

# AOML

Miami, Florida

# Keynotes

September-October 2001 Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory Volume 5, Number 9-10

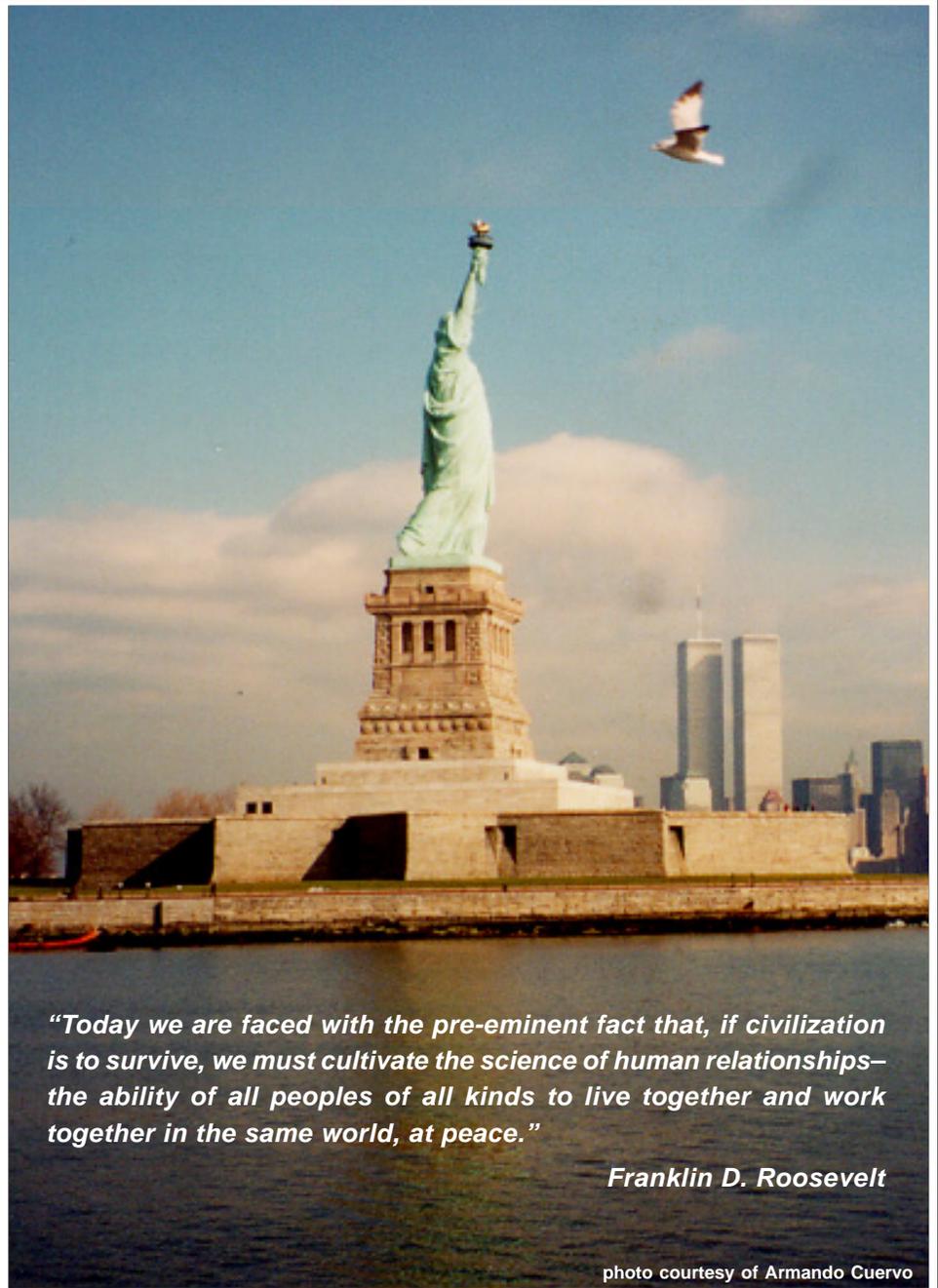
The AOML community has been struggling, along with the rest of the Nation, to return to a more normal workday since the tragic events of September 11, 2001.

This healing process will, no doubt, take time. We would like to share a few of the activities we have participated in as a group in the hopes of helping one another cope.



On Friday, September 14, many AOML employees followed the suggestion of a massive e-mail campaign to wear red, white, and blue to work. The combined effort held great impact as we gathered in the lobby at noon. In memory of those affected by the terrorist attacks on our Nation, we held a moment of silence as our lobby bell toned three times. One employee described the scene as incredibly moving to look up from the lobby and find a sea of red, white, and blue as the fading tones of the bell resonated throughout the building.

On Friday, September 21, AOML joined staff from the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School and the Southeast Fisheries Science Center in a community gathering. A speaker from the University of Miami gave an enlightening presentation on terrorism and the psychology of terrorist leaders to start the afternoon. Members of the audience were then invited to share their thoughts, which ranged from extreme grief and bewilderment to anger. The afternoon was concluded with a slide show of the response of the Nation and of our international supporters over the past weeks. (Erica Van Coverden, AOML Outreach Coordinator)



***“Today we are faced with the pre-eminent fact that, if civilization is to survive, we must cultivate the science of human relationships—the ability of all peoples of all kinds to live together and work together in the same world, at peace.”***

**Franklin D. Roosevelt**

photo courtesy of Armando Cuervo



AOML is a research laboratory of NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research located on Virginia Key in Miami, Florida



## CLIVAR Workshop Focuses Efforts on Tropical Atlantic

A CLIVAR-sponsored Workshop on Tropical Atlantic Variability was held at the UNESCO building in Paris, France on September 3-7, 2001. Dr. Silvia Garzoli of AOML's Physical Oceanography



Division and Dr. Jacques Servain of the Institut de Recherche pour le Developpement (France) organized and co-chaired the event, which brought together more than 120 scientists from 10 countries.

The workshop served as a follow up to the Climate Observing System for the Tropical Atlantic (COSTA) meeting that took place at AOML in May 1999. COSTA addressed the need to coordinate international measurement efforts in the tropical Atlantic.

The main objectives of the CLIVAR workshop were to review modeling and observational needs, as well as advances made in studying the dynamics of the tropical Atlantic and the role it plays in climate variability. Efforts to coordinate future observational and modeling plans towards a sustained tropical Atlantic observing system will continue. Recommendations for an implementation plan will be formulated as a result of the workshop.



**Columbus Day  
October 8, 2001**

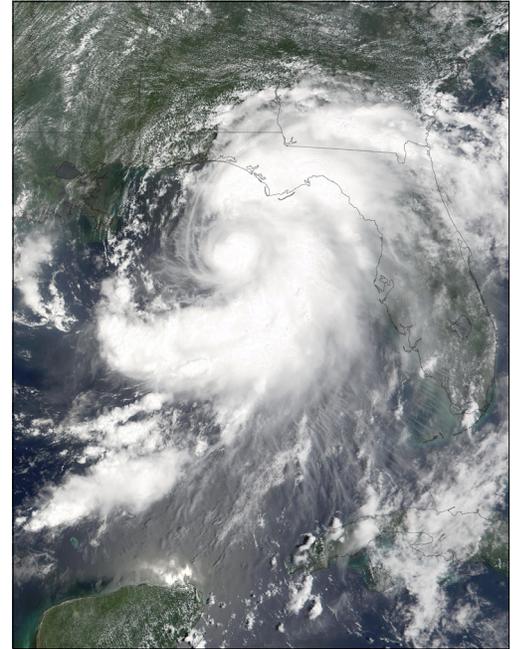
## NOAA Scientists Test New Forecast Devices during Tropical Storm Barry

Even though Tropical Storm Barry's winds were a few miles an hour shy of hurricane strength, the storm gave NOAA hurricane researchers several opportunities to test new technology that may tell them more about wind speed changes and landfall characteristics of tropical cyclones.

Hurricane researchers at AOML's Hurricane Research Division (HRD), in support of the U.S. Weather Research Program, are working closely with NOAA's National Hurricane Center (NHC) to develop new techniques that will provide a better understanding of wind structure and storm intensity changes, plus valuable information on storm track guidance. Dr. Hugh Willoughby, HRD Director, said, "The real accomplishment this summer is the closer connection between ground-breaking research and practical forecasting that benefits every coastal resident in harm's way."

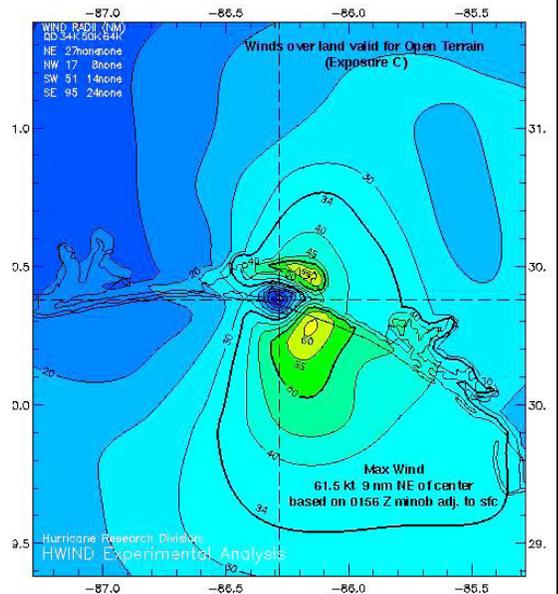
Knowing wind speed at ground level when a hurricane makes landfall is of paramount importance to local emergency management personnel. To provide that information, meteorologists at AOML have created H\*Wind, a program that visually depicts the wind speeds and denotes in easy-to-read color bands the regions of hurricane and gale force winds around a storm. Hurricane specialists at NHC tried their hand at running H\*Wind for the first time during Tropical Storm Barry, focusing on timely analysis and quality control of real-time wind observations. H\*Wind is also being used in a post-storm analysis to determine Barry's actual wind speed at landfall.

Being able to accurately predict where a tropical cyclone will make landfall is another key factor to forecasters. For the best measurements, hurricane researchers have developed a technique that identifies the "sweet spots" in a storm that yield the most accurate data. Scientists on board NOAA's hurricane surveillance Gulfstream-IV jet used the technique to take measurements of Tropical Storm Barry. Those measurements were incorporated in the models that NHC specialists used to issue landfall forecasts. It is anticipated this technique will provide a nearly 15% improvement in the landfall forecast when fully operational.



Tropical Storm Barry approaches the Florida Panhandle on August 4, 2001.

H\*Wind, a program that visually depicts the wind speeds and denotes in easy-to-read color bands the regions of hurricane and gale force winds around a storm.



H\*Wind analysis of Tropical Storm Barry at landfall (August 6, 2001).

Official NOAA press release of August 10, 2001. Contact David Miller (David.P.Miller@noaa.gov or 202-482-6090).

## Welcome Aboard

Derek Manzello joins the staff of the Ocean Chemistry Division to assist Dr. Jim Hendee in managing NOAA's new Coral Reef Information System (CoRIS) web site. Derek, a senior at the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School, will also assist with quality-control operations of SEAKEYS (sustained ecological research related to management of the Florida Keys seascape) and CREWS (coral reef early warning system) data in support of the Coral Health and Monitoring Program.

## Aloha Shirley

Shirley Murillo, a meteorologist with the Hurricane Research Division, has taken a sabbatical from AOML to attend the University of Hawaii's School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology in Honolulu, Hawaii. Shirley will continue her studies in tropical meteorology through a graduate-level program with the Department of Meteorology.

## Congratulations

Kelly Goodwin, a microbiologist with the Ocean Chemistry Division, participated as a member of a research team that has isolated a bacterium now recognized as a new genus and species. *Leisingera methylohalidivorans* was isolated from Pacific Ocean coastal waters by using methyl bromide as the sole source of carbon and energy. An article outlining the research that lead to the classification of *L. methylohalidivorans* will appear in an upcoming issue of the *International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology*.

Nina Liebig, a budget analyst with the Office of the Director, was honored as NOAA's August Employee of the Month. Nina was recognized for her thorough understanding of administrative policy and procedures.

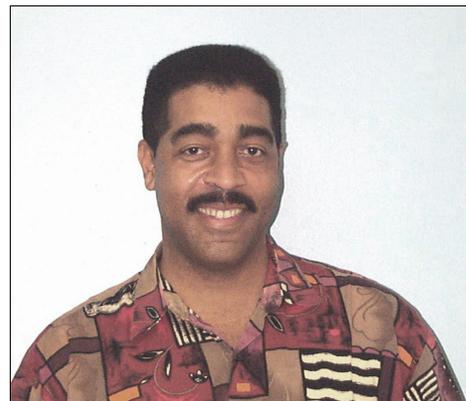
## Farewell

Oleg Esenkov, a CIMAS postdoctoral research associate with the Physical Oceanography Division, resigned from AOML on September 30, 2001. Oleg joins the Exxon-Mobil Upstream Research Company in Houston, Texas to work as an ocean modeler for their offshore operations. Best of luck to Oleg for his continued success.

## AOML Salutes its NOAA Research Employees of the Year

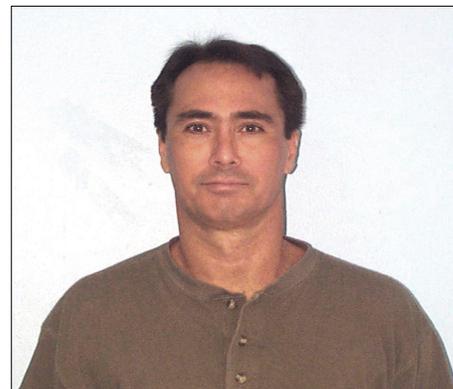
Evan Forde, an oceanographer with AOML's Office of the Director, and Robert Roddy, a mechanical engineer with AOML's Physical Oceanography Division, were among seven individuals honored by NOAA's Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) as recipients of its FY-2001 NOAA Research Employee of the Year Award. Forde and Roddy are both long-time AOML employees, each with more than 25 years of federal service to their credit. The Awards honor employees who have made outstanding contributions to the promotion of excellence in the operations or programs of OAR, as demonstrated by their initiative, commitment, effort, and competence.

Evan Forde received the award for his long-term commitment to outreach on behalf of NOAA and for his enthusiastic promotion of science education. From 1984-1999, Forde served as AOML's Outreach Coordinator and manager of AOML's Equal Employment Opportunity Community Outreach Committee. During these years of service, he volunteered more than 200 hours annually to promote public awareness and name recognition of NOAA, speaking to an estimated 18,000 south Florida school children and sparking their interest in science. He also



organized career-day, mentoring, and internship programs, served as a counselor for at-risk youth, and participated in numerous science and engineering fairs. Forde served as Chairman of OAR's Educational Outreach Committee for approximately two years. He is recognized for his efforts to promote NOAA as an organization that performs invaluable environmental research and for inspiring children in south Florida to explore the natural world around them through science.

Robert Roddy's award is for his dedication in support of the Physical Oceanography Division's field operations, a key component of which is the collection of data from merchant ships to achieve NOAA's decadal climate mission objectives and from small vessels in Florida Bay to meet coastal ocean mission requirements. Roddy has played a critical role in the success of these programs through his resourcefulness in tending to a wide array of logistical considerations prior to the cruises and then by spending extensive periods of time at sea gathering data, often under demanding and adverse circumstances. Roddy has participated in 12 research cruises since October 2000, totaling 145 days at sea. Since scientific operations are conducted 24 hours a day while at sea, he has had to work long hours for extended periods, including many 15 to 20 day cruises where he was the only scientist. Roddy is recognized for his support, participation, and dedication to ensure the continuity of data collection at sea in fulfillment of NOAA's missions for weather and climate forecasts and coastal zone protection.



An awards ceremony was held in Silver Spring, Maryland on October 11, 2001. Congratulations to AOML's FY-2001 NOAA Research Employees of the Year for their outstanding contributions and accomplishments.



Daylight Savings Time Ends Sunday, October 28, 2001.

## Travel

Silvia Garzoli, Robert Molinari, Gustavo Goñi, and Chunzai Wang attended the CLIVAR Workshop on Tropical Atlantic Variability in Paris, France on September 3-7, 2001.

John Proni attended the 17th International Congress on Acoustics in Rome, Italy on September 3-7, 2001.

Kristina Katsaros attended the Achievements and Perspectives of Remote Sensing of the Ocean Symposium in Hamburg, Germany on September 27-28, 2001.

Tsung-Hung Peng attended and presented an invited paper at the 6th International Carbon Dioxide Conference in Sendai, Japan on October 1-5, 2001.

Rik Wanninkhof will attend a Joint Global Ocean Flux Study meeting at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute in Woods Hole, Massachusetts on October 16-18, 2001.

Silvia Garzoli, Gustavo Goñi, Elizabeth Johns, Kristina Katsaros, and Robert Molinari will attend a meeting of the joint assemblies of the International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans/ International Association for Biological Oceanography (IAPSO/IABO) in Mar del Plata, Argentina on October 21-26, 2001.

Brian Ward, Rik Wanninkhof, and Jia-Zhong Zhang will attend the GASEX-2001 Post-Cruise Meeting in Seattle, Washington on October 23-24, 2001.

Kelly Goodwin and Shari Yvon-Lewis will participate in a research cruise to the Southern Ocean aboard the Australian ice breaker *Aurora Australis* on October 30-December 17, 2001.



Employees are required to wear Department of Commerce/NOAA identification badges at all times while on the AOML premises. Contact Michael Sam (305-361-4526) or James Haynes (305-361-4522) to schedule an appointment for a photograph.

# American Heritage Month

(Americans from the Americas)

## Pot Luck Luncheon

October 18, 2001

12 Noon

AOML Lobby

Bring a Dish to Share with Others

Contact Alejandra Lorenzo for more information  
(305-361-4404 or [Alejandra.Lorenzo@noaa.gov](mailto:Alejandra.Lorenzo@noaa.gov))

## AOML 2001

### Combined Federal Campaign



October 15-November 2, 2001

*Due to the recent tragedies suffered by our nation, a special effort will be made to highlight those charities that assist in disaster relief efforts*

Submit your CFC pledge by October 22nd and be eligible to win one of the following prizes:

- An afternoon of sailing on Biscayne Bay for the winner and three guests
- Two separate sets of movie passes

Contact Joe Pica, AOML 2001 CFC coordinator, for more information  
(305-361-4544 or [Joe.Pica@noaa.gov](mailto:Joe.Pica@noaa.gov))

View Keynotes online: <http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/keynotes>

*Keynotes* is published bi-monthly by the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory. Contributions and/or comments are welcome and may be submitted via email ([Gail.Derr@noaa.gov](mailto:Gail.Derr@noaa.gov)), fax (305-361-4449), or mailing address (NOAA/AOML, *Keynotes*, 4301 Rickenbacker Causeway, Miami, FL 33149).

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