

A team effort: JSC Safety Action Team readies for 2000



1999 JSAT Star Award Recipients

George Abbey
 Polly Aucoin
 Chuck Barbour
 Bill Bates
 John Beall
 Frank Benz
 David Beverly
 Doug Blanchard
 Leon Blum
 Lee Briscoe
 Jeri Brown
 Cindy Bush
 Vicki Cantrell
 Jerry Condon
 Cindy Coker
 Rindy Carmichael
 Hank Davis
 Pat Dickson
 Rich Dinkel
 Emmerson Edwards
 John Fields
 Bob Gaffney
 Juan Galvez
 Dan Garrison
 Abel Garza
 Ginger Gibson
 Estella Gillette
 Sandy Griffin
 Bob Hall
 Jim Hansen
 Greg Hayes
 Jimmy Jaax
 Bill Jeffs
 Deborah Johnson
 Gary Johnson
 Jennifer Jones
 Sharon Kemp
 Mary McLain
 Lenoard Nicholson
 Scott Osborne
 Kathy Packard
 Bill Parsons
 Vicky Pendergrass
 Connie Prichard
 Mary Alice Pruessner
 Ralph Schomburg
 Debbie Sharp
 John Stanford
 Deborah Washington
 Mike Winchell
 Rachel Windham

JSC CELEBRITY CROSSING GUARDS, from left, Bill Parsons, Vicky Pendergrass, Rachel Windham, Gary Johnson, Ginger Gibson, Deborah Johnson, Frank Benz, Mary McLaine, Estella Gillette, Jim Jaax, Lee Briscoe, Rich Dinkel and Mike Winchell receive JSAT Star Award.

NASA JSC Photo S99-11971 by Benny Benavides



Marking the end of its inaugural year, JSC's Safety Action Team (JSAT) presented Star Awards to its most valuable players and passed the torch to the team that will lead the team into the year 2000.

During the past year, Julie Kramer, JSAT chairman and JSC structural engineer, and Donna Shafer, JSAT deputy and JSC attorney-advisor, together with about 50 committed JSAT volunteers molded the committee into a safety and health task force for the center.

Among many notable achievements, JSAT's most significant accomplishment likely was its work on the OSHA Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). The organization spearheaded JSC's preparation, and ultimate success, in attaining a VPP Star.

"Our activities ranged from working on the application, working with PAO to produce a video, VPP introductory briefings and center-wide dry runs in preparation for the audit," said Kramer. "I think it is fair to say that our efforts in this area paid off handsomely."

In addition to the work for VPP, JSAT coordinated several other health and safety related programs for the center. These included the "JSAT Jingle" program, which posts clever safety messages on JSC's roads, and regular safety feature stories in the *Roundup*. They also organized Crosswalk Awareness Week including a crosswalk comedy workshop, an emergency preparedness drill and celebrity crossing guards to help "diffuse growing tensions" between drivers and pedestrians said Kramer.

"Our approach was light hearted, fun and action packed," explained Kramer, who says JSAT intends to monitor "Close Call" reporting trends to help them measure their program's success. "Only time will tell if our work was successful in improving crosswalk awareness."

With all that said, the outgoing JSAT leaders have already put the wheels into motion for additional working groups to address other center safety issues, and is looking to the new team, and new volunteers, to help them continue the JSAT success.

"JSAT is just beginning," said Julie Kramer, the 1999 JSAT chairman. "It is the participation of the individuals which make these types of efforts successful. That will be the challenge for our successors – to continue to tap into the energy and creativity that exist here at JSC among each individual."

This month, Bob Gaffney, JSC Emergency Preparedness manager, and Chuck Barbour, safety coordinator, Johnson Engineering Corp., take the reins of the group to carve a path for JSAT into the new millennium.

"Chuck and I want to continue the standard set by the previous JSAT leadership by emphasizing the greatest influence for safety at work, home and recreation is each of us," said Gaffney. "With the active participation of center employees and management support, we hope to continue to identify opportunities to work safely at all times. The JSAT provides a proactive forum for employees to share safety information with other organizations as well as internally, and to promote safe operations at JSC."

As a finale for the 1999 committee, JSAT officers recognized their most valuable players with JSAT Star pins

and certificates. Center Director George W.S. Abbey was honored with the first JSAT Star award.

"Through the JSAT, JSC employees have been provided an opportunity to actively participate in JSC safety and health programs," said Shafer. "We could not have this opportunity without the leadership and the support of our director who created this team."

Employees interested in JSAT should contact Gaffney at x34249 or Barbour at 281-853-2906 for volunteer information. ■



NASA JSC Photo S99-11970 by Benny Benavides

Chuck Barbour, left, and Bob Gaffney will head the JSC Safety Action Team during the upcoming year.

GILRUTH CENTER NEWS

<http://www4.jsc.nasa.gov/ah/exceaa/Gilruth/Gilruth.htm>

Nutrition intervention program:

Six-week program includes lectures, a private consultation with the dietician. Program is open to all employees, contractors and spouses. For details call Tammie Shaw at x32980.

Defensive driving: One-day course is offered once a month at the Gilruth Center. Pre-registration required. Cost is \$25. Call for next available class.

Stamp club: Meets every second and fourth Monday at 7 p.m. in Rm. 216.

Weight safety: Required course for

employees wishing to use the Gilruth weight room. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$5. Annual weight room use fee is \$90. The cost for additional family members is \$50.

Step/bench aerobics: Low-impact cardiovascular workout. Classes meet from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cost is \$32 for eight weeks. Kristen Tarazewski, instructor.

Yoga: Stretching class of low-impact exercises designed for people of all ages and abilities in a Westernized format.

Meets Thursdays 5-6 p.m. Cost is \$32 for eight weeks. Call Darrell Matula, instructor, at x38520 for more information.

Ballroom dancing: Classes meet from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Thursdays for beginners, 8:30-9:30 p.m. for intermediate and 7:30-8:30 p.m. for advanced. Cost is \$60 per couple.

Country and western dancing: Beginner class meets 7-8:30 p.m. Monday. Advanced class (must know basic steps to all dances) meets 8:30-10 p.m. Monday. Cost is \$20 per couple.

Fitness program: Health-related fitness

program includes a medical screening examination and a 12-week individually prescribed exercise program. For details call Larry Wier at x30301.

Aikido: Martial arts class for men and women meets 5 - 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays. No special equipment or knowledge is needed to participate. Beginning and advanced classes start each month. Cost is \$35 per month.

Exercise: Low-impact class meets from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Cost is \$24 for eight weeks.