

## Highlights

- More of Same - Possible Flow Reversal
- TexAQS 2000 - Weather Foils Most of Today's Flights
- Study Overview Meeting Tonight at 8:00 PM

## Inside

- Upcoming Events - Media Day!
- Ellington Etiquette - Employee's Only!
- Thoughts for the Day

# The Daily Plan-it

The TexAQS 2000  
Field Study Newsletter  
Issue 8  
August 22, 2000



## Mother Nature Rains on TexAQS Parade

### Ellington CapRock Etiquette

While keeping an entirely straight face, our highly esteemed building manager, Ron Lee, reminded me that - this being a serious office building - all TexAQS participants **must** remember to use the Employees & Deliveries Parking Lot and not the Visitors Lot. Evidently our slightly Bohemian appearances have raised the style hackles of our more formally attired & businesslike neighbors. Try as I might to convince Ron that we were people of more substance than style, my pleas fell upon deaf ears.

So, please consider yourself reminded that we are to remain as invisible and as circumspect as possible and **always use** the Employee's Lot. Also, don't forget to use the service elevator for moving boxes and other packages.

### Once Again - New Hangar Numbers

- DOE G-1 - 281 922-5064
- Baylor Twin Otter - 281 922-4678
- Fax - 281 922-4723

### Weather Wizards

Karl Schulze, and Stephanie Naumann provided the weather forecast today. Karl coined a new and interesting phrase when he suggested that tomorrow would "be the same as today, even worse." Fred suggested that he was evidently learning all the appropriate meteorological "weasel words" to which Karl replied that he was still "...having trouble with the smile."

Our high hopes for the land breeze/sea breeze characterization were dashed at about 10:30 AM by a small but intense line of southeast-to-northwest moving thunderstorms. All this, essentially, threw our good flying intentions into a cocked hat.

The macroscale circulation pattern - provided by a long-lived high-pressure ridge running from the Carolinas through northern Louisiana is breaking down.

### Electra N308D

Today's original plan for the NOAA/NCAR Electra had it conducting a 5 hour afternoon sea breeze, Houston characterization flight. These plans, however, were rendered phantasmal by the late AM storms.

Tomorrow's tentative flight plans call for a **power plant characterization** study in northeast Texas - Martin Lake & Mount Pleasant, or possibly east-central Waco area plants. Some of the transport models suggest, indeed, that the well-

aged Houston plume will be in the vicinity of the study area (Longview-Tyler-Marshall) during the flight thereby allowing consideration of the effects of fresh point source NO<sub>x</sub> contributions on a chemically aged air mass.

### G-1 N701BN

The G-1 flew this morning in advance of the rain. They left Ellington at 9:30 AM and returned



La Porte Aerosol Cluster

about 2 hours later. I understand that the buffeting was quite substantial and that several of the valiant experimentalists had difficulty maintaining their gastronomic composure.

As of this moment, everyone is recovering and there are no flight plans, as of yet, for tomorrow. It's possible, certainly, but entirely dependent on the weather.

### DC-3 N56KS

The flight planned for today was washed out. So Christoph and Raul have promised some flight results for tomorrow's Plan-It. Stay tuned for future developments.

Tentative flight plan for Wednesday  
- Depending on the weather, on August 23<sup>rd</sup> the DC-3 plans a 4-hour mission to study pollution levels near the sea breeze front. Leaving Ellington at 11:30 AM, they will fly a couple of small box patterns perpendicular to the sea breeze front. Each pattern will be repeated several times. As the sea breeze propagates inland the flight pattern will be adjusted accordingly. The nominal flight level will be at 10,500 feet msl.

### Twin Otter N153BU

The Twin Otter did get its morning land breeze characterization flight in before the rains began. In fact, I can confirm this flight since they were directly overhead when I was leaving the Diedrich Coffee Shop at 7:15 this morning.

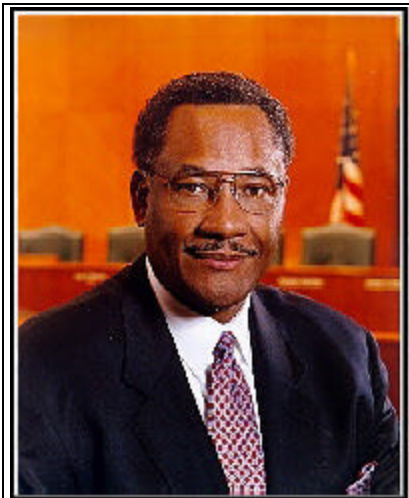
Tomorrow will be a down day for the Twin Otter to rest the flight crew and to repair/tune-up some recalcitrant instruments.

### Study Overview Meeting

Calling all graduate students and field study first timers! Drs. Peter

Daum (DOE) and David Allen (UTexas) will provide a scintillating overview of TexAQS 2000 with the intent of showing how all of the many and varied scientific puzzle pieces fit together to form a comprehensive, policy-relevant field study. Ultimately, the results of this study and others like it will lead not only to an improved technical understanding of the production, accumulation and transport of secondary air pollution but also help to develop effective and efficient science-based environmental control strategies.

The presenters promise to keep their remarks both succinct and



Mayor Lee Brown



Judge Robert Eckels

poetical. Certainly, you'll not want to miss this meeting. Get here early for the best seats.

### Media Day Thursday - Scoop

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commissioner (TNRCC) Ralph Marquez will be joined by Houston Mayor Lee Brown, Harris County Judge Robert Eckels, EPA Region 6 Administrator Gregg Cooke and other officials Thursday to officially kickoff the Texas 2000 Air Quality Study, the most extensive study of air quality ever conducted in Texas.

The kickoff will be at 2 PM on Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, at Hangar 594 at Ellington Field, 12000 Aerospace Avenue in Houston. The media should come to Southwest Services, Building 493, to gain admittance to the hangar.

The study, which will cost as much as \$20 million, is a comprehensive research project designed to shed new light on the complicated issues associated with air quality in the Houston-Galveston area and throughout East Texas.

Six research aircraft will be used in the study. Several of these aircraft will be on display during the press conference.

### Upcoming Events

**Aerosol Group Meeting** - Every Tuesday at 2:00 PM (Ellington, CapRock Building)

**LaPorte Team Meeting** - Every Tuesday at 3:00 PM (Ellington, CapRock Building)

**Science Overview Meeting** - Tuesday, **August 22<sup>nd</sup>** - 8:00 PM (Ellington, CapRock Building)

**Media Day** - Thursday, **August 24<sup>th</sup>** - 2:00 PM (Ellington, Southwest Services)

**VIP Day - Wednesday, August 30<sup>th</sup>**  
(Ellington, Southwest Services)

**Trooper of the Day**

Chet Spicer has won the coveted "Trooper of the Day" award for providing the excellent photographs that graced the front page of yesterday's Daily Plan-It.



**Chet Spicer**

**Thoughts for the Day**

"War doesn't determine who is right, war only determines who is left."

-Chinese Proverb

"Good people do not need laws to tell them to act responsibly, while bad

people will find a way around the laws."

-Plato

"It's kind of fun to do the impossible."

-Walt Disney