

Golden Spread Council, BSA 2020 Good Scout Lunch

Thursday, February 20, 2020 Amarillo Civic Center, Heritage Room

Keynote Speaker



Eagle Scout Astronaut **COL Michael Edward Fossum, USAFR, (Ret.)**

Chief Operating Officer, Texas A&M University at Galveston

Vice President, Texas A&M University

Executive Professor of Maritime Administration, Texas A&M University at Galveston

Michael E. Fossum is the Chief Operating Officer and Vice President of the Galveston campus of Texas A&M University, a special purpose institution fulfilling Texas A&M's sea-grant mission. Fossum joined Texas A&M following his retirement from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Johnson Space Center in 2017.

Fossum is a veteran of three space flights with more than 194 days in space and more than 48 hours in seven spacewalks during his 19 years as an astronaut. He has logged over 2,000 hours in 35 different aircraft throughout the course of his career. Fossum was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Air Force in 1980 and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Texas A&M University and Master of Science degrees in Systems Engineering and Physical Science from the Air Force Institute of Technology and the University of Houston - Clear Lake, respectively.

Born December 19, 1957, in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and grew up in McAllen, Texas. Married to the former Melanie J. London. They have four children and four grandchildren. He enjoys family activities, motorcycle riding and backpacking. Mike's main hobby is serving as Scoutmaster of a Boy Scout troop. His parents, Merlyn E. Fossum and Patricia A. Fossum, are deceased.

As an Eagle Scout, he is heavily involved with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) as well as the Order of the Arrow and is the Scoutmaster of Troop 1598 based in Webster, TX. The BSA has honored him with its Distinguished Eagle Scout Award. On May 30, 2007, Fossum was invited to be the keynote speaker at the opening ceremony at Philmont Scout Ranch, starting off the ranch's 2007 season by relating to the staff there how his experiences both in scouting and at Philmont helped him overcome many challenges in his life.

Awards/Honors:

NASA Exceptional Service Medal and three NASA Spaceflight Medals. Scouting awards include Distinguished Eagle Scout, Silver Beaver and Vigil Member of the Order of the Arrow. Distinguished Military Graduate from Texas A&M University and Squadron Commander in the Corps of Cadets. Awarded the U.S. Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters and various other service awards. Distinguished Graduate from the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School, Class 85A.

Honorees

Bill Gething

Eagle Scout
80 Years Service to Scouting
Daniel Carter Beard Masonic Scouter award
District Award of Merit Recipient
Silver Beaver Recipient
Silver Buffalo Recipient

Snack Pack 4 Kids

It all began with 10 hungry students at Will Rogers Elementary School in Amarillo. On Friday, September 3, 2010, the first 10 SP4K recipients received a bag containing enough food to get them through the weekend. Today, the program has grown to serve more than 10,000 kids in 51 school districts.