

2008 NSS Board of Directors Candidate Statement for Jim Plaxco

As a director I will work to insure the continued success and growth of the National Space Society. As a former director and officer I have the background knowledge and experience necessary to be an effective director.

My previous NSS experience includes serving as Region 6 Director and Vice President of Chapters. In 2004 I was placed in charge of the NSS Web Site Task Force to identify a lower cost solution for our web presence. I successfully undertook the task of creating an all-volunteer structure and procured complimentary hosting saving NSS more than \$22,000 per year.

In 2006-2007 I managed the NSS' first ever space art contest and production of the *2008 Space Settlement Calendar*. Key to the contest's success was my solicitation of over \$10,000 worth of prizes. For this I was presented with the *NSS Award of Excellence* at the 2007 ISDC.

In September 2007 I was elected Chair of the NSS Web Oversight Committee and have taken on the task of redesigning the NSS web site. In this role I work closely with directors, officers, and headquarters to insure that the NSS message is effectively communicated to the world via our web site.

I have been a member of one or more NSS chapters since 1988. I founded a chapter and have served in various chapter officer roles over the years. As a consequence of orchestrating a speaking tour of Chicago by cosmonaut Georgi Grechko, the Chicago Society for Space Studies received the *NSS Chapter Special Merit Award* at the 1993 ISDC. Currently I serve as Vice President, Webmaster, Director, and chair the CSSS Speakers Bureau for the Chicago Society for Space Studies. My establishment of the CSSS Speakers Bureau was instrumental in the chapter being awarded the 2006 *NSS Chapter Excellence - Public Outreach Award*.

Other relevant experience includes being a Solar System Ambassador for NASA JPL; having served on the Harper College Center for Meteorite and Planetary Studies Board of Advisors; being Henize Science Learning Center Program Director; having served variously as Editor, Webmaster, and Vice President for the Planetary Studies Foundation for which I received the 1995 *PSF President's Award*, the organization's top award.

I believe that I have the necessary qualifications to be an effective director for the National Space Society and hope to have your vote in this election.

Thank you.