

# Unveiling Untold Stories: Oral Histories From The Pioneers Of America Space Program

Space Stories

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10/29/18

**SPACE STORIES:  
ORAL HISTORIES FROM THE PIONEERS OF  
AMERICA'S SPACE PROGRAM**

**AN ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**

**Conducted in conjunction with  
the Houston Chapter of the AIAA, Honeywell Corporation,  
and the Center for Space Future Strategy,  
A Division of The Institute for Advanced Interdisciplinary Research**

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*Dr. Robbie Davis-Floyd, Research Fellow, Department of Anthropology, University of  
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*Dr. Kenneth J. Cox, Space Futurist*

*Editing and Writing Support:*

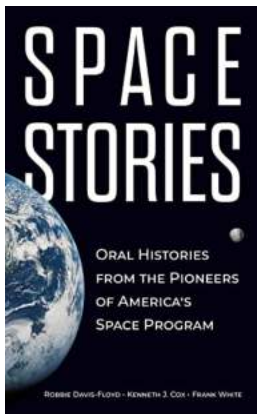
*Frank White  
Space Philosopher*

The American space program has been a source of fascination and awe for decades. From the iconic moon landing in 1969 to the ongoing missions exploring the vastness of our universe, the pioneers of the America space program have left an indelible mark on human history. While much has been written and

documented about these remarkable achievements, there is still much to be discovered about the people behind these missions.

## Unearthing Hidden Treasures

In an effort to uncover the true stories and experiences of the pioneers of the America space program, a team of researchers has embarked on a mission to collect and preserve oral histories. These oral histories provide unique insights into the challenges, triumphs, and sacrifices made by these trailblazers in their quest to conquer the final frontier.



### Space Stories: Oral Histories from the Pioneers of America's Space Program by John Andraos (Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 1288 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 323 pages  
Lending : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported



## The Forgotten Heroes

While the names of famous astronauts like Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin are widely recognized, there are many others whose contributions have gone unnoticed. Through these oral histories, we hope to shed light on the unsung heroes who played critical roles in the America space program. From scientists and engineers to mission control personnel and support staff, their stories provide

a comprehensive picture of the immense collaborative effort required to achieve groundbreaking advancements in space exploration.

## **A Glimpse into the Unknown**

The oral histories reveal intimate details of life in the American space program. They showcase the determination, creativity, and resilience of the people who dedicated their lives to pushing the boundaries of human knowledge. From the intense training regimens to the heart-stopping moments during missions, these accounts offer a firsthand perspective that transports us back in time and allows us to experience the high-stakes world of space exploration.

## **Pioneers' Perspectives**

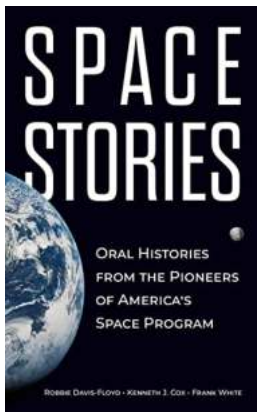
One of the most captivating aspects of the oral histories is the diversity of perspectives they offer. Each individual brings their unique experiences and viewpoints to the table, creating a tapestry of narratives that enrich our understanding of the America space program. Whether it's a riveting tale of overcoming personal adversity or a reflection on the profound impact of space exploration on human consciousness, these stories offer a multifaceted exploration of the human spirit.

## **Promoting Access and Awareness**

In an effort to make these oral histories accessible to the public, they are being digitized and made available online. This allows anyone with an internet connection to explore and engage with this invaluable resource. By sharing these stories, we hope to inspire future generations and foster a deeper appreciation for the pioneers of the America space program and their extraordinary achievements.

Oral histories from the pioneers of the America space program offer a window into a world of groundbreaking discoveries, unyielding determination, and

unwavering passion. By uncovering these untold stories, we gain a deeper appreciation for the men and women who paved the way for humanity's exploration of the cosmos. Through their words, we are reminded of the boundless potential of the human spirit and the power of collective ambition. Let us embrace these oral histories and ensure that the remarkable legacy of the pioneers of the America space program lives on for generations to come.



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How did America's space program originate?

How and why was NASA formed?

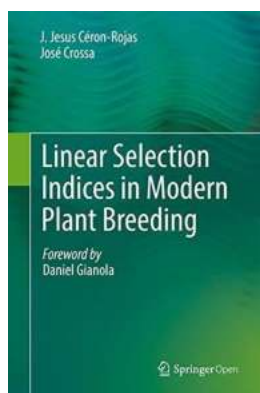
Why did it not become military-controlled?

What roles did the "Space Cadets," monkeys, and Yorkshire pigs play in getting the U.S. into outer space?

Official histories often make it appear as if nations make enormous decisions based on thorough research and understanding, after formal deliberations among "very important people" at the top of the heap. NASA's official early history has been told in countless institutional papers, reports, and books. But when the

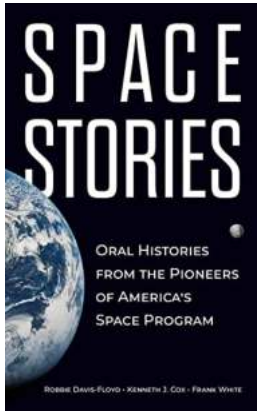
individuals intimately involved in these momentous choices are given voice, as they are in this fascinating book, they tell a different story—one of hops and skips, of intellectual influence rather than personal authority, of personality clashes and chats among colleagues and friends, and of "bootlegged" designs that sometimes led to billion-dollar programs. So it was with the birth of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

Thus, former NASA engineer and space futurist Kenneth (Ken) J. Cox and cultural anthropologist Robbie Davis-Floyd embarked on the project of collecting oral histories—inside stories—not from the well-publicized astronauts, but from the engineers, administrators, and visionaries who worked behind the scenes and were intimately involved in the early development of the American space program. With Frank White's assistance, they tell the story of how these pioneers shaped the events leading to the formation and early workings of NASA—from the Gemini, Mercury, and Apollo programs to the first Space Shuttle. In this well-crafted book, these Space Stories are told by rocket scientist Guy (Tibby) Thibodaux, spacecraft designers Maxwell (Max) Faget and Caldwell Johnson, attorney Paul Dembling, and the visionary Congressional librarian and space treaty writer Eilene Galloway, both of whom helped to draft the legislation that created NASA in 1958 and the international space policy under which NASA has functioned ever since. Space aficionados will find this book both informative and mesmerizing!



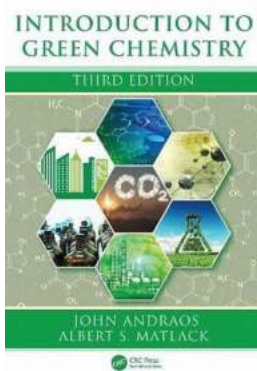
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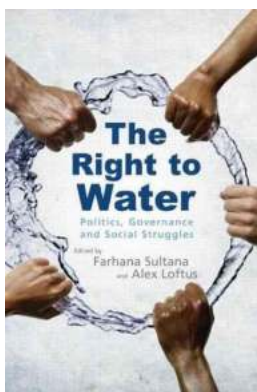
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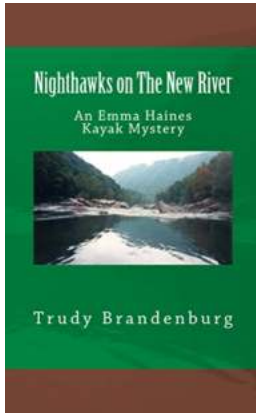
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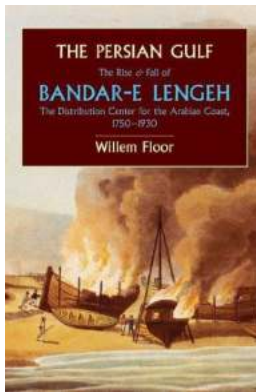
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