

**NASA Ames Research Center
Historic Preservation Office**

**NETS CRM FY2015
Heritage Tourism Summary**

This year, the public had a variety of opportunities to experience historic properties at NASA Ames Research Center at Moffett Field, California. Highlights included an all-day open house to celebrate the center's 75th anniversary, several cohorts of STEM students, and two high-profile events: a visit by the US Secretary of Defense and an award ceremony for the Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences and Physics. These and other functions in and around the center's historic buildings were attended by over 161,000 visitors during fiscal year 2015.



*Ames 75th Anniversary Open House
Various Historic Locations on Ames Campus*

NASA image ACD14-0195-212

Year-round Activities

NASA Research Park, Moffett Museum, and Moffett Chapel. In addition to scheduled events, the Shenandoah Plaza National Historic District is used year-round by the NASA Research Park (NRP), a thriving research and education community comprised of 65 academic institutions, non-profit outfits, and Silicon Valley aerospace and technology companies. NRP organizations occupy 31 historic buildings and provide the means for students and professionals to visit, study, and work in the district. The area is also open to the general public every day for unguided walks, visits to the Moffett Field Historical Society Museum, and religious services at Moffett Chapel.

Guided Tours. Public events in and around historic properties on the Ames campus are not commonly held, owing to the security requirements for entry, so Ames regularly organizes guided tours of these less-accessible areas. Throughout 2015, staff led tours of historic facilities such as the Arc Jet Laboratory, Unitary Plan Wind Tunnel Complex, Flight and Guidance Simulation Laboratory, and the 40-by-80-foot wind tunnel in the National Full-Scale Aerodynamics Complex. Nearly 6,500 people attended.

Walking Tours. The Historic Preservation Office maintains online resources such as self-guided walking tours through the Shenandoah Plaza National Historic District to educate visitors about historic properties. For those who have access, self-guided walking tours are available for the Ames campus as well. These resources, which include maps linked to photographs and building descriptions, also serve as virtual tours for those who are unable to visit the center in person.

Ames 75th Anniversary Open House

In honor of its 75th anniversary, Ames hosted an all-day open house to showcase the campus and research facilities to the public. Features in the Shenandoah Plaza National Historic District included educational booths highlighting Ames space missions and institutes, "Ask a NASA expert" panels, and tours of the interior of Hangar 1. On the main campus, visitors were routed along a two-mile, self-guided walking tour that wound its way in and around the center's research facilities and historic properties, such as the Unitary Plan Wind Tunnel complex. Along the tour route, Ames engineers and scientists manned exhibits demonstrating various research capabilities.



Ames 75th Anniversary Open House
*Esteemed scientist Bill Borucki explains the Kepler mission to young attendees
Parade Grounds, Shenandoah Plaza National Historic District*

NASA image ACD14-0195-119

Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences and Physics Award Ceremony in Hangar 1

This high-profile award ceremony to honor breakthrough research, celebrate distinguished scientists, encourage STEM education, and generate excitement about the pursuit of science as a career was held inside of historic Hangar 1 for a second year in a row. Television broadcasts of the event aired on the Discovery Channel, Science Channel, and BBC World News.



*Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences and Physics Award Ceremony
Hangar 1, Shenandoah Plaza National Historic District*

NASA image ACD14-0209-082

US Secretary of Defense Speech in the National Full-Scale Aerodynamic Complex

Members of Congress Anna Eshoo, Zoe Lofgren, and Mike Honda, other high-ranking officials, and various members of the media assembled at the National Full-Scale Aerodynamics Complex (NFAC) for a speech by Secretary of Defense Ashton B. Carter. Secretary Carter announced the award of the Manufacturing Innovation Institute for Flexible Hybrid Electronics to the non-profit research and development consortium FlexTech Alliance. NASA Ames participated by providing a member of the selection panel for the award. This is a part of Department of Defense efforts to partner with the private sector and academia to ensure that the United States continues to play a leading role in new frontiers of manufacturing.



*Secretary of Defense Ashton B. Carter Event
National Full-Scale Aerodynamics Complex (NFAC).*

NASA image ACD15-0159-032

New Horizons Pluto Flyby Event

Ames invited the general public to observe live NASA broadcasts of the historic Pluto flyby in the Shenandoah Plaza conference center. At the event, Ames scientists delivered talks about the New Horizons mission and staffed informational booths. Mission co-investigators from the SETI Institute and Stanford University were also on hand to support the activities.

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Student Activities



*Summer Student Interns, Poster Symposium
Parade Grounds, Shenandoah Plaza National Historic District*

NASA image ACD15-0147-005

A large cohort of 1,000 student interns from a range of educational levels were trained and mentored at Ames this summer. They worked in and around historic properties and were led on tours of historic facilities. To inspire students, the center organized a Director's Colloquium Summer Series of eighteen presentations by distinguished scientists, engineers, authors, and other inspiring individuals. Many of these presentations were followed by social gatherings in the historic administration building. At summer's end, students presented their research projects at a poster session on the parade grounds in the heart of the Shenandoah Plaza National Historic District. The center combined this symposium with its annual Diversity and Inclusion Day and summer picnic events. After enjoying a barbecue lunch with their families and Ames personnel, the students presented their research to NASA colleagues and the public, and explored various cultural exhibits representing the diversity of the Ames workforce.



*Director's Colloquium for STEM students and the public
This day, the speaker was Andy Weir, author of "The Martian."
Conference Center, Shenandoah Plaza National Historic District*

NASA image ACD15-0119-012

Ames also hosted over 8,000 K-12 students in fiscal year 2015. Year-round activities were organized for them in the Ames Exploration Encounter (AEE) in the historic 6-by-6-foot Supersonic Wind Tunnel. AEE is a unique educational program for 4th-through 6th-graders that is designed to teach basic concepts and inspire positive attitudes about science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Guided by educators and community volunteers, students are led through four hands-on educational stations built around themes of exploring physics, flight, space, and earth. Student groups attended AEE events each month during the school year and over the summer.

Special K-12 educational programs included the Idaho Science and Aerospace Scholars Summer Academy and a Girl Scouts of Northern California video project featuring women in science. The Idaho team endeavored to simulate a human mission to Mars and the Girl Scouts learned about video production, interviewed five female NASA Ames researchers, and produced video vignettes about them.



*Diversity and Inclusion Day and Summer Barbecue
Parade Grounds, Shenandoah Plaza National Historic District*

NASA image ACD15-0146-012

Recreational and Educational Activities, Science Forums, Military Ceremonies, and Other Events in the Shenandoah Plaza National Historic District

Numerous functions were held in the Shenandoah Plaza National Historic District, which is a popular spot for holding public events of all sizes.

NASA's Ames-based Solar System Exploration Research Virtual Institute (SSERVI) hosted its second annual Exploration Science Forum. The three-day event featured scientific discussions of exploration targets of interest, such as the Moon, near-Earth asteroids, and moons of Mars, as well as science sessions about recent mission results and related studies. Forum attendees experienced the Lunar Mapping and Modeling Portal, and a tabletop touch screen simulating a 3-D surface flyover of the moon and other target bodies of interest. The event also incorporated side conferences, such as a graduate student conference featuring the same topics, and an event for the Next Generation Lunar Scientists and Engineers, a young professionals group.

The SETI Institute and Ames co-hosted a three-day Workshop on Planetary Protection Knowledge Gaps for Human Extraterrestrial Missions. The event focused on capturing the current state of knowledge about planetary protection for crewed spacecraft and missions, and identifying additional research needed for the human exploration of Mars.

A Sea Level Rise Workshop to raise awareness about the effect of sea level rise on Santa Clara County residents and businesses took place in early summer. Speakers included U.S. Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, California Assemblyman Rich Gordon, and San Mateo County Supervisor Dave Pine; Gary Griggs, Distinguished Professor of Earth

Sciences at University of California, Santa Cruz; Cristina Milesi, Earth senior research scientist at Ames; and federal, state and local experts.



*Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Traffic Management Convention
Shenandoah Plaza National Historic District*

NASA image ACD15-0141-033

Ames organized a free instrumentation workshop that focused on instrumentation technologies for future missions in multiple research areas such as astrophysics, astrobiology, earth and planetary sciences, heliophysics, space life sciences, and entry systems. The public was invited to view posters and attend presentations by subject area experts, and to hear talks from management personnel from Ames and NASA Headquarters.

The Silicon Valley Chapter AUVSI (Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International) and Ames co-hosted a convention to explore impacts and future challenges of unmanned aerial systems. The three-day event held in the Shenandoah Plaza National Historic District attracted domestic and international participation.

Carnegie Mellon University held a spring carnival for alumni and students in conjunction with the spring carnival held the same weekend at the school's main campus in Pittsburgh. Activities included a picnic lunch, carnival games, Scottish dancing and Lego buggy races.

Military-focused events held on the parade grounds included several change of command ceremonies for US Army and Marine personnel.

Additional Photos



*Ames 75th Anniversary Open House
Parade Grounds, Shenandoah Plaza National Historic District*

NASA image ACD14-0195-056



*Ames 75th Anniversary Open House
Parade Grounds, Shenandoah Plaza National Historic District*

NASA image ACD14-0195-057



*New Horizons Pluto Flyby Event
Shenandoah Plaza National Historic District*

NASA image ACD15-0127-002



*Year-round tours of the historic Arc Jet Laboratory (Building N238)
Ernie Fretter, students, and staff host NASA astronaut guests*

Photo credit: Pedro Solano



*Year-round tours of the historic
Flight and Guidance Simulation Laboratory (Building N243)*

NASA image ACD14-0195-232



*Re-enlistment ceremony
National Full-Scale Aerodynamics Complex, 80 x 120-foot Test Section (Building N221)*

Photo credit: Bill Warmbrodt



*Girl Scouts of Northern California
Various Historic Locations, Ames Campus*

NASA image ACD15-0143-007



*Family Picnic Day
NACA Park, Ames Campus*

NASA image ACD15-0071-010



*Space Life Sciences Training Program (SLSTP) Summer Student Interns
Unitary Plan Wind Tunnel Complex, Ames Campus*

NASA image ACD15-0142-001