

Ames plays a role in the success of the STS-95 mission

The return to space of Senator John Glenn on the October 29 STS-95 mission certainly brought more than the usual amount of attention to NASA's programs. While the whole nation had reason to celebrate the



mission, everyone at Ames had particular reason to be proud. We provided successful experiments and technologies, and can even claim to have launched the careers of two of the seven astronauts on board.

In addition to the primary Spartan payload designed to study the sun, there were more than 80 other investigations on the mission. Two of these were provided by Debra Reiss-Bubenheim, small payloads project manager, and her team from the life sciences division at Ames. The NIH-C8

experiment of Dr. Stephen Doty, from the Hospital for Special Surgery, New York, examined the effects of spaceflight on the develop-

ment and maturation of cartilage cells grown in the cell culture

module. This experiment was the eighth in a continuing series of experiments where NASA and the National Institutes of Health are collaborating. The PI of the other experiment, Dr. Stephen Highstein from Washington University in St. Louis, used oyster toadfish to monitor how the vestibular organs--used for balance and to sense body position--adapted to microgravity, and readapted to 1-g upon return to Earth. This experiment was flown earlier in the year on the Neurolab

mission, and the vestibular function experiment unit that housed the fish had to be quickly deintegrated from the STS-90 Spacelab module, and reintegrated into the STS-95 Spacehab module.

Dr. David Neri, a researcher in the pilot fatigue group at Ames, was a co-investigator
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The 77-year-old outgoing senator from Ohio and six crewmates blasted off aboard Space Shuttle Discovery on October 29 from Florida's Kennedy Space Center.

"Liftoff of Discovery with a crew of six astronaut heroes and one American legend," NASA's official launch commentator Lisa Malone said as Discovery roared into the clearest of blue skies.

Safety Week held Oct 26 - 30

Hundreds of Ames employees turned out for the events, which also featured remarks by former San Francisco linebacker 49er Gary Plummer and famed former test pilot Chuck Yeager.



Chuck Yeager signing a book after giving an interesting account of his past and current endeavors to a captivated crowd of employees.



photos by Dominic Hart

Above: Gary Plummer alum. of the San Francisco 49ers, signing autographs.

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6 Months to Certification

Ames ISO Web-site address:
<http://dqa.arc.nasa.gov/iso9000>

see related story on page 3

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tor with Dr. Charles Czeisler for the "sleep study". This study, designed to shed light on how astronaut sleep patterns are modified while in space, required Senator Glenn and Japanese astronaut Chiaki Mukai to don an elaborate array of monitoring electrodes and sensors for four nights during the mission. To ensure that the many electrodes were properly placed, Glenn and Mukai used an Ames-provided technology called "PI-in-a-box", short for "principal investigator-in-a-box." Dennis Heher, a knowledge engineer with Caelum Research at Ames, explained that the lap-top-based technology, a collaborative effort between Ames and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, provides astronauts with a quick way to verify that high quality data is being obtained for the use of the PIs who must remain on the ground.

And the two astronauts who launched their careers at Ames? Dr. Steve Robinson, the payload commander, and Dr. Scott Parazynski, the medical officer.

BY LAURA LEWIS



ACCC award ceremony held



photo by Roger Brimmer

Left to right, Ken Moller and Roger Christensen leaf through the award program flyer.

Contractor employees were recognized at the 9th Annual Contractor Council Excellence Awards ceremony, held Thursday, October 22. It was held in the Moffett Training and Conference Center. Awards were presented by Mr. William Berry.

The award program was established in 1989 to recognize contractor employees and teams for outstanding contributions made toward the Center's mission.

Suppose they gave a launch . . . and everybody came!

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more than 100 live radio interviews to locations all over the world myself. And I'm sure it was the same for my colleagues. After a while, it became second nature, and it gave me the opportunity to not only talk about the Glenn mission, but to work in stories about Ames information technology, astrobiology and life sciences.

I fielded a call from Kathy Sawyer of the Washington Post. She was nice enough to say that she knew my work from the Lunar Prospector news releases. I was certain she was just humoring me, but it worked! I was grinning like a Cheshire cat as I picked myself up off the floor. Ned Potter of ABC News asked if he could use my line, "the re-emergence of the American hero." Sure Ned, go ahead. And, all the while, Laura Lewis of Ames and I were competing to get interviews with astronauts and test pilots for our local television crews from San Francisco and Oakland.

Besides the launch itself, the highlight for me was a live BBC television interview to Europe at 2:45 a.m. on launch morning (who else were they going to get?). As I stood 60 feet high on the CNN gantry, right next to the room where Walter Cronkite had been working earlier, the wind in my face and the illuminated shuttle on pad 39A just visible over my right shoulder, I took a death-like grip on the support rail. With an ear piece bringing me a stream of previously unheard questions, only a cameraman and a horde of hungry mosquitos for company, no crib notes, and the unforgiving cameras rolling live, I couldn't help but think to myself, this is pretty scary stuff! A quick glance at the monitor confirmed my worst fears about the toll lack of sleep had taken on me, convincing me not to look again. Still, the seeming absence of fear on my face was in sharp contrast to the rising

panic within.

In truth, the whole experience was absolutely exhilarating. And then, just like that, even though you weren't ready for it, the party was definitely over. A mere four miles from the pad, we had a spectacular view of blast-off.

I was more relieved than excited when, just over two minutes later, the solids were jettisoned. A mere eight minutes and 40 seconds into the mission the shuttle achieved orbit, transfer passed to mission control at Johnson Space Center and, suddenly, those of us at Kennedy were

yesterday's news.

Besides the hard work, adrenaline rush and sense of accomplishment, the thing I will remember most from this mission is the amazing feeling of teamwork I experienced as part of that NASA news room crew.

Nothing brings people together like a mission. From those who allowed us to come into their facility and act like we belonged, to all of the interlopers, like myself, who worked their tails off but wouldn't have had it any other way, it was a great bonding and reaffirming experience. Even for those who support launch and landing on a regular basis, one got the impression that this was something unusual, something special.

Ironically, I returned home to a week or more's worth of accumulated mail, and the first thing I opened was an entry form for a shuttle sweepstakes contest from the Smithsonian. "Few people have a better shot at getting this close to a Shuttle launch," it crowed. Wanna bet, I thought, tossing it aside, already developing my strategy for supporting the next mission.

BY DAVID MORSE



Center Briefs

First international space station module moves to launch pad

The International Space Station was moved on October 26 to the doorstep of space as the first U.S.-built station component, the Unity connecting module, was moved to the launch pad to be loaded onto the Space Shuttle Endeavour.

Endeavour, scheduled for launch on Dec. 3 with an international six-person crew, will carry Unity to a rendezvous and attachment with the Zarya control module. Zarya is scheduled for launch on a Russian Proton rocket Nov. 20 from the Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakstan. This move completes work on Unity in the Kennedy Space Center's Space Station Processing Facility, a special hangar where the module has been undergoing final assembly, checkout and launch preparations since June 1997.

Metropolitan LA under a slow squeeze

Downtown and West Los Angeles are moving toward the San Gabriel Mountains and the metropolitan area in between will be squeezed slowly over the next several thousand years, according to researchers using precise satellite surveying techniques at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), Pasadena, CA.

The measurements suggest that new mountains may be forming south of the high San Gabriel Mountains.

The results come from the Southern California Integrated Global Positioning System (GPS) Network, an array of 60 GPS receivers that continuously measures the constant, tiny movements of earthquake faults throughout Southern California.

New Mars images show lava flow plates and active dunes

The latest images from NASA's Mars Global Surveyor spacecraft show giant plates of solidified volcanic lava, and evidence for active dunes near the planet's north pole with sands that have hopped or rolled across the surface in recent months.

The close-up views of Mars' Elysium Basin reveal the first evidence of huge plates of solidified lava, rather than lakebed sediments, that appear to have been broken up and transported across the Martian surface millions of years ago as they floated on top of molten lava. This implies that the area in the planet's northern lowlands was once the site of giant ponds of lava flows hundreds of kilometers across, according to Dr. Alfred S. McEwen of the University of Arizona, Tucson, a member of the Global Surveyor science team.

IV&V achieves ISO certification

On October 8, the independent auditor, Det Norske Veritas (DNV), announced that the software technology division at Ames' IV&V facility (Code IT) has passed the ISO 9001 certification audit and will be recommended for certification. The auditor found only one minor (category 2) non-conformance related to the quality records. It was corrected immediately following the audit. A corrective action plan with root cause analysis of this non-conformity was forwarded to the DNV office. The plan was accepted and signed off on October 13. Issuance of official certification is anticipated within three weeks.

At IV&V, the process to gain ISO certification for the facility's quality management system began in April 1997. The process was completed with the successful October audit in just 18 months.

What did it take to get ISO 9000 standard certification? It required that the IV&V facility do three things: document what it does; do what it documents; and provide objective evidence to support the documentation. Certification also required a review of the process so that it can be updated to reflect improvements in procedures. In addition, it was the intention of the IV&V facility to enhance operational strategies so as to achieve ISO 9001 certification for products and services provided to customers.

In early June, the IV&V facility successfully passed a pre-assessment audit. Next, facility personnel completed all necessary readiness steps ahead of schedule to meet DNV expectations for the certification audit. To that end, the IV&V quality management system was completely implemented prior to this month's certification audit.

Was the effort worth it? The answer is an overwhelming "yes." ISO provided a focus for coordination of staff efforts to write and revise procedures. This resulted in improved documentation on the development and management of services provided by the IV&V facility.

ISO can be leveraged to streamline work, reduce errors, improve communication and take the "arbitrariness" out of processes. In that sense, ISO becomes part of how business is done, not just an add-on.

Key elements of ISO certification were management commitment and the application of dedicated resources. At the IV&V facility, each individual was tasked to write a procedure for a given functional area,

and each person spent time preparing for both internal and external audits. The audit team conducted excellent internal audits, and corrective/preventive actions were closed in a timely manner. The ISO manager did an excellent job of bringing the team and schedule together. But, without the dedicated support of everyone at IV&V, the successful completion of the certification process would not have been possible.

BY SIAMAK YASSINI 

NASA awards contracts to Virginia and Tennessee firms

Ames Research Center recently announced the award of support service contracts to two engineering and research companies in Virginia and Tennessee.

Logicon Syscon, Inc. received a contract award for six years valued at \$90.8 million (including options). Under terms of the contract, Logicon Syscon, Inc. will provide operations, development, maintenance and modification services for all aeronautical simulation facilities at Ames, including the Vertical Motion Simulator (VMS) and the Crew-Vehicle Systems Research Facility (CVSRF). The contract includes a one-month phase-in period, a base period of 23 months, and two two-year options for a total of six years. This is a cost-plus-incentive fee performance-based contract.

The other award, made to Sverdrup Technology, Inc., is for a five-year contract. It covers aerospace testing, facility operation and maintenance services for the Ames' Research and Development Services and Aeronautics directorates. The total value of this contract, including options, is estimated to be \$99.3 million. Sverdrup Technology, Inc. will provide testing and facility operations services (including those for wind tunnels, arc jets and other test and support facilities); performance of development projects; maintenance and repairs; and administration. The contract will run for two years, with two options periods of one year and two years, respectively. It is a cost-plus-incentive-fee/award-fee, performance-based contract.

NASA Pegasus hypersonic experiment successfully flown on October 22

The most recent Orbital Science Pegasus Mission to deliver a Brazilian satellite to earth orbit and to fly a NASA Hypersonics experiment was a huge success. The payload was placed at the desired orbit, and the NASA Glove assembly transmitted hypersonic flight data which will aid in the design of future high speed vehicles. There has not been a flight to validate computer code solutions since the X-15 flew some 30 years ago. Several technological advancements in materials, construction and electronic data collection/transmission were made

three centers. The final design and construction was carried out at NASA Dryden. NASA KSC provided launch support services for people who traveled to Cape Canaveral to take part in the launch of the experiment. The success of the mission was due to the tremendous effort of all who contributed to the design and construction, and to the launch.

Ames' Role In the Program—Underside of Glove

The major contribution to the glove assembly was the Ames instrumented TUF-20 tiles which surrounded the metallic portion of the glove. The entire methodology was developed by Ames personnel and was a demonstration of the most cost-effective means of applying instrumented reusable tiles to a aerospace vehicle. The technology will be passed on to NASA industry partners for use on future

aerospace vehicles.

The quality of the temperature data generated by the Ames instrumented tiles was excellent. The response of the tile-temperature hardware was sufficient to



Pegasus attached to L-1011

collect data on the rapid increase in leading edge surface temperatures. There were approximately 24 type K thermocouples installed into the inboard set of tiles. The leading edge tile contained the greatest number of surface thermocouples. There is now sufficient data to validate leading edge models which have been generated from computer code and past experimentation with the use of arc jets. The flight experiment also helped validate the instrumentation methodology which will be used on the leeward side of the X-33 vehicle.

The following branches and individuals at Ames deserve congratulations on a job well done: Thermal Protection & Material Systems Branch Instrumentation Development Branch, Rex Churchward, Paul Kolodziej, Rich Piquette, Dane Smith and Leroy Schirber.



The Orbital Aircraft

during the effort to build and fly the glove.

The glove program was a joint effort among NASA Langley, Dryden and Ames Research Centers. The original concept was conceived by participants from all

Ames runners grind it out for organ donations

A full moon hung in the sky on October 2, lighting the way as a dedicated band of Ames kindred spirits were transformed into running fools. Dozens of Center employ-

ees, divided into 36 segments (called "legs") which vary in length (from 3 to 7.7 miles) and difficulty (easy to very hard). Beginning in Calistoga and ending on the beach in Santa Cruz, the race comprised 36 legs with 12 runners taking on three legs of the course apiece. The runners travel 187 miles on the shoulders of paved roads, 4 miles on bicycle paths, and 1 mile on a dirt trail across two Sonoma farms.

And just what might possess a seemingly reserved Ames employee to participate in a two-day race that covers 36 cities and 7 counties while enjoying less than 2 hours of sleep?

"It's a premier running event and guarantees a challenge," said Jeff Bull (Code STM). "This was my second Relay and I have yet to be disappointed. As I was screaming down highway 116 near Petaluma, I kept getting encouragement and support from my fellow runners traveling behind me in minivans. The Relay has a great deal of variety for all runners."

Joan Salute (Code SF) added, "Last year,

I did it solely for the reason that it was on the day of my 40th birthday. This year I wanted that feeling of exhilaration and accomplishment back!"

Leigh Ann Tanner (Code IN), a recent Boston Marathon qualifier and former U.S. Women's Cycling Team member, had one of the most prestigious legs of the race. "I had Leg 18 - the Golden Gate Bridge. With the moon on my right, the City skyline on my left, and not another runner in site, it was 'my bridge' in the middle of the night," she beamed.

While the focus of the Relay is for 12 runners to work together and overcome obstacles, like getting lost on the course, finding their way in the San Francisco fog at 4 a.m., and waiting in long porta-pottie lines, the goal of the race is to pass a baton from runner to runner...a baton that signifies the donation of human organs for transplants. The Relay raises funds for Organs 'R' Us and Transplant Recipients International Organization (TRIO). In the United States alone, some 55,000 people including 2,000 children wait for organ transplants each and every day. And every day, ten people die while awaiting that life-giving donor organ.

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From left to right: Manny Irizarry (Code IA); Hrank Hui (Code STF); Mike DiSanto (Code JFP); Magan McCluer (Code ARA); Nancy Dunagan (Code DQH); Eric Barszcz (Code IC); Vern Vanderbilt (Code SGE); Rudy Jaklitsch (Code FEU) and Wes Gidcumb (Code JB).

ees, affectionately known as the "Joggnauts" and "Mars and Venus Collide" donned their running shoes to partake in California's longest party - The Relay!

The Relay is a 193-mile course that is

Suppose they gave a launch . . .and everybody came!

Recently, I had the opportunity to be at the Kennedy Space Center (KSC) to support the launch of STS-95, "the John Glenn mission." Not too shabby a duty, you say, and you'll get no argument from me. For, while the shuttle has long since completed its mission and the astronauts have returned safely to Earth, I have yet to come down. I'm beginning to fear that I may have to have the excess adrenaline surgically pumped from my veins.

As a public affairs specialist used to dealing with the wonders that are NASA on a day-to-day basis, this caught me by surprise. Sure, I thought it would be interesting to be at the Agency news nerve center during the conduct of a major operation. But, could it really be that big a deal, particularly after 25 years with NASA? The answer is a resounding YES.

I was at Ames when the Agency endured the Challenger accident, and when we completed our successful return to flight with STS-26. And, I saw my first

launch earlier this year with the blast off of Ames' highly successful Lunar Prospector mission. But, there is absolutely nothing that prepares you for your first human

formation packages, and faxing them back to my Ames colleagues and to local Bay Area radio and television stations I knew would be covering the launch.

I was aware that everybody would be looking for a pre-flight story angle, so I sent crew menus, biographies, experiment protocols, and just about anything else I could get my hands on. Give a person with any creativity at all a wealth of information and access to a free fax line, and watch out!

But, no matter what I tried, the overnight shift just didn't do it for me; I needed my "fix," and I found myself staying later each morning and

returning earlier each afternoon. People would ask, how can you keep working like this? But, from my perspective, the better question was how can you not! For a brief window of time, every media person in the world wanted to talk to NASA. And for just that short moment, you were NASA. Not the Administrator, not the scientists, not even the astronauts. You! The on-site NASA "spokesperson" with the latest information



The STS-95 crew gathers at their traditional prelaunch breakfast in the Operations and Checkout Building.

launch, especially with the level of interest that surrounded this particular mission. It was simply unbelievable!

As one of the NASA spokespersons assigned to the "news room" at KSC to assist with media inquiries during launch, I was required to be on site L-3 (launch minus three days). Overly cautious, I thought. With over 4,000 media requests for credentials, I knew interest was high. But I was sure we'd be sitting around for a couple of days with little to do. Wrong!

I was scheduled to work the overnight shift, nominally 10 p.m. until 7 a.m. through launch. But, to get my bearings and a feel for my work station, I reported a little before 9 a.m. in the morning on L-3, 13 hours ahead of my shift. I planned a quick "hello," a brief orientation and a hasty escape. Three hours and maybe 100 phone calls later, I realized we were in for a siege.

I was so pumped up that, after a quick lunch, I returned to the news room and worked a few more hours. I was even lucky enough to go with the media to the shuttle landing facility and cover the crew fly-in. Finally, about 5 p.m., I decided to get a few hours sleep before my 10 p.m. shift.

And what a disappointment that initially turned out to be! I was full of enthusiasm and itching to talk to people, but the level of activity was way down from my daytime experience. So, I found myself reading everything I could about the astronauts and the mission, pulling together in-



After leaving the Operations and Checkout Building, the STS-95 crew wave at well-wishers as they approach the Astrovan they will board for their trip to Launch Pad 39B. Leading the group is Mission Commander Curtis L. Brown Jr. (far right). Other crew members are (left to right) Mission Specialist Scott E. Parazynski; Mission Specialist Stephen K. Robinson; Pilot Steven W. Lindsey; Mission Specialist Pedro Duque of Spain (hidden), with the European Space Agency (ESA); Payload Specialist Chiaki Mukai, with the National Space Development Agency of Japan (NASDA), and Payload Specialist John H. Glenn Jr.



photo by Tom Trower

Four television microwave trucks surround the main Ames auditorium for the STS-95 launch.

update. I felt like Johnny Carson must have when the lights came on. What a rush!

The pre-launch days turned into a Superbowl-like media feeding frenzy with everybody looking for something, anything, new to report. The hunt for information was on. And the requests for interviews were non-stop. With all twelve phone lines constantly lit, there was nothing to turn to but your own ingenuity. I must have done

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Hispanic Heritage luncheon held

The Hispanic Advisory Committee for Employees held the Hispanic Heritage luncheon on October 20 in the Moffett Training and Conference Center's Ballroom. This year's keynote speaker was Mr. Alphonso V. Diaz, Director of NASA Goddard Space Flight Center.



Left to right: Bea Morales, Dr. Henry McDonald, Carlos Torrez, and Alphonso V. Diaz, Director of Goddard Space Flight Center.



photos by Roger Brimmer

Above: Alma Garcia of Code JAI was the Spanish costume greeter at the luncheon.

Volunteers conquer Hangar One



photo by Lori Burkart

From left to right: Peter Moseley, Caroline Brawner and Dave Ferguson stand atop Hangar One in front of the beacon light.

Team NASA Volunteers, Caroline Brawner and Peter Moseley, cashed in on the prize they won at the Team NASA Volunteer BBQ - a trip to the top of Hangar One.

Dave Ferguson, Code DQH, was their official guide up the series of steps and ladders that led to the rooftop.

You can tell by their faces that it was worth dressing in old clothes, wearing gloves to protect against pigeon droppings and working up a sweat.

Ames runners grind it out for organ donations

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"As a van captain, I had to get us from one van exchange to another in time to drop off our next runner. I have to make the unpopular decisions, like setting the alarm clock, but it was all worth it when you think of those who benefit from our efforts," reflected Doug Smith (Code QA).

As Tina Pelley (Code QE) pointed out, the Relay can be the start of something more ambitious. "After completing the Relay last year, a fellow teammate and I were so jazzed on running, we signed up for the Humboldt half marathon. Since we had just done the same mileage in our three segments of the relay, we felt invincible to do it all at once." Maybe I shouldn't mention that Tina's initial interest was spawned from a 2-mile NASA Fun Run back in 1995.

This year's race had barely concluded when members of both teams were caught huddled together in Santa Cruz, strategizing for 1999. Rick "In the Ditch" McIlmoil (Code AOW) is already busy creating t-shirt designs. His latest email signature line sums it all up, "Through the valley and across the gate, we'll party at the beach in '99." Well, maybe there is still a little work left for both teams.

If you are interested in finding out more about joining a Relay team for 1999, contact Tina Pelley at ext. 4-1315 or Joan Salute at ext. 4-5596.

BY LISA MARIE GONZALES

Blood Drive set for December 3

Ames will be hosting a blood drive in cooperation with the Red Cross on Thursday, December 3, from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The drive will take place in the Patio Room of Building 3, the Moffett Training and Conference Center.

All medically eligible donors are invited to participate. Resident staff including contractors, students and civil service employees are encouraged to participate. There was an excellent turnout at the last drive. In order to maintain critical blood supply inventories during the holiday season, you are encouraged to bring along a co-worker or friend. Let's make an all-out effort to make this drive even more successful than the last!

To make an appointment by internet, go to the internet location at: <http://dq.arc.nasa.gov/dqh/blooddonation.htm>, click on Register Now To Give Blood, choose a time slot, and you're done. There are five appointments available every 15 minutes.

For more information on the blood donation process, or if you wish to participate in the Bone Marrow Program, contact Chaz Czaplicki at ext. 4-6942 or via e-mail at cczaplicki@mail.arc.nasa.gov.

Chair Massage holiday special

Chair massage is offered at the Ames Fitness Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Gift certificates are now available at a reduced rate of \$10 for a 15-minute massage, a savings of \$5, through the end of the year. Gift certificates are perfect for coworkers for the holidays, or any special occasion!

For relaxation, reduction of chronic pain and stress, take advantage of this offer by calling Miriam Glazer at ext. 4-5172. Be good to yourself and your friends. De-stress and revitalize for the holidays!

Please note that the phone number to schedule chair massage appointments has changed. It is now (650) 207-4362.

Events & Classifieds

Calendar

Jetstream Toastmasters, Mondays, 12 noon to 1 p.m., N-269/Rm. 179. Guests welcome. POC: Jenny Kahn at ext. 4-6987 or Pam Walatka at ext. 4-4461.

Ames Bowling League meets at Palo Alto Bowl every Tuesday at 6 p.m. The league is in need of substitute bowlers. POC: Mina Cappuccio at ext. 4-1313.

Ames Ballroom Dance Club, Tuesdays, November, 3, 10, 17, 24. Beginning Rumba, 5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m., Practice 6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m., Moffett Training and Conference Center, Bldg. 3/Showroom. POC: Deb Narasaki at dnarasaki@mail.arc.nasa.gov. ABDC Website: <http://infosyd1.arc.nasa.gov/Info/BallroomDance/Welcom.Html>

Ames Child Care Center Board of Directors Meeting, Wednesdays, 12 noon to 1 p.m., N-213/Rm. 204. POC: Debbie Wood at ext. 4-0256.

Ames Multicultural Leadership Council Meeting, Nov 18, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Galileo Room of the Ames Cafe. POC: David Morse at ext. 4-4724 or Sheila Johnson at ext. 4-5054.

Java Users Group Meeting, Nov 18, 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m., N-238/NAS auditorium. POC: Sonia Kao at ext. 4-6312.

NFFE Local 997 Union General Meeting, Nov 18, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Bldg. 19/Rm. 1040. POC: Marianne Mosher at ext. 4-4055.

Ames Asian American Pacific Islander Advisory Group Meeting, Nov 19, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., N-241/Rm. B2. POC: Daryl Wong at ext. 4-6889 or Brett Vu at ext. 4-0911.

Ames Amateur Radio Club, Nov 19, 12 noon, N-260/Conf. Rm. POC: Walt Miller, AJ6T at ext. 4-4558.

Native American Advisory Committee Meeting, Nov 24, 12 noon to 1 p.m., Ames Café. POC: Mike Liu at ext. 4-1132.

Southbay FEW Chapter Meeting Nov 24, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Bldg. 241, Rm B2. POC: Christine Munroe at ext. 4-4695.

Ames Contractor Council Meeting, Dec 2, 11 a.m., N-200/Comm. Rm. POC: Greg Marshall at ext. 4-4673.

Hispanic Advisory Committee for Employees, Dec 3, 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., N-239/Rm. 177. POC: Carlos Torrez at ext. 4-5797.

Environmental, Health & Safety Monthly Information Forum, Dec 3, 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Bldg. 19/Rm. 1078. POC: Linda Vrabel at ext. 4-0924.

Ames African American Advisory Group Meeting, Dec 3, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., N-241/Rm. 237. POC: Mary Buford Howard at ext. 4-5095.

Nat'l Association of Retired Federal Employees, S.J. Chapter #50, Meeting, Dec 4, at the Elk's Club, 44 W. Alma Avenue, San Jose. Social hour: 10:30 a.m. Prog. & bus. mtg. follow lunch at 11:30 a.m. POCs: Mrs. Leona Peery, Pres., (650) 967-9418 or Earl Keener, Public Relations, (408) 241-4459.

Professional Administrative Council (PAC) Meeting, Dec 10, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., Location TBD. POC: Janette Rocha, ext. 4-3371.

Ames Classifieds

Ads for the next issue should be sent to astrogram@mail.arc.nasa.gov by the Monday following publication of the present issue and must be resubmitted for each issue. Ads must involve personal needs or items; no commercial/third-party ads and will run on space-available basis only. First-time ads are given priority. Ads must include home phone numbers; however, Ames extensions will be accepted for carpool and lost and found ads only.

Housing

Available now, private room (furnished + phone) near Castro in Mtn. View. Share kitchen/bath/laundry/garden/treehouse. Easy transport: 5 miles from Stanford by bike/bus/train - Central Expressway - El Camino - H101/H237/H85. \$580 (includes utils). Lv msg. at (650) 969-3932 or email at: solemate@best.com

Room for rent in duplex. Almaden/87. Master bedroom, 1/4 utils, \$475/mo, month-to-month, prefer 6 mo. lease, no deposit. Available Dec 1. Kevin (650) 723-2115.

Room for rent (Mt. View), available January. \$480 per month plus dep/utils. Call (650) 967-9135.

Efficient apartment five minutes to Ames. Call (650) 965-0775.

Miscellaneous

Barbie. '95, '96, '97 Holiday Barbies. \$125. Eilene (408) 979-9107.

1994 Travelark with following options: upgraded medium sized basket, right hand brake, left motor and battery charger, swivel seat and arms, with a cane holder. \$700. Jeanette (408) 378-1447.

Two bearded dragons for sale. Approximately one year old brothers. Comes with a 40 gallon glass tank. \$100. Kim (408) 446-4096.

Motorcycle helmet, Arai Signet, black, new, never used. \$125; Nishiki 12-speed bike, hardly used, all alloy components. \$100; Large Push bumper for full-size truck, free. Guy (408) 395-3831.

Original chrome faucet for 1920's claw foot tub, \$25. Call (408) 295-2160.

Oval, brass shower curtain rod for hanging above claw foot tub. \$20. Call (408) 295-2160.

White wrought iron table and four chairs. round, glass top, floral detail, use indoors or out, exc. cond., \$250. Call (650)369-0578.

Dependable, mature, NASA intern available for house/pet/plant sitting. Very flexible, price negotiable, references avail. Katie (408)316-9765.

Craftsman mechanic's roll away toolbox -- Red, like new, three months young; two locking sections with multiple drawers; heavy duty; paid \$850, will consider best offer; moving from the area. Dave (510) 471-3466 or e-mail at: yobow1@yahoo.com.

Transportation

'82 GS550 Motorcycle, runs great, new tires, low miles, needs some wrk. \$750. Call (408) 734-9838

'84 Honda Accord sedan, 5 spd, orig. owner, 140K mls, runs great, minor body damage, \$1,900. Call (408) 225-7864.

'90 AMC Eagle Talon; Sony CD system, Clifford alarm system, fog lights, factory tinted rear windows, automatic seat belts. Asking \$5,500 B/O. Ray (408) 280-0122 (eves).

'94 Escort LX Wagon, automatic, exc. cond., alloy wheels, A/C, power windows, mirrors & locks, stereo cassette, roof rack, cargo cover, 67K mls, \$7,450. Call (408) 425-7705.

'94 Chevy S-10 Truck, 120K mls, White/Gray, A/C, stereo, new tires, transmission, brakes, \$6.5K or B/O. Call (650) 688-9202.

Carpool

Carpooling: Reduce cost, stress, and smog by becoming a rider in our vanpool. From San Francisco/Colma Bart to Moffett Field/Mt. View area. Work hours are 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Ruth ext. 4-5247 or (415) 681-2176.

Looking for carpool/ride for month of November from San Francisco. Flexible work schedule and willing to share all costs. Even an occasional ride is helpful! Becca ext. 4-2069.

Lost & Found

Moffett Field Lost and Found may be reached via ext. 4-5416 at any time. Residents and employees at Ames Research Center/Moffett Federal Airfield may also use Internet browser at: <http://ccf.arc.nasa.gov/codejp/lostFound.html> to view a list of found property and obtain specific instructions for reporting lost or found property and how to recover found property. You may also contact Moffett Field Security Police Investigations Section: ext. 4-1359 or email at: mfine@mail.arc.nas.gov.

Found pair of sunglasses in N-246B parking lot. Reply to rbriones@mail.arc.nasa.gov

Vacation rental

Lake Tahoe-Squaw Valley Townhse, 3bd/2ba, View of slopes, close to lifts. Wknd \$400, midwk \$150 nite. Includes linens, firewd, cleaning service. (650) 968-4155, DBMcKellar@aol.com

To comply with applicable environmental laws, to protect the health of NASA employees, and to reduce the potential threat to native and endangered wetland species, Ames will soon begin the process of trapping feral cats on research center property. Some of the cats may be suitable for adoption, others are not. Anyone wishing to help "place" the cats or to offer foster or permanent housing may call (408) 739-3171.

Astrogram deadlines

All Ames employees are invited to submit articles relating to Ames projects and activities for publication in the *Astrogram*. When submitting stories or ads for publication, submit your material, along with any questions, in MS word by e-mail to astrogram@mail.arc.nasa.gov on or before the deadline.

DEADLINE	PUBLICATION
MON, NOV 16	FRI, NOV 27
MON, NOV 30	FRI, DEC 11
MON, DEC 28	FRI, JAN 8

Miscellaneous

Ultimate players wanted!

Attention all "Desk Jockeys", "Armchair Quarterbacks" and "Weekend Warriors"! Do you enjoy the continuous, high-speed action of soccer and basketball? Would you like to relieve stress, get the lead out and burn the carbon off the plugs? Would you like to meet other, like-minded individuals who work at or nearby Ames?

If you answered "yes" to any or all of the above questions, Ultimate may be the sport for you! "What is Ultimate?", you ask. Ultimate (a.k.a. Ultimate Frisbee) combines many of the elements that make basketball or soccer so fun and popular, but Ultimate is played with a flying disc, which adds a whole new dimension. While the flight path of a ball is--well--ballistic, that of a flying disc is to a much greater degree subject to aerodynamics, and is therefore far more complex.

Closer to home, a group meets here at NASA Ames Research Center once a week for a fun pickup Ultimate game at lunch-time. There is a wide range of skills and fitness levels, but everyone has a good time. If you're interested in coming out to watch a game, throw the disc around, or jump into a game, come to Orion Park at 12:30 p.m. on Thursdays. Orion Park is part of the Onizuka Annex, just west of the visitor center and outside the Ames security perimeter. We meet at the pavilion west of the softball diamond. Most players choose to wear soccer cleats or turfshoes for better traction, but this is not essential.

For more information, contact Stefan Rosner at email srosner@mail.arc.nasa.gov or at ext. 4-6108, or Jeff Johnson email at: jljohnson@mail.arc.nasa.gov or call him at ext. 4-6976. There are also numerous websites about Ultimate, local and distant teams, and tournaments. Included are links to two such sites below for those seeking more information than can be included here. The URL for Ultimate Players Association(UPA) is :<http://www.upa.org/upa/intro.html>. George Ferguson's Ultimate Page URL is: <http://www.cs.rochester.edu:80/u/ferguson/ultimate/>

Safety Week held Oct 26 - 30

continued from front page



Above: Employees got to pose with the some of the San Francisco 49er cheerleaders.



An HH-60 search and rescue helicopter from the 129th California Air National Guard Rescue Wing based at Moffett Federal Airfield was among the displays featured during Ames' Safety Stand-Down activities outside the Ames Cafeteria.



Fun Run runners making their mark.

photos by Dominic Hart

THE AMES **Astrogram**

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Editor.....Astrid Terlep

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