

# ◆ NATIONAL TECHNICAL NEWS ◆

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Spring 1999

## Guy King Receives Award

On December 6, 1998, NTA National Treasurer Guy King received a Certificate of Commendation from the NASA Johnson Space Center. King received the certificate in recognition of his outstanding achievements and technical leadership for assuring the structural/ mechanical integrity of the International Space Station (ISS) Manual Berthing Mechanism. The Manual Berthing Mechanism will fly on ISS Flight 3A. This mechanism will be used to transport the Pressurized Mating Adapter-3 on the Spacelab Pallet. This device may later hold the Cupola, which is scheduled for launch on ISS Flight 14A. The Cupola will provide direct viewing for some robotics operations and payload viewing.

Guy King is an engineer in the Structures and Mechanics Division at JSC and currently supports the Vehicle Office of the International Space Station. Program. He is the ISS Hardware Acceptance Team Lead for the Solar Alpha Rotary Joint, Thermal Radiator Rotary Joint, and the Manual Berthing Mechanism. He also assists with the Rocketdyne Truss Attachment System.

Guy King is currently also President of the NTA Houston Chapter.

## Laura D. Stubbs, PE Selected as Captain in Naval Reserve

NTA member Laura Stubbs was selected for promotion to the grade of Captain in the Engineering Duty Officer (EDO) community of the Naval Reserve.

Captain (select) Laura Stubbs is a native of Philadelphia, PA. She began her Naval career as a Naval Nuclear Power School Instructor in 1980. In 1983, she was assigned to the US Naval Academy as an Assistant Professor in the Mechanical and Naval Systems Engineering Departments. She left active duty in 1986 but continued her affiliation as a Naval Reserve Line Officer. She has

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**MEMBERSHIP  
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## Shirley Jackson to Head RPI

Dr. Shirley A. Jackson, a physicist and chairwoman of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, was recently named as president of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, a science- and technology-oriented university. As head of the N.R.C., Dr. Jackson worked to restore the agency's credibility and improve its monitoring of nuclear-power plants in the aftermath of several emergency shutdowns.

Dr. Jackson was Keynote Speaker and one of the honorees at the Minority Women in Science Awards Banquet, in NTA's 1997 Conference in Philadelphia.

Dr. Jackson will move to the 6,400-student university in Troy, N.Y., on July 1, succeeding R. Byron Pipes, who left office in April. She will be the first African-American woman to head a leading technological university, but all her life she has set precedents. She was the first black woman to earn a Ph.D. at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in 1973; she was also the first to become a commissioner of the N.R.C.

Dr. Jackson, who takes a no-nonsense approach to most matters, describes herself as a "change agent." As an undergraduate at M.I.T., for example, she was a founder of the Black Students Association, and helped increase the number of African-Americans entering the university from 2 to 57 in just one year. M.I.T.'s president, Charles M. Vest, said that Dr. Jackson had been one of a handful of close personal advisers. "That calm, reasoned voice on the other end of the telephone has been a source of strength and wisdom for me," he said. "She will be a truly

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### **Captain (Select) Laura D. Stubbs, USNR**

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held many leadership positions within Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) Units where she focuses on ships and ship systems. She is currently a Category Leader for the NAVSEA Inspector General's office where she conducts Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award- based inspections for NAVSEA field activities. Her awards include the Navy Commendation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Armed Forces Reserve Medal.

She has a distinguished civilian career as well. In 1986, she joined the Toledo Edison Company as an Engineering Training Instructor at the Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant. She later joined The Procter & Gamble Company, where she embarked on a career in global purchasing and supply chain management. She is currently a civilian engineering program manager for the Navy in thermal and propulsion systems.

Captain (select) Stubbs received both her B.S.E. and M.S.E. in Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mechanics from the University of Pennsylvania. She is currently a Ph.D. Candidate in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Maryland at College Park.

Captain (select) Stubbs has a long association with the National Technical Association. She has been an active member of several chapters (Washington, DC and Cincinnati). From 1993-1994, she served as the Region IV Director prior to which she was the 1992 Conference Chair. She often encourages youth to achieve their full potential. She is a frequent motivational speaker to groups of all ages. She recently received the Science Award from WPHI-FM /Philly 103.9 during their Second Annual Black History Month celebration.

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outstanding university president."

Dr. Jackson joined the N.R.C., an agency with about 3,000 employees and a budget of \$500 million, in 1995, shortly before it acknowledged ignoring its own safety regulations at a Northeast Utilities Millstone Point reactor in Connecticut.

"To her credit, she's helped to re-legitimize the agency," said James Riccio, a staff attorney at Public Citizen, an antinuclear advocacy organization. "Unfortunately, it seems she is leaving before that mission is accomplished."

In her new post, Dr. Jackson said, she hopes "to position Rensselaer not only as an excellent university, but as one of the truly great technological institutes of the 21st century."

Although most of her career has been spent in the private sector -- she worked for many years as a researcher at Bell Laboratories -- she taught from 1991 to 1995 at Rutgers University and has served as a trustee of both Rutgers and M.I.T., where she was also on the board of directors and the board's executive committee.

Before entering government, Dr. Jackson was also on the boards of the Corestates Financial Corporation, the Sealed Air Corporation, the New Jersey Resources Corporation and the Public Service Electric Gas Company and its parent company, Public Service Enterprise Group.

Dr. Jackson grew up in Washington. Her father was a postal supervisor, and her mother was a social worker. At a time when it was unusual for women to receive advanced degrees, she and her two sisters earned graduate degrees.



**Dr. Shirley Jackson (center) at NTA 97 Conference Minority Women in Science Awards Program**

### NTA Chapter Development Initiative

The National Technical Association (NTA) is seeking to establish and/or reestablish chapters in several cities across the country. Members are urged to contact individuals located in these cities and surrounding metro areas who would be interested in establishing a professional or student chapter. Recent bylaw changes allow for the formation of a chapter with as few as three persons. Chapters will receive direct coaching and mentoring from senior members of the organization as well as financial support. Ten cities will be targeted per calendar quarter. A goal of 50 active chapters by the end of the year has been established. The following cities have been chosen for chapter development for the remainder of this quarter.

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| New York, NY    | Dallas, TX      |
| Miami, FL       | San Antonio, TX |
| Los Angeles, CA | St. Louis, MO   |
| Richmond, VA    | Denver, CO      |
| Atlanta, GA     | Seattle, WA     |

Information and inquiries concerning new chapter start-up should be directed to Katherine Coleman, Director, SouthWest Region, at [kcstjohn@hotmail.com](mailto:kcstjohn@hotmail.com)

Thanks in advance for your support of this most important initiative.

### Albuquerque, NM NTA Chapter

The Albuquerque, NM Chapter has been officially established as of November 1998. The chapter is currently recruiting members in the Albuquerque area, and is planning a student science competition as its first activity. A professional development workshop / seminar is planned for later in the year.

Ms. Corliss Johnson is President. Corliss grew up in the NTA as a SNTA member. She is employed by the DOE. She can be reached at (505) 845-4716.

### Southern University SNTA Chapter

I am pleased to update you on the current status of the Southern University Chapter of the Student NTA in Baton Rouge, LA.

In our Membership Drive, we had a table set up for the first week of registration for the fall semester at Southern University. We have a banner, a brochure, and "easy" application that were dispensed at our table set up. On January 13, 1999, we dispensed our banner and 50 copies of applications and brochures. That day, we were able to get 20 applications returned, and we even got one new member application fee. Our new full-fledged member is Katrina Broussard, 3.5 GPA Computer Science major at Southern University. She's excited about the program, and is recruiting other Computer Science students to the organization. Also, she

will oversee the implementation of our web site to come soon.

Overall, registration week was a complete and utter success. Also, we had an advertisement plan, named Teacher Outreach, in which we dispense brochures equal to the number of instructors in each "technical" department to each Department Chairman. These brochures are given to each instructor at the appropriate department meeting. Then, the instructors will read aloud, at least once in each of his/her classes, the brochure, effectively reaching every science-oriented major at the university. This program is now in full swing. Dr. Earl Doomes, the Dean of the College of Sciences, has received and accepted a written request for this course of action. Jan. 21, 1999, the brochures were delivered to each Department chairman for disbursement. This should be an effective mechanism for instilling the NTA into the minds of every technical student.

One mission that we would like to complete, is The Grant Storm. This is where we write grant proposals to selected organizations. We will let them know of our missions and how they could assist. At first, this program was implemented to pinpoint the governing board of Region 7. Yet, after careful thought, we decided that we could target many more businesses and organizations than just Region 7 of the NTA. For that reason, we have postponed The Grant Storm, and decided to put more organization and thought to the process before execution. Any information that one may offer in this department is greatly appreciated.

Since February is Black History Month, we of the SNTA at Southern University decided to have what we called The NTA Black History Month Celebration. We collaborated with the drama, music, and ROTC departments at Southern University in order to pull off an effective and comprehensive extravaganza. We're very excited about the idea, and we're looking forward to the results. The theme is centered around great African - Americans, past and present, in the technical fields. We believe that this will be an effective way to raise money, advertise for the NTA, and add credibility the SNTA at Southern University. Future works will include a website, and organization of regular meetings of members. Katrina Broussard will be appointed Director of Computational Analysis, and thereby push forward our ideas of websites and links. Also, we want to create an NTA network, where each member will be given an e-mail address from the NTA. We believe that will enhance of our organization computationally, will increase the rate at which business is conducted, and also add credibility to the NTA.

As one might see, the Southern University, Baton Rouge Louisiana Chapter SNTA is progressing well. We're proud to be a part of the NTA.

Kenyon L. Coleman  
President of the Southern University SNTA

## NTA Presentations at 1999 Black Engineer of the Year Awards Program

The National Technical Association had a booth at the Black Engineer of the Year Awards Program, which was held February 11-13, 1999 at the Baltimore Convention Center. It was excellent, informative, and inspiring. In keeping with the spirit of the attendees' inquisitiveness of the various corporate and institutional booths, NTA did exceptionally well in distributing its membership applications (local and national), and other information about NTA, such as profiles, national programs, journals, and copies of our book, "Careers in Science and Technology".

The Baltimore Chapter members hosting and manning the NTA booth included Drs. Frederick W. Oliver, William L. Lupton (chapter President), and Edgar B. Covert; Mr. John H. Thompson, Mr. Henry D. Ledbetter; and were assisted by NTA Hampton Roads Chapter member Mr. Gilbert Haynes.



**NTA Baltimore Chapter members with booth at the 1999 US Black Engineer of the Year Conference, at the Baltimore Convention Center.**

### NTAONLINE Coming Soon!

The NTA proudly introduces our newly enhanced interactive Website, NTAONLINE! The features of the Website acquaint you with our organization, and provide diverse means to explore not only the NTA, but also other major technical institutions and organizations. NTAONLINE will be a vital resource for your research, personnel career searches, and recruiting, marketing, and advertising needs. The NTA's goal has always been to ensure that minorities continue to be included in the technological mainstream. This can be accomplished by the use of tools such as NTAONLINE to continuously communicate research, education, entrepreneurship, and employment opportunities. NTAONLINE will present, on an ongoing basis, the techno-

logical accomplishments of its members and staff, timely and relevant features, and news and events of importance and interest. It will present features and excerpts from our Journal of the National Technical Association (JNTA). Details of our annual national conference, and of special events such as our school visitation days, 3-T mentorship program, Go Out and Inspire Campaign, Technical Achievers Awards, Charles S. Duke Distinguished Lecture, and Top Women in Science Awards will be provided. Numerous links will be made to a wide array of technical and informational sites. Stay tuned, and watch for the grand unveiling of NTAONLINE... coming soon!!!

Garry A. Harris, NTA President

## Donald Campbell Named Laboratory Director of the Year

NASA's Glenn Research Center (formerly Lewis Research Center) Director Donald J. Campbell has been named the 1998 Laboratory Director of the Year by the Federal Laboratory Consortium (FLC) for Technology Transfer. The award, presented by the consortium annually, honors laboratory directors who have made exemplary contributions to the overall enhancement of technology transfer for economic development.

Campbell will receive the award on April 21, 1999, at the organization's 25th anniversary national meeting in Salt Lake City, UT. "I'm honored to have been chosen to receive this award," said Campbell. "I believe the technologies developed at Glenn are leading-edge and can be used to improve the quality of life and provide meaningful return on taxpayers' dollars. I accept the award on behalf of the center's employees who work so diligently in transferring their technologies for commercial applications."

Campbell, NASA's second (and currently only) African-American center director, was selected to receive the award in recognition of his successful efforts to broaden the commercialization of Glenn's technologies. In the last five years, at least 20 new products have been created due to Glenn-developed technologies.

Under Campbell's leadership, the Lewis Incubator for Technology was established to help entrepreneurs and start-up companies gain financial and marketing assistance as they commercialize NASA-developed technologies. In addition, the newly created Garrett Morgan Commercialization Initiative helps to increase the competitiveness of small businesses and small disadvantaged businesses in Ohio and the Great Lakes region through the use of NASA technologies.

Campbell also has been instrumental in providing a hands-on educational experience to African-American and Hispanic students each year through the Science, Engineering, Mathematics and Aerospace Academy (SEMAA). The

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program, a collaborative effort between Glenn and Cuyahoga Community College, Cleveland, OH, has proven to be extremely successful. Since its inception, SEMAA has been replicated twice, with plans for seven additional sites in major cities.

"I'm very happy to be able to recognize Don Campbell's contributions to technology transfer and support for the FLC," said Dr. Jagdish Mathur, principal scientist, Marconi Aerospace and chairman, National Advisory Group, FLC. "Don is an outstanding and dedicated individual who has demonstrated leadership and personal commitment to work with American industry and the community for economic development and growth. His efforts have made a difference."

More than 600 of the largest federal government research laboratories and centers, representing 16 federal departments and agencies, are presently members of the FLC. The mission of the FLC is to promote and facilitate the rapid movement of federal laboratory research results and technologies into the mainstream of the U.S. economy.

Campbell is a native of Lima, OH. He earned a bachelor's degree at Ohio Northern University and a master's degree at Ohio State University, both in mechanical engineering. He holds honorary doctorate degrees from Wilberforce University and Ohio Northern University. He is also a member of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honorary Society.

Mr. Campbell was Honorary Chair of NTA's 1996 Annual Conference, held in Cleveland, OH.

conferences, student symposia, science fairs, and math contests), please volunteer your efforts to your chapter president or regional director now!

Garry A. Harris, NTA President

**Highlights of January NTA Board of Directors Meeting, Atlanta, GA - January 16, 1999**

- \*Number of NTA Regions was restructured from 7 to 4 (pending final verification of voting ballots by the National Treasurer, Mr. Guy King.)
- \*Ms. Katherine Coleman was named Southwest Regional Director. She brings twelve years of local (Houston) board membership and experience in the non-profit management sector to the position.
- \* Huenet Inc. was retained as website developer for ntaonline. Expected activation date is March 1, 1999.
- \* Contract for publication of the NTA Journal (by Cedric D. Fisher & Co.) was approved.
- \* Board accepted the resignation of Dr. Mildred Johnson as Executive Director..
- \* Co-Executive Directorship approved - Jim Harris and Gil Haynes.
- \* A call to all members for advertising in the NTA Journal would be issued by the President.
- \* Mr. Willie Williams, Past Regional Director (Houston)-name was submitted as candidate for President-Elect.
- \*The president asked that all old Board members submit names for consideration for Regional Directors by February 28, 1999.
- \*Mr. Guy King and Ms. Patricia Lawson agreed to serve as National Treasurer and National Secretary, respectively.

**President's Message**

Welcome to the NTA's new Website, NTAONLINE! The Executive Board and myself would like to introduce you to our newly enhanced interactive Website (see p.4), which will be coming "on line" soon.

Also, as you will note in articles elsewhere in this Newsletter, there are or have been a number of changes going on within our organization, as exemplified by our recent Strategic Planning meeting, changes in our executive directorship, and changes in our Journal and Newsletter publications.

The good news is that modern computer-based information technologies have made possible more timely and less costly means of communication, both within the NTA and with outside organizations. The bad news is that it is harder to obtain financial and other support for education and career enhancement of under-represented minorities in the scientific and technical professions.

NTA, like other, similar organizations, is dependent on the **volunteer** efforts of its membership. We need to improve, not only in the number of members and affiliates, but in the fraction of those who are active in the development and implementation of our programs. If you are not currently active in one or more of the ongoing NTA activities (which include preparations for NTA national and regional-

**NTA Journal News**

As most NTA members know, publication of the NTA Journal by our previous publisher, Peterson's Magazine Group, Inc., ceased with the Fall, 1997 issue. However, Mr. Cedric Fisher, who was our publisher at Peterson's at that time, subsequently formed his own company, Cedric D. Fisher Co., and an agreement was made with NTA for him to continue with publication of the NTA Journal. The first issue published under the new arrangement was the Fall, 1998 issue of the Journal. However, due to delays in generating the necessary advertising support, the planned Spring, 1999 issue had to be cancelled and the next issue of the Journal will be the Summer, 1999 issue.

**NOTICE to all NTA Members and Readers of the NTA Journal: Please provide us with suggestions for Advertisers in the Journal** (see back cover for contact information). These may be your employers, or companies you deal with on your job or personally, who would be interested in employing or selling products or services to the Journal readership.

## NTA Strategic Planning Meeting

On March 13, 1999, the NTA Board of Directors held a planning meeting at Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD (Shaefer Engineering Building) to overview the current status of the NTA, discuss what our future goals and objectives should be, and to create plans and action items for both near-term (up to 2 years from now) and longer-term changes and enhancements.

Those present included Garry Harris (NTA President), Mildred Johnson (NTA Executive Director), Frank and Sandy Robinson (Cleveland Chapter), Gilbert Haynes (Hampton Roads Chapter), John Thompson (Baltimore Chapter), James and Wylona Harris and George Carruthers (Washington, DC Chapter).

The discussion was organized into three main topic areas: I. Vision Statement; II. Mission Statement; and III. Current Status and Problems (Gap Analysis). Those present approved the following **Vision Statement**: The NTA will be the premier technical professional organization promoting career awareness, preparation, and involvement of underrepresented groups in mathematics, science, engineering, and technology. The **Mission Statement** is to be based on a similar statement in the **NTA Profile** document (January, 1994), under "National Support— Science-Education Programs".

Among topics addressed in the "Gap Analysis" were NTA staffing, funding for operations and programs, communications between the NTA National Office / Board of Directors and the local chapters /at-large membership; improvement in student programs and NTA Conference planning, and NTA publications.

Action items and tentative plans include:

- \*Solicit nominations for NTA Board Officers (President Elect, Regional Directors)
- \*Update/verify listing of Chapters and Presidents, including e-mail addresses
- \*Re-establish Funding Resource Specialist position
- \*Establish Washington, DC area as site for NTA 1999 Conference (tentatively Atlanta, 2000 and Chicago, 2001)
- \*Enhance circulation (including members of other organizations) and advertising support of the NTA Journal
- \*Maintain a minimum publication schedule of 4 Newsletters and 2 Journals per year.

## Mildred Johnson Steps Down from NTA

The NTA Board of Directors announced at its recent meeting, the resignation of Dr. Mildred Fitzgerald Johnson. She served as NTA Executive Director for the past 10 years. Dr. Johnson, an educator, administrative manager, business consultant, and community leader, was brought to NTA, then headquartered in Washington, DC, in 1990 to restore fiscal accountability, to develop national programs, and to translate those program ideas into forceful messages to the membership and communities. According to NTA President

Garry A. Harris, "She leaves behind countless unselfish contributions to the Association...a significant and rich service and leadership legacy."

Her plans are to travel (Ghana, West Africa, in May) and pursue other opportunities that have been on the back burner.

## Farewell Dinner for NTA Executive Director, Dr. Mildred F. Johnson

Following the NTA Strategic Planning Meeting at Morgan State University on March 13, a farewell dinner was held to honor Dr. Mildred F. Johnson, outgoing NTA Executive Director, who has served in that capacity for the last 10 years.

The dinner was held at the Cross Key Restaurant in the Radisson (formerly Cross Key) Inn in Baltimore. The event was well attended, not only by the Planning Meeting attendees, but also by other NTA members, friends, and relatives.



**NTA members, friends, and relatives honored outgoing NTA Executive Director Dr. Mildred F. Johnson (front row, 2nd from right) at farewell dinner March 20, 1999.**

## New NTA Executive Directorship and Office Information

The NTA Executive Directorship will now be jointly held by Gilbert Haynes (Hampton Roads Chapter) and James Harris (DC Chapter).

The new NTA Office contact information is as follows:

**National Technical Association**  
**5810 Kingstowne Blvd., Suite 120-221**  
**Alexandria, VA 22315**  
**Telephone No. (757) 827-9280**

## NTA Constitution and Bylaws Changes

The NTA membership voted on changes to the NTA Constitution. The changes that were passed are summarized as follows.

- \* The membership is represented by Regional Directors that sit on the National Board of Directors. NTA had 10 regions. The Constitution now allows the National Board to set the number of regions, with a minimum of four regions.
- \* The Board of Directors, at its discretion, may now select a Student Director for a term of one year, served concurrently with the Board, as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Board. The Student Director had been elected at large as a voting member.
- \* The number of officers that constitute a quorum will now be equal to one half of the number of officer positions that are not vacant.
- \* The number of members required to start a new chapter has been reduced from seven to three.
- \* NTA Chapter officers shall include Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary/Treasurer or a Secretary and Treasurer. Previously, a Secretary and a Treasurer were required.

During the January 1999 National Board Meeting, the Board revised the NTA Bylaws to set the number of regions at four. The regions are defined as follows: Northeast (NE), Southeast (SE), Northwest (NW), and Southwest (SW).

\* **NE Region** includes: Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

\* **SE Region** includes: Alabama, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

\* **NW Region** includes: Alaska, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington, and Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

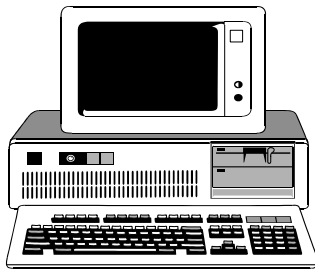
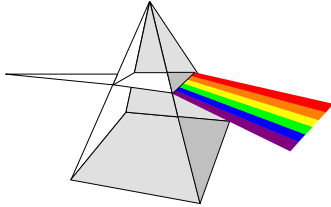
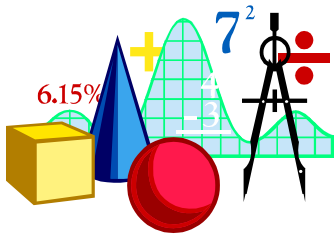
\* **SW Region** includes: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Kansas, Louisiana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas and Utah.



**NTA 1998 Conference– Minority Women in Science Awards Banquet**



**Left: NTA Board of Directors Meeting – NTA 1998 Conference, Arlington, VA. From left, Guy King (Treasurer), Rupert Graham (Registered Agent), Katherine Coleman (Region VII Director), Patricia Lawson (Secretary), Michael Chapman (Immediate Past President), and Garry Harris (President).**



## PLEASE SEND US YOUR NEWS!

We are hoping to enhance the frequency and timeliness of the National Technical Association (NTA) Newsletter. Please send news items you feel would be of interest to professionals, students, and educators involved in science/technology fields and/or of interest to the NTA Membership (ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION PREFERRED).

Please include with your submission your name, telephone number, email and snail mail address. Please also send an information copy of whatever you send us to your Chapter President and/or Regional Director.

In our attempt to be faster and cheaper, and eventually better, we will format the Newsletter in Microsoft Publisher 98. Therefore, submissions in MS Word 95/97 or Powerpoint 95/97 are preferred (although Word Perfect and .TXT submissions can be converted). Any photographs should be black and white in .JPG or .BMP format.

Please submit to EACH of the follow-

ing:

Dr. George Carruthers  
 george.carruthers@nrl.navy.mil  
 (202) 767-2764

Dr. Jesse Bemley  
 jbemley@american.edu  
 (703) 681-9142

Dr. John Trimble  
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**In This Issue...**

***Membership Awards – Chapter and Organization Developments***

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