

WSRC News

Washington Savannah River Company, Savannah River Site

March 19, 2007

Saltstone Begins New Mission

Historical milestone achieved, the first disposition of dissolved salt waste at SRS

The Liquid Waste Operations (LWO) Interim Salt Disposition Processing program has entered a new phase with the processing of low-activity salt waste (known as Deliquification, Dissolution and Adjustment or DDA waste) at the Saltstone facilities.



An historical milestone was recently achieved by Liquid Waste Operations employees with the first disposition of dissolved salt waste at the site's Saltstone facilities.

Batch 1 operations.

To reach this point, salt waste solutions have been transferred from Tanks 23 and 49 to Tank 50, Saltstone's feed tank.

Saltstone directly supports DOE's highest priority, the closing of waste tanks. It does so by creating the tank space needed to operate DWPF, treat and remove sludge waste, and support the Actinide Removal Process and Modular Caustic Side-Solvent Extraction Unit (MCU) when these processes go on line.

The thousands of man-hours involved toward successfully deploying these systems paid off for WSRC Construction and Saltstone personnel. The new and improved Saltstone facilities are safer and more efficient thanks to the installation of new equipment and upgraded process systems.

During the conversion period and restart process, LWO and DOE employees worked long hours to make each phase of this process a noteworthy event. Saltstone personnel and facilities are now ready to move toward the next major milestone.

"To all of the employees involved in this significant accomplishment, CONGRATULATIONS! Your dedication and hard work really counted, making this a success of which we can all be proud," said DOE-SR Manager Jeff Allison.

It should be also noted that during February, LWO safety performance was exceptional with no injuries or first aid cases, no Occurrence Reporting & Processing Systems reportable contamination cases, no Technical Safety Report violations and no inadvertent transfers.

Until recently, Saltstone had been pouring grout containing Batch 0 waste solutions from Saltstone's feed tank with properties similar to the waste solutions traditionally processed at the Saltstone facilities since 1990.

Saltstone is now safely pouring grout containing Batch 1 waste, which includes DDA solutions, and processed over 85,000 gallons of Batch 1 waste during its first week of

WSRC Wellness Program Changes Lives

The WSRC Wellness Program, not yet one year old, is showing some exciting results.

Although it typically takes about three years to get accurate statistics on the overall success of a Wellness Program, we are already seeing success in several key areas. More than 50 percent of our employees have participated in some aspect of the program, which is a great start.

Even more impressive is unsolicited personal testimony from some of those employees.

John Stafford, Site Utilities Engineering, attended one of the Wellness Program Health Fairs on site, not expecting to receive any unexpected results. He hasn't missed a day of work in 26 years, worked out regularly and believed he was healthy. His biometrics indicated that he should see a cardiologist, and his wife insisted that he do so. The cardiologist discovered John had serious heart problems. John was scheduled for surgery in the first available slot, and had a mitral valve replacement, along with other necessary repairs. John was in cardiac rehabilitation, and is now back to work with no restrictions. He credits the Wellness Program with possibly saving his life. *(cont page 3)*

What Counts?

3,037 Total number of attendees at Technology Days Feb 13-14

SRS Scientists and Engineers Share Their Knowledge

As part of National Engineers Week, SRS sponsored Technology Days 2007, Feb. 13-14, at the National Science Center's Fort Discovery in Augusta. Over 100 engineers and scientists from WSRC shared their science and math knowledge, experience and enthusiasm with over 3000 middle school students, teachers and parents from all over the CSRA. This record-breaking number included over 500 for Family Night, which was held for all WSRC employees and their families.

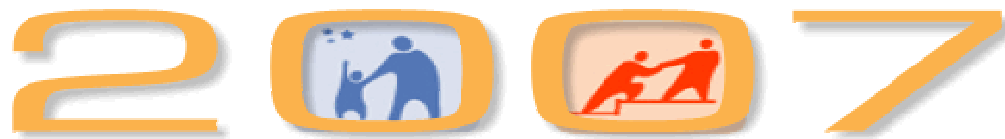
Students learned how exciting math and science is by participating in 48 fun and educational interactive exhibits ranging from glass-blowing and 3-dimensional printing to earthquake monitoring and robotics.

WSRC Tech Days Committee chair Stan Maciaszek knows how much the attendees appreciated the work that the exhibitors and volunteers put forth. Stan said, "Comments like 'my students are still mesmerized about their time there' and 'your exhibitors do a fabulous job of explaining and demonstrating science with our students' in thank you notes from teachers and parents, attest to the great encounters students had with science." Stan continued, "I don't need thank you notes to tell me that these students, parents and teachers were appreciative, I could tell from watching the students' faces that they were enjoying every minute of their time at Tech Days."

The following people worked on the WSRC Tech Days Committee: Daniel Wojtowicz, James Bakke, Janet Jones, Keisha Martin, Kristine Zeigler, Leonor Valdez-Sanchez, Linda Delapaz, Linda Youmans, Lisel Shoffner, Stan Maciaszek, Steve Smith, Tina Stefek, Tom Williams, John Iaukea, and Helen Burns.



Scenes from Technology Days



SRS Employee United Way Campaign

Mark your calendars and make plans to participate in the 2007 Infrastructure and Services Golf Tournament to benefit the United Way. The tournament will be held Friday, April 27, at the Golf Club, Cedar Creek Country Club in Aiken. Shotgun start is at 8:30 a.m. The entry fee is \$60 per person, which includes a generous donation to the United Way, as well as green fees, cart fees, range balls, lunch and a chance to win a great prize, including a brand new motorcycle, jet ski or four wheeler.

The tournament will be a four-person, captain's choice and will be handicapped. Please try to have an A, B, C and D player in your foursome, or as close as possible. Special rules will apply for low or high handicapped teams. You may sign up your team by filling out the attachment and mailing to Kevin Heath, 706-N, or calling 7-5347 by April 20. All money must be paid prior to the tournament. Get your team together, come out for a great day of fun and raise money for the United Way.

Dump Truck Offers a Harrowing BBS Opportunity

Roger Staten was driving across the site recently when he approached the E Road intersection. He watched a dump truck go by, and noted an excessive amount of smoke coming from the exhaust. As Roger turned in the opposite direction, he glanced in his rear view mirror and saw that the smoke was not coming from the exhaust pipe, but rather the bottom of the truck.

Worried that the truck may be on fire, Roger turned his truck around and tried to catch up with the dump truck. By the time he had made up the distance, the truck had stopped at the intersection of E and 6 roads. Roger clearly saw flames in the wheel well.

The truck driver pulled to the right, and Roger assumed he had seen the smoke. However, the driver had just been swinging wide to make the turn and had yet to realize his truck was on fire!

Now Roger began to chase after the truck trying to get the driver's attention. When Roger finally got his attention, the driver stopped and attacked the fire with an extinguisher, while Roger called 3-911.

Anticipating that the fire truck he could now hear would pull up behind the truck, Roger moved back about 20 feet to the right hand side of the truck. About the time Roger decided he was a safe distance away, one of the dump truck tires exploded.

Roger is certain that if he had not moved, he would have suffered injury. The responding officer told Roger that if he had not taken action to stop the truck, things could have been worse.

Is Roger a hero? Yes. He may have kept the driver from serious injury or death. Safety Observers do that with every Observation. Every time we cause someone to focus on safety, it is very likely that we have prevented injury or maybe even death.

Roger went home believing he kept the truck driver from injury. Have you thanked your heroes lately? Have you told them how valuable they are to preventing injury on site? Why not do that this week? You'll feel pretty good about it.

By the way, Roger took time to do a BBS Observation with the WSI Officer who responded.

WSRC Wellness Program Changes Lives

(cont from page 1)

Dale Haas, SRNL Technology Transfer, joined the walking program in October after discovering his blood pressure was higher than normal and glucose levels were high. He was given the choice by his doctor of going on medication or exercising. He chose exercise. In three months, he lost 20 pounds,

dropped his blood pressure significantly and lowered his glucose level. He not only feels better, but he has more energy. His bottom line is "the walking is working."

Why don't you give it a try? Call Kaye Wingard, 8-3679, and find out what's available that could help you with your health or fitness concerns.

BBS Revived at M*A*S*H 4077 Safety Kickoff

Infrastructure & Services cast members, with the help of 800 "interns," were able to revive their patient, BBS, at their annual safety kickoff. I&S used the M*A*S*H 4077 theme for their annual event, which proved to be very successful. The M*A*S*H unit took prescriptions from the interns (audience members) on how to revitalize their patient. I&S also combined this kick-off with their President's safety award for 2.5 million safe hours, the wellness program, the BBS process and pre-job briefings. Local celebrity Dr. Cuny even sang the brick layer's song.

All 800 attendees had a good time participating and learning.



SRS DWPF & Saltstone Excel in Safe Operations

The Defense Waste Processing Facility and the Saltstone Process and Disposal Facilities recently added another chapter to their history of safe operations at SRS with the completion of 2.5 million hours worked since the last employee injury requiring days away from work.

“This is a special safety achievement, especially when you consider the exceptional production performance maintained by our people at DWPF and Saltstone during this same time period,” said Kim Hauer, LWO Facility Operations Manager.

Over the 43 months that it took to accumulate the 2.5 million hours of safe operations, the DWPF facility also immobilized 922,000 gallons of radioactive waste by mixing it with molten glass and pouring the glass-waste mixture into 875 stainless steel canisters, an achievement unto itself.

Also during this same period of time, the Saltstone facilities installed extensive process upgrades and conducted rigorous testing to prepare the operation to restart its mission to safely disposition millions of gallons of decontaminated liquid waste in a solid and environmentally safe form.

Recognition & Awards

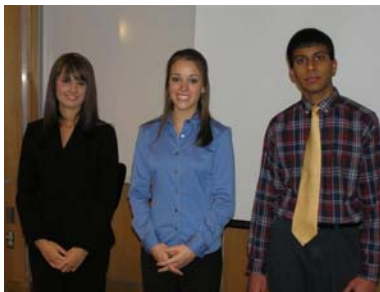
The National Contract Management Association has selected Sharon Campbell as the Second Place winner for the Blanche Witte Memorial Foundation Award.

This prestigious award recognizes individuals who have worked in the field of procurement and contract management, and who have uniquely performed one or more exemplary achievements. Sharon will receive the award at the Leadership Summit in New Orleans June 22-23. Her achievement will be published in *Contract Management* magazine.

Speech Contest Winners

Kasey Hardin, a senior at Greenbrier High School, won the local competition of the American Enterprise Speech Contest sponsored by the Savannah River Site Chapter of the National Management Association (NMA). This is the first step toward earning a \$10,000 U.S. Savings Bond in a nationwide contest sponsored by NMA..

Kasey, whose speech focused on how a young girl, with all odds against her, becomes a successful business owner in our American Enterprise System, earned \$300 for her effort. Mia-Talia Lowe of John S. Davidson Fine Arts School earned second place and \$200, while Raam Venkatesh of Lakeside High School earned third place and \$100.



From left, Mia-Talia Lowe, Kasey Hardin Raam Venkatesh



DWPF and Saltstone employees recently celebrated a special safety achievement.

Would I Like to Have a Mentor?

You may have wondered what the site’s mentoring program is all about.

Mentoring is a part of MP 2.2 rev 1 Employee Development policy. Attachment F (page 18 of 20) covers the site mentoring program. Some of the commonly asked questions about this program are:

1) How do I become a part of the mentoring process? The mentoring process is an informal process, and your initiative is the key. Determine what you desire from a mentor relationship (what do you want to gain by having a mentor?) and then determine who can help you (be your mentor) obtain your goals. Ask somebody that you respect if they would be your mentor. (Cast the net widely – senior leaders, subject matter experts, peers.)

2) What if I do not know who my mentor should be? Once you set your goals for the mentoring process, you can work with your manager to suggest potential mentor candidates. Ultimately, you are responsible for engaging in the process as seen in MP2.2.

As you are preparing for a new year of development, please consider having a mentor as a part of your development plan. If your group is interested in learning more about mentoring, Lynn Bertsch, HR Employee Development Manager, 5-5098, will come and discuss the topic with your group.

Service Milestones

Congratulations to the following SRS employees, who are celebrating service milestones in **March**.

45 YEARS

Andre Gray

35 YEARS

Ken Wood

30 YEARS

Richard Bartlett
Margy Beckmeyer
Russell Beckmeyer
Phillip Berry
Alice Bielewicz
Thomas Brantley
Rudolph Bush
Victor Carter
Vernita Dukes
Don Graham
Billy Johnson
James Loftis
Robert Mannix
James Marsh
Shirley McCollum
Phillip Moore
Sandra Nappier
Raymond Roseberry
David Sakers
Wilbur Still
Ronald Thomas

25 YEARS

Michael Allen
Joe Black
Marybeth Buxton

Milledge Callaham Jr.
Mary Coleman
Thomas Cox
William Doughty
Jerry Dudley
Jeffry Frommer
Richard Glazener
Dale Gulley
Haven Haddox
Dennis Hendrix
Albert Jenison, Jr.
Kenneth Lamb
Robert Lancaster
Glenn Langdale
William Mauck Jr.
William Michael
Charles Miller
Henry Miller
Michael Owens
Billy Pennington
Billy Rains
Richard Redd
Joseph Roberts
Charles Robinson, Jr.
Ronald Rutland Jr.
William Sheppard
Michael Staley
Michael Summer
Gloria Sweat
Kirby Thompson
James Thompson Jr.
Joey Timmerman
Chris Toole

Andrew Vincent III
Johnny West
Jerry Westall
Sherrill Wilcox

20 YEARS

William Abeyta
Alvin Anderson, Jr.
Janet Anderson
Dennis Barker
Marion Barnes Jr.
Roger Barton
Edward Beasley II
Joseph Brown III
Deborah Bryson-Damon
Annette Burnett
Larry Bussey
Vivian Cato
Richard Conway, Jr.
Gricelda Cunningham
Deborah Damon
Robert Domzalski
Randy Frazier
Paul Gazda
Hart Galle Jr.
Bonnie Ginn
Ronald Greer
Delaine Haddock
Barbara Headrick
Robert Howell
John Irons
Lydia Jenkins
Paulette Johnson

Isaac Jones
Michael Jones
James Leaptrotte
Greg Lowry
Jimmy Mayes
Mark McKay
Ed McNamee
Geneva Minus
Michael Monroe
Peter David Moody
Ricky Newman
Seth Owens
Thomas Pearre
Steve Poda
Danny Roon
Michael Smith
Todd Tanton
Richard Williams
Ray Woods
James Wright

15 YEARS

Kathlene Bell
Carol Borders
Kenneth Bryan
Wesley Bryan
Shae Conway
Lynn Davis
John Denton
Barry Dickson
Kaye Gmitter
Debra Huggins
William Hughes

Rowland Ingram
Mervin Johns
William Kearse
Ben Lott
Nancy Lown
Anita Manigault
Floyd Martin
David May
David Miller
Michael Novak
William Patterson
Terry Pifer
Joel Sabel
Richard Skillman
John Riley
Janice Samuels
Daniel Thompson
Robert Watkins
Kevin Webster

10 YEARS

Barbara Jefferson
Glen Kessinger
Deborah Powell

5 YEARS

Paul Courtney
Stonewall Washington
Jonney Grunnet
Aika Strong



Spotlight On Core Values

- ⊙ Safety
- ⊙ Integrity
- ⊙ Results
- ⊙ Teamwork

The *WSRC News* is published by WSRC's Public and Employee Communications Department, Office of the President.

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