



ASTRONAUT
CANDIDATES
2013



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Lt. Colonel, U.S. Air Force

HOMETOWN: Hoxie, Kansas

1
00:00:00,790 --> 00:00:03,490
>> After an extensive
year-and-a-half long search,

2
00:00:03,490 --> 00:00:06,700
today NASA has named a new
group of potential astronauts

3
00:00:06,700 --> 00:00:09,380
who are going to help the
agency push the boundaries

4
00:00:09,380 --> 00:00:10,870
of exploration and travel

5
00:00:10,870 --> 00:00:13,460
to new destinations
in the solar system.

6
00:00:13,460 --> 00:00:15,170
There are eight candidates
who've been selected

7
00:00:15,170 --> 00:00:17,950
as NASA's newest
astronaut trainees.

8
00:00:17,950 --> 00:00:21,540
They hope to be among those
who will be the first to launch

9
00:00:21,540 --> 00:00:26,120
from the United States on
commercial American spacecraft.

10
00:00:26,120 --> 00:00:31,420
This 2013 astronaut class, the
21st class in NASA history,

11

00:00:31,420 --> 00:00:34,760
comes from the second
largest number

12
00:00:34,760 --> 00:00:36,530
of applications NASA
ever received --

13
00:00:36,530 --> 00:00:39,240
more than 6,000 people
who applied

14
00:00:39,240 --> 00:00:41,300
to be astronauts
this time around.

15
00:00:41,300 --> 00:00:44,080
And of the eight candidates,
half of them are women,

16
00:00:44,080 --> 00:00:46,980
and that makes this
the highest percentage

17
00:00:46,980 --> 00:00:50,610
of female astronaut candidates
ever selected for a class.

18
00:00:50,610 --> 00:00:54,350
This group will get a wide
range of technical training

19
00:00:54,350 --> 00:00:58,080
at space centers and remote
locations all around the world

20
00:00:58,080 --> 00:00:59,380
to prepare for missions

21
00:00:59,380 --> 00:01:02,860

to low-Earth orbit,
asteroid, onto Mars.

22

00:01:02,860 --> 00:01:05,930

The candidates will be
discussed this afternoon

23

00:01:05,930 --> 00:01:08,660

at a Google Plus
hangout that will begin

24

00:01:08,660 --> 00:01:11,320

at 3:00 Houston time
this afternoon.

25

00:01:11,320 --> 00:01:14,010

I'll have some more information
on that for you in a minute.

26

00:01:14,010 --> 00:01:15,120

But first, I'll introduce you

27

00:01:15,120 --> 00:01:18,340

to the newest astronaut
candidates in the United States.

28

00:01:18,340 --> 00:01:24,480

First is Josh A. Cassada,
Ph.D. He's 39 years old,

29

00:01:24,480 --> 00:01:27,200

originally from White
Bear Lake, Minnesota.

30

00:01:27,200 --> 00:01:29,130

Cassada is a former
Naval aviator

31

00:01:29,130 --> 00:01:31,940

who holds an undergraduate

degree from Albion College

32

00:01:31,940 --> 00:01:34,140
and advanced degrees
from the University

33

00:01:34,140 --> 00:01:35,990
of Rochester in New York.

34

00:01:35,990 --> 00:01:38,470
Cassada is a physicist
by training.

35

00:01:38,470 --> 00:01:41,440
He is currently serving
as the co-founder

36

00:01:41,440 --> 00:01:45,790
and Chief Technology
Officer for Quantum Opus.

37

00:01:45,790 --> 00:01:47,950
The next is Victor J. Glover.

38

00:01:47,950 --> 00:01:50,460
He's 37 years old, a
Lieutenant Commander

39

00:01:50,460 --> 00:01:53,270
in the United States Navy,
and hails from Pomona,

40

00:01:53,270 --> 00:01:56,120
California and Prosper, Texas.

41

00:01:56,120 --> 00:01:58,910
Glover is an F-18
pilot and a graduate

42

00:01:58,910 --> 00:02:02,570
of the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot
School in Edwards, California.

43

00:02:02,570 --> 00:02:06,090
He hold degrees from California
Polytechnic State University

44

00:02:06,090 --> 00:02:09,350
in San Luis Obispo,
the Air University

45

00:02:09,350 --> 00:02:12,780
and Naval Postgraduate School
in Monterey, California.

46

00:02:12,780 --> 00:02:14,060
He is currently serving

47

00:02:14,060 --> 00:02:18,350
as a Navy Legislative
Fellow in the U.S. Congress.

48

00:02:18,350 --> 00:02:22,010
The next is Tyler N.
Hague, known as Nick.

49

00:02:22,010 --> 00:02:25,470
Nick Hague is 37, a Lieutenant
Colonel in the U.S. Air Force

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00:02:25,470 --> 00:02:28,250
who calls Hoxie,
Kansas his home.

51

00:02:28,250 --> 00:02:30,340
He's a graduate of the
U.S. Air Force Academy

52

00:02:30,340 --> 00:02:33,400

in Colorado Springs, and
the Massachusetts Institute

53

00:02:33,400 --> 00:02:35,950
of Technology in
Cambridge, Massachusetts,

54

00:02:35,950 --> 00:02:38,310
as well as the U.S. Air
Force Test Pilot School

55

00:02:38,310 --> 00:02:39,960
in Edwards, California.

56

00:02:39,960 --> 00:02:42,660
Hague is currently supporting
the Department of Defense

57

00:02:42,660 --> 00:02:46,410
as the Deputy Chief of the Joint
Improvised Explosive Device

58

00:02:46,410 --> 00:02:48,630
Defeat Organization.

59

00:02:50,110 --> 00:02:53,680
The next is Christina
M. Hammock, age 34,

60

00:02:53,680 --> 00:02:55,900
from Jacksonville,
North Carolina.

61

00:02:55,900 --> 00:02:58,660
Hammock hold undergraduate
and graduate degrees

62

00:02:58,660 --> 00:03:00,520
from North Carolina
State University

63

00:03:00,520 --> 00:03:02,300
in Raleigh, North Carolina.

64

00:03:02,300 --> 00:03:05,080
She is currently serving
as the National Oceanic

65

00:03:05,080 --> 00:03:10,570
and Atmospheric Administration
Station Chief in American Samoa.

66

00:03:10,570 --> 00:03:15,550
Our next is Nicole Aunapu
Mann, age 35 and a Major

67

00:03:15,550 --> 00:03:17,130
in the U.S. Marine Corps.

68

00:03:17,130 --> 00:03:20,930
Mann is originally from
Pengrove, California.

69

00:03:20,930 --> 00:03:23,050
She is a graduate of
the U.S. Naval Academy,

70

00:03:23,050 --> 00:03:26,460
Stanford University, and the
U.S. Naval Test Pilots School

71

00:03:26,460 --> 00:03:28,260
in Patuxent River, Maryland.

72

00:03:28,260 --> 00:03:31,240
Mann is an F-18 pilot
currently serving

73

00:03:31,240 --> 00:03:33,800

as an Integrated
Product Team Lead

74

00:03:33,800 --> 00:03:37,580

at the U.S. Naval Air
Station, Patuxent River.

75

00:03:37,580 --> 00:03:41,730

Next on our list today,
Anne C. McClain, age 34,

76

00:03:41,730 --> 00:03:43,580

Major in the U.S. Army.

77

00:03:43,580 --> 00:03:46,510

Lists her hometown as
Spokane, Washington.

78

00:03:46,510 --> 00:03:49,090

McClain is a graduate of
the U.S. Military Academy

79

00:03:49,090 --> 00:03:52,870

at West Point, the University
of Bath, and the University

80

00:03:52,870 --> 00:03:55,580

of Bristol, both in
the United Kingdom.

81

00:03:55,580 --> 00:04:00,070

McClain is an OH-58 helicopter
pilot and a recent graduate

82

00:04:00,070 --> 00:04:02,620

of the U.S. Naval
Test Pilot School

83

00:04:02,620 --> 00:04:05,430

at Naval Air Station

Patuxent River.

84

00:04:05,430 --> 00:04:08,670

Number seven on the list
today, Jessica U. Meir,

85

00:04:08,670 --> 00:04:13,680

Ph.D. Dr. Meir is 35 years
old, from Caribou, Maine.

86

00:04:13,680 --> 00:04:16,160

She is a graduate
of Brown University

87

00:04:16,160 --> 00:04:17,950

and has an advanced degree

88

00:04:17,950 --> 00:04:20,370

from the International
Space University.

89

00:04:20,370 --> 00:04:21,420

She earned her doctorate

90

00:04:21,420 --> 00:04:24,040

from Scripps Institution
of Oceanography.

91

00:04:24,040 --> 00:04:27,490

Meir is currently an Associate
Professor of Anesthesia

92

00:04:27,490 --> 00:04:29,100

at Harvard Medical School

93

00:04:29,100 --> 00:04:32,350

and the Massachusetts
General Hospital in Boston.

94

00:04:32,350 --> 00:04:37,270

And our eighth new astronaut candidate, Andrew R. Morgan,

95

00:04:37,270 --> 00:04:41,900

M.D., age 37 and a Major in the U.S. Army.

96

00:04:41,900 --> 00:04:45,460

Dr. Morgan considers Newcastle, Pennsylvania his home.

97

00:04:45,460 --> 00:04:49,360

He's a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point,

98

00:04:49,360 --> 00:04:50,490

earned a Doctor of Medicine

99

00:04:50,490 --> 00:04:52,690

from the Uniformed Services University

100

00:04:52,690 --> 00:04:56,160

of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland.

101

00:04:56,160 --> 00:04:58,500

He has experience as an Emergency Physician

102

00:04:58,500 --> 00:05:00,540

and a Flight Surgeon for the Army Special

103

00:05:00,540 --> 00:05:01,880

Operations Community.

104

00:05:01,880 --> 00:05:06,390

He's currently completing a

Sports Medicine fellowship.

105

00:05:06,390 --> 00:05:10,300

Dr. Morgan and his seven
colleagues in the 21st class

106

00:05:10,300 --> 00:05:12,510

of astronaut candidates
will begin their training

107

00:05:12,510 --> 00:05:15,740

at NASA's Johnson Space Center
in Houston later this summer.

108

00:05:15,740 --> 00:05:18,710

They will be reporting
for duty in August.

109

00:05:18,710 --> 00:05:21,410

I mentioned we'll be
discussing the selections coming

110

00:05:21,410 --> 00:05:24,360

up this afternoon in
a Google Plus hangout

111

00:05:24,360 --> 00:05:27,490

that will include recorded
video introductions

112

00:05:27,490 --> 00:05:29,360

from the astronaut candidates,

113

00:05:29,360 --> 00:05:31,200

and we'll also be
discussing the selection

114

00:05:31,200 --> 00:05:32,960

and the training process.

115

00:05:32,960 --> 00:05:37,270

The NASA social media followers
can submit questions on Twitter

116

00:05:37,270 --> 00:05:41,330

and Google Plus in advance
and during the event.

117

00:05:41,330 --> 00:05:44,630

You should be using
the hash tag Ask NASA.

118

00:05:44,630 --> 00:05:47,700

Before that hangout begins,
NASA will open a thread

119

00:05:47,700 --> 00:05:51,180

on its Facebook page where
the questions can be posted.

120

00:05:51,180 --> 00:05:54,740

The hangout can be viewed live
on NASA's Google Plus page

121

00:05:54,740 --> 00:05:56,690

or on NASA television.

122

00:05:56,690 --> 00:05:59,840

To join the hangout,
you should go

123

00:05:59,840 --> 00:06:09,670

to <http://go.nasa.gov/126molK>.

124

00:06:09,670 --> 00:06:13,330

Reports can ask questions on
the hangout using a phone bridge

125

00:06:13,330 --> 00:06:16,250

that is managed here at
the Johnson Space Center.

126

00:06:16,250 --> 00:06:18,420

To participate during
the phone bridge,

127

00:06:18,420 --> 00:06:21,620

journalists should call the
Johnson Space Center Newsroom

128

00:06:21,620 --> 00:06:28,960

at 281-483-5111 by 2:45
Central time this afternoon

129

00:06:28,960 --> 00:06:32,170

to participate in the
Google Plus hangout

130

00:06:32,170 --> 00:06:36,950

with the eight new astronaut
candidates announced today: