

Highlights

- NOAA/NCAR Electra to arrive late today
- High temperatures and stagnant air bode well for ozone
- Twin Otter flies today - the inside story

Inside

- Daum labels Rice Reception an unqualified success
- Restaurant Review - Ruggles, dessert and much more...
- Thoughts for the day

The Daily Plan-it

*The TexAQS 2000
Field Study Newsletter
Issue 2
August 16, 2000*



Hola Houston! TexAQS 2000 Hits the Ground Running

NOAA/NCAR Electra is Houston Bound

According to no less an authority than our own Fred Fehsenfeld, the NOAA/NCAR Electra will leave JeffCo (Jefferson County Airport) near Boulder CO at approximately 12:00 PM CDT and ferry to Salina, Kansas, for refueling on its way to Ellington Field. A 6:00 PM arrival is anticipated.

This timely arrival will complete our compliment of Houston TexAQS 2000 aircraft. The aircrews will be meeting with the FAA at 9:00 AM tomorrow (August 17, 2000) to establish the protocol for future TexAQS flights.

Beryl Dies in the Desert

Tropical storm Beryl provided a little rainfall over the south Texas coast and along the Rio Grande before fizzling out completely over arid northeastern Mexico. While it was a little more windy and cloudy in Houston as a consequence of Beryl's passing, it did not provide much in the way of precipitation for the Houston area.

Weather today should mark a return to more typical conditions - hot (95+ degrees F), humid, and stagnant. There are numerous heat advisories

over the central part of the country. In short, ideal conditions for the production and accumulation of secondary air pollution. Our chief prognosticator, John Nielsen-Gammon predicts an exceedence of the 1-hour ozone standard today.

TNRCC/Baylor Twin Otter

The TNRCC/Baylor Twin Otter departed at 0700 CDT this morning to conduct a test run of the land breeze characterization flight plan. The land breeze occurs soon after midnight when the land becomes cooler than the water in Galveston Bay and air starts to flow toward the warmer water. This flow continues offshore overnight and the air mass over land concentrates



**Large Feathered Aerosol
Spotted at Williams Tower**

as it cools and settles, typically to a depth of less than 1000 feet.

The 2 hour flight plan is essentially a series of shallow vertical box spirals to

provide information about the air layer that has settled onshore and pooled in Galveston Bay offshore overnight. A vertical profile from ground to just above the mixing layer for the previous day will occur after take off from Ellington Field. The plane will traverse over to La Porte Airport and spiral down to as close to ground as possible without landing. The plane will traverse to Baytown Airport and spiral from near ground to at least 2000 feet. Three vertical spirals will occur over Galveston Bay with traverses between spirals at 100 feet. Two vertical profiles will be conducted from 100 feet to 2000 feet and one will be conducted to 10,000 feet. All of the vertical profiles will be completed before thermal mixing starts to break up the layer of interest, typically between 0900 and 1000.

Reception Redux

Over 100 scientists attended the TexAQS 2000 opening reception at Rice University yesterday evening. After an hour of beverages and snacks Peter Daum, Mission Scientist for the project, Jim Thomas of TNRCC and Jake Hales of NARSTO welcomed the assembled group. All commented on the quantity and quality of facilities, resources and personnel that have been gathered together for the project, making it one of the largest and most

comprehensive field campaigns of its kind. Thanks were given to all of the folks that have worked so hard to make the program possible, especially the efforts of **Jim Price, Vince Torres, Dave Allen and Eric Williams**. The remainder of the program was devoted to describing the major components of the program by Dave Allen of the U. Texas, Fred Fehsenfeld Eric Williams, and Cathy Burgdorf of the NOAA-AL, Carl Berkowitz of PNNL, and Jim Price of the TNRCC. A good time was had by all.

Status Report

Ellington Field - The headquarters office space on the 3rd Floor of the CapRock Building (Suite 354, 12000 Aerospace Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77034) is ready. The T-1 internet connection is live and we are officially on the LAN. Ellington office telephone numbers are:

- Main Office (Parkhurst, Burgdorf, Amidon) 281 929-1104
- Main Office Fax 281 929-1132
- TNRCC (Price, Rozacky, White) 281 929-1129
- DOE (Daum, Kleinman, Lee) 281 929-1128
- NOAA - AL (Solomon, Parrish, Daniel) 281 929-1127
- NOAA - AL (Fehsenfeld, Meagher, Ryerson) 281 929-1126
- NOAA - AL (Trainer, Hübler) 281 929-1125
- NOAA - ETL (Senff, Olszyna) 281 929-1111
- DOE (Brecktel, W-Lloyd) 281 929-1114
- Weather Forecast Center (McNider, Martin, Nielson-Gammon) 281 929-1159

Ellington Flight Operations
The Ellington hangar (Southwest Services) office space is in pretty good

shape with the exception of T-1 and telephone service which should be installed by Friday. The Baylor Twin Otter arrived on Tuesday, August 8th, the DOE G-1 arrived on Sunday, August 13th, the NOAA DC-3 arrived on Monday, August 14th and the NOAA Electra should arrive today.

LaPorte Level 3 Site/Particulate Matter "Supersite" - According to Eric Williams, "25% of the instruments are up and collecting data, 50% are in



Wayne Angevine Waxes Eloquent at Opening Ceremony

the process of being run up or calibrated, and 25% are still being assembled." The target is to have all instruments operational by this weekend when the first combined aircraft flights will occur. The T-1 connection active and telephones have been installed. The numbers follow:

- LaPorte (Trailer 19) 281 470-2572
- LaPorte (Trailer 20) 281 470-1035

Williams Tower - Outside of a turkey vulture or two, things are proceeding nicely at the Williams. The telephones have been installed, access ports for the sampling inlets prepared, and an additional 220 volt service added. The primary contact telephone numbers for the tower are:

- Williams Tower (North Room, Spicer) 713 850-7189
- Williams Tower (South Room, Berkowitz) 713 850-7180

Upcoming Events

Science Overview Meeting - Tuesday, August 22nd - 8:00 PM (Ellington)

Media Day - Thursday, August 24th - 2:00 PM (Ellington, Southwest Services)

VIP Day - Wednesday, August 30th (Ellington, Southwest Services)

The Garrulous Gourmet - Ruggles Bakery

Following the TexAQS 2000 opening reception at Rice University yesterday evening, three Jims (Thomas, Price, & Meagher), Fred Fehsenfeld, Wayne Angevine, and Bill Parkhurst dined at **Ruggles** in the Rice University Village. Although primarily a sandwich and dessert establishment there were a small selection of entrees. Wayne, and Jims Thomas and Price had sandwiches - which were fairly good and hearty while Fred, Bill, & Jim Meagher tired more substantial pasta based entrees. Jim had the shrimp alfredo, Bill the spicy blackened shrimp over pasta, and Fred the grilled chicken breast & vegetables over pasta in a white wine sauce. Good reviews.

The desserts were also marvelous to look at - as were **Ruggles'** monster salads - but we didn't try those so we can't comment. In any case, we're going back for a second try sometime during the study and suggest that y'all might want to give it a try. A solid three out of four stars. ★★☆☆

Thoughts for the Day

There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle.

-Albert Einstein

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.

-Sir Winston Churchill