THE AMES Astrogram
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION
AMES RESEARCH CENTER, MOFFETT FIELD
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McDonald recommits Ames to ISO 9001

Requests that Center researchers "say it, do it, prove it"

With the results of the recent ISO 9001 preassessment audit in hand, Center Director Henry McDonald took a bold and, perhaps, unprecedented step. Before an audience of Center managers, supervisors, team leaders and contactor site managers, he made a powerful statement delineating his strong personal support for ISO. He also directed assistance from all elements of the Center to the certification efforts, reiterating the commitment of Ames' entire senior management team to attaining centerwide ISO certification by April 1999.

While McDonald left no doubt about the high priority Ames is placing on ISO certification, Deputy Director William Berry announced a series of organizational assignments and task teams to ensure that this priority is powerfully reflected in Center actions over the coming months.

McDonald began by differentiating between programmatic and institutional requirements, and spoke of the need to attain balance between the two. He said that, programmatically, research excellence will always be the driving force at the Center. However, he acknowledged, in the wake of civil service downsizing and subsequent staff overload, it is essential for senior management to provide direction in the institutional area by establishing priorities.

First and foremost, McDonald said is the safe operation of the Center — in all of its manifestations. "There can be no compromises" in this area, he said, announcing that a new Ames directorate-level office, Code Q, is being established with safety, mission assurance and the environment as its primary focus.

The second level of institutional priority, according to McDonald, is maintaining information technology security and implementing ISO. The threat of hacker damage is "enormous," said McDonald, and penetration of computer systems "can create tremendous havoc." It is vital, therefore, that Ames lead in efforts to protect Agency computers from inappropriate external access. But equally important, McDonald said, is the critical need to fully implement ISO processes and standards at the Center.

Why is ISO so important to Ames Research Center? McDonald offered several reasons. But first he chose to emphasize what ISO is not. It is not "just another flavor of the month," he said, "not just another management exercise" or "administrative mandate." On the contrary, he suggested, "there are real benefits to be obtained from ISO." The use of standardized procedures can lead to significant cost savings, he observed, that Ames can pass back to scientists to fund additional research efforts.

> *"The Center can achieve its certification goal if we increase and focus our efforts."*
>
> *-- Center Director Henry McDonald*

McDonald said that, when he spoke to Kennedy Space Center Director Roy Bridges, his counterpart acknowledged that while ISO implementation "was a tremendous effort, we are seeing significant benefits" as a result. McDonald concluded by saying that "ISO is something we must do — yes. But it is something we can get real benefit from, too!"

ISO is important because it shows both Ames' customers and Headquarters that we are a responsible Center committed to a quality management system, according to McDonald. "Getting certified" can be viewed as a real "measure of management efficiency at the field centers," he acknowledged. Not to do so might well result in severe penalties for non-complying centers, with such centers possibly not being considered qualified to hold lead center roles. "A major effort is required between now and next April," McDonald acknowledged, to ensure ISO certification at Ames, but the key first step is "to get Center researchers on board" with the process.

"The Center can achieve its certification goal if we increase and focus our efforts," McDonald said. It is essential that we "accelerate implementing the Quality System" at Ames so that we can "be ready for the next and last pre-assessment audit scheduled for November 16-20," he concluded. And that is precisely what he committed the Center to do.

Following McDonald, Berry provided additional information regarding the recent Ames pre-assessment audit. While the audit looked at just a few Center organizations, he said, "the bottom line is that we did not pass, and we will not pass if we continue as we are currently going." Consequently, he announced a series of moves designed to ensure that Ames makes the commitment to ISO that is needed for certification.

Ron Johnson, currently on assignment at the Director's office, was named ISO Executive Representative reporting directly to Center management. Johnson is experienced in ISO certification matters having led recent successful efforts for the Centers' wind tunnels and simulators. In addition, new "tiger teams" in the areas of documentation and auditing were announced with Mike Hines and Bob Hogan as their respective heads. Rick Serrano will continue to manage the Center's ISO 9001 project office to ensure that all ISO 9001 elements are incorporated into the Center's quality management system. Finally, directorates were told to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that their best and brightest work on and embrace ISO.

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

Sensors 2000! team praised for pioneering work

John Hines and his Sensors 2000! team at Ames Research Center were recently applauded for their collaboration with the Fetal Treatment Center at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) by Sherry Nicholson, a former surgery patient.

The Ames team has been working with their UCSF colleagues to improve the monitoring of mothers and their babies following fetal surgery. The team uses in situ sensors to transmit temperature and uterine contraction pressure readings to a radio receiver for easy monitoring.

Pediatric surgeons at the Fetal Treatment Center have pioneered a surgical procedure to treat fetuses suffering from diaphragmatic hernia and other congenital birth defects, such as CCAM (congenital cystic adenomatoid malformation of the lung). In such cases, a hole in the baby's diaphragm lets internal organs shift from the abdominal region into the chest cavity leaving insufficient room for proper lung development. Between 60 and 75 percent of babies born with this type of condition perish.

When surgery was done on Nicholson and her fetus, a commercially available wireless telemetry device was implanted and used to monitor the health of both mother and child after the procedure.

"I first learned of your work when I was recovering in the UCSF Medical Center from fetal surgery in January 1997," said Nicholson in a letter to Hines, head of the Sensors 2000! program. "One of your engineers came in a couple of times to wave his antenna 'wand' over me."

Baby Sean Phillip Nicholson

"The first time was shortly after surgery and I was not feeling great, so I didn't really care. But the second time I was pretty interested," she said. "My husband, Phil, and I are both engineers, so we asked a lot of questions to find out about the telemeter that had been placed inside our son, Sean, during the surgery."

She stayed in the hospital for five weeks after surgery, until her son's birth. Sean lived in the intensive care nursery at UCSF for 10 and a half weeks. "Unfortunately, his CCAM was not discovered until a significant amount of damage to his lungs had already taken place. We finally had to let our little guy go," Nicholson said.

Recently, UCSF surgeons have changed their surgical technique from a cesarean to an endoscopic method during which they use smaller incisions and tube-like devices to perform the corrective surgeries.

"Because there are no commercially available devices small enough to fit through the tubes used in the new endoscopic technique, the Sensors 2000! team recently developed an innovative, pill-shaped device that can pass through the tubes," said Mike Skidmore of the team. "This pill-shaped device can telemeter temperatures as well as the pressure of uterine contractions."

In her letter to Hines, Nicholson said "we thank you (NASA) for your work that helped make my fetal surgery possible." She went on to say "we (also) feel very indebted to Dr. Harrison and the UCSF Fetal Treatment Center for the precious time they gave us with our son."

To express their thanks and their belief in the work of the Fetal Treatment Center, the Nicholsons have established the annual Sean Phillip Nicholson memorial golf tournament to support the work of the UCSF doctors. That tournament, held recently at the Spring Valley golf course in Milpitas, is now in its second year.

BY JOHN BLUCK

McDonald recommits Ames to ISO 9001

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In simple terms, ISO certification requires compliance with a three-step process — "say it, do it, and prove it." At Ames, we have done a pretty good job of "saying it," according to ISO experts, but the Center must redouble its efforts in the other two areas. Further, while "we tried continuous improvement at Ames" in the past, Berry said, "we did it . . . backwards. You can't do it without a baseline to work and measure against," he said. "That is what we are now doing with ISO."

BY DAVID MORSE

Ames Intranet under development

A new Ames intranet web site is nearing completion. Known as "ARCWeb", the site will provide a convenient spot for staff to locate useful information to make their Ames work life a little easier. Anyone who has developed a web site which they would like to have linked to the Ames intranet web page, or anyone who would like to help test this site, please contact Janet Jarmann at ext 4-5607 or Samantha Edmonds at ext 4-4603.

Redesignation of Code DQ

The Safety, Environmental, and Mission Assurance Office, Code DQ, has now been redesignated to the directorate level as Code Q. This will enable the Director of Safety, Environmental, and Mission Assurance to operate at the executive level within Ames and at NASA Headquarters. This organizational change demonstrates the importance and dedication of ARC senior management to the Safety and Mission Assurance function. Warren Hall has been selected to be the director of the Code Q and Clifford Burrous to be the acting deputy director. Mr. Hall's office is in Bldg. N-218, Room 105B. He can be reached at ext. 4-5277 and his mail stop is 218-6. Mr. Burrous' office is in Bldg. N-218, Room 105C. He can be reached at ext. 4-4979. His mail stop is 218-6.

SHARP students energize Ames

photo by Roger Brimmer

Ames' 1998 SHARP Interns pose at the entrance of Bldg. N-200.

The wave of energy that swept through Ames Research Center this summer was not El Niño or some other natural phenomena. It was the SHARP summer high school students!

The Summer High School Apprenticeship Research Program (SHARP) is an intensive science and engineering apprenticeship experience designed to increase, strengthen and diversify the pool of students for mathematics, science and engineering college majors and careers. Students are competitively selected and represent San Francisco Bay Area high schools, from as close as Mountain View and as far away as Gilroy and Vallejo.

As in the previous eighteen summers, this year Ames was host to 30 high school juniors and seniors. The students spent their eight-week terms doing such projects as finding the best soaps for use on the Space Station, building parts for robots, and participating in Space Shuttle life science studies.

The mentors for whom the students worked willingly attest to the enthusiasm they brought to Ames' offices this year. "These are truly exceptional students," said Maricela Varma, Ames SHARP coordinator. "The competition to get into the program was so intense that we were turning away students with 4.0 GPAs."

To cite one example, Sandy Wu, worked in the Computational Sciences division, Code IC, under the mentorship of Helen Stewart. This summer both Wu and a DeAnza College program student Nicole Masjedizadeh were acknowledged for going beyond their normal work requirements by assisting in a program to make ISO procedures for all codes readily available to Ames personnel prior to the ISO 9001 pre-assessment audit. Wu and Masjedizadeh worked closely with Code DQA personnel, temporarily took on Code DQA's ISO pages, and implemented all of the documents in original and cross-platform formats from a server in the Computational Sciences division. They also linked them together to provide access for everyone at the Center. Wu assisted with writing Javascript, graphics creation and design input. She also helped in many other aspects to aid the Center's ISO effort. Other SHARP students made similar contributions to their assigned codes, thereby rewarding with their creative talents the Ames employees and contractors who took a chance and made the commitment to mentor these high school summer participants.

In addition to lab and work experience, SHARP students are offered career planning seminars and tours of local universities and research laboratories. This year's field trips included Stanford University, the Stanford linear accelerator and Ames' own fluid mechanics laboratory.

Anyone knowing of a high school student who might be interested in SHARP is advised that applications for next summer's SHARP program will be mailed to all local high schools by January 1999. Applicants must be completing their junior year, and must be US citizens with at least a 3.0 GPA in their math and science classes.

For more information, contact Maricela Varma at ext. 4-1808 or via e-mail at: mvarma@mail.arc.nasa.gov.

BY GEOFF LEE

History writers' workshop series

An Ames History writers' workshop series is being planned to bring together the many people writing about the history of NASA Ames.

Anyone actively writing on some facet of Ames history may present their article or chapter to the workshop. Any historical topic is welcome, written for any type of publication -- scholarly, popular, technical, or buff. All presenters should supply a relatively finished draft of their work, between 3,000 and 10,000 words in length.

Everyone is welcome to attend, but everyone attending should first read the paper under discussion. Authors will informally present their work in about 10 minutes and address the main theme and mechanics of the piece--publication plans, the research materials used, how the story is structured. A first commentator will start the discussion with a 10-minute analysis, leaving the rest of the time for comments from readers.

Anyone wishing to present a paper or learn more about this workshop, should notify Glenn Bugos of the NASA Ames History Project at ext. 4-2992 or email at historian@mail.arc.nasa.gov. Presenters should submit their papers by September 30. Copies of all papers and a workshop schedule will be available by October 7, at http://history.arc.nasa.gov.

Workshop meetings will start on October 21, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., at a location to be announced. Meetings will continue on Wednesday afternoons throughout the Fall.

BY GLEN BUGOS

Briefs

SOHO spacecraft contacted

Contact has been re-established with the European Space Agency (ESA)/NASA Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) spacecraft following six weeks of silence.

Signals sent this month through the NASA Deep Space Network (DSN) station at Canberra, Australia, were answered by SOHO in the form of bursts of signal lasting from two to ten seconds. These signals were recorded both by the NASA DSN station and the ESA station at Perth, Australia.

Contact is being maintained through the NASA DSN stations at Goldstone, CA; Canberra; and Madrid, Spain.

Although the signals are intermittent and do not contain any data information, they show that the spacecraft is still capable of receiving and responding to ground commands.

NASA seeks proposals for Future-X

NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, AL, has issued a NASA Research Announcement soliciting proposals for "Future-X," the first in a continuous series of flight demonstrations to validate technologies beyond those contained in the X-33 and X-34 technology demonstration programs. Proposals are due by Oct. 1.

The NASA Research Announcement calls for proposals for flight demonstrations of emerging technologies that require flight as a critical step in validating and maturing the technology. The technologies will be focused on substantially reducing the cost of space transportation.

NASA may postpone deployment of Mars Global Surveyor antenna

Concern over the deployment mechanism for the high-gain communication antenna on the Mars Global Surveyor spacecraft has caused NASA managers to consider postponing the antenna's deployment in order to maximize the probability of mission success.

The project team is studying a postponement of up to nine months in the antenna deployment, which currently is scheduled to take place in March 1999. The spacecraft, now in orbit around Mars, uses the undeployed high-gain antenna to communicate with Earth, but the entire spacecraft must be turned to point the antenna toward Earth during each communication session.

"We have not made any decisions yet, but we want to take a conservative approach in order to protect the mission as fully as possible," said Glenn E. Cunningham, Mars Global Surveyor project manager at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), Pasadena, CA. "A delay in the antenna deployment would reduce the flow of imagery and science data somewhat, but we have some ideas about how to compensate for that."

New student work program really "fits the bill"

Kathie Cherland, (right), program assistant and Teryn Dalbello, (left), an aeronautical and mechanical engineer undergrad from U.C. Davis demonstrating aero research work done for Larry Carr.

photos by Tom Trower

From left to right: Vic LeBacqz, Program Mgr, Aviation Systems Capacity; Frank Aguilera, Assistant Mgr, Advanced Tiltrotor Technology Office; Wendy Holforty, PhD student at Stanford developing flight test results for Frank Aguilera and John Zuk; and Dr. William Warmbrodt, Chief of Aeromechanics.

Ames researchers and managers can now take advantage of an exciting new student work program specifically designed with their needs in mind. The program permits students and faculty, known as Educational Associates (EAs), to be brought on board to complement existing personnel in a flexible, cost-effective and productive manner.

EA candidates may be at any level and from any accredited 4-year college or university in the United States. They can be given variable appointments from 2 to 12 months, may be full or part time, and can start at any time during the fiscal year. Ames sponsors may select qualified EA candidates from a variety of sources including the project's web site, from referrals or from their own contacts. The options are virtually unlimited!

And, almost as important, the costs to sponsors are well within the manageable range. For example, a full-time student enrolled in a BS program will cost their Ames sponsor $1,800 per month, whereas a PhD student can be brought on board for a monthly charge of $2,520. Costs for part-time student workers are proportionately lower; the fee for a post-doctoral or faculty fellow is subject to negotiation.

To celebrate the new program, 25 students and 3 faculty members were honored as the first Education Associates "class" during a recent luncheon at the Moffett Training and Conference Center ballroom. Three students made presentations, and six gave demonstrations and poster-board sessions to highlight some of the significant technical accomplishments achieved by project participants to date. The attendance of more than 120 Ames personnel attests to the level of interest in this new way of partnering to serve both educational and research interests.

Indeed, the new program was uniformly praised by top management from participating organizations. Ames' Deputy Center Director William Berry said "this is a new beginning, the kick-off of a program which has a tremendous potential for the future." University of California at Santa Cruz Chancellor MRC Greenwood expressed her belief that "partnerships such as this provide incredible research and educational opportunities. I sincerely believe that this will be a model and catalyst for many other partnership efforts." While CalSpace Deputy Director, Michael Wiskerchen, chose to emphasize the power and effectiveness of "the student/mentor model" as the best way "to transfer ideas, technology and training."

Catherine Schulbach, a mentor and EA sponsor in Code D, said that the Education Associates program is "easy to use and cost effective." She said, "we've really been very pleased with the quality of the Associates, in terms of technical skill, motivation, enthusiasm, creativity, and ability to get in and solve problems." And EA students seem equally delighted with the Ames experience. "When I tell friends I'm working at NASA, they go Whoa!!," said Allen Victor. "Plus, I'm getting programming experience in Fortran 77, C++ and Java. It's great!"

Even though the program has just started, Ames EA program manager Marion Hansen observed that it has already demonstrated the benefit of "strengthening collaborative relationships." Hansen said that "the program's key feature is the flexible options it provides for both Education Associates and Ames sponsors alike. We want the program to have a broad user community," he added. "We will modify it and evolve to meet the needs of both the Ames user community and student and faculty participants."

Hansen said that he has received cooperation from other Ames education program leaders, and he pointed out that the

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NASA air traffic control software to yield huge savings

Almost a billion dollars could be saved annually when award-winning air traffic control software developed by NASA is in use nationwide at major airports and enroute centers.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has chosen the software for implementation at major airports and estimated its use could save as much as $800 million per year.

"The air traffic software is in daily use at Dallas-Fort Worth, the world's busiest airport," said Heinz Erzberger, senior scientist for air traffic management here at Ames. "The software saves an average of two minutes per flight, saving money for airlines and passengers."

Officially called "Center TRACON Automation System Software," or CTAS, it includes two software tools for managing air traffic. They are Traffic Management Advisor and the Final Approach Spacing Tool that assist air traffic controllers with airplanes enroute and at terminals. TRACON is Terminal Radar Approach Control.

Traffic Management Advisor helps traffic managers establish a flow rate of air traffic that closely matches the capacity of an airport. The Final Approach Spacing Tool provides suggested landing sequences and runway assignments to minimize delays, and it increases landing rate by about 10 percent during critical traffic rushes. An advanced version of the spacing tool, now being developed, will provide speed and heading advisories to help controllers space air traffic accurately on final approach, further increasing capacity.

"Cost to the FAA of implementing the first two tools is about $600 million over an eight-year period, an effort that began in 1996," said Erzberger. He was the originator of the CTAS automation concept. CTAS is to be installed in 22 major airports and 15 enroute centers. These centers control air traffic above 10,000 feet.

The Traffic Management Advisor software in operation at Fort Worth air route Traffic Control Center.

In 1991, the CTAS project began at Ames. An early version of the system is in daily use at Denver, Los Angeles, Hartsfield-Atlanta and Miami international airports.

"The entire CTAS effort is a successful partnership among NASA, the FAA, its controllers and contract companies," said Michelle Eshow, CTAS software development group leader at Ames. "The software design is flexible enough that we can add new tools without extensive re-writing of computer code," she added.

The CTAS software, developed under the direction of Eshow, was recently named co-winner of NASA's 1998 Software of the Year Award.

"CTAS is like a 'windows' computer environment. CTAS enables the addition of many more air traffic controller tools beyond the first two," Erzberger explained.

"About 70 people at Ames are working on the continued evolution and research and development of the CTAS software and concepts," he said. One new tool now being developed is Descent Advisor. "It improves fuel efficiency of aircraft descents into large airports," Erzberger said.

CTAS tools are designed to be "human centered" because the tools advise controllers, who retain full control over decisions. CTAS also adapts to controller actions and unplanned events. It refreshes trajectories and advisories every 4 to 12 seconds with each radar update as well as with each controller input.

CTAS software now includes more than 500,000 lines of computer code, written in C and C++ languages. The software runs on a network of high performance workstations.

To learn more about NASA software, other innovations, commercialization efforts and the agency's technology transfer programs, interested parties can call 1-800-678-6882 or access the Ames Commercial Electronic Technology Network web page at URL: http://ctoserver.arc.nasa.gov/

BY JOHN BLUCK

New student work program really "fits the bill"

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new program complements those already in place. For example, Foothill-DeAnza interns can naturally transition into the EA Program if they choose to go on to a 4-year college.

To date, 17 "partner schools," all members of the California Space Grant Consortium, have provided founder support. They have set up coordinating mechanisms to ensure that the EA program works effectively. These schools include 9 UC campuses (Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz), 4 California State campuses (Cal Poly SLO, Long Beach, San Diego and San José), and 4 private universities (Caltech, Santa Clara, Stanford and USC).

A new brochure entitled, "Tap Higher Education," is available to show Ames personnel how they can "team up with students and faculty" as Education Associates. In addition, information can be obtained online at: http://edassoc.arc.nasa.gov

The Education Associates program is being conducted cooperatively with the California Space Grant Consortium. It has been developed and is being managed by UC Santa Cruz Extension. The UCSC onsite manager is Donna Zetterquist. She can be contacted in Ames Building 19, room 1091, at ext. 4-6543, or via e-mail at: dzetterquist@mail.arc.nasa.gov. Ames program manager Hansen, can be reached at: mhansen@mail.arc.nasa.gov or at ext. 4-1990. In addition, e-mail can be sent to the Education Associates Office at: edap@mail.arc.nasa.gov. Interested parties may contact any of the principals to make arrangements to obtain an Education Associate or to get additional program information.

BY DAVID MORSE

Women's Equality Day recognized

In celebration of Women's Equality Day on Wednesday, August 26, Ames invites all employees to visit the Equal Opportunity (EO) Programs Office video library building N-241 Room 139 to reserve the video entitled "Equality: A history of the Women's Movement in America." This video is a fascinating story of the origins and successes of the women's rights movement depicting the issues and events from colonial times up through the 90s. Also, stop by and view the educational women's equality display in Bldg. N-241 and pick up a free "Living a Legacy" bookmark as well.

Women's Equality Day was established in 1974, when Congress designated August 26 as the anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution. The text of the Suffrage Amendment is startling in its simplicity: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

On August 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution gave women in this country the right to vote. Annual observances of the anniversary of women's suffrage have taken place since 1970, with marches, rallies, protests, and educational programs held on August 26.

In 1971, Rep. Bella Abzug (Dem.-NY), introduced a Congressional resolution to designate August 26 as Women's Equality Day in recognition of the anniversary of suffrage and of women's continued efforts toward equal rights. The measure was passed by the House and Senate and signed by the President. In the years since then, the resolution has been introduced and passed each year by both Houses and the President.

The status of women and their participation in the political and social life of this country has improved significantly. More women are becoming educators, administrators, engineers, executives and scientists—they are finding their talents, making

their opportunities and getting the most out of them.

Women's Equality Day at Ames is a joint project of the Ames Advisory Committee for Women, the South Bay Chapter of Federally Employed Women and the Equal Opportunity Programs Office.

BY ANGELA BRUMFIELD

Another reason to work out at the Ames Fitness Center

If you have not visited the Ames Fitness Center recently, come try out the new equipment at the facility. The Paramount work stations provide a variety of options that will exercise almost every part of the body. The cable crossover unit is particularly good for shoulder therapy exercises. The leg press is designed to adjust for any body type and is a common piece of equipment used for knee therapy. Other stations will work the chest, stomach, back, calves, and shoulders. The pulley and cam technology incorporated by Paramount provides a smooth, well-leveraged, range of motion on all lifts. For health and fitness the American College of Sports Medicine recommends a well-rounded training program that includes aerobic training, resistance training, and flexibility exercises. The staff at the Ames Fitness Center are highly qualified to put together an exercise program that will work for you. In addition to the paramount equipment, the Ames Fitness Center has Nautilus, Maxicam and free weight lifting equipment. Treadmills, Lifecycles, rowing and step machines are available for cardiovascular work outs. There are no fees for contracter, retired or federal employees to use the Fitness Center (building 221), but a medical clearance form is required to be on file at the Fitness Center before taking the classes or using the facility. For additional information, contact the Fitness Center at ext. 4-5804.

photo by Tom Trower

Newly acquired Paramount work stations at the Ames Fitness Center.

BY NANCY DUNAGAN

Weight Watchers at work

The next ten-week session of Weight Watchers at Work begins on Monday, September 14 at 11:30 a.m. in the Ames Cafe's Galileo Room.

An Open House will be held for prospective members on Monday, August 31, at 11:30 a.m. in the Galileo Room.

Meeting dates for this session are:

Monday, Sept. 7	holiday - no class
Monday, Sept. 14	1st Class
Monday, Sept. 21	2nd Class
Monday, Sept. 28	3rd Class
Monday, Oct. 5	4th Class
Monday, Oct. 12	5th Class
Monday, Oct. 19	6th Class
Monday, Oct. 26	7th Class
Monday, Nov. 2	8th Class
Monday, Nov. 9	9th Class
Monday, Nov. 16	10th Class

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 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.

Native American Advisory Committee Meeting, Aug 25, 12 noon to 1 p.m., Ames Café. POC: Mike Liu at ext. 4-1132.

Ames Bowling League Captains Meeting on Sept. 1, 5:30pm, at Palo Alto Bowl. In need of team and substitute bowlers. Season starts Sept 8 at 6 p.m. at Palo Alto Bowl. POC: Mina Cappuccio at ext. 4-1313.

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

Hispanic Advisory Committee for Employees, Sept 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, Sept 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, Sept 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, Sept 4, at the Elk's Club, 44 W. Alma Avenue, San Jose. Social hour: 10:30 a.m. Program & business mtg. follow lunch at 11:30 a.m. POCs: Mrs. Leona Peery, President, (650) 967-9418 or Earl Keener, Public Relations, (408) 241-4459.

Ames Sailing Club Meeting, Sept 10, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., N-262/Rm. 100. POC: Greg Sherwood at ext. 4-0429.

Ames Multicultural Leadership Council Meeting, Sept 16, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Galileo Rm./Ames Café. POC: David Morse at ext. 4-4724 or Sheila Johnson at ext. 4-5054.

NFFE Local 997 Union General Meeting, Sept 16, 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, Sept 17, 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, Sept 17, 12 noon, N-260/Conf. Rm. POC: Walt Miller, AJ6T at ext. 4-4558.

Professional Administrative Council (PAC) Meeting, Oct 8, 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

Room for rent in 2 bd/1ba house in Mtn View. No pets, N/S only. $540/mo + utils & dep. Available 9/1. Bruce (650) 969-4118.

For rent: 2bd/1ba condo in Mtn. View. 1 car garage, W/D, backyard, 6 month lease. $1,400/mo + $1,000. dep. Available 9/1. Liz (408) 730-0175.

Looking for roommate to share 2 bd/1ba apt. with in S'vale. Near Mary/El Camino. Pay half the rent and utils. Available 9/1. Barrie (408) 736-8961.

Housing wanted: Temporary housing from Oct 1 through Dec. 31 for a visiting researcher. Reasonable rates preferred. Contact K. Kato, at ext. 4-5218 or D. Blake, at ext. 4-4816.

Room for rent in house in Blossom Valley area of San Jose. Spacious room w/own bath, kitchen privileges, W/D, storage, own phone line, N/S, no pets, easy access to Hwy 85. $550/mo, includes PG&E and water. Carolyn (408) 972-5920.

Room for rent in Cupertino, utils, furnished, private bath and laundry privileges, $600 rent & $300 dep. Available now through December. Call (408) 252-0488.

Transportation

'76 Porsche 911S Coupe: 72K mls. Suffers from too much deferred maintenance. A "project" car. Sold "as is" for $4,900. John (650) 326-1344 or email at: jmd001@aol.com

'86 Oldsmobile Calais 4-door sedan, 75034 mls. $1,000 or B/O. Call after 5:30 p.m. Call (650) 966-8426.

'87 Toyota Camry, 4dr Sedan, 4 cyl, auto, AC, 98K mls, clean, orig. owner, $4,400 or B/O. Call (408) 253-8473.

'88 Cadillac Eldorado Biarritz, Gold Series. Fully loaded,125K mls asking $6,900 or B/O. Bob (408) 736-4039.

'90 Ford Bronco II, 2dr, tan, XLT, A/C, automatic, cass., roof rack, pwr windows, crs cntrl, exc. cond, orig. owner, 89K mls, $4,500. Paul (408) 919-2933.

'91 Chevy K2500 3/4 Ton 4X4 ext cab, 44K mls, V8-350, auto, pwr steer/brk, A/C, skid plates, gauges, etc, orig owner. $10,800. Call (408) 749-8505, after 7 p.m.

'93 Honda Accord Ex, 77K mls., A/T, power windows/locks, sunroof, security system and lots of extras. Exc. cond., asking $14,000 or B/O. Call (209) 545-9543.

'96 Jeep Wrangler, immaculate condition, upgraded tires & Alpine CD stereo. asking $13.5K Call (408) 464-3036.

Miscellaneous

New in the box countertop microwave oven with grill element by KitchenAid. Half price at $216. Bought wrong type; needed a mountable oven. Hobart countertop industrial mixer with attachments. $275. Free king size bed with frame. Gary (650) 254-0614.

Sony white, cordless phone, model SPP-55, 10# memory. Works fine. $25. Call (408) 295-2160.

LaMotte soil test kit, all you need for testing pH, nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. Used twice. $20. Call (650) 988-6675.

Two five-year-old kitties need good, stable home. Clean, indoor cats with very loving personalities. Call (408) 464-3036.

Scuba set Octo, BCD, tank, lbs, fins, exc. cond., $760. Surfboard w/gorilla grip, 6'2" T&C, great cond., $175. Danny (650) 938-2958.

Scuba gear: Aluminum tank - 67 cu. ft., scubapro regulator with oceanic octopus, S.P.G with compass, B.C. with integrated weights. Call (408) 245-8740. Lv msg if no answer.

Twin size "Captains" bed, w/mattress, oak, $100. Call (650) 941-2784 eves.

51 cm. road bicycle, pro-quality Vitus 979 frame, Shimano and Suntour components. Exc. cond., very lightweight, $250. Roger (650) 965-2666.

'96 Sea-Doo XP with Trailer, 110 hp., with many extras, very low hours, $4900. Must see. Call (510) 582-9248.

Toy poodles/AKC; 1 male cream color $500; 1 female cream color $550; 1 female black color $550. Alice (707) 837-2734.

Mahogany book shelf; entertainment center (black); 31' JVC TV (nearly new); Trek mountain bike and a Peugeot touring bike. Call (408) 464-3036.

Picture frame curio cabinet, cherrywood, mirrored back, $200; stuffed futon loveseat couch, white, $150; Aerobic rider, $125; Nishiki 16" Crossbike, Shimano Deore XT upgraded, $200. Will consider B/O on all items. Call (408) 249-5180 early morning or late eves.

1920s in-wall, full-height hutch. w/three upper cabinets, spice drawers, cutting board and lower drawers. Victim of remodel. $100. Call (408) 295-2160.

Wanted: microwave, cube refrig, VCR, 13" TV for college student. Call (408) 257-3175.

Free cast-iron, floor-standing laundry sink. You come get it. Call (408) 295-2160.

Help: Plant & catsitting needed for week- and month-long stints over next year. Can rent for the longer spells. Mt View near Middlefield and Rengstorf. Jeff (650) 964-0496.

'90 Raleigh Technium racing/road bicycle, low miles, very good cond., B/O; older Peugeot road bike, gd cond., B/O. Call (408) 776-0391.

Vacation rental

Houseboat for rent on "Trinity" Lake in No. CA (Claire Engle Lake). Sleeps 8, kitchen, bathroom w/shower. Floating heaven. $1,200 week. After Sept 9, $850 per week or $480 for 3 days (until October). URL site: www.wildhorses.com/houseboat.html or email at: pam@wildhorses.com

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 from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Ruth ext. 4-5247 or (415) 681-2176.

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, Aug 24	*Fri, Sep 4*
Mon, Sep 7	*Fri, Sep 18*
Mon, Sep 21	*Fri, Oct 2*
Mon, Oct 5	*Fri, Oct 16*
Mon, Oct 19	*Fri, Oct 30*
Mon, Nov 2	*Fri, Nov 13*

September 10 Blood Drive set

Ames will be hosting a Blood Drive in conjunction with the Red Cross on September 10. The Blood Drive will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Ballroom of Building 3, the Moffett Training and Conference Center. Mark this date and time on your calendar to donate.

Why donate blood? Patients need your gift of life. Each day, 250 donors must give blood in order for the Red Cross to meet the needs of patients at 27 hospitals in Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Monterey, San Benito, Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

Your single donation may be separated into several blood products to help treat up to 4 different patients. Red cells are used for anemia, kidney dialysis, and surgery. Plasma helps burn victims, and those in shock. Platelets are used to help leukemia and cancer patients and those undergoing surgery. Cryoprecipitate is used to treat patients with hemophilia.

Each day, thousands of patients need blood. By donating blood regularly, you help ensure that there is always a supply when it's most needed. So how about sharing your good health. Join the most important team of all – the lifesavers!

All medically eligible donors are invited to participate in this life-giving process. Registration will be made via the World Wide Web. To make an appointment, please go to the location site: http://dq.arc.nasa.gov/dqh/blooddonation.htm click on Register Now To Give Blood , choose a time slot and you are done.

If for any reason you are unable to register on the web, Medical Services personnel will personally register you. For more information on the blood donation process, please contact Chaz Czaplicki at ext. 4-6942.

American Heart Association to sponsor 5K walk/ run at Ames

The American Heart Association (AHA) is sponsoring a 5K (3.1 miles) walk/run and 10K (6.2 miles) run on September 20 here at Ames. The AHA is planning for more walkers, but some serious runners will also be there.

The walk/run is scheduled to start at 9:00 a.m. from Hangar One and will loop the runway.

Instead of paying to run, a participant collects donations for the AHA and turns those in before the run.

Information can be picked up on this upcoming event in the hallway at the fitness center.

This is a great family activity where one can get the kids out there and get them excited about running. And everyone will be contributing to a good cause.

Professional Admin Council picnic to be held

The Professional Admin Council would like to invite all the Secretaries/Admin staff to our Second Annual Summer BBQ on September 17 at Chase Park, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Civil servants and contractors are welcome. Please RSVP by September 3. POC: Sandra Owen at ext. 4-5062 or Janette Rocha at ext. 4-3371.

THE AMES Astrogram

The Ames ASTROGRAM is an official publication of the Ames Research Center, National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Managing Editor.....David Morse
Editor.....Astrid Terlep

THE AMES Astrogram

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