



National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
Goddard Space Flight Center

Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia

# Inside Wallops

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## ***STS-106 to Carry Getaway Special***

Carrots, beets, shrimp, bread, eggs, water and hamburger. What sounds like a fairly well balanced meal is actually part of the manifest for a Getaway Special (GAS) sponsored by Washington University, St. Louis scheduled to be launched Sept. 8 on STS-106, Space Shuttle Atlantis.

NASA's Wallops Flight Facility manages the GAS program.

The G-782 payload, also known as Aria-1, is an educational project to encourage St. Louis area students in science, engineering and technology by allowing them the opportunity to be involved in hands-on space science before they make long-term career decisions.



*Aria-1 installed in Shuttle Atlantis.*

Aria-1 carries 45 passive experiments from eight St. Louis schools involving more than 300 students. Students in kindergarten through high school, under the guidance of their teachers, prepared hypotheses, designed experiments, collected materials, prepared flight articles and will analyze the results. After flight students will compare flight samples to ground samples to determine effects caused by microgravity, radiation, magnetism and other possible circumstances experienced in low-Earth orbit environment.

The Aria-1 project is sponsored by the Washington University School of

Engineering and Applied Science and is supported by the St. Louis Area Cooperating School Districts. More information on Aria-1, including a list of participating schools and experiment descriptions, is available at <http://www.aria.cec.wustl.edu/Aria1>

The GAS program was designed to provide an inexpensive way for educational, international, commercial and U.S. government users to place a payload on the Space Shuttle. The program allows users to develop a payload that is less than 200 pounds and fits in the NASA provided 5-cubic foot GAS canister. Since the program's first payload flew on STS-4 in 1982, 157 payloads have been flown. STS-106 is the 36<sup>th</sup> Shuttle mission to participate in NASA's Getaway Special program.

## ***Dr. Robert Gilruth, an Architect of Manned Space Flight, Dies***

Dr. Robert Rowe Gilruth, an aerospace scientist, engineer, and a pioneer of the American space program during the glory days of Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo, recently died after a lengthy illness. He was 86.

During his forty-year career with NASA and its predecessor, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA), Dr. Gilruth led many of the nation's leading flight research and human space flight operations.

A specialist in flight research, Dr. Gilruth organized an engineering team in 1945 to investigate experimental rocket-powered aircraft, which later became the Pilotless Aircraft Research Division (PARAD) and led to the creation of NACA's Wallops Island launch range.

In 1952, Dr. Gilruth was appointed assistant director of the Langley Laboratory responsible for investigations in high-temperature structures and dynamics loads and hypersonic aerodynamics research at Wallops Island.

Dr. Gilruth's focus shifted from rocket-powered planes to spacecraft when the Soviet Union launched the world's first satellite, Sputnik, in 1957. "I can recall watching the sunlight reflect off of Sputnik as it passed over my home on the Chesapeake Bay in Virginia," Dr. Gilruth said in 1972. "It put a new sense of value and urgency on things we had been doing. When one month later the dog, Laika, was placed in orbit in Sputnik II, I was sure that the Russians were planning for man-in-space."

## ***Centennial of Flight Web Site***

The U.S. Congress created the Centennial of Flight Commission in 1999 to serve as a national and international source of information about activities to commemorate the centennial of the Wright brothers' first flight on the sands of Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, on Dec. 17, 1903.



*1903 Picture of Wright's flight.*

There will be much excitement in 2003 in North Carolina and Dayton, Ohio, home of the Wright brothers.

The Commission also anticipates that aviation-related, historical and education groups will sponsor numerous activities and projects that will leave an important legacy from the centennial of powered flight.

The Commission has developed a web site that will interest aviation professionals and enthusiasts, educators, students of aeronautics and historians of all ages. One of the most important of these features will be a searchable calendar of events related to the centennial in 2003.

From the web site you also will be able to link to other aviation and aeronautics related organizations and resources. Take a look at the site at <http://www.centennialofflight.gov>

## ***Wallops Shorts.....***

***NASA Honor Awards Recipients***  
Congratulations to Observational Science Branch's, Bill Krabill, Exceptional Service Medal winner.

## ***Fire Department Responses***

August 11 - 17  
Aircraft Stand-bys — 32  
Fire Alarms — 2  
Ambulance Calls — 1  
Mutual Aid Assistance — 2 Assist  
Chincoteague Vol. Fire Dept. with a motor vehicle accident and a medical response.

## Library Corner

Access is available to a Wallops Library database that contains 30 CRC Press Engineering Handbooks. There are currently 33,000 pages with over 1800 articles by over 2200 experts.

The web address is: <http://www.engnetbase.com>. You can do a search at this address by adding /ip.htm at the end of the address

Contact Diane Hall, x1065 or by email [dhall@library.gsfc.nasa.gov](mailto:dhall@library.gsfc.nasa.gov) for any new books, programs or databases that you might be interested in seeing in the Wallops Library.

## Notes from the Gardner

As you stroll through the yard clipping flowers for your table, cut some extra for drying. This is a good way to enjoy the summer blossoms throughout the winter months.



Strawflowers, statice, cockscomb and glove amaranth are commonly gown for drying. Many other flowers, such as hydrangeas, delphiniums, yarrow, globe thistle, sea holly and oregano, can be easily air-dried for winter bouquets. Don't forget the dried grasses and grains such as wheat this fall. They make great fillers in arrangements.

Harvest stems just as the first flowers reach maturity. Flowers continue to open after they are picked.



Midmorning after the dew has dried is the best time to cut flowers. Harvest when plants are dry even if it means cutting them a little early.

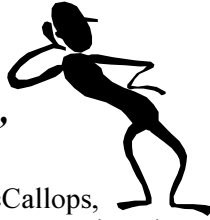
Take as much stem as possible because you need long stems to bunch and for height in arrangements. Always harvest more than you think you'll need.

Choose a cool, dry room for air-drying. Large closets make good drying rooms. Hot attics and damp cellars generally do not. Garages and sheds offer less control over temperature and sometimes can be excessively warm.

Low light is fine, direct sunlight is not. If you have a dehumidifier, use it along with a low-speed fan to circulate air. The quicker the drying process, the better. Most commonly air-dried flowers are best hung upside down in bunches no thicker than 1 1/2 inches at the stems. Secure with a tight rubber band and hang.

The drying process takes from 10 to 20 days. When dried, the stem should snap. Large blooms with many flowers such as dill, fluffy grasses, hydrangea and Queen Anne's lace should be dried upright.

## "Women's Equality - Fact or Fiction?"



Speaker - James McCallops,  
Salisbury State University

August 23

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Bldg. E-2, Williamsburg Room

Sponsored by: Women of Wallops  
Federal Women's Program

Luncheon - Catered by W.W. Catering  
& Jonithan Stone

Menu:

Cascade Salad with Home Made  
Mango Vinaigrette Dressing

Roasted Garlic Chicken Salad Stuffed  
In Fresh Tomato

German Potato Salad

Fresh Cucumbers and Red Onions with  
Fruit Salsa

Rainbow Sherbet with Cookies

Ice Tea, Coffee, Lemonade

Tickets are \$6.00 per person and they are available in the Wallops Exchange For additional information, contact Pat Pruitt, x1245.

## IT Security Awareness Training

Employees who completed either the Basic or Advanced IT Security Training for System Administrators courses held at Wallops in May 2000 have met the IT Security Awareness Training requirement. These people are not required to attend the IT Security Awareness Overview.

The Overview will be shown on CD every hour on the hour 8 a.m. through 4 p.m. in the Management Education Center, Building E-104, Assateague Room, August 21-25 and August 28-September 1, 2000. The briefing lasts approximately 45 minutes.

No training requests or advance registration is necessary. Employees should sign-in on the sheets provided in the MEC.

The course also is available on the Web on the NASA Site for On-line Learning and Resources (SOLAR) <http://solar.msfc.nasa.gov:8018/solar/delivery/public/html/newmain.htm>.

## From FEDWeek Aug. 16 Issue

### C Fund Suffers Another Losing Month

The common stock (C) fund of the Thrift Savings Plan suffered another losing month in July, its seventh of the last 12. The 1.56 percent drop reduced the fund's 12-month return to 8.85 percent. The fund has had only two gaining months in this calendar year, a robust 9.74 percent in March and 2.44 percent in June. The bond (F) fund gained 0.89 percent in July to bring its 12-month return to an even 6 percent, while the government securities (G) fund rose 0.53 percent for a 12-month return of 6.56 percent. Meanwhile, money in the G fund is being invested at a 6.125 percent annual rate in August.

## CSRS/FERS Retirement Planning Workshop

August 28-30, 2000

9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Building E-2

This workshop is designed for federal employees who are three to five years from retirement or retirement eligible employees and their spouses

The workshop will highlight the foundations of benefits available within Federal Service and explore options to maximize them. All aspects of FERS, Trans-FERS, CSRS, CSRS-offset employee programs will be examined. A common sense approach to financial planning will follow explaining how to take the fear out of financial planning and how to become a wise financial consumer.

Topics Covered :

CSRS and FERS

Social Security Implications

Thrift Savings Plans

Insurance Needs, Benefits and Options  
to Include FEGLI and FEHBP

Lifetime Fitness and Health

Financial Planning and Estate Planning

Signed training requests must be sent to Kathy Dinsmore for registration into the course. Call x66-1679 for further information.

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