

JPL Stories



*Wednesday,
May 20,
2009*

4:30 - 5:30 PM

*JPL Library,
Customer
Service Area,
west end of
Building 111
Room 104*

May 4, 1989 Magellan 20 Year Launch Anniversary

**Back into Orbit for the Shuttle
Back to the Planets for JPL**

*Presented by Julie Webster,
Cassini Spacecraft Operations Manager*

In the fall of 1988, the Kennedy Space Center was working overtime to get the first Shuttle flight ready following the disastrous Challenger accident in January, 1986. JPL was just as anxious to get the Magellan spacecraft on its way to Venus after a long delay. In the wings waiting for later Shuttle rides were Galileo and Ulysses. Any delay on one side or the other could lead to a costly overrun and a missed launch window. This is the story of Julie Webster, a Martin Marietta ATLO engineer, new to the world of both Shuttle processing and planetary spaceflight. The crucial time leading up to the successful Magellan launch was some of the most exciting and nerve wracking months of her career!

Everyone is welcome.

