

DATES & DATA

June 23

Astronomy seminar: The JSC Astronomy Seminar Club will meet at noon June 23 and 30 in Bldg. 31, Rm. 248A. For additional information, call Al Jackson at x35037.

Spaceland Toastmasters meet: The Spaceland Toastmasters will meet at 7 a.m. June 23 and 30 at the House of Prayer Lutheran Church. For details, call George Salazar at x30162.

Communicators meet: The Clear Lake Communicators, a Toastmasters club, will meet at 11:30 a.m. June 23 and 30 at Freeman Library, 16602 Diana Lane. For additional information, call Allen Prescott at (281) 282-3281 or Mark Caronna at (281) 282-4306.

Spaceteam Toastmasters meet: The Spaceteam Toastmasters will meet at 11:30 a.m. June 23 and 30 at United Space Alliance, 600 Gemini. For additional information, call Patricia Blackwell at (281) 280-6863.

June 24

Radio Club meets: The JSC Amateur Radio Club will meet

at 6:30 p.m. June 24 at Piccadilly, 2465 Bay Area Blvd. For more information, call Larry Dietrich at x39198.

June 28

Alzheimer's support group meets: The Clear Lake Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group will meet from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. June 28 in the first floor conference room in St. John Hospital, West Building, in Nassau Bay. For details, call Nancy Malley (281) 480-8917 or John Gouveia (281) 280-8517.

September 8 - 10

Announcement/Call for Presentations: Presentations are now being accepted for the Third Annual All Texas Pro/ENGINEER User's Conference, which will be held September 8 -10 at the San Luis in Galveston. Those interested in presenting may send an abstract by June 30 to Kelly McDonald at kmc-dona2@ems.jsc.nasa.gov or call (281) 228-7696. Conference registration information can be found at www.prouser.org/rugs/ghpug.

NASA BRIEFS

FIRST GLOBAL 3-D VIEW OF MARS REVEALS DEEP BASIN, PATHWAYS FOR WATER FLOW

An impact basin deep enough to swallow Mount Everest and surprising slopes in Valles Marineris highlight a global map of Mars that will influence scientific understanding of the red planet for years.

Generated by the Mars Orbiter Laser Altimeter, an instrument aboard NASA's Mars Global Surveyor, the high-resolution map represents 27 million elevation measurements gathered in 1998 and 1999. The data were assembled into a global grid with each point spaced 37 miles apart at the equator, and less elsewhere. Each elevation point is known with an accuracy of 42 feet in general, with large areas of the flat northern hemisphere known to better than six feet.

"This incredible database means that we now know the topography of Mars better than many continental regions on Earth," said Dr. Carl Pilcher, science director for Solar System Exploration at NASA Headquarters. "The data will serve as a basic reference book for Mars scientists for many years, and should inspire a variety of new insights about the planet's geologic history and the ways that water has flowed across its surface during the past four billion years."

The amount of water on Mars can be estimated using the new data about the south polar cap and information about the North Pole released last year. While the poles appear very different from each other visually, they show a striking similarity in elevation profiles. Based on recent understanding of the North Pole, this suggests that the South Pole has a significant water ice component, in addition to carbon dioxide ice.

New Dial-In Service for JSC

Beginning July 1, 1999, JSC will have new dial-in service replacing Shiva and Cubix. This new service provides standard modem dial-in supporting transfer rates up to 56K with 60 ports available, as opposed to 33.6K and 24 ports with Shiva. Users will see a significant improvement over the current dial-in capabilities. Current Shiva users will use their JSC NT domain ID

and password for authentication, and there will be new local and 1-800 phone numbers. Cubix capabilities will no longer be supported. See <http://www4.jsc.nasa.gov/> for more detailed information in the coming weeks, including instructions on configuration set-up as well as a time table of when these changes will occur.

GILRUTH CENTER NEWS

Hours: The Gilruth Center is 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.

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, in exact change 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 \$10. Dependents must be between 16 and 23 years old.

Nutrition intervention program: Six-week program includes lectures, a private consultation with the dietitian and blood analysis to chart your progress. Program is open to all employees, contractors and spouses. For details call Tammie Shaw at x32980.

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 \$90. The cost for additional family members is \$50.

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 5:15-6:15 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cost is \$32 for eight weeks. Call Kristen Taragzewski, instructor, at x36891 for more information.

Yoga: 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 \$32 for eight weeks. Call Darrell Matula, instructor, at x38520 for more information.

Ballroom dancing: Classes meet from 7-8:15 p.m. Thursdays for beginner advanced classes and from 8:15-9:30 p.m. for beginner-intermediate and intermediate students. Cost is \$60 per couple.

Country and western dancing: Beginner class meets 7-8:30 p.m. Monday. Advanced class (must know basic steps to all dances) meets 8:30-10 p.m. Monday. Cost is \$20 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.

<http://www4.jsc.nasa.gov/ah/exceaa/Gilruth/Gilruth.htm>

NASA HQ RECOMMENDED FOR ISO 9001 CERTIFICATION

An audit conducted by an internationally recognized registrar reports that NASA Headquarters will be recommended for ISO 9001 certification, becoming the seventh NASA facility to gain ISO certification.

ISO 9001 is the internationally accepted technical standard for managing all processes that affect an organization's ability to meet customer requirements for a quality service or product. The audit was conducted by Det Norske Veritas.

HUBBLE COMPLETES EIGHT-YEAR EFFORT TO MEASURE EXPANDING UNIVERSE

The Hubble Space Telescope Key Project Team last month announced that it had completed efforts to measure precise distances to far-flung galaxies, an essential ingredient needed to determine the age, size and fate of the universe.

"Before Hubble, astronomers could not decide if the universe was 10 billion or 20 billion years old," said team leader Wendy Freedman of the Observatories of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. "The size scale of the universe had a range so vast that it didn't allow astronomers to confront with any certainty many of the most basic questions about the origin and eventual fate of the cosmos. After all these years, we are finally entering an era of precision cosmology. Now we can more reliably address the broader picture of the universe's origin, evolution and destiny."

The team's precise measurements are the key to learning about the universe's rate of expansion, called Hubble's constant. Measuring Hubble's constant was one of the three major goals for NASA's Hubble Space Telescope when it was launched in 1990.

Office of Criminal Investigations Hotline

The Office of Criminal Investigations is the investigative arm of the NASA Inspector General. The primary mission of this component is to conduct criminal and civil investigations of reported or suspected fraudulent acts by employees, contractors, and others relating to the administration of NASA contracts and programs. Although much emphasis is placed on major procurement fraud (particularly allegations of product substitution, cost mischarging, kickbacks, anti-trust violations, and research misconduct), investigations are also conducted of theft, conflict of interest, environmental and hazardous

waste violations, health care fraud, and computer-related crimes. The OCI also provides fraud briefings for government and contractor employees that are designated to highlight potential risks concerning safety, fraud, waste or mismanagement. To schedule a briefing, call 281-483-8427. To report suspected violations, call 281-483-8427 locally or the toll free Hotline at 1-800-424-9183, or write: NASA Inspector General, P.O. Box 23089, L'Enfant Plaza Station, Washington, DC 20024. The OIG Cyber-Hotline can be accessed at www.hq.nasa.gov/office/oig/hq.

SPACE CENTER Roundup

The Roundup is an official publication of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas, and is published by the Public Affairs Office for all space center employees. The Roundup office is in Bldg. 2, Rm. 181. The mail code is AP3. The main telephone number is x38648, and the fax is x32000. Electronic mail messages may be directed to:

EditorWilliam Jeffswilliam.p.jeffs@jsc.nasa.gov
Assistant EditorNicole Cloutierncloutie@ems.jsc.nasa.gov

**PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID**

WEBSTER, TX
Permit No. G27