



National Aeronautics and Space Administration

GODDARD news

Greenbelt, Maryland/Wallops Island, Virginia

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More Pictures From Goddard's 40th

This month, Goddard marked its 40th Anniversary with a week-long celebration. Special events were held nearly every day of the week. Activities ranged from Community Day to a special symposia, to a picnic on the Mall, complete with a giant birthday cake. Below are just a few scenes from that incredible week celebrating the incredible achievements of the Goddard team.



The Maryland Space Business Roundtable paid tribute to Goddard and Center Director Al Diaz was the key note speaker at a luncheon held at the Martin's Crosswinds. Diaz delighted the audience with a speech about the similarities between people and organizations that turn 40.



The Goddard's Public Affairs Consortium created a special advertisement for the 40th Anniversary, and presented a framed copy to Center Director Al Diaz. Shown here presenting the poster to Diaz are (L to R) Wayne Friedman, Ivan Stern and Joe Militano from AlliedSignal, Diaz, and Linda Fernald and Dave Ziobro from Computer Sciences Corp.



One of the highlights of the picnic on the Mall was a 40-foot Anniversary birthday cake provided by the NASA Federal Credit Union. Helping Center Director Al Diaz cut the cake were (L to R) Karen Friel and John Sissala of the NFCU, Diaz, Deputy Center Director Bill Townsend and Associate Director Mary Kicza.



Community Day featured a very popular children's tent. Here, a future NASA astronaut proudly models a space helmet he made at the event.



Goddard employees were treated to a parade to kick off the Mall picnic. The parade was led by a marching band from Northwestern High School in Hyattsville, Md.

Dr. Joanne Simpson Elected To Royal Meteorological Society

Dr. Joanne Simpson, Chief Scientist for Meteorology at Goddard, has been elected an Honorary Member of the Royal Meteorological Society of the U.K. for her valuable contributions to the field of meteorology. The Society will announce Simpson's election at their annual meeting to be held on June 16 in London.

Honorary membership is the highest honor bestowed by the Royal Meteorological Society and is given to only 20 individuals that are elected by the Council members.

TERRIERS Scheduled To Launch on May 18

The launch of the Boston University spacecraft, TERRIERS, aboard a Pegasus rocket from Vandenberg Air Force Base will occur on May 17 with a launch window of 10:05 - 10:14 p.m. PDT. (1:05 - 1:14 EDT on May 18). The drop from the L-1011 is targeted for 10:10 p.m. PDT. TERRIERS will study the ionosphere. The TERRIERS website is <http://www.bu.edu/satellite>

-----Safety First-----

Visit Goddard News on the web at <http://pao.gsfc.nasa.gov/gsf/gnews/gnews.htm>

Federal Executive Board Awardees

On May 7, seven Goddard employees were the recipients of Federal Executive Board Awards. Otero V. Tinker won the gold award for Outstanding Clerical category.

Silver recipients included: Sharon B. Johnson/Code 114 for Equal Employment Opportunity Service; Clarence S. Johnson/Code 547 2 for Outstanding Para-Professional-Technical, Scientific and Program Support; and Robert C. Smith/Code 740 also for Outstanding Para-Professional-Technical, Scientific and Program Support.

The Bronze recipients included: Suzanne Goldberg/Code 293 for Outstanding Para-Professional-Technical, Scientific and Program Support; Dr. Aprille J. Ericson-Jackson/Code 572 for Community Service; and Susan Reising /Code 303 for Outstanding Para-Professional-Technical, Scientific and Program Support.

Congratulations to all the recipients.

MOLA Hits the Spot

The Mars Orbiter Laser Altimeter instrument aboard the Mars Global Surveyor has fired 45 million shots in space. This far exceeds the seven million shot total from all previous space lidar missions. Way to go MOLA! For more information on the mission, check the following web site: <http://ltpwww.gsfc.nasa.gov/tharsis/mola.html>

Bill Campbell to Receive Award

William (Bill) Campbell, branch head for the Applied Information and Sciences Branch, has been selected to receive the 1999 American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) Presidential Citation for his contributions as associate editor of the Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing Journal.

The presentation will take place at the 1999 ASPRS Annual Convention in Portland, Ore. on May 20.

WIND Spacecraft Completes Lunar Backflip

On April 1, WIND became the first satellite to complete a lunar backflip trajectory. The backflip is an acrobatic move that uses a two gravity assists by the Earth's Moon to rotate the elliptic orbit of the spacecraft by 180 degrees. As a result of the backflip, WIND was able to move the orbit apogee from a night-side to day-side orientation.

By allowing the Moon's gravity to do the work, WIND was able to use less than half of one percent of WIND's total fuel budget.

**Mission Success
Starts With Safety**

ISO 9001

Goddard's Quality Policy

With customer satisfaction as our primary goal:

- GSFC is committed to meeting or exceeding our customer's requirements.

- We achieve excellence in all of our efforts.



Visit ISO at <http://arioch.gsfc.nasa.gov/iso9000/index.htm>

Goddard News Goes Electronic

No more paper! Beginning June 4, the Goddard News will be coming directly to you via email. Stay tuned for more details.

Code 926 Will Help Japanese Go to the Moon

The Space Geodesy Branch /Code 926 will participate in the Selenological and Engineering Explorer (SELENE) and Research in Selenodesy Project which will be launched in 2003. Scientists from the Japan National Astronomical Observatory (NAO) visited code 926 to seek expert advice on orbit determination and laser altimetry software issues. SELENE is a lunar exploration mission consisting of an orbiter, a lander and a relay satellite. RISE is the geodesy component of SELENE. An official agreement for collaboration will be explored by both sides.

STS-96 Postponed Due to Hail Damage

Last weekend, a hailstorm at Kennedy Space Center, Fla. left approximately 150 nicks and dents in the outer foam of Space Shuttle Discovery's external fuel tank.

Shuttle managers decided to roll Discovery back to the Vehicle Assembly Building to complete repair work on the damaged external tank foam insulation. Current work plans indicate that the foam repairs will take two to three days. Of primary concern is the possibility that ice could form inside the nicks once the tank is loaded with super cold propellants and then fall off during launch which could impact the orbiter and the flight crew. The shuttle is expected to be ready for launch no earlier than May 27.

Goddard will have two payloads managed by the Small Shuttle Payloads Project aboard. Project Starshine is an educational activity which boasts participation by more than twenty five thousand students. Starshine is a deployable payload, which will be observable during twilight hours to observers on the ground. Students within the United States as well as international countries will track the satellite for six months. After six months the satellite will burn up on re-entry.

Goddard is also managing the second flight of the Shuttle Vibration Forces (SVF) experiment which previously flew aboard STS-90 in April 1998. SVF will measure the dynamic forces between the Space Shuttle and a canister attached to the Shuttle sidewall. Conventional vibration testing methods are severe, in some cases damaging equipment. The force data provided by SVF should validate a new method of vibration testing, whereby the force of the vibration test is limited to that predicted for flight, reducing the severity of aerospace vibration test.

NCR is Up and Running

The Goddard Non-Conformance Reporting (NCR) and Corrective Action System is operational. The web-based system has been in use since mid-December. Because of user feedback, many improvements have been made since its implementation. The system configuration has now been frozen and will remain that way until long term improvements to the system architecture and operation are evaluated.

Training on the use of the system can be provided by the System Administration team, Jay Garvin at 6-6490 or Scotty Milne at 6-7668.

The NCR website address is located at: <http://scylla.gsfc.nasa.gov/cars/index>

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