

Highlights

- Weather Report - Continuing Chance of PM showers
- TexAQS Airforce - G-1, DC-3 & Twin Otter Fly Today
- Three Meetings Tomorrow at U. Houston - Clear Lake

Inside

- **T-shirt Instructions - Get 'em while they're hot!**
- Trooper of the Day - Eric Williams
- Thoughts for the Day

The Daily Plan-It

*The TexAQS 2000
Field Study Newsletter
Issue 28
September 12, 2000*



“Oh TexAQS, the pipes, the pipes are callin’...”

Weather Forecast

Stephanie Naumann from Texas A&M University provided this morning's weather forecast. Background ozone levels in the greater Houston area continue to be low. The 6 to 7 AM hourly average is highest at Galveston Airport (23 ppbv) and LaPorte (15 ppbv) with single digits elsewhere.

Under south-southeasterly flow, yesterday's maximum surface ozone levels occurred north-northwest of downtown Houston - at Conroe and Northwest Harris County (54 ppbv) from 2 to 3 PM. For the fifth consecutive day, no Houston area monitoring recorded a preliminary hourly average in excess of 120 ppbv. Evidently, the TexAQS Study “came in like a lion and is going out like a lamb.”

The overnight land breeze failed to develop substantially and light southeasterly winds continue to bring moisture, clouds and a chance of isolated PM thundershowers to the Houston area - 20 to 30%.

Although there is considerable frontal activity to our north and east, our pattern should remain the same tomorrow with the morning relatively more clear and clouds showing up by mid-day. The precipitable water content of the atmosphere remains high. The winds should back a bit from today and have a more easterly component tomorrow. This backing should continue and, ostensibly, bring more continental air across southeast Texas on Thursday.

The next meteorology/aircraft planning briefing will be 7:30 AM

tomorrow (Wednesday, August 13).

Electra N308D

The Electra did not fly yesterday and will not fly today as they pack up and prepare for their final research flight of TexAQS - a series of upwind and downwind transects of Tulsa and Oklahoma City, OK, on the way back to Denver, CO. Estimated Ellington take off of 11 AM.

NOTICE - A final **NOAA/NCAR Electra Crew/Science Team Picture** will be taken just before takeoff tomorrow to preserve the image for history and posterity.

G-1 N701BN

Yesterday, the G-1 conducted an aerosol physics & chemistry flight over the Gulf to examine sea salt aerosols and north of Houston to examine overland aerosol production above and within the boundary layer.

The G-1 will conduct two urban chemistry characterization flights today leaving Ellington at 9:30 AM and 2:00 PM, weather permitting. Total flight time will be 6 hours.

Tomorrow, the G-1 and



The Electra makes a low-level “missed approach” over the LaPorte Monitoring Station with the ship channel refineries in the background. These passes allow intercomparison of aircraft and surface monitoring data. Courtesy of Eric Williams.

the Twin Otter are planning to conduct a mid-morning intercomparison flight along with their research urban characterization flights.

DC-3 N56KS

The DC-3 did not fly yesterday but will fly today. The DC-3 will conduct an aerosol/ozone characterization flight over the greater Houston area taking off at 10 AM. The DC-3 will fly a series of transects upwind (south), over and downwind (north) of the Houston area at 11,500 feet msl. A total flight time of six hours should get them back to Ellington by approximately 4:00 PM.

According to Christoph Senff, the DC-3 may have a few hours left following today's flight. They are willing to "do what they can" to help during the remaining G-1 and Twin Otter flights. Thanks, folks!

Twin Otter N153BU

The Twin Otter did not fly yesterday but will fly twice today. A 7:30 AM flight is planned for the Galveston Bay/ship channel chemistry characterization. This afternoon's flight, weather permitting, will be done over Houston and the eastern part of the ship channel. The afternoon flight will include a series of transects across I-10 corridor and downwind of Houston (north). During both of today's flights, the Twin Otter will conduct several planned flybys at LaPorte and Williams Tower. Nominal altitude of 1500 feet msl with brief excursions to probe height of boundary layer. Total flight time of approximately 2.5 hours for each flight.

Tomorrow, the Twin Otter will try to do another intercomparison flight with the G-1.

Study T-Shirt Rules

The TexAQS study T-shirts **will be available** tomorrow (Wednesday, September 13th) at 8 AM. Thanks to the generosity of the Southern Oxidants Study, these shirts will be free of charge. In order to receive a shirt you will:

1. Present yourself at Bill's desk after 8:00 AM CDT.
2. Review/edit your information on the participants list.
3. Receive shirt.

While there are exceptions to every rule, you do need to present yourself in person if at all possible. Designated shirt picker-uppers (DSPU's) will be accepted but **only** if they check and confirm address for **everyone** they are serving. If you are not leaving tomorrow, please wait until Thursday or Friday as we don't want to have a run on the office.

Upcoming Events

Computer Network Termination - Monday, September 18th. The offices at LaPorte and Ellington Field will have internet and printing access through the 18th. After that, Cathy B's packing it up and going home (on September 21st)!

Daily Meteorological and Aircraft Planning Meetings - 7:30 AM and 1:00 PM (Ellington CapRock Building, Conference Room).

Dr. Peter Daum - Speaks at the University of Houston-Clear Lake at Noon on Wednesday, September 13th, in Room1438 of the Bayou Building.

Aerosol Group Meeting - 1:00 PM at the University of Houston-Clear Lake on Wednesday, September 13th, in Room1438 of the Bayou Building.

LaPorte Team Meeting - 2:00 PM at the University of Houston-Clear Lake

on Wednesday, September 13th, in Room1438 of the Bayou Building. A *Map of the University is on the last page of the Plan-It.*



Trooper of the Day

Sir Eric Williams of LaPorte is the TexAQS 2000 Trooper of the Day. His purity, patience and planning have turned what otherwise might be a common mob scene into a cohesive, focused scientific juggernaut.

On top of that, he's on heck of a good guy who labors tirelessly in the vineyards of atmospheric chemistry. For all that and more, you are the Trooper of the Day

Thoughts for the Day

"Trust men and they will be true to you; treat them greatly and they will show themselves great."

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

-Martin Luther King, Jr.

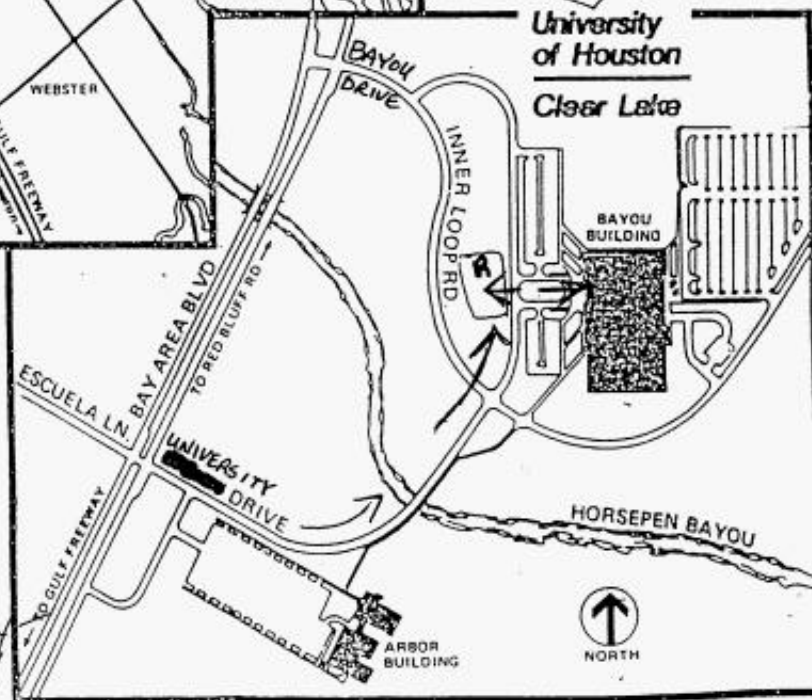
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Clear Lake

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UP AUTOMATICALLY
PROVIDE TOKEN
TO LEAVE!