**CURRICULUM VITAE**

**May 11, 2004**

**NAME** Robert Lee Gibson, Captain USN (Retired)

**BIRTHDATE** October 30, 1946

**PLACE OF BIRTH** Cooperstown, New York

**MARITAL STATUS**

Married to Astronaut Margaret Rhea Seddon, M.D. Four children, Julie Christie Gibson born July 24, 1976, Paul Seddon Gibson born July 26, 1982, Edward Dann Gibson born March 27, 1989, and Emilee Louise Gibson born June 9, 1995.

**EDUCATION** St. Cornelius Elementary, Long Beach, California

St. John Boscoe High School, Bellflower, California

James Madison High School, Vienna, Virginia

Huntington High School, Huntington, New York, 1964

Suffolk County Community College, A.A.S. Engineering Science, 1966

California Polytechnic State University, B.S. Aeronautical Engineering, 1969

**PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

U.S. Navy Aviation Officer Candidate School, Pensacola, Florida, 1969. Commissioned Ensign, USN, 1969.

Naval Aviation Schools Command. Naval Pilot Training Course in T-34B, T-2A, T-2B, T-2C, TA-4J aircraft, Pensacola Florida, Meridien Mississippi, Kingsville Texas, 1969-1971. Designated Naval Aviator in January 1971.

Survival, Evasion, Resistance, Escape Training, Warner Springs, California, 1971.

Maintenance Officer Management School, San Diego,

California, 1971.

1

Electronic Warfare School, San Diego, California, 1971

Combat Replacement Crew Training in F-4B/F-4J Aircraft, San Diego, California 1971-1972. Designated Ready Replacement Pilot, March 1972.

Naval Fighter Weapons School, "Topgun", San Diego, California, 1972. Designated Squadron Weapons and Tactics Instructor, 1972.

Combat Replacement Crew Training in F-14A Aircraft, San Diego, California, 1973. Designated Ready Replacement Pilot December 1973.

Understanding Personal Worth and Racial Dignity (Upward) Seminar, San Diego, California 1974. Equal Opportunity Training.

Instructor Training in F-14A Fleet Replacement Training Squadron, San Diego, California, 1975.

U. S. Naval Test Pilot School, Patuxent River, Maryland, 1976-1977. Designated Naval Test Pilot 1977.

Astronaut Candidate Training, Houston, Texas, 1978-1979. Designated Astronaut July 1979.

Hypersonic Aerodynamics, Houston, Texas, February 1989.

Cockpit Resource Management, Houston, Texas, 1992.

Senior Managers Safety Course, Houston, Texas, 1996.

Boeing 737 Initial Type Training, Flight Safety Incorporated, Houston, Texas, January 1996.

Southwest Airlines Pilot Training, Dallas, Texas, November and December 1996.

2

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

Lifeguard and Swimming Instructor, Huntington YMCA, Huntington, New York, 1964-1966.

Lifeguard, Huntington Township Public Beaches,

Huntington, New York, 1966-1967.

Laboratory Instructor, Aeronautical Engineering Department California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California, 1967-1968.

Engineering Assistant, Aerodynamic Loads Division, NASA Dryden Flight Research Center, Edwards AFB, California 1968.

Fighter Squadron 111, Pilot of F-4B Fighter-Bomber Aircraft homebased at NAS Miramar, California, March 1972-September 1973. Two cruises aboard Aircraft Carrier USS Coral Sea. Flew combat missions in Southeast Asia in support of Operation Linebacker, 1972. Work experience as squadron communications officer, weapons training and tactics officer, squadron scheduling officer.

Fighter Squadron 1, Pilot in first F-14A Fighter Squadron homebased at NAS Miramar, California, December 1973- September 1975. One cruise aboard Aircraft Carrier USS Enterprise. One combat mission in Southeast Asia in support of Operation Eagle Pull, the evacuation of Saigon. Work experience as Personnel Officer and Aviation Electrical Division Officer.

Fighter Squadron 124, Instructor Pilot in Fleet Replacement Squadron, NAS Miramar, California, September 1975-June 1976. Trained pilot and radar operator replacement aircrews on the F-14A aircraft, including classroom lectures and flight instruction. Work experience as Instructional Systems Development Officer, responsible for development of training materials and lectures. Experience in Flight Simulator requirements definition, development and testing for three major F-14A Flight Simulators.

3

Test Pilot, Strike Aircraft Test Directorate, NAS Patuxent River, Maryland, July 1977-July 1978. Experience in flight testing F-14A aircraft including first flight and flight envelope expansion and demonstration of reconnaissance version of the F-14A. Flight tests of engine failure and flight control system failure characteristics to evaluate causes of

F-14A accidents in squadron use.

Astronaut Candidate, NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas, July 1978- July 1979. Instruction in all aspects of Space Flight and Space Shuttle operation leading to designation as Astronaut in July 1979.

Astronaut, NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas, July 1979 to November 1996. Work experience as listed, all within assignments at NASA.

Support Crew for Space Shuttle flight 3, January 1979 to February 1980. Worked on operations, flight design, procedures and mechanization of systems in support of the mission scheduled to perform the reboost of the Skylab vehicle.

Vehicle Processing Team, April 1979-February 1980. Member of Space Shuttle Orbiter processing team for the first Space Shuttle flight. Designed and reviewed procedures to test the vehicle and its systems prior to first flight, conducted hardware tests as a crew member, and coordinated with engineers and test team to support crew training and scheduling.

Space Shuttle Airborne Chase Pilot for first Space Shuttle Flight, April 1979-April 1981. Developed procedures and maneuvers necessary to rendezvous with and escort Space Shuttles returning from orbit to landing. Flew training missions, trained controllers, designed flight profiles, and flew chase for the first Space Shuttle flight April 12-14, 1981

4

Test Pilot, Shuttle Avionics Integration Laboratory, February 1980-July 1981. Designed test profiles, flew simulated missions in avionics test laboratory to evaluate Space Shuttle systems and software in simulated flight environments.

Team Leader, Space Shuttle Airborne Chase Team for second Space Shuttle flight, May 1981-November 1981. Leader of team of 6 astronauts and technicians responsible for airborne chase and escort of second Space Shuttle mission. Trained all team members, coordinated support requirements and logistics for training and flight support as well as budget for the team. Flew escort for the mission from November 12-14, 1981.

Team Leader, Astronaut Support Team to Shuttle Avionics Integration Laboratory, July 1981-May 1982. Lead Astronaut in charge of a team of 15 astronauts supporting testing in lab to certify computers and software for flight. Managed support requirements for testing, training new astronauts, scheduling test support, and reporting of results.

Deputy Division Chief, Aircraft Operations Division, May 1982-April 1983. Deputy Chief of the division responsible for maintenance and operation of NASA aircraft assigned to Johnson Space Center. Division consisted of over 300 people, over 35 aircraft, annual operating budget over 35 million dollars. Managed personnel issues, training, flight support for Space Shuttle launches, Flight Readiness Reviews, as well as Aircraft maintenance and Facilities upkeep.

Pilot, Space Shuttle Mission 41-B, April 1983-April 1984. Trained and flew the Tenth Space Shuttle mission February 3-11, 1984. Second in command of the flight which launched two Communications Satellites valued at 200 million dollars each, tested Shuttle rendezvous equipment for the first time, performed the first-ever untethered spacewalks, and made the first landing by a Space Shuttle at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

Deputy Division Chief, NASA Aircraft Operations Division, April 1984-January 1985. Resumed the duties of Deputy Chief after completion of Space Flight in February 1984.

5

Crew Commander, Space Shuttle Flight STS-61C, the Twenty-fourth mission of a Space Shuttle, January 1985-January 1986. Commander of a crew consisting of seven astronauts, including the only United States Congressman to fly aboard a Space Shuttle. Responsible for the overall training, duty assignments and overall management of the

crew, as well as command of the mission inflight. Mission was successfully flown January 12-18, 1986.

Space Shuttle "Challenger" accident investigation team, Kennedy Space Center, January 1986-March 1986. Participated in the post-accident investigation to evaluate the processing of the External Tank and the Solid Rocket Booster elements as potential causes of the accident.

Solid Rocket Booster Redesign Team, April 1986-May 1988. Team Leader for the astronaut team supporting the redesign effort to fix the deficiencies found in the booster rockets for the Space Shuttle. Participated in design studies and reviews, failure analyses, and concept definitions for the redesigned boosters as well as the test plan to requalify the booster rockets for flight. Monitored full-scale development and testing leading to flight.

Crew Commander, Space Shuttle flight STS-27, May 1988-May 1989. Commander of a crew of five astronauts assigned to a classified Department of Defense Space Shuttle flight. Managed the crew training requirements and crew involvement for development and testing leading to flight. Developed procedures and checklists to successfully perform the mission to accomplish objectives critical to National security. Mission was flown successfully from December 2-6.

Safety Branch Chief, August 1989-July 1990. Head of the Safety Branch for the Astronaut Office with the

responsibility to manage safety inputs and review on behalf of the Astronaut Office. Participated in engineering and hazard analyses in support of Space Shuttle flights.

6

Space Shuttle Program Representative, Orbiter Project Representative, July 1990-January 1992. Represented the interests of the Astronaut office with the major control boards of these two programs. Responsible for determining the astronaut office perspective on all issues presented for consideration at these boards, providing inputs to the managers of the two programs.

Host and co-anchor, TV show "Today in Space", a daily television update during Space Shuttle mission STS-40. Served as narrator and host, performed live TV interviews, and analyzed the progress of the flight from start to finish in a live daily TV show. Worked as a member of the production staff as well to develop scripts and tape segments to be used in the live broadcasts. Episodes were performed daily from June 6 to June 13, 1992.

Crew Commander, Space Shuttle Mission STS-47, January 1992-November 1992. Managed crew training and duty assignments for a seven-member Space Shuttle crew, including an International crewmember from Japan. The flight was primarily sponsored by Japan and required awareness and sensitivity to the many cultural differences present, both during the training flows as well as inflight and after the mission. The flight was performed very successfully from September 12-20, 1992, and conducted over 40 different experiments in Life Science and Materials Science aboard the Space Shuttle "Endeavour".

Chief Astronaut, December 1992-September 1994. Division Chief with overall responsibility for 113 Astronauts and more than 40 support personnel. Worked personnel issues, training, budgets, personnel evaluations and career planning as well as support for Space Shuttle flights, crew selection, and crew assignment.

7

Crew Commander, Space Shuttle Mission STS-71 September 1994-October 1995. Commanded a crew of five American Astronauts and four Russian Cosmonauts to perform the first Docking by a Space Shuttle to the Russian Space Station "Mir". Developed training plans, operations requirements, and political and protocol requirements for this unprecedented mission. Flight was flown successfully from June 27 to July 7, 1995.

Deputy Director, Flight Crew Operations Directorate, October 1995-November 1996.Second in command of the Directorate with responsibility for all NASA Houston Aircraft Operations, as well as the Astronaut Corps. Oversaw a varied mix of operational and research aircraft with an annual operating budget of more than 45 million dollars, and oversaw the activities of more than 140 Astronauts.

Captain and First Officer, Southwest Airlines, November 1996 to present. Fly and operate the Boeing 737 in scheduled and unscheduled Airline operations.

Aerospace consultant and professional speaker, November 1996 to present. Performed independent assessment of the NASA X-38 Crew Return Vehicle. Participated in proposal preparation for Aerojet Corporation on a Deorbit Module for X-38. Speaker at many forums dealing with teamwork, motivation, quality control, and aviation and space experiences.

Member of the Northrop-Grumman Space Advisory Group, 1999 to present. Work with team members to structure Northrop-Grumman programs to maximize success in development of future space vehicles. Evaluate contract proposals and work with various teams to incorporate prior space experience and lessons learned.

Aviation expert witness, June 1999 to present. Investigate aviation accident cases and determine the relative merits and responsibilities of the parties involved. Experience in depositions and in courtroom testimony.

8

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

Fellow, Society of Experimental Test Pilots

Fellow, Explorers Club

Fellow, Academy of Model Aeronautics

Board member, Aviation Safety Alliance, Air Transport Association

Space Advisory Group Member, Northrop-Grumman

Experimental Aircraft Association

**PILOT EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS**

Rated as a Naval Aviator, Naval Test Pilot, and Naval Pilot Astronaut. FAA Ratings; Airline Transport Pilot, Multi-Engine Land Aircraft, Glider Rating. Aircraft Type Rating in Boeing 737, Letters of Authorization in Mig-15, Mig-21, T-33, Fouga Magister, and Hawker Sea Fury Aircraft. More than 11,000 hours flight time in more than 50 types of civilian and military aircraft, of which more than 9000 hours are jet and rocket power. Experience includes more than 300 carrier landings. Aircraft types include T-38, F-4, F-14, TA-4, T-2, A-7, F-86, Mig-21, Mig-15, F-101, L-39, X-26, OV-1, T-34, P-51, and T-28. Civilian experience includes light planes, sailplanes, and experimental racing and aerobatic aircraft.

**HONORS AND AWARDS**

Experimental Aircraft Association "Freedom of Flight Award" July 1989.

Reno National Championship Air Races, Third Place, International Formula One “Silver Race”, September 1989

World Record, Altitude in Horizontal Flight, Airplane Class C-1A, 1991

National Aeronautic Association, Certificate of Honor 1991

“Ten Most Memorable Record Flights of 1991”

9

Federation Aeronautique Internationale "Louis Bleriot Medal" 1992

Federation Aeronautique Internationale Korolev Diploma1992

World Record, Time to Climb to 9000 Meters, Airplane Class C-1A, 1994

World Absolute Record, Assembled Mass of Spacecraft in Linked Flight, Atlantis-Mir, 1995

World Absolute Record, Spacecraft Duration in Linked Flight, Atlantis-Mir, 1995

World Absolute Record, Spacecraft Altitude in Linked Flight, Atlantis-Mir, 1995

Russian Republic Konstantin Tsiolkovsky Medal, 1995

AAS Flight Achievement Award, 1995

Aviation Week Space Laurels, 1995

National Aeronautic Association, Certificate of Honor 1995

“Ten Most Memorable Record Flights of 1995”

Federation Aeronautique Internationale "Yuri Gagarin Gold Medal" 1996

NAA Aero Club of Northern California, "Crystal Eagle Award" 1997

“AirVenture Cup Race, 1998”, First Place Unlimited Class, Kitty Hawk, NC to Oshkosh, WI, July 1998

Reno National Championship Air Races, Fifth Place, Unlimited Class “Silver Race”, September 1998

Reno National Championship Air Races, Third Place,

Unlimited Class “Silver Race”, September 1999.

10

“AirVenture Cup Race, 2001”, First Place Reno Unlimited Class, Dayton OH to Oshkosh, WI, July 2001

Military Decorations include; Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Naval Commendation Medal with

Combat "V", Vietnam Service Medal, and the Humanitarian Service Medal.

NASA Awards include the Space Flight Medal, Exceptional Service Medal, Outstanding Leadership Medal, and four awards of NASA's highest ranking medal, the Distinguished Service Medal.

Honorary Doctor of Science Degree, Westminster College, Salt Lake City, Utah 2002.

Reno National Championship Air Races, Seventh Place, Unlimited Class “Gold Race”, September 2002.

Inducted in “The Astronaut Hall of Fame”, Cape Canaveral FL June 2003.

Reno National Championship Air Races, Seventh Place, Unlimited Class, “Gold Race”, September 2003.

Honorary Doctor of Science Degree, University of California, San Luis Obispo, California 2004.

World Speed Record, 100 KM Closed Course, Airplane Class C-1A, 2004.

# **PUBLICATIONS**

“The First Space Shuttle to Mir Docking”, The Society of Experimental Test Pilots “Proceedings 1995”.

“Mig Pilot”, “Oshkosh Memories”, Writer’s Club Press, 2000.

“The End of Innocence”, “Space Shuttle, The First 20 Years”, Smithsonian Institution, DK Publishing Inc. 2002.

11