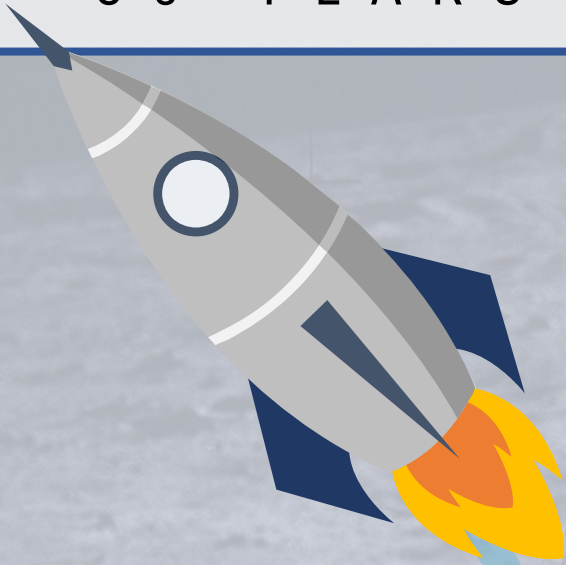


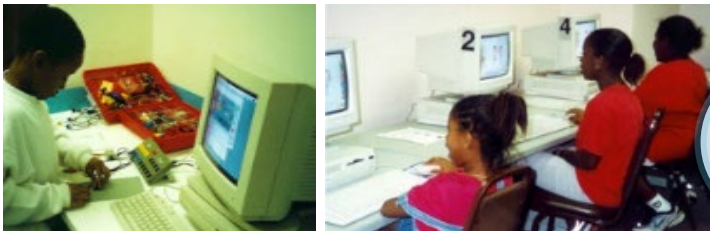
NTA SPACE COAST 1982 - 2019

30 YEARS OF HISTORY



PROJECT STAR INITIATIVE BEGINS

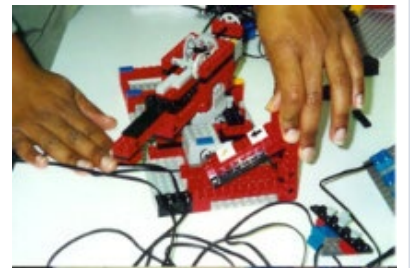
The Project STAR initiative is created by the NTA Space Coast to implement hands-on learning through projects, and runs successful for 20 years.



1982

NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSOCIATION OPENS BRANCH + THE ROCKET CLUB

Engineers, educators, and scientists joined to create the leaders of the Brevard County center in Titusville. Their first program was The Rocket Club.



1985

STEM TECH NEIGHBORHOOD ACADEMY OPENS IN MELBOURNE

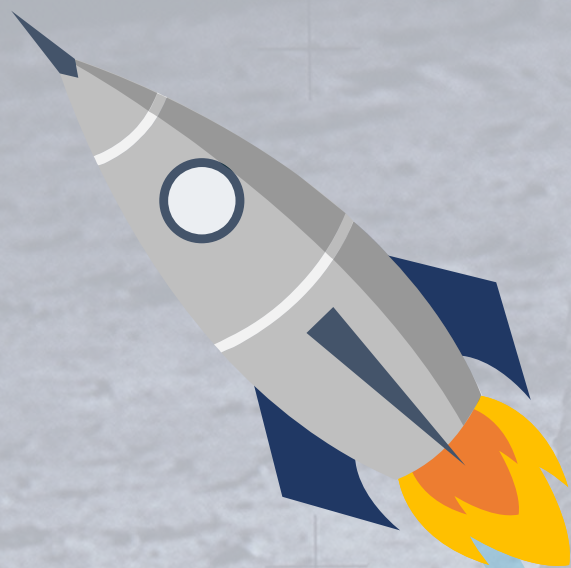
Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics is used by the NTA Space Coast at the Academy to address the divide in education quality due to economic barriers, as well as systemic discrimination.



2015

Click anywhere on this timeline to view further information on each topic!

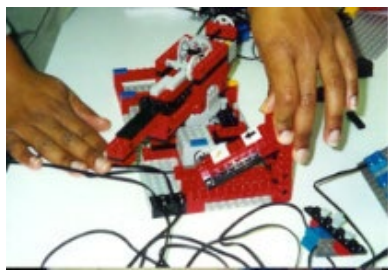
NTA SPACE COAST 1982 - 2019
30 YEARS OF HISTORY



**NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSOCIATION
OPENS BRANCH + THE ROCKET CLUB**

**PROJECT STAR
INITIATIVE BEGINS**

1982



1985

**STEM TECH NEIGHBORHOOD
ACADEMY OPENS IN MELBOURNE**

2015



NTA SPACE COAST 1982 - 2019

30 YEARS OF HISTORY

1982 - Titusville

NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSOCIATION OPENS BRANCH + THE ROCKET CLUB

Engineers, educators, and scientists joined to create the leaders of the Brevard County center in Titusville. Their first program was The Rocket Club. With the start of their community resolutions strategies for the underrepresented areas they serviced, the NTA Space Coast assessed the education, employment, and quality of living needs of minorities all across Brevard County. This helped the organization shape its goals.

The community need for higher learning lead to The Rocket Force Club. The NTA began to create model rockets to expose at-risk youth to the hands-on applications of aerospace technology, mathematics, science and engineering principles after school.

1985 - Titusville

PROJECT STAR INITIATIVE BEGINS

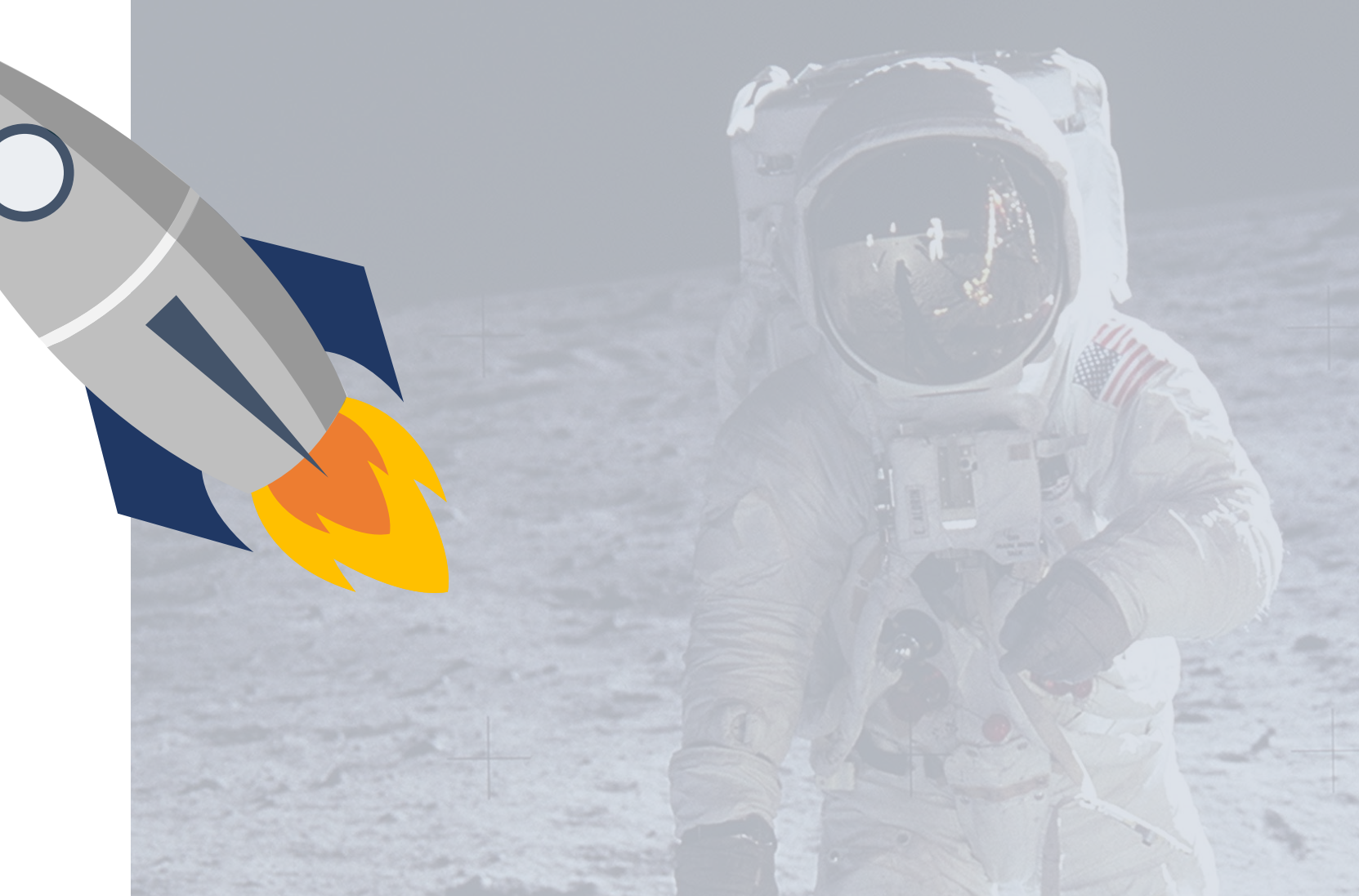
The Project STAR initiative is created by the NTA Space Coast to implement hands-on learning through projects, and runs successful for 20 years.

African-American NASA engineers began the Project as volunteers servicing community. Project STAR was conceived on that basis as a socio-technical program developed to unite minorities with technology to resolve community-based social problems. Each STAR Center was well equipped with computers, books, tools, model rockets, Lego projects and other technical kits and materials for after-school hands-on learning activities, to teach the youth real-world science and technology to encourage them to pursue technical careers.

2015 - Melbourne

STEM TECH NEIGHBORHOOD ACADEMY OPENS IN MELBOURNE

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics is used by the NTA Space Coast at the Academy to address the divide in education quality due to economic barriers, as well as systemic discrimination. STEM Tech Neighborhood Academy works to prepare its students for the high-quality American workforce. Technical projects of the program include model rocketry, LEGO building, 3D printing, and Embedded IC processor projects.



FEATURES IN PUBLICATIONS

30 YEARS OF HISTORY



NTA SPACE COAST 1982 - 2019

30 YEARS OF HISTORY

1990 - JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSOCIATION

'NTA FUELS STUDENTS' INTEREST IN MATH AND SCIENCE'

CHAPTER NEWS



Michele Mazion and Kevin Kidd

NTA Fuels Students' Interest in Math and Science

by Louise Boyd

The Space Coast Rocket Force Club (SCRF), which began in 1982, is one of the premier activities of the Space Coast Chapter of NTA. The SCRF is a science club organized to introduce underrepresented students ages 9-15 to aerospace science and computer technology. Two students, Kevin Kidd, 17, and Michele Mazion, 18, grew up with the SCRF and are now on their way to choosing courses of education that will lead them to profitable careers.

Kidd joined the SCRF at 13 when an NTA member told him about a unique program for learning science and math the fun way. The NTA programs have prepared him for higher math courses. Today Kidd is president of the Student Government Association at his high school. He also is a member of the Debonair Club and is a Links Beau. His forte' is public speaking. In 1989, he won 2nd place in the regional division of the National Management Association's American Enterprise Speech Contest. He won 1st place in the 1990 regional competition and will compete for the national title in Hollywood, FL. Kidd's hometown of Mims, FL, declared May 5, 1990 as "Kevin Kidd Day."

Kidd plans to attend the University of Florida in the fall of 1990 and intends to major in electrical engineering and political science. He would like to work with a space-related engineering company and eventually open his own restaurant. He credits his mother as his role model, and his advice to younger students is, "Study. Always be prepared."

Mazion joined the SCRF when she was 10. She says, "NTA taught me how to be self-motivated and responsible." Mazion is involved in the Del-teens, French Honor Society, Delta Omega Club, and Junior NAACP. She is very active in her church, as president of the youth group, secretary of the Sunday school, and member of the choir. She also has played on the varsity basketball team for four years. She was listed in *Outstanding High School Students of America* in 1988. Mazion plans to attend Florida State University in the fall of 1990, majoring in computer engineering.

Her role model is also her mother, whom she calls "a good leader." Her advice to younger students is, "No matter what problems come up, strive to do your best."

Cincinnati Chapter Career Fair Teaches Culture and Technology

by A. R. "Khafre" Ward

Despite the alarming downward trends that place African Americans at the lower ends of technical career professions, there are still a surprising number of African-American youth who are excited about pursuing careers in science and technology.

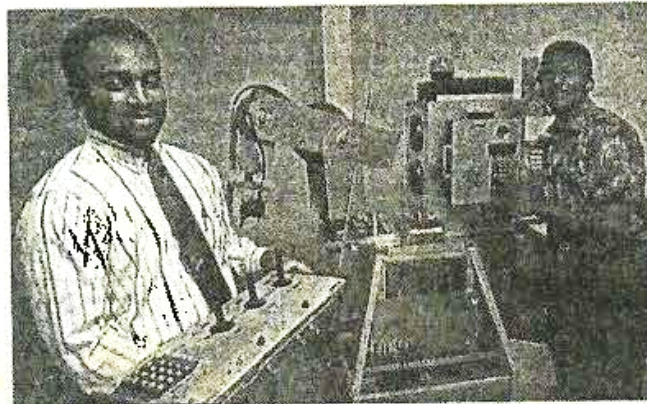


Cincinnati students attend NTA Career Fair

NTA SPACE COAST 1982 - 2019 30 YEARS OF HISTORY

1993 - FLORIDA TODAY

'SHINING STAR ... MINORITY YOUNGSTERS FIND NEW HORIZONS THROUGH TECHNOLOGY'



JAMES SPENCER, 10, and Eric Green try out the robot Spencer built in high school. Both are involved in high-tech space program careers and work with minority youths in Project STAR.

John H. Rogers, FLORIDA TODAY

SHINING STAR

Minority youngsters find new horizons through technology

By Billy Cox
FLORIDA TODAY

At a young age, James Spencer figured it out, this restless curiosity that commanded him to extract and examine the wire guts of radios and TV sets, whether they were broken or not. The light clicked on when he watched "Star Wars."

"It was literally a childhood fantasy," Spencer says. "I noticed how these robots, cars and computers were put together and I knew that's what I wanted to do."

The Brooklyn-born child of privilege eventually moved to Titusville, Fla., where he was involved in building robots in junior high school. He then attended the University of Florida and worked with NASA's Space Center, where he now supervises robotic systems for NASA.

But after arriving in Brevard County in late 1988, Spencer's life took a different turn. He found a personal challenge in helping minority youngsters find their way into the high-tech world.

"I noticed how these robots, cars and computers were put together and I knew that's what I wanted to do," Spencer says. "I noticed how these robots, cars and computers were put together and I knew that's what I wanted to do."

Today, Spencer is one of more than a dozen minority youngsters who are involved in high-tech space program careers and work with minority youths in Project STAR.

Under the auspices of the National Technical Association, Green's nonprofit Project STAR (Science and Technical Applications and Resources) has equipped two community centers in Titusville and another in Mims with everything from encyclopedias to Lego electronic cars to computers. Next year, Project STAR will launch its resources to the Cocoa West Community Center, by century's end, its influence is projected to cover the entire Space Coast — and maybe beyond.

"But what's just as important as getting the kids involved with technology is providing them with positive role models," says Green, a 45-year-old NASA project engineer. "There is a crisis in our community. We've ignored them for too long, and now they're making us pay attention to them, in some very unpleasant ways."

Green makes his frustration, and his optimism, from inside Titusville's Gibson Community Center, once the institution that helped launch his own career into the space age, now the command center for Project STAR.



Theresa DeCapua, FLORIDA TODAY

JEAN KITCHEN, 10, program coordinator, and Rosa Meek, site director, help Jerrod Addison, 10, work on a computer program called "Road 'n' Roll."

See STAR, Next Page

SUNDAY, Sept. 12, 1993

Under the... National Technical Association, Green's nonprofit ProjectSTAR (Science and Technical Applications and Resources) has equipped the community centers in Titusville and another in Mims with everything from encyclopedias to Lego electronic cars to computers.

NTA SPACE COAST 1982 - 2019 30 YEARS OF HISTORY

1995 – JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSOCIATION 'THE SPACE COAST CHAPTER STORY'

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES — PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

The Space Coast Chapter Story

By John H. Thompson

The Space Coast, Florida Chapter, became affiliated with the National Technical Association in Brevard County, Florida, May 19, 1982, during the tenure of Willard O. Williamson, the 29th national president. The chapter was formed to extend the NTA objective to Brevard County, Florida, presuming that science and technology serves the needs of the minority community.

The charter members included the chapter's first president, Katherine Clinton (first African-American woman engineer employed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration [NASA], Kennedy Space Center, Florida); James J. Jennings, who organized the chapter; Eric C. Green; Claude Davis; Evelyn Johnson; Ruth Jayson; Roslyn McKinnery; Albert Diggs Jr.; Fletcher Jackson; and Carl Wallace.

The chapter initially emulated the structure and programs of other NTA chapters, which provided a framework for success and competitiveness. Some of the contributions of the other chapters that helped create the Space Coast Chapter's solid format in keeping with the NTA's goals and objectives were:

- Chicago, Illinois Chapter's Willard O. Williamson's five-year plan to improve the status of the NTA.

- Houston, Texas Chapter's implementation of a successful model of an organizational chart, with involvement of volunteers in various chapter committees.

- Hampton Roads, Virginia Chapter's highly successful Science/Technology Student Symposium held annually at NASA's Langley Space Center, Hampton, Virginia.

- Baltimore, Maryland Chapter—the gold and black National Membership Pin proudly worn by NTA members, which was initiated by Leonard E. Thomas, engineer, 26th NTA national president, and members of the Baltimore Chapter Public Relations Committee.

- Dr. Julian M. Earls, 25th national president, of the Cleveland, Ohio Chapter, helped formulate the Space Coast Chapter's by-laws to its constitution.

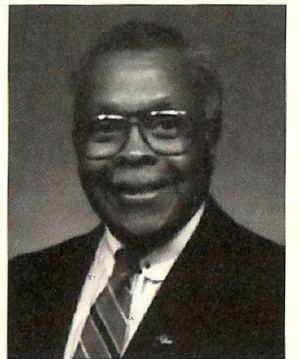
Space Coast Chapter's Accomplishments

The Space Coast Chapter's science and technological contributions to the Brevard County communities have received many accolades and awards from the community, corporations and the National Technical Association. The NTA's highest award, the Samuel R. Cheevers Distinguished Service Award, has been presented to Eric C. Green (August, 1988).

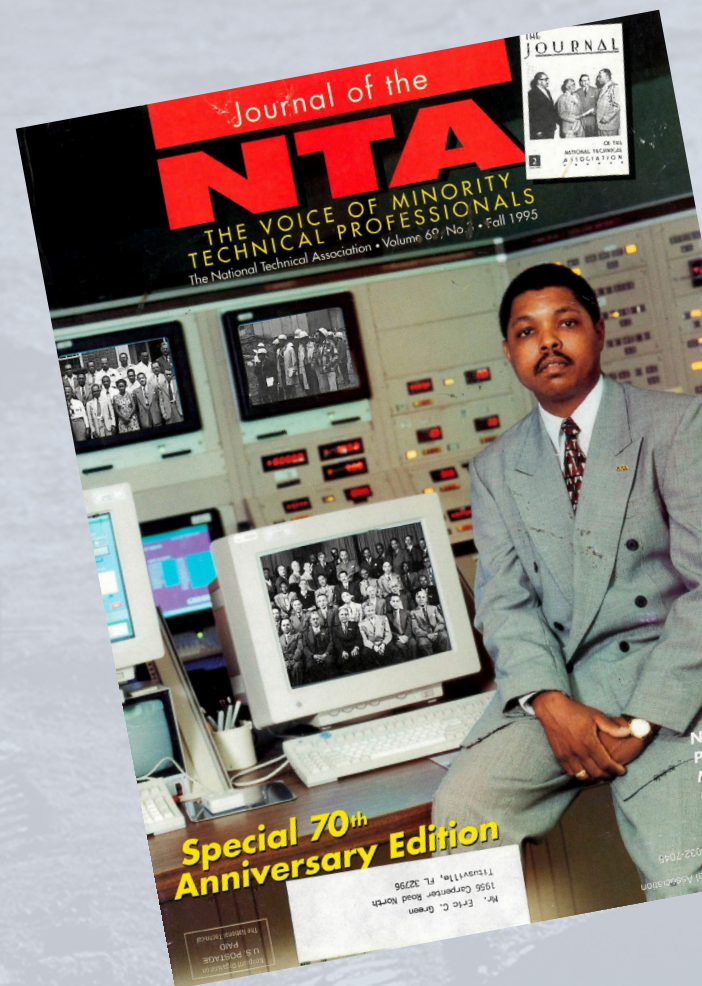
- Chapter members have distinguished themselves as NTA national officers: James J. Jennings served as national treasurer and 30th National president; Louise Y. Boyd held the post of Region III director. Chapter members have served on national committees.

- The chapter's many successful programs in the Brevard County area include: the award-winning Space Coast Rocket Force Club, which exposed economically disadvantaged youth to the excitement of building and flying model rockets; scholarship awards that were available to students to attend Space Camps (Titusville, Florida, and Huntsville, Alabama) to learn the fundamentals required by engineers, astronauts and technicians for managing a space transportation system; tutorial service provided to assist students having difficulty with their school subjects to develop better study habits and skills, assisting students with school science projects; workshop on electronics, robotics and mechanics; joint projects with schools and organizations; and computer classes provided to area residents for the opportunity to learn and use computers to improve their personal and professional lives.

Eventually, the chapter members began to realize that the students were having difficulties with math and science subjects, and the attributable underlying problems were more than just the basic learning skills. The



John H. Thompson,
NTA Historical
Publicist



Continued on page 22

NTA SPACE COAST 1982 - 2019

30 YEARS OF HISTORY

1995 - JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSOCIATION 'THE SPACE COAST CHAPTER STORY'

PERSPECTIVES

Continued from page 4

chapter soon found out that the problems of drugs, crime, peer pressure, neglect, and other social ills were affecting the students' ability to cope with their academic work. To address those needs calls for proper social conditioning.

The chapter refocused its directions, which led to the creation of the Science and Technical Applications and Resources (Project STAR) program. A community-based Socio-Technical Learning Center was created to serve as a medium to unite people with tech-

nology and other resources to resolve local community problems for an improved quality of life for all of its residents.

Project STAR has been an overwhelming success, and Centers have been established in Mims, Florida, and Cocoa, Florida. The project stability is maintained by federal funds channeled through Brevard County Community Block Grant Program (CBGP), which provides about 70 percent of the money, as well as by other resources such as the State of Florida and the private sector.

- During the administration of Clyde Foster, 30th national president and mayor

of Triana, Alabama, and James J. Jennings, president-elect, the NTA Space Coast Chapter hosted the 55th Annual NTA Convention, held at the Orlando Hyatt Hotel, Kissimmee, Florida, July 1983. The theme was "NTA in the Marketplace: Productivity Enhancement."

Other highlights and accomplishments of the Space Coast Chapter:

- Sponsored the 2nd Annual Space Camp Award Ceremony, held at the Gibson Community Center, Titusville, Florida, June 11, 1988. Keynote speaker: astronaut Charles F. Bolden Jr.

- Hosted the NTA 1990 Region III Conference held at the Melbourne Airport Hilton, Melbourne, Florida, January 1990; keynote speaker—James J. Jennings, deputy comptroller, NASA Kennedy Space Center, Florida.

- Established the NTA Space Coast Chapter Auxiliary, which has been very effective in encouraging parents and other adults to participate in the activities of the students and to help raise funds to support the chapter's Project Star Programs.

- Participated as a partner in celebration of the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Cocoa West, Florida, Community Learning Center (Project STAR), 230 South Burnett Road, in April 1995.

- Since its inception, the Space Coast Chapter has made an impact on the Brevard County community, students, parents, elected/public officials, corporations and, last but not least, the National Technical Association, for adhering to its goals and objectives. The outstanding contributions are due to the vision of the past leadership and the continuance of the tradition by the current officers, who include Eric C. Green, project engineer, president; James E. Spencer Jr., president, CEO Intelligent Machines Corp, vice-president; Bernadette P. Brightman, logistics engineers, secretary; James J. Jennings, director of Human Resources and Management Systems, NASA Kennedy Space Center, Treasurer; Louise Y. Boyd, Technical Management System engineer, immediate past president.

For NTA membership applications and information, please contact:

The Philadelphia office
The National Technical Association
Dr. Mildred Fitzgerald-Johnson
6919 North 19th St.
Philadelphia, PA 19126-1506
Phone (215) 549-5743
Fax: (215) 549-6509

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