

Inside Wallops



National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Goddard Space Flight Center
Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Va.

Volume XX-07 Number 37 October 15, 2007

NASA Wallops Flight Facility Receives New Fire Equipment



Photo by Sharone Corbin

NASA Wallops Flight Facility's Fire Department is proud to present a new fleet of fire and rescue equipment.

Members of Wallops Fire Department (WFD) recently took delivery of two Pierce Contender rescue pumpers (left) and two Oshkosh Striker 3000 crash trucks.

For a number of years, WFD vehicles have been purchased from government surplus or obtained through a transfer from other government agencies.

The arrival of the new equipment created a bit of excitement because all of the vehicles are brand new in 2007.

The new units are replacing two Amertek aircraft crash vehicles, a 1989 and a 1991, and two 1984 Emergency One pumpers.

The crash trucks have six-wheel drive and the mechanical rear steering option.

They can carry 3,000 gallons of water, 420 gallons of foam concentrate and 450 pounds of dry chemical powder.

Each crash truck has a low/high flow (600/1200 gallons per minute) roof mounted turret and a 1,950 gallon per minute pump.

The rescue pumpers have a 500 gallon tank and can pump 1,250 gallons per minute. Both vehicles are equipped with rescue and emergency medical service equipment including the "jaws of life" for extracting victims trapped in a vehicle or aircraft accident.

Fire department personal received training last week in the basic operation, pumping and off-road operation of the vehicles.

Our Newest Retirees

Jerry Morris, (right), retired from NASA Wallops Flight Facility (WFF) effective September 29 with over 33 years of government service. Morris was a safety and mission assurance engineer in the Wallops Safety Office.



Photo by J. M. Foley

Ronnie Evans retired from NASA WFF effective October 1 with over 34 years of government service. Evans was an engineering technician in the Facilities Management Branch.

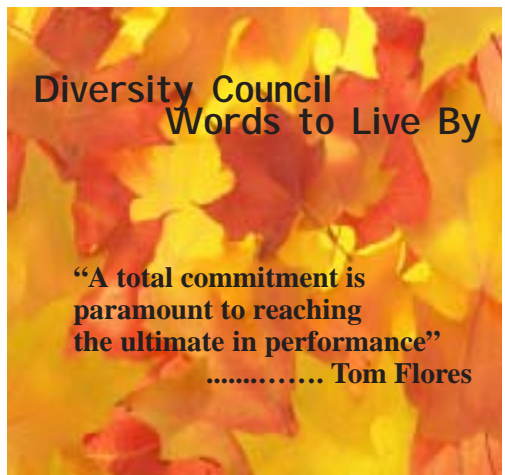
Wallops Shorts.....

Balloon Launch

A 29.47 million cubic foot, NASA scientific balloon was launched from Ft. Sumner, N.M., on October 3.

The balloon carried the Sunrise payload, an optical/UV solar telescope and instrument package. The experiment was expected to provide the highest yet resolution images of the Sun in the ultraviolet. The experimenter was Dr. Michael Knoelker, National Center for Atmospheric Research.

Float altitude was 122,000 feet. Total flight time was 9 hours, 28 minutes. The payload was recovered.



Diversity Council
Words to Live By

"A total commitment is paramount to reaching the ultimate in performance"

..... Tom Flores

Wallops Shorts Continued

Tours

Provided a tour of Wallops Island for the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore's Hawk Institute for Space Sciences and their guests.

Provided a briefing on the Middle Atlantic Regional Spaceport and a tour of Wallops facilities to NASA IPP (Innovative Partnering Program) representatives from across the Agency.

The Virginia Joint Commission on Technology & Science (JCOTS) Aerospace Advisory Committee meeting was held at NASA WFF. Presentations were provided by NASA, MIST (Mid-Atlantic Institute for Space and Technology), Navy's Surface Combat Systems Center, and the Virginia Space Flight Academy. The JCOTS committee also was given a tour of NASA facilities.

Provided an overview of NASA and MARS activities and a tour of the Main Base and Island to Congressional staffers from the offices of Senators Cardin and Webb and Representatives Ruppberger, Gilchrest, Hoyer, Bartlett, and Drake.

A Dry End To Summer by Ted Wilz, Senior Meteorologist

For the third month in a row, Wallops received below average rainfall. September was by far the driest of the three months. There was only four days with measurable rainfall, totaling a mere 1.50 inches. This is well below the monthly average of 3.54 inches. The last half of the month was particularly dry with only .09 inches of rain falling during that period.

Temperature-wise, September was mild and averaged .9 degrees above normal. No new record highs or lows were set during the month. The warmest day occurred on the September 11 when we reached 92 degrees. The coolest day occurred when temperatures dipped to a brisk 50 degrees on the morning of September 16.

Unlike last September when Tropical Storm Ernesto brought 68 mph winds to Wallops, September 2007 was a rather benign month for winds. There was only one day with winds greater than 30 mph. This occurred on September 16 with the



Help Plant 40,000 Stems of Dune Grass

Date: October 18

Time: Noon to 4:30 p.m.

or until grass is planted

Where: Along the geo-tube dune between Building Z-40 and Camera Station Z-100 on the south end of Wallops Island, east of the UAV runway

Open to all permanently badged employees. Island badges are not required for access to this event. Temporarily badged employees must be escorted by a permanently badged employee

Help plant grass on the dunes, and get a free lunch. Thanks to the Wallops Exchange and Morale Association for contributing hot dogs and chips and to the Navy for donating the sodas and water.

Employees are encouraged to form planting teams. Prizes will be awarded to the most productive planting teams.

For additional information contact either: Shari Silbert at x2327 or by email Shari.A.Silbert@nasa.gov or Paul Bull at x1168 or by email Paul.C.Bull@nasa.gov

passage of a cold front after reaching 92 degrees during the day. A 46 mph wind gust from the northwest occurred after the front went through.

Average high temperatures at the beginning of November usually are in the mid 60's but cool to the low to mid 50's by the end of the month. Low temperatures average in the mid to upper 40's in the beginning of the month decreasing to the chilly mid 30's as December approaches.

The record high for the November is 83 degrees, which occurred twice during an unusually mild 1974. The record low for November is 19 degrees, which occurred three times, most recently in 1976.

November is usually the driest month of the year at Wallops, averaging only 2.78 inches of rain, usually occurring on eight days.

Hopefully, we can reverse that trend and get some of that much-needed precipitation after our prolonged period of dry weather.

Debedeavon Toastmasters

October 17

11:30 a.m.

Navy MWR Cropper Centre

Participate in training for public speaking, extemporaneous speaking, and speech evaluation.



For more information, see <http://debedeavon.freetoasthost.org/> or call Micaela Barnhill at x1641.

Red Cross - - - -

"Thanks for 29 useable units"

Wallops employees have come through again!

The goal was 25 to sign up to donate blood. There were 30 sign in's and 29 useable units were collected.

Investing with Strategy and Security Seminar

October 24

Noon to 1 p.m.

Williamsburg Room, Building E-2

Do you want to improve your earning potential while keeping your principal safe from market fluctuation? Learn how Fixed Index Annuities have the potential to help protect the assets you have accumulated, lock in gains linked to a stock market index with principal protection through an insurance company, shift taxable investments to a tax-deferred status, allow for partial liquidity and flexible payout options, and offer a guaranteed minimum rate of return.

Feel free to bring your lunch; refreshments and dessert will be provided. Register in the NASA Federal Credit Union, Building N-133 or online at www.nasafcu.com/seminars.

Inside Wallops is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Wallops Office of Public Affairs, Extension 1584, in the interest of Wallops employees. Recent and past issues of *Inside Wallops* also may be found at: <http://www.nasa.gov/centers/wallops/news/ newsletters.html>

Editor

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