

Rocket Times

THE OFFICIAL **Centuri** MODEL ROCKETRY MAGAZINE #17 1979

Editor: Grant Boyd

Associate Editor: Jeff Flygare

Art: Jerry Ramsey

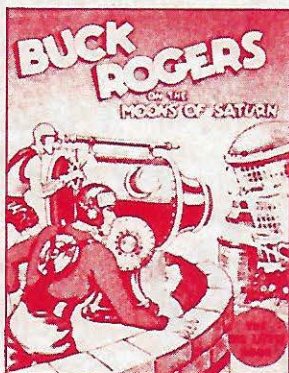
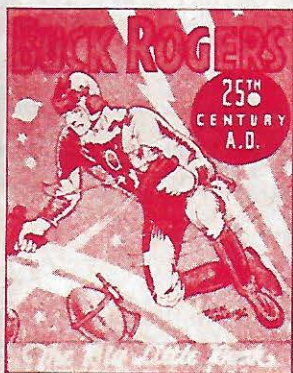
BUCK ROGERS: Yesterday and Today



As Buck Rogers streaks across the movie screen in an attempt to save the Earth from the evil Draconian Empire, it's interesting to remember that Buck has been doing just that for over 50 years. The movie "Buck Rogers in The 25th Century" is a revival of the popular comic strip and movie character of the 1930's, 40's and recent times.

It all started in 1928 when a novelette called "Armageddon - 2419" by Phil Nowlan was published in a magazine called *Amazing Stories*. The story featured a man named Anthony Rogers who was trapped in a coal mine near Pittsburgh in the 1920's and woke up 500 years later to find the world at war. The story tells of his adventures in the 25th century.

The success of this story inspired a comic strip which was syndicated and picked up by many major newspapers.



It featured the same character now called "Buck" Rogers. By 1932 the comic strip was so successful that a radio serial was created. Buck Rogers was a part of radio from then until the late 1940's.

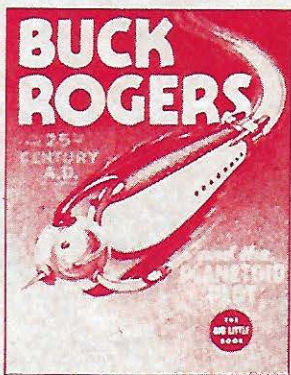
This exciting space fantasy was a new concept in comic strip stories and it became amazingly popular, even by today's standards. Soon many toy and novelty companies were offering "Buck Rogers" toys. These include Buck Rogers watches, radio premiums, casting sets, printing sets, space suits, games, roller skates shaped into rocket ships, ray guns of all sorts, holsters, helmets, badges, code rings, chemistry sets, pencil boxes, toy rocket ships, modeling kits, books, balloons, footballs and countless other items.

In 1939 Universal Pictures released the Buck Rogers movie serial starring Buster

Crabbe. Each segment told a story and invariably left Buck in deadly danger, keeping everyone in suspense until the next episode when he was miraculously rescued. These 12 weekly episodes brought Buck Rogers to thousands of movie-goers on a regular basis and helped to make Buck a very popular character.

Today Buck Rogers is known to millions of adults from the comic strips, radio programs and movie serials, and to almost as many young people who have seen the serial repeated on television. The new feature-length movie, "Buck Rogers In The 25th Century", is another in a long history of Buck Rogers stories that have captured the imaginations of generations of science fiction lovers.

Centuri's kits of spaceships from the new movie are the first "Buck Rogers" model rockets, but they join a long line of products made for enjoyment, for a half century.



© 1978 ROBERT C. DILLE

Photos depict covers of *Big Little Books*, by Whitman Publishing Co., in 1934.

Centuri

Rocket Times

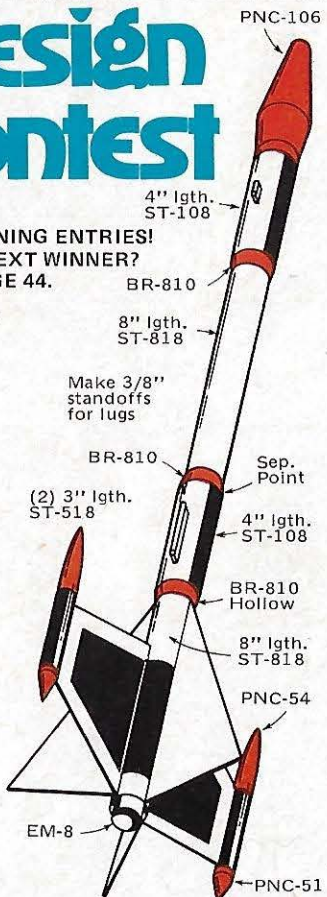
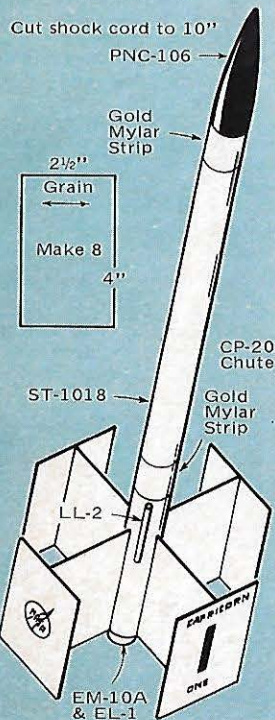
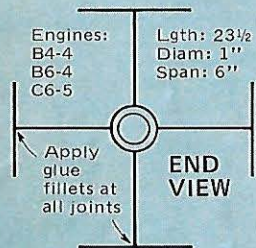


Design Contest

HERE ARE THIS ISSUE'S WINNING ENTRIES!
WANT TO TRY BEING OUR NEXT WINNER?
SEE CONTEST RULES ON PAGE 44.

Jon and Anthony each chose the Centuri Saturn V as their prize.

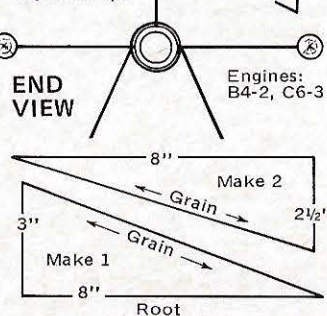
CAPRICONE ONE (below)
Designed and assembled by
JON WILLIAMS, Tempe, AZ



RENEGADE II

(above)
Designed and built by
ANTHONY MORELL,
Phoenix, Arizona

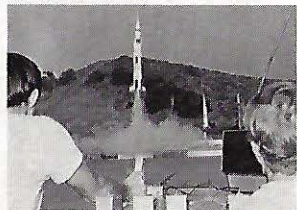
Lgth: 29-13/16"
Diam: 1"
Span: 7-7/8"



Rocket Clubs

JOINING A CLUB. Get two rocketeers together and one of the first things they want to do is start a club! And many have, because today there are hundreds of active clubs. Everyday we receive letters from rocketeers asking how they can join a nearby club. Here are our recommendations.

1. Join the N.A.R. As a member you may ask H.Q. for a list of official N.A.R. sections in your area. You may also ask the N.A.R. "Rocket Comm" service for names and addresses of members near you . . . perhaps you can get together and form your own N.A.R. section.
2. Ask your local rocket dealers. Find dealers in the Yellow pages under "Hobby and Model Construction Supplies-Retail."
3. Ask at nearby schools. Nearly half the rocket clubs in the country are school affiliated.
4. Try community organizations. Many have rocket programs: Jay-Cees, 4H, Scouts, YMCA/YWCA, museums, Kiwanis, service clubs, etc.



NEW CLUB GUIDE. Help is on the way for club minded rocketeers who don't yet have a club in their area. Centuri is now working up a comprehensive new Club Guide, a publication explaining how to start and run a well organized rocket club. Written by Jeff Flygare, a veteran of many advanced club activities, it will be a highly readable handbook. We are finishing it after we go to press with this Rocket Times, so we don't yet advertise it for sale. You may have an advance copy FREE by sending a large self-addressed and stamped envelope to "Club Guide," ATT: Jeff Flygare, c/o Centuri. Use a 9x12 envelope and attach postage for 3 ounces.



**BUILD & FLY
THE ORIGINAL
SHUTTLE
CONCEPT!**

See page 29

NASA'S EARLY SPACE SHUTTLE CONCEPT IS ONE OF CENTURI'S MOST POPULAR KITS

This year the United States has scheduled the first launch of the Space Shuttle, a re-usable space vehicle that will perform many important jobs in space. The Space Shuttle program actually started many years ago when several companies were asked by NASA to come up with basic designs for this new kind of reusable spaceship.

In the early part of the Space Shuttle program, it was thought that both the Shuttle orbiter and the booster vehicle which pushed the orbiter into space would be reusable. This was a monumental task for the designers and aerospace engineers because they had to come up

with two separate vehicles, both of which were rocket-powered, could fly in space, and fly in the atmosphere like an airplane so they could land and be used over again to save money.

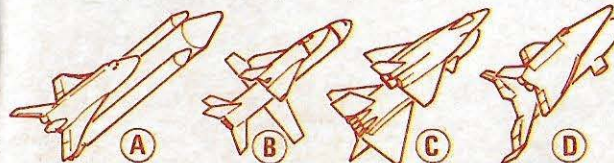
One of the earliest designs by North American Rockwell served as the basis for Centuri's Space Shuttle model rocket kit. In this design, the orbiter rides piggy-back on a fully recoverable booster. In this case there is no waste of equipment at all; all parts of the system are recovered and used again and again.

Gradually it became apparent that it would be much more feasible from an economic and time point of view for NASA to abandon the concept of the fully recoverable booster in favor of more conventional power systems. Eventually the

design settled upon used that orbiter's engines for boost, fueled by propellant and oxidizer contained in a large tank which rides underneath the orbiter. Additional power for lift-off is provided by two solid-fuel strap-on boosters which are located in either side of the external tank. The solid fuel boosters and the orbiter are recovered and can be used again. The external tank is replaced for each flight.

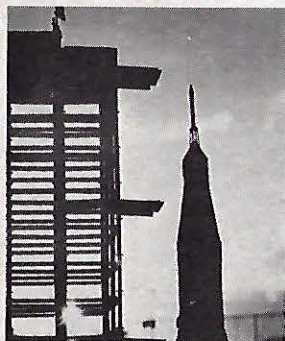
Many considerations affect the design of a space vehicle, in the same way that the designs of a model rocket kit changes as it is developed. Costs, production time and availability of materials all affect the final design. In the end, trade-offs (decisions that balance two valid but opposing views) are made to make the design the best combination of very many conflicting factors.

In a future Rocket Times, we'll be showing you how Centuri designers go about the task of developing a model rocket kit from an idea in someone's head to the finished product.



Some of the many proposed configurations are shown here. Figure C comes closest to ours. Figure A is the final NASA version.

Photo Contest



Arnaldo Cruz of Ponce, Puerto Rico, is the winner of the Photo Contest. His photo shows a Centuri Saturn V and his own design gantry with the sun backlighting both.

You can enter this ongoing Photo Contest and try for the prize, a \$10 Centuri Merchandise certificate. A winner is picked for each year's issue of Rocket Times. Send in your best photo about model rocketry addressed to: Photo Contest, in care of Centuri Rocket Times. Try for good contrast and sharp focus. Remember that people in the picture make it more interesting for our readers.

Free Poster!



GET THIS 15"x19" FULL COLOR POSTER ABSOLUTELY FREE! 50¢ Value. This beautiful poster, normally given only to hobby stores, is free to you with proof-of-purchase of a Centuri Flying Saucer Kit or outfit. Just send us the "UFO Fleet"

emblem clipped from your package or instruction sheet. Posters are for sale also, bargain priced at 50¢.

Space Modeling Championships

In 1980 the Space Modeling World Championships will be held in the United States for the first time. This meet, the "Olympics of Model Rocketry" is held periodically in various locations around the world. Now it's our turn!

The tentative location will be the Naval Air Station at Lakehurst, New Jersey. It is expected that most countries represented at previous world championships will again compete, as well as several possible additions. Each country will provide a team of 12 of its best modelers, along with one team manager. A special launching area will be assigned to each country, complete with launching equipment donated by Centuri.

The championships will begin with an extensive model rocketry demonstration and a welcoming ceremony. This will be followed by five days of rigorous competition to decide who are the world's best model rocketeers. This event will be the most important model rocketry contest ever held on U.S. soil. The championships will be open to onlookers. Plan to be in Lakehurst, NJ, September 5-9, 1980 for the model rocket World Championships.

Centuri supported the U.S. team at the previous 1978 Championships (donating supplies, designing the emblem and raising expense money thru benefit sales). We'll be there in 1980 too!

Educator Info

MODEL ROCKETS IN THE SCHOOLS! If you are a student, does your teacher know about model rocketry. Many educators find that model rocketry makes an exciting approach to the fundamentals of science, math and other subjects. It appeals to a wide range of ages

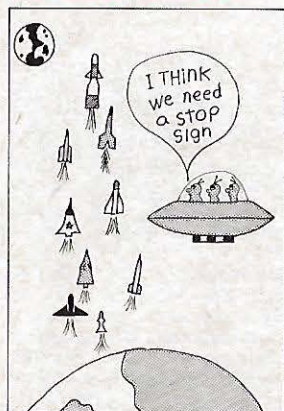
and is particularly effective for junior high students.

Turn your teacher on to the exciting hobby of model rocketry! It may add a new twist to standard classroom studies. Your teacher may also be willing to sponsor a model rocketry club in your school.

Getting help from Centuri is easy. Have your teacher drop a line to our Educator Services Department on school stationery and we will send a packet filled with valuable information on model rocketry's role in the classroom and education.

N.A.R. EDUCATIONAL SECTION PROGRAM: Teachers can take advantage of the National Association of Rocketry's special Educator Program. This program provides materials and lesson plans useful in model rocket studies for the classroom. For more information write: N.A.R. Education Section Program at the page 4 address.

Cartoon Contest



This issue's Cartoon Contest winner is Al Terrozas of Fayetteville, NC. Al's "Mystery Prize" is a big color picture of our Flying Saucer.

Want to see your cartoon published? Just draw a funny cartoon about model rocketry and send it to Cartoon Contest, in care of Centuri Rocket Times. Each issue we pick the one most suitable for publication and award a different "Mystery Prize."

Movie Flying Saucer Contest

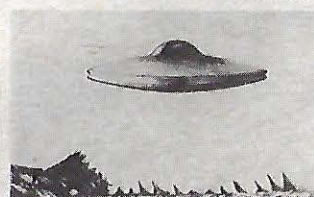
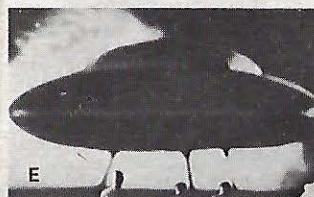
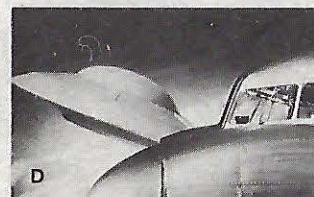
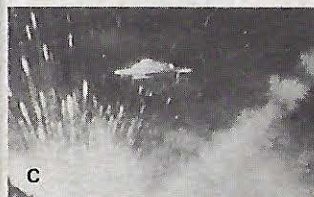
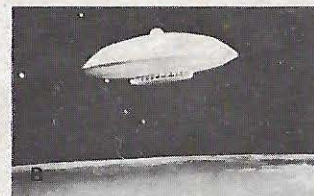
MAYBE YOU WILL WIN A FLYING SAUCER OUTFIT!

The Movie Spaceship Contest we ran last issue was so popular we now have a new similar exciting one—another chance for Centuri rocketeers to win a valuable prize. Just follow the rules below and match each photo with the correct movie (or TV) title on the form below. The first 20 correct entries will receive a Centuri Flying Saucer outfit.

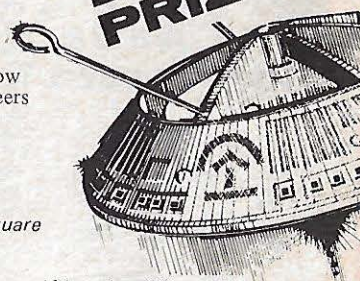
RULES

1. Entries must use the coupon below (or facsimile). Blacken one square in each row across.
2. Entries cannot be accepted after December 1, 1979.
3. Prizes awarded to the first 20 people to correctly identify all photos. If less than 20 people correctly identify all photos, the balance will be chosen from entries most nearly correct.
4. One entry allowed per person. Entries become property of Centuri and cannot be returned.
5. Employees of model rocket companies, and their families are not eligible.
6. Winners notified by mail within one month after deadline. Names will be published in next Rocket Times.

Photos A & B courtesy TV Chariot Productions



20 BIG PRIZES!



Spaceship Contest

The first twenty correct entries received in our Science Fiction Movie Spaceship Contest are listed below. Each identified the spaceships correctly as:

- When Worlds Collide: C
- Conquest of Space: D
- Rocketship X-M: A
- Journey To The Far Side: F
- First Spaceship On Venus: E
- Destination Moon: B

Each winner received an S.S.V. Scorpion Super Kit.

Paul Holldendorfer, Colo Spgs., CO
 Jeff Anderson, Belton, MO
 Jon Williams, Tempe, AZ
 Bradley Kiewer, St. Joseph, MO
 Gene Zombolas, N. Ogden, UT
 David Bollinger, Russellville, AR
 David Nincehelter, Peru, NB
 Craig Allen, Lawton, OK
 Kurt Edwards, O'Neil, NB
 Leo Stande Ford, Mankato, MN
 Aaron King, Houston, TX
 Ken Lunde, Mt. Horeb, WI
 Tom Johnson, Raleigh, NC
 David Coleson, Anderson, IN
 John Syers, Palmyra, MI
 Richard Handlon, Indianapolis, IN
 David Lewis, Anniston, AL
 Bill Sprauel, Bowdon, GA
 Eric Benton, Mill Valley, CA
 John Kurre, Ridgewood, NY

Centuri	Box 1988	Earth vs. the Flying Saucers	Columbia	A	B	C	D	E	F
	Phoenix, AZ 85001		1956						
MOVIE FLYING SAUCER CONTEST		Starship Invasions	Warners	A	B	C	D	E	F
Name _____		Lost in Space	20th Cent. Fox TV	A	B	C	D	E	F
Address _____		This Island Earth	1965-68						
City _____		Bamboo Saucer	Universal	A	B	C	D	E	F
State _____ Zip _____		The Invaders	1955						
			World Entertainment	A	B	C	D	E	F
			1968						
			ABC & QM	A	B	C	D	E	F
			1967-68						

You may use a facsimile of coupon, to avoid cutting your catalog.

Meet the **C.A.T.** Centuri
Centuri Aerospace Team



Doug Weglartz: 11 year old Doug, from Livonia, Mich. has been flying Centuri rockets for over two years. He's interested in science, space, modeling and sports and would like to be a race car driver when he gets older.



Dave Schultz: Dave is 15 years old and lives in Del Mar, Calif. He has been flying model rockets for over 9 months and is interested in aviation, space and science. His dream job is to be a rocket engineer for NASA.



Steve Baker: Steve is 13 years old and lives in Houston, Tex. Steve reminds everyone not to forget to bring your safety key with you when you go to launch. His dream job is to set scenes for science fiction movies.



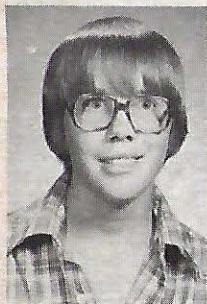
Eric Johnson: In Studio City, Calif. it's Eric who launches Centuri model rockets. Eric is 12 years old and has been flying model rockets for 6 months. Someday he would like to design his own rocket and fly it.



David Denbow: David is 12 years old and lives in Beech Bottom, W.V. He likes science and space and wants to be a navy pilot someday. He'd like to say "Hi! and play it safe!" to all other CAT members.



Brian Andreas: 14 year old Brian manages to fly model rockets in the cold of Green Bay, Wisc. His dream job is to be an airliner pilot. He'd like to build a fully working remote controlled launcher of the Saturn V.



Joseph Dell: 12 year old Joseph lives in New York City. Joseph says that model rocketry should be in every science class in the country, and that it teaches science, math, aviation . . . and most of all responsibility. Right on, Joseph!

You can have your photo here too. Just fill out the Data Form included in your CAT membership packet and send it in with a clear photo of yourself (preferably black & white). Maybe you'll appear in the next Centuri catalog! See page 62.



Mark Rooks: Mark is 12 years old and lives in New Baltimore, Mich. Mark really likes the Centuri Power System outfit and suggests all rocketeers try it. He's been flying rockets for over a year and would like to fly a supersonic jet someday.



Mark Lowery: Mark, of Liberty, S.C., is 13 years old and has been flying model rockets for about 9 months. His dream job would be to someday pilot the Space Shuttle. Mark wants all CAT members to get together and get the world interested in model rocketry.



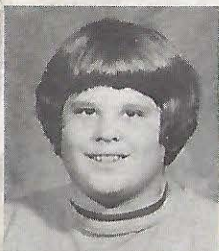
William Salzwedel: Representing our adult CAT members is 29 year old William of Madison, Wisc. Aside from model rocketry, William is interested in science fiction, movies, photography and art. He's considering doing a cable TV program on model rocketry.



Tom Webb: 15 year old Tom thinks model rocketry is fun, exciting and that you can learn from it too. He lives in Linden, N.J. and has been flying model rockets for about 9 months. He and a friend are building a submarine that can launch rockets.



Jerome Link: Jerome found out about model rocketry when his family visited NASA. He's 19 years old and lives in Petersburg, Mich. His "dream job" would be to actually work on the Space Shuttle.



Phillip Selig: Phillip is 14 years old and lives in Cape Coral, Fla. Phillip is interested in modeling and wants to be a mechanical engineer. Phillip has built over 30 model rockets since he started in model rocketry over two years ago.



Mike Burton: Piedmont, S.C.'s chief model rocketeer is 15 year old Mike. He just started in model rocketry but he really enjoys it. His dream project is to build a rocket that flies half-way up, hovers, then flies to peak altitude.



John Nelson: John has been flying model rockets for almost two years now in White Pine, Tenn. He's 13 years old and would like to be a pilot. His dream project is to build a radio-controlled robot.



Brian Schar: Brian, of Huron, Tenn. is 12 years old and has been flying model rockets for over two years. Some day he'd like to go out into space, but for right now he wants to tell all model rocketeers to keep your rockets in good repair and check for damage before each flight.

