

Odyssey

Pushing the Edges

April
2006

Official Newsletter of OASIS: the Los Angeles Chapter of the National Space Society

Space Day National Design Competition 2006: 8th-graders Win First Place with Hydrogen-Fueled Mars Roving Ship

Press release; printed with permission of Dr. Maureen Clemmons

Eighth-graders Sean Clemmons and Mohammad Khan were part of a team that won first place in Lockheed-Martin Corporation's 2006 Space Day National Design Competition, in the Most-Creative Extreme-Explorer category. Their team was directed by Dr. Maureen Clemmons and Ivor Dawson (President) of the Traveling Space Museum.

Their entry was called a "Mars Atmospheric Roving Ship"; it featured a hydrogen-based, propeller-controlled blimp with audio and video equipment, a soil sample collector, and a disposable thermal sensor. One space educator described this working model as "graduate-level work." The prize-winning entry has also drawn the

attention of space industry specialists.

"Living and Working on the Moon" was the theme of the 2006 Space Day Competition. Teams were cited for creativity, design, and overall excellence. in addressing any one of six different challenges:

◆Cosmic Cuisine: to create a well-balanced meal for one pre-teenage crew member.

◆Stretch and Fetch: to design a mechanical device that an astronaut could use to easily retrieve an out-of-reach object.

◆X-Treme Fitness: to develop more interesting ways to exercise in microgravity.

◆Galactic Gear: to design and build a tool to explore and survive on another planet.

◆Extreme Explorer: to design an exploration vehicle that can explore a region on another planet or moon in

our solar system.

◆Space Trek: to keep an electronic journal about expedition plans for another planet or moon in our solar system.

The winners were selected by a team of educators from a field of 259 submissions. Clemmons, Khan, and the rest of the team have been invited to present their project at the 2006 International Space Development

(continued on page 5)

Inside ODYSSEY

2 On the Medical Front

3 President's Message

4 Advertisement: ISDC 2006

**5 Advertisement:
Worldcon 2006**

8 SkyWatch

ISDC 2006! May 4-7, Los Angeles, CA. See you there!

On the Medical Front

By Robert Gounley

Diane Rhodes, an active OASIS member for over 25 years, is now at the Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center recovering from a heart attack that struck her Thursday, April 6th. She's in good spirits and gives best wishes to all her well-wishers in OASIS and to her many friends and acquaintances in the National Space Society. As we go to press, she is scheduled to undergo cardiac bypass surgery on Friday, April 21.

Diane expects her post-operative recovery to keep her close to the hospital or home for the next several weeks. This will probably keep her from attending the International Space Development Conference (May 4-7, at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel), where she volunteered to help register guests. Her greatest regret is foregoing delivery of personal welcomes to the growing crowd of space activists. Though absent, she extends everyone a fond "Ad Astra" and wishes them an enjoyable stay in Los Angeles. Don't let the stars on the sidewalk draw you from the stars in the sky!

Diane's medical emergency began on a bus ride to work. She felt a numbness in her right arm that spread through her right side. Diane had had a stroke seven years earlier and suspected that this could be another. An ambulance could get her to a hospital, but it would have to get to her first. Waiting seemed pointless. She saw another bus heading the right way and transferred to it.

When Diane strolled into the emergency room, a nurse asked if she had come to visit someone. The answer was brief, yet persuasive. Attendants wheeled her into the trauma center moments later.

An astronaut told that his launch pad is on fire should be so steady.

Get well soon, Diane.

Space on the Street



Where spacers go when they think they're being followed... Photo: Steve Bartlett

Steve Bartlett and Tina Beychok heard rumors of a UFO landing in North Hollywood. Upon prompting by Odyssey editor Lisa Kaspin "I need articles!" (Again?!) they decided to check out the rumors.

Steve and Tina spied a mysterious figure disappearing into an alley off of Burbank Blvd. At first, they stayed at a safe distance, but their curiosity got the best of them and they got too close. Steve and Tina found themselves staring down the barrel of something resembling a phaser..but Tina whacked it out of the way with her fencing foil at the ready. The intrepid pair evaded their pursuer, ducking into this bar that conveniently materialized out of nowhere...

President's Message

By Craig Ward

The lifeblood of any organization is its people. That is truer of a volunteer group like OASIS. The shared purpose and vision provide the social bonds that hold the group together. Bringing in new people and giving veterans a reason to continue are two keystones for holding the group together.

After the March meeting, several people stayed for a mailing party. The chapter used the NSS membership list to let NSS members in

After the folding, stuffing, stamping, labeling were finished, we all sat down to a home-cooked meal of pot roast, vegetables, and salads.

Bob's wife Paula provided the main course, augmented with homemade bread, and salads, drinks, and other goodies provided potluck by the rest of us. About eight people sat around the dining room table and shared food and conversation. The experience had the feel of an old-fashioned family dinner.

The people that come together through OASIS can develop relationships that transcend the common shared vision and goals of a spacefaring civilization.

the area know about OASIS and to ask them to join. Activating NSS members by participating in chapter activities is one of the core reasons NSS has a chapter system.

For some of those NSS members, this is the first *Odyssey* they are receiving. I'd like to welcome all of them!

The recruiting drive takes care of the need of a volunteer group to bring in more people. What happened during and after the mailing party illustrates the depth of the social bonds that can form.

The people that come together through OASIS can develop relationships that transcend the common shared vision and goals of a spacefaring civilization. Not only do the group activities bring us closer to the reality of a spacefaring civilization, but also they bring us closer together.

I welcome our new members and I hope that they too experience through OASIS the same kind of community togetherness as those of us who stuffed the envelopes that asked them to join.



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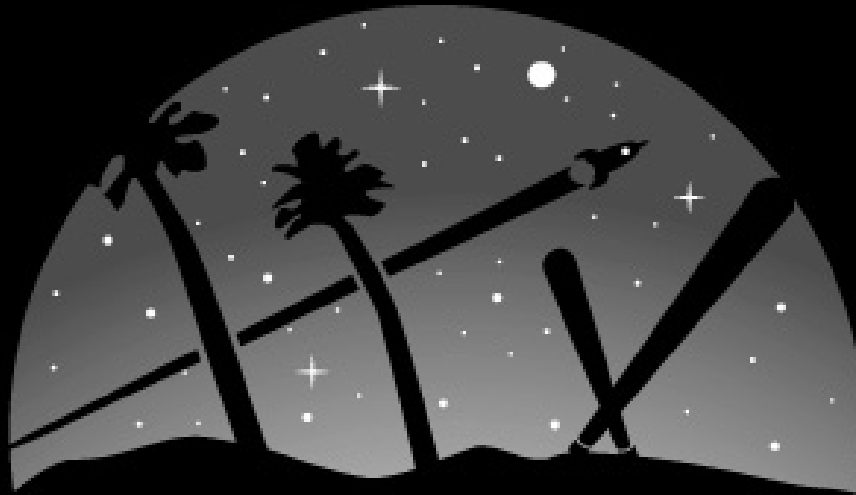
Submissions to the Odyssey of letters, articles, announcements, and reviews are encouraged. E-mail submissions to

odyssey_editor@oasis-nss.org

Contributions may also be mailed as .doc or .txt files on PC-formatted CDs, or as hard copy to:

OASIS, PO Box 1231
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

ISDC06



EXPLORING NEW WORLDS LOS ANGELES * MAY 4-7

The National Space Society and The Planetary Society
invite you to Los Angeles on May 4-7, 2006, for the 25th annual
INTERNATIONAL SPACE DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE (ISDC)
Mark your calendars today for the biggest space advocacy event of the year!

ISDC 2006 will feature dozens of presentations, panel discussions, interactive exhibits and activities spanning the entire spectrum of space-related issues: exploration, tourism, science, technology, policy, and commerce.

ISDC 2006 is your window to the new world of space, and your chance to participate in the beginning of a spacefaring civilization!

Check back often for the latest updates and please contact us if you have any questions about the conference. We look forward to seeing you in Los Angeles next May!

Sheraton Gateway Los Angeles
6101 West Century Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90045
See <http://isdc.nss.org/2006>, email katherine@moinc.com, or fax to (202) 463-8497

8th-Graders Win Space Day 2006

(continued from page 1)

Conference on May 4-7 in Los Angeles, CA (see advertisement on page 4.) The team has also been invited to the Space Day National Celebration at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)'s Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. The students will be honored in a special ceremony hosted by NASA, astronauts, and other dignitaries.

The Space Day Competition encourages teams to use science and math concepts, initiate independent research, and connect directly with experts in the field. Space Day is a year-long effort with a goal of advancing science, math, and technology education. "As the Baby Boomer generation retires, the demand for young scientists and engineers is expected to

increase at nearly four times the rate of all other occupations. In ten years there will be a major work-force gap in technical industries if we do not strengthen the interest today's young people have in math, science, technology, and engineering. The Design Challenges are a vehicle to achieve that goal," said Bob Stevens, President and CEO of Lockheed Martin Corporation.

Try It, You'll Like It! Worldcon 2006 to offer Taster Memberships

The 64th World Science Fiction Convention will be at the Anaheim Convention Center from August 23rd-27th, 2006. Come get a special "taste" of Worldcon-- for only a fraction of the price!

Instead of paying the \$200 at-the-door price for a Full Membership in Worldcon, giving you five full days' access to all of the exhibits, dealers, speakers, program items, films, dances, parties, Hugo Awards ceremony, Masquerade, you can buy a "One-Day" Membership for \$50-\$75 (depending on which day of the convention). Or you can buy a "Taster Membership," which includes a copy of the convention's program schedule and event guide, and admission for up to three hours--for only \$20.

How do I get a taster? Visit the convention Registration Desk and pay for a One-Day Membership. Your badge will be time-stamped. Then go wander about -- go visit the Exhibits and the Art Show and the Dealers Room, all 145,000 square feet. Go see a program item or two...there will be hundreds! Hear a speaker. Get autographs. Watch a film. Join a filk sing. Or just relax at our Space Port Lounge. There's lots to choose from!

If Worldcon really isn't for you, just go back to Registration within three hours of your time-stamp and you'll receive all but \$20 of your money back. But if you enjoy what you find and decide to stay, your badge will let you stay and attend all open events until the next morning. And if you want to attend more days, just come back and buy another One-Day -- or convert your One-Day to a Full Membership.

So come on down to Worldcon and find out what all the fuss is about!

For more details on all of the convention's activities, visit <http://www.laconiv.org/taster/>

ISDC 2006: VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Q: How can I get involved with this historic event????

A: There are many opportunities for people who live in the Los Angeles area to help make ISDC 2006 a reality.

These include:

- ◆ Operations (obtaining audiovisual equipment, scheduling)
 - ◆ Programming (contacting potential speakers, running sessions)
 - ◆ Communications (writing press releases, contacting media, publishing a program book)
- ...and much, much more!

No conference experience is required to help out.

If you are interested in volunteering for ISDC 2006, please contact:

PAT MONTOURE at patmontoure@aol.com OR

CRAIG WARD at volunteer-isdc2006@oasis-nss.org

OASIS Space Calendar and Sky Watch

(continued from page 7)

May 13, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. -- "What's New in Astronomy: Space Exploration 2006." A one-day seminar for the general public offered by UCLA Extension. The four topics are: "Cassini: Latest Results from Saturn" by Dr. Kevin Grazier; "Probing the Comets and Asteroids of Our Solar System: The Deep Impact of Hyabashi Mission Results" by Dr. Don Yeomans; "Spitzer Space Telescope: Looking at the Invisible Universe" by Dr. Michelle Thaller; and "Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter: A Closer Look at the Red Planet" by Dr. Richard Zurek. UCLA, 147 Dodd Hall. Fee: \$65 noncredit (or \$120 for 0.8 units) plus \$8 to park. 310/825-9971 or <http://www.uclaextension.edu/>

May 13, 7:30 p.m. -- "Observing Earth Satellites," by Todd Hansen. Cossentine Hall, La Sierra University, 4500 Riverwalk Pkwy, Riverside. Sponsored by Riverside Astronomical Society. Admission is free. information@rivastro.org or <http://www.rivastro.org/index.html>

May 14 -- Griffith Observatory scheduled to reopen. <http://www.griffithobs.org/renovation.html>

May 19, 2:00 p.m. -- "Space: Black Holes" film screening and discussion. Megan Eckart, of Caltech's Physics Department, will introduce the film and lead a post-screening discussion. Beckman Auditorium, Caltech, 332 S Michigan Ave, Pasadena. Sponsored by Caltech Public Events. \$5 (unreserved seating). 626/395-6400 or <http://events.caltech.edu/find.html>

May 19, 8:00 p.m. -- "The Magnificent Voyage of Stardust," by Darren Baird, Stardust Navigator. Bianchi Planetarium, Cal State Northridge, 18111 Nordhoff St (park in Lot G4, located on Zelzah Ave). Adults: \$5.00; Students/children: \$3.00. 818/677-2488 or http://www.csun.edu/physicsandastronomy/Miscellaneous/planetarium_page.htm#schedule

May 20-21, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. -- Jet Propulsion Laboratory Open House. 4800 Oak Grove Drive, Pasadena. Free admission and parking. 818/354-0112 or <http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/psso/oh.cfm>

May 20, 3:00 p.m. -- OASIS Monthly Business Meeting. 310/364-2290 or <http://www.oasis-nss.org/>

May 6, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. -- 3rd Annual Space Day. San Diego Aerospace Museum, 2001 Pan American Plaza, San Diego. Free admission. 619/234-8291 or <http://www.aerospacemuseum.org/upcoming/lectureseries.html>

May 6, sunset to 10 p.m. -- Public Star Party. Sponsored by Los Angeles Astronomical Society. Griffith Observatory Satellite, 4800 Western Heritage Way (park in the Los Angeles Zoo parking lot). outreach@laas.org or http://www.laas.org/Events_StarParties-Public.htm

May 11, 7:00 p.m. -- "Planetary Robotics: to Mars and Beyond," by Dr. Ashley Stroupe, JPL Staff Engineer, Mars Exploration Rovers Engineering Team, and Brett Kennedy, JPL Staff Engineer, JPL Robotic Hardware Group. Von Kármán Auditorium at JPL, 4800 Oak Grove Dr, Pasadena. Sponsored by Theodore von Kármán Lecture Series. Admission is free. Also broadcast and webcast on NASA TV. 818/354-0112 or <http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/events/lectures/may06.cfm>

May 12, 7:00 p.m. -- "Planetary Robotics: to Mars and Beyond," by Dr. Ashley Stroupe, JPL Staff Engineer, Mars Exploration Rovers Engineering Team, and Brett Kennedy, JPL Staff Engineer, JPL Robotic Hardware Group. Vosloh Forum at Pasadena City College, 1570 E Colorado Blvd. Sponsored by Theodore von Kármán Lecture Series. Admission is free. 818/354-0112 or <http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/events/lectures/may06.cfm>

May 12, 7:30 p.m. -- "Extrasolar Planets," by Robert Korechoff of JPL. New Roads School, 3131 Olympic Blvd, Santa Monica. Sponsored by Santa Monica Amateur Astronomy Club. Free admission. 310/495-7595 or <http://connect.to/smaac>

(continued on page 6)



Name: _____

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E-mail: _____

Interests: _____

I wish to join as an:

- \$15 Individual
- \$25 Family*
- \$25 Supporter MMM yes/no**
- \$35 Family Supporter MMM yes/no**
- \$50 Adventurer MMM yes/no**
- \$75 Pioneer MMM yes/no**
- \$150 Explorer MMM yes/no**
- \$12 Student/Senior
- \$12 Child (no Odyssey, only children's edition)

Membership Dues: \$ _____
Additional Contribution: \$ _____
Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Rates listed are for yearly dues
Mail check and completed form to:

OASIS Memberships
PO Box 1231
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

*Family rates include the children's edition. Please specify names of children.

**Supporter level or higher: you can choose to subscribe to the Moon Miners Manifesto (MMM)

Apr 27, 7:30 p.m. -- "Before We Landed There We Flew Here: The Lunar Landing Research Vehicle," by Christian Gelzer, Deputy Historian at NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center. San Diego Aerospace Museum, 2001 Pan American Plaza, San Diego. \$10 for San Diego Aerospace Museum members; \$15 for non-members. 619/234-8291 or <http://www.aerospace-museum.org/upcoming/lectureseries.html>

Apr 28, 8:00 p.m. -- "Winning the Cosmic Lottery," by Dr. Paul Weissman, JPL Senior Research Scientist. Bianchi Planetarium, Cal State Northridge, 18111 Nordhoff St (park in Lot G4, located on Zelzah Ave). Adults: \$5.00; Students/children: \$3.00. 818/677-2488 or http://www.csun.edu/physicsandastronomy/Miscellaneous/planetarium_page.htm#schedule

Apr 28, 8:00 p.m. -- "Cassini/Huygens Mission to Saturn and Titan," by Trina Ray, Deputy Science Planning Manager, Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Science Lecture Hall 140, Santa Monica College, 1900 Pico Blvd. 310/434-4003 or <http://www.smc.edu/planetarium/>

May 4-7 -- 25th International Space Development Conference. Sheraton Gateway Los Angeles, 6101 W Century Blvd. Sponsored by The National Space Society and The Planetary Society. Registration: \$125 NSS, Planetary Society, or Affiliate organization members; \$150 non-members; \$50 student. <http://isdc.nss.org/2006>

May 4, 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. -- The Space Venturing Forum. Sheraton Gateway Los Angeles, 6101 W Century Blvd. Sponsored by The National Space Society. Registration: \$165 (Registrants for ISDC are invited to attend at no additional cost, except for the luncheon keynote, which must be purchased separately). <http://www.isdc2006.org/forum.html>

May 4 -- 2nd Space Tourism Pioneer "Orbit" Awards Gala. Featured awards presenter: Mr. Dennis Tito, the world's first private space traveler. Sheraton Gateway Los Angeles, 6101 W Century Blvd. Sponsored by the Space Tourism Society, the National Space Society, and The Planetary Society. <http://www.spacetourismsociety.org/>

(continued on page 7)



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