

MARS STAR



MARS STAR has gone digital!!

If you currently receive a printed copy, you will continue to receive a printed copy. If you currently receive an electronic copy and wish to receive a printed copy in the future, contact Jayne Brown at 303-905-9822 or via email at jaynebrown@comcast.net

Summer Luncheon, June 25 (See page 32)
MARS at the Rockies, August 6 (See page 33)

MARS Associates: A Social Club for Retirees of Lockheed Martin & United Launch Alliance

OFFICERS

President	Ken Marts	303-868-2168
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VP Business	Gina Curet	281-691-4200
VP Communication	Dan Ellerhorst	303-263-1944
VP Membership	Jayne Brown	303-905-9822
Treasurer	Charlie Haupt	303-798-7113
Secretary	Al Nemes	303-908-0157

DIRECTORS

Director Chair	Roger Rieger	303-912-6217
Director	Kathy Hetzel	303-513-0796
Director	Debbie Carr	303-503-7113
Director	Pete Munoz	720-308-1828
Director	Heidi Urie	303-588-6762
Director	Sandy Mossman	303-730-8378
Director	Janet Adamo	720-626-0498
Director	Laurie O'Shea	720 751-0727
Director	Vacant	

MARS STAR

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Reporting:		
Cape Canaveral	Dick Olson	321-452-4015
Colo Springs	Doug Tomerlin	719-594-6392
Vandenberg	Eunice Souder	805-218-7605

CLUB CONTACTS

Bridge	Dave & Kathy Martz	303-683-9524
Car Club	Roger Rieger	303-912-6217
Golf	Sandy Mossman	303-730-8378
Hiking	Beth King	720-217-5033
Pacesetters	Bill Wise	720-636-5823
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REMINDER:

If you move, please give the membership VP a change of address. Also, if you are a snowbird, let us know when you are leaving and when you plan to return so your MARS STAR can be sent to you. It costs us 70 cents for each STAR package returned.

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**MARS Associates
P. O. Box 1128
Littleton, CO 80160-1128**

MARS Website: <https://www.marsretirees.org>

MARS Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/MARSAssociates>

MARS Benefits and Retiree Resources

(Must be a MARS Member to obtain dental and/or vision benefits)

Dental Insurance Plans

MARS Delta Dental of Colorado

Individual Administrative Team – Billing and Enrollment (changes to bank account info, expired credit cards, address changes).

877-516-6512 or Individual@ddpco.com

Customer Experience Team - Claims and Benefit questions.

800-610-0201 or customer_service@ddpco.com

Vision Insurance Plans

VSP 844-641-6718 or www.vspdirect.com

DeltaVision (www.deltadentalco.com/deltavision)

800-877-7195

Hearing Aid Discounts

TruHearing (offered by VSP) 877-396-7194 or

www.truhearing.com/vsp

Amplifon Hearing Health Care 888-486-4405 or

www.amplifonusa.com/lockheed

Assured Partners of Colorado – for additional information on offered dental or vision plans

Jon Elmore 303-228-2206 or Hudson Howard 720-510-9505

Pre-Medicare Retiree Information

Destination Wellbeing-Employee Service Center Online.

866-562-2363 or lmc.lifeatworkportal.com

LM Retiree Medicare Exchanges

VIA Benefits (Administrator) 844-596-0460 or

my.viabenefits.com/LockheedMartin

LM Retiree Resources – lockheedmartin.com

These links provide information about LM retiree health plan benefits, pension payroll, and savings plan information:

[Lockheed Martin Service Center](#)

[LM HealthWorks Plan](#) – for retirees under age 65

[VIA Benefits](#) – for post-65 retirees

[My Pension Payments](#)

[Pension Management Update](#) – 06/27/2022

[My Savings Plan](#) (Empower)

[Lockheed Martin Employee Disaster Relief Fund](#)

OR HR benefits mailbox, benefits.hr@lmco.com

Cover:

Left – RAFL25-4691 Royal Netherlands Air Force F-35.

See LM News, Page 24 (Photo by LM.)

Right – US Space Force awards National Security contract to ULA. See

ULA News, Page 25 (Photo by ULA.)

From the Editor's Desk

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For comments or corrections, contact Linda (issue editor) or Dan.

MARS welcomes your submissions. Submissions must be relevant to **MARS**, informative, and **appropriate for this newsletter**. No **personal dialogues or opinion pieces** will be accepted.

Please submit your article for approval **in advance** to the V. P. of Communications. Articles will be included as time / space allows.



President's Corner

By Ken Marts
(martshouse2@aol.com)

Happy Spring everyone! Winter should be a distant memory although we can still get snow in May, just to dampen our flowery thoughts of flower and vegetable gardens.

We've held our Annual Meeting at Lone Tree Hotel and Golf Club. Many of you joined us for that event where we heard Chris Deel tell us the latest about ULA. This was a new meeting place for us and the food and service were both great. Our Annual Holiday Event will also be held here in December.

We're in the midst of membership renewal and diligently working to get new members to join. New members primarily come from the ranks of the recently retired LM and ULA group. They also come from LM/ULA retirees who have been retired for some time. If you know of anyone retiring or who isn't a member of MARS Associates yet, please let them know about our organization and website www.marsretirees.org.

2025 is shaping up to be a great year of activities from our Special Activities team. Previously known as the Marketing group, they've been rebranded and are led by Kathy Hetzel. You've received mass mailers advertising some of the planned events. By the time the STAR is released, we will have had the Museum of Illusion tour, Munch and Mingle at Helga's restaurant, Highlands Ranch Mansion tour, and our first Happy Hour of 2025. Look at our website or read the mass mailers to find out about more exciting events planned for the rest of the year. This is on top of normally scheduled events like the Summer luncheon, Rockies baseball, September picnic and December Holiday event. When you consider the offerings each of the Clubs have, there's a lot you can do with MARS.

I'm keeping my write-up short this quarter to save room for all the other write-ups you'll see from the other officers and contributors.

If you have ideas for improvement, please talk to the Officers or Directors or leave a suggestion on our website.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of the MARS STAR and I look forward to seeing many of you at our future events. As always, reach out if you have any comments, questions, or concerns.



Next Up

By Jim Pennington
(jpennington101.jp@gmail.com)

We are off the pad and running downrange in 2025! Before I get into what's "Next Up," items, let us just recap the past three months. As I told you back in the MARS STAR issue in January, I had two key initiatives.

The first was to help support the volunteer and leadership succession planning for the MARS Organization. Roger Rieger, along with the MARS Leadership, has been busy at the start of 2025 with bringing in several new Directors, and Officers taking over the reins of a couple positions (Roger will cover more of this in his write-up later in the STAR). Jayne Brown kindly took over the job that Carl Kaminski had effectively led for so many years. Kathy Hetzel is also taking over the fine work that Dick Sosnay did for many years running the Marketing Committee. Kathy is now running the "Special Activities" group to oversee a large set of 2025 Events. Both are engaging all our MARS members and supporting in many ways to improve things.

My second "key" initiative was to further advance the recruitment of new members to MARS. One way to improve recruitment is to improve how MARS interacts with the members and to make things easier for them, where possible, to sign up for these events. These new leaders are doing just that by elevating the overall experience for all the MARS Members. Along with Jayne and Kathy, Linda Duby is also looking to make some changes. She recently conducted and managed a great Annual Meeting on March 19th in which we used the new location at the Lone Tree Golf Course. The meal, along with the speaker from ULA, made the event an enormous success. Coupled with these leaders' efforts, our various MARS Clubs are also making some clever efforts at putting more emphasis on creating more value back to the members.

Earlier in April, MARS released its new monthly newsletter of upcoming events, *The Satellite*. This idea came up in the March 2025 Officer's meeting on how we can improve our communications with our members, to improve the participation in these events. Even though all our events are listed on our website and covered in the quarterly STAR releases, we felt that we could develop a timelier solution. Also, with some recently planned events by both Kathy Hetzel and Gina Curet, we wanted to make an impactful change.

To get the word out and to help members find out about upcoming events, we produced the idea of *The Satellite*, an e-newsletter, to highlight and showcase what is coming up in the next 60 days. It will be released on the first Friday of every month. As we continue to develop and plan new events they will be added to our website, but at least every month everyone will get a reminder of them. *The Satellite* will describe the event and provide a direct "link" to the specific event on our website for sign-up. The monthly newsletter will inform the members of unique or special events that would require formal sign-ups (RSVPs/Registrations) and payment deadlines. The MARS Leadership has elected to leave the various Club events, meetings, and gatherings to each specific club to plan and communicate to their own club members. We also put out a quick "Survey Monkey" email request to get feedback on the new newsletter to see if it was helpful and if you had any suggestions to improve it. The first release in April had ten separate events occurring the next 60 days, so we know that it contained lot of information. Special thanks to Dan Ellerhorst, Steve Sande, and the others on the Communications team for making this all come together. Kudos for making this happen!

Now for the look ahead!

- We have a MARS Happy Hour planned for May 5th. These Happy Hour events are for members, but also for LM and ULA retirees that are NOT currently MARS members to come check us out. My challenge to everyone is to bring a new person who would like to attend our Happy Hour and may have an interest in joining MARS to this event. Terry Lilly is heading this event.
- Gina Curet has added some useful information sessions to the next couple in-person and Zoom events to follow the earlier session, *Understanding Medicare*. They cover *Taxes in Retirement* and *Estate Planning*. Please review our upcoming event write-ups – we would love you to participate. They are all free with no obligations.
- Finally, Linda Duby has the upcoming Summer Luncheon at the Manor House on June 25th. We have the Annual Rockies Game and Picnic planned for August 6th, along with several other events planned for the Spring and Summer months as well.

I look forward to seeing everyone come out and take advantage of these upcoming events and get some time to chat with you regarding your MARS experience to date.



Director's Notepad

By Roger Rieger
Chairperson, BoD

rrieger10731@gmail.com

Spring has Sprung! Along with many exciting upcoming MARS activities! We had a very engaging discussion at the April Officers and BoD meeting, a first for me as an 8-year-member of the BoD. The discussion involved all the new activities and how to best prioritize and "fit" them into the MARS calendar so as to not "overwhelm" the calendar! What a great problem to have! Many, many thanks to Kathy Hetzel who has stepped forward as the Special Activities Director (think Head Cat Herder) and especially to all those who have developed fun and exciting things for MARS members to do, and more importantly, STEPPED UP and organized an outing. Thank You!

If you have an idea of something that you'd think would be of interest to MARS members, please reach out to Kathy and she'll be happy to help lead you through the process, it's not difficult, especially for Rocket Scientists!

This last quarter we also welcomed two new members to the BoD – Sandy Mossman and Janet Adamo. Please join me in welcoming Sandy and Janet – I look forward to their contributions to the organization! And as always, the Officers and BoD Meetings, held the first Wednesday of every month at the Red Rocks FCU headquarters building in Southpark are open to all MARS members. Meetings start at 9:30 and wrap up around 11am, please join us!



Activities Updates

By Linda Duby

lindaduby@comcast.net

MARS held its Spring Event and Annual Meeting on March 19. This is the first year that we held an event at the Lone Tree Golf Club and Hotel. The luncheon was enjoyed by 113 members and guests. Lone Tree did an excellent job. The food and service were great and everyone seemed pleased with the "new" venue. We were fortunate to have Mr. Chris Deel, Vice President of Engineering, United Launch Alliance as our speaker. The event was also supported by representatives from Red

Rocks Federal Credit Union, Kaiser Permanente, Delta Dental, and Assured Partners.

The Summer Luncheon will be held at the Manor House at Ken Caryl on June 25, 2025. This luncheon, again, is open to all members and their guests. It is the event where MARS honors its senior members. The flyer (page 32) is included in this edition of the STAR. You can use the coupon on the flyer to make a reservation and pay by check or go to the MARS website for the link to make your reservation electronically and pay by credit card. The reservation deadline is June 12. Please contact Linda Duby at lindaduby@comcast.net if you have any special dietary requirements.

MARS at the Rockies This year our annual game and picnic is scheduled for Wednesday afternoon, August 6, with a deadline for reservations of July 21. The Rockies play against the Toronto Blue Jays. We meet in the Platte River Picnic Area (under the Rockpile seating area) at 11:30 AM for a buffet picnic with fountain drinks included and a cash bar. Our game seats are in Section 145 (3rd base side) and are covered by the Club Level so we are shaded. Let Lisa Cox know if you need seating accommodation, have a group who want to sit together or have some other special need.

The reservation deadline (and cancellation deadline) is July 21 and your paper game tickets will be mailed to you in advance. Be certain that your correct mailing address is on the reservation form — checks are removed by the Treasurer. The reservation form is in this STAR (page 33), as well as on the MARS website and the MARS Facebook page under the Events tab. Contact Lisa Cox if you have any questions at lisajcox@earthlink.net or at 303-808-4479.

The next MARS event will be the annual Picnic on September 10 at Clement Park. More information on the picnic will be in the next edition of the STAR.

Be sure to check the MARS website (<https://marsretirees.org>) for information on the upcoming MARS events.



Business

By Gina Curet
(orion43@comcast.net)

My tulips are up and I'm back on the golf course already (but there still may be a ski run to hit)! I just returned

from a 31-day fabulous adventure in Morocco, Egypt and Jordan. I encourage our members to get out there and live life! Speaking of travel...if anyone is planning a trip and requires a rental car, look for my upcoming "News" article on the marsretirees.org website. LMC has provided new instructions to access this retiree discount.

Our 1st "Understanding Medicare" informational session was small, however a huge success as the questions made it very informative for everyone! Over 30 people have signed up for the "Taxes in Retirement" Zoom call on May 5th. Sign up if you're still interested. Then, on June 11th, Mercer Advisors' Susan Travis, is coming back again to discuss "Estate Planning Strategies." Look for the sign-up coming out soon.

It has been such a pleasure to help so many of you with either dental or vision benefits questions. You are keeping me on my toes! Two things to remember: (1) You must be a MARS member to be eligible for any benefit coverages; and (2) If you want to enroll or make changes, the enrollment form must be sent to the provider by the 20th of the month for an effective date the 1st of the following month.



Communications

By Dan Ellerhorst
(marsretirees.org)

This month, I would like to focus on a new feature of MARS communications, the **Satellite** Upcoming Events e-mail.

First, a little background. It wasn't that many years ago that the activities available to MARS members consisted only of the five annual club events (Annual Meeting, Senior Luncheon, Day at the Rockies, Annual Picnic, and Holiday Luncheon), as well as individual club events and activities. The clubs have always advertised their activities to their members independently, and everyone was pretty familiar with the rhythm of the annual events. All communication pretty much occurred via the quarterly MARS STAR, and signup was via hardcopy form and check.

Over the past five years or so, the Directors and Officers have been looking for ways to take greater advantage of modern digital/online capabilities and to provide a greater variety of activities for members in order to attract new members and encourage greater participation among existing members. I think we have

been very successful in doing this, but it has opened us up to some new problems to contend with. There are the normal growing pains associated with the integration of new technologies, but it has become significantly easier to plan and advertise a variety of new events. As more people have become involved as participants, we have actually been able to encourage more people to become involved as planners and leaders of the events. Now, we must focus more on avoiding schedule conflicts and confusion in the calendar.

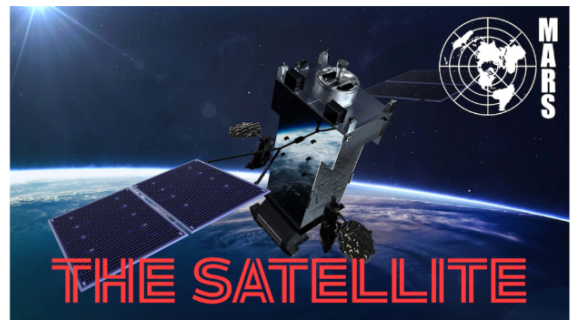
MARS has traditionally relied upon a single annual calendar hosted on an Excel spreadsheet. You have seen this calendar published in every STAR; it is the calendar the Officers and Directors review at their monthly meeting. It is a little cumbersome to maintain and is stressed to accommodate an ever-increasing number of Happy Hours and other special activities. You can view this calendar at any time by going to the Events pulldown on the website and select Full Year Calendar.

When we upgraded our website to more modern commercial products, we included an Event Manager, in which we can record each event, as well as useful information about time, location, duration, sign-up requirements, POC, etc.

When Jim Pennington, who joined as a Director last year, agreed to volunteer as President-Elect (and next year's MARS President), he took on the job of maintaining the integrated calendar. He quickly saw that we were struggling to manage our growing activities, synchronize them in multiple schedules, and communicate the necessary dates in a clear and timely fashion. He then suggested we establish a more formal business rhythm to review the upcoming events, keep the calendars synchronized, and communicate in a regular and predictable manner with the membership.

One result of this new business rhythm is a monthly e-mail entitled *The Satellite*. It will have a standard format based on a template that will allow us to more easily update it. Each month, the Directors and Officers will review the events that are scheduled for the next 60 days and approve the content for the *Satellite* e-mail, which will then be sent out on the first Friday of the month following the Officers meeting. In this way, we hope to be able to provide timely and clear information about all of our upcoming events, without bombarding the membership with a variety of reminder e-mails. Let me know if you like this, hate it, or have suggestions to improve it.

The first *Satellite* e-mail looked like this:



**MARS ASSOCIATES - APRIL 2025
NEWSLETTER FOR UPCOMING EVENTS
AND INFORMATION**

To keep MARS Members better informed about upcoming events, we've created this new monthly newsletter, which we're calling "**The Satellite**." It will be published on the evening of the **first Thursday of every month**, following the monthly MARS Officers' meeting. Each issue will contain info about all upcoming events except MARS club events (i.e., PACESETTERS, Car Club, etc), so please refer to the club website pages for details.

Although events are listed on our website and in the quarterly **STAR** releases, we wanted to provide a monthly reminder of all events and deadlines happening in the next 60 days. To sign up for events, please visit the MARS website to register and make any necessary payments through our secure online system.

**Important club item: 2025 MARS Membership Fee
Deadline was March 31, 2025**

The membership fee for the 2025 calendar year was due on **Monday, March 31st**. If you missed the deadline—no worries! Just go to the MARS

If you did not receive this or other e-mails from MARS Associates, you may have "unsubscribed" from an earlier e-mail. That action removes you from our mailing list. If you wish to re-subscribe, send me an e-mail and I will help you get back on the list.



VP-Membership

By Jayne Brown

(Jaynebrown@comcast.net)

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

As of April 1, 2025 there are 1,284 MARS Associates members, including 597 senior members. We have a total of 20 new members who have joined MARS for the 2025 CY to date.

Please welcome the following new members who have joined this quarter:

Colorado

Castle Rock	Brian Laycock
Colorado Springs	Thomas & Cheryl Borgen
Golden	Juliana and Brian Braunagel
Highlands Ranch	Doug & Laurie Welch, Linda Kiefer, Bruce Hunt, Stan & Beth Speegle, William Cox, Ken & Candace Garrido
Lakewood	Pete & Hope Walsdorf
Littleton	Jeanne Ladewig, Dianna McLean, Wilton Cooper & Donna Agee, John Beck, Jeanne Eha
Parker	Conrad Bueno, James & Roxanne Mann

Other States

Connecticut

Stratford John & Maureen Mikos

Florida

Melbourne Michael Rupert

Georgia

Athens Stephen Hevert

Membership Renewal

We are in the waning days of the 2025 membership renewal cycle. Dues reminders have been sent via email. If you haven't renewed there are still a few days before the drop notices are mailed. You can renew online at: <https://marsretirees.org/mars-associates-membership-renewal/>

This will allow you to pay via credit card and save the hassle of mailing your renewal form and payment via USPS.

Alternatively, there is a link on the same page to a pdf version of the renewal form.

You can type directly into this form from your web browser and print it out or print out the blank form and fill it in. Either approach will work.

Finally, you can mail your check for renewal to:
MARS Associates, PO Box 1128
Littleton, Co 80160-1128

If you are not certain if you have renewed for the 2025 membership year or if you have any questions, contact Jayne Brown directly at jaynebrown@comcast.net.

NEW MEMBERS

Do you know someone who recently retired from LM or ULA? First year membership in MARS is free for 2025. Direct them to the website www.marsretirees.org for more information or have them contact one of the Officers or Directors.

Did you know MARS Associates is charged for forwarded mail?

Please contact us with any info on changes of address. When USPS provides us with a new address for mail they have forwarded, the USPS charges MARS Associates. Please remember to include the MARS membership team in your list of people to notify when you have a new mailing address, phone number or email. We want to make sure all communications are timely.

In Memoriam

By Roy Duszynski
(rkduzyski@msn.com)

Please contact Roy Duszynski at rkduzyski@msn.com or 303-358-4750 with information about the passing of a member the spouse of a member or other MM/LM retirees so they can be acknowledged in the Memoriam section.

MARS Associates expresses our deepest sympathy in the loss of your loved one and a donation will be made to a charity chosen by the Officers and Board of Directors in their memory.

Members

Devers, Alva 'Darrell' (D: 13-Jan-2025)
Booker, TX
<https://tinyurl.com/47ftbnsr>

Sobetski, Julie (D: 13-Feb-2025)
Littleton, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/ym4n92jr>

Swope, Robert 'Bob or Jerry' (D: 06-Sep-2024)
Colorado Springs, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/3nj28w68>

Non-members

Adams, Clifford (D: 05-May-2024)
Colorado Springs, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/4fepheat>

Alcala, Joseph 'Guppy' (D: 27-Dec-2024)
Littleton, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/r3znma74>

Angel, Mark (D: 07-Feb-2025)
Pueblo, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/4aj68kyk>

Armstrong, Joseph 'Joe, Little Joe, Ricky'
(D: 23-Jan-2025)
Greeley, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/mr2uk9ea>

Arthur, Lou (D: 10-Feb-2025)
Littleton, CO
No obituary published

Babb, Beverly (D: 05-Feb-2025)
Englewood, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/akjaybhx>

Baker, Richard (D: 25-Oct-2024)
Castle Pines, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/ntez8c8s>

Banks, Curtis (D: 27-Sep-2024)
Colorado Springs, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/e3nfr6jh>

Beaver, Richard C. (D: 27-Jan-2025)
Broomfield, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/yc85bcs9>

Bills, Lawrence (D: 14-Oct-2024)
Denver, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/bdze442x>

Brown, Derek (D: 25-Feb-2025)
Littleton, CO
No obituary published

Brugh, William (D: 08-Jan-2025)
Colorado Springs, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/j7uxrtxr>

Chapman, Clyde (D: 08-Mar-2025)
Riverton, WY
<https://tinyurl.com/52wa5eah>

Cooper, James (D: 09-Jan-2025)
Littleton, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/5t2j6s9r>

Cunningham, Richard (D: 16-Jan-2025)
Denver, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/kernppea>

Daggett, Timothy (D: 01-Jan-2025)
Webster, TX
<https://tinyurl.com/yjhxvjus>

Dascher, Brian (D: 26-Feb-2025)
Centennial, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/5n9y53yn>

Davis, Blair (D: 31-Dec-2024)
Centennial, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/v4pkppf9>

Davis, Harold (D: 28-Dec-2024)
Loveland, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/mrb59a4z>

Deckers, Allen (D: 16-Feb-2025)
Littleton, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/ywcz3s5t>

Gesell, Virginia (D: 16-Jun-2024)
Rochester, NY
<https://tinyurl.com/mr33xjyd>

Gore, Tanguy (D: 15-Apr-2024)
Brighton, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/muwddst6>

Grote, Denis (D: 23-Dec-2024)
Denver, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/mvhprzrv>

Hardiman, Jerry (D: 17-Feb-2025)
Denver, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/2p9penkf>

Hubin, Rudolph (D: 09-Feb-2025)
Centennial, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/4hafm47h>

Huet, Ward (D: 10-Feb-2025)
St Augustine, FL
<https://tinyurl.com/44xe4kmz>

Karkut, Edmund (D: 24-Oct-2024)
Boulder, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/322hsv3x>

Koch, Richard (D: 10-Feb-2025)
Denver, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/bdcwss5>

LaRue Brown, Larry (D: 09-Feb-2025)
Lakewood, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/34f59n9y>

Leck, David (D: 28-Apr-2024)
Denver, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/42ktnha4>

Levinthal, Nancy (D: 22-Jan-2025)
Rancho Palos Verdes
<https://tinyurl.com/mvrps5n9>

Lucas, James 'Jim' (D: 03-Dec-2024)
Bella Vista, AR
<https://tinyurl.com/3he33sr2>

Martinez, Evelyn 'Jumbo' (D: 20-Jan-2025)
Englewood, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/khsheky7>

Martinez, Orlando (D: 03-Feb-2025)
Pueblo, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/492v3djv>

Miller, Ted (D: 12-Jan-2025)
Centennial, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/5n7sukry>

Morrison, Edward 'Buzz' (D: 08-Jan-2025)
Littleton, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/2vxzym7p>

Murillo, Mary (D: 01-Mar-2025)
Colorado Springs, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/ckcxy6zc>

Musser, Rob (D: 01-Mar-2025)
Littleton, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/mvz4b9tf>

Olearnick, Lawrence 'Tom' (D: 14-Jan-2025)
Eaton, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/ysxtx4wp>

Page, Embert (D: 05-Feb-2025)
Littleton, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/3t79tk6v>

Parker, Richard 'Dick' (D: 29-Dec-2024)
Santa Maria, CA
<https://tinyurl.com/4fv8zs43>

Pinon, Melba (D: 08-Mar-2025)
Fort Collins, CO
No obituary published

Rapp, Brian (D: 19-Jul-2024)
Busti, NY
<https://tinyurl.com/yc6xwak2>

Sanchez, Robert 'Bob' (D: 13-Feb-2025)
Denver, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/yc2nzzjt>

Sauer, Tristan (D: 06-Oct-2024)
Colorado Springs, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/3m6fpv9m>

Shettlesworth, Greg (D: 04-Jan-2025)
Centennial, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/9mrbum5a>

Simpson, Allison (D: 05-Feb-2025)
Lone Tree, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/ycxewskw>

Smith, Martin 'Smitty' (D: 12-Oct-2024)
Colorado Springs, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/yehdrp95>

Stanfield, Jack (D: 01-Feb-2025)
Eau Claire, WI
<https://tinyurl.com/dbsuyfep>

Steiner, Gerard (D: 23-Jul-2021)
Denver, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/3e4mcp37>

Stiles, Richard (D: 26-Dec-2021)
Georgetown, IN
<https://tinyurl.com/2p6hzb5n>

Tacinas, Sean (D: 01-Dec-2023)
Denver, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/yjpfdp8f>

Trammell, Bryan (D: 03-Feb-2025)
Boulder, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/bdzejr84>

Tullis, Marta (D: 07-Mar-2023)
Littleton, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/y43aemcv>

VanBrunt, Julie (D: 14-Jan-2025)
Colorado Springs, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/2rtyu88t>

Weddle, James (D: 31-Jan-2025)
Florida
No obituary published

Williams, Bob (D: 16-Jan-2025)
Denver, CO
No obituary published

Williams, James (D: 27-Feb-2025)
Colorado Springs, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/3rwwkfcr>

Woodward-Kelly, Georgina (D: 17-Jan-2025)
Pueblo, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/y2tpmc4v>

Wooster, Bette (D: 28-Feb-2025)
Englewood, CO
<https://tinyurl.com/5n7j6ajy>

Special Activities

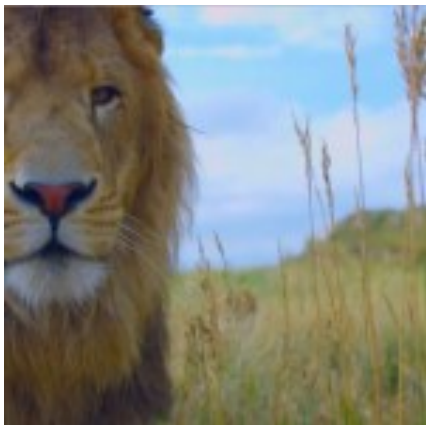
By Kathy Hetzel
hetzelkathy23@gmail.com

Special Events for MARS Members

The Special Activities group has been busy the last couple of months putting together a variety of outings for our MARS Members. Many of these events have a limit on the number of people who can attend, so try not to wait to the last minute to sign up.

Be sure to visit the MARS Associates website for the complete list of all events and to sign up.

Our Spring/Early Summer Events Coming Up!!



The Wild Animal Sanctuary – Monday, May 12. Carolyn Malaby has once again graciously organized an outing to see these magnificent creatures near Keenesburg. The tour begins at 9 am and you can linger as long as you'd like after the tour.
<https://marsretirees.org/2025/03/10/mars-tour-to-the-wild-animal-sanctuary/>



Wild West Walking Tour – Monday, June 2. Expert storytellers, dressed in authentic Wild West attire, will take you on an adventure through Golden's legendary past. From frontier saloons and shootouts to gold rush fortunes and famous figures, you'll hear incredible true tales that bring history to life! Grab your cowboy hat and join us on this fun morning, followed by lunch on your own at Old Capitol Grill.
<https://marsretirees.org/2025/03/29/golden-walking-tour/>

Coming Soon!!

Behind the Scenes at DCPA – Monday, July 7. Watch the MARS Associates website for signups. This tour has a limited number of slots available.



If you've ever wondered after attending a theatre performance "*how'd they do that?*", now you can find out! Join us on this tour through the backstage areas of the Denver Center for the Performing Arts facilities. Costuming, makeup, wigs, props and special effects are par for the course at DCPA – come see the behind-the-curtain magic!

MARS Happy Hours – In addition, don't miss the first of several MARS Happy Hours this year. Our first Happy Hour will be May 5th at the Platte River Bar & Grill on Sante Fe from 4-7 pm. Light appetizers will be available, as well as a cash bar. Again, see the website to sign up – we need an accurate number to order appetizers.



LtoR – Neil King, Carol Lovelace, Beth King, Joe & Shawn Diethorn, Pete & Diane Munoz

If you've enjoyed any of these activities in the past, why not jump in and lead an event? Leading an event isn't difficult or time consuming and you can generally pick the day that is convenient for you. You can lead an event that has taken place before, one that we have on a list from member requests, or if you have an idea or a special place you'd like to visit, let us know. We're always interested in new ideas. The Special Activities group will do everything they can to make your event a success. Contact Kathy Hetzel at hetzelkathy23@gmail.com for more information.

Visit to the Museum of Illusions By Pete Munoz, MARS BOD

Museum of Illusions – First, I'd like to apologize for the short window on registering for this event. We were on a tight timeline to get the best deal for our participants. Seven of us arrived at the Museum on 25 March at Noon and a few of us took light rail down (\$2.75 daily pass for those 65+). It was a beautiful day and with a smaller group we were all able to interact with one another. We enjoyed a patio luncheon at Rock Bottom Brewery across the street. **Fun was had by all!** If you'd like to see the photos from this special event you can follow this path marsretirees.org > **Events** > **Event Photos** > **Museum of Illusion** or click on this hyper link - Museum of Illusions - March 2025



Top Row – LtoR – Diane & Pete Munoz, Neal King, Shawn Diethorn & Carol Lovelace
Bottom Row – LtoR – Joe Diethorn and Beth King

Volunteer for Warm Hearts, Warm Babies **(<https://www.warmheartswarmbabies.org/>)**

By Horace Clair

Our MARS members continue to serve their communities in many ways. One of those volunteers is Horace Clair, and here is his story:

"I started off with volunteer work after my wife passed. I needed something to do and a means of socializing. Our church had a group called "The Doll Ministry." I was invited to join them and before long I was bringing in supplies and helping them make dolls. Our first 33 dolls went to the Wheat Ridge Police Department for kids the police found in crisis. Then, unfortunately COVID hit, and we were no longer able to give out dolls and the group disbanded.

Obviously, I still needed to keep busy and needed socialization, so as luck would have it, my son found a newspaper article about an organization called *Warm Hearts, Warm Babies*, located in Arvada. I stopped in to visit with them and found a place where I could provide support. I started off providing short bolts of material, using my military discount – which gave us more bang for the buck. As I got more into the workings of the group, I saw there was a greater need for baby toiletries; i.e., baby wash, shampoo, lotions, bottles, etc. I am working with the store manager to get these items in case lots instead of having to clean off the shelves.

As you can see, this is a non-profit organization of volunteers who provide for the needs of newborn babies in Colorado, makes a complete package for getting infants started on their journey. It has been a real adventure for me to shop for the items needed and being able to visit with other volunteers – knowing I am also helping others."

Some notes from their website:

"Warm Hearts, Warm Babies volunteers sew, knit, or crochet various items for our layettes. Some create items to sell at craft shows. Others pack layettes (which includes the toiletries) and/or deliver them to the agencies we serve. We do it all for them – premature infants and babies in need. We craft layettes for brand-new mothers with our made creations and 100% of what we receive in donations goes to them."

"WHWB donates to hospitals, crisis pregnancy centers, and shelters across much of the state of Colorado. All gifts are donated free of charge."

If you are interested in donating items or volunteering, please call 720-724-7417 or send an email to: [warmheartswarmbabies.org](https://www.warmheartswarmbabies.org).

Operation Santa Claus Update

By Pete Munoz

Operation Santa Claus, Chairman

The LM & ULA employees and retirees continue to carry the torch that started in 1958. In 2024 we had to make the difficult decision to reduce our families that we support from 290 to 200 families due to a decline in funding and a reduction in financial support. After 67 years of support, Lockheed Martin has made the decision to ask us to cease and desist any association with the company, facilities, and executive sponsorship, and withdrew all financial support and asked us to stop using the Lockheed Martin mailing address to receive mail.

We are grateful that ULA has stepped up to help us to carry on this mission. We are planning our ULA Supply Chain & Quality Golf Tournament on 18 July 2025 at Arrowhead Golf Course. If you'd like to support our mission, our Federal Tax ID # is 84-0919216 that you can use through your Charitable Giving Fund or you can donate through our Colorado Gives Platform - [Operation Santa Claus | ColoradoGives.org](https://www.operation-santa-claus.org) or send us a check made payable to Operation Santa Claus and mailed to **Operation Santa Claus, 9457 S. University Blvd. Unit # 171, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126**. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. If you have any questions or ideas for collaboration, you can email us at operationsantaclausco@gmail.com

Historian Corner

By Barb Sande

barbsande@comcast.net

A clarification for the last article: Thanks to Brian Etheridge, who noted after reading the first article that the tank structures for Gemini were built in Denver and then shipped to Baltimore (my write-up was not clear on that point). Brian worked as a student engineer in the Test Department in 1962 where he had several responsibilities during the development of Gemini, including monitoring tank pressurization tests at Y-lot.

Program Profile

This history profile continues a multi-part series about the manned Gemini program. The current plan is to have the following parts to the series (this may be modified as the series progresses):

- Creation of Project Gemini, Program Obstacles and Issues, Overview of Major Program Elements – First Quarter 2025 – **COMPLETE**
- LC-19, Unmanned Gemini 1 & 2, Crew Selection and Training- Second Quarter 2025 – **IN THIS ISSUE** (Gemini 3 moved to the next quarter)
- Gemini 3, IV, V – Third Quarter 2025 (the missions were formally changed to the use of Roman numerals for the mission designator with Gemini IV)
- Gemini VI, VI-A, VII, VIII – Fourth Quarter 2025
- Gemini IX, IX-A, X – First Quarter 2026
- Gemini XI, XII, Lessons Learned – Second Quarter 2026

This plan accommodates some depth of detail for each mission and still keeps me on track for the first write-up commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Viking program in the third quarter of 2026.

Introduction

In preparing for this series, I was fortunate to find an archived copy of a NASA historical book "On the Shoulders of Titans: A History of the Gemini Program" by Barton C. Hacker and James M. Grimwood. This reference and others listed at the end of the profile were used to glean information about the program and the missions. Also, I discovered a second NASA book, *Project Gemini: A Chronology*, that is packed with details about development and testing; chronological details from that document are used to show milestones for each vehicle. Also, Wikipedia is a good resource for space program information, with lots of good references and decent editorial oversight, so I have also used some information from their articles on Gemini. In this article I will give an overview of LC-19, Gemini 1, Gemini 2, and crew selection and training. The overview of Gemini 3 has been moved to the next write-up.

Launch Complex 19 (LC-19)

Launch Complex 19 at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (CCAFS)* was a launch pad located along the Atlantic coast of the Air Force Station launch range and was part of "Missile Row". According to Spaceline.org and author Cliff Lethbridge (see reference link), construction on LC-19 began on February 18, 1957 and was completed and bought off by the Air Force on June 6, 1959. The pad was one of four at CCAFS dedicated to Titan vehicles. Construction costs were estimated at \$6 million.

The first attempt at a launch from LC-19 was on August 14, 1959. The vehicle, a Titan I ICBM (HGM-25A) suborbital launch, failed catastrophically when a premature umbilical release caused a shutdown command to be sent at T+5 seconds, resulting in the missile falling

back to the pad and exploding; the resulting damage required several months of repairs to the pad. The first successful launch from the pad, also a Titan I ICBM, occurred on February 2, 1960. The last Titan I from LC-19 was on January 29, 1962; the complex saw a total of 15 Titan I launches. No Titan II ICBMs were launched from this pad at CCAFS (LC-15 and LC-16 were used).

Modifications began shortly after the last Titan I flew in 1962 for the Gemini program. Costs were estimated to be between \$5 million to \$9 million for the modifications that took roughly one year to complete, although the first launch was not accomplished until April, 1964. The modifications included a white room at the top of the booster erector gantry for astronaut ingress and egress from the Gemini capsule and also modifications to the blockhouse to add additional personnel areas and instrumentation bays. A pad pilot abort and recovery area was also added at the perimeter of the complex. It should be noted that the Gemini spacecraft was processed at the Hangar S facility initially and then at the Manned Spacecraft Operations Building for later missions before moving to the pad for mechanical mate.

The first Gemini/Titan II launch would also be the first orbital Titan launch. The first three Gemini flights would be controlled from LC-19 but handoff to Mission Control in Houston would occur starting with the Gemini IV mission. The Gemini program had two unmanned launches and ten manned launches total. The complex became inactive in November, 1966 and was formally deactivated on April 10, 1967. The service and umbilical towers were demolished in 1977. The white room was restored and moved to the Air Force Space and Missile Museum in 2003 and the remaining structures were demolished in 2012-2013. The pad is being evaluated for potential future program usage as of 2025.

In the photo of Missile Row, taken in 1964 from LC-37, LC-19 would be near the top on the right; the screenshot of a map shows its relative location to the NASA Causeway and the road leading to the Titan III/34D/IV facilities (LC-40 and LC-41, now ULA and SpaceX). The two diagrams show the Gemini/Titan II LC-19 pad configurations. It should be noted that the first four Titan III-A launches used LC-20, the pad just north of LC-19.

*On November 29, 1963, the facility was renamed by President Lyndon B. Johnson under Executive Order 11129. Johnson's order joined both the civilian LOC and the military Cape Canaveral station ("the facilities of Station No. 1 of the Atlantic Missile Range") under the designation "John F. Kennedy Space Center", spawning some confusion joining the two in the public mind. NASA administrator James Webb clarified this by issuing a directive stating the *Kennedy Space Center* name applied only to the LOC, while the Air Force issued a general order

renaming the military launch site *Cape Kennedy Air Force Station*. This name lasted until 1974, when it reverted back to Cape Canaveral Air Force Station; from 1994 until 2000 it became Cape Canaveral Air Station. In 2020, it was designated Cape Canaveral Space Force Station.



Missile Row Photo 11/13/1964
Photo Credit: NASA

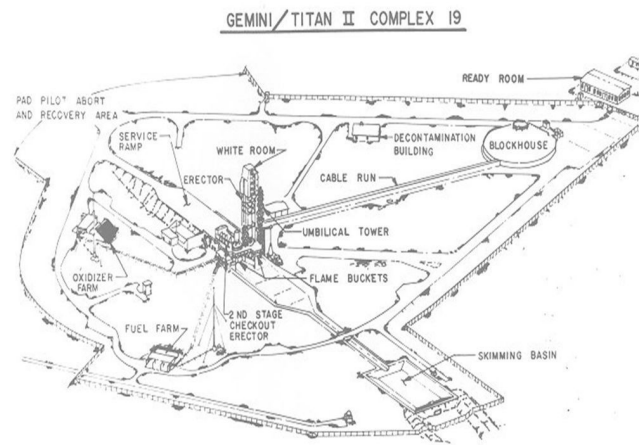
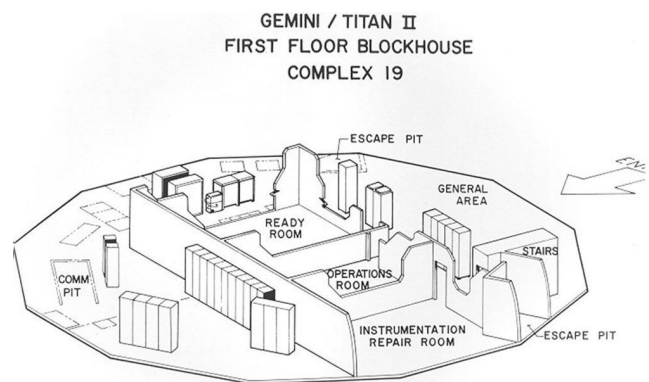


Diagram of LC-19 Complex.
Image Credit: United States Air Force

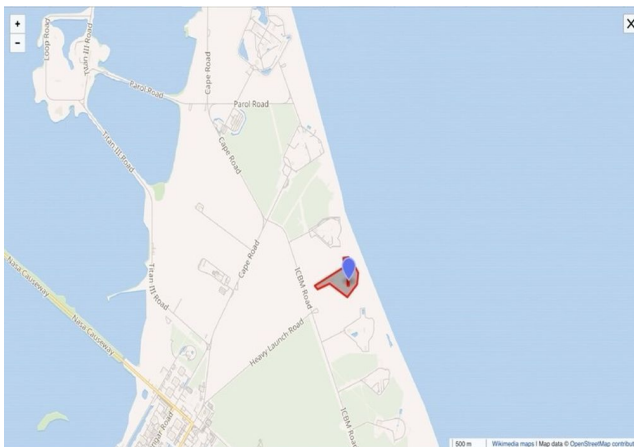


Blockhouse Layout for Gemini at LC-19.
Image Credit: United States Air Force

Gemini 1

In the "Project Gemini: A Chronology", there is a useful appendix that shows the milestone dates for every Titan II/GLV, Gemini spacecraft, Gemini Target Vehicle (Agena D) and Gemini Target Launch Vehicle; those milestone dates will be used for the missions going forward. Gemini 1, the first unmanned flight, had the main mission objectives of testing the structural integrity of the Gemini spacecraft and the modified launch vehicle and declaring the launch vehicle man-rated. It also served the purposes of testing the Mission Control Systems, testing new tracking and communications systems and providing training for the ground crews at LC-19.

The actual milestone dates for the Gemini 1 launch vehicle (GLV-1) are listed below. The customer acceptance was from the Air Force, as they had the responsibility for providing the launch vehicle as noted in the first write-up. This vehicle also had a planned Static Fire Test of Stage I engines on the pad; this was not performed on future GLVs.

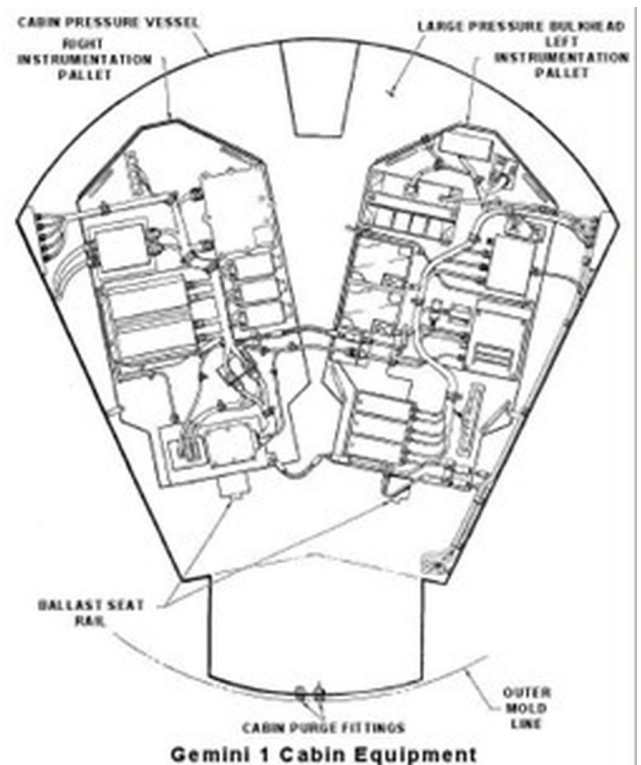


Wikimedia Open Street Map Showing Location of LC-19 © Open Street Map Contributors

Milestone	Date
Major welding of propellant tanks in Denver begins	09/1962
Shipment of Tanks to Baltimore	10/10/1962
Vehicle Assembly completed	05/21/1963
Horizontal tests completed	05/27/1963
Erected in Vertical Test Facility	06/09/1963
Combined Systems Test (CST) complete	10/04/1963
Vehicle Acceptance Team inspection complete	10/08/1963
DD-250 complete (customer acceptance)	10/12/1963
Delivered to ETR	10/26/1963
Erected at LC-19	10/29/1963
Power applied	11/13/1963
Subsystem and CST complete	01/14/1964
Static Fire Test of Stage I	01/21/1964
Spacecraft mated to GLV-1	03/05/1964
POGO mitigation modifications installed	03/31/1964
Countdown exercises completed/Wet Mock Simulated Launch completed	04/03/1964
Final Status Simulated Flight Test	04/06/1964
Launch	04/08/1964

Milestone	Date
Altitude Chamber Test	09/23/1963
Delivered to ETR (Hangar S)	10/04/1963
Complex 19 Electrical Integrity and Guidance/Control Tests	03/03/1964
Mechanical Mate to GLV-1 at LC-19	03/05/1964
Wet Mock Simulated Launch/Simultaneous Demonstration Test	04/03/1964
Final Simulated Flight Test	04/06/1964
Launch	04/08/1964

S/C 1 was unique among the Gemini spacecraft in that it was largely without the functioning spacecraft systems. It carried dummy equipment and ballast to match the normal weight, center of gravity, and moment of inertia. As there was no intent to recover the spacecraft, holes were drilled in the heat shield to allow the spacecraft to burn up on re-entry. In the locations that the two astronauts would occupy on future flights, there were two pallets of instruments that were installed to measure temperature, pressure, vibration, acceleration, and structural loads. The pallet installations are noted in the following drawing:



Instrument Pallet on S/C-1.
Image Credit: Gemini Familiarization Manual NASA

Behind the timelines noted above were several GLV-1 delays and problems:

- The second stage oxidizer tank was cracked and had to be replaced by the tank built for GLV-2.
- A short circuit was found in Stage 2 during tests in Baltimore caused by a clamp damaging the insulation on the wiring harness. The damage was repaired and all clamps were removed and replaced.
- Five subsystems failed to meet electrical system integrity standards after the first round of Combined Systems Tests in Baltimore. These problems were mitigated with additional filters and circuit grounds in the vehicle and AGE (Aerospace Ground Equipment). The CST was repeated successfully.
- A Vehicle Acceptance Team at Baltimore rejected GLV-1 because of multiple unresolved defects noted in the paperwork. A First Article Configuration Inspection (FACI) had more favorable results. Rework was done on hundreds of contaminated connectors and defective components were removed.
- Component failures, delayed deliveries, and incompatibilities between airborne and AGE systems caused schedule delays at LC-19 (the original launch date was planned for early February, 1964).

The actual milestone dates for the first Gemini spacecraft (S/C-1) are listed below; details of subassembly timelines are not available:

Problems occurred during the month between spacecraft mate and the launch on April 8 with numerous procedural errors, some concerns for noisy actuators on the Titan vehicle, and even a dropped wrench that caused minor damage on the Stage II Oxidizer Tank dome. However, final readiness team assessments were achieved by April 5 and the launch team was "go" for launch on April 8 after uneventful propellant loads.

After a flawless countdown, GLV-1 lifted off from LC-19 at 16:00:01 UTC/11:00:01 EDT on April 8. The first stage was jettisoned after two and a half minutes with the vehicle 40 miles high and 57 miles downrange. At that moment, there was an unexpected three-second loss of signal from the craft. It was later determined that this brief communications blackout was caused by charged ions from the separation and startup of the second stage, similar to the blackout during spacecraft reentry. All subsequent Gemini flights would have the same brief blackout.



Gemini 1 Launch 04/08/1964.
Photo Credit: NASA Photo Archives

The spacecraft achieved orbit five and a half minutes after launch. The launch vehicle had imparted an excess 24 feet per second of velocity to S/C-1, placing the spacecraft into an orbit with an apogee of 200 miles instead of the planned 186 miles. This lengthened Gemini 1's lifespan

from the planned three and a half days to four. However, the batteries on-board the spacecraft were only qualified for one day of operation. S/C-1 and the second stage of GLV-1 re-entered the atmosphere on April 12. This successful mission qualified Titan as a man-rated launch vehicle; the final qualification of the Gemini spacecraft would occur during Gemini 2. Over 5,000 DoD personnel were required to support the launch in various roles in addition to the contractors and NASA personnel.

Gemini 2

After the success of Gemini 1, work progressed towards the second unmanned launch, which would be used to qualify the spacecraft, re-entry processes and the heat shield for manned flight. This mission was intended to be a suborbital launch, with recovery of the spacecraft. By the time of Gemini 2, the program management and Mission Control teams had completed their moves into the Manned Spacecraft Center in Houston although Mission Control in Houston would not control a mission until Gemini IV. For this mission, the critical pacing item was S/C-2, followed by a series of unfortunate weather events at the Cape.

The actual milestone dates for the Gemini 2 launch vehicle (GLV-2) are listed below.

Milestone	Date
Major welding of propellant tanks in Denver begins	09/1962
Shipment of tanks to Baltimore	07/12/1963
Vehicle Assembly completed	01/09/1964
Horizontal tests completed	01/17/1964
POGO mitigation modifications installed	02/05/1964
Erected in Vertical Test Facility	02/07/1964
Power applied	02/20/1964
Combined Systems Test (CST) complete	04/22/1964
Vehicle Acceptance Team inspection complete	04/27/1964
DD-250 complete (customer acceptance)	06/22/1964
Delivered to ETR	07/11/1964
Erected at LC-19	09/14/1964
Subsystem and CST complete	10/20/1964
S/C-2 mated to GLV-2	11/05/1964
Joint Combined Systems Tests complete	11/18/1964
Countdown practice exercises/Wet Mock Simulated Launch Test complete	11/24/1964
First launch attempt (abort)	12/09/1964
Final Simulated Flight Test	01/14/1965
Launch	01/19/1965

Behind the timelines noted above prior to spacecraft mate, there were several issues and delays:

- The second-stage oxidizer tank was defective and had to be rebuilt. This caused minimal delays in the shipment of the tanks to Baltimore.
- Engine delivery was delayed from Aerojet-General, requiring the use of non-flight engines for some of the testing in Baltimore. It should be noted, however, that the testing timelines overall were vastly improved for GLV-2.
- After delivery at the Cape, a severe thunderstorm rolled across the area on 08/17/1964, resulting in a lightning strike of LC-19. Inspections found some failed ground components and a special electromagnetic effects team recommended replacement of airborne components with semiconductors. Before the lightning mitigation work could be completed, Hurricane Cleo deviated from its predicted course and brushed the Cape. The booster had been erected on the pad but Stage II stayed in storage during the storm.
- Testing and the launch of the first Titan IIIA vehicle on an adjacent pad (LC-20) delayed work on GLV-2. This Titan IIIA vehicle launched on 09/01/1964.
- The mission of GLV-2 was almost canceled due to the delays, with one manned mission being canceled and S/C-2 moving to GLV-3. However, NASA and all the contractors finally agreed to continue testing and launch of GLV-2 as planned.
- Testing had just begun on GLV-2 again when another hurricane, Hurricane Dora, required destacking of both stages because it was heading straight to the Cape on 09/08/1964. Dora caused no real issues, but the launch vehicle remained in storage until Hurricane Ethel passed by a few days later.
- The problems during August and September of 1964 forced Gemini program management to forego any considerations for a manned launch before the end of the year.

Here are the actual milestone dates for S/C-2:

Milestone	Date
Equipment Installation complete	06/30/1964
Re-entry/Adapter Mate	07/07/1964
Simulated Flight Test	09/16/1964
Delivered to ETR (Hangar S)	09/21/1964
Complex 19 Electrical Integrity & Guidance/Flight Controls tests	10/18/1964
Mechanical Mate to GLV-2 at LC-19	11/05/1964
Joint Combined CST	11/19/1964
Wet Mock Simulated Launch/Simultaneous Launch Demonstration Test	11/24/1964
First launch attempt (booster abort)	12/09/1964
Final Simulated Launch Test	01/14/1965

Launch	01/19/1965
Recovery of S/C-2	01/19/1965

The delays for S/C-2 included the following issues:

- Late deliveries for Rocketdyne thrusters and General Electric Fuel Cell stacks.
- Completion of Design Engineering Inspection (DEI) was delayed due to hardware delivery issues.
- When the 9-person DEI team was finally convened in February 1964, a large contingent from other interested parties also attended the two-day meeting. This resulted in a long list of hardware discrepancies that resulted in 22 mandatory changes, 4 conditional changes and 10 requiring further study.
- Spacecraft systems testing proceeded slowly, with many problems occurring requiring troubleshooting and mitigation.
- The nearly full-up design of S/C-2, as opposed to S/C-1 that was just a shell with some instruments, resulted in additional delays. S/C-2 had a similar pallet of instruments to the one used on S/C-1.

Once S/C-2 was finally delivered to the Cape in September 1964, it was mechanically mated to GLV-2 and the joint Combined Systems Test and Wet Mock Simulated/Simultaneous Launch Demonstration Tests were completed near the end of November. As part of the Wet Mock test, some designated crew members participated to demonstrate pad egress and safety procedures (see photo at the end of this section). Other testing was successful and propellant load of GLV-2 was scheduled for 12/08/64.

The countdown began and proceeded smoothly towards the launch time of 11:41 am EST on 12/09/64. The Stage I engines ignited; one second later, a signal from the Master Operations control set shut down the engines! Flight controllers observed that the launch vehicle had lost hydraulic pressure in its primary control system and it had automatically switched over to the secondary system. Flight Director Christopher Kraft canceled the flight just before noon.

The switchover from primary to secondary flight controls happened in the 3.2 seconds between engine ignition and liftoff. Because of the switchover and the detection of a hydraulic leak, GLV-2 essentially "saved itself" with the programming in the Master Operations control set. Why had the primary control system failed? The answer was discovered quite quickly – unexpectedly high pressure in one of the hydraulic lines had burst the aluminum housing of an actuator servovalve, allowing hydraulic fluid to leak out. The valve housing failed because of a design "improvement" that had unintended consequences. During design of the actuators, someone decided that the servovalve walls were twice as thick as they needed to be

and reduced the thickness of aluminum but the change was not tested at the required system pressures nor was an impulse test (simulating the environment of an engine startup and shutdown) ever added to qualification testing. Reading this made me shake my head and recall the studies and papers I wrote in my work years on "Test Like You Fly" and the unintended consequences of changes and these papers were 30 years later! A new set of redesigned actuators would be required from Moog Servocontrols based in Buffalo, New York.

GLV-2 shut down in an orderly fashion, but S/C-2 posed some safety problems because it was bristling with pyrotechnic devices all armed for flight. The booster was safed first, with propellants off-loaded. The most difficult devices were the explosive cartridges for the isolation valves for the spacecraft thrusters. The entire device had to be removed but there was a concern for propellants getting to the thrusters or spilling onto workers. Recall that the S/C is fueled before mating with the booster, so a workaround had to be created to avoid a destack and further delays. The propellant lines were frozen using a makeshift copper tubing design wrapped around the lines and filled with cryogenics. This allowed removal and replacement of the explosive cartridges.

Now the stack awaited the redesigned actuators and they finally arrived on January 6, 1965. They were installed at once, retests were performed, propellants were reloaded and the countdown resumed. After liftoff, it should be noted that Mission Control suffered a power outage attributed to the power drains from network television equipment.

The stack was launched successfully at 9:03:59 a.m. EST (14:03:59.861 UT) to a maximum altitude of 106.3 miles. The spacecraft was run by an onboard automatic sequencer. At 6 minutes 54 seconds after launch retrorockets were fired and the spacecraft cartwheeled into a reentry attitude. The spacecraft reentered the atmosphere and landed by parachute in the Atlantic Ocean 2, 127 miles southeast of the launch site 18 minutes 16 seconds after launch. The landing was 16 miles short of the planned impact point. The spacecraft was successfully recovered by the aircraft carrier U.S.S. *Lake Champlain*. All goals were achieved except test results on the fuel cells because the system had failed before liftoff and was turned off. The capsule was in excellent condition and the heat shield and retrorockets functioned as planned. The temperature in the cooling system of the spacecraft was found to be too high and would have to be addressed before Gemini 3. Gemini 2 was supported by over 6500 DoD personnel in addition to contractor and NASA personnel.

An interesting post-script about Gemini 2: The S/C-2 spacecraft was refurbished and launched aboard a Titan

IIIC on 11/3/1966 in a demonstration test for the Manned Orbiting Laboratory (MOL) program (the only flight test for that program that was subsequently canceled in 1969). The spacecraft was recovered from this test and is on display at the Air Force Space and Missile Museum at Cape Canaveral.



Primary and Backup Crews for Gemini 3 Practice Egress Methods during Gemini 2 Processing. L to R: John Young (suited, facing away), Wally Schirra (unsuited), Tom Stafford (unsuited), Gus Grissom (suited). Photo Credit: NASA.

Crew Selection

Deke Slayton, as Director of Flight Crew Operations, had primary responsibility for assigning flight and back-up crews to the planned Gemini missions. Each flight had a primary crew and backup crew, and the backup crew would rotate to primary crew status three flights later (this was not always the case). Slayton intended for first choice of mission commands to be given to the four remaining active astronauts of the Mercury Seven: Alan Shepard, Gus Grissom, Gordon Cooper and Wally Schirra. John Glenn had retired from NASA, Deke was not cleared for flight because of a heart murmur, and Scott Carpenter was on leave for the Sealab program and also suffered injuries in a motorcycle accident. Carpenter was also blamed for the actions that occurred on Mercury-Atlas 7 that led to early termination of the mission. Shepard was quickly removed from flight status after briefly being assigned to Gemini 3 when his Ménière's disease flared up (inner ear problem). The other assignments were culled from Astronaut Groups 2 and 3. The proposed crew assignments at the beginning of the

program and after Shepard's withdrawal were as follows (the first name is the commander, the second is the pilot):

Mission	Prime	Back-up
Gemini 3	Gus Grissom, John Young	Wally Schirra, Tom Stafford
Gemini IV	Jim McDivitt, Ed White	Frank Borman, Jim Lovell
Gemini V	Gordon Cooper, Pete Conrad	Neil Armstrong, Elliott See
Gemini VI	Wally Schirra, Tom Stafford	Gus Grissom, John Young
Gemini VII	Frank Borman, Jim Lovell	Ed White, Mike Collins
Gemini VIII	Neil Armstrong, Dave Scott	Pete Conrad, Richard Gordon
Gemini IX	Elliott See, Charles Bassett	Tom Stafford, Gene Cernan
Gemini X	John Young, Mike Collins	Alan Bean, Clifton Williams
Gemini XI	Pete Conrad, Richard Gordon	Neil Armstrong, William Anders
Gemini XII	Jim Lovell, Buzz Aldrin	Gordon Cooper, Gene Cernan

The crew rotation plan was supposed to have the backup crew become the primary crew three missions later. Some backup crew members moved over for training on the Apollo program or there were other changes for various reasons. As we will see when the actual flights are described in future articles, there were some changes due to the deaths of Elliott See and Charles Bassett, the primary crew of Gemini IX, resulting in the renaming of Gemini IX to Gemini IX-A. Gemini VI was renamed to Gemini VI-A after the loss of the Agena D docking adapter just after launch. Tom Stafford was initially selected as the pilot on Gemini 3 until Alan Shepard had to step down early, so the primary crew was changed to Grissom and Young as they had trained together as the initial backups for that first flight.

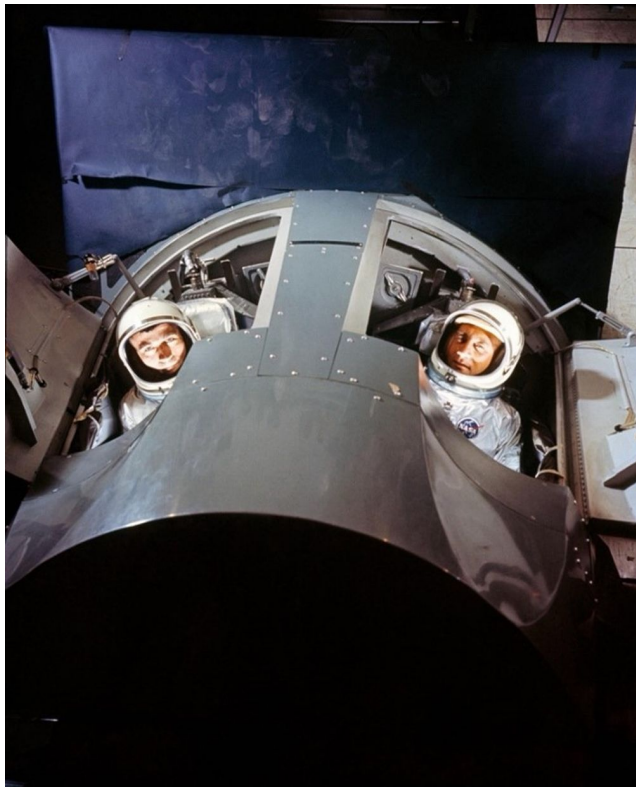
Crew Training

As good luck would have it, I found an archived NASA document on SCRIBD that described the training plans for Gemini and Apollo. Entitled "Flight Crew Training Plan", the document was released on January 17, 1964. The training program for Gemini had the following elements:

1. General Training
 - 1.1. Science and Technology Overviews:
 - 1.1.1. Geology
 - 1.1.2. Flight Mechanics
 - 1.1.3. Digital Computers
 - 1.1.4. Gemini Onboard Computer
 - 1.1.5. Rocket Propulsion Systems

- 1.1.6. Aerodynamics
- 1.1.7. Astronomy
- 1.1.8. Guidance and Navigation
- 1.1.9. Communications
- 1.1.10. Physics of the Upper Atmosphere and Space
- 1.1.11. Medical Aspects of Space Flight
- 1.1.12. Meteorology
- 1.2. Operations Familiarization
 - 1.2.1. Tours and briefings at LC-19
 - 1.2.2. Tours and briefings at Integrated Mission Control
- 1.3. Environmental Familiarization
 - 1.3.1. Acceleration training
 - 1.3.2. KC-135 weightlessness flights
 - 1.3.3. Water survival
 - 1.3.4. Ejection seat training
 - 1.3.5. Parachute training
- 1.4. Spacecraft and Launch Vehicle Design and Development
- 1.5. Aircraft Flight Program (maintain flight readiness and skills)
2. Gemini-Specific Training
 - 2.1. Project Briefings and Systems Training - Airborne and Ground Systems
 - 2.2. Part Task Training (supplement simulators for reentry procedures)
 - 2.3. Launch Vehicle Abort Training
 - 2.4. Egress Training (pad and spacecraft)
 - 2.5. Centrifuge Training
 - 2.6. Mission Training using Gemini Mission Simulators
 - 2.7. Systems Failure Training using Gemini Mission Simulators

This plan translated into thousands of hours of training for the crews that were selected! Details, including estimated hours, can be found if you go to the link. Here's a photo of John Young and Gus Grissom training in a simulator at McDonnell-Douglas in St. Louis before their flight.



John Young (left) and Gus Grissom (Right) peer from their Gemini Spacecraft simulator during training. Photo Credit: NASA

My next write-up for 2025 Quarter 3 will cover the Gemini 3, Gemini IV and Gemini V manned missions.

Resources and Links:

On the Shoulders of Titans: A History of Project Gemini

<https://ntrs.nasa.gov/citations/19780012208>

Project Gemini: A Chronology

<https://www.nasa.gov/history/SP-4002/contents.htm>

Project Gemini (NASA Overview)

<https://www.nasa.gov/gemini/>

Wikipedia Article about Project Gemini

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_Gemini

Wikipedia Article about Titan II GLV

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Titan_II_GLV

Wikipedia Article about LC-19

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cape_Canaveral_Launch_Complex_19

Wikipedia Article about Gemini 1

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gemini_1

Wikipedia Article about Gemini 2

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gemini_2

Cape Canaveral Space Force Museum Summary of LC-19

<https://ccspacemuseum.org/facilities/launch-complex-19/>

Spaceline.org (Cliff Lethbridge) Summary of LC-19:

<https://www.spaceline.org/cape-canaveral-launch-sites/launch-complex-19-fact-sheet/>

SCRIBD, Flight Crew Training Plan Document:

<https://www.scribd.com/document/49445020/Flight-Crew-Training-Plan>

From Barb Sande, MARS STAR and MARS Facebook Page Historian. Contact me at barbsande@comcast.net.

Pacesetters Club

By Bill Wise

wisewj@aol.com

PACESETTERS has had a great start to 2025 so far! Both of our meetings in January and February were well attended and the Club members enjoyed both topics presented. Special thanks to the Colorado Alzheimer's Association speaker at our January Meeting on discussing the definition and scientific profile of Alzheimer's disease risk factors, prevention techniques that are empirically validated, how to obtain a diagnosis, treatment options and navigating the health care system, and help that is available for families.

In February, we held an extended meeting with Colonel Patrick Hanlon, past NORAD-US / NORTHCOM Command Center Director, Colorado Air National Guard F-16 pilot, and graduate of the US Air Force Academy and Air War College. The first part of the meeting covered the internal operations of NORAD/NORTHCOM in the Springs and how Patrick, as a Director of the facility, had to evaluate and deal with various warnings and issues that this important Command covers. He then spent the second half of the meeting covering his service as a member of the Colorado Air National Guard and deploying to the Middle East to conduct Air Missions taking out various SCUD and Iraqi military positions during the Iraqi conflicts.

In March, the PACESETTERS cancelled their monthly meeting to make room for the MARS Annual Meeting but have a full schedule of events for the remaining part of 2025.

Here is a brief list of the events upcoming up:

- April 16th – Dermatology Status with speaker Dr. Caroline Hagan, Dermatologist. She will discuss senior's skin diseases and several ways for seniors to care for their skin.
- May 14th – Ophthalmological status focusing on senior eye care with speaker Dr. Shane Nau. Dr. Shane Nau is a board-eligible Ophthalmologist, and his areas of expertise include comprehensive medical ophthalmology, glaucoma management and cataract surgery.
- June 11th – ENT (Ears, Nose, Throat) status with speaker Dr. Nicolette A Picerno, MD. Dr. Picerno is Board-certified by the American Board of Otolaryngology
- July 16th – Artificial Intelligence. History of AI, current techniques/status, current use cases of AI, and what the future holds. The speaker will be Professor AD Alghourabi, who is a fellow adjunct faculty member at the University of Denver, as well as a practitioner, leveraging AI in creating applications.
- August 13th – Senior Living Options. Currently in the selection process for the subject speakers-TBD. Discussion will be on the assorted options and their Pros and Cons for this important subject impacting Seniors today.
- September 17th – Advancing our Understanding of Earth, our Solar System and Beyond. Our speakers will be Tonya Ladwig and Paul Anderson. Mrs. Ladwig is Vice President & Deputy for the Commercial Civil Space line of business for Lockheed Martin. In this role she is responsible for overseeing the management of commercial and civil space programs for human and robotic deep space exploration, weather and remote sensing and other leading-edge technologies. Mr. Anderson is Spacecraft Engineering Senior Director for Lockheed Martin Space.
- October 15th – Senior Fraud Prevention to be presented by a member of the Denver FBI Field Office. We are currently working out our formal request, so we will keep you informed on this critical issue impacting Americans and especially Seniors.
- November 12th – Neurological Science with speaker Dr. Adam Wolff. He most recently hails from the prestigious Stanford University where he completed a fellowship in Neurophysiology. He is a Chicago native who graduated from Rush Medical College and completed his neurology residency at Northwestern University. He is board certified in Neurology, Neurophysiology and serves as the Director of Neurology and Stroke at Porter Adventist Hospital.

PACESETTERS continues to bring interesting and informative speakers and topics to our Club members that relates to Senior Health and Financial issues along with Engineering and Scientific activities that LM and ULA have been involved in. Please keep your feedback and suggestions coming. Give Bill Wise a call (720-636-5823). Let us hear it for a great 2025 for PACESETTERS!

Bridge Club

By Dave & Kathy Martz
(martz20@comcast.net)

The Bridge Club is open to all MARS members and their guests. We play social, not tournament, bridge with light conversation during play, as that's what most prefer. We play **at the Buck Community Recreation Center in Littleton on the 3rd Friday of each month, from 10 AM to 2 PM.** The next quarter, we are scheduled to play on 18 April, 16 May, and 20 June 2025.

You'll need to pack a lunch, as we stop midday to eat, and then resume playing. The club provides the cards and all required items for the games. The fee for the Buck Center is \$2.00 for in-South Suburban District and \$3.00 for out-of-District. There is also a small fee to the club (which helps with supplies and the year-end Holiday party).

We have couples, as well as singles, playing. If you're a single, invite a friend to be your partner. Your partner does not need to be a member of MARS to play.

Contact us to be added to the email list. Each month, an email is sent to Bridge Club participants about the play that month. We ask that you respond to the email to reserve a place at the tables, or to let us know you're not available. There's always room for more players, as the room will accommodate up to 6 tables. Check out the MARS website under "Clubs/Bridge Club" for more details.

If you want to join us, or have any questions, please contact any of the following Bridge Club Officers:

Presidents:

Dave & Kathy Martz, 303-229-1331

Vice-President:

Bill Kacena, 303-973-2685

The 1st Quarter 2025 winners are as follows:

24 January (5 tables)

N/S 1st – Ernie & Cecile Berliner

N/S 2nd – Dave & Kathy Martz

E/W 1st – Bill & Mavis Kacena

E/W 2nd – Ed & Laurie Bock

21 February (3 tables)

1st – Ernie & Cecile Berliner

2nd tied – Bill & Mavis Kacena
and Dave & Kathy Martz

4th – Ed & Laurie Bock

21 March (3 ½ tables)

1st – Sandy Mossman & Tammy Macalous

2nd – Betty Hirst & Wayne Jackson

3rd – Bill & Mavis Kacena
4th – Ernie & Cecile Berliner

Car Club

By Roger Rieger
(rrieger10731@gmail.com)
303-912-6217
Dave Ernst
(Dave.Ernst.157@gmail.com)
(303)-588-2747

It's officially road trip season! With the onset of beautiful weather, melting of the snow, and more importantly – the sweeping up of all the rocks and debris on the streets – it's time to drive! Hopefully you used the winter break to catch up on any needed maintenance, added any performance or appearance modifications, or like us - upgraded your ride, because now it's time to enjoy!

The car club will do our annual kick-off meeting in conjunction with the May 3rd Lonetree Cars and Coffee. Come out and show off your ride, meet with fellow MARS car enthusiasts and let's plan some fun 2025 rides! Hope to see you there!

Stay in touch with the Car Club through our MARS Car Club Facebook page, MARS Associates website link, or by contacting either Dave or myself to get added to our email distribution. There is nothing special you need to do to join the MARS Car Club, all it takes is to be a MARS member in good standing, and a desire to have fun! If you are interested in joining the club, please drop either Dave or myself an email, we'd love to have you!



Golf League

Sandy Mossman
(smoss5592@gmail.com)

Our first day of golf (April 3rd) was snowed out this year but this coming week looks like a fabulous spring day for golf. Welcome to spring golf in Colorado!

Our Kick-off meeting was held on Thursday, March 6th, at Wyatt's at Broken Tee. Many returning and new members attended the in-person meeting. Bob Knickerbocker did a fine job of organizing the meeting and slide presentation so that each of the presenters could address their portion. A constructive discussion by many in attendance followed. Charts from the meeting are posted on the MARS website under the Club/Golf tab.

Anyone interested in joining the league can look at the charts.

Our officers for the 2025 season are:
Sandy Mossman – President
Jayne Brown – Vice President
Don Johnson – Secretary/Treasurer
Lisa Cox – Handicap Chair

Each season our league has thirty weekly events from April through October, weather permitting. The nice thing about our league is that there aren't any up-front green fee costs like some other leagues. We have a pay only when you play policy, so vacations or personal needs don't necessarily conflict with league play. Players simply indicate on the Golf Genius system the league dates that they are not available. Members are required to give our schedulers advance notice if they are scheduled to play but need to cancel out of an upcoming event per our golf league bylaws.

If you are interested in learning more about the golf league and would like to join, I encourage you to log on to our MARS website: www.marsretirees.org and click on "Golf" under the Club tab. Contact anyone of our officers for assistance. MARS Associate members including spouse or significant other are encouraged to join.

Hiking Club

By Beth King
(bethking80111@hotmail.com)

Spring has sprung and it's time to kick off our hiking season! Our first hike of the year is being planned by Mike Bartlett for Friday April 11th at 9am to the Sandstone Ranch Open Space near Larkspur. Please let Mike know if you will be attending. The next hike is being planned by Jayson Cowley on May 22 to Mt. Galbraith. More details will be sent out to the hiking group distribution. We need volunteers to organize hikes in 2025. It's very easy to organize and we have a great "how to" guide available. If you wish to join the MARS Hiking Club, contact Beth King at bethking80111@hotmail.com who will add you to the club distribution list. Please provide your email address, home phone and cell phone for the roster. The schedule of hikes is posted on the MARS website (<https://www.marsretirees.org/>). We are looking forward to a great hiking season!



Photography Club

By John Chapter

johnchapter@msn.com

The MARS Photo Club meets in January, February, March, April, May, September, October, and November. We do not meet in June, July and August as many club members take this time for summer travel. In December we have a holiday luncheon at a local restaurant. Last year, we had our holiday luncheon at Cafe Jordano.

We meet on the second Thursday of each month. The meetings are at 1 pm, virtual via ZOOM. Members can discuss cameras and photographic techniques. At the meeting we have a presentation, often given by one of the members. Following the presentation, we have a competition of photos submitted by the members. Members take turns acting as judge for the competition. The club's schedule is posted on the club's webpage, on the club section of the MARS website, www.marsretirees.org. Also posted there are the photo results of each month's competition. Interested MARS members are encouraged to visit the club's webpage and consider attending the meetings. The ZOOM attendance can be accomplished via cellphone, tablet or desktop computer, with or without attached video camera.

For more information, you may contact the club vice-president, Jim Kummer, via email at jkummer@comcast.net.

Colorado Springs Lockheed Martin Retiree Group News

By Doug Tomerlin

dougincs@aol.com

The Colorado Springs Lockheed Martin Retiree Group is an organization for retirees from Lockheed Martin and from heritage companies Philco, Philco-Ford, Ford Aerospace, and Loral. A large percentage of the members live in the Colorado Springs area and have retired from divisions located in Colorado Springs. However, retirees from other divisions are welcome to join. There are no fees to belong to the group.

Luncheons are typically held twice a year and occasionally other activities are planned to allow retirees to stay in contact with each other. The Colorado Springs Lockheed Martin Retiree Group is in the planning stage to hold for a luncheon in mid to late April in **Colorado Springs**.

An outing to the Air Force Academy to include a special event at the Air Force Academy Planetarium is currently in the early planning stages for late spring or early summer 2025. This will be a combined outing for both the Colorado Springs Retiree Group and for the MARS Associates retirees.

If you would like more information about the Colorado Springs Lockheed Martin Retiree Group, luncheons, and other activities, please contact Doug Tomerlin at dougincs@aol.com.

Cape Canaveral News

By Dick Olson

olson5145@aol.com

Luncheons

February 2025 – Kind of a normal turnout this month. Present were Larry Johnson, Abe Smith, Roger Wright, Lavern Jones, Wendell McDaniels and son George, Ken Webb, Dan and Kelly DeFazio and Judy Biancone. We expected George Chambers and his wife but the COVID bug jumped up and bit them. Do want to wish George a Happy 90th Birthday.

Roger reported that Lynn Johnson was out of Rehab and back to their assisted living apartment but was still taking it easy after her fall.

Still hear of former Titan Team members who have not gotten the word about the upcoming reunion. If you know of anyone that you think didn't get the word please forward the reunion package or have them contact Dan or Kelly at defazio321@yahoo.com.

Valentine Day is coming up so be sure to remember your better half.

March 2025 – Present were Abe Smith, Bob Matschner, Ken Webb, Roger Wright, Lynn Johnson, Cathy Klein, and Dan and Kelly DeFazio.

Most of the discussion was about the upcoming reunion preparations and if you haven't registered – now is the time. Kelly mentioned there may be some new requirements for entry into the Cape for those signed up for the tour. She will let us know when she has run it to ground.

Kelly also had a picture of Lynn receiving an award and it was from so far back that even Lynn couldn't identify the

guy presenting the award. Looking at the pictures in the background it appeared to be from the Titan II era.

Want to wish you a happy St. Patrick's Day and spring is right behind it. I've had enough of the cold weather this year.

April 2025 – A little better turnout this month. Present were Abe Smith, Lavern Jones, Sylvia Sansing, Wendell McDaniels, Cecil Snipes, Cathy Klein, Ken Webb, Roger Wright, Dan and Kelly DeFazio and a couple guys we haven't seen for ages, Ron Price down from Tallahassee and Frank Indihart (Aerojet).

Most of the conversation was about the upcoming reunion the weekend of the 26th and 27th. Cathy, Dan, and Kelly reported healthy turnout for each of the events so if you haven't signed up now is the time. Kelly did say she had spoken to Marshall Lynch and that he plans to attend.

Lynn Johnson's husband Paul fell and broke his hip and is in rehab so Lynn is tied up tending to him. Wish them both well.

I ran into Jerry Woodcock at the voting booth last Tuesday and he has had both knees replaced and is getting around much better. He was noncommittal about attending the reunion but may make it to the Moose on Sunday.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the reunion and don't forget the Easter Bunny the previous Sunday.

Recent Obituaries

Jimmy Weddle passed away on Jan. 31, 2025. We have lost another Cape Titan Team member. I have known Jimmy longer than anyone else at the Cape. We first met on D-2 Test Stand in Denver in 1959; he was a Quality Inspector and I had just been assigned to D-2 as the Quality Planner. In the early 60s Jim went to work on the Hard Sites and we lost touch. In 1972 when I transferred to the Cape, Jimmy was a Quality Inspector in the Mech/Prop groups with Titan experience going back to Titan I.

Lockheed Martin (LM) News

Royal Netherlands Air Force and Lockheed Martin Skunk Works® Achieve Breakthrough F-35 Interoperability at Ramstein Flag

LEEWARDEN AIR BASE, Netherlands, April 14, 2025 /PRNewswire/ -- Lockheed Martin (NYSE: LMT) Skunk Works and the Royal Netherlands Air Force (RNLAF) showcased the first-ever live classified data share outside the United States between an F-35 in flight and Keystone, a Dutch Command and Control (C2) environment at Ramstein Flag, Multi-Domain Operations (MDO) exercise.

In this real-time live fly exercise, Dutch F-35s operating in an Anti-Access Area Denial environment, successfully detected, identified, and passed targeting data on multiple simulated ground effectors via Multifunction Advanced Datalink through a Skunk Works' Open Systems Gateway (OSG) into Keystone. Keystone then transmitted the data to a rocket artillery platform which engaged a ground target and confirmed successful takedown, effectively closing the loop. This entire process was executed from start to finish in a matter of minutes. This is a first, and a significant step forward in multi-domain integration, proving F-35 interoperability between several allied nations in real-time.

By unlocking the vast amount of data from an F-35, the Skunk Works OSG enables allied air and missile defense systems to receive precise targeting information, allowing them to detect, track, and defeat threats more effectively. This enhanced situational awareness, and interoperability empowers joint forces to respond more quickly and decisively, ultimately strengthening collective defense of partners and allies.

"Ramstein Flag was a resounding success, demonstrating the power of collaboration between United States Air Forces in Europe – Air Forces Africa (USAFE-AFAFRICA), and Skunk Works", said RNLAF Air Commodore Bert 'Vida' de Smit. "We are thrilled with the results and look forward to continuing this work with our partners to drive innovation and advance our integrated battlespace capabilities."

"The combined joint all-domain capabilities demonstrated at Ramstein Flag are a breakthrough in multi-domain operations, emphasizing the F-35's ability to seamlessly integrate with our international partners' C2 environments," said OJ Sanchez, vice president and general manager, Lockheed Martin Skunk Works. "This achievement is a testament to the strength of our partnerships with the RNLAF and USAFE-AFAFRICA. Lockheed Martin is accelerating delivery of novel MDO capabilities that enhance the effectiveness of our allies' F-35 fleets to ensure peace through allied strength."

Lockheed Martin Skunk Works is committed to delivering open architecture solutions that enhance multi-domain integration capabilities across allied forces.

United Launch Alliance (ULA) News

United Launch Alliance Wins Competitive Space Force Contract Award for Continued Critical National Security Space Launches

Award represents 40 percent of the country's critical satellite launches delivered to the most challenging and exotic orbits

Centennial, Colo., April 4, 2025 – The U.S. Space Force announced today that United Launch Alliance (ULA) was awarded a firm, fixed-price, indefinite-delivery requirements (IDR) contract to launch 40 percent of the missions to the country's most challenging and exotic orbits on its newest launch procurement contract. This contract resulted from a competitive award under the Space Force's National Security Space Launch (NSSL) Phase 3 procurement.

"We are proud that we have launched 100 national security space missions and honored to continue serving

the nation with our new Vulcan rocket," said Tory Bruno, ULA's president and CEO. "We are very pleased to be awarded 40 percent of the Phase 3 procurement. Vulcan is the right choice for critical national security space missions and is the only rocket today designed to meet all the requirements of our nation's space launch needs."

The competitive process ensures the U.S. has continued assured access to space and supports a robust domestic national security industrial base. The award represents missions ordered in fiscal years 2025 through 2029 with launches occurring through 2034. The missions will launch from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida, and from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California.

"This award constitutes the most complex missions required for national security space," said Bruno. "Vulcan continues to use the world's highest energy upper stage; the Centaur V. Centaur V's unmatched flexibility and extreme endurance enables the most complex orbital insertions continuing to advance our nation's capabilities in space."

IN THE NEWS

Compiled by Pete Harrigan

The following news headlines are drawn from open-source publications, as noted parenthetically. Click on the hyperlink to access the full article. Please note that some links may not work for all readers. Some sites may require a paid subscription or a login for free access. Other paywall sites may limit the number of free articles you are able to access each month.

CORPORATE NEWS

- Lockheed Martin cautious on [2025 profit view](#), shares sink 8% (Reuters)
- Billion-dollar [losses pile up](#) for Lockheed Martin classified programs (Aviation Week Network)
- Lockheed Martin [Space sales dip in 2024](#); CEO Taiclet sees opportunity with DOGE (Via Satellite)
- Lockheed Martin CEO: [Efficiency push is "an opportunity"](#) for both industry and government (Washington Technology)
- [No more "must-win competitions"](#) for Lockheed Martin under de-risking strategy, CEO Taiclet says (FlightGlobal)
- Can't win 'em all; what [F-47 loss means for Lockheed Martin stock](#) (Barron's)
- Lockheed Martin [stock dips on downgrade](#); contract lost to Boeing isn't the only problem (Barron's via MSN)
- Trump's F-47 decision is [upsetting Lockheed Martin's dominance](#) in the stealth fighter game (Business Insider)
- With NGAD loss and hazy future for F-35, [Lockheed Martin weathers scrutiny from Wall Street](#) (Breaking Defense)
- Lockheed Martin at J.P. Morgan conference: [Strategic insights for 2025](#) (Investing.com)
- Trump team signals [defense acquisition overhaul](#) (Space News)
- Lockheed Martin exec wants [easier second sourcing approvals](#) (Aviation Week Network)
- Video / Lockheed Martin CEO on DOGE: I'm very [optimistic about streamlining](#) government processes (CNBC via MSN)
- Trump thinks defense spending could be halved, but the Pentagon's [costliest weapon system is "relatively affordable,"](#) analyst says (Fortune)
- Defense [spending isn't getting a \\$300 billion cut](#); what it means for Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman and other stocks (Barron's)
- Top defense [contractors poised for gains](#) as Trump pushes missile shield expansion (Space News)

Lasers, space radars, missile interceptors: Defense leaders lay out vision for [Trump's "Golden Dome" project](#) (FOX News)

Lockheed Martin, [defense stocks offer shelter](#) as tariffs slam manufacturers (Barron's)

China [targets U.S. defense sector](#) with new mineral export controls (Aviation Week Network)

Lockheed Martin to implement [Google AI](#) for national security, other applications (MarketWatch)

War-ready navigation: [Lockheed Martin's quantum INS](#) to guide troops without GPS (Interesting Engineering)

Silicon Valley players aim to follow SpaceX's [disruptive path in defense sector](#) (Space News)

U.S. bolsters position as [world's top arms exporter](#) (The Wall Street Journal)

[China bans](#) more U.S. defense firms (Defense News)

District courts issue split rulings on [pension risk transfer lawsuits](#); suit against Lockheed Martin will continue (Plan Sponsor)

Lockheed Martin employees sue, claiming [high-cost, low-return retirement plans](#) (Maryland Daily Record)

Lockheed Martin removes DEI from website, says it [will not have Affirmative Action goals](#) (Fort Worth Star-Telegram)

DEI, DOA: How the defense [industry is racing to bury its diversity efforts](#) (Breaking Defense)

Lockheed Martin donates \$1 million to [Trump inaugural committee](#) (CBS News)

Lockheed Martin sets [\\$3.30 dividend for first quarter 2025](#) (Investing.com)

Western defense companies size up [Vietnam's military market](#) (Defense News)

Lockheed Martin interested in developing [Morocco's defense industry cluster](#) (The North Africa Post)

[Drone defense startup](#) raises \$100 million from DFJ, Lockheed Martin (Bloomberg News)

New Lockheed Martin [Australia CEO resigns](#) (Australian Defence Magazine)

Aviation [museum in Middle River to expand](#) with new, larger facility (The Baltimore Sun)

HYPERSONICS NEWS

U.S. Army aiming for [next hypersonic missile test](#) in December (Defense News)

Fielding plan for [Army's Dark Eagle hypersonic weapon](#) awaiting senior leader blessing (Breaking Defense)

Lockheed Martin's [Aegis Combat System counters hypersonic threat](#) in U.S. Navy test (The Defense Post)

DoD deputy nominee presses for [increased hypersonic spending](#) (Aviation Week Network)

5G.MIL NEWS

Lockheed Martin, Nokia and Verizon combine to deploy [5G for military defense](#) (Data Center Dynamics)

SPACE SYSTEMS NEWS

Lockheed Martin to [upgrade Trident II D5 missile](#) for U.S. Navy (The Defense Post)

Lockheed Martin to add up to [300 jobs in Titusville](#) after winning Navy missile contract (Florida Today)

Lockheed Martin, Space Force prep [next GPS III satellite](#) for launch (Aviation Week Network)

The quest for water heads to the moon, via [spacecraft built in Colorado](#) (The Colorado Sun)

Lockheed Martin builds on 50 years of spaceflight perfection for [Mars Sample Return](#) (Colorado Springs Gazette)

Lockheed Martin [validates satellite design](#) for U.S. Space Force's MUOS service life extension (Air Force Technology)

Air Force weighs plan to [cancel SDA's next set of data relay sats](#) in favor of SpaceX, sources say (Breaking Defense)

Space Development Agency's satellite program [pushes launch timeline](#) (Space News)

Space Development Agency to [re-bid contentious prototype contract](#) (Defense News)

Lockheed Martin, Boeing [compete for military satellite contract](#) amid commercial disruption (Space News)

Artemis contractors [defend current architecture](#) as fastest way to return to the moon (Space News)

Video / Lockheed Martin working on technology in Colorado that will send up a [moon orbiter](#) (CBS News)

Opinion / Do the Space Launch System and Orion [have a future](#) under the Trump administration? (Space News)

Nuclear reactor test requirements put DRACO [launch plans on hold](#) (Aviation Week Network)

[Hubble budget cuts](#) could impact science and mission operations (Space News)

NASA launches night sky challenge to celebrate [Hubble anniversary](#) (The Washington Post)

Industry eyes [continuous satellite production](#) to keep pace with demand (Space News)

Lockheed Martin-Boeing venture that's SpaceX rival [ranked subpar by Air Force](#) (Bloomberg News)

Space Force [reassigns GPS satellite launch](#) from ULA to SpaceX (Space News)

SpaceX, ULA, Blue Origin win \$13.7 billion in [U.S. military launch contracts](#) through 2029 (Space News)
 ULA [anticipated winning 40%](#) share of NSSL Phase 3 awards, CEO says (Aviation Week Network)
 Space Force adds Rocket Lab, Stoke Space to [launch vendor pool](#) (Defense News)
 Manufacturing defect blamed for [Vulcan solid rocket motor anomaly](#) (Space News)
 U.S. Space Force [OKs Vulcan rocket as SpaceX competitor](#) for military launch (Defense News)
 ULA boss says [Vulcan ready for multiple launches](#) in 2025 (Space News)
 Video / Inside the making of [ULA's next rocket](#) (Space News)
 Space launch executives warn [U.S. infrastructure unprepared](#) for coming launch surge (Space News)
 U.S. [Space Force upgrades sites](#) amid soaring launch demand (Aviation Week Network)
 Lockheed Martin joins forces with Durham Wildlife Trust to [restore Great North Fen](#) (Durham Magazine)

AERONAUTICS NEWS

Trump picks [Boeing over Lockheed Martin](#) for \$20 billion fighter contract (Investor's Business Daily)
 Boeing beat Lockheed Martin for the Pentagon's jet fighter contract; [here's what to know](#) (The Wall Street Journal)
 Air Force picked Boeing for NGAD based on ["best overall value"](#) (Air & Space Forces Magazine)
[Boeing gets lifeline](#) in Pentagon deal to build most expensive fighter jet ever; contract guarantees profit through development phase, unlike past defense deals (The Wall Street Journal)
 Trump's F-47 decision is [upsetting Lockheed Martin's dominance](#) in the stealth fighter game (Business Insider via MSN)
 F-47 was born out of [secret X-planes](#) built by both Boeing and Lockheed Martin (The War Zone)
 Opinion / Did the Trump administration [move too quickly](#) to commit to the F-47? (Defense News)
[Lockheed Martin out](#) of Navy's F/A-XX future fighter competition (Breaking Defense)
 Will Lockheed Martin's [F-35 become a casualty](#) of Donald Trump? (Financial Times)
 Trump's top U.S. Navy pick [endorses F-35 capabilities](#) (Aviation Week Network)
 F-35 office seeks to [clarify \\$2.1 trillion cost](#) ahead of budget release (Air & Space Forces Magazine)
 F-35 hits [1 million flight hours](#) as price rise stays below inflation (Air & Space Forces Magazine)
 Latest F-35 airframe [contracts coming in spring](#); engine deal later in 2025 (Air & Space Forces Magazine)
 Lockheed Martin will pay Pentagon millions over [F-35 overcharging allegations](#) (USA Today)
 Pentagon frees [more F-35 payments](#) to Lockheed Martin on upgrades, citing progress (Bloomberg)
 As first [F-35 Block 4 updates start to roll out](#), Block 5 list is taking shape (Air & Space Forces Magazine)
 Full F-35 upgrade package [might not happen this year](#), Lockheed Martin says (Defense One)
 F-35s to get new capabilities with [summer software update](#) (Military Times)
 Lockheed Martin eyes two-year timeline to pick [new F-35 cooling system](#) (Breaking Defense)
[Key tests for latest F-35s](#) will begin in 2026, two years after rollout (Defense News)
 The F-35 program's [software development isn't getting any better](#), Pentagon report finds (Defense One)
 Video / Lockheed Martin's [progress with the F-35 program](#) and TR-3 (Air & Space Forces Magazine)
 Lockheed Martin completes F-35B's [flight tests with new long-range missiles](#) (Reuters)
 "New" [F-35 assembled from two wrecked jets](#) makes its first flight (Air & Space Forces Magazine)
[F-35C order spike](#) deepens Marine Corps shift to blue water operations (Aviation Week Network)
 Lockheed Martin certifies [F-35 to use sustainable fuels](#); will the USAF take advantage? (Air & Space Forces Magazine)
[Canada reviews F-35 order](#) as Trump backlash grows (Aviation Week Network)
 Bombardier [CEO fears U.S. contract loss](#) if Canada cancels Lockheed Martin deal (Investing.com)
 F-35 production delays will not impact [UK Full Operational Capability](#) plans (Aviation Week Network)
 Britain aiming to keep [F-35 in service until 2069](#) (UK Defence Journal)
 Trump floats [F-35 offer for India](#) during Modi White House visit (Aviation Week Network)
 F-35 [jet deal gains traction](#) as Indian commerce minister meets Lockheed Martin executives (India Today)
[F-35 partners fully committed](#) to program, Dutch defense minister says (Defense News)
 Trump's anti-NATO turn could [sink F-35 sales](#) (Defense One)
 Opinion / Turkey's [readmission to the F-35 program](#) must come with a cost (The Hill)
 Editorial / [Turkey knows how to get F-35s](#) (The Wall Street Journal)
 Australia could get [first new F-35 by 2029](#) if government reverses program cuts, Lockheed Martin exec says (Breaking Defense)
[First Polish F-35s](#) depart Lockheed Martin factory for pilot training work in Arkansas (FlightGlobal)
 Delivery of F-35B Lightning II [fighters to Japan delayed](#) (U.S. Naval Institute News)

Denmark flies home more F-35s for patrols to [buffer upgrade delays](#) (Defense News)
Denmark sees F-35s [ready for air defense duty](#) from April 1 (Aviation Week Network)
Norway receives three new F-35s as [Europeans rethink arms production](#) (Defense News)
NATO laggard Belgium vows defense boost with [more F-35s](#) (Defense News)
F-35, other "options" on table during [Portugal's F-16 replacement analysis](#), Air Force general says (Breaking Defense)
Lockheed Martin wins \$270 million contract for [F-22 infrared sensors](#) (Aerospace Manufacturing)
Photos / [Two dozen F-22s](#) gather for impressive elephant walk (Air & Space Forces Magazine)
[Bulgaria upgrades its air power](#) with handover of first U.S.-made F-16s (Stars & Stripes)
Lockheed Martin rolls out [Taiwan's first F-16C/D Block 70](#) (Aviation Week Network)
U.S. approves [sale of F-16s to Philippines](#) in \$5.5 billion weapons package (Defense News)
Greece receives [30th upgraded F-16](#) Viper from Lockheed Martin (The Defense Post)
As Trump shakes trust in U.S., a [hub for F-16 fighter jets](#) braces for impact (The Washington Post)
Embraer, Lockheed Martin pitch local production in quest for [Indian transport aircraft deal](#) (FlightGlobal)
Lockheed Martin [delivers 18th Combat King II airframe](#) to U.S. Coast Guard (The Defense Post)
[Last MC-130J delivery](#) marks end of USAF's specialized Hercules orders (Aviation Week Network)
Video / Ride along in a C-130J Super Hercules supporting [firefighting efforts near LA](#) (Military Times)
Air Force awards Boeing, Lockheed Martin similar multi-million [aerial refueling automation](#) contracts (Dayton Business Journal)
NASA's new supersonic [X-59 jet hits the afterburners](#) (Space.com)
The [last Mars Flying Boat](#) just made its final flight (The War Zone)
Lockheed Martin names [new Skunk Works and fighter leads](#) (Investing.com)

MISSILES AND FIRE CONTROL NEWS

Lockheed Martin gets [\\$4.94 billion U.S. Army missile contract](#) (MarketWatch)
Lockheed Martin and U.S. Army [complete PrSM qualification test](#) (Army Technology)
Lockheed Martin awarded \$2.8 billion [THAAD 6.0 development contract](#) (The Defense Post)
U.S. receives [900th THAAD interceptor](#) (The Defense Post)
Lockheed Martin gets \$122 million for gear to [accelerate JASSM and LRASM production](#) (Air & Space Forces Magazine)
Lockheed Martin to [upgrade guidance sensors](#) of JASSM, LRASM, JAGM and Hellfire air-launched missiles (Military-Aerospace Electronics)
Lockheed Martin targets [global energetics expansion](#) with Australia's GWEO as model (Breaking Defense)
U.S., allies rush to refit their big guns with [GPS protections](#) (Defense News)
American "Iron Dome" among new [top DoD priorities](#) (Aviation Week Network)
U.S. Navy hits drone with [HELIOS laser](#) in successful test (Defense News)
Lockheed Martin shows off [scaled drone defense system](#) (Washington Times)
Lockheed Martin provides updates on [naval PAC-3](#) MSE and G-VLS (Naval News)
Patriot PAC-3 missile puts crosshairs on [replacing Navy's long-serving SM-2](#) (The War Zone)
USAF boosts [maritime strike](#) with targeting systems and weapons (Aviation Week Network)
Lockheed Martin's [low-cost cruise missile "truck"](#) is now in testing (The War Zone)
Eyeing the Pacific, Lockheed Martin unveils [low-cost \\$150,000 cruise missile](#) (Reuters)
Lockheed Martin builds [Russian Pantsir-S1 mock-up](#) to train F-16s and F-18s (The Defense Post)
Army [Stinger missile replacement competition](#) heads into flight tests (Defense News)
France plans to test [homemade HIMARS alternative](#) by mid-2026 (Defense News)
Australia receives [first HIMARS delivery](#) (Australian Defence Magazine)
Estonia takes delivery of U.S.-made [HIMARS rocket launchers](#) (The Defense Post)
Estonia wants [answers from U.S. on HIMARS production](#), could turn to other options in "months" (Breaking Defense)
Video / What does a [HIMARS rocket](#) look like when it hits the ground? (Military Times)
Video / Watch an [Army MLRS](#) send rockets ripping through the air during an exercise in Norway (Military Times)
German rocket artillery pick tests the waters on [U.S. arms dependence](#) (Defense News)

ROTARY AND MISSION SYSTEMS NEWS

Lockheed Martin wins \$551 million U.S. Navy [submarine electronic warfare contract](#) (The Defense Post)

Lockheed Martin to support anti-submarine warfare, other systems in [\\$502 million deal](#) (Military + Aerospace Electronics)
 Lockheed Martin's multi-mission radar joins [patrol efforts at southern border](#) (Washington Times)
 Air Force accepts long-awaited first [new radar for ground battle management](#) (Air & Space Forces Magazine)
[U.S. approves sale](#) of Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman systems to Egypt (Reuters)
 Live tracking demonstrates [SPY-7 capability and scalability](#) (Naval News)
 Sikorsky proves out "[rotor blown wing](#)" drone (Defense News)
 Defense Ministry signs deal to [customize 12 CH-53K helicopters](#) for Israeli Air Force (The Jerusalem Post)
 Philippines [expands Black Hawk fleet](#) with Lockheed Martin delivery (The Defense Post)
 Lockheed Martin Australia creates [Black Hawk warehouse](#) (Australian Defence Magazine)
 Navy [MH-60 Seahawk replacement](#) will leverage Army's Future Vertical Lift tiltrotor plans (The War Zone)
 The Navy is upgrading [littoral combat ships to fight drones](#) (Task & Purpose)
 Lockheed Martin offers Mk70 launcher to [increase lethality of LCS](#) (Seapower)
[Export interest](#) for Lockheed Martin Expeditionary Launchers grows (Naval News)

Spring Event & Annual Meeting, March 19, 2025

Lone Tree Golf Club, Lone Tree, CO



Dan Ellerhorst and Guest Speaker
 Chris Deel, Vice President of Engineering
 United Launch Alliance
 (Photo: Linda Stearns)



Chris Deel discussing second
 Vulcan test launch
 (Photo: Ken Marts)



Ken Disney, Roy Duszynski, Mike Bartlett
 (Photo: Jim Pennington)



Mavis Kacena, Marilyn Nemes
 (Photo: Al Nemes)



Linda & Bob Berry
(Photo: Al Nemes)



Lucy Hattz, Linda Fusselman-Sageman
& Jim Fusselman



Bart & Diane Wright, Mike & Shirley Pfister
(Photo: Jim Pennington)



Bob & Joni Wynn, Pam & Doug Korb
(Photo: Jim Pennington)



Dennis Brown, Jim Beall, Connie & Ray Treadaway
(Photo: Jim Pennington)



Essie Hatch, Sylvia Dinges, Matt McClelland
(Photo: Jim Pennington)



Debbie Carr, Lisa Cox, Ann Mattson
(Photo: Al Nemes)



Al & Marilyn Nemes, Linda Mc Dowell, Bev Baugher
(Photo: Jim Pennington)



Barb & Roger Chamberlain, Steve Bugay, Bob Stevenson
(Photo: Jim Pennington)



Ron & PJ Slovikowski, Barb Chamberlain
(Photo: Jim Pennington)



Dick Sosnay, David Bourcier, Marsha & John Larue
(Photo: Jim Pennington)



Steve & Barb Sande, Richard & Lucy Hattz
(Photo: Jim Pennington)

(See more event photos on page 35 and at WWW.MARSRETIREES.ORG>EVENTS>EVENT PHOTOS)



2025 MARS Summer Luncheon

The Officers and Board of Directors of MARS Associates are pleased to invite you, your spouse/companion, and guest to the Summer Luncheon. **The luncheon is open to all members** and it is scheduled for Wednesday, **June 25, 2025** at the **Manor House at Ken Caryl, 1 Manor House Road, Littleton, Colorado 80127** (for map, Ctrl+click on this link: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/k3LndZRYrsk3Ri3z5>). This is the annual event honoring MARS senior members. The doors will open at 11:00 a.m. and lunch will be served at 12:00 noon. A **CASH BAR** will be available.

The menu choices will be White Wine Poached Salmon, finished with lemon caper cream, rice pilaf and grilled asparagus; or Grilled Flat Iron Steak finished with Manor House Steak Sauce, horseradish mashed potatoes, and roasted root vegetables. Lunch will include rolls and butter, beverages, coffee, tea, and dessert. Please specify your choice of entrée(s) when you make your reservation. If you have special dietary needs, please contact Linda Duby at 303-249-1665 with the details.

The cost for members and one guest is \$36.00 per person. The cost for additional guests or non-members is \$55.00 per person. These prices include taxes and gratuities. Please specify your choice of entrée(s) on the reservation form below and mail it with your check (made payable to **MARS Associates**) to the address below by **June 12, 2025**. To make an electronic reservation, please use the Stripe link below:

STRIPE (Ctrl+Click): <https://marsretirees.org/2025/04/11/2025-mars-summer-luncheon/>

Associates, P.O. Box 1128, Littleton, CO 80160-1128

Reservations must be received by Thursday, June 12, 2025

If you make a reservation and later find you cannot attend, please notify Linda Duby at 303-249-1665 or lindaduby@comcast.net; or Charlie Haupt at 303-725-7595 or qcrfcoach@gmail.com no later than Thursday, June 12, 2025 to receive a refund.

Space is limited to 150 members/guests therefore reservations will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. ***Once capacity is filled, all checks received thereafter will be returned.***

----- Reservation Form for Check Payment (*detach here*) -----

2025 SUMMER LUNCHEON, June 25, 2025 (*please print clearly*)

Member _____ Salmon _____ Steak _____

One Spouse/Companion/Guest _____ Salmon _____ Steak _____

Other Guests _____ Salmon _____ Steak _____
(Add sheet for additional guest names)

Member Phone No. _____

Member e-mail address _____

Member/Spouse/Companion/Guest @ \$36.00 per person = \$ _____

Other guests @ \$55.00 per person = \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____ Check # _____

15th Annual Rockies Picnic & Game - August 6, 2025



Join your fellow MARS Associates for a
Picnic (11:30 AM) & Rockies game (1:10 PM)

Colorado Rockies vs. Toronto Blue Jays

The buffet picnic includes all-beef hot dogs & Italian sausages, chips,
Pesto pasta salad, BBQ pulled chicken on kaiser roll,
chocolate chunk cookies, unlimited fountain drinks (nonalcoholic)
& beer/wine cash bar.

*** **Vegetarian pattie (ordered in advance) available.** ***

Prices are \$35 each for a MARS member and spouse or one companion
and \$53 each for other non-MARS member guests.

Coors Field — Outfield Box Section 145

Tickets are Limited (60 maximum)

Requests to sit with a specific person or for handicap seating
need to be included on your reservation

NO LATER THAN Monday, July 21, 2025!

Please complete the form below, and mail it along with
your check payable to "MARS Associates" to

MARS Associates (Rockies) * P. O. Box 1128 * Littleton, CO 80160-1128

If you are subsequently unable to attend, contact Lisa Cox (303-808-4479 or
lisacox@earthlink.net) or Linda Stearns (303-797-3557 or linda80120@comcast.net)

NO LATER THAN Monday, July 21, 2025, to receive a refund.

----- CUT AT DASHED LINE -----

Ball Game and Picnic @ Coors Field – Wednesday – 8/6/2025

Member: _____ Spouse or One Companion /guest: _____

Non-member(s) guests: _____

(Attach a list of group and non-members' names for name tags)

Member & Companion/guest x \$35 each: _____ Non-MARS Guests @ x \$53 each: _____

*** Vegetarian pattie (1 per person) - number requested: _____ ***

*Address: _____ Amount of Check: \$ _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Check Number: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Check Date: _____

Special Seating Request: _____

Mail to: MARS Associates (Rockies) * P. O. Box 1128 * Littleton, CO 80160-1128

**** PRINT CLEARLY! Tickets will be mailed by July 28, 2025, to this address.***

Coors Field

Platte River Picnic Area

(under the Rockpile)



Spring Event & Annual Meeting, March 19, 2025 - continued



Nels Freeman, Carole & Ralph Dergance
(Photo: Jim Pennington)



Tom & Janice Redfield, Louanne Sosnay
(Photo: Jim Pennington)



Vince & Cherie Conca, Cheryl & John Grace
(Photo: Jim Pennington)



Linda & Larry Stearns
(Photo: Jim Pennington)

Schedule Addendum (See last page)

NOTES:

1. Board of Directors has their meetings, as required
2. Officers/Directors meet 1st Wednesday every month at 09:30 am. Zoom meetings may be used at discretion of Officers
3. Special Activities Committee meets 4th Friday of every month, except Aug. (8/22), Nov. (11/21) & Dec. (12/19) due to Holidays
4. Bridge Club meets 3rd Friday of every month at 10:00 am at Buck Recreation Center.
5. Car Club meets 1st Sat of every month, and as noted on their website.
6. Golf club meets every Thursday from April through Oct of each year.
7. Hiking Club: No planned Hikes at this time
8. Pacesetters Club meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Lansdowne Arms
9. Photo Club meets 2nd Thursday every month (except Jun, Jul & Aug) at 1:00 pm on Zoom or meet at the Columbine Library (Bowles)
10. 2025 Picnic Sep 10, 2025 at Clement Park 11AM (Second Wednesday in September)
11. 2025 Holiday Celebration Dec 3 (Lone Tree Golf Club & Hotel)

Please review dates and times and notify Jim Pennington (jpennington101.jp@gmail.com), if you have any changes or additions.



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DATE: April 2025

MARS 2025 / 2026 EVENT CALENDAR

EVENT/MONTH	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Officers/Directors	2	7	4	2	6	3	1	5	3	7	4	4
Bridge Club	18	16	20	18	22	19	17	21	19	16	20	20
Car Club	5	3	7	5	2	6	4	1	6	3	7	7
Golf Club	Thur	Thur	Thur	Thur	Thur	Thur	Thur	-	-	-	-	-
Hiking Club	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open
Pacesetters Club	16	14	11	16	13	17	15	19		21	18	18
Photo Club	10	8	-	-	-	11	9	13	11	8	12	12
Special Activities Committee	25	23	27	25	22	26	24	21	19	23	27	27
Website Team	as-needed	as-needed	as-needed	as-needed	as-needed	as-needed	as-needed	as-needed	as-needed	as-needed	as-needed	as-needed
MARS Events												
2025 Summer Sr. Members Luncheon			25									
2025 Annual Rockies Game and Picnic					6							
2025 Annual Picnic						10						
2025 Holiday Celebration									3			
2025 Happy Hour		5		TBD	TBD		TBD	TBD				
2026 Spring Event / Annual Meeting												18
MARS Special Activities												
Munch and Mingle (Helga's Haus & Bier Garden)	15											
Highlands Ranch Mansion Tour	22											
Molly Brown House and Tea - Denver		9										
Wild Animal Sanctuary Visit - Keenesburg		12										
Resch'd - Denver Center for Performing Arts (Behind the scenes)				7								
Wild West Walking Tour - Golden			2									
Central City Opera				23								
MARS Informational Sessions												
Understanding Medicare (Red Rocks CU)	9					16						
Taxes in Retirement (Zoom Call)		5										
Estate Planning Strategies (Red Rocks CU)			11									
Your Retirement, Your Way (Zoom Call)							7					
Estate Planning TBD (Red Rocks CU)							8					
MARS STAR Schedule												
Items due for MARS STAR												
STAR Input to Editor	10			10			9			8		
STAR Repro. Deadline	21			21			20			19		
STAR Mailing	30			30			29			28		