

# Mars Exploration Science Monthly Newsletter

A publication of the Mars Program Office and the Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG)

Issue: June 2008

**MEPAG Meeting #19: September 18, 2008** in the Pasadena, California area, which will follow the Mars Science Laboratory (MSL) Landing Site Workshop #3, September 15-17, 2008)

**MEPAG Meeting #20: February 18-19, 2009** on the East Coast

## Phoenix Lands on Mars!

Phoenix successfully touched down on Mars, May 25, 2008. Congratulations to Peter Smith, Barry Goldstein, and the entire Phoenix team!

<http://phoenix.lpl.arizona.edu/>



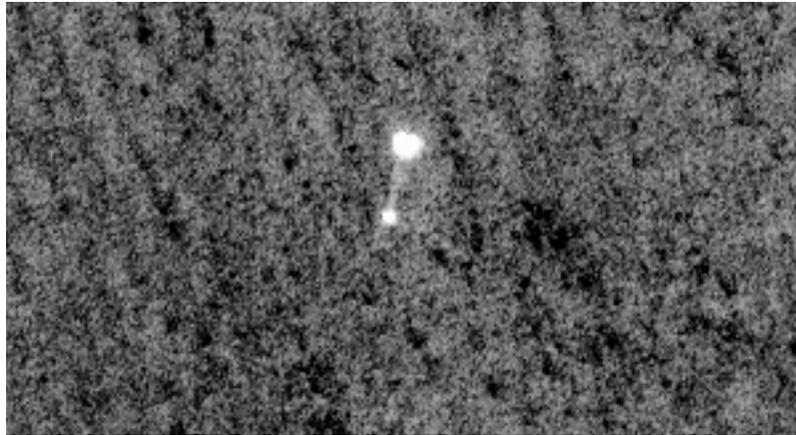
### Near-term Due Dates (next three months)

Due	Project
6/01	Abstracts— <b>European Planetary Science Congress</b> (September 22-26, 2008)
6/03	Abstracts— <b>Geological Society of America national meeting</b> (October 5-9, 2008)
6/09	Abstracts— <b>8<sup>th</sup> European Workshop on Astrobiology EANA '08</b> (September 1-3, 2008)
6/13	Session Proposal Form— <b>AGU Fall Meeting</b> (December 15-19, 2008)
6/17	Indication of Intent— <b>3<sup>rd</sup> International Workshop on the Mars Atmosphere</b> (Nov. 10-13, 2008)
6/24	Registration deadline— <b>NLSI Lunar Science Conference</b> (July 20-23, 2008)
6/30	Preregistration— <b>71<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society</b> (July 28-August 1, 2008)
7/01	Early registration— <b>8<sup>th</sup> European Workshop on Astrobiology EANA '08</b> (September 1-3, 2008)
7/02	Abstracts— <b>Workshop on Early Solar System Impact Bombardment</b> (September 15-17, 2008)
8/21	Abstracts— <b>3<sup>rd</sup> International Workshop on the Mars Atmosphere</b> (November 10-13, 2008)

## Mars Science News

MRO HiRISE successfully images Phoenix during descent. Good shooting!

<http://marsprogram.jpl.nasa.gov/mro/>



## Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

Type	Date & Location	Event Information
<i>2008 Second Quarter, 2008</i>		
	June 8-11, 2008 Montreal, Quebec CANADA	<b>The Fifth Annual Planetary and Terrestrial Mining Sciences Symposium (PTMSS)</b> Hosted by NORCAT <b>Deadline for abstract: May 9, 2008</b> <a href="http://www.ptmss.com">www.ptmss.com</a>
	June 4-6, 2008 Madrid, SPAIN	<b>Joint Mars Express – Venus Express Science Working Team Meeting</b> Contact Agustin Chicarro, <a href="mailto:Agustin.Chicarro@esa.int">Agustin.Chicarro@esa.int</a>
	June 9-11, 2008 Madrid, Spain	<b>Mars Express Data Workshops</b> At ESAC. Intended to provide users of the Planetary Science Archive (PSA: <a href="http://www.rssd.esa.int/PSA/">http://www.rssd.esa.int/PSA/</a> ) and scientists interested in exploring and using ESA Mars Express data the possibility to meet members of Instrument Teams and get experience with basic data handling, processing and integration. Both scientific and technical lectures and hands-on are planned. <b>June 9: Radio Science: Radio occultation data</b> (neutral atmosphere and ionosphere) <b>June 10-11: MARSIS data subsurface and ionosphere data.</b> Useful: knowledge of MATLAB Attendance is limited to about 25 participants; first come, first served. Interested participants should send email with name, institution, Level: student, PhD, Post doc. Interest for which data set: Radio-Science, MARSIS ionosphere, MARSIS subsurface. Contact Olivier Witasse, ESA, <a href="mailto:owitasse@rssd.esa.int">owitasse@rssd.esa.int</a> <a href="http://www.rssd.esa.int/mexdataworkshops/">http://www.rssd.esa.int/mexdataworkshops/</a>

Type	Date & Location	Event Information
	June 12-13, 2008 Guelph, Ontario, CANADA	<b>Canadian Advanced Life Support Systems/Alimentaire Systeme Survie (CanALSS) Workshop</b> Workshop brings together key stakeholders in Canada's greenhouse and aerospace industries, as well as biological life support researchers. <b>Deadline for registration: May 9, 2008</b> Submitted by Iacob Ardelean, 137AERDOCA <a href="http://www.canalss.ca">http://www.canalss.ca</a>
	June 16-18, 2008 Busan, KOREA	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Asia Oceania Geosciences Society Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.interridge.org/node/4893">http://www.interridge.org/node/4893</a>
	June 23-27, 2008 Atlanta, Georgia	<b>6th International Planetary Probe Workshop (IPPW-6) at the Georgia Institute of Technology</b> <b>Deadline for early registration: May 15, 2008</b> <a href="http://www.planetaryprobe.org/">http://www.planetaryprobe.org/</a>
	June 25, 2008	<b>Mars solstice (beginning of northern summer)</b>
	June 29-July 3, 2008 Fairbanks, Alaska	<b>Ninth International Conference on Permafrost (NICOP)</b> <b>Note special session: Planetary Permafrost and Astrobiology</b> Campus of University of Alaska, Fairbanks Abstracts encouraged from the planetary science community studying permafrost and icy surfaces throughout the Solar System and from the astrobiology community interested in organisms living or preserved in ice or permafrost. <a href="http://nicop.org/">http://nicop.org/</a> (Submitted by Chris McKay, NASA Ames Research Center)
<i>Third Quarter, 2008</i>		
	July 13-18, 2008 Vancouver, BC, CANADA	<b>Goldschmidt 2008 Conference</b> <b>Theme 2, Session #02b: Surface Geochemistry and Processes on Mars</b> <a href="http://www.goldschmidt2008.org/index">http://www.goldschmidt2008.org/index</a> (Submitted by Nick Tosca, Harvard University)
	July 13-20, 2008 Montreal, Quebec CANADA	<b>37<sup>th</sup> COSPAR Scientific Assembly</b> <a href="http://www.cospar-assembly.org/">http://www.cospar-assembly.org/</a>
	July 14-18, 2008 Baltimore, Maryland	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Asteroids, Comets and Meteors Conference</b> <b>Deadline for preregistration at a reduced rate: May 12</b> Contact: Margaret Simon, <a href="mailto:Margaret.simon@jhuapl.edu">Margaret.simon@jhuapl.edu</a> <a href="http://acm2008.jhuapl.edu/">http://acm2008.jhuapl.edu/</a>
	July 20-23, 2008 Moffett Field, California	<b>NLSI Lunar Science Conference</b> NASA Ames Conference Center <b>Registration deadline: June 24, 2008</b> <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/nlsc2008/">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/nlsc2008/</a> (Submitted by Will Marshall, NASA Ames Research Center)
	July 28-August 1, 2008 Matsue, JAPAN	<b>71st Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society</b> <b>Deadline for abstracts: May 7, 2008</b> <b>Deadline for pre-registration: June 30, 2008</b> <a href="http://www.metsoc2008.jp/">http://www.metsoc2008.jp/</a>

Type	Date & Location	Event Information
	August 6–14, 2008 Oslo, NORWAY	<p><b>The 33<sup>rd</sup> International Geological Congress</b> A disciplinary symposium in Comparative Planetology, with a special session PIP-02 The Geology of Mars and Venus results. Other sessions in Impact Structures. <a href="http://www.33igc.org/">http://www.33igc.org/</a> (Submitted by Jouko Raitala, University of Oulu, FINLAND)</p>
	August 11–16, 2008 Arlington, Virginia	<p><b>Sixth International Conference on Case Histories in Geotechnical Engineering</b> One of the themes is "Application of Geotechnical Engineering in Outer Space, including Granular Material Behavior in Lunar and Martian Environments; Extraterrestrial Mining, Construction, and Transportation Infrastructure Development". <a href="http://www.6icchge2008.org">http://www.6icchge2008.org</a></p>
	August 17–21, 2008 Vredefort Dome, SOUTH AFRICA	<p><b>Conference on Large Meteorite Impacts and Planetary Evolution IV</b> Sunwa River Lodge <b>Deadline for abstracts: May 15, 2008</b> <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/lmi2008/lmi2008.2nd.shtml">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/lmi2008/lmi2008.2nd.shtml</a></p>
	August 24–29, 2008 Florence, ITALY	<p><b>XV International Conference on the Origin of Life (ISSOL '08)</b> <b>Deadline for abstracts and early registration: May 2, 2008</b> Sponsor: The International Society for the Study of the Origin of Life <a href="http://www.dbag.unifi.it/issol2008/">http://www.dbag.unifi.it/issol2008/</a></p>
	September 1-3, 2008 Neuchatel, SWITZERLAND	<p><b>8<sup>th</sup> European Workshop on Astrobiology EANA '08</b> European Astrobiology Network Association, ESA, Space Exploration Institute. Held at Space Exploration Institute. <b>Deadline for abstracts: June 9, 2008</b> <b>Deadline for early registration: July 1, 2008</b> <a href="http://www.space-x.eu/EANA08/">http://www.space-x.eu/EANA08/</a></p>
	September 15-17, 2008 Houston, Texas	<p><b>Workshop on the Early Solar System Impact Bombardment</b> Lunar and Planetary Institute One of the legacies of the Apollo program is the concept of late heavy bombardment or a lunar cataclysm that may have resurfaced the Moon and thermally metamorphosed its crust. Several recent studies have continued to test that concept and explore the implications any bombardment may have for our understanding of lunar evolution and early evolution of life on Earth. <b>Deadline for indication of intent: May 21, 2008</b> <b>Deadline for abstracts: July 2, 2008</b> Final announcement and workshop program will be posted by August 6, 2008. <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/bombardment2008/">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/bombardment2008/</a></p>

Type	Date & Location	Event Information
	September 15-17, 2008 Monrovia, California	<b>MSL (Mars Science Laboratory) 3<sup>rd</sup> Landing Site Workshop</b> Doubletree Hotel, Monrovia. The process of selecting the MSL landing site continued at the second workshop held in October 2007 when the number of sites remaining under discussion was narrowed to six. The goal of the third workshop will be to produce a summary of the characteristics, strengths, and weaknesses of each of these six sites. A future workshop is planned that would further narrow the list of sites under consideration to a recommended landing site. Information on the MSL landing site selection process and sites discussed at the first two workshops along with supporting image data can be found at the websites supporting MSL landing site section activities: <a href="http://marsoweb.nas.nasa.gov/landingsites/">http://marsoweb.nas.nasa.gov/landingsites/</a> <a href="http://webgis.wr.usgs.gov/msl">http://webgis.wr.usgs.gov/msl</a> All members of the Mars scientific community are encouraged to participate. Contact Matt Golombek <a href="mailto:golombek@jpl.nasa.gov">golombek@jpl.nasa.gov</a>
	September 18, 2008 Monrovia, California	<b>MEPAG (Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group) Meeting #19</b> Contact Jack Mustard, <a href="mailto:john_mustard@brown.edu">john_mustard@brown.edu</a>
	September 22-26, 2008 Münster, GERMANY	<b>European Planetary Science Congress (EPSC)</b> University Münster. <b>Deadline for abstracts: June 1, 2008</b> <b>Deadline for preregistration: August 15, 2008</b> <a href="http://meetings.copernicus.org/epsc2008/">http://meetings.copernicus.org/epsc2008/</a> Contact Harald Hiesinger: <a href="mailto:hiesinger@uni-muenster.de">hiesinger@uni-muenster.de</a>
	September 25-28, 2008 Grants, New Mexico	<b>Caves of Mars Field Meeting: Lavatubes and their extraterrestrial analog value for Mars, and possibly other bodies</b> Sponsored by the Association of Mars Explorers, a non-formal group who have either had a mission on Mars, or who have worked extensively in analog environments. September 25-26: Field meeting on site, El Malpais National Monument, Grants, NM. September 27-28: Chaco Canyon field trip Contact: Penny Boston, <a href="mailto:pboston@nmt.edu">pboston@nmt.edu</a> Caves of Mars Project: <a href="http://www.highmars.org/niac/">http://www.highmars.org/niac/</a>
	September 29-30, 2008 Flagstaff, Arizona	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Mars Crater Consortium Meeting</b> US Geological Survey <b>Deadline for abstracts: September 19, 2008</b> Contact Nadine Barlow, <a href="mailto:Nadine.Barlow@nau.edu">Nadine.Barlow@nau.edu</a> <a href="http://www.marscraterconsortium.nau.edu/">http://www.marscraterconsortium.nau.edu/</a>
	September 29-October 3, 2008 Glasgow, SCOTLAND	<b>59th International Astronautical Congress</b> This event includes a Space Exploration Symposium the whole week, with sessions on astronomy, the Moon, Mars, advanced concepts, and solar system exploration) <b>Deadline for early registration with discount: August 1, 2008</b> <a href="http://www.iafaastro.com/">http://www.iafaastro.com/</a>

Type	Date & Location	Event Information
	October 1-2, 2008 Flagstaff, Arizona	<p><b>GIS for Planetary Mappers</b> Hands-on training workshop held at USGS. Seating limited to 24 people. Helpful if participants could bring a laptop computer running Windows, but it is not required. Users with OSX or Linux laptops can also be accommodated. Grad students and post-docs are encouraged to attend. A DVD containing presentation materials and software tools will be provided.</p> <p><b>Deadline for indication of interest: September 1, 2008</b> Contact: Trent Hare, <a href="mailto:thare@usgs.gov">thare@usgs.gov</a> <a href="http://webgis.wr.usgs.gov/pigwad/docs/">http://webgis.wr.usgs.gov/pigwad/docs/</a> Submitted by Nadine Barlow, Northern Arizona University</p>
	October 5-9, 2008 Houston, Texas	<p><b>Geological Society of America national meeting</b> <b>Deadline for abstracts: June 3, 2008</b> <b>Deadline for pre-registration: August 2008</b> <a href="http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/">http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/</a></p>
	October 10-15, 2008 Ithaca, New York	<p><b>40th Annual Meeting of the DPS</b> <b>Deadline for abstracts: August 1, 2008</b> <b>Deadline for early preregistration: September 1, 2008</b> <a href="http://www.aas.org/~dps/meetings.html">http://www.aas.org/~dps/meetings.html</a></p>
	October 20-24, 2008 Moab, Utah	<p><b>Second Workshop on Mars Valley Networks</b> Sponsors: The Smithsonian Institution and University of Virginia Valley networks represent the best evidence that water once flowed across the surface of ancient Mars. This workshop will provide a forum for discussing the extraction of watershed information from digital elevation models of the martian surface, age-dating valley network systems, and other quantitative measurements of valley networks. A field trip to look at sapping features in the Colorado Plateau is also planned. Contact <a href="mailto:nasmworkshop@si.edu">nasmworkshop@si.edu</a>, or Bob Craddock (<a href="mailto:craddockb@si.edu">craddockb@si.edu</a>) (Submitted by Bob Craddock, Smithsonian Institution, workshop convener)</p>
	October 21-28, 2008 Paris, FRANCE	<p><b>Workshop on Martian Phyllosilicates: Recorders of Aqueous Processes?</b> CNES Objectives: understanding the Martian surface environment in phyllosilicate-bearing localities. This includes identifying where and what kinds of phyllosilicates have been identified, how these relate to our knowledge from terrestrial sites and experimental results, and what we can expect to achieve with upcoming missions. Implications for habitability (e.g., what can MSL and ExoMars tell us?) Contact: Jean-Pierre Bibring, <a href="mailto:bibring@ias.fr">bibring@ias.fr</a> <a href="http://www.ias.u-psud.fr/Mars_Phyllsilicates">http://www.ias.u-psud.fr/Mars_Phyllsilicates</a></p>
	October 27-31, 2008 Florida	<p><b>10th ILEWG International Conference on Exploration and Utilization of the Moon (ICEUM10/ILC2008)</b> (Dates TBC near LRO launch) <a href="http://sci.esa.int/ilewg">http://sci.esa.int/ilewg</a></p>
	October 28-31, 2008 Cape Canaveral, Florida	<p><b>Joint Annual Meeting of LEAG-ICEUM-SRR</b> Meeting is planned to coincide with the October 28, 2008 launch of the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO - including LCROSS) from the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. To be added to the mailing list to receive electronic reminders or special announcements via e-mail, please submit the electronic <b>Indication of Intent form by May 30, 2008.</b> Contact: Elizabeth Wagganer, LPI (281) 486-2164 <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/leagilewg2008">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/leagilewg2008</a></p>

Type	Date & Location	Event Information
	November 10–13, 2008 Williamsburg, Virginia	<b>3rd International Workshop on the Mars Atmosphere: Modeling and Observations</b> Williamsburg Woodlands Hotel and Conference Center Sponsor: The Lunar and Planetary Institute <b>Deadline for indication of intent form: June 17, 2008</b> <b>Deadline for abstract submission: August 21, 2008</b> Contacts: Joel S. Levine <a href="mailto:joel.s.levine@nasa.gov">joel.s.levine@nasa.gov</a> and Francois Forget <a href="mailto:Francois.Forget@lmd.jussieu.fr">Francois.Forget@lmd.jussieu.fr</a> <a href="http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/modeling2008/">http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meetings/modeling2008/</a>
	November 2008	<b>End of MRO Primary Science Phase; transition to Relay Phase</b>
	November 18, 2008	<b>Start of Mars solar conjunction</b>
<i>Fourth Quarter, 2008</i>		
	December 15–19, 2008 San Francisco, California	<b>Fall meeting, AGU</b> <b>Deadline for session proposal form: June 13, 2008</b> <a href="http://www.agu.org/meetings">www.agu.org/meetings</a>
	December 24, 2008	<b>End of Mars solar conjunction</b>
	December 26, 2008	<b>Mars equinox (beginning of northern fall)</b>
<i>2009</i>		
	February 2009 East Coast	<b>MEPAG (Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group) Meeting #20</b>
	February 2009	<b>VEXAG (Venus Exploration Analysis Group) Meeting – Date and location to be announced – Contact Ellen Stofan, <a href="mailto:ellen@proxemy.com">ellen@proxemy.com</a></b>
	March 2009 Houston, Texas	<b>Lunar and Planetary Science Conference</b> <b>Deadline for abstracts: TBD</b>
	April 2009 Noordwijk, THE NETHERLANDS	<b>International Conference on Comparative Planetology: Venus-Earth-Mars at ESTEC</b> Contact: Augustin Chicarro, <a href="mailto:Augustin.Chicarro@esa.int">Augustin.Chicarro@esa.int</a>
	April 2009	<b>Fourth MSL Landing Site workshop</b>
	July 7-12, 2009 Melbourne, Australia	<b>7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Geomorphology Ancient Landscapes – Modern Perspectives</b> Melbourne Exhibition & Convention Centre There will be dedicated sessions on Planetary Geomorphology and a field trip to examine analog landscapes in South Australia. <a href="http://www.geomorphology2009.com/">http://www.geomorphology2009.com/</a> (Submitted by Mary Bourke, Planetary Science Institute, Tucson, Arizona)
	July 13–18, 2009 Nancy, FRANCE	<b>72nd Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society</b> Contact: Marc Chaussidon, Guy Libourel or Bernard Marty <a href="http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings">http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings</a>
	October 2009	<b>2009 Mars Launch Period Opens</b>
	October 4–9, 2009 San Juan, Puerto Rico	<b>41st Annual Meeting DPS</b> <a href="http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html">http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html</a>

Type	Date & Location	Event Information
	October 18–21, 2009 Portland, Oregon	<b>Geological Society of America National Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/">http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/</a>
	December 15–19, 2009 San Francisco, California	<b>AGU Fall Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.agu.org/meetings">www.agu.org/meetings</a>
<i>2010</i>		
	March 2010 Houston, Texas	<b>Lunar and Planetary Science Conference</b>
	July 18–25, 2010 Bremen, GERMANY	<b>38th COSPAR Scientific Assembly</b>
	July 25 or August 1, 2010 Toronto, Ontario CANADA	<b>73rd Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society</b> Contact: Dr. G. Srinivasan <a href="http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings">http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings</a>
	October 2010	<b>42nd Annual Meeting of the DPS</b> <a href="http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html">http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html</a>
	October 31– November 3, 2010 Denver, Colorado	<b>Geological Society of America National Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/">http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/</a>
	December 13–17, 2010 San Francisco, California	<b>AGU Fall Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.agu.org/meetings">www.agu.org/meetings</a>
<i>2011</i>		
	July 2011 Pasadena, California	<b>8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Mars</b> California Institute of Technology
	August 2011 Greenwich ENGLAND, UK	<b>74th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society</b> Contact: Gretchen Benedix <a href="http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings">http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings</a>
	October 2011 Nice, FRANCE	<b>43rd Annual Meeting of the DPS</b> <a href="http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html">http://www.aas.org/dps/meetings.html</a>
	October 9–12, 2011 Minneapolis, Minnesota	<b>Geological Society of America National Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/">http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/</a>
	December 12–16, 2011 San Francisco, California	<b>AGU Fall Meeting</b> <a href="http://www.agu.org/meetings">www.agu.org/meetings</a>
<i>2012</i>		
	August 2012 Cairns, Queensland AUSTRALIA	<b>75th Annual Meeting of the Meteoritical Society</b> Contact: Trevor Ireland <a href="http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings">http://www.meteoriticalsociety.org/simple_template.cfm?code=news_meetings</a>
	August 2012 Brisbane, AUSTRALIA	<b>The 34<sup>th</sup> International Geological Congress</b> <a href="http://www.33igc.org/">http://www.33igc.org/</a>

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Special holidays to consider when scheduling conferences/workshops/meetings:

Rosh Hashanah	9/30/2008	9/19/2009	9/9/2010	9/29/2011	9/17/2012
Yom Kippur	10/9/2008	9/28/2009	9/18/2010	10/8/2011	9/26/2012
(Note that Jewish holidays start at sundown the previous evening).					
Good Friday		4/10/2009	4/2/2010	4/22/2011	4/6/2012
Thanksgiving Day, U.S.	11/27/2008	11/26/2009	11/25/2010	11/24/2011	11/22/2012
Thanksgiving Day, Canada	10/13/2008	10/12/2009	10/11/2010	10/10/2011	10/8/2012

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Please send your Mars Community Announcements and calendar items for inclusion in next month's email to Joyce Pulliam, [Joyce.N.Pulliam@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:Joyce.N.Pulliam@jpl.nasa.gov), 818-393-0444.

All announcements listed in this newsletter will be posted on the MEPAG website, available at <http://mepag.jpl.nasa.gov>.