



*Committee for the Preservation of the Space Shuttle Simulator*

February 8, 2021

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

**COMMITTEE**

The space age as we know today is relatively young. It started 63 years ago in October of 1957 with the flight of Sputnik. The intervening years have seen great progress, most notably the first human landing on the moon in 1969, and the Space Shuttle - one of the most versatile and capable spacecraft ever built, executing 135 flights in space over a period of 30 years from 1981 through 2011. Further, this past November marked the 20th anniversary of continuous human presence aboard the International Space Station. All these milestones represent significant events and achievements.

**CHAIR**

MR. GEORGE W. S. ABBEY

**Co-CHAIR**

MR. GERRY D. GRIFFIN

Mr. Carl Brainerd SMS-MB  
Manager, Ret

Mr. Will Stager NASA JSC  
Manager, Ret

Mr. Dan Burbank  
Astronaut, Ret

Dr. Bonnie J. Dunbar  
Astronaut, Ret

Gen. Joe Henry Engle,  
Astronaut, Ret

Gen. Tom Stafford  
Astronaut, Ret

Mr. Mike Fossum  
Astronaut, Ret.  
Texas A&M, Galveston

Mr. Mike Foreman  
Astronaut, Ret  
Mayor, Friendswood

Mr. Frank Hughes  
President and CEO,  
Tietronix

Ms. Dayna Steele Social Media  
Promotions

SAIC

Association of Space Explorers  
(ASE)

The preservation of artifacts associated with these historical events plays an important role in remembrance, offering the opportunity to learn about the events themselves, as well as those who were involved. This preservation is of great importance, not only for the benefit of today's young students, but also for unborn future generations. We are indeed fortunate to have the Apollo XVII spacecraft, the actual Apollo Command Module that flew the last Apollo mission to the moon on display here in Houston, with both a flown Mercury and Gemini spacecraft. Unfortunately, we do not have any major Space Shuttle artifacts on display here in Houston, either flown or which played a primary role in getting the Space Shuttle or her crews into space. Now we have a chance to correct that situation!

We were recently made aware of the current status of one of the treasured artifacts of the U.S. space program, the Space Shuttle Motion Based Simulator. The Simulator first began "flying missions" here at the Johnson Space Center in 1977 and was used to train every crew that flew the Shuttle into space. Both the ill-fated Challenger and Columbia crews trained in the Simulator. It is truly a national artifact. In a sense it flew longer than any of the Shuttles that were launched into space. In December 2011, after the last Shuttle flight, there was a plan to preserve this national treasure.

Texas A&M University signed a Space Act Agreement taking ownership of the Simulator and became custodian of this historic artifact. Texas A&M had stated their intention to make it once again an operational simulator, providing students and engineers the opportunity to not just to view the Simulator, but actually use it to develop new operations and new equipment to be used by next-generation spacecraft. The university stated it would not change or modify the Simulator in any significant way. The Texas A&M plan also provided for making it available for use by engineering classes and to the public.

Unfortunately, over time plans change, as do budgets and priorities, and Texas A&M has been unable to implement their original plan for the use of the Simulator. In view of their inability to utilize the Simulator, they agree it should be released and turned over to an institution where it can be displayed and made available to the public.

Working with NASA, Texas A&M and the Lone Star Flight Museum, a plan has been developed that will refurbish the Simulator and make it a permanent display at the Lone Star Flight Museum at Ellington Field here in Houston. This will provide a home for this treasured artifact and allow it to be available for display to the public and future generations of students.

To execute this plan, funds are needed to refurbish the simulator so that it may be displayed. The goal is to raise \$75,000.00 to achieve this task. NASA is providing the area to accomplish the refurbishment, and a team of volunteers who formerly worked on the Simulator will perform the actual work.


Your support with a contribution to cover the cost of this most worthy project would be greatly appreciated. We feel the retention and display of this unique national treasure in Houston, the home of the Space Shuttle Program, is most appropriate and needs to be accomplished.

The Lone Star Flight Museum (LSFM) is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit institution with IRS EIN 76-0213778, <https://www.lonestarflight.org> Your tax-deductible contribution should be addressed to:

The Lone Star Flight Museum (LSFM)  
Ellington Field/Spaceport  
11551 Aerospace Avenue  
Houston, Texas 77034



Please earmark your check and donations to SMS-MB/Simulator and copy Dr. Bonnie J. Dunbar, LSFM Board of Trustees Education Chairman, on your contribution: [bjdunbar@tamu.edu](mailto:bjdunbar@tamu.edu).

  
George W.S. Abbey

  
Gerald D. Griffin

Former Directors of the NASA Johnson Space Center

**SMS-MB Restoration Project  
Sponsorship Levels**

**\$25,000.00 Platinum Sponsor**

Association of Space Explorers (ASE)  
(2 additional at this level available)

Opportunity to give welcome or closing remarks at opening event  
Sponsor name or logo on SMS recognition plaque as Platinum Sponsor  
Full page ad in the digital program  
Recognition in the museum arrival hall for 3 months  
Name/logo in the museum calendar of events as a ceremony sponsor  
Prominent recognition in all promotional materials  
Recognition on the museum website  
40 guest passes to the Lone Star Flight Museum

**\$15,000.00 Gold Sponsor**

Texas A&M University  
(Only 3 now available)

Half page ad in the digital program  
Sponsor name or logo on SMS recognition plaque as Gold Sponsor  
Recognition in print, and digital ads  
Name/logo in the museum calendar of events as a ceremony sponsor  
Prominent recognition in digital ceremony materials  
Recognition on the museum website  
20 guest passes to the Lone Star Flight Museum

**\$10,000.00 Silver Sponsor**

(8 available)

Recognition in digital ads  
Sponsor name or logo on SMS recognition plaque as Silver Sponsor  
Prominent recognition in digital ceremony materials  
Name listed on the museum website  
10 guest passes to the Lone Star Flight Museum

**\$5,000.00 Space Shuttle Columbia Sponsor**

(8 available)

Recognition in digital ceremony materials  
Sponsor name on SMS recognition plaque as Columbia Sponsor Name  
listed on the museum website  
6 guest passes to the Lone Star Flight Museum

**\$4,000.00 Space Shuttle Challenger Sponsor**

(8 available)

Recognition in digital ceremony materials.  
Sponsor name on SMS recognition plaque as Endeavor Sponsor Name  
listed on museum website  
4 guest passes to the Lone Star Flight Museum

**\$3,000.00 Space Shuttle Discovery Sponsor**

(8 available)

Recognition in digital ceremony materials  
Sponsor name on SMS recognition plaque as Discovery Sponsor  
Name listed on museum website  
4 guest passes to the Lone Star Flight Museum

**\$2,500.00 Space Shuttle Atlantis Sponsor**

Dr. Bonnie J. Dunbar

(Only 7 now available)

Recognition in digital ceremony materials  
Sponsor name on SMS recognition plaque as Atlantis Sponsor  
Name listed on museum website  
4 guest passes to the Lone Star Flight Museum

**\$1,000.00 Space Shuttle Endeavor Sponsor**

Dr. Dimitris Lagoudas

(Only 7 now available)

Recognition in digital ceremony materials  
Sponsor name on SMS recognition plaque as Endeavor Sponsor  
Name listed on museum website  
4 guest passes to Lone Star Flight Museum

**\$500.00 Space Shuttle Enterprise Sponsor**

(16 available)

Recognition in digital ceremony materials  
Sponsor name on SMS recognition plaque as Enterprise Sponsor  
Name listed on museum website  
4 guest passes to the Lone Star Flight Museum

**\$100.00 Go for Launch Team Sponsor**

(Unlimited)

Recognition in digital ceremony materials  
2 guest passes to the Lone Star Flight Museum