

Air Scoop



LANGLEY MEMORIAL AERONAUTICAL LABORATORY

NO MORE BINGO 'TIL JANUARY 8

Due to the fact that the majority of Laboratory employees are planning to spend Christmas elsewhere, it has been announced by the Morale Activities Association that another Bingo Party will not be held until Thursday, January 8. As usual, the party will get underway at 8:30 p.m. in the Activities Building and the grand prize will be a Philco deep freeze unit.

At the last party, no one was lucky enough to win the eighty dollar jack-pot in time for Christmas, so next time it will be worth one hundred dollars and eight numbers will be called.

The prize list will include the usual articles such as a waffle iron, sterling silver salt and pepper shakers, library lamps, musical clock radio, canvas golf bag, pressure cooker, and several other items to be named later.

RETIRING BOARD THANKS STAFF

by Pete Korycinski

It has been a good year for the NACA Morale Activities Association. This is particularly gratifying to the outgoing Executive Board. In one respect, it is an honor to be elected to the Executive Board and thereby be entrusted with the duties and responsibilities of directing the Association. However, duties and responsibilities mean work, perhaps more than you realize.

The success of an Executive Board depends upon the ability of its nine members to provide a recreational program which reaches the largest number of Laboratory employees and merits your approval. Every project sponsored by the Association has been successful, and some have been far more successful than even the most optimistic had anticipated. The Executive Board has enjoyed support from the employees, and from management - for this reason it has been a pleasure to be of service to you.

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Air Scoop, December 23, 1947
Issue 51, Vol. 6

CHILDREN'S PARTY SET FOR TONIGHT



Santa plans a personal appearance at the children's Christmas party at the Activities Building tonight and will distribute a gift to each youngster attending. Anne Dickinson (above) tells St. Nick she'll be there to help greet him.

Tonight will be the night for the children when the NACA Morale Activities Association sponsors a Christmas Party from 6 'til 8 p.m. in the Activities Building. All children of Laboratory employees are invited to come to the celebration and to talk with Santa Claus who will be on hand to take a few of the last minute orders. Just as a prelude to Christmas Eve, Santa will present each child with a small gift and a bag of fruit, nuts, and candy. In addition to a visit with Santa, two comedy movies will be shown.



"Theoretically, it looks impossible, Gertie; we'll have to leave a window open."

NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE DEC. 31

The NACA Morale Activities Association has issued an invitation to the entire Laboratory staff to the debutante ball given in honor of the New Year on Thursday night, December 31. The affair will get underway at 10 o'clock so that old father time may be escorted out in the proper manner. On the stroke of midnight, the New Year will make his debut followed by his assistant, Leap Year. Leap year is trailing along this time so that the women may have the chances that the men have been passing up for the past three years.

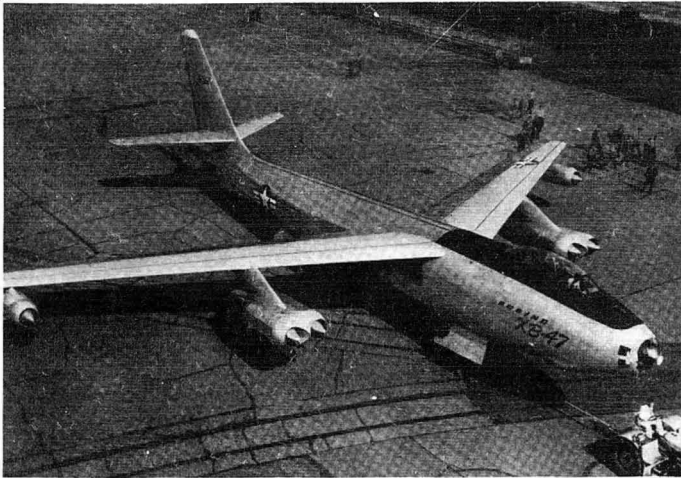
As a last reminder, all eligible bachelors are warned that after midnight anything can happen when the women take over the chase where the men left off. Chamfort had the right idea about the fairer sex when he once wrote, "A woman is like your shadow; follow her, she flies; fly from her, she follows."

Music for the semiformal affair will be furnished by Shelley Harmon and his orchestra. The celebrating will run into the wee hours of the morning as the day following the night before is a Federal holiday.

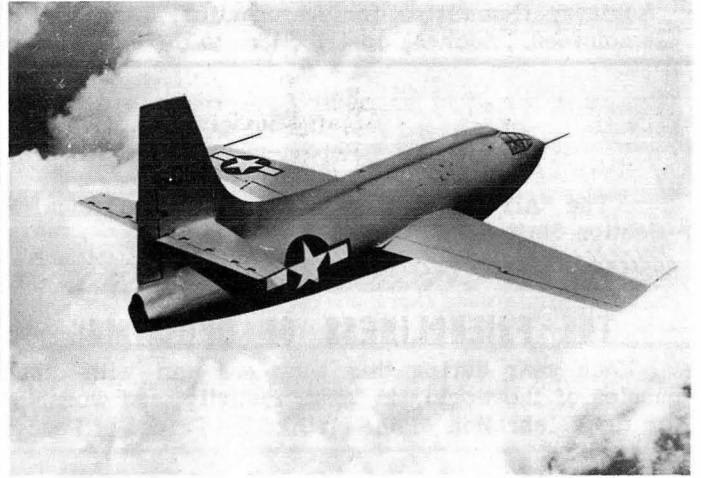


Tickets are five dollars, stag or drag, and may be purchased in advance at the East or West Cafeteria. Ticket holders may call Bruce Amole, telephone 4583, and make reservations. Persons making the reservation are asked to give Amole their name and ticket number. It is suggested that one person make the reservations for a party of more than two couples. Paul Taylor, social chairman, pointed out that due to the limited amount of space it will be necessary to seat several parties at one table. Only ticket holders will be permitted to the dance before 10:30 p.m. After that time, the doors will be opened and tickets sold at the door.

IMPORTANT AVIATION ADVANCES NOTED DURING 1947



XB-47, Boeing Stratojet



XS-1

Some of the most important advances in aviation since the Wright brothers made history on the sand dunes of Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, some 44 years ago, were produced during the year 1947 and indications are that the coming year will find that America, especially in the world of high-speed research, is definitely coming of age.

One of the pleasing things about America's growing maturity in aeronautics, insofar as employees of the Langley Laboratory are concerned, is the realization that they have had a part in many of the advances that were announced during 1947, from the well-received "quiet" airplane to the dramatic probing of the regions of supersonic speed.

Douglas Larsen, NEA Washington writer, described some of the big aviation achievements of

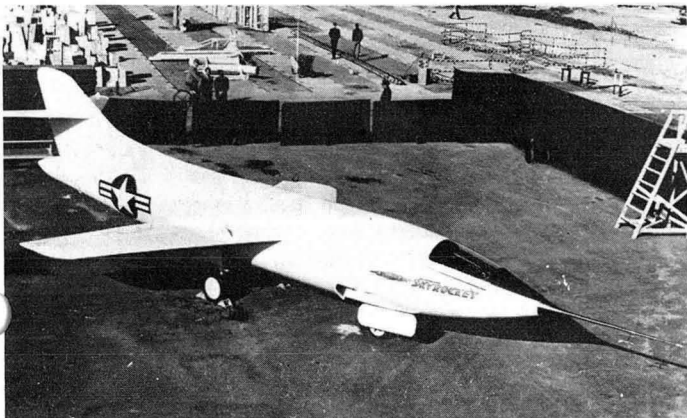
1947 as the world's record flight of 650.6 miles per hour made by the Douglas D-558 (Skystreak); the experimental flights near the speed of sound by the XS-1; developing a practical military use for the jet fighters which fly in the 600-mile-per-hour range; the successful flights of long-range jet bombers; and proving the value of the swept-back wing.

Other history-making accomplishments in the air in 1947, according to three aviation experts quoted by Larsen, were listed as the pilotless, push-button flight of the C-54 across the Atlantic and back; the mass flights of B-29's from the United States to Europe and Japan; the development of accurate navigation over the polar regions; and the development of thermal de-icing, the latter bringing to Lewis A. Rodert, formerly

of the Langley Lab, the Robert J. Collier Trophy.

Looking forward to the coming year, Larsen quoted the experts as believing that the information gathered from the Skystreak will give the answer to flights faster than the speed of sound in 1948. The lessons learned from it, he said, have been built into the newer D-558-2 (Skyrocket). An XS-2 with improvements learned from flights of the XS-1 is expected to be flown late in 1948, according to Larsen.

No attempt is being made here to list all the outstanding accomplishments in aviation in 1947 or to say which, of those mentioned, were the most important. Suffice it to say that great strides have been made and the employees of this Laboratory should feel proud of the part they have played in these accomplishments.



D-558-2 "Skyrocket"



Stinson L-5



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THE FRIENDLINESS OF CHRISTMAS

Each year during this time we join with other peoples of the world, in song, festivity, and worship, for the celebration of the birth of the Prince of Peace.

One of the most delightful results of the season, we believe, is the remarkable spirit of good feeling and friendliness it seems to create among all of us.

For in this brief pause for remembrance, the world seems to show a surprising capacity for cooperation, fellowship, and understanding - three important virtues that are not always with us during the never-ending struggle for survival.

It is, perhaps, one of the tragedies of the world that we do not absorb, during the brief Yuletide season, enough Christmas spirit to last throughout the year. For if this be done, the peace that all of us strive for... hope for....and pray for would be forever with us.

THANKS FOR YOUR INTEREST!

Once again we are reaching the end of another year As the old one goes out and the new one comes in, we would like to take time out from meeting deadlines to express our sincere appreciation to the Laboratory staff for your help and cooperation and ask your continued support throughout the coming year.

We would also like to thank our fellow workers who have contributed their time and talent towards making this Christmas issue possible. Our sincere thanks to Ed Filo, Technical Illustrators, for designing the beautiful cover; to Joy Smith and Norma Blevins, Vari-Typists, for typing the printed matter on the P.S.M. Electromatic typewriter; and to Mechanical Reproduction for their time and effort in printing this issue.

We will be back in print on Friday, January 9, so until then MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.



**O L I T T L E T O W N
 O F B E T H L E H E M**

O little town of Bethlehem
 How still we see thee lie;
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
 The silent stars go by;
 Yet in thy dark streets shineth
 The everlasting Light;
 The hopes and fears of all the years
 Are met in thee tonight.

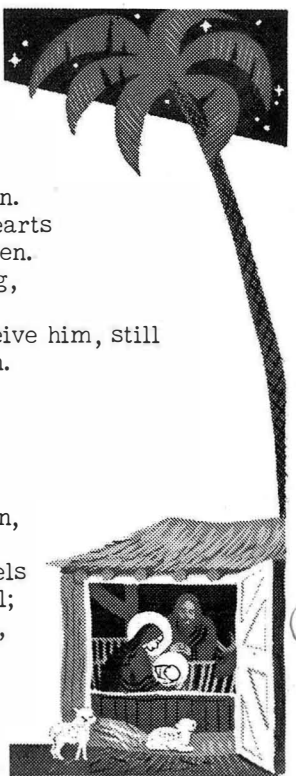
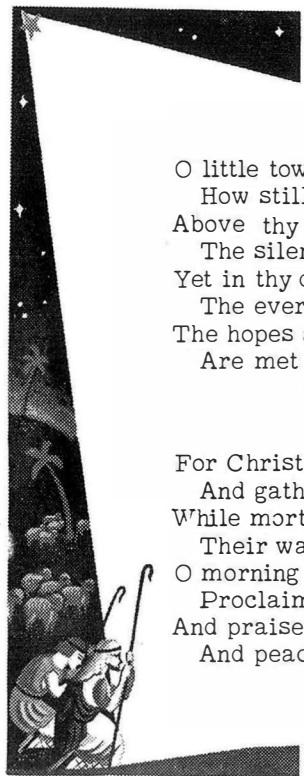
How silently, how silently,
 The wondrous gift is given.
 So God imparts to human hearts
 The blessings of his heaven.
 No ear may hear his coming,
 But in this world of sin,
 Where meek souls will receive him, still
 The dear Christ enters in.

For Christ is born of Mary,
 And gathered all above,
 While mortals sleep, the angels keep
 Their watch of wondering love.

O holy Child of Bethlehem.
 Descend to us, we pray;
 Cast out our sin and enter in,
 Be born in us today.

O morning stars, together
 Proclaim the holy birth.
 And praises sing to God the King,
 And peace to men on earth.

We hear the Christmas angels
 The great glad tidings tell;
 O come to us, abide with us,
 Our Lord Emmanuel.



P H I L L I P S B R O O K S



By John Worth

Looking back on the most successful season in memory, Brainbusters proudly point to the records which reveal a wealth of amazing facts:

At the beginning of the year, Joe Boyle established a new Indoor Glider world record during a series of club meets in the Balloon Hangar.

During February, an official club committee went to Washington to confer with AMA officers on proposals for a postwar model program.

Lending a helping hand to younger Peninsula builders, Club sponsorship of a Novice meet resulted in a spirited battle that gained the respect of older enthusiasts.

Placing 65 times in nine out-of-town meets, club teams finished a busy summer with a record of 13 firsts, 10 seconds, and 14 thirds. In addition, the club placed third among the nation's best at the National Meet in Minnesota.

Climaxing the season, Brainbusters conducted the first model Technical Conference followed by the National Hydro Meet at Langley Field.

During the year an intensive campaign to revamp competitive model regulations was carried out. This month the fruits were harvested as the release of 1948 rules revealed a majority of club proposals adopted in whole or part.

1947 was a Brainbuster year, but already plans are underway for even greater accomplishments in the year to come.

Marriage is the Keeley cure for love's intoxication.

--Helen Rowland

A book may be compared to your neighbor: if it be good, it cannot last too long; if bad, you cannot get rid of it too early.

--Brooke

If you want to be miserable think about yourself, about what you want, what you like, what respect people ought to pay you and what people think of you.

--Charles Kingsley



The Laboratory is spread from Wallops Island to Muroc and oftentimes to other parts of the world, but to the employees and their families, wherever they may be, greetings and best wishes for the Christmas season.

As in previous years, we can look back on a job well done. In many instances the far-reaching effects of our researches will not become public knowledge until a later date. We must not, however, wait for recognition but must push on to greater achievements.

In going forward, may the New Year bring you all good health, happiness, and prosperity.

EMPLOYEES EXCUSED FROM DUTY FOR ONE-HALF DAY TOMORROW

According to an Executive Order which reached the Laboratory last week, most Laboratory employees will be excused from duty for one-half day on Wednesday, Dec. 24, in addition to December 25, which is a regular Federal holiday. In view of this fact, the NACA Exchange will not serve lunch on Wednesday, but will serve breakfast as usual.

Laboratory employees who are on any irregular tours of duty, which have been officially approved,

will be excused for one-half of their scheduled tour of duty on Wednesday. Any employee whose basic tour of duty does not call for 8 hours of work on December 24, will not be granted time off on any other day because he was not required to work a full day.

Any employee required to work a full day on December 24, will receive holiday pay for not more than one-half of his scheduled tour of duty for that day.

Christmas Life At The Laboratory

Quite a few Laboratory employees.....

will spend this Christmas honeymooning. The first event during the holiday season is scheduled for Tuesday, December 23 when Edna Cameron, Purchase Section, and Jack Rickey, Cincinnati, Ohio, take their final vows at the Hampton Methodist Church. Margaret West, Accounting Unit, will be matron-of-honor, and Frank West, 16-Foot Tunnel, will serve the groom as best man.

Wedding bells rang.....

last Saturday for Louise Cumming, Files, and Bryan Mercer Smither, Jr., of Hampton. The wedding took place at St. John's Episcopal Church in Hampton. Anna Cumming Jeffries, formerly of Training Office, was matron-of-honor.

Making plans for.....

a bang-up New Year is Helen Carlberg of Technical Illustrators. She will marry Marvin Bryant of Hampton on New Year's Day. Viva Brittingham, formerly of Mechanical Maintenance Office, will serve the bride as matron-of-honor.

A Flight Research.....

romance will be climaxed on Monday, Dec. 29 when Gloria Hamilton and Don Talmage tie the final knot in Milledgeville, Georgia. Laboratory employees taking part in the affair are: Sue McGee, Stability Tunnel, and Connie Seacord, Pilotless Aircraft Research, will be bridesmaids. Ushers will be Hal Johnson, 7- by 10-Foot Wind Tunnels, and Bill Donnellan, formerly of Flight Research.



If the stork.....

continues to visit Wallops Island, it will soon be necessary to erect a nursery. In addition to the Shoaf baby, two more bundles from Heaven have been dropped at Wallops. The other proud fathers are Harold Kellam, who has a new son, Gary Bernard, and Eugene Merritt, who is the father of a daughter, Neva Virginia.

Another proud father.....

who is passing out cigars is Norman Blackman, West Sheetmetal Shop. He became the papa of a 7-pound, 14-ounce daughter on December 15.

Air Scoop's Picture Album



Shown above is the 1925 staff of the Library, Files, Stenographic Section, Purchase, Personnel, Telephone Exchange, and Property, including (from left) Minnie Cimmino; Walter Reiser, Chief of Maintenance Division; Lucy Bainbridge, Head of Report Typing and Steno Secuon; Ruth Belle, Office of the Director; Clyde Lumpkin, Head of Office Services; Rosa Smith; Lynton Burr; and "Babe" Martin.

BOWLING NEWS

STABILITY BOWLING LEAGUE

As the Stability Division Bowling League approaches the end of round one, Turkey Luckers are ahead with 24 wins and 6 losses. High bowler last week for the men was J. Block with a 153 game and 380 set. Leading the women was Gay Gilbert with a 115 game and 301 set. Turkey Luckers came through with the high game of 530 and high set of 1522. Leading the high averages are: George MacDougall with 104; Johnny Campbell, 101.4; Gay Gilbert 89.7; and Mary Noble Bennett, 85.1.

STANDINGS

Team	W	L	Avg.
Turkey Luckers	24	6	.800
Pin Maulers	21	9	.700
Scotch 'n Tapers	18	12	.600
7 *Froots	16	14	.533
Fliers	16	14	.533
Hurlers	15	15	.500
Bouncers	14	16	.467
Pin Heads	13	17	.433
Woodpeckers	13	17	.433
Atomic Bums	13	17	.433
Hot Shots	11	19	.367
Spare Squares	6	24	.200

TENPIN LEAGUE

With only two weeks of bowling remaining in the first round, Missilleaneous leads by a one-game margin over the Alleycats. Last week several high scores were broken. Staffino, Alleycats, set a new record of a 589 set. High game for the men was bowled by Watson, Missilot. Taking top honors for the women was Marie Edgett, Fiscal Wrecks, with a 152 game and 384 set. Alleycats came through with a 889 game and 2485 set to establish a new record.

Standings

Team	W	L	Avg.
Missilleaneous	22	8	.733
Alleycats	21	9	.700
Pinbusters	19	11	.633
Aces	17	13	.567
Pin Points	18	15	.544
Missilot	16	14	.533
Paris	13	17	.433
East Model	13	17	.433
Headpins	13	17	.433
Structures	13	17	.433
Splinters	12	18	.400
Low Turbulence	11	19	.367
Fiscal Wrecks	10	23	.333



T'was the night before Christmas and all through the flat
 Not a creature was stirring but the upstairs brat.
 The stockings were hung by the chimney with glue
 And we hoped that St. Nick wouldn't get stuck in the flue.
 The children were nestled all snug in a cot,
 Some of 'em sleeping but most of 'em not.
 While maw in her 'kerchief and I in my gown
 Had raided the icebox and were just sitting down
 When in the apartment above there arose such a clatter
 I sprang up and dropped my teeth in the platter.
 Away to the window I flew like a flash,
 Tore open the shutter and threw up the hash.
 The moon on the breast of the new fallen rain,
 Made Kecoughtan Road look like a broken water main.
 When what to my bloodshot eyes should appear
 But a coupla sleighs and 16 raindeer.
 When I saw the old driver I dropped the bottle quick
 Because even I knew it must be St. Nick.
 More rapid than Monday these deers they came
 And he whistled and shouted and called them by name.
 "Hey Dasher, Martha Graham, Prancer, and Vixon,
 On Comet, on Cupid, on Mason and Dixon.
 To the top of the porch, to the top of the wall,
 And do be careful, I don't want to fall."
 Then as I looked up high on the roof,

I said to myself now I've had enoof.
 I heard a dog bark so I turned around
 And down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a hound.
 He was dressed all in fur from his feet to his head
 And his clothes looked like he had worn them to bed.
 His feet were muddy and he tracked everywhere,
 The maid would be mad but he didn't care.
 He was a funny little man, a right jolly old soul
 But he swore when he stepped on a red hot coal.
 His droll little mouth was nothing to view
 And his beard was so heavy it was hard to chew.
 A stump of a pipe he held in his teeth
 And the smoke was so dense you could hardly seeth.
 His eyes how they twinkled, his dimples so big,
 His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a fig.
 He had a broad belly and a little round smile
 And he shook when he laughed like jelly in a pile.
 He filled all the stockings 'til they were quite big
 And when he had finished he lit up a cig.
 Then to the chimney stepped the big bloke
 And up it he went like a cloud of smoke.
 He jumped to his sleigh with a leap quite nift
 And off he sped like the 4:30 shift.
 But I heard him exclaim as he drove out of sight,
 Merry Christmas to all and to all a goodnight.

Coming Events

Printed below is a calendar of events scheduled to take place in the Activities Building through Jan. 9.

- Dec. 23 - Children's Party
- Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve Dance
- Jan. 5 - Girls' Basketball
- Jan. 6 - Bridge Club
Men's Basketball
Volley Ball
- Jan. 7 - Men's Basketball
- Jan. 8 - Bingo Party
- Jan. 9 - Electrical Party

Every man is a volume, if you know how to read him.

--Channing

Man should never be ashamed to own he has been in the wrong, which is but saying in other words that he is wiser today than he was yesterday.

--Pope

A THOUGHT FOR THE PAY DAY TOMORROW NEW YEAR

To be glad of life, because it gives you the chance to love and to work and to play and to look up at the stars; to be satisfied with your possessions, but not contented with yourself until you have made the best of them; to despise nothing in the world except falsehood and meanness, and to fear nothing except cowardice; to be governed by your admirations rather than by your disgusts; to covet nothing that is your neighbor's except his kindness of heart and gentleness of manners; to think seldom of your enemies, often of your friends and every day of Christ; and to spend as much time as you can with body and with spirit, in God's out-of-doors - these are little guide-posts on the footpath of peace.

Henry Van Dyke

Arthur Samet, Head of the Fiscal Division, announced this week that the Payroll Office is making every effort to pay Laboratory employees on Wednesday, December 24.

THANKS STAFF

(Continued from page 2)

The members of the outgoing Executive Board, Peter Korycinski, Henry A. Fedziuk, Harry Hamilton, Helen B. Northcross, Axel Mattson, Chet Wcislo, Ruth Angel, Carl Cecil, and M. E. Cook, wish to express their appreciation for your support and ask that you continue to support the activities program which will be sponsored by the New Executive Board.

WANTED: 3 basketball players for West Model Shop. Call J. McNamara, 4428.

LIFE AT THE LABORATORY DURING '47

As the old year goes out and the new one is ushered in, let's indulge in a bit of reminiscing and recall some of the headlines which made Laboratory history during 1947.

January--New Year's Dance turns out to be huge success.....Employees work on thunderstorm project in Alaska.....Flight in storm conducted by Ames..... Stack speaks at AERL smoker.....Douglas D-558 "Skystreak" completed for transonic research..... University of Virginia announces spring registration.... Robert R. Jones receives 1946 Sylvanus Albert Reed Award.....Sanford James Coulson dies from fall.

February--Apprentice School opens spring term.... Activities Association sponsors double-header basketball game and juke box jamboree....Skyhawks win two and lose one....Dr. Antonio Ferri speaks at smoker.... Celebrate Valentine Day with dance.....Shave heads credit union.....Polhamus top basketball scorer.

March----Kiwanians inspect Lab.....Admiral Duncan named to Committee.....IRD wins basketball championshipAWT takes title for girls.....Lab secures new electric calculator.. Donate \$3,272.78 to Red Cross.....Fizz-water autos sweep Laboratory.

April--Lab prepares for inspection... Amole to handle reservations for Activities Building.... Donald Frederick Gear dies suddenly.....Fifteen teams enter softball league.....Class in outdoor cooking offered....Ed Kilgore and Chuck Batten enter Southern Y.M.C.A. Invitational Badminton Tournament.....NACA has vital role in high-speed bomber program.....Activities Association sponsors Spring Prom.

May--Golf tourney set for June 7 and 8.....Employees receive booklets on air history.....Head of Virginia Extension school visits Lab....AIA visits Lab.....Quiet airplane demonstrated at 16th General Inspection..... Orville Wright sees Lab research exhibits.....Bugg pitches two no-hitters.

June--2,000 employees X-rayed in survey..... Mel Gough and J. Ford Johnston win golf tourney..... Ed Kilgore wins Peninsula Amateur Tennis Tourna-

ment.....250 aeronautical scientists attend NACA conference on Supersonic Aerodynamics.....Laboratory commended on inspection success.

July---Spencer Watkins celebrates 25 years of service.....Apprentice School graduates two.....Activities Association plans series of Bingo Parties..... Political activity restrictions noted.....Brainbusters take Portsmouth meet.

August--Dorothy Batzold dies in explosion..... Soule speaks at smoker.....Full-Scale Stockroom closes.....Army celebrates Air Force Day with flight demonstrations.....Skystreak sets new speed record of 640.7 miles per hour....Dr. Lewis named research consultant; succeeded by Dr. Hugh L. Dryden.....NACA scientists exploring control of boundary layer....D-558 boosts own record to 650.6 miles an hour....Navy cites NACA for D-558 work.

September--John R. Alison named to Committee.....19-Foot wins softball championship... Harold Sweberg dies of brain tumor.....Seventh American Towing Tank Conference held at Lab.. Retirement law change New director visits Lab.

October-----Paul Salake wins Starr Truscott Memorial.....Katherine Livesay dies....Harold R. Turner, Harry A. Lyons, and Ernest J. Shave, celebrate twenty-fifth anniversary....Chest campaign opens with goal set at \$10,000.....Frank P. Long dies..... Activities Association celebrates first anniversary with all-day affair.....Stability Division has mustache growing contest.....Alice Aronson wins girls' tennis title.... Robert Gilruth misses "ditching".....Sick leave abusers endanger privilege.....Lindell heads basketball league Organize A.S.M.E. Peninsula group.

November--Harry Hamilton elected president of Activities Association....Grace Atkins injured in accident.....Activities Association sponsors turkey shoot.... Beth Walton given lead in "Claudia."

December--Plan big New Year's Eve party..... Activities Association sponsors Children's Christmas Party.....Lewis A. Rodert wins Collier Trophy.

