**2003 Poker Flat Launch Team Receives Award of Excellence**

The Winter ‘03 Poker Campaign Team has received the Award of Excellence for Outstanding Teamwork. Recipients were recognized at a ceremony held on Wednesday, October 22, 2003, at Goddard Space Flight Center.

The award was presented to NASA Wallops employees, University scientists, U.S. Air Force and Poker Flat Research Range personnel in recognition of outstanding teamwork and support of the 2003 Poker Flat Launch Campaign.

NASA Wallops Flight Facility team members include the following:

Brenda Harrie, Jay Brown
Jack Vieira, Claudia Underwood
Rob Beyma, Tom Moskios
Dean Balach, Greg Ellis
Mike Patterson, Steve Skees
Greg Smith, Chico Ayers
Jim Veney, Roland Wescott
Sharon Truitt, Frank Lau
Felipe Arroyo, Debbie Dukes
Ed Melson, Jimmy Gladding
Charles Jacobs, Mark Lamberson
Julian Hague, Merisa Bailey
Tom Singer, Frank Balis
Charlie Bowden, Mike Drummond
Bob Ross, Chuck Way
Ron Collins, Dan Bowden
Alex Lawson, Sam Duffee
Mike Martone, Bill Jackson
Ralph King, Gary Thomas
Renay Taylor, Linda Wiles
Jack Smith, Bruce Scott
Tracy Gibb, Bill Payne
Jim Diehl, Gary Outten
Charles Lewis, Tom Marino
Eric Johnson, Gordon Marsh
Dave Jennings, Matthew Vaughn
Tim Branch, Kevin Mackey
Brian Tucker, Joe McGee
Dana Morrison, Jeff Cain
Charlie Cathell, Dave Boulter
Bernita Justice, Brian Rose
Wayne Taylor, Dale Henderson
Patrick McPhail, Wait Costello
Scott Hudson, Reggie Justice
Larry Rovin, Paul Levesque

**Eastern Shore Students to Fly Experiments on the Space Station**

A group of Eastern Shore students spent the day at NASA Wallops Flight Facility on October 20 working with Shuttle Small Payloads Project Office personnel preparing their experiments for flight to the International Space Station.

The experiment from the Walkersville Christian Family School, an organization of home schools on the Shore, is one of 11 experiments provided by students from across the United States.

The local students are studying the effect of long-term space flight on brine shrimp and triop eggs and selected vegetable seeds.

The experiments will be launched to the Space Station aboard a Russian Progress launch vehicle in early 2004.

**Wallops Shorts………. Launch**

A NASA Terrier Mk70-Improved Orion was successfully launched from Wallops Island on October 24.

The objective of the mission was to evaluate the pointing accuracy of the NASA Sounding Rocket Operations Contract (NSROC) Magnetic Attitude Control System (NMACS) at multiple spin rates and configurations, gather environmental data on the new Terrier Mk70-Improved Orion vehicle and provide a platform for the NASA Ames Research Center Waverider instrument.

Preliminary indications are that the NMACS performed better than predicted, good data was received from telemetry and the Waverider performed nominally.

The principal investigator was David Krause, NSROC. The mission manager was Ted Gass, NSROC, and the project manager was Dave Molleto, NASA Range and Mission Management Office.

**Acting Chief Appointed**

Craig L. Purdy has been appointed Acting Chief of the Balloon Program Office. Purdy will serve in this position until a permanent placement is named. He also will continue to serve as Deputy Director of Suborbital and Special Orbital Projects.

**On the Road**

Ed Parrott, Wallops Teacher-on-Loan, visited Del-Mar Elementary School on October 21 and did a presentation on Life in Space.

**Thrift Savings Plan**

**Open Season**

**October 15 -- December 31, 2003**

**Photo by Berit Bland.**

Students check for radiation using a Gieger counter.
This year’s Oktoberfest, held October 25 featured Face Painting – Egg Toss – Hay Rides – Pumpkin Painting – Balloons – Food – Sunshine the Clown

Halloween Safety
Witches, goblins and super-heroes will be descending on neighborhoods this Friday, help children have an enjoyable and safe Halloween. Trick-or-treating should be filled with surprises and fun, common sense practices can make the event safe.

First Flight To Space Flight
A Comparison

Wright Flyer
Space Shuttle

8 feet 1 inch
184 feet, 2 ½ inches

650 pounds
4.5 million pounds

40 feet, 4 inches
78.06 feet

Four-cylinder
Three main engines at 393,800 pounds of thrust each/two solid rocket boosters of 3.3 million pounds of thrust each

10 mph
17,322 mph

10 feet
Maximum 400 miles

59 seconds
17.5 days (longest to date)

120 feet
Over 5 million miles per average flight

One
Eight, maximum

Scheduling the Use of Annual Leave — Due Date November 28, 2003

Use of Use or Lose Leave for civil service employees must be requested by you and approved for use by your supervisor by no later than November 28, 2003.

Submit your request through the OMNI system or in writing.

NOTE: The new timecard system, Webtads, will be implemented on November 30, 2003, but will not have records of leave submitted via OMNI. Therefore, please ensure written records of use or lose leave requests are kept.

EAP Lunch & Learn Tuesday, October 28

Come and join Tom Northern, our EAP counselor in the Williamsburg Room of Building E-2 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The topic for this month is, “The workplace rainbow”. Our workplace is comprised of people from many backgrounds including race, gender, religion and sex. Employees can appreciate these differences without feeling threatened by them. Come and join in the discussion. Bring your questions/concerns.

IFM Support

Kevin Tesler will be at Wallops on October 29 and 30 for IFM support. From 9 a.m. to noon on both days there will be a PR and P-card presentation. A SAP, Business Warehouse, P-Card Open House will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. each day.

All presentations will be in Building D1, Room S214. Call Tesler on x1320 or call the IFM Help Desk on 66-4436.

Oktoberfest, Thanks!

I want to extend my thanks to those who coordinated the Oktober Fest. My daughters and I had a pleasant time on Saturday. My seven year old especially enjoyed herself. The games and activities were wonderful for her age group. The prizes were very much a appreciated.

Thanks Again,
Tracy