



U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
Honolulu District

®



The
Pacific
Connection
/ BUILDING STRONG®

Summer 2011 / Vol. 45 No. 2

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The Pacific Connection, an unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1, is published quarterly by the Public Affairs Office, Honolulu District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440. Telephone: (808) 438-9862. This command information publication is published for Honolulu District employees and others who request it in writing and is also available online at: <http://www.poh.usace.army.mil/>.

The expressed views and opinions are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army. Content is prepared in accordance with the Associated Press Style Guide. Contributions are welcomed and highly encouraged. The editor reserves the right to make editorial changes to any material submitted as deemed necessary. Send submissions to the address listed above. Circulation: 1,100.

On The Cover

Maj. Gen. Merdith Temple (right) asks District Deputy for Project Management Tony Paresa (left) and Project Manager Ed Yago about a paving location at Hickam Airfield's Strategic Airlift Ramp Expansion Western Key-hole project area. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan



Commander's Comments

The Honolulu District
*The best place
where the best people serve
singularly focused on
executing quality projects
relevant, ready,
responsive and reliable
and having fun!*



Lt. Col. Douglas B. Guttormsen
District Commander

Aloha to all the members of the extended Honolulu District Ohana!

It's been a busy quarter for the District – awarding and executing construction projects like we always do – but also doing many other things to support those we serve and this *Pacific Connection* showcases much of that activity.

I'd like to take part of my space in this edition to thank our extended team – our many stakeholders – for helping us successfully execute our mission. In this edition, you'll see many individual and team success stories demonstrated by a number of awards the District's workforce has been recognized with over the last few months. I'm constantly humbled and impressed by the breadth and quality of work the District performs. However, it's important to point out that we don't do this work alone – we do it together with, and in support of, many stakeholders who help us deliver our projects and services. Construction is a team business and all that we do is done via a Project Delivery Team. That team includes many District offices, sister resource agencies, our civilian and military customers and supported commands. The other vital team member of course is the contractor community which helps us get work done. Along that line, in early May, we had a super Corps Workshop for our District stakeholders, focused on our local contractor community, but also including several of our supported commands. We had a terrific turnout – almost 300 folks - and were able to recognize some great contractor performance, inform the contractor community of the best ways to work with the District and share ideas about how we can better work together and learn from each other. Thanks to all who made the workshop a success.

In late May, the District participated in *Makani Pahili*, the state of Hawaii's annual emergency management exercise, in which we were able to assess and validate our support to two more of our key partners, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the state. We were also able to take advantage of the exercise to train and assess our internal emergency response procedures and our disaster response teams: our Containerized Tactical Operations Center, our Power Planning and Response Teams, etc. The exercise served as a reminder of the threat a catastrophic hurricane could pose to the islands – and in this edition of the *Pacific Connection*, we've included an article on individual preparation for such a natural disaster.

I can't go without saying how proud I am of the important expeditionary work members of the District are embarking on. We are preparing to send our Forward Engineer Support Team-Advance (FEST-A) to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, where they'll conduct an infrastructure assessment for the capital of Majuro that will help that nation prioritize limited resources against its essential service shortfalls. We still have three District members in Afghanistan. We are currently redeploying Steve Cayetano and Ken Mashita and we just said farewell to Capt. Jeremiah Gipson who is en route to Afghanistan Engineer District-North. Keep those deployed folks in your thoughts and prayers - they are doing amazing work in difficult circumstances. As I write this, we also have five from our Ohana, Shivaun White, Lincoln Gayagas, Joe Tribbey, Herb Montalbo and James Derwin deployed across the mainland assisting in flood and tornado natural disaster responses. They too, are making a great difference under trying circumstances.

On a sad note, last month we said a final good-bye to Francis Tonaki, a dedicated District employee who lost his battle with leukemia. We keep his family and friends in our collective thoughts and prayers. Francis' passing is a reminder to us all to live each day to its fullest – and to take a moment to appreciate all of those who we have the opportunity to serve with.

Thanks for all you do to keep our Nation strong.
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Honolulu District Employee Wins Federal Pacific Asian Award

Kris Young, who serves as the executive administrative assistant to the chief of the Engineering and Construction Division at the District, received the Federal Asian Pacific American Council's Excellence in Individual Achievement award during the 26th FAPAC National Leadership Training Conference held May 9 to 13.

Young recently completed a special assignment at Pacific Ocean Division (POD) serving as their executive administrative assistant.

"Kris distinguishes herself in all that she does," said James Proctor, POD interim chief of staff. "We're very proud of her and this great accomplishment. Her attitude and can do spirit are an inspiration."

An Asian-American / Pacific Islander and Oahu native, Young worked with Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR), "serving those who serve" at the Hale Koa Hotel, Armed Forces Recreation Center at Fort DeRussy for 18 years and at the Nehelani Banquet Center, Schofield Barracks before joining Honolulu District in Sept. 2009.

Young was nominated for her many contributions to the District's administrative staff that have, among many other achievements, created a more collaborative and efficient working en-



vironment, saved numerous man-hours and dollars and solved a variety of long standing process problems.

According to Todd Barnes, the District's Engineering and Construction Division chief,

"she has an unparalleled work ethic," which led her to be recognized as Employee of the Month within her first nine months with the District.

She also received the District's 2010 Ikaika Loa Award for Administrative Support Employee of the Year for her high level of achievement in administrative responsibilities.

She received recognition from the Honolulu-Pacific Federal Executive Board in April as one of the 2010 Federal Employees of the Year in the category of Clerical and Assistant. She also received the Legendary Service Award during her time with MWR.

In addition to her work duties, Young is an avid volunteer. She participates in the District's Special Emphasis Program Committee and has served as its co-chairperson. She volunteered her time for the District's annual picnic committee and the holiday party committee.

This year, Young served as the Combined Federal Campaign key person for the Engineering and Construction Division, that helped the District raise more than \$65,000.

"We're very lucky to have Kris here at the Corps. Her outstanding work makes the District an even better place to work than it already is," Barnes said.



Honolulu District Deputy for Project Management Anthony Paresa beams as his wife Cathy Paresa and District Commander Lt. Col. Douglas B. Guttormsen present the U.S. Army Engineer Regiment's Bronze Order of the deFluery Medal to him during a ceremony at the District's April Pa'ina. Paresa joins District engineers Todd Barnes, Louis Muzzarini Jr. and Andrew Kohashi as Bronze deFluery recipients in 2011. Photo by Wil Pondexter, ACE-IT



Former 565th Engineer Detachment commander Maj. Evan Ting (second from right) discusses fieldwork findings with the combined FESTs as they compiled and examined data for their final exercise engineer mission report. Photo by Jon Hosaka

565th Engineer Detachment Teams with Baltimore FEST-A at Key Resolve 2011

Honolulu District's 565th Engineer Detachment Forward Engineer Support Team-Advance (FEST-A) joined forces with Baltimore District's FEST-A (71st Eng. Det.) at the 2011 Key Resolve exercise in South Korea to develop a preliminary contingency bed down plan for use in potential future U.S. forces missions. Held in conjunction with the annual field exercise Foal Eagle, Key Resolve is a command post exercise that enables the Republic of Korea-U.S. alliance to hone the skills needed to deter aggression against South Korea or to fight and win, if necessary.

The 565th and 71st Engineer Detachments are two of the eight FEST-A within the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Due to recent departures of personnel, the 565th wasn't fully staffed to support the Key Resolve mission. To remedy the shortfall, select members from the Baltimore FEST-A were used to augment the Honolulu team to support the mission.

The Baltimore team members brought a unique work experience and skill set to the table.

"It was a valuable experience to share knowledge and techniques with another FEST-A and successfully work toward a common goal," said 565th Engineer Detachment Mechanical Engineer Jon Hosaka.

According to Hosaka, the joint FEST-A mission was "to conduct a critical infrastructure survey at Gwang Ju Air Base, South Korea, develop a preliminary contingency bed

down plan to support a significant increase of base personnel, and to prepare a plan to upgrade existing defense facilities."

Hosaka added that the addition of Baltimore's FEST-A Courtney Millburn was invaluable as he was a member of a FEST team that previously completed a similar mission at Suwan Air Base, South Korea.

"The experience he brought in from that exercise, along with his computer-aided design and drafting (CADD) expertise, was invaluable to the success of the Gwang Ju mission," Hosaka said.

Hosaka added that the op tempo of the fast-paced Key Resolve mission was "a great team building and bonding experience" for the newly formed Honolulu FEST.

In the past FESTs have participated on varying missions to support the annual Key Resolve exercises and have traditionally rotated areas of responsibilities and missions.

"In 2010 when the Honolulu FEST participated in the Cobra Gold exercise (Thailand), the Baltimore FEST participated in Key Resolve. This year military planners reversed the areas of responsibility," Hosaka said.

For this year's exercise the 565th spent the first week in Seoul at the Corps' Far East District compound where team members were trained by instructors from USACE Reachback Operations Center, Vicksburg, MS (UROC) and Readiness Support Center, Mobile, AL (RSC) on various Field Force Engineering (FFE) equipment and programs to include the Automated Route Reconnaissance

Kit (ARRK), Tele-engineering Communication Equipment – Deployed (TCE-D), the It Knows Everything (IKE) and the Theatre Construction Management System (TCMS).

Following training the FEST deployed to Gwang Ju Air Base to conduct the exercise survey work.

Hosaka explained that the areas of focus for in-the-field site surveys are defined by the acronym SWEAT-MSO – which refers to the major categories of infrastructure reconnaissance; Sewer, Water, Electricity, Electrical, Academics, Trash - Medical, Safety and Other Considerations. For the Key Resolve exercise the categories of Academics, Medical and Safety were not covered.

The FESTs formed five teams to evaluate Sewer (lead David Nishimura), Water (lead Jon Hosaka), Electrical (lead Craig Rodgers), Trash (lead Arlene Weiner), and Space Utilization (lead Patrick "Mike" Bruse and SFC Colleen Hatfield), while also partnering with representatives from 7th Air Force, Gwang Ju Base Maintenance Contractor (BMC) and the 607th Material Maintenance Squadron.

"For the final days of the mission, we (the team) finalized and submitted the technical report and out briefed our customer, 7th Air Force at Osan Air Base," Hosaka said.

According to Mike Bruse from the Honolulu FEST-A, the "customer (7th AF) was very pleased with the product the team prepared and commented that it was the best FEST-A report they had received."



This photo shows the atrium area of the LEED Gold-certified School Age Center at Schofield Barracks. The \$12.3-million center is named “Napua Koa,” or Children of the Warrior, and opened last year for children ages 6-10. Courtesy photo.

Schofield’s School Age Center Meets LEED Gold Standard

Story by Vanesa Lynch

U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii Public Affairs

The School Age Center is another example of U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii’s ongoing efforts to support the Army Family Covenant by ensuring excellence in schools, youth services and child care.

The \$12.3-million center is named “Napua Koa,” or Children of the Warrior, and opened last year for children ages 6-10.

In addition, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Honolulu District recently received its first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED, gold certification for this fiscal year 2007 USAG-HI project as well as Project Delivery Team of the Year for 2010.

Honolulu District’s design-build contractor for the project, Nan, Inc., received an outstanding performance award and safety excellence award for the center.

The School Age Center has all the things one would expect to find in a place of learning, such as classrooms, study areas, a computer lab and a multipurpose room. Also, five separate program rooms, including a performing arts room, an outdoor soccer field and a basketball court, complement the learning environment.

“The last time a building was built here for this particular age group was the Bennett Youth Center in 1988,” said Mark Maddox, transition specialist with the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation’s Child, Youth and School Services. “We went from an enroll-

ment of 90 children and a no wait list, to an enrollment of 200 children and a wait list in this new building.”

What makes this building special is that it’s been ranked LEED Gold; this certification is the recognized standard for measuring building sustainability.

ings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

The LEED green building rating system — developed and administered by the U.S. Green Building Council — promotes design and construction practices that increase profitability, while reducing the negative environmental impacts of buildings and improving occupant health and well-being.

The rating system offers four certification levels for new construction — certified, silver, gold and platinum — that correspond to the number of credits accrued in five green design categories: sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, and indoor environmental quality.

This project earned 42 points on the LEED scale.

“We used products and materials with very little volatile organic compounds and took extra steps during the installation of the air conditioning units to ensure that construction dust did not enter the new ducts,” Fullmer said.

“We also harnessed the heat given off from the air conditioners, by putting it back into the system to heat the water for the entire building,” he said, “and 28 percent of our total building materials were recycled content and from local manufacturers.”

Although the project was based on a standard Army design, Fullmer was able to play around with how the building looked, including adding skylights to take advantage of Hawaii’s natural light.



The LEED green building certification program encourages and accelerates global adoption of sustainable green building and development practices, according to project architect, John Fullmer, of Mason Architects in Honolulu.

LEED promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability, recognizing performance in five key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water sav-

Honolulu-Pacific Federal Executive Board Honors District Personnel Excellence

The 55th Annual Excellence in Federal Government Awards Luncheon and EXPO for the Honolulu-Pacific region was held at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel, Hawaii Ballroom April 21.

A record-breaking 1,300 federal workers attended the luncheon this year, which was sponsored by the FEB, to recognize the best in Hawaii.

Honolulu District had six individual honorees, one team honoree and an Employer of Choice award:
 » Employer of Choice -Honolulu District
 » Team Excellence - Schofield Barracks Child Development Center Project Delivery Team (Team members: Bruce Chun, Tammy Luke, Ronald Nakagawa, Sheldon Nishina, Donald Schlack, Cora Shimabukuro, Linda Tsugawa, Edwina Williams, Jon Yoshinaga, Jenny Masunaga (NAVFAC HI), Jodi Muraoka (NAVFAC HI), Mark Maddox (FMWRC), Derrick Matsuda (DOIM), Robert Antonio (DPW), Rodney Hollowell (DPW), Nathan Lum (DPW), Elton Choy, Nelson Lee); Federal Supervisor/Manager of the Year - Louis Muzzarini, Jr.; Federal Employee of the Year - Professional, Administrative, Technical - Randal Mita; Federal Employee of the Year - Clerical and Assistant - Kris Young; Federal Employee of the Year - Trades and Crafts - Steven Paahana; Exceptional Community Service - Candace Lotomau; Leader of the Year - Jason Tanaka

The Honolulu-Pacific FEB luncheon forum focuses on highlighting management improvements, employee achievements and how agencies recruit and retain their best.

The Honolulu-Pacific FEB luncheon forum focuses on highlighting management improvements, employee achievements and how agencies recruit and retain their best.

(Photo, top) Honolulu District's FEB award winners pose with former Pacific Ocean Division Commander Col. Edward J. Kertis (seated, left) and Honolulu District Commander Douglas B. Guttormsen (seated, center) prior to the FEB award ceremonies. (Photo, right) Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Douglas B. Guttormsen accepts the FEB Employer of Choice award from Hawaii's U.S. Senators Daniel K. Inouye (left) and Daniel K. Akaka. Photos by Joseph Bonfiglio.





Alex Lau, regional contracting chief with Pacific Ocean Division, presents Honolulu District procurement analyst Derrick McGee with the Secretary of the Army Excellence in Contracting Award for the AbilityOne Program. McGee earned the award during his previous employment with U.S. Army Contracting Command Installation Management Command Regional Contracting Office at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Photo by Angela E. Kershner

HED Deploys ESF #3 Assistant Team Leader to Mississippi Flooding Area



Don Schlack, a chemist in the District's Environmental branch, worked at the FEMA Initial Operating Facility (FEMA IOF)/ Mississippi State Emergency Operations Center as part of the USACE team in Pearl, Miss. Schlack deployed after Pat Tucker, ESF #3 Team Leader at the FEMA IOF/MEMA received a Verbal Mission Assignment for Regional Activation for the State of Mississippi for the Mississippi flooding event.

Although the MEMA is located near Jackson, Miss., Don was able to travel to some of the flooding areas of concern and (left) stands on the dry side of a floodwall in the Vicksburg, Miss. area. He stated the river top, which was nearing crest stage, was about two feet below the top of the floodwall. The Corps pumped (and is still pumping) the leaking water back over the wall. Courtesy photo

Corps Project Receives Historic Preservation Honor Award



Maydean Martin, from Honolulu District's Environmental Branch poses with the Preservation-Award with Hawaii's U.S. Sen. Daniel K. Inouye and his wife Irene. Courtesy photo.

The Army received a Preservation Honor Award from the Historic Hawaii Foundation for work accomplished on the Soldiers' Chapel (Building 590) at Schofield Barracks, at a ceremony April 19, at the Mabel Smythe Auditorium of the Queen's Conference Center, Oahu.

Recipients of the award included U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, Honolulu District and contractor Dawson-DBS.

Accepting the award for Honolulu District was Maydean Martin and Kanalei Shun, both from Honolulu District's Environmental Branch.

Awards are given each year to projects that exhibit excellence in planning, implementation, and follow-through of work that demonstrates historic preservation as a strategy for the protection, understanding, revitalization, use or celebration of Hawaii's historic and cultural sites.

Nominations are reviewed and honors are awarded by a committee of professionals in the fields of architecture, history, landscape architecture, media, planning and preservation.



Makani Pahili 2011: Honolulu District Planning and Response Teammates Bryan Villados (left) and Kenji Santiago adjust a Containerized Tactical Operations Center (CTOC) emergency radio antenna June 2 prior to testing during the Makani Pahili exercise. Honolulu District joined forces May 23 to June 3 with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IX, Hawaii State Civil Defense, city and county other federal services to test the state and federal response to a simulated Category 4 hurricane landfall in Hawaii during Makani Pahili 2011. The 2011 Makani Pahili ("strong wind" in Hawaiian) exercise scenario focused on agency response if Oahu were struck by a Category 4 hurricane. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

Stevens Takes Command of Army Corps in the Pacific

Story by Terri Kojima

Chief, Pacific Ocean Division Public Affairs

Col. Edward J. Kertis relinquished his position as commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Pacific Ocean Division to Brig. Gen. Richard L. Stevens during a Change of Command ceremony June 30 at historic Palm Circle, here.

With the passing of the ceremonial flag symbolizing the official change of command, Stevens now leads nearly 1,800 military and Department of Army civilian engineers, technicians and other professionals in the annual execution of a \$2 billion program. He is responsible for executing a mission that includes engineering design, construction and real estate management for the Army in Hawaii, Army and Air Force in Alaska, and for all Department of Defense agencies in Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Kwajalein Atoll, Republic of the Marshall Islands.

"I am exceptionally proud to be taking charge of a Division that is justifiably regarded as one of the most professional and well respected public engineering enterprises in the world," said Stevens. "I am honored."

Stevens previously served multiple duty assignments within the Headquarters, Department of the Army at the Pentagon, culminating with his most recent assignment as the executive officer to the 36th Army Chief of Staff.

Stevens hails from Vincennes, Ind., and received his commission as an Engineer officer upon graduation from the United States Military Academy in 1982. He has held a variety of command and staff positions around the world, including operations in Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Maj. Gen. Merdith W. B. (Bo) Temple, acting commanding general of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, hosted the ceremony and expressed his confidence in Stevens' leadership.

"Your (Stevens) leadership, technical savvy and ability to build productive partnership will absolutely ensure the success of the Pacific Ocean Division.

Temple thanked Kertis' for his focused and insightful leadership.

"Pacific Ocean Division's efforts and leadership are an important and positive component of our national strategy in this increasingly vital part of the world," said Temple. "Certainly we are grateful for the leadership of Col. Ed Kertis. He stepped into command in this position and never missed a beat."

Kertis expertly directed a full range of engineering capabilities throughout the U.S. Pacific Command's area of responsibility.

In the face of enormous natural, political and fiscal challenges, Kertis directed the two largest host-nation military construction projects in the history of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers--a \$10.4 billion Korea Transformation Program, which will relocate U.S. troops from various bases in Korea to an expanded U.S. Army Garrison-Humphreys in the Republic of Korea; and a \$15 billion Defense Policy Review Initiative in Japan.

Kertis led the division in executing 100 percent of its civil works and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act projects, which helped put local contractors to work in Hawaii and Alaska.

During his tenure, Kertis emphasized the Corps' growing execution of the U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Army Pacific's theater security cooperation initiatives. The division has completed more than 130 humanitarian assistance projects in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Lao, Cambodia and Indonesia, totaling \$36 million.

For his exceptional service from July 2010 to June 2011, Kertis received the Meritorious Service Medal.

Kertis will deploy to Afghanistan and step into his new role as the Corps of Engineers Assistant Division Commander for Operations of the Transatlantic Division.



Brig. Gen. Richard L. Stevens (r) receives the Army Colors from Maj. Gen. Merdith W. B. Temple (l), during a Change-of-Command ceremony June 30 on Palm Circle, Fort Shafter, here. Col. Edward J. Kertis (front left) relinquished command of the Corps' Pacific Ocean Division to Stevens, who became the 30th commander of the Division. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan



While on Oahu Maj. Gen. Merdith W. B. (Bo) Temple, acting commanding general of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, toured several Honolulu District project sites. Left photo: Maj. Gen. Temple (right) asks District Deputy for Project Management Tony Paresa (left) and Project Manager Ed Yago about a paving location at Hickam Airfield's Strategic Airlift Ramp Expansion Western Key-hole project area. Right photo: Maj. Gen. Temple gestures to a point of reference for USARPAC's future Command and Control Facility project at Fort Shafter along with Project Manager Lise Dietzel-Ma. Listening is Honolulu District's DPM Tony Paresa. Photos by Dino W. Buchanan

District Engineers Hold Annual Workshop

Story by Joseph Bonfiglio
Chief, Honolulu District Public Affairs

A record number of local architects, engineers, construction contractors and others in related fields attended the 16th Annual U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Workshop May 5 at the Hale Koa Hotel in Honolulu.

The workshop provided local design and construction representatives the latest information on Honolulu District's project workload, technical information and administrative procedures that affect how to do business with the Corps.

This year's workshop theme was "Quality Design and Construction for a Stronger Future in the Pacific." The focus was on informing private sector companies about what they must do to successfully execute work with the Corps.

Tony Paresa, deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project Management, began the workshop with a presentation that focused on projected future construction work and his personal philosophy about what quality means.

Information presented during the 2011 workshop will allow participants to better understand contracting methods and procedures, to be aware of new standards and codes affecting military projects, to learn about design, construction and legal implications of working with the Honolulu District.

The luncheon speaker was Michael Brennan A.I.A., lead design architect from AECOM, who presented the approach and methodology taken on the design charrette for the multi-phased U.S. Army Pacific Command and Control Facility project at Fort Shafter, Hawaii.

The workshop and breakout sessions also provided opportunity for industry partners from the American Institute of Architects (Honolulu Chapter), American Council of Engineering Companies of Hawaii, General Contractors Association of Hawaii, Building Industry Association of Hawaii and the Associated Builders & Contractors of Hawaii to discuss issues one-on-one with Corps' employees in the spirit of partnership.

Corps and other functional area specialists gave a wide variety of presentations during the nine breakout sessions.

Gary Nip A.I.A., workshop organizer and chief of the Honolulu District's Design Branch said, "this workshop is a great opportunity for the Corps to partner with our industry partners to discuss relevant issues and topics. We received feedback from last year's workshop to add more time for networking so we did so."



Gary Nip A.I.A., workshop organizer and chief of the Honolulu District's Design Branch (right) talks with a construction contractor during the workshop. A record 294 patrons attended this year's event whose theme was "Quality Design and Construction for a Stronger Future in the Pacific." The focus was on informing private sector companies about what they must do to successfully execute work with the Corps. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

"In fact, we arranged a specific networking session with booths manned by seven contract partners and the Honolulu District. We also added longer breaks to this year's workshop resulting in many powerful conversations," he said.

According to Nip, this year's workshop had the most attendees ever at approximately 294. He believed that the slow local construction economy probably added to the high attendance as local firms seek out Army contracts.

The Corps and A.I.A. were especially proactive in getting the word out to industry even reaching out for the first time with the District's Facebook page.

"The workshop is a great opportunity to network with the Corps and for people from the design side meeting up with our clientele and those who are managing these projects. There's a tremendous offering of different seminars besides just the networking opportunities so you can also gain knowledge," Nip said.

"I've been coming for eight years and the main reason I keep coming is there's always innovative ideas plus I enjoy the crystal ball and looking into what the government expects (for a work load)," said George Stewart of Hawaiian Cement.

"We try and meet those expectations, and I take that information back to our company and see how we can meet what's being presented in the Workshop," Stewart said.

"If you're involved with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers you're going to find this a very valuable workshop because you'll gather information and you'll meet a lot of people and find a great exchange of ideas and concepts," he said. "Plus, this is all about supporting the troops."

In addition to information sharing, the Corps honored many contractors and Architectural / Engineering firms for their demonstrated excellence in the areas of quality and safety on Corps' projects.

The first annual Honolulu District Workshop was in 1996 at the Pagoda Hotel with the Consulting Engineers Council of Hawaii. Since then, they have changed their name to the American Council of Engineering Companies of Hawaii. In 1998 the workshop expanded to include the American Institute of Architects. In 2000, it again expanded to include the General Contractors Association, the Building Industry Association and the Associated Builders and Contractors Association.

This year's workshop was co-sponsored by the American Institute of Architects, Honolulu Chapter (AIA), American Council of Engineering Companies of Hawaii (ACECH), General Contractors Association of Hawaii (GCA), Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA) and the Associated Builders and Contractors of Hawaii (ABC) in conjunction with Honolulu District.



District employees Debbie Alexander (left) and Katie Tamashiro share a laugh while watching the Chinese lion dance in front of them during the District's Asia-Pacific Heritage Month Celebration. The symbolic lion dance is a traditional dance in Chinese culture, in which performers in a lion costume mimic a lion's movements to scare away evil spirits and to summon luck and fortune. Photos by Angela Kershner

District Employees Enjoy *Roaring* Asia-Pacific Heritage Month Celebration

The Honolulu District's Special Emphasis Program Committee-sponsored Asia-Pacific Heritage Month Celebration held May 25 allowed employees to experience various Asia Pacific cultural themes. There were special dance and cultural performances by some District employees including an authentic lion dance, brick breaking, plus free Asian-Pacific food and mochi sampling.





District Commander Lt. Col. Douglas B. Guttormsen addresses the more than 160 attendees at the Hawaii Army Industry Day for Women-Owned Small Business June 1 in the Nehelani Conference Center at Schofield Barracks. Photo by Angela E. Kershner

Engineers Participate in Hawaii Army Industry Day for Women-Owned Small Business

Story by Angela E. Kershner
Honolulu District Digital Media Specialist

More than 160 small business owners, mostly women, attended the Hawai'i Army Industry Day for Women-Owned Small Business at the Nehelani Conference Center at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii Wednesday.

Co-hosted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Honolulu District, the 413th Contracting Support Brigade (CSB) and the Honolulu Minority Business Enterprise Center (HMBEC), the program provided small business owners with the information and resources necessary to pursue government contracts.

"We are very proud of our success awarding work to qualified small businesses, but it takes constant effort on both our parts to keep the program successful," said Lt. Col. Douglas Guttormsen, Honolulu District commander.

Recently, the U.S. Small Business Administration expanded federal contracting opportunities for women-owned small businesses (WOSB). The WOSB Federal Contract program authorizes contracting officers to set aside certain federal contracts for eligible WOSBs or economically disadvantaged WOSBs (ED-WOSBs) in 83 different industry groups within the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

Col. Michael D. Hoskin, commander, 413th CSB, pointed out that the Department of Defense awarded \$2.13B in FY10 in the state of Hawaii. Of that amount, \$692M (32%) was awarded by the Army contracting offices with 8.02% to WOSBs.

It made sense to focus this year's industry day on the program and women small business owners. To emphasize the significance of the WOSB program, the keynote speaker, Ms. Pamela Monroe, associate director, Army Contracting Command, National Capital Region, made the trip all the way from the East Coast to participate in this event. She stressed the importance of being prepared and not dropping the "set-aside baton."

"This is the first event of its kind in the state of Hawai'i," said Cathy Yoza, deputy for Small Business and Programs with the Honolulu District, causing the audience to break out in resounding applause.

Among the many speakers during the event were three women contractors who shared their experiences as small business owners.

Diana Wong, owner and president of D & D Construction, Inc. declared that as the mother of two children and a small business owner, "You never thought you'd work so hard in your life!"

Growing up watching her hard-working father, she learned to apply his work ethic to her own.

"I had this innate passion of one day owning my own business," Wong said.

Wong advised her fellow women small business owners to find what their competitive advantages are and to use them.

"Here, today...we already have our first advantage: Women-Owned Small Business," Wong said.

Julie Beck of Beck Environmental and Remediation Ltd. became her own boss after a bad experience working for another woman.

Beck emphasized the need for small business owners to become experts in their respective fields and to get to know the movers and shakers in those fields.

"Partner with people who are going to let you run your own business," said Beck.

The third WOSB speaker was Nadine Stollenmaier, owner of Dunhill Professional Staffing of Hawaii. Starting as an office assistant in 1988, Stollenmaier purchased the company in 1993.

"I guess I don't understand what 'no' means," said Stollenmaier.

After months of asking her boss for a chance to be a consultant, she was finally granted the opportunity. Stollenmaier quickly surpassed her coworkers and rose to the fourth ranked consultant in the company nationwide.

"I was going to show me that I could do this," said Stollenmaier.

Stollenmaier encouraged the conference attendees to use the resources available to them through the Department of Labor and the Small Business Administration.

"They're helping. They are trying to help us...so give them a call," said Stollenmaier.

The panelists had sound advice that could be applied to all business owners, but most of the day was geared towards educating women owners of small business about participating in the WOSB Federal Contract Program.

"We were really pleased to exceed our goals for the [last fiscal] year," said Guttormsen. "And we look forward to continue working with you to exceed those goals again this year."

For more information about the Honolulu District's Small Business Program, contact our Deputy for Small Business at (808) 438-8586 or email: CEPOH-DB@usace.army.mil.

District Employees Embrace Safety Day 2011



Photo by Angela E. Kershner



Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

Honolulu District held its 17th Annual Safety Day June 9, focusing on increasing the safety and health awareness for all employees while enjoying a day filled with fun, fitness and camaraderie.

More than 85 people began the day with a brisk four mile run or a two mile walk around Fort Shafter with District Deputy of Engineering and Construction Branch Eddie Johnson crossing the finish line first.

The all-day event continued with Water Safety Awareness training by the District's Park Rangers and lifeguards at Fort Shafter's LT Jon Brostrom Community Center pool, Kaiser Permanente personnel testing health awareness with a "Spin the Wheel" program, blood pressure checks provided by seven U.S.Navy/ U.S. Army nurses, Stress Reduction Reflexology, and educational briefs on Fire Safety and Cardiac Awareness.

Other seminars were held at the Fort Shafter Area Office at Tripler Army Medical Center and the Schofield Barracks Area Office.

All sessions were well-attended by District employees eager to learn about the various topics offered, with attendance at the events earning employees credit towards their annual mandatory safety training goals.



Photo by Dino W. Buchanan



Photo by Dino W. Buchanan



Photo by Angela E. Kershner

Emergency Preparedness: Are You Ready?

Preparing for an emergency can not only reduce the stress experienced during an emergency, it can also make family members feel more in control of their safety. And during times of chaos, a little control is very powerful.

Preparing for an emergency requires a bit of effort, but it's time well spent. What if an explosion, a landslide or a flash flood forced an evacuation of your neighborhood before you got home from work? Would you know where to find your family? Do you know the emergency plans for your children's school? And at work, do you know your role in your company's emergency response plan? When you prepare for an emergency, you can reduce some of the stress and anxiety experienced by yourself and your family members during a difficult time.

Here are some tips to help you prepare for an emergency, at work and at home:

At Work

- Learn about the hazards of your workplace. Do you know where to find a chemical's MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheet), a safety shower or an emergency shut-off switch?
- Know how to get out alive. Study the company's evacuation plans and memorize two ways out of every area of your workplace - without an elevator. Note the number of doors and workstations between you and the exit so you can find your way out in the dark, if necessary. You should also know the designated meeting place and reporting procedures for personnel after an evacuation.
- Note the location of the fire extinguishers and learn how to correctly use them.
- Know where to find the first aid kit and how to contact employees certified to provide first aid.
- Post emergency phone number (9-911) by your workstation, as well as the address and exact location of your workplace.
- Keep with you your identification, contact numbers and any necessary medical information.
- If you have a disability or condition that might interfere with your ability to exit quickly, inform your supervisor.

At Home

Pack a disaster kit twice. Keep one kit in the home and a miniature version in your car.

- Create an evacuation plan of your home. Review it with your family and practice it at least once a year.
- Designate an out-of-the-area relative or family friend to be a contact - the family point person.
- If family members are separated during an emergency, they can call the point person and leave or retrieve messages.
- Pick two meeting places, one in your neighborhood and one far from home in case the neighborhood is evacuated.
- Talk to your children's schools about emergency plans. Make sure they have your contact information and know who is authorized to pick up your child if you can't get there yourself.



**ARMY SAFE
IS ARMY STRONG**

EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

EMPLOYEE AWARDS PROGRAM

Every month employees are chosen as Honolulu District Employees of the Month. In addition to being immortalized on the "Plaque of Fame" in Bldg. 230, they receive a special reserved parking space and a choice of *Lokahi* gifts.

The Employee of the Month program is managed by the Awards Committee which is empowered to act on behalf of the District Commander.

The Committee, manages a number of award programs including: *Lokahi*, Top 60, On-the-spot, The District HED annual awards and other special commendations.

March



GERALD YOUNG

Was recognized for his diligent customer service for the U.S. ICE Office in Honolulu in expeditiously resolving alleged safety and health hazards violations of State OSHA laws. This was a primary example of building customer relationship in moving our USACE organization from "Good" to "Great."

March



MINH LY

Was highly commended for his dedication, tenacity and technical innovativeness to complete the structural design for the G1B Substation Project. The \$9M G1B was TAMC's #1 priority project in FY10. A technically sound structural design was completed on schedule and the project was awarded.

April



JEANIE YOUNG

Was recognized for her extraordinary support throughout the organization with a focus on customer service. Jeanie's dedication, team work and work ethics enabled her to exceed established goals while ensuring timely, accurate and proper funds management.

April



JIMMY LAM

Was acknowledged for the successful completion of rapid bridge assessments and capacity training to the Government of Vanuatu for the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC). The District has been supporting MCC by providing independent engineering to Vanuatu's implementation of road projects under MCC funding.

May



SANDY ISHIDA

Was recognized for her extraordinary support throughout the organization with a focus on fiscal integrity and customer service. Sandy's dedication, team work and work ethics enabled her to accomplish mission goals while ensuring timely, accurate and proper funds management.

May



JESSICA WIGGS

Because of a heavy workload and shortage of manpower in the Civil/Structural Section of Design Branch, Jessica willingly started her intern rotation early on a part time basis in January. In a short time, she made significant contributions to three major projects including assisting the Senior Construction Engineer, prepared civil site design drawings and performed hydrology, hydraulics and LEED calculations for the \$40M Camp Carroll, Korea, Barracks and TEMF project.

June



STEPHEN MORA

Were recognized for their tireless & outstanding efforts on the FY08 Hydrant Fuel System project, Joint Base, Pearl Harbor-Hickam. By utilizing their excellent communication skills, experience on fueling systems & detail for quality assurance (QA), the system was successfully commissioned on June 3, 2011. The hydrant fuel system project demands stringent quality control in the tight tolerances of welding, pipe slopes and cleanliness. Because of their QA efforts, the independent commissioning subcontractor stated that the FY08 Hydrant Fuel System project was the cleanest he had seen by far in his 32 years of business. The final result of their QA efforts was the ability to produce aircraft-grade fuel more than one week earlier than scheduled.

June



DEANE SHEPHARD

In Memorium

With Sincere Condolences

BOB KIMBLE, (far left in photo) a retired Honolulu District employee, passed away on April 9. He was the Resident Engineer for all of the District's large construction projects, including: the original Hale Koa Hotel, the Kailua-Kaneohe Dam, Tripler Army Medical Center Wings F-G-H and the renovation of the remainder of the wings. Bob will be remembered as a very vibrant individual. He rode his bike from Diamond Head to work every day and swam at Ala Moana Beach Park often. Bob was still riding his bike and skiing until a year or so ago in Colorado, where he lived. He is survived by his sister – Billie Caton and his niece – Sharon Wright. **(ORG Day photo from back in the day, provided by Todd Barnes, Honolulu District chief of Engineering & Construction [at right in photo])**

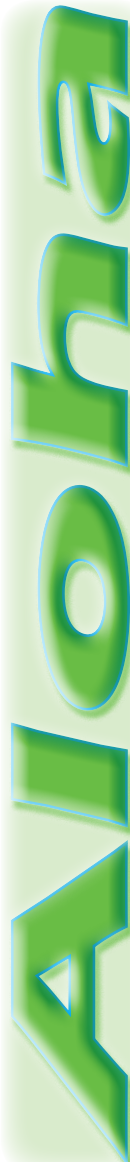


FRANCIS TONAKI, age 65, ULA Supply Technician, passed away June 1 at Hale Ho Aloha on Oahu while battling leukemia. Tonaki, a 28 year District veteran, was widely known within the District for his "Coconut Wireless" banter and socially-engaging personality. He was a Hawaii Army National Guard veteran having served with USARPAC, 29th Brigade, as a Medical Specialist from 1968 to 1969. He began his career with the Corps of Engineers in 1983 as a Supply Clerk. Some of his few noteworthy accomplishments were his support in the travel and supply functional areas during his travels to Hong Kong, Kwajalein, Puerto Rico and Kauai. His accomplishments gained him a promotion to the Property Disposal Specialist position. He was born and lived in Honolulu. Francis is survived by his mother Jane and brother Carl. Inurnment was held at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl.



District Honored With Small Business Programs Award

Honolulu District received a commendation for outstanding improvement in Small Disadvantaged Business contract awards for FY10 on May 17 from Ms. Tracey Pinson, director, Office of Small Business Programs at the DoD Small Business Training Conference in New Orleans.



Aloha to our Overseas Contingency Operations volunteers who are deployed to Afghanistan:



Ike Borja



Capt. Jeremiah A. Gipson



Fred Nakahara

TRANSITIONS / 3rd Quarter FY11

Welcome

Tezra Hamilton	Angela Kershner	Geraldine Ribao
Deserie Bala	Lana Murashige	Paul Ancog
Gena Remigio	Kristen Young	Kristin-Ashley Mitchell
Stanley Keolanui	Jasmine Lee	Dionicio Labayog
Wayne Freeman		Edward Chambers
Waverly Johnson (ACE-IT)		Lana McLamore
Lia DiGiovanna (Cadet)	Ethan Heckmann (Cadet)	

Welcome Back

Calvin Mashita (OCO)	Steve Cayetano (OCO)
Nelson Lee (OCO)	Michael Hew
Nicholas Inouye	James Nakamura
	Dylan Kuwabe

Goodbye

Andrea Hinkle	Tom Madeira	Joy Sakamoto
SFC Colleen Hatfield	Darlene Shimamura	Bruce Ayres
Amy Klein	Craig Nakano	Michelle Tugaoen
Anna Flatt	Mike Bruse	Melissa Frank

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Honolulu District
Public Affairs Office
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Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440