



AERONAUT

The Newsletter for the Association of
Experimental Rocketry of the Pacific
Tripoli Rocketry Association, Inc.
Prefecture No. 23

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The First Commish's Corner

by Pius Morozumi

AERO-PAC First Commissioner

It's hard to believe that 1997 is here, and that we're already most of the way through January. I guess that it was all the wet weather and flooding we got around New Years that absorbed our energy and attention. As you may have heard, the AERO-PAC equipment trailer was in winter storage in Sparks and fell victim to the serious flooding there. It ended up under almost five feet of water! When the flood waters receded, Sue McMurray went on an emergency rescue mission to bring the equipment back to my house. Fortunately, it looks like the launch controller survived intact. We still don't know about the PA amplifier until it dries out. Several members deserve honorable mention for their role in helping to salvage the launch equipment. They are Mike Penner, Mark Jeghers, Sue McMurray, Jim and Becky Green. The next time you see one of these folks, please let them know that you appreciate what they've done for our club. As part of getting ready for the 1997 launch season, I will be organizing the annual equipment refurbishing party at my house again this spring. We'll have to wait for drier weather, so I figure it will be sometime in April. I'll let everyone know the date in a future newsletter. You can find the dates of the Hayburner and Black Rock launches in the ads elsewhere in this issue. We will be scheduling Members Meetings one or two weeks before each launch to

arrange the usual pre-launch preparations. Speaking of meetings, the next Members Meeting will be held on March 2 from 1 to 3 PM in the Singapore meeting room at Apple Computer. We owe Rick Mann a big thanks for getting permission to use this nice meeting room. Here are directions for those who didn't make it to last month's meeting (and for those like me who have a hard time remembering how to get anywhere): Take Freeway 280 to DeAnza Blvd exit in Cupertino. If southbound on 280, turn right onto DeAnza. At the first light, turn left onto Mariani. If northbound on 280, turn left onto DeAnza, cross over freeway. At the second light, turn left onto Mariani. You will approach the Apple R&D campus, which will be on the left. It is a group of six light-colored buildings visible from the freeway. Turn left just before them on Infinite Loop. You may park anywhere on the left. You are looking for Infinite Loop 1, on your right. There are three flagpoles in front of the door. Someone will be out front to greet you. If there is no one to meet you, try the doors. If they are open, enter the building 1 lobby, and head left down the hall. The AERO-PAC meeting room is called Singapore, and it is on your right. If the doors are locked and there is no one to greet you, try picking up the phone in front and dialing 4-6280. That should ring in the conference room. One of the items on the agenda for this next meeting is the announcement of the Board of Directors election. You should find your voting ballot enclosed with this newsletter. Please take a moment to fill it out and mail it to Paul Campbell. Another topic at the next meeting

will be the upcoming field trip to the historic Nike installation at the Marin Headlands. Mike Yates is arranging to have Col. Bud Halsey give us a guided tour in March. Come to the meeting to learn about the details. It will also be an opportunity for people to arrange to share rides together. I know that many of us are looking forward to this fun trip. Finally, I'd like to remind everyone that it's time to renew your AERO-PAC membership. Annual dues remain a modest \$15 which buys you many benefits including a years subscription to this newsletter, notification of launches and club activities, and a \$5 discount off launch registration fees. Be sure to tell us your email address if you want to be on the AERO-PAC email list. This is the best way to receive current launch date and club information. If you have access to the Web, visit the AERO-PAC webpage at:

<http://www.aeropac.org/aeropac/>

Rocketry In Japan

By Mike Vaughn

During a recent business trip to Japan, I had the opportunity to meet with three Japanese Rocketeers. While wandering around the web one day I came across the home page for Shushi Shiota. His page indicated an active interest in rockets and also showed that he lived not far from where I would be staying in Tokyo Harbor. I sent him email informing him of my trip and suggested we get together one evening and talk rockets. He was very enthused about the idea and indicated he would get other interested persons together for a meeting. When I arrived in Japan, Shushi attempted to meet me at the airport. But as I was not expecting to be met, I missed him and proceeded by train/cab to my hotel. Shushi caught up with me at the Hotel that evening and we set up a meeting. He had invited Mr. Satou, the President of the Chiba Model Rocket Club, and other interested parties. Hiroshi Seo (some of you might have met Hiroshi, he's attended 2 of our Black Rock launches) heard of this meeting and traveled 500 kilometers by bullet train to attend! We met in the lobby of my hotel and then went to an Italian restaurant (pizza and beer) to talk about rockets. Shushi had several photo albums of pictures from their club launches. Motor sizes in Japan are limited to A-D, however Shushi had pictures

of H powered rockets. Last summer they applied for and received the necessary permissions to launch H powered rockets. They launched 5 H powered rockets (among them a Mini-Mag) all together. Shushi indicated his goal this summer was to launch an I. Hiroshi had an album of photos from LDRS 14. These included some fantastic aereal shots from his camera rocket. After Dinner we returned to the lounge at the hotel where I presented each of them with a VBR kit and we continued our discussions. Even with the language barrier it was a great evening as we did share a common language, rockets.

Left to Right Hiroshi Seo, Eiji Satou,
Mike Vaughn, and Shushi Shiota

Editors Note

In this issue we are reinstating the classified advertisement section. This service is available to members with items or services to sell or buy. Another section I would like to add is a photo section. If any of you have a picture from a launch or other Aeropac event that you feel is worth sharing, send it in. This could evolve into a photo contest if we get enough response. To submit either an ad or a photo, contact Mike Vaughn. Remember this is **your** publication, submissions accepted for technical, construction, launch, or any other article you feel would be of interest to fellow members.

This space available to any vendors willing to give members a 10 percent discount

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May 17-18
SPORT LAUNCH
ON THE
CENTRAL CALIFORNIA COAST

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- * 2 Day event, on-site camping and local lodging available.
- * 3500 Foot waiver on rockets over 1LB
- * Barbeque and raffle drawing.
- * Rocket Vendors On-site
- * Preregistration Recommended

For Information Contact:

Jerry Vaughn
4575 Ross Dr.
Paso Robles, CA 93446
(805) 239-3818

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Classifieds

Looking for 5.38" and bigger airframe tubing, Cluster R and Sonic Systems nose cones. Will swap for custom turned (to your drawing) nose/tail cones in your choice of wood. Jimmy Arakaki (916)887-8528

This space available for members looking to buy/sell stuff.

1997 Black Rock Events

Mudroc 4.0

June 14, 15

Black Rock IX

August 22, 23, 24

NO-BALLS/BALLS 007

July 12, 13

July 14, 15

Saturday/Sunday 2 day open sport launch
(Sunday afternoon MiniBALLS)
followed by the National Experimental Launch
on Monday and Tuesday

The AeroPac Black Rock launches have a 65,000 foot waiver,
BALLS will have 100,000! Saturday night launch scheduled for
Black Rock IX.

For more information, contact Jerry Vaughn at (805)239-3818
or email jerryvbr@aol.com



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