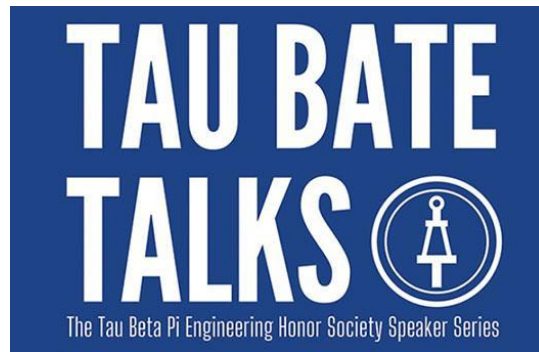




Why Go to Mars?

George Hamilton AL G '89

MS, PE, F.NSPE

Sunday, September 20, 2026

7 p.m. Eastern



The Talk: Humans are getting serious about living and working on other bodies in the solar system, first on our Moon, and in time, on the red planet Mars. For this to happen, there is much which needs to be learned and many problems to be conquered, not only in getting there, but also in thriving there.

This talk will illuminate some of the many technical, physiological, resource, environmental, medical, ergonomic, economic and political challenges of living and working on other planets, in the near and far terms.

Outside of the Earth-Moon system, Mars is the most hospitable body in the solar system for humans and is currently the only real candidate for future human exploration (except for the Moon).

Mars offers the opportunity for in-situ resource utilization providing air for the astronauts to breathe and fuel for their surface rovers and return vehicles.

The Speaker: George was born and raised in Huntsville, Alabama, where he achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. He graduated from Auburn University (BSME 1980) and then worked construction engineering in Saudi Arabia on the King Khalid International Airport. He attended graduate school at University of Alabama Birmingham (MS BME 1989) where he studied the design of orthopedic joint implants, before becoming a PE in 1992. For nearly 35 years, he has worked for NASA at the Marshall Space Flight Center where he did Human Engineering design and analysis support, to ensure that the flight crew could safely and effectively operate experiments in microgravity, and in later career ensure the ground crew could safely and effectively assemble and maintain the new SLS vehicle.

Registration link: <https://tbp-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/5GQCslbPTBSB2c0cT9x9zw>