

FORECAST OF UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES -- OCTOBER 2012

130 Years Ago – 1882

October 5: Robert H. Goddard born in Worcester, Massachusetts.

70 Years Ago - 1942

October 3: First successful V2 flight, Peenemünde, Germany

65 Years Ago - 1947

October 14: X-1 first supersonic flight, Capt. Charles E. Yeager, Edwards AFB, CA.

55 Years Ago - 1957

October 4: Sputnik 1 launched, first earth satellite, 184 pounds, 22.8 inches in diameter, 1912 UTC, Baikonur, USSR.

October 11: First successful flight of Thor, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

50 Years Ago – 1962

October 2: Explorer 14 launched by Thor Delta, 6:11 p.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

October 3: Mercury/Atlas 8, Sigma 7 launched, astronaut Wally M. Schirra, 8:15 a.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

October 18: Ranger 5 launched by Atlas Agena, 11:59 a.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

October 22: Explorer 15 launched by Thor Delta, 7:15 p.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

45 Years Ago - 1967

October 3: Fastest X-15 flight, 4,520 mph, mach 6.7, pilot William J. "Pete" Knight, Dryden Flight Research Center (DFRC), CA.

October 9: Lunar Orbiter 3 intentionally crashed on Moon.

October 11: Lunar Orbiter 2 intentionally crashed on Moon.

October 18: Venera 4 Landing on Venus.

October 18: OSO 4 launched by Thor Delta, 11:58 a.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

40 Years Ago – 1972

October 15: NOAA 2/Oscar 6 launched by Delta, 1:19 p.m., EDT, Vandenberg AFB.

October 27: Mariner 9 mission ended as attitude control gas exhausted.

35 Years Ago – 1977

October 9: USSR launched Soyuz-25 aboard a Soyuz rocket from Baikonur at 02:40 UTC. Ferry flight to Salyut-6 space station. Failed docking. Early return. Cosmonauts: Vladimir V.Kovalyonok and Valeri V.Ryumin.

October 22: ISEE 1 & 2 launched by Delta, 19:53 a.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla.

30 Years Ago - 1982

October 30: DSCS II & III launched, 2:05 a.m., EDT, Cape Canaveral, Fla. First use of Titan 34D and IUS launch vehicle and stage.

20 Years Ago - 1992

October 22: STS-52 (Space Shuttle *Columbia*) launched from KSC at 1:09 p.m., EDT. Crew: James D. Wetherbee, Michael A. Baker, Charles L. Veach, William M. Shepherd, Tamara E. Jernigan, and Steven G. MacLean (Canada). Deployed LAGEOS II on October 23, and CTA (Canadian Target Assembly) on October 31 from cargo bay. Landed November 1, 9:05 a.m. EST at KSC. Mission Duration: 9 days, 20 hours, 56 minutes.

15 Years Ago – 1997

October 15: Cassini/Huygens (Saturn Orbiter probe using Titan lander) launched at 08:43 UTC from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station using a U.S. Air Force Titan IVB/Centaur launch vehicle.

10 Years Ago – 2002

October 7: STS-112 (Space Shuttle *Atlantis*) launched from KSC at 3:46 p.m., EDT. Crew: Sandra H. Magnus and David A. Wolf, Pilot Pamela A. Melroy, Jeffrey S. Ashby, Piers J. Sellers, and cosmonaut Fyodor N. Yurchikhin. International Space Station (ISS) Flight 9A. Delivered S-1 (S-One) Truss. Landed on October 18 at 11:44 a.m. EDT at KSC. Mission Duration: 10 days, 19 hours, 58 minutes.

October 30: Russian Soyuz TMA-1 spacecraft launched by a Soyuz-U rocket from Baikonur at 03:11 UTC. The fourth Soyuz taxi flight, it carried a crew of two Russian cosmonauts (Sergei V. Zalyotin and Yuri V. Lonchakov), and one Belgian (Frank De Winne) to automatically dock with the International Space Station (ISS). This new Soyuz TMA-1 is a larger craft that has more comfortable space and ergonomic furniture than the previous TM models.

5 Years Ago – 2007

October 10: Russia launched Soyuz TMA-11 by a Soyuz-FG rocket from Baikonur at 13:22 UTC to dock with the International Space Station (ISS) Zarya module. Crew consisted of a Russian, Yuri I. Malenchenko; an American, Peggy A. Whitson; and a Malaysian, Shukor A. Muszaphar.

October 23: STS-120 (Space Shuttle *Discovery*) launched from KSC at 11:38 EDT. Crew: Pamela A. Melroy, Daniel M. Tani,, George D. Zamka, Douglas H. Wheelock, Scott E. Parazynski, Stephanie D. Wilson and Paolo Nespoli (ESA-Italy). International Space Station (ISS) Flight 10A. Installed Harmony Node 2 connecting module to the station to facilitate connecting, in future missions, the European *Columbus* laboratory and the Japanese *Kibo* laboratory. Landed: on November 7 at 1:01 p.m. EST, KSC. Mission Duration: 15 days, 2 hours, 23 minutes.

October 24: Chang'e 1, a People's Republic of China (PRC) lunar orbiter, was launched by a Long March 3A rocket at 10:05 UTC from Xichang launch center. The first of a planned series of Chinese missions to the Moon, it entered lunar orbit on November 7. Chang'e 1 will orbit the Moon for a year to test the technology for future missions and to study the lunar environment and surface regolith.

October 25: STS-120 Commander Pam Melroy and Expedition 16 Commander Peggy Whitson made history when the hatch between the space shuttle and orbiting outpost was opened. They became the first female spacecraft commanders to lead space shuttle and space station missions concurrently.