



# INVENTORS NEWS

We are on the web: [www.inventors.asn.au](http://www.inventors.asn.au)

Inventors Association of Australia (SA) Inc Newsletter

May 2011 (NON-MEMBER)

## NEXT MEETING

Sully's  
The Rex Hotel  
172 Richmond Rd  
Marleston, South Australia.

Thursday 19th of May

### MEAL - Sully's 6.00 pm

MEETING at 7.00pm  
For a 7.30pm start.

### General Meeting

Guest Speaker  
Terry Markou  
"AquaKerb"

Announcements &  
Correspondence  
Presentations  
Question and Answer time  
Tea and Coffee



## Presidents Report:

Yes, it's that time of year again to start thinking about the AGM.

The AGM will be held at the June or July meeting.

Please advise in person at a meeting or by email if you wish to be on the Committee

## A Nomination Form is Attached

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

All intelligent thoughts have already been thought; what is necessary is only to try to think them again.

[Johann Wolfgang von Goethe](#)

Failure is simply the opportunity to begin again, this time more intelligently.

[Henry Ford](#)

# Inventors Association of Australia (SA) Inc.

Minutes General Meeting – 21.04.2011

## Guest Speaker

Phillip Sanders spoke about the importance of designing a website using some basic principles of (SEO) or Search Engine Optimization. This is the process of improving the rank number of any website listing in the free listings on Google. Usually, the higher a site appears in the search results, the more visitors it will receive from the search results.

SEO involves editing the HTML content and associated coding thereby increasing the relevance to specific keywords and ensuring websites are search engine friendly. Phillip and his wife Jenny are operating the business together. Phillip said that Jenny is a great wordsmith and is concentrating on using her skills in copywriting. As a team they concentrate heavily on marketing and promoting a company by building a brand name and image for any company seeking their professional services. For further information on this subject go to [provenimpact.com.au](http://provenimpact.com.au)

## Lou and Eric visit Marymount College.

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May both Eric and Lou did two separate presentations in front of 140 students at Marymount Girls College at Hove. Lou presented his Watercolour Paper Stretcher and this was followed by Eric's Power Point Presentation on the history and development of the electric car. This was followed by Eric displaying his Electric Vehicle (EV) to the students. The students were well informed and entertained about the processes involved when developing an idea from scratch.

### Science waiting to Hitch a Shuttle Ride

The following article makes for good reading particularly when the bacteria used in these experiments can withstand great temperatures. Space experiments and bacteria conjure up many dark and potentially dangerous situations in one's mind. It can make for good science fiction but it can have unexpected consequences for the pristine worlds waiting to be discovered in the nether regions of space. Just imagine a space craft with a laboratory full of bacteria being flung into an uncontrollable trajectory toward unsuspecting civilizations in space. It sounds far-fetched but is it worth a debate?

Ralph O. Schill / ESA

A tardigrade, also known as a water bear, measures less than a millimeter (0.04 inch) in length but can withstand harsh environments and still thrive. The water bears are the stars of the show for the Planetary Society's Shuttle LIFE experiment on the shuttle Endeavour.

By Alan Boyle

The eight-legged water bears have had to go back to the lab, and the energy bars better have a longer shelf life. But the big-ticket science item for the shuttle Endeavour's mission to the International Space Station, the \$2 billion Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer, is just fine where it's at. We've heard a lot about the space spectrometer, which could crack the mysteries of antimatter and dark matter. But there are scores of smaller, quirkier experiments due to ride on Endeavour's final trip, whenever it happens.

Here are a few of the quirkier scientific and educational payloads:



Planetary Society

Bill Nye ("The Science Guy"), executive director of the Planetary Society, holds one of the microbe-filled Shuttle LIFE tubes with a set of tweezers.



Shuttle LIFE: The nonprofit Planetary Society is putting six types of microbes inside sealed tubes that will fly on Endeavour's middeck. The critters include eight-legged water bears, also known as tardigrades; Deinococcus radiodurans, one of the most radiation-resistant microbes known on Earth; Bacillus subtilis, a garden-variety strain of bacteria; Cupriavidus metallidurans, a type of bacteria that gobbles up heavy metals; the salt-loving microbe known as Haloarcula marismortui; and Pyrococcus furiosus, a critter that can withstand temperatures above water's boiling point.

Sounds like the Planetary Society just recruited a League of Extraordinary Extremophiles.

The idea is to study how microbes that are adapted to different extreme environments on Earth do in the zero-G space environment. Planetary Society's Bruce Betts says

this experiment is a "wet run" for a similar experiment that will fly on Phobos-Grunt, a Russian-Chinese mission due for launch to the Martian moon Phobos within the next year.

"It's like a dry run, but we actually get real science while we're at it," Betts told me.

After NASA postponed last week's scheduled launch of Endeavour, the Shuttle LIFE experiment was pulled off the shuttle along with other experiments on the middeck. Fresh tubes will go to the launch pad a couple of days before liftoff. "The good news for our experiment is that it's not much of an impact," Betts said. If these microbes can survive super-radiation and blazing temperatures, they should be able to handle a week or two hanging around the lab.

Student experiments: NASA has made room for several experiments set up by students, including one that studies seed germination in space and another that looks at the effects of microgravity on squid embryos. Then there's the STEM Bar, which will be flying on Endeavour as the result of a competition sponsored by the Conrad Foundation. STEM stands for "science, technology, engineering and mathematics," and the nutritional grain bar's creators hope that the space spotlight will help get kids back on Earth interested in STEM education.

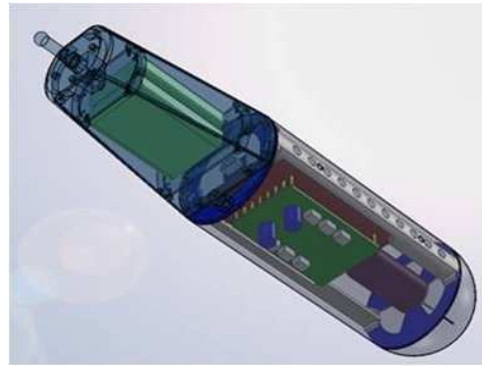
The bar is made from oats, puffed rice and dried fruits, and has gone through NASA's space-food certification process for orbital consumption. One of the bar's developers, 15-year-old Shannon Diesch of the Battle Creek Area Mathematics and Science Center in Michigan, told me that such energy bars are among "the favorite things to eat up there" on the space station.

She and her 16-year-old sister, Mikayla, were at Kennedy Space Center for last week's launch attempt and gave me one of the bars for sampling. After leaving it in my suitcase for a week, to simulate the rigors of spaceflight, I shared the STEM Bar with three of my sweets-loving crewmates at the office. The verdict? Thumbs-up from all four of us.

#### ASI via NASA

The camera-equipped Astronaut Personal Eye is designed to float in zero-gravity and follow astronauts around, or serve as a remote-controlled eye in outer space.

Astronaut Personal Eye: One of the most James Bond-ish of the experiments is a "micro-aircraft" that could eventually follow astronauts around as they go about their activities inside or outside the space station. The camera-equipped, gyro-stabilized, thruster-powered gadget can be remote-controlled by an astronaut, to serve as a "personal eye" for observation. But NASA's info sheet on the device notes that problems may pop up: "In fact, the space environment may cause catastrophic events on micro-electronic components and devices, due to shocks and vibrations, high temperatures, ionizing radiations and electromagnetic fields." Be careful what you do with that thing, commander!



Lego bricks: Yes, those famous snap-together toys are due to go up on Endeavour, under the terms of an educational partnership between NASA and the Denmark-based Lego company. Astronauts will assemble a Lego workbench as well as a model of the space shuttle and the space station. NASA astronaut Cady Coleman has been designated as the first to take on the task, after getting some training from her 10-year-old son. The space-themed Lego kits are going on sale here on Earth this year.

Asian Seed: Japan's space agency is sending up a package of plant seeds that will be stored in the space station's Japanese Kibo laboratory for a month, and then sent back down to Earth for use in educational kits and gifts. The concept sounds similar to the "moon trees" that were grown from seeds taken into space by Apollo 14 astronaut Stuart Roosa in 1971. The locations for hundreds of those trees are currently unknown. Let's just hope the Japanese keep better track of where all their space seeds end up.

Acknowledgement: This article was reproduced in full from the website-

[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/42933728/ns/technology\\_and\\_science/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/42933728/ns/technology_and_science/)

#### Stop Press:

By Jeanna Bryner

updated 5/6/2011 7:01:30 PM ET

A 4.5-billion-year-old meteorite from northwest Africa has yielded one of the earliest minerals of the solar system. Officially called krotite, the mineral had never been found in nature before, though it is a human-made constituent of some high-temperature concrete, according to study researcher Anthony Kampf, curator of Mineral Sciences at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County.

[\[Image of new mineral\]](#)

"This is one that simply was not known in nature until we found it here," Kampf told LiveScience. "That's pretty dramatic." The meteorite containing krotite is called NWA 1934 CV3 carbonaceous chondrite. Chondrites are [primitive meteorites](#) that scientists think were remnants shed from the original building blocks of planets. Most meteorites found on Earth fit into this group.

The mineral, a compound of calcium, aluminum and oxygen, needs temperatures of 2,732 degrees Fahrenheit (1,500 degrees Celsius) to form, supporting the idea that it was created as the solar nebula condensed and the planets, including Earth, were formed, the researchers say. The tiny mineral sample — just 0.2 inches (4 millimeters) long —

came from a grain in the meteorite dubbed "cracked egg" for its appearance. In addition to krotite, the cracked egg grain contains at least eight other minerals, one of which is new to science, the researchers say.

Studying this mineral and other components of the ancient meteorite is essential for understanding the origins of the solar system, the scientists say. When meteors hit the ground they are called meteorites. Most are fragments of [asteroids](#) (space rocks that travel through the solar system), and others are mere cosmic dust shed by comets. Rare meteorites are impact debris from the surfaces of the moon and Mars.

Another ancient meteorite, this one discovered in temperatures and low pressure make it likely it is one of the first minerals formed in the solar system.

The mineral is named after Alexander N. Krot, a cosmochemist at the University of Hawaii, in recognition of his significant contributions to the understanding of early solar-system processes. The finding is detailed in the May-June issue of the journal *American Mineralogist*.

More -

[http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/42937748/ns/technology\\_and\\_science-science/t/billion-year-old-meteorite-yields-new-mineral/](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/42937748/ns/technology_and_science-science/t/billion-year-old-meteorite-yields-new-mineral/)

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## Helping the Environment - the natural way



### Soapnuts

Environment-friendly laundry alternative

Soapnuts (*Sapindus mukorossi*) are an environmentally friendly, sustainably produced, bio-degradable and compostable alternative to commercial laundry detergents. Grown wild in India, for centuries these nuts have been used for many purposes, from laundry to cleaning jewellery and treating contaminated soil. They are most widely recognised as being an effective and environmentally friendly natural detergent, but can be used for a wide variety of other uses.

**This 500 gm bag should wash 200 loads or 7-10 loads per week for around 6 months before it runs out.**

Our soapnuts are imported directly from Asha Handicrafts, an Indian Fair Trade Organisation, giving consumers the added value in knowing the harvesting and production is done under Fair Trade conditions.

How do soapnuts work?

Soapnut shells contain a high proportion of natural saponin. When the shells come in contact with water the saponin is released and suds are produced - just like adding normal detergents.

Full instructions for various methods of use are provided, in both top-loaders and front-loaders, cold or hot wash, but the basic method is to simply pop 6-8 shells into a small cotton bag (provided), put the bag in a cup of hot water for a few minutes (if using cold wash), and then place it in your washing machine instead of detergent. They are excellent for cleaning laundry, leaving it beautifully soft and fresh. There is no need to include softeners and they are especially good for colours because they don't contain any whiteners or brighteners, so your colours will stay coloured for longer.

Extremely cost-effective, the 500 gm bag should wash 200 loads, or 7-10 loads per week for around 6 months before it runs out. The nuts can be used for 4-6 consecutive loads and then disposed of in the compost bin or spread around garden plants as mulch. And since the laundry water contains only natural ingredients, it can much more usefully be reused as grey water to reduce water consumption.

Living in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane or Perth? No problem. We'll despatch your order from our Adelaide shop within 3 working days - probably sooner - so you'll receive it promptly.

**An NI staff favourite - we've all tried them and are hooked!**

**Contents: 500 gms soapnuts, 3 small washing bags, instructions for uses.**

### Howard's Humour

11. Sometimes I'll look down at my watch 3 consecutive times and still not know what time it is.

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## Membership Fees:

Ordinary Members: \$40

Corporate Members: \$150

Concession Members: \$20

(Pensioners and unemployed)

Life Members are free

Visitors \$10.00

## NEW MEMBERS

We cordially welcome all our new members and trust that the Association can help you in your 'journey'. If you have any special requests please talk to any member of the committee and we will endeavour to help you. Committee members have a red dot on their nametags.

## NEWSLETTER CLASSIFICATIONS

There are basically 3 types:

- A** The comprehensive INTERNET version on our website for *financial* members.
- Am** The MAIL copy for those *financial* members without email facilities.
- B** The B version (which is intended for FREE GENERAL RELEASE) and has been edited to remove items which are not intended for *non members*.

## To receive a FREE email-newsletter

Apply through our website: [www.inventors.asn.au](http://www.inventors.asn.au)

Should you NO LONGER wish to receive the email-newsletter CANCEL by simply replying in the SUBJECT field on your computer screen with...

'stop sending newsletter'

If you have any problems receiving this document (a copy should be received 2 or 3 days before the monthly meeting) please contact our IT consultant, on [admin@inventors.asn.au](mailto:admin@inventors.asn.au)

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Inventors Association of Australia (SA) Inc accepts no responsibility for ideas and inventions revealed to a second party where patent protection has either not been filed or protection has lapsed.

# Nomination of the Committee of Management for the Inventors Association of Australia (SA) Inc.

(Otherwise known as IAA(SA)Inc)

Rule 21.(1) of the constitution states:

The Officers of the Association shall be:-

- (a) a President
- (b) a Vice-President
- (c) a Treasurer
- (d) a Secretary

Also the constitution states in Rule 22.(1) that the committee shall be elected at the AGM of the association each year and shall consist of the above officers and at least 2 and not more than 8 ordinary members.

## Nomination of Candidates. (Rule 23.(1))

The committee shall be elected at the AGM of the association each year and each nomination shall be in writing and signed by two members of the association accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (nominee).

In the IAA(SA)Inc the additional committee members can be:

- (a) Newsletter Editor
- (b) Awards Coordinator
- (c) Guest Speaker Coordinator
- (d) Special Projects
- (e) Committee Member (no title)

and whatever other positions that the committee may determine.

Also from the formed committee there shall be 3 Federal Council Representatives selected; usually the President, Vice-President and one other.

## Nomination Form

[Nominator] I, ..... a member of the IAA(SA)Inc, nominate  
..... for the position of .....

(Signature) ..... (Date) .....

[2<sup>nd</sup> Nominator] I, .....being a member of the IAA(SA)Inc, second the above nomination.

(Signature) ..... (Date) .....

[Nominee] and I, ..... being a financial member of the IAA(SA)Inc, agree to being nominated to the Committee of Management.

(Signature) ..... (Date) .....

*Please deliver to the IAA(SA)Inc Secretary at least 7 days before the AGM or bring to the AGM if this is not possible.*

(Office Use Only)..... Returning Officer .....

(Signature) ..... (Date) .....