

DATES & DATA**February 18-24**

National Engineers Week: JSC's observance of National Engineers Week is a voluntary education outreach activity when civil service and contractor engineers and other aerospace employees visit K-12 schools within 50 miles of JSC to engage students in hands-on math and science experiences to help improve student interest in engineering, technology, science, and mathematics, which may lead to increased enrollment figures in the engineering fields. For more information go to <http://www4.jsc.nasa.gov/scripts/eweek/index.cfm>

February 23

Chess Club meets: The Space City Chess Club meets each Friday evening from 5:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the Clear Lake United Methodist Church, 16335 El Camino Real, Rm. 423. All skill levels are welcome. For more information, please call James Mulberry at x39287 or James Termini at x32639.

February 28

Spaceteam Toastmasters meet: The Spaceteam Toastmasters meet Feb. 14, 21 and 28, at 11:30 a.m. at United Space Alliance, 600 Gemini. For more information, contact Patricia Blackwell at 281-280-6863.

Astronomy seminar: The JSC Astronomy Seminar Club will meet at noon in Bldg. 31, Rm. 248A. For more information contact Al Jackson at x35037.

March 1

Warning System Test: The site-wide Employee Warning System performs its monthly audio test at noon. For more information contact Bob Gaffney at x34249.

Communicators meet: The Clear Lake Communicators, a Toastmasters International club, meet March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 30 at 11:30 at Wyle Laboratories, 1100 Hercules, Suite 305. For details contact Allen Prescott at (281) 282-3281 or Richard Lehman at (281) 280-6557.

March 2

Chess Club meets: The Space City Chess Club meets each Friday evening, March 2, 9, 16, 23 and 31, from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Clear Lake United Methodist Church, 16335 El Camino Real, Rm. 423. All skill levels are welcome. For more information, call James Mulberry at x39287 or James Termini at x32639.

March 5

The Clear Lake area chapter of the National Space Society meets at 6:30 p.m. at the Parker Williams Branch of the Harris Co. Library at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. For more information contact Murray Clark at (281) 367-2227.

NSBE meets: The National Society of Black Engineers meets at 6:30 p.m. at Texas Southern University, School of Technology, first floor. For more information contact Kimberly Topps at (281) 280-2917.

March 6

Quality Society meets: The Bay Area Section of the American Society for Quality meets at 6 p.m. at the Franco's Restaurant. For more information contact Ann Dorris at x38620.

March 7

Spaceteam Toastmasters meet: The Spaceteam Toastmasters meet March 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 11:30 a.m. at United Space Alliance, 600 Gemini. For more information contact Patricia Blackwell at (281) 280-6863.

Astronomy seminar: The JSC Astronomy Seminar Club will meet at noon March 7, 14, 21 and 28, in Bldg. 31, Rm. 248A. For more information contact Al Jackson at x35037.

March 8

Airplane club meets: The Radio Control Airplane Club meets at 7 p.m. at the Clear Lake Park building. For more information contact Bill Langdoc at x35970.

NASA BRIEFS**NASA EXERCISES DELTA II CONTRACT OPTION FOR NOAA-N**

NASA today announced it is exercising a contract option for a Delta II vehicle to launch NOAA-N for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The spacecraft is currently planned for launch in January 2003, from Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA. This firm-fixed-price option is covered under the NASA Medium Light (MED-LITE) launch service contract (NAS5-32933), awarded by the agency on Feb. 27, 1996, to McDonnell Douglas Corp. of Huntington Beach, CA, a subsidiary of The Boeing Company.

The goals of NOAA-N after its launch into polar orbit are to take images and measurements of the Earth's atmosphere, cloud cover and surface, as well as to monitor the proton and electron fluxes near the Earth. The satellite can store and transmit the data from its instruments. NOAA-N will also be capable of receiving, processing and re-transmitting data from free-floating balloons, buoys, and remote automatic-observation stations around the globe, as well as detecting and re-transmitting search-and-rescue distress signals.

NOAA-N is managed by the Polar Operational Environmental Satellite Program at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center and is a cooperative effort among NASA, NOAA, the United Kingdom and France. The launch service and launch management are the responsibility of NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

WEBSITE SHOWS HUMAN SIDE OF SPACE STATION

Visit NASA's new "Personal Space" Web site and get up-close and personal with International Space Station team members like STS-98 astronaut Robert Curbeam.

Other featured space station team members include:

- Kathy Laurini, an American mother of three who lives and works on the Automated Transfer Vehicle project in the Netherlands;
- Takayoshi Nishikawa, a triathlete who prepared and conducted the training program for station astronaut candidates at the Japanese Space Agency (NASDA);
- Dino Brondolo, an avid winemaker who spent the last nine years building Multipurpose Pressurized Logistics Modules for the Italian Space Agency;
- Alain Dubeau, manager of the Canadian Space Station Program, whose inch-worm-like "Canada Arm" robot arm will aid future station construction;
- Sylvie Beland, also of the Canadian Space Agency, whose job is to ensure all Canadian hardware, including the famous robot arm, and flight-support equipment arrive at the station safely; and
- The Expedition One crew—two Russians and an American—the first humans to take up long-term residence on the International Space Station.

"Personal Space" uses Flash technology to combine video vignettes, photos and other text and visual content into an interactive presentation.

The site is located at: <http://space-flight.nasa.gov/snapshots.html>

GILRUTH CENTER NEWS**Sign-up policy:**

All classes and athletic activities are on a first-come, first-served basis. Sign up in person at the Gilruth Center and show a yellow Gilruth or weight room badge. Classes tend to fill up two weeks in advance. Payment must be made in full, by cash or by check, at the time of registration. No registration will be taken by telephone. For more information, call x33345.

Gilruth badges:

Required for use of the Gilruth Center. Employees, spouses, eligible dependents, NASA retirees and spouses may apply for photo identification badges from 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays. Cost is \$12. Dependents must be between 16 and 23 years old.

Open from 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 6:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday, and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday. Contact the Gilruth Center at (281) 483-3345.
<http://www4.jsc.nasa.gov/ah/exc/aa/Gilruth/Gilruth.htm>

Nutrition intervention program: This is a free seven-week program designed to provide an understanding of the role diet and nutrition play in health. The program includes a series of lectures and private consultations with a dietitian. You will learn how to use dietary vitamins, minerals and herbal nutraceuticals for optimizing health. Classes are held on Wednesdays from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. For details call Tammie Labiche, registered dietitian, at (281) 483-2980.

Defensive driving: One-day course is offered once a month at the Gilruth Center. Pre-registration required. Cost is \$25. Call for next available class.

Stamp club: Meets every second and fourth Monday at 7 p.m. in Rm. 216.

Weight safety: Required course for employees wishing to use the Gilruth weight room. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$5. Annual weight room use fee is \$105. The cost for additional family members is \$58.

Exercise: Low-impact class meets from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Cost is \$24 for eight weeks.

Step/bench aerobics: Low-impact cardiovascular workout. Classes meet from 5:25-6:25 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cost is \$40 for eight weeks.

Cardio-Kickboxing: Medium impact. Learn basic kicking and punching. Tuesday and Thursday 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$40 for eight weeks.

Yoga stretching: Stretching class of low-impact exercises designed for people of all ages and abilities in a Westernized format. Meets Thursdays 5-6 p.m. Cost is \$40 for eight weeks. Call Darrell Matula, instructor, at x38520 for more information.

Ballroom dancing: Classes meet Thursdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. for beginner, 8:30-9:30 p.m. for intermediate and 7:30-8:30 p.m. for advanced. Cost is \$60 per couple.

Fitness program: Health-related fitness program includes a medical screening examination and a 12-week individually prescribed exercise program. For more information call Larry Wier at x30301.

Aikido: Martial arts class for men and women. Beginners meet Monday 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. and Wednesdays 5 - 6 p.m. Advanced students meet Tuesday and Wednesday 5 - 6:30 p.m. No special equipment is needed. Aikido teaches balance and control to defend against an opponent without using force. Classes run monthly. Cost is \$45 per month. Visit a class for more information.

SPACE CENTER Roundup

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