

THE LEADING EDGE

VOL. 4 NO. 2



CAPTIONS
ON
PAGE
FIVE

NIRA MEMBERSHIP LIST 13-FEB-81

N

List supplied by Bob Kaplow

BAKER, ALFRED S	2327 S WESTMINSTER	WHEATON	IL	60187	N	/690-1511
BUNDICK, MARK	1925 N HUDSON AV	CHICAGO	IL	60614	N E P	/642-9028
CADIZ, ALBERT	150 GREEN MEADOW	GLENDAL HTS.	IL	60137	N	/665-4717
CHARBONNEAU, JONATHAN	219 SHAWNEE DR	CAROL STREAM	IL	60187	N	/665-7281
CHMIELOWICZ, SCOTT	137 CAROLINE	ELMHURST	IL	60126	N	/279-1894
CHRISTIAN, BILL	1604 N CHESTNUT	ARLINGTON HTS	IL	60004	N G	/259-4617
CODY, RICH	977 ROSLYN RD	GLEN ELLYN	IL	60137	N	/469-8647
DENNEY, ROB	677 DUANE	GLEN ELLYN	IL	60137	N	/858-1751
DOPART, DAVID	19 W GRAHAM	LOMBARD	IL	60148	N	/620-5188
ECKLES, TOM	1020 E PRAIRIE	WHEATON	IL	60187	N	/653-9276
ERTSMAN, CARL	476 N EMROY	ELMHURST	IL	60126	N	/834-8288
ERTSMAN, DENNY	476 N EMROY	ELMHURST	IL	60126	N	/834-8288
ERTSMAN, KEVIN	476 N EMROY	ELMHURST	IL	60126	N	/834-8288
ERTSMAN, LEE	476 N EMROY	ELMHURST	IL	60126	N	/834-8288
EWOLDT, DAVID	1382 TERRY RD	ELMHURST	IL	60126	N	/469-6557
EWOLDT, TOM	1382 TERRY RD	GLENDAL HTS	IL	60137	N	/469-6557
FLEMING, PATRICK	344 PROSPECT	GLENDAL HTS	IL	60137	N	/790-1198
FLYNN, ROY	21W660 KENSINGTON RD	GLEN ELLYN	IL	60137	N	/469-6173
GAFF, RICHARD	331 THIRD ST	GLEN ELLYN	IL	60137	N	/724-2975
GODRON, F. SCOTT- WORK	476 MAIN ST	NORTHFIELD	IL	60093	P E N	/469-9596
HALL, DOUGLAS	509 N WILLOW	GLEN ELLYN	IL	60137	N W	/279-6337
HALL, IAN	509 N WILLOW	ELMHURST	IL	60126	N	/279-6337
HARRIS, MATT	7302 ELANDR PLACE	ELMHURST	IL	60126	N	/986-9543
HAWKINS, JEFF	324 WOODSTOCK	DARIEN	IL	60559	N	/468-3228
HOFFIE, BILL	243 COLUMBIA	GLEN ELLYN	IL	60137	N	/832-9072
HUBER, MARTIN E.	1636 S HIGHLAND AV	ELMHURST	IL	60126	N	/
KAPLOW, ROBERT G.	1544 NORWAY #2B	ARLINGTON HTS	IL	60005	N	/577-8837
LENTINI, TONY	609 N ROBERTA	PALATINE	IL	60067	N E G D	/455-7756
MILLER, BRAXTON	6021 CAROL AVE	NORTHLAKE	IL	60169	N	/965-0250
PASTRICK, THOMAS E.	7769 N NORDICA	MORTON GROVE	IL	60053	N P	/470-1390
PETERSON, PAT	RR1 1840 S ROSELLE RD	NILES	IL	60648	N P	/529-3037
PISEK, DOUG	539 SUSAN LN	SCHAUMBURG	IL	60172	N E P	/945-5311
RADAVICH, PAUL	21W748 22ND ST	DEERFIELD	IL	60015	N	/
RADAVICH, RICKY	21W748 22ND ST	GLEN ELLYN	IL	60137	N	/
RIEBESEHL, GEORGE A JR	513 BROCKTON LANE	GLEN ELLYN	IL	60137	N	/894-4739
RIEBESEHL, GEORGE A SR	513 BROCKTON LANE	SCHAUMBURG	IL	60193	N P	/894-4739
SCHALK, WALTER W JR	141 CAROLINE	SCHAUMBURG	IL	60193	N	/279-7196
SCHALK, WAYNE A	141 CAROLINE	ELMHURST	IL	60126	N	/279-7196
SCHMITT, MARK	21W716 BUCKINGHAM RD	ELMHURST	IL	60126	N	/469-9076
SERAFIN, ANTHONY J	RT 2 BOX 239D	GLEN ELLYN	IL	60137	N	/464-5214
SIMKINS, STEVE	11 BONDS DR	ELGIN	IL	60120	N	815/937-5381
SKOWRON, DAVE	2S038 STRATFORD RD	BOURBONNAIS	IL	60914	N	/469-8884
STRIKER, RICHARD D	800 PENRITH	GLEN ELLYN	IL	60137	N	/439-8231
TOBERMAN, DALE	1017 SOUTHPORT	ELK GROVE VIL	IL	60007	N	/963-7277
WOZAB, ANDY	415 AUDUBON RD	LISLE	IL	60532	N P	/837-3826
WYER, RAYMOND	1557 JILL CT	STREAMWOOD	IL	60103	N	/469-1624
		GLENDAL HTS	IL	60137	N	

T MINUS ONE

MONTHLY NIRA MEETING March 6th

Glen Ellyn Civic Center 7:30PM

MONTHLY NIRA MEETING April 3rd

Glen Ellyn Civic Center 7:30PM

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

HONG FEES STARTED

Members of the Chicago Aeromuts model airplane club who recently went to Hong for some test flying reported that DNR has started charging for use of the field. This is contrary to earlier reports saying fees would start in 1982. Fees work as follows: A \$15 sticker is available for your car to get you in on non-contest days. Otherwise, I believe the fee is \$3 per day. On contest days, whether you've got a sticker or not, it's a dollar per person. Details about how DNR finds out if you're attending the contest or not aren't available. Keep your eyes open; we'll try to get more information on this as it develops.

Bjorny



Model of the month WINNERS



The Model of the Month winner for January is Al Cadiz and his Estes Interceptor. Congratulations Al!



The Model of the Month winner for February is Tom Pastrick and his Estes Space Plane. Congratulations Tom!

VOLUME FOUR, NO. TWO
MARCH/APRIL 1981

The Leading Edge is published bimonthly by and for the members of the Northern Illinois Rocket Association (NIRA), section 117 of the National Association of Rocketry and is dedicated to the idea that Model Rocketry is fun.

Articles, plans, newsletters and other items of interest should be sent to the editor: Ric Gaff, 331 third St., Northfield, Ill., 60093.

CONTRIBUTORS: Mark Fundick, Bob Kaplow

All NIRA members are encouraged to give the editor their suggestions for articles and plans. Contributions are encouraged! We are trying to keep NIRA members informed about club and member activities, so we would like to hear from you.

TRUSTEES MEETING

by Bunny

For the third time in five years, the NAR Board of Trustees chose Chicago as the site for their semi-annual get together. Attendance was good with 11 of 13 Trustees taking part in the meetings. Over 18 hours of meetings spanned the 2½ day weekend.

Financially, things look good for the nation's largest association of rocketeers. The NAR ran at a slight deficit in 1980, but when a number of extraordinary items are eliminated from consideration, the basic business of the NAR worked out to be a breakeven deal. This is exactly how the Board budgeted for 1980, and the Trustees breathed a collective sigh of relief when they realized their plan had worked out.

The Model Rocketeer, NAR'S monthly magazine, had some cost overruns which meant going to a 12 page issue for two months. Editor Chris Tavares reported submissions of material were low, anyway, so all worked out for the best anyway. A plan for hobby shop distribution of the Rocketeer was approved. This will begin sometime in the summer. This proposal is subject to review to insure it "pays its own way", with some subsidy from the NAR general fund. The program is designed to give the NAR some exposure to adults and non-mail customers.

The Liaison Committee, chaired by AMA's John Worth reported there will be no increase in insurance rates for 1981. A decrease in the future may be possible if AMA can reduce its claims rate during this year.

Standards and Testing reported on its attempts to re-create some failures on Composite Dynamics motors. It appears these failures are the result of ignition problems, so do it EXACTLY like the manufacturer tells you. S&T has been unable to recreate

TRUSTEES MEETING (con't.)

the failures reported, but will continue to monitor any complaints from the field.

FAI Spacemodels Subcommittee Chairman Howard Kuhn gave glowing reports on the 1980 World Championships. Many veterans of all kinds of World Championships said it was the best they had attended. The site of the 1982 World Spacemodeling Championships hasn't been determined, but Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia are possible candidates.

Among other committees, NARTREK has a new Chairman, Lawrence Bercini, of North Carolina. The transition between chairmen went smoothly with no loss of service to NARTREK members. Mike Banks' Static Modeling Special Committee has been active. A contest by mail will be coming up soon; look for details in the Rocketeer. A set of Provisional Rules will soon be out, so static events can become part of the NAR competition structure. Section Activities reported a 75% renewal rate among NAR clubs. (NIRA members, take pride! Yours is among the oldest of that group!). SAC will be starting some new programs in 1981, including an experiment with the Indiana state schools.

After the regular business, the Board went into intensive discussions on long range plans. For the past 18 months, this discussion centered on a "spacemodeling membership". This membership was seen as a low cost way to introduce new modelers to the NAR and its services. Problems with the idea concerned precisely how we could implement it, and how much we should charge for it. Despite several attempts to resolve these difficulties, including two lengthy papers by NAR President Miller, the Board was unable to reach a consensus.

At this meeting, however, the Board did reach a decision. They accepted a modified version of the spacemodeling membership approach. A six month introductory membership costing \$6 will be available for Junior members (under 16) only. It includes all benefits, except the Rocketeer. If the new member wants, he may get full Junior membership after buying the introductory one by sending in an additional \$4. The Board felt this method was a good way to achieve all the conflicting goals present in the "spacemodeling membership".

All in all, a very productive meeting and a bright outlook for the NAR.

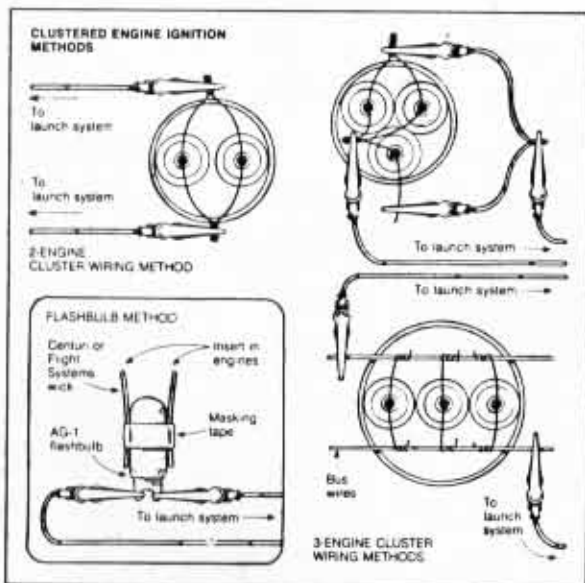


THE PATCHES ARE IN!

The patches will be available starting with the March meeting and are \$1.00 each to NIRA members. The patch, shown full-size, is black and yellow on a white background.

IS CLUSTERING DEAD ? CLUSTERING CLUSTERING

The loss of Centuri's "sure-shot" igniter wicks, the heart of the flash-bulb ignitor, does not mean the death of clustering! The substitute is already available and it is the much maligned Solar Ignitor. Al Baker first demonstrated the usefulness of solar ignitors for clustering last Summer, frankly I was surprised they worked. I tried several cluster models including a 4 engine Titan-3 using solar ignitors, perfect ignition each time! nnoooooo problem.



== COVER PHOTO CAPTIONS ==

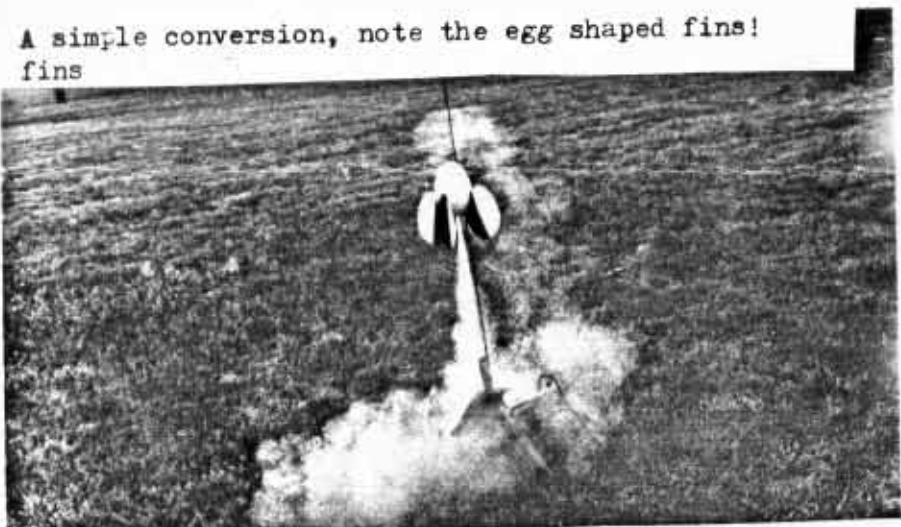
- 1) NIRA at NARAM-22. (L-R) Tom Pastrick, Bob Kaplow, Ric Gaff, Mark Bundick, George Riebesehl Jr.
- 2) Bunny and G.R. with a (UGH!) rubber powered model.
- 3) George and his RC B/G. (will someone think up a funny line to put here?)
- 4) Ric "the strange one" Gaff in a parody of a not to famous NARAM-22 photo.

Pictures 1-3 by Ric Gaff, #4 by Tom Beach.

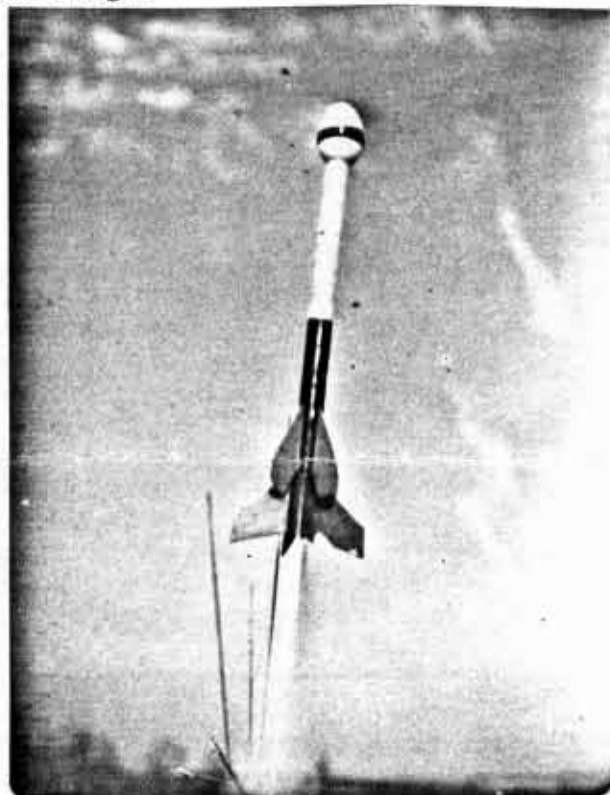
The amusing Leggs egg capsule

As a packaging gimmick the Leggs egg capsule is an ecological disaster but a boon to the imaginative rocketeer.

A simple conversion, note the egg shaped fins!
fins



Two-stage model using Leggs capsule for eggloft capsule. Not much performance but a real crowd pleaser with its 4 engine lower stage.



THE HOLY HAND GRENADE OF ANTIOCH

by Todd Schweim
(borrowed from the View From Zenith)



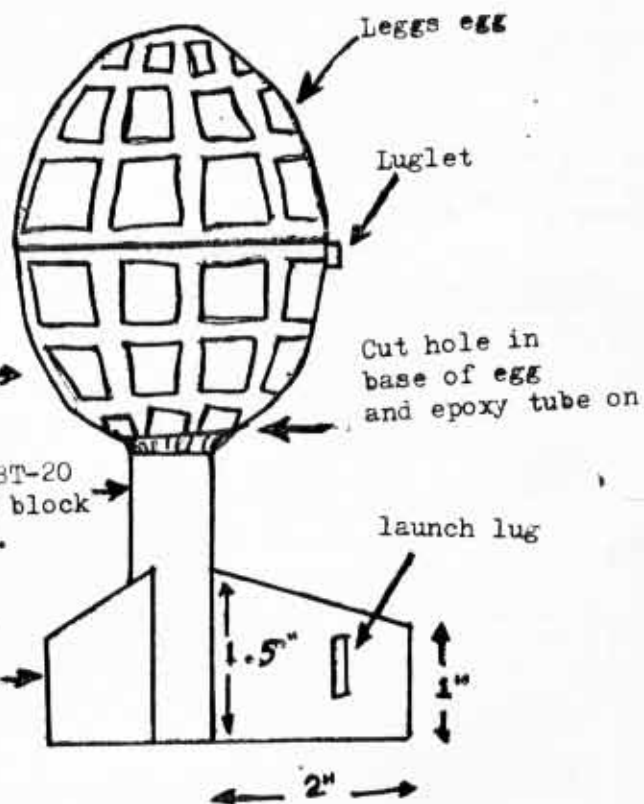
From a dark cave on the British Isles comes the most powerful weapon of the dark ages.

If ye dare try this sacred projectile, ye may findest that it could be used for drag race, spot landing, B parachute eggloft and eggloft duration (tie the padded egg baggie (?) to the shock cord), predicted altitude and duration

Epoxy shock cord anchors in top and bottom half of the egg

3.25" BT-20 engine block inside.

1/16" Balsa



Contest Calendar



ECATLOAD OF MAR

June 20-21 1981

B Eggloft Alt.	B Payload
1/2A R/G	1/4A Int. B/G
1/2A Int. SD	1/4A PD
Fred. Alt.	A SD
Plastic Model	

CONTACT: Tom Hoelle, 2009 Emma Av.
Ft. Wayne, IN, 46808

NOMID-81 May 2-3 1981 Detroit, MI

1/4A Alt. Eff.	1/2A Int. SD
A R/G	B Payload
Plastic Model	1/2A PD
A HD	B Eggloft Alt.
C R/G	

CONTACT: Steve Schowiak, 28127 Bellcrest
Farmington, MI 48018

SHOOTING STAR-SIX Tomah, WI Sept. 5-6

1/4A HD	1/2A PD
1/2A SD	A R/G
B Alt.	B R/G
C Egg Dur.	C SD
D E/G	

CONTACT: Jim Zingler, 324 W Milwaukee,
Tomah, WI 54660

MMRC-81 Bong Base, WI May 30-31

Plastic Model	B Egg Dur.
F R/G	C H/D
B Payload	A SD
A Alt. Effy.	Fred. Dur.
1/2A R/G	

CONTACT: Tim Vaccaro, 3022 23rd Ave.
Kenosha, WI 53140

NARAM-23 August 10-14, 1981

1/2A Int. SD	B Payload
1/2A PD	B Altitude
A R/G	R&D
1/2A B/G	D Scale Alt.
A HD	B E/G- A div. only
	E B/G with RC- B&C only
	OR E B/G without RC- B&C only

ROCKETRY ALL YEAR LONG-JOIN NIRA

NORTHERN ILLINOIS ROCKET ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP/ SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Please fill in completely, print or type

NAME _____ DATE ____ / ____ / 19 ____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

NAR NUMBER _____ EXPIRES _____ AMA NUMBER _____

- (1) How long have you been involved in Model Rocketry? _____
- (2) List your favorite type(s) of rockets. _____
- (3) How did you first learn about NIRA? _____
- (4) List any other interests besides Model Rocketry. _____

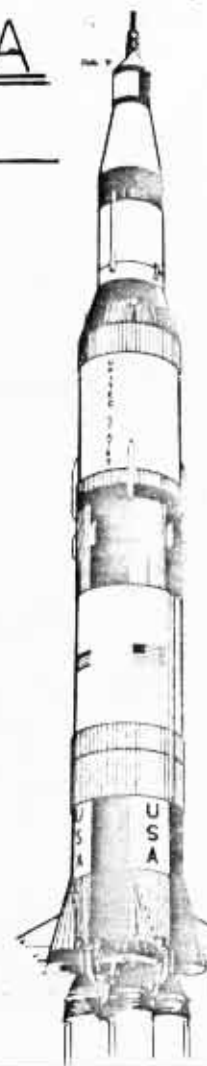
Membership in NIRA- \$3.00 per year (includes subscription to Leading Edge)

OR

Subscription to Leading Edge along (6 issues)- \$2.00

Please make checks payable to the Northern Illinois Rocket Association

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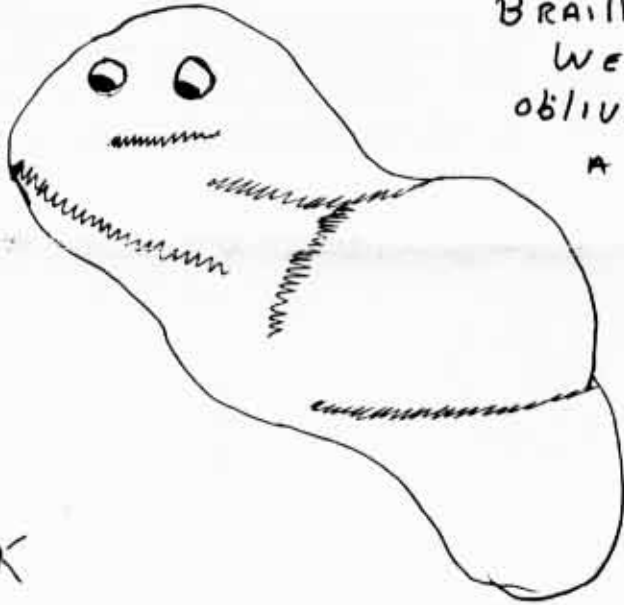


HEY TRACKER! TRACKER, OVER HERE
CAN'T YOU SEE ME? ARE YOU BLIND OR
SOMETHING?!

OH, HI THERE, I'M A PARTICLE OF
TRACKING POWDER, I'VE JUST BEEN
EJECTED FROM A MODEL AND I'M
TRYING TO ATTRACT THAT TRACKER'S
ATTENTION. HEY JERK! GET A
BRAILLE TRACKING SCOPE!

WELL, BEFORE I DRIFT INTO
OBLIVION LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT

A SUPER HOBBY SHOP, THE
GLEN ELLYN TOY + CARD
SHOP 476 MAIN ST.



Richard Gaff
331 3rd St., Sunset Park
Northfield, Ill. 60093

First Class

