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Oklahoma State University-Stillwater, Oklahoma

Spacemobile Anecdotes by Ron Ernst. Written 2001.

Spacemobile Anecdotes
by Ron Ernst

I was brought on in November of 1990 at GSFC. I hit the road with Dennis in Pennsylvania. It started out really great, with Dennis pulling away at a stop light and me stepping on the gas and the van just rolling backwards on the hill we were on. Dennis did not realize I was not behind him for several blocks. I just sat there and thought, What the hell do I do now!!! Dennis came back and we got a tow. I was at his presentation the next morning with my van.

A few weeks later I was being trained by Pat Biggs. Pat felt that it was time for me to do the whole presentation on my own. He told me that he was not going to bail me out if I got lost on stage. Well, I started my program at 9:00am with a student audience of about nine hundred 5th and 6th graders. The program ended at about 9:20am. Yes, I did a 45 minute program in 20 minutes. To this day, neither Pat nor I can figure out how I did that.

At another point I was told that I would get a surprise visit from Mr. Larry Bilbrough of the HQ staff. I asked Dennis how I would know if this guy Bilbrough was in the audience. Dennis said that would be real easy. Just look for the guy sitting in the back reading the sports page of the daily newspaper. I never did get that visit.