

# **NASA Academy Alumni Association (NAAA) Electronic Newsletter**

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David Kalman, editor

## **New Officers**

I would like to congratulate the new officers for the NAAA, and I hope that they will continue on the traditional that has been set forth by the first group of officers. I know personally how hard the first year of any organization is, and I would like to extend my great appreciation for all of the hard work that David, Mike, and Brian have contributed to making the NAAA a reality.

I will leave the information regarding the new officers to the email discussion group.

## **1. Editor's Ramblings**

by David Kalman (GSFC 94)

Like the elected officers before me, I too feel that it is time that I moved on, and passed the reins of the newsletter onto someone else. It has been a pleasure compiling information from the various alumni and finding out what people are up to, and reaffirming what a dynamic group of individuals comprise the NAAA. I hope that someone will step forward and take it upon themselves to become the new newsletter editor ... it only really takes 1-2 evenings a month, something that most of the alumni can afford. If you are interested in the job, please contact both myself and the new VP of operations, and I will try to pass along all of the information and formats that I have.

## **2. Where Are They Now?**

So here they are, MSFC Academy 4 (1996), in their own words:

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When I left Marshall summer 1996 I went directly to JSC where I began my cooperative education position. Since then I have been doing a purely alternating coop where every other semester or summer I have been at JSC and every other at University of Wisconsin - Madison. I am pursuing an undergraduate major in engineering mechanics and astronautics. I am currently on my fourth of five tours at JSC. I am working in the Structures and Mechanics Division in the Thermal Branch. I have thermal analysis and design

projects under programs such as Transhab (inflatable space structure) and X38 (prototype for emergency crew return vehicle for space station). I will do my final tour next summer in this branch and I hope to get an offer from here as well. I will graduate May 2000 bringing an end to my six year undergraduate career. If anyone is visiting Houston or Madison give me a ring.

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I graduated from Hastings College in 1997 and started graduate school the following fall. I will get my Masters in Physics next May. I have been researching low energy atomic collisions, specifically protons impacting rare-earth elements. This past month, I presented a poster at the International Conference on Accelerators in Research and Industry which was a great experience. This past January, I went to KSC to see the launch of STS-89. A Creighton University physics graduate was on board as Mission Specialist (Mike Anderson) so I got to sit in the VIP section. It was quite an experience, especially since the launch was a night launch. After graduation, I hope to find a job in space industry, so if anyone has any information, I would appreciate any help.

On a personal note, last May was a big month for me, as I finally got married. For those of you from MSFC '96 it is the same girl, Jenny. If anyone ever travels through Nebraska, I would love to hear from them.