November 25, 2005 Vol. 44, No. 25

Spaceport News

John F. Kennedy Space Center - America's gateway to the universe

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

Administrator Griffin updates NASA's new goals

All hands meeting updates Kennedy work force on exploration vision

At a Nov. 16 all hands meeting held in front of a standing-room-only audience at the Training Auditorium, NASA Administrator Mike Griffin told the work force he is happy with the progress being made on the new exploration vision.

"I've been very gratified by the comments that have been received, both through the media and from the executive branch on the hill (Washington), about the new exploration architecture," Griffin said. "Everybody has been really forthcoming in saying that it's efficient because it accomplishes the goals it needs with a minimum of new development and a maximum utilization of what we already own."

That maximum utilization includes using Apollo, Gemini and space shuttle technology to build the new Crew Exploration Vehicle. If those systems worked for Apollo, there should be no need to pump more funds into the program just to say it's different, Griffin said.

"We don't really need wings and they are not helpful in designing a vehicle that would return from the moon," he said. "I think we should be pleased that some of what we already paid as taxpayers to learn how to do remains applicable to the next generation of exploration."

The new vehicle will also require all NASA centers to work together to accomplish this long-range goal. The overall design of the system has to include the knowledge and understanding of the people who have to integrate, operate and launch the design, as

(See ALL HANDS, Page 2)

NASA ADMINISTRATOR Mike Griffin (seated) and Center Director Jim Kennedy held a Nov. 16 all hands meeting in the Training Auditorium. Griffin updated the work force on the early stages of the new exploration architecture and how it should evolve, among other items.

Cain leaves Johnson to lead space shuttle launch integration at Kennedy

Former flight director LeRoy Cain will direct all launch integration activities associated with the space shuttle at the center, reporting directly to program manager Wayne Hale at the Johnson Space Center. He replaces astronaut Greg Johnson, who returned to JSC after a year and a half.

"Leroy Cain, who handled himself with great distinction as ascent and descent director for the historic STS-114 mission, has moved to Florida," said Center Director Jim Kennedy. "We're privileged to have Leroy on board with us at Kennedy as we move forward with the next step in the exploration vision."

Cain will assist with overall management and operations of the Space Shuttle Program and define launch integration requirements between the shuttle and International Space Station programs. After graduation from Iowa State University in 1988, Cain joined the Guidance, Navigation and Control Systems Section at JSC. He was selected to be a flight director in 1998 and worked 16 shuttle flights - six as ascent flight director and eight as entry flight director.

LEROY CAIN is the new space shuttle launch integration director at Kennedy. He was the ascent and descent director for STS-114.

SPECIAL SECTION

See **pages 4-5** for details about the center's recent management reorganization, the new directorates and what you should know about the new exploration goals.

Jim Kennedy
Center Director

The Kennedy Update

Happy Thanksgiving, everyone! I hope you and your loved ones had a great holiday. We're all very busy, but it's important to keep a good balance in life and holidays give us a chance to spend quality time with our families.

I hope it was everything you hoped it to be, but most importantly, you did it safely and rejoined your KSC family back at work.

The last two weeks were highlighted by the first-of-its-kind Florida Space 2005 symposium held at the Debus Center Nov. 15-17. My compliments to Jim Banke and the National Space Foundation for providing the state with a first-class venue to highlight our national space program. By all accounts, it was a smashing success across the board.

Numerous impressive speakers addressed government and industry leaders gathered from across Florida. This included our own NASA Administrator Mike Griffin; Florida's Lt. Governor Toni Jennings; Undersecretary of the Air Force Dr. Ron Sega and the commander of Air Force Space Command Gen. Lance Lord. The goal of the symposium was to highlight the importance of the Florida space industry to our state and nation. It overwhelmingly hit the mark on both aspects.

While here, Mike took the time to hold an all hands meeting and I hope you were able to see it because it was dynamite. I want to focus the rest of my column summarizing some messages he left with us that will shape KSC's future.

Concerning the space shuttle program, the current plan calls for 18 more flights to the International Space Station plus a possible Hubble servicing mission. Despite news stories you might read, Mike does not want to reduce missions lower than 18 plus one as a way to solve future budget shortfalls.

A primary reason is we need 18 flights to complete the ISS. Now there are no absolutes in life, but this is the current plan the agency is working towards.

Speaking of the ISS, Mike said one of the greatest legacies of the program is the international partnerships that were built along with it. He said we'll energize this again as he definitely sees the international partners being part of the Vision for Space Exploration.

In fact, when he meets with them, they are as excited about the possibilities as any group. The station isn't only teaching us how to live in space; it's helping form the coalition that will take us back to the Moon and on to Mars.

Speaking of the vision, Mike said the feedback he is getting from all stakeholders states the exploration architecture unveiled in September is being well received. The architecture could have been done 10 different ways, but most people agree the path NASA took is very efficient.

> "The station isn't only teaching us how to live in space; it's helping form the coalition that will take us back to the Moon and on to Mars."

It builds on the lessons of the past while utilizing the current components of the shuttle program. It also meets the President's objectives during a budget-constrained environment. So it's here to stay and I'm excited about the prospects for future space exploration.

Finally, concerning the work force, Mike has been honest and straightforward on this point: the Constellation program will not need a work force as big as the current shuttle and station programs. That doesn't mean, however, he doesn't want to use as many of KSC's skilled people as possible; they just won't all be "huddled around a space vehicle, processing it."

I am always working with our Florida federal, state and local officials looking for ways to bring non-traditional work here to make up the difference and will continue to do so.

Future launch systems must be cheaper to process and maintain or we won't be able to afford human space exploration. The more efficient we are in vehicle processing will free up money to buy more space hardware and launch actual missions.

He discussed a great deal more, but space limits me here. You can get a full transcript of the all hands meeting from our Media Services Division or on the KSC internal Web page. I encourage everyone to read what Mike had to say; he is always very informative and to the point, which I believe is a great quality for a leader.

Have a great Thanksgiving everyone and see you around the center!

Visitor Complex offers 30 percent discount

Through Dec. 24, all badged Kennedy Space Center and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station employees can receive a 30 percent discount at all KSC Visitor Complex retail locations, including the Space Shop at the main Visitor Complex and the gift shop at the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame.

Present your badge at the will-call ticket window to receive a limited admission ticket. You must present your badge at the time of admission and purchase. This offer is not transferable and cannot be combined with any other discount. For gift ideas, visit http:\\www.kennedyspacecenter.com or call (321) 449-4444.

ALL HANDS . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

well as the knowledge and skill of the people who work with the rocket equation.

"We need a system that needs smaller support bases to keep it alive if we expect to keep alive, and the only way to do that is to use fewer people on any given thing," Griffin said. "I want you to do more things than having everybody crowding around one space launch vehicle."

NASA will also have to capitalize on the partnerships the agency has formed with other nations as the U.S. goes back to the moon or on to Mars.

"I deeply believe the longest-lasting value from the space station program will be the international partnership that we have forged in doing it," he said. "I would envision that partnership could work toward returning to the moon, developing research stations on the moon similar to the model we have in Antarctica today, and that we can add to the nations which comprise that partnership."

Griffin believes those are the issues that can unite the world, rather than divide it.

The administrator also revealed NASA has plans for an 18-flight space station assembly sequence, with one extra flight for the Hubble Space Telescope if future studies show it can be done safely.

"We had to make a choice between utilizing the station that we have or assembling the station," Griffin said. "We do not have the money to be able to do both, so I've chosen to assemble."

ZERO-G is first company to use SLF for commercial use

By Charlie Plain
Staff Writer

For the first time in NASA's history, the agency has opened one of its most recognizable facilities for use by a civilian business. The landmark event is the result of a cooperative agreement between NASA and Florida-based aviation company Zero Gravity Corp. to evaluate the use of Kennedy Space Center's Shuttle Landing Facility for commercial purposes.

Zero Gravity Corp., known as ZERO-G, offers passengers "parabolic" flights inside a jet to simulate the free-floating microgravity of space flight. Parabolas are wave-shaped flight patterns that produce 25 seconds of relative weightlessness for flyers onboard.

The company's flights usually depart from Ft. Lauderdale International Airport, but on the weekend of Nov. 5, NASA and ZERO-G partnered to give a special group of passengers the thrill of taking off and touching down at Kennedy.

"Today, we're flying a group of teachers aboard the Zero Gravity aircraft," former NASA astronaut Rick Searfoss said at the event. "One thing I can guarantee from their experience is lots and lots of smiles and giggles because this is the funnest thing you can imagine doing."

NASA granted ZERO-G access to the runway through existing legislation called the Reimbursable Space Act Agreement. This contract allows the company the use of the NASA facility for four flights, provided ZERO-G pays for expenses like fuel, building rental and equipment use. This agreement gave ZERO-G permission to use Kennedy's Saturn V Center to brief the teachers and fly the company's Boeing 727 from the Shuttle Landing Facility.

ZERO-G approached NASA after the agency announced it was accepting proposals to use its buildings and equipment for business ventures. NASA issued the request to assess alternative uses for some of its facilities as the agency transitions to focus on missions to explore the moon and Mars. ZERO-G expressed interest in offering flights from Kennedy Space Center because of its state-of-the-art facilities, history and unique atmosphere.

"It's an absolute honor to fly these teachers and do it from Kennedy Space Center," stated Noah McMahon, ZERO-G's chief marketing officer.

Kennedy Space Center Director Jim Kennedy expressed equal enthusiasm in welcoming ZERO-G to the center. "We're excited to have ZERO-G come to the Shuttle Landing Facility as the first demonstration project in this effort to broaden the facility's use," said Kennedy. "Their activities help share the experience of space flight with the general public - especially those educators who are developing our next generation of explorers."

PASSENGERS DISEMBARK at the Shuttle Landing Facility from a Boeing 727-200 aircraft used for weightless flights by Zero Gravity Corporation, known as ZERO-G, of Fort Lauderdale. NASA and ZERO-G demonstrated Nov. 5 the expanded access to the runway and landing facility at KSC for non-NASA activities.

Space Shuttle Discovery work includes gap filler inspections

In Orbiter Processing Facility bay 3, United Space Alliance technician Erin Schlichenmaier (pictured at right) inspects previous tile repair on Discovery's underside. Discovery processing is under way for the second return-to-flight test mission, STS-121.

Recently, the remote manipulator system that was removed from orbiter Atlantis was transferred to the processing facility. The arms were switched because of special instrumentation contained to gather load data. For updates about space shuttle processing, visit **http:\\www.nasa.gov\centers\kennedy\news\index.html**.

Center reorganizes to meet needs of NA

Center must capitalize on its Core Competencies

By Jim Kennedy
Center Director

As the Kennedy Space Center and NASA moves forward with our nation's space vision, the new NASA KSC Exploration 2005 reorganization is the first step to support and leverage our core competencies, including end-to-end processing, payload and spacecraft processing and providing spaceport services on all surfaces. Our priorities remain clear: to fly the space shuttle safely to the end of its mission, complete the International Space Station and gear up our center's support structure for the Crew Exploration Vehicle.

These unprecedented challenges provide the backdrop for an opportunity to restructure our organization to help make the exploration effort successful. This includes adding four new organizations: Advanced Planning, Applied Technology, Engineering Development, and the Constellation Project Office. To prepare for the upcoming mission, each new director will schedule a future all hands meeting to discuss the changes ahead. The nation is rallying around this new vision and I'm proud of the role KSC plays in this.

The four new directorates

Advanced Planning Office

Pat Simpkins, director of the new Advanced Planning Office, said his team's goal is to provide guidance and expertise in strategic planning. "Our office will lead and administer the strategic management process, increase KSC's strategic management capabilities, increase senior management's focus on strategic issues and help establish and nurture strategy relationships," Simpkins said.

The office will develop and implement a process to generate information of strategic importance to the center and the agency, and present the information in a format to senior managers so that timely and effective decisions can be made.

Constellation Project Office

Under the direction of John "Tip" Talone Jr., the Constellation Project Office represents KSC for the Constellation Program. The office, located on the second floor of the Operations and Checkout Building, is responsible for ground operations including the design, development

(Constellation Project Office continued)

and acquisition of required facilities and ground systems. It also manages integrated test and operations planning, including processing, launch and recovery of flight elements. These functions will be accomplished through KSC's existing design and operations elements.

To achieve the office's goals, "Initially, we must define the relevant program and project requirements, accompanying budget and operations concept," said Talone.

Applied Technology Office

Dave Bartine, director of the new Applied Technology directorate, hopes to maintain and strengthen the skills and capabilities that KSC and NASA programs require to support the application of technology for success.

"We will work with current programs and emerging exploration organizations, as well as other potential customers, to identify those areas with near-term needs and apply the considerable technology talent to solve those problems," Bartine said. The directorate will give new emphasis on support technology applications at the center.

Engineering Development Office

Scott Kerr, director of the new Engineering Development directorate, is familiar with the facilities at Kennedy Space Center from his most recent position as director of Center Operations.

"We will build an organization that can design, build and sustain the launch site for NASA's new exploration vision," he said. "By addressing the near- and long-term needs of the agency, we can be in a better position to take the Vision for Space Exploration and develop and implement the KSC response, in line with the desires of the administrator. Several KSC facilities and support equipment will undergo modifications to make this successful."

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

John F. Kennedy Space Center

Dr. Irene D. Long
Chief Medical Officer

Warren I. Wiley
Director, Independent Technical Authority & Systems Management

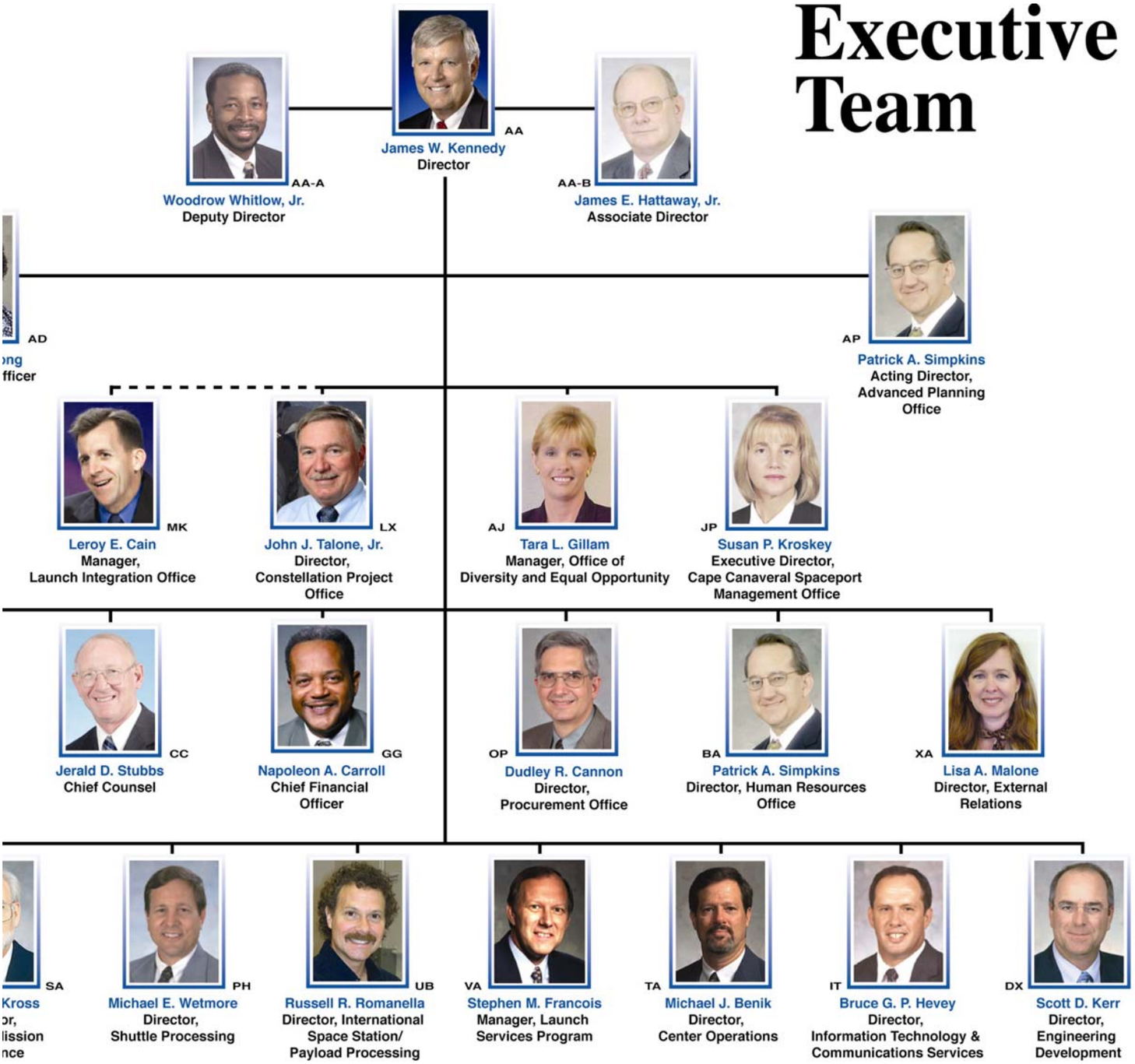
David E. Bartine
Director, Applied Technology

Denny A. Kross
Director, Safety & Mission Assurance

The development teams that have set the reorganization in motion include:

Major Move Program Manager Sheryl Marshall is wor with representatives from InDyne's Kennedy Integrated Communications Services, the Outsourcing Desktop Initi for NASA and Space Gateway Support to organize the off relocations for up to 200 employees. "The team is now remodeling three directorate suites," said Marshall, a year NASA employee who primarily serves as a support services specialist. The Constellation Project Office is loc in room 2066 of the Operations and Checkout Building. T Engineering Development suite in Headquarters room 32 welcomed occupants Nov. 18. The Applied Technology O will also be in Headquarters in room 3223.

# of NASA's new exploration vision



heryl Marshall is working Kennedy Integrated sourcing Desktop Initiative ort to organize the office . "The team is uites," said Marshall, a 23- serves as a support on Project Office is located Checkout Building. The eadquarters room 3211 Applied Technology Office 3223.

Workforce Planning and Analysis Supervisor Dicksy Hansen said the paperwork associated with KSC's reorganization efforts will be significant. "We had a total of 450 employees affected in some way or another by the reorganization," Hansen said. The heaviest workload will be in rewriting old position descriptions or creating new ones. Hansen said the workload will fall on the supervisor, administrative officers and human resources specialists, as well as the 11 workers on the Workforce Planning Team. Hansen said the main goals of the team include ensuring the organization structures and functions represent the goals of the reorganization.

Business Systems Manager Michael Bell said one of the first steps to starting a new organization is to define the interfaces, meaning who we receive work from and who we provide work for. "Having an idea of who the customers and suppliers are will help define what the organization does for them and who in the organization is assigned to doing it," Bell said. "Finally, you can prioritize the customers and determine how you will measure the outputs. This whole process is called a Supplier Input Process Output Customer analysis. Members of the business systems office (867-1160) are available to provide this service."

Peers notice Parker's behind-the-scenes work

By Linda Herridge
Staff Writer

Cathy Parker's path to becoming an administrative officer and 2005 Employee of the Year for her directorate took several twists and turns before she arrived at Kennedy Space Center nearly 23 years ago.

In 1973, Parker began her civil service career working with the U.S. Customs Service in Miami. After stints with a veterans hospital in Tampa and the Naval Ordnance Test Unit at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Parker joined KSC's secretary pool in 1983.

Her varied career includes work in NASA's payroll department, cargo payloads, the International Space Station project office, Spaceport Services and others. She became an administration specialist while working in logistics, then served as administrative officer for the Independent Technical Authority and Systems Management (ITA and SM) Office beginning in May 2004.

"The ITA and SM office is a great place to work," said Parker.

Parker serves as the interface between employees, management and human resources. She is responsible for maintaining training records, employee recognition, documenting promotions and new hires, as well as purchasing equipment, staffing, and helping to review and update some procedures and policies.

Oscar Toledo, ITA and SM director, said Parker is the type of person who everybody wants on their team. "She is always in the background making things work and helping everyone. She has the trust of her peers and everyone in the organization," Toledo said.

She received her directorate's Employee of the Year award for overcoming many challenges, including resolving unexpected issues while under very difficult time constraints. The peer-selected annual recognition is awarded to one recipient in each of KSC's directorates.

"I was very honored to receive the award," Parker said. "I've always had an interest in NASA. Who wouldn't want to work here at KSC?"

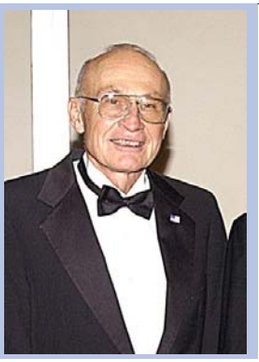
Parker and her husband, Craig, a United Space Alliance contracts administrator, will celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary in December. They have two daughters, Christine, 26, and Lindsay, 22, and 3-month old granddaughter Gianna.

She recently passed the National Safety Council's motorcycle course and is hoping to spend time riding her own bike with her husband.

CATHY PARKER is the ITA and SM Office NASA employee of the year.

My Story

By Bob Sieck
Former shuttle launch director



This column provides Kennedy Space Center employees and retirees a chance to tell their life's story. Readers are encouraged to submit a first-person article between 400 and 500 words. Talk about your family, career and most memorable experiences. A little bit about your career at KSC will be most interesting, as well. E-mail "My Story" submissions to Bruce.Buckingham-1@ksc.nasa.gov.

My story begins in the late 1950s while I was a student at the University of Virginia. I planned to graduate with a degree in electrical engineering and a commission in the Air Force. Hopefully, I could get through flight school and fly the supersonic airplanes of that era.

My plans - and the priorities of many others - changed with the launch of Sputnik. I now wanted to be a rocket scientist at the Cape.

However, the options for Lt. Sieck after graduation were either to attend flight school or become a weather forecaster supporting missile operations elsewhere. I chose the latter. As a wannabe rocket scientist, I grumbled a lot about the relevance of weather forecasting to my career goals. When my mandatory military obligation was finished, I left the Air Force and joined NASA and was able to get in on the ground floor of the Great Adventure: going to the moon.

My initial NASA job was as a spacecraft biomedical sytems engineer on the first Gemini mission. It was hands-on work which allowed me to meet all of the astronauts and spend many hours in the blockhouse, control rooms and the spacecraft. I had achieved my goal; I was now a rocket scientist.

I was working for - and trained by - the spacecraft operations legends of the time: Ted Sasseen, George Page, Walt Kapryan and Tom O'Malley. I continued to enjoy my various engineering jobs through Apollo, Skylab, Approach and Landing Tests, and early shuttle missions.

My only disappointment while on those teams was that I wasn't able to feel the effect of being outside for a launch, since I was always in the blockhouse or control room.

The exception was the memorable launch of Apollo XI, which I was able to watch with my family from Titusville since I was assigned to the next mission.

After the transition to shuttle, I continued with my engineering assignments until I became shuttle operations flow director and then launch director - a job I had never sought, but was privileged to have. Most launch commit criteria are straightforward in that they have discreet limits; they are either "go" or "no go." The weather, however, requires more judgment.

On many occasions, I was able to use my Air Force experience to convince myself and the other decision-makers that the weather was good enough to launch.

In hindsight, those years that I was Lt. Sieck really paid off. We still scrubbed many launches due to weather, technical and range safety issues, but I never left KSC after a scrub kicking myself that we, the KSC launch team, let one get away from us.

After retirement, my biggest adjustment has been being a spectator at a shuttle launch. In the control room, I had access to all the communication channels, technical information and could feel the human energy of the greatest launch team in the universe. As a spectator I miss that, but I do get to watch the launches from outside!

Remembering Our Heritage

40 years ago: Gemini 7 launched Dec. 4, 1965, from Cape

NASA celebrated 1965 holiday season with get-together in space

By Kay Grinter
Reference Librarian

Traditionally in America, extended families get together over the holidays to eat, talk, relax and have a few laughs.

Forty years ago, the NASA family was no exception. The "get-together" during the 1965 holiday season was especially important to the Gemini program and the lunar landing initiative to follow.

Gemini 7 launched on Dec. 4 that year with astronauts Frank Borman and James Lovell aboard. Their main objective was to accomplish the longest U.S. space flight to date.

Their capsule would also be used as the substitute target vehicle for a rendezvous with the Gemini 6 spacecraft. The original target, an unmanned Atlas-Agena, had been lost 10 minutes after launch on Oct. 25.

While performing some 20 experiments and waiting for his fellow astronauts to arrive, Lovell made himself comfortable by removing his new lightweight spacesuit. Thus, he became the first U.S. astronaut to fly in an undergarment in the "shirt-sleeve" environment of a spacecraft.

He and Borman dined on four alternating menus of three meals - 2,400 calories each and packaged in foil - throughout the record-breaking 14-day mission. Yum!

Like a lot of travelers, Walter Schirra and Thomas Stafford had trouble getting their trip started on Gemini 6 (due to technical problems during launch), but finally departed Dec. 15.

Once under way, the journey did not take long. By the fourth orbit, the two spacecraft were flying nose to nose about 25,000 feet apart. At its closest, Gemini 6 approached within one foot of Gemini 7.

The spacecraft flew in formation, keeping within 20 to 100 feet of each other for more than five hours while the astronauts took photographs and conversed.

Although their space visit was brief, Schirra and Stafford couldn't resist pulling a prank on Mission Control on Dec. 16, shortly before their reentry. An unidentified satellite, Schirra reported, was trying to make contact from a low polar orbit. Without further explanation, flight director Christopher Kraft and his team were treated to a rendition of "Jingle Bells" played on a harmonica and bells.

Gemini 7 splashed down in the Atlantic Ocean two days later on Dec. 18. The crew members had time to file their reports and still make it home for the holidays with their families.

This first NASA holiday get-together in space set the stage for rendezvous of the lunar, command and service modules required for the Apollo program to succeed, and also for the exchange of crews and delivery of supplies on the International Space Station that still takes place today.

FELLOW ASTRONAUTS join the Gemini 7 crew for breakfast on the day of the launch. Clockwise around the table, starting at the lower left, are astronauts James Lovell Jr., Gemini 7 prime crew pilot; Walter Schirra Jr.; Donald Slayton, assistant director for flight crew operations; Richard Gordon Jr., Gemini 8 backup pilot; Virgil Grissom; Charles Conrad Jr.; and Frank Borman, Gemini 7 crew command pilot.
At left, the erector is lowered at Pad 19 during the final minutes of the Gemini 7 countdown.

Shadow Wolves highlight Native American Heritage Month

In recognition of Native American Heritage Month in November, the KSC Native American Intertribal Council hosted Doug (right) and John Bothof of the Rosebud Sioux, who talked about their role as U.S. Customs Service patrol officers of the Shadow Wolves unit, a group of federal law enforcement officers of Native American ancestry.

In the hot, dusty deserts of the southwest, this elite team protects our borders from the transport of illegal drugs. They use traditional hunting and tracking skills passed down from their elders, along with high-tech modern equipment, to intercept more illegal drugs than any other customs unit in Arizona.

Florida Space 2005 offers new focus on future of space exploration

By Linda Herridge
Staff Writer

Against the backdrop of a brilliant full moon and rockets from a bygone era of space exploration, the first Florida Space 2005 conference kicked off Nov. 15 in the rocket garden of the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex.

Guests were treated to musical entertainment by jazz performer Jeff Kashiwa and The Coastal Access Band. A spectacular fireworks display, sponsored by United Space Alliane, concluded the opening festivities.

Florida Space 2005 combined the long-running Space Congress and the Cape Canaveral Spaceport Symposium into one new event sponsored by the Space Foundation, in association with NASA, the Florida Space Authority, the 45th Space Wing and the Canaveral Council of Technical Societies.

During the three-day event, NASA Administrator Griffin highlighted the role KSC will play in the space exploration program.

"KSC is a crown jewel of NASA and the state of Florida," Griffin said.

The event began with a reception featuring speakers such as Elliot Pulham, the Space Foundation's president and chief executive officer, KSC Director Jim Kennedy, and Joseph Adams, vice president and general manager of Pratt and Whitney Rocketdyne.

The energy carried over to the next day with several workshops and panel discussions, as well as a luncheon with Griffin as the guest speaker.

Griffin said NASA should avoid a repeat of the period from 1975 to 1981 when the Apollo program ended and a gap existed before the first space shuttle launch.

He said NASA recently formed the Commercial Crew/Cargo Project Office, encouraging private industry to provide cost-effective access to low-Earth orbit and the International Space Station in support of the Vision for Space Exploration.

Florida Lt. Gov. Toni Jennings gave a special presentation in which she praised the space program as an important part of our community's fabric.

She stressed the need for a good business environment and an educated work force for the future. Jennings said guidance is needed from entities such as the governor's Commission on the Future of Space and Aeronautics in Florida to help the space program move forward.

"We have a commitment here in Florida to continue our 50-year history of launching space vehicles," Jennings said. "We are going to continue to be the place for space."

Panel discussions on Nov. 16 and 17 focused on entrepreneurial space, harvesting current opportunities in government and industry, research and development, and positioning Florida for the future of space-related endeavors.

"We are about to go through a major transformation," Kennedy said during a panel discussion. "The only way we can get through it successfully is through cooperation."

A keynote luncheon on Thursday featured U.S. Air Force Gen. Lance Lord, commander of the Air Force Space Command.

The event culminated with a cocktail reception and the Florida Space Gala Dinner, featuring guest speaker Dr. Ronald M. Sega, Under Secretary of the Air Force.

NASA ADMINISTRATOR Mike Griffin addresses attendees at Florida Space 2005 held at the Visitor Complex, where he called KSC "a crown jewel of NASA."

Holiday Coffee set for Dec. 6

Mark your calendars for the annual KSC Holiday Coffee! Center Director Jim Kennedy invites all civil service and contractor employees to come and exchange greetings of the season with your friends, co-workers, and former co-workers at the KSC Headquarters Building from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Dec. 6. Refreshments will be provided on every floor.

Adopt-A-Child, Salvation Army toy drives begin

Civil service and contractor employees are conducting two holiday gift collection drives to benefit local children and seniors. JBOSC team members are again joining with the Department of Children and Families in sponsoring the Adopt-A-Child Program. In addition, the Space Coast Chapter of Federally Employed Women (FEW) is sponsoring the "Stuff a Stocking Project," part of the Salvation Army's Christmas program for this holiday season. To contribute to the Adopt-A-Child Program, contact Jeanne Madden, 867-1525; Amanda Calvin, 867-1363; or Mary Russell, 867-4977. Employees can contact any of the following FEW members to pick up a stocking: Barbara Powell, 867-7384; Becky Fasulo, 867-4436; Joette Feeney, 867-5944; Sandy Eliason, 861-9309; or Sandy Shaheen, 861-4168.

John F. Kennedy Space Center
Spaceport News

Spaceport News is an official publication of the Kennedy Space Center and is published on alternate Fridays by External Relations in the interest of KSC civil service and contractor employees.

Contributions are welcome and should be submitted two weeks before publication to the Media Services Branch, IDI-011. E-mail submissions can be sent to Jeffery.Stuckey-1@ksc.nasa.gov

Managing editor. . . . . Bruce Buckingham
Editor. . . . . Jeff Stuckey
Copy editor . . . . . Corey Schubert

Editorial support provided by InDyne, Inc. Writers Group.
NASA at KSC is located on the Internet at http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy
USGPO: 733-049/60095