

July 26, 2005

Dear Bernard Brown Scholarship Board Members:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Bernard Brown Scholarship Board Members for giving me the opportunity to go to Space Camp, under the Bernard Curtis Brown II Memorial.

This was a wonderful experience for me. Space Camp was a fabulous learning ground. When I arrived on Sunday, July 2nd, I didn't know what to expect. What a surprise, when I discovered my living quarters for the week would be in a model habitat with five other girls. These girls were from all parts of the country, even as far away as Taiwan. I found five new friends, who offered different ideas and thoughts. We quickly became friends and worked as a team.

We ran around Rocket Park at least once a day and learned that the Saturn V was the tallest rocket, standing 363 ft. tall in the air. (See pic. 1) We prepared for missions in the white room, where we got dressed in orange space suits. (See pic 2) I was both a Station Scientist and a Mission Specialist II. On our second mission I was the Mission Specialist II. I wore part of a real astronaut's spacesuit and went on a pretend space walk to fix the Hubble telescope's battery. The role of the Station Scientist was to do experiments and report the findings.

During the middle of the week, I experienced the M.A.T. Chair. This chair is similar to the Gyroscope, however motorized. The purpose of this chair is to show non dizziness or motion sickness while being spun. I also went on the 1/6 chair which made you feel what it would be like on the moon - weightlessness.

This camp is the best, and I would like to go again and again. When I return to school, I want to share all my experiences at Space Camp with my teachers and classmates.

Now, because of this wonderful experience made possible by the Bernard Brown Scholarship, I don't know what I want to pursue when I grow up, a Forensic Scientist,

or the first woman on Mars. But there is still plenty of time to think about that.

I would like to say, thank you, thank you very much, MCEC, for the most awesome experience of my life.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Rensink
USCG, Mobile, AL