



# space odyssey

## 04.15.16 volunteer update

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## space o volunteer news and info

### **KUDOS**

HUGE, huge thanks to everyone who volunteered this past Sunday on the Free Day! It was truly an astounding day for this institution as we hosted over 23,000 guests. Amazing work all!

### **SO VOLUNTEER UPDATE NEXT WEEK**

There will be no update next week as I'll be out of town Thursday 4/21 thru Sunday 4/24, to visit family back in the DC area.

## **AWARDS AND MEMORIALS**

This past Tuesday, we celebrated the achievements of over 100 DMNS volunteers at our annual awards ceremony. Many of them are Space Odyssey volunteers, please read on to learn more and congratulations to all our Space Odyssey award recipients:

25 Year Award: Bob Wilson

20 Year Award: Phil Hong, Rich Jarboe, Patsy Kelly, Lynda Medlyn

15 Year Award: Bob Barber, Janene Duthie, Mary Everitt, Tony Kisley, Ella Romig

10 Year Award: Dennis Green, Vicki Moyer, Sherry Rubinstein

500 Hour (in one year) Award: Bob Barber, Jeff Fitzgerald, Mike Hitchcock, Shelley Knepley, Jack Kullman, Mari Jo Mahanna, Dave Martinez, Brian Novak, Mike Snodgrass

And we remembered long-time volunteers who have passed away in the last year, including the following folks who worked in Space Odyssey. They are dearly missed:

Jim Andrews

Phil Avrin

Les Brown

Larry Douglas

Jack Elliott

Mike Long

Bud Rifkin

## **MEMORIAL FOR LES BROWN**

Les passed away recently and his memorial service will be on 4/23 from 3 to 5 PM at Horan and McConaty 11150 E. Dartmouth Ave. If you knew Les and want to make a donation in his honor, his wife Barbara, also a long-time DMNS volunteer, has requested that you make donations to Space Odyssey. If you want to do so, please let me know and I'll help you out.

## **MARS HUMAN MISSION BIOTECH TRAINING**

**Monday May 16, 2016**

**6:30 PM to 9:30 PM**

**Galaxy Stage in SO**

### **RSVP to Dave Blumenstock by Friday, May 13**

How will humans grow food on Mars? Is this even possible? Come to this session and watch a special surprise film to learn about how future human missions to the Red Planet might sustain themselves. We'll view the film about the subject, have a discussion and have a potluck. Please bring your favorite potato-based dish to share. Paper goods, flatware and

drinks will be provided.

### **TELESCOPE HELP NEEDED: MERCURY TRANSIT**

There is a Mercury transit on Monday, May 9. The transit will last from about 6 AM to 12:40 PM. If you are a certified telescope operator or an operator in training, and want to help out, please drop me a line. Thanks!

### **SPACE O SHOWS IN TRANSITION**

I'm sorry to say that after a 13-year run, the Space Today show will end on April 30. It has been a great run, but the show has proved too difficult to produce and keep current. We will also be ending the run of the OLD Superchill show as of June 1. After this date, only the new version of the show based on Pluto, which is a shorter, easier and more relevant, will remain. The superconductor experiment will be reused in a future, as yet unnamed show, never fear! Other shows that will be pulled from the ranks include: Zero-G, Doppler Demo, Astronomy Readings, Zodiac Party Game, and Planet Earth Today/Tomorrow. We are sorry to see these shows go, they served their purpose well, but they will help us focus on improving current shows and creating new ones to keep Space Odyssey current and add some variety. Furthermore, we are restructuring how we train people on shows so that there is a more definite schedule and clear expectations for how the shows should be performed as well as constructive critique to help performers improve. We hope this will help performers and trainers make use of their time more efficiently and help us improve show quality for our guests. Stay tuned for more information about new shows coming down the pike. Another change is to which shows will be staff only and which shows volunteers and staff can perform. Read the chart below to learn how this has changed. Thanks for understanding and if you have questions or concerns, please let me know.

<b>Staff ONLY</b>	<b>Volunteers and Staff</b>	<b>Discontinuing</b>
<b>Galileo</b>	<b>Earthsmart</b>	<b>Astronomy Readings</b>
<b>AOS</b>	<b>AOS assist</b>	<b>Zodiac Party Game</b>
<b>Art Station Titan</b>	<b>Storytelling</b>	<b>Doppler Demo</b>
<b>*Astronomy of the Pyramids</b>	<b>SOS shows</b>	<b>Zero G</b>
<b>Cruisin at the Space Screen</b>	<b>Vacuum chamber</b>	<b>Planet Earth Today/Tomorrow</b>
<b>New Weather Central</b>	<b>TBD demos</b>	<b>Space Today (by 4/30)</b>
<b>*Mission Superchill</b>		<b>Old Mission: Superchill (by 6/1)</b>

\*We will grandfather in volunteers already trained or in the process of being trained on Astronomy of the Pyramids, current Weather Central and Mission: Superchill Pluto Edition.

### **FREE DAY 4/23: PARKING AND PROGRAMMING FOR DIA DEL NINO**

We expect huge crowds this day, possibly in excess of 18,000 guests. We will have the East High parking lot available with two shuttles running between that lot and the Museum starting at 6:30 AM and ending at 5:45 PM. If you have to drive, please use this lot as parking onsite will be extremely limited. The East High lot is located on 16th street just East of Josephine, about one half mile West of DMNS. [Click here](#) to see it on Google maps. [Click here](#) to read about the programming for Dia Del Nino.

### **HELP NEEDED: MONDAY AFTERNOONS IN SPACE O**

We are in need of help on the Monday PM shift while we look for new recruits to fill these positions. So, if you have the time and inclination to help out, please let me know. Thanks much!

### **HELP NEEDED: WEEKDAY MORNINGS IN SO**

If you want to help out for extra shifts, we have need on Wednesday and Friday mornings. If you know someone outside of our current volunteer team who is interested in volunteering in SO who wants to apply, please let me know and I'll help get them started with the application process. Thank you!

### **HELP WANTED: SPECIALIZED GEOLOGY VOLUNTEER POSITION AT DMNS**

[Click here](#) to learn more about this position and to apply. If you have questions, email Dr. Dimitri Klebe at [Dimitri.Klebe@dmns.org](mailto:Dimitri.Klebe@dmns.org).

### **NEW STAFF PICS IN STORAGE ROOM**

Many of you have probably seen these pics in the storage room, but in case you haven't, Sam and Naomi posted pics of the SO Core Team as well as those of the floor staff who will be working with you on your shift. The floor staff will post their pic if they're working that day. We hope this will help you all get to know the crew of staff who do shows in the exhibit and vice versa. Please let me know if you have questions or comments. Thanks!

### **SPRING CLEANING**

Kudos to Samantha and Naomi for doing a thorough Spring cleaning of the carts in Space Odyssey. They went through all the carts and pulled old and unnecessary items and they updated all the cart manual binders. Please check out your favorite carts and I think you'll find them in fine shape. However, if you find something missing that you hold dear, please let me know ASAP.

### **UPDATES TO THE THE PORTAL**

Thanks a ton to Naomi and the Newsroom for adding new manuals to the Portal including a new one for the Mars Rover cart.

### **ON THE WEB**

[Women Who Charted the Course to Space](#)

[Great Night Sky Pics](#)

[Delta IV Virtual Reality Footage](#)

[Atlas V Save](#)

[Shuttle Main Engine Secrets](#)

[Blue Origin Flies Again](#)

[Want to be a weather spotter?](#)

### **SCFD COMMUNITY FREE DAY CALENDAR**

The Museum is offering 12 Community Free Days in 2016, made possible by the Scientific

& Cultural Facilities District. As part of the Museum's agreement to receive funds from SCFD, which account for a significant portion of the Museum's operating budget, the Museum offers these Free Days throughout the year to allow those who can't afford admission the privilege to visit DMNS. To see the dates for all the Free Days and to learn more about SCFD, [click here](#).

## space o exhibit news

### **ORBITS TABLE: SHARING IS CARING :)**

I know many of you love using the Orbits Table, but please be conscious of other users who want time on the table on your shift. Please share the table with anyone who also wants to use it. If need be, please work to split up time so that more than one person can use it during the shift if they want. If you want suggestions for how to do this, please let me know.

Also, I know some of you like to customize the Orbits computer/Uniview during your shift. Please do not save any of your customization as that causes issues for those who use the machine after you. Please do not save any changes you make to the system. Please don't delete custom event buttons or download image content--this is especially problematic because we need to have the proper rights to display these images, if we don't have those rights, the Museum becomes liable, which could be a major problem. Also, the computer won't work well with all these images loaded.

However, if you really want a certain image or images loaded onto Orbits, or if you want to have a custom event added or deleted, there is a process for doing this, it's simple: Contact me. Just email or talk to or call me if you want to make changes to the Orbits computer configuration. That way I can check with Greg Mancari, our onsite Uniview guru, who can tell us if said changes are possible, as well as the SO Core Team, so we can ensure that the system will be stable for all users. I can't guarantee that any user proposed changes will be made, but this is the best way to ensure a stable platform for everyone. Thanks for understanding and let me know if you have questions or concerns.

### **MAC UPDATE**

Mac users rejoice and apologies to PC users: Tech has decided that we will keep the Mac laptops in the storage room for the next several years. They will support them and upgrade them by adding solid state hard drives and doubling the RAM from 4 GB to 8 GB.

### **SCIENCE ON A SPHERE**

Look for this interesting new dataset on our SOS soon:  
<http://sos.noaa.gov/Datasets/dataset.php?id=604>

Also, I know that many people love the SOS, so do I. Please help everyone on your shift as well as our guests by following these simple guidelines when you're using it:

1. Please use a microphone. Using a mic helps guests gathered around the Sphere hear what you're saying and learn more, plus it saves your voice. We have evaluation data that proves that using a mic at the SOS improves the guest experience much more than not using one. If you need help, ask a team mate, a staff person, or myself.

2. Please share the SOS with your team mates. If you know of others on your shift who want to use it, or if you're someone who has wanted to use it but hasn't been able to, please make plans with team mates to share it. It helps all involved, including our guests, to have various people use the SOS on a shift as each person brings a new perspective to the experience. If you have questions or comments, let me know. Thanks!

Thanks for your help all, I do appreciate it!

### **BIG BOOK UPDATE**

We have new casters on the storytelling big book carts so they'll roll easier. Don't know what a "big book cart" is? [Click here](#) to learn more about big books and [click here](#) to learn more about storytelling in Space O. If you'd like to learn how to tell a story, please drop me a line.

### **S.O. MARS DIORAMA ROVER NEWS**

The navigation camera has been installed in the ceiling of the rover's operating space. Tech is supposed to be testing the rover from 3 to 6 PM this week and next, but there are issues around the rover dropping navigational commands from the user interface.

## **space science lectures & events**

### **[PEER REVUE: STAND-UP FOR SCIENCE](#)**

Cheer on local scientists turned comedians as they attempt standup for the first time and wax hilarious about the unique nuances of their work. This one-of-a-kind comedy night for science fans will get you laughing with (and at!) some of the biggest brains in town. Learn more about Peer Revue at [www.peer-revue.com](http://www.peer-revue.com). Cash bar.

Date/Time:

Saturday, April 23, 7:30 p.m.

Ages:

18+

Tickets:

\$12 member, \$15 nonmember

## 60 MINUTES IN SPACE

Go "behind the stories" in space science using the best images and animation available to help understand new developments. Seating is limited to first come, first served. Please use the evening entrance on the west side of the Museum.

**Location:**

Gates Planetarium

**Date/Time:**

Wednesday, April 27, 7 p.m.

**Tickets:**

**FREE**

## CAFE SCIENTIFIQUE

This is not a DMNS-sponsored event, but these are great talks nonetheless.

Place, date, time: Brooklyn's near the Pepsi Center on Tuesday 19 April 2016 at 6:30 PM.

Speaker: Frank Taylor, Director of Technology, Space Exploration Systems, Sierra Nevada Corporation

The topic: The Dream (Chaser) is Becoming a Reality Here in Denver

Frank Taylor, on behalf of Sierra Nevada Corporation (SNC) is pleased to be presenting an overview of its Dream Chaser Cargo System spacecraft program.

The Dream Chaser Cargo System is designed to deliver up to 5,500 kg of pressurized and unpressurized cargo to the ISS (International Space Station) with the ability to conduct orbital disposal services and responsively return pressurized cargo at less than 1.5 g's to a gentle runway landing anywhere in the world.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME. The talk starts at 6:30. Come before 6 PM to leave yourself time to get something to eat. We end around 8 PM.

There's no charge. Brooklyn's is generously providing the facility; we buy our own food & drinks. It is first come, first seated, and seating is limited so that everyone can take part in the discussion.

Brooklyn's is at 901 Auraria Parkway, next to the Pepsi Center, across Auraria Parkway from the Auraria Campus. Parking is free in Pepsi Center Camry lot around the circle, SW of Brooklyn's.

We welcome your input, including ideas for speakers and topics. Bring them with you to the next Café2, or e-mail them and any questions to [Eric Meer](#)

## **RESERVATION INFO**

Volunteers have the opportunity to attend most After Hours programs priced at the \$8 member/ \$10 nonmember rate for free on a space-available basis. Volunteers always receive the member rate for all other Adult Programs. Please call Guest Services at 303.370.6000 to make a reservation. Guest Services is open daily, 9:00 - 5:00 p.m.

To save time the night of the program, we recommend picking up your tickets anytime during regular Museum hours at the north ticket desk. You can also pick up your ticket from the will-call cashier on your way into the program on the night of the program. You will always need a ticket to attend programs.

On the evening of the program, please enter through the same entrance as our guests and pick up your ticket from the will-call cashier. Thank you for your ongoing support and enthusiasm for Adult Programs!

## **did you know...**

...that the Department of Space Sciences at DMNS has a webpage...? [Click here](#) to read more about space sciences at DMNS.

## **museum news and events**

### **PARDON OUR DUST AS ALLOSAURUS GETS A "LEG UP"**

After 20 years on display, the *Allosaurus* mount in *Prehistoric Journey* was leaning a little too much, so it's getting a leg up-and a facelift! This project is also an opportunity to spruce up the platform that holds *Stegosaurus* and *Allosaurus*, and replace an outdated plaster skull cast with a more accurate, lighter-weight one. Because of the difficult nature of working on the fossil skeleton, the dinosaur gallery will be closed from Monday, April 11, through Friday, April 22. The rest of *Prehistoric Journey* will remain open during this time. Guests will still be able to see *Diplodocus* and many of the other dinosaurs from the overlook, located upstairs from the Cretaceous Creekbed diorama. We appreciate your patience!

### **MUSEUM LECTURE AND PROGRAMMING INFORMATION**

[Click here for Evening Lectures](#)

[Click here for Gates Planetarium Daily Show Schedule](#)

[Click here for Museum IMAX information](#)

## **volunteer enrichment committee**

### **SEMESTER AT SEA IN 60 MINUTES**

**Wednesday April 27**

**4 PM to 5 PM**

**Studio 106**

Join yours truly for a rapid world odyssey as I try to give you an idea of what it was like to live aboard a 600' ship with over 500 college students for three months as we traveled the world. Please sign-up on the VEC bulletin board in the Lounge.

The Volunteer Enrichment Committee plans a variety of events, many of which are free, for DMNS volunteers to participate, some are onsite at DMNS, others travel to spots nearby. Check the bulletin board in the Staff and Volunteer Lounge for more info.

### **Dave Blumenstock**

Coordinator of Volunteers for Space Science

Denver Museum of Nature & Science

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Join the Museum's Online Community

[www.dmns.org](http://www.dmns.org)