

EXTRATERRESTRIAL TREASURE HUNT

Technology developed for use on Mars to be tested this Friday, Oct. 13th in a Kansas wheat field known to contain meteorites. The result may be the recovery of the largest meteorite known to exist.

On Friday, October 13th, in a wheat field in Kiowa County, Kansas, The Johnson Space Center, in conjunction with the Houston Museum of Natural Science and Rice University, will test a ground penetrating radar (GPR) system for future use on Mars.

In what is not just *any* wheat field, the GPR system being developed and evaluated by Dr. Essam Heggy of the Johnson Space Center's Lunar and Planetary Institute will be used to locate what may be the largest meteorite on Earth--representing millions of dollars in interplanetary pay dirt.

In precisely the same area twelve-months ago, meteorite hunter Steve Arnold and lawyer/geologist Phil Mani recovered thousands of pounds of rare meteorites with gemstones, including the largest example of this meteorite in North America--heralded by authorities as one of the greatest of meteorite discoveries.

Through the use of a sophisticated metal detector, Mr. Arnold has now located several additional potential targets--including one extraordinarily large target that very could be the mother-lode of all-time.

The scientific community has taken notice. Dr. Heggy and colleagues will do an on-site survey on Friday and Saturday, October 13th and 14th. Heavy machinery will then be brought on-site with excavating to occur on Monday, October 16th.

A miniaturized version of Dr. Heggy's ground-penetrating radar equipment is slated for use by NASA on the next generation of robotic Mars Rovers.

Dr. Essam Heggy / Lunar and Planetary Institute (Johnson Space Center)

http://www.lpi.usra.edu/meet_the_scientists/heggy

Dr. Carolyn Sumners / Director of Astronomy (Houston Museum of Natural Science)

Ms. Barbara Wilson / Director of the George Observatory (Houston Museum of Natural Science)

Messrs. Steve Arnold & Phil Mani / Brenham Meteorite Company

Dr. Patricia Reiff / Director of the Rice Space Institute (Rice University)