



OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Monthly Newsletter June 2005

◆ 2005 NASA Occupational Health (OH)

Conference Starts Next Week: The NASA OH Conference in South Lake Tahoe on June 27- July 1, is next week. Almost 100 OH personnel have registered representing all 14 of NASA Centers. The theme this year is "Toward a

Healthier NASA: Successes and Innovation." The week is full of events intended to increase your knowledge and efficiency to better manage your time, staff, budget, and workplace hazards effectively.



◆ Electronic Health Records (EHRs) Project

Update: The Office of the Chief Health and Medical Officer is in the process of procuring new medical equipment in an effort to standardize equipment for NASA clinics. This will help to facilitate the development of the equipment interface with the EHRs and the standardization of data collection. The purchase of visual acuity testing equipment has been deferred pending an upgraded model compatible with the Indian Health Service EHRs.

◆ Recognizing the JSC Radiation & Laser Safety Officer:

Recently Dennis Waggett was awarded the prestigious Space Flight Awareness award. Dennis has worked at JSC for a noteworthy 37 years and recently celebrated his 65th birthday while visiting KSC during the NASA Health Physics Conference. Here is some information from the award submission. "Dennis Waggett was a vital player in ensuring that Return-To-Flight engineering development and testing activities at JSC were conducted safely with appropriate access controls, test procedures, and personal protective equipment. The Return-To-Flight activities have involved new and challenging uses of laser, ultraviolet, and radiofrequency radiation emitters. The emitters are used in or with devices such as a Laser Dynamic Range Imager, Orbital Boom Sensor System, Infrared Laser Camera System, Shuttle Payload Bay Antenna System, Space-to-Space Communication System, Wireless Video System, Shuttle Wing Leading Edge Enhanced Wideband Micro Triaxial Accelerometer Unit, and others." **Congratulations Dennis!**

◆ **NASA SHARP Student:** The Occupational Health Support Office has a student from the NASA Summer High School Apprenticeship Research Program (SHARP) Program working with them for 8 weeks this summer. Student Ami Dalsania will do her research in the area of health promotion this summer supported by her mentor Helen Shoemaker. Ami will be a senior at Titusville High School this Fall and plans to attend medical school in the future. For more information on the NASA SHARP program visit the SHARP [website](#).

◆ Recognizing A New Certified Occupational Health Nurse-Specialist (COHN-S)

Congratulations to Liesel Short, RN on recently passing her COHN-S examination. Liesel is the Chief Nurse at the Ames Research Center Clinic.

◆ American Industrial Hygiene Conference & Exposition (AIHCE) 2005 Recap:

28 NASA Center Industrial Hygienists attended the AIHCE in Anaheim, CA. The group formally gathered for two NASA events during the week: the first for a technical session on exposure assessments and the second for a technical tour of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (see picture below). Here are a couple of comments from attendees; "I thoroughly enjoyed the NASA events." "The *One NASA* objective was supported by covering the same IH topic in depth to benchmark best practices in the agency."



◆ Recognizing Two New Certified Industrial Hygienists (CIHs):

Toby Holowaty from Johnson Space Center and Jennifer Kapp from Ames Research Center are the newest CIHs at NASA. Congratulations to both Toby and Jennifer on a great professional achievement!

◆ **Congratulations to Sue Marrine:** Sue Marrine, RN, COHN-S/CM has recently received her Master's Degree in Public Health from the University of South Florida. Sue is the Chief Nurse at the Kennedy Space Center.

◆ **NASA Health Physics Conference Recap:** Over 30 personnel attended the NASA Health Physics Conference in Cocoa Beach on June 6-10. It was a very busy week with training sessions on both Ionizing and Non Ionizing Radiation, Center presentations, policy discussion and technical tours of both Kennedy Space

Center (see picture) and Disney's Epcot. This was the first gathering of NASA Health Physicists since 2000 and the meeting received very positive feedback from all attendees who came from across the agency.



◆ NASA OH Center Review Calendar:

- August 8 – 12 – Marshall Space Flight Center

◆ Upcoming Occupational Health ViTS:

- EH Monthly ViTS – July 20, 11:00-12:00 PM EDT

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