

Westchester Business Takes Flight Luncheon
Aviation and the Environment
May 20, 2010
Millionair Hangar Facility
Westchestchester County Aiport

Proposed Agenda

10:00 Hangar Opens for Hawker Beechcraft invited guests for private viewing aircraft
11:00 Hangar Opens for all guests including viewing of aircraft
11:30 Luncheon starts (buffet line)
12:00 Speakers Program

- Jeff Lee welcome, introduction and thank you's.
 - Brief WAA background
- HPN Airport management
 - Airport Environmental Management System ISO 14001 certification
- Hawker Beechcraft on 4000 & Premier composite lighter, faster less fuel
 - P&W engines are “greener”
 - Other OEM presentation on making aviation greener
 - R&D future for greener aircraft
- Sustainability: what it means to your business? (McGraw Hill SVP)
- Keynote Speaker
 - Hoot Gibson - Leadership & the environment

1330 Awards and recognition

- Environmental / aviation Scholarship (Aviation Week / Flight Safety Intl)
- Spirit of Noise Abatement Awards?
- Award to WC for leadership in the environment – presented to Rob Astorino

1345 Close

Proposed Invited Guests:

WC Exec Rob Astorino
Senator Schumer
Senator Hillenbrand
US Rep Nita Lowey
US Rep John Hall
Westchester County Assn CEO Bill Mooney (and members)
Business Council of Westchester CEO Marsha Gordon (and members)
AOPA CEO Craig Fuller
NBAA CEO Ed Bolen
HB CEO Bill Boisture
Aviation Week CEO Tom Henricks (former NASA astronaut as well)
FSI CEO Bruce Whitman
?

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Robert L. Gibson

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Robert Lee "Hoot" Gibson (born October 30, 1946) is a retired Captain and Naval Aviator in the United States Navy and a retired NASA astronaut.

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Personal

Born in Cooperstown, New York, but considered the Lakewood area of east Long Beach, California, to be his hometown. Married to fellow astronaut Dr. M. Rhea Seddon of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and had four children. He enjoyed home built aircraft, Formula One Air Racing, Unlimited Class Air Racing, running and surfing during his free time. His mother, Mrs. Paul A. Gibson, resides in Seal Beach, California. Gibson's late father, an FAA Inspector, built his own private plane in the garage of their home in Long Beach with help from his family. Family includes brothers, Jon, Don and Richard and a sister Kathy.

Education

Gibson graduated from Huntington High School, Huntington, New York as a part of the class of 1964, and went on to earn an associate degree in engineering science from Suffolk County Community College in 1966. He received a bachelor of science degree in aeronautical engineering from California Polytechnic State University in 1969.


Military career

Gibson entered active duty with the Navy in 1969. He received basic and primary flight training at Naval Air Station Pensacola and Naval Air Station Saufley Field, Florida, and Naval Air Station Meridian, Mississippi. He completed advanced flight training at Naval Air Station Kingsville, Texas and

Robert Lee "Hoot" Gibson



NASA Astronaut

Status	Retired
Born	October 30, 1946 Cooperstown, New York
Other occupation	Naval Aviator Test Pilot
Rank	Captain, USN Ret
Time in space	36d 04h 15m
Selection	1978 NASA Group
Missions	STS-41-B, STS-61-C, STS-27, STS-47, STS-71
Mission insignia	

was assigned to Fighter Squadron 121 (VF-121) at Naval Air Station Miramar, California for replacement training in the F-4 Phantom II.

While assigned to Fighter Squadron 111 (VF-111) and Fighter Squadron 1 (VF-1) from April 1972 to September 1975, he saw duty aboard the USS *Coral Sea* (CVA-43) and the USS *Enterprise* (CVN-65), flying combat missions in Southeast Asia in the F-4 with VF-111 and making the initial operational carrier deployment of the F-14 Tomcat with VF-1. He is a graduate of the Navy Fighter Weapons School, also known as "TOPGUN."

Gibson returned to the United States and an assignment as an F-14A instructor pilot with Fighter Squadron 124 (VF-124) at Naval Air Station Miramar, California. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland in June 1977 and later became involved in the test and evaluation of improvements to the F-14A aircraft while assigned to the Naval Air Test Center's Strike Aircraft Test Directorate.

Selected as a NASA astronaut, he continued to be promoted, eventually achieving the rank of Captain in the U.S. Navy and the rank at which he retired from active naval service.

His flight experience included over 6,000 hours in over 50 types of civil and military aircraft. He holds airline transport pilot, multi-engine, and instrument ratings, and has held a private pilot rating since age 17. Gibson has also completed over 300 carrier landings.

NASA career

Selected by NASA in January 1978, Gibson became an astronaut in August 1979. Gibson flew five missions: STS-41-B in 1984, STS-61-C in 1986, STS-27 in 1988, STS-47 in 1992, and STS-71 in 1995. Gibson served as Chief of the Astronaut Office (December 1992 to September 1994) and as Deputy Director, Flight Crew Operations (March-November 1996).

On his first space flight Gibson was the pilot on the crew of STS 41-B which launched from the Kennedy Space Center, Florida, on February 3, 1984. The flight accomplished the proper Shuttle deployment of two Hughes 376 communications satellites which failed to reach desired geosynchronous orbits due to upper stage rocket failures. Rendezvous sensors and computer programs were flight tested for the first time. The STS 41-B mission marked the first checkout of the Manned Maneuvering Unit (MMU), and Manipulator Foot Restraint (MFR), with Bruce McCandless II and Bob Stewart performing two spectacular EVAs (space walks). The German Shuttle Pallet Satellite (SPAS), Remote Manipulator System (RMS), six "Getaway Specials," and materials processing experiments were included on the mission. The eight-day orbital flight of Challenger culminated in the first landing on the runway at the Kennedy Space Center on February 11, 1984, and Gibson logged 191 hours in space.

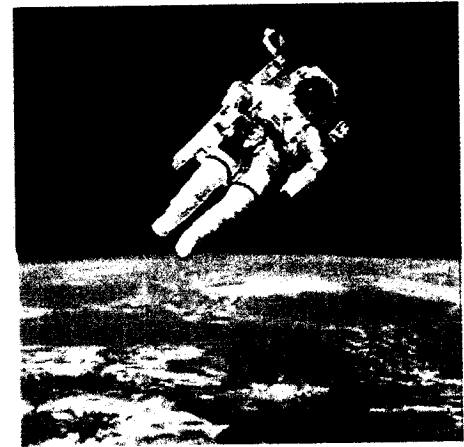
Gibson was the spacecraft commander of the STS-61-C mission. The seven-man crew on board the Orbiter *Columbia* launched from the Kennedy Space Center, Florida, on January 12, 1986. During the six-day flight the crew deployed the SATCOM KU satellite and conducted experiments in astrophysics and materials processing. The mission concluded with a successful night landing at Edwards Air Force Base, California, on January 18, 1986, and logged him an additional 146 hours in space.

Gibson subsequently participated in the investigation of the Space Shuttle *Challenger* accident, and also participated in the redesign and recertification of the solid rocket boosters.

As the spacecraft commander of STS-27, Gibson and his five-man crew launched from the Kennedy Space Center, Florida, on

December 2, 1988, aboard the Orbiter *Atlantis*. The mission carried a Department of Defense payload, and a number of secondary payloads. After 68 orbits of the Earth the mission concluded with a dry lakebed landing on Runway 17 at Edwards Air Force Base, California, on December 6, 1988. Mission duration was 105 hours.

On Gibson's fourth space flight, the 50th Space Shuttle mission, he served as spacecraft commander of STS-47, Spacelab-J, which launched on September 12, 1992 aboard the Orbiter *Endeavour*. The mission was a cooperative venture between the United States and Japan, and included the first Japanese astronaut as a member of the seven-person crew. During the eight-day flight, the crew focused on life science and materials processing experiments in over forty investigations in the Spacelab laboratory, as well as scientific and engineering tests performed aboard the Orbiter *Endeavour*. The mission ended with a successful landing on the runway at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida after 126 orbits of the Earth on September 20, 1992.



The famous photo showing McCandless using the MMU. It was Gibson who took the photo and later remarked imagining about the caption being "NASA Photo by Hooter" STS-41-B in 1984

On his last flight, (June 27 to July 7, 1995), Gibson commanded a crew of seven-members (up) and eight-members (down) on Space Shuttle mission STS-71. This was the first Space Shuttle mission to dock with the Russian Space Station Mir, and involved an exchange of crews. The *Atlantis* Space Shuttle was modified to carry a docking system compatible with the Russian Mir Space Station. It also carried a Spacelab module in the payload bay in which the crew performed various life sciences experiments and data collections. Mission duration was 235 hours, 23 minutes.

In five space flights, Gibson completed a total of 36.5 days in space.

Post-NASA career

Gibson left NASA in November 1996 and became a pilot for Southwest Airlines. In 2006, as reported by NASA Watch, Gibson was forced to retire as mandated by the Federal Aviation Administration for commercial airline pilots. Gibson has publicly spoken out against federal regulations which require airline pilots to retire at age 60.^[1] In December 2006, he joined the Benson Space Company as Chief Operating Officer and Chief Test Pilot.^[2] Gibson has flown 111 different aircraft types,^[3] and competed at the 2007 Reno Air Races.^[3]

On October 3, 2008, Gibson was a contestant on *Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?*. During his appearance, he became the first contestant to make it to the million question without using any of his cheats. Unfortunately, he answered incorrectly to the \$1,000,000 question ("How many factors do 32 and 28 share?"). The correct answer is three; 1, 2, and 4. He answered with two (2 and 4). All of his prize money (\$25,000) went to the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation.

Beginning in 2009, Gibson flew as a demonstration pilot for Hawker Beechcraft Corporation to showcase the Premier 1A light business jet across the United States and overseas.

Awards and honors

- Awarded the Fédération Aéronautique Internationale (FAI) "Louis Blériot Medal" (1991 and 2004)^[4]
- Awarded the "Yuri A. Gagarin Gold Medal" by the FAI^[4]
- Awarded the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) "Freedom of Flight" Award (1989)
- Established FAI world records for "Altitude in Horizontal Flight," Airplane Class C1A in 1991^[5], "Time to Climb to 9000 Meters" in 1994 and "Speed over a closed course" in 2004^[6].

Military awards include the:

- Defense Superior Service Medal
- Distinguished Flying Cross
- Air Medal (3)
- Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V"
- Navy Unit Commendation
- Meritorious Unit Commendation
- National Defense Medal (2)
- Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
- Vietnam Service Medal
- Humanitarian Service Medal
- Vietnam Campaign Medal

External links

- NASA biographical information (<http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/gibson.html>)
- Spacefacts biography of Robert L. Gibson (http://www.spacefacts.de/bios/astonauts/english/gibson_robert.htm)
- Benson Space Company (<http://www.bensonspac.com/>)

References

- ↑ TOP STORIES | KHOU.com | News for Houston, Texas (http://www.khou.com/topstories/stories/khou061027_gi_pilotsretire60.7e3e4603.html)
- ↑ Benson Space press release (<http://www.bensonspac.com/press/release12-14-06.html>)
- ↑ ***^a*** ***^b*** White, Robin (1 May 2009). "The Man Who's Flown Everything" (<http://www.airspacemag.com/flight-today/The-Man-Whos-Flown-Everything.html>). *Air & Space* (Smithsonian Institution). <http://www.airspacemag.com/flight-today/The-Man-Whos-Flown-Everything.html>.
- ↑ ***^a*** ***^b*** FAI Awards Database (<http://www.fai.org/awards/recipient.asp?id=26300>)
- ↑ FAI historical database (http://records.fai.org/general_aviation/history.asp?id1=17&id2=393&id3=1)
- ↑ FAI database for Gibson (<http://records.fai.org/pilot.asp?from=r&id=4760>)

Preceded by
Daniel C. Brandenstein

Chief of the Astronaut Office
1992–1994

Succeeded by
Robert D. Cabana

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Categories: 1946 births | Living people | American astronauts | United States Astronaut Hall of Fame inductees

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