



MISSION MAIL FROM SPACE 3.0

EXPLORE SPACE HISTORY WITH US

24 April 2024, Issue 23

Welcome! You are reading Mission Mail, the bi-weekly newsletter from The SPACE 3.0 Foundation, curated by our very own "Space Hipster," Emily Carney and featuring some fun stories, cool videos, and space history resources.

Things That Caught Our Eye

Inside: Tributes to two cosmonauts, Rocket remnants of the 1964 World's Fair, Preserving the Space Race, Fun Facts About Apollo 13, Two new documentaries, Shuttlefest, Astronaut Watches

Ave et Vale

Ad Astra: Space 3.0 pays tribute to two recently deceased cosmonauts.

[Vladimir Aksyonov's](#) death at age 89 was announced on April 9th; Aksyonov flew on 1976's Soyuz 22 and 1980's Soyuz T-2, which saw him and mission commander Yuri Malyshev rendezvous with the Salyut 6 space station.

[Muhammed Faris](#), the first space traveler from Syria, recently died in Turkey at age 72, where he had been living as a refugee for 12 years. Faris launched on 1987's Soyuz TM-3 spacecraft, which rendezvoused with the Mir space station and returned to Earth aboard Soyuz TM-2.

Rocket Remnants of the 1964 World's Fair

There are two unlikely attractions in Queens, New York: [early Space Age rockets](#). A Titan II rocket and an Atlas launch vehicle—respectively utilized during the Gemini and Mercury programs of the early 1960s—sit outside the Hall of Science in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. According to an article in *Untapped New York*, these two rockets, which were part of that year's "Peace Through Understanding" theme, were donated to the World's Fair by NASA. While the missiles fell into disrepair over the decades, in 2001, they began

undergoing a restoration process and were reinstalled in 2003. There's also a nine-hole mini-golf course in the rockets' vicinity. For more information about touring World's Fair sites, [visit Untapped New York online](#). Thanks, Craig Dreher, for sending this fascinating article!

Photo credit: National Archives and Records Project



Preserving the Space Race 2024

The abstract deadline to present at the “Preserving the Race for Space 2024: From the Earth to the Moon and Beyond” symposium sponsored by the National Park Service **has been extended to Thursday, April 25**. The event page states, “The NPS National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT) is partnering with Space Center Houston, Cane River National Heritage Area, and NASA to host a three-day symposium, which will bring together professionals with a stake in preserving what space exploration has left and is leaving behind. The symposium will feature talks held at the Space Center Houston, in Houston, TX.” For more information, [please visit the National Park Service website](#).

Fun Facts About Apollo 13, The Movie

A recent thread in the Space Hipsters Facebook group discussed trivia about Apollo 13...the 1995 Ron Howard-directed blockbuster movie and a mainstay in any space enthusiast's film library. Greg Gleason wrote, “Jim Lovell was played by Tom Hanks. The real Jim Lovell makes a cameo appearance as the captain of the ship that picks up the crew from the ocean. And more! [To visit this thread and learn more about the movie, visit this link](#).”

And if you are curious about the "errors" in the movie, check out, “‘Houston, We Have a Problem:’ A Nitpicker’s Guide to APOLLO 13 the Movie” found in the Volume 4 #3 issue of [Quest: The History of Spaceflight Quarterly](#).

Computers in Spaceflight Documentary

YouTube's Retro Space HD channel has recently released a new video that will excite space enthusiasts -- a [restored 1972 NASA documentary about using computers in spaceflight](#) features the spacecraft hardware of the era and vintage mainframe computers; it's a great glimpse into the technology of the Apollo lunar missions.



Computers in Spaceflight documentary from YouTube's Retro Space HD.

Original Documentary: Mercury-Atlas 7

An original documentary about the flight of Mercury-Atlas 7 (otherwise known as *Aurora 7*, commanded by Mercury astronaut Scott Carpenter) has also been released. [It contains a wealth of rarely-seen footage related to the 1962 spaceflight.](#)



SPACE 3.0 at Shuttlefest III

On Saturday, April 13th, SPACE 3.0's Emily Carney attended [Shuttlefest III](#) at Titusville, Florida's Hyatt Place hotel. Guests at received glimpses into Space Shuttle history with a panel featuring Michael Haddad, Luis Delgado, and former Shuttle astronaut Bob Cabana; the trio discussed the canceled Shuttle-Centaur program and two of the payloads meant to fly utilizing the liquid upper stage, Galileo and Ulysses. A Space Art and Photography panel spanned from the Apollo through ISS periods and featured the talents of Chris Calle, Tim Gagnon, Ron Woods, and Tom Usciak. The annual event is hosted by the American Space Museum, part of the US Space Walk of Fame Foundation, a non-profit organization.

Left photo (left to right)--NASA engineer Luis Delgado, former Shuttle astronaut Bob Cabana, and Shuttle engineer Michael Haddad discuss Shuttle-Centaur. Photo Credit: Emily Carney

Right photo (left to right)--artists Chris Calle, Tim Gagnon, Ron Woods, and photographer Tom Usciak participate in a panel discussion showcasing their respective art and careers. Photo credit: Emily Carney



Coming Soon: Quest 31-2

The next issue of [Quest: The History of Spaceflight Quarterly](#) is headed to the printer. The issue features articles:

- The Early Development of the Manned Orbiting Lab
- Oriana Fallaci's Space Odyssey
- Cooling the Cold War: Eugene Cernan's Cosmonaut Friendships that Broke Barriers
- Interview with Marianne Dyson: Early NASA Space Shuttle Mission Control
- Eclipse Chasing with Rockets

Astronaut Watches

Richard Gordon's 18K Solid Gold Omega Speedmaster Professional is currently being offered for sale by [RR Auction](#) on April 25th. Back in 2022, Wally Schirra's watch sold for \$1.9 Million and David Scott's in 2015 sold for \$1.6M. Interested in knowing more about these rare watches, check out this article in [Collectspace](#).



Looking for prior Mission Mail issues?

You can check them out [here](#).

Do You Have Something Cool -- A story to tell, your favorite piece of space memorabilia, a space-related video, an interview, a history-related news item, or link -- that you'd like to share? Contact me at emily@spacecommerce.org to share; it could be featured in this newsletter!

If you'd like to learn more about the SPACE 3.0 Foundation and the various projects we support with our "One Small Step" grants, please visit our website at SpaceCommerce.org

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About SPACE 3.0

The Space 3.0 Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization that aims to preserve space history, empower entrepreneurs, and secure the future. In 2019, SPACE 3.0 became the publisher of *Quest*.

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