

Inside Wallops

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Goddard Space Flight Center
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NASA and Department of Defense Partner for Aeronautical Testing

NASA and the Department of Defense recently signed an agreement to develop an integrated national strategy for managing their respective aeronautical test facilities.

NASA Administrator Michael Griffin and Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Kenneth Krieg signed the National Partnership for Aeronautical Testing (NPAT) agreement.

The agreement expands the dialogue beyond the test and evaluation communities to include industry, academia and the science and technology interests from both agencies.

Aeronautical test facilities are used for testing vehicles (e.g., aircraft, missiles



NASA Photo

or space vehicles) or for related scientific and engineering studies.

They include wind tunnels, propulsion test facilities, simulation facilities and open-air ranges. The agreement also established an NPAT council

responsible for the development of projects that streamline and economize the management of aeronautical test facilities.

It is co-chaired by Lisa Porter, associate administrator of NASA's Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate, and John Foulkes, director of the Department of Defense's Test Resource Management Center.

The partnership is one element of both agencies' response to the National Aeronautics Research and Development Policy President Bush signed in December 2006.

For more information about NASA's aeronautics program, visit: <http://www.aeronautics.nasa.gov>

Wallops Shorts.....

Good Catch

The February 20 *Inside Wallops* featured an article on Dr. Alan Stern's selection as the new associate administrator for NASA's Science Mission Directorate.

In addition to a sounding rocket mission to study the comet Hale-Bopp in 1997, Stern also was the principal investigator for at least two later sounding rocket missions. He had payloads on two Terrier-Black Brants launched from White Sands Missile Range; April 17, 2003 and January 16, 2004.

Thanks to Charlie Kupelian, NSROC, for the update.

Launch

A NASA scientific balloon was launched from Esrangle, in Kiruna, Sweden, on February 22. The 11.82 million cubic foot balloon carried the Mark IV solar occultation infrared interferometer and a secondary instrument, an ozone photometer. The data collected also was to provide validation for NASA's EOS Aura satellite.

Dr. Geoffrey Toon, NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, is the principal investigator.

The balloon apparently failed going into float altitude of approximately 120,000 feet and a termination was initiated by the Burst Detector. The Esrangle helicopter recovery crew reported that the payload remained upright after landing, appears to be in excellent condition and will be recovered.

Total flight time was 2 hours 23 minutes. This was a reflight of an aborted flight of Dr. Toon's payload on February 7, 2007.

Snapshot



Photo by Peter Bale

Tycora Brown, Pocomoke High School, was presented with the annual Wallops Black History Club Academic Achievement Award on Saturday, February 17, 2007. Tycora is the daughter of Pandora Brown, a Northrop-Grumman employee.

Hydrazine Training



Photo courtesy of Jack Vieira

Larry Duffy, NASA Range and Mission Management Office, recently completed Hydrazine training under the direction of Kennedy Space Center personnel.

March Events at the NASA Visitor Center

March 3: Model Rocket Launch

A model rocket launch will be held at 1 p.m. on the Visitor Center grounds. Models of various rockets will be launched. Model rocketeers are invited to bring their own rockets and launch them.

The launch will be canceled if it is raining or winds exceed 18 mph.



March 3: Lunar Eclipse Party

Join us for children's program and activity about the moon and lunar eclipses, followed by an actual viewing of a total lunar eclipse from our observation deck. The program begins at 5 p.m. The Visitor Center will remain open for viewing until 9:30 p.m.

Cookies and cocoa will be served on the observation deck with periodic games of night sky trivia. This event is weather dependent.

March 10: "Milky Ways and Globular Clusters"

Discover the Milky Way and our neighboring galaxies. Following the presentation, each

family will make their own Galactic Mobile. The program begins at 1 p.m. and will last 40 minutes.

March 17: "Aviation Bingo"

Learn all about aviation and earn prizes while playing this fun and interactive game of bingo. The program will begin at 1 p.m. and will last 40 minutes.



March 24: "Sun-Earth Connections"

Celebrate the recent equinox by learning about our sun and how it affects us on Earth.

Following the presentation, each child will make their very own functional sundial. Materials will be provided by the Visitor Center. The program begins at 1 p.m. and will last 40 minutes.

March 31: "Our Solar System"

Learn more about our sun and the planets and build your own model of Saturn to take home. The program begins at 1 p.m. and will last 40 minutes.

The Visitor Center is open Thursday through Monday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission to Visitor Center programs is free.

For further information, call x2298 or visit <http://www.wff.nasa.gov/vc>

2006 Summary of Work-Related Injuries & Illnesses

The web site for Goddard Space Flight Center, 2006 Summary of Work-Related Injuries & Illnesses, OSHA 300A, is available at: <http://safety1st/metrics.cfm>. This summary is the number of recordable work-related injuries and illnesses for civil servants for FY06.

Safety Training

CPR & First Aid training will be offered in April. Registration is now open. Learn the gift of life. Learning CPR can save the life of a family member, friend or co-worker.

Flight Safety Systems 096 will be offered in May. Registration will be in March.

Contact Olive Finney at x2463 for additional information.

Retirement Planning At Any Age

Civil Service Retirement System or Federal Employees Retirement System
March 22-23

For additional information and registration visit: <https://saturn.nasa.gov/elms/learner/login.do>

If you have any questions, call Rich Billger at x2394

Time Measurement Systems

Presented by Dr. David Simpson
February 27
10 a.m. to Noon
Wallops Video Conference
Building F6, Room 110

This short course will cover the various systems used to measure time. The talk will begin with a discussion of the different types of calendars in use (Gregorian, Julian Day, day of year, etc.). This will be followed by a description of atomic clocks and the various atomic and astronomical time scales now in use. The course will also cover leap seconds, time scale conversion algorithms, and a few other topics related to the measurement of time.

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