua's Level 2 flight; Mark with the upscale Saber; Joshua, Level 2; Saber looking good so far...

September

Once again there was rain the day before, but on Saturday the field was dry. It was a bit breezy in the morning, but the winds settled down later. At one point we got a partial sun halo. Pretty nice flying day all in all.

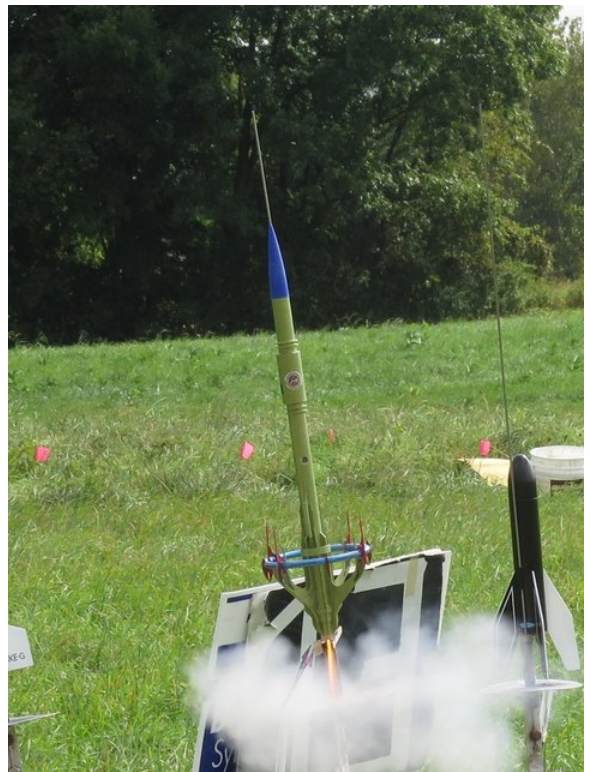
Tom flew his Tesla and Centauri, and his replica of Goddard's Nell. Dave's Mega Mo flew on an F12. Another F16 flight, an Estes black powder F16 this time, was John's Star Orbiter, and Kenny's Ascender lived up to its name on another F16. Scott Renshaw's Majestic went up on an F20, and Tim's LOC Scout II on an F50 sparky.

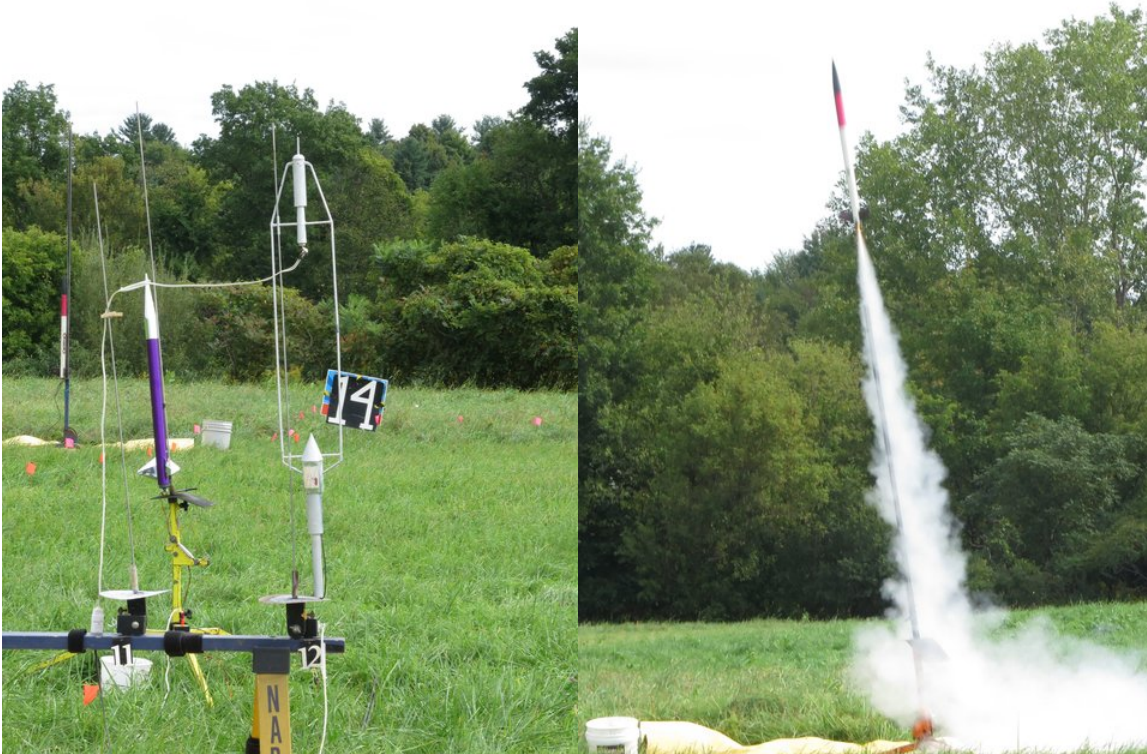
Kenny also flew his Shuttle Express on a C6. Scott put his MR-1 up on a G80. Dave's Mega Nike and Tim's AGM 33 Pike both flew unexpectedly. The launch director took responsibility, but perhaps a modification to the Pratt controller would help make such mistakes less likely.

Rich used an A8-3 to launch his Nike-G, at about 83 grams pad weight barely within the recommended maximum. As a strategy for the A Parachute Spot Landing contest this seemed to work: it came down 10' 4" from the pin. Rich also flew his Big Daddy on one of the last of his E9s.



Clockwise from top left: Rich's Nike-G; Tom's Tesla; Kenny and James debug the system; Dave's Mega Mo.





Left: Tom's
Nell; Right:
Kenny's
Ascender

Saturns resurrected

Some updates to the article in the April newsletter about Saturn V kits:

It was noted there that one Saturn kit maker, Dr. Zooch, had just announced they were going out of business. (I bought a Dr. Zooch Saturn Vs right after that.) Now another one has shut down: FlisKits (<http://www.fliskits.com/>), maker of the 1:884 scale MMX-powered Mighty Saturn V. According to their web site all remaining stock has been sold.

But Dr. Zooch is not quite dead yet! eRockets (<http://www.erockets.biz>) is producing and selling some of the Zooch kits now. For the moment just two of them, but one is the Saturn V (now with laser cut fins!).

In another resurrection, Balsa Machining Service (<https://www.balsamachining.com/>) brought back Peter Alway's 1/195 Saturn V kit as a limited production run. They sold them all!

In June, Estes (<https://www.estesrockets.com/>), under new ownership, issued its first catalog since 2016, which says the 1/100 scale 2157 Apollo 11 Saturn V kit will be re-released in the coming months as a limited edition kit with an unspecified "bonus". Latest word — discussion happening at YORF (Ye Olde Rocket Forum) right now — is that in fact there will be *two* Estes Saturn Vs: an updated reissue of the 2157 and a new, plastic, Almost Ready to Fly 1/200 model.

So for now we have or soon will have:

- Apogee 1/70
- Dr. Zooch 1.64" via eRockets
- Estes 1/100 limited edition, coming later in 2018
- Estes 1/200 ARF, coming later in 2018?
- Quest MMX

Meetings

July

We talked about advertising to promote the club.

Mark and Abby Riffle will be at the July launch and do launch director duties. Peter Plumley's class will also be there.

We discussed plans for the August Family Picnic.

We have lots of giveaway rockets, and lots of parts.

August

[There was a meeting]

September

James gave a financial report. The August Family Picnic just about broke even thanks to the raffle.

We've been approved for an NAR grant to buy fire resistant blankets/tarps. We decided to get another 20 by 20 foot tarp if inspection of the first one shows it is holding up well. We also want to try applying retardant to a regular canvas tarp and see how that does.

There was a report on our presentation at the Experimental Aircraft Association pancake breakfast. Brian set this up. There was lots of attention from some families; some of them did come to the August launch. We'll do this again sometime.

We discussed the August launch and what we might do better or differently. Suggestions included: Putting out a can for donations; making a push for new members; doing better at getting set up on time; making the night launch conditional on some people committing to it ahead of time.

Scott still has some SRC t shirts available for purchase (8 Large, 1 Small).

Brian showed off his WAC Corporal. It's set up for dual deploy, for his Level 2 flight.

October

We received our NAR grant (\$250) and will buy another fire resistant tarp.

The October launch is hereby known as the OktoberLaunchFest.

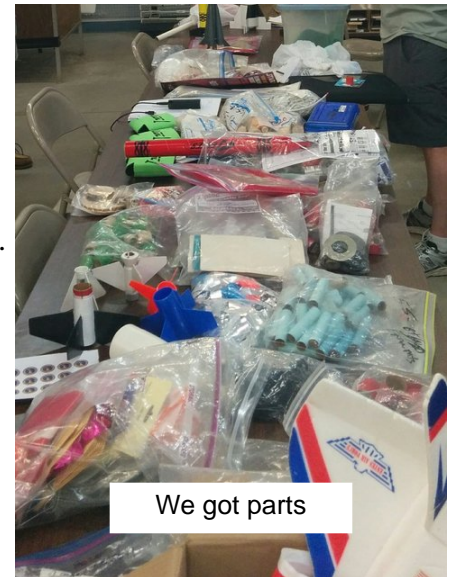
Dennis is going to retrofit metal pad supports to the low power pads that currently have wooden ones.

James proposed adding a piezo to the Pratt controller to make a sound when a pad is enabled, to help prevent accidental launches.

James was congratulated on his Sport Rocketry article.

The Renshaws brought two show and tell rockets, Scott's Estes ASP and Sue's Quest AGM-85.

Walt's has done some restocking of kits; we should get SRC info stickers on them before the Secret Santa event.



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 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>.

Except where otherwise indicated, material in What's Up is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial license. You are free to share and adapt material from What's Up providing you give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. You may not use the material for commercial purposes.

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

What's Up
c/o Richard Holmes
310 MacKay Ave.
Syracuse, NY 13219

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

Next issue target publication date is January 2018.

Upcoming SRC Events

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

Date	Time	Location	Event
Oct. Sat. 20th	10 AM – 3 PM	Weigand's Field	SRC Sport Launch, Theme: Halloween; Contests: A Super-Roc Duration and A Parachute Spot Landing
Nov. Mon. 5th	7:00 PM	Walt's Hobby	Club Meeting. Discussion Topic: Planning for SRC Displays at Walt's Secret Santa Sale. Nominations for 2019 Club Officers
Nov. Sat. 17th	8:30 AM – 5 PM	Walt's Hobby	Walt's Annual Secret Santa Sale
Dec. Mon. 10th	7:00 PM	Walt's Hobby	Club Meeting. Topic: Holiday Celebration - Annual Club Awards; Election of 2019 Club Officers
Jan. Mon. 7th	7:00 PM	Walt's Hobby	Club Meeting. Topic: TBA

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.