

Our Mission

Our mission is two-fold: “Preserving Achievement; Inspiring Innovation.”

First, we honor those who built the American space program by preserving their artifacts, history, and individual stories.
Second, we use those stories and artifacts as a springboard to inspire a new generation to innovate, invent, explore, and discover.

Vol. 1, No. 1

FALL 2023



Message from Our Foundation Chairman

The American Space Museum is starting a quarterly newsletter to share with our friends, donors, sponsors and space buffs what is going on at the museum. The Museum was founded in 1988 when a local physician wrote to the Titusville City Council suggesting a project to preserve space history and to honor men and women associated with America’s space program. With a downtown redevelopment program in progress to enhance the riverfront, the suggestion was welcomed by the council and the Titusville Community Redevelopment Agency. The idea resulted in the formation of the U.S. Space Walk of Fame Foundation, a non-profit organization.

Led by space pioneers, community leaders and former space workers, foundation officials cooperated with the city which provided park infrastructure while the foundation oversaw monument development, plaques, mission logo markers and other space related items to complete the space themed park on the Indian River across from the Kennedy Space Center. From the monuments grew the museum in 2001.

Our Museum is 6,000 square feet with more than 530 artifacts on display. In this quarters chairman’s message I would like to introduce myself, share a little history of our museum, share our current programs, and request your help.

I am Larry Ostarly the current Chairman of American Space Museum. My wife Elva and I have lived on the Space Coast since 1980, where we raised our three children. I transferred from Sunnyvale, California with Lockheed to support the Navy’s Fleet Ballistic Missile program as a test engineer and eventually transferred to Kennedy Space Center to support the shuttle as an Orbiter Test Conductor where I had the privilege of participating in numerous shuttle launches. The last decade of my career was spent with Amentum leading several of our NASA contracts. My introduction to the ASM was through Lee Solid a retired Rocketdyne Executive who was heavily involved in Saturn V’s engine development and sending men to the moon. My desire is to see our museum thrive as we bring our museum and programs to the community.

The museum is a non-profit that provides a history of our space program. We are located in downtown Titusville next to the Playhouse. Today the museum focuses on the Mercury, Gemini, Apollo and Shuttle Programs with the majority of our artifacts being from that era. Our goal is to move forward with the future as the nation moves towards habitation of the moon and Mars with the Artemis program in partnership with commercial companies. We live in an amazing time with Space X launching 50 plus times a year from the Space Coast and with Blue Origin just around the corner. Space has never been more exciting.

Our newsletter will provide updates on our programs and the museum. Our webcast show “Stay Curious” produced by Marq Marquette and Marty Winkel has done more than 900 broadcasts. Please tune in weekly when Marq hosts guest speakers and shares Space Trivia, astronaut birthdays and backyard astronomy. You can watch at www.youtube.com/americanspacemuseum. Our STEM Science program led by Darin Roberts “Build-A-Brain Workshops” has hosted 4759+ elementary students throughout Brevard County where Darin has shared science with enthusiasm and ignites the children’s imagination. The museum galleries focus on Mercury, Gemini, Apollo, Space Shuttle, Female Astronauts and the Cape’s contributions to space exploration. We have had 16,500 visitors so far this year. With some coming as far away as Holland and Melbourne, Australia. One of our visitors said he found out about us on the “Travel Channel”. We are open to the public from 10 to 5 Monday thru Saturday.

The museum is a non-profit with 100% of our revenue being generated by attendance, Members of the Museum, donations, community events, memorabilia auctions, grants, and sponsors. Our supporters are key to our success we currently have 100 paid members with a goal of 200 for 2024, consider becoming a Member of the Museum. Please visit the website at <https://AmericanSpaceMuseum.org/> membership, if you are a member please renew and if not consider joining and come by to visit this unique piece of history in downtown Titusville. We have the luxury of a few very dedicated volunteers but are in need of more, so if interested please fill-out the attached form provided in the newsletter.

We look forward to seeing you at the museum. Be safe and *Stay Curious*.

Donations appreciated



Karan Conklin
Apollo Monument at Space View Park



**If you are not already a Museum Member
here's how to Become One**



Dear Members, Friends and Supporters'

Every season is membership season at the American Space Museum! ASM currently has 100 paid memberships on the rolls. We welcome all of our new members and reiterate our thanks to those who renew faithfully year after year. Your support helps us accomplish our mission here of "Preserving Achievement; Inspiring Innovation" and all that entails.

As many of you know, finances since the beginning of the pandemic have been challenging for everyone and American Space Museum is no exception. After much deliberation, our Board of Directors has decided that we will need to increase the membership cost in the days ahead. This will help us as we work to keep our budget balanced, our doors open and our museum accessible to everyone. The new rates, begin 2024. So don't lose your chance to support the museum before the prices go up.

Individual - \$ 25, Family - \$45,

Supporting - \$100-\$499, Sustaining - \$500-\$999, and Stellar - \$ 1000+

If you know someone who would like to join us, please share the membership form on the next page with them or forward them this email! Any questions can be addressed to our Membership Director, Lorraine Merchant via email at Lorraine@AmericanSpaceMuseum.org.

Thank you to everyone who gives so generously in so many ways. We appreciate all of you!

Please contact us at: Phone: (321) 264-0434, Email: Info@AmericanSpaceMuseum.org or visit Website: AmericanSpaceMuseum.org

Become a Member Today –

Preserve History; Ensure the Future

By supporting the American Space Museum and Walk of Fame, you are not only helping us to preserve America’s vital and compelling space program history, but you are also helping us to **inspire** and **motivate** a new generation of **innovators, explorers and scientists**.

We now offer NEW opportunities for membership and patronage that will promote and grow our museum and its impact throughout the region and nation:

1. **Individual Member \$25:** Free museum entry for **one individual** for one year.
Plus: Four free single use passes to share with anyone.
Plus: 10% off Gift Shop purchases.
Plus: Invitation to Member Only Events.
2. **Family Member \$45:** Free museum entry for **four household members** for one year.
Plus: Six free single use passes to share with anyone.
Plus:15% off Gift Shop purchases.
Plus: Plus: Invitation to Member Only Events.
3. **Supporting Member \$100 – \$499:** Free museum entry for **four household members** for one year.
Plus: Six free single use passes to share with anyone.
Plus:20% off Gift Shop purchases.
Plus: Invitation to **and introduction at all** museum events.
Plus: Web and museum wall acknowledgement
4. **Sustaining Member \$500 – \$999:** Free museum entry for **four household members** for one year.
Plus: Six free multi-use annual passes to share with anyone.
Plus: 20% off Gift Shop purchases.
Plus: Invitation to **and introduction at all** museum events.
Plus: Web and museum wall acknowledgement
5. **Stellar \$1,000 +:** Free museum entry for up to **six household members** for one year.
Plus: Six free multi-use annual passes to share with anyone.
Plus: 20% off Gift Shop purchases.
Plus: Invitation to **and introduction at all** museum events.
Plus: Web and museum wall acknowledgement

Membership Form

*You can also join by going to our website and join via PayPal or Credit Card
www.AmericanSpaceMuseum.org - A 501(c)3 tax exempt non-profit charity*

Individual ____, **Family** ____, **Supporting** ____, **Sustaining** ____, **Stellar** ____
add \$10, \$25, or more for STEM education ____.



Last Name: _____ First Name: _____
Spouse: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email: _____

(we do NOT share any personal information with other organizations)

Home phone: _____, Cell: _____

Make checks payable to: American Space Museum, 308 Pine Street, Titusville, FL 32796,
CALL 321-264-0434 or go on-line to www.americanspacemuseum.org to join with PayPal.

Build-A-Brain Workshop

I want to thank all the families that have made the American Space Museum Build-A-Brain Workshop a roaring success. This last year we were able to do some amazing things, with over seven hundred individual children having attended at least one workshop in that time. It has been inspiring to see the kids getting so involved in the experiments, asking questions, and even making connections to things discussed in previous workshops I had not thought of. Without bias, I proudly say the brightest and best kids in the state are in my workshops!



I also wish to thank you all for the great relationships you have made with me and some of the staff here at the museum. We have all been overwhelmed with the number of emails, letters, cards, and even pictures from kids and families wishing me well. It is daunting to have been able to have so many amazing friendships based on seeing you all for one day once a month. It is my honor to get to teach these students.

Now, for the rest of the year, we have some incredible things planned. First, we will end 2023 with workshops on *Meteors, Comets, Asteroids and Craters* starting in November. Then in 2024, we have some new, never-before-taught workshops planned to teach about 3DPrinting, teach Physics in Action, and have a slimy in

class on Rheology. These three workshops will not only share new information and exciting experiments with our young scientist, but I hope to show kids some new fields of study and careers that students may never have known existed.



Again, looking forward to seeing you all in November,
Professor Darin



American Space Museum Gift Shop Expands with New Items and Space Memorabilia

By Anita

The American Space Museum is excited to announce that its gift shop has expanded with new items and space memorabilia. The gift shop now offers a wider variety of items for all ages, including:

- Space toys and games
- Apparel and accessories with NASA and space-themed designs
- Books and educational materials about space
- Home décor and souvenirs from the American Space Museum

The gift shop is also selling a limited number of authentic space artifacts: Maiden Launch Commemorative Medallion Set, framed Mercury & Gemini patch sets with photos, Space Shuttle Mission Medallions, & much more. Proceeds from the sale of these items will benefit the American Space Museum, which is a non-profit charity organization dedicated to preserving and sharing the history of space exploration.

The American Space Museum is also looking for volunteers to help in the gift shop and as docents. Gift Shop volunteers will be responsible for greeting customers, stocking shelves, and helping customers find the perfect items. Docents will share their personal stories about space exploration and give guests a tour through the museum. Volunteers should have an interest in space exploration and be able to work independently and as part of a team.

To learn more about the American Space Museum, Gift Shop, or to volunteer, please visit www.AmericanSpaceMuseum.org

“CONNIE’S CLOSET”

By Connie McDaniel



I have been a volunteer for 4 years, mostly working out of “Room #7”, where IT Bruce and office manager extraordinaire Anita dwell in a space smaller than Karan’s closet!

I truly enjoy helping Anita with all the day-to-day goings on, and I’m particularly skilled at stuffing “goodie” bags of space swag for our precious children guests. My skill set may come from “unstuffing” women of their babies for 35 years as a Tampa General labor and delivery nurse!

I’m not good at computers (just ask MarQ or Marty), but I’m handy with a roll of towels and a bottle of Windex. I also take good phone messages everyone can read. I can vacuum the museum carpet faster than a Shuttle gets to orbit, and I’m darn good at taste-testing the snacks everyone brings in.



My passion for space is only exceeded by my love for my three adult children and three beautiful grandkids. I love ASM so much, I’d work here for nothing. Oh...wait. I DO work for nothing! And very grateful for all the friends and interesting people I met along the way.

I look forward to a great Florida tourist season and ask you to keep my Tampa Bay Buccaneers in your prayers. Thank you, Connie

American Space Museum's "ASM Gives Back" Program: Free Admission for Different Groups Each Month A Community Initiative to Show Appreciation

In a heartwarming initiative aimed at expressing gratitude and giving back to the community, the American Space Museum (ASM) is delighted to reintroduce its "ASM Gives Back" program. Commencing in November 2023, this program offers free admission to various groups each month, as a token of appreciation for the people who have helped make Brevard County, such a vibrant place to live and work.

The ASM team extends a warm welcome to the dedicated individuals who have played a pivotal role in shaping this wonderful community. Through this initiative, ASM aims to share the treasures of space exploration with those who have given so much to the community.

The "ASM Gives Back" program offers free admission to a diverse range of groups, each during their designated month:

- **January:** Hospitality workers (restaurant, hotel employees, etc.)
- **February:** Volunteers (individuals contributing their time to non-profit organizations)
- **March:** City/County employees
- **April:** Space workers
- **May:** Educators and teachers
- **June:** Youth groups (including Scouts and similar organizations)
- **July:** Volunteer organizations (employees from nonprofit entities like United Way and support for abused women)
- **August:** Police and firefighters
- **September:** Healthcare workers
- **October:** Media professionals (a chance to explore something new for their promotions)
- **November:** Armed forces and veterans
- **December:** Seniors (ages 65+)



Karan Conklin, Executive Director of the American Space Museum, expressed her gratitude by saying, "We are thankful for the unwavering support of our community, and we wanted to find a meaningful way to give back. The 'ASM Gives Back' program is our way of saying 'thank you' to the people who have made our community a remarkable place to live and work."

To take advantage of the "ASM Gives Back" program and enjoy free admission during your group's designated month, simply present proof of your employment or affiliation with the honored group. Admission is extended to up to four individuals within the immediate family, making it a fantastic opportunity to explore the wonders of space and science.

The ASM team eagerly awaits your visit, and look forward to hosting you and your family as a token of appreciation for your contributions to the community. Come and discover the history of space at the American Space Museum, where the wonders of the cosmos are shared with open hearts.

For more information about the American Space Museum and its "ASM Gives Back" program, please visit their website at www.AmericanSpaceMuseum.org.



ASM's Holiday Food Drive: Giving Back While Saving Big Join Us in Spreading Cheer to the Local Community This Holiday Season

As the summer sun sets, we welcome the approach of the holiday season with hearts and arms wide open at the American Space Museum (ASM). While the holidays often evoke feelings of warmth and togetherness, they can also be a challenging time for many in our community. At ASM, we believe in sharing the joy of the season, and this year, we invite you to join us in this special initiative to bring cheer to those in need.

A Season of Giving

Starting in November 2023 and throughout the holiday season, ASM is running a charitable food drive in collaboration with a local food bank. We understand that this time of year can be particularly tough for many families and individuals who struggle to put food on the table. According to the 2020 US Census, there are 14,490 children aged 0-17 living in poverty in Brevard County. Our mission is to make the holidays brighter for those facing difficult circumstances.

How You Can Help

We invite all our valued members, visitors and community members to participate in our "Share the Joy" food drive. It's simple - all you have to do is bring in a nonperishable food item when you visit ASM, and you'll receive **\$2.00 off your admission**. It's a win-win scenario, where your generosity not only helps us spread the spirit of the season but also allows you to save on your visit to our incredible museum.



Why Your Contribution Matters

Your contribution of nonperishable items will go a long way in supporting our local food bank's efforts to ensure that no one goes hungry this holiday season. These items are invaluable for families and individuals who depend on the food bank's assistance to make ends meet.

A Heartfelt Thank You

ASM's commitment to the community goes beyond our fascination with space and science. We are dedicated to making a positive impact and fostering a sense of togetherness. By participating in our "Share the Joy" food drive, you are helping us accomplish this mission.

Spread the Word

We encourage you to spread the word about this initiative. Share it with friends, family, and colleagues to help us create a wave of generosity and compassion in our community. Together, we can make a significant difference in the lives of those who need it most.

So, as the holiday season draws near, consider a visit to the American Space Museum. Enjoy a day of exploration and discovery while also contributing to a noble cause. Bring your nonperishable food items, and let's make this holiday season brighter for everyone.

Join us in this heartwarming initiative, and together, we can create a holiday season to remember.

For more information about ASM and our "Share the Joy" food drive, please visit our website at www.AmericanSpaceMuseum.org.

By: Karan



See What's new at the American Space Museum

The American Space Museum continues to grow in popularity, with our Build-a-Brain (BABW) workshops for kids in 3rd through 6th grades leading the way. These workshops are designed to teach kids about the STEM disciplines and how they relate to space today, while also encouraging them to be creative and have fun.

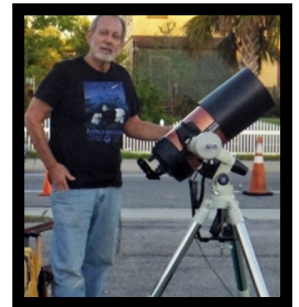
Some of the workshops that are offered include:

- What a Bright Idea – Lights, Lasers, and Refraction
- How Big is the Solar System
- Meteors, Asteroids, and Craters
- That's Just Cold – Cryogenics
- Shocking Magnetism – A Study of Magnetic Fields



The workshops are led by “Professor” Darin Roberts, who is passionate whenever he is teaching kids about STEM. The workshops are very interactive, with kids having the opportunity to participate in hands-on activities and experiments.

In addition to the BABW, the American Space Museum also offers a variety of other educational programs for kids of all ages, including museum tours and our Starry, Starry Night astronomy program. The museum staff is committed to providing everyone with the opportunity to learn about science and technology in a fun and engaging way.



We are also pleased to announce that we have made a few changes in the office.

Angie Roberts, previously the bookkeeper, has transitioned to grant writing, and works as an assistant to me (man, she really has her hands full). We, of course, needed to replace her and now have a new bookkeeper, Selvin Trotter Jr... Selvin is a great asset to our organization and we are proud to have him on our team. Stop by when you have a chance and welcome Selvin yourself.



Born out of a desire to stay relevant and connected to our donors, members, and friends during the pandemic. Stay Curious was born using MarQ Marquette's cell phone and Marty Winkel



on the control board. With over 900 episodes produced, the show is seen around the world. To watch Stay Curious, on YouTube Monday through Friday at 4:00 pm ET, visit www.YouTube.com/AmericanSpaceMuseum.

I encourage you to visit the American Space Museum in person or on our website. Learn more about our Build-a-Brain workshops (you can register your child for a workshop online), Stay Curious, and our other great programs. There's something for everyone.

We will see you soon. -

Karan

STAY CURIOUS



By Mark Marquette, community liaison

The Stay Curious videopodcast has become much more than intended 4 years ago. It started in March 2020 when I told Karan Conklin that I think I can put some short videos on Facebook live, to show our supporters that we were not going to lay down and do nothing during the Covid-19 pandemic shutdown.

Today we have more than 900 episodes, with half of them on YouTube where we are making a little bit of money. We have many regulars who say that Stay Curious helped them through the “cooped up” months of 2020.

For those who don’t know, Stay Curious has become a “TV news-style” production using a program called “Streamlabs” that merges the graphics and live broadcast together. Marty Winkel has been behind the console since we were taught by our “Trekkie Tekkie” Jessica Galloway.

One Stay Curious fan, Georgia onion and peanut farmer Gary Jarel, stopped by the museum this past Spring and brought the ASM staff a box of delicious Vidalia onions he grew to say thank you!

I asked Gary to be on a Stay Curious episode his next visit this past summer, and he enlightened everyone about how GPS satellites and data collecting are a mainstay in today’s 21st Century farming.

Gary is just one of more than 60 people who we’ve had a “conversation” with on the video podcast that usually has 50-80 people a day watching. The flux of viewership is something IT manager Bruce Jacobs, Karan and I are trying to figure out, and it ranges for Apollo engineer John Tribe (300 views) to never lower than 40, and show content doesn’t seem to be much of a factor. Among those interviewed this 2023 so far include European Space Agency communicators with the International Space Station; Astronaut wife Marie Fullerton; six astronauts, 100-year old W.O. Brown, a NASA engineer; local space food expert Gary Shuttle and bunches of Shuttle Era workers and executives.

We are fortunate to have attracted three very respected space leaders for monthly programs : Kennedy Space Center Visitors Complex senior educator Nick Thomas; Shuttle Orbiter Processing Facility manager Terry White; and Shuttle Payloads expert Mikey Haddad. In February we lost our 90-year-old NASA icon, Hugh Harris, and we are pleased that Stay Curious is a forum to continually promote Hugh’s legacy, as well as all that of space workers.

One of the special guests we’ve had on Stay Curious is former KSC director Jay Honeycutt. Mr. Honeycutt recently did an episode on his Apollo days as a simulation manager. We are working together on a special program that will be called “Jay Honeycutt’s Brief History of Human Spaceflight.” He wants ASM to market this piece which would be used by NASA human resources department for new hires.

So we are very blessed to have so many “VIP eyes” on this humble Stay Curious program. Believe me, the program has benefited from volunteer Marty Winkel, who has been beside me nearly every episode.

Together, the ASM staff is striving to improve our Stay Curious content and find creative ways to reach a larger audience in a heavily podcast-populated world of social media.

We thank everyone for their continued support, financially, with guests, or sharing our social media pages.



The Museum's Collection

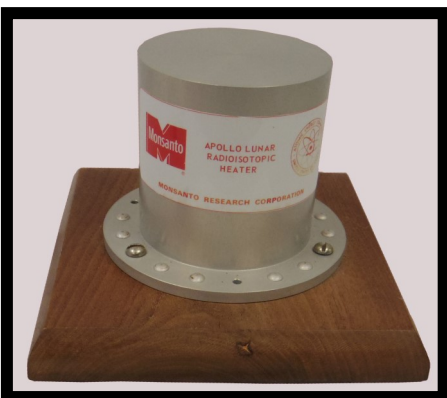
The American Space Museum's collection contains artifacts covering the beginnings of the U.S. space program through the current day. They came to the museum from a variety of sources including NASA and its contractors and space workers. Some items have been loaned to the museum for exhibit.

Our database contains records for more than 4400 items and we have around 530 artifacts on exhibit. The items that are not on exhibit are at a storage facility generously provided by Parrish Medical Center. This location also contains many items that have not yet been evaluated and processed. This is an ongoing effort.

This work involves determining if an item is appropriate for the museum's collection, documenting the provenance (ownership and history) of the object and understanding how the item should be used to further the museum's mission.

In future issues of the newsletter we will highlight some of the interesting items that we have on exhibit.

If you have any items that you would like to donate please bring them to the museum.



Grandmother's Close Call: *How to Protect Yourself from Scams*



Pam, a grandmother, received a distressing call from someone claiming to be her grandson. The caller said, "Grandma, help! I'm in trouble," and hung up. Minutes later, another call came from a supposed lawyer representing her grandson. The lawyer informed Pam that her grandson was in legal trouble and needed \$8,000 in fines and fees paid by 2 p.m. that day. He stressed the importance of secrecy for her grandson's safety and provided a phone number to send the money.

Alarmed, Pam rushed to the bank to withdraw the requested amount. The observant bank teller noticed her nervousness and inquired if everything was alright. Pam assured her she was fine but asked how to send cash using a cell phone. The alert teller involved the bank manager, who spoke with Pam and offered to investigate the matter.

The investigation revealed that Pam was a target of scammers who had been preying on elderly individuals in the area. Pam was relieved to find her grandson safe and grateful to the bank staff and authorities for preventing her from falling victim to the scam.

This incident highlights the importance of vigilance against scams. Here are some red flags to watch out for:

- **Urgency and Secrecy:** Scammers often create a sense of urgency and demand secrecy to prevent victims from verifying the situation.
- **Unusual Payment Methods:** Requests for payment through apps like Cash App, Zelle, or Venmo, gift cards, or other unconventional methods are suspicious.
- **Personal Information Requests:** Never share personal information like social security numbers, bank details, or credit card information with unknown parties.
- **Vague Job Descriptions:** Be wary of job offers with overly attractive or vague descriptions.
- **Poor Grammar and Spelling:** Scams often contain grammatical errors and typos.
- **Unsolicited Offers:** Be cautious of unsolicited job offers or money-making opportunities.
- **Pressure Tactics:** Scammers often pressure victims to act quickly without proper consideration.

Protect yourself and your loved ones by staying informed about scams and exercising caution. Remind older family members and friends to be wary of unsolicited calls or messages. Encourage them to never share personal information or send money to unknown individuals.

Financial institutions have trained fraud departments to help identify and prevent scams. Don't hesitate to reach out to them for assistance. Remember, it's always better to be safe than sorry when it comes to protecting your hard-earned money.

Coming Events

November 2023 to April 2024

Saturday, November 11, 2023	Space Memorabilia Show	Beachside Hotel, Cocoa Beach
Saturday, December 9, 2023	ASM Charity Memorabilia Auction	 Online Only
Sunday, January 28, 2024	ASM & The Flag & Memorial	Sandpoint Park, Titusville
Saturday, April 13, 2024	ShuttleFest III	Hyatt, Titusville

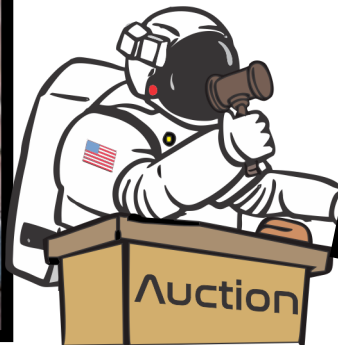


Monday thru Friday

4:00 ET

On YouTube /AmericanSpaceMuseum

If you would like to join us and volunteer call Anita at (321) 264-0434



Up Coming Events - Dates TBD

Projects MarQ and I are working on for 2024 and beyond:

Book Signings

Open house

Wine Tasting

Dine with a KSC Legend