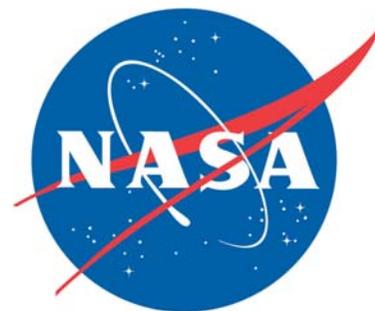


Spaceport News



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http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/snews/spnews_toc.html

STS-117 crew members, Atlantis ready to deliver truss segment

At press time, the launch of Space Shuttle Atlantis and its seven-member crew for NASA's STS-117 mission to the International Space Station is scheduled for June 8 at 7:38 p.m. During the 11-day mission, Atlantis will dock to the station and crew members will perform three spacewalks. STS-117 is the 118th space shuttle flight and the 21st flight to the station.

The crew will deliver solar arrays, batteries and the S3/S4 integrated truss segment. The segment will be installed to the S1 truss on the starboard side of the station. Together, the S3/S4 segments are 45.3 feet long and weigh 35,581 pounds, making this the heaviest station element in existence.

The integrated segment is the third of four power modules that provide additional power-generation capability for the station.

Expedition 15 crew member Clayton Anderson also will travel aboard Atlantis to relieve Expedition 14 Flight Engineer Sunita Williams of her duties. Williams will come back to Earth with the returning STS-117 crew members.

The exchange of Anderson and Williams was originally planned for the STS-118 mission, now targeted for launch in August. However, that flight, first set to fly in June, had to be postponed after an unexpected hail storm damaged Atlantis' external fuel tank and delayed STS-117.

During the first spacewalk, crew members will mate the S3/S4 truss segment and begin powering it. The second spacewalk includes removing the restraints that kept the truss structure rigid during launch, thus allowing the S3 joint to rotate. The crew will perform various tasks during the third spacewalk.



SPACE SHUTTLE Atlantis, mounted on a mobile launch platform, rests on the hard stand of Launch Pad 39A for the STS-117 mission.

Shuttle Launch Experience lifts off new mission at Visitor Complex

By Steven Siceloff
Staff Writer

It's tough to stay on the edge of your seat when you're lying on your back, but the Shuttle Launch Experience pulls it off.

The Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex unveiled the new \$60 million attraction on May 25 during a grand opening event including more than 40 former and current NASA astronauts.

The Experience delivers what it promises: a simulation of riding a space shuttle into orbit. There's the rumbling sound and shaking seat as the solid rocket boosters are igniting, the jolt of the bolts going off to free the shuttle from the launch pad and, finally, a slight weightless feeling upon reaching

(See EXPERIENCE, Page 5)



KENNEDY SPACE Center and State of Florida dignitaries helped launch the opening of the newest attraction at Kennedy Space Center's Visitor Complex, the Shuttle Launch Experience. Breaking the ribbon are (left to right) Dan LeBlanc, chief operating officer of the KSC Visitor Complex; Lt. Governor of Florida Jeff Kottkamp; former astronauts John Young and Bob Crippen; Center Director Bill Parsons; KSC Director of External Relations Lisa Malone; and former astronaut Buzz Aldrin.



Director's Update

Mike Bolger
Information Technology and
Communications Services

Protecting information about America's space program is vitally important as computer networks are routinely attacked by security outsiders. A Presidential Directive, signed in 2004, will help NASA counter these threats.

The White House measure means all government agencies must now:

- Perform more rigorous proof and documentation of an individual's identity;
- Provide more secure physical and logical access to federal facilities and systems;
- Perform background investigations for all civil servants,

contractors and offsite/remote-only users of information technology, also known as IT; and,

- Issue new badges with a smart card chip to civil servants and contractors.

As a result, NASA is in the process of implementing the use of the new badge to allow physical and information technology access at all centers. After the new badges are issued, NASA will implement a phased approach for using the badge to access controlled areas, computers, systems and applications.

Civil servants and contractors must undergo a new background investigation conducted by the

Office of Personnel Management, as well as a Federal Bureau of Investigation fingerprint check. The minimum level of investigation is called a National Agency Check with written Inquiries, or NACI.

Current NASA civil servants already have had NACIs. However, if more than 10 years have passed since their last investigation, a new investigation may have to be initiated.

New contractor individuals are currently undergoing NACIs. Most of the existing contractor work force has not had this investigation and security is working with all contractor personnel to schedule the NACI background investigation.

The new badge will be issued through the Personal Identity

"The new badge is the centerpiece of the Presidential Directive and will be issued to all civil servants and contractors by Oct. 27."

Verification process in accordance with a government-wide standard issued by the National Institutes of Standards and Technology, or

NIST. This badge will replace all existing badges for individuals needing access to NASA physical property or IT assets and who have a relationship with NASA for more than 180 days.

Each badge will contain an encrypted electronic representation of the individual's fingerprints, a photograph and a certificate that can be matched to a reader to allow access to IT resources and area locations.

The new badge is the centerpiece of the Presidential Directive and will be issued to all civil servants and contractors by Oct. 27.

With new badges meeting the NIST standard in use across all government agencies, KSC team members' identities can be immediately verified at any NASA center, which should facilitate access and eliminate most additional security checks.

For more information, contact your directorate's security points of contact

or visit KSC's Web site for the directive at <http://hspd12.ksc.nasa.gov>.

June NASA employees of the month



THE JUNE NASA employees of the month include, back row from left, Donald Schiller, Chief Counsel; Hudson Delee, Center Operations; Nelson Lerma, Engineering Directorate; Denton Gibson, Engineering Directorate and Scott Mimbs, Safety and Mission Assurance. Pictured in the front row, from left, are Chris Hinds, Human Resources; Lisa Smith, Constellation Project Office; and Mari Poulin, International Space Station and Spacecraft Processing. Not pictured are: James Davis, Chief Financial Office; Joye Williamson, Information Technology and Communications Services; Jack Gardner, Launch Vehicle Processing; and Mark Mertz, Launch Services Program.

Engineers group offers robotics camps for girls

Seventh and eighth grade girls can register for the Robotics Summer Camp for Girls being offered by the Society of Women Engineers from June 18 to 22 in Cocoa Beach. This exciting camp is an opportunity for girls to be creative while building and programming a robot to complete a mission.

Fourth and sixth grade girls can also learn robotics at the LEGO Robotics Summer Camp for Girls in Cocoa Beach. There are two sessions of this one-week program, with one scheduled for June 4-8 and the other June 11-15. A competition will be held at the end of each week.

Registration information is on the Web at www.swe-sc.org/Robotics.

Employees step up to donate blood for military

By Linda Herridge
Staff Writer

Kennedy Space Center and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station workers stepped up to help the U.S. military serving overseas and at home by donating blood to "Mission Life Force," an Armed Services Blood Drive Program operated out of Fort Bragg, N.C. It is the only Department of Defense donor center in the United States that maintains a wartime contingency stock of blood.

Donors filled two locations: Fire Station No. 1 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station on May 23, and the Kennedy Learning Institute on May 24. Captain Jason Corley leads the blood drive efforts at Fort Bragg. During the two-day visit to KSC and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Corley said nearly 300 workers donated 225 pints of blood.

"The response was outstanding," Corley said. "I hope everyone knows that the blood will be used to support troops overseas and here at home. We appreciate Space Gateway Support's efforts in helping to coordinate this blood drive."

According to Sgt. Amy Brooks,



KENNEDY SPACE Center employees donate blood in the Learning Institute for the "Mission Life Force" blood drive May 24.

a medical lab specialist attached to Fort Bragg, the tested and processed blood can last for 42 days, and plasma for 40 days. She added that fresh frozen plasma can last up to one year. The blood products are used to treat all military branch

soldiers at war, at home, and patients at the Womack Army Medical Center at Fort Bragg.

Space Gateway Support, along with NASA and the Air Force, coordinated the blood drive. Leon McGovern, the SGS director of

Engineering Services, helped coordinate the blood drive.

"It's the right thing to do," McGovern said. "And it's our obligation to donate blood if we can."

Daniel Cox, a Boeing employee, said he really wanted to give blood for the troops.

"This is the easy part; our military does the hard part," Cox said.

Linda Keene with Space Gateway Support said she hadn't given blood in a really long time.

"I was overdue, and this is for the military," Keene said. "It's a great feeling to help our troops."

Robert Johnson, with NASA's Applied Technology group and also in the Air Force Reserves, said he wanted to help the troops in any way he could.

"They deserve our support and prayers," said Ron Woods of the Johnson Space Center resident office at KSC.

The response to the "Mission Life Forces" blood drive was so overwhelming that Fort Bragg is planning to return later this year. To sponsor a blood drive, contact Linda Ellerbe at Fort Bragg at linda.ellerbe@us.army.mil, or call 910-396-9925/4222.

Hurricane awareness training prepares employees to respond

By Linda Herridge
Staff Writer

With the effects of the 2004 hurricane season not quite faded from memory, Kennedy Space Center employees attended hurricane awareness training at the Training Auditorium last month to prepare for this year's season. Coordinated by Space Gateway Support's emergency preparedness group, the presentation featured Brevard County Emergency Management Director Bob Lay, 45th Space Wing Shuttle Launch Weather Officer Kathy Winters, and John Cosat, chief of JBOSC emergency preparedness.

"Whether the season is busy or not, it only takes one storm to

come into your area to affect you," Winters said, adding there is a higher probability of storm formations for 2007 than last year.

During the week of May 7, a joint hurricane exercise involving KSC, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station and the 45th Space Wing was held in conjunction with the state of Florida. The exercise gave the KSC director, 45th Space Wing commander, Spaceport Emergency Operations Center and other organizations the opportunity to review plans and procedures, and prepare for what is expected to be a busy hurricane season.

Lay presented an overview of the potential effects of high winds, storm surges, heavy rainfall, inland flooding and tornadoes in Brevard.

(See HURRICANE, Page 4)



BOB LAY, director of Brevard County Emergency Management, talks to Kennedy employees about dealing with the effects of hurricanes.

NASA's Dawn mission first to use ion propulsion

By Jennifer Wolfinger
Staff Writer

Following its June 30 launch from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station aboard a Delta II rocket, and an eight-year and 3.2-billion-mile journey to protoplanets Ceres and Vesta, the upcoming Dawn mission will mark the first time a spacecraft will orbit two planetary bodies on a single voyage.

Long before the mission begins, however, spaceport workers prepare the spacecraft for its important job.

The spacecraft safely arrived at Astrotech Space Operations in Titusville on April 10. Testing began, using a replica of a NASA Deep Space Network station, and Dawn's batteries were installed. Days later, solar arrays which convert sunlight into electricity, arrived and software was loaded and tested.

In April, a four-day simulation of command and monitoring procedures was completed from Mission Control at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California. The procedures tested will be followed

during the first firing of the ion propulsion system after launch.

"This is the first time an ion propulsion system was designed and implemented in a dedicated scientific spaceflight application," explained William Van Dyke, Dawn launch site integration manager. "Dawn's use of ion propulsion has enabled us to do a mission which would have probably been unaffordable using conventional propulsion systems."

Furthermore, the spacecraft successfully completed two weeks of comprehensive performance tests in May. Each engineering subsystem and instrument was operated to verify it continues to function as required.

The first run of the same tests was conducted in 2006. Also, mission controllers conducted another successful simulation of the final four hours of countdown, launch and the first four hours of spacecraft operations.

Spin-balance testing, Vesta observations and telecommunications tests were also completed.

Final preparations in June involve a leak check, loading the first stage with liquid oxygen, a



AFTER ITS successful transfer to a transporter, the Delta II first stage for the Dawn mission is ready to move out of Hangar M.

simulated flight test and exercising the Delta II's electrical and mechanical systems.

Van Dyke, who helped plan and oversee these important processing tasks, is excited about the mission's groundbreaking milestones.

"This is the first time a spacecraft will orbit a main belt asteroid, do a detailed study, and . . . orbit two targets after leaving Earth," he said.

Dawn will explore two of the asteroid belt's most intriguing and dissimilar "baby planets" known as protoplanets Vesta and Ceres, and characterize the conditions and processes of the solar system's earliest beginning. The mission will also address what role size and water play in the evolution of planets.

For further details, visit <http://dawn.jpl.nasa.gov>.

HURRICANE . . .

(Continued from Page 3)

He added that predictions for the 2007 storm season include 17 named storms and nine hurricanes, five of which will be major storms. Lay said that based on hurricane strike history, 36 percent of all hurricanes and 76 percent of all storms that are Category 4 or higher strike Texas or Florida.

"We as individuals have to be prepared first," Lay said. He stated that nearly 250,000 residents living in the county are at risk, particularly those with special needs, or living in manufactured homes or on barrier islands.

He reviewed evacuation routes and shelter locations, including pet-friendly locations.

Workers were encouraged to view the Brevard Emergency Management Web site at www.brevardcounty.us/EOC, or call the office at 637-6670.

Hurricane preparedness and evacuation procedures are listed in the front of phone books. Lay also advised workers to invest in a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association weather-alerting radio.

Cosat reminded workers of four important focus points when a storm threatens the KSC area: have a family plan, know your evacuation route, know what to do if you are on the Hurricane Rideout or Damage Assessment and Recovery Team, and know your number to call for return-to-work status.

The week of May 20 is designated "Hurricane Preparedness Week" throughout the state. From May 20-26, a featured topic will be presented at <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/intro.shtml>. A hurricane awareness training video can be viewed on channel 60 each Thursday during hurricane season on all three work shifts.



IN A clean room at Astrotech in Titusville, employees prepare the Dawn spacecraft (left) for thermal blanket installation.

AT ASTROTECH, the solar panels of the Dawn spacecraft (below) are fully extended for testing and black-light inspection.



Visitors lift off on Shuttle Launch Experience



FORMER ASTRONAUTS take their seats in the newest attraction at Kennedy Space Center's Visitor Complex, the Shuttle Launch Experience. In the front row are (left to right) John Young, Rick Searfoss, Charles Bolden and Norm Thagard. The attraction includes a simulated launch with the sights, sounds and sensations of launching into space.

EXPERIENCE . . . (Continued from Page 1)

pretend orbit.

In the extreme-sensation world of attractions, the new shuttle launch simulator at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex has to rank near the top.

Of course, it helps that the event the Experience reflects is one of the most exciting activities humans have devised for themselves.

The KSC Visitor Complex team arranged a storyline that places a crew cabin in the payload bay of one of NASA's space shuttle orbiters. The passengers taking part in the experience ride in the crew cabin. Once in orbit, passengers see the payload bay doors open and look down on Italy from a pretend vantage point more than 100 miles above Earth.

Astronaut Charles Bolden hosts the simulation, translating his own expertise into palpable excitement for the passengers before they board the crew cabin. A state-of-the-art array of high-definition video screens, more low-frequency speakers, orange lights and even "smoke" from evaporating dry ice add to Bolden's introduction to the shuttle program.

After a "go" from Bolden, who flew the shuttle four times, partici-

pants take their places in the crew cabin. There's a quick check of seat belts and it isn't long before the cabin reclines and the countdown starts. Three monitors give the view from the flight deck, while a set of payload bay doors overhead reminds passengers that they are in the rear section of the orbiter.

There isn't much time to ponder the scenery before the main engines ignite and a low rumble kicks in. Just as on the real shuttle, the main engines get six seconds to come up to speed before the solid-fueled boosters light. Inside the crew cabin, this is the moment when the Experience is tested the most.

All the while, the screens at the front show the conversion from afternoon sun to the night sky as the orbiter speeds out of the atmosphere and over the Atlantic Ocean. Bolden also makes a couple more appearances to tell passengers when they have passed major milestones in the simulation.

The rumble of the solid rocket boosters subsides and the cabin jolts as the orbiter jettisons them. The main engines are still running and the cabin faithfully impersonates the continuing acceleration of the orbiter as it speeds toward 17,500 mph.

Then the engines stop.

Here is another test of the simulator: weightlessness. Passengers have been on their backs or reclined for the launch, so the transition back down imparts the brief sensation of microgravity.

Gasps from passengers accompany the opening of the payload bay doors as Earth is revealed above.

The simulation ends there. In real life, the crew would get on with enough tasks to fill every minute of two weeks in space. Passengers instead get a few minutes to stroll down a starlit walkway showing the 117 missions of the shuttle program.



MANY FORMER astronauts gathered at the entrance of the Shuttle Launch Experience on May 25 for the public grand opening.



JOHN YOUNG (left) and Bob Crippen (right), NASA astronauts for the first Space Shuttle mission, STS-1, share their impressions with the audience during the opening of the Shuttle Launch Experience. Seated on stage are Lt. Governor of Florida Jeff Kottkamp and Center Director Bill Parsons.



MANNHEIM STEAMROLLER helped commemorate the opening of the Shuttle Launch Experience with a performances May 25 and 26 at the Visitor Complex.

Government order sets Kennedy's energy, environmental goals

By Linda Herridge
Staff Writer

When Dana Arnold, chief of staff for the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive, last visited Kennedy Space Center, it was to view damage to facilities after the 2004 hurricanes.

She returned last month for a different but equally important reason: to brief KSC's Center Operations and Environmental Program Branch on a new executive order from the White House that strengthens existing federal environmental, energy and transportation management requirements.

Arnold said the order incorporates new mandates, the Environmental Protection Agency Act and the Farm Bill, eliminates outdated elements of prior orders, and sets goals for energy and environmental performance for all government agencies.

Diane Callier, chief of the Environmental Program Branch, said the new order reinforces KSC's collaborative approach for environmental management.

"The basis of the KSC environmental policy is that environmental leadership is fundamental to the NASA mission," Callier said. "It is the responsibility of every KSC

employee to conduct their work in a manner that supports it."

KSC has more than 100 environmental permits and a significant recycling program. Proceeds from the recycling efforts are used to promote additional recycling and pollution prevention at the center.

With this new order come updated and more aggressive performance goals for energy efficiency, renewable energy, water conservation, acquisition, pollution prevention/recycling, high-performance buildings and more.

For example, government agencies must improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by three percent annually through the end of fiscal year 2015, or 30 percent by the end of fiscal year 2015.

In the area of water conservation, beginning in fiscal year 2008, agencies must reduce water consumption intensity through cost-effective measures by two percent annually through the end of fiscal year 2015, or by 16 percent by the end of fiscal year 2015.

Callier said KSC is the NASA principal center for recycling and affirmative procurement, and serves as a resource available to all NASA centers for environmental research and support.



STANDING BENEATH Space Shuttle Endeavour, Dana Arnold (second from right), chief of staff for the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive, talks to Terry White, United Space Alliance project lead for thermal protection systems. At far left is Janet Bethay, lead for recycling and affirmative procurement with Dynamac Corporation, and (far right) Kim Manguikian with Center Operations.

Arnold said KSC consistently performs well in reducing the amount of toxic and hazardous chemicals needed on the center. She also pointed out that the center safely handles and disposes of those chemicals.

"As we expand our programs, particularly our green building and green purchasing programs, we expect to see greener products or services become more available to

the general public, as well," Arnold said.

Mike Benik, director of Center Operations, said NASA is a "can do" agency. "We have a variety of different environments here. We'll approach these challenges with the same commitment we do with space shuttle launches."

For more information about the KSC environmental program, visit <http://environmental.ksc.nasa.gov>.

Kennedy employees to mentor three new NASA Explorer Schools

NASA recently announced that Bear Creek Middle School in Fairburn, Ga., Park Creek Elementary in Dalton, Ga., and Flamingo Elementary in Hialeah, Fla., have been selected to begin a special three-year partnership with NASA. They are among 25 school teams nationwide that were named as new NASA Explorer Schools, or NES.

Representatives from Kennedy will help kick off the program at the three new schools with presentations during the coming school year.

"This program enables schools and their communities to partner with NASA to develop the nation's future science, technology, engineering and mathematics work force," said NES Program Manager Rob Lasalvia. "It is today's students who will help make the nation's vision of sending humans back to the moon, then on to Mars and beyond, a reality."

To begin the formal partnership, a team of educators and administrators from the three schools will attend a one-week professional development workshop July 15-20 at KSC. Each school team will develop a strategic plan to address its students' needs in mathematics, science and technology education. Schools also may apply for technology grants of up to \$17,500 over the three-year period to help implement their plans.

The NASA Explorer School Program began in 2003 in collaboration with the National Science Teachers Association. The program targets

schools in grades four through nine. There are now 200 teams in the program, representing 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

With this program, NASA continues the agency's tradition of investing in the nation's education programs. It is directly tied to the agency's major education goal of attracting and retaining students in the

A team of educators and administrators from the three new NASA Explorer Schools will attend a one-week professional development workshop July 15-20 at KSC.

disciplines of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM.

NASA is focused on engaging and retaining students in STEM education programs to encourage their pursuit of educational disciplines critical to NASA's future engineering, scientific and technical missions.

For information about the NASA Explorer Schools Program, visit <http://www.explorerschools.nasa.gov>.

Remembering Our Heritage

40 years ago: Mariner 5 departs on a four-month Venusian vacation

By Kay Grinter
Reference Librarian

As most Brevard County residents slept through the wee hours of June 14, 1967, the Unmanned Launch Operations team at Kennedy Space Center was hard at work in the Pad 12 blockhouse on Cape Kennedy. The Mariner 5 spacecraft lifted off at 2:01 a.m. EDT aboard an Atlas-Agena rocket on a four-month journey to the cloud-shrouded mystery planet, Venus.

In 1962, Mariners 1 and 2 had also been Venus flybys. Unfortunately, Mariner 1 had to be destroyed by Range Safety about 290 seconds after launch when it veered off course. Mariner 2 detected no radiation belts or magnetic field during its closest pass by Venus in December.

Mariner 5 was originally the backup spacecraft for the Mariner 4 mission to Mars. The spacecraft was redesigned to reconnoiter the planet Venus and was fully attitude stabilized, using the sun and the star Canopus as references.

The craft weighed 540 pounds, and in flight, measured 18 feet across its solar panels. A central computer and sequencer subsystem supplied timing sequences and

computing services for other spacecraft subsystems. Its payloads included a plasma probe, magnetometer, energetic particle experiment and a dual-frequency receiver. There was no television camera as the planet's cloud cover would prevent the return of any useful data.

NASA alumnus Jerry Tritto was the propulsion engineer for Lockheed's Agena second stage and was in the blockhouse for launch. From his home on Merritt Island, he recalled: "The engineer assigned to Convair's Atlas first stage, Doug Ahrens, and I didn't sit at instrumentation panels like the ones the test directors use in the shuttle firing rooms. We plugged into a communications channel and monitored the 'chatter' of the contractor teams over headsets. If any problems were discussed, we reported them, in turn, to Launch Director Bob Gray."

Venus yielded some of its secrets to the scientists at Caltech's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and other participating institutions following the probe's closest approach on Oct. 19 to the planet. From 2,544 miles above the surface — more than 19,000 miles closer than Mariner 2 had come and more than 49 million miles



from Earth — the instruments measured both interplanetary and Venusian magnetic fields, charged particles and plasmas, as well as the radio refractivity and ultraviolet emissions of the planet's



THE ATLAS-Agena rocket (left) carrying the Mariner 5 spacecraft lifts off June 14, 1967, from Pad 12 on Cape Kennedy. The spacecraft's payload (above) included a plasma probe, magnetometer, energetic particle experiment and a dual-frequency receiver.

atmosphere. The mission was deemed a success.

The Mariner 5 flight path following its Venus encounter carried it closer to the sun than any previous probe.

First astronaut autograph show at Visitor Complex is June 8-9

Mark your calendar for an opportunity to meet NASA legends June 8 and 9 at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex, with more than 20 astronauts and other space program luminaries gathering for the first astronaut autograph show to visit Florida.

The Sims and Hankow Astronaut Autograph Show, which travels to a different city every year, will provide showgoers with astronaut autograph sessions, photo opportunities, astronaut lectures, a formal banquet and a

silent auction of astronaut-donated memorabilia and experiences to benefit the non-profit Astronaut Scholarship Foundation.

Astronauts scheduled to attend include Scott Carpenter, Mercury astronaut; Gene Cernan, Gemini 9 and Apollo 10 and 17 moonwalker; Buzz Aldrin, Apollo 11 moonwalker; Alan Bean, Apollo 12 moonwalker; Edgar Mitchell, Apollo 14 moonwalker; Charles Duke, Apollo 16 moonwalker; Walt Cunningham, Apollo 7 astronaut; Rusty Schweickart, Apollo 9 astronaut;

Richard Gordon, Gemini 11 and Apollo 12 astronaut; Al Worden, Apollo 15 astronaut; Paul Weitz, Skylab 1 mission specialist; Jack Lousma, Skylab 2 mission specialist; Ed Gibson, Skylab 3 mission specialist; Robert "Hoot" Gibson, STS 41-B, 61-C, 27, 47 and 71 shuttle astronaut; Jon McBride, STS-41G shuttle astronaut; Tom Jones, STS 59, 68, 80 and 98 shuttle astronaut; and Brian Binnie, SpaceShipOne pilot.

Space program luminaries in attendance will include Eugene Kranz, former NASA flight

director; Guenter Wendt, pad leader; Sy Liebergot, Apollo 13 flight controller; Dee O'Hara, Mercury nurse and America's first aerospace nurse; and Jim Lewis, recovery pilot for Gus Grissom's Liberty Bell 7.

Single-day tickets are \$10 more than the Visitor Complex's regular admission price.

Astronaut autographs cost an additional fee. To purchase tickets, visit www.autographshows.net or call 936-444-3375.

Come for the BEST barbecue, stay for the fun

Tickets are on sale through June 15 for the annual "BEST BBQ," hosted by the Black Employee Strategy Team, from 3 to 6 p.m. June 22 at KARS Park 1, Area 1.

All spaceport employees, including those from the Kennedy Space Center, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station and Patrick Air Force Base, are invited and must have a ticket to enter. Cost is \$10 for a plate of chicken or ribs and \$14 for a combination plate of chicken and ribs; students pay \$5. Food will be served from 3 to 5 p.m.

Off-center guests are also invited. Tickets may be purchased

from the following: Maria Bland, Headquarters Building room 2641B; Wanda Petty, Headquarters room 2114B; Benita DeSuza, Headquarters room 3350D; Maxine Daniels, Space Station Processing Facility room 3228X; Valarie Franklin, Operations and Checkout Building, or O&C, room 1020A; Charmel Jones, O&C room 1073M2; Maggie Forbes, O&C room 5318Q; Linnette Daniels, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station Hangar N; Patricia Johnson, Cape Canaveral Hangar R, room 138; and Debra Dukes, Rotation Processing and Surge Facility, room 103.



THE 2007 Black Employee Strategy Team, or BEST, Barbecue will be held June 22 at KARS Park 1 beginning at 3 p.m.

NASA employees judge statewide science fairs

Justin Kolleda will serve an eight-week internship at the Kennedy Space Center beginning in June. The senior at Cocoa Beach Jr./Sr. High School plans to attend Florida State University to major in materials science and engineering, philosophy and chemical engineering. Kolleda, along with five other applicants, was interviewed and selected by three NASA representatives in 52nd State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida.

Kolleda's project was in the "Earth and space" category and was written about the effect of thermal induced stress on the cracking and destruction of the

space shuttle's thermal protection system.

Five junior and five senior students also received NASA awards. Senior management thanks the KSC volunteers from the various directorates for volunteering to share their knowledge and experience with teachers and students throughout Florida.

These volunteers went to Brevard, Orange and Lee county schools to judge science fair projects for elementary, regional and state competitions. Volunteer support is essential on behalf of KSC to help inspire the interest of young people in science, engineering, mathematics and technology.



HELEN KANE (left) presents the 2007 NASA-KSC Summer Internship Award to Justin Kolleda at the 52nd State Science and Engineering Fair of Florida. At right, Kane presents winners in the junior high school division.

Affordable housing needed for summer students at Kennedy

Students attending colleges and universities from across the U.S. will be employed as interns for 10 to 15 weeks during the summer months at Kennedy Space Center and need safe and affordable places to stay during this time.

These students are pursuing a degree in engineering or business. They gain practical, on-the-job experience to complement their academic studies, and some return to work at KSC after graduation.

Anyone who has a room or rooms to rent, or some other accommodation that could be made available to help these students, can provide information at the Web site, <http://ksccoops.proboards49.com/index.cgi>. The students who have been selected to participate in the internship use the Web site as a means to locate housing. If students are interested in a listing, they will contact the person directly to make final arrangements.

Contact Xaivian Raymond at Xaivian.L.Raymond@nasa.gov for more information.



John F. Kennedy Space Center

Spaceport News

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