

Marshall Star

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NASA George C. Marshall Space Flight Center — Huntsville, Alabama

September 30, 2010

Marshall Star turns 50!

By Jessica Wallace Eagan

Just 20 days after the dedication of the Marshall Space Flight Center by President Dwight Eisenhower, the Marshall Star went to press for the first time – Sept. 28, 1960.

About 2,500 issues later, the Star is celebrating its 50th anniversary of delivering relevant and timely news to the Marshall Center community.

Created by a group of civil service employees – many former newspaper reporters – the Star was published by the center's Public Information Office under the editorship of Don Lakey for many years. Since then, about a dozen people have held the title of editor.

Marshall historian Mike Wright served as editor from 1986 to 1987. "I came to Marshall in May 1986, and for the next 18 months, the Star was continually on my mind," recalled Wright. "This newspaper has always been very important to Marshall management and team members.

"There were times that I'd get up in the middle of the night to proof pages again after already reviewing them because it was critical that all the content was accurate," he added. "It was very typical of



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Looking ahead

Marshall Space Flight Center Director Robert Lightfoot takes a question from the audience at an All-Hands Sept. 28 in Morris Auditorium in Building 4200. Lightfoot discussed the status of NASA's budget process in Congress and Marshall's planning efforts for FY 2011.



Emmett Givner/MSFC

Raising the CFC bar for 2010

Marshall team challenged to raise \$675,000 for Combined Federal Campaign

By Rick Smith

Community Service Days volunteers are signing up. Bus tours are being scheduled. Rally plans are being finalized. It's time again for the Marshall Space Flight Center's annual Combined Federal Campaign goodwill drive – and organizers this year are raising the bar.

In honor of the center's 50 years of achievement, Marshall has raised its gift-giving goal for the 2010 campaign to \$675,000 – an increase of \$50,000 over the 2009 target.

Marshall facilities project manager Ken Dunn, the CFC executive chairperson for the 2010 campaign, said the hike "reflects the Marshall Center team's willingness and enthusiasm to step it up for a worthy cause – just as we've done for the past 50 years."

In 2009, the Marshall team handily surpassed its own goal, raising more than \$710,000 for the federal government's yearly goodwill drive, which benefits charitable organizations at the local, state and national level.

Dunn anticipates another energized giving season ahead, he said, based on early signups for Community Service Days events – in which volunteers lend their time to support charities and special events – and the annual bus tours to visit numerous not-for-profit organizations across Huntsville and Madison County. Bus tours begin Oct. 5 (please see related article on this page).

The 2010 CFC drive officially runs from Sept. 30 to Dec. 10, but a number of Marshall team members were ahead of the curve this week,

donating their time at the local Salvation Army facilities in Huntsville to sign up needy families for the Angel Tree gift-giving program – the official kickoff for Marshall's CFC Community Service Days.

Volunteers also are needed in coming days for Community Service Days events supporting the Special Olympics and Habitat for Humanity. Signups close Oct. 4 for the Special Olympics Track & Field Day event, so team members are encouraged to volunteer now. Visit <http://cfc.msfc.nasa.gov/CFM/csd.cfm> for more details and to sign up.



The Marshall Center will hold its official CFC rally Oct. 21. Watch upcoming issues of the Marshall Star for details. Stay abreast of the latest CFC news on Inside Marshall and NASA Marshall on Facebook.

Marshall's fundraiser is part of the Tennessee Valley's annual CFC drive, a joint effort between Marshall, the Army's Aviation and Missile Command

and other federal agencies at Redstone Arsenal and in surrounding Alabama and Tennessee counties.

Smith, an AI Signal Research Inc. employee, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.

CFC bus tours announced



It's time to get on the bus! Marshall team members are encouraged to sign up early for CFC bus tours to visit a variety of local charitable organizations.

To sign up, visit <http://cfc.msfc.nasa.gov/CFM/bus1.cfm>. Watch upcoming issues of the Marshall Star for more information about these and other CFC partners.

- Therapy Partners, Oct. 5, 1-3 p.m.
- Neighborhood Store & Second Mile Development, Oct. 7, 9-11 a.m.
- Boy Scouts of America, Oct. 12, 9-11 a.m.
- Huntsville/Madison County Senior Center, Oct. 13, 9-11 a.m.
- Girl Scouts of North Alabama, Oct. 14, 1-3 p.m.
- Sci-Quest/North Alabama Science Center, Oct. 19, 9-11 a.m.
- Huntsville Hospital/Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Oct. 20, 9-11 a.m.
- Huntsville Botanical Garden, Oct. 26, 9-11 a.m.
- Greater Huntsville Humane Society, Oct. 28, 9-11 a.m.
- Sci-Quest/North Alabama Science Center, Nov. 2, 1-3 p.m.
- Huntsville/Madison County Rescue Squad, Nov. 3, 1-3 p.m.
- National Children's Advocacy Center, Nov. 5, 9-11 a.m.
- The ARC of Madison County, Nov. 9, 9-11 a.m.
- Huntsville Hospital/Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Nov. 16, 9-11 a.m.

Marshall team honored with Industry & Advocates awards

By Rick Smith

Prime contractors, subcontractors and civil service team members at the Marshall Space Flight Center were honored for leadership and pursuit of technological excellence during the 2010 Industry & Advocates Awards ceremony Sept. 23.

The awards to companies and individuals supporting Marshall and NASA were presented at the annual meeting of Marshall's Small Business Alliance. Established in 2007, the alliance helps small businesses pursue NASA procurement and subcontracting opportunities.

Marshall team award recipients

Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne Inc. of Canoga Park, Calif., the prime contractor for NASA's space shuttle main engines, was named Marshall's Large Business Prime Contractor of the Year. Since 2007, the company also has been the prime contractor for the development and testing of the J-2X rocket engine, designed to power the upper stages of NASA's next-generation launch vehicles.

COLSA Corp. of Huntsville was named Marshall's Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year. Since 2007, the engineering and information technology services company has provided hardware and software configuration management and data management services to the Marshall Center.

Southern California Braiding Company of Bell Gardens, Calif., was named Marshall's Small Business Subcontractor of the Year. The company, a manufacturer of custom electronic and electrical wire, cables and harnesses, provides hardware support to ATK Launch Systems of Brigham City, Utah, under the Ares I First Stage contract.

Prime Contractor Excellence Awards were presented to ATK, and to Jacobs Technology, The Boeing Company and SAIC Inc., all in Huntsville.

ATK, Jacobs and Boeing were honored for entering NASA Mentor-Protégé agreements with minority-owned small businesses or minority-serving academic partners, helping them to successfully compete for larger, more complex government contracts. SAIC was recognized for its significant contributions to small businesses as the prime contractor for the Unified NASA Information Technology Services contract, or UNITEs, which covers information technology, data and telecommunications management, computer networking and digital imaging.

Small Business Program Leadership Awards were presented to Jenifer Scoffield, ATK small business liaison officer; Dr. Ronald Belz, director and small business liaison officer at Jacobs Technology; Donna Coleman, founder and president of Aetos Systems in Huntsville; Joellen Moore, small business liaison officer at United Space Alliance in Huntsville; and Bill Davis, manager of business development at AI Signal Research Inc. in Huntsville. Scoffield, Belz, Coleman and Moore were honored for serving consecutive, two-year terms as chair of the Marshall Prime Contractor Supplier Council, starting in 2003. Moore, the current chair, will conclude her term in December. Davis was honored for his leadership as chair of the Marshall Center's Small Business Executive Leadership Team from 2008-2010.

Receiving Small Business Advocacy Awards for outstanding leadership and support of various Marshall Center Small Business Office programs and services were Debbie Batson, manager of business development at Teledyne Brown Engineering in Huntsville; Bruce Emerson, manager of procurement and small business programs at SAIC Inc. in Huntsville; and David Guy, safety and occupational health specialist at the Marshall Center.

Marshall engineer Lynn Garrison of

the Engineering Directorate's Technical Management Office was honored as the center's Technical Support Person of the Year. Garrison, Marshall's small business technical advisor, was recognized for her exemplary commitment, dedication and support of NASA and Marshall small business programs.

The Marshall Center's Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Procurement Small Business Action Team was recognized as the Procurement Support Team of the Year. The team, including Marshall procurement specialists Glen Alexander, Timothy Carson, James Casper and Casey Hardy, were recognized for exemplary support of NASA and Marshall small business programs throughout the two-year period.

Marshall small business specialist David Brock also was honored during the ceremony at the Davidson Center for Space Exploration in Huntsville. He received the NASA Small Business Specialist of the Year award for fiscal year 2010.

Eligibility

Eligible persons and organizations are nominated for the awards by NASA civil service employees. A panel of NASA procurement officials assesses each nominee's impact on NASA's mission and the agency's Small Business Program, and evaluates its development and application of new technologies, cost-saving measures and innovative procedures.

Center-level award recipients are candidates for the agency-level Small Business Industry Awards, to be presented Dec. 1, during NASA's third annual Small Business Symposium & Awards Ceremony in Washington.

For more information about NASA's Office of Small Business Programs, visit <http://osbp.nasa.gov>.

Smith, an AI Signal Research Inc. employee, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.

me to work long weekends before we sent the final package to the printer in Hartselle.”

For most of the past 50 years, the Enquirer Printing Co. – established in 1870 – has been the Star’s printer. “I was the jaybird who set up the machines for the very first issue, and I printed Vol. 1, No. 1,” said Clifford Parker, the company’s longtime owner until his son, Shannon, bought the business in 1998. Since retiring, Parker still helps out from time to time. “I have printed the Star under all the Marshall Center directors.

“When we first started, we didn’t have all these computers that we’ve got now,” said Parker. “We used the old linotype machines. We’ve come a long way since then. Today, we just push a button.

“We’ve had a great time with it. It’s been a wonderful 50 years and a real joy to work with all the different people from the center. I feel that I’ve contributed a little bit to the history of Marshall. I’m quite proud of our record.”

A lot of changes have been made to the Star over the past five decades. From the editors and writers who came and moved on to the redesigns the paper has undergone to keep ahead of changing styles through the years, one

Announcing the birth of the Marshall Star in 1960

The article below was published in the Marshall Star on Sept. 28, 1960, on page 1, announcing the birth of the Marshall Space Flight Center’s newspaper:

‘Star’ to Appear Weekly at MSFC

This is the first issue of the “Marshall Star,” a weekly newspaper published for employees of the George C. Marshall Space Flight Center.

A copy of the “Star” will be distributed to every MSFC employee each Wednesday.

The paper is prepared by the MSFC Public Information Office and employee news contributions and suggestions are welcomed. Forward contributions to M-PIO indicating originator’s name, association with the Center and phone number. Deadline for submission of material is noon Monday.

The “Marshall Star” will not publish advertising.

To read the first copy of the Marshall Star, visit Inside Marshall. To read issues from the past, visit the Historian Office in Building 4200, G30A.

The masthead on page 1 in this week’s issue was used from Sept. 28, 1960, to Oct. 8, 1975. It was designed by Victor Grimes Sr., an illustrator in the center’s Graphic Engineering and Model Studies Branch of the Office of Management Services.

The Marshall Star is now managed by the Public & Employee Communications Office in the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.

goal remains the same: The Star strives to keep its readers informed of NASA and Marshall missions, our goals and successes, and what’s going on around the center.

Here’s to another 50 years of reading. *Eagan, an AI Signal Research Inc. employee and the Marshall Star editor, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.*

Classified Ads

To submit a classified ad to the Marshall Star, go to Inside Marshall, to “Employee Resources,” and click on “Marshall Star Ad Form.” Ads are limited to 15 words, including contact numbers. No sales pitches. Deadline for the next issue, Oct. 7, is 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 30.

Miscellaneous

Kenmore Elite Calypso washing machine, heavy duty, extra large capacity, many wash presets, \$400.

256-461-6337

Jenn-Air smooth-top downdraft electric cooktop, black, \$250. 256-679-3342

Four burner stainless steel gas grill, side burner, \$125. 614-209-2620

Baldwin piano, \$985; slate pool table, \$99; "Giant" TV, \$50. 256-617-3686

Winnie the Pooh bassinet, \$40; baby bottle warmer, \$10; baby wipe warmer, \$10. 256-714-0800

New comforter sets, matching curtains; king - navy floral, queen - blue/yellow print. 256-603-0608

EZGO electric golf cart, two year old batteries, windshield, weather enclosure, \$1,300. 256-882-6554 or 256-541-6152

Wilson Grand Slam tennis balls, number WRT1043, all court felt, unopened 8-pack, \$24. 256-828-1234

Four-wheeler utility trailer. 5x13 w 4' tailgate, lights,

spare tire, \$650. 256-527-8116

One Alabama vs. Florida football ticket for October 2nd. regina.grant@gmail.com

Century fiberglass bed cover for 93 Silverado, white, \$350. 256-503-0437

Yorkie, CKC registered, male, home raised, ready 9/23, \$350. 256-425-8381

Vehicles

2003 Toyota Tacoma Ext Cab, silver, auto, new tires, 126k miles, \$8,800. 256-303-4514

2001 Dodge Ram 1500 Sport, two wheel drive, 99k miles \$8,000. 256-527-6906

1998 Ford Windstar GL, tan, auto, AC, 3.8 V6 engine, 118k miles, \$3,000. 256-617-9614

1998 Stingray RS180 Bowrider, seats seven, bimini covers, fish/ski, new 140 I/O, \$9,500. 256-640-6427

Preorder through Oct. 22 to save \$10

'Wings in Orbit,' a book detailing the scientific, engineering legacies of space shuttle, to be published in February

By Sanda Martel

Want to learn about the legacy of the space shuttle from those who made it a success?

Then you'll want to own a copy of "Wings in Orbit," a book that focuses on the more than three decades of science and engineering accomplishments of NASA's Space Shuttle Program and the shuttle as a historic icon in U.S. history.

The book will be published in February 2011, but Marshall Space Flight Center team members may preorder through the Marshall Exchange until Oct. 22 and save \$10. The preorder costs are \$80 hardback and \$40 soft cover. Preordered books are due to arrive in February. After the preorder period, the book can be purchased in February for \$90 and \$50 and will be available in the Space Shop, Building 4203.

To preorder at these special prices, go to <http://inside.msfc.nasa.gov/announcements/Wings-in-Orbit-book-Order-Form.pdf>, complete the order form and take it, along with your payment, to the Space Shop. Copies of the order form will be available at the Space Shop for retirees and others unable to access the link above.

"Wings in Orbit" features stories told in layman's terms by NASA's best subject matter experts and external resources. Included are numerous articles written by both current and former Marshall team members.

"Marshall's contributions to shuttle reach back to the conception phase, in the 1960s, all the way up to today," said Steve Cash, manager of the Shuttle Propulsion Office, who also was a member of the committee that conceptualized the book's publication.

"Marshall has been a key player with

"Certain physical objects become the icon of their time. Popular sentiment transmutes shape, form, and outline into a mythic embodiment of the era so that the abstracted symbol evokes even the hopes and aspirations of the day. These icons are instantly recognizable even by the merest suggestion of their shape: a certain wasp-waisted soft drink bottle epitomizes America of the 1950s; the outline of a gothic cathedral evokes the middle ages of Europe; the outline of a steam locomotive memorializes the American expansion westward in the late 19th century; a clipper ship under full sail idealizes global trade in an earlier part of that century. America's space shuttle has become such an icon symbolizing American ingenuity and leadership at the turn of the 21st century..."

— Excerpt from "Wings in Orbit: Scientific and Engineering Legacies of the Space Shuttle"



shuttle since the beginning," Cash added. "Our Marshall people are well represented as authors in this 600-page book."

Among current and former NASA employees at Marshall writing articles for the book are Mike Pessin, Scotty Sparks, Jeff Ding, Jonathon Burkholder, Greg Swanson, Preston McGill, Tony Fiorucci, Jack Scarpa and Katherine Van Hooser, all of the Engineering Directorate. Contractor employee contributors include Jim Butler and Terry Huss of United Space Alliance in Houston; Paul Bauer, Bruce Steinetz, Michael Killpack, Coy Jordan, Holly Lamb, Fred Perkins and

Brad Cragun of ATK Launch Systems in Promontory, Utah; Arthur Hill, Fred Jue and Jon Frandsen of Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne in Canoga Park, Calif.; and Anne Meinhold of ITB Inc. in Beaver Creek, Ohio.

The book's introduction summarizes its purpose: "As the shuttle program comes to a close, it is important to capture the legacy of the shuttle for future generations and that is what 'Wings in Orbit' does for space fans, students, engineers and scientists."

Martel, an AI Signal Research Inc. employee, supports the Office of Strategic Analysis & Communications.

Marshall debuts innovative facility to support future space exploration

By Sanda Martel

The Marshall Space Flight Center has unveiled a new facility that represents a major investment in future spacecraft development. Known as the Thermal Protection System Development Facility, in Building 4765, it will support the center's Materials and Processes Laboratory efforts in developing new thermal protection system materials and application processes.

"This facility adds a new and unique capability for NASA," said Michael Frazier, assistant chief of the Nonmetals Engineering Branch of the Materials and Processes Laboratory, during the open house of the facility Sept. 24. "It is uniquely equipped to develop thermal protection system materials and processes and provide a safe and reliable robotic application of both primer and spray-on foam insulation materials to full-scale size hardware."

The \$10 million facility features temperature and humidity range and control capability; updated dispense metering and data acquisition equipment; and an additional cold storage area for thermal protection materials.

"All these processes are performed under one roof in this state-of-the-art facility," Frazier said. The foam application process and the priming process are traditionally conducted in different processing cells.

Thermal protection system materials used in cryogenic, or super-cold, environments are continuously threatened by obsolescence

issues, Frazier said. The new facility supports materials and process development efforts to address these threats and move toward more environmentally friendly alternative materials.

Frazier said that after the Spray-On Foam Insulation, or SOFI, booth closes later this year in Building 4707, the Building 4765 facility will be the only site at Marshall performing such work.

"Future spray-on foam insulation and thermal protection system primer materials and processes will be developed in this facility," said Frazier. "Those details will be directly transferable to production facilities in order to support flight production operations."

Gallagher-Kaiser of Detroit designed and built the spray booth for the thermal protection facility. Aerobotix Inc. of Huntsville designed and installed the robotic spray system. Five employees of Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., Engineering, Sciences, and Technical Services of Pasadena, Calif., operate the facility.

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Craig Morgan, left, a Jacobs Engineering Group engineer, and Michael Frazier, assistant chief of the Nonmetals Engineering Branch of the Materials and Processes Laboratory, adjust a robotic spray head in the Thermal Protection System Development Facility.

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