U.S. Centennial of Flight Commission and Aviation World’s Fair Announce Alliance

The U.S. Centennial of Flight Commission (COFC) and the Aviation World’s Fair have signed a memorandum of agreement that will allow them to jointly promote the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the first powered flight in 2003.

As a result of this agreement, the Virginia-based event will receive the Commission’s national outreach support. In turn, the Aviation World’s Fair will help promote the overall national celebration called “Centennial of Flight: Born of dreams. Inspired by freedom.”

The fair will be held at the Newport News-Williamsburg International Airport April 7-27, 2003, and will be the most comprehensive international event promoting the birth of the aviation industry. The event will gather together the global aerospace community to present the complete picture of aviation and to educate and inspire the next generation of aerospace industry leaders.

Global aerospace manufacturers will showcase their latest products, services, hardware, equipment and aircraft. The fair will be geared for business-to-business activity within the five main areas of flight — commercial aviation, general aviation, military aviation, vertical flight and space technology.

The COFC, which was created by Congress to coordinate the celebration of the 100th anniversary of powered flight, hopes to generate enthusiasm for the overall commemoration of the centennial by publicizing and fostering events and programs, such as the Aviation World’s Fair, which will maximize the centennial’s exposure.

“Our goal is to involve, educate and inspire the maximum number of people participating in centennial celebrations,” said COFC Chairman General J.R. (“Jack”) Dailey.

“The Aviation World’s Fair will educate the public about the Wright brothers’ epic triumph and other major milestones of the aviation industry,” said Tom Kallman, CEO of the Aviation World’s Fair. “Our objectives are very similar to those of the Commission — we both want to communicate the significance of the centennial and encourage the celebration of flight. We are looking forward to a successful partnership.”

A complete listing of Centennial of Flight events can be found at: www.centennialofflight.gov

Additional information on the Aviation World’s Fair can be found at: www.aviation-worlds-fair.com

Wallop Shorts..........................

On the Road

A team of Wallops employees has departed for Poker Flat Research Range, Alaska, to prepare for the launch of a Black Brant XII sounding rocket currently scheduled for early January.

Another Wallops team departed Monday, November 26 for McMurdo Station, Antarctica. The NASA ATM3 Antarctic 2001 Mission will run through Jan. 6, 2002.

The Airborne Topographic Mapper (ATM) will be used to map the “Dry Valleys”, a set of valleys that has been carved by glaciers flowing seaward from the East Antarctic ice cap. The ATM instrument will be mounted in a National Science Foundation (NSF) Twin Otter aircraft. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) carries out mapping duties in Antarctica for the U.S. government, and McMurdo Station is operated by the NSF. This project is a collaboration between NASA, USGS, and NSF.

For more information on ATM3 visit: http://www.qsl.net/antarctic/

Upcoming launches

A long duration scientific balloon is currently scheduled for launch from Antarctica during early December. For information on the TIGER payload and launch status visit the following web sites:
http://tiger.gsfc.nasa.gov/
http://192.149.107.13/ice0102.htm

White House Nominates Sean O’Keefe as New NASA Administrator

President George W. Bush announced his intention to nominate Sean O’Keefe, Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), as NASA’s new Administrator.

With the President’s nomination and anticipated confirmation, O’Keefe will succeed Administrator Daniel S. Goldin, who resigned after nearly ten years as the agency’s chief.

“I would like to offer my congratulations to Sean as he begins the nomination process to become NASA’s next Administrator. I look forward to assisting in the transition of my leadership of America’s space program,” said Administrator Goldin. “I feel blessed to have had the unique opportunity to serve the people of this Nation in an area so tied to the hopes and dreams of all Americans.”

Prior to his appointment at OMB, O’Keefe was the Louis A. Bantle Professor of Business and Government Policy, an endowed chair, at the Syracuse University Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. He also served as the Director of National Security Studies, a partnership of Syracuse University and Johns Hopkins University for delivery of executive education programs for senior military and civilian Department of Defense managers.

Appointed to these positions in 1996, he was previously Professor of Business Administration and Assistant to the Senior Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School at the Pennsylvania State University.

Wallops Combined Federal Campaign Gains Over Last Year

Regina Haugh, chairperson for the 2001 Wallops Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), has reported that the 2001 campaign had a gain of $1,440.73 over last year’s campaign. Forty-one percent of Wallops employees participated with total pledges of $23,227.50. Proceeds from the bake sale, chili cook off, cute baby contest and lunch sales during Fun Day were $940.75, making the grand total for the Wallops 2001 CFC, $24,168.25.

Thanks to all those who helped distribute and collect the pledge cards, volunteered their time and talents for the Fun Day events and made pledges during the campaign.

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The Wallops Environmental Team took advantage of a great fall day and planted 485 tulip and daffodil bulbs in the courtyard around the Cafeteria.

New items available in the Wallops Exchange Store

- Antenna flags - $3.25
- Fleece pullovers with the NASA meatball - $29.95
- Chocolate covered pecans
- U.S.A. T-shirts
- "God Bless America" Lanyards
- 100 minute calling cards for $7.95

3’x5’ U.S. flags are in and flag key chains are available.

The Exchange Store is located in Building E-2.

Thrift Savings Plan Open Season

November 15, 2001 to January 31, 2002

The Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) is an excellent way to increase personal savings and provide retirement income. The TSP offers a variety of benefits such as tax deferral on contributions, immediate vesting and matching of agency contributions for FERS employees, a choice of five investment funds (G, C, F, I and S funds), a loan program, portable benefits on leaving the Federal government and a choice of withdrawal and annuity options.

For further information call Khrista White, x66-8208.

Health Benefits Open Season

November 12 to December 10, 2001

During the health benefits open season, civil service employees have the opportunity to enroll, change from one health plan or option to another or move from self-only to self and family enrollment status. Employees enrolled in a plan that do not wish to make a change do not have to take any additional action. All open season changes and deductions will become effective on Jan. 13, 2002.

Health plan brochures can be viewed at the Office of Personnel Management’s website: www.opm.gov/insure

Employees who need assistance coordinating effective dates, benefits coverage, or who have questions concerning the Federal Employees Health Benefit Program should contact Khrista White, Employee Benefits Specialist, x66-8208.

Christmas Crafts and Gifts Plus used Media and Jewelry Sale

December 6 at lunchtime in Building E-2 Conference Room

Are you interested in selling your Christmas crafts or do you have jewelry you’d like to sell? Now’s your chance.

Used media is limited to:
- Cassette, game and video tapes, CD’s
- Advertising collectibles, post cards, posters, signs, books, magazines, matchbooks, and photographs.

You must reserve a table! Contact Terry Ewell on x1133 or by email: Terry.Ann.Ewell.1@gsfc.nasa.gov

Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Dave Detwiler, Jr. who died November 20 at Shore Memorial Hospital. Detwiler was an aerospace engineer in NASA’s Sounding Rocket Program and retired as Head of the Performance and Analysis Section.

From FEDweek Nov. 21 Issue

4.6 Percent Raise Now Official

Although his administration all year had advocated a 3.6 percent January 2002 average general schedule raise, President Bush has signed into law (P.L. 107-67) an appropriations bill setting the average raise at 4.6 percent. His signature makes the figure official but several actions are yet to come.

Soon the administration will announce how much of the money available for that raise will be divided up as locality pay—most likely, 1 percentage point, with 3.6 percent being paid across the board—and announce the locality increases for the GS localities.

A later order will determine whether, as in the past, senior executives and certain other white-collar employees outside the general schedule also will get both the across-the-board and locality increases.

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