



MAKING A DIFFERENCE!



Allison Whiteside, a Logicon/FDC contractor, supporting ACT-321 on the SOS-4 contract and the DSR ISMT team as a configuration management specialist, is making a **BIG** difference in

the Atlantic City community. As the head of the local chapter of Project Linus, Allison is giving the Atlantic City Medical Center, City Division (ACMC), hand-made blankets to comfort seriously ill and traumatized children.

Operation Linus began in December 1995 when Karen Loucks of Parker, CO, read an article in Parade Magazine about a little girl receiving chemotherapy treatments. The article mentioned the comfort she received from her blanket. Karen recruited some of her friends and began supplying blankets to children at a local cancer care center. To date, the all-volunteer Project Linus has delivered more than 265,000 security blankets to children around the world and has more than 250 chapters in the United States, with affiliate chapters in Canada and England.

Allison started the local chapter last year after reading an article about the project, which is named after the blanket-toting character in Charles Schultz's Peanuts comic strip. "There were no chapters at all in southern New Jersey, so I went on the Internet, found the 800 number for the national chapter headquarters in Colorado, and before I knew it I was starting a chapter," Allison explained. She is currently trying to

cover not only Atlantic County, but also three other southern NJ counties. As Allison explains, "There are so many children, and I want to reach as many of the children as I can!" Since she began her chapter, another was formed in Collingswood, NJ. There are now eight Project Linus chapters located in NJ.

She recruits "blanketeers" to make blankets through word of mouth and over the Internet. Allison explained that "Seven people helped me make the blankets for ACMC, most of whom I have never met face to face. There was an absolutely wonderful 90-year-old woman who mailed me seven blankets. A 15-year-old girl made a blanket with her mother and donated it." She said that her own mother, who lives in Vineland, NJ, helps with the loving project as well. "My mother crochets her blankets. I quilt mine."

Allison decided to give the first batch of blankets to ACMC City Division because it is home to the region's only Level II Trauma Center and to the region's only Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). The group donated 18 blankets, ranging from tiny covers for premature babies to bed-sized blankets for older children. "Because children who come to these units are often critically ill, ACMC was the most fitting place for us to begin our donations," Allison said. "In addition to me, my mother, sister, and my niece were all born at City Division, so we also had a personal connection to the hospital."

"Our patients and their families are so thankful for these gifts," said Margaret Belfield, administrator of ACMC City Division. "When a child is seriously injured or ill, it can be traumatizing not only for the child, but for the family as well. This compassionate gesture is helpful to the children and their families," said Belfield, who added that even the very youngest patients receive the handcrafted donations. "Parents

MAKING A DIFFERENCE CONT.



of babies in the NICU are so touched by the unique tiny blankets that cover their children. These gifts offer a special kind of support to the patients and families."

Project Linus needs more volunteers to help expand its donations to other local hospitals. Allison explains that "This would be a great project for church or school groups. Whether people want to make blankets or they have yarn or material to donate, we can use the help. Project Linus is so special because each blanket really is a handmade gift that reflects the care and concern of the blanketeer who crafts it. We want the child who receives it to know that someone made it especially for him or her."

If you are interested in donating blankets or materials, you can find more information about the Mays Landing chapter by e-mailing Allison at blankethugs@aol.com. To reach the national headquarters of Project Linus, dial 309-664-7814 or visit the national Project Linus website at www.projectlinus.org.

TSP CHANGES

Beginning May 1, 2001, employees will have five different Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) investment options. In addition to the C, F, and G Funds, the TSP has added the Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment (S) Fund and the International Stock Index Investment (I) Fund. For more information on these plans, visit the TSP web site at www.tsp.gov where you can download the new Guide to TSP Investments.

Employees will be able to allocate future contributions to any of the five funds during the TSP open season that will be held May 15 - July 31, 2001. Open season changes can be made using Employee Express or by submitting Form TSP-1, Election Form (to change the contribution amount or begin contributing) to your servicing human resource (HR) office and/or Form TSP-50, Investment Allocation (to change the fund allocation of future contributions) to the TSP Service Office. Employee Express can be accessed at www.employeeexpress.gov or by calling (800) 827-6289 or (478) 757-3084; TDD (888) 880-0412 or (478) 757-3117. The May 2001 version of Form TSP-1 will be available on the TSP web site prior to the beginning of open season or from HR. Form TSP-50 is also available from HR.

As of May 1, all current participants may make interfund transfers to move some or all of their current TSP account balance within any of the five funds. This can be done by requesting an interfund transfer through the TSP web site or ThriftLine at (504) 255-8777, or by submitting Form TSP-50, Investment Allocation to the TSP Service Office.



ITEA'S TECHNICAL INTERCHANGE PROGRAM

On January 30, the South Jersey Chapter of the International Test and Evaluation Association (ITEA) presented its first Technical Interchange Program. On the bill for the day were two topics: Using Java in Test and Evaluation and National Airspace System (NAS) Data Extraction Tools. The meeting was quite a success with a large turnout, including guests from NASA Ames. This newly reactivated organization is doing a good job of presenting a forum for the exchange of technical ideas on topics of interest to people involved with operational and independent test and evaluation and those working in research and development evaluation. The material presented for the day's topics scanned both those areas.

Java. It's hot, it's all over the web and it's here at the Tech Center too. Four people spoke about areas within the Center that have used Java. Some common threads that came through on the use of Java emphasized its portability, its applicability for use in distributed environments, its object-oriented aspect and the use of the CORBA standard, and the ability to generate web-based apps.

Mark Hanlon, who supports AOS-320 with JSA, led the Java topic. He used Java for a Radar Status Assessment Tool (RSAT), which was developed for AOS-320. This PC-based tool takes raw radar data as input from an operational LAN, performs user

specified filtering and analysis, and provides various graphical views of the resulting information. Mark also referenced a Eurocontrol website that uses Java to provide a training course and an online simulations of an interactive radar display. He pointed out the applicability of using Java apps over the Net to allow for easy distribution and evaluation of Computer Human Interface (CHI) formats.

Mark discussed how this process could facilitate the early involvement of people in an evaluation process without the need for costly travel. He also pointed out the ease of establishing a desktop development and testing environment for TCP/IP-based Java applications. Interface emulation via recording and play devices are easy to accomplish in a Java TCP/IP environment. Mark concluded his speech by offering the Center a suggestion to establish an Internet-based source code repository with time stamping services and recognition to contributors.

John Richards, of MiTech, was next up for Java with a presentation of the Aviation Integrated Reasoning Modeling Matrix (AIRMM). This system models many different aspects of the NAS and builds a knowledge database on the modeling results. This system incorporates Java and C++ applications on multiple platforms and makes use of High Level Ar-



From left to right: speakers Rich Zielinski and Rich Goelz.

chitecture design methods.

Wolf Pacheco, of Kinematica, supporting ACT-250 and SIGNAL Corporation, presented a success story about the Java-based system interface, the Translator Interface Adapter (TIA), for the FAA/NASA Surface Movement Advisor (SMA) prototype currently in operation at Atlanta's Hartsfield International Airport. TIA system is a product of the Free Flight Phase 1 (FFP1) Program. This interface will ensure that SMA continues receiving filter RADAR tracks and InterFacility data from the ARTS IIIIE over secured and dedicated telephone circuitry. This interface may be the model for future SMA system interfacing with Standard Terminal Automation Replacement System (STARS). The TIA has successfully been in operation 24/7 for the past 3 months and successfully passed the FAA conducted Site Acceptance Tests (SAT).

Sheryl Scherr presented Middleware software, developed in Java and using the CORBA interface standard, that takes Display

ITEA CONT.



From left to right: John Wiley, President, with speakers Wolf Pacheco, Mark Hanlon, and Sheryl Scherr.

System Replacement (DSR) messages obtained from a sniffer on the DSR token ring, parses and reformats them, and then broadcasts them to any subscribed listeners. It also records all the parsed messages in XML format for Data Reduction and Analysis (DR&A) purposes.

This software was originally developed for a human factors research study to evaluate controller situational awareness on the DSR displays. It is now a free-ware product of the Target Generation Facility (TGF)/ACT-510. The source code repository is available free to all at the Center.

Rich Goelz and **Rich Zielinski** of TITAN, spoke of a tool to provide NAS data extraction and analysis for multiple systems, e.g. En-route Host, STARS, TGF, and weather. The tool is PC-based and makes use of Microsoft Access as its database engine. It takes as input data, the output of

current operational DR&A tools, such as DART. The tool had its basis in the Y2K testing done at the Center, and was developed as a means to correlate data recorded on the many systems involved in the test to ensure consistency and correctness.

Once the tool reads the data and stores it in its database, information can be presented to the user as graphical plots, reports, or user specified composite files. The data of most interest is radar and tracking data. The output plots let the user see in a 2D or 3D graphical format the path of an aircraft. It provides, in a concise graphical format, information on an aircraft's altitude and movement on the X/Y plane of the system.

An enhancement that is in the works is to be able to overlay the geographical maps onto the X/Y plane. This would then allow seeing the path of the aircraft along with the fixes and vectors being

followed. The potential of this type of output to facilitate analysis of track data is enormous. This is definitely a concept that should be carried into the operational DR&A tool environment.

The evolution of the DR&A tools to take advantage of today's work environment with a workstation on every desk is something that should happen sooner than later. Not only is the technology available but the knowledge base exists right here and right now to make it happen.

The main message of this presentation was that software development has a place in the test and evaluation community and is not just the domain of system developers. Tools for simulation and to aid in data collection, reduction, and analysis are very important, if not critical, to the mission of the test and evaluation community and the environments of Java and desktop applications like Access provide a means to quickly develop them. A lot of people at the Center are involved in this aspect of test and evaluation working to improve on how things can be done and willing to try something new. So, if you have an idea on how to improve your test and evaluation environment, remember, the Center has the tools, the technology, and the people to make it happen.

GARVEY VISITS COE-GA PARTNER

TECH TRENDS 2000



Administrator Jane Garvey presents Dr. Bruce Smith with the Center of Excellence Award while ND Senator Byron Dorgan looks on.

Administrator Jane Garvey recently traveled to the University of North Dakota's (UND) John D. Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences to congratulate the school on their selection as one of the core universities participating in the FAA's new Air Transportation Center of Excellence for General Aviation (COE-GA). U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan said that the selection of the Odegard School "puts the school at the top of the list for federal research projects that will improve aviation safety. It also provides an opportunity to share the expertise of the talented faculty at UND."

Dorgan explained, that "I invited Jane Garvey to Grand Forks because I want to expand the opportunities that exist for the UND aerospace school to be engaged with the FAA to train air traffic controllers and be involved in a range of other FAA operations."

Gary Bartelson, Director of UND's ATC Program discusses the FAA Partnership and the Undergraduate ATC Program with Senator Dorgan and Jane Garvey.



While at the school, Garvey toured the Odegard School of Aerospace Sciences and met with city and airport officials about a range of transportation issues. With a looming pilot shortage in the U.S., as well as airport infrastructure and air traffic control systems strained to the limits, UND can play a significant and increasing role in helping the FAA resolve some of these issues.

"We feel that we are the premier flight training school in the country, and it is nice when someone else, especially the FAA, recognizes that we are the best," said Dr. Bruce Smith, Dean of the Odegard School. "This is a very significant award." As a Center of Excellence, the Odegard School joins a nationwide pool of professionals trained in aviation-related research who work to improve the national airspace system. Centers perform basic research as well as engineering development and prototyping for the FAA.

For additional information on the COE-GA or the COE program in general, please contact **Patricia Watts** (AAR-400) at (609) 485-5043.



Last month, Center employees participated in Tech Trends 2001 held at the Atlantic City Convention

Center. Participants at the symposium discussed federal research and development programs in such diverse areas as electronics and computers, medical and pharmaceutical research, aeronautics, space, national defense, security, energy and environmental technologies.

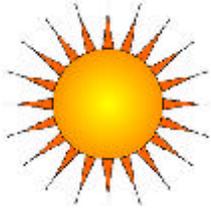


Congressmen Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ) and Frank LoBiondo (R-NJ) discuss aircraft fire safety with Gus Sarkos (AAR-400).

Congressman Frank LoBiondo moderated a panel on Technology Partnerships that included **Bruce Singer** (ACT-2), **Susan Hallowell** (AAR-500), **Pete McHugh** (ACT-1C) and **Gus Sarkos**.

A SAFETY MINUTE

FROM THE SAFETY OFFICE, ENVIRONMENTAL BRANCH (ACT-640)



Cooling Off the Heat

The clock strikes 1 p.m., the thermometer reads 98 degrees and you're steaming mad that you've spent 20 minutes working under the hood of your car with no success. The problem is that the starter quit (now there's an oxymoron) and the reality is that your going to be late for your 2 p.m. doctor's appointment which took you 2 weeks to get. As you contemplate the situation you begin to feel light headed, fatigued, and somewhat nauseated. You begin to wonder what's wrong?

What's wrong is you are feeling the effects of being under stress, in very warm temperatures.

And, that is causing you to display signs of heat exhaustion or possibly heat stroke. With the summer season almost upon us it is very important that you focus your attention on "cooling off the heat." To assist you in beating the heat we have listed a few simple but key points to follow:

- Pace yourself when first exposed to high external temperatures, to give the regulating system of your body a chance to work properly.
- Take regular breaks, in areas cooler than the area you are working in.
- Drink larger than usual amounts of fluids (not alcohol) to assist the normal body process of sweating and to replace lost fluids.

- Wear loose-fitting clothing unless you are working around rotating equipment, i.e., a fan belts.

In the scenario above, the fact that one is working in heated conditions, under the hood of a car, in the heat of the day, and with a high stress level increases the chances of being overwhelmed by the heat. Such a scenario is not unheard of. I'm sure you have heard of such situations in and around your community each summer. To that end, the Safety Office wishes to remind all employees to take heat stress seriously. By following some simple safety precautions, cooling off the heat will be a breeze!

Have A Safe Summer.

OOPS!



The eagle eyes of **Louis Berman** (ACT-370) found a few errors of omission in last month's *Intercom*. He accurately points out that in the story on page 7, *International Safe Skies For Africa*, "It is indicated that the visitors were given a flight demonstration. However, in the list of individuals being thanked the pilots of the Convair 580 were not mentioned. They were **Keith Biehl** and **Mark Ehrhart** of ACT-370. Also, our chief aircraft engineer **Armando Gaetano**, ACT-370, assisted in the flight demo." Our apologies to Keith, Mark, and Armando.

Louis also clarifies that on page 15, in the story *A Boeing 747SP Is Acquired*, we should have stated that this is a NON-FLYING aircraft. He explains that "In reality it was flown to the Center on a 'ferry permit,' de-registered as an aircraft, and is now a ground based test vehicle, not an aircraft (it just looks like one)."

NEWS FROM AROUND THE CENTER



Senator Jon Corzine (D-NJ), Dr. Anne Harlan (ACT-1) and John Wiley

(ACT-200) recently discussed NAS modernization during the Senator's first-ever visit to the Center. Corzine was briefed on the Center's mission and on the wide range of work being done at Center and by its many tenant organizations.

Apologies to **Judy Huggard-Gallagher** (AAR-530) and her husband **Chris Gallagher** (ACT-51). Last month we congratulated Judy and her husband on the birth of their new daughter, and regrettably we had both Chris's name and routing symbol incorrect.

Jaimi, daughter of **Kaye Jackson** (ACT-4) will be attending Drexel University in the fall. Jaimi's focus will be on Fashion Design and Merchandising - keep a look out for JJs designs.

Baby Beth Anne is proud of her daddy, **Pete Castellano** (ACT-4). Pete was recently elected to the Egg Harbor Township School Board. Those who know him tell us he has displayed, since childhood, a keen interest in U.S. history and the elected officials who have and continue to serve this country.

Buzz Cerino's (AAR-510) daughter Stephanie just received the Union League of Philadelphia Citizenship Award. She got straight A's this semester (but that's normal for her). She was also the only freshman in her school to receive a letter in 'Academic challenge' (the high school equivalent of GE college bowl).

Sheldon Brunk's (AAR-520) daughter Jennifer, a senior at Egg Harbor Twp. High School, has been accepted into the Honors Program at West Chester University, PA, for the fall term. Jen has been a real

trooper transferring to a new school for her senior year. Her parents, Sheldon and Pam, are very proud of her!

HEADQUARTERS HEADLINES

Around the Agency: The FAA is undergoing a period of transition and sometimes it's hard to keep track of who's where. Just to keep you in the loop -- Lynne Osmus, who recently served as the Director of the Europe, Africa and Middle East Office in Brussels, has been named as the new ACS-2. Paul Feldman, the FAA Senior Representative has been selected as Lynne's replacement. Maureen Woods, Deputy Director of Air Traffic Service (AAT-2) is moving to the Great Lakes Region Airway as the Facilities Division Manager (AGL-400). Scott Brenner has been named Assistant Administrator for Public Affairs (APA-1). Brenner served as Director of Communications and Chief Spokesperson for the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Tom Zoeller replaced Carl Burleson as the Administrator's new Chief of Staff. Zoeller was the Deputy, Assistant Chief Counsel for the Legislative Staff, and Burleson is now Director of FAA's Office of Environment and Energy (AEE-1). Nick Lacey, Director, Flight Standards Service (AFS-1) has been reassigned. In his new position, he will help advance the FAA's 10-year plan for improving capacity, certifying new equipment, and will work on international safety initiatives. Nick Sabatini, Eastern Region Flight Standards Division will be acting AFS-1. Richard "Dick" Rodine, Deputy Director of the Monroney Aeronautical Center in Oklahoma City will be coming to Washington to serve as Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Policy, Planning and International Aviation (API-2) for the next several months.

NOMINEES FOR THE TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL



The Twenty-fourth Annual Awards for Achievement and Excellence nominations have now been compiled and the nominees are listed below. Mark your calendars - the awards ceremony will be held on July 18, at 1 p.m., in the Center's auditorium. Come and applaud the good work of the nominees and the entire Center workforce.



The **Publication of the Year Award** will be presented to the author of a technical report, article, or scientific document judged best by the Awards Committee. These publications may address research and development, test and evaluation, or other technical fields, which contribute to success of the Center's mission. And, the nominees are:

Richard E. Lyon (AAR-422)
Christopher Smith (AAR-430)
David R. Brill (AAR-410)
Rick Lazarick (AAR-510)

The Professional Society

Award will be presented to an employee of the Center who has been involved in professional society activities and judged to provide the greatest scientific contribution to aviation. And, the nominees are:

Richard Jeck (AAR-421)
David R. Brill (AAR-410)

The **Field Support Award** will be presented to the employee judged to have made a substantial contribution to either the improvement or the continued operation of the National Airspace Program. And, the nominees are:

Kathy Walden (AOS-410)

The team of:
Brian Higgins (AOS-270)
Gary Baca (AOS-260)
Joe Yannone (AOS-260)
Hank Brouwer (AOS-270)
Dan Trongone (AOS-260)

Don Marple (ACT-410)

The **Technical Program Award** will be presented to the employee of a technical program

team or effort judged to have a major contribution toward, or to have been instrumental in, the accomplishment of the technical program and the Center's program goal. And, the nominees are:

John G. Bakuckas (AAR-431)

The team of:
Richard G. Hill (AAR-422)
Timothy R. Marker (AAR-422)
Pat Cahill (AAR-422)
Gus Sarkos (AAR-422)

The team of:
Paul Tan (AAR-431)
Thomas Flournoy (AAR-433)
Ronald Lofaro (AAR-400)
William Wall (AAR-432)

The team of:
Mary Rozier-Wilkes (ACT-510)
Lou Delemarre (ACT-510)
Joseph Diluzio (ACT-510)
Dennis Jefferson (ACT-510)
Mary Delemarre (ACT-510)
Robert Oliver (ACT-510)
Scott Doucett (ACT-510)
Adam Greco (ACT-510)
Mike Pomykacz (ACT-510)
Dan Warburton (ACT-510)
Albert Macias (ACT-510)

James Riley (AAR-421)

Michel Hovan (AAR-410)

Richard Lazarick (AAR-510)

The team of:
Beverly Hite (ACT-421)
Alex Storoz (ACT-400)
Julie Mueller (ACT-423)
Frances Ramsey (ACT-421)
Tonya Neuweiler (ACT-421)
Saliann Deaver (ACT-421)

AWARDS FOR ACHIEVEMENT AND EXCELLENCE

Anthony Chiari (ACT-421)
William Capo (ACT-421)

Tracey Madonna (ACT-231)

Patricia Trish Horan (ARU-200)



The **Technical Support Award** will be presented to the employee in a technical support role

judged to have made a significant contribution to the successful accomplishment of a project or program. And, the nominees are:

Robert A. Pappas (AAR-433)
Robert Oliver (ACT-510)
Kelly Leone (AAR-510)
Wayne Eichner (AAR-422)
Steve Materio (AAR-410)
Joseph C. Kunkle (AAR-540)
Joseph W. Balabon (ACT-421)
Carmen Munafa (AAR-424)
Therese Brennan (AAR-540)
Steve Souder (ACT-233)

The team of:

Harry Webster (AAR-422)
Jack Berry (AAR-422)

The **Team Achievement Award** will be presented to the group of employees who, through their actions as a team, is judged to have made a significant contribution towards accomplishing a project, operation, and/or service, in fulfilling the Center's mission. The Committee may choose to award more than one but no more than three. And, the nominees are:

The team of:

Laurie Purnell (AOS-540)
Alanna Randazzo (AOS-540)
Cheryl Martin (AOS-540)
Monika Gandy (AOS-540)
Larry Day (AOS-540)
Soncere Whitecloud-Woodford (AOS-540)

The team of:

John Zvanya (AAR-431)
Tim Smith (AAR-431)
Allan Abramowitz (AAR-431)
Gary Frings (AAR-431)
Tong Vu (AAR-431)

The team of:

Geri Desseaux (AOS-520)
Vince Tran (AOS-500)
Lori Davenport (AOS-300)
Mike Falteisek (AOS-400)
Mike Virga (AOS-20)
Cheryl Matthews (AOS-500)
Steve Davi (AOS-500)
Fran Bourne (AOS-500)
Teri Lowe (ACT-290)
Kenneth Warren (AOS-520)
Debra Hodge (AOS-520)
William Porter (AOS-520)
James Mullin (AOS-520)
Brian Peters (AOS-520)
Mike Gallagher (AOS-520)
Robert Copes (AOS-520)

The team of:

Richard Payne (ACT-560)
Pawan Jain (ACT-560)
Mary Szalay (ACT-560)
Gerry Spanier (ACT-560)
Philip Shuster (ACT-560)
Khanh Nguyen (ACT-560)
Michael Mulder (ACT-560)
Charles W. Kilgore, II (ACT-560)
John Chung (ACT-250)

Linda Pasquale (ACT-560)
Glenn Leighbody (ACT-560)

The team of:

David R. Blake (AAR-422)
Robert A. Filipczak (AAR-422)
Louise Speitel (AAR-422)
Richard E. Lyon (AAR-422)

The team of:

Howard D. Sheckman (ACT-340)
Joseph Schanne (ATQ-3)
Mark DeNicuolo (ATQ-3)
Sherry Taylor (AOS-20)
Bill C. Swanseen (ACT-310)
John Frederick (ACT-230)
David Montgomery (ACT-230)

The team of:

Manny Rios (AAR-421)
Chris Dumont (AAR-421)
James Riley (AAR-421)

The team of:

Karen DiMeo (ACT-540)
Randy Sollenberger (ACT-530)
Dan Warburton (ACT-510)
Nick Roselli (ACT-510)
Scott Doucett (ACT-510)
John Chung (ACT-250)
Bill Monsour (ACT-233)

The team of:

Joseph Diluzio (ACT-510)
Scott Doucett (ACT-510)
Robert Oliver (ACT-510)
Mary Delemarre (ACT-510)
Mary Rozier-Wilkes (ACT-510)
Dan Warburton (ACT-510)
Mike Pomykacz (ACT-510)
Adam Greco (ACT-510)



AND THE NOMINEES ARE . . .

AWARDS



Dennis Jefferson

(ACT-510)

Lou Delemarre

(ACT-510)

Albert Macias (ACT-510)

The team of:

Judy Huggard-Gallagher (AAR-530)

Howard J. Fleisher (AAR-530)

Ken Hacker (AAR-530)

Nelson Carey (AAR-530)

Eric S. Katz (AAR-530)

Bill Morgan (AAR-520)

Dale Dingler (ACT-73)

Ernest Pappas (ACT-73)

Michael Gross (ACT-73)

Bob Michael (ACT-73)

Ron Meilicke (ACT-73)

Ray Schillinger (AAR-530)

Frank Merlock (ACT-73)

The team of:

Kenneth J. Knopp (AAR-432)

William Cavage, Sr. (AAR-432)

Chris Dumont (AAR-421)

Donald Altobelli (AAR-432)

Gerald F. Walter (AAR-432)

The team of:

Peter Sparacino (AAR-411)

Jim White (AAR-411)

Jim Vena (ACT-630)

Hank Weber (ACT-630)

The team of:

Alex Storoz (ACT-400)

Patricia Brown (ACT-400)

Melissa French-Gates (ACT-50)

Maudie M. Powell (ACT-4)

Natalie Reed (ACT-200)

Carolyn McKinney-Bobo (ACT-405)

The team of:

James Bernhardt (ACT-221)

William Vaughan (ACT-221)

John Wilks (ACT-221)

John Aschenbach (ACT-221)

Joan Carpenter (ACT-221)

Benjamin Gottlieb (ACT-221)

Lester Hancock (ACT-221)

Dan Leary (ACT-221)

Clifton Bailey (ACT-221)

Michael Passmore (ACT-221)

Amy Mason (ACT-221)

The team of:

Donna M. Young (ACT-10)

Judith R. McMillen (ACT-10)

Mary Ann Quinn (ACT-10)

Jim Ogilvie (ACT-10)

Susan Cefaretti (ACT-10)

Leona Wilkes (ACT-10)

Susan Linardo (ACT-10)

Robert J. Warner (ACT-410)

Marina Muccio (ACT-10)

Patricia Sampson (ACT-10)

Deborah A. Krumaker (ACT-10)

Alan H. Cannizzaro (ACT-10)

Patricia H. Dollin (ACT-10)

Thomas Christian (ACT-10)

Thomas F. Wood (ACT-10)

The team of:

Sharon Mitchell (ACT-223)

Jack Sackett (ACT-223)

Richard Parkinson (ACT-223)

James McCullough (ACT-223)

Christ Medina (ACT-223)

Anthony James (ACT-223)

Eric Hoover (ACT-223)

Robert Groot (ACT-223)



The team of:

John D. Walczak (ACT-212)

R.S. Wang (ACT-212)

Kathy Walden (AOS-410)

Rich Davis (AOS-410)

Bob Challender (AOS-450)

Tony Durso (AOS-450)

Kurt Umscheid (AOS-410)

Mark McMillen (ACT-210)

Meinerd Simons (ACT-212)

Melody Moser (AOS-450)

Sigmund Chow (ACT-212)

Carolyn Ingerson (AOS-410)

Ed Spaeth (AOS-450)

Christie Antczak (AOS-410)

Cathy Snellbaker (ACT-212)

Tony Sazon (ACT-212)

YuCheung Chiu (ACT-212)

Chris Casey (AOS-410)

Joseph Brady (ACT-210)

Howard J. Seiver (ACT-212)

Pete Quartararo (AOS-450)

Joe Salazar (ASU-200)

Russ Spadea (ACT-210)

Doug Crispell (ACT-212)

Walt Dickerson (AOS-410)

Patricia Trifh Horan (ACT-212)

Paul Hoang (AOS-450)

Ernie Heinz (ACT-212)

Dennis Emerick (AOS-410)

Douglas Roesch (AOS-410)

Bob Hanes (ARU-200)

Joe Ramsey (AOS-450)

Thanh Dang (AOS-410)

Edward M. Gaguski (ACT-212)

Anthony Donlon (AOS-410)

Michael S. Headley (ACT-212)

Eric M. Lowy (ACT-211)

Jerry Christenson (AOS-450)

Dale Cooley (AOS-410)

Brian Dougherty (AOS-410)

Roberto Ortiz (AOS-450)

Wayne J. Nowicki (ACT-210)

MORE NOMINEES . . .

Janet Bailey (AOS-402)
Larry Haas (AOS-402)
Matt McCann-Thomas (AOS-310)
Dexter Decker (AOS-402)
Maria Lianidis (ACT-212)
Chris Kraft (AOS-430)
Bob Korsak (AOS-410)
Joe Keenan (AOS-450)
Al Jefferson (ACT-212)
Ky Huynh (AOS-410)
Robert G. Mulholland (ACT-212)

The team of:

Anne Marie Ternay (ACT-052)
Joseph Salvatore (ACT-202)
William Sheehan (ACT-7)
Pat Hyle (ACT-209)
Laurel Tootell (ACT-340)
Alan Kopala (ACT-230)
Jack Bernstein (ACT-233)
Howard Seiver (ACT-210)
Nannette Kalani (ACT-320)
Rich Coughlin (ACT-250)
Courtney Dudley (ACT-240)
Bonnie Leek (ACT-240)
Frank Mierzjewski (ACT-50)

The **Administrative Support Award** will be presented to the employee in an administrative support role judged to have a substantial contribution to the overall success of any Center activity. And, the nominees are:

Jane Burke (AAR-500)
Anne Marie Ternay (ACT-51A)
Diane Wilson (AAR-510)
Alexander Storoz (ACT-400)
Michelle Holmes (ACT-405)

The **Secretary of the Year Award** will be presented to the employee judged to have achieved



an outstanding level of accomplishment and excellence in the secretarial field.

And, the nominees are:

Jennifer L. Hall (ACT-530)
Marci Fessler (AAR-430)
Tama Nelson (AAR-540)
Carol White (AOS-420)
Patti Long (AAR-510)

The **Model Work Environment Award** will be presented to the employee of the Center judged to best exemplify or excel in sharing the responsibility for ensuring the accomplishments of diversity, affirmative action, and equal employment opportunity to create a more productive and hospitable workplace. And, the nominees are:

John Lapointe (AAR-424)
Nelson Miller (AAR-420)
Patricia Reichenbach (AAR-530)

The **Community Outreach Award** will be presented to the employee who has provided to the Center or Community, volunteer service characterized by uncommonly high levels of dedication, commitment, and personal sacrifice resulting in a significant contribution to a worthwhile goal(s). And, the nominees are:

Rosanne M. Weiss (AAR-424)
Anthony Rodriquez (ACT-411)

The **Intern of the Year Award** will be presented to the student judged most outstanding

on the basis of on-the-job performance and administrative or technical achievement. And, the nominees are:

Lynn Pham (AAR-431)
Sergio Ramos (AAR-430)
Lindsey Wuethrich (AAR-422)
Amy Mason (ACT-221)
Marlene L. Gunn (ACT-500)

The **Leadership Award** will be presented to the employee whose actions demonstrate the ability to work as a member of a team; empowers his/her fellow employees; facilitates the professional and personal development of his/her fellow employees; provides necessary guidance for overcoming obstacles in achieving program goals; and acts as a role model for other employees in the areas of integrity, accountability, and customer satisfaction. And, the nominees are:

Charles W. Kilgore, II (ACT-560)
Elizabeth Turcich (ATQ-3)
Adam Greco (ACT-510)
Pamela Della Rocco (ACT-530)
Eric C. Neiderman (AAR-510)

The team of:

Richard Mendell (ACT-420)
Beverly Hite (ACT-421)
Beth Burkett (ACT-405)
Patricia Brown (ACT-400)
Michele Holmes (ACT-405)
Paul Simon (ACT-410)
Donald Marple (ACT-410)
Katherine Lugo (ACT-420)
Alex Storoz (ACT-400)
Carolyn McKinney-Bobo (ACT-405)

AND, MORE NOMINEES

Tanya Yuditsky (ACT-530)

Doug Crispell (ACT-212)



The **Innovator Award** will be presented to the employee who has demonstrated willingness to get the job done using innovative and creative ideas. The recipient of this award need not have been successful in every instance, but more importantly, must have displayed the willingness to accept challenges, be creative, open to new ideas, and willing to take risks in solving a problem or attaining goals. And, the nominees are:

Christopher Reilly (ACT-560)

Rick Lazarick (AAR-510)

John Wilks (ACT-221)

Rick Micklos (AAR-432)

Ben Willems (ACT-530)

The **Employee of the Year**

Award will be presented to an employee judged to best exemplify the spirit and purpose of the Center through contributions made toward project or program goals or overall mission accomplishment. And, the nominees are:

Rosanne Weiss (AAR-424)

Frank Hines (ACT-600)

Patricia Watts (AAR-400)

Gordon Hayhoe (AAR-410)

The **Supporting Services Award** will be presented to the employee in a traditional customer service support role judged to have provided superior service in support of the Center's mission, functions, facilities, or operations. These services include, but are not limited to, those provided by tradesman, craftsmen, photographers, and specially support employees (computer maintenance, aircraft maintenance, supply specialist, etc.). And, the nominees are:

The team of:

Hank Weber (ACT-630)

Jim Vena (ACT-630)

The team of:

Ruby L. Watson (ACT-71)

Betty Lafferty (ACT-71)

Laurel Wittman (ACT-51A)

The team of:

Carol Brook (ACT-423)

Alex Storoz (ACT-400)

Richard Mendell (ACT-420)

Hiram Vazquez (ACT-411)

Edward DiProspero (ACT-411)

Bobby Nichols (ACT-423)

Sheila Sporkin-Edel (ACT-410)

John Spencer (ACT-411)



Congratulations to all of the nominees!!!

THE WEATHER SYSTEMS PROCESSOR (WSP) DEDICATION

A WSP dedication ceremony was held at the Albuquerque International Airport (ABQ) on April 25, 2001. The WSP had its beginning 20 years ago when the aviation community was looking for the technology to provide critical data about hazardous wind shear events. This dedication celebrated many years of effort by different organizations.

The WSP means many things to many people. To the technical people it's a modification to the Airport Surveillance Radar-9 (ASR-9), to the functional experts it's an aviation safety feature, and to the prudent economist it's a cost effective system that provides to the medium sized airports the same hazardous weather protection the Terminal Doppler Weather Radar (TDWR) provides to the larger airports.

The Albuquerque Dedication is the beginning of a larger plan for the WSP. Besides ABQ, the WSP has been deployed to Austin, TX; Norfolk, VA; the Oklahoma City Academy; and the Tech Center. The System will spread out over the United States to 31 more medium density airports which have an ASR-9 and which are not serviced by the TDWR. These 34 sites will be ready to detect wind shear, predict wind direction and speed, and manage aircraft arrivals and departures. In other words, "turn the airport around" when it becomes threatened by nature's hazardous weather.

In 1986, the FAA funded Massachusetts Institute of Technology/Lincoln Lab (MIT/LL) to develop algorithms to automatically detect low altitude wind shear phenomena such as microbursts and gust fronts. In 1987 MIT/LL began to establish test-beds in Huntsville, AL; Kansas City, KS; Orlando, FL; and in 1993 in Albuquerque, NM. Data from these sites was used to refine the weather algorithms by comparing the WSP processed test bed weather returns to those received from a "truthing" weather radar.

In 1998, the FAA awarded a contract to Northrop Grumman to take a prototype WSP and bring the government design to a production configuration. A prototype WSP was also added to the operational ASR-9 at the ABQ and Austin, TX (AUS) test-beds in 1998. These prototypes allowed MIT/LL to obtain more data for further algorithm refinement to also demonstrate the ASR-9/WSP system in an operational air traffic control environment.

The WSP was upgraded to a limited production configuration at ABQ and AUS in 2000 and another limited production WSP was installed in Norfolk at this time. ACT-320 is currently at the end of the operational testing (OT) phase. From developmental test through operational testing, the testing community has included the FAA, MIT/LL and Northrop-Grumman to ensure a thorough test and eval-

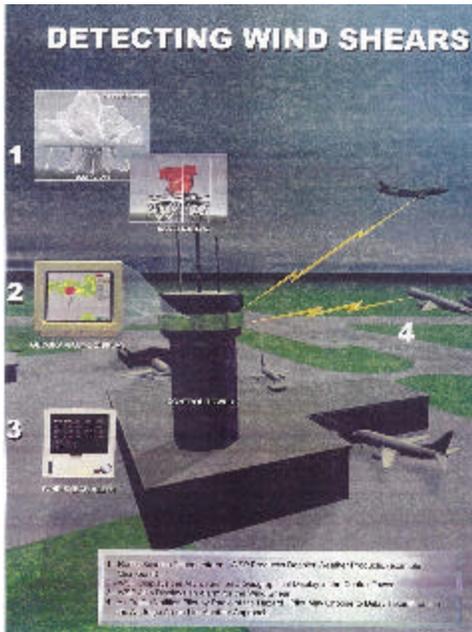
uation of the system.

Operationally, the WSP receives radio frequency (RF) signals from the ASR-9. The WSP then processes these signals and sends them to the WSP Geographical Situation Displays (GSD) and Ribbon Display Terminals (RDT) for use by Air Traffic Controllers. The displays provide the processed updated weather scenarios to the AT controllers and supervisors.

The processed updated weather scenarios consist of microburst, gust front and storm motion close in to the airport. Six level weather precipitation is also provided for the entire 60 nautical mile (nmi) range of the radar, free of false weather reports generated by anomalous propagation. The GSDs show an updated and colorful two-dimensional picture of weather conditions, movement, and future position of weather cells relative to the airport runways, while the RDTs provides the weather information relating to the runways as text. The controllers relay this information to the pilots who can then take action to avoid any hazardous weather.

The WSP also includes monitoring capability to make it easier for Airway Facilities personnel to detect and correct problems with the WSP, should they arise. It also has an external user capability for groups outside the AT control tower (for example the airport authority or a shipping company) to access the graphical features of the GSD only. A Terminal

WSP CONT.



Weather for Pilots (TWIP) capability sends WSP weather messages in the form of text and character graphics through a service, such as ARINC, directly to the pilot. It also has a port for future NAS Infrastructure Maintenance System (NIMS) connectivity and the ability to record, archive, and playback weather data.

Because the WSP is able to depict a real time weather picture for controllers and provide a short term prediction of where hazardous wind shear will occur in regards to departure and landing zones, the risk of accidents are reduced. Being able to observe and predict hazardous wind shear and other adverse weather conditions also decreases flight delays by the controllers being able to switch the approach and departure paths. The WSP is therefore a cost effective means of determining hazardous wind shear and other adverse weather conditions that may impact an airport.

The ACT-320 team who worked on WSP included: **Cindy Adamskyj**, Test Lead; **Tai Lee**, Electronics Engineer; **Baxter Stretcher**, Mathematician; SAIC's **Anna Merkel** and **Bill Diviney**; and SRC's **Glenn Smythe**.

WHAT'S A DEWK?



First there were yuppies— young upwardly mobile professionals. Then there were dinks—dual income, no kids. Now it's dewks—dual employed with kids.

And dewks are here to stay. In fact, the majority of families are dewks, according to recent statistics by the U.S. Census Bureau. Here are some of the characteristics of dewks:

Researchers call dewks “neotraditional,” meaning they're less worried about a lack of money, but they're constantly short of time.

Dewks tend to make a little less money than dinks, but they're more likely to own a home.

The women in dewk households earn on average three times as much as unmarried women.

While both parents in a dewk household want to work fewer hours, that kind of cutback can mean jeopardizing advancement. So usually one partner works to maintain a career—usually the man. The

other scales back the career to provide child care— usually the woman.

While women are still doing more of the housework, men are pitching in with the kids. But fathers tend to do more of the fun things, like taking the kids to the park.

(Adapted from *The Christian Science Monitor*.)



COMMUNITY OUTREACH AT ITS BEST

A Helping Hand



How would you like to do an interview on women who

flew in the early days of aviation and World War II? That was the question posed a few weeks ago to **Barbara Harris-Para** (ACT-510). This is a broad subject, but Barbara quickly offered a helping hand and managed to develop a short script about some of these pioneering women so she could talk with her two interviewers -- Heather Roeske and Lily Lin of the Wm. Davies Middle School in Mays Landing. Heather's dad Bill Roeske served as the cameraman.

The girls had to develop a final project for their social studies class, which will later be presented in school during the month of May. Heather and Lily had their script all ready with challenging questions and thought provoking ideas. The Tech Center hangar was used as a backdrop with an Aero Commander aircraft as a prop. Unfortunately, filming had to be stopped numerous times because of aircraft noise in the vicinity. What would a story about aviation be without the noise of jets and propeller planes?

Once the interview ended, editing began on the film. The two girls added some clips of WWII and women ferry pilots. A power point presentation with 26 slides will also accompany the video.

Carleen Genna-Stoltzfus

(ACT-70) and Barbara will be visiting Heather and Lily's classroom in the next few weeks to discuss this eye-catching presentation with other students at the school.

Pilot Career Day

Tech Center employees recently went to "Pilot Career Day" at the Sooy School in Hammonton to talk about aviation careers with first and fifth grade students. The day began with MSGT Sabato introducing the guests and participants. Capt. Martin Ryan, who flies a KC-135E, then spoke to the students about his aircraft and his experiences as a military pilot. Aerial refueler MSGT Brian Kilpatrick talked about how the boom works on the KC-135 and what happens when airplanes are refueled in the sky.

Keith Biehl (ACT-370), a Tech Center pilot, explained the type of flying that he does working for the FAA. Captain David Morland from Spirit Airlines, based in Atlantic City International Airport, talked about commercial flying careers. Dan Chiofalo, a resident of Hammonton, and father of two Sooy students, told the students of his experiences first as a military pilot and later about his job with American Airlines. The



students heard about a wide variety of other aviation from **Carleen Genna-Stoltzfus** (ACT-70).

The students later saw a film about the 108th Air Refueling Wing. They then had the opportunity to ask the speakers questions. The first graders each got a balsa wood glider to assemble and fly after the program was completed.

A great big thanks goes out to all the individuals who made this project possible, including Air Bear for her guest appearance.

Delaware Valley Science Fair

Remember when you started experimenting with science, probably in the 5th grade! Your teacher had you develop a project for your school's science fair. Judges were assembled and prizes were awarded to the best in each grade, show, and school. Do you remember how excited you were to participate? Students from across the Delaware Valley area experienced that excitement as they participated in a variety of recent science activities, starting with the Jersey Shore Science Fair held at Richard Stockton College of New Jersey.

Carleen Genna-Stoltzfus, Community Outreach Manager, **Lana Haug** (ACT-70), **Carolyn Pokres** (ACT-70), and countless others volunteered their time to judge, setup, organize, and photograph this special event. The winners of this event went on to the Delaware Valley

OUTREACH CONT.

Science Fair in Philadelphia.

This is the 22nd year, sixth, seventh, and eighth graders participated in the Delaware Valley Science Fair, and the 53rd year for high school students. Participants can win a gold, silver, or bronze medal, as well as U.S. Savings Bonds ranging from \$100 to \$200. The medal winners from each grade receive an all-expense paid trip to the 52nd International Science & Engineering Fair in San Jose, CA. Student can also win scholarships to the colleges and universities throughout the Delaware Valley.



The Tech Center was well represented at this worthwhile event. Carleen organized the Center's participation. **Dr. Fred Snyder** (AAR-200), **Anthony (Buzz) Cerino** (AAR-500), **Dr. Sehchang Hah** (ACT-530), and

Carleen all served as judges. According to Carleen, each year the fair gets bigger and better with the students showing more imagination and ingenuity in their projects. A few of the local entries included: "Effects of Liquids on Metals" from Millville Memorial H.S.; "Feet for Thought" and "Solar Cells" from Arthur Rann Elementary; and "What Geologic Material Holds the Most Thermal Energy" from the Pilgrim Academy. A student from Belhaven School in Linwood entered an engineering project called "A Bridge Too Far." The local schools did well in the competition. A student at the Smithville School in Galloway Twp received an honorable mention in the six through eight grade group, a Pilgrim Academy stu-



dent received a 1st place in the Earth, Space & Science category. If you are interested in finding out names of the other winners and the schools that they attended, visit the event's website at www.dvsf.org.

DON'T FORGET

Please try to get *Intercom* submissions (articles, photos, ideas) to Terry Kraus via email by the second Tuesday of every month.

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