

# The Launch Rack

Newsletter of the Garden State Spacemodeling Society  
Section 439 of the National Association of Rocketry

Special Edition

Fall 2006

## GSSS Membership Data Needed

Repeating what was said in the Summer 2006 issue, you are receiving this because you are, or were a member of GSSS. As you can tell we are not sure of who is a member and who is not at this point. This is due to several factors none of which has any bearing on what is needed now, **YOUR HELP!!**

We need your help in rebuilding our membership data file.

Several folks at the last launch as well as through e-mail, told me that they renewed their membership, but never got a new membership card. If that is you, then write me at the address below with the following information: your name and address, date of birth, GSSS and NAR numbers, and expiration date of your last membership card. If yours is a family membership, then please provide the above information for each family member included in that membership.

New membership cards will be issued and sent with the expiration date based upon when you renewed.

If you have not renewed your membership, but would like to still be a GSSS member, send the same information as requested above. You will be issued a new membership card, but your membership will expire on December 31, 2006. At that time you will have to include your renewal payment.

If we do not hear from you one way or the other, we will assume you are not longer interested in being a GSSS member and will drop you from the last membership roster we have.

Please help. Please send the requested information to: **GSSS-HQ, c/o Jack Sarhage, 24 Canterbury Court, Piscataway, NJ 08854**

There are lots of things planned for the rest of 2006 and for 2007 when GSSS will have reached its Silver Anniversary and we want to make sure you, as a member are included.

Please read on to find out more.

## Sport Launch News

The date of the June launch had all thinking and asking the age old question; why with 52 Saturdays in a year does it have to rain on one of the 12 we pick to hold a launch?

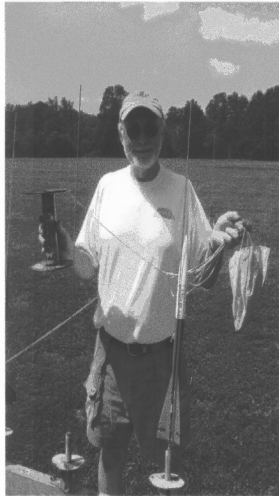


*The lovely young ladies are members of the Youth Group from Springs of Living Water church. They brought their Viking rockets to the July launch.*

As you can see from the sun shining in the background of the above picture the July launch had plenty of sunshine. There were plenty of folks in attendance after being rained out last month.

By the time your scribe arrived, ever faithful **Arnie Klein** had the launch equipment up and ready to go. Arnie by the way, has been a member of GSSS for over 20 years and probably half that time has been responsible for setting things up so we can enjoy flying our rockets. So thank him by coming out early once and awhile and help set up.

Our roving photographer, **Steve Pantuck**, and another 20 year veteran of Section 439 was also there early. Steve usually brings his albums to each launch and you are invited to take a look at them. They are a real club history through photos.



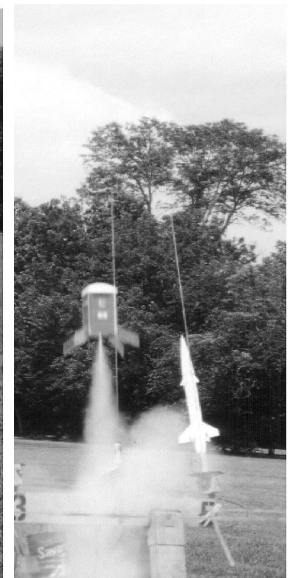
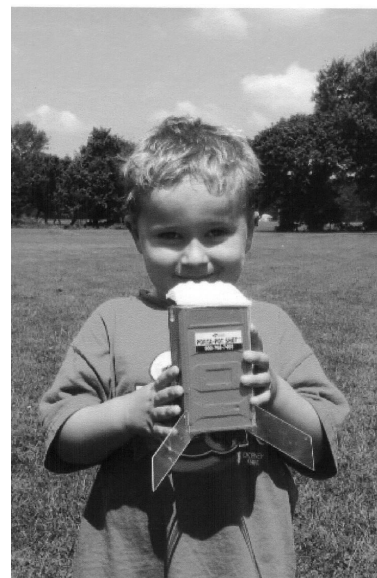
*This is Fred Taverni with his Odd-roc called the "Cool Spool." The photo on the right shows it lifting off under the power of an F engine.*



*In this photo we find long time members, Tom and Phyllis Whymark and their grandchildren.*

**Tom and Phyllis Whymark** are an example that model rocketry can be a family hobby/sport. The family has participated and represented GSSS for many years, and were instrumental in building interest in competition and going to a national event. Under Tom's leadership the annual Ferd Foonman award was presented to many deserving members. Son **Jason** illustrated several issues of our newsletter. Daughter **Erin** and Brother **Matthew** did the club proud as they were named among the top ten competitors in 1993. **Dawn** could always be counted on to help out on launch days. Who can forget the bacon-eggloft contest!

We have many new members that are showing up with some interesting rockets. This is especially true in the area of the Odd-roc. It is amazing of what, with a little ingenuity you can get to fly while remaining within the confines of what is a model rocket. We have a couple of photos that show you what we mean.



*This Odd-roc held by 4½ year old Ryan Kear is called the "Porta-Potti." What else! The photo to the right is its lift-off under C6-5 power.*

This photo shows that you can build rockets from the plans we publish from time to time. This one, *Zubenelgenubi*, a Peter Always design, appeared last issue and was built by Ye Ole Editor, **Jack Sarhage**.

And speaking of plans, the one that appears on the last page of this issue is by another of our long time (21 years) members; **Dr. Bob Kreutz**. Called *The Tempest* it is a parachute and/or



streamer duration model. It is designed to use a piston launcher, but I built one and stuck launch lugs on the side which in my case did not hurt its capabilities as I kept shredding the streamer I was using.

“Dr. Bob” builds fine model rockets. We hope to show you some others from past issues of the newsletter. By the way did you know that he is chairman of the FAI Team Selection Committee for Spacemodeling?

This rocket would also qualify for the Olde Tyme Model Rocket Fun-test in October.

As you are certainly aware the August launch was cancelled due to rain.

## Upcoming Launch Events

The Fun-test “Flying Saucer Spot Landing” and the “Ping-Pong Ball Duration” events will now be flown at the October Sport Launch.

Following is a recap of the event rules:

### Flying Saucer Spot Landing

Open to any flying saucer model rocket. Using an motor with a maximum of 10 N-sec. Must land within 25 feet to get a score. Maximum score is 300 points, but lowest is the winner.

### Ping-pong Ball Duration

Any model rocket with a diameter capable of holding a standard ping-pong ball. An 18-inch crepe paper streamer will be attached to the ball. Duration is from rockets lift off until ping-pong ball touches down. Longest duration wins.

### Olde Tyme Model Rocket Launch

Open to any model rocket build from plans published or kit produced prior to December 31, 1996. You must bring documentation to support your entrée. Winner will be determined by popular vote. Rockets to be displayed from 10:00 am to 1:00pm. Flights to be between 1:00-3:00pm.

Rockets flown in the above events will have one **official flight**. Official is defined as it left the launch pad. You will be allowed three attempts to get it off the pad.

The contest director will not be present at the September 23 launch, the reason for the

rescheduling of the events. Why? He is cooking breakfast for 63 members of the church choir.

## Holiday Open House

There is an insert for the Holiday Open House to be held after the December 30 Sport Launch. It is hoped that many of you will be able to drop by, even if only for a little while during the 5:00-9:00pm window.

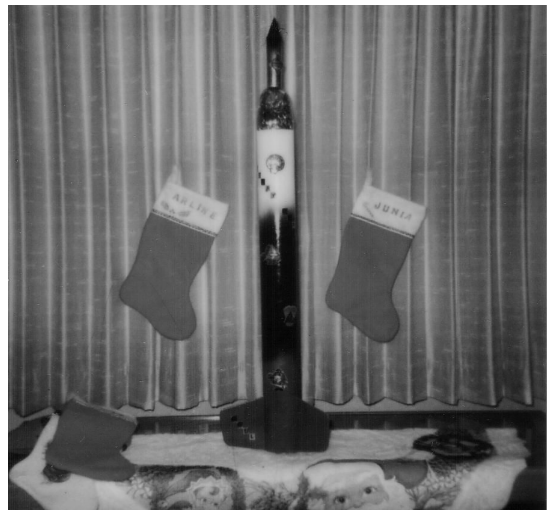
Though early please respond as soon as you can, but no later than **December 1, 2006**.

## January Space Memorial Launch

Each January since the 1986 loss of the Space Shuttle “Challenger” GSSS has held a memorial launch. Anyone is invited to bring their model of a space shuttle and launch it.

This year will be a little different. Seventeen (17) rockets, each named for one of our astronauts making the ultimate sacrifice for our space program will be launched in their memory. These rockets are to be built by club members and I need volunteers. The rocket will be yours to keep after the launch. You will be given a rocket and the name, date and mission identification to be placed upon the rocket.

This is just one of the events planned to celebrate the Silver Anniversary of the Garden State Spacemodeling Society in 2007. Hope you will all get on board for the ride.



*Hope this photo of Glenn Prudens “Christmas Leftovers” rocket give you some ideas.*