

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Roundup

Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center

December 2008



International Space Station

Celebrating 10 years

JSC Director



On the cover:

Celebrating 10 years of International Space Station operations

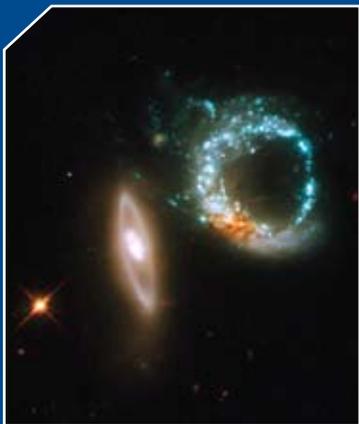


Photo of the month: Hubble scores a perfect 10

Just a few days after the orbiting observatory was brought back online, the Hubble Space Telescope aimed its prime working camera, the Wide Field Planetary Camera 2, at a particularly intriguing target—a pair of gravitationally interacting galaxies called Arp 147. Arp 147 lies in the constellation Cetus, more than 400 million light-years from Earth.

This image scores a “perfect 10,” both for performance and beauty, demonstrating that the camera works exactly as it did before going offline. The galaxy pair was photographed on Oct. 27-28.

Image Credit: NASA, ESA, and M. Livio (STScI)

In November, we celebrated yet another milestone in NASA's rich, 50-year history: the 10th anniversary of the International Space Station. In this issue, you will read about many of the important accomplishments of the station over the past decade. I would like to whet your appetite with a few interesting events that have taken place since the launch of the first module, Zarya, at 12:40 a.m. CST on Nov. 20, 1998.

The most recent shuttle mission by *Endeavour* (STS-126/ULF2) delivered supplies and logistics inside the Leonardo Multi-Purpose Logistics Module and set the stage for station growth to a six-person crew. A Soyuz rocket performed the most recent crew exchange of Expedition 18 for 17 in October. Expedition 17 returned on Oct. 24. The next Soyuz crew rotation is set for March 2009. Prior to STS-126, 114 spacewalks were conducted in support of station assembly—28 shuttle-based and 86 station-based—totaling more than 718 hours. The last four spacewalks by *Endeavour's* crew installed external station components and cleaned and lubricated both Solar Alpha Rotary Joints.

The European Space Agency launched the first Automated Transfer Vehicle, Jules Verne, atop an Ariane 5 launcher from Kourou, French Guiana, on March 8. It remained docked to the station for more than six months and was de-orbited over the Pacific Ocean on Sept. 29. With the addition of Kibo in June, the station has 25,640 cubic feet of pressurized volume and weighs 627,804 pounds. Those numbers reflect the addition of the Kibo Science Laboratory, which added 4,571 cubic feet of volume to the station. The complex now has livable room equivalent to a five-bedroom house.

The solar array surface area currently on orbit is 28,800 square feet, which is large enough to cover six basketball courts. This year has seen delivery of more than 44,000 pounds of hardware to the station, with another 32,000 pounds of supplies onboard *Endeavour*.

The space station travels an equivalent distance to the moon and back in about a day. A year of shuttle operations (with a seven-person crew on an 11-day mission for five flights a year) results in 9,240 total crew hours. One year of station operations, 26,280 total crew hours (a three-person crew for 365 days), is almost three times that amount.

Congratulations to the International Space Station Program, our international partners and all of you for your hard work and dedication. You have taken a dream and turned it into the most technologically advanced engineering feat of our time. Here's to another 10 years of discovery!



Spotlight

Rita Contreras
Center Communications System
Telephone Operator

Q: How long have you been with NASA?

A: It will be eight years in May.

Q: What kind of hobbies or interesting things do you do away from the office?

A: My hobbies are gardening, baking, cooking and spending time with my grandchildren.

Q: What is your idea of a perfect vacation?

A: Visiting every state in the United States.

Q: What is the last good book or article you read?

A: *The Financial Economy and Real Economy* by Justin Podur.

Q: What is the best movie in your collection?

A: I would have to pick *The Count of Monte Cristo*, 2002 release.

Q: What is the coolest part about your job?

A: Working with my coworkers in the Telephone Group as a team and multitasking. As a Johnson Space Center operator, I get to talk to people from all walks of life, such as dignitaries, congressional personnel, the past president from Mexico, former and current astronauts, and I even get calls from the International Space Station. That's right from "outer space," and that alone gives you chills—it's a real honor! Never in my life did I think that it would be possible.

Q: What does Johnson Space Center mean to you?

A: It means innovation; it means the world's future. Without the brave and courageous astronauts and everyone at JSC who make it all happen, we wouldn't have many of the modern technologies, medical equipment and all of the other spinoffs that we do.

Q: What do you look forward to at NASA?

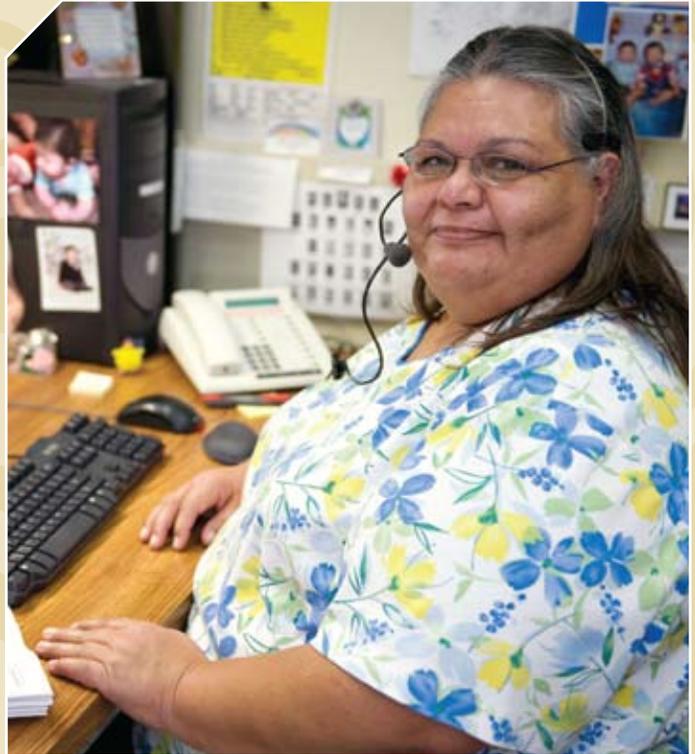
A: Landing on the moon again and continuing space exploration!

Q: What would people be surprised to know about you?

A: That I am a shy but very friendly person. I cried in 2005 while visiting Colorado Springs, Colo., when I saw the Rocky Mountains up close for the first time in my life. It happened at sunrise and really gave me great understanding of the phrase, "for purple mountain majesties."

Q: What is your best memory at JSC?

A: That JSC is basically a little city of its own, and even when tragedy strikes, it's one big family.



NASA/BLAIR jsc2008e140268

Q: What is your favorite quote?

A: "Life is about not knowing, having to change, taking the moment and making the best of it, without knowing what's going to happen next." — Gilda Radner

Q: Who are your heroes?

A: Of all my heroes I would have to pick my grandmother and my mother, the backbones of a large family, whose teachings showed me how to be a better person.

WANTED!

Do you know a fellow JSC team member who does something extraordinary on or off the job? Whether it's a unique skill, interesting work, special professional accomplishment, remarkable second career, hobby or volunteerism, your nominee may deserve the spotlight!

The Roundup shines the light on one person each month who is chosen from a cross section of the JSC workforce. To suggest a "Spotlight" candidate, send your nomination to the JSC Roundup Office mailbox at jsc-roundup@mail.nasa.gov with the person's name, title and a brief description of why he/she should be considered.

Jewel in the sky

Just as a diamond takes many years to go from a simple rock to something exquisite, after 10 years of hard work and dedication, the International Space Station is finally coming into its own.

With its 10th anniversary on Nov. 20, 2008, the station continues to lead the way in international cooperation, engineering ingenuity, scientific research and space exploration.

Ten years and 78 launches since its first component, the Zarya functional cargo block was launched from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. More than 164 different people representing 14 countries have visited the complex. The station's mass has expanded to more than 627,000 pounds, and its interior volume to 25,640 cubic feet. By comparison, Zarya's mass alone was just 55,000 pounds and its interior volume just 2,525 cubic feet.

"Zarya is the keystone upon which the (station) is built," said Doug Drewry, Zarya Launch

Package manager. "But the real accomplishment is the teamwork and cooperation that went into creating and building Zarya. American and Russian engineers worked side by side to lengthen and strengthen the basic structure. They added a first-of-its-kind docking module and integrated a U.S. computer system into its core functionality. The reason there was a U.S. flag and a Russian flag painted

on the launch shroud had nothing to do with funding—that was a true joint effort."

The station is now as large as a five-bedroom, two-bathroom house, and the STS-126 mission integrated new life support systems, increased the self-sufficiency of the outpost and made it ready to shelter and engage its first six-person crew in the summer of 2009.

The station is not only

getting bigger, but the projects it will tackle with its expanded capabilities will make the space program—for all nations—shine.

"It is our destiny to do big projects, because the bigger the challenge and the more complex the integration of hardware, the more we need specialists in many different fields. In the future, we will need to integrate people from different disciplines and different countries, otherwise we will be doomed to work only on simple, basic issues," said Sergei Krikalev, deputy general designer and cosmonaut.

The future of interstellar exploration will hinge on international relations, as countries that stand alone will be left behind.

"No country has the political will to really push exploration the way it needs to be pushed. It would take a tremendous amount of effort for any one country to go forward and to push in these



"Before we launched the first module to the space station, we only had experience as Americans for short-duration spaceflights. With the International Space Station, we've learned so many things so far and we're going to take what we've learned and apply it to flying to the moon and Mars. For example, what does it take to keep people alive for six months aboard a space station? How do you supply oxygen and remove carbon dioxide? How do you feed so many people? Everything we're learning so close to home, only 240 miles away from the planet, we can apply to the moon, 240,000 miles away."

— Expedition 18 Commander
Mike Fincke

International Space Station turns 10

areas and to do exploration to the moon and Mars, or to even do space station. It would be impossible for any single country to do what we're doing here on space station," said Bill Gerstenmaier, NASA Space Operations Mission director. "As a team, we have to give up some of our own nationalistic interests a little bit, but we're pulling for a higher good. That higher good is to learn to explore, to learn to push frontiers, to learn to move out. And that's really what cooperation brings us, and I can't think of a better example than space station when you look forward."



NASA/PHOTO 98_019970



NASA/PHOTO 99_006883

Zarya, the first component of the International Space Station, launched flawlessly on Nov. 20, 1998. Atop a Russian Proton rocket, the Zarya module was lifted into orbit from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.

"At night, when I go out to look at the International Space Station fly over, I'm very proud of the accomplishment not only of this country and this agency, but of all the countries that have participated. It is such a basic achievement to our survival of the human species."

— International Space Station Program Manager
Mike Suffredini



NASA/PHOTO ISS015406687

Taken March 26, 1998, this photo shows the aft docking port of Zarya as it is prepared for shipment from its Moscow factory to the launch site in Kazakhstan. This was the first component launched for the International Space Station.

Station Fun Facts

- International Space Station crews have eaten about 19,000 meals since the first expedition in 2000.
- To date, 155 U.S.-integrated investigations, serving over 600 countries, have been conducted over 16 expeditions. As of March 2008, 94 have been completed.
- About 700,000 NASA digital photographs of Earth are downloaded by the public each month.

Happy Anniversary NASA!

It was a party for the ages. Five decades, to be exact.

Nearly 3,000 NASA team members and their families, including some of the brightest stars in the history of our nation's space program, gathered at the Galveston Convention Center on Nov. 22 to celebrate 50 years of NASA, launched in 1958.

It was a reunion of sorts, with partygoers from all generations and disciplines in the crowd. They came to meet and catch up with each other and also honor the expertise, dedication and teamwork that led to some of the most remarkable accomplishments ever achieved by humankind.

The event began with a wine-and-cheese reception, featuring a panel of astronauts from Gemini to the International Space Station era. The panel included John Young, Alan Bean, Robert "Bob" Crippen, and Drs. Peggy Whitson and Tom Marshburn. Johnson Space Center Director Mike Coats said it was a "treat for us—a real honor" to have them there, as they "represent the future 50 years as well." The group shared their experiences and took questions from the audience.

Coats kicked off the party with welcoming remarks to the crowd, thanking the Golden Celebration Committee and saying he was honored to be with everyone for this momentous occasion for NASA, as well as the celebration of Galveston's return from the challenges of Hurricane Ike. He recognized NASA Administrator Dr. Mike Griffin, whom Coats joked was the "Chief Engineer of the Universe," and three former JSC center directors also in attendance.

Guests had four different themed ballrooms to mingle in, each representing a different space program, and a few bands and DJs played classic tunes to match the era. Catered international cuisine, a variety of tasty desserts, and specialty cocktails such as the "Solid Rocket Booster," the "Zero-G" and "Mars-Tini" were served up in each room.

Toward the end of the evening, a videotape of Expedition 17/18 space station resident Greg Chamitoff saluting the crowd was downlinked from the station. Coats then invited all to join him in a spirited champagne toast, wishing everyone the happiest holiday season as NASA prepares for new challenges and adventures.

"NASA friends and family, NASA's goals are to improve life here, to extend life there and to find life beyond. For 50 years we've served our country well, and I'm confident for the next 50 years we shall do the same. So to NASA and each of you—salute!"

After glasses were raised in cheers, the stage of each ballroom exploded in celebratory fireworks, followed by streamers and confetti bursting from the ceiling.

The bands played on with guests dancing until the midnight hour, when they were greeted with gifts of handmade chocolate truffles and a commemorative 50th anniversary champagne glass as they made their way to the exits.

At half a century, there's no such thing as over the hill—we're just getting this party started.

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"NASA's greatest accomplishment is achieving something that human beings used to use as a metaphor for the impossible—flying to the moon. But that's not our last achievement. In the next 50 years I am convinced that, if we keep our sense of purpose, when we celebrate the 100th anniversary of NASA we can also celebrate the 20th anniversary of the first landing on Mars."

— Dr. Mike Griffin,
NASA Administrator

"I'm awfully proud of the first 50 years of NASA. I think what we've done is remarkable. Obviously we went to the moon, we won the space race and built a reusable space ship that's amazingly capable. Now we're building the International Space Station—the world's finest laboratory. But I'm really excited about the next 50 years. I think young people are going to see things that I can only dream about. People are going to walk on the moon, they are going to walk on Mars, and they're going to start exploring the solar system and I wish I could be around to see it."

— Mike Coats,
JSC Center Director

NASA/BLAIR jsc2008e147873



NASA/BLAIR jsc2008e147830



"The Apollo missions and making it to the moon is one of our greatest accomplishments—a tremendous endeavor in such a short period of time. Everyone looks back at that as an inspiration. I myself found it inspirational and chose to work at NASA and hope that we continue that tradition of inspiration throughout our exploration."

— Dr. Peggy Whitson,
Astronaut

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NASA/BLAIR jsc2008e147867



NASA/PHOTO jsc2008e147879



“Our greatest challenge facing NASA is to find a way to make human spaceflight profitable... if we can find a way to be of profitable service to the world, to harness industry and commercial entrepreneurship, we'll get more funding to see this program really take off.”

– Alan Bean,
Former Astronaut

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NASA/BLAIR jsc2008e147848



“When I joined NASA in 1964, it was very different and to be able to look at the changing face of NASA with its diversity is one of our greatest accomplishments in the last 50 years.”

– Estella Gillette,
Former Deputy Director,
External Relations

NASA/BLAIR jsc2008e147842



“My greatest experience since I've been here is probably the return to flight (STS-114 mission) but I'm amazed year after year what the NASA workforce can do. Every time I think there's nothing more that can impress me, within the next year we do something else that is just astounding.”

– Paul Hill, Director,
Mission Operations

NASA/BLAIR jsc2008e147847



“For the next 50 years I hope we see us partner with other nations to go back to the moon and onto Mars, and to see a place where my children can take a vacation to, or cruise around the moon with, their families.”

– Steven Gonzalez,
Deputy, Advanced
Planning Office

NASA/BLAIR jsc2008e147875



If you'd like to see additional pictures from the gala and festivities, check out JSC Features at <http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/jscfeatures/>.

NASA/BLAIR jsc2008e147854



“Personally, I believe the magic of the space program goes back to the chemistry of the Space Task Group led by Dr. Robert Gilruth. He merged the engineers and the talent from the Langley Research Center with the crackerjack flight test team and a young bunch of Americans fresh out of college. It was the chemistry in that group that allowed America to achieve supremacy in space.”

– Gene Kranz,
Former Flight Director

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NASA/BLAIR jsc2008e147859



‘Houston ... we have a solution’

NASA Employees Honored by National Hispanic Engineering Organization

By Rob Lazaro

Johnson Space Center Deputy Director Dr. Ellen Ochoa, Glenn Research Center ARES I-X Program Chief Engineer Adabelle Narvaez-Legeza, and Ames Research Center Associate Director of Engineering Phil Luna were honored by the Hispanic Engineer National Achievement Awards Conference (HENAAC) at the organization’s annual career conference and awards program Oct. 9 – 12 in Houston.

Ochoa was recognized with HENAAC’s top honor, the Engineer of the Year Award, while Narvaez-Legeza was recognized with the Professional Achievement in Government Award. Luna was recognized as a 2008 Luminary Honoree but was unable to attend the conference.

“I am honored to accept this award from HENAAC, whose mission has encouraged and inspired so many over the last 20 years,” Ochoa said.

The award was not the first Ochoa has received from HENAAC. She was also recognized with the Most Promising Engineer Award during the first year of the conference in 1989.

Narvaez-Legeza was recognized for her work as chief engineer for the Upper Stage Simulator of the Ares I-X Program. In support of the

“... it’s a great opportunity to showcase what we do at NASA and hopefully inspire a lot of students to think about (NASA) for their future.”

– JSC Deputy Director
Dr. Ellen Ochoa

Constellation Program, Narvaez-Legeza’s work has directly contributed to NASA’s goals of transporting humans to the moon and Mars.

“My message to the young people in the audience is (that) with faith, dedication and perseverance, you can make it to the top, climb any hill and find success while balancing your career and family,” Narvaez-Legeza said.

Since NASA served as one of the conference hosts, NASA astronauts and employees also participated in panel discussions, career fairs and technical seminars.

“I’m excited that the conference was in Houston this year, because it’s a great opportunity to showcase what we do at NASA and hopefully inspire a lot of students to think about (NASA) for their future,” said Ochoa.

The conference theme, “Houston ... we have a solution,” refers to the many initiatives HENAAC has instituted in its 20-year history to solve the problems plaguing the technical workforce pipeline in the United States. These solutions include community service, scholarship programs and partnering with educational institutions, industry and government to help educate young Hispanics in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) disciplines.

Since 2000, HENAAC’s Scholars Program has awarded more than \$1 million in educational grants to more than 470 students pursuing careers in STEM. At this year’s conference, NASA sponsored eight HENAAC

scholarships awarded to students pursuing degrees in engineering.

“It is a statistical certainty that the Hispanic community will soon (reach) 29 percent of the American population,” said Ray Mellado, HENAAC chair and CEO. “In order for the United States to remain number one and at the cutting edge of STEM, Hispanics must be a part of the solution.”

More than 500 people attended the conference, which was also broadcast live on NASA TV and the Internet.

Established in 1989, HENAAC is a nonprofit organization that focuses on STEM educational awareness programs for students from kindergarten to career. HENAAC provides resources for recognition and recruitment of Hispanics in STEM on a national level, connecting multi-areas of engineering and science arenas to the general population. For more information on HENAAC, visit: www.henaac.org



JSC Deputy Director Dr. Ellen Ochoa receives HENAAC’s top honor, the Engineer of the Year Award.

Did you know?

- HEENAC has a presence in over 40 states through HENAAC STEM programs, scholarships, travel grants, award winners and outreach.
- HEENAC has held 19 National HENAAC Conferences and Award Shows, with a combined total of over 35,500 professional and student participants active in STEM.
- The organization has engaged students from 90 colleges and universities in various HENAAC programs and events.

Educating and inspiring

The Speakers Bureau has a mission for you

By Heather Nicholson

When Patrick Buzzard comes to work every day, he finds inspiration in a homemade space shuttle model displayed on his desk. But it's not considered just any space shuttle to this International Space Station Education, Outreach and Strategic

Bureau Volunteer of the Year for his community work, and said it reminds him of what his true mission is at NASA.

"Most NASA and (station) employees do not realize that it is also a part of NASA's charter and mission to support education and

Speakers Bureau Volunteer of Year in 2007. For several summers now, she traveled to Scotland to participate in the Scottish Space School Foundation. Last summer, Paul encountered several students who had seen her presentations from the year before, and they told her that the presentation had inspired them to pursue an engineering degree in college.

"I believe that it is my responsibility to be the best engineer that I can be for NASA, but this means more than just doing my daily job. Part of my engineering responsibility is to educate the next generation of engineers and space explorers, and being a part of the Speakers Bureau allows me to do just that," Paul said.

It's hard for volunteers like Paul and Buzzard to put into words the excitement they feel when faced with an auditorium of 200 to 300 students interested in the space program. Most of the students have worked weeks in advance on space-related topics, and when they finally get to meet a real NASA employee, it's not uncommon that they ask for an autograph.

"I know without a doubt that I have made a difference. Once you have had this experience, you will want to support additional Speakers Bureau events. You will never look at your job the same, (because) you will know that you are fortunate to work for NASA," said Buzzard, who has

"Part of my engineering responsibility is to educate the next generation of engineers and space explorers, and being a part of the Speakers Bureau allows me to do just that."

— Heather Paul, Speakers Bureau volunteer

been volunteering in the Speakers Bureau program for three years.

The Speakers Bureau benefits both the young and old. For younger students, it offers a chance to talk with someone who actually works for NASA, and its aim is to inspire them to study science and math for a future career in space exploration. Paul, who has been a volunteer since 2001, said she has received thank you notes from students who heard her speak years ago and are now interested in pursuing employment at NASA.

For adults, it gives them the opportunity to ask questions about NASA and space exploration and get answers they wouldn't ordinarily find elsewhere.

"I think that the audience truly enjoys interacting with NASA speakers at their events. There are many misconceptions about the people who work at NASA, and sending speakers to events to educate dispels these myths while educating the public about what we actually do," Paul said.

For more information on becoming a Speakers Bureau volunteer, contact the Speakers Bureau coordinator at 281-483-4754 or jsc-spkbure@nasa.gov, or visit the Web site: <http://www.nasa.gov/centers/johnson/events/speakersbureau/speakersbureau.html>



Speakers Bureau gives JSC team members the opportunity to inspire the next generation to pursue careers at NASA.

Communications lead; it's a gift from a local Boy Scout troop he spoke to about NASA's mission.

Buzzard and numerous others at Johnson Space Center take their jobs out of the center and into the classroom as Speakers Bureau volunteers. Buzzard was recently named Speakers

outreach events and activities. It is very rewarding to me personally to interact with the public, and especially the students and educators," Buzzard said.

Heather Paul, Ventilation Subsystem lead for the Constellation Spacesuit Portable Life Support System, was

Star of Constellation

South Texas native helps NASA reach for the moon

NASA's Constellation Program isn't just about building the next generation spacecraft, but launching explorers that will help us learn more about our world. Discover the faces behind the hardware that will send humans to the moon and beyond with each Star of Constellation profile.

NASA's Constellation Program is taking the next giant leap—developing the people, spacecraft and equipment needed to extend our reach beyond low-Earth orbit to the moon and then beyond. But the leap begins here with people like Humberto Sanchez, who works in Constellation's Operations and Test Integration (OTI) office.

Constellation is developing America's newest space transportation system that will help NASA establish a sustained human presence on the moon as a platform for continued space exploration. Sanchez's role in the OTI office includes contributing to the development of Constellation's operational and testing requirements.

Known as "Beto" to his coworkers, Sanchez worked in the Mission Operations Directorate on "plan, train, fly" for space shuttle and International Space Station missions. He helped plan shuttle and station missions, and then made sure the astronauts were trained for the missions they would fly.

Born in Columbus, Wis., Sanchez and his family soon moved to the little town of Edcouch, Texas, and then again to the nearby town of Harlingen. During high school, Sanchez remembers having teachers who encouraged him and helped him prepare for college. Looking back, he says he now realizes his science teachers are what led him to NASA.

At the University of Texas, Sanchez chose to major in mechanical engineering because it offered him a taste of everything engineering: heat transfer, physics and mechanics.

He had no plans to work for NASA. Then, after graduation, Sanchez by chance saw a job fair card announcing a visit by NASA recruiters. Sanchez did some research, followed through with an interview, and then drove his beat-up car to Houston.

Today, he's planning the next mission to the moon: from ground operations to launch and landing.

"I am currently supporting the Constellation Virtual Mission Project. It involves simulating flight exercises to test and validate ground operations in preparation for future missions," said Sanchez.

Sanchez realizes that the work he and his team are doing will contribute to the foundation of the Constellation

Program. As Sanchez looks forward to the next giant leap for space exploration, he thinks back to the first step taken on the moon decades ago.

"I remember watching the Apollo 11 mission at my grandmother's house on a small black-and-white television," said Sanchez. "Now here we are again, striving to go back to the moon. What I really hope for is to be around when we go to Mars. Now that would be awesome!"



NASA/MARKOWITZ jsc2008e055662

Center Scoop

Paving the way

NASA/BLAIR jsc2008e135678



With just a few shovels of dirt, Johnson Space Center plunged into a brighter future with the groundbreaking of Building 26 on Oct. 28. This building will be the Center for Human Spaceflight Performance and Research, and it is scheduled for completion in October 2009.



NASA/BLAIR jsc2008e135679

JSC Director Mike Coats, far right, joins in breaking ground for Building 26.

Second phase in action for Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD-12)

The implementation of HSPD-12 continues to progress at JSC and White Sands Test Facility. We successfully met the Office of Management and Budget's Sept. 30 milestone for issuing badges to our population. Now, we start the second phase of HSPD-12: the use of smartcards and agency identification and authentication initiatives for NASA resources.

For physical access, your new badge is used for access to the center and controlled-access areas (through card readers). In the coming months, secure access to certain high-risk facilities will be enhanced with the introduction of a required personal identification number (PIN).

For Information Technology (IT) access, we are working toward giving you the ability to log into your workstation, Web sites and other applications by inserting your new badge into a computer card reader and entering a PIN. That is due to start, on a limited basis, in the summer of 2009.

Included in these initiatives is a single agency Web site to request access to any agency application—a one-stop shop for account requests. All of these IT access/request changes will occur over the next several years, with a final date of Sept. 30, 2011, for all aspects of HSPD-12 implementation.

Party like it's 1998



NASA/BLAIR jsc2008e14770

Instead of paying attention to that Prince song playing in your head, divert your attention to a few photos from the International Space Station 10-year Anniversary Party held at Space Center Houston on Nov. 20. The event was complete with great fajitas, music by Max Q (the astronaut band) and an astronaut autograph session for the partygoers.



NASA/BLAIR jsc2008e147785

Max Q, the astronaut band, entertained guests at Space Center Houston.

NASA wows **crowds** at Wings Over Houston



NASA/MARKOWITZ | jsc2008e135024



NASA/MARKOWITZ | jsc2008e135053



NASA/MARKOWITZ | jsc2008e135018

Setting a record attendance this year, approximately 160,000 visitors attended Wings Over Houston Airshow at Ellington Field on Oct. 25 – 26. Johnson Space Center brought an exhibit to the event to mark NASA's 50th Anniversary and to introduce the Constellation Program to the local community, Houstonians and tourists at the show. JSC volunteers staffed the exhibit on both dates, engaging visitors with information about the space program. Astronauts Peggy Whitson and John Phillips, as well as Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency astronauts Koichi Wakata and Akihiko Hoshide, signed autographs.

Roundup

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