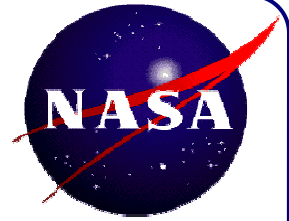


Inside Wallops



National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Goddard Space Flight Center
Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Va.

Volume XX-06

Number 34

September 25, 2006

NASA Scientific Balloon Researchers Receive International Prize in Astrophysics

Two researchers that led a NASA and National Science Foundation funded scientific balloon mission in Antarctica have been awarded the 2006 Balzan Prize in Astrophysics.

Andrew Lange, from the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, and Paolo de Bernardis, from the Università di Roma La Sapienza in Rome, received the award from the International Balzan Foundation "for

their contributions to cosmology, in particular the Boomerang Antarctic balloon experiment."

The "Balloon Observations of Millimetric Extragalactic Radiation and Geophysics" mission launched in 1998 recorded the first resolved images of the early universe. The images reveal the structure that existed in the universe when it was a tiny fraction of its current age and 1,000 times smaller and hotter than it is today.

Detailed analysis of the images has been essential to understanding some of cosmology's outstanding

mysteries, including the nature of the matter and energy that dominate intergalactic space and whether space is "curved" or "flat."

from 16 universities and organizations in the United States, Canada, Italy and the United Kingdom.

In addition to NASA and the National Science Foundation, the project also was supported by the Italian Space Agency, Italian Antarctic Research Programme and the University of Rome La Sapienza in Italy and the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council in the United Kingdom.



Boomerang Project Photo

The Boomerang project obtained the images using a telescope suspended from a balloon that circumnavigated Antarctica in late 1998. Launched from McMurdo Station, the balloon carried the two-ton telescope to an altitude of almost 120,000 feet for more than 10 days. Novel detectors developed at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, Calif., recorded tiny temperature variations – less than 100 parts per million - in the afterglow of the Big Bang as the telescope scanned the sky.

The Boomerang team is comprised of 36 team members

Also, the U.S. Department of Energy's National Energy Research Scientific Computer Center provided supercomputing support.

Wallops Flight Facility manages NASA's Scientific Balloon Program for the Science Mission Directorate, Washington.

NASA's Columbia Scientific Balloon Facility, Palestine, Texas, conducts balloon launch operations.

Antarctica ground and air operations support at McMurdo Station is provided by the National Science Foundation's Office of Polar Programs.

Wallops Shorts.....

Launches

A NASA scientific balloon was launched from Fort Sumner, N.M., on September 18. The payload was the Far-Infrared Spectroscopy of the Troposphere (FIRST) instrument. FIRST is a NASA-unique instrument capable of observing infrared emission from the earth. Total flight time was 8 hours, 16 minutes.

The principal investigator was Dr. Martin Mlynczak, Langley Research Center.

The mission was an operational and science success.

A NASA Black Brant XI was launched from Wallops Island on September 23. The mission was to flight qualify the modified Black Brant V MK 1 igniter in a high altitude dynamic flight environment. John Hickman, NASA Sounding Rocket Office, was the principal investigator. Jay Scott, NASA Sounding Rocket Operations Contract was the mission manager. Libby West, NASA Range and Mission Management Office, was the project manager.

Comprehensive success criteria were satisfied.

Cafeteria Parking Changes

The parking area on Stubbs Blvd. in front of the cafeteria has been eliminated.



To improve pedestrian and vehicle safety, the Wallops Executive Safety Committee has eliminated parking on Stubbs Blvd. in front of the Cafeteria, Building E-2.

The Committee appreciates the efforts of the Wallops employees to improve safety on the Facility for our employees and guests. Employees also are encouraged to use the many avenues available to raise any safety concerns.

EAP LUNCH & LEARN with Tom Northern

Thursday, September 28
11:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.
Williamsburg Room – Bldg E-2

The topic of this lunch and learn will be Relationships as a Spiritual Path. This discussion will have nothing to do with religion, but everything to do with learning about ourselves through our relationships.

It's easy to be spiritual if you live alone on a mountaintop, but the real trick is to bring our spirituality down from our lofty perch and apply it in our everyday lives.

So come and join in the discussion and bring your lunch to nourish your bodies as well.

Celebrate Wallops Day October 5, 2006

Celebrate You!

Speaker Rick Allen
9:30 - 10:45 a.m.
Building D-10

Exhibits, Food, Music

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Building N-159 Hangar
Artisan/craft demonstrations and exhibits
Organization and office exhibits
Entertainment by Wallops Music Club
Food vendors
Baked goods sponsored by the Black History Club
Free Ice Cream courtesy of Computer Sciences Corporation
To register your organization, contact Freda Johnson at x1466

Storytelling

1:30 – 3 p.m.
Bldg E-2 training room



Hear your friends and co-workers as they share the stories of their lives and experiences! In previous years, storytellers have talked about living in one part of the world and moving to WFF; growing up on the Shore and how things have changed (or stayed the same); people who have impacted their life; and growing up in a big city.

If you want to share your story, contact Pat Dworske at x2126.

Brown Bag Luncheon

Monday, October 2, 2006 11:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.
Williamsburg Room – Bldg. E2

Do you admire certain women? Do you want to know how they ended up where they are today?

Join the WOW FWP as they present their 4th Annual Pioneering Women of the Eastern Shore panel in celebration of our American Heritage and learn more about these exciting women: Anita Speidel, Jennifer Cording, Bev Turner and Pam Barefoot.

Inside Wallops is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Wallops Office of Public Affairs, Extension 1584, in the interest of Wallops employees. Recent and past issues of *Inside Wallops* also may be found on the NASA Wallops Flight Facility homepage: www.wff.nasa.gov
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