

# Air Scoop



*Mr. Chamberlain*

## RESEARCH PIONEER SUCCUMBS DR. LEWIS' CAREER VARIED, COLORFUL LAB PAYS TRIBUTE TO NACA OFFICIAL

Effective September 1, 1947, Dr. George W. Lewis resigned as Director of Aeronautical Research and was appointed Research Consultant to the Committee. He was succeeded as Director of Aeronautical Research by Dr. Hugh L. Dryden.

Dr. Lewis assumed the direction of the Committee's research activities in 1919 with the title Executive Officer, and in 1924 he was appointed Director of Aeronautical Research. He was awarded the Daniel Guggenheim Medal in 1936 for "outstanding success in the direction of aeronautical research and for the development of original equipment and methods." In 1937 he was appointed by President Roosevelt as plenipotentiary delegate of the United States to the Inter-American Technical Aviation Conference in Lima, Peru. He delivered the Wilbur Wright Memorial Lecture before the Royal Aeronautical Society in London in 1939 on the subject, "Some Modern Methods of Research in the Problems of Flight." He was awarded the Spirit of St. Louis Medal of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in 1945. He has been active in scientific and engineering societies, and has served on a number of boards of award for aeronautical medals, contests, and trophies. He has been honored by election to the National Academy of Sciences, by the award of two degrees of Doctor of Engineering, and by a Life



DR. GEORGE W. LEWIS  
1882-1948

Membership in the National Aeronautic Association. He served as an official emissary of the United States Government in inspecting aeronautical research activities in various European countries, notably Germany and Russia, before the war.

At a meeting of the NACA Executive Committee held on August 11, 1947, at which the resignation of Dr. Lewis as Director of Aeronautical Research was announced, the members unanimously adopted a testimonial to Dr. Lewis "with our heart-felt thanks for all he has done for the Committee" and congratulating him for his long period of "exceptionally meritorious service to his country."

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Dr. George W. Lewis, 66, Research Consultant to the NACA and director of the Committee's research activities from 1919 to 1947, died Monday, July 12, at his summer home at Lake Winota, Pennsylvania.

Funeral services for the world-reknowned figure in aeronautical research were conducted Wednesday in Pennsylvania. The Laboratory paused a moment in silent tribute Wednesday to Dr. Lewis, who made frequent visits to Langley in the course of his official duties.

Dr. Lewis is survived by his widow, six children, and six grandchildren. A son, Leigh K. Lewis, is employed at the Laboratory in the West Mechanical Engineering Section.

Born at Ithaca, N. Y., in 1882, Dr. Lewis was educated at Cornell University. He received the honorary degree of Doctor of Science from Norwich University in 1934 and the honorary degree of Doctor of Engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1944.

During his service with the NACA, Dr. Lewis recruited and trained the research staff from a handful of workers into the present force of approximately 6,000 employees. He planned and carried through the unique research facilities at Langley, Moffett Field, and Cleveland, and has led an outstanding technical staff, from whom have come a succession of advances in aeronautical science.



The Air Scoop, an official publication of the Langley Aeronautical Laboratory, National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, Langley Air Force Base, Hampton, Virginia, is published weekly in the interest of its employees. Address contributions to the Editor, Service Building, telephone 2376.

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## LIFE AT THE LABORATORY

A young Laboratory maiden. . . . .

Thordis Retz, Library, recently left the Laboratory to devote her time to becoming a wife and keeping house. She was married June 25 to Kenneth Sheely in La Crosse, Indiana.

Passing out cigars. . . . .

is Vernon Ward, 16-Foot Tunnel. He and his wife recently adopted a new daughter, Susan Linda.

Dan Cupid scored. . . . .

another victory last week when his arrow found its mark in the Tank and 9-Inch Supersonic Tunnel. Sporting a sparkler on the third finger left hand is Louise Phillips, Tank, and the prospective bridegroom is Harry Heinke, 9-Inch.

Another proud papa. . . . .

who is gradually recuperating from the ordeal of becoming a father is Clowers S. Vernon, Jr., P.A.R.I.S., He became the father of a nine pound son, Clowers, III, on Monday, July 5.

Wedding bells rang. . . . .

last Thursday when Carrie Love, formerly of Employee Services, took her final vows with Robert Lear of Newport News. The wedding took place at the bride's home in Hampton.

Passing out cigars. . . . .

in a manner typical of new fathers is Arnold Beckhardt, Flight Research. He became the father of a daughter, Sandra Lynn, on Friday, July 9.

The Army again. . . . .

extends an invitation to all Laboratory girls to the R.O.T.C. dance on Friday night, July 23. The boys come from colleges in Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee and other Southern States. Girls interested in attending the dance are asked to call the "Air Scoop" Office, telephone 2376.

Service Club Dances. . . . .

All NACA girls are also extended an invitation to attend the dances every Friday and Sunday night at the Service Club #1. The dances are from 8:30 'til 11 p.m. and transportation is furnished. The Service Club also sponsors hay rides every Wednesday night to Buckroe, Yorktown and other neighboring towns. Girls interested in attending either the dances or hay rides are asked to contact Mrs. Charles C. Nixon, Army Extension 5269.

FOR SALE: 3½ x 4½ Marion single lens reflex camera, f4.5, speeds to 1/900. Hunter, Flight Research.

WANTED: Ride from LaSalle and Kecoughtan to W.A. on 7 shift. Wade Squires, 4517.

WANTED: Ride from 30th and Wickham to W.A. on 7:30 shift. Mrs. Kendrick, 4401.

WANTED: Ride from Parish and 25th to W.A. on 7:30 shift. McDaniel, 4593.

WANTED: 5 passengers to Cedar Rapids, Iowa via Pittsburgh and Chicago Aug. 7. Schulze, R.M.A.

FOR SALE: White palm beach suit. Size 36. Hardrath, Structures.

FOR SALE: Seven room house on Jefferson Ave. N.N. 22881.

FOR SALE: 1935 DeSoto. M. W. Liddell, Hampton 3-3489.

FOR SALE: Amprite microphone and amplifier. Ashe, W. Machine.

## BRAINBUSTER NEWS

By Paul Marchal

Plans for the Sixth Annual Brainbusters Championship were discussed at the regular meeting Tuesday night.

Caldwell Johnson, West Engineering, was named contest director and will have several assistants who have not been appointed as yet.

Tentative contest date is set for Sunday, September 5, the day before Labor Day. Confirmation of the date is pending approval by the Academy of Model Aeronautics in Washington.

Col. Wimsatt, Langley Field Base Commander, has assured full cooperation and use of Langley Field on the day of the contest.

A quantity of merchandise from various manufacturing concerns has been received in addition to generous donations by the NACA Supervisors Club and the Hampton Exchange Club.

An important meeting will be held Tuesday, July 27, at the Syms-Eaton Community Center at 7:30 p.m. to discuss further contest plans. A committee from the Exchange Club is expected to attend to help with the planning. All members are urged to attend and all other interested persons are cordially invited.

On Sunday a large club contingent will compete in the P-NUT City Contest at Suffolk, Va. Events will be classes A, B, C, and D gas powered, combined rubber powered and hand launched glider.

## BASEBALL UNIFORM LOST IN WEST AREA

A regulation baseball uniform, used by one of the players in the softball game between Research and Administrative-Technical Services during the recent carnival, has been lost. This was a uniform used by a member of the NACA baseball team 20 years ago and was especially valued from a sentimental standpoint.

Any one having any information concerning the uniform, which was removed from a porch of the Collier Home in the Morale Activities Area, is requested to call the "Air Scoop" Office, telephone 2376.

WANTED: Passengers from Wythe to E.A. on 7:30 shift. Bill Outten, 2216.

LOST: Leroy lettering set. Pierpont, 2347.

FOR SALE: 5 room house. 23 West Preston. Call Hampton 7644.



# SOFTBALL NEWS

The biggest upset in the softball league this week was Low Turbulence's three defeats which dropped them from third to seventh place in Division I. Up until their meeting with Electrical, Low Turbulence had a perfect record of no defeats. The losing streak started when Electrical took a 8-6 win. Low Turbulence led up until the sixth inning when Electrical took a one run lead. Winning pitcher Knemeyer allowed only 4 hits, struck out 5, and walked 1 while losing pitcher Burrows gave up 9 hits, struck out 4, and walked 3. Star batter for Electrical was Cottrill with a single and 2 doubles.

In a closely played game IRD managed to end up on the winning end of a 4-3 game with Full Scale. Full Scale scored 2 runs in the fourth and was leading until the seventh when a scoreless IRD team came through with 4 runs. Winning pitcher Raoul Bugg allowed 6 hits, and struck out 6 while losing pitcher Roy Lange gave up 8 hits, struck out 2, and walked 5. Stars for the winners were Dave Newby who batted in the winning run and Foulter who connected for 2 singles a double.

Low Turbulence lost another close one last Friday when 9-Inch took a 11-10 win. Low Turbulence led all the way until 9-Inch tied things up in the sixth and scored the winning run in the last of the seventh. Winning pitcher Love gave up 10 hits and walked 3 while losing pitcher Schaefer gave up 12 hits and walked 4. Jim Mueller, 9-Inch, was top batter with 2 singles and a home run.

With the score tied 8-8 at the beginning of the seventh, PARD managed to come through with the winning run to down Instrument Service 9-8. Winning pitcher Faget gave up 11 hits while losing pitcher Forstmann gave up 10. The outstanding batting of the day was done by Kyle, Instrument Service, who connected for a single and two home runs.

Low Turbulence's other loss of the week came at the hands of West Model. West Model took the lead in the fifth inning and held onto it to win 14-10. Winning pitcher Schwally gave up 10 hits, struck out 3, and walked 3, while losing pitcher Emery gave up 13 hits, struck out 1, and walked 4. Al-son was leading batter with 3 singles.

Last Monday 7 X 10 took an easy 10-4 win over PARD. The winners scored in every inning except the fourth. Winning pitcher Andrews

# CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS OPENED

The Fourth U.S. Civil Service Region has amended Civil Service announcement of examination for Typist, CAF-1 through CAF-4 and Stenographer, CAF-2 through CAF-4 as follows: (1) the "age limit" paragraph in the original announcement has been amended to allow acceptance of applications from those who have reached their 17th birthday on the date of the application and (2) the "requirements" paragraph in the original announcement has been amended in that dictation will be given at the rate of 80 words per minute rather than 96.

The written examination will be given for these positions at Langley Field in the near future. Applications must be sent to the NACA Board of U.S. Civil Service Examiners by Monday, July 19.

Also open is the examination for Clerk, CAF-1 through CAF-4. Applications will be accepted by the Director, Fourth U.S. Civil Service Region, Temporary Building "R", Third Street and Jefferson Drive, S.E., Washington 25, D.C., until the close of business on Wednesday, July 21. For further information or for application forms, call the Board of Examiners, telephone 2226.

WANTED: Ride to Youngstown, Ohio or vicinity week-end of July 23. Roy Flannagan, Aero Loads.

gave up 7 hits, struck out 2, and walked 3 while losing pitcher Strass gave up 12 hits, struck out 2, and walked 6. Star batters for the winners were Piland with 3 singles and Myers with 2 singles and a double.

## STANDINGS - DIVISION I

Team	W	L	Avg.
19-Foot	6	0	1.000
Electrical Shop	6	0	1.000
Dynamic Tunnels	3	1	.750
Engineering Serv.	4	2	.667
Structures	3	2	.600
Low Turbulence	3	3	.500
Loads	3	4	.429
West Model	3	4	.429
9-Inch	2	4	.333
Spin Tunnel	2	7	.222
East Shops	0	8	.000

## STANDINGS - DIVISION II

Team	W	L	Avg.
West Machine	5	0	1.000
IRD	6	1	.857
Full Scale	6	3	.667
E. Compressibility	4	3	.571
7 X 10	4	3	.571
16-Foot	3	3	.500
IAL	2	2	.500
PRD	2	4	.333
PARD	2	5	.286
Inst. Service	1	6	.143
8-Foot	1	6	.143

# UNIVERSITY CONFERENCE LAUDED BY DR. DRYDEN

The following statement was received this week in the office of Dr. H. J. E. Reid from Dr. Hugh L. Dryden, Director of Aeronautical Research.

"I congratulate the Langley Laboratory on the excellent character of the NACA-University Conference on Aerodynamics. This conference was very well received, and served a real need in summarizing the status of a number of fields in aerodynamics. The conference report is expected to be a useful contribution to the literature.

"Please extend my congratulations and thanks to all members of the Langley staff who contributed to the success of the conference."

# U. OF VA. OFFERS GRADUATE STUDY

Laboratory officials announced this week that graduate study in the Department of Engineering has been approved by the General Faculty of the University of Virginia and will begin in the Fall of this year. The program, as approved by the General Faculty, will enable employees to take graduate-level courses for credit toward a degree of Master of Aeronautical, Electrical, or Mechanical Engineering.

To obtain such a degree the student will normally attend evening classes locally for two years for 12 semester hours of credit, attend two eight-week Summer sessions in residence at the University of Virginia for 12 semester hours of credit making a total of 24 semester hours required for a degree. In addition to this a thesis is required which could be developed in connection with a research project carried on at the Laboratory.

In order to become a candidate for a degree, an applicant must have received a baccalaureate degree from a collegiate institution of recognized standing, he must present a complete transcript of college credits, two letters of recommendation from the faculty of the Institution in which he performed his undergraduate work or any other evidence needed to demonstrate his ability to pursue graduate study with profit. This information should be submitted to the Training Office not later than August 6.

FOR SALE: 2 new homes and several lots in Fox Hill and Grand View. Wilson Hogg, Impact Loads.



# HERBERT H. HOOVER RECEIVES OCTAVE CHANUTE AWARD FOR 1948



Herbert H. Hoover, head of the Flight Operations Section, will receive the Octave Chanute Award today at the annual summer meeting of the Institute of Aeronautical Sciences in Los Angeles. --Photo by Don Foster

Herbert H. Hoover, head of the Flight Operations Section and a test pilot at the Laboratory for nearly eight years, is the 1948 recipient of the Octave Chanute Award given annually by the Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences.

The award, given for Hoover's "contributions to the application of flight test procedures to basic research in aerodynamics, and development of methods for scientific study of transonic flight," will be presented today at the annual summer meeting of the Institute at the Hotel Ambassador in Los Angeles.

The Chanute award, established by the Institute in 1939 and given annually for notable contributions made by a pilot of the aeronautical sciences, honors the memory of the American engineer, Octave Chanute, who died in 1910. Chanute was a pioneer in aeronautical research and gave assistance and advice to the Wright Brothers in their early work.

Hoover entered on duty at the Laboratory on December 16, 1940, after a period of service as an Army pilot and as a pilot with the Standard Oil Company of Venezuela. During his duty with the NACA, he has flown more than 100 types of airplanes and engaged in a variety of assignments, one of the first of which was making flight tests of the XC-35 in thunderstorms.

His most recent contribution to aeronautical science has been that of flying the XS-1 airplane during research tests at Muroc, California. As a result, Hoover is one of five men to have flown an airplane through the sonic barrier. Just what speeds Hoover has reached, however, have not been made public.

Hoover was born May 18, 1912 in Knoxville, Tennessee. He attended Central High School, Knox County, Tennessee, and upon graduation went to the University of Tennessee where he received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering in 1934.

Following graduation he applied for training in the Army Air Force and spent the next three years on active duty with the Air Corps Reserve. He then accepted a position as pilot with the Standard Oil Company of Venezuela and spent much of his time transporting equipment, personnel, and hospital patients from camp to camp. He came back to the States in 1940 and reported for duty at Langley.

Hoover's only accident in the air occurred in 1943 during the NACA's investigation of the Navy Helldiver, which was showing serious trouble in pull-outs from dives. Hoover was on a flight test undertaken in order to calibrate some of the 1,700 pounds of instruments to be used in the Helldiver in-

## CREDIT UNION NOTICE

It has been called to the attention of Credit Union officials that Laboratory employees are calling the Credit Union Office in the West Cafeteria during hours when Marge Zender, the assistant treasurer, is not stationed there. This causes a lot of unnecessary telephone answering by the manager of the cafeteria.

Credit Union Officials would like to point out that office hours in the West Cafeteria are from 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays and they ask that employees not call there except during those hours. From 1 to 3:30 p.m. on the same days the office is located in the Aircraft Loads Building but cannot be reached by telephone. During the remaining part of the week the Credit Union is located in the Service Building, telephone 2397.



vestigation. While this calibration flight was under way, the airplane moving at relatively low speed, the canopy over the cockpit tore loose. As it fluttered away, an edge of the structure smashed through Hoover's helmet and goggles. He found his sight blurred by blood streaming from his forehead. Although in pain and almost blinded, Hoover kept his seat in the now open airplane, turned back to Langley and put the ship into a maneuver that would attract attention. The men on the ground instantly understood that something was wrong, they cleared the air and the field of other aircraft, and Hoover brought the Helldiver to a safe landing.

George W. Gray, in his book "Frontiers of Flight," the story of NACA research, described the episode as providing "a striking example of the sort of presence of mind that is an indispensable quality of the good research pilot."

Hoover is now one of four NACA research pilots who hold the Chanute award. The fifth was the late Edmund Allen, formerly an NACA pilot, who was given the award in 1939. In 1941 the award was made to Melvin Gough, Chief of the Flight Research Division; in 1943 to William McAvoy, formerly of Langley and now of Ames, and last year to Lawrence B. Clousing, engineering test pilot at Ames.

The recognition accorded these men is testimony to the value of well-trained, courageous, but careful pilots to aeronautical research. It is a value that increases as airplane speeds increase.