



AIAA Section Meeting

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Jeffrey M. Hanley
Director, EVA Management Office
NASA Johnson Space Center

Lessons Learned From Our Aborted Spacewalk in 2013

Location: Bethpage Public Library
47 Powell Avenue
Bethpage, NY 11714

Time: 6:00 PM Social Time
6:30 PM Pizza (possible, ask when signing up)
7:00 PM Presentation

Cost for Pizza: \$5, Members and Guests
Free, for Students

RESERVATIONS REQUESTED
RSVP BY November 12, 2014
to: David Paris at
davidsparis@optonline.net
or (516) 458-8593

During an Extra-Vehicular Activity (EVA), or spacewalk, in the summer of 2013, an Italian astronaut's spacesuit helmet started to fill with water and the EVA had to be aborted. He returned to the ISS and suffered no serious injury. This talk will focus on the lessons learned from this aborted spacewalk. The discussion will cover the contributors to the problem, and a blow by blow description of how events unfolded resulting in coming dangerously close to killing or injuring an astronaut. It will deal with the vagaries of dealing with aging and repurposed systems that were developed by a prior generation, changed operation context, and systems that suffered an atrophy of systems engineering understanding of the system behavior. It will also show what happens to team dynamics under such circumstances and how even high performing teams can develop blind spots, as prior catastrophes and close calls have demonstrated. This was the ultimate close call.

Jeff Hanley manages the space suit effort for NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, and has previously served as Director, Human Exploration Development Support and Manager, Constellation Program. He has also served as Deputy Project Manager for Verification for the James Webb Space Telescope at Goddard Space Flight Center; these duties followed serving over 20 years as a shuttle flight controller in Mission Control rising to Chief of the Flight Directors.

He has a M.S. in Natural and Applied Sciences, a B.S. in Electrical Engineering and has received a number of awards including the National Space Club Astronautics Engineer of the Year and from NASA, the Distinguished Service, Outstanding Leadership, Exceptional Service, and Exceptional Achievement Medals, plus the Silver Snoopy Award.

Directions: The library is west of Route 135 in Bethpage. Take Route 135 to Exit 8, then West on Powell Ave. for about 0.25 miles. The library is on the south side of the street. Park across Powell Ave., opposite the library.