



Member - National Association
of Rocketry ("NAR").

Special points of interest:

- "Ignition!" Summer hasn't shut us down...Huh, weird...
- Gary Briggs shares his vision of the 2010 DARS Classic.
- The Red River Rocketry Red Shift gets a going over.
- DARS at Moon Day!
- Many great pics from the August DARS launch. If you weren't there, you should have been!

Ignition! By J. Stuart Powley



A beautiful mid power flight from the DARS August launch in Frisco!

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Texas. Summer. Two words that usually don't bode well for rocket flying. However, this summer things are going better than usual. We are (at the time of this writing) not under a burn ban. The August launch in Frisco was heavily attended, and in fact boasted a launch queue that was several people deep for most of the day. All in all, the flying is great!

In this issue we take a look at what we have been doing, and also at what is coming up. DARS

participated in Moon Day again this year, and we have photos from the event. We have more pics from that August launch as well.

Of course, fall is just around the corner and that means the DARS Fall Classic! Gary Briggs gives us the low-down for this contest that has really become a wonderful DARS tradition! There are a few new twists this year, so read up and get those great classics ready! Most of all, fly safe and high!

The Fall Classic VI Preview

By Gary Briggs
NAR 76909 L2

Well it's that time again. The days are getting shorter, the weather is getting cooler, the leaves are beginning to change....Well it is doing that somewhere, just not in North Texas. We do see the days shortening, but we haven't been under 100 for entirely too long and the only change to the leaves is if they are drying up and falling off the trees. Still looking at the calendar will tell you that fall is coming based on the tilt of the earth on its axis and the position of the planet in its rotation around the sun.

For the last 5 years, fall has brought us a contest that is uniquely our own; The DARS Fall Classic. A Saaaaah-lute (can't believe I just used a Hee Haw reference, I blame my parents for this) to the rockets of the Golden Era of Model Rocketry. To anyone who has participated before, the format should look very familiar. If you haven't played before, come on in, the water is fine.

The Classic is all about a simple contest without lengthy requirements that anyone can participate in and anyone can win. Full details can be found at <http://www.dars.org/fallclassic/fc2010.htm>. Here is the quick beak out for the 2010 edition:

The Classic Classic – This is the latest derivative of the 60s, 70s, and 80s categories from previous years. Now they are all together in one easy-to-use category. All you need to compete is a rocket from these decades that could be an original, reissue, or clone.

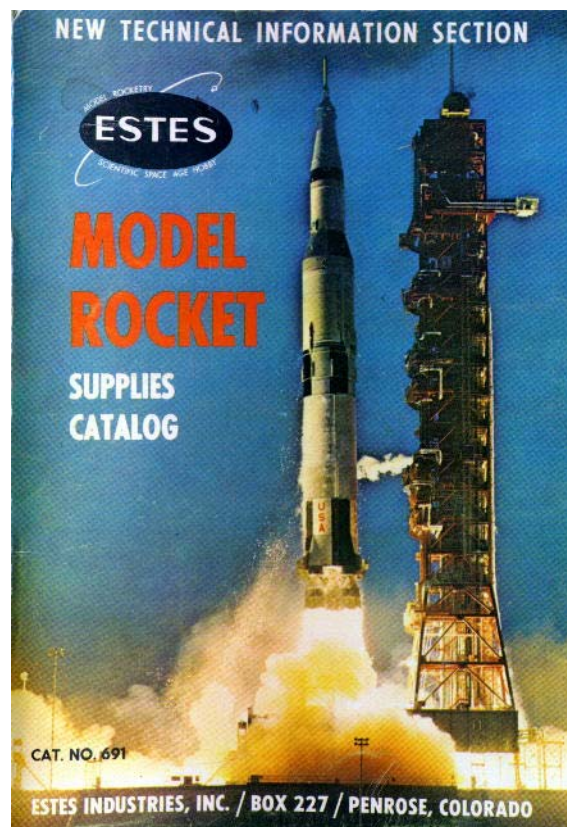
There is a great article on the web site, written by James Gartrell on how to find kits, plans, and parts to build your classic. This category also has some special bonus points available that the savvy competitor will use to his advantage.

Starships – Everyone loves a good space story, and all of them from Apollo 13 to Buck Rogers and Babylon V all have their starships that took people where no man had gone before. These Starships are what this category is about. Any flyable rocket whether it be from NASA, Sci Fi, or the 1975 Estes Catalog are eligible to compete in this category.

Classic UpScale – Everyone seems to love seeing that 12 inch rocket from the '68 catalog turned into a 10X upscale. Estes even got into the act last year with the Interceptor E, but lots of companies had been there before, and there is always the scratch build here as well. Any classic design scaled up is eligible to compete.

Classic Swap Meet – This is new this year and represents uncharted territory. We know lots of folks have huge stashes of classic kits in their closets, attics, spare bedrooms, under the bed, you name it. Occasionally people like to bring these out and see what they can swap them for. All we want to provide is a venue to facilitate this interaction. A table will be provided to display your wares and see what others have brought along to trade.

As with previous years tables, shade, and rocket stands are provided by club volunteers to support the event. This year's event takes place at the Frisco field on October 16, 2010, weather and burn bans permitting. There is still plenty of time to get that build underway or maybe just spruce up that old rocket with fresh paint and decals. I hope to see you at The Classic.



The 1968 Estes Catalog. Many consider this era to be the "Golden Age" of model rocketry. However, there were actually many "Golden Ages." At the Fall Classic, you tend to see a little of all of them! J.S.P.

The Red Shift-Past Future Perfect

By Stuart Powley
NAR 29573

The Red Shift is the newest model out of the ever fertile mind of Red River Rocketry guru John Dyer. It is a retro-futuristic model that harkens back to the good old days when everyone was sure that by the year 2000 we would have colonized much of the known solar system. Now, of course, we know that by 2010 we are pretty much aimless in the area of space exploration, but that is a rant for another time.

The Red Shift comes packaged in a hang bag with an attractive cover illustration. The parts are all first rate, and I had no problem with any of them. There are a total of seven nose cones included (the large main cone, three pointy cones for the pods and three rounded pod bottoms) and they all had grain that was so tight that they required only one coat of sealer. The fins were laser cut and the grain was similar to that of the nose cones. The body tube spirals were very slight as well. Even the paper tail cone went together easily.

The building of this model is pretty straightforward, even though it does have a large paper tail cone. Using paper for the tail cone has several advantages over a balsa cone. First of all, it brings the cost of the kit down a bit, especially since it already has all of those nose cones in it. Secondly, it saves on weight. This kit builds up pretty light, so it should be able to scoot off the pad pretty quickly.

Third, the fin guide is actually printed on the cone, so no additional marking is needed. Nifty!



As far as finishing goes, John and I discussed the silver vs. white question. The upshot of the conversation is that silver gives it a more retro feel, but white is easier to work with (especially for me). I decided (against my better judgment) to go with a silver overall paint scheme, but with red pods. I always feel something with "red" in the name needs red on it somewhere!

I wish I could say that the finishing went as well as the building, but due to my own issues with silver paint it didn't. I ended up having to sand the whole thing down to repaint it after my first attempt. Still, after much mental anguish, I was able to get a fairly decent finish on it. It is interesting that the red pods are the best looking part, again due to my silver paint issues.

The decals went on like a dream, except for the bottom vertical stripes that I stupidly



The Red Shift parts and packaging

The tail cone (above) goes together very well. It should be reinforced with CA to make it a bit more rigid to mount the fins to. You can also see the bottom of the shock cord assembly. In the top of the picture, the pods wait to be mounted.



The Red Shift awaits paint!

distorted with my thumb while putting on other decals. My solution was to put a red rectangle over the area to hide it. This trick worked fairly well so it all came out looking good.



The Red Shift awaits paint...again

I haven't had a chance to fly the Red Shift yet, mainly due to the fact that I let John take it to NARAM with him as a display model. I added flashing red, yellow and blue lights in the back to jazz up the display aspect. It didn't really need jazzing up, but I had the lights so I figured what the heck. It made its public debut at the Moon Day celebration at the Frontiers of Flight Museum.

Therefore, the Red Shift is a great addition to any fleet. The overall retro look and feel of it is very appealing, and the performance should be great. Even with my stupidity with silver paint, it



The Red Shift in all of her glory!

came out looking fantastic. I can't wait to cram a C in the back of it and let it rip!

DARS at Moon Day 2010

By J. Stuart Powley
NAR 29573

The Dallas Area Rocket Society was once again invited to participate in Moon Day at the Frontiers of Flight Museum at Love Field in Dallas. This event commemorates the landing of Apollo 11 on the moon in 1969, but in a larger sense it promotes space exploration as a whole. There are many different organizations who participate in the event, but all have a common love for space exploration.

DARS was well represented this year with about a dozen club members manning the booth. Members answered questions about the hobby and encouraged visitors to check out a meeting or a launch. There were plenty of long pointy visual aids on hand as well!

This year also saw a reprise of the build and take event. Several young folks were aided in building model rockets and taught the ins and outs of the hobby by George Sprague. As was the case last year, each participant received a membership to DARS with their rocket. Participants were enthusiastic!

What follows are a few pictures from the event. If you didn't make it out this time, don't worry. I'm pretty sure we will do it all again next year!



Suzy Sprague explains the finer points of the hobby to a passerby.



John and Michael Dyer represent two generations of DARS.



Some of the fine models on display.



Ted Mahler muses over weighty issues.



Ted Mahler brought some really cool and really relevant historic items!



Snoopy waits for launch!



Jack Sprague demonstrates an altimeter while Bill Gee Looks on.



The real deal! Apollo 7 is on permanent display at the museum.



The DARS booth was actually larger this year than last year.

Views From a Launch!

Although August was hot, the flying was hotter!



An Aerotech Mirage blasts into the sky!



Full racks were the norm, as the check in line sometimes stretched to 10 deep!



Ever helpful, Sam Barone loads up a young rocketeer's model.



An Estes Rubicon grabs some sky.



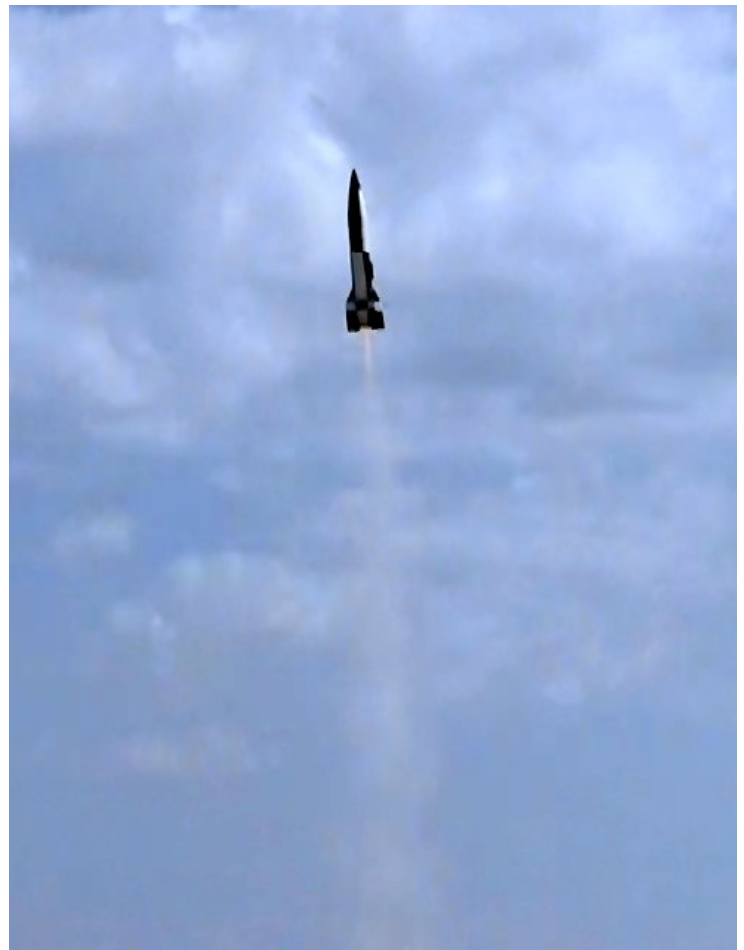
Chrome models could be dangerous to the eyes in the Texas sun!



A Red River Rocketry Red Stripe in action.



A Semroc V-2 in October 3, 1942 Peenemunde colors before and after...





A very nice Mercury Redstone takes flight!



A mid power bird screams upwards!



A Mini Predator leaps into the clear blue (and HOT) Texas sky!

Help!!!!!!! Please!!!!!!!

Ok, so this newsletter almost didn't happen. Why? Because I ain't got no stinkin' articles! All right, that might be a slight exaggeration. Shroudlines will come out no matter what. But the quality depends on you!

Once again, I'd like to thank all of those who have contributed material so far. You are very much appreciated! Still, we need more! Therefore, if you have any kind of article, picture, cartoon, rambling, etc., just send it to stu29573@yahoo.com. I usually work best with Word documents, and JPEG files, but I can make just about anything work if I have to. I can also handle stuff that is written down, but that means I have to type and that can be a bit touch and go... But I'll take it anyway!

You can also give me things at the meetings (which I almost never miss...almost), and I promise to try my best not to lose them. I can return stuff at the next meeting if need be.

As I have said many times in the past, I really want this newsletter to be by the club and for the club. You guys can think up much better stuff than I can (as is evidenced by the articles we've been getting lately). So, stop just thinking about maybe writing something and actually do it! You'll be glad you did! (as will everyone who reads it!)



DARS Officers

President	Jack Sprague
Vice President	John Dyer
Treasurer	Suzie Sprague
Secretary	Bill Gee
NAR Senior Advisor	Sam Barone

DARS

The Dallas Area Rocket Society is a non-profit chartered section of the National Association of Rocketry ("NAR"). Its purpose is to promote the hobby of consumer rocketry in the Dallas/Ft. Worth metropolitan area.

Membership in DARS is open to all interested persons. Membership in NAR is encouraged, but not required. Annual dues are \$10.00 for individuals and \$15.00 for families. The entire family, including children, are welcomed to the meetings. Go to the website and fill out and send an application to join or renew your membership.

The club normally meets on the first Saturday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

Visit the DARS website for the meeting location: www.dars.org



Stay connected! All of us will reach greater heights with your attendance at the club meetings.

Vendor Links (* DARS member discount—confirm before ordering)

[Aerospace Specialty Products](#)

[Apogee Components](#)

[BMI Hobbies](#) (* 10%)

[CLE Enterprises](#)

[Excelsior Rocketry](#)

[Hawks Hobby](#)

[JonRocket](#)

[Mercury Engineering Co.](#)

[Public Missiles Ltd](#)

[Quest Aerospace, Inc.](#)

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[Roadrunner Rocketry](#)

[Semroc Astronautics Corporation](#)

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[RC Zone](#) (*10%)

[Aerotech Consumer Aerospace](#)

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[BRS Hobbies](#)

[Dr. Zooch Rockets](#)

[FlisKits, Inc.](#)

[HobbyTown USA— Dallas, Walnut Store](#) (* 10%)

[MadCow Rocketry](#)

[Pemberton Technologies](#)

[Qmodeling](#)

[QuickBurst](#)

[Red River Rocketry](#) (* 8.25% on field)

[Rocket.Aero](#)

[Sirius Rocketry](#)

[The Squirrel Works Model Rocketry](#)

Dallas Area Rocket Society
(“DARS”)

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