



Inside Wallops

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Wallops Flight Facility Takes Part in NASA's New Health Record System

NASA Headquarters, Chief Health and Medical Officer (OCHMO) has appointed a Task Force to develop and implement an Agency-wide Electronic Health Record (EHR) system for all NASA employees.

The appointees represent all NASA Centers and the multiple disciplines required for the project.

The project requires an assessment of each Center's current medical information management capability, evaluation of current and emerging technologies for electronic health information management, and establishment of an Agency-wide EHR with a standard system of occupational health care delivery as the foundation.

Dr. Barry Spinak, Medical Director for NASA Wallops Flight Facility and an appointee to the Task Force, participated in the initial Task Force organization and planning meeting held in Cape Canaveral, Fla., on November 20 and 21.

"The Task Force goal is to begin the EHR program at a single, to-be-selected, NASA site by December 2004, and then to extend the program to all remaining NASA sites as soon as the initial site becomes fully operational," said Dr. Spinak.

"I will be happy to provide additional details about the program during the course of an employee's annual health exam or medical surveillance exam," added Spinak.

The Task Force is chartered to act as One NASA while ensuring that any unique needs of the respective Centers are appropriately addressed.

The EHR system will enable longitudinal employee health assessment capability for NASA.

It also is expected that employee health care delivery improves and becomes more efficient, with enhanced quality, cost-benefit ratio, and employee satisfaction.

This effort will permit NASA to join the Federal Consolidated Healthcare Informatics Initiative (CHI) to facilitate the required sharing and linking of health information in a secure environment and will provide for the Agency's mandate to assure healthy work sites and to maintain and improve workforce health.

DYN-4, the NASA Occupational Health Support Office contractor based at Kennedy Space Center provides the EHR project lead and advisory staff.

Navy Sends Thanks for Wallops Support to CSSQT

To NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe

"I want to convey my sincere appreciation for the outstanding work Dr. John Campbell and his staff performed during the planning and conduct of the Combined USS MASON and the Spanish Navy SPS *Alvaro De Bazan* Combat System Ship Qualification Trials (CSSQT) conducted at the NASA Wallops Flight Facility 10-22 July 2003.

Of particular note was the staff's willingness to take on an event of this size and magnitude on such short notice.

The last minute scheduling was necessitated by the decision in December 2002 to close the Atlantic Fleet Weapons Training Facility in Puerto Rico.

A significant number of requests for certifications and clearances had to be staffed and reviewed prior to approval because the CSSQT introduced the requirement to fly aerial targets and target configurations that had not been flown before at the range.

The quick and detailed response by the NASA WFF team to gain the needed approvals in time for the CSSQT was truly outstanding.....

The NASA team should take great pride in the critical roles they played in the successful completion of the standard Missile-2 firings and others experienced during the dual CSSQT.

As former Secretary of the Navy, I know that you appreciate the milestone achieved by the successful completion of combat system testing in a new class of ships.

NASA WFF's quick response allowed us to complete that milestone for the Spanish Navy as scheduled.

Please extend our appreciation to the Wallops team. Bravo Zulu!"

Admiral C. T. Bush
Department of the Navy
Program Executive Office

Electronic Health Record Task Force



Photo courtesy BSpinak

Seated (L. to R.): Dr. Wyckliffe Hoffer, DYN-4; Martine Myers, Johnson Space Center; Kathy Johnson, Johnson Space Center; Debbie Broussard, Stennis Space Center.

Second row: Dr. Barry Spinak, Wallops Flight Facility; Christine Greenwalt, Glenn Research Center; Claire Sleboda, Dryden Flight Research Center; Binh Truong, Kennedy Space Center; Cherie Zieschang, NASA Headquarters; Lauren Hall, Langley Research Center; Helen Shoemaker, DYN-4.

Back row: Dr. Terry Bidnick, Goddard Space Flight Center; Holly Hebert, MAF; Dr. William Barry, OCHMO; Scott Pinkston, Marshall Space Flight Center; David King, Ames Research Center; Carolyn Ricks-Ryder, WSTF; Cathy Angotti, OCHMO; Duane Ratliff, DYN-4; and Mae Hafizi, DYN-4

Wallops Shorts In the News

Eastern Shore Post

"NASA Reaches Milestone in Development of Flight Safety System"

SpaceRef.com

"NASA Reaches Major Milestone in Development of an Autonomous Flight Safety System"

Eastern Shore News

"NASA Exploring Potential of Small UAVs"

"NASA Reaches Milestone in Flight Safety System"

In the Field

NASA Sounding Rocket Operations Contract (NSROC) personnel are at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, preparing for the launch of two Terrier-Black Brant sounding rockets currently on schedule for December 5.

Personnel from the National Scientific Balloon Facility (NSBF) are in Antarctica preparing for the launch of two scientific balloons during December.

Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of **Mary Louise Williams** who died at Shore LifeCare, Parksley, on November 22.

Williams retired from NASA Wallops Flight Facility as a contract specialist. She is survived by her husband, Frank, a daughter, a grandson and a granddaughter.

Airfield Restrictions

With an increase in aircraft operations at Wallops, employees are reminded to be aware of airfield boundaries and personnel restrictions in these areas.

The airfield has specific boundaries and most of them are clearly marked. Maps and stickers depicting the airfield and its' markings are available through the tower or airport management.

The airfield tower personnel have observed a few individuals riding bikes and operating vehicles in areas that are for aircraft only and/or vehicles/personnel with radio contact or authorization from the tower.

Also, Wallops personnel escorting visitors who may not be familiar with the airfield hazards should not leave them unescorted in areas adjacent to the airfield.

Christmas at the Exchange

Stop by and check out gift ideas at the Wallops Exchange



Make a purchase, show your WFF badge, and you will be eligible to enter a drawing for one of two great give-away bundles.

Drawings will be held December 19 at 1 p.m.

As an added bonus, there will be a drawing for a small gift each day beginning today, December 1.

Aerobics Club Starts New Session

A new session of the Aerobics Club begins today, December 1. For a full schedule, visit the Club's web site: <http://www.wff.nasa.gov/WAC/>

Dialogue on Sexual Orientation

As part of the Center's effort to create a more inclusive and open environment, the GSFC Diversity Council is sponsoring a "Dialogue on Sexual Orientation" on Tuesday, December 9 from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Building 3 Goett Auditorium, Greenbelt, and to Wallops by VITS in Room 213, Building F-6.

The dialogue session reiterates the importance of creating respectful workplace environments, and seeks to increase knowledge, awareness and sensitivity on the issue of sexual orientation and how we can include all members of our GSFC family.

Following opening and welcoming remarks by our Deputy Center Director, the guest speakers will discuss what sexual orientation is and is not; explaining why we need to discuss it, and why it is an issue of respecting individuals and providing a better understanding of sexual orientation within the legal context.

Guest speakers include the Deputy Director for the Human Rights Campaign WorkNet, the Pastor of the Metropolitan Community Church, the Inspector General at the Government Printing Office, and the President of Parents, Friends & Families of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) - DC Chapter.

Differing views are welcome. Since this is a dialogue, there will be opportunity to ask questions and share alternative points of view.

For more information or to contact any member of the Diversity Council, visit the diversity website at: <http://diversity.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

Can We Talk: Informal Dialogue with Administrator O'Keefe

In the spirit of One NASA, NASA presents "Can We Talk" with Administrator Sean O'Keefe.

The "Can We Talk" series is a bi-monthly informal, hour-long dialogue between NASA team members and Administrator O'Keefe.

The sessions, in an informal luncheon format, are an open forum where team members will be able to share their ideas, perspectives and thoughts about NASA with the Administrator.

The first program for the agency-wide initiative is at NASA Headquarters. Future sessions will be at NASA Centers. The series begin December 8

All NASA employees are invited to take part in this unique opportunity.

To make a reservation for the initial session send an e-mail to CanWeTalk@nasa.gov before 4 p.m. December 2. Space will be limited to ensure the setting remains informal.

FEHB Open Season

The Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) and flexible spending account open season ends on December 8.

During open season, civil service employees have the opportunity to enroll, change from one health plan or option to another, or move from self-only to self and family enrollment status. All open season deductions will become effective on Jan. 11, 2004.

The Office of Personnel Management no longer prints the FEHB guides, which are available on line at: www.opm.gov/insure/health.

The Flexible Spend Account Program lets civil service employees set aside tax-free money to pay for health and dependent care expenses. The result can be a discount of 20 to more than 40 percent on services routinely paid for out of pocket. For further information visit: www.fsafeds.com

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