

Reaction Motors Rocket Newsletter

Reaction Motors Reunion Committee

August 2007

Fifteenth Biennial Reunion

Our Fifteenth Biennial Reunion was held at Zeris Inn on September 17, 2006. Many of our rocketeers were unable to attend because of other commitments; however, we still had a good turnout. Would October be better?? Let's hear from you.

See you in the fall Of 2008!!

Reaction Motors Reunion Committee

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Welcome Rocketeers to The Fifteenth Biennial Reunion



The Ticket Collectors

Nancy Chamberlain ♦ Betty Brandt ♦ Lucille Struble

Pat Schmidt ♦ Mary Hockenberry ♦ Betty Bracaglia

The Keynote Speaker

Keynote Speaker, Ken Gaddis, summarized his 17 years experience in the Manufacturing Division, starting as an Assembler and finally as Shop Superintendent, supervising 26 foremen and six general foremen. Ken was involved in most of the major programs including:

- XLR-11(Bell X-1 aircraft)
- XLR8-RM-6
- TD-280 (Surveyor Lander)
- T P - 3 4 5 C - 1 R a d i a m i c
- XLR-99 (North American X-15)

He also directed manufacturing activities for the Turbopump and



Component Valve Programs. Ken was the key organizer of the Training Programs for the Machine Shop, the Toolmakers and the Welders in order to accommodate the increased manufacturing workload. Ken was involved in designing and fabricating the tooling to apply a unique Rokide coating to the XLR-99 thrust chamber to enhance the engine's durability.

Ken's contributions along with the entire manufacturing division's efforts were key elements to the success of the Reaction Motors' programs.

Ken and his wife, Louise, are currently residing in Whippany, New Jersey.

The Photo Album
Fifteenth Biennial Reunion



Attendees at Reaction Motors Fifteenth Biennial Reunion
September 17, 2006
123 Alumni from 12 states

Angus, Dick

Baker, Russell & Alberta
Bell, Harold
Bogert, Walter & Marjorie
Bracaglia, Betty & Julio
Bradt, Betty & Ed

Carper, Bob & Pat
Chamberlain, Nancy
Cherpy, Virginia
Chernack, Gil & Rosemarie
Chipko, Peter & Lucy
Clark, Ellie & Bob
Cohen, Murray & Myrna
Cloitre, Louis/Marion Schuttler
Compitello, Frank

DePreter, Elodie & John
Dwyer, Jim & Rita

Edwards, Dan
Edwards, Theresa

Fabbro, Al & Vilma
Feldman, Dory
Friend, Joe & Barbara

Gaddis, Kenneth & Louise
Granato, Vince
Greco, Tony & Fran
Gwozdz, Paul

Hackenburg, Robert & Susan
Hansen, Everett & Bernice
Harris, James
Heilman, Richard
Heiser, William & Stephanie
Hickerson, Fred, Louisa
Hockenberry, Mary P.
Holland, Bob
Holtzwarth, Carl & Nancy
Hopping, Ray & Ruby
Hurd, Lewis & Camille T.
Huson, George & Pat

Jenkins, Mary
Jung, Ed & Nancy
Kastner, Carl & Shirley
Kimble, Floyd
Kircher, Blanche
Kirk, Roberta
Kopituk, Ray
Kraus, Nancy

Lafko, Irma
Larsen, Arnie & Leah
Luperi, Mario

Marvinney, Raymond & Ruth
Masi, Phyllis
McAleer, Frank & Joan
Mitchell, Kathleen
Mitchell, Thomas
Mitchell, Robert
McClain, Russell & Elsie

Nadolny, Chester
Nilsen, Anna
Novotny, Raymond

Perry, Carol
Perry, Helen
Pfau, Beverly
Pickering, Henry & Pat

Quinn, John
Quinn, Merritt

Rarick, Barbara
Reilly, Rita & Chuck
Romaine, Harry (Bill)
Ruggerie, Don & Bonnie

Sapek, Joseph & Julia
Sawyer, Robert & Marie
Schmidt, Patti & Bob
Schreib, Rolland (Bob)
Slater, Marie
Socolowski, Norbert & Jean
Stark, Richard
Stone, Edith
Struble, Lucille
Struthwolf, David

Tasker, Gordon & Nettie
Tick, Sanford

Wather, Manny
Webb, Richard & Julia
Wolf, Herbert

AIAA/REACTION MOTORS AEROSPACE SITE DEDICATION

AIAA/REACTION MOTORS HISTORIC AEROSPACE SITE DEDICATION

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) sponsored a Historic Aerospace Site dedication on September 25, 2006. The ceremony was held in front of the former Engineering building at 100 Ford Road, Denville NJ and was attended by 180 former employees and local area dignitaries. A Commemorative Plaque citing Reaction Motors contributions to aerospace history was dedicated and is now located on the front lawn of the former Engineering Building at 100 Ford Road, Denville, NJ. The mounted Plaque is shown below.

The following speakers made presentations at the Dedication ceremony;

Mario Luperi: Introduction and Opening Remarks

Tony Springer: Chairman of the AIAA Historic Aerospace Site Committee: Overview of the AIAA Charter

Abe Bernstein: AIAA Northern NJ Section: Overview of NJ AIAA Activities

Henry Pickering: A Brief History of Reaction Motors

Anthony Bucco, NJ State Senator, Richard Merkt, NJ State Assemblyman: Presented a NJ State Proclamation honoring Reaction Motors Aerospace Contributions

Thomas Mimes, AIAA Board of Directors: Dedication of Commemorative Plaque to the Reaction Motors Historic Aerospace Site Committee



THE SENATE AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
STATE HOUSE, TRENTON, N.J.

JOINT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION
By Senator BUCCO and Assemblymen MERKT and CARROLL.

WHEREAS, The Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey are pleased to join the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics in honoring Reaction Motors Incorporated, highly esteemed within the Franklin Lakes, Bergen County, community, upon the auspicious occasion of a celebration marking Reaction Motors as a Historic Aerospace Site on September 25, 2006; and,

WHEREAS, Reaction Motors Incorporated, formerly called Reaction Motors Rocket Test Facility, is highly valued for its historical significance as one of the very few remaining sites of early experimentation in rocket and missile technology in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, Highlighting the achievements of Reaction Motors Incorporated was its development of the first regeneratively cooled liquid rocket engine generating 1,000 pounds of thrust using liquid oxygen and alcohol propellants, the first rocket engine to propel a piloted aircraft faster than the speed of sound, the first practical U.S.-developed turbine pump system for use with rocket engines, and the first successful U.S.-developed turbine pump-driven power plant for guided missile application; and,

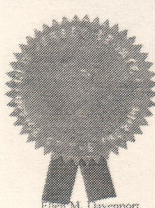
WHEREAS, It is both proper and fitting for the members of this Legislature to pause in their deliberations to acknowledge Reaction Motors Incorporated for its designation as an Historic Aerospace Site, and to salute the citizens of Franklin Lakes for their concern for and involvement in this historic building; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

That this Legislature hereby honors and congratulates Reaction Motors Incorporated, and extends sincere best wishes for the historic building's continued success and vigor; and,

Be It Further Resolved, That a duly authenticated copy of this resolution be signed by the Senate President and the Assembly Speaker and attested by the Senate Secretary and the Assembly Clerk.

Attest:



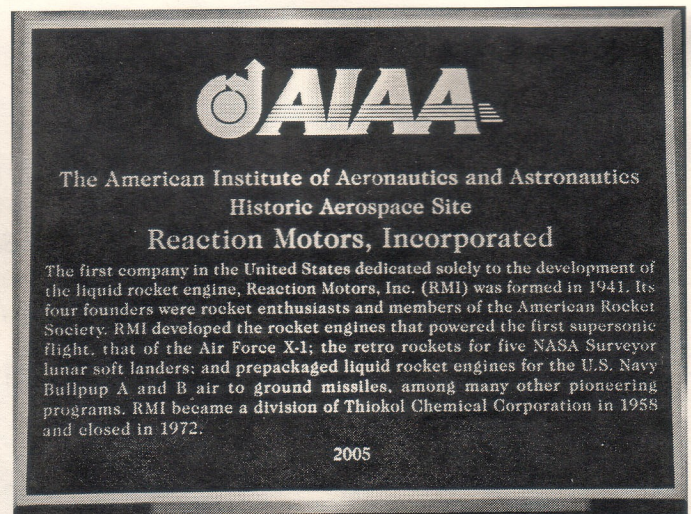
Ellen M. Davenport



Christine Riebe

Richard J. Cooley
President of the Senate

James A. ...
Speaker of the General Assembly



**AIAA/REACTION MOTORS
AEROSPACE SITE DEDICATION**



Join us in 08
and see all the pictures

THE MAIL BOX

RMI NOTES

A note from Jean Rabe, George's wife, telling us of George's death 6/14/05. She also wrote that "George always said that his days at Reaction Motors were the greatest days of his life. It was the work he loved most of all and with the greatest people."

THE DESK OF DAVID GALLERY

As an afterthought to the Reunion:

When RMI facilities in Denville opened, I was one of the first employees to commence full-time work, was one of the original "three" of what was to become the Components Development Lab, and worked in the building until it closed RMI Operations.

Too bad I did not learn of the ceremonies of last year until long after they were over.

Regards, Dave

FROM ALLEN MOCK

Hello and happy days from Hot Sunny Florida. Please keep me on your list of happenings at RMI. I am one of the test engineers and try to keep in close contact with Pete Chipko. Just reviewed a list of names that appeared in a letter of your RMI Blast in 2004. The following names do not appear - maybe some sort of check could be done as to what happened to them - died, can't write, afraid to write, or just lost to the ages. Here are some names of Test Area people: Frank Kemp, Joe Taylor, Joe Helper, Bill Dunkelberger, Earl Gil, Ted Shillberg (spelling not correct) from Test Engineering & worked with Frank Kemp. Does anyone out there know them???

FROM THE ARCHIVES

MEMORANDUM TO ALL DEPARTMENTS
SUBJECT: ODD EVEN RESTROOM USE

DATE: JULY 12, 1962

EFFECTIVE, IMMEDIATELY, THOSE 'EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS ENDING WITH EVEN NUMBERS WILL BE ALLOWED TO USE THE RESTROOMS ON EVEN NUMBERED DAYS. THOSE WITH SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS ENDING WITH ODD NUMBERS WILL USE THE RESTROOMS ON ODD NUMBERED DAYS. THE 31ST OF ANY MONTH IS A FREE DAY AND EVERYONE WILL BE ALLOWED TO USE THE RESTROOM. VISITORS, TOURISTS, HEAVY BEER DRINKERS AND THOSE WITH BLADDER OR OTHER MEDICAL PROBLEMS MAY APPLY TO THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT FOR A "P" STICKER WHICH WILL EXEMPT THEM FROM THESE PROCEDURES.

FINALLY, PLEASE NOTE THAT EMPLOYEES MUST BE ABLE TO PROVE THAT THEY HAVE AT LEAST HALF A TANK TO BE ALLOWED TO USE THE RESTROOMS.

SPACE NEWS

Space tourism tickets to skyrocket

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. - When it comes to complaining about poor exchange rates for the U.S. dollar, American tourists traveling to Europe have nothing on tourists headed into space.

The cost of flying to the international space station aboard a Russian Soyuz spaceship has increased from \$25 million earlier this year to between \$30 million and \$40 million for trips planned in 2008 and 2009.

In Memoriam List

Due to space, the committee voted to only list the co-workers who have passed on from May, 2005 (the last Newsletter) to August, 2007 (current Newsletter). We will continue this practice with each future Newsletter.

May 2005-August 2007

Anthony G. Mihalko 5/7/05

Ann J. Leone 6/3/05

George B. Rabe 6/14/05

Raymond P. Larson 7/5/05

Emil Saloky 8/16/05

Anna M. Ferrone 2/7/06

William P. Kelly 2/18/06

Eugene M. Smiles 2/21/06

Reginald Beard 3/14/06

Marva Lee Smith 5.13.06

Elmer L. Yurko 5/23/06

Helen H. Sakala 7/22/06

Rose Mizzoni 9/7/06

Edward Vanderhoof 9/17/06

John McConnell 12/23/06

Roger A. Chevalaz 12/29/06

Harry "Bud" Struble 1/17/07

Roseanne Hourigan 2/19/07

Chester Grelecki 3/23/07

Ruth (Shirley) Rarick 4/5/07

Margaret Stroehlein 4/26/07

Elsie Frey Buck 5/07

Kathryn Stungis 6/2/07

Earle Henriques-Gill 6/8/07

Dorothy G. Olson 7/8/07

Walter Lohman 8/15/07

A complete "In Memoriam List" will always be available at all Reunions

We Appreciate Your Support

The Fifteenth Reunion would not have been as successful without the support of many who helped to defray expenses. The cost of printing and mailing the newsletter, as well as the reunion invitations, continues to rise over the years. Our committee wishes to sincerely thank the following who sent donations for our 15th reunion:

Elizabeth Casey

Gilbert Chernack

Jim and Rita Dwyer

Ed Jung

Alfred Mathison

Ray Novotny

Edith Stone

Larry Vanderjagt

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