



General Manager's Corner by Joe Broadwater

The curse of the "Bambino" is no longer. What an amazing turnaround by the Boston Red Sox, down no games to three, to sweeping both the Yankees and Cardinals to win the American League Championship and the World Series. Some might call this a "Miracle." I hope your college and NFL teams are doing better than mine; the Terps started quickly and faded fast and the Redskins are still wondering if the season has started. Many of us are now waiting to see how the Bowl Championship Series shapes up, as well as attempting to predict the NFL playoff picture. For those of you who have been waiting for the start of the NBA season, well it is in full swing and I hope your team is doing well. The good news about the NBA is time management; what I mean by that is, you only have to watch the fourth quarter and you see most of the game! Now I must admit, I am an avid ACC basketball fan and the ACC has 7 teams ranked in the top 25 preseason poll.

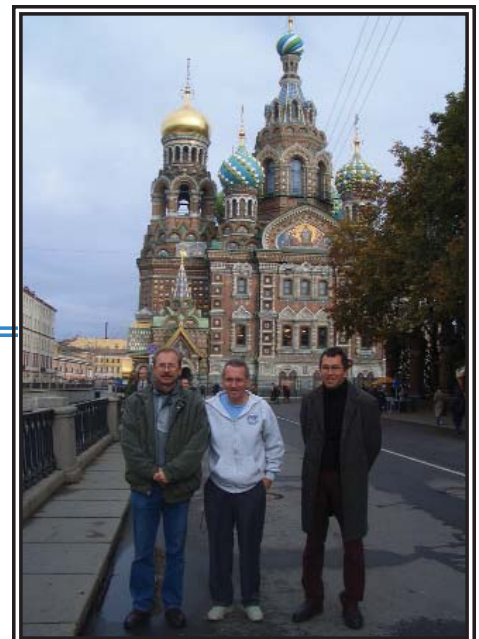
Enough with sports; it's time to talk about the great successes and achievements that we are experiencing within our National Security and Space Business Unit. The results of FY05 are directly attributable to the exceptional employee owners within our BU. I am amazed at the frequency and impact of the individual and personal contributions that each of you is making on a daily basis to satisfy and often times exceed the expectations of our customers. FY05 has been a year of change and I am very pleased to state that I believe that we are coming together as the NS&S team. I fully expect continued improvement and interaction between the fellow employee owners, and for that I would like to say THANK YOU and strongly encourage you to continue to keep up the exceptional work!

In the next couple of months I hope to see many of you, as I will be conducting a series of briefings at our various locations, addressing the state of our Business Unit and providing each of you insight into the content and details of our FY06 Business Plan.

As the Holiday season approaches, I would encourage all of you to make time to relax and enjoy your families and friends, and also to reflect upon the successes that we have experienced.

Thanks and keep up the great work!

Joe



Accompanied by Russian Host Serguei Matrossov (left) and Christopher Lee of Germany (right), Ron Creel takes in the sights of St. Petersburg during his recent trip to attend the International Planetary Rovers and Robotics Workshop (story on next page).

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Ron discusses features of the Lunokhod (Moonwalker) robotic rover with Russian engineers

Roving in Russia *by Ron Creel*

As reported in the May/June Spectrum, I went to St. Petersburg, Russia, where I made my retrospective Apollo Lunar Roving Vehicle (LRV) thermal control presentation at the International Planetary Rovers and Robotics Workshop. I was able to share experiences with the Russian engineers who had developed and controlled their robotic "Lunokhod" rovers on the moon back in the early 1970s.

I was also honored to accept several medals on behalf of all the LRV workers. This included receiving the Cosmonautics Federation of Russia "Sputnik" medal from General Dovgan, one of the original Lunokhod drivers, on the occasion of the 47th anniversary of the launch of Earth's first artificial satellite. I was also given a commemorative Lunokhod pin and a "Vostok" pin by the Russian hero and cosmonaut, Georgi Grechko. I found myself speechless when receiving these awards, which is a very unusual position for me!

My Russian hosts and I realized what an unexpected pleasure it was to finally be able to speak "face-to-face" with our engineering counterparts. It was a truly unique experience to talk to these Russian engineers who conquered their own mobility and thermal challenges so far away, both geographically and politically. I was also able to interface with robotics engineers from Germany, Finland, France, and the United Kingdom, and I anticipate future cooperation on lunar exploration pursuits with our new international friends.

