

## The Pillar Explosion – Auks XVI-XIX pages 246-255

After receiving a letter from Dr. Van Braun Homer felt he was a part of his team. The Russians were making another attempt to hit the moon. So Homer and Jake sat on the roof and watched through a telescope. The next day they found out that the Russians missed by over 3,000 miles.

Later that night he woke up to an earthquake. Part of the mine had collapsed. So Homer's dad raced out the door to help the rescue team get out the people trapped in the mine. His mom said that he shouldn't do that because it wasn't his job. But Homer's dad said he trained them so he felt he needed to help out.

Quentin and Homer poured over their rocket book. They wanted to know everything in the book. They began to understand the concepts, but they didn't get some of the equations in the book. They realized that these equations were Calculus, and if they wanted to understand them they would need to learn Calculus. The decision from BCMA was unanimous; they were going to learn Calculus. They were going to become like Dr. Von Brauns, they were going to make the special nozzles in the book with Calculus.