

TRAJECTORIES

Official Newsletter for the Cape Canaveral Space Force Museum

Quote of the Month:

"Perpetual optimism is a force multiplier."
Colin Powell

Inaugural IMD Festival



The inaugural International Moon Day Festival took place at the Sands Space History Center on 20 July. The event celebrated the anniversary of the first Moon landing in 1969 and connected to an annual global celebration of Moon exploration.

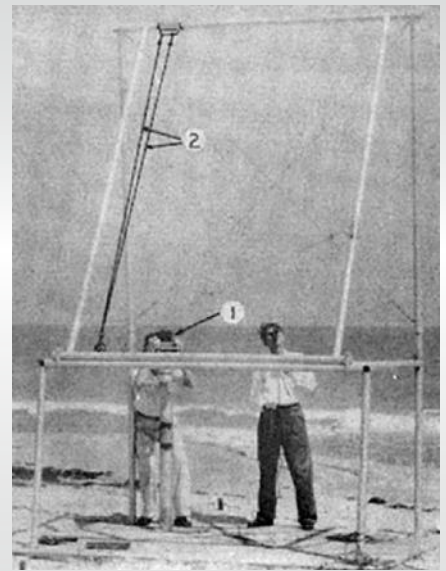
This particular event was held as part of our ongoing CAPE Series of programming. It featured hands-on STEAM-based activity stations facilitated by scores of community partners. Activities included robotics, a drone simulator, rocket construction and launch, coloring stations, and much more. Some of the community partners who participated included the National Center for Simulation, National Space Society, DoD STARBASE Central Florida, Florida Space Institute, and coordination by the World Innovation Network.

This free event also included a special presentation by Jean Wright, space pioneer and seamstress for the Space Shuttle Program. She presented to the Museum a custom-made spacesuit for Rupert the Space Armadillo! Participants received an additional surprise

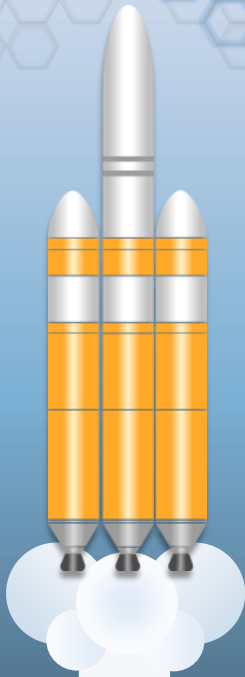
with a live direct link and Q&A session with astronaut Jeanette Epps on the International Space Station.

Check out all the great photo highlights featured later in this issue.

DID YOU KNOW?



Prior to the use of our sophisticated tracking systems for rocket launch activity, sky screens were employed for range safety. They took many forms, but mainly consisted of two vertical parallel wires in a frame on a stand. The sky screen would be positioned a mile behind the launch pad with an operator calling out the track of the rocket/missile to a Range Safety Officer.



Message from the Director

James W. Draper



I am thrilled and honored to announce that the Cape Canaveral Space Force Museum was awarded the inaugural Space Force Heritage Award! This Department of the Air Force-level honor “recognizes outstanding accomplishments... by personnel to foster a better understanding and appreciation of their Service, its history, and its accomplishments while building esprit de corps.”

We won this prestigious award through substantial exhibit redesigns and renovations at multiple facilities last year. That included 32 new storyboards meticulously researched, written, designed, fabricated, and installed at the Sands Space History Center. Eight new outdoor interpretive panels were mounted throughout the Cape at key historic sites. We installed oversized maps presenting the unique, rich history of the Cape at four different facilities. Finally, updated panels in the Exhibit Hall now inform visitors on the early development of modern rocketry. All these enhancements incorporate QR codes for interactive “deeper dives” into the historical content on our website.

This monumental accomplishment illustrates the importance we place on teamwork. It involved support from Museum staff, volunteers, the Foundation team, and mission partners. Special thanks to Museum Curator Bill Paul (ret.) and Museum Volunteer Roger McCormick for taking on much of the heavy lift. Other museum volunteers assisted with research, editing, and image selection. The result of all these efforts – an updated and more engaging presentation of historical content the Museum has not seen in many years!

What a transformation! Five years ago, when I came on board, we spent nearly a year clearing up countless deficiencies. The Museum had emerged from a period of low morale and general malaise. We gimbaled to a new, more promising trajectory. Within a few short years (and through a global pandemic) we accelerated to becoming one of the premier museum operations in the U.S. Space Force! Our supporting Foundation continues to build a support network and creative team that will propel us to substantial expansion.

Another sign of increased momentum in history and heritage programs locally includes Wade Scroggum, Director, Historical Reporting Programs, Space Launch Delta 45. He joined the Delta in recent years and he also received a Space Force Heritage Award for “superior historical and heritage services”. We congratulate Mr. Scroggum for his achievement and his contributions to the Delta’s history programs.

You hear this from me all the time – we are just getting started! Wait till you see what’s next. Until then, I want to thank our Foundation team, mission partners, and our ever-industrious museum volunteers for making this an award-winning enterprise. Semper Supra!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James W. Draper". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

James W. Draper, Museum Director

Space Force Heritage Award



Museum Updates and News

Florida Friday Fun

Museum Director Jamie Draper was the featured speaker for the Patrick Space Force Base Library on 12 July. His presentation was a part of their “Florida Fridays” series – geared toward subjects that are uniquely Florida in their Summer Reading Program. This subject focused on the past, present, and future of the Cape Canaveral Space Force Museum through slides, videos, and historical materials. Rupert the Space Armadillo also made an appearance. *(To the right is the online advertisement the Patrick Space Force Library used to promote the event.)*



Florida
FRIDAYS

Join us Fridays at 1 pm as we welcome guests that will help us discover subjects that are uniquely Florida!

July 12th @ 1pm
James Draper:
Museum Director, Cape Canaveral Space Force Museum

James W. Draper serves as the Museum Director for the Cape Canaveral Space Force Museum. His career includes over 25 years of accomplishment and leadership in the museum field. Mr. Draper currently guides the daily activity of the Cape Canaveral Space Force Museum and helps develop and implement a dynamic vision for the organization's future. That vision includes incorporating inspiration and innovation into every element of the Museum's preservation and outreach initiatives.

AIR FORCE LIBRARIES
SUMMER READING PROGRAM
in Military Installations Worldwide

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Space Force Art Creation

The Air Force Art Program dispatched two artists to Florida's Space Coast on 22-24 July. The Museum and SLD-45 Historian's Office hosted them. Their mission: to create art around the Crew 9 Mission, featuring America's first U.S. Space Force Guardian to be launched into space. The artists captured sketches and studies of Col Hague of Crew 9, along with visuals of historic Launch Pad 5 with the recreation of astronaut Alan Shepard's launch vehicle. *(To the left artist Marc Poole battles the intense summer sun and heat as he works on capturing the colors of Launch Pad 5.)*



Crew 9 Visit

On 23 July, U.S. Space Force Col Nick Hague and fellow crewmates of Crew 9 met with Airmen and Guardians at the Sands Space History Center. Military members interacted with the crew and posed for photo ops. Representatives from different units described their role in space missions launched from the region. The three astronauts and one cosmonaut took the time to thank all the military personnel in the room for making missions like theirs possible. *(To the right members of Crew 9 pose for photos with Airmen and Guardians at the Sands Space History Center.)*

Museum Updates and News



Bye-Bye Kiosks

Historical kiosks used to dot the landscape of the Cape, providing visitors with important information on iconic launch complexes. Time has taken a toll on these kiosks and most of the information they presented has been updated with new outdoor panels. The last of the kiosks were finally removed at LC-26 and LC-14 in recent weeks. Their removal improves the appearance and presentation of our important historic sites. *(To the left Cape Support contractors disassemble and remove the old historical kiosk from Launch Complex 26.)*

AFCEA Emerging Leaders

The AFCEA (Armed Forces Communications & Electronics Association) Space Coast Chapter held an Emerging Leaders Kick Off event at the Sands Space History Center on 31 July. Guest speakers Kodey Bogart and Dr. Gloria Weatherspoon provided leadership advice from their unique military careers. For many in attendance, it was their first visit to the History Center. We look forward to hosting more AFCEA events in the future. *(To the right guest speaker Kodey Bogart share leadership lessons from her distinguished career with the AFCEA audience.)*



Bombs Away!

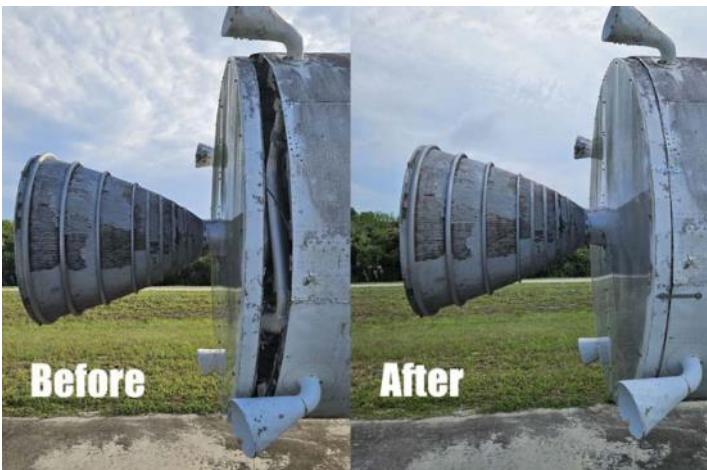
The U.S. Navy was very active in this region before and during World War II. Besides the Banana River Naval Air Station located where Patrick Space Force Base sits today, several water and land bombing targets dotted Cape Canaveral. Recent construction activities unearthed several target bombs. The local EOD Flight secured them and donated one nearly intact bomb to the Museum! It provides a unique glimpse into the wartime history of the area. *(To the left is an image of the WWII target bomb donated to the Museum.)*



Museum Updates and News

Discover Deltiology

Did you know that deltiology is the hobby of collecting and studying postcards? It's the third largest hobby behind collecting stamps and coins/currency. Now on display at the Sands Space History Center is a special exhibit on space-themed postcards. Huge appreciations to long-time museum volunteers Roger McCormick and Al Hartmann for making this unique display possible. Many recent visitors have been drawn to the exhibit. *(To the right is a view of the special exhibit now on display at the Sands Space History Center.)*



Titan Trauma

An inspection of Museum facilities and grounds after the outer bands of Hurricane Debbie struck the area uncovered very little damage. One exception was the Titan I display near Pad 26A. The acrylic cover protecting the engine compartment of the second stage became dislodged from the high winds. Jamie Draper and Roger McCormick quickly improvised a seal to prevent any further damage to the display. *(To the left are before and after views of the damage to the second stage of the Titan I display.)*



Hangar C All-Call

Space Launch Delta 45 held a Quarterly Award Ceremony in Hangar C on Thursday, 1 August. Over two-hundred service-members and civilians attended. Despite the swampy summer conditions, the crowd appreciated the unique venue and incredible history on display. The event included an X-37B training article and our SCAPE suit exhibit elements outside for fun photo ops. *(To the right shows the large crowd in Hangar C with standing-room-only in the back near the Hound Dog missile restoration.)*

Museum Updates and News



ULA Donation

In July United Launch Alliance (ULA) donated a great piece of history to the Museum. It was an oversized, stainless steel display case from the blockhouse at Launch Complex 37. It houses some mission coins, patches, flag, and a rocket model. The backdrop is signed by many who worked historic launches from the pad. It spent many years displayed in the breezeway of the blockhouse, outside the blast door. *(To the left is an image of the delivery of the new artifact. It required a whole team and a lift to bring it to the Museum.)*

Rupert Prepares for Space

During the inaugural International Moon Day Festival at the Sands Space History Center (shown on the following page), Jean Wright surprised the Museum with a custom-made spacesuit for Rupert the Space Armadillo. She also tailored a special Space Force uniform for Rupert in previous months. Rupert now boasts a wardrobe to prepare him for space travel and more! *(To the right is Jamie Draper and Jean Wright showing off Rupert's new spacesuit.)*



Meet Me at the Lighthouse!

Our colleagues at the Cape Canaveral Lighthouse celebrated two exciting holidays recently. The first was National Lighthouse Day (7 Aug), followed by International Lighthouse Weekend (the 3rd weekend of Aug). They offered special caravan tours, hosted the KSC Amateur Radio Club, and other activities. Celebrations included filming USLHS-sponsored Lighthouse Day dance competitions for social media! *(To the left is a view of local youth dance troupes participating in this year's competition.)*

International Moon Day



Space Collectibles Show & Sale



This year's annual Space Collectibles Show & Sale fell on Saturday, 10 August. Special thanks to Sharon Rodriguez from the U.S. Space Force Historical Foundation for coordinating the show. The event began with a Falcon9 launch and ended with a New Glenn booster transported through the gates, just by sheer happenstance. We had 26 tables of vendors selling patches, coins, models, 3-D printed models, clothing, first day covers, Hot Wheels vehicles, and so much more at the Sands Space History Center. There were over 400 in attendance this year.



Aerospace Job Fair

On Wednesday, 14 August, the Sands Space History Center hosted an Aviation/Aerospace Job Fair. CareerSource Brevard Flagler Volusia in partnership with the World Innovation Network coordinated the event. It included 20 employers, 30 community partners, and over 600 people in attendance! A Civil Air Patrol (CAP) color guard presented the colors after opening remarks. Three food trucks outside kept the crowds fed. The event drew hundreds of new visitors to the History Center.



Our Museum Family



CAPE CANAVERAL
SPACE FORCE
MUSEUM

Museum Staff:

James Draper, Museum Director

Museum Volunteer Association:

Randy Wehrung, Chairperson

Lee Kjesbo, Vice Chair

Bill Jelen, Secretary



UNITED STATES
SPACE FORCE
HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

Executive Committee Members:

Raymond Sands, Chairman

Steven Lepper, Major General, USAF (ret.)
Vice Chairman

Rob Quigg, Treasurer

Roger McCormick, Secretary

Board Members:

Robert VanVonderen

Stephen Houser

Therrin Protze

Victor Latavish

Tim Oliver

Foundation Employees:

Deborah Allison, Foundation Services Manager

Sharon Rodriguez, Executive Assistant



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