



Jonathan Ward

NASA Solar System Ambassador Greensboro, NC

Jonathan Ward is a semi-retired leadership development consultant and executive coach, but his passion has always been with space exploration. A lifelong space enthusiast, Jonathan grew up in the Washington, DC suburbs, and as a sophomore in high school was the youngest person ever to work as a tour guide at the National Air and Space Museum. He studied physics at Carnegie-Mellon University and Psychology at Virginia Commonwealth University, and obtained a Master of Science in Systems Management from the University of Denver, as well as a certificate in Leadership Coaching from Georgetown University. Jonathan now calls Greensboro, North Carolina his home.

Jonathan's interest in space exploration dates back to when he first saw the Echo I satellite in the night sky in his early childhood. At the age of 14, Jonathan was the youngest person ever selected to be a Summer Intern and tour guide at the National Air and Space Museum. Jonathan likes to point out that while at the NASM, he drove a Lunar Rover on the National Mall before he was old enough to drive a car! He frequently attends gatherings of astronauts and space researchers, and he has met seven of the twelve men who walked on the Moon.

Jonathan has an extensive collection of artifacts from the US space program. His personal collection includes several Apollo launch control panels, which he is restoring to operational condition. Above all, he enjoys helping people understand the how and why of space exploration and sharing his passion in the beauty of our universe.

He has written three critically acclaimed books about the Apollo and Space Shuttle programs. He is a frequent speaker on manned and unmanned space exploration topics. His most recent talks this summer were at Spacefest VIII in Tucson about the aftermath of the Space Shuttle Columbia accident, and in Greensboro on his zero-G experiences aboard the "Vomit Comet" last year.

Jonathan's website is www.jonathanward.com.