

THE AMES

# Astrogram

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

AMES RESEARCH CENTER, MOFFETT FIELD

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on-line at: <http://amesnews.arc.nasa.gov>



## “NASA Ames is alive and well...”

So announced NASA Administrator Daniel S. Goldin at a crowded April 9 briefing in Washington, D.C. as he unveiled the Bush administration’s FY 2002 budget request for NASA.

The proposed NASA budget of \$14.5 billion represents roughly a 2 percent increase over the FY 2001 budget “at a time when many other federal agencies are getting less,” Goldin noted. He said the Bush plan provides “good, solid funding levels” for NASA.

Goldin had nothing but praise for Ames Director Dr. Henry McDonald and the Center as a whole. He cited McDonald and the people of Ames for the “unbelievable” research being done here, including work in biotechnology, information

technology and nanotechnology. “Under the leadership of Dr. Henry McDonald, the people at Ames are going to write history, not read it,” Goldin declared.

Although the Administrator indicated that he is taking a hard look at the cost of maintaining the aging facilities at the agency’s four aeronautics centers – Ames, Dryden, Glenn and Langley--he described Ames as “the finest research center in the world.” Goldin’s enthusiastic remarks about Ames were met by applause from the senior managers and employees watching the budget news conference in Ames’ main auditorium.

The agency must take a close look at program priorities and the capabilities of NASA field centers in supporting those priorities efficiently, Goldin said. The agency must closely review every program and engage in a rigorous process of reprioritizing, he said. Even some valuable programs must be ended, he warned, once they have achieved most of their goals.

As a result of this reprioritization, Goldin announced that the new budget eliminates two programs based in part at Ames. Although both the rotorcraft technology and the High Performance Computing and Communication (HPCC) programs have been highly successful, Goldin said the agency must now move “from mature projects to bold new ventures.” The private sector should take on the effort to develop

advanced helicopters, work previously done by the rotorcraft program at Ames, Goldin said. The HPCC is losing its value as silicon-based computer technology reaches the limits of its potential, according to Goldin. However, he said, “from such cancellations comes an increased emphasis on computational, information and communication technology, 21<sup>st</sup> century aircraft technology [and] a more robust Earth science follow-on program...”

***“Under the leadership of Dr. Henry McDonald, the people at Ames are going to write history, not read it.”***

***-- NASA Administrator, Daniel S. Goldin***

Goldin noted that the fiscal 2002 budget includes strong support for the Space Launch Initiative, which will invest \$4.5 billion over the next 5 years, and in which Ames’ thermal protection group, in particular, may play a key role. Other areas where Ames has strong programs include space sciences and improving aviation safety.

The areas seeing the biggest increases in funding levels are science, aeronautics and technology (\$639 million increase), in which Ames plays a key role, and human space flight (\$1.845 billion increase).

Goldin stated his support for several “management reform goals” from the White House. These goals encourage NASA to “aggressively pursue space shuttle privatization opportunities” and cut operating costs by increasing reliance on private industry and other outside vendors. These reforms should promote innovation, open government activities to competition, and improve the depth and quality of NASA’s research and development expertise. Goldin stressed his continuing commitment to commercialization of the Space Station, with significant rack space available to support worthy commercial payloads.

Goldin said that NASA must focus its efforts in the areas of advanced information technologies, biological systems and nanotechnologies – areas that hold the

possibility of real breakthroughs. Other areas include advancing the state of the art in air traffic management technology, enabling future advances in space-based astronomy and new sensor and data fusion technology development for Earth remote-sensing.

Goldin paid special tribute to the Earth Observing System’s data information system led by Ames and the Goddard Space Flight Center. After one year of operation of the EOS satellites, thus far “we have collected more data than in all the years before last year,” Goldin boasted.

“This budget provides the funding for research and technology advances in all these areas,” he said. “Good, solid funding levels,” he reiterated.

The proposed space science budget will enable the space science community to do exciting new work. But there is a limit to the funding available. “Hard decisions had... and will have... to be made,” he warned.

Goldin expressed his concern that there will not be enough young scientists and engineers to carry on the pursuit of research and development. He noted that American colleges and universities are awarding more degrees in recreation and leisure than in engineering. He worries that with the impending retirement of many experienced NASA employees, the agency will face a lack of experienced workers. He noted that the agency has twice as many employees over age 60 as under age 30.

Goldin said he supports the president’s desire to ensure that NASA’s “workforce and institutions are most effectively focused on those key efforts that are most important to moving the country forward in the pursuit of science and technology discoveries.”

Again, Goldin singled out Ames for its innovative work in creating the NASA Research Park (NRP), a collaboration with universities and private industry, that should address the problem of lack of skilled technical workers. The NRP will develop a world-class research and education collaboration

*continued on back page*

Communication for the information technology age

Seth Anderson remembered, see p. 5

# Ames' polar-ring research may explain ozone mystery

Newly discovered, narrow rings of cold air over Earth's poles help form colorful clouds that destroy ozone, according to a technical paper in the March 30 issue of the journal *Science*.

The ozone layer protects life on Earth from the sun's harmful ultraviolet radiation that could cause skin cancer in human beings and biological damage to living things. The paper's authors believe they have solved a decade-old mystery of how glowing, ozone-destroying clouds that contain nitric acid and water form road-dust-size particles that later spread to decompose ozone.

"Large polar stratospheric cloud (PSC) particles are born inside narrow temperature rings around Earth's poles in absolute darkness," according to Azadeh Tabazadeh, lead author of the paper and a scientist at Ames. "Strong winds blow these special

clouds away from the cold rings to fill the polar air with ozone-destroying particles. The areal extent of these clouds is often larger than the United States despite the fact that the clouds initially form inside a narrow temperature ring," she said.

The other authors of the paper are Eric Jensen and Katja Drdla, both of Ames; Brian Toon from the University of Colorado, Boulder and Mark Schoeberl of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD.

The PSCs form in the stratosphere, the part of Earth's atmosphere between about 9 and 30 miles (about 12 to 40 kilometers) altitude, which includes the ozone layer. The cold rings (about minus 120 degrees F. or minus 83 degrees C.) where PSCs form, circle both poles at an altitude of 12 to 20 miles (15 to 26 kilometers). Known for their colorful glow, PSCs provide surfaces that convert benign forms of chlorine into reac-

tive, ozone-destroying forms.

The large particles in PSCs also remove nitrogen compounds from the air, a process called "denitrification." Nitrogen compounds in the atmosphere normally moderate the destructive impact of chlorine on ozone. "An ozone hole forms every spring over the Antarctic in the southern hemisphere, which is colder than the Arctic," said Tabazadeh.

Increased denitrification over the Antarctic can cause the area of the "ozone hole" there to increase, according to the authors. Last year, a NASA satellite measured the largest ozone hole ever over the Antarctic, Tabazadeh said. "It is possible that the area of the Antarctic ozone hole may spread even farther than that measured last winter before the hole recedes to what it was in the 1970s," she added.

"On the other hand, the warmer Arctic climate in the north is becoming colder, more like the Antarctic in the south. This could lead to more dramatic ozone loss in the future over the northern hemisphere where many people live," Tabazadeh said. The authors report that NASA satellite observations for the first time showed widespread denitrification as high as 20 percent to 50 percent in the Arctic stratosphere during the 1999-2000 winter.

"Increased denitrification in the Arctic can delay the recovery of the ozone layer despite the fact that ozone-destroying chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) levels are declining in the atmosphere due to international agreements," Tabazadeh said.

More than a decade ago, scientists determined that human-made chlorine and bromine compounds cause most ozone depletion. Manufacturers made the chlorine compounds, "CFCs," for use as refrigerants, aerosol sprays, solvents and foam-blowing agents. Fire fighters used bromine-containing halogens to put out fires. Manufacture of CFCs ceased in 1996 in signatory countries under the terms of the Montreal Protocol and its amendments.

"Scientists used to believe that, as chlorine levels decline in the upper atmosphere, the ozone layer should slowly start to recover. However, greenhouse gas and soot emissions, which provide warming at the Earth's surface, lead to cooling in the upper atmosphere. This cooling promotes formation of more clouds that destroy ozone," Tabazadeh added. NASA's Office of Earth Sciences, Washington, DC funded the recent research.

## Environmental protection essay

It's becoming clearer all the time that we need to pay more attention to taking care of our environment (after all, it's the only one we've got so we'd better make it last!). So what do I do to protect it? Quite honestly, as little as possible. Yes, I'm serious. Moreover, I really wish I could persuade more people to take this approach. Don't get me wrong, I have the greatest respect for people who clean up toxic spills, invent more efficient power sources, and accomplish all those other headline-grabbing achievements. But for most of us, the best thing we can do is to simply avoid contributing to the problems. "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle" isn't just a cliché, it neatly sums up what we should all be doing in every aspect of our lives in order to minimize the negative impacts on our environment. And if we all work together, it will make a huge difference.

The biggest obstacle to getting people to cooperate with this approach is the widespread perception that it must entail a huge sacrifice in their sacred "lifestyle," but this fear is completely unfounded. It only takes the tiniest bit of thought to switch off a light when you leave the room, to turn off the water faucet while brushing your teeth, to put recyclable materials into the proper bin, and to help out in so many other ways every day. Just do whatever you're comfortable with, and it will soon become automatic and effortless.

As far as I'm concerned, by far the most

important thing each of us can do for the environment is to incorporate some diversity into our transportation choices. Sure, a car will get you just about everywhere you need to go, and sometimes it may even be the best option – but certainly not always! Be alert for opportunities to use alternatives whenever possible. Try actually looking at a transit map and checking the schedule before concluding that the bus or train isn't for you – it may come as a pleasant surprise to find out just how convenient it can be, and avoiding the stress of driving in traffic is a terrific bonus. Call the nice folks at VTA and they'll be happy to help you plan your journey. Combined with bicycling and walking, you might find that you can easily do without a car altogether for many of your trips!

Every parent is understandably concerned about such issues as the quality of the local school district, because they naturally want to do everything they can to help insure a good future for their children. Doesn't it make sense to put some of that same spirit to work making sure they'll have a clean, healthy and livable world in which to enjoy that future?

*--Editor's note: This essay was written by Kevin Jackson, an Ames associate, who is very active in protecting the environment in many ways. The essay won an award in the recent "City of Sunnyvale 2001 Environmental Achievement Awards" contest.*

BY JOHN BLUCK 

## Outreach & Remembrance

### Cañada College event excites kids

About 400 enthusiastic preschoolers attended a youth-oriented career faire called KinderCaminata held recently at Cañada College in Redwood City.

The event was held to aid in connecting K-12 schools and higher education to the

achievement of dreams and aspirations. It also served to raise expectations about what every child can learn and accomplish. More than 50,000 California children have participated in KinderCaminata events since the program began in 1993.



Jonas Diño (second from left), public affairs officer in Ames' Communication Office, demonstrates to a group of school kids the durability of a space shuttle tile to withstand the intense heat from a blow torch flame. The tiles protect the shuttle from the heat that is created around it as it makes its way back into Earth's atmosphere. Valonne Finnie (far left) and Sonia Capristo (top right), both of Code DX, assisted at the event.



photos by Astrid Terlep

Jonas Diño (lower left) shows a group of children samples of dehydrated astronaut food, in this case, spinach. Other food samples displayed were teriyaki chicken, salmon and pears.

### VPP STAR Tip

The site team was intent on determining the robustness and viability of our contractors' safety and health programs, despite the fact that they were looking at the Government side of the site for certification."

...VPP Lessons Learned in 1999 at Johnson Space Center

### Kaattari passes away

Born in Elkol, WY, on Dec. 2, 1919, former Ames employee George Edward Kaattari died at his home in Menlo Park, CA, on March 28. He was 81.

Kaattari graduated from high school in Kemmerer, WY and from the University of Utah with a degree in mechanical engineering. He was employed by Columbia Steel Company in Provo, UT, prior to serving 2 years in the Army Air Force.

He obtained a masters degree in mechanical engineering from Stanford University in 1947, and taught engineering courses at the University of Utah from 1948 to 1950. He served as an aerospace scientist at Ames, (NACA Ames Laboratory at the time) from 1950 until his retirement in 1978. At Ames, he conducted aerodynamic research

applicable to missiles, aircraft and spacecraft. His results were reported in numerous publications.

Kaattari is survived by his wife of 58 years, Mary Elizabeth Kaatari, a volunteer worker in the Bay Area for the past 40 years; a son, Dr. Stephen Kaattari, a professor of immunology and marine science at College of William and Mary, Virginia Institute of Marine Science; a daughter, Katie Ann Kaattari, employed at SRI International, Menlo Park and two grandchildren, Daniel and Christine.

A memorial service will take place at his church, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Menlo Park on May 6, at 2 p.m.

BY ELLIOTT KATZEN



George Kaattari

## Awards & Recognition

### Kaufhardt acquisition peer awards presented

Alma Garcia (Code JAI), Paul Kamrar (Code JAB) and Bea Morales (Code JAC) of

the Acquisition Branch for Information Systems. Her years of experience allow her to not only provide exceptional service to her customers, but also to give direction and mentoring to several student interns. Garcia is active in team exercises to simplify and standardize division policy with regard to purchasing. Garcia is always congenial and takes the time from her busy schedule to help those who ask her questions. She also continues to volunteer for additional duties by coordinating morale-building events. Garcia has a positive impact on those inside and outside the division.

He is always willing to share his expertise with those in the division who need pricing assistance. His get-to-work attitude allows him to meet the multiple, short deadlines that are imposed on him.

Morales was recognized for her contributions as the grants officer. Recently, more emphasis has been placed on the utilization of new solicitation vehicles such as NASA research announcements (NRAs) and cooperative agreement notices (CANs) in this arena. Morales has had the task of quickly coming up to speed on these vehicles and supporting the technical organizations. Morales has also managed to streamline the grant procedures and get from submission of the purchase request and requirement to award within an average lead time of seven days. She continues to seek out ways to improve the process while providing a high level of support to meet the critical needs of various programs, all while maintaining a positive attitude.

The award winners have contributed to improved performance, efficiency and morale, which has strengthened relationships within the division and with other directorates.

BY DEBORAH GLASS, JOANNE COMSTOCK,  
BARRIE CALDWELL, CARLOS TORREZ  
AND JILL WILLARD



photo by Dominic Hart

From left to right: Paul Kamrar, Bea Morales and Alma Garcia, recipients of the Leslie A. Kaufhardt acquisition peer awards at Ames.

the Acquisition Division were recently recognized by their peers for their achievements and accomplishments. Alma, Paul and Bea were presented with the Leslie A. Kaufhardt Acquisition Peer award for their contributions to their branches, the JA division, and the Center.

Garcia is the sole purchasing agent in

analyst in Code JA, Kamrar is kept very busy. He recently supported one source evaluation board and two source evaluation committees at the same time. Kamrar is also involved in the NASA Research Park proposal and will be providing the pricing support for that important endeavor. Kamrar has also used his expertise to ben-

### EEL's open house is a high success

In late March, nearly 400 NASA employees and contractors from the Ames community attended the first Open House of the Engineering Evaluation Laboratory (EEL). Attendees were treated to an unforgettable day of live demonstrations, informative displays, self-guided tours, refreshments and souvenirs.

To withstand the stress of launch and space flight, and to verify function and reliability, flight hardware has to be exposed to the environments it would encounter during their mission. The center was given an opportunity to take a glimpse into a unique laboratory where many of Ames' high profile planetary experiments, space shuttle hardware and ground-based projects were evaluated and environmentally tested.

The event was sponsored by Code FE and was designed to showcase the lab's capabilities and facilities, to let attendees meet the highly qualified technical staff of the lab and to feature a small portion of the contribution by the EEL to Ames' history in photos, models and exhibits. The attendees saw and heard where space packages were shaken on a vibration table to space shuttle

launch levels, saw the centrifuge where Galileo experiments were accelerated up to 200 gs, and felt the thump of the shock machine during impact in a live drop test. The open house provided all the Ames employees with an opportunity to learn more about the specific capabilities and services available in the EEL and the uniqueness it brings to the center.

Many in attendance commented after seeing a particular demo or display, "Wow! I didn't know you could do those kind of tests!" or "You have a lot more capability than I ever thought!"

We would like to encourage all those who were unable to attend the open house to give us a call and allow us to set up a personalized tour of the

lab for you or your group. For those who did come to the open house and require additional information describing our services, drop by or call Howard Menche or the author at ext. 4-6048.

BY JERRY WANG



photo by Tom Trower

Visitors were treated to demos, displays and refreshments at the EEL Open House held on March 29 in the hi-bay of building N244.

## Ames legend, Seth Anderson, passes away

A 60-year career in aeronautics research came to a sad end earlier this month when Seth Anderson passed away. The 82-year-old Ames aerospace engineer, who was one of NASA's oldest employees, died on April 3, 2001 at the Veterans Administration hospital in Palo Alto.

Anderson enjoyed a lifelong fascination with airplanes. As a young boy, he loved to watch airplanes take off and land at the local airport in his Illinois hometown. He enjoyed constructing rubber-band-powered and scale models of popular aircraft. He pursued his interest in aviation at Purdue University, and in 1941, graduated with a degree in aeronautical engineering.

"Ames Research Center and the worldwide aerospace community has lost a valued friend and colleague," said Jack Boyd, executive assistant to center director Henry McDonald. "From NACA to NASA, Seth Anderson's career in aeronautics spanned more than half a century. He will be missed."

Anderson was primarily interested in aeronautical research and his enthusiasm led to a job at the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA), NASA's predecessor, at its Langley Memorial Laboratory in Virginia. He soon returned to

aircraft, identifying problems and providing design modifications to improve their control and handling qualities. Post-war research on the early jet fighters followed and led to one of his favorite programs involving installation of an in-flight thrust reverser on the Lockheed F-94 Starfire. This research attracted the attention of the commercial aircraft industry and led to an early technology spin-off for the NACA.

As a supervisor of flight research, Anderson was involved in organizing programs in vertical and short take-off and landing (V/STOL) craft, including international collaborations with the Europeans and Japanese. He was a principal author of design principles for control and handling of V/STOL airplanes. He assembled



Anderson celebrated his 79th birthday by using space spin-off technology to glide from the top of Glacier Point, more than 3,200 feet above the valley floor at Yosemite National Park, CA.

a widely appreciated video of the history of V/STOL aircraft that illustrated notable successes and failures in their design. In recent years, he worked actively on remotely piloted vehicles and also lectured and wrote a number of articles about aviation safety. Throughout his career, he published more than 100 technical reports and papers. Anderson recently

completed his personal recollections of flight research at Ames, "Memoirs of a Flight Research Engineer," which is being published as a NASA Monograph.

In 1979, at the age of 60, Anderson took up the sport of hang gliding. Two years later, he earned an advanced pilot proficiency rating from the United States Hang Gliding Association (USHGA). He was a member of the Wings of Rogallo Northern Hang Glider Association and flew at popular Bay Area sites as well as other locations in the western United States.

He liked to remind onlookers that his hang glider was a NASA spin-off from space research. "It was originally called a Rogallo Wing, for Francis Rogallo, who in the early 60s experimented at NASA Langley with a parawing as a possible landing method for

space capsules," Anderson would explain. Although NASA discontinued the parawing concept, a multi-million dollar hang-gliding industry was born.

Anderson's favorite flying venue was Yosemite National Park, where he flew extensively from 1981 to 2000. During that time, he easily surpassed nearly all other pilots by amassing nearly 200 flights from scenic Glacier Point, more than 3,200 feet above the valley floor. Anderson was a member of the Yosemite Hang Gliding Association and worked with the National Park Service and USHGA to help administer the flying program in the park.

Anderson celebrated his 79<sup>th</sup> birthday by soaring over Yosemite Valley in his hang glider. As he usually did, Anderson videotaped the entire 16-minute flight. To allow Yosemite visitors to see the park from a bird's eye view, he donated a hang-gliding video he produced to the park's visitor center. In describing his unusual hobby, Anderson often said that it was not for the timid. "It is as close to nature as one can get," he said. "You feel like a bird."

An avid health enthusiast who often could be seen riding a bicycle around Ames, Anderson kept in shape by lifting weights twice a day, five times a week and running a mile and a half each morning.

Anderson was also a commercially rated pilot and experimental aircraft builder. In the early 1980s, he built and flew his own BD-5, a very small, 200-mph, single-seat turboprop aircraft. "The first time I landed it, I had to skid it in on its belly, because the landing gear did not come down," he said, recalling the experimental aircraft's first flight to a reporter. He frequently incorporated advanced NASA aerodynamics technology in his projects and experimented successively with turbo-charged automo-

*continued on page 6*



Anderson in 1997 shown flying the BD-5 single-seat, turboprop aircraft that he built.

Purdue for a master's degree in aeronautics and in the summer of 1942, Anderson hitchhiked across the country to California to seek work at what was then NACA's Ames Laboratory.

Anderson's aeronautical research at Ames covered a wide range of subjects that were topical with the times. He worked as a researcher and supervisor in many of the aeronautical disciplines, including flight performance, flight dynamics and flight operational techniques. His career reached back over most of the modern period, when flight technology and flight research produced the historic breakthroughs and performance enhancements that propelled aviation's major advances.

Anderson began conducting flight research on an array of World War II military

# NASA administrator receives premier space honor



photo by Dominic Hart

NASA Administrator Daniel S. Goldin

NASA Administrator Daniel S. Goldin was honored on March 30 with one of this country's most prestigious space awards. The National Space Club presented Goldin with the Dr. Robert H. Goddard memorial trophy at the organization's annual dinner in Washington, DC.

The award was the centerpiece of the 44th event held at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

Each year, executives from the aerospace industry, government leaders and space educators gather to mark the past year's space achievements.

"Dr. Goddard is considered to be the father of practical modern rocketry and space flight. He was a true pioneer and innovator," said Goldin. "I am both honored and humbled by this award which validates and supports NASA's continuing mission to

pioneer the frontiers of space and knowledge in order to achieve a safer, more secure and more fulfilling life here on Earth."

Established in 1958, the Dr. Robert H. Goddard Memorial Trophy is given to an individual or group who have demonstrated great achievement in advancing space flight programs contributing to American leadership in astronautics. Past winners include astronaut and former U.S. Senator John Glenn, rocket pioneer Wernher Von Braun and President Ronald Reagan.

Founded in 1957, the National Space Club is a non-profit corporation created to stimulate the exchange of ideas and information about rocketry and astronautics and to promote recognition of the nation's achievements in space. The recipient of this award is selected annually by the Board of Governors of the National Space Club.

## SAFETY SNAPSHOTS



## Ames legend, Seth Anderson, passes away

*continued from page 5*

tive and gas turbine engines.

For many years, Anderson helped staff the NASA exhibit at the Experimental Aircraft Association's annual air show at Oshkosh, WI, relating his personal experiences and NASA's technical accomplishments to a wide community of aircraft enthusiasts. His hang gliding video, accompanied by the soaring arias of Puccini's beautiful opera, "Madame Butterfly," was a highlight of the exhibit.

Anderson was a Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and a member of Sigma Gamma Tau and Pi Tau Sigma, honorary societies for aerospace and mechanical engineering. In addition to aviation, he was very involved with track and field and gymnastics. In the 1970s, he served as coach and assistant coach for the Stanford men's gymnastics team.

Anderson is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; a son, Thomas of New York; a daughter, Kim of Palo Alto and two grandchildren, Karl and Annika. Memorial services were held in the Stanford Memorial Church on April 17. Remembrances may be made to the department of athletics, men's gymnastics, in memory of Seth Anderson and mailed to Development Staff, Department of Athletics, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305-6150.

By JACK FRANKLIN, BOB ORMISTON,  
DALLAS DENERY AND MIKE MEWHINNEY

*This feature is one in a series intended to inform the Ames community about facets of Ames' safety and health programs.*

### Ames Safety Accountability Program Inspections

#### PROFILE

Since the Ames Safety Accountability Program (ASAP) began 3 years ago, the Center has seen significant improvements in the reduction of occupational injuries and illnesses. There has also been a decrease in damage to equipment and facilities. A key component at ASAP is the periodic safety inspection performed by supervisors or managers. This exercise in identification of safety concerns and demonstration of safety's importance fosters the survival of a safe environment. Many supervisors involve their employees when performing a safety inspection, using the exercise as an opportunity to encourage employee participation in the development of a safe environment.

#### CLOSEUP

Don Dains, Professional Analysis Inc., (PAI) safety manager at Ames, says, "Each supervisor needs to conduct monthly safety inspections. Each monthly inspection need not cover all your work sites, but all of your work sites must be covered at least once each quarter." For example, if you are responsible for more than one primary area or building, you may want to inspect one area or building each month. Supervisors may accompany the VPP assessment team on safety inspections of their areas and receive credit for this metric for the month in which the inspection was conducted.

The Safety, Health and Medical Services office (QH) has developed inspection checklists to conveniently document inspections in office, shop and laboratory areas. These checklists have been developed to include regulatory requirements as well as common safety hazards found at Ames over the past few years. The safety inspection forms should always be signed and dated by the supervisor and maintained in the ASAP binder. If hazards are documented, results of the inspections must be posted in an area frequented by employees for five days or until the problems have been corrected, whichever is longer.

For more information about the ASAP inspections and forms for the shop, laboratory or office, go to <http://asap.arc.nasa.gov/> or the Manager's ASAP binder.

## Event Calendar

**Model HO/HO3 Railroad Train Club** at Moffett Field invites train buffs to visit & join the club in Bldg. 126, across from the south end of Hangar One. Work nights are usually on Friday nights from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Play time is Sunday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. For more info, call John Donovan (408) 735-4954 (W) or (408) 281-2899 (H).

**Jetstream Toastmasters**, Mondays, 12 noon to 1 p.m., N-269/Rm. 179. Guests welcome. POC: Samson Cheung at ext. 4-2875 or Lich Tran at ext. 4-5997.

**Ames Ballroom Dance Club**. Tuesdays: West Coast Swing 4/3, 4/10, 4/17, Cha Cha AND Casino Rueda 4/24, 5/1, 5/8, Foxtrot 5/15, 5/22, 5/29, East Coast Swing and Jive 6/5, 6/12, 6/19, Paso Doble 6/26. 3 levels of classes, from Beg. to Int., 5:15 - 6:45pm. Classes in Building 944, the Recreation Center. Women dancers encouraged to join. POC: Helen Hwang, hawang@dm1.arc.nasa.gov.

**Ames Bowling League**, Tuesdays, at 6 p.m. at Palo Alto Bowl. Bowlers needed. POC: Mina Cappuccio at ext. 4-1313 or Carmen Park at ext. 4-1215.

**Ames Diabetics (AAD)**, meet twice a month on first & third Wednesdays, 12 noon to 1 p.m., in the Ames Café, far corner of Sun room. Peer support group that discusses news that affects diabetics, both type I & II & exchange experiences in treatment & control & help each other best cope with the disease. POC: Bob Mohlenhoff, ext. 4-2523, or email at: bmohlenhoff@mail.arc.nasa.gov.

**Ames Child Care Center Board of Directors Mtg**, Every other Thursday (check website for meeting dates: <http://acc.arc.nasa.gov>), 12 noon to 2:00 p.m., N269, rm. 201. POC: Katharine Lee, ext 4-5051.

**Ames Contractor Council Mtg**, May 2, 11 a.m., N-200, Comm. Rm. POC: David Lawrence at ext. 4-6434.

**Environmental, Health and Safety Monthly Information Forum**, May 3, 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Bldg. 19/Rm 1040. POC: Linda Vrabel at ext. 4-0924.

**National Day of Prayer Observance**, May 3, 11:30 a.m. In accordance with the annual Presidential proclamation of the National Day of Prayer as the first Thurs in May, Ames staff are invited to gather for a half-hour of

prayer. Meet at the soccer field east of bldg. N245, Pioneer Ave and N. Warehouse Rd. POC: Don Durston, ext. 4-1515.

**Nat'l Association of Retired Federal Employees, (NARFE), San Jose Chapter #50, Mtg**, May 4, at Hometown Buffett, Westgate Mall, 4735 Hamilton Av, San Jose. Prog. & bus. mtg. at 9 a.m., followed by lunch, \$6.27, in a reserved area. Program starts at 9:30 a.m. followed by lunch. POC: Rod Perry (650) 967-9418 or NARFE 1-800-627-3394.

**NFFE Local 997 Union General Mtg**, May 16, noon to 1 p.m., Bldg. 19/Rm. 2017. Guests welcome. POC: Marianne Mosher at ext. 4-4055.

**Ames Amateur Radio Club**, May 17, 12 noon, T28-N (across from N-255). POC: Michael Wright, KG6BFL, at ext. 4-6262. URL: <http://hamradio.arc.nasa.gov>

**Native American Advisory Committee mtg**, May 22, 12 noon to 1 p.m., Ames Café. POC: Mike Liu at ext. 4-1132.

## Ames Classifieds

Ads for the next issue should be sent to [astrogram@mail.arc.nasa.gov](mailto: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; Ames extensions and email addresses will be accepted for carpool and lost & found ads only. Due to the volume of material received, we are unable to verify the accuracy of the statements made in the ads.

### Housing

3 bd/1.5 ba, 2-story townhouse on Luz Avenue, San José. Freshly painted inside, dishwasher, gas heat, w/w carpeting, outside child play area/large patio. 1 car port. Easy access to H101/680/280. \$295K. Azucena Guzman (408) 559-2881.

NRC senior research associate & spouse seek a furnished 2 bdrm apartment or house, Feb 1 to end July 2001. Interested in buying/leasing a cheap, used car for this period. Sophie Wuergler, email to: s.m.wuergler@keele.ac.uk or phone (+44 1782 752299 or +44 1782 584214) or by fax (+44 1782 583055).

Pleasant furnished room for rent in home in Los Gatos/Campbell corner of San José for professional, N/S or outside smoker. Off-street parking, safe family neighborhood, central ht/air, utils inc. Long term preferred, short-term possible for spring/summer. Shared bath/kitchen. Lease/deps required. Call (408) 266-7272 lv msg.

Room in 4 bd/2 ba home, excellent Mtn View area. Washer, drier, fireplace, microwave, new carpet and cable modem, PG&E block 50. Tidy person and nonsmoker. \$425 and share utils. Available June 1, maybe sooner. Call (650) 964-1900.

Room for rent in 3 bdrm duplex in Willow Glen, S.J. Rent is \$450/mo. plus \$250 dep and 1/3 utils. Shared bathroom, kitchen and living space w/street parking in quiet neighborhood. House shared w/two quiet professionals. Easy access to major freeways. Kevin (408) 723-2115.

Walk to work! Quiet, shaded 1bd/1ba condo for rent between Ames and downtown Mtn. View. Close to Shoreline trail access. Front and rear patios, lots of greens, carport. Amenities: clubhouse, pool, hot tub, tennis courts, enclosed bicycle storage, laundry room. \$1,500/mo plus dep, N/S, restrictions on pets. Available immediately. Tom (408) 248-6132 evenings or email at: [tomprenhm@inow.com](mailto:tomprenhm@inow.com).

### Miscellaneous

Hutch, 20in x 30in x 46in, honey-laquer finish, mint condition, only a few months old, \$700 (50 % of original cost). Call (650) 473-0604.

Century, 4 in 1 stroller with infant seat, \$25; glass top kitchen table w/4 chairs, \$50; Berber carpet, unbound, off white, 7'x11', \$25; bathroom, counter top w/sink, green marble, \$75. Call (408) 364-0545.

Little Tikes Toddler car bed and mattress, \$75. Call (408) 774-9442.

Camper shell, full size (8 foot), fiberglass with raised ceiling and boot. Needs paint, otherwise excellent condition. \$150. Call (408) 248-1281.

Jogging stroller/bicycle trailer with computer (to measure speed/distance etc.) \$75 check it out at <http://members.home.net/kunz/> Nans (510) 790-3506.

Pentium 166MHz w/MMX motherboard & CPU, with 32MB 72pin RAM, sound card, 4MB PCI video card, two floppies w/4 ISA slots and 3 PCI slots, all in a case, w/documentation. All you need is a HD: \$75 Call for emailing photos. Cal (408) 295-2160.

Pillgram cab over camper, excellent condition, fully self contained, fits on 7 1/2 ft. bed, sleeps 4, sink (13 gallon water tank), 3-way refrigerator, oven, stove, over hood fan, toilet (15 gallon septic tank), face basin. \$1,800 or B/O. Call (408) 226-3535. Lv. msg.

Drk oak finished desk w/9 faux carved drwrs, \$20. Maple secretary's desk circa 1950, writing shelf, cpbrd base and cabinet top w/glass door, \$80. Small maple 4 drwr dresser circa 1900's, 2 pedestals w/center mirror, \$180. Large 5 shelf, black laquer bk shelf, 72" tall, \$20. Black metal 2 drwr filing cabinet, legal size, \$15. Rob or Kay (408)265-5983 after 6 p.m.

Apartment-size 4 burner gas range, one year old \$150. Call (650) 938-9922 no calls after 8 p.m.

### Transportation

'97 Kawasaki Vulcan 1500C, 22,000 mls, one owner. Maintenance dealer performed every 3,000 mls. Extras/changes: rifles windshield and lowers, engine guard, Mustang seat, passenger flrboards, Cobra exhaust system, Kawasaki tall sissy bar, luggage rack, turn signal relocated for adding saddlebags, saddlebag guards. Cheap (very used) saddlebags included but not installed. Service manual included along w/orig. owners manual. \$6,950 or current loan value, whichever is lower. Ron (408) 943-1576 or e-mail: [rgbsr@hughes.net](mailto:rgbsr@hughes.net).

'97 Kawasaki 1500D Vulcan Classic. 10K mls. Custom pt. V&H xhaust, Progressive shocks, Champion hard bags, xtras. \$7,950. Call (408) 981-2198.

'89 Plymouth Acclaim LE sedam 4 Dr. 4 Cyl 2.5.L Turbo, air con., good condition 54,000 mls. asking price \$2,500. Judy (408) 263-3806 after 5:30 p.m.

### Carpool

Clayton-Walnut Creek Vanpool seeking additional rider. Departs Clayton 5 a.m., Rudgear 5:20 a.m. Arrive Ames 6:30 a.m.; Departs Ames 4:00 p.m., M-Th, 3:00 p.m. every other Friday. \$75/mo. Pietro Martinelli at ext. 4-4186 or email [pmartinelli@mail.arc.nasa.gov](mailto:pmartinelli@mail.arc.nasa.gov).

### Ames public radio

1700 KHz AM radio -- information announcements & emergency instructions, when appropriate, for Ames employees.

### Lost & Found

Moffett Field Lost and Found may be reached at ext. 4-5416 at any time. Residents and employees at Ames may also use Internet browser at: <http://ccf.arc.nasa.gov/codejpp/pages/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. Call Moffett Field security police investigations section at ext. 4-1359 or email at: [mfine@mail.arc.nasa.gov](mailto:mfine@mail.arc.nasa.gov).

### Exchange Information

Information about products, services and opportunities provided to the employee and contractor community by the Ames Exchange Council.

### Beyond Galileo N-235 (8 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

New items arriving daily. Stop by and see the unique one of kind items. Don't miss the new kits and climatron climbing toys. Ask about the NASA customized gifts for special occasions.

### Mega Bites (Ames Café) N-235 (6 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

• Make your reservation for the gas BBQ available for on-site functions. The cost is \$25 (refueling charge) per use. Call ext. 4-5969 to reserve, 48 hour notice required.

### Visitor Center Shop (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

NASA logo merchandise, souvenirs, toys, gifts and educational items.

### Tickets, etc... (8 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

Entertainment and transit tickets. Great discounts on many favorites.

• San Francisco Giants vs. Colorado at PacBell Park, Sat, May 26, 1:05 p.m.

### NASA Lodge (N-19) 603-7100

Open 7 days a week, 7:00 a.m. to 10 p.m. Reasonable rates.

### NASA Swim Center (N108) 603-8025

Book your summer parties now!

### Vacation Opportunities

Lake Tahoe-Squaw Valley townhse, 3bd/2ba, view of slopes, close to lifts. Wkend \$490, midwk \$180 nite. Includes linens, firewood. Call (650) 968-4155 or e-mail [DBMcKellar@aol.com](mailto:DBMcKellar@aol.com)

South Lake Tahoe cottage with wood fireplace and hot tub. Rates from \$50 to \$130 per night. Call (650) 967-7659 or (650) 704-7732.

## Visits & Notifications

### Is your web site ready?

Everyone who curates a web site at NASA is aware that new regulations, Section 508 and the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), are coming into effect shortly. Section 508 requires federal agency web sites to comply with 16 basic rules enabling disabled persons to use them. The COPPA is a law that affects the manner in which information is gathered from children under 13 years of age.

June 21 is the day earmarked to require all forth-going web sites to be compatible with these rules as well as to have re-coded the current top 20 sites. This date is just around the corner and the web services

group wants to ensure that every site at Ames is compliant.

A presentation will be made on May 2 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in the Bldg. N258 auditorium. It will cover high-level policy information to HTML and other required tags. Technical staff will be on site to discuss details and answer questions attendees may have on this topic.

For further information about the new Section 508/COPPA regulations, contact either Felicia Multz at: email: [fmultz@mail.arc.nasa.gov](mailto:fmultz@mail.arc.nasa.gov) or Meagan Eskey at: email: [meskey@mail.arc.nasa.gov](mailto:meskey@mail.arc.nasa.gov)

### "NASA Ames is alive and well..."

*continued from front page*

that should both leverage the high-tech talent already in Silicon Valley and provide an exciting proving ground for attracting students who will become the high-tech workers of the future.

The budget numbers for specific Ames programs are mixed. While the Center should be given authority to hire 20 new civil servants (of a total of 51 agency-wide), Ames' proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year shows a slight (0.5 percent) decrease, from \$720.9 million to \$717.6 million. There is also a reported major reduction in the science budget for the Space Station Biological Research Project, an effort also led by Ames.

BY ANN HUTCHISON



### Former Ambassador visits Ames



*Robert Pastorino, former U.S. Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, and Joanne Vilet, director, Silicon Valley U.S. Dept. of Commerce, shown during a recent visit to Ames. Ambassador Pastorino was the keynote speaker at the "Basics of Export Compliance" training course. Both distinguished guests enjoyed an escorted tour of Ames facilities. They were invited to come to Ames by Dr. Raj Shea, Ames' Center Export Administrator (Acting).*

*photo by Dominic Hart*

### 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](mailto:astrogram@mail.arc.nasa.gov) on or before the deadline.

Deadline	Publication
Mon, May 7	Mon, May 14
Mon, May 21	Mon, May 28
Mon, Jun 4	Mon, Jun 11
Mon, Jun 18	Mon, Jun 25
Mon, Jul 2	Mon, Jul 9



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