

The FLIGHT DECK

The Official Newsletter of the Fleet Flagship

U.S.S. HALSEY

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January 2012

FROM THE BRIDGE:

Greetings and welcome to 2012! Remember what a big deal it was on the eve of the next century, Y2K and all that, and now here we are 12 years later. Wow! The month has been unseasonably warm and dry (knock on wood) and hopefully it will continue to be that way.

I hope you all had a chance to enjoy Starbase Indy. I saw a lot of you there. Our own Halsey newsletter won an award (thanks again, Janet!) and we took the Best Ship of the Year for the Medium Ship Class division. Woohoo! Thanks to everyone for all their good work in keeping the ship afloat - or at least, airtight! Our meeting this month is Saturday, January 28th at 6pm. That will take place at our house, the Bischoff abode. In keeping with the weather, I'm thinking the theme of our meeting will be "warm." So bring a "warm" soup, casserole, dessert -- anything that takes our mind off this chilly weather!

In other ship news, our Chief Engineer Mark Milhous and his shipmate Gloria have departed for warmer (can you see a trend here, folks?) climes and taken the shuttle craft and headed south for Texas. We wish them a safe journey and look forward to their return in the months ahead. Keep those away mission reports and photos coming! We also gladly welcome aboard two new ship members, Jamie and Justin! We look forward to seeing them at regular meetings and camping out at the Starfleet Olympics in July (the warmest month!)

LL&P,
VADM Mary

Ed note: I just plod on. I have a whole shelf now of SFC newsletter awards. Any contributions are always welcome. I did add the emails Jamie and Justin gave me. If you two can reply back to me, so I know I have them right, I'd appreciate it. ☺ jld

Important Upcoming Dates:

January 28

Halsey Meeting – Bishoff's 6 PM

February 25	Halsey Meeting – Roseann’s 6 PM
March 24	March Meeting – Need a host (TBD)
April 28	Plane wash – Grissom
May 19	Picnic – at the Dailey’s in Georgetown, IN 1 PM
June 23	June Meeting – Need a host (TBD)
July 6-8	Inconjunction
July 20-22	SFC Olympics
July 28	Fireworks – Milhous’ 6 PM

Interesting Dates:

January 8 Battle of New Orleans, 1815

January 11 Alexander Hamilton born, 1755

January 15 British Museum opened, 1759 (Don and I visited 1979)

January 19 Edgar Allen Poe born, 1809

January 20 Deforest Kelly Born

January 24 First canned beer on sale, 1935 (Think Sandy was there. Thanks Don)

January 25 First Winter Olympic Games, 1924

January 29 Kansas becomes 34th state, 1981

February 5 Superbowl Sunday

February 25 Halsey Meeting Roseann’s

What's Next For NASA?
07.01.11

"As a former astronaut and the current NASA Administrator, I'm here to tell you that American leadership in space will continue for at least the next half-century because we have laid the foundation for success -- and failure is not an option."

Charles Bolden, NASA Administrator
National Press Club, July 1, 2011

The end of the space shuttle program does not mean the end of NASA, or even of NASA sending humans into space. NASA has a robust program of exploration, technology development and scientific research that will last for years to come. Here is what's next for NASA:



Artist's concept of the new Space Launch System rocket launching with the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle. Credit: NASA

[View Full Size](#)



The International Space Station in May 2011. Credit:

NASA

[View Full Size](#)



The Research Flight Deck is being used to develop safer and more efficient cockpit technologies. Credit: NASA

[View Full Size](#)



The Juno mission will arrive at Jupiter in 2016.

Credit: NASA

[View Full Size](#) **Exploration**

NASA is designing and building the capabilities to send humans to explore the solar system, working toward a goal of landing humans on Mars. We will build the [Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle](#), based on the design for the Orion capsule, with a capacity to take four astronauts on 21-day missions.

NASA is also moving forward with the development of the [Space Launch System](#) -- an advanced heavy-lift launch vehicle that will provide an entirely new national capability for human exploration beyond Earth's orbit. The SLS rocket will use a liquid hydrogen and liquid oxygen propulsion system, which will include shuttle engines for the core stage and the [J-2X](#) engine for the upper stage.

We are developing the [technologies](#) we will need for human exploration of the solar system, including solar electric propulsion, refueling depots in orbit, radiation protection and high-reliability life support systems.

International Space Station

The [International Space Station](#) is the centerpiece of our human spaceflight activities in low Earth orbit. The ISS is fully staffed with a [crew](#) of six, and American astronauts will continue to live and work there in space 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Part of the U.S. portion of the station has been designated as a [national laboratory](#), and NASA is committed to using this unique resource for scientific research.

The ISS is a test bed for exploration technologies such as autonomous refueling of spacecraft, advanced life support systems and [human/robotic interfaces](#). [Commercial companies](#) are well on their way to providing [cargo and crew](#) flights to the ISS, allowing NASA to focus its attention on the next steps into our solar system.

Aeronautics

NASA is researching ways to design and build aircraft that are [safer, more fuel-efficient, quieter, and environmentally responsible](#). We are also working to create [traffic management systems](#) that are safer, more efficient and more flexible. We are developing technologies that improve routing during flights and enable aircraft to climb to and descend from their cruising altitude without interruption.

We believe it is possible to build an aircraft that uses less fuel, gives off fewer emissions,

and is quieter, and we are working on the technologies to create that aircraft. NASA is also part of the government team that is working to develop the Next Generation Air Transportation System, or [NextGen](#), to be in place by the year 2025. We will continue to validate new, complex aircraft and air traffic control systems to ensure that they meet extremely high safety levels.

Science

NASA is conducting an unprecedented array of missions that will seek new knowledge and understanding of Earth, the solar system and the universe. NASA has observatories in Earth orbit and deep space, spacecraft visiting the moon and other planetary bodies, and robotic landers, rovers, and sample return missions. NASA's science vision encompasses questions as practical as hurricane formation, as enticing as the prospect of lunar resources, and as profound as the origin of the Universe.

Learn more about:

- The [Dawn](#) spacecraft's visit to the large asteroid Vesta to help us understand the earliest chapter of our solar system's history.
- [Juno's](#) mission to Jupiter, arriving in July 2016 to investigate the gas giant's origins, structure, and atmosphere.
- The [GRAIL](#) mission to study the moon's gravity field and determine the structure of the lunar interior.
- The [National Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellite System Preparatory Project](#), a critical first step in building a next-generation Earth-monitoring satellite system.
- The Mars Science Laboratory named [Curiosity](#), looking for evidence of microbial life on the red planet.
- The [Nuclear Spectroscopic Telescope Array's](#) search for black holes, mapping of supernova explosions, and study of the most extreme active galaxies.

Illustration is not to scale
http://www.nasa.gov/about/whats_next.html

[Missing Fossils Found](#)

Filed in [Biology](#), [Science](#) | [Steven H Silver](#), 9:32 am | [Comments \(0\)](#)

Tags: [British Geological Survey](#), [Charles Darwin](#)

A collection of more than 300 fossils collected and examined by Charles Darwin have been found by Howard Falcon-Lang at the British Geological Survey after being lost for more than 150 years. The fossils included specimens collected by Darwin in the Galapagos as well as samples collected by Darwin's colleagues, and were used to help Darwin formulate his theory of evolution.

<http://www.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,2104600,00.html>

[Rusty Hevelin \(1922-2011\)](#)

— posted Tuesday 27 December 2011 @ 8:05 pm PST

Long-time fan James “Rusty” Hevelin, 89, died December 27, 2011 at the VA Hospital Hospice Center in Dayton OH.

Hevelin was born February 16, 1922, and became active in fandom beginning in the 1930s, and remained involved for the rest of his life. He was a fanzine publisher (notably of *H-1661*), contributor, collector, and huckster. He was fan guest of honor at Worldcon in 1981, won the Big Heart Award in 1986, and in 2003 received the Sam Moskowitz Archive Award for excellence in science fiction collecting. He was also part of the group that founded PulpCon, and chaired the “Detroit in ’82” Worldcon bid. More details can be found at [File 770](#).

A complete obituary and appreciations will be published in the February 2012 issue of *Locus*.

Category: [Obituaries](#)

Ed note: Don and I often bumped in to each other at regional SF Cons. jld

END OF TRANSMISSION.

CDR J Dailey