

## Anne Thompson Receives Woman in Aerospace Award

By Cynthia O'Carroll

Photo Credit: NASA

Anne Thompson is an amazing woman who has accomplished outstanding things in her position as a research scientist in the Atmospheric Chemistry and Dynamics Branch at NASA Goddard. Recently, the Woman in Aerospace (WIA) organization honored Thompson with their International Achievement Award for her exemplary achievements. Thompson was cited for her contributions to aerospace in the international arena, her commitment to professional growth, and her service as a role model and mentor dedicated to the advancement of women in aerospace.

Thompson is one of six woman recognized by the WIA. Other NASA awardees are Estelle Condon of NASA Ames receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award, and Rebecca A. MacKay of NASA Glenn receiving the Outstanding Achievement Award. The awards were presented to the group on Sept. 21 at the Rayburn House Office Building Foyer, in Washington, DC.



Anne Thompson, Woman in Aerospace International Achievement Awardee

As an atmospheric chemist for NASA, Thompson has traveled the world in her unending quest to learn more about the Earth's dynamic climate. Much of her research focuses on how smoke and ozone from biomass burning affect the air we breathe and how it connects pollution to climate change. Many of Thompson's major achievements during the past 20 years have been in the field of tropospheric ozone or smog. She has blended satellite, aircraft and balloon data together to study problems as diverse as the connection between ozone and biomass burning, lightning and trace gases, and the impact of aircraft emissions on ozone in aviation corridors.

"The most exciting opportunity I have had at NASA was as a Mission Scientist on our DC-8 aircraft in 1997. With this powerful winged laboratory, we were able to show that lightning and pollution brought to flight altitude by convective storms can drown out the aircraft signal," stated Thompson. "This means that weather systems make it hard to isolate pollution."

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### NASA's Mission:

- \*To understand and protect our home planet
- \*To explore the Universe and search for life
- \*To inspire the next generation of explorers as only NASA can

For further detail of the NASA mission, go to:  
<http://www.nasa.gov/bios/vision.html>

Editor: Trusilla Steele  
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# e-Payroll, A Success at Goddard!

By Goddard's e-payroll Committee

On Aug. 8, Goddard went live with its new payroll system. We are pleased to announce that the launch of the Federal Personnel and Payroll System (FPPS) was a great success, and all Goddard employees received their first paycheck by Aug. 31.

The call volume at the e-Payroll Customer Support Center (1-888-235-7946) and Center Payroll offices was much lighter than expected during the first week with DOI-issued Leave and Earnings Statements. Only 2.5-3 percent of NASA employees contacted either the 800-number or a center Payroll office with Leave and Earnings Statement inquiries, and nearly all of those calls were easy-to-answer questions. The project will continue to operate the e-Payroll Customer Support Center through Oct. 18th to ensure that all e-Payroll transition questions are resolved as quickly as possible.

Based on the calls to date, it appears that nearly everyone had received the message that pre-Aug 8 retirement and earnings would not appear on the DOI Leave and Earnings Statements, because DOI could not display NASA-tracked pay information. Most of the calls have pertained to the new leave formatting, since the leave fields now display hours and minutes — ¼ hours as .15, ½ hours as .30, and ¾ hours as .45. A significantly fewer yet notable amount of callers have inquired about how to calculate their earned Annual Leave balance, since the unearned (Advanced) leave that an employee will earn through the end of the leave year is included in the Annual Leave balances. To calculate an earned Annual Leave balance in preparation for retirement from NASA, subtract the ADV field from the BALAVAIL field. The rest of the calls covered a range of subjects, including inquiries about less than a handful of pennies, but the e-Payroll team has been able to find an answer for even the most meticulous of customers.

Photo Credit: NASA: e-Payroll



Debbie Percival and Jim Joyner discuss a caller's question at the e-Payroll Customer Support Center at MSFC

The low call volume and minimal (very near nonexistent) level of issues during the first few days following the initial DOI-issued payroll payments is just the latest of several successes for the e-Payroll project. Payroll and HR professionals have been adapting to the system quite well over the last month, and the interfaces to other systems, such as WebTADS, SAP, etc. have been successfully established. The project has already received high praise from Agency leadership both at HQ and

the Centers. All involved with the project have been amazed at how well NASA has met the strict requirements given to the Agency, universally commenting on the "impossible" challenges it had overcome.

Goddard's IFM Project Office would like to extend special thanks to the e-Payroll Project team and extended team at GSFC for a job well done! ■

"I think it is important for us to celebrate our successes, especially when they are as invigorating as the e-Payroll one has been, and so I want to join in the litany of praise for this project." — Gwen Sykes, NASA CFO

"It's not often that a project under promises and over delivers, but the e-Payroll team in their quiet, hardworking professionalism has done so." — Patrick Ciganer, IFM Program Executive Officer

"Ensuring the perfect transfer of over 18,000 paychecks requires diligent care and effort. To have accomplished this transition to degree of perfection that we did speaks volumes about the quality of Payroll, HR, and technical professionals we have at NASA." — Bobby German, IFM Program Director (Acting)

## Inclement Weather Policy

The leaves are turning and there is just a slight nip in the air. Autumn is a beautiful time of year in Greenbelt. Enjoy the lovely weather and rest assured that the GSFC Snow Removal Team is preparing for the cold and wet days ahead. The Snow Removal Team is once again headed by Mr. Paul Thompson of the Facilities Management Division (FMD). If practice makes perfect, we can count on Mr. Thompson who has served as the Center's "Snowman" for the last seven years. When adverse weather conditions strike the area, Mr. Thompson and his team

monitor weather reports, physically inspect conditions on and immediately outside the Center, and collaborate with local public works organizations. Decisions regarding the Center's operating status are made as soon as possible with the information available. Unfortunately, the weather is often unpredictable. FMD's Communications Officer, Deanna Trask, reminds us, "Nothing substitutes for your own good judgment." For the listing of operating status codes and notification venues including radio and television stations, go to <http://gsfc-phrodite.gsfc.nasa.gov/220/snow/snowplan.htm>.

## Anne Thompson (cont'd from front page)

Thompson has garnered international recognition for the creation and management of the Southern Hemisphere Additional Ozonesonde (SHADOZ) network of 12 ozone ground stations in the tropics and southern hemisphere subtropics. In her role as the Principal Investigator for SHADOZ, Thompson has pulled together a team of U.S., Japanese, European, African and South American experts to expand our knowledge of ozone in the tropics. Their research has greatly expanded our knowledge of this little known part of the globe while providing vital ground-truth for NASA satellites.

“As with our aircraft, satellite and ship campaigns,” Thompson remarked, “SHADOZ has shown that weather and El-Nino-type climate variations are as important to the tropical ozone story as human pollution.”

In 1999 she worked at sea and discovered an “ozone paradox” over the tropical Atlantic while taking balloon data on an oceanographic cruise from Norfolk to South Africa. Ozone was greater in the hemisphere that was not full of biomass burning. Researchers worldwide are still puzzling over this paradox.

Thompson is keenly aware of how imposing a career in the sciences can seem to many young adults, especially women. She shares her passion for science by mentoring young people so they expand their horizons when contemplating a career in the Earth sciences. Thompson has advised students from Maryland to Arizona, as well as in the many countries where her research takes place.

“My students remember NASA and the excitement of studying planet earth no matter where their career path leads them,” Thompson added.

Thompson’s most recent experiments were with NASA’s 2004, Intercontinental Transport Experiment-North America, (INTEX-NA) this past summer, using a network of a dozen ozone balloon stations over the U.S. and Canada, including a new site in Beltsville, MD. Thompson and her team used funds from Goddard’s Directors Discretionary Fund to train five University of Maryland College Park and Howard University undergraduates to launch ozone balloons in Beltsville.

“We had sites all over the Eastern seaboard but not in our own backyard,” stated Dr. James Gleason, the INTEX Program

Manager. “One of the first balloon packages the students launched went up to the stratosphere, more than 12 miles, before gently parachuting down to land in a friend’s driveway in Bowie. Now that’s what I call working close to home.”

Students continued to launch from Beltsville while Thompson released ozone balloons in July on NOAA’s research vessel, the Ronald H. Brown in the Gulf of Maine. One student took Thompson’s place on the ship in August and both were featured on the Online News Hour with Jim Lehrer on Sept 7. [http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/environment/july-dec04/pollution\\_09-07.html](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/environment/july-dec04/pollution_09-07.html)

Photo Credit: NASA



Thompson, lower right works closely with undergraduates to launch an ozone balloon.

She has established many friendships in her role as a mentor and continues to provide guidance to these young scientists as they embark on careers of their own. “Dr. Thompson has made a special effort to include students and young scientists, whenever possible, in her research efforts to help them to understand what it means to be a research scientist in today’s world,” stated Dr. Dorothy Zukor, Deputy Director of Goddard’s Earth Sciences Directorate.

Thompson’s honors and awards include a NASA Exceptional

Achievement Medal, Fellow of the American Geophysical Union, Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and Fellow of the American Meteorological Society. In 1998 she received the COSPAR (Committee on Space Research) Nordberg Medal for her achievements in using and improving satellite data to study chemistry in the Earth’s atmosphere.

Thompson has served on the International Ozone Commission, the Executive Committee of the American Meteorological Society and she is currently President of the International Commission on Atmospheric Chemistry and Global Pollution. She is an Adjunct Professor in the Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center and a Meteorology Department Lecturer at the University of Maryland.

Thompson is a native of Pennsylvania and as lived in Lanham, Md. for the past 16 years with her husband, Nels Larson. In addition to her work at Goddard, Thompson enjoys community activities, reading, and photography. ■

Photos by Pat Izzo/293

# Planet Walk Opens, SDO Mission Supports Exhibit

By Jim Sahli

Despite inclement conditions the Planet Walk in Glen Burnie held its Grand Opening Sept. 18. Goddard has joined with the Friends of Anne Arundel County Trails to create a project that will enable County residents to stroll, bike or rollerblade through the solar system. The two groups, and other contributors, are working together in the Friends' Planet Walk "museum", a linear art gallery and unique educational exhibit of our solar system. NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory Project's Education and Public Outreach Office was responsible for designing and creating the educational content and graphics for the signage that is displayed at this incredible exhibit.

"All though it was a wet day it is great that the exhibit is now open for the general public." said Liz Citrin, SDO Deputy Project Manager at Goddard.



Janet Owens, County Executive for Anne Arundel (left) chats with Solar Dynamics Observatory manager Liz Citrin (right), during the Grand Opening of the Friend's Planet Walk exhibit in Glen Burnie on Sept. 18.



Shown to right are the scientific and educational exhibits that the SDO Project donated to the Friend's Planet Walk exhibit in Glenn Burnie. Spectrum exhibit is to left

"The Friends are an inspiration and have created a very successful infrastructure of private, commercial and public entities that have pooled resources for the benefit of society. Our future is in the hands of the next generation. We owe it to humanity to ignite the fire in our young children and nurture their curiosity so that we can, in the words of our Administrator Sean OKeefe, 'open their minds to unimagined possibilities.' Citrin Saturday thanked the Friends of Anne Arundel County Trails, and all of their partners and contributors for this unique community resource.

On hand for the Grand Opening was Janet Owens, County Executive for Anne Arundel County and state delegates. Also there were representatives from the AA Recreation and Parks Department, Friends of Anne Arundel County Trails, Maryland Department of Transportation, BGE, URS, the Planet Walk committee, and the SDO Education Office.

"The SDO team is constantly searching for new partnerships within the community that will serve as vehicles to impart our specific scientific and technological discoveries in such a way that it will inspire and engage the public, reach into the minds of the young and ignite their passion for learning. We found the perfect vehicle for this opportunity in our partnership with the Friends of Anne Arundel County Trails and their vision for Planet Walk.

The exhibit is on property adjacent to the Baltimore & Annapolis trail, just behind Harandale Plaza in Glen Burnie. The Planet Walk will shrink our 3.7 billion mile solar system down to 4.6 miles and place the Sun and all the planets on the B&A Trail keeping the distance between the planets and Sun in perspective.

The NASA SDO project is the first Space Weather Research Network mission in the Living With a Star program. More information on SDO can be found at: <http://sdo.gsfc.nasa.gov> ■

# NASA Successfully Completes Launches for EQUIS II Sounding Rocket Campaign

By Betty Flowers

The NASA Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Va., has announced the completion of the 2004 EQUIS II sounding rocket campaign on Sept. 20, 2004, with the launch of 14 suborbital sounding rockets over the previous five weeks.

The EQUatorial Ionospheric Study (EQUIS II) mission was conducted from a launch complex located on the island of Roi-Namur, Kwajalein Atoll, Republic of the Marshall Islands. Located very near the equator, the site provided a unique set of atmospheric observations to better understand the Earth's ionosphere in the equatorial region. Experiments on the various rockets were designed to study disturbances in the ionosphere created by interactions between the Sun and the Earth's magnetic field.

Measurements made with the ALTAIR radar located on Roi-Namur, provided information needed to determine when ionospheric conditions were appropriate for launch. The radar also provided critical measurements that will be used in the analysis and interpretation of data obtained from the launches.

"All of the data needed to meet the main objectives of the campaign were collected, and I am excited," said Dr. Miguel Larsen, Campaign Scientist from Clemson University, S.C. "The in-depth analysis of measurements taken will occur over the next year by the scientists and organizations that participated in the campaign. The results will be published in various scientific journals upon completion of the analysis."

Preliminary results indicate that winds, wind shears and turbulence at high altitudes from 50 miles (80 kilometers) to 125 miles (200 kilometers) are critical in generating and maintaining



NASA personnel conduct model rocket launches with children on Enniburr Island in the Kwajalein Atoll.

the naturally occurring layers that were studied in EQUIS II. Wind measurements in the range of interest are not possible with techniques other than the sounding rocket

Trimethyl Aluminum, (TMA), luminous tracer technique that was used in the observations. The information provided by the launches is important to an understanding of the natural atmospheric phenomena that occur in the mid-latitude ionosphere.

Photo Credit: John Spicher



Nighttime launch from Roi Namur

"People tend to think that space is a quiet place with relatively little activity. Over the years, we have come to realize that this is not true," said Larsen.

During the campaign, NASA Wallops Flight Facility personnel conducted classroom and educational activities in rocketry for the students at George Seitz Elementary school, Kwajalein High School and students on the island of Enniburr, Kwajalein Atoll. Approximately 700 students took part in 43 classroom programs as well as the building and launching of model rockets. Parents and U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll personnel attended the model rocket launches.

The EQUIS II project was similar to studies conducted from Roi-Namur during the EQUIS project in 1990 under the Sounding Rocket Program, which is managed at Wallops for NASA's Science Mission Directorate, Washington, D.C. Approximately 125 people from NASA Wallops Flight Facility and the scientific community were involved in the campaign.

Further information on the EQUIS II project is available at: <http://www.wff.nasa.gov/~code810/> ■

# 2004 Astronaut Candidate Class Visits Goddard for Orientation

By Dewayne Washington

Photos by: Chris Gunn/293

The Astronaut Candidate Class 2004 visited Goddard, Sept. 15, 2004 for an orientation tour of the facility. The class of 2004 was announced May 6 and includes two pilots, six mission specialists, and three mission specialists – educators (MS-E) astronauts. The class also includes three mission specialists from the Japanese Space Agency.

“These are the astronauts who will lead us through the next steps in the new exploration vision,” said NASA Administrator Sean O’Keefe during their announcement May 6, 2004. “The class is made up of pilots and engineers who will help us develop the next generation vehicle, scientists who will do research to help humans live and travel in space and three new educator astronauts to help ensure that a new generation is ready for the challenges of exploration.”



Candidates Joseph Acaba, Jose Hernandez, Dorothy Metcalf-Lindenburger, Chris Cassidy and Robert Satcher, Jr. listen to a presentation.

The day of activities included a Goddard overview by Deputy Director, Christopher Scolese; a visit to the Scientific Visualization Studio; Spacecraft Test and

Afro-American, The Bowie Gazette and The Bowie Blade. While some next generation candidates were interviewed, others spent time looking around the Visitors Center and talking with staff members and other visitors.



Candidate James Dutton, spends a few minutes checking out Mars Rover display.

The educator astronauts also spent a few minute with Trena Ferrell, a former Montgomery County teacher and a member of NASA’s Network of Educator Astronaut Teachers (NEAT). She was particularly excited to meet astronaut candidate, Richard Arnold, from Bowie, Maryland, and a NASA educator astronaut candidate.

“This was an exciting day for me,” said Ferrell. “I really felt privileged to meet all the astronauts.” As a member of NEAT, Ferrell and 193 other educators, will be allowed to continue to be engaged in the NASA Vision by facilitating workshops and informational briefing in local schools utilizing NASA resources.

Earlier in the week the class had spent two days at NASA headquarters, and attended the ‘Spirit of Exploration’ reception at the Air and Space Museum on the evening of Sept. 14.

Following their visit to Goddard the class was scheduled to fly to Cleveland for a tour of Glenn Research Center the next day. ■

Integration Facilities; and Spacecraft Systems Development & Integration Facility. They also spent some time at the Visitor Center with media representatives from the military, Black Entertainment Television, and newspaper reporters from The

# NIAC Team Wins Award for Six-Year Walk on The Wild Side

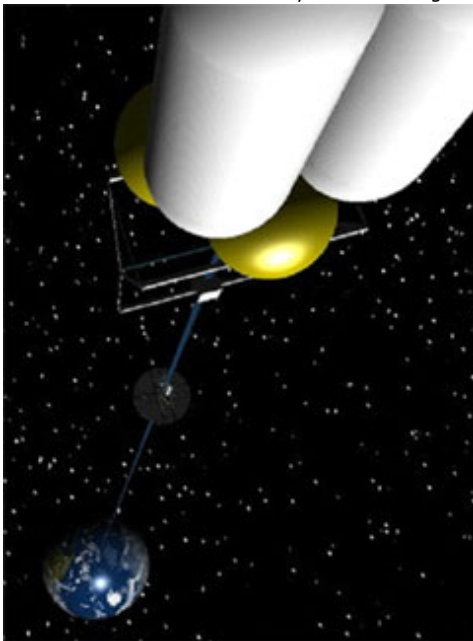
By Bill Steigerwald

The NASA Institute for Advanced Concepts (NIAC) team was presented a Group Achievement Award Aug. 24 during the NASA Honor Awards ceremony at Martin's Crosswinds in Greenbelt. NIAC was created in 1998 to solicit revolutionary concepts that could greatly advance NASA's missions from people and organizations outside NASA.

Studies have included astonishing systems like the space elevator, a 60,000-mile-high cable from Earth's surface into space that lifts people and cargo to orbit without rockets, and Mini-Magnetospheric Plasma Propulsion, a spacecraft that creates a magnetic bubble to ride the solar wind out to the farthest reaches of the solar system.

The award cited the NIAC team for "leadership and outstanding support, which empowered development and success of the newly-created NASA Institute for Advanced Concepts." The

Photo by: Robert Winglee



Magnetic field generator for proposed Mini-Magnetospheric Plasma Propulsion spacecraft.

Universities Space Research Organization (USRA) runs NIAC for NASA. The USRA/ANSER-NASA NIAC team consists of NASA Government and non-Government personnel.

"It has been my privilege and pleasure to work with the wonderful people who make up the NIAC Team," said Sharon Garrison, NIAC Program Coordinator and the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR) for the NIAC contract, administered at Goddard. "I am very grateful for their significant contributions to the NIAC program. Additionally, I am thrilled to see NASA acknowledge and recognize NIAC's achievements and contributions to NASA's future missions with a NASA Honor Award."

The proposals push the limits of known science and technology, and thus are not expected to be realized for at least a decade or more. NIAC's intention is to discover ideas which may result in beneficial changes to NASA's long-range plans.

Organizations outside NASA have innovative technology and fresh perspectives that can be harnessed to meet the 'grand challenges' of NASA's missions. NIAC complements NASA's own advanced technology efforts. By searching externally and internally, NASA ensures that every potential good idea is included for consideration in its strategic plans.

"The technical community is deeply appreciative of NASA's vision to create NIAC," said Dr. Robert Cassanova, NIAC Director. "Through NIAC, NASA has

Photo by: NASA/NIAC



NIAC team members display NASA Group Achievement Award on behalf of the entire team. From left - to right: Sharon Garrison, NIAC Program Coordinator and COTR, Bob Cassanova, USRA NIAC Director and Sophia Hill, USRA Subcontract Specialist."

offered the technical community outside of NASA an opportunity to use their imagination and creativity to explore concepts that push the limits of the possible. The success of NIAC is due to the tremendous support and encouragement from NASA and to the unlimited creativity of the technical community."

USRA was incorporated in 1969 in the District of Columbia as a private nonprofit corporation under the auspices of the National Academy of Sciences. Institutional membership in the Association has grown from 49 colleges and universities when it was founded, to 95 in 2004.

To learn more about NIAC, refer to: <http://www.niac.usra.edu/>

To learn more about NIAC research, refer to: <http://www.niac.usra.edu/studies/> ■

# Hispanic Americans: Making a Difference in Our Communities and Our Nation

By Dewayne Washington

Sept. 15 was recognized as Independence Day and began a month of recognition and celebration for five Latin American countries known in the United States as Hispanic Heritage Month. This year's theme, "Hispanic Americans: Making a Difference in Our Communities and Our Nation."

"During the month at Goddard, we want to promote cultural aspects of Hispanic countries," said Dan Krieger, Hispanic Program Manager. "The month observance was selected from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 as to capture as many Independence Day celebrations in as many Latin and Central American nations as possible," said Krieger.

Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua recognize their Independence Day on Sept. 15; Mexico on Sept. 16; and Chile on Sept. 18.

In his message in observance of Hispanic Heritage Month NASA Administrator O'Keefe stated, "The positive difference that our outstanding Hispanic employees are making toward the accomplishment of our Vision goals is truly remarkable. Al Diaz, Associate Administrator for our new Science Mission Directorate, comes to this post after leading the Goddard Space Flight Center during six impressive years of achievement.

"Similarly, Orlando Figueroa, the Deputy Associate Administrator for Programs in the Science Mission Directorate, was one of the leading architects of the history-making missions of the Mars Exploration Rovers, Spirit and Opportunity. In addition, I'm confident that our new Deputy Assistant Administrator for Diversity and Equal Opportunity, Kenny Aguilar, will do a great job in helping us grow the numbers of our Hispanic scientists, engineers, safety and support personnel, said the Administrator."

The term Hispanic, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau and refers to Spanish-speaking people in the United States of any race. On the 2000 U.S. Census form more than 35 million people identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino.

According to Krieger, there are more than 100 civil servants of Hispanic origin and 80 percent are either scientist or engineers

at Goddard. The nation of Puerto Rico is the most represented at Goddard with 12 other Hispanic nations represented.

The Administrator in his address also recognized recent astronaut candidate selectees. "The NASA family also takes great pride in our Hispanic astronauts, including Astronaut Class of 2004 members Jose Hernandez, a Mission Specialist who is the son of Mexican emigrants, and Joseph Acaba, a

Mission Specialist-Educator whose commitment to community service was demonstrated during his stint as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Dominican Republic," said the Administrator.

According to Krieger, the month observance is two fold at Goddard. It allows a little time to focus on the enormous contributions Hispanic Americans have made to our great nation. Locally, it allows time for the Goddard population to recognize and celebrate the enormous contributions Hispanics at Goddard have made to the successes of our many missions.

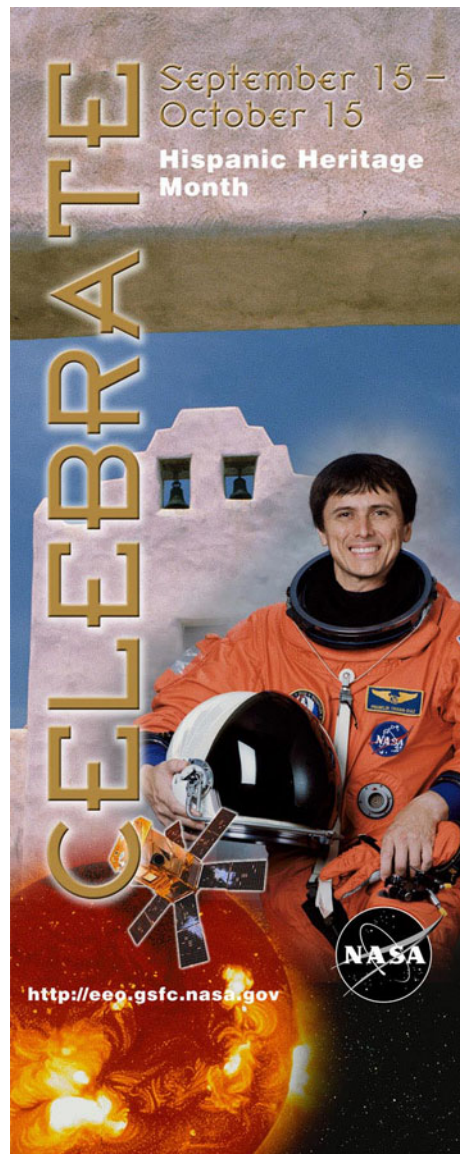
But according to Krieger, Hispanic efforts at Goddard are not just a once a year month of activities. The Hispanic Heritage Club consisting of a group of about 35, throughout the year sponsors events and activities to promote the Hispanic culture at Goddard.

Krieger said the club has historically done community activities that partner with the local communities organizations that surround Goddard. Activities have included tutoring and mentoring sessions for local students. The club has also taken the responsibility of informing the Goddard community about local Hispanic activities.

"I am a part of the formal organization whose job it is to address issues that directly affect Hispanics at Goddard," said Krieger. A portion of Krieger's responsibilities includes working with HACE (Hispanic Advisory Committee for Employees). "My job is to also inform the center director and Goddard management

about issues and concerns for the Hispanic community at Goddard," said Krieger.

Future opportunities for members of the Hispanic community at Goddard continue to grow, according to Krieger. "Our programs





# Employee Spotlight



By Amy Pruett

*Even at the age of seven, Sandra Cauffman was determined to be a NASA engineer. However, living in Costa Rica made that dream nearly impossible.*



Graduating second in her high school class, Cauffman thought that she had the ability to choose any major in college. “When I tried to get into electrical engineering [at the University of Costa Rica], I was told that I could not because I was a woman. The only acceptable engineering major for women was industrial engineering.”

Reluctantly, Cauffman followed her counselor’s advice and studied industrial engineering. But

three years later, unsatisfied, her father suggested she move to America. Having been born in Virginia, he understood that in the United States she’d be free of such discrimination. Following his advice, she moved to the United States and immediately enrolled at George Mason University and obtained bachelor’s degrees in electrical engineering and physics.

While at George Mason University, Cauffman attended a career fair where she met a representative from Engineering and Economics Research, Inc, a contractor for Goddard. After three years with the company, she became a civil servant at the center,

working as a Ground Systems Manager, Instrument Manager and then as a member of the Office Chief Project Formulation Office.

“I didn’t stop with contracting, but applied until I was hired at Goddard. It was my lifetime dream, and I can’t imagine doing anything else,” says Cauffman.

Over her 15-year career at Goddard, she has had a hand in many different aspects of diverse missions. She aided in the planning, implementing and coordinating efforts behind projects such as the Global Precipitation Mission (GPM), the Solar Dynamic Observatory (SDO), and Laser Interferometer Space Antenna (LISA). And as the Ground Systems Manager for Satellite Servicing Project, she supported the first Hubble Space Telescope Servicing Mission, the Upper Atmosphere Research Satellite (UARS), and the Explorers Platform (EP)/Extreme Ultraviolet Explorer (EUVE).

Today Cauffman is the Deputy Project Manager for GOES-R, which she calls her favorite position. She is responsible for the procurement, development, design, fabrication, testing, launch, and on-orbit checkout of the multi-million dollar mission. Of particular pride is the role the satellites play in everyday weather forecasting.

Cauffman also takes the time to mentor fellow employees whenever possible. “Mentoring allows me to learn and gain new perspectives. I have been lucky to have excellent mentors throughout the years, so it allows me to give back, plant seeds, and hear new ideas. Mentoring is give and take, a two-way road.” ■

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## Hispanic Heritage Month (cont’d from page 8)

have been very successful and we are fortunate to be able to attract and maintain individuals of extreme ability,” said Krieger.

Another plus, according to Krieger, is having these individuals rise to higher levels of management. In these positions they continue to serve as role models, many with a passion to return home to tell others. There they are able to explain NASA and Goddard in a way that inspires the next generation to see NASA in a whole new light.

In 1968, the Congress authorized President Lyndon Johnson to proclaim National Hispanic Heritage Week, and this observance was expanded in 1988 to a month-long celebration to honor our Nation’s Hispanic heritage.

In a 2004 proclamation signed by President George W. Bush he stated, “During National Hispanic Heritage Month, we recognize Hispanic Americans for helping to shape our national character and strengthen our communities. The warmth and vitality of the Hispanic culture are great gifts to America and are part of the unique fabric of our country. Hispanic Americans have enriched our Nation through contributions in many professions and fields, including education, law, government, business, science, sports, and the arts. The hard work, values, and devotion to community of Hispanic Americans set a positive example for all Americans.” ■

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## In the Safety Corner

# Fire Prevention

Fire Prevention Week is **Oct. 3-9, 2004.**

Fire safety is an extremely important part of any workplace safety program. It's everyone's responsibility to help prevent fires. In

Sept. 2003, there was a dumpster fire behind building 5. In order to prevent this in the future, smokers must observe all smoking restrictions. Ash receptacles must be utilized for smoking materials disposal. GSFC prohibits smoking inside all buildings and facilities and at designated building main entrances. Smoking in unauthorized areas such as storage rooms can result in serious fires. Do not empty ash receptacles until smoking materials are cold.



### Fire Safety Is Everyone's Responsibility

Here are some fire-safe tips:

- Practice good worksite housekeeping habits. Do not let trash and waste material accumulate. Empty trash bins regularly. Oily rags must be stored and disposed of in covered metal containers, according to company policy.
- Do not store materials or allow clutter to accumulate around exits and stairways. Fire doors should be kept closed as directed. Fire exits should always remain free and accessible.
- A common cause of workplace fires is machinery or equipment, which becomes overheated. Be sure to follow operating guidelines to prevent overloading. Follow manufacturer's instructions in using and maintaining equipment.
- Electrical malfunctions are also a major contributor to fires in the workplace. Electrical equipment should be checked regularly for signs of trouble such as damaged cords or worn insulation. Never overload circuits, and never force circuit breakers to remain in the "on" position. Only qualified and authorized personnel should carry out electrical repairs and maintenance, but everyone is responsible for being alert to the signs of electrical malfunction.
- It is important to understand the fire hazards of the materials with which you work. They may be combustible, flammable, explosive or reactive. Read the labels and know where to locate the Material Safety Data Sheet for further information. Carefully follow any instructions when you are using any materials, which might pose hazards.
- Observe company security policies and be alert to any

suspicious persons or activities. Many workplace fires are set by arsonists; do your part to prevent these incidents. Know what to do in case of a fire. Make sure your safety training includes this information:

- What is your responsibility in case of fire - to report the fire, fight it or evacuate the building?
- Where is the fire alarm located? Where are the fire extinguishers located? Do you know how to use them, and on what kinds of fires?
- Do you know how to use other fire emergency equipment such as fire blankets, hoses and sprinklers?
- What safety procedures should you carry out in case of a fire? Are you responsible for shutting down equipment or operations before you leave?
- Do you know where you and your co-workers are supposed to meet for a head count after evacuating the plant?



Everyone has a responsibility for preventing fire. It is up to you to report any unsafe situation, and to correct it if you are qualified and authorized to do so.

## Install Smoke Alarms Correctly and Test Them Regularly

Because fire can grow and spread so quickly, having working smoke alarms in your home can mean the difference between life and death. But these life-saving devices are only effective when they're working properly. Smoke alarms with batteries that are dead, disconnected, or missing can't alert you to the dangers of smoke and fire. Follow these tips to ensure that your smoke alarms are installed correctly and tested regularly

Once the alarm sounds, you may have as few as two minutes to escape. By learning how to effectively use the smoke alarm's early warning to get out safely, you'll reduce your risk of dying in a home fire.

For more information on smoke alarms go to:

[http://www.nfpa.org/FPW/Planning/Safety\\_Tips/Alarms/alarms.asp](http://www.nfpa.org/FPW/Planning/Safety_Tips/Alarms/alarms.asp)

For additional information on fire prevention see:

<http://www.nfpa.org/FPW/index.asp>

[http://www.nfpa.org/FPW/Kids\\_Area/kids\\_area.asp](http://www.nfpa.org/FPW/Kids_Area/kids_area.asp)

<http://www.nfpa.org/sparky/> ■

# One NASA Peer Award

By Ron Mink

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration is pleased to announce the NEW One NASA Peer Award Program which allows members of the NASA Family (both Contractors and Civil Servants) to celebrate and reward One NASA behaviors wherever they occur.

Do you know someone who is involved in an Inter-Center Team that is working to promote a more unified Agency? Across the Agency, there are employees and contractors who serve as representatives for their home center on Agency-wide teams. These inter-center teams work to share lessons learned, increase collaboration, improve communications and more. Individuals also contribute to One NASA by creating Inter-Center Teams, inviting members from outside their home center to join existing teams. They may create programmatic standardizations that increase efficiency, and/or make important leadership decisions on behalf of the entire Agency, beyond solely what is best for their Center. This award provides a vehicle through which you can recognize colleagues from anywhere across the Agency for demonstrating these (and other) One NASA behaviors.

You may nominate anyone within the NASA Family who is outside of your management chain and who is not involved in a contractor performance evaluation relationship with you. The nomination must provide evidence of One NASA Behavior under one or more of the following themes:

Making decisions for the common good

- Asking questions to ensure that others have considered the good of the Agency
- Considering cross-functional and cross-center implication in decision-making
- Holding Leaders responsible for making decisions based on One NASA

Collaborating to leverage existing capabilities

- Exploring opportunities for collaboration across the agency
- Sharing lessons learned with other NASA Installations
- Building supportive relationships with colleagues across the Agency
- Acknowledge unique aspects of each installation and its history
- Encouraging and facilitating mobility and development opportunities for employees
- Encouraging multi-center collaborations

Standardization that demonstrates efficiency

- Leveraging expertise and resources from other installations
- Developing or supporting new tools and processes for working with other Centers

Sharing expertise and resources with other installations

This award program features three “non-monetary” awards with increasing levels of visibility and recognition:

**Individual or Team Award:** An award presented locally at each Center (including JPL and HQ) as the behavior is identified.

**Center Best Award:** All local Individual/Team Award recipients are re-evaluated by a Center-wide team led by the Awards Office, and one is selected for the Center Best Award.

**Agency Best of the Best Award:** The 11 Center Best Award candidates are re-evaluated by the One NASA Team to award one, “Best of the Best” Agency wide Award, to be presented in early calendar year 2005.

The link for the nomination form can be found on [www.onenasa.nasa.gov](http://www.onenasa.nasa.gov) beginning October 1, 2004. Note: Efforts being recognized must involve participation from multiple Centers, efforts must be either on-going or completed after March 31, 2003.

Please contact Esther Johnson ([Esther.C.Johnson@nasa.gov](mailto:Esther.C.Johnson@nasa.gov)) at 6-0023 or Ron Mink ([Ronald.G.Mink@nasa.gov](mailto:Ronald.G.Mink@nasa.gov)) at 6-3524 for additional information.

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## Main Gate To Be Closed

The Facilities Management Division will close the Main Gate at Route 193 near building 9, to all traffic, both vehicle and pedestrian, during the Columbus Day holiday weekend. The closure is necessary to remove lead paint and to paint the canopy stretching over Goddard Road from building 9. All those entering and leaving the Center between Saturday, Oct. 9, at 5 a.m. and Tuesday, Oct. 12, at 6 a.m., should proceed through Gate #5 located at Soil Conservation Service Road by building 17.

Work on the building 9 lobby continues until Monday, Oct. 18. During the construction period, all visitors and those requiring one-day temporary badges will process through building 88, the Visitor's Center. building 9 lobby and interior stairwell are currently inaccessible. When the lobby opens on Monday, Oct. 18, the ID Section will be relocated from the basement to the renovated lobby area.

## Safety Alerts

The Center receives information from the Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP) concerning product recalls. In an effort to keep employees informed of recalls that may affect you at work and at home, Code 300 will provide alerts or recalls that have been issued by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) along with web site links for retrieving further information on the recalls or alerts.

New Federal Web Site for Agency Recalls: <http://www.recalls.gov>  
Lexmark International Inc. Announce Recall of Laser Printers.  
<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml04/04211.html>

IBM Announce Recall of AC Adapters for Notebook Computers.  
<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml04/04208.html>

Goodman Company, L.P. Announce Recall of Amana, Trane, and American Standard Brand Package Terminal Air Conditioners/Heat

Pumps. <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml04/04229.html>

NCR Corp. Announce Recall of NCR Universal Inkjet Refill Kits.  
<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml04/04215.html>

Gruga U.S.A Announce Recall to Repair Office Chairs Sold at Staples Stores.

<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/prerel/prhtml04/04218.html>

## IV&V Holds A Day in the Park Educational Event

By Donna Ozburn

Photo Credit: Peter Medley, Code 180

The NASA Independent Verification and Validation (IV&V) Facility, in collaboration with the West Virginia High Technology Consortium Foundation, held an educational event called "Day in The Park 2004" at the I-79 Technology Park in Fairmont, W.V., on Sept. 21, 2004. "Day in The Park 2004" encouraged students to pursue careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

At this event approximately 850 seventh graders from West Virginia (Monongalia, Marion, Harrison, Lewis, Doddridge, and McDowell Counties) participated in hands-on activities and visited with representatives of various technical fields. A special invitation was extended to Mount View Middle School from McDowell County, which was chosen as the first West Virginia NASA Explorer School (NES). Teachers from this rural school said the event would give their students hope that they can go places in life. Students from Mount View Middle School traveled a total of eight hours to participate in "Day in the Park 2004."

The day kicked-off with Frank L. Culbertson Jr. (Captain, USN, Ret.), a former NASA Astronaut. Mr. Culbertson flew on STS-38 Atlantis (1990), STS-51 Discover (1993), and STS105 (2001) that docked with the International Space Station, where he lived and work for 129 days. Mr. Culbertson was the only American not on Earth on Sept. 11, 2001. At the time, he was an Expedition 3 crew member on board the International Space Station and was witness to the damage done to the World Trade Center towers in New York City and the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. 230 miles below.

Also featured at "Day in the Park 2004" was Coalwood, West Virginia, native Roy Lee Cooke, a founding member of the Big



Students listen intently to former Astronaut Frank Culbertson Jr.

Creek Missile Agency and one of author Homer Hickam's original "Rocket Boys". He shared his experiences growing up in West Virginia, and encouraged the students to stay in school and reach for their dreams. Louis Carfagno, a Space Suit Engineer and former pilot, demonstrated how a space suit was designed and fitted for astronaut training and space flight. He also encouraged students to set goals and work diligently to achieve them by taking advantage of all educational opportunities.

The students explored science and technology with hands-on activities at the West Liberty State College SMART-Center exhibits, while local businesses provided Aeronautics, model rocketry, and satellite research to complete this spectacular day.

For more information about "Day in the Park", please contact Donna Ozburn at 304-367-8234 or [Donna.S.Ozburn@nasa.gov](mailto:Donna.S.Ozburn@nasa.gov) ■

# Dr. Lonise P. Bias Inspires Next Generation With Reversing Learned Helplessness

By Natalie L. Simms

The generation of youths today are the future leaders of tomorrow. Amidst this reality, the stresses of life cause challenge and at times, roadblocks to their development, which in turn affects how they relate at home, school and socially. In recognizing this, Dr. Lonise P. Bias, addressed the Goddard community and students from various local, public schools on Wednesday, Sept. 29, in the building 3 Goett Auditorium, in her seminar, "Reversing Learned Helplessness: All Children are Valuable." The repetitive thread in her discussion was children are "reachable, teachable, lovable and savable."

Dr. Lonise P. Bias is the founder of Bias Lecturing and Consulting, Inc., specializing in engagements dedicated to the well being of youth, family, community and the workplace. She is an internationally known motivational speaker, trainer and consultant. She is also the mother of the late Len Bias, University of Maryland basketball player, who died on June 19, 1986 of cocaine intoxication, two days after being drafted by the Boston Celtics. Four years later, she suffered the tragic loss of another son, Jay, who was violently murdered in a drive-by shooting at a local mall.

Despite the personal losses of Dr. Bias, she has turned her setbacks into comebacks, providing the opportunity to encourage and motivate others. She presented a lively and energetic seminar for the Goddard Community, hosted by the African American Advisory Committee.

Dr. Ed Weiler, center director, welcomed the distinguished guest Dr. Bias, students and Goddard community. He encouraged the youth to embrace NASA's bold mission of exploration and discovery. He stated, "There is an exciting future on the way. Your future will be the time when we will discover other life in the universe. We need scientists and engineers who will be the explorers of the future. You must stay in school." These comments engaged the audience and led to a captivating seminar by Dr. Bias.

Her major talking points were also aimed at the students, in an effort to motivate, inspire and encourage, though the adults greatly benefited as well. She admonished the need to break free from the bondage of "learned helplessness," or dependency and immaturity, and realize the potential each of them possesses. "You are our future. Without you, we are nothing."

The majority of her discussion focused on seven keys to reverse learned helplessness. The first key was to respect positive and legal authority. Learn to appreciate it because the foundation of understanding is listening. When you respect those in authority, it leads to life and prosperity. Otherwise, you embrace negativity.

Photos by Chris Gunn/293



Dr. Bias gave seven keys for "reversing learned helplessness"

"When you rebel and not listen to instruction, it may cost you your life. With length of days, comes understanding."

The second key was to work at loving and appreciating ourselves. We were reminded of how wonderfully made we are; therefore, it behooves us to be vigilant so as to prevent decay. The third key was along the same spectrum, to place more value on ourselves, instead of material possessions. These things are only temporary and depreciate quickly.

The fourth key was to "grow where you are planted; the grass is not always greener on the other side." She encouraged making wise decisions and not being influenced by peers and so-called friends to go along with the crowd, but be willing to step out of the comfort zone and progress to contentment. "Stop discounting yourself."

The fifth key was that not everyone who laughs in your face is your friend, so choose your associates wisely. This course proves beneficial, as bad association can spoil useful habits.

In the sixth key we were helped to appreciate that hardship is a part of life and someone is always going through something harder than we are. Therefore, the recommendation was to stop bandaging the symptoms of a problem, but much rather, get to the root of it. "Suicide is a permanent solution to a temporary problem."

The last key was further encouragement to make your decisions count and live a progressive life. ■



Dr. Weiler, intrigued the students by telling them they can participate in NASA's new vision of exploring the Moon, Mars and Beyond.

# Special SFA Recognition in Florida

By Esther Johnson

The Space Flight Awareness Program sponsored a special recognition event that was held at the Disney World Coronado Springs Resort, Lake Buena Vista, Florida during the week of Aug. 23- 27. This activity publicly recognized 300 award recipients and their guests from across the United States.

Space Flight Awareness (SFA) Employee Motivation and Recognition Program is sponsored by the Office of Space Flight, the focus of the SFA Employee Motivation and Recognition Program is excellence in quality and safety – for the lives of the astronauts, for mission success and for the success of America's space program. The objective of the Program is to create for all space workers an awareness of their obligation to flight safety and mission success.

This special "SFA Honoree Award" included a dinner held in their honor, VIP tour of the Kennedy Space Center, and a special recognition awards ceremony where astronaut, Pamela Melroy presented their individual awards. Any further questions about the Space Flight Awareness Awards program please contact Esther Johnson, GSFC/SFA Council Chairperson at 301-286-0023.

Photo by: Mr. Todd Hoffman



The Goddard honorees are as follows left to right: Esther Johnson/SFA Coordinator; Carl Cramer/Honeywell Technology Solutions Inc.; Michael Stager/SGT, Inc.; Angela Culley/Honeywell Technology Solutions Inc.; Marcus Fisher/IV&V; Pamela Melroy/NASA astronaut Preston Saunders/Caelum Corporation (*not shown*)

## NIMBUS 40th Anniversary - Oct. 26 Symposium and Dinner

The Nimbus Satellite Program began in the early 1960s, and formally began producing data for Earth Science research with the launch of Nimbus-1 on Aug. 28, 1964. Although, Nimbus-1 lasted 28 days, the value of the high quality data to the research community provided the basis for the Nimbus program to be continued as an earth resources satellite program. Six more Nimbus satellites with payloads of instruments making pioneering measurements of the atmosphere, oceans, and land were launched by 1978. Nimbus-7 was the last of the series and produced long-term data products data from 1978-1994 that are still be used today. The Nimbus instrument measurements were used for atmospheric soundings and surveys to support weather forecasting, stratospheric ozone hole assessments, ocean constituent and productivity analysis, and sea ice, soil moisture and Earth radiation budget analyses. The 33 different instruments developed under the Nimbus program and the science associated with the program provided the basis for most of the Earth resources satellites that followed Nimbus.

There will be a formal symposium at the GSFC Visitor Center Auditorium in the afternoon of Oct. 26, 2004 to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the launch of the Nimbus-1 Observatory, built under the NASA/GSFC 30-year long Nimbus Program.

This will be followed in the evening by a celebration of the event at the GSFC Recreation Center sponsored by the Nimbus Alumni Association. Current and retired government and contractor personnel as well as the general public are invited to attend both events.

The Symposium will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Goddard's Visitor Center on Soil Conservation Road. The prime objective of the symposium is to review the importance of the Nimbus program to NASA and GSFC, and to present the Nimbus program contributions to the public welfare, such as the revolutionizing of weather forecasting techniques, the public awareness of the danger resulting from ozone depletion in the upper atmosphere, and satellite system technology support of the world-wide search and rescue program. If you are interested in attending the Symposium, please contact Cynthia M.O' Carroll at 301-614-5563 or email her at: [Cynthia.M.Ocarroll@nasa.gov](mailto:Cynthia.M.Ocarroll@nasa.gov)

The dinner will be held at the Goddard Recreation Center on Soil Conservation Road from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. The menu includes Prime Rib, Spiced Shrimp, beer/wine, soft drinks and appetizers. The cost for the dinner is \$27.00. If you are interested in attending the dinner or know of someone who may be interested, please contact Michael L. Forman at 301-286-9287 or email him at: [Michael.L.Forman@nasa.gov](mailto:Michael.L.Forman@nasa.gov). Dinner reservations need to be made and paid for by Oct. 21. For information about this event and other Nimbus facts, log on to [www.nimbus-sat.org](http://www.nimbus-sat.org) ■

# Goddard in the News

## Earth Science Press Releases and Media Coverage in Sept/Oct 2004

By Rob Gutro and Rani Chohan

Looking to learn more about the weather? Turn to the pages of *Weatherwise* magazine, where NASA research meteorologist Jeff Halverson explains some of the most recent outstanding meteorological events...without all of the jargon.

Below is a sampling of Halverson's recent articles. Be sure to check out *Weatherwise* at the Goddard Library.

### The Buzz about Boundaries (Sep.-Oct. 2004):

Halverson examines the power of weather radar...that not only detects rain, but also more rare echoes - often shaped like long, narrow lines - called "boundaries," that can signal the potential for severe weather.

### Typhoon Mindulle Over the Philippines

Typhoon Mindulle over the Philippines on June 29th, 2004 as taken from the MODIS Instrument on NASA's Terra satellite.

### Super Taiwanese Trouble (Sep.-Oct. 2004):

While the residents of the United States typically don't have to worry about intense hurricanes early in the season, Halverson explains why those in the Western Pacific Ocean aren't so fortunate. This year was no exception, as Super Typhoon Mindulle struck the island country of Taiwan in June with incredible fury.

### National Media Swarms Around NASA Goddard

Dr. Marshall Shepard, Deputy Project Manager for the Global Precipitation Measurement mission (GPM), conducted over 60 live interviews with local and national news agencies ranging

from NBC's Today Show to local Fox 5, WTTG. Splitting interview time with Dr. Jeff Halverson of the University of Maryland, they conducted the interviews as part of the science of hurricanes media campaign. The campaign focused on NASA's unique contribution to the study of hurricanes and how NASA satellites look inside these powerful cyclones to learn about the heat engine that drives the storms. For more information on this campaign see *EYE TO EYE: Seeing Hurricanes as Only NASA Can* (<http://www.gsfc.nasa.gov/topstory/2004/0915isabel/addl.html>).

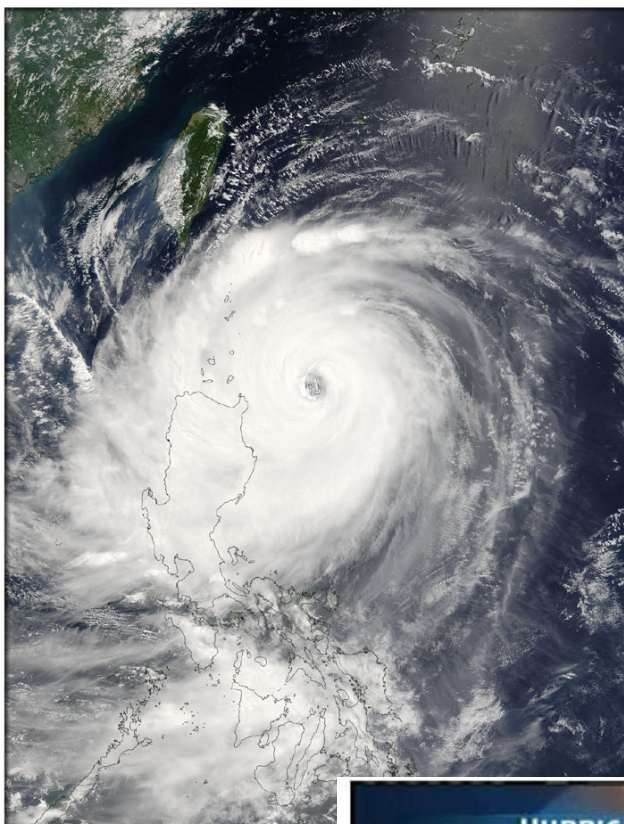
### Greatest Hits

- Dr. Marshall Shepherd & Dr. Jeff Halverson, completed 40 live television interviews with local news stations including Los Angeles, Chicago, Boston, and Washington.
- Dr. Carlos del Castillo appeared live on CNN Espanol and the Los Angeles Telemundo affiliate KVEA.
- Today Show's Matt Lauer interviewed Marshall Shepherd.
- NBC Nightly News: Dr. Shepherd featured in a 3-minute segment titled "In His own Words," talking about this year's hurricane season.

Live interviews on national shows:

- MSNBC
- BET Nightly News
- ITN London
- CNN - Lou Dobbs
- Fox News Channel
- Discovery Channel Canada
- CNN with Wolf Blitzer
- CNN Live with Miles O'Brien
- CNN Larry King Live

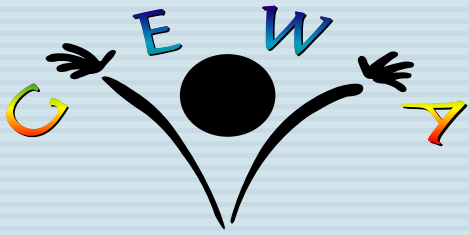
Credit: NASA/MODIS Rapid Response Team



MODIS image of Typhoon Mindulle over the Philippines



Shown at right is Dr. Shepherd on NBC's Today morning show with host (left) Matt Lauer.



# GEWA Activities

## FedGLOBE's First Happy Hour

In honor of National Coming out Week, FedGLOBE is having it's first happy hour at the Rec Center on Oct. 8 from 3:30 p.m. 'till the party's over. All GLBT employees, non-GLBT allies, and guests are welcome to attend.

Tickets are \$15, which covers food and cocktails. Please RSVP as soon as possible to Scott Starin at [Scott.Starin@nasa.gov](mailto:Scott.Starin@nasa.gov)

## GEWA SPECIAL EVENTS FOR 2004

TBA - Free Lunchtime Concerts - with Guest Chefs and Special Sales throughout the year

Nov. 9 - 14th Annual Fall Crafts Fair

Dec. 9 - Toy Wrap for Children's Holiday Party

Dec. 11 - Children's Holiday Party

Dec. 13 - Toy Liquidation Sale

Please go to <http://gewa.gsfc.nasa.gov/SpecEvents/> for more information.

## Goddard Bible Club

The Goddard Bible Club meets on Tuesdays at noon in building 21, room 242. We have both speakers and videos, details may be found in Dateline. You are welcome to eat your lunch during the meeting. If you have questions, please call Bill 6-7756.

## City of Angels - Ticket Sales!

The sales will be on Thursday, **Oct. 7, from 11 a.m. -1 p.m. in the building 1 Cafeteria**. As always, you can call 240-475-8800 for information or go to the web site (in September) for an online ticket order form. Visit the MAD website at <http://gewa.gsfc.nasa.gov/> for more information on the cast and schdeuled performances.

## GEWA Art of Living Club Offers Free Guided Meditation Every Monday and Wednesday at Noon

Come and feel more peaceful and less stressed; be more focused and energetic - no training required! Our mental and emotional state affects those around us, and by culturing a state of mental stillness we bring that peacefulness into our environment, one mind at a time. There are some things that effort cannot accomplish. Meditation is the delicate art of doing nothing - letting go of everything and being who you are. It gives your mind such a wonderful rest. Come get a charge, and help make Goddard a better place to work. On Monday, we meet at 12:15 p.m. in bldg. 23, Rm S300, and on Wednesday, we meet at 12:00 noon in same place. Please call Bill Hayden at 6-4267 or Chris Smythe-Macaulay at 6-2490 if you have any questions. For new folks, we will be there 5 minutes early for a quick orientation.



# Announcements

## LTC, FSA & LTP Reminders

Long Term Care Insurance is available throughout the year to Goddard civil servants & eligible family members. You may enroll at any time on the LTC website at: [www.ltcfeds.com](http://www.ltcfeds.com). New employees may submit an abbreviated underwriting application, while all others must complete the full underwriting application.

Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA's) for medical & dependent care expenses in 2005 must be set up during the open season - Nov. 8 - Dec. 13. Enroll directly at [www.fsafeds.com](http://www.fsafeds.com). Also, don't forget to submit claims for 2004 within 120 days after the Dec. 31 services/costs. It's "use it or lose it".

Got extra annual leave to spare? Consider donating it to a Goddard employee in need! A list of Leave Transfer Program recipients and the form to complete a donation may found on OHR's website at: <http://ohr.gsfc.nasa.gov>

## Want To Challenge Students to Focus On Their Futures?

The Maryland Business Roundtable for Education needs volunteers from the working world to participate in its nationally renowned Speakers Bureau. The Bureau is part of a comprehensive program that informs and motivates middle and high school students about the rigorous coursework they will need to take and complete while in high school in order to succeed in the future, whether they go on to college or directly into the workplace.

Volunteer speakers are asked to commit to making 3-5 classroom presentations. Before entering the classroom, they are equipped with a lesson plan and receive 3 hours of training on facilitating the Achievement Counts presentation. The messages they deliver are based on their own personal and work experiences, with each speaker bringing his or her own unique perspective. If you are interested please contact Charles Mercer at 301-286-7478 or by email at [cmercer@pop100.gsfc.nasa.gov](mailto:cmercer@pop100.gsfc.nasa.gov) so we can set-up a training session for employees here at Goddard.

To sign up to be a speaker visit our website: <http://www.mbrt.org/speak> or contact LaTara Harris at 410/727-0448 or [latara@mbrt.org](mailto:latara@mbrt.org).

## Goddard Referral Service

Looking for information on issues such as adult care, child care, legal or financial assistance, health & wellness, or education, but don't know where to start? Let Goddard's Referral Service do the work for you! This service includes a website as well as Specialists available 24 hours a day/7 days a week - whenever the need arises. Check it out at: [www.worklife4you.com](http://www.worklife4you.com), and enter the following information: Agency Code: GSFC; password: last name + last 4 digits of SSN. Don't worry - the site is very secure & you're information remains confidential. Please contact Khrista White at X6-9059, [khrista.n.white@nasa.gov](mailto:khrista.n.white@nasa.gov), or <http://ohr.gsfc.nasa.gov/family/home.htm> for assistance.

## Register for the NASA Aeronautics and Space Database

The NASA Aeronautics and Space Database is the Scientific and Technical Information (STI) Programs new repository for documents relevant to NASAs mission. From your own workstation, you have free access to over 3.5 million metadata records that include citations and abstracts of NASA journal articles, technical reports, conference papers and proceedings, preprints, theses, and other forms of STI. Content ranges from the early NACA publications to today's latest research. Innovative features include full-text images in PDF format, custom display formats, saved search capability, and on-line document and video purchase. Register for free at [www.sti.nasa.gov](http://www.sti.nasa.gov).

## Dateline Newsletter

The Dateline Newsletter is a daily bulletin that highlights current GSFC events and announcements. The newsletter is e-mailed daily to subscribers only. To subscribe to Dateline send an e-mail message to [Majordomo@listserv.gsfc.nasa.gov](mailto:Majordomo@listserv.gsfc.nasa.gov) in the text area type subscribe dateline\_daily\_copy and within a few days you should start receiving dateline. To submit announcements direct e-mails to [dateline@listserv.gsfc.nasa.gov](mailto:dateline@listserv.gsfc.nasa.gov) For more information, contact Natile Simms at x6-8955.

# Events

## Can We Talk

The next Can We Talk session with Dr. Weiler or Deputy Director Chris Scolese is scheduled for **Thursday, Oct 14**. To sign up, visit the Goddard Internal home page at <http://internal.gsfc.nasa.gov/canwetalk.cfm> or call the Office of Public Affairs at x6-8955.

## Engineering Colloquium

Please note that all of the Engineering Colloquia are held on Mondays in the Building 3 Goett Auditorium at 3:30 p.m. unless stated otherwise.

**Who/What:** Franklin Chang-Diaz, NASA JSC will deliver the lecture entitled, *VASIMR: Mars in Four Months*. This talk will be an overview of the Variable-Specific-Impulse Magnetoplasma Rocket (VASIMR), currently under development at the Johnson Space Center's Advanced Space Propulsion Center, that may be able to reduce travel times to Mars to as little as four months.

**When: Monday, Oct. 4**

For more information, visit: <http://ecolloq.gsfc.nasa.gov/announce.chang-diaz.html>

**Who:** Joan Horvath, Takeoff Technologies, LLC will discuss, *The Entrepreneurial Space Launch Business: A User's Guide*. This talk will discuss, from the point of view of a former JPL program office staffer, the challenges "in the trenches" of getting a company in this market literally off the ground and how the traditional aerospace industry and the scientists who depend upon it might begin to partner with these entrepreneurs. Activities underway to encourage collaboration will be reviewed, including a somewhat unique umbrella organization, the Capps Space Science Center in Frederick, Oklahoma, which has been designed as an interface into the industry for the scientist or engineering researcher.

**When: Monday, Oct. 18**

For more information, visit: <http://ecolloq.gsfc.nasa.gov/announce.horvath.html>

**Who:** Professor Owen Gingerich, Harvard Univ. will give a fascinating account of the origins of modern science, *The Sleepwalkers*, Arthur Koestler dubbed Copernicus' *De revolutionibus* "the book that nobody read." It took Owen Gingerich more than a decade to prove the novelist dead wrong. In the process he became the international expert on the publishing history and gradual acceptance of the heliocentric system, the initial powerful concept that has shaped our modern understanding of the cosmos.

**When: Monday, Oct. 25**

For more information, visit: <http://ecolloq.gsfc.nasa.gov/announce.gingerich.html>

## Upcoming Training

### Interviewing as the Interviewer

Oct. 21, 2004; 1:30-2:30 p.m.

For additional information please visit <http://ohrcoursecatalog.gsfc.nasa.gov/search/description.cfm?course=1247>

### Individual Development Planning (IDP) for Supervisors

Oct. 26, 2004; 9:30-11:30 a.m.

For additional information please visit <http://ohrcoursecatalog.gsfc.nasa.gov/search/description.cfm?course=865>

### Career Decision-Making

Oct. 28, 2004; 1:30-2:30 p.m.

For additional information visit, <http://ohrcoursecatalog.gsfc.nasa.gov/search/description.cfm?course=1250>

You may also contact Tracey White at x6-7823 or

[Tracey.C.White.1@gsfc.nasa.gov](mailto:Tracey.C.White.1@gsfc.nasa.gov) to enroll in any of the listed courses.

### One-On-One Career Coaching...

Whether you are contemplating a career change, in need of assistance with resume writing, interviewing techniques, or trying to develop an Individual Development Plan (IDP), a career coach can help. To schedule a confidential one-on-one appointment, contact Tracey White at x6-7823. This service is provided to civil servants only.

### Information Science and Technology (IS&T) Colloquium

All IS&T colloquia are held in building 3 Goett Auditorium at (3:00 p.m. for refreshments) with the colloquium 3:30 p.m. unless stated otherwise

**Who:** Dr. Jonathan Sprinkle, postdoctoral researcher at the University of California, Berkeley will talk about *Pursuit/Evasion of Fixed-wing Aircraft Through Model-Predictive Control*. Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) have shown themselves to be highly capable in intelligence gathering, as well as a possible future deployment platform for munitions.

**When: Wed, Oct. 6**

**Who:** Dr. Kanna Rajan, Senior Research Scientist and a member of the management team of the the Autonomy and Robotics Area at NASA Ames Research Center Moffett Field, Calif. will discuss, *What I Learned from Commanding Spirit and Opportunity: Lessons Learned from Deploying MAPGEN for NASA's Mars Exploration Rover Mission*.

**When: Wed, Oct. 20**

### Alfred T. C. Chang Memorial Symposium

**What:** In memory of Dr. Alfred T.C. Chang's contribution to Earth Science, there will be an IEEE-sponsored memorial symposium entitled The Alfred T. C. Chang Memorial Symposium, will consist of invited and contributed presentations dealing with microwave remote sensing.

**When/Where:** **Tuesday, Oct. 12**, at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center Visitor Center in Greenbelt, Md

For registration and more information as it becomes available go to the following web site:<http://neptune.gsfc.nasa.gov/chang/>

### Information @ Work - Library Open House

**Who:** Everyone is invited to Goddard's Open House. This year's theme is "information@work." This event will begin with welcoming remarks from Dr. Ed Weiler, the new Goddard Space Flight Center Director. In the afternoon the keynote speaker, Dr. Steven Dick, the NASA Historian, will speak on astrobiology and extraterrestrial life. And as always the Open House will feature the latest in information resources and services available to researchers.

**When/Where:** **Wednesday, Oct. 20** in the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Library, Building 21 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on .

For more information, contact Michele Skinner : 301-286-1043 or [miskinner@pop200.gsfc.nasa.gov](mailto:miskinner@pop200.gsfc.nasa.gov)

### Center Director's Colloquium

The 2004 Fall series of the Center Director's Colloquia will held in the building 3 Goett Auditorium from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. with afternoon group discussion at 2 p.m. in the bldg 1 training facility.

**Who:** Ms. Twyla Tharp, one of America's greatest choreographers, believes that creativity is not bestowed by some divine and mystical spark. Rather, it is the product of preparation and effort, and within the reach of anyone who wants to achieve it. She will offer her insights on creativity, including some practical and immediately doable exercises anyone can adopt to enhance their creative potential.

**When:** **Oct. 21, 2004**

For more information, check out: <http://centerdircolloq.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

### Save the Date, Oct. 29 Technology Transfer Investment Workshop

NASA Goddard's Office of Technology Transfer, along with the University of Maryland - Office of Technology Commercialization, and the New Markets Growth Fund present the NASA Technology Transfer Investment Workshop at the Greenbelt Marriott.

This workshop will be a continuation of the Venture Capital Project Workshop that was held June 29, 2004 at Goddard.

**When/Where:** **Friday, Oct 29** from 8 a.m. to 12 noon at the Greenbelt Marriott

For more information and to register visit <http://techtransfer.gsfc.nasa.gov/venturecapital/> or contact Lisa Wilderson, [Lisa.B.Wilderson.1@gsfc.nasa.gov](mailto:Lisa.B.Wilderson.1@gsfc.nasa.gov), (301) 286-7609.

### BIG Fish Fry

**What:** The NASA GSFC/WFF's Chapter of Blacks in Government (BIG) is sponsoring a lunchtime Fish Fry. If you would like to attend, please contact any of the BIG Members noted on the attached flyer (or myself on ext. 6-9708). Tickets are only \$6.00. **Please note ticket sales at the door for this event will be LIMITED to fifty (50).** We will also have two (2) door prizes at the Fish Fry.

**When/Where:** **Thursday, Oct. 21** from 11:00 a.m. until 1p.m. at Bea and Barney Rec. Center.

Please come out to support this event where you can network with fellow GSFC employees, obtain valuable knowledge and information, and enjoy great food. We hope to see you there...thanks for thinking BIG!

### Expendable Launch Vehicle Payload Safety and Mission Success Conference

**What:** The Office of System Safety and Reliability, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Code 302, is pleased to announce the NASA Expendable Launch Vehicle (ELV) Payload Safety and Mission Success Conference. The conference will emphasize the safety and mission success aspects of ELV Payloads. It will also highlight the exciting future of ELV Payload programs and provide a forum for current, past and future ELV Payload customers and suppliers to interact with other members of the ELV Payload community in structured and casual settings.

**When/Where:** **Nov. 16-18, 2004** in in Santa Barbara, California.

Additional conference details are available at the following web address:<http://www.tisconferences.com/elv/>

### Second Annual NASA Project Management Conference

Project team members interested in learning new concepts during a full 2-days of high-quality, high-intensity professional interaction. Teach, learn, and network about Project Management. This conference includes:

- Major keynote speakers daily
  - Highly informative speaker sessions
  - Thought-provoking case studies
  - Engaging panel discussions
  - Innovative project management tool demonstrations
- Conference Registration will open in early fall

**When/Where:** **March 22-23, 2005** at the University of Maryland University College Inn and Conference Center College Park, MD

Conference website ([pmchallenge.gsfc.nasa.gov](http://pmchallenge.gsfc.nasa.gov)) still has the presentations from the 2004 Conference. Check back soon for the new 2005 website.

Contact Conference Chairpersons: Dorothy J. Tiffany - NASA GSFC 301-386-5917 Walt Majerowicz, PMP – CSC 301-286-5622

To add names to our mailing list: Sandy Adorney 301-286-3413