

Professional secretaries group to install officers on August 27

Administrative Support personnel at Kennedy Space Center have an opportunity to keep current with ever-changing requirements in their profession by joining an organization being offered for the first time on center.

The Space Coast Chapter of Professional Secretaries International (PSI), which held its first meeting in June, serves to keep secretaries up to date on business trends and technology and to strengthen the image of the profession.

Officers of the KSC chapter will be installed Aug. 27 at 9 a.m. at the Mission Briefing Room in the Operations and Checkout Building.

Supervisors, senior management and all NASA and contractor secretaries are invited to attend the reception.

Peggy Parrish, chapter president, said her goals for the KSC chapter are to enhance the image of all office support professionals

through educational seminars, networking, and the Certified Professional Secretary (CPS) program.

Other officers are Karen Jansma, vice president, and Sherry Russo, secretary.

The chapter, which meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. in Headquarters Room 2201, sponsors a variety of career-enhancing activities from training in leadership and presentation skills to participation in professional development courses and the opportunity to earn Continuing Education Units toward maintaining the Certified Professional Secretary certification.

Joy Colston, president of NASA's senior secretary council, said the affiliation offers wonderful opportunities for training, improvement and networking.

Civil service and contractor employees are welcome to join.

For more information contact Peggy Parrish at 867-7208.

Employees can take advantage of area theme park discounts

Kennedy Space Center employees can take advantage of the following specials at area theme parks:

DISNEY - Blizzard Beach Special - Admission price at Disney's newest water park for Sept. 7 or 8 is \$22.50 which includes a meal ticket and unlimited soft drinks from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Regular admission price without food or drinks is \$25.39. Tickets will go on sale at all NASA Exchange Retail Stores on Aug. 26.

UNIVERSAL - For the entire month of September, KSC em-

ployees and families can visit and enjoy Universal Studios for \$23/adults and \$18/children (ages 3-9).

Regular prices are \$38.50 plus tax/adult; \$31 plus tax/children. Tickets will go on sale at all NASA Exchange Retail Stores on Aug. 26.

SEA WORLD - For the entire month of October, Sea World tickets will be on sale in the NASA Exchange Retail stores for just \$25 (adult and children same price). Regular price for admission is \$39.95/adult and \$32.80/children. Tickets will go on sale Sept. 23.

Most KSC Rockwell employees to continue transition to USA despite Boeing purchase

Although The Boeing Company recently agreed to purchase Rockwell International Corporation's aerospace and defense units, most employees of Rockwell's Space Systems Division will continue transitioning this fall to another new venture - The United Space Alliance (USA).

Approximately 800 of the 1,100 Rockwell Space Systems employees at Kennedy Space Center will become USA employees on Oct. 1, said Bob Tucker, Rockwell spokesman. The remainder will become part of Boeing's new subsidiary, Boeing North American, Inc., sometime in November. Also joining the Boeing venture will be 130 Rocketdyne employees at KSC.

Boeing and Rockwell announced the agreement Aug. 1, under which Boeing will acquire nine Rockwell businesses for \$3.2 billion. The deal also includes 50 percent of USA which will be shared with Lockheed Martin.

Wilbur Trafton, NASA associate administrator for Space Flight, emphasized that the agreement will have no impact on discussions between NASA and USA in preparation for USA's transition to the role of single prime contractor for Shuttle operations.

"Negotiations with Kent Black (chief executive officer of USA) and his USA organization are continuing as planned. Finalizing the details of the Boeing/Rockwell merger will take several more months and we will of course pay close attention to areas that involve or impact NASA. It is still our hope and expectation to sign the Shuttle single-prime contract with USA in the October time frame," Trafton said in a statement.

Rockwell's Rocketdyne division prepares and processes the Space Shuttle main engines for launch. The Space Systems Di-

vision holds the KSC logistics contract and provides support engineering for the space center.

The sale will help Rockwell shift its emphasis to higher-growth commercial and international businesses, specifically the area of electronics, said Donald Beall, Rockwell chairman and chief executive officer. "Rockwell's automation, avionics and communications, semiconductor systems and automotive components businesses, leading global competitors with strong market positions, just got stronger," he said.

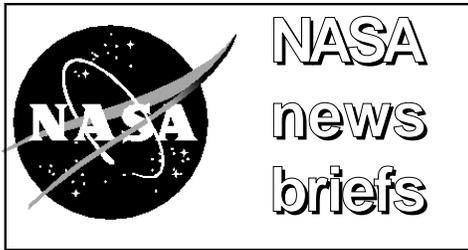
Phil Condit, Boeing president and chief executive officer, said, "The assets and capabilities we are acquiring are an extremely good strategic fit with our long-term objective of creating stockholder value. This merger accelerates us on our way to achieving our 20-year vision, which calls for Boeing to be a fully integrated aerospace company designing, producing and supporting commercial airplanes, defense systems, and defense and space systems."

Condit emphasized that the intention of the acquisition is to expand the company's business base and opportunities. He said he expects minimal impact on existing jobs.

"My desire," Condit said, "is to absorb any necessary employment adjustments through normal attrition and by retraining employees to take advantage of new business or career opportunities within Boeing. Both of our organizations have records of strong performance and we expect to learn best new practices that will bring increased product value to our customers."

Correction

A photo caption in the Aug. 2 edition of *Spaceport News* misidentified the school that will be participating in an internship program established by the Administration Office's University Programs division. Bethune Cookman College is the participating school.



KSC employee named to Clipper-Graham board

A KSC employee has been named to the five-member board appointed to investigate the recent post-landing incident involving the Clipper Graham (DC-XA) rocket.

Warren Wiley, deputy manager of launch integration is a member of the board chaired by former astronaut Vance Brand.

Brand presently is Assistant Chief of Flight Operations Directorate and Chief of Shuttle and Flight Support Office at NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center, Edwards, CA. Other members of the board are: George Hopson, Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, AL; Charles E. Harris, Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA; and Lt. Col. David Sharp, USAF Safety Center, NM.

The board anticipates submitting a final report in approximately two months.

On July 31, Clipper Graham successfully flew a two-minute, 20-second flight profile — the fourth in the current series — but tipped over and caught fire when one of four landing gears failed to deploy.

Agencies team up to improve aerial firefighting efficiency

In an effort to improve aerial firefighting safety and efficiency, NASA, the Bureau of Land Management, the USDA Forest Service and the Nevada Division of Forestry are cooperating to examine and evaluate aerial firefighting communications and the airspace structures over wildland fires.

The agencies also are evaluating an electronic Advanced Navigation Display System (ANDS), developed by NASA's Ames Research Center, Mountain View, CA, to aid aerial firefighters in their communications and operations.

"This project potentially will help aerial commanders direct their assault on a wildland fire by simplifying, standardizing and reducing their verbal communications," said Ames' Vernol Battiste, the project's principal investigator and a former air traffic

controller.

"Loss of situational awareness by pilots in high workload situations often has disastrous consequences," he said.

"Our research will assist firefighting agencies nationwide in identifying solutions that should reduce the cost of extinguishing fires and improve safety during aerial firefighting operations," added Battiste.

New cockpit weather system to enhance airline safety

A NASA-developed system that can provide pilots with up-to-date and easily accessible weather information is taking to the air.

NASA, United Airlines and McDonnell Douglas are evaluating a DC-10 equipped with an experimental cockpit weather system and other innovative technologies. The DC-10 is scheduled to fly a "show and tell" flight in the San Francisco area in mid-July and will then fly normal passenger-carrying service around the nation through September.

Weather plays a significant role in the efficiency of transportation aircraft.

Timely routing around hazardous weather increases the margin of safety between airplanes and potentially dangerous conditions, leading to significant operational cost savings, increased safety, and improved passenger and crew comfort.

To efficiently route aircraft around such conditions, pilots need the up-to-the-minute status of the weather along an aircraft's intended flight path.

Developed by Dr. Charles H. Scanlon at NASA's Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA, the Cockpit Weather Information (CWIN) system can provide flight crews with up-to-date graphical weather data in a more timely and easy to understand manner than current methods.

*Flight crews now receive in-flight weather updates in the form of voice or printed data, leaving them to assimilate information into a mental picture of the conditions near their intended path.

This is time consuming and may not present a clear or accurate picture.

Also, current radar readings can be limited by distance and blockages.

First welding experiment to fly on Shuttle tested

Astronauts went underwater recently

at NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, AL, to test procedures for the first welding experiment to fly on the Space Shuttle.

The experimental welder, scheduled to fly on the Shuttle next fall, may one day allow crews to make repairs to the International Space Station or other satellites while in space.

"We had a very successful test taking us a step closer to our goal of flying this experiment on the Shuttle next fall," said Carolyn Russell, Principal Investigator for the International Space Welding Experiment at Marshall.

The test, conducted in a large water tank known as the Neutral Buoyancy Simulator, evaluated mobility aids, foot restraints and hand holds necessary to perform the experiment in the Shuttle's cargo bay.

The test team also gauged the effectiveness of some new hardware, including a camera and a work station designed to accommodate different-sized astronauts.

NASA partners with FAA on propulsion systems

NASA has announced a partnership with the FAA and the U.S. aviation industry for a new program that will address the critical need to improve affordability and performance of U.S. light general aviation aircraft propulsion systems.

The General Aviation Propulsion (GAP) program was established to develop technologies and manufacturing processes for revolutionary, low-cost, environmentally-compliant propulsion systems and to flight-demonstrate these propulsion systems on advanced aircraft.

The focus is on the light general aviation aircraft which have six seats or less.

"New advanced propulsion systems are the key to tomorrow's affordable, user-friendly general aviation aircraft," said Leo Burkardt, manager of the GAP program at the Lewis Research Center, Cleveland, OH.

"According to a NASA Aeronautics Advisory Committee's General Aviation Task Force Report," Burkardt said, "replacing today's outdated light aircraft propulsion systems is perhaps the most important factor in helping to revitalize the light aircraft market."

This four-year, technology development program will be implemented through Cooperative Agreements with U.S. aviation industry. Two cooperative agreements are expected to be issued in October.

Position. . .

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subject to final approval by NASA Headquarters.

In her newly established position, Morgan will be responsible for insuring that KSC infrastructure and KSC operational procedures match improvements to the Shuttle flight systems.

Working agency-wide

In describing the position, Honeycutt said Morgan will be working closely with NASA Headquarters, the Johnson Space Center, the Marshall Space Flight Center and others to insure that proposed upgrades to the Shuttle will streamline the processing done at KSC for launch while maintaining the safety of flight.

Morgan, who will report to Honeycutt, said she will be working with all directorates at KSC as well as with Shuttle program leaders throughout the agency.

She said her initial focus will be on establishing good integration with designers in Houston, making sure planned improvements enhance Shuttle operability and reduce costs and that safety remains in the forefront.

Next to address are infrastructure improvements. This is a great opportunity for NASA engineers to get some hands-on experience in new systems, she said.

"From a practical standpoint the Shuttle will have flown 20 years by 2001. We're looking ahead at making changes in design and systems to improve efficiency while maintaining or improving safety in the years ahead," she said.

Specific KSC upgrade ideas will be examined during a strategy sessions next month, she said.

Morgan has served as director of the Safety and Mission Assurance Directorate at KSC for the past 2-1/2 years. During the previous 10 years, she worked in the Payload Processing Directorate, where she man-

aged payload projects and ground operations. During her more than 30 years in U.S. human space flight programs, Morgan contributed to the success of programs ranging from Mercury through the Space Shuttle.

Breakfield takes new role

As the new director for Safety and Mission Assurance, Breakfield will have overall responsibility for KSC's safety, reliability, maintainability, quality and mission assurance programs.

He has served as director, Payload Flight Systems at KSC since 1985.

Breakfield joined NASA in 1964 and was involved in KSC's development of real-time guidance and navigation data processing software for Saturn launch vehicles and Apollo launch data systems.

He has served as chief of the Shuttle Launch Processing Division, chief of the Shuttle Guidance, Navigation and Digital Systems Division and deputy director of Shuttle Engineering at KSC.

In his most recent assignment, Breakfield has been involved in coordination and planning of payload processing and engineering support for the Space Shuttle.

Experience awarded

In announcing the appointments, Honeycutt congratulated both KSC executives on their new assignments. "JoAnn Morgan is the ideal person to take charge of KSC activities in support of the Shuttle upgrade effort," he said. "Her long experience in project management and her recent leadership of our safety program are an ideal combination for successful support of this critical NASA initiative."

Honeycutt added: "Tom Breakfield is one of the most highly respected managers in the agency. His leadership will ensure continued success of the safety and mission assurance programs at KSC."

Royal visit



CROWN PRINCE Dipendra of Nepal visits with Center Director Jay Honeycutt on July 30. The prince and his party toured the Shuttle Landing Facility, the Orbiter Processing Facility, the Vehicle Assembly Building, Launch Pad A and the KSC Visitor Center.

O&C exercise facility to host open house

The exercise facility at the Operations and Checkout Building will celebrate the acquisition of top-of-the-line Cybex strength training equipment with an open house Aug. 30 beginning at 10:30 a.m.

In addition to adding new

equipment, KSC's original exercise facility has expanded with additional room for working out and an exercise room for aerobics classes.

All badged employees can use the exercise facilities with medical clearance.

Heart attack emphasizes importance of CPR

Thanks to the quick actions of two KSC employees trained in CPR, a third employee was recently resuscitated following a heart attack recently.

Capt. Larry Fallon of EG&G Fire Services commended Christy Matthews of EG&G and

Matt Atkinson of McDonnell Douglas for their immediate response and KSC firefighters who continued life saving efforts at the scene. Fallon said the incident stresses the benefits gained through proper use of the life-saving technique.



John F. Kennedy Space Center

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