

Co-ops in action

Co-ops go trick or treating for a great cause



Fall Co-op students recently wrapped up another tour. For many, it was their first time at JSC. Highlights from this tour included countless tours and lectures, as well as dancing, a beach party, bowling and collecting canned goods on Halloween for the Houston Food Bank. Above are some Co-ops who participated in the collection.

By Kyle Pendergrass

Oct. 31 marked the initiation of an annual trick-or-treat canned food drive, which sent costumed student co-ops and contractors door-to-door in search of canned goods and other non-perishable items. All collected items were donated to the Houston Food Bank.

More than 20 Co-ops and contractors split up into groups of three and four

and went to Clear Lake's neighboring communities in search of giving homeowners. After a couple hours, the participants met to combine the collected cans before a Halloween social event.

More than 500 items were collected during the trick-or-treating festivities. Local grocery stores also contributed. The canned food drive's success was only possible through the efforts of all who participated. ■

Co-ops take their message to local high school students



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Co-ops recently spoke to high school students, discussing the importance of space exploration and the importance of a college education. Several space artifacts were also on display, like this astronaut helmet.

Recently, JSC members of the NASA Cooperative Education (Co-op) Program went to Dobie High School to talk about the program and to stress the importance of receiving a college education. This was done as part of JSC's High School Outreach Program (HSO).

"We want to promote college, engineering, science and, also, the co-op program," said HSO Coordinator Laura Campbell. "A lot of kids don't know the opportunities that are available to them once they enter college, and HSO helps them to become aware of the possibilities."

High School Outreach is an official NASA program run by the college co-op students presently working at JSC, designed to encourage high school

students to enter careers within the space program. HSO began as a supplement to current JSC educational programs and has reached more than 10,000 students at area high schools since its inception in 1991.

"In the past we've had many students want more information about college, the co-op program and how to get involved earlier on, such as high school programs that NASA has," Campbell said. "It's great to see that we have an effect on the students."

"All our students enjoyed the program and I am sure they learned a lot also," said Dobie High School Science Department Head Nancy Walker. "They really liked looking at the various NASA items that were on display." ■

Odin sponsors computer giveaway to elementary schools

A trip to JSC's Open House by local elementary students Sana Chaudhry and Ford Fox in August proved lucky for each of their schools.

G.H. Whitcomb and P.H. Greene schools each were the recipients of a new computer system, thanks to the ODIN. ODIN sponsored a giveaway at the Open House and encouraged students to sign up for the chance to win a computer for their school.

Sana attends Whitcomb School and won a Dell system. Greene elementary received an iMac system thanks to Ford. The schools were awarded the computers at separate presentations.

After the presentation of the computers, Steve Rickman of the Thermal Design Branch spoke to both schools about heat transfer and how it applies to the exploration of space, as well as benefiting life here on Earth. Rickman also stressed the importance of English, reading and writing classes, as well as math and science.

ODIN supplies NASA employees with computer workstations and technical support. ■



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ODIN presented two local schools with computer systems through a drawing held at JSC's Open House in August. Sana Chaudhry and Ford Fox were the lucky students whose names were drawn.

Top photo, pictured left to right: Wanda Hobley (Alternate Technical Management Representative over the ODIN contract), Sumaira Chaudhry, Rashid Chaudhry, Maham Chaudhry, winner Sana Chaudhry, Nida Chaudhry, Laurie Branham (ODIN Outreach Coordinator), Holly Hughes (school principal) and Spencer Meyer (JSC ODIN Program Manager)

Bottom photo, pictured left to right are: Suzanne Jones (school principal), Laurie Branham, winner Ford Fox, Wanda Hobley, Karen Moorner (Deputy JSC ODIN Program Manager) and Steve Rickman (Acting Chief, Thermal Design Branch).

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