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## Ford Motor buys Space Shuttle

By Insider Sources

Ford announced today that they will be buying one of the retired space shuttles. "We feel there's still some usable life in the old shuttle, so we plan on using it and restarting Ford Aerospace division in a big way" . . . to quote a secret source interviewed by a Star Stuff staff reporter.

After the good turnout to the Imax Hubble 3d movie by the FAAC and Warren Astronomy clubs, it was clear there would be a demand for actual shuttle rides. A club member survey found 30% wanted to take a ride on the actual shuttle before (*the world ends in*) 2012.

Ford plans on retrofitting an old tri-motor body as one of two mobile sightseeing modules and mounting the updated body inside the shuttle bay. You won't see much at the launch as a passenger the Ford spokesman remarked . . . but once your in orbit and the bay doors open, we

promise the view will be astounding.

*Continued On page 2*

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## Time for a Cage Match

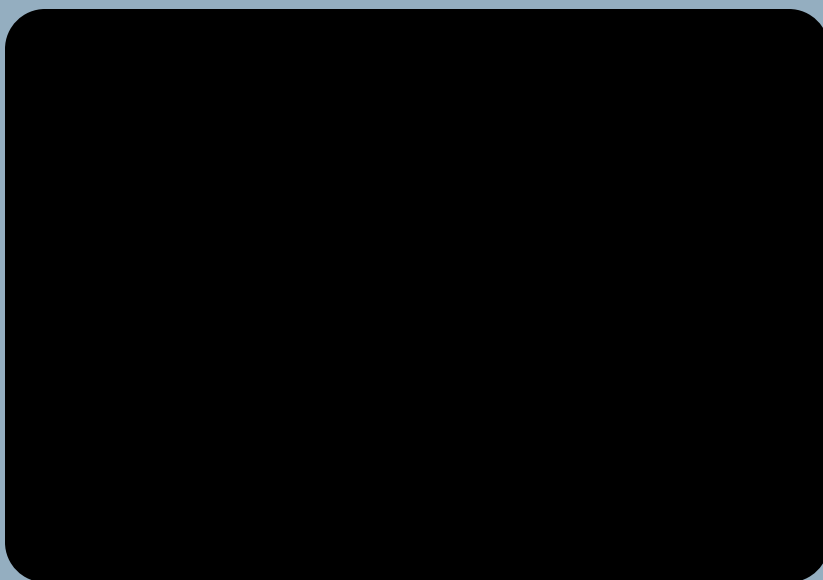
### President's Corner

The president "*formerly known as Doug*" recently offered to do a fund raising benefit in a WWF cage match. Whatever it takes the president stated while working out at a local gym. "I'm not sure what type of outfit they'll have me wear, but I'm hoping for spandex with at least some Bright stars to be featured in honor of the club". During the event, his side of the ring will be known as presidents corner. He may take on the wrestling name, "The Flying Comet".

His specialty will be a sub-orbital launch off the high rope crushing unwary opponents. "I plan to fall like a meteorite and sting like the Hadron Collider", the new member of the WWF's flying legion stated.

*Artist's Rendition of Dark Matter seen at the right.*

*If you can't see it, it's because the artist can't see it either; but we'll keep looking.*



## Ford Motor buys Space Shuttle

*(continued from Page 1)*

An almost mint condition vintage Trimotor was located in Mexico and is being flown back to the states for a space update and retrofit. "Once we are sure there's no cargo left inside, we'll start the retrofit project", a Ford pilot stated. Ford won out in a bid for the shuttle over Toyota, who was trying to use it's fly by wire expertise as a benefit in winning the shuttle bid. No word from Toyota spokespersons in losing the bid for a used shuttle.

The Toyota proposal had planned to use the shuttle to put a full sized Prius in space, they felt the high profile use of one of their cars might help recover brand identity. NASA officials quickly rejected the proposal stating, "we already have enough junk floating in orbit."

Tickets to travel on the Ford Space Shuttle will be pretty high. But thanks to the input from the FAAC and Warren clubs, six seats will be drawn for lucky winners at the next Astronomy At the Beach event.

Find more news and images from Spitzer at <http://www.spitzer.caltech.edu/> and if you find more information here about Ford buying the shuttle please let us know. In addition, The Space Place Web site features several games related to Spitzer and infrared astronomy and various dog breeds, as well as a storybook about a girl who dreamed of finding a safe hybrid.

## Observatory Report



The Lincoln Park Observatory will undergo a new renovation in order to broaden the appeal to kids and others in the area. We have decided to add a water park/ice pond complete with statues of famous science figures in the past.

It's a meeting of Art and Science. In order to please all groups we'll be including statues of different famous people who looked at stars or were stars. Starting with ancient astronomers, up toward Newton and other Astronomer greats. All will be facing and pointing toward life sized statues of Sonya Henie (in a skating uniform (for winter) and Esther Williams in a one piece bathing suit (representing summer).

# STAR STUFF

April 2010 - Vol. 19 No 3.5

STAR STUFF is published once each year if we aren't killed off for creating this issue.

**FORD GREG APRIL ASTROLOGY CLUB (GAAC)**  
If we had an address  
it would be a secret

PRESIDENT: Greg  
VICE PRESIDENT: Greg  
SECRETARY: Greg  
TREASURER: Greg  
WEBMASTER: Greg  
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Greg  
MEMBERS: anyone with a first name of Greg

## Club Information:

The Greg April Astrology Club(GAAC) meets on the fourth Thursday each month, except for the combined November/December meeting on the first Thursday of December - at Henry Ford Community College Administration Services and Conference Center in Dearborn. Refer to our website for a map and directions ([www.boonhill.net/faac](http://www.boonhill.net/faac)).

The GAAC observes at Spring, Summer Fall and Winter in the Island Lake State Recreation Area near Brighton, Michigan. The club maintains an after-hours permit, but is banned most other days. They observe on Friday and Saturday nights, and nights before holidays, weather permitting. The GAAC also has use a private observing site near Gregory where-ever Gregory is at the time. See the GAAC Yahoo Group\* for more information.

Observing schedules and additional info are available on our website, or via the GAAC Yahoo Group.\* Or call the GAAC Hotline, for info and leave a message, or ask questions: 555-1212. or send email inquiries to your local newspaper.

Membership in the GAAC is open to anyone with an interest in April fools jokes. GAAC might be affiliated of the Ford Employees Recreation Association (F.E.R.A.). But only if the FERA association renames all their board members Greg:

Annual - New Gregs: \$Free  
Annual - all others: Closed (but we take bribes.)

Membership includes the STAR STUFF newsletter, discounts on magazines, discounts at selected area equipment retailers, and after-hours access to the Island Lake observing site, but only if you're observing swans or geese.

## Astrology or Blue Skies & Crystal Ball Magazine Discounts

Obtain the required form from the GAAC club dude.

## Star Stuff Newsletter Submissions

Your submissions to STAR STUFF are more than welcome! Send your story and/or images to the editor at [pvideo@aol.com](mailto:pvideo@aol.com). Email text or MS Word is fine. STAR STUFF will usually go to press the weekend prior to each general meeting. Submissions received prior to that weekend can be included in that issue.

\* FAAC Members are welcome to join our Greg Astrology Club Yahoo!Group. Messages photos, files, online discussions, and more! are often deleted and cannot be found.

## New Club Logo

Pardon us while we change the format of the logo. We are still using the FAAC logo, but will soon be using a new logo. It will include the FAAC founder (named Greg) and other great Greg's in the club. It's a work in progress. The new logo will likely have three or four Gregs dressed up via. photoshop as wise men heading toward a Star suspended over a manger.

## SUMMER EVENTS

**Antarctic Summer Star party. July 1st 2010.** For the winter enthusiasts and hard core Astronomers in the GAAC club, we are announcing a summer star party in **Antarctica**.

This trip is the **ultimate test of endurance** in both physical and viewing challenges, but the cold dark sky views will make it worth the trip. No need to worry about clouds and bad views on this trip, the air is so cold and crisp you'll find most clouds have frozen and dropped to the ground before reaching your observing position. The biggest challenge it to breath without having your lungs turn to ice crystals.

We'll start with a cruise down toward the tip of South America, with a short stop in the Faulklin Islands, to look for abandoned vintage Argentinian land mines. Once we leave the Faulklin Islands, your trip becomes more challenging, you'll start to feel the cold chill of the South Pole. Those interested in really "roughing it" will be offered a winter kayak to paddle their way the last two miles toward an icy landing.

Once there you will fight your way through Penguins and assorted Sea Lions who think you are there to steal their mates. You will then be led via snowmobiles or sled dogs toward the south pole observing site.

If you survive, you'll have the ultimate trip to tell others about, and perhaps a scar or two to show off as well. Needless to say you will need to have a lot of warm clothing, extended health insurance coverage and a small refractor telescope. No large dobs are allowed on this trip, but large dogs are encouraged, make sure they have a thick coat of fur and warm doggy boots.

Also don't bring an GEM mount, where we are going, you will only need alt-azimuth.

Look for a GREGorian calender in next months issue.

Dearborn MI 48121  
 Somewhere in space and time  
 Star Stuff Newsletter  
 Greg April Astrology Club



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