

Inside Wallops

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Goddard Space Flight Center
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Join the Journey, Send Your Name to the Moon

Join the lunar exploration journey. Send your name to the moon aboard the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO) spacecraft.



NASA artist's concept of the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter

The Send Your Name to the Moon web site allows everyone to participate in the lunar adventure and place their names in orbit around the moon for years to come.

Participants can submit their information at <http://lro.jhuapl.edu/NameToMoon/> The deadline for submitting names is June 27, 2008.

The web site allows you to enter a name into a database and print a certificate to keep. The database will be placed on a microchip that will be integrated onto the spacecraft.

"Everyone who sends their name to the moon, like I'm doing, becomes part of the next wave of lunar explorers," said Cathy Peddie, deputy project manager for LRO at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. "The LRO mission is the first step in NASA's plans to return humans to the moon by 2020, and your name can reach there first. How cool is that?"

The orbiter, comprised of six instruments and one technology demonstration, will

provide the most comprehensive data set ever returned from the moon.

The mission will focus on the selection of safe landing sites and identification of lunar resources. It also will study how the lunar radiation environment could affect humans.

The LRO also will create a comprehensive atlas of the moon's features and resources that will be needed as NASA designs and builds a planned lunar outpost.

The mission will support future human exploration while providing a foundation for upcoming science missions.

The Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter is being built at Goddard and is scheduled for launch in late 2008.

Send Your Name to the Moon is a collaborative effort among NASA, the Planetary Society in Pasadena, Calif., and the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory in Laurel, Md.

Runway Friction Workshop

NASA Langley Research Center's (LaRC) 15th Annual Runway Friction Workshop is being held at Wallops this week. Since 1968 NASA LaRC has been testing bias-ply tire compositions and more recently, radial-ply tire compositions to evaluate wear and handling qualities. Since 1978, LaRC and the Federal Aviation Administration have been conducting experiments to measure and evaluate tire and surface friction performance under a variety of adverse weather conditions.

Ground vehicle tests will be conducted on Wallops Research Airport's runway 04/22 with speeds ranging from 20 to 60 mph. Traffic cones will be set up next to the runway surface to clearly mark the beginning of the test surfaces. If required the Wallops Fire Department will wet or flood the test surface using their water tanker truck. The wet surface condition requires a water depth of 0.2 to 0.3 inches.

Employees must remain clear of the runways and taxi ways without the consent from the Air Traffic Control Tower.

ARCTAS Mission Support

by Dr. Charles Gatebe, Principal Investigator
Goddard Earth Science and Technology
Center, University of Maryland Baltimore
County

My field experience on P-3B aircraft was very satisfying. I enjoyed every bit of it.

The pilots lead by George Postell and Mike Singer did a great job helping us get the best of every flight. The mission managers, Dave (Easmunt) and Kate (Fairchild), did a terrific job facilitating communication between scientists and pilots.

I can't forget the rest of the crew for facilitating my calibration, which was very challenging given that P-3 was out in the cold, and sometimes they had to push the nose into the hangar to allow the CAR to view the sphere in a relatively darker environment and without the hostility of the cold outside.

Mike Cropper, despite his relatively young experience in this business, held fire very well. Most importantly, the whole team that was involved in CAR integration did a wonderful job given the circumstances."

Editor's Note: The ARCTAS Summer 2008 team is preparing for the June 16 – July 18 mission that will be flown primarily from Cold Lake, Canada. There also will be a flight from NASA Ames Research Center that will support the California Air Resource Board.

Wallops Shorts.....

“Congratulations to the AMGD (Advanced Modular Gun Demonstrator) team! This is both exciting and important Navy work. You are to be commended for this powerful demonstration! Thanks to all of you.”

Craig Smith
Head, Engagement Systems Department
NSWC Dahlgren

Mesquito Launches



Berit Bland Photo

Mesospheric Sounding Rocket Development (Mesquito) 12.065 and 12.066 test flights were launched from Wallops Island on May 6 and May 7, respectively.

Wallops Flight Facility radars and Navy SPY radars were used to provide performance data. WFF radars tracked the booster motor for the 12.065 flight (left). The Navy radar did not acquire.

The WFF radar obtained data at about T+3 seconds for the 12.066 flight. The bore site camera shows an unstable booster after burnout. The video also indicates the booster did not have fins during the descent. The vehicle accelerated at 120 G's and reached Mach 4.8 in 3.2 seconds.

The flight tests provided data for the development of a new vehicle. The next flights will include instrumentation.

50 Years at NASA

May 7, 1945

The National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) opened its Wallops Flight Research Facility. The research facility was headed by NACA's Langley Research Center, Hampton, Va.

Postage Price Changes

As of today, May 12, the cost of mailing a first-class letter rises to 42¢. Another significant change involves non-machinable, one-ounce, first-class letters, such as square greeting cards. These cards do not meet the standard shape for First-Class Mail and will require a 62¢ stamp, which will be available shortly.

Prices also increase for Standard Mail, Periodicals, Package Services, Special Services, and for shipping services (which include Express Mail, Priority Mail, Parcel Select, Parcel Return Service, and International Mail).



Customers can continue to use any Forever Stamps purchased prior to May 12 at the original price of 41¢, even after the price change.

The Wallops Post Office in Building E-7 is open Monday – Friday, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Environmental Review

by Marianne Simko, Environmental Engineer

The Environmental Functional Review (EFR) and Energy and Water Management Review (EWMFR) audit was held recently. The EFR audit team consisted of NASA Headquarters contracted URS personnel, Headquarters staff, and one individual from Stennis Space Center.

Thirteen environmental media: air; cultural and historic resources; hazardous materials; hazardous waste; natural resources; other environmental issues; pesticides; petroleum, oil, and lubricant; solid waste; storage tanks; toxic substances; wastewater; and drinking water under went management and technical review.

The WFF Environmental Management System (EMS) and Energy and Water Management also were evaluated.

Of the 13 environmental media, 10 program areas were scored as green or healthy and 3 were scored as yellow or needing improvement. Of the 17 EMS elements, 15 areas were green and 2 areas were yellow. Emergency Preparedness and Communications were lauded as positive EMS findings.

The Wallops Environmental Office would like to thank the many individuals all across the Facility who contributed to the success of the EFR.

Feedback Wanted



Wallops had a very successful Safety Awareness Campaign (SAC) in April. Feedback is necessary to provide presentations, displays and activities that are useful and fun. A data base of lessons learned will help improve future SACs.

Call Robert Nock at x2559 or email Robert.L.Nock@NASA.gov with your input.

Upcoming Events at the Visitor Center

Saturday, May 17: “Flight Basics”

Learn about airplanes and what makes them fly in this program about the basic principles of flight. Following the presentation participants will construct and test three different paper airplane designs. The program begins at 1 p.m. and will last 45 minutes.

Saturday, May 24: “Milky Ways and Globular Clusters”

Discover the Milky Way and our neighboring galaxies. Following the presentation, each family will make a Galactic Mobile. The program begins at 1 p.m. and will last 40 minutes.

Saturday, May 31 “Ocean’s Alive”

What role do oceans play on planet Earth? How do ocean systems affect us? Learn about the water cycle, climate patterns, features of the ocean, and how satellite technology is used to advance our knowledge of the ocean. Following the presentation children can make their own jellyfish. The program will begin at 1 p.m. and last 30 minutes.

The Visitor Center is open 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Thursday through Monday. For further information, call x2298.

“A man is not finished when he is defeated. He is finished when he quits”

..... Richard M. Nixon

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