

Second Annual Yuri's Night



Space pioneer Col. Yuri Gagarin

People around the world will soon be participating in the celebration of Yuri's Night. Read the article on page 3.

Horizons

March 2002

AIAA Houston Section ◆ ONLINE ◆ www.jsc.nasa.gov/aiaa

News Membership Upcoming Events Committees Leadership Horizons

Becoming an AIAA member

Are you interested in becoming a member of the AIAA or renewing your membership? You can fill out a membership application online by going to the AIAA membership website at www.aiaa.org/information.

Features

<i>Yuri's Night is Coming!</i>	3
<i>2nd Career Planning and Development Workshop</i>	4
<i>Coaching for Improved Performance</i>	4
<i>Houston Hosts First Region IV Public Policy Colloquium</i>	5
<i>Help AIAA Help You</i>	5
<i>Becoming an AIAA Member or Renewing</i>	6

In Every Issue

<i>Chairman's Corner</i>	3
<i>Calendar of Events</i>	8

March 15 Input Deadline for the Next Edition of *Horizons*

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Chairman's Corner

By Darby Cooper, Chairman

March!! I can't believe how fast 2002 is going! Well, the Houston Section is keeping up with the hectic pace of 2002.

The year has already seen many successful AIAA events. We sponsored our second successful young professionals workshop. This event continues to provide a unique opportunity for our young professionals. In fact, it has received attention from AIAA headquarters and we are preparing a guidebook so that other sections can follow our example. Congratulations to the workshop team for a highly successful event.

We have also held a joint meeting with ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers). This was a wonderful event and sets an example for future joint meetings with other professional societies. I know I enjoyed the opportunity to get together with the other professionals outside of our immediate technical community.

And our technical activities are also on a roll – several lunch-n-learns have been held and more are being planned for the spring. We are also working to plan the Annual Technical Symposium for mid-May to provide a stepping stone to the World Space Congress next fall.

Work continues to improve our membership communications. This is a comprehensive effort that addresses how we make information available to the membership both electronic (web and email) and print. Some of the changes have already been implemented, but more are on the way – stay tuned! If you would like to be involved in this effort, please feel free to contact me.

It continues to be an exciting and busy time for the section. I hope that if you have any suggestions, questions, or concerns feel free to contact me or any of the executive council members.

Yuri's Night is Coming!

By Jana Rebman, Guest Contributor

2001 was a fabulous year for space and for the citizens of the Earth. It was the 40th anniversary of the

Russian achievement of launching the first human into space, and the 20th anniversary of the American achievement of launching the first reusable human spacecraft. And we first celebrated Yuri's Night in a year that found both nations cooperating and having people on orbit together on International Space Station Alpha.

Yuri's Night is a celebration of unparalleled human achievement, as well as of new and inspired human awareness. Yuri Gagarin was the first human to see the Earth from space, and to realize its awesome and fragile beauty. Yuri did not see lines demarcating countries or the conflicts between people. He did not see our problems or our achievements. What he saw was a magnificent planet, a tiny oasis in space, the home that we all share.

Cosmonauts and astronauts who have since been to space have returned with a new awareness of how small the Earth really is, how important it is to protect it, and how we must put aside our differences and work together to live in peace. It is this spirit of space, of the new era of cooperation among nations to explore, learn, and be inspired, that we are commemorating with Yuri's Night.



Yuri Gagarin – the first human in space

People from around the world, join together and celebrate! April 12th marks the anniversary of the dawn of new era. It is also our chance to look to what we can create for our planet's future - through curiosity, exploration, inspiration, and cooperation. With Yuri's Night, young people around the world are celebrating what it means to be human.

If you would like more information about the upcoming Yuri's Night celebration, go to <http://www.yurisnight.net/>

2nd Career Planning And Development Workshop

By Chris Vasquez, Young Professionals Chair

On February 16th, forty young professionals showed up to attend the second annual Career Planning and Development (CPAD) workshop held at the United Space Alliance Training Facility. Participants listened to lectures on topics ranging from conflict management to working in uncertain times. Ending the workshop was a life experiences talk from Chuck Jacobson, a veteran of the Aerospace Industry and Clear Lake community.

Speakers and attendees alike spoke praise concerning the workshop. Many lecturers enjoyed the casual atmosphere and expressed a desire to participate in future workshops. Young professionals critiqued the topics and commented on other tracks they would have enjoyed seeing. Overall, the CPAD workshop was a success and plans are already in the works for the next young professionals' conference, as well as discussing the feasibility of a similar workshop targeted at mid-level employees.

Coaching for Improved Performance

By Jesus Reyna, Jr., Professional Development Chair

Coaching is an ongoing and continuous process which serves to bring out the best in each individual or team and requires a climate of trust, respect, and fairness. It facilitates providing others our specific and constructive feedback to help them improve their work performance and job satisfaction. To be effective, encourage everyone to be receptive to honest feedback and sensitive to giving it. Everyone on the team should be ready for coaching opportunities as they arise, as some may require an immediate response, while others may allow for a more thought out approach.

Generally, coaching is appropriate to correct, to develop, and/or to reinforce. Coaching to correct is done to help remedy an existing problem or change a negative behavior that is detrimental to the suc-

cess of the team. To be effective, any action taken should be immediate, provided all the necessary information is known and there are no hostile feelings. Focus on the undesirable behavior and not the person. Do this privately and be considerate.

Coaching to develop is designed to help a person continue to improve in whatever endeavor they are engaged in. Do not butt in, telling others what or how to do something. Act only when you are asked for feedback and you sense the person is receptive to your coaching. Again, this type of coaching is best done privately. Everyone has unrealized potential and needs a little support every once in a while.

Coaching to reinforce is used to recognize and encourage desirable behavior that will lead to improved if not outstanding performance. Recognizing outstanding individual performance aligned with the objectives of the team is paramount to the success of the organization. Like the coaching to correct, any action should be done as soon as possible. No one likes duplicity, so be sincere in your praise and encouragement. Depending on the situation, this can be done either privately or publicly, as appropriate. Public recognition emphasizes the value of the desirable behavior to others in the organization.

In many ways, the best way to coach for improved performance is to model the desirable behavior – walk the talk. Encourage participation in decisions that involve others as you develop the proper environment for effective coaching. Coaching is not a one-time thing, so follow up. Remember that we will never know how well we are performing if we do not solicit and receive honest feedback from others. Every time we receive feedback, we need to thank those who care enough about us to have taken the time and effort to offer it; providing us a unique opportunity to improve ourselves.

Houston Hosts First Region IV Public Policy Colloquium

By John Bendle, Public Policy Chair

On Saturday January 26th, the first Region IV Public Policy Colloquium has held in Houston. The event, organized by the Region IV Public Policy Director Chad Brinkley, served as a forum to discuss current policy that concerns the nation, the region and the individual chapters. The 17 attendees represented AIAA headquarters and the Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Arizona Sections.

The event began with an overview of current issues presented by Mr. Brinkley and developed into an open discussion about the individual sections' perceptions and concerns about the issues. The discussion proved to be both enlightening and informative for all involved.

The AIAA headquarters' Public Policy Representatives, Paul Looney and Michael Bevin presented the second portion of the event. They first had the sections report on their public policy activities to date. Then they presented a brief over of the plans for this year's Congressional Visits Day. Finally, they presented AIAA's top five public policy issues for 2002. They are Work Force Issues, Technology Readiness, National Aviation Research and Technology Plan, Prioritized Investment in National Aerospace Research Test Facilities, and Aerospace Policy Planning and Coordination Council. Once again the floor was opened for discussion and the topics were explored on both a national and sectional level.



Michael Bevin from AIAA Headquarters presents the issues for 2002

The colloquium served as an excellent opportunity for the individual sections to exchange views on the current issues and for the region to unify its message before Congressional Visits Day. Any Section

member wishing to contribute to the development of the Section's message for CVD 2002 can contact John Bendle at john.r.bendle@boeing.com

Help AIAA Help You - Update Your Member Records

By Henry Schmidt, Membership Chair

It is often said that the aerospace industry is the only place where you can have the same job for five years and work for five different companies. That is especially true given the industry wide consolidation that has happened in the last few years. As companies have changed so have the building signs and the business cards. Additionally, our environment provides most people with the ability to move from one company to another as we try to expand our occupational horizons.

With all of these potential changes have you verified if your AIAA member record is up to date? Knowing where our members are working is vital to the Houston Section in obtaining corporate support for local AIAA activities (such as our monthly dinner meeting, workshops, etc.). Please take a few minutes and visit the AIAA website at <http://www.aiaa.org/> to update your member information or call customer service at 1-800-NEW-AIAA (639-2422). Feel free to also contact the section's Membership Chair, Henry Schmidt at 281-244-4629 or by e-mail at henry.j.Schmidt@boeing.com.

Becoming an AIAA Member or Renewing Your Existing Membership

By Henry Schmidt, Membership Chair

Are you interested in becoming a member of the AIAA or renewing your membership? You can fill out a membership application online by going to the AIAA National website at <http://store.aiaa.org/memberships.cfm> or call 1-800-NEW-AIAA (639-2422).

Please note if you have not used the AIAA on-line store then you will need to set up an account before purchasing a new membership (or even if you are renewing your membership). If you are purchasing a new membership the “store” will assign a temporary account access number to you until you have

an AIAA membership number assigned to you. All existing members will use their membership numbers to establish an account.

Also if you know any students who would like to upgrade from a student member to professional member, all they need to do is submit a professional membership form and indicate that they are upgrading. This will enable that person to receive their first year of professional membership free.

If you are or know someone who needs to transfer their membership affiliation to the Houston section, please go or direct them to the following website to update membership information, <http://www.aiaa.org/Members/index.hfm?memo=2>.

If you have any questions regarding any of the items addressed above please feel free to call AIAA National customer service number listed earlier. Feel free to also contact the section’s Membership Chair, Henry Schmidt at 281-244-4629 or by e-mail at henry.j.Schmidt@boeing.com.

Table 1: Membership Type Description

Membership Type	Description	Fee
Student	Persons interested in aeronautics or astronautics whose primary activity is study at a recognized college, university, and secondary schools offering curricula and studies acceptable to the Institute.	\$10 (1 February to 30 June) \$20 (1 July to 31 January)
Return to Full-time Study	Members are eligible for this dues discount when taking 12 credits or more at a recognized college or university. You retain your professional member status.	\$42.50
Associate	Persons interested in the development or application of aeronautics and astronautics.	\$85.00
Young Professional	If you meet the qualifications of Member or Associate Member, are within your first five years of professional practice, 35 years of age or younger and have never been a student member, you are eligible to join at half the current dues rate.	\$42.50
Professional	Persons shall have achieved a Bachelor degree in science or engineering, or equivalent qualifications through professional practice.	\$85.00
Fellow	Fellow Renewal	\$100.00
Spouse	When two members, who meet the requirements of Member or Associate member are married to each other, one of the spouses may pay dues at half the current dues rate. Both members will receive full privileges, but only one copy of Aerospace America will be mailed. Spouse name and ID number are required.	\$42.50
Retired	Any member in good standing who has fully retired may take advantage of this rate. (excludes Fellows, see Retired Fellows).	\$42.50
Retired Fellow	Any Fellow in good standing who has fully retired may take advantage of this rate.	\$50.00
Lifetime	Persons shall have achieved a Bachelor degree in science or engineering or equivalent qualifications through professional practice and wishes to make a one-time dues payment.	\$1275.00
Unemployed	Any member in good standing may take advantage of this rate. You will have to indicate your status at renewal time.	\$42.50

Calendar of Events

February 2002

FIRST Robotics Competition

- Use hands-on engineering to help high school students build a robot to compete with others in national competitions.

February 2002

2/17 – 2/23 National Engineers Week

- Visit classrooms around the Houston area.

2/22 – 2/24 Mars Settlement Design Competition

- Industry simulation weekend for high school students to design a futuristic Mars community.

March 2002

3/20 Nanotube Technology

- Part of the Section's Dinner Lecture Series; will cover the evolution, development and applications of this emerging technology.

3/22 Science and Engineering Fair of Houston

- Judge middle and high school projects to select the AIAA Houston Section prize-winner.

April 2002

4/12 Yuri's Night

- Location: TBD
- Celebration of the 41st anniversary of Yuri Gagarin's space flight, which made him the first human to venture into Earth orbit.

4/25 Meteoroids, Space Debris and Related Space Hazards presented by Dr. William Ailor

- Part of the Section's Dinner Lecture Series; our distinguished lecturer will discuss this fascinating subject which is of special importance to anyone interested in near-Earth orbital operations.

TBD Region IV Student Paper Conference

- Austin, Texas

May 2002

5/14 – 5/17 Space Mechanisms Technology Workshop

- Ohio Aerospace Institute, Cleveland, Ohio. The symposium is concerned with problems in design, fabrication and use of mechanisms. The workshop will deal with technology that is needed for the future.

TBD Global Air and Space 2002 Conference

- Washington, D.C.

TBD WAR 2002

TBD Innovations 2002

June 2002

TBD AIAA Houston Section Annual Awards Banquet

October 2002

10/11 – 10/20 World Space Congress 2002

- George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston. Event is billed as the "meeting of the decade for space professionals."



Houston Section

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March 2002
