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**Nearspace Program Spring Launch Announcements and More! (04/01/17)**

4 messages

**Ji Min Chang** <ji.phs2014@gmail.com>

Fri, Mar 17, 2017 at 9:29 PM

To: UMDBalloon Team &lt;umdballoonpayloadprogram@googlegroups.com&gt;, UMDBalloon FriendsandFamily &lt;umdballoon-friendsandfamily@googlegroups.com&gt;, UMDBalloon VIPs &lt;umdballoon-vips@googlegroups.com&gt;

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## Spring Launch Announcement

Spring is here, and so are the spring balloon launches! The program has planned two launches in April from Clear Springs Elementary School.

NS-62 is currently scheduled for **Saturday, April 1st\***, with April 2nd as the backup date.

For the second launch of the semester, the team will be running a double launch! Join us for this incredible milestone in our program's history! NS-63 and NS-64 are currently both scheduled for **Saturday, April 15\***, with April 16th as the backup date.

\*All dates and locations are subject to change given weather and ground track. Please look out for a launch confirmation/ postponement email a few days before a launch.

## Join Us! Balloon Launch Details

## **When:**

Saturday, April 1st, 2017

Saturday, April 15, 2017

## **Where:**

Clear Springs Elementary School

12627 Broadfording Rd  
Clear Spring, MD 21722

[Google Maps](#)

## **Schedule**

**If you plan on joining us, please dress warmly and in layers! We suggest wearing long pants and good hiking shoes in case we need to hike through the woods to recover the payloads.**

The tentative schedule is as follows:

**4:30 AM** - The Nearspace team ballooneers meet in the SSL parking lot.

**5:00 AM** - Departure from the SSL parking lot.

**6:15 AM** - Projected arrival at the **Clear Springs McDonalds** (12828 Clear Spring Rd, Clear Spring, MD 21722).

**7:00 AM** - Arrival at the **Clear Springs Elementary School** launch site.

**8:00 ~ 9:00 AM** - Launch!

## **Nearspace Program's Members Form Two NASA Teams**

The Nearspace Team is proud to announce its acceptance into NASA's High Altitude Student Platform (HASP) and its participation in a RockSat-X Launch!

### **High Altitude Student Platform (HASP) - High Atmospheric Turbulence - Triggered Release Information Carrier (HAAT-TRIC) Payload**

HASP is a NASA high-altitude flight on a zero-pressure balloon. These flights vary from the Nearspace team's typical balloon launches as they can reach altitudes up to 120'000 feet and float in that region for 15 to 20 hours!

On this flight, the HASP payload team is collaborating with Dr. Laurence and his grad student, Cameron Wichman, to fly a variation of their FISH payload, which previously flew on NS-59. Combined with this payload is DataPigeon and MARS, two of our veteran payloads. Together, these subsystems form a single HASP payload which will collect temperature data in the upper region of the atmosphere. Mid-flight, MARS will simulate a drop of DataPigeon to test our droppable data module.

The HASP flight is scheduled for early September and the team will continue to work until then. More updates will follow as the date draws closer!

### **RockSat-X Launch - Stratification and Tribocharging Analysis of Regolith (STAR) Payload**

Collaborating with Capitol Technology University and the University of Maryland's own faculty member, Dr. Christine Hartzell, is the Nearspace Program's RockSat-X team!

RockSat-X is NASA's two-stage sounding rocket launch to an altitude of approximately 75 miles carrying experiments developed by undergraduate students. This rocket will be traveling about 5 times higher than any of our balloon launches!

The Nearspace Program's RockSat team will run a science experiment to simulate tribo-charging of regolith in space, modeled by glass beads in a test tube. The rocket flight will last 15-20 minutes and is scheduled to launch from NASA's Wallops Flight Facility in Virginia.

The RocketSat-X sounding rocket launch will take place in August. Updates will follow!

## Questions?

Contact Dr. Mary Bowden

**Email:** [bowden@umd.edu](mailto:bowden@umd.edu)

**Phone:** (301) 275-7723

## Live Updates

You can follow our live tweetup of the launch day [here](#).

You can also track us on the APRS website using UMD's callsign: **W3EAX-8**.

*The NearSpace High Altitude Balloon Team thanks the **Maryland Space Grant** for its continued support and effort to make our program possible.*

Space Systems Laboratory  
University of Maryland  
382 Technology Drive  
College Park, MD 20742

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**Mary Bowden** <maryb@ssl.umd.edu>  
To: Ji Min Chang <ji.phs2014@gmail.com>

Fri, Mar 17, 2017 at 9:58 PM

Looks great Ji!

Just two edits, for future reference, I think Cameron's last name is Butler, unless he changed it recently! And we actually launch out of Clear Spring (singular) Elementary School, not Clear Springs. Just a detail so need to send a correction.

Thanks for getting that out and have a great break!! -- MLB

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Dr. Mary L. Bowden  
Aerospace Engineering

University of Maryland  
College Park, MD

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**Ji Min Chang** <ji.phs2014@gmail.com>  
To: Mary Bowden <maryb@ssl.umd.edu>

Fri, Mar 17, 2017 at 10:02 PM

Oh dear. I pulled his name from an email list but after a little research, I believe that's actually a NASA employee.

Thank you Dr. Bowden and enjoy your break!

Ji

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**Mary Bowden** <maryb@ssl.umd.edu>  
To: Ji Min Chang <ji.phs2014@gmail.com>

Fri, Mar 17, 2017 at 10:53 PM

Too funny! Cameron Wichman may think: "Wow - what a coincidence!"

-- MLB

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