



# MARSHALL STAR

Serving the Marshall Space Flight Center Community

Jan. 15, 2009

## 'Invaluable to America's space program'

# NASA, Redstone tip their hats in farewell to Congressman Bud Cramer

By Jessica Wallace

The Marshall Space Flight Center team and representatives of organizations across Redstone Arsenal said farewell Dec. 18 to U.S. Rep. Bud Cramer.

Cramer, who began his service to Alabama's 5th District in 1991, retired in January after nine terms in Congress. He was replaced by Alabama State Sen. Parker Griffith on Jan. 6.

"I knew it would be difficult to say goodbye to the arsenal," said Cramer, who spoke to attendees at Bob Jones Auditorium in the Sparkman Center. "But this is harder than I imagined."

Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commanding general of the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command on Redstone Arsenal, said seeing Cramer leave meant

watching greatness walk out the door.

"It's like Tiger Woods retiring," Myles said, addressing Cramer directly. "Sir, you have been phenomenal."

Marshall Center Director David King awarded Cramer the NASA Exceptional Public Service Medal. The medal recognizes outstanding contributions to the mission of NASA.

"It's not very often that we have an opportunity to honor someone whose service has truly gone beyond the call of duty," King said. "But that's what we're doing today. During his terms in Congress, Bud Cramer has been a tireless advocate for the 5th District and for NASA. His leadership on Capitol Hill has been invaluable to America's space program. He understands the importance of America remaining the leader among



Marshall Center Director David King, left, presents U.S. Rep. Bud Cramer with a NASA Exceptional Public Service Medal during Cramer's farewell ceremony Dec. 18.

spacefaring nations, and he has always been willing to step up to the plate to support the agency and our programs.

*See Cramer on page 2*

## **NASA Administrator Michael Griffin to hold NASA Update**

Administrator Michael Griffin will host a NASA Update on Jan. 16 at 10 a.m. CST in the NASA Headquarters auditorium. The program will be broadcast live on NASA TV and the Web.

During the program, employees will be able to ask questions from

NASA Headquarters and participating field centers. Marshall Space Flight Center employees wishing to ask questions during the Update can do so only from Building 4200 in Morris Auditorium.

If you cannot ask your question during the program, you may send it by e-mail

to [nasaupdate@hq.nasa.gov](mailto:nasaupdate@hq.nasa.gov).

The NASA Update will be available for viewing in Morris Auditorium, on NASA TV or on Desktop TV at <http://desktoptv.msfc.nasa.gov/>.

Please note: The Desktop TV application is still being tested and may not be available for all users.

# NASA seeks concept proposals for Ares V heavy lift rocket

By Amie Cotton

On Jan. 5, NASA issued a request for proposal for the Ares V rocket that will perform heavy lift and cargo functions as part of the next generation of spacecraft that will return humans to the moon.

The request is for Phase I concept definition and requirements development for the Ares V rocket. Proposals are due to the Marshall Space Flight Center no later than 1 p.m. CST Feb. 9. Marshall manages the Ares V project.

The request for proposal defines the procurement approach for Phase I of the Ares V acquisition. The contract work will include developing products to enable NASA to successfully complete the system requirements review and system

definition review, critical milestones in the development of the rocket. Completion of the system definition review will verify the design concept and demonstrate mission objectives can be met.

The solicitation includes five separate work packages available for bid. Work packages one through four include the payload shroud that will protect the Altair lunar lander during launch, the Earth Departure Stage, the core stage, and avionics and software. The products for these work packages include assessing point of departure architecture, assessing risks and opportunities, trade studies and analysis, assessment of NASA requirements and a final report. The fifth work package includes a first

stage concept for an upgraded solid rocket fueled booster.

Marshall will manage the contracts, which will be awarded through a full and open competition. The selections will be made in the spring of 2009. The period of performance for each contract is 18 months with two, one-year options.

For more information about the request for proposal, visit <http://prod.nais.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/eps/sol.cgi?acqid=131145#Draft%20Document>.

For information about NASA's Ares rockets, visit <http://www.nasa.gov/ares>.

*Cotton, an AI Signal Research Inc. employee, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.*

## Cramer *Continued from page 1*

"When NASA needed him to help save the International Space Station, he led the charge on the floor of the House and got it done – by one vote," King continued. "Thanks to his help, America has had a continuous human presence on the space station now for eight years.

"The bottom line is whenever NASA has needed him, he's been there for us," King said. "On behalf of NASA and the Marshall family, thank you for your extraordinary example of leadership and your unwavering support of America's space program. We certainly wouldn't be where we are today if it hadn't been for your support."

The ceremony included a video that highlighted Cramer's many successes. It included recorded messages from several key military leaders, who praised Cramer for his support of missile defense and funding for Wounded Warriors. Viewers also heard from Alabama Gov. Bob Riley, who said he thoroughly enjoyed working with Cramer, and he never saw someone work so hard for a district.

Cramer plans to continue working



U.S. Rep. Bud Cramer thanks the people of the Marshall Center and Redstone Arsenal for their support during his leadership.

after his retirement. "I am still considering my options," he said. "I might take advantage of the connections I've made in Washington when selecting my next career."

To read Cramer's farewell letter to

North Alabama, visit <http://cramer.house.gov/HoR/AL05/>.

*Wallace, an AI Signal Research Inc. employee and the Marshall Star editor, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.*

# Stephen Doering named Marshall Center's associate program manager for NASA's Constellation Program

By Craig Dunn

Stephen C. Doering was recently named the associate program manager for the Constellation Program at the Marshall Space Flight Center by Center Director David King.

The Constellation Program is responsible for developing the new fleet of Ares rockets, as well as the Orion crew capsule and the Altair lunar lander that will send explorers to the International Space Station, the moon and beyond.

As the associate manager, Doering will serve as the Marshall Center director's Constellation Program representative and lead all of Marshall's Constellation program efforts. In this role, he will provide guidance to Ares Projects management for program-level systems engineering and integration; safety and mission assurance; testing and verification; and service module and launch abort systems.

"I look forward to working with the talented Marshall team to help the Constellation Program meet the goals of the nation's civil space policy," Doering said. "The Marshall Center has an incredible history of achievement in providing human access to space, and I am honored to be allowed the opportunity to be a part of their continued success in the future."

A 25-year veteran aerospace engineer, he has held numerous positions with NASA and aerospace contractors. Before appointment to his new position

at the Marshall Center, he served as manager of the Extravehicular Activity Office at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston. He was responsible for oversight of the entire range of program, personnel and business activities related to spacewalking for NASA.

He served as deputy manager of the office from 2001 to 2003, and lead for its Integration & Operations Group from 1999 to 2001. In that role, he was responsible for the technical integration of Space Shuttle and International Space Station Program's spacewalk requirements to ensure complete system functionality and mission success.

From 1993 to 1999, Doering served in the Systems Division of Johnson's Mission Operations Directorate as an environmental and life support systems flight controller. He worked in the Space Station Systems Division at Johnson as lead of the Maintenance and Mechanical Systems Section from 1992 to 1993.

From 1989 to 1992, he was an extravehicular activities flight controller in the Systems Division of the Mission Operations Directorate at the Johnson Center. In this position, he was responsible for training space shuttle flight crews for spacewalking activities and real time monitoring of extravehicular activities and systems in the Mission Control Center during space shuttle missions.

From 1987 to 1989, Doering served as an assembly operations manager for

Booz Allen Hamilton at the Space Station Freedom Program Office in Reston, Va. He was responsible for coordinating and developing the International Space Station assembly sequence.

He worked from 1986 to 1987 as flight operations senior engineer for Hernandez Engineering in Houston. While working at Hernandez, he was assigned to the German Space Agency in Cologne, Germany, where he was responsible for space shuttle integration of the German Space Lab 2 Mission.

He began his association with NASA at the Johnson Center working as a contractor for Rockwell Space Operations Company in Houston. From 1983 to 1986, he worked as a space shuttle flight controller in the Mission Operations Directorate.

Doering earned a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering in 1983 from the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind.

In 2005, he was appointed to the Senior Executive Service – the personnel system covering top managerial positions in approximately 75 federal agencies.

*Dunn, an AI Signal Research Inc. employee, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.*



Stephen Doering

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## Submissions sought for Martin Luther King Jr. Day contests

Team Redstone – which includes the Marshall Space Flight Center team and U.S. Army organizations on Redstone Arsenal – is sponsoring essay and display contests in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Jan. 19.

Submissions for both contests must reflect this year's national theme,

"Remember, Celebrate, Act!!! A Day On, Not a Day Off." Essays must be two pages, double spaced and e-mailed or faxed by Jan. 21 to Sgt. 1st Class Samuel Cason at samuel.cason@conus.army.mil or 842-6853, or to Sgt. 1st Class Lance Green at lance.j.green@conus.army.mil or 876-3591. Display contest participants

must contact Cason or Green by Jan. 21 for submission directions. Judging for both contests will begin at 9 a.m. Jan. 22.

Awards will be presented to winners at Team Redstone's Martin Luther King Holiday Observance Program at 10 a.m. Jan. 28 in Bob Jones Auditorium at the Sparkman Center, Building 5304.

# Marshall SPoRT project helps Mr. Claus

By Dauna Coulter

Christmas is several weeks past, but here's a story about how a Marshall Space Flight Center project helped Mr. Claus.

The Marshall Center's Short-term Prediction Research and Transition, or SPoRT, project gave Miami charter boat captain Terry Claus something that helped him avoid a disaster at sea. The gift was data transmitted onto his GPS screen.

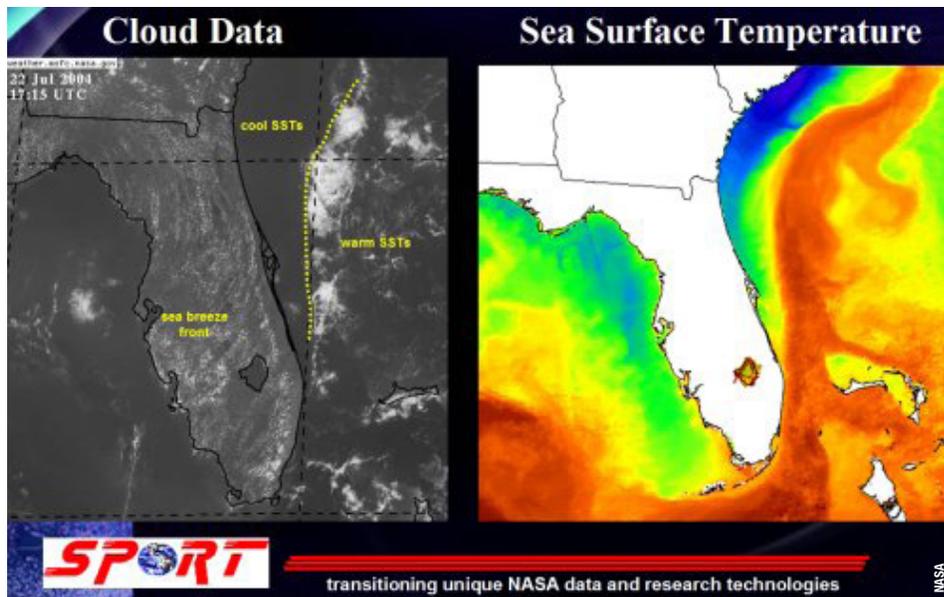
"One night, my wife, children and I were fishing for swordfish 25 miles off the Miami coast," said Claus. "We saw black clouds to the west. Florida storms sometimes build over land and then dissipate. But that night, when I checked the radar on my GPS, I saw an incredible line of severe thunderstorms moving toward us – and fast.

"I checked the lightning strike screen, and it looked like a chained-link fence of continuous lightning," he continued. "I shouted, 'Reel in the lines! We have to get out of here fast!' I could see on the screen where the cloud mass was weakest, so I followed that route. A 747 jet flew overhead and seemed to be following the same route we were following. We must have been looking at the same data. We made it to port safely."

Dr. Gary Jedlovec, Marshall's SPoRT principal investigator, explained how SPoRT helped.

"SPoRT disseminates unique weather products that helped make Claus' bird's-eye view of the weather possible that night," he said.

SPoRT makes NASA satellite weather data available via the Web and other public dissemination sites to help U.S. National Weather Service offices and private weather providers with forecasts. SPoRT has partnered with WorldWinds Inc. of Slidell, La., to distribute high-resolution atmospheric and ocean data from NASA satellites to the marine community. WorldWinds repackages the data, along with other weather/data products the company generates, for the marine community along the Gulf and Atlantic coasts. About 10,000 mariners subscribe to



This picture shows the kinds of data WorldWinds incorporates in its maritime products.

the data service via XM satellite radio.

If boaters feel edgy about the weather, they can scrutinize a GPS for answers. With the push of a button, they can choose from among views of sea surface temperatures, Doppler radar, wind speed, wind direction, lightning strikes and more, both real time and forecast.

"Accurate forecasts are especially crucial to boaters," said Jedlovec. "They sure don't want to be surprised by high winds, 10-foot waves and lightning strikes."

Sea surface temperatures contribute to hurricane and tropical storm development and can help spawn the storms Claus dreads. Ocean temperatures can also create the right setting for something Claus loves – a lot of fish in one place. Sea surface temperature charts can lead an angler to a prize catch.

"Fish swim along the defined edge where warmer water meets cooler water," said Claus.

There's another thing that helps create the perfect ambience for a fish party – plankton. According to Claus, the green stuff is a popular hors d'oeuvre for fish, and an area with a lot of plankton is a likely gathering spot. The SPoRT team knows how to use NASA satellite data to find such areas. High chlorophyll concentration, indicated in satellite data

by greenness, means lots of plankton.

"Fish swim along the edge of the weed boundaries," said Claus. "If you know where blue water (no plankton) meets green (more plankton), you'll find more bait fish, and then more catchable fish."

That's why WorldWinds used SPoRT sea surface temperature and chlorophyll data to create FishBytes, a product that reveals when and where impromptu fish parties take place. Like the weather data, this product is available via XM radio on a GPS.

The Earth Science Applied Sciences Division of the NASA Science Mission Directorate funds these two SPoRT projects. According to Jedlovec and Claus, the fish benefit as well as the anglers. Many sport fishermen who use the products participate in voluntary tagging programs that help fisheries biologists and marine scientists garner more information about species numbers, migration patterns and environmental preferences.

"We use circular hooks for bait in tournaments," said Claus. "The fish can't swallow the hook and aren't hurt. Once we catch a fish, we release it immediately."

Now you know – Mr. Claus really is a SPoRT.

*Coulter, a Schafer Corp. employee, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.*

# Environmental Excellence Team accepting entries for Earth Day logo contest



The Environmental Excellence Team committee is accepting entries for the 2009 Earth Day logo contest through Jan. 30. This year's theme will highlight water stewardship with the slogan "Just One Drop...PRICELESS." The winning logo will be used in promotional

materials for Earth Day and as the design for the Earth Day T-shirt. Only hand-drawn sketches will be accepted. The contest is open to civil service and contractor employees, as well as their children.

For more information on the rules

and directions for submitting entries, contact Jeremiah Kolb at [jeremiah.j.kolb@nasa.gov](mailto:jeremiah.j.kolb@nasa.gov) or 544-6304.

For rules and other information, visit <http://eemo.msfc.nasa.gov/environmental/eday/index.asp>.

## Verizon Business awarded NASA conferencing services contract

### NASA news release

Verizon Business of Ashburn, Va., has been awarded a contract by NASA to provide conferencing services for the agency.

Verizon Business will provide video, audio and Web conferencing services to all NASA centers and facilities and

selected contractor locations as requested.

The contract began Jan. 5 with a two-year, three-month base period, followed by three, two-year options that may be exercised at NASA's discretion. It is a firm-fixed price contract with a value of approximately \$108 million, if all options are exercised.

The contract is a follow-on effort for agency-wide conferencing services awarded under the General Services Administration's Networx Universal contract. The NASA Integrated Services Network Project, located at the Marshall Space Flight Center, manages conferencing services for the agency.

## Classified Ads

To submit a classified ad to the Marshall Star, go to Inside Marshall, to "Employee Resources," and click on "Employee Ads — Submit Ad." Ads are limited to 15 words, including contact numbers. No sales pitches. Deadline for the next issue, Jan. 22, is 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 15.

### Miscellaneous

Sofa/loveseat, Clayton Marcus, neutral color, brass tack accents, \$700; armoire, alder wood, natural finish, \$150. 881-3527

Chest freezer, 7 cubic feet, white, \$65. 830-1820

Hotpoint side-by-side refrigerator, 26.5 cubic feet, water, ice dispenser, \$275. 830-9507

Paradigm Reference Studio Series ADP-450 surround speakers, black, left, right, center, \$325 obo. 843-513-7939

H&H tool box, for pick-up truck bed, black, key, \$75. 880-6146

Matching couch/loveseat, neutral, four accent pillows, \$750 obo. 205-475-2077

Kasson pool table, Auburn model, fruitwood, Queen Anne feet, leather pockets, all accessories, \$2,100. 880-6563

Fur jacket, Russian wolf, \$250 obo. 509-2536

Panasonic DVD video camcorder, original box, case. 783-3428

Oak dining room table, six chairs, leaf, \$400; computer desk, \$20. 776-7399

Cherry vanity, \$35; Cherry Crib, \$50; end tables, \$15; large Graco playpen, \$25. 830-8934

DeMarini Vexuum 32/29 baseball bat, \$60; Rawlings Pro Preferred 12-inch baseball glove, \$60. 714-3742

Broyhill kitchen hutch, glass sides/doors/shelves, \$425; wood kitchen table, four chairs, \$300. 975-1667

White cast-iron bath tub. 783-9711

New factory car cover for Chevy Cobalt, \$50. 462-1695

RC Electric Mini-Telemaster airplane, 46-inch, complete setup except LiPo charger, \$150. 508-1558

Beginners karate equipment, various, pads, duffel bag. 468-4406

2006 John Deer riding mower, 30 hours, 54-inch cutting deck, 25HP BS VTwin engine, \$2,000 obo. 337-7243

AKC Lab pups, four yellow, five black, papers, shots, ready Jan. 17, \$200 each. 577-4002

Schwinn SC760 aluminum bike trailer/stroller, two kids/100 lbs. capacity, \$75. 895-6640

### Vehicles

2008 Toyota Avalon, maroon, black leather, new tires, 26k miles, \$25,700 obo. 205-475-2077

2006 SL55 Mercedes AMG, loaded, hardtop convertible, silver, 14k miles. 830-5999

2006 Pontiac G6, black, four door, automatic, power windows/locks, 62k miles, \$9,950. 990-3561

2005 Nissan Armada LE, towing package, DVD, black, black leather interior, 40k miles. 347-1674

2005 Ford Taurus Five Hundred Limited, AWD, leather, power moon roof, 44k miles, \$13,500. 975-1667

2003 Club Car, gas, beige, windshield, \$2,275. 682-6326

2003 Chevy Trailblazer, new tires, 55,500 miles, \$8,000. 533-9356

2002 Acura TL3.2, gold, leather, Bose, sunroof, 95k miles, \$8,000. 830-5245 or 426-4150

2001 Kawasaki Bayou 300 4x4 four wheeler, red, less than 50 hours, \$2,500. 828-9798

2001 BMW 325i, sport package, 6 cylinder, heated seats, 103k miles, \$9,900 obo. 232-4379 or 497-3311

1998 Buick Regal LS, 120k miles, \$2,500. 891-1073

1995 Corvette convertible, red, LT1-350CID engine, automatic, leather, 98k miles, \$12,000 obo. 851-8775

1995 Saturn SC1, \$1,485. 353-4922

### Wanted

Garage door opener, good working condition, at least 1/2 HP. 837-6776

Used Verizon wireless LG VX8350 phones, good batteries; Nokia 6205, good battery. 721-9419

Houses/offices to clean, available evenings, weekends. 777-8595

Two tickets, Broadway Theater League's "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang," Jan 30. 508-8394

Houses to clean; assisting with children and elderly. 651-4723

Membership for Camelot Pool. 880-9944

Tickets, Broadway Theater League's "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang," Feb. 1. 603-1273

### Found

Green and white umbrella, reception lobby of the Protective Services Suite, Building 4200, Jan. 6; pair of black-rimmed sunglasses, brown case, Charlie's Grill, Jan. 6. 544-4680

### Free

Two male black cats, littermates, 5 years old, scratchers, tunnels, toys, litter box. 337-3500

Female yellow lab, 3-1/2 years old, house/crate trained. 885-5973

## Shuttle Buddies to meet Jan. 26

The Shuttle Buddies will meet at 8:30 a.m. Jan. 26 at Mullins Restaurant on Andrew Jackson Way. For more information, call Deemer Self at 881-7757.

## Energizers, Spiked Punch hit first place in Division I, II MARS volleyball tournament

The MARS Coed Volleyball Club finished its season Nov. 24 with two teams claiming victory following a three-day tournament at the Marshall Space Flight Center's Wellness Center.

The club is open to anyone who works on Redstone Arsenal, including off-site contractors and family members. Catching the Division I

championship title were the Energizers with Marshall Engineering Directorate members Linda Brewster, Steve Brandau and Harold Gerrish.

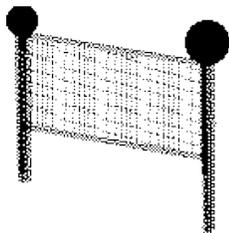
Division II winners were "set" by Spiked Punch with Engineering Directorate members Suman Chakrabarti, Jared Dervan, Melanie Dervan, Anne Garber, Rumaasha

Maasha, Jason Mishtawy, Brandon Mobley and Kurty Smalley.

For information about joining the club, contact Dennis Gallagher at [dennis.l.gallagher@nasa.gov](mailto:dennis.l.gallagher@nasa.gov) or at 961-7687. Dates will be announced later this year for the next volleyball season that runs from August into November.



Energizer team members are, standing from left, Bill Boglio, Mike Lanier, Bob Gaffin, Steve Brandau, and team captain Harold Gerrish. Kneeling is Melody Hinkle. Not pictured are Cristina Hinkle and Linda Brewster.



Spiked Punch team members are, from left, Missy Mishtawy, Anne Garber, Chad Garber and Jason Mishtawy. Not pictured are Suman Chakrabarti, Jared Dervan, Melanie Dervan, Rumaasha Maasha, Brandon Mobley, Ellen Smalley and Kurty Smalley.



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