



THE HERMES

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE INSPIRED 24

"What I did each day would determine the kind of person I'd become." -Chris Hadfield

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Mission Success at MDRS

Earlier in February, I24 member Kent "Iceman" Nebergall participated in a one week Analog Astronaut mission at the Mars Desert Research Station (MDRS) in Utah. As part of Crew 329, Iceman served as crew commander for advanced research studies and an experimental pressure suit radio engineering story simulation.

Previously, Iceman won a NASA rover design competition for the steep craters at the Lunar South Pole. During the MDRS mission, the crew tested three of Iceman's design methods and concluded their tests to be successful as the desert terrain provided realistic challenges for off-planet conditions.

Iceman and the crew also attempted to capture and record atmospheric cosmic radiation. Through his work with the I24 Innovation Team, he found several scientists working to "develop" a recording of radiation on a thin plastic film.

Although the MDRS crew wasn't able to complete that experiment, they were, however, "accidentally" able to verify the capability of an unprotected SenseCap Meshtastic device for use as a relay during long-range EVA's.

The mission also included a live YouTube stream of pressurized spacesuit testing by Cody Reeder, a well known geologist with 2.2 million followers on YouTube. The experiment proved successful in showing the process for spacesuit engineering and film production.

The crew also conducted soil sampling, advanced photo surveys, and repairs/upgrades to the analog facility.

[Click HERE to read the full mission report!](#)





Member Spotlight!

Guli "Spacegirl" Abdullajonova



Born in Namangan, Uzbekistan, Spacegirl became interested in space as a young child by watching films such as *The Fantastic Four* and dreaming of seeing earth from space. By her teen years, she made a serious decision to pursue the path toward becoming an astronaut.

Her educational studies cultivated her independence, as she was accepted into the U.S. Access Microscholarship Program, where she became an active and high-performing participant for two years. Selected as a finalist, she spent one month in the United States as part of a summer academic and cultural exchange program—an experience that significantly shaped her global perspective and ambitions. She went on to pursue advanced studies in physics and mathematics, distinguishing herself as a class president. Spacegirl also received a Presidential Scholarship, earned a Best Speaker nomination, and achieved First Place at Model United Nations, representing Canada.

Spacegirl also participated in the Unite Girls STEM Program, worked as a social media marketer for Textile Pro Group, and taught English—demonstrating resilience, adaptability, and leadership beyond formal classrooms. She would later earn a 100% merit-based scholarship to pursue a Foundation in Science at Xiamen University Malaysia. In Malaysia, she undertook one of the most rigorous science curricula, studying Chemistry I & II, Mechanics and Waves, Electromagnetism, Calculus, Algebra, Computer Science, Thermodynamics, Modern Physics, and Science Communication, all supported by intensive laboratory work.

Alongside her academic training, Spacegirl expanded her role as a science communicator. She strengthened her international network, particularly within the global space sector, and began interviewing prominent space professionals from the U.S. and beyond. These efforts evolved into the creation of *Gulrookh's AstroZone*, which officially launched at the end of 2025 as a global space platform dedicated to space education, communication, and youth inspiration, where she serves as Founder, CEO, and Director.

Spacegirl's long-term goal is to contribute meaningfully to human space exploration, ideally as an astronaut, while continuing to build initiatives that expand access to space education and leadership opportunities globally, as well as shaping a future where talent is not limited by geography.





I24 Headlines



Congratulations to our 300th member, Amy Del Prado, founder and CEO of [Stealth Startup!](#) After only four years, the I24 has grown beyond expectations. We thank each and every one of you for your support and dedication. Let's see how far we can go together!

I24 members Elizabeth "Boo" Schneider and Andrew "Titan" Parris, along with space educator Mike Mongo, were featured in an article on the state of space tourism in the *Houston Chronicle*. Written by Andrea Leinfelder, it gives an in-depth look at the effects of Blue Origin and Virgin Galactic pausing their flights. [Read the full article HERE!](#)

Artemis II launch delayed again! During NASA's press conference on Feb. 27th, Director Jared Isaacman remained confident that the Artemis II mission will launch "soon." The next window of opportunity begins April 1, 2026. We will continue to send updates on the I24 pre-launch in-person event via email, so please stay tuned! [CLICK HERE for NASA's launch calendar](#)

2026 Analog Astronaut Conference

You don't want to miss it!

April 30 - May 3 at Biosphere 2, Arizona

The [AAC](#) is more than just another conference. It's an intimate and exclusive experience. This year's theme is "Creating Community on Earth and Beyond."

Why attend?

- Forge Lifelong Connections and Ignite Your Passion for Space Exploration: This is the ultimate analog networking event!
- YOUR Voice Matters: Imagine confidently contributing to discussions about the future of human space exploration, policy development, and the expansion of the analog astronaut industry!
- Discover insider info about future analog and space missions: You'll gain deep insights into past, present, and upcoming missions!

Your [conference ticket](#) gets you access to all talks, workshops, evening entertainment, special tour of Biosphere 2, extra-curricular activities, and LOTS of networking & mingling!



Stay overnight at Biosphere 2!
CLICK TO GET YOUR TICKET NOW!

Special Invitation from I24 Member Martina Dimoska

Building, Belonging & Applied Innovation – International Women's Day 2026 at Hacker Dojo, Mountain View, CA

Supported by the Women Techmakers and Technovation ecosystem, this in-person event brings together community, expertise, and applied innovation.

Location: 855 Maude Ave, Mountain View, CA
Saturday, Mar 7 · 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM PST

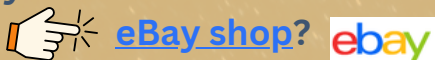
The event is free for everyone to attend!
[Click HERE for more info and register!](#)



Get the latest I24 committee updates and news!

[CLICK HERE to watch the replay of February's All-Hands Meeting](#)

Did you know that the I24 has an



Purchase some cool space items and help support the I24 mission!

About The Inspired 24

"Inspired 2 Space 4 All"

We, The Inspired 24, are an inclusive group of like-minded, space positive people dedicated to promoting the access to space for all.

Our mission objectives are:

Network with organizations that support inclusive participation in space exploration.

Collaborate to create opportunities to experience the overview effect.

Train for space flights and provide space-ready individuals for future missions.

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NEW MEMBERS THIS MONTH

(February 2026)

- Gláucia Morais
- Rachel Ewin
- Subhāsmīta Rout
- Noel de Castro
- Sanaathani Bolar
- Robert Katz
- Cory Keith
- Sarah Cedillo
- Kimberly Briana Álvarez Morales
- Prakhar Vishwakarma
- Krishna Teixeira
- Pierre Mirand
- Sarah Cedillo
- Amy Del Prado

Just for fun!

Space science trivia :

On June 22, 2023 NASA's Perseverance Mars rover captured an image of a rock in Jezero Crater shaped like which of the following food items?

- A. Pizza
 - B. A doughnut
 - C. An artichoke
 - D. A banana
- (see below for answer)

March in space history:

- **March 26, 1958:** The U.S. launched its third satellite into space, Explorer 3. Data from this satellite led to the discovery of the Van Allen radiation belt.
- **March 23, 1965:** NASA launched the first crewed Gemini flight (Gemini III). Command pilot "Gus" Grissom and pilot John Young completed three orbits around the earth.
- **March 8, 1979:** NASA's Voyager 1 spacecraft discovered volcanoes on Io, one of Jupiter's moons.
- **March 14, 2016:** The ExoMars Trace Gas Orbiter was launched to Mars as a collaborative project between ESA and Roscosmos to gain better understanding of methane & other atmospheric gases as possible evidence of biological activity.

Trivia answer: B. A doughnut
[Click HERE to learn more from JPL](#)