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Langley Research Center

Researcher News

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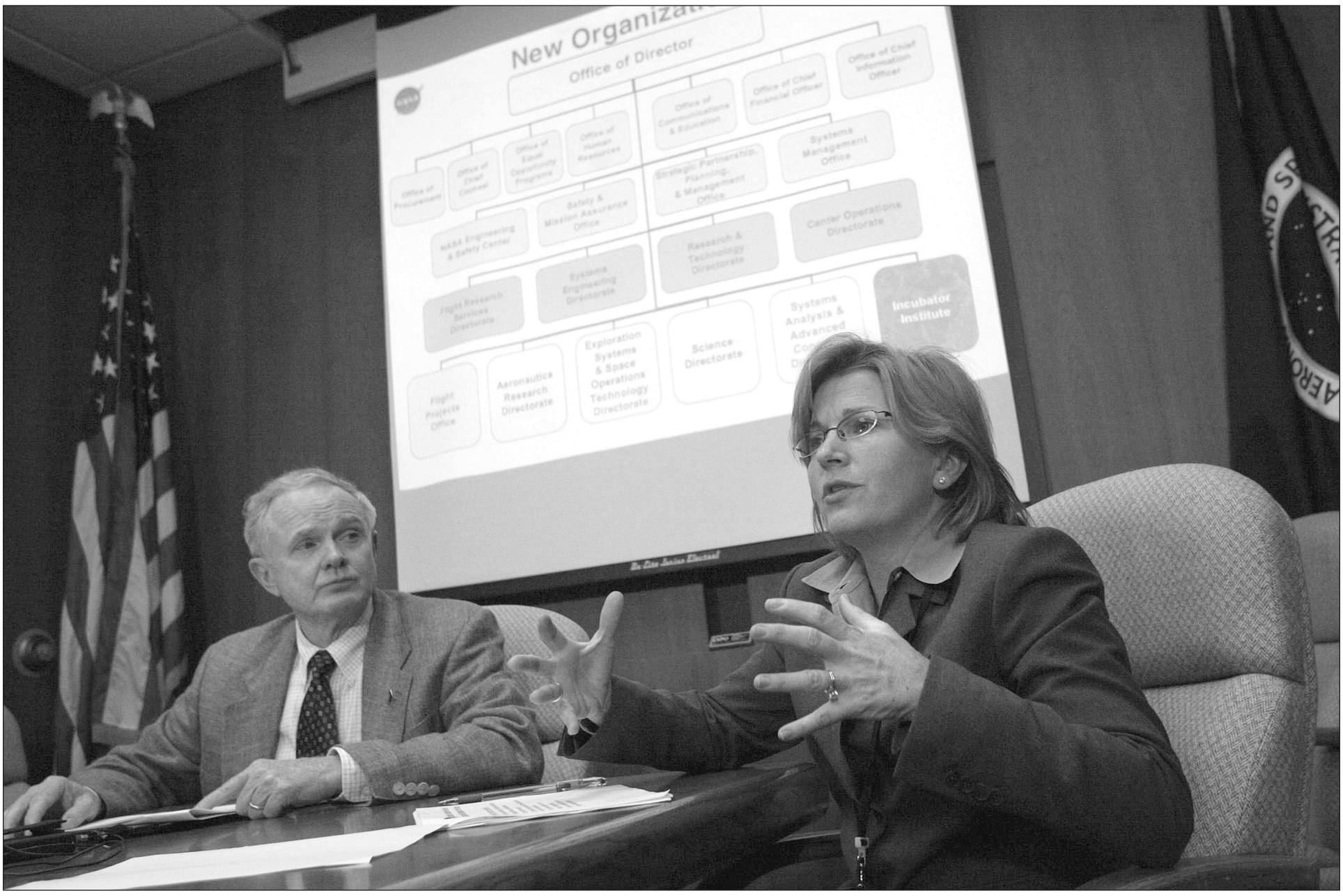
‘It’s Not About The Boxes’

Langley Unveils New Organization To Employees



Langley Research Center Director Roy D. Bridges Jr. and Deputy Director Lesa Roe unveil the Center’s reorganization plan at a news conference on July 7. Roe, who served as head of the Reorganization Kickstart Team, said the new organization better positions Langley to implement the Vision for Space Exploration and meet the aerospace exploration challenges of the future.

Photo by Jeff Caplan

By JIM ROBERTS
Researcher News editor

Langley Research Center unveiled its reorganization plan to employees at an all-day, all-hands meeting on July 7, one week after the plan received a “green light” from NASA Headquarters.

Deputy Director Lesa Roe, who served as head of the Reorganization Kickstart Team, said the new organization better positions Langley to implement the Vision for Space Exploration and meet the aerospace exploration challenges of the future.

“It’s not about the boxes,” she said. “It’s about the way we work together and getting the right people in the right jobs.”

Center Director Roy D. Bridges Jr. hailed the new organization as “another milestone in the transformation here at Langley.”

He said it is dynamic and will allow for changes after it takes effect on Oct. 1, the beginning of the next fiscal year.

■ **Langley’s new org. chart appears on Page 5.**

“A reorganization is only a slice in time,” Bridges said. “It will probably be good that day. We’ll probably have to start tweaking right away.”

The new organization comprises four tiers:

■ **Research, Science and Technology Product Units** are customer-focused, largely self-sufficient organizations responsible for providing competitive products and/or solutions for NASA’s Mission Directorates and external customers in their business areas. The following organizations are considered Product Units: the Aeronautics Research Directorate; the Exploration Systems and Space Operations Technology Directorate; the Science Directorate; and the Systems Analysis and Advanced Concepts Directorate. The Systems Analysis and Advanced Concepts

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Inside This Issue:

NASA Vision: *To improve life here, To extend life to there, To find life beyond*
NASA Mission: *To understand and protect our home planet ● To explore the Universe and search for life*
To inspire the next generation of explorers … as only NASA can

Briefs

Around the Agency

FAA FUEL-TANK SAFETY SYSTEM TESTED AT NASA

An aircraft normally used to transport the Space Shuttle has been pressed into service to test technology to make airliners safer.

Researchers from Glenn Research Center arranged for a fuel-inerting system to be installed aboard a NASA Boeing 747. The system, designed to reduce the chance of an explosion inside an airplane tank, made its first flight tests as part of ongoing research being conducted by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in partnership with NASA.

Glenn employee Clarence Chang proposed that the FAA use the B747-100 Shuttle Carrier Aircraft based at Dryden Flight Research Center. "I'm glad we were able to help make this happen," Chang said. "We look forward to the benefits that will be derived as a result of the flight testing." NASA HQ RELEASE: 04-213

NASA CREATES 3-D VIEW OF SOLAR ERUPTIONS

NASA-funded scientists have created the first three-dimensional (3-D) view of massive solar eruptions called Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs). The result is critical for a complete understanding of CMEs, which, when directed at Earth, may disrupt radio communications, satellites and power systems.

The researchers analyzed ordinary two-dimensional images from the joint NASA/European Space Agency Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) spacecraft in a new way to yield the 3-D images.

For images and more information about this research on the Internet, visit: <http://www.gsfc.nasa.gov/topstory/2004/07023dcme.html>. NASA HQ RELEASE : 04-209

NASA HELPS TRACK GLOBAL AIR QUALITY

NASA and other agencies will measure the movements of pollution around the globe this summer. NASA is participating with U.S. and international agencies as part of a combined air quality and climate study.

NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) are leading a team of scientists. Researchers will conduct observations, as part of the New England Air Quality Study, to track the path of polluting gases and aerosols traveling from North America to Europe. The University of New Hampshire, Durham, is a partner on a broader experiment, called the Intercontinental Chemical Transport Experiment-North America (INTEX-NA).

The detailed observations made possible by INTEX-NA will support the enhanced validation of data from NASA's Terra and Aqua and the European Space Agency's Envisat satellites.

For information and images about this research on the Internet, visit: <http://www.gsfc.nasa.gov/topstory/2004/0621intex.html>. NASA HQ RELEASE : 04-204

Researcher News

The Researcher News is an official publication of Langley Research Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Hampton, Va., 23681-2199. It is published every other Friday in the interest of all Langley employees, contractors and retirees and has a circulation of approximately 7,200. It is distributed to all Langley employees, contractors, retirees and on-site university personnel, with limited distribution to NASA Headquarters, other NASA centers and, by special request, to other non-NASA individuals and organizations. Questions related to the content and distribution of the Researcher News should be addressed to Keith Henry, Mail Stop 115, (757) 864-6120. Submit contributions and off-site address changes to the editor via e-mail <j.r.roberts@larc.nasa.gov>, fax (757) 864-6477, telephone (757) 864-8150 or Mail Stop 147. Articles, photos and announcements are due by 5 p.m. the Monday following the date of this issue.

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The privilege of listing announcements in this publication is restricted to the employees, contractors and retirees of the Langley Research Center. Articles must be offered without regard to race, color, religion, sex or national origin. All materials are subject to editing.

The Researcher News accepts signed letters to the editor from Langley Research Center employees, on-site contractors and retirees. Letters are limited to 250 words and will be edited only for grammar. When necessary, letters may be edited for space, but only with the author's approval. Letter-writers are limited to one submission on a topic every six months. Questions regarding this policy should be directed to Keith Henry, managing editor, at 864-6120 or <h.k.henry@nasa.gov>.

Read the Researcher News online at <http://researchernews.larc.nasa.gov>.

ARES Program Review

Langley Research Center Director Roy D. Bridges Jr. (front left) and Mark Croom (front right), an employee in Langley's Vehicle Dynamics Branch, pose in the Transonic Dynamics Tunnel (TDT) with a model of the ARES Mars Airplane and the employees who took part in a recent ARES program review: Jay Brandon, Stan Cole, Doug Dwoyer, Dana Gould, Sue Grafton, Boyd Perry, Ray Rhew, Steve Riddick, Tony Rivera, Steve Sandford, Rob Scott, John Teter and Henry Wright. Uniquely suited to replicate Mars conditions in a tunnel environment, the TDT tests play a crucial role in advancing the understanding of planetary flight.

Photo by Jeff Caplan

In Memoriam

Robert F. Berry Jr.

Robert F. Berry Jr. died on June 30 at the age of 56. Berry worked at Langley Research Center for 38 years and was an active employee in the Research Hardware Validation and Verification Branch at the time of his death.

Berry served in the U.S. Army and was a graduate of the NASA Apprentice School. He worked primarily in non-destructive evaluation of research aircraft and facilities, materials research and space flight projects. His career culminated in work on the Columbia accident investigation and subsequent return-to-flight activities for the Space Shuttle. Berry held four patents and received numerous individual and group awards for technical achievement.

"Bob was a unique and talented individual," said Donald R. Beasley, head of Langley's Research Hardware Validation and Verification Branch. "He never had an assignment he didn't give 110 percent. I truly admired Bob for his commitment, intellect, dedication, integrity and loyalty to NASA. He will be greatly missed by family, friends and colleagues."

Walter B. Horne

Walter B. Horne died on June 26 at the age of 82. Horne served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II and was awarded an Air Medal and a Distinguished Flying Cross. He went on to work for NASA, retiring in 1979 after 30 years of service.

Horne was a leading authority in the fields of aviation and automobile safety, tire traction and hydroplaning. His research and advocacy of runway and highway grooving is credited with significantly reducing the number of airplane and automobile accidents and fatalities due to hydroplaning.

During his career, he authored or co-authored many technical reports, presented many lectures and received numerous awards, including the NASA Medal for Exceptional Scientific Achievement, the Flight Safety Foundation's Laura Taber Barbour Air Safety Award, the Royal Aeronautical Society of Sweden's Thulin Medal, and a 1993 NASA Space Act Award for Pavement Grooving Research and Development. In 1990, he was inducted into the Space Technology Hall of Fame for his work on safety grooving.

Philip Joseph Smith

Philip Joseph Smith died on June 23 at the age of 84. Smith, a native of Newport News, served in the Army Air Corps during World War II and went on to work for NASA, retiring in 1984 after 23 years of service.

Raymond L. Stanworth III

Raymond Linwood Stanworth III died on June 24 at the age of 57. Stanworth, a native of Hampton, served in the U.S. Army and was a Vietnam veteran. He previously worked as a specialized firefighter at Langley Research Center.

Loy W. Terry

Loy Watkins Terry died on June 26 at the age 81. Terry, a native of Miledgeville, Ga., served in the U.S. military and was a veteran of World War II. He went on to work as a quality inspection specialist for Newport News Shipbuilding and the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, retiring after 30 years of service.

Clarifications

■ An article in the July 2 edition of the Researcher News stated that "Gimme The Mike! Hampton Roads," the WSKY TV show featuring Langley Research Center contractor Jennifer Jones, would conclude on Aug. 12. The schedule has changed: An episode featuring one "wildcard" winner from each of the first five weeks will air on Aug. 12, and the live finale will air on Aug. 19. Jones' episode is still scheduled to air on July 29. For more information, visit <http://www.wsky4.com>.

■ A classified ad in the July 2 edition of the Researcher News stated two Busch Gardens tickets that were for sale had been purchased in Langley Research Center's Exchange Shop for $46.95. In fact, the gate price for a ticket is $46.95.

Gas Prices Don't Hurt AFV Fleet

Langley Recognized For Use Of Alternative Fuel Vehicles

Grady McCoy, Langley Research Center's fleet manager, poses with a "flexible fuel" Ford Taurus that runs on E85 ethanol. Langley's E85 pump, one of only two in Virginia, can be seen in the background.

Photo by Jeff Caplan

By JIM ROBERTS
Researcher News editor

Gas prices may be at record levels this year, but NASA, the agency renowned for "soaring to new heights," has remained largely unaffected.

NASA is leading the way among federal agencies to switch to alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs). Many people are familiar with "hybrid" electric cars, but fewer are aware of vehicles that run on alternative fuels like natural gas, ethanol and biodiesel.

"Alternative fuels reduce vehicle emissions and aid in reducing reliance on foreign petroleum," said William Gookin, NASA's Manager of Transportation Programs.

Gookin has encouraged NASA's 10 field centers to comply with the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (EPAct), which requires the acquisition of alternative fuel vehicles for federal fleets, and Executive Order 13149, which requires that federal fleets reduce their petroleum use by 20 percent by 2005.

The Agency is also getting credit for installing E85 pumps at four centers in 2003: Glenn Research Center, Kennedy Space Center, Langley Research Center and Stennis Space Center. (Goddard Space Flight Center and Johnson Space Center will follow suit this year.)

"We look forward to seeing new E85 pumps established through NASA this year and in years to come," said Phil Lampert, executive director of the National Ethanol Vehicle Coalition. "Federal agencies are subject to the requirements of both federal statute, and Presidential Executive Orders regarding alternative fuels and clearly NASA takes these directives seriously. We appreciate the leadership that has been provided by NASA and encourage other units of the federal government to duplicate their efforts."

"Clearly NASA takes these directives seriously. We appreciate the leadership that has been provided by NASA and encourage other units of the federal government to duplicate their efforts."

Phil Lampert

Langley, which boasts one of only two E85 pumps in Virginia, also can lay claim to one of the most diverse fleets.

In addition to its 19 E85 flexible-fuel vehicles and 26 natural gas vehicles — including three Honda Civic GXs, the cleanest-running internal-combustion-engine vehicle ever tested by the EPA — Langley was the first center in the agency and the first fleet in Virginia to introduce biodiesel (B-20). Six other centers have since started using B-20.

The Hampton Roads Clean Cities Coalition recently recognized Langley for its efforts: "We commend fleet manager Grady McCoy on his continued leadership in pushing to comply with the Presidential Executive Order 13149 years ahead of schedule."

How have employees reacted to E85 and biodiesel?

"Nobody can tell the difference," McCoy said.

VSP Hosts First Annual Program Meeting

By BILL UHER
Planners Collaborative Inc.

NASA's Vehicle Systems Program (VSP) hosted its first annual program meeting May 11-13 at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta.

The purpose of the meeting was to present the VSP portfolio of projects and expertise to stakeholders, industry representatives, academia and other government agencies.

The meeting highlighted the new, integrated vehicle research program structure. The VSP has focused its research and technology development on the needs of its customers. The VSP comprises seven projects: Integrated Tailored Aero-Structures (ITAS), Autonomous Robust Avionics (AuRA), Efficient Aerodynamic Shapes and Integration (EASI), Ultra-Efficient Engine Technology (UEET), Low Emissions Alternative Power (LEAP), Quiet Aircraft Technology (QAT) and Flight and Systems Demonstrations (F&SD).

Rich Wlezien and Julie Pollitt lead the VSP from NASA Headquarters. Project and sub-project managers reside at Ames Research Center, Dryden Flight Research Center, Glenn Research Center and Langley Research Center.

A team representing the four centers, called the Strategy Team, advises the program leaders on a variety of programmatic and policy issues. The Vehicle Integration, Strategy and Technology Assessment (VISTA) team defines the technical strategy and overall capability requirements for the VSP. Working with outside partners, VISTA identified six vehicle sectors the VSP will support: Extreme/Short Takeoff and Landing (E/STOL); Personal Air Vehicle (PAV); Rotorcraft (RC); Supersonic Aircraft (SSA); Subsonic Transport (ST); and Uninhabited Air Vehicle (UAV).

VISTA's responsibilities include:

■ Defining the strategic technical direction for the VSP by assessing new technologies and creating plans for their potential development within NASA;

■ Establishing and maintaining relationships with potential partners, identifying opportunities for new vehicle capabilities and strategic partnerships; and

■ Conducting system-level assessments of technology impacts and portfolio analysis of the VSP technology investments.

The overall objective of all VSP research is to develop technologies that, once in service on aircraft, will impact four of the six theme objectives for the Aeronautics Enterprise:

■ Protect the environment by reducing aircraft noise and emissions;

■ Increase mobility by enabling more people and goods to travel faster and farther with fewer delays;

■ Explore new aerospace missions by pioneering novel concepts and technologies to support science missions and terrestrial and space applications; and,

■ Pursue partnerships for national security by working closely with the Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security and other U.S. government or international agencies.

The VSP has positioned itself to take an aggressive role in NASA's future. With dynamic leadership and exciting projects, the VSP is positioned to make the future of aeronautics happen at NASA.

Bill Uher works for Planners Collaborative in support of Langley's Public Affairs Office.

Softball Team Still Going Strong

The Misfits Have Been A League Staple For More Than 30 Years

The players have changed, and there has been some variation in the name over the years, but the "the Misfits" team currently playing in Langley Research Center's softball league is traceable all the way back to 1969.

In 1968, Jim Taylor put together a team of his colleagues in the Procurement Division and the Lunar Orbiter Project Office, where he had spent a year on temporary duty. (The late Jim Martin, who was the Assistant Project Manager for the Lunar Orbiter Project and later became Viking Project Manager, was the pitcher on the squad.)

There was a team in the league named "Al's Owls," so Taylor played on that theme and came up with the name "Jim's Gems." The team did not live up to its name, winning only a few games.

One of the players, Hugh Mahanes, was the playing coach of a team in the NASA Basketball League called the Misfits. A case was made for changing the name of the softball team, and in the summer of 1969, the Misfits made their first appearance on the softball field. Although the name changed, the winning percentage inched up only slightly.

"ACD" was arguably the power team of the late 1960s. However, the Misfits would soon assert themselves as a strong team in the league. In 1970, Taylor found some talented young players and seasoned veterans to add to the roster.

The season ended with the Misfits and "Viking" tied for first place with Structures one game out. The Misfits defeated Viking in a playoff game for the regular season championship and later won the league tournament championship by overpowering ACD, 27-8.

In 1971, with most of the same players returning, the Misfits prevailed again. The regular season again ended in a tie, and the Misfits defeated ACD in a playoff for the regular season championship. In the tournament championship game, the Misfits defeated ACD, 14-7.

Little did the Misfits know that although they would stay competitive for a number of years, the next championship would be far down the road. New league teams such as "Charlie Brown's All Stars," "the Ballers" and "the Decibels" had strong teams in subsequent years, but "the Shams" became the dominant team in the late '70s and '80s.

In about 1976, Robert Beyma became the manger of the Misfits but transferred to the Wallops Flight Facility after a few years and was succeeded by Rob Calloway. Calloway managed until the early '80s, when he was succeeded by Noel Talcott, who remained the manager until the 2000 season. In 2000, the Misfits merged with the "Puppies" and the managerial reigns were handed over to Robert Edahl, former manager of the Puppies. Joel Alexa is the current manager, having succeeded Edahl two years ago.

The Misfits won their first softball league championship in 1970. Team members that year were (left to right): Cliff Smith, Tom Judy, Gene Wagner, Bob Bryant, Joe Woolsey, Sam Harper, Dave McColskey, Bob Beyma, Jim Taylor, Bob Huffman, Otto Youngbluth, Cecil Kirby, Marvin Burgess and Hugh Mahanes. Team members Ed Daniels and Ted Bright were not present. Youngbluth is still an active member of the team.

Photo courtesy of Jim Taylor

Now the Misfits are back. For the last five years, they have won their league tournament. They were "D" League champs in 1999, "C" League champs in 2001 and 2002, "B" League champs in 2002, and "C" League champs in 2003.

The longevity record for a player belongs to Otto Youngbluth, who started playing in 1970 and, though retired, is on the roster and usually shows up to play at least a few innings. He is fondly referred to by team members as "Ottomatic."

While other teams have fallen by the wayside, the Misfits continue to answer the bell. The team will begin its 40th season in 2008.

Editor's note: *This article was submitted by Jim Taylor, who retired from NASA in 1995 and now works for Swales Aerospace.*

Researchers To Receive WMO Award

By KATHERINE E. LORENTZ
SAIC

Langley Research Center employees Martin Mlynczak and Ellis Remsberg have been selected to receive the World Meteorological Organization's Norbert Gerbier-MUMM International Award for 2005.

The award, created in 1988, is presented annually to honor original scientific papers on the influence of meteorology in physical, natural or human sciences or conversely, the influence of one of those sciences on meteorology.

Mlynczak and Remsberg, both senior research scientists in Langley's Atmospheric Sciences Competency, were recognized for a paper they co-authored with 17 other scientists and researchers from around the world titled "Review of Mesospheric Temperature Trends."

Originally published in Reviews of Geophysics in October 2003, the paper centers on a review and evaluation of long-term trends in the temperature of the mesosphere, the region 50-90 km above the Earth, using the present understanding of measurements and model calculations.

Mlynczak

Remsberg

Before the study began, researchers believed the mesosphere was the key to unlocking global climate change. Furthermore, they held that global temperature change due to increases in carbon dioxide should be more easily observed at those altitudes, and smaller amounts of data would be required for analysis.

However, the authors of the paper found that data sets obtained over the last 20-30 years tell different stories. The goal of the paper is to review the current state of knowledge and to recognize discrepancies between actual data sets and long-standing climate models.

The authors reviewed data from many instruments, including HALOE (the Halogen Occultation Experiment), which was built at Langley and has been operational since 1991, and SABER (Sounding of the Atmosphere using Broadband Emission Radiometry), a Langley instrument that was launched in late 2001.

Remsberg, the project scientist on HALOE, said the study reveals a clear and immediate need for more measurements, analysis and modeling to understand the role of the mesosphere in global climate change.

Mlynczak, the associate principal investigator for SABER, said the study shows the need for new and innovative observation techniques to enable the long-term global measurements that are required for studying climate change.

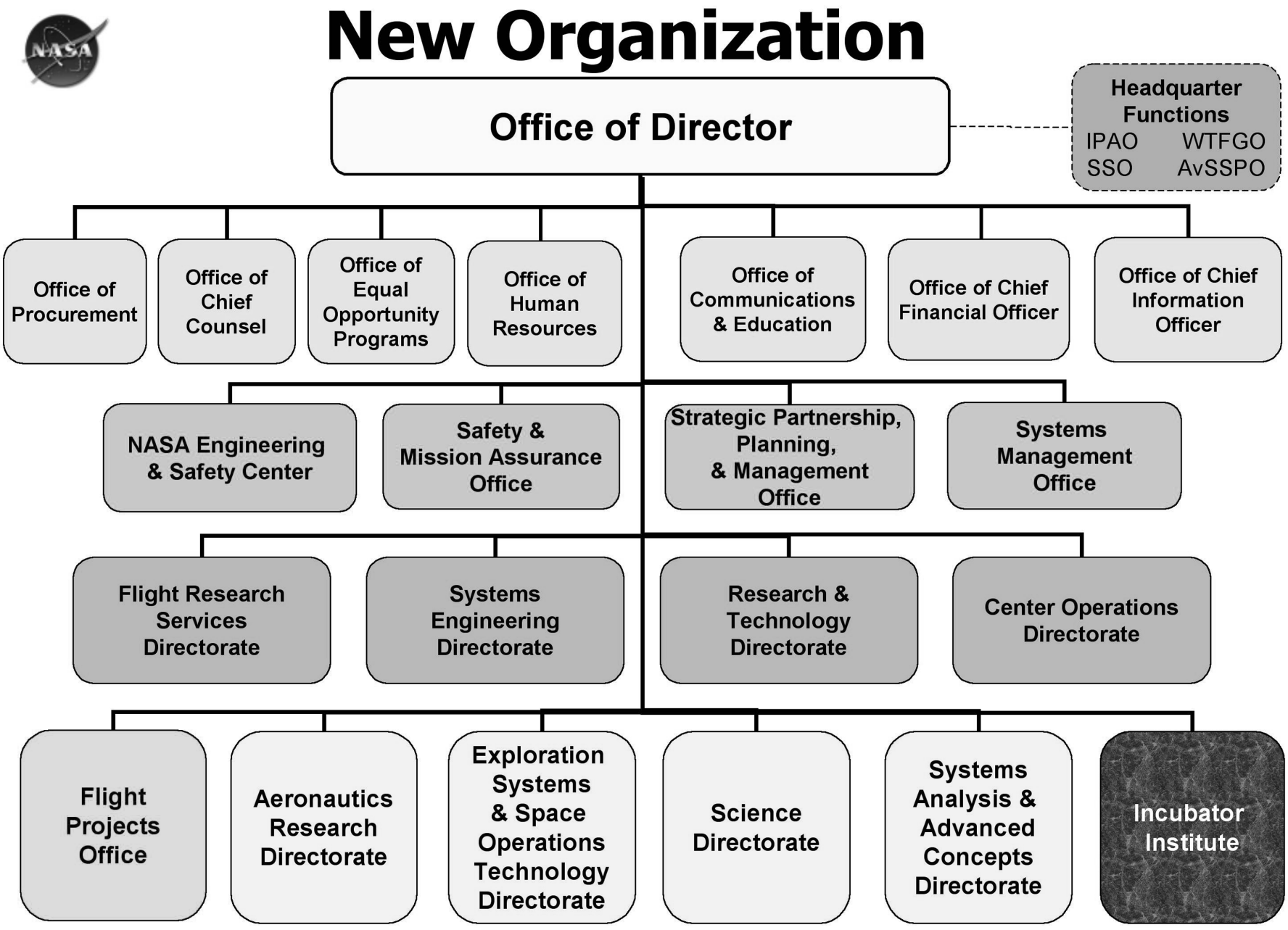
"The study illustrated the international nature of atmospheric science and that we are clearly just beginning to appreciate how complex our environment really is," Mlynczak said.

Remsberg said they enjoyed being involved in an international study. "No one will accept the results from one group as definitive," he said. "You need validation from a diverse group of researchers."

The formal presentation of the award, which includes a medal bearing a likeness of Norbert Gerbier and a cash prize of 7,600 Euro (approximately $9,000), will take place in Geneva, Switzerland, in June 2005.

Established in 1950, the WMO is a specialized agency of the United Nations for meteorology, operational hydrology and related geophysical sciences. The WMO is charged with providing world leadership in these fields, as well as contributing to the safety and well being of people throughout the world.

Katherine E. Lorentz works for SAIC in support of Langley's Atmospheric Sciences Competency.



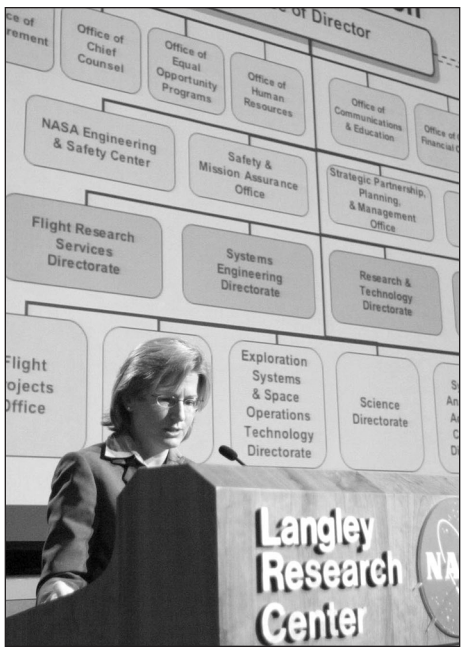
Organization

Continued from Page 4

Directorate is also considered a Core Resources Unit to the other Product Units for systems analysis and advanced concepts work. Each Product Unit is aligned with a technical kick start team and has the responsibility to continuously identify strategically selected research, science and technology products to further agency goals and objectives.

A final element, the **Incubator Institute** (ii), is a unique internal research and development organization that acts as a Product Unit where the customer is potentially anyone, internal or external. The organization is self sufficient in terms of having all resources required to find new business opportunities. The ii's resources and infrastructure, especially its bid and proposal process expertise, is shared as a core resource to the Center.

■ **Core Resources Units** develop resources into a source of key competitive advantage for the Center and allocate the use of these resources in accordance to Center priorities. The following organizations are considered Core Resources Units: the Flight Research Services Directorate; the Systems Engineering Directorate; the Research and Technology Directorate; and the Center Operations Directorate. The Systems Analysis and Advanced Concepts Directorate is also considered a Core Resources Unit for systems analysis and advanced concepts work for the other Product Units and the ii is a core resource for the bid and proposal process.



■ **Strategic/Management Units** apply strategic focus to areas of interest to the Center or agency and assist in ensuring that the Center and agency strategy is effectively implemented. The following organizations are considered Strategic/Management Units: the NASA Engineering and Safety Center; the Safety and Mission Assurance Office; the Strategic Partnership, Planning and Management Office; and the Systems Management Office.

■ **Shared Services Units** provide commonly used services to meet the needs of other Center organizations cost-effectively and responsively; they are driven by what the "customer" wants. The following organizations are considered Shared Services Units: the Office of Chief Information Officer; the Office of Procurement; the Office of Human Resources; the Office of Chief Financial Officer; the Office of Equal Opportunity Programs; the Office of Chief Counsel; and the Office of Communications and Education.

"It's not about the boxes. It's about the way we work together and getting the right people in the right jobs."

Lesa Roe

The new organization also includes the Office of Director, which is considered a Corporate Unit, and four Headquarters Functions: the Independent Program Assessment Office, the Wind Tunnel Facilities Group Office, the Science Support Office, and the Aviation Safety and Security Program Office.

Roe said the new organization provides improvements in the following areas: technical excellence in delivering strategically selected research, science and technology products on time and within cost; strong, cooperative relationships between project management and technical capabilities; internal and external customer focus; strong, strategic leadership; stronger project execution; improved collaboration and teaming; clear roles, responsibilities and accountabilities; and reduced Center overhead.

The all-hands meeting also included a presentation by Doug Dwoyer, head of Langley's Institutional Transformation Kickstart Team. Dwoyer outlined Langley's budget and said too much money — some 60 percent — is dedicated to fixed costs. The goal is 40 percent.

Getting there, he said, would require the consolidation of buildings and a reduction in operating and maintenance costs. He also suggested that as much as 36 percent of the civil service workforce could accept "term" assignments in return for bonuses and other incentives.

"Langley has been responsive to change," Dwoyer said, "but our challenge to transform continues."

The day-long schedule also included discussions about culture change at NASA and Langley and an open dialogue about NASA's transformation, focusing on the recommendations made in the Aldridge Report.

Bridges ended the day by telling employees to maintain their focus through the transformation. "We're all in this together," he said. "Let's get the job done."

■ *For more information, visit Langley's Kickstart web site: <http://kickstart.larc.nasa.gov/>.*

AdVentures

CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: 2003 Subaru WRX, five-speed sedan, red pearl, 7,700 miles, 17-inch wheel/tire upgrade, many extras, $20,800. Call 220-3227.

FOR SALE: New, hand-knotted Persian carpet, Tabriz pattern with superb silk and kork wool pile on cotton foundation, rosy and ivory color, 120x78 inches, $3,900. Call 874-6584.

FOR SALE: Bedroom set, Italian black lacquer, queen-size bed, six-drawer dresser and two night stands, $390. Call 874-6584.

FOR SALE: Wood table and four spindle-back chairs, 3x5 feet, natural finish, suitable for kitchen or informal dining room, $200. Call 816-4469.

FOR RENT: House in Hampton, 3 BR, 1 BA, fenced yard with shed and pool, quiet neighborhood, house in excellent condition, $745 per month. Call 218-2421.

FOR RENT: Studio timeshare at Disney's Saratoga Springs Resort, sleeps up to four people, Dec. 5-10, $660. Call 826-6385

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Send submissions for the July 30 edition to <j.r.roberts@larc.nasa.gov>.

Special Activities Planned At VAM

A new exhibit titled "Lindbergh's Return to Richmond" opened in July at the Virginia Aviation Museum (VAM) and will remain on display through **Sept. 26**.

The VAM also has the following activities scheduled in July:

■ "Aviation Mondays," hands-on activities for students in grades 1-6, will be offered from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and from 11 a.m. to noon on **July 19**. (Cost is $1 plus museum admission.)

■ "Introduction to Aviation," a two-day study of the basics of flight for boys and girls between the ages 10 and 17, will be offered from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. **July 21-22**. (Pre-registration is required. Cost is $25 for members and $35 for nonmembers.)

■ "A Week of Flight," hands-on activities for rising sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders, will be offered from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m **July 26-30**. (Pre-registration is required. Cost is $75 for members and $85 for nonmembers.)

The VAM, located at Richmond International Airport, is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

For more information, call 804-236-3622 or visit <http://vam.smv.org> on the Internet.

LAA Covered Dish Supper July 20

Langley Research Center's Alumni Association (LAA) will hold its annual Covered Dish Supper at 5 p.m. **July 20** in the H.J.E. Reid Conference Center. Members are asked to bring their favorite dishes; beverages will be provided. For reservations or more information, call 864-7330.

Honor Awards Ceremony Aug. 13

Langley Research Center will host its annual Honor Awards Ceremony at 2 p.m. **Aug. 13** in the H.J.E. Reid Center.

Presentations will be made to eight teams and 37 individuals for various honor awards. Recipients of the 2003 H.J.E. Reid Award, the Paul F. Holloway Non-Aerospace Technology Transfer Award and the Richard T. Whitcomb Aerospace Technology Transfer Award also will be recognized.

All NASA employees and contractors are invited to attend. For more information, call Karen Ridlon at 864-3194.

Blood Drive On July 21

The American Red Cross will host a blood drive on **July 21** in Langley Research Center's gymnasium. Langley employees, contractors and retirees are invited to participate. Civil servants should charge their time to "Excused Leave."

Future blood drives are scheduled on **Sept. 15** and **Nov. 24.** For more information, contact Connie Small at 864-2564 or <Connie.J.Small@nasa.gov>.

Volunteers Needed To Stuff Bags

Langley Research Center's Public Services Office is recruiting volunteers to help stuff educator bags for three state fairs. Sessions are scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. **July 27-28** in the Pearl Young Theater. Refreshments will be provided. Similar sessions will be held **Sept. 8-9** in Bldg. 1212. To volunteer, call Jeane Shanks at 864-3293.

J-Lab Hosting Summer Physics Fests

Jefferson Lab will host "Summer Physics Fests" from 10 a.m. to noon **July 28, Aug. 11** and **Aug. 25** in the CEBAF Center auditorium in Newport News.

The Physics Fests, designed for families and student groups, include an interactive summary of the research conducted at the Jefferson Lab followed by the popular "Deep Freeze" and "Hot Stuff" presentations.

The presentations are free and open to the public, but reservations are required. For reservations or more information, contact Stacy Ring at 269-7560 or <ring@jlab.org>.

Soccer Club Hosts Weekly Games

Langley Research Center's Soccer Club hosts co-ed games after work every Tuesday and Thursday. All levels are welcome; players are asked to bring a white T-shirt and a dark T-shirt for ease of team identification.

For more information or to be added to the Soccer Club's e-mail list, contact Mahyar Malekpour at 864-1513 or visit the club's web site: <http://larc-exchange.larc.nasa.gov/lea/soccer/>.

ODU Offering New Aero Course

Old Dominion University will offer the course, AE 684 "Virtual and Synthetic Environments and Applications," in the 2004 fall semester.

For more information, call the aerospace engineering department at 683-3720 or visit: <http://www.aee.odu.edu/consortium/index.html>.

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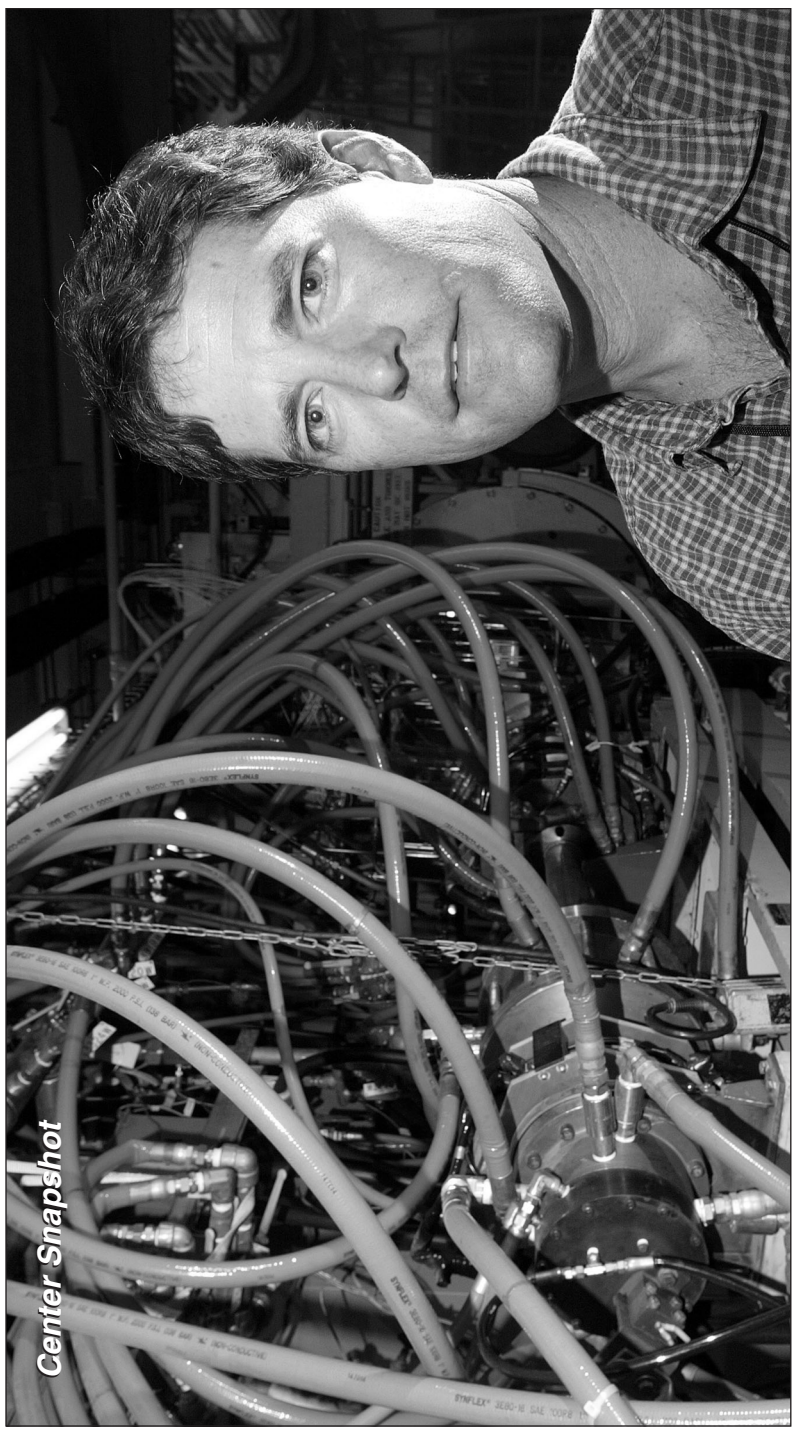

Photo by Jeff Caplan

Ken Rock, a Baltimore native who now lives in York County, earned bachelor's and master's degrees in mechanical engineering from the University of Florida and started working at NASA in 1990. He is currently assigned to Langley Research Center's Hypersonic Airbreathing Propulsion Branch, working on X-43A, X-43C and a scramjet engine demonstrator for the U.S. Air Force. In his free time, he enjoys participating in youth sports with his two children. What does he like about working at Langley? "I absolutely love working with the people," he says.