NASA Wallops Investigator Receives Prestigious Remote Sensing Award

NASA and the U.S. Department of Interior have presented the William T. Pecora Award for excellence in remote sensing to William Krabill of NASA’s Wallops Flight Facility.

Krabill, (right), a 35-year NASA veteran, is an investigator for airborne lidar topographic mapping and Global Positioning System (GPS) applications.

His vision of combining airborne laser ranging measurements and GPS has revolutionized glaciology, coastal zone mapping and measurement of land surface change.

His research team has provided detailed measurements, with decimeter level accuracy, of Greenland glaciers and ice sheets in the Arctic and Antarctic regions. This technology has been used to map nearly the entire coast of the continental U.S. and Puerto Rico.

The William T. Pecora Award is presented annually to individuals or groups that make outstanding contributions in the field of remote sensing and its application to understanding the Earth. It was presented to Krabill on December 16 during the American Geophysical Union fall meeting in San Francisco.

Students Have a Delivery to the Space Station

Students from across the country received an extra dose of holiday cheer with the successful delivery of their experiment samples to the International Space Station. Twenty tiny experiment samples were delivered to the Space Station on December 25 aboard a Russian Progress supply ship.

The experiment samples are from 11 schools and organizations throughout the United States representing students in elementary through high school.

The students are flying a variety of materials and seeds in 20 clear vials with lids. Each vial is wrapped in two vacuum bags and then placed in the Student Experiment Module (SEM) Satchel carrier. The vials were integrated into the SEM satchel at Wallops. The experiments were compact enough that they took up very little room in the Progress spacecraft.

The experiment samples will be returned to Earth on a future Space Shuttle flight. After receiving the space-flown samples, the students will be able to compare them to ground samples.

The SEM program is managed by NASA’s Education Flight Projects Office at Wallops.

CREAM is Still Flying

A 39.57 million cubic foot NASA scientific balloon was launched from McMurdo Station, Antarctica, on December 16. The balloon is carrying the Cosmic Ray Energetics and Mass (CREAM) experiment. CREAM is searching for high-energy cosmic rays to measure their composition to the supernova energy scale. Dr. Eun-Suk Seo, the University of Maryland, is the principal investigator. The balloon reached a float altitude of 125,000 feet and has currently been at float for more than 25 days.

In the News

- Eastern Shore News -- “Wallops Rezoning Request is Tabled”
- The Capital (Annapolis, Md) -- “Shady Side Students’ Experiment Sent into Space”
- Daily Times -- “Wallops NASA Investigator Honored”
- Times Union (Albany, N.Y.) -- “Students’ Experiment Lifts Off”
- Eastern Shore News -- “NASA Investigator Receives Prestigious Sensing Award”
- Times Herald (N.Y.) -- “Student Projects Blast Off to International Space Station”
- Detroit Free Press -- “A Test in Space: Radford Township School’s Experiments to be Relaunched”

Charles P. Williams

Charles P. (Chuck) Williams died on December 28 at his residence in Onancock. Williams was an electrical engineer in the Aircraft Office at NASA Wallops Flight Facility.

Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, c/o Nancy Custis, P.O. Box 234, Onancock, Va., 23417 or to the Shore Cancer Center, P. O. Box 17, Nassawadox, Va., 23413.
**Wallops Awards Employees**

Several Wallops employees and groups who received NASA and Goddard Space Flight Center 2004 Honor Awards were recognized during the Annual Awards ceremony. Others being recognized included those receiving service awards and special Wallops awards listed below.

25 Years of Service Awards to: Dan Mullinix, Bonnie Crawford, Terry Tinker, and Jim Tracey
Not pictured: Regena Haugh, Barbara Justis, Rich Rogers, Nancy Stevens, Geoff Bland and Bob Tittle.

30 Years of Service Awards to: Delores Jester, Terry Ewell, Wanamaker Lawrence, and Gregory Parks. Not pictured: Regina Waters, Bernice Merritt, Gerald Morris, and Terry Potterton.

35 Years of Service Awards were presented to Dave Ward and Brian Corbin (not pictured)

Deputy Director Chris Scolese (left) presents Bill Hargrove the first Wallops Safety Award. The Group Safety Award was presented to the Logistics Group, EG&G and Dozier Support Teams.

Deputy Director Chris Scolese and Lynn Krieger Hines present the first Robert L. Krieger Award to Phil Eberspeaker (right). The Robert L. Krieger Group Award was presented to the TRMM Radar Group.

Deputy Director Chris Scolese presented Micaela Barnhill the WEMA Volunteer of the Year Award for 2004.

Deputy Director Chris Scolese presented Alice Rew the NASA Peer Award, one of three awarded throughout NASA.

**Thank You**

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to each of you for all the kind deeds and expressions of sympathy extended to us during the loss of our son.

A very special thanks for all of the cards, flowers, food, and monetary gifts.

**Bernita and Barbara Justis and Family**

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Editor: Betty Flowers
Asst. Editor: Rebecca Hudson