



# Team Pittsburgh

Newsletter of the Pittsburgh Space Command NAR #473



Volume 13, Issue 1

#94

Jan/Feb 2001

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PLANNED!  
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**Merry Christmas  
and Happy New  
Year  
to all the members  
and friends of  
Pittsburgh  
Space Command**

## “Schafer Cup” Competition in full swing for 2000-2001 Flying Season



1999-2000 Schafer Cup winner was our President, Rod Schafer

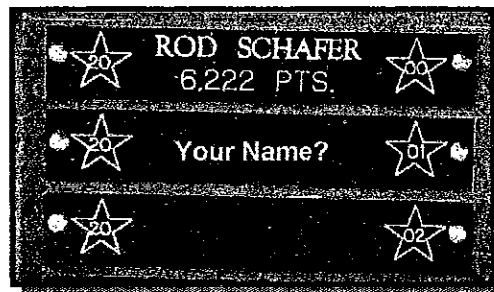
Below, Rod's total of 6222 points was the best total for PSC competitors for the 1999-2000 Contest Year

For those who did not attend the PSC “Rockets & Relaxation” picnic last August, The Schafer Cup is awarded to the member who scored the highest number of NAR Competition points during that season. The trophy is designed to move from winner to winner each year, with the person's name and number of points scored during the contest year (not including NARAM) engraved on the trophy.

With the competition year just beginning, Rod again leads the PSC point standings with Richard Freed and Steve Foster and John Pace in the race.

PSC still has two contests left during the flying season, with many others run by various clubs in the region.

Why not consider getting involved in competition? You may be the next winner of....



**The  
Schafer  
Cup**

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17 - under — \$4.00  
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\$4.00

Send dues to:  
Steve Foster  
RD 1, Box 2722  
Leechburg, PA 15656  
(Checks payable to  
Steve Foster, NOT PSC)

Pittsburgh Space Command  
is dedicated to the  
advancement of safe model  
rocketry.

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NAR #24586 L1  
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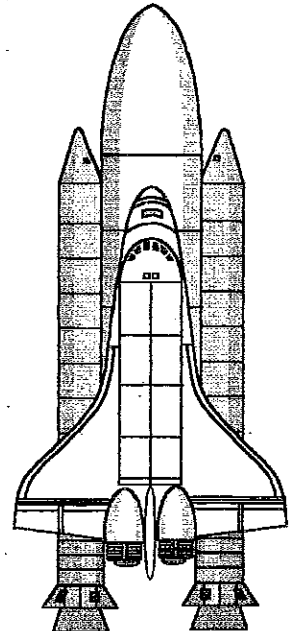
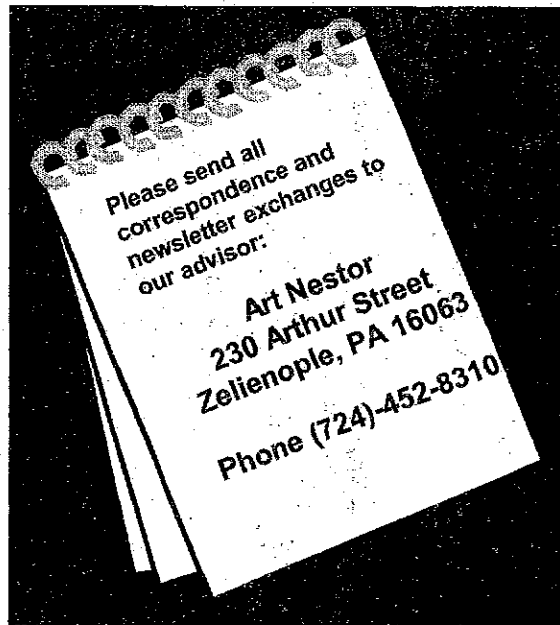
**PSC Officers for 2001:**

President: Rod Schafer  
Vice President: Mort Binstock  
Treasurer: Steve Foster  
Advisor: Art Nestor

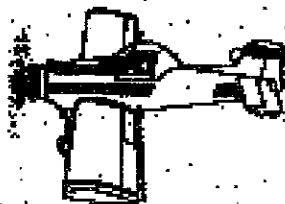
Newsletter Publisher: Richard Freed  
Webmaster: Jo Ann Karaffa

**PSC Web site:**

<http://www.nb.net/~rockets/psc.html>



**ARE YOUR DUES PAID FOR 2001?**



**HOBBY  
EXPRESS**

309 MARS-VALENCIA RD. MARS, PA. 16046  
CORNER OF RT 228 & MARS-VALENCIA RD.

(724) 625-1550

**HOURS:**  
MON. - FRI. 11-9 SAT. 10-6



**Mort's Column**  
By Mort Binstock, NAR 27182

This is my first column for 2001, the actual TRUE millennium. Heres to a great year and century of flying!



**DUES:**

If you have not done so yet, please send your 2001 dues in early, on time. Doing so will make our job easier, allow the (volunteer) club officers to put the business end of running the club behind us, and allow the pure enjoyment of just flying rockets.

**FEEDBACK:**

I don't get a lot of feedback from my column, I do appreciate feedback when I get it. This time I have some.

First my IC-2000 CA glue review. Prolific no frill rocket designer JOSEPH PEKLI CZ wrote on 10/03/00 exclaiming, "Just wanted you to know that I tried the IC-2000 CA and absolutely LOVE IT! I used it for dowel rods & fins. I like the small amount of "working time" you have with it before it sets up." JOSEPH further wrote on 11/11/00, "I use the IC-2000 CA glue for the monocopter engine pod. Its great for the pod because its a high stress area! Its my favorite CA to use. I hope other rocketeers follow your suggestion and try it also."

The innovative magazine "R/C MicroFlight" quoted portions of my IC- 2000 review published in "Sport Rocketry".

JOSEPH PEKLI CZ also responded to my observations of a trend back to smaller rockets writing, "I agree with you on the size trends. I like the new Quest Micro Maxx engines, when I can get one to work!" JOSEPH has had some problems getting these small Quest engines to ignite.

**SAFETY:**

I get to cover all aspects of rocketry in my column, an advantage to having my own column. This is not about the traditional rocket safety normally written.

I have read several articles covering the hazards from using CA glue. These hazards are mostly respiratory, can include wheezing, and can become SEVERE.

Doctors are not used to diagnosing CA problems unique, I presume to modelers. Therefore, in some of the cases I have read about the cause of the symptoms baffled the patient's doctor.

Sensitivity to CA can be instantaneous or can build up over time. I was reminded of this in a recent conversation with PSC member JOHN PACE. JOHN developed a bad reaction to CA.

There are several solutions. Be sensitive to how you feel. If you develop nasal/throat/ear irritations stop using the CA.

Use plenty of ventilation, or work outdoors, or wear a good respirator mask. I do the above as I have had occasional problems from using CA.

Another solution is to use odorless or gold CA. To my knowledge this CA is safe to use. Also, unlike conventional CA, odorless CA is safe to use on styrofoam. Conventional CA will dissolve away styrofoam.

The down sides to odorless CA are its cost (expensive), shorter shelf life (it doesn't keep as long), & I don't think the glued joint is as strong.

Another potential safety hazard to rocketeers is ticks. I picked up a tick at the June 3 Dragon's Fire probably while crawling under fences or through the tall grasses to retrieve my rockets. Fortunately I found & removed the tick and did not contract any disease. I did have a Lyme disease test.

I recommend that you check your self and particularly a child when you get home. I don't think the getting a tick is a high probability.

This one was my first in over 40 years of recovering flying rockets. If you do get a tick, testing and treatment for Lyme disease are available.

### **GUEST COLUMNIST:**

This is your newsletter. Your contributions will help keep "TP" an interesting & vibrant newsletter. Articles and guest columns are solicited and most welcome.

### **STYRO-FO:**

Prolific innovative rocket designer JOSEPH PEKLI CZ has designed a darling styrofoam flying saucer kit. JOSEPH's kit looks like a winner. It reminds me a little of the old Centuri flying saucer kit.

The Styro-Fo flies well. I have seen a similar JOSEPH PEKLI CZ flying saucer design fly, I believe member DAVE GIBSON's.

I am fortunate to have a kit. I plan to take photos and write a review on this kit. The review will appear in this newsletter. You might wish to purchase one of these kits from JOSEPH. JOSEPH operates on a tight budget. I suggest you send him \$6.80 per kit (a real bargain) plus \$3.20 to allow him to obtain a priority mailing box and to send it priority mail. Order several and save money!

JOSEPH can ship three in one box. Send your order and check (check only please) to:

Joseph Peklicz  
635 S Zane Highway  
Martins Ferry OH 43935-1236

### **MONOCOPTERS:**

I also am most fortunate to have one of JOSEPH's "D" powered monoco pters. This monoco pter is similar to the ones FRANCIS GRAHAM has flown. JOSEPH is refining, testing, and improving on FRANCIS' initial experimental designs. I am not sure how reliable the current state of art monoco pters are. I therefore plan to have FRANCIS help me fly mine.

"D" powered monoco pters can also be obtained from JOSEPH PEKLI CZ for \$10 plus \$3.20 shipping. SAVE MONEY — JOSEPH can ship up to six in one mailing. Again, JOSEPH prefers a personal check only.

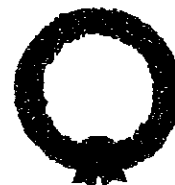
### **CONTAGIOUS GOOD DEEDS:**

As I write this column, Christmas and the end of the year are coming. In the true spirit of Christmas, I'd like to finish my column with a nice saga, of one nice deed triggering another etc., the deeds and actions should be. JOSEPH PEKLI CZ wrote in response to my IC-2000 article expressing interest in the product & indicating it was not available where he lives. I responded by giving JOSEPH a gift of an extra bottle I had. JOSEPH returned the gift with a precious present, his flying saucer kit. That's how I obtained my kit. More might come yet from these actions. I get to test & write a review, JOSEPH perhaps will get some deserved recognition plus some orders.

Recently, while visiting my local hobby shop, I had a premonition that JOSEPH's bottle might be running out. The hobby shop had one last bottle in stock. I sent the bottle to JOSEPH and expressed a desire to purchase one of his monoco pters. Our letters crossed in the mail. As I mailed the bottle, JOSEPH mailed a letter indicating his bottle was low and would I purchase a fresh one for him. JOSEPH responded to receipt of my bottle by instantly sending me two of his monoco pters. Thank you JOSEPH and a belated merry Christmas.

This is a good note to end this column on. See you at the next launch!

Mort Binstock NAR 27182



DESIGN & DRAWN BY:

Joseph Peklicz  
635 S Zane Hwy  
Martins Ferry, OH 43935-1236

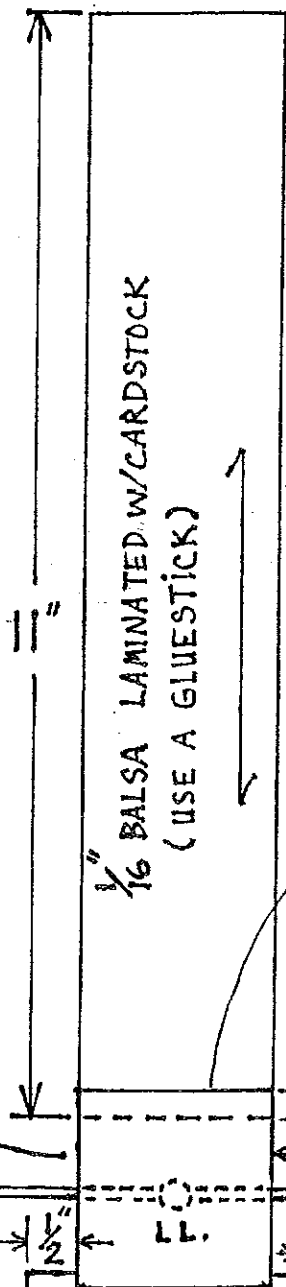
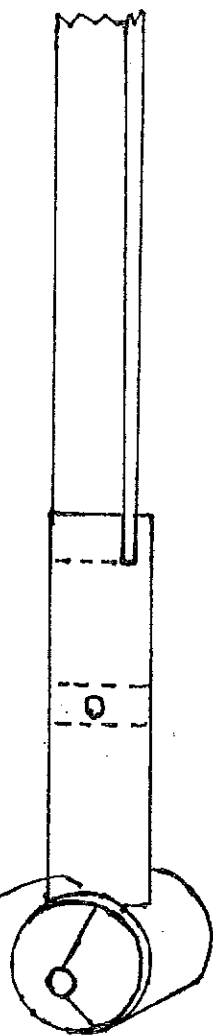


# C6 MC II

11/8/00



SAND A CONTOUR INTO THE SIDE TO ALLOW FOR MORE GLUING AREA. USE A SPENT ENGINE CASING.



1/16" SAW KERF  
WING ANGLE



1/2" x 2" x 2" Balsa Block  
LAMINATE ALSO

1/8" DOWEL RODS

ANGLE ENGINE POD UP SAME AS WING ANGLE.  
LOOSELY FIT A C6-5.  
USE A SHORT 3" LAUNCH ROD.

BT-20

3"

OPTIONAL: 1/16" PORTS x 4

PNC-20 (YANKEE TYPE)

TIP: A GOOD IDEA IS TO STAKE DOWN YOUR LAUNCH PAD. BEND A 'U' SHAPE INTO COAT HANGERS.

**Notes From the Prez  
by Rod Schafer  
President, PSC**

Well Rocketeers, another year has gone by for PSC! It is once again time to highlight some of the events from 2000 in my annual Year in Review notes.

1. We completed our 14th year as a chartered section of the NAR.
2. Along with co-host Tripoli Pittsburgh, we helped host 5 "Dragon's Fire" high power launches.
3. PSC membership held steady with around 55 members.
4. Team Pittsburgh editor Richard Freed once again published 6 on time issues of our newsletter. The Sept./Oct. issue had color front and back pages! (A "TP" 1st!) Thank you to those that contributed articles during the year.
5. The 6th annual R & R picnic and reunion in August was once again a well-attended event. The weather was fantastic and Rocketeers launched over 200 flights.
6. During the last couple days in July and the first week in August, PSC members Richard Freed & wife Lynda, Art Nestor & wife Peg, Steve Foster and myself & family traveled West to Canon City, Colorado to represent PSC at NARAM-42. Steve and Rod brought back 4th & 3rd place National Championships for the contest year.
7. In June, Steve and Rod traveled to Center Valley, PA to compete at RAMTEC-8. In 2001, we hope to take along a couple more competitors and compete as a section.
8. While at NARAM-42, Art and his wife Peg received a personal tour of Estes Industries.
9. Showing your PSC colors! Late in the year orders were taken for embroidered PSC logo jackets and sweat shirts.

See you on the range in 2001!

Until Next Time...  
Fly'em High,

Rod

**Competition Corner —  
Upcoming Competitions sponsored  
by PSC**

**Contest Events For 2001**

---

*Rocket Into Spring 7  
April 21 & 22*

*1/2A Flex-Wing Dur.  
1/2A Boost Glider Dur.  
1/2A Rocket Glider Dur.  
D Helicopter Dur.  
Parachute Spot Landing*

---

*Reach For The Sky XIII  
May 19 & 20*

*1/2A Boost Glider Dur.  
A Flex Wing Dur.  
B Streamer Dur. (MR)  
C Helicopter Dur.  
Random Dur.*

FYI- We still have to come up with events for the Oct combination launch at the HP site. We can put those in the Mar.-Apr. issue. Any ideas for a name?

**New Address or Phone Number?**

Please inform Mort Binstock of any address or phone number change or let him know at one of our monthly launches. Mort will then update the PSC database that he maintains for mailing labels for the newsletter.

**Mort's Address and Phone Number:**

1150 Windermere Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15218-1144  
(412) 244-1332

## Pittsburgh Space Command

### Winter Activities

By Rod Schafer, PSC President

This winter, during January and February when Rocket flying is at the lowest point here in Pennsylvania, PSC is moving to the indoors for a couple club get-togethers. This will be a 1st-time activity for PSC. If interest and attendance is decent we can then hold a couple activities in the winter of 2002. Following is a description of each event.

#### Video Night

Saturday, January 13, 2001

5 PM

John Pace's Home, Cranberry Twp. PA

This will be an evening of watching video from NARAM-41 in 1999, that PSC hosted. I filmed and narrated this video during NARAM week. We can also discuss the latest Rocketry projects that the attendees may be working on. John has said he'll dig out some of his old Rocket kits for show. If you have anything to show, bring it along! Hope to see you there for a Fun Filled evening!

*\*\* If you will be attending the video night event at John's home, please let me know by calling 724-845-7439 or email: rschafer@alltel.net*

#### Directions To John's House:

- ⇒ Take your customary route toward the old Seven Fields launch site on route 228.
- ⇒ Turn North onto Franklin Road (at the 7-11 convenience store). Go 0.6 miles or to the second right and turn onto Burke Road.
- ⇒ Travel approximately 1/2 mile and turn right into Crystal Springs Development. (If come to a "T" intersection, you have gone to far.)
- ⇒ Go 0.2 miles on Crystal Springs Drive or to the 5th house on the left. 111 Crystal Springs Drive. Park in the driveway. if you get lost, call (724) 742-8692.

#### Building Flex-Wing Boost Gliders

Saturday, February 3, 2001

12 PM -5 PM

Puckety Presbyterian Church  
Lower Burrell, PA

Flex-Wing Gliders can be described in one word, "Temperamental". For those that have flown this competition event at PSC meets, you know what I mean. This year, NARAM-43 has 1/2A Flex-Wing on the event card. So with that in mind and also with the urging from my fellow PSC competitors. I will conduct a presentation on building this gracefully flying glider that I have had pretty good luck with over the years that I've been competing. During the afternoon session I'll build one flexie from start to finish (giving it a hand toss across the room). I'll also share with the participants some of the techniques I use and have picked up in building and flying these models. So mark your calendars and join us for a Fun and informational winter afternoon!

#### Directions To Puckety Church:

From Pittsburgh: Take Rt. 28 North to exit 14 (Tarentum, Rt.366). Cross Tarentum Bridge and proceed East on Rt. 366 to Rt. 56 East "clover leaf", (You will come to this clover leaf after proceeding straight through 3 stop lights). Take Rt. 56 East to the 3rd stop light, Puckety Church Rd. (A Midas Muffler shop is on the right, actually caddy corner with the intersection.) Turn right at this 3rd light and proceed up the hill to Puckety Church entrance on the left.

From Cranberry Twp. Area and the North (1st way): Take PA Turnpike to exit 5 (Harmerville). Follow signs to Rt. 28 North. Take Rt. 28 North to exit 14 (Tarentum, Rt. 366). Cross Tarentum Bridge and follow directions in the above paragraph after crossing bridge.

From Cranberry Twp. Area and the North (2nd way): Take Rt. 228 East until it connects with Rt. 356. Take Rt. 356 South to Freeport. In Freeport, cross Freeport Bridge and continue South on 356 to Leechburg. Rt. 356 will intersect with Rt. 56, (1st stop light after crossing bridge, approx. 4 miles). At stop light turn right onto Rt.56 West. Proceed to 2nd stop light heading West on Rt. 56. At stop light make left onto Puckety Church Rd., (There is a Midas Muffler shop on your left at this intersection) proceed up hill to Puckety Church entrance on the left.

# Dragon's Fire Launches

## Dragon's Fire Launch information:

All Dragon's Fire launches will be conducted according to following guidelines:

FAA waiver: 5,000 ft AGL

Flyer's fee: \$5.00 (per flyer or \$8.00 per family)

Set-up: 8:00 AM

Flyer's meeting: 9:00 AM (range opens following meeting)

Range closes: 5:00 PM

Only Tripoli or NAR certified motors may be used.

Up through I-range motors permitted without advance application.

J-motor flights require advance application/approval, subject to launch day flying conditions.

Contact Prefect Ken Good to apply for J-motor flights.

**Important Note:** Due to the launch site's proximity to an interstate highway, the RSO will reserve the right to lower the permitted motor range and/or limit launches as required by conditions.

## Dragon's Fire 2001 Launch Dates

- April 7
- May 12
- August 11
- September 8
- October 20-21

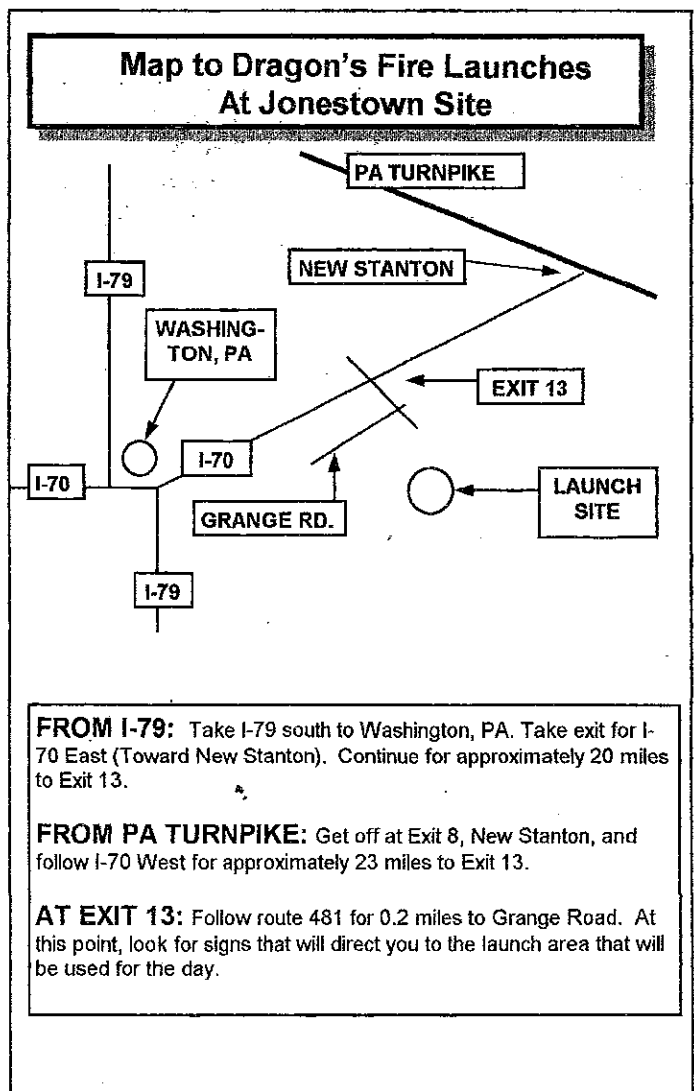
## Flyer's Fee Change:

\$5 Individual

\$8 Family

More Dragon's Fire information can be found on the Tripoli Pittsburgh's web site:

[http://www.rimworld.com/Tripoli\\_PGH](http://www.rimworld.com/Tripoli_PGH)





**Notes from the Treasurer  
by  
Steve Foster**

Now is the time to pay your PSC dues for 2001. Don't miss a single issue of Team Pittsburgh. See Page 2 for the rates and my address or see me at one of our winter launches. (If we dare to venture out)



Here's a brief report about our 2000 budget.

**INCOME**

- ◆ Dues - \$430
- ◆ Contest Fees - \$44
- ◆ HP Flyers Fees - \$98
- ◆ Raffle Income - \$132

**TOTAL INCOME - \$704**

**EXPENSES**

- ◆ Postage - \$216
  - ◆ NAR Insurance - \$90
  - ◆ Supplies - \$140
  - ◆ Trophy (Schafer Cup) - \$132
  - ◆ Artwork for Jackets - \$215\*
- \* (estimate, not finalized at this time)

**TOTAL EXPENSES - \$793**

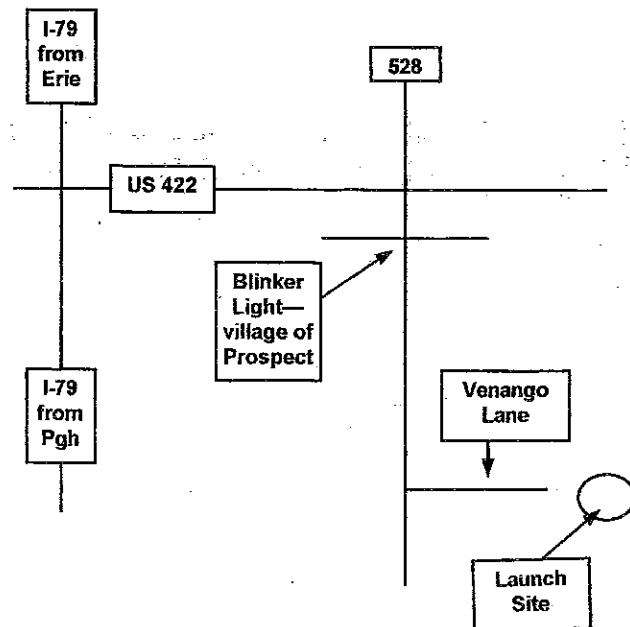
This is a report on the cash flow in 2000 only. The PSC treasury is in good shape with a balance of over \$2,000. The artwork mentioned above is a one-time charge that the club has decided to pick up and has saved members who ordered jackets and sweatshirts anywhere from \$10-\$20. This artwork will also be available to us for future use. It could possibly be used on caps. Also in the works for early 2001 is a totally upgraded launch system which should be more reliable for cluster models and copperheads. It will also be easier to add additional pads at any time. If anyone has any other ideas on how your club income should be used don't hesitate to speak up at any of our launches.

**PSC  
Launch Windows 2001**

**Lutherlyn:**

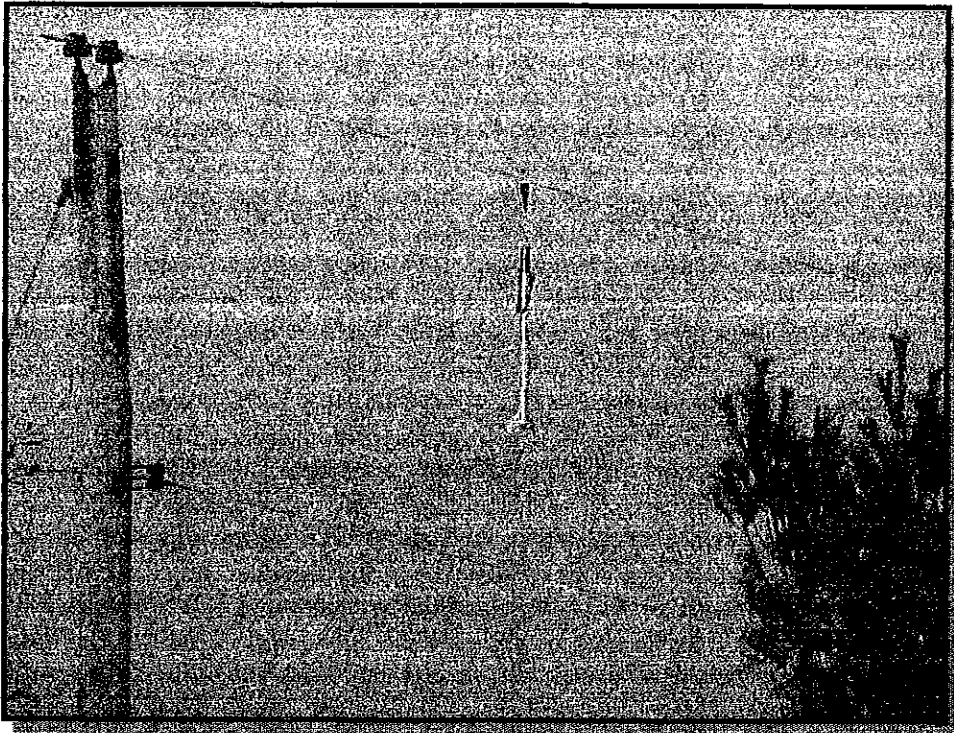
- Jan. 21
- Feb. 18
- Mar. 18
- April 21 & 22 Comp. "Rocket Into Spring 7"
- May 19 & 20 Comp. "Reach For The Sky XIII"
- June 24
- July 15
- Aug. 19 "R&R 7 Picnic"
- Sept. 16
- Oct. 20 & 21 Competition "Fall Flyer VIII"  
(Held at Jonestown "Dragon's Fire Site")
- Nov. 11
- Dec. 9

**Map to Camp Lutherlyn  
PSC Launch Site**



**FROM 422 —**

Get off at Prospect exit (528) and head south. Continue to blinker light about 0.3 miles from exit. Go straight through this intersection. Continue south on 528 for approximately 3 miles — look for a sign on the east (left) side of the road which says "Lutherlyn Rustic Retreat Center". Turn left onto dirt road and continue approx 1/4 mi to the launch site.



**Up on the wiretops, rockets pause....  
And a happy holiday season to all!!!**

**Team Pittsburgh**  
*Pittsburgh Space Command*  
*Richard Freed, Editor*

*Send returns to:*  
*Mort Binstock*  
*1150 Windermere Drive*  
*Pittsburgh, PA 15218-1144*

