



206-43



Mar/Apr 2015
Vol 37 Number 2



A PARTY 50 YEARS IN THE MAKING



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ZOG-43
Volume 37 Number 2
March/April 2015
Official NARHAMS Newsletter
Editor: Don Carson

ZOG-43 is dedicated to model rocketeers of all ages, abilities, and interest. We are committed to providing the most current, up-to-date information on model and real world rocketry, and to provide educational material, as well as, entertaining information.

ZOG-43 is published bi-monthly and is available to all paid up members of NARHAMS. Club membership is open to all, dues are 10 cent per week.

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ABOUT NARHAMS

The National Association of Rocketry Headquarters Astro Modeling Section, or NARHAMS, serves Baltimore, the state of Maryland, Washington, DC and the surrounding Metropolitan areas. The club is a section (#139) of the National Association of Rocketry (NAR).

We are the oldest continuously active model rocket club in the United States, first established as a high school club in 1963, changing our name to NARHAMS when chartered as a NAR section in 1965.

NARHAMS is the only seven time winner of the NAR "Section of the Year" award (1997, 1998, 1999, 2001, 2004, 2006, and 2007).

NARHAMS members regularly fly their model rockets at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt Md, at Old National Regional park near Mt. Airy, Md. and at the Carroll County Agriculture Center, near Westminster, Md.

NARHAMS welcomes all to our monthly meetings and launches.

For details, dates and directions to our club, meetings and launches, go to:

<http://narhams.org>

ZOG ROYAL COURT
(NARHAMS OFFICERS)
ZOG (President) Alex Mankevich

VICE ZOG (Vice-President) Alan Willaims

COLLECTOR OF THE ROYAL TAXES
(Treasurer) Maria Ha

KEEPER OF THE HOLY WORDS (Secretary)
Kevin Johnson

COURT JESTER (Section Advisor) Mark Wise

From the Editor

Don Carson

Lots of good stuff in this issue. We have coverage of our 50th anniversary party, Part 2 of Ole Ed's History of NARHAMS series, and Mark Wise's NARCON account, including an inside look at the NAR Trustee board meeting.

Alex Mankevich details how we scored some serious cash to support the 2015 Apollo Contest and the monthly Goddard launches that encourage STEM participation.

Check out the letter we received from the NAR President, Ted Cochran. Imagine reading that aloud to a group as Jim Filler did at the party. It was a few weeks early for April Fools, well done Ted!

Last month, we introduced clickable links in the newsletter. This month, we introduce links to expanded coverage. This month you can find dozens of extra pictures from the 50th party, we just couldn't fit them all into this issue. Look for the big red button.

By popular demand, we present the recipe for David Fuller's Potato Cheese Soup that was such a big hit at the holiday party.

Thanks to all our contributors to this issue. Don't forget, we are always looking for your inputs, too.

NARHAMS CELEBRATES OUR 50TH YEAR AS AN NAR CLUB

By Don Carson

Photos by Luly Carson

An event that will never be repeated in all of time, the NARHAMS 50th Anniversary Party was held on March 7th at the College Park Aviation Museum, a little-known jewel of a museum, located at the oldest continuously operated airport in the world.

The gala was attended by many current and former

members of the the club. From the early days of our club were Ole Ed Pearson (with the lovely Diane and daughter Kelly and son Cyrus - both all grown up), George McMullen (Minneapolis) and his brother Doug (and Doug's wonderful daughter-- both from SC), Dick Geldoff, Dick Moran, John Conners, Jim and Judy Barrowman. In addition, we were honored to be joined by many friends from other clubs as well. From NOVAAR, we had Trip Barber and Jon Rains, and Glenn and Rita Feveryear came down representing SPAAR. Astronaut Jay Apt, long time friend of the club, going back to before NARHAMS, flew in from Pittsburgh. All told, we had about 80 attendees.

The evening began with time for socializing. Mostly visiting with old friends, meeting some new ones and telling tales. Some folks brought memorabilia and old club scrap books came out of the woodwork.

There was a short program that was emceed by Jim Filler. Jim read a delightful letter from Ted Cochran, NAR President, and made a presentation from the club to Ole Ed Pearson for his service to the club through all 50 years of its existence. Ole Ed then took the podium and told us a story, as only he can, of how the name Zog-43 came into existence. A 2-part video of the program, well worth



4 Digit NAR Numbers!

watching, can be found at:

<http://youtu.be/yq3P3DzQULs>

<http://youtu.be/11ZPW0H8Y1Y>

We also had an opportunity to pick up the kits that the club had commissioned to commemorate the anniversary, the

Trip and Ed NARHAMS GOLD. It is a beauty, designed by club

member David Fuller and produced by Flis Kits. Only 139 kits were produced, each with a serial number. Serial number 1 will be presented to Ole Ed. Serial numbers 43 and 139 were raffled off, with Jim Filler landing #139. See

the ad on the last page for details on how to buy a kit. Alan Williams donated a Saturn V kit to be raffled off that was won by Dr. Kidwell.



Trip and Ed



Ed, Family Bob Slater



Jay Apt



Maria checks in Alex

The catered food was great with lots of sweets and boxes and boxes of genuine Ledo's pizza, a staple of club cuisine over the years.





Bob Ekman presents awards from
Rockville Science Center

The party was followed by a launch the following day at the Goddard Visitor's Center.

For me, the best aspect of the event was the opportunity to visit with old friends and to meet former members you may not have known. Thanks to all who worked so hard to make the event a success, Alex's *From the Zog* column has more details on that.



John and Mary McCoy



Photo bomb by Scott



Dr. K



Doug McMullen



Check in with Dave O



Glenn and Rita Feveryear



Kevin and Steve are entranced



There was some flying



Bruce, Don, Dave the L & KJ



DJ and
Co.



Jim, Ed and the Finerans



Peter and Paul are merry, looking
through the scapbooks



After 3 yrs, back on the PA!

NARHAMS History

By Ole Ed Pearson

Part 2 – NARHAMS Is Formed

In the Fall of 1964, Doug Frost became president of the science club and I was elected president of Northwestern Model Rocket Club (NMRC). I set about forming a NAR section, and so did Pat Stakem and Jay Apt. Jim Kukowski told me of other local area school rocket clubs, I contacted their presidents and we set up a meeting at Northwestern to discuss this. As I remember, the early participants we had Mark Mercer of Walt Whitman, Carl Kratzer of Pyle Jr. High (and later his younger brother, Steve), Bob Wallace of Bethesda Chevy Chase and Mike Domanski of High Point. (Early members of the Whitman Aerospace Research Society [WARS] high school club also included Ken Guthrie, Kirk Merrill, and Jim Philmon. Bob and Mike might have been individual NAR rocketeers—I don't remember other kids from their schools). We agreed to form a section and elected officers—even though the new club was yet to be named. I was elected president and Mike was elected vice president. I think Karen was secretary and Jan treasurer. No one was elected senior advisor--we didn't have an adult in the group at that time.

We stayed in contact with Jim Kukowski. He'd sometimes give us a ride somewhere to demonstrate model rocketry or over to help with headquarters services (more of that in a moment). I remember one time he took a bunch of NMRCers out to Manassas to dedicate the opening of the Arthur Godfrey Airport. We flew a rack or two and went home proud we had been part of a real demonstration team. Years later at the old rocketeer reunion at NARAM-50 I looked dumfounded at Jim as we stood in John Langford's Aurora Flight Systems hanger that John graciously let us use for the party. I realized that 40 some years before, we had opened this very airport with our rocket demo. The name had changed!

Speaking of names...At one organizational meeting, we came together to choose the section name. Several ideas were floated and we took a vote. I had proposed DART remembering that we had done that Manassas demo...DART stood for District Area Rocket Team, but

Doug thought of the winning name: National Association of Rocketry Headquarters Astro-Modeling Section or NARHAMS. He said it was because we hammed it up (i.e., had fun) and were integral with some NAR headquarters' services.

He was right. NAR headquarters was, if I remember, at 1239 Vermont Circle, NW, in DC, but Jim would hold collating, stapling, folding, addressing, and sorting sessions for the Model Rocketeer (official NAR organ) at his house at 13423 Parkland Drive in Rockville. The guys would go to his house to do this work, and we might have paid him for this honor, but I was always surprised he'd spring pizza for us. We got to know Jo Ann, his wife, and his children, Barry, Paula and Amy. Anyway, that's what the name meant.

Years later, Greg Kennedy joined NARHAMS and later left to form his own group—the Laurel Area Rocket Club (LARC). (Jim Filler used to belong to LARC before he joined NARHAMS). Greg would then come out to fly against us wearing his NARHAMS jacket with masking tape all over the front of it to hide the flying-rocket logo. He'd sometimes refer to us, it seemed to me, derisively as NARHAMSters; a moniker seemingly a dig/barb. You know, people choose to take offense at indignities intentionally or inadvertently directed their way. Instead of shrinking away from the term or taking umbrage, club members embraced it and we started to refer to ourselves as NARHAMSters. That's that origin.

Continued on page 6



NARHAMS History - continued

Related to that, a wag once perceptively noted that nicknames are given not chosen. For example, a guy might want to be known as Mr. Smooth, but if someone calls him Blockhead instead and it resonates as true with others, then I'm afraid Mr. Smooth will be forgotten and Blockhead will stick. I got to be Ole Ed because I would refer to people as Ole Paul, Ole Jan, Ole Doug, etc. I took the appellations from POGO, the comic strip where the sundry swamp animals despite being waaay different in character would refer to each other the same way (e.g., Ole Owl), affectionately, almost as if they were family. In a way, we were. I certainly felt that kinship with fellow club members and borrowed the practice/habit. One day, Ole Rusty Rice asked, "What's up with this 'Ole Rusty' stuff? We're going to call you Ole Ed". And so they did. You can take offense at what might be seen as retaliation, I did not, and as Bernie Bialas correctly predicted decades ago, once I was called Ole Ed and now I am one.

As for the name of Zog-43...well that deserves a separate article. Don't worry, it has already been written. I am a bit surprised though the club accepted that name. We did vote on it and I think the guys just figured, if you're going to do the work, then you can call it anything you want...that and the many offered alternate names diluted any united opposition to "Zog."

Where we met: Preliminary meetings organizing the section occurred at Northwestern. We met one Friday evening at George McMullen's house in Lewisdale (West Hyattsville) and got to know his little brother Doug. (George became the second NARHAMS president and went on to join the Air Force. The Viet Nam war was becoming hot and would soon begin gobbling up draft age eligibles. Doug became a great early NARHAMster in his own right). At George's, it was announced the NAR had chartered us. We count that meeting as the first official NARHAMS meeting. I think that was March 5, 1965.

We met a couple times at George's house on 24th Avenue, but then switched to the meeting room at the Hyattsville library on Adelphi Road—1/4 mile from Northwestern High School. The library was new and the room free for us until P.G. County got strapped for cash. I think that was in 1966. We then started rotating our meetings to (free)

Montgomery County libraries, meeting in Silver Spring and two libraries in Chevy Chase. After meetings we'd go out for pizza—usually at Shakey's. We eventually came back to P.G., meeting at the Hyattsville recreation center on Adelphi Road right across from the library. There we would go out afterwards to a now defunct pizza place in College Park. When Pizza Oven went belly up we went to Ledos' in Adelphi (the original) unless it was too crowded; then we'd go to Leonies further west than Ledo's on University Boulevard. Leonies is now defunct too. Whoa; I am taking you way too far into the future (mid-1970s and beyond). We'll stop here, the point being pizza after meetings started early in the club and originally it was not Ledo's.

Errata, Addenda, and Alternate Views of History

The following footnote was left off of Part 1 of this series, for those of you left hanging:

^{1.43}Hey, I have never seen "dotted" footnotes before. Let's use them in Zog-43 articles!

Doug Frost sent the following note to Ole Ed after reading Part 1 of the series.

Hi Ole Ed,

There was one correction I should ask you to make in the next Zog-43. Our Canadian NARAM-6 contestant was Juergen Sievers from Montreal. We met at NARAM-5 at Hanscom AFB, Mass. and we were Pen Pals over the next year. He was also the first NARAM contestant from Canada. He had a great time but unfortunately did not place in the events. He went back to Montreal and became an Engineering student at McGill University. My parents invited him to spend the next week after NARAM-6 at our place, which he did. I had to fly back to my summer job in Boston. He and my Mom had a great tour of the Washington, D.C. area including Dr. Rich's office at NASA, and the Air & Space Museum, of course.

Ed added: remember the Air and Space Museum was a Quonset hut next to the Arts & Industry Building and the Langley workshop at that time. The new Air & Space Building we are familiar with didn't open until 1976.

**Continued Next Issue With:
Part 3 - Contests and Competition**

FROM NAR HEADQUARTERS:



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of ROCKETRY

Post Office Box 407

Marion, IA 52302

(800) 262-4872

1 March 2015

His Majesty King Zog
Alex Mankevich
NARHAMS
4023 Forest Valley Road
Baltimore, MD 21234

Good Morrow, Your Highness,

Permit us to bestow our heartiest congratulations on the persistence of thine kingdom for lo these past five decades. Thine subjects are known far and wide across these lands for their demonstrations of feats of utmost skill, and forsooth are spoken highly of for their willing nature, and for their friendly countenances. That thou hast demonstrated the possibility of such longevity provideth hope to the other kingdoms of our alliance that they, too, may prosper as thee have prospered.

We most especially wish to express our thanks for the efforts of thine subjects to illuminate the people of the world with the shining light of rocketry. For as we all of us know, those that do not know rocketry are the poorer for it, as 'tis rocketry that raises our life above the muck and drudgery of the everyday world, and toward the stars beyond. Our people give rise to our creations that we may find others of our ilk, so that together we all may fly. Thine people understand this full well, and have been arduous in pursuit of converts, especially in the realm of Goddard Essephsee.

The existence of thine accomplished kingdom represents abounding dedication, perseverance, and hard work.

We thank you, and we bid you well in your next half century.

May your skies be clear and your winds be fair,

Ted Cochran
President
National Association of Rocketry

GSFC Visitors Center February 2015 Launch Ole Ed Pearson

The February launch included a group called LAMB--Latin American Montessori Bilingual visiting & launching at the monthly Center launches. They assembled and launched under the watchful eyes of Alex Mankevich and Richard Crisco.



This is Apollo Pierce's rocket. Apollo just celebrated his tenth birthday. His mom and dad brought pizza for LAMB to enjoy.



Also launching was John Donohue and his son Jack. They had two flights of a B powered model carrying an altimeter. Both flights were about 189 feet.

A Troika of NARHAMSters at the MSBR Educational Outreach Presentation Day Scores Big!

Alex Mankevich
NARHAMS President

The Maryland Space Business Roundtable (MSBR) held its Educational Outreach Sponsorship Meeting on February 6, 2015. This day was set aside by the MSBR Educational Outreach Program so that STEM organizations could solicit for funding for their activities. The MSBR has a mission to encourage “students in schools throughout the counties in the state of Maryland to enter the areas of science and technology.” The MSBR reviewed 23 presentations in 2014 and awarded \$62,000 to 21 organizations. NARHAMS solicits the MSBR for funding to support our annual Apollo Contest and for funds to cover the monthly Goddard Visitor Center launches. NARHAMS had received funding from the MSBR in 2012 and 2013. Tracey Silcox is the MSBR Outreach Education Coordinator.

The MSBR had established specific requirements for soliciting funds. An Information Form needed to be forwarded by January 6th so that our spot would be reserved on presentation day. Jim Filler stepped up to meet this very tight deadline. All organizations requesting funding were then given a PowerPoint template by which to address topics such as an overview of their program, the intended impact upon students, a spending record of past funds, the program approach, the development of partnerships and a budget outline for current funding. The completed PowerPoint needed to be forwarded to the MSBR by January 20th. Alex Mankevich coordinated with Jim Filler to complete this project. Ole Ed offered the wisdom of his past dealings with the MSBR so that we could tailor our PowerPoint for maximum effect.

The 2015 MSBR Presentation Day was held at the ERT, Inc. Corporate Headquarters in Laurel, Maryland. Jim Filler (2015 Apollo Contest Director), Ole Ed Pearson (Apollo Contest Director Emeritus) and NARHAMS

President Alex Mankevich all appeared as a united front to impress the MSBR that we are sincere in our efforts to “continue to recognize the anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing and utilize the historical significance of this event to energize young minds to pursue Science Engineering Math & Technology based events and education”. Twenty-three organizations were on the program for 2015 - mostly robotics clubs and some student STEM projects. All organizations were allotted 15 minutes before the board. This time was to be divided between the

actual presentation and a Q&A session.

We all arrived at ERT, Inc. at the suggested 15 minutes before our presentation. Mr. Filler was designated as our lead presenter. We were escorted into the board room at exactly our designated time slot. The board room was packed with about 16 members of the Educational

Outreach committee seated around a huge table. An impressive display screen was at the head of the room and our Powerpoint presentation had been pre-loaded. Mr. Filler promptly presented our cause in an affable and informative manner.

The whole process was very strict and regimented. Templates for the various information documents were forwarded to us and deadlines for their completion were set. Word limits were specified for some of the topics. We were allotted 15 minutes and not one moment more to make our case. The MSBR was intent on keeping all presenters on schedule. Ms. Silcox kept Mr. Filler informed throughout his presentation of how much time he had remaining. Little time was spent on social niceties and banter. We were instructed not to attempt to leave behind any brochures or other written material.

The MSBR members made two suggestions to NARHAMS regarding how we conduct the Apollo Contest. They insisted that we make a concerted effort to advertize the contest to school children and that we involve Maryland politicians on the actual day of the contest.

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Photo by D. Pearson

A Troika Scores Big...Cont.

Mr. Jim Filler received a letter from Ms. Jingli Yang, the President of the Maryland Space Business Roundtable, on February 16, 2015 stating that NARHAMS had been awarded \$800 for the 2015 Apollo Contest and for the monthly Goddard Launches. We are required to forward an Application of Educational Outreach Assistance Form to the MSBR as part of the award procedure.

NARHAMS Party Potato Cheese Soup

By Dave Fuller

By Popular demand, I was requested to supply the recipe for my Potato Cheese Soup that I brought to the last Christmas Party for publication in the ZOG.

3 Cups chopped potatoes
1 Cup water
1/2 Cup carrot slices
1/4 Cup chopped onion
1 tsp parsley flakes
1 chicken bouillon cube

1/2 tsp salt
dash of pepper
1 1/2 Cups milk
2 Tbs flour

1/2 pound Velveeta, cubed
1/2 lb bacon, cooked and crumbled (can be added in, or as a topping at the end)



Photo Courtesy of pink-apron.com

In large saucepan, combine potatoes, water, carrots, onion, parsley flakes, bouillon cube and seasonings, and bacon (if desired); mix well. Cover; simmer 15 to 20 minutes or until vegetables are tender. In a separate container, gradually add milk to flour, mixing until well blended. Add milk mixture to vegetables, cook until thickened. Add Velveeta, stir until melted. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

NARHAMS Meeting Firsts

by R. Raullser

Photos: R. Raullser

At the Goddard January launch, Zog Alex Mankevich announced the club had a new range position for me—rabble rouser. I don't know why, but going with it this article is penned under that name. Ole Ed

Two club firsts subtly took place at the NARHAMS January 3 meeting.

Someday, maybe soon, these types of events will be commonplace.

The first was a visit by Esther Roura to the club meeting. Esther is from Spain and was contest director of the 17th World Space Modeling Contest. It is believed that this is the first time a foreign WSMC organizer has visited any NAR club.



The second was a video-conference call by Don Carson. Don interrupted his vacation in Puerto Rico to call in and discuss ZOG-43. Surely other clubs have had some conference calls and we've had online

discussions at meetings. But it was NARHAMS first video call.

These firsts are cited because milestones often go unnoticed as the world shrinks due to increased travel and technology.

NARCON 2015

Museum of Flight, Seattle

Report by Mark Wise

Photos by Jim Filler

The best attended NARCON ever. That's a little hard to believe after the spectacular NARCON 2014 in Cocoa Beach, but the organizers solemnly assured us that it was so. You have to hand it to them – a small group of dedicated volunteers put together a national convention from scratch in four months, complete with vendors, presenters, and catering. It was a big task, but the team came through.

Of course, we like to think we're better organized than that, and there was a good reason for the last-minute effort. Randy Boadway and his group were well on the way to putting on a great NARCON at the National Museum of the United States Air Force, but other events came into play. After nine years of negotiating, organizing, and curating, the spectacular new model rocketry exhibit at the Museum of Flight was ready to open. What better way to dedicate it than in front of a few hundred model rocketeers at a NARCON? Randy graciously agreed to wait a year, and the Seattle team went into high gear to make things happen. (For a broader perspective on the event, you'll have to wait for the next issue of Sport Rocketry. I could only be in one place at a time!)

I'll say this for Southwest Airlines: they can come up with some pretty creative ways of getting you from Point A to Point B. I flew from Baltimore to Albuquerque and ran between gates to make the connecting flight to Seattle. As I was fastening my seat belt, I was greeted by fellow NAR Trustee and perennial R&D judge Joyce Guzik. We couldn't get seats next to each other, but we collected our luggage together and caught the hotel shuttle – to the wrong Doubletree Hotel. We got that sorted out, and took a cab to the right hotel.

Trustees Meet Before NARCON

It's traditional for the trustees to get together for dinner before the board meeting begins. A cold, steady rain was



falling that evening (it was Seattle in February, after all), so we felt fortunate that an Outback Steakhouse lay 30 yards

across the parking lot. It's nice to relax over dinner before the business begins. It's a chance to swap stories about rockets we've built or flown lately, share any industry gossip, and have the conversations we might not have time for later.

The Board met from 7 until 10 PM that night. You can view some of the meeting results at

<http://www.nar.org/news/state-of-the-nar-february-2015>, and the meeting minutes should be posted to the NAR website soon (<http://www.nar.org/orgdocs/board-of-trustee-meeting-minutes/>). We heard committee reports from FAI Activities, National Events, Contest & Records, Standards & Testing, the Museum of Flight special committee, High Power Services, and Section Activities. Of note: the U.S. Team was awarded a special FAI award for Fair Play at last summer's Internats, for the team's refusal to accept two medals that they did not earn. Also, the Contest & Records committee singled out Chris Kidwell for releasing Contest Manager 2.5, with provisions for the new Classic Model and Precision Payload events.

The Thursday evening meeting wrapped up shortly after 10 PM. NAR Trustee John Lyngdal brings a case of Oregon wine to every NARAM and NARCON, and NARCON 2015 was no exception. I joined John Lyngdal, John Hochheimer, and other folks who came and went over the next few hours. I'd list them all here if I could remember who they were, but I was drinking this really

Continued on page 12

NARCON coverage continued

good wine....

With just a touch of a hangover, I met trustee Randy Gilbert for breakfast on Friday morning, in a booth next to Lee and Betty Piester of Centuri Engineering. Randy knew the Piesters quite well, having worked at Centuri once upon a time, and he was kind enough to introduce me to them. My first rocket, in the spring of 1973, was a Centuri Moonraker, and I've always had a soft spot in my heart for Centuri.

We resumed the board meeting shortly after 8:30 that morning. We spent over an hour on the Technology Committee report, reviewing the revamped NAR website and discussing the remaining tasks, such as uploading back issues of Sport Rocketry and past R&D reports to a members-only section. We don't need the income from selling these products through NARTS, and we decided that members should be able to access this content without having to pay for it.

We spent nearly as much time with the Education Committee, beginning with the rollout of the new NAR Rocket Teacher Certification (narTcert) program. Teachers completing the narTcert curriculum will have "Certified Teacher" printed on their NAR membership licenses. We also discussed the increases in scholarships and Cannon awards. NAR scholarships are now worth \$2000 each, double the previous amount. We will also award a maximum of ten \$500 Cannon grants, up from the previous five.

The financial review took about an hour and a half, with Tom Ha leading us through the data. He can make it look easy, but he puts a heck of a lot of time and effort into managing NAR's finances, and we're better off for it. Thanks, Tom!

At the end of the financial report, we carpooled to the Museum of Flight for lunch and a tour. The museum

staff led us through the library and research areas, and escorted us to the storage area where the bulk of the G. Harry Stine collection rests. Bill Stine told us about the dozens of boxes on the pallets, and it was obvious that only a small fraction of the Stine collection could ever be on display at any given time. There are still hundreds, maybe thousands, of Stine artifacts to catalog, and Vern and Gleda Estes' collection is on the way. We also had a chance to preview the new model rocketry



exhibit in the Simonyi Space Gallery before the official dedication.

We returned to the hotel to finish the board meeting. We spent a bit more than an hour on budgeting and planning, twenty minutes on a review of actions and decisions, and adjourned at about 5:20. As usual, the meeting was well-run and productive, and I felt privileged to be a member of the board.

At Last the Convention

We had two must-see presentations that day. Dr. Roy Houchin of the Air War College gave a talk on "Dyna-Soar's Military Mission: A Legacy to the X-37." The room was packed, and my son, Michael, and I had to sit on the floor off to one side of the room. Roy gave a good talk, leading us from the late 1940s through the cancellation of Dyna-Soar in the 60s, and how it contributed to the concept of the X-37. He couldn't, of course, tell us anything about what the X-37 was doing for those 675 days in orbit, but it was a great presentation nonetheless. His book on the topic is due out from ARA Press in the next few months.

Continued on page 13



NARCON coverage continued

The room cleared out just a bit at the end of Roy's talk, so Michael and I were able to grab seats for the next presentation. Dr. Dieter Zube of Aerojet led us through a fascinating hour on "V-2's: A Historical Perspective." Lots of photos I'd never seen before, along with a neat analysis that showed how the entire V-2 program was not only strategically insignificant, but actually counterproductive to Germany's war effort. Thank goodness!

Michael and I walked through the main gallery, then went to lunch in the museum cafeteria. Wandering out, we noticed that Jay Apt's talk had begun in the William M. Allen Theater. I'd only ever seen Jay at TARC finals, so it was interesting to watch him work a crowd. He showed a magnificent collection of photos from his book, *Orbit: NASA Astronauts Photograph the Earth*, along with other photos taken during his four Shuttle flights. *Orbit* is one of those rare coffee-table books that I plan to buy.

The day had warmed up a bit, although it was still just a touch windy, so Michael and I stepped outside to take a look at some of the outdoor exhibits. How often do you get a chance to walk through a Concorde? We'd seen the one at Udvar-Hazy a few times, but its



cabin isn't open to visitors. I think Michael was impressed by how cramped the thing was. With four-abreast seating and a claustrophobically narrow cabin, it's a good thing that you got to your destination in a hurry. You might have freaked out otherwise. We also took the opportunity to walk through the third 787 prototype, along with the first Presidential jet (tail number 86970, not the later – and iconic – 26000 or 27000).



We crossed the pedestrian bridge over East Marginal Way to the Simonyi Space Gallery. The museum staff was just beginning the guided tours of the Space Shuttle Full Fuselage Trainer. This tour normally costs \$30.00, but it was included with NARCON registration. That's a tough deal to beat! We stood in line for half an hour or so, but it was worth it when we finally climbed through the hatch and into the middeck. The Shuttle crew module was, of course, enormously larger than a Gemini spacecraft or an Apollo command module, but it was smaller than I expected. Weightlessness would make it roomier as the crew weren't all competing for space on the cabin floor, but it still must have been cozy.

The day's big event was, of course, the dedication of the model rocketry exhibit in the space gallery. Ted



Cochran and Bill Stine made short speeches before the formal ribbon cutting. I was glad that we'd had a chance to view the exhibit beforehand, because we couldn't get near it for most of the evening. Lots of great stuff, and just about all of it under glass for good

Continued on page 14

NARCON coverage cont.

reason. An Astron Scout built by Vern Estes and taken into space by Jay Apt. The original NAR Championship Section banner, sewn by Barbara Stine. Old rockets, new rockets, little rockets, high power rockets. Sport rocs, oddrocs, competition rockets. A bit of everything, all celebrating sport rocketry. I'm not sure how much it will mean to someone without a connection to our hobby, but it certainly should stir something within a rocketeer!

A banquet buffet followed the dedication. Michael wasn't feeling too well and was pretty bored by then, so we gratefully accepted Bunny's offer of an early ride back to the hotel. I took Michael to McDonald's yet again (the banquet wasn't his sort of fare), then he went to bed while I went down to the hotel bar, where other folks had gathered by now. A couple of more glasses of wine, accompanied by discussions of rocketry. (Or is it the other way around?) Lots of talk about competition, particularly next year's Internats. (In Ukraine? Really?) I haven't competed in any meaningful way in twenty-plus years, and not at all since NARAM-49, but it's always interesting to listen to the big-time competitors.

John Lyngdal gave us a ride to the museum on Sunday morning, saving me another cab fare. We walked around the exhibits a bit more and bought a few things in the vendor room, then wandered into a presentation on HPR.



Joe Bevier moderated the panel, and he gave the attendees a handout of certification guidelines. Watch for it in a future Zog-43.

The last official presentation was Ted's "State of the NAR" talk. Bottom line: We're doing well. People had already



started leaving for home, so attendance was sparse and there were few questions.

Wrap Up and Head Home

Then it was off to the airport, where Michael and I had a mediocre lunch before I put him on a plane for Minnesota. I wandered down to my gate and boarded my flight, where I found a seat next to Jim Filler. I don't get many chances just to sit and talk rocketry, so I appreciated the opportunity. We had a short connection in Denver, so we just about ran to the gate only to find that boarding had been delayed. Add another hour's delay for de-icing, and I finally got home at 2:30 on Monday morning. Guess who didn't go to work that day?

NARCON 2015 was a good experience overall, but I have to admit I preferred last year's NARCON. The Museum of Flight is a fantastic place, but it's primarily geared toward aviation, and it just couldn't match the cool-factor of Kennedy Space Center, site of NARCON 2014. Still, I have to admit that the Simonyi Space Gallery is a decent exhibit, and touring the Full-Fuselage Trainer was a great experience.

Put NARCON 2016 on your calendar once they announce the dates. It's within driving distance, and the Air Force Museum has a good balance of aviation and space exhibits, with lots of USAF space hardware. See you there.

FROM THE ZOG: The People Made the 50th Anniversary a Huge Success

By Alex Mankevich, President, NARHAMS

The NARHAMS 50th anniversary gala was a huge success on many levels. As a milestone - an appropriate venue was utilized and an honorable program was offered. As a gathering - the turnout of current, past and affiliated members was great. As a nostalgic trip down memory lane - the slide show and the memorabilia table allowed guests to recall the days of yore. As a tribute – it was fitting to give Ole Ed Pearson the limelight to address us all as the keynote speaker. Ed also collected a well deserving 50 year service award.

Ole Ed is the first of the people to credit for the outstanding anniversary celebration. Another person right at the top is Jim Filler. Who could possibly have been better as a coordinator and emcee than Jim? His sectional, national and international experience combined with the contacts that he's made in his long service in the NAR made Jim the ideal person to develop the plan for this celebration. Jim was an affable emcee as well.

The Ha family of Maria, Tom and Chris parlayed their NARTS experience into a flawless reception table at which guest were welcomed to the gala and were presented with the many commemorative items such as the NARHAMS Gold model rocket, the 50th anniversary patch, NARHAMS pins, raffle tickets and other cool stuff. The Ha family obviously had done laudable preparation as evidenced by the pre-printed color signs and ticket collection jars that they set out. They all devoted their evening to manning their station for the duration of the whole event so that the guests could enjoy themselves.

Kevin Johnson had prepared a collection of images of past NARHAMS events which were presented as a slideshow running in the background during the early stages of the gala. Kevin's images displayed hairstyles and fashions I haven't seen since the last time I've looked in the mirror. I wouldn't have guessed

beforehand that he could have gotten his hand on pictures that went back so far into NARHAM's history. A good deal of the faces belonged to folks that I've not had the pleasure to know, but it was heartwarming to know that their memory was still alive in this section.

Jennifer Ash-Poole tweaked the buffet table with the various food offerings. She made sure that visitors got their slices of the traditional offering of Ledo's pizza.

Jef and Ellen Fineran arranged for the tubs of beverages and ice to be at the gala. The planning committee determined it was best that beverages not be included in the caterer's bill of fare. Jef had lugged this heavy stuff all the way up to the mezzanine level of the Museum.

Dave Fuller delivered on the Special Limited Edition NARHAMS Gold commemorative model rocket kits. I was to later learn why Dave seemed so withdrawn at the start of the gala. The box containing the coveted early numbered models had been lost in shipping and its whereabouts unknown. This set-back meant that we could not hand out the number 43 kit to the raffle winner. Happily, the number 139 kit was on hand for it raffle winner.

Alan Williams ran a separate raffle of a vintage Saturn V model rocket kit. Alan also made available several of the Estes 2015 catalog. It felt it was very fitting the past Secretary Chris Kidwell won this kit. Chris will certainly do the Saturn V heritage proud since he is a fine modeler.

Bob Ekman and Maizie Cummings-Rocke of the Rockville Consortium for Science delighted NARHAMS with not just one but two commemorative plaques for this occasion. NARHAMS and the Consortium have been partners in STEM and their Science Day for decades. I believe that they sprang this on poor Jim at the last minute. Still, it was very thoughtful of them to acknowledge that our roots together go way back. Several folks have already told me that their presentation is already on the NARHAMS Facebook page. These

Continued on page 16

FROM THE ZOG continued

same folks failed to mention how good looking I appear in this video, but that's probably a simple oversight.

Having singled out a couple of folks for their efforts, I want to make it clear that all the guests in attendance at the 50th anniversary gala are just as deserving of praise and commendation. It is our collective support, efforts and participation that has allowed NARHAMS to prosper for 50 years. The turnout of NARHAMS members of yesteryear and today provided the warmth and camaraderie that an occasion such as this needs in order to be memorable. It is humbling to know that so many people have put NARHAMS in their lives for so long. Good times require good people, and you guys have been there for NARHAMS. Whether you've joined us at our launches, public outreaches or meetings, your presence and participation has allowed NARHAMS to build up its collective goodwill and long-running history.

It was also very touching to see our fellow NAR members in attendance, particularly the NOVAAR, SPAR and SOJARS folks. We typically see these folks at our rocketry competitions, and while we've always regarded them as our opponents and not our enemies, their attendance spoke volumes about the respect we rocketeers have for each other. Obviously these people had done some appreciable travel in order join us for this celebration. Having seen how we all mingled with ease

demonstrates to me that there must be something good and wholesome about the model rocketry experience. This level of friendship and camaraderie doesn't happen just because people simply show up. The time and efforts we have made together at the various rocketry events through the years had paid off big time. These folks have honored us as we should someday honor them in return.

Thanks to everybody for 50 years. We already underway for the next 50!

Field Footwear Notes - Jef Fineran

Always wear a good, heavy pair of shoes when at a launch....

While launching with Blue Ridge Rocketeers last month, we were on a large field of nothing more than cut hay, when all the sudden a single blade went straight through the bottom of my shoe (and the top actually). At first I thought it was a nail or something like it, but apparently running shoes afford a lot less protection than I thought they did.

The pictures shows the last remaining piece that I could never remove, thankfully it missed my foot!



New Zog-43 Subscription Policy

At the January meeting the club voted to make the following changes the Zog-43 subscription policy:

- Effective immediately, all NARHAMS members with dues paid up will receive the digital version of the newsletter.
- Hard copy subscriptions (both mailed and meeting pick up) will no longer be offered. Current paper subscribers will continue to receive their newsletter until their subscription runs out.
- Non-member digital subscriptions will not be offered, but anyone can join NARHAMS to receive the newsletter. Dues are 10 cents per week (and have been for 50 years). To save you the math, that's \$5.20 per year.

Note also:

- NARHAMS will continue to mail hard copies to the LAC newsletter award judges.
- This change does not affect club-to-club newsletter exchanges.
- Past issues of the Zog-43 are available on the NARHAMS website: <http://www.narhams.org/zog43.html>



Competition Corner: Get Your Kids Involved

By Don Carson, NAR# 11069

Last month in this column, Jim Filler shared ideas for how to build for our upcoming ECRM contest. Three or four of those events can easily be flown by youngsters with rockets they already have: 1/2 Parachute Duration, Random Duration, Predicted Altitude, and even FAI Streamer Duration.

Flying in contests is a great way to have fun with your kids and slip in a little education in without them knowing. Kids can learn how simple changes to a rocket can improve how it works. Problem solving like this pays huge dividends down the road in life. Who knows, you may have a future "rocket scientist" in the family.

Since we generally have very few, if any, A (Ages 7-13) and B (14-18) Division participants, their chances of doing well are pretty good, even with a regular old rocket! Not only that, we will have nice awards, and who doesn't like some recognition.

Contest flying, especially in the younger age groups is fun and low stress. I rarely see the stressed-out-parents-pushing-the-kids-to-win type, well, there is that one family, but they live far, far away.

RAMTEC-18 Events:

Events: Total Weighting Factors = 80
A FAI Streamer Duration Multi-round
1/4A Helicopter Duration Multi-round
B Rocket Glider Duration
1/2A Parachute Duration Multi-round
1/4A x2 Cluster Altitude (Optical Tracking to ejection)

Date: Sept. 5 & 6, 2015 (Labor Day Weekend)

Location: Fort Indiantown Gap, PA

ECRM-42 Events:

1/2A Parachute Duration
FAI A Streamer Duration Multiround
B Helicopter Duration
C Rocket Glide
Predicted Altitude
Random Duration

Date: June 20-21, 2015

Location: Mt. Airy, MD

CAPITOL CUP 2015

An FAI-Sanctioned World Cup Spacemodeling Competition

September 19-20, 2015

Great Meadow, The Plains, Manassas, VA

Sponsored by: NOVAAR

World Cup events: S4A, S6A, S8E/P, S9A

Open Int'l Events: S3A, S2/P

Capitol Cup is also sanctioned as an NAR regional meet for the S3A, S4A, S6A, and S9A events, flown as FAI-style multiround NAR events.

**Contact: Trip Barber, ahbarber@alum.mit.edu,
9306 Brian Run Lane,
Springfield, VA 22153
(703) 866-4710/cell (703) 474-7128**

Entry Fee: \$20, payable at registration.

March 2015 Mt. Airy Launch Report

Alex Mankevich

March 2015 Launch Manager

It was nice to get in a NARHAMS launch after all the postponements and cancelations that we've suffered through this year. The March 21st. launch started as cold and snow-covered and ended up as warm, wet and breezy. The morning snow gave way to wet mud later in the day. Still, it was good to get some rockets up into the air.

Richard Crisco brought along his trailer to transport the equipment to the Park. We weren't allowed to take vehicles onto the field. We really didn't want to anyway given the soft snow cover. Set-up help was also provided by Dave Dolbier and his son Ian. They have both launched with us in the past, and it was good to have them back.

It was nice to have Mark Petrovich join us for a launch. Mark busied himself with testing out some models. The theme for this launch was 1965 retro rockets as part of NARHAMS' continuing celebration of its 50th anniversary. Mark Petrovich and Kevin Smith both flew



rockets to honor this milestone. Mike Kelley was able to join us about mid-day and he flew his

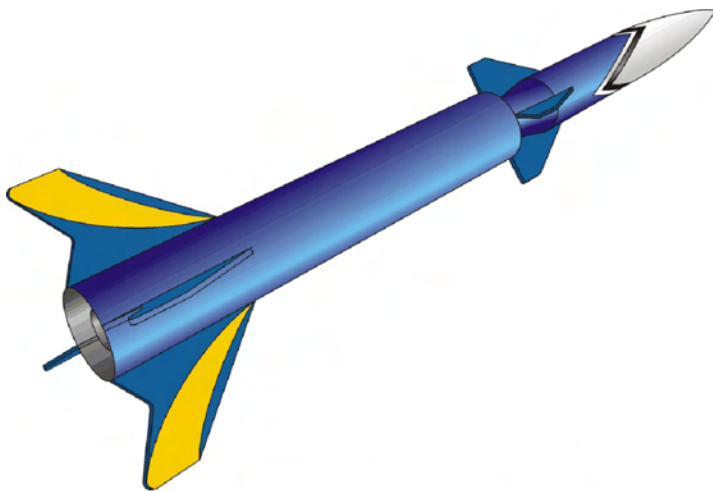
usual awesomeness. Ole Ed Person graced us with his presence and took several photos of all the launch action.

Later in the afternoon we were joined by the Frederick County CTC TARC team. They used this launch opportunity to test their models for flight. They planned on doing the actual TARC qualifying at the AG Center launch the following weekend.

In total we had 35 flights. Two rockets got hung up on the launch rod. One two-stage flight was made by Dave Dolbier who staged a Baby Bertha that flew great.

All Photos: Ole Ed Pearson



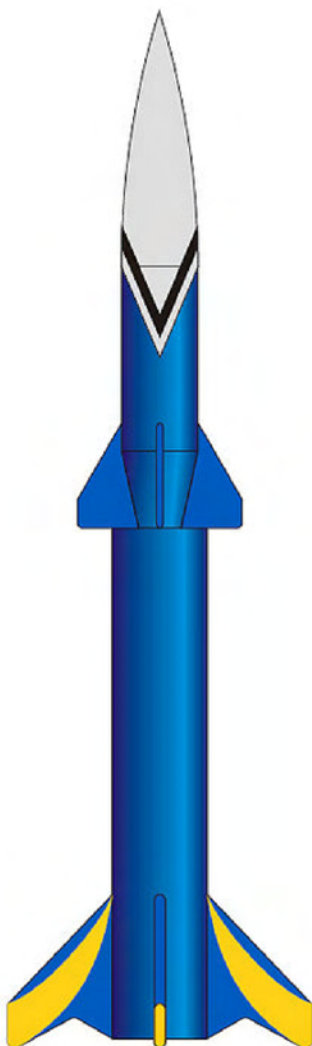


NARHAMS Gold

National Association of Rocketry Headquarters Astro-Modeling Society
(NARHAMS), NAR Section 139 presents:

Limited Edition 50th Anniversary Model Rocket Kit

Only 139 numbered kits available!



Unique Ducted Booster
2-stage styling
Quality Kit Production
Decal sheet included

Length: 20"
Diameter: 1.34"

Suggested Motors:
B6-4 (first flight)
C6-3
C6-5

Per kit price: \$30; \$7.50 shipping up
to two kits, or free delivery at
NARAM.

Kits available NOW!

Send checks (payable to NARHAMS)
to Maria Ha, NARHAMS Treasurer,
512 Chestnut Street, Mount Holly
Springs, PA 17065

or
PayPal to rocketha@gmail.com

*Please use the send money to friends
or family option when using PayPal!*