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Spaceport News

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

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Parsons thanks KSC work force

s I end my NASA career here at Kennedy Space Center, I want to thank you all for the support you have given to me and the dedication that you have to America's space program.

I began my NASA career here at Kennedy Space Center in 1990. In a sense, I've come full circle. In November of 1985, I was given the opportunity to see a space shuttle launch, and it was at that moment that I knew I wanted to be part of the space program.

My time with NASA has been extremely rewarding in many ways, but made more special because of the talented people I have worked with across all the NASA centers. Kennedy Space Center employees are among the finest group of people I have had the opportunity to work alongside. This agency is remarkable, and as I have said on more than one occasion, it is

the people who make the agency what it is. Through triumphs and tragedies we have faced challenges together as a team.

I have had the opportunity to work at several centers in various positions, and the commonality I find is that people across the agency have pride in the work they do. With the accomplishments of this past year, Kennedy Space Center employees should indeed feel a great sense of pride in their work.

As the center prepares for the upcoming launches of humans and payloads and the work of the Constellation Program, I know



Bill Parsons

the center will be in good hands with Bob Cabana. I've known Bob for a long time. He is an exceptional leader, and I'm glad that he will be stepping in to lead the center.

It has been my privilege to serve as center director over the past few years. Thank you all for allowing me the opportunity to serve with you. It is with a heavy heart that I leave NASA, but I look forward to all of your future successes.

"It is with a heavy heart that I leave NASA, but I look forward to all of your future successes."

Bill Parsons

Cabana to step in as new director

Pormer astronaut and Naval aviator Robert Cabana is Kennedy's new director.

Cabana, a native of Minnesota, comes from Stennis Space Center in Mississippi where he served as the Center Director for the past year. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1971 with a bachelor of science in mathematics and was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps.

He has flown four space shuttle missions, serving as the pilot of Discovery missions STS-41 in October 1990 and STS-53 in December 1992; commander of Columbia on STS-65 in July 1994 and commander of Endeavour on STS-88 - the first International Space Station assembly mission - in December 1998.

Before being named the



NAS

Robert Cabana

director at Stennis in October 2007, Cabana served as deputy director of Johnson Space Center.

In addition, Cabana has worked as chief of NASA's Astronaut Office; manager of international operations for the International Space Station Program; director of NASA's Human Space Flight Program in Russia; deputy director of the International Space Station Program; and director of Flight Crew Operations.

"Bob has seen it all and done it all in human spaceflight, and done it with an open, collaborative style," NASA Administrator Michael Griffin said. "He will be a terrific successor to Bill Parsons as Director of Kennedy Space Center."

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Heavy lifting



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Heritage:
Pioneer 1 launched
50 years ago



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Visitor Complex celebrates NASA's 50th Anniversary



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NASA/Kim Shiflett

Suspended by the 325-ton crane, Endeavour slowly rises inside the Vehicle Assembly Building. The process, which calls for a team of about 16 technicians, takes between 20 and 24 hours.

Getting shuttle vertical a delicate task

By Cheryl Mansfield Spaceport News

ost crane operators don't use words like "ballet" and "pirouette" when describing their work. But, most crane operators don't perform the delicate task of maneuvering a space shuttle several hundred feet in the air, sometimes with only inches to spare.

Before each mission, the space shuttle designated for that flight is rolled from its processing hangar to the center transfer aisle of the massive Vehicle Assembly Building at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida. Once there, the process begins to first raise the shuttle to a vertical position, take it up and over a 170-foot high transom, and then carefully lower it into one of two high bays where the external fuel tank and twin solid rocket boosters are waiting on one of the mobile launcher platforms.

"It's a ballet, it really is," says

Del Dewees, a lead mechanical technician and veteran crane operator or ground controller for more than 95 shuttle lifts, "but it's fun once you've done it a couple dozen times."

The process, which calls for a team of about 16 technicians and normally takes between 20 and 24 hours, requires skill and precision. At the center of the operation are two pairs of crane operators and a ground controller. Once the shuttle is maneuvered into the vertical position using a 175-ton crane, it's disconnected and attached to a 325-ton crane. The operator, located in a tiny cab 467 feet above the floor, begins the lift as the ground controller guides him from below.

While all the focus would seem to be on the crane operators, Dewees says the harder and equally important job is that of the ground controller, who acts as the eyes of the operators.

"Ground control is a lot harder than operating the crane. That's the hard part, but the fun part too. You're their eyes." he says. "Crane operating is one thing, but they're doing what they're told to do. But ground control, that's the guy who really has to coordinate both cranes and they have to do exactly what he tells them, and then he has to fine tune it. You have to pick it up horizontally and you have to rotate it with both cranes. When it comes out great, it looks like there's nothing to it."

Dewees assists in certifying the roughly 40 operators trained in the serious work of maneuvering the space hardware high overhead. In addition to the crane operations, the team is responsible for the maintenance and operation of more than 800 pieces of equipment in the cavernous building, including the giant doors, which they must ride to the top for service. Given the scale of the building and the jobs involved, it's obviously not a place for the faint-hearted.

Certainly a calm and steady hand is required as the crane operator guides the dangling shuttle toward the high bay.

"We take it out in the middle of the bay so we can pirouette it, then bring it back on the mark," says Dewees. "We have to get it perfectly lined up before we lower it down."

Once inside the high bay, there is little margin for error. "Between the platforms, which are retracted, and the tank, you have interference from the wings, and you have just inches of clearance," he explains.

With a description like that, many people might think his job sounds stressful, but not Dewees.

He grew up near the space center and remembers driving in the truck with his father as they heard the sound of pilings being driven during construction of the Vehicle Assembly Building. He watched as the Mercury astronauts lifted off from Cape Canaveral to pioneer American spaceflight.

Even after working around space hardware for almost 30 years, he says simply, "it's one of those jobs that never gets old."

STS-124 crew returns with message of hope

By Linda Herridge Spaceport News

etails of an eventfilled space shuttle mission were shared with workers Sept. 29, when STS-124 crew members returned to Kennedy Space Center.

Pilot Ken Ham and Mission Specialists Mike Fossum, Ron Garan and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency astronaut Akihiko Hoshide, shared their experiences using a video presentation, personal stories and a little bit of humor.

The crew launched aboard space shuttle Discovery on May 31, carrying the Kibo Pressurized Module to the International Space Station. After a 13-day mission and 5.6 million miles, Discovery landed safely June 14 at Kennedy's Shuttle Landing Facility.

Ham said he appreciates each opportunity to



IASA/Kim Shiflett

Mission Specialist Ron Garan, center, and Pilot Ken Ham were among members of the STS-124 crew who shared stories, photos and videos of their journey with Kennedy workers Sept 29.

share experiences from the mission. He and most of the other crew members have shared their stories at every NASA center and Japan. They recently visited England, Wales and Ireland to encourage students interested in science and space.

Ham said one of his favorite moments was catching sight of the space station as Discovery approached for docking. "It's just human nature to remember the good parts and forget the hard stuff."

Paul Ermerins, a senior computer drafter with Dynamac Corp., said he looks forward to crew return events. "I like to meet the astronauts, hear what they have to say and see the great pictures. It's exciting to be part of the space program," Ermerins said.

Judy Casper, software engineer with United Space Alliance, said the visits give workers a good perspective of each crews' experiences in space. "It's always interesting and the astronauts all have great senses of humor," Casper said.

The mission included three spacewalks with veteran Fossum and first-timer Garan. As they stepped away from the shuttle for the first time, Fossum humorously said he advised Garan not to look down. Both performed work on Kibo, and Garan perched atop the station's robotic arm to remove and replace a nitrogen tank assembly on the station starboard truss.

Garan said that although the crew trained for more than a year for the mission, some things rehearsed on the ground don't always go as planned in space.

Kibo, weighing in at 32,000 pounds, was the largest module ever carried in the shuttle's payload bay.

It also was the first mission that employed three robotic arms: the shuttle remote manipulator system, the space station remote manipulator system and the Japanese remote manipulator system.

Hoshide operated the station's robotic arm to pull Kibo out of the shuttle's payload bay. With barely a two-inch clearance on each side, Hoshide said the move had to be precise.

As each STS-124 crew member reflects on the past, they said they're hoping for another chance to launch into space.

Prior commitments kept Commander Mark Kelly and Mission Specialist Karen Nyberg from traveling to Kennedy.

Mission Specialist Greg Chamitoff switched spots with Expedition 16/17 Flight Engineer Garrett Reisman during the mission and remains aboard the International Space Station.

Columbia Debris Loan Program propels progress

By Kate Frakes Spaceport News

"Columbia was such a painful experience for all of us; people were uncomfortable about handling the debris of the accident. But, this is Columbia's home and in honor of her crew we must learn all we can from the experience."

On Sept. 10, those inspiring words of Pam Melroy echoed through Kennedy Space Center's Training Auditorium.

As lead for the Columbia crew module reconstruction and Astronaut Office representative for the Columbia Research and Preservation Team, Melroy was one of six speakers at the Kennedy Engineering Academy's 28th venue: The Columbia Debris Loan Program.

In the pursuit of research and understanding, the program provides

a process for NASA to loan Columbia debris to qualified researchers and technology educators. It also allows groups outside of NASA to participate in the joint quest of progress, including high school and college students.

Rick Russell, NASA orbiter project engineer, contributed to the reconstruction efforts for Columbia. He said an analysis of the debris played a role in pinpointing the problem and scientific studies will improve vehicle readiness for future flights.

Research performed by Glenn Research Center Chemist Jim Sutter and Kennedy Materials Engineer Clara Wright helped develop new design considerations for future spacecraft.

Danny Olivas, mission specialist and member of the Spacecraft Crew Survival Integrated Investigation Team, agreed. "When Columbia came home, she brought back a wealth of information," Olivas said. "It's hard to predict the unpredictable, but this will only help to further our efforts."

Steve McDanels, NASA Materials Engineering Branch chief, said this fall, universities will implement investigations of Columbia debris in failure analysis classes as part of their materials engineering curriculum.

"One of the great focuses of the program is to whet students' curiosity in a technical field," McDanels said. "It will help create a pipeline of people willing to ensure that the next generation of space vehicles is as safe as possible."

KEA also hosted its 29th venue "Columbia STS-107 Foam Impact Analysis" on Sept. 16, where NASA Aerospace Engineer Matthew Melis provided additional insight into the role of ballistic impact research for

the accident investigation.

As a part of the NASA Impact Analysis Development effort, Melis and a large number of contributing personnel conducted impact tests and ballistic impact research that characterized a number of real and potential threats to the shuttle's thermal protection system during launch.

"A lot of important lessons were learned from the Columbia research that will assist in Orion development, in both the testing and analyses arenas," Melis said. "We are continually committed to making sure our astronauts are as safe as humanly possible."

In remembrance of Columbia's mission, the debris is cataloged in the Shuttle Interagency Debris Database System and displayed for visitors in the Vehicle Assembly Building's Preservation Room.

Scene Around Ken



for NASA

Kennedy Space Center's Deputy Director Janet Petro, right, and Program Manager for Checkout, Assembly and Payload Processing Services Mark Jager, left, present awards to Kennedy employees for their outstanding contributions to maintaining a safe workplace during the August Executive Safety Forum. Between Jager and Petro are, from left, Joe Mounts, Tom Shannon, Mark Taffet and Tom Brown.



NASA/Amanda Diller

VIPs took part in a ribbon cutting ceremony Oct. 3, celebrating the Hubble Space Telescope exhibit at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex. The exhibit, called "Eye on the Universe," displays powerful and vibrant images taken by Hubble.



Hundreds of spaceport workers took part in the 2008 Intercenter Walk/Run at the Shuttle Landing Fac



or NASA

Employees at the Kennedy Space Center Child Development Center recently received service pins for their outstanding work. Those employees include, back row, from left: Lillieann Mazion (1998), Reshia Nevels (2003), Meridith Dobbins (1997), Janet Barnett (1997), Janet Bloom (1998) and Anita Marshall (1997). Front row, from left: Prapai Cuyno (1996), Mae Caldwell (1998), Connie Phillips (1998), Mai Anderson (1996), Keri Putnam (1998) and Sharon Hodgin (2001). Not pictured, Kristie Tilton (2002).



for NAS

Lucille Nead, who recently retired from InDyne Inc., enjoyed a party given in her honor Sept. 24 in the Headquarters' Engineering Documentation Center.

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nedy Space Center



NASA/Mic Miracle

ility on Oct. 1. The two-mile walk/run; 5k run and 10k run were sponsored by KSC Fitness Centers.



for NASA

While in kindergarten at Imperial Estates Elementary in Titusville, 6-year-old Rhiannon read more than 100 books for a reading competition. In September, she was awarded with a basket of space goodies and congratulated by Spaceman and astronaut Jerry Carr at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex.

Spaceport News wants to run your photos

Send photos of yourself and/or your co-workers in action for possible publication. Photos should include

a short caption describing what's going on, with names and job titles, from left to right.

KSC-Spaceport-News @mail.nasa.gov



NASA/Dimitri Gerondidak

Hundreds of Kennedy workers attended the Workforce Gala called, "Great Employees = Mission Success." The Sept. 27 event featured dinner and dancing.

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Inspired employees earn leadership honors

It's a common joke in most workplaces that senior management is out of touch with day-to-day operations. But Constellation Project Manager Michael Generale hopes what he learned during this year's NASA Leadership Development Program will encourage Kennedy Space Center employees to think differently.

"The dedication and commitment of those of us 'in the trenches' are vital for our senior leadership to make the right decisions. It filters up to them and is integral to every aspect of their job," Generale said. "What I found inspiring and I believe others will too, is that we have a very real and important role to play in the decisions the heads of our agency make."

This year's Leadership Development Program wrapped up with a graduation ceremony July 22 and included developmental assignments, a class project, individual coaching, training and briefings by NASA leaders.

Generale said, in the span of an hour-long meeting, he witnessed NASA's senior managers go from discussing a mechanical issue that threatens a space shuttle launch and an orbital dynamics issue with a space probe, to a command and data



NASA

Michael Generale, right, with Kennedy Center Director Bill Parsons, who was the keynote speaker at the LDP graduation in July.

2007-08 LDP graduates

Michael Generale, Kennedy
Michael D. Toberman, Dryden
Rosalia Toberman, Dryden
Dovie E. Lacy, Glenn
Terri D. Rodgers, Glenn
David M. Wilt, Glenn
Dan V. Woods, Headquarters
Brady A. Pyle, Johnson
Chad R. Rowe, Johnson
David A. Dress, Langley
Carlos A. Liceaga, Langley

Jeff T. Hamilton, Marshall

handling issue with an experimental aircraft, to environmental issues at a particular center.

But it wasn't just NASA leaders who inspired Generale and his classmates. Outside leaders played a role, too.

Stone Kyambadde was a professional soccer player in Uganda when he suffered a debilitating knee injury during a game.

Generale says instead of wallowing in self pity, Kyambadde began coaching soccer to inner-city boys. With limited resources, he teaches 250 boys the sport, as well as compassion, dignity, self respect, love, responsibility and the joy of giving.

"He demonstrated to me that

leadership is not about power or position or education; it is about caring and having the courage to follow your passion," Generale said.

Generale continues to follow his passion by spearheading the expansion of his class project.

He said NASA does a wonderful job reaching children with educational and engaging material, and NASA has a great reputation with the older generation who remembers how NASA became emblematic during the Cold War. But Generale says it's the Millennial Generation, the 18- to 24-year-olds, who need to be reached.

"These young people will be the parents of the generation that will colonize the moon and make "We have a very real and important role to play in the decisions the heads of our agency make."

Michael Generale, 2007-08 LDP graduate

our first crewed explorations of Mars," Generale said. "We need to impress upon them the importance of NASA, so they will encourage their children to pursue careers in science, technology and mathematics."

That's the very essence of the leadership program; to create future leaders, who align with NASA's vision, mission and values, and who create results and inspire not just NASA employees but the American people as well.

The Leadership Development Program, which has existed since 1995, has ended with the 2008 graduating class to make way for a new program - Systems Engineering Leadership Development Program designed for engineers in leadership positions.

2008 Combined Federal Campaign runs through Nov. 7

Cheryl Hurst, 2008 KSC/Space Coast CFC Chairwoman

or many years the generosity of Kennedy Space Center's work force has made the Combined Federal Campaign, officially called the Space Coast CFC, one of the most consistently successful federal charity campaigns across the country.

At a time when the complexities of our daily lives provide so many significant challenges, we will pause and come together again as a community for this year's Combined Fed-

More online

For more information regarding this year's campaign, charitable organizations and local partners, go to: http://cfc.ksc.nasa.gov.

eral Campaign.

The Space Coast CFC includes Kennedy and all locally represented federal agencies in Brevard County and provides an opportunity for Kennedy work force donations to reach charitable causes that provide assistance in our own neighbor-

hoods, across the country and around the world.

The CFC is the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaign, with more than 300 national and international campaigns helping to raise millions of dollars each year. Pledges made by federal civilian, postal and military donors during the campaign season support eligible non-profit organizations that provide health and human service benefits throughout the world.

This year's campaign at Kennedy began Oct. 9 and runs through Nov. 7.

Our campaign slogan

for this year, "One Small Gift - One Giant Impact" was submitted by Rob Kuczajda, an integration engineer with the International Space Station and Payload Processing Directorate.

This slogan does the job of conveying how much of an impact even a small donation can make in the lives of those in need.

This year's CFC cabinet has conducted training for key workers and unit coordinators.

These individuals are key to the success of the campaign as they will be in direct contact with all NASA employees, providing information about the campaign and how to make a payroll deduction or cash donation.

The words of Winston Churchill, "We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give," clearly capture the essence of how the Kennedy work force shares so freely in the spirit of giving to those in need.

We have a focus this year of increasing the participation rate of our employees, and I know that the Kennedy work force will rise to the occasion as it has always done in the past.

Pioneer 1 first probed space 50 years ago

By Kay Grinter Reference Librarian

Pioneer 1 holds the distinction of being the first spacecraft launched under the auspice of the newly formed National Aeronautics and Space Administration, lifting off from Launch Pad 17 on Cape Canaveral Oct. 11, 1958, just 10 days after the agency began operations.

Although unable to fulfill its mission, this diminutive 51-pound lunar probe captured the record as the first spacecraft to venture into space.

Pioneer 1 was the first in a series of lunar missions entered by the United States into the International Geophysical Year, or IGY, competition. It followed the successful Russian Sputnik and American Explorer and Vanguard satellite launches - all three demonstrated technologies capable of sustaining a spacecraft in Earth's orbit.

IGY was a series of global investigations of geophysical phenomena conducted between July 1957 and December 1958 by scientists from 67 countries around the world. Among the Earth sciences targeted were aurora and airglow, cosmic rays, geomagnetism, gravity, ionospheric physics, longitude and latitude determinations (precision mapping), meteorology, oceanography, seismology and solar activity.

The most dramatic of the new technologies available to investigators during the IGY was the rocket.

Three weeks after the launch of Sputnik 1 in October 1957, William Pickering, the director of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., had a moon flight proposal ready. Designated "Project Red Socks," the proposal declared it "imperative" for the United States to "regain its stature in the eyes of the world by producing a significant technological advance over the Soviet Union."

In early 1958, the proposal came under the consideration of the new Advanced Research Projects Agency, temporarily responsible for the direction of all U.S. space projects, and received the approval of President Dwight Eisenhower.



NASA file photos

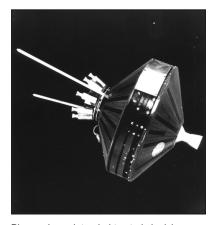
Thor-Able, with the Pioneer 1 spacecraft, launched Oct. 11, 1958 - the first spacecraft launched by the 10-day-old National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Although it failed to reach the moon, it did transmit 43 hours of data.

Remembering Our Heritage

The lunar project began with three Air Force launches using existing rocket stages and a spacecraft built by Ramo-Wooldridge's Space Technology Laboratories, which later became TRW.

Stephen Saliga, chief exhibit designer at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, is credited for naming the first probe. In a briefing, it was described to him as a "lunar-orbiting vehicle with an infrared scanning device." He suggested "Pioneer" as its name to help establish the Air Force as the "pioneers in space," in the minds of the public.

NASA alum John Neilon, former director of Kennedy Space Center's Unmanned Launch Operations, said: "The Thor-Able used to launch Pioneer 1 was an ancestor



Pioneer I was intended to study ionizing radiation, cosmic rays, magnetic fields and micrometeorites near Earth.

of the Delta launch vehicle. It was a modified Thor intermediate range ballistic missile, topped by the two Vanguard upper stages."

Unfortunately, an incorrectly set valve in the upper stage caused an accelerometer to give faulty information leading to a slight error in burnout velocity and angle. The Thor second stage shut down 10 seconds early making the moon unattainable.

The spacecraft separated properly from its third-stage rocket, though, and continued to ascend to an altitude of 70,700 miles, about one-third the distance to the moon.

"The fact that Pioneer 1 failed to get to the vicinity of the moon, which was its primary objective, was somehow converted into a success by being the highest apogee achieved to date," Neilon said.

Pioneer 1 returned invaluable scientific data, which was used to determine the radial extent of the radiation band, seen for the first time.

The first measurements of micrometeorite density in interplanetary space and of the interplanetary magnetic field were taken. Mapping of the total ionizing flux was accomplished.

The first observations of hydromagnetic oscillations of the magnetic field from a theoretical prediction also were made.

So much was learned from an instrument package weighing barely 40 pounds and returning a mere 43 hours of data.

Pioneer 1 was incinerated in Earth's upper atmosphere over the South Pacific the next day.

Visitor Complex opens doors to KSC workers, their families

Join colleagues, friends and family as the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex commemorates NASA's 50th Anniversary with a day of excitement, concerts and fireworks.

Kennedy and 45th Space Wing employees and their guests will receive free admission into the main complex Oct. 18 by showing their badges.

Admission includes exhibits, shows and attractions, including IMAX movies and the Shuttle Launch Experience. Access into the complex does not include bus tours or admission into the Astronaut Hall of Fame.

The celebration swings into high gear as the Rocket Garden hosts three concert performances. Big Head Johnny and the Eskimos

More info online

For more information on the Visitor Complex and upcoming events this fall, including concerts, special events, new exhibits and the second annual Space & Air Show, visit: http://www.kennedyspacecenter.com

take the stage at 3 p.m., followed by Rockit at 5 p.m. Both bands feature members who are Kennedy employees. The popular rock band Survivor headlines the show at 7 p.m. Survivor is best known for its hits "Eye of the Tiger" and "Is This Love."

Festivities culminate with fireworks after the concerts.

This event is the first of the Fall Concert Series at the Visitor Complex. The Guess Who will appear Oct. 25 and Rick Springfield on Nov. 1. There will be a limited number of free tickets available for employees at the NASA Exchange stores for the final two shows. The tickets will be available the week of the concert

Looking up and ahead

Oct. 18	50th Anniversary celebration at KSC Visitor Complex
Target Nov. 14	Launch/KSC: Endeavour, STS-126; 7:55 p.m.
No earlier than Nov. 16	Launch/CCAFS: Delta IV, NROL-26; TBD
Target Feb. 12, 2009	Launch/KSC: Discovery, STS-119; 7:36 a.m.
No earlier than Feb. 20, 2009	Launch/CCAFS: Delta IV, GOES-O; TBD
No earlier than April 1, 2009	Launch/CCAFS: Delta II, STSS; TBD
Scheduled for April 10	Launch/CCAFS: Delta II, Kepler; TBD
No earlier than April 24, 2009	Launch/CCAFS: Atlas V, LRO/LCROSS; TBD
Target May 15, 2009	Launch/KSC: Endeavour, STS-127; 4:52 p.m.
Target July 30, 2009	Launch/KSC: Atlantis, STS-128; TBD
Target Oct. 15, 2009	Launch/KSC: Discovery, STS-129; TBD
Target Dec. 10, 2009	Launch/KSC: Endeavour, STS-130; TBD
Scheduled for Jan. 26, 2010	Launch/CCAFS: Atlas V, SDO; TBD
Target Feb. 11, 2010	Launch/KSC: Atlantis, STS-131; TBD
Target April 8, 2010	Launch/KSC: Discovery, STS-132; TBD
Target May 31, 2010	Launch/KSC: Endeavour, STS-133; TBD

Spaceport News wants your photos

Send photos of yourself and/or your co-workers in action for possible publication. Photos should include a short caption, with names and job titles, from left. Send them to **KSC-Spaceport-News@mail.nasa.gov.**

NASA, Kennedy address ways to deal with conflict, complaints

ry to imagine the space shuttle and its crew lifting off from Earth, flying through space and returning safely without any communication with NASA's ground support team. Mission impossible, right? Effective communication is key to NASA's success and that includes conflict management.

Kennedy Space Center will join an agency-wide effort Oct. 20-23, to address work place conflict and reduce the need to access formal complaint processes.

The Conflict Management Program, or CMP, is offering a course called "Conflict Prevention and Management in the Workplace" for NASA employees, managers and supervisors.

A needs assessment was completed through targeted focus groups and interviews with senior management to determine issues that need to be addressed. Therefore, training will be tailored to the needs of Kennedy employees.

Participants will learn basic skills in negotiation and persuasion, and will develop an awareness of communication dynamics to help defuse and deal positively with conflict situations.

"Providing Kennedy employees with a new set of tools for working toward early and effective resolution

More info online

For more information or help registering for the "Conflict Prevention and Management in the Workplace" course, call Rob Grant at 867-9169. You can register for the course through SATERN.

of conflict will be an invaluable asset to open and honest communication," said Jim Hattaway, associate director for business operations.

Training sessions for employees is Oct. 20-22, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the KARS I Conference Room. Training for managers and supervisors is Oct. 23, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the KARS I Conference Room.

The one-day course is limited to 30 participants and will be on a first-come, first-served basis. If classes reach capacity, names will be posted on a waiting list for possible classes in the future. At this time, the course is open only to civilian federal employees, but the in future CMP hopes to accommodate contract employees.

Three successful pilot programs were completed at NASA's Johnson Space Center, Glenn Research Center and Marshall Space Flight Center.

Register for PM Challenge 2009

The Project Management Challenge Conference is several months away, but registration runs from Nov. 3 to Jan. 30. For more information, visit: http://pmchallenge.gsfc.nasa.gov



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 Managing editor
 Candrea Thomas

 Editor
 Frank Ochoa-Gonzales

 Copy editor
 Rebecca Sprague

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