

TRAJECTORIES

Official Newsletter for the Cape Canaveral Space Force Museum

Quote of the Month:

"Do not grow old, no matter how long you live. Never cease to stand like curious children before the great mystery into which we were born." Albert Einstein

Cape Family Day 2023



We logged another wildly successful Cape Family Day for the books! This year's festivities fell on Saturday, 13 May. This annual event encourages those who work on Cape Canaveral Space Force Station to bring family and friends on the installation to see what all goes on out here. This year's participants included Detachment 3 Astronaut Recovery, NOTU's Strategic Weapons Ashore Test Facility, the Morrell Operations Center, Cape Canaveral Lighthouse, 5th SLS Heritage Room, and Fire Station 1. Commercial launch providers like Blue Origin, SpaceX, Relativity Space, and ULA also opened facilities for touring and exploring. As in previous years, Hangar C was one of the key focal points for the event, with inflatables, food trucks, and exhibitors. Other Museum facilities opened for the event included the Sands Space History Center, museum facilities at LC-26, and the Blockhouse at LC-14. It's the busiest day of the year for our museum! Every year something new is offered. This year's newest feature included

attached to all outdoor static displays, connecting visitors to information on the Cape Canaveral Space Force Museum's website. The attendance numbers for this year's Cape Family Day were estimated at 10,000 people! Special thanks to all the museum staff and volunteers who made Cape Family Day 2023 a huge success!

DID YOU KNOW?



On 6 September 1962, a 20-pound piece of Soviet space debris struck Manitowoc, Wisconsin. It broke off from the Sputnik IV spacecraft during reentry. A brass ring embedded in the pavement on 8th Street downtown Manitowoc marks the point of impact. Residents celebrate the event annually with "Sputnikfest" every September, a space-themed festival featuring contests, pageants, runs, music, and food.

Message from the Director

James W. Draper



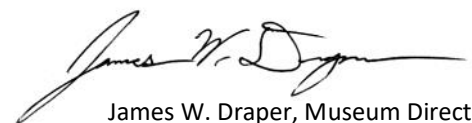
In recent discussions on the development of a U.S. Space Force culture, the subject of origin stories surfaced. Cape Canaveral Space Force Station is awash in origin stories involving American space and missile operations. One unique recent story stands out from the rest, though – Rupert the Space Armadillo.

Nearly everyone introduced to Rupert (whether in person or online) wants to know his origin story. In the rapid development of artifact collections management, educational outreach initiatives, exhibit enhancements, aerospace restorations, archives expansions, and everything else around here in recent years, it's easy to lose track of things. I had to plumb the depths of my notes and our social media activity from the last few years to piece together Rupert's origin story. Here is what I ascertained:

Museum volunteers Al and Esther Hartmann gave me a plush armadillo as a gift when I came on board as Museum Director. A year or so later, I stumbled upon a comical flyer in the Museum Archives that read "Air Force Space & Armadillo Museum: The 1960s". Bill Paul, Roger McCormick, and I were playing around with the plush armadillo in the office one day and we decided he needed a name. After some back and forth, we settled on Rupert... Rupert the Space Armadillo (after some laughs). I guess that's the kind of creativity dubbed "organic" these days. I tweeted a photo of a live armadillo outside our offices on 30 January 2021 with the message "Say hello to our newest staff member, Rupert the space 'dillo. Rupert has been keeping our volunteers at LC-26 entertained out on the museum grounds."

The plush Rupert made his public debut a few days later on Groundhog Day, with "Six more weeks of sunshine for Cape Canaveral, predicted by our very own Rupert the space 'dillo." Rupert the Space Armadillo was born! A few months later he posed with news anchor Shepard Smith and the crew of Inspiration 4 in Hangar C. Soon afterwards we began using #FollowRupert for all Rupert-related activity online. Tim Oliver, a Museum Foundation Board member, created the fantastic Rupert logo in use today. Rupert received his own [bio page](#) on the Museum's website in 2022. Over the last two and half years, he has helped connect thousands of people to the rich history of Cape Canaveral and America's space and missile programs.

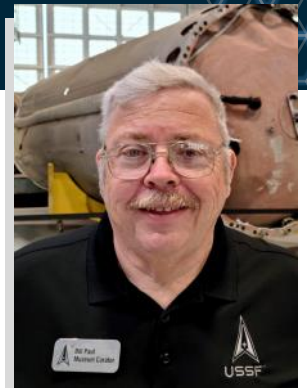
What's next for Rupert? Maybe a trip to outer space! Stay tuned for more adventures from our very own Rupert the Space Armadillo!


James W. Draper, Museum Director



The Curator's Corner

with Bill Paul



On the Right Track

For the last couple of issues, I've talked about the transition of the Cape from the U.S. Air Force to the U.S. Space Force, its mission has evolved, and that the Museum needs to evolve along with it. Since our founding in 1966 the Museum has concentrated on telling the history of the Cape, but the time has come to expand our story. It seems we're not the only ones thinking along those lines.

The CSO Notice to Guardians (C-Note) is a communication put out periodically by the Chief of Space Operations, Gen. Chance Saltzman (i.e., Chief of Staff, USSF) to communicate directly with the Guardians within the Space Force. This one came in a couple of weeks ago and I found particularly interesting:

CSO NOTICE TO GUARDIANS (C-NOTE #13)

DATED: 08 JUN 23

SUBJECT: TELLING OUR STORY

FROM: CSO

TO: ALL PERSONNEL

UNCLASS

Over the last few weeks, I've had multiple engagements with civic leaders at the federal, state, and local levels of government. These events always remind me how important it is for the Space Force to maintain a strong and positive relationship with the American public.

Our effectiveness as a military organization depends on an unassailable relationship with the society we serve. The Nation expects us to defend U.S. interests and trusts that Guardians will use military force competently and responsibly. Moreover, Congress entrusts us

with significant resources to do our mission and Americans voluntarily join the Space Force to serve as Guardians. In short, the American people trust us with their security, their treasure, and their loved ones. There is no higher expression of public trust.

I believe the best way to strengthen this trust is for the public to personally interact with Guardians. Personal connections in the community build trust by demonstrating who we are and what we do. Cultivating our connection with the public is a team effort requiring every Guardian to become an ambassador for the Space Force. To do this, I strongly encourage Guardians to engage in discussion with the American public whenever possible. Acts as simple as wearing your uniform in the airport on official CONUS travel can spark a short conversation about the mission and people of the Space Force. Further, I encourage Guardians to participate in official outreach programs like the STEM-to-Space initiatives, hometown and college recruiting efforts, and any other public events that showcase the Space Force and the Guardian Spirit to the American people. Coordinate with your chain of command and PA offices (when appropriate) for any necessary security or policy reviews.

The Curator's Corner cont.

Finally, what are other ways we can tell our stories? How can the Space Force strengthen our relationship with the American public, especially in areas that do not have a Space Force presence? How should Space Force leaders incentivize young Guardians to engage with their community and hometown? Do we need a demonstration team? What would it entail? Let's think creatively about how we tell our story because, ultimately, it's a story we must tell.

Semper Supra!

Seems to fall right in line with what we're trying to do, doesn't it?

There is also this recent article in the Washington Post:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2023/07/02/space-force-mission-defined/>

While the writer did a fairly even-handed job on day-to-day activities and future plans, he really screwed up a lot of the details about the function and mission of the Space Force, including confusing U.S. Space Force with U.S. Space Command. No wonder the public is having trouble understanding who we are and what we do.

Some of you may be wondering "Why do we need to take the lead on this?" The answer is actually pretty simple. Of the museums and history centers within the Space Force, the Sands Space History Center is the only facility, both now and for the foreseeable future, that can be readily accessed by the public.

Another factor is our location. Located next to one of the busiest cruise ports in the nation and in between Orlando and Miami – two of the world's biggest tourist hot spots- there are millions of people coming through our area each year. There's really no one else better suited to tell the Space Force story. There's not a better group of people to tell that story either.

Museum Updates and News



From the Archives

The last Museum Volunteer Association meeting of the season was held on 1 May. Guest speaker Randy Coppola, museum volunteer and aerospace history enthusiast, provided a fascinating presentation on his work in the Museum Archives. Mr. Coppola has spend endless hours improving the archives and mining its resources. His presentation included many nuggets he's digitized and packaged for online consumption. We greatly appreciate all he does to share the rich history of the Cape! *(To the left Mr. Coppola presents his findings to the crowd at the History Center.)*



New Cape Maps

History without a geographical context is truly lacking. We are thrilled to announce new oversized maps installed in four different Museum facilities. The Multimedia shop at Patrick SFB laid out the design. These new maps show Kennedy Space Center in relation to the Cape. They also locate all the historical launch complexes, along with a few other highlights. *(To the right is a view of one of the new maps on display at the Sands Space History Center.)*



New Friends

Do you remember Bert the Turtle from the "Duck and Cover" Civil Defense films of the Cold War! The Minuteman Missile National Historic Site (a part of the National Park Service) in South Dakota adopted Bert as their mascot. Bert the Turtle and Rupert the Space Armadillo became friends recently on social media. Bert visited the Cape and Rupert treated him to a launch viewing of the Axiom-2 mission! They watched from Hangar C as the Falcon 9 launched into the clouds, then saw the first stage land on the Cape! *(To the left is Rupert and Bert just before the Axiom-2 launch.)*

Museum Updates and News

HAWK Missiles

The Museum acquired a trio of MIM-23 HAWK surface-to-air missiles on their original M192 towed launcher! No HAWKs launched from the Cape, but many were positioned all along Florida's Atlantic seashore during the Cuban Missile Crisis in 1962. The HAWKs will remain in storage until restoration funds become available and exhibit space is made. They will connect future visitors with some unique Cape history! *(To the right Rupert the Space Armadillo poses with the recently acquired HAWK missiles upon delivery.)*



Astrochimp Case

Throughout the year many exhibit enhancements and upgrades take place, sometimes without notice. These improvements are necessary to help meet the Museum's mission. We recently enhanced the Bioflights Exhibit with a new case for the chimpanzee training couch. It replaced a repurposed display case from the 1980s. The new case improves the look and the accessibility of the display. *(To the left, Bill Paul, Roger McCormick, and Jim Hale swap cases for the chimpanzee training couch.)*



Ceremony Season

The summer season may bring intense heat and humidity to Florida, but it also ushers in military ceremony season for this region. Museum facilities host scores of reenlistment, promotion, retirement and change of command ceremonies. We recently supported three ceremonies in one day! Providing a unique space for these events is the Museum's way of thanking our military personnel for their service. *(To the right, an honor guard completes posting the colors at a retirement ceremony for the 114th Electromagnetic Warfare Squadron in the Sands Space History Center.)*



Museum Updates and News

Space Symposium

The National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT) held the “Preserving the Race for Space Symposium” at Cape Canaveral 6-8 June. Preservation professionals from throughout the country converged to share projects, success stories, and ideas toward preserving our Space Race heritage. The symposium culminated with a tour of Museum facilities on the Cape. *(To the right, Museum Curator Bill Paul provides an informative tour of the LC-26 Blockhouse to the symposium participants.)*



Director Awarded

SLD-45 surprised Museum Director Jamie Draper with an achievement award for his support of the inaugural USSF T-Minus 10-Miler. He accepted on behalf of the Museum’s amazing team of staff, volunteers, and mission partners who step up every day to bring Cape history to life. The annual run offers an exceptional opportunity to showcase the rich heritage of the Cape. *(To the left, SLD-45 Vice Commander Col. Graham presents the achievement award to Mr. Draper during a ceremony at Patrick SFB.)*

Marvin the Martian

Museum Volunteers, with the help of Museum Curator Bill Paul, installed a special exhibit to mark the 75th anniversary of Marvin the Martian. The display includes unique history, insight, and memorabilia from the Looney Tunes character. Be sure to check it out at the Sands Space History Center. Special thanks to Roger McCormick, Emily Perry, Al Hartmann, and Esther Hartmann for lending the artifacts. Curt Mason also helped with the video element. *(To the right, a view of the “Marvin the Martian at 75” special exhibit at the Sands Space History Center.)*



Museum Updates and News

Farewell Maj Gen Purdy

Maj Gen Stephen Purdy left for his next post at the Pentagon. Over his 2 ½ year command of SLD-45, he championed our future museum expansion project. The Museum extends much gratitude to Gen Purdy for all his support. We welcome Brig Gen Kristin Panzenhagen as the new Commander for SLD-45 and look forward to working with her to enhance the mission and prestige of the World's Premier Gateway to Space!

(To the right is Gen Purdy pictured with Jamie Draper at a farewell dinner held at the Sands Space History Center.)



New Exhibit Panels

Museum staff and volunteers recently installed 31 updated panels on all the launch complexes of the Cape. The new panels were a culmination of nearly a year of research, writing, editing, review, photo selection, design, production, and installation. Special thanks to the Multimedia shop at Patrick SFB for the design work, with key input from William Donelson. Additional thanks to Roger McCormick, Gary Dahlke, and John Hilliard for their expert reviews. *(To the left, Roger McCormick and Bill Paul installing one of the new panels at the Sands Space History Center.)*

New Scavenger Hunts

The new exhibit panels installed at the History Center required an updating of the scavenger hunts. The new scavenger hunts are available at the front desk for young visitors. They provide a unique way to interact with the exhibits for kids and kids-at-heart. Museum staff and volunteers will continue to develop new ways for visitors to engage with the unique history on display. Please feel free to contact Museum staff with any ideas to do so. We are always looking for fun concepts to experiment with. *(To the right, an image of the scavenger hunts.)*



Museum Updates and News

Rotary Club Outreach

In early May, Museum Director Jamie Draper accepted an invitation to speak to the Merritt Island Breakfast Rotary Club. Mr. Draper used the new map developed for the Museum to highlight the fascinating and relevant history of Cape Canaveral Space Force Station. It's one example of how Museum staff and volunteers continue to engage with local community organizations to spread the word about the Museum. *(To the right, Mr. Draper provides information about Cape history and the Museum's mission to Rotarians.)*



Service Exemplified

Click Orlando featured our very own [Joe Tichich](#) for his military and community service. Mr. Tichich embodies the spirit of public service and volunteerism that makes Florida's Space Coast the best! He served 35 years in the U.S. Air Force. Now he volunteers for the Museum (along with his amazing wife, Mary Jo) and at several other local community organizations. *(To the left, a photo taken of Joe Tichich for the special feature.)*



New Volunteer Shirts

New Museum name. Check. Updated website. Check. New signage and exhibit panels. Check. Now it's time for new apparel. Museum Volunteers are starting to retrieve their new shirts and nametags. The embroidered shirts feature the Museum's new logo and "CCSFM" for "Cape Canaveral Space Force Museum". Special thanks to our exceptional Foundation staff, Sharon Rodriguez and Deb Allison, for making this a reality! *(To the right, Museum Volunteers Cecil Walker and Kate Perez model the new shirts and nametags at the Sands Space History Center.)*

Museum Foundation Updates

Foundation The USSF Historical Foundation is hosting the 8th annual Space Collectibles Show & Sale on 12 August 2023 at the Sands Space History Center. If you are interested in reserving a table, contact Sharon Rodriguez by email, sharon.rodriguez@USSHF.org or call 321 698-5854. Tables will go quickly!!

Gift Shop

We have received a supply of Cape Aerial view magnets updated with the new Cape Canaveral Space Force Museum logo.

Bomarc cruise missile model kits are now available in the shops.

2023

SPACE COLLECTIBLES

SHOW AND SALE

SATURDAY
12 August, 2023
10:00am - 3:00pm

Sands Space History Center
Near the SOUTH GATE of
Cape Canaveral Space Force Station

All kinds of
Space Related Collectibles,
Artifacts, and Gifts

Sponsored By:

UNITED STATES
SPACE FORCE
HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

THE USSHF IS A PRIVATE ORGANIZATION. IT IS NOT A PART OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OR ANY OF ITS COMPONENTS AND IT HAS NO GOVERNMENTAL STATUS

For More Information or Directions Call:
(321) 698-5854 www.CCSpaceMuseum.org

Our Museum Family



CAPE CANAVERAL
SPACE FORCE
MUSEUM

Museum Staff:

James Draper, Museum Director

Bill Paul, Museum Curator

Museum Volunteer Association:

Randy Wehrung, Chairperson

Lee Kjesbo, Vice Chair

Bill Jelen, Secretary



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