



michoud messenger

Volume 3, Issue 07 | July 1, 2011

Michoud Children Join Parents at Work

NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility (MAF) hosted 461 children and their sponsors June 6 for the agency's Bring Your Child to Work and Get a Free Hot Dog Day. Adults and children alike enjoyed a tour of the main manufacturing facility, cryogenic experiments in the Metrology Lab, demonstrations by the Machining Center, as well as getting up close and personal with the newest Robotic Weld tools.

The Coast Guard brought three of their boats for the kids to explore and Blade Dynamics provided a video on their latest wind energy technology. The MAF Fire Brigade showcased their fire engine and also demonstrated how to put out different types of fires. The Northshore High First Robotics Team ran their competition robot through its paces inside the assembly facility while everyone was fascinated by how well the little robots from St. Angela Elementary's LEGO League Robotics Team followed their programming on the tabletop course. Many of the children reported that they can't wait to get back to school to join or start

a LEGO League Robotics team themselves.

All the children were treated to a NASA t-shirt and a hotdog lunch, and the majority explored their sponsor's work area. One eight-year-old commented that her favorite part was seeing her dad work, "It wasn't too boring at all."

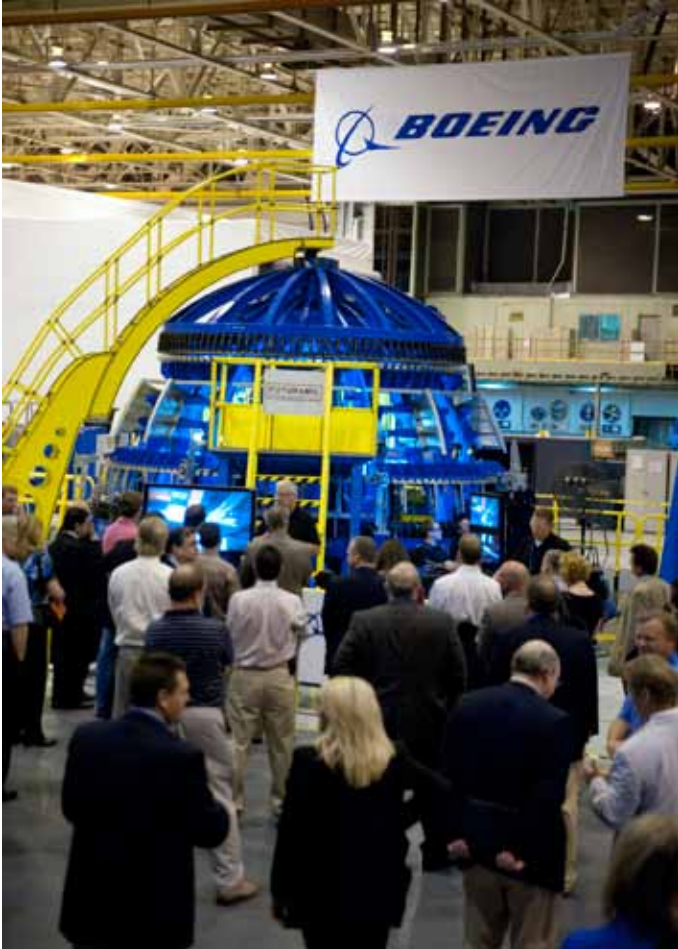
All Michoud tenants partici-

pated in the event, including the USDA National Finance Center, US Coast Guard, Boeing, Lockheed Martin, Jacobs Technology, CIBER and Coastal Security. NASA's Marshall Exchange sponsored the event along with Jacobs Technology.



Children and their MAF sponsors look on during an experiment inside the MAF Metrology Lab Jun. 9.

Boeing demonstrates readiness toward NASA's future launch vehicle



On June 7, Boeing unveiled its innovative manufacturing process to enable robust and sustainable exploration missions. NASA, elected officials and local community leaders received a first-time demonstration of the friction stir welding technology and tooling approaches applied to the Pathfinder tank at the Michoud Assembly Facility. The Pathfinder tank, a 5.5-meter diameter lightweight aluminum lithium design, illustrates state-of-the-art manufacturing and welding approaches, developed as part of an existing Upper Stage Production Contract (USPC).

Go Green MAF

- Conserve energy and water
- Purchase goods and services that are bio-based, energy-efficient, water-efficient, and contain recycled-content products
- Prevent pollution and eliminate waste
- Reduce, reuse, recycle

UNO-NCAM Supports Girl Scouts Go NASA Workshop



UNO-NCAM student employee Bruce Johnson (right) assists a Girl Scout in preparing her rocket for launch at the recent Girl Scouts Go NASA Workshop in Slidell.

University of New Orleans - National Center for Advanced Manufacturing (UNO-NCAM) student employee Bruce Johnson was among several area volunteers who taught approximately 100 Girl Scouts, ages 9-14, rocket building and rocket launching Jun. 12 during a "Girl Scouts Go NASA Workshop" held at Grace Memorial Baptist Church in Slidell.

Marshall Space Flight Center's Academic Affairs Office and the Girl Scouts Louisiana East Council collaborated to present the workshop to provide inspiration and engagement in NASA-related content, and encourage scouts in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM)-related pursuits. The day before the workshop, the volunteers were trained by an education specialist on hands-on activities for the girls that included rocket building and launching, building lunar rovers, and understanding mission patch design.

Johnson is currently a junior mechanical engineering student at UNO and an employee of NCAM. Other volunteers teaching the workshop included representatives from Stennis Space Center and Shell Oil Company.

– Lisa Johnson, UNO-NCAM

Final SFA Honorees for Space Shuttle Program



Joe Wiley



Greg Menesses

Commander Chris Ferguson, Pilot Doug Hurley and Mission Specialists Sandra Magnus and Rex Walheim are targeted to lift off on Atlantis July 8, taking with them the Raffaello multipurpose logistics model packed with supplies, logistics and spare parts to the station. The STS-135 mission also will fly a system to investigate the potential for robotically refueling existing satellites and return a failed ammonia pump module to help NASA better understand the failure mechanism and improve pump designs for future systems. STS-135 will be the 33rd flight of Atlantis, the 37th shuttle mission to the space station, and the 135th and final mission of NASA's Space Shuttle Program.

Boating Safety

Now that summer is here, I would like to talk about the most important safety item on board your boat. Of course I am talking about Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs) or better known as life jackets. It's mandatory that every vessel have a proper fitting, serviceable PFD for each person onboard.

There are five types of PFDs:

- Type I - designed to turn an unconscious person's face clear of the water
- Type II - requires some effort by the wearer to turn their face clear of the water
- Type III - this is a ski vest type which requires a lot of effort to turn your face clear of the water
- Type IV - this is a device such as a cushion or life ring which is required on vessels 16 feet or longer
- Type V - this is for commercial use such as an immersion suit or work vest

A couple of important notes:

1. Wear your life vest. Most hybrid self inflating type vests are considered Type I PFDs but they can only work IF WORN.

2. State law requires a child to only wear a Coast Guard approved vest. It does not designate which type. Wearing a comfortable Type III satisfies the law but a Type I is going to provide the maximum floatation.

Based on the U.S. Coast Guard Boating Safety Resource Center 2010 Accident Statistics Report there were 672 reported recreational boating deaths of which 484 were from drowning. That means that 72 percent of these deaths might have been prevented had the person been wearing a PFD. I encourage everyone who boats to visit the Coast Guard Safe Boating web site at: www.uscgboating.org.

– Captain Terry Fitzgerald, MAF Harbor Master

Welcome Aboard!

Congratulations to Jacobs interns Brian Poche, Glennwich Stewart, Derek Ybarra and Adair Vulevich.

All recently graduated from college and were hired as full-time employees at Michoud.



Michoud Education Fellows Kicks off 4th Year

Three teachers visited the Michoud Assembly Facility (MAF) this month as part of the fourth annual Michoud Education Fellows (MEF). A partnership with Louisiana State University (LSU), MEF affords a group of elementary and high-school teachers access to MAF for two weeks, one in June and one in July. The teachers have the opportunity to meet with all the entities on-site to learn about their role at MAF. Later, the teachers will interview different departments and share their findings with their own classrooms. The goal is to increase interest in math and science, as well as show children that there are a number of jobs they can do for NASA and its contractors. By using what they learn at MAF, these teachers have the opportunity to affect hundreds of children.

The teachers met with representatives from the metrology and test labs, Jacobs, Boeing, Lockheed Martin and the Coast Guard. They were briefed on everything from the Multipurpose Crew Vehicle – based on the Orion Capsule, to the metrology lab, to the Coast Guard facility. “With a facility this big, you really need a whole week to take it all in,” said eighth grade science teacher Kristie Milligan from St. Tam-

many Parish.

Ian Binns, an LSU science education professor said, “Unfortunately, it seems that the message getting out to the public is that NASA does not exist anymore. The Michoud Education Fellows program is in a unique position to correct this mentality.” Binns said he hopes that the information the teachers bring back to their students will spark a new interest in NASA and encourage the students to pursue careers in science, technology, math and engineering.

The teachers will implement information they gather at MAF as well as improved lesson plans into their curriculum for the upcoming school year. Bianca Deliberto, a second and third grade teacher from Zachary Elementary School said, “This experience has given me the opportunity to gather priceless information to bring back to my classroom and share with my students. Not only will I share the history of Michoud with them but I will also share the amazing capabilities this facility has to offer them in the future.” After a year of working with their students, the teachers will brief NASA and LSU about their experience and the results they had with their children.

All-Hands

Jacobs Technology General Manager Mike Dawson addresses the Manufacturing Support Facility and Operations Contract workforce during an all hands meeting June 21. Dawson stressed safety and addressed various topics during the quarterly assembly, including contact performance and future work at Michoud.



National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Michoud Assembly Facility
13800 Old Gentilly Rd.
New Orleans, LA 70129
<http://maf.msfc.nasa.gov>

www.nasa.gov

michoudmessenger

Volume 3, Issue 07 | July 1, 2011

MAF COO: Robert Champion

Editors: John Filostrat and Angela Storey

Layout/Design: Shannon Jurado

Photographers: Chip Howat, Steven Seipel and Eric Bordelon

