

THE SPACE EXPLORER

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92 CONGRESS: FORWARD FULL THROTTLE

Recent successes in the effort to raise funds for the 1992 ASE Congress in Washington DC this August have bolstered the confidence of ASE leadership that ASE-USA will meet the financing goals it has set for itself to host a smooth and productive event. ASE-USA board member Tom Stafford has led the pack by securing agreements with Wheelabrator Technologies and Fisher Scientific whereby they join with him in donating a total of \$72,000 to the effort. In a subsequent development, discussions between ASE-USA President John Fabian and The Planetary Society have resulted in TPS's commitment to raise another \$50,000. ASE and TPS will conduct a joint public program during the Congress. Generous donations and pledges from Lockheed, Martin Marietta, Computer Sciences Corporation, Equitable Insurance, The Nature Company, Merck, INTEC,

Bechtel, Tadcrops, A-B Emblem, and several members and friends of ASE have substantially assisted in the progress towards Congress fundraising goals. Additional initiatives currently in the works, combined with further efforts by

members at large, will likely close the final gap. All members are invited at this time to do a final round of personal brainstorming to come up with revenue ideas, however innovative or traditional. *continued on page 5*

MEMBERS ELECT FABIAN, CLEAVE, AND NELSON TO BOARD

In annual board elections in December, ASE-USA members elected Mary Cleave and Pinky Nelson and re-elected John Fabian to the ASE-USA board of directors. Out of 115 members, fifty-seven members cast valid nomination forms and seventy-nine cast valid final ballots - 50% and 69% participation in each respective round.

In its first meeting of the year, the newly composed board elected John Fabian to continue in his role

as president, designated Rick Hauck as vice-president, and named Mary Cleave as treasurer. Fabian subsequently named Hauck to continue as the program committee chairman and appointed Cleave to the administration committee chair position. A new development committee chairperson is yet to be named. Hauck and Cleave report that they welcome interest any member may have in service on their committees. □

PRESIDENT'S REPORT by John Fabian

America's space program is under continuing and often irrational pressures. Media and congressional criticisms have had a devastating effect upon public perceptions of NASA, its programs, and aspirations. The future viability of the shuttle program is threatened by forced budgetary constraints that require reductions in government and contractor staffing. This year the Freedom program will again face new challenges in Congress, while its mission is questioned from many quarters. The exploration pro-

gram strains against a lack of acceptance and meager funding. Several unmanned science programs face cancellation or severe reductions. The value of our space program as an investment in economic development, technological and educational excellence, and environmental awareness is held at risk by the forces of doubt.

NASA is no longer universally accepted as the epitome of good government, wise investment, unchallenged talent, careful planning, and precise execution. Critics point to acknowledged fail-

ures/problems of Challenger, Space Telescope and Galileo. They question NASA's ability or willingness to develop realistic cost and schedule estimates for major programs. They charge that NASA has become a bloated bureaucratic agency that is incapable of carrying out its own programs. They imply that NASA, without a strong mandate for its programs, is not oriented to public service, but to maintaining its own facilities, staff, and contractors. The more irrational claim that NASA places its own self interest above the national interest. Some have gone so far as to characterize America's civil space efforts as an "entitlement program" for its aerospace contractors. Such adversarial claims have threatened the very essence of NASA and our entire civil space program. These claims must be challenged.

The Association of Space Explorers unites the efforts of individuals who have flown in space

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ASE, SPACE POLICY INSTITUTE COHOST MEETINGS ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

ASE and the Space Policy Institute of George Washington University are co-sponsoring a series of dinner discussions dealing with international cooperation with financial support of The John D. and Catherine D. MacArthur Foundation. Speakers have included Dr. Edward Malloy, Counselor for Science and Technology, U.S. Embassy, Tokyo; Norman Augustine, Chairman of the Board and CEO, Martin Marietta; Dr. Wolfgang Grillo, Managing Director of the German Space Agency, DARA; Kenneth Pedersen, former NASA Associate Administrator for External Relations; and George van

Reeth, formerly Director of Administration of ESA. The forum has drawn invited government and non-government participants from the Washington area to discuss the broad perspectives of international cooperation in a changing political environment.

John Fabian and Rick Hauck are participants in an ad-hoc working group drawn from non-government participants. This group is drafting a position paper that Fabian will present at the AIAA Annual Meeting in late April. Other ASE participants include Mary Cleave, John-David Bartoe, and Charlie Walker. □

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ASE MEMBERS TAKE TO THE ROAD IN '92

At the invitation of Professor Akio Inoue of Japan, ASE members Oleg Makarov, Musa Manarov, Valentin Lebedev, Jean-Loup Chretien and Charlie Walker travelled to that country for the last week of January to participate in a conference on regional development education and issues. Titled "Space Year 1992 Celebration and Regional Renaissance - The Boso Peninsula as a Space Station", the conference was held in the vicinity of Narita airport outside Tokyo. The group was invited to address the theme "Aerospace Port and its Environments Seen From Space" and made subsequent presentations on the theme "Space, Communication, and Education".

In the Tokyo area the group participated in a meeting devoted to a discussion of technical and philosophical matters relating to space flight, during which they responded to the queries of ten scientists and engineers from several Japanese universities and government organizations. At his unexpected invitation, the members also paid a short courtesy call on the Minister of Transport, Mr. Keiwa Okuda. In Kyoto, Inoue led the delegation through an interesting series of tours, speaking events and ceremonies, starting with the ancient Daigo-ji Temple, the oldest Buddhist pagoda and temple in Japan. Here they were honored with the planting of cherry trees in their names, and with participation in a public prayer and ceremony celebrating the International Space Year. At

week's end the group participated in an assembly of the 750 Tenri Elementary School students and a tour of the Tenrikyo religious community sanctuary. According to Walker, the ASE is known in Japan as an international organization of education, cooperation and the adventure-some human spirit, and this tour expanded that substantial heritage.

In February, ASE member Dick Gordon spoke on behalf of the Association of Space Explorers at the First International Congress of Electromechanical En-

gineering in Mexico City. Gordon, the keynote luncheon speaker on the opening day of the congress, reported on the past, present and future of space exploration and spoke about his own personal experiences aboard Gemini 11 and Apollo 12. Gordon reported that his presentation was well received and his audience was warm, receptive, and especially curious about life aboard his space flights, asking questions ranging from future missions to UFO sightings.

The four day event was organized by the Asociación de Ingenieros Universitarios Mecá-

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U.S. ASTRONAUTS TO ATTEND BAIKONUR LAUNCH

Through an initiative undertaken by the Association of Space Explorers of the Commonwealth of Independent States (ASE-CIS), three U.S. ASE members will travel to the Baikonur Cosmodrome this month to witness the launch of the Soyuz TM-14 crew to the Mir station. Don McMonagle and David Low will join John Fabian for the six day visit, which will include tours of Baikonur launch facilities, the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center at Star City, and the Flight Control Center in Kaliningrad. On a similar trip in February 1990, astronauts Dan Brandenstein, Paul Weitz, Jerry Ross, Ron

Grabe and Fabian had the opportunity to explore and test a number of simulators and hold informative discussions with their Soviet colleagues. In light of the intentions announced by U.S. and Russian political leaders for stepped up cooperation in human space exploration, including crew exchanges, this month's trip is seen as a particularly opportune occasion for members of the Astronaut Office to further and more deeply acquaint themselves with CIS hardware and operations, as well as with some of the institutional trends underway in the rapidly changing former Soviet Union. □

ASE TO CHAIR SPECIAL SESSION AT THE XVII ISPRS CONGRESS

In a first time collaboration, ASE will chair a special session at the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing's seventeenth congress in Washington, DC in August of 1992. The session, Space Imaging Activities Conducted by Astronauts, will take place from 10:30-12:00 on Friday, 14 August 92.

Any U.S. or international astronaut interested in participating in this session is ENCOURAGED to pick his or her favorite Earth Observation pictures for discussion with the international experts. More information is available from Mary Cleave, who may be reached through the ASE-USA staff at (415) 931-0585. □

The ASE space helmet logo, originally rendered by Alexei Leonov, will be the image on a new ASE patch.

ASE PATCH IN THE WORKS

As a result of an initiative by Rick Hauck with the A-B Emblem and Cap company of North Carolina, ASE is ready to enter into a formal licensing agreement for the production of patches featuring the ASE space helmet logo. The patches, similar in style to conventional mission patches, will be marketed through distributors and directly to dealers, with ASE benefitting from a portion of the proceeds. In addition to this arrangement, A-B will make an in-kind donation of 2,000 patches to ASE for its own fundraising purposes and for distribution to members. Two prototype patches have already been produced, one which is now on board the Mir station and the other delivered to ASE member Vladimir Dzhaniybekov to wear on his Earthwinds round-the-world helium balloon voyage out of Ohio. □

UNCED PREPARATORY COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER ASE ACCREDITATION

ASE has been notified that its application for Non Governmental Organization (NGO) accreditation to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro this June has been recommended for approval at the fourth and final session of the UNCED Preparatory Committee taking place at the United Nations in New York this month. ASE's application highlighted its commit-

ment to strengthening environmental stewardship, and it is the hope of ASE's leadership that ASE can play a meaningful role in this historic conference. ASE has collaborated on projects with the United Nations in the past, including the Earth Day 1990 ceremony at the General Assembly and on Mickey Lemle's U.N.-sponsored film, 'Our Planet Earth'. □

ASE 8TH PLANETARY CONGRESS IN WASHINGTON, D.C. FORGING AHEAD

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Development of the Congress program is also moving forward. In a major agenda change, plans to travel to Kennedy Space Center have been cancelled, and a new initiative by Jon McBride to spend two nights and a day in West Virginia at The Greenbriar is now underway. It is thought that a change of pace and scenery in the hot East Coast summer will revitalize the membership. The joint session with The Planetary Society has been added to the schedule for Friday August 28. Plans for a joint Saturday session with the World Space Congress on international con-

tributions to a human mission to Mars, a space art exhibit at the World Bank Art Society, and a Community Day appearance at the Challenger Center's Marsville Constitutional Convention are all proceeding apace. Most significantly for members, more time than ever at an ASE Congress is being devoted to technical exchanges. The Organizing Committee welcomes all members to get involved in the planning, preparation and execution of the program. The staff will refer you to the appropriate individuals in charge of different aspects of the Congress. □

President's Report

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to enhance education, strengthen environmental stewardship, encourage international cooperation and promote space exploration for the benefit of all peoples of all nations. Since we strongly support our civil space program, we must individually and collectively speak out. We must confront the forces of doubt. Members of ASE have the experience, understanding and credibility to be effective advocates, if we give voice to our views. Failure to do so is irresponsible!

□

ASE TAKES TO THE ROAD

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nicos Electricistas, A.C. (AIUME) to strengthen the personal and professional relationships among engineers on an international level, identify the problems and perspectives of mechanical and electrical engineering and associated areas, and develop solutions that encourage future generations in the study and development of engineering and physics.

Finally, Rick Hauck teamed up with Oleg Makarov for a joint appearance at Kent State University in Ohio on March 11. Makarov presented news from the CIS space program and shared his insights into the growing opportunities for U.S.-CIS cooperation in human exploration activities. □

New ASE Members

**Thomas Hennen
Terence Henricks
Stephen Oswald
William Readdy
Kenneth Reightler**

"Space is so close: It took only eight minutes to get there and twenty to get back."

*Wubbo Ockels, The Netherlands
from The Home Planet*

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