

Highlights

- Weather Report - High pressure moves to our southwest
- TexAQS 2000 Airforce All Up Today
- Flight Plans for Today and Tomorrow

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The Daily Plan-it

The TexAQS 2000
Field Study Newsletter
Issue 16
August 30, 2000



G-1 Snares TexAQS 2000 Ozone Record - 274 ppbv

CapRock Building Locks Down

Our CapRock Building Manager, Ron Lee, has asked the Daily Plan-It to remind everyone that this will be a long holiday weekend. Consequently, we will need to use our key-codes to gain access to the building and keys to our office suite. While our AC will continue to operate, the rest of the building will lose its cool.

Ron guarantees that we will be the *only* people here this weekend!

Weather Prognostication

Again, Karl Schulze and Stephanie Naumann provided the weather forecast today. Today begins, unexpectedly, with lower background ozone levels than yesterday - 13 ppbv over Galveston and single digits inland.

The center of the high pressure system, now located in the Gulf between Galveston and Corpus Christi, moved more quickly to the

southeast than anticipated. The expected land breeze did not materialize last evening due to steady west winds at the surface.

Yesterday's maximum surface levels

southerly sea/bay breeze at mid-day. Skies should remain mostly clear with a low probability of precipitation through Friday. This weekend may bring a bit of unsettled weather to the

Houston area but it's still too early to call.

Electra N308D

The Electra did not fly yesterday but will fly a mid-day urban/source characterization flight today. The first part of the flight - taking off at 10:30 AM and returning at 12:30 PM - will focus on the characterization of chemistry and transport over Galveston Bay and downtown Houston.



Inquiring minds want to know....

of ozone occurred to the east and north of Houston - at West Baytown (131 ppbv) at 2 to 3 PM, Mont Belvieu (146 ppbv) an hour later, and at Conroe (134 ppbv) from 6 to 7 PM.

Tomorrow's preliminary forecast suggests that things should be much the same as today with west to northwesterly winds in the morning - light but sufficient to foil a land breeze - followed by the establishment of a

After refueling at Southwest Services, the Electra will takeoff again at about 1:00 PM to do its standard north to south stack from the coast to north of Houston.

An Electra/G-1 intercomparison is planned for mid-afternoon tomorrow. Tomorrow there will be a pilots meeting at the CapRock Building coincident with the 1:00 PM meteorology briefing.

G-1 N701BN

Two-hundred-and-seventy-four ppbv of ozone was observed from the G-1 just off the western shore of Trinity Bay on the afternoon of August 29. This “record” is a preliminary number read off of a panel display. An ozone “puddle” was observed to the north and east of Baytown during both the AM and PM flights.

At 11:30 AM ozone had already reached a peak of 180 ppb and by 4:30 PM the puddle had more than 200 ppb with hot spots up to 274. Although NO_x had been depleted to a couple of ppb over much of the puddle, there were plume-like areas containing fresh NO_x emissions, so presumably this air mass had a potential to form still more ozone.

The flight crew of the G-1, momentarily distracted from the 104 degree cabin temperature, spent some time searching for the correct metaphor to describe this observation. Adding kerosene to a fire and boiling chips to super-heated water came to mind.

Hot off of yesterday's excitement, the G-1 will conduct a day-into-night flight today. It will takeoff at 7:30 PM and return at about 10:30 PM. Benefiting from the information gleaned by the Electra, Twin Otter, and DC-3, the G-1 will track the Houston plume downwind as evening sets in.

The G-1, in concert with the Electra, is planning an intercomparison flight tomorrow afternoon.

DC-3 N56KS

A splendid day for the DC-3/Lidar crew and a full flight is planned. A



Dressed to thrill! - G-1 Crew, from the left, Stephen Springston, Fred Brechtel, Linda Nunnermacker, Larry Kleinman, Bob Hannigan (stairs), Dick Hone (stairs), John Hubbe, Yin-Nan Lee, John Schmelzer, Jun Zheng, Gintus Buzorius, and Song Zhiguang

1:00 PM takeoff is anticipated for the DC-3 with the flight lasting for 4 to 6 hours while crossing and criss-crossing the east Houston metro area and extending down into the Gulf.

We are not privy to the DC-3/Lidar plans for tomorrow at this time but, if the clouds are few, it is possible that they will fly.

Twin Otter N153BU

Today's standard set of Twin Otter flights began with an early morning flight taking off at 7:20 AM. Interestingly, the Twin Otter encountered over 200 ppbv sulfur dioxide over the Bay this morning. This morning's land breeze characterization flight was followed at noon by a sea breeze & source characterization flight lasting through 2:30 PM.

The Twin Otter and crew will take a well-deserved down day tomorrow.

Electra/G1 Intercomparison

The Electra and G-1 are planning an intercomparison flight tomorrow - Thursday, August 31st. The flight crews of these aircraft are asked to meet at the Thursday 1:00 PM met briefing at the CapRock Building to compare notes and to make specific plans.

Following the intercomparison it is likely that each aircraft will conduct research flights.

VIP Day

Two Congressional staffers are here today. Tom Vanek - the Energy and Environment Subcommittee of the House Science Committee - will be accompanied by NOAA's Andrew Larkin. Both Tom and Andrew will fly on board the NCAR/NOAA Electra during its Wednesday morning research flight. After a 1:00 PM box lunch, the group will head to LaPorte to examine this research-grade surface monitoring station.

We also hope to meet and greet Chris Devaney of Texas Senator Phil Gramm's Staff.

VIP Agenda

8:30 AM Study Briefing (CapRock Building) - Peter Daum, Fred Fehsenfeld, and Jim Meagher

9:30 AM NCAR/RAF Safety Briefing (NASA Hangar)

10:30 AM Electra Takeoff for research flight (Ellington Field)

12:30 PM Electra Landing (Ellington Field)

1:00 PM Box Lunch (CapRock Building)

1:30 PM Leave for LaPorte Airport Site

1:45 PM Tour of La Porte Airport Site

4:00 PM Leave for Intercontinental Airport

Upcoming Events

Aerosol Group Meeting - Thursday, August 31st, 2:00 PM (Ellington, CapRock Conference Room)

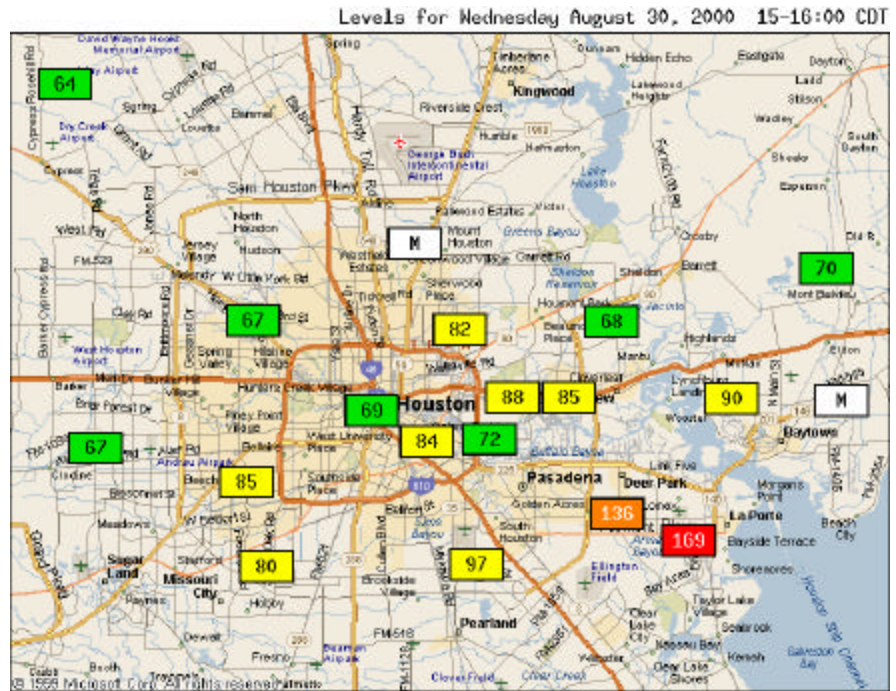
LaPorte Team Meeting - Thursday, August 31st, 3:00 PM (Ellington, CapRock Conference Room)

VOC Intercomparison Meeting - Thursday, August 31st, 4:30 PM (Ellington, CapRock Conference Room)

Labor Day Holiday - Monday, September 4, 2000. Business as usual for TexAQS 2000. Don't forget that the CapRock will be locked down for the weekend *and* Labor Day so don't forget your code and keys!

Thoughts for the Day

“Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go.”



-T. S. Eliot

“If everything appears to be going well, you don't know what the hell is going on.”

-Anonymous

“Small minds discuss people, average minds discuss events, great minds discuss ideas.”

-Anonymous

“Work like you don't need the money. Love like you've never been hurt. Dance like nobody's watching.”

-Satchel Paige

“The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.”

-Anonymous