Your two cents is worth more than you think

BY DOREEN B. ZUDELL

IF you feel no one wants to hear your suggestions, think again. Len Bellisario, Test Installations Division, was awarded $2,012 for an idea he submitted to Glenn's Employee Suggestion Award Program.

Bellisario's road to riches began when a recently replaced wave rotor (costing $50,000) developed mechanical problems. Utilizing his technical knowledge and 17 years of experience, Bellisario devised an inexpensive way to alleviate the problem and get the project back on track.

"I feel it's part of my job to add input and make suggestions," Bellisario explained, "but this idea seemed especially beneficial to NASA, so I submitted it to the Suggestion Award Program."

Gary Loder, Facilities and Test Engineering Division; Paul Molnar, Test Installations Division; and Louis Spinelli, Manufacturing Engineering Division; also profited from participating in the Employee Suggestion Award Program in 1999. Their ideas saved Glenn a total of $60,840.

Bellisario

"This program benefits the Center in many ways," explained Terry Ross, Program and Policy Office, Incentive Awards Program manager. "Participation by employees raises productivity, saves money, ensures greater customer satisfaction, reduces duplication of process, and improves methods and processes."

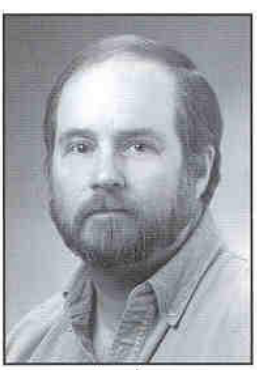
Center management recently affirmed the value of this program by appointing John Gaff, assistant deputy director for Policy, as chairperson of the two Suggestion Awards Committees. Gaff is encouraging increased employee participation as well as increased business for the two committees—Wage Grade and General Service—who evaluate eligible suggestions.

"Since 1993, 837 suggestions have been adopted," Gaff said, "with a tangible savings of about $1,093.435 and an award amount to employees of $66,907. Awards usually range from $500 to $3,000."

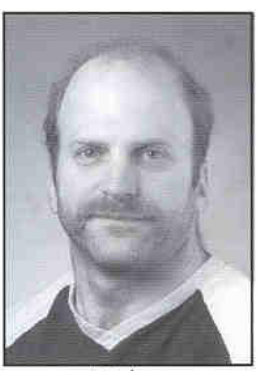
With the development of a web site—which includes procedures and submittal form—the Office of Human Resources is making it easier than ever for employees to have their ideas known. Theresa Goodwin, Combustion Branch, is the first to submit a suggestion electronically.

As an extra incentive, all employees (civil servant and contract personnel) who submit eligible suggestions, as well as evaluators, will receive a $5 certificate to be redeemed in the Cafeteria or Exchange Store. ◆

The web site to access the suggestion form is: http: //www. grc.nasa.gov/WWW/OHR/Suggestion/



Loder



Molnar

Spinelli