



“Affordability” focus of Town Hall

Story by Alexander Kufel

Even as he winds down his tour as HED commander, Lt. Col. (P) Ralph H. Graves continued to grapple with a declining workload and impacts on the District workforce. At a June 23 Town Hall meeting at Fort Shafter’s Richardson Theater, he discussed “affordability” and communicated a clear message that anticipated fiscal year 1999 funding would not be sufficient to support current staffing levels.

“The story is changing rapidly, and we’re going to be adjusting as we go,” said Graves.

Looking ahead to FY99, all forecasting indicators suggest that funds will be available for only 360 positions within the District. With the current strength at 396 and staffing for the soon-to-open Palau Compact Road Resident Office established at 13 slots, 49 positions will be earmarked for reduction. There are certain time requirements inherent in the Reduction-in-Force (RIF) process. With the RIF at fewer than 50 positions, if all related actions are completed on time, the effective date will be Dec. 11, just before the end of 1st quarter, FY99. More positions would require additional approval from DA (Department of Army).

“This is something we need to do immediately to maximize savings,” said Graves. “It is not simply a matter of making the organization smaller, but rather a consolidation of managerial functions so the chance of duplication of effort is reduced if not eliminated completely,” he said. RIF actions are disruptive, but they guarantee protection to employees during periods of reorganization.

A VSIP (Voluntary Separation Incentive Program) buy-out campaign hinges on request by the District commander to the Division commander. Approval is expected without difficulty, said



Photo by Jim Dung

HED Commander Lt. Col. (P) Ralph H. Graves shares his knowledge about the impact of workload projections on staffing levels for the next fiscal year and beyond with an attentive workforce.

Vernon Kajikawa, Human Resources chief. Authorization for VERA (Voluntary Early Retirement Authority) has not been provided and has to come from DA. The possibility exists that VERA will also be pursued to lessen the adverse implications of this RIF. A VSIP/VERA campaign will likely be conducted in August and it is anticipated that, pending authorization, the last day for VSIP/VERA applications will be Aug. 24.

Graves said that the competitive area for the RIF is HQ POD and HED and that due to vacancies at some of the higher levels, he

anticipates that the positions of GS-13 and below will be the ones affected. Promotions are not permitted under RIF-action, but due to the competitive area including the Division, there will be some

See “Affordability,” page 4

Ahsing named as USACE Program Manager of the Year

The 1998 USACE Program Manager of the Year is Pacific Ocean Division (POD) civil engineer Kathleen K.W. Ahsing. The award will be presented in ceremonies July 9 at the Project Delivery Team Conference in Baltimore

This prestigious award is given annually to an Army Corps of Engineers employee displaying extraordinary managerial performance. Ahsing is being recognized for her ability to function as manager and primary point of contact in numerous projects that occurred simultaneously. She has received numerous awards and

See “Ahsing,” page 5

Inside

Multicultural Awareness Day a big hit

...Page 4

Organization Day provides lots of fun for everyone

...Page 6

Safety Day activities get everyone involved

...Page 10

Productive People

...Page 11

Effort: *If a man does his best, what else is there?*—George S. Patton, U.S. general, 1885-1945



By Lt. Col. (P)
Ralph H. Graves
HED Commander

HED Commander's Comment

District has a lot to be proud of

Early next month I hand over command of Honolulu District to Lt. Col. Wally Walters and move with my family to Northern Virginia, where I'll be assigned to the Pentagon. I take with me pride in the District and its accomplishments, memories of three rewarding years and affection for the people I've met.

We can all be proud of the work accomplished in recent years. Soldiers and their families, as well as some airmen and marines, will continue to benefit from better mission and quality-of-life facilities built or renovated by Honolulu District. Environmental and real estate support have helped our military customers be responsible stewards of the lands they occupy. I believe that our regulatory program has struck a fair balance between environmental and development values. Recently completed civil works projects provide flood protection to communities on Oahu and the Big Island and protect shorelines and harbors in Hawaii and American Samoa. The Palau Road, the biggest infrastructure project ever undertaken in Micronesia, nears design completion.

Our organization has been through some changes. We tried combining engineering and construction for a while but then said goodbye to DETS and to the operating division itself this year. I have moved offices twice in the space of three years and don't claim to hold any record. The pace of information systems change has accelerated as RAMS II, CEFMS, PROMIS, REMIS, RIFMIS, Outlook, GIS, RMS, EBS, SPS and other systems whose names I can't remember or never knew have challenged us to change

the way we work in pursuit of quicker response, more comprehensive coverage and higher levels of accountability. The District's workload has gone up and down over the years, and mostly down lately, but the need and our commitment to providing quality engineering cannot vary.

One is "lucky to live in Hawaii," even if only for a few years, and my family and I have valued every day of our time as *kama'aina*. This assignment has also taken me to Pacific Island places I might otherwise never have visited: spots that might seem exotic vacation destinations to the rest of the world but represent the homes of people who need the expertise this District can bring to help them improve their lives or recover from natural disasters. Pacific Ocean Division plays a key role in our nation's regional strategy, and Honolulu District continues to reinforce the efforts of our colleagues in Japan and Korea.

The District is respected throughout the region for the expertise, professionalism and positive attitude our people bring to their work. It's been a great honor for me to represent you and to hear your accomplishments praised. It's been an even greater pleasure to be part of your team, to share both achievements and frustrations with the optimism and good humor that seem to characterize every meeting and conversation. I wish Honolulu District and each of you individually all the best of future success.

“
It's been a great honor for me to represent you and to hear your accomplishments praised.
”
—Lt. Col. (P) Ralph H. Graves

The Pacific Connection, an unofficial publication authorized by AR360-81, is a monthly newspaper produced by the Public Affairs Office, Pacific Ocean Division and Honolulu Engineer District, US Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440, (808) 438-9862. This command information newspaper is for employees and others who request it in writing. Contents are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army. Circulation: approximately 1,300.

- Pacific Ocean Division Commander.....Col.(P) Carl A. Strock
- Honolulu Engineer District Commander.....Lt. Col.(P) Ralph H. Graves
- Chief, Public AffairsLarry Hawthorne
- Public Information Officer.....Elsie Smith
- EditorAlexander Kufel
- Photographer.....James Dung

Innovation: *Innovation has never come through bureaucracy and hierarchy. It's always come from individuals.*
—John Scully, former chairman, Apple Computer

Opinion

Are the fashion police into coffee, too?

In one of those bizarre scenarios where you turn a corner and find yourself a stranger in a strange land, I went into a coffee shop recently and looked at the menu. I wanted a cup of coffee, a little bit of cream in it to round the edges, that's all, nothing fancy. I don't know exactly when things changed, but having a cup of coffee in a restaurant is obviously no longer a simple matter.

The menu listed espresso, espresso doppio, espresso americano, espresso macchiato, cappuccino, cappuccino skinny, flavored cappuccino, latte, double latte, double tall latte, double tall skinny latte, a decaf latte skinny, mocha, double mocha tall, double mocha tall iced, and café au lait. Of course, I also had a choice of small, medium or large. Whoa! I was afraid to look at the food menu.

I asked if they had "normal" coffee and the "barista"—that exotic, delightfully obscure term for coffee maker—said, "Yes, of course. We have Colombian, Ethiopian, Guatemalan Antigua, Hawaiian Kona and Houseblend, to name a few. We can make it French Press or drip. And, is that regular or decaf?"

One of the criteria for recognizing conventionalized signs, sounds, gestures, or marks as a separate language is that as a systematic means of communicating ideas or feelings it must be the principal repository of a culture. I think I accidentally stumbled across something here, although rather than it being one of those tribes that periodically emerge out of the rainforest in places like the Philippines or Brazil, this would have to be described as a "newly emerging" culture blossoming right under our noses.

America has a long tradition of coffee drinking. I drink it because I like the taste of it, but it has long been a part of American highway scene, conjuring visions of long-distance truckers downing steamy cups of "java" in all-night restaurants, thankful for the caffeine that would keep them awake and alert. There will come a point I'm sure when more people will recognize "java" in connection with an Internet computer programming language than as something to drink.

But coffee is changing, too, and not just because of the baristas and the franchises. Discovered nearly 200 years ago, caffeine is used as an analgesic today. I read recently that the health benefits of caffeine include relief of nasal congestion, keeping asthma at bay by opening the bronchial passages to the lungs and

boosting the effectiveness of aspirin for headaches and pain relief. I saw an ad for a type of coffee that combined a chromium additive just to help people lose weight. Of course, coffee—caffeine, actually—has its detractors. It's addictive. It causes insomnia, anxiety, irritability, nervousness and even panic attacks. It can cause stomach upsets, raise blood pressure and increase risk of heart attack.

So, what's a person to do? I told the barista that I would have anything he wanted to give me as long as it was quick, tasted like coffee, and didn't kill me on the spot. He directed boiling water from his shiny, copper-clad, eagle-topped boiler into a glass-pot, threw in some coffee grounds and plunged the handle down to the bottom. I have no idea what kind of coffee it was, nor did I care. It was tasty and I lived to talk about it.

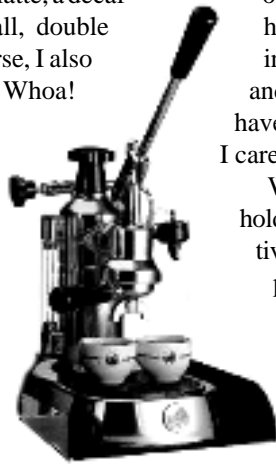
What I discovered since is that moderation holds an important key to minimizing the negative aspects of coffee and maximizing the positive. Also, the quality of the coffee bean itself and way the coffee is made have an affect on the amount of caffeine that's released. Less expensive "robusta" beans produce between 150-170 milligrams of caffeine per 5-ounce cup; "arabica" beans produce between 80-100 mg. For caffeine enthusiasts, there is even a "hyper-caffeinated" coffee that claims 200 mg. per cup.

Brewing methods also affect caffeine levels, and the French Press plunger pot is thought to produce the highest. Pressure-brewed espresso is next, although the serving size of about an ounce produces a strongly flavored coffee with less caffeine than a regular cup: about 50 mg. Supposedly, too, the darker the roast, the lower the caffeine level. Using the drip method produces a cup with about 110 mg; percolated coffee: 80 mg. And, of course, decaffeinated coffee weighs in at 3 mg. An early method of removing caffeine used formaldehyde, but today's means is apparently benign. I also learned that places like a "coffee bar" literally allow one to "name their poison."

Ah, enlightenment! I'm no longer disoriented when I stop for a simple "cuppa." Only these health-conscious days I find myself drinking cappuccino, minimizing the caffeine with espresso and diluting it further with two percent milk worked up into a silky froth. I savor the strong rich taste for quite a while afterwards and prefer it to the old brew. Ain't life grand?



Just Thinking
by Alexander Kufel



Science: *When a distinguished but elderly scientist states that something is possible, he is almost certainly right. When he states that something is impossible, he is very probably wrong.* —Arthur C. Clarke, science fiction writer

Multicultural Awareness Day a big hit



More people than just the judges are involved in the tasting of the 37 entries in the Multicultural Day food-sharing. (From left) Lyanne Kiyuna, PP; Jo Ann Albano, PP; Judi Jinnai, CO; Carol DeoCampo, EH. Photo by Alexander Kufel.

Story by Alexander Kufel

More than food was on the menu as nearly 200 HQ POD and HED employees gathered together at the end of May to observe Multicultural Awareness Day. However, one wouldn't necessarily know that judging by the long line outside the command conference room in building 230 at Fort Shafter. Thirty-seven dishes were entered in a good-old-fashioned cooking contest and food sharing, and clearly, the winners were the people who showed up for the tasting.

POD Equal Opportunity Manager Anita Naone said that she was very proud of the members of the SEPC (Special Emphasis Program Committee) for

putting it all together and that she heard many comments that it's the happiest people have been in a long time.

Perhaps the only people struggling were the judges. POD Chief of Staff Col. Allan B. Carroll, HED Commander Lt. Col. (P) Ralph H. Graves, HED Chief of Engineering Ray Jyo and HED deputy commander Maj. James F. Ball had their hands (and mouths) full as they tried to select one dish over another in each of four categories. Eventually, they were able to choose the winners.

"It's clearly an impossible task," said Ball. "Some of the dishes I haven't had before so it's a real treat. Everything is so good that you can see I'm having a lot of fun trying."

The 37 entries not only represented over a dozen cultures, but also covered categories from appetizer and salads, to entrees and desserts. The winners in each category are:

"Taste"—Chang-Jo-Rim (a spicy Korean meat dish); Island Pumpkin Spice Bread, second.

"Appearance"—Korean Mochi, first place; Greek Baklava, second.

"Originality"—Crawfish Egue Toufe, first place; Konbu Maki, second.

"Authenticity"—Creme Caramel, first place; Korean Mochi, second.

Honorable mention went to Papaya Salad, California Sushi, Coconut Pudding and Pacific Rim Rolls.

Lise Ditzel-Ma, PP-P, one of the SEPC members, said that requests for recipes have been so great that plans are in the works for a cookbook.

Affordability...

Continued from page 1

room for lateral transfers.

A mock RIF is scheduled for July, 1998. The mock RIF serves several functions, said Graves. It will generate the information required to notify USACE, DA and Congressional delegates, and to pursue the VERA authority. Additionally, it will assist individuals by identifying those employees who are "at risk."

Among the strategies being considered to reduce operating costs is the recombining of Engineering and Construction Divisions, performing more work

for other POD districts, and contracting out services. The HED commander stressed that activities will still be faced with sustaining an overall supervisory ratio of 10:1.

Graves said that he wished that the declining workload had not painted this type of picture for the incoming commander, Lt. Col. Wally Z. Walters, to deal with, but he wanted people to understand that the decisions made to date were his own. He said, too, that the Army's management system is extraordinarily resilient and that Walters will be able to pick up exactly where he left off when he turns over command on July 2.

The Town Hall meeting opened with presentation of awards to eight employees, sparking Graves to comment that "the awards remind us that the requirement for outstanding performance continues."

Dreams: *The man who has no imagination has no wings.*—Muhammad Ali, retired boxer

Attorney honored for work on Palau Compact Road Project

Each year, several Corps of Engineers attorneys are recognized for exceptional contributions to the Corps' legal services mission. This year, one of the recipients of the E. Manning Seltzer Award is HED environmental law attorney Patricia Billington.

She is being honored for her efforts in rendering legal advice on the Palau Compact Road Project. District Counsel Mike Feighny said that the project presents unique challenges by the sheer complexity of replacing a network of dirt roads and overgrown paths with "a paved road of minimal impact on the environment." All easements were obtained through negotiations without condemnation proceedings taking place.

Under the terms of the Compact of Free Association between the United States and the Republic of

Palau (ROP), the \$149 million project will produce a 53-mile-long paved road circling the island of Babeldaob, 500 miles east of the Philippines. The Compact requires that the road be constructed in compliance with U.S. environmental laws. Groundbreaking is set for October 1998, with completion scheduled for 2001.

"I think we'll see the Corps doing more of these kinds of things since Congress has authorized us to apply our expertise in 'work for others,'" said Billington. This particular project is being provided to ROP through the U.S. Department of the Interior. Billington said that while she is delighted to be a recipient of the award, it reflects positively on the entire HED Office of Counsel and the agencies involved in the project.

POD employees recognized at Federal Week awards luncheon

POD candidates for the 1998 Federal Week awards were recognized at the 42nd Annual Federal Week Awards Luncheon, May 27, at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, Coral Ballroom. For federal manager/supervisor of the year: Linda M. Hihara-Endo, ED, HED; federal employee of the year (professional, administrative, technical): Stephen M. Stuart, PPM, JED; federal employee of the year (clerical and

assistant): David C. Wilson, DE, FED; federal employee of the year (trades and crafts): Choe Tae Chin, LO, FED; military officer of the year: Capt. Donald E. Payne, FED; enlisted service member of the year: Master Sgt. Craig T. Ridgle, FED; exceptional community service: Stephen W. K. Wong, JED; and federal organizational excellence award: Kwajalein Project Office, HED.

Ahsing...

Continued from Page 1

commendations in her 20 years with the Corps. This is the highest.

From 1995 - 98 she was responsible for ensuring that all studies, plans, designs, and construction of all projects done by the Army Corps of Engineers were executed and completed within budgets and schedules. They were. The total value of those projects exceeds \$1 billion.

During that same period, she also was instrumental in assisting the Army command in the continual development of the \$900 million Hawaii Whole Barracks Renewal Program, notably: developing landscaping masterplans and visual marketing tools.

In fiscal year 1997, Ahsing assumed program

manager responsibility for the Alaska Engineer District program while maintaining responsibility for the Honolulu Engineer District program. For fiscal year 1998 she assumed the additional program manager responsibility for the Far East Engineer District in Korea and the Japan Engineer District.

Locally, Ahsing developed a facilities master plan for Honolulu Engineer District and was instrumental in facilitating the physical relocation of Division and District employees into newly renovated offices during a recently completed reorganization.

Although fully involved in work-related activities, Ahsing has been an elected member of the POD Morale, Welfare and Support committee and is the mother of three children: Aloha, 13; Alana, 11; and Noa, 4.—Alexander Kufel

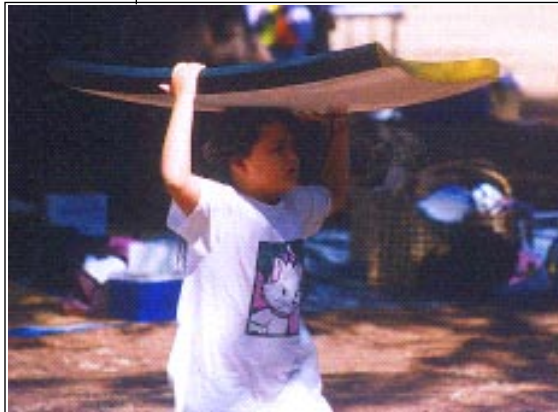
Technology: *The last time somebody said, "I find I can write much better with a word processor," I replied, "They used to say the same thing about drugs."*—Roy Blount, Jr., humorist

The faces are still familiar at HED's first solo Organization Day

A day in the sun is fun for

Photos by Jim Dung

Organization Day 1998 was something of an event. This year marked the first time HED observed the occasion as a stand-alone organization, as distinct from the Division as AED, FED or JED. If anyone thought Organization Day this year was supposed to be different from previous ones, they were right. However, judging by the familiar faces at Bellows Beach in Waimanalo on June 11, it appears that everyone still enjoys a chance to party with friends. And, for all of the families and friends the HED (a.k.a. POD) "ohana" is still not much different from the way it's always been.



(Above) Katie Scully, 6, daughter of Brad Scully, PP, is all set to boogie board. (Below) Maydean Martin, ED, and children arrive with equipment for the beanbag toss.



Food: *I don't like food that's too carefully arranged; it makes me think that [the chef is] spending too much time arranging and not enough time cooking. If I wanted a picture, I'd buy a painting.—Andy Rooney, TV commentator*

everyone



(Left and below center) The clouds broke and the sun emerged for the beach and picnic activities .

(Right top) Karen Takafuji, EM, leads kids coloring activities.



(Right middle) Pat Billington, OC, plays host to a bevy of stuffed prizes.



(Right bottom) A strong pull wins the tug-of-war contest.



Emotion: *Hot heads and cold hearts never solved anything.*—Billy Graham, American evangelist

HED Safety Day aim at increased awareness

Safety activities get everyone involved



(Clockwise from top left) HED Deputy Commander Maj. Jim Ball briefs the Run/Walkers on the route to follow. Sandy Ishida, RM, goes over the map with her son John, 5. While the runners are already out of sight, the walkers follow at a brisk pace.



(Left) Laryngectomy survivor, Frank Dean, lectures on tobacco and health.

(Below) An attentive group listens to one of the safety lectures. Kanalei Shun, ED-ES, is in the foreground.



*Story by Alexander Kufel
Photographs by Jim Dung*

Late in May, the sun rose over building 230 at Fort Shafter revealing more people were out and about than normally seen at that time of day. In fact, close inspection disclosed that Maj. Jim Ball was standing on the loading dock briefing about 60 people in shorts and tee-shirts gathered in the parking lot that the orders of the day were to be safe and have fun and don't get lost! It was May 27 and the first activity of the annual HED Safety Day.

The rest of the day was not quite so strenuous, and activities of a more sedentary nature followed. There were presentations on physical fitness, drug awareness, tobacco usage by a laryngectomy survivor, stress relief, safety in the workplace, hurricane preparedness and beach safety.

"I think people see these activities as interesting and fun," said POD/HED safety officer Bruce Barrett. "We view them a great investment in increasing people's safety and health awareness, both on and off the job."

Honesty: *The one rule I always follow: If all else fails, and we have no choice, tell the truth.*
—Colin Powell, U.S. general

Regional Roundup

Ground broken for Hickam lodging

Story by Elsie Smith

HED Commander Lt. Col. (P) Ralph H. Graves joined Hickam Air Force Base officials June 4 to break ground for the new Temporary Lodging Facility.

Base officials on hand to mark the start of construction included Col. Richard E. Perraut, Base Support Group Commander; Lt. Col. Ross Roley, Base

Services Squadron Commander; and Vicky Lott, general manager of base lodging.

Lott expressed enthusiasm at this start of construction for the needed additional housekeeping units which will serve the many service members and families who transit Hawaii on temporary duty or who travel onward to eastbound or westbound destinations.

Graves said the target completion for this new base lodging facility is September, 1999. He noted that renovations to the adjacent dormitory buildings 1166 and 1172 are nearing completion, with first occupancy scheduled for early July.

Bob Danley of Landmark Construction, HED's contractor on this \$6.7 million facility joined HED and base officials in breaking ground for the new facility. Landmark is HED's contractor for alterations to the adjacent dormitory buildings 1166 and 1172, which will also serve transient personnel at the base.

Ed Yago, project engineer out of HED's Fort



(Left) Participants shovel soil in unison. (L-R) Bob Danley, Lt. Col. (P) Ralph H. Graves, Col. Richard E. Perraut, Lt. Col. Ross Roley, Ms. Vickie Lott, and Gordon Tang.

(Right) Lt. Col. (P) Graves and Ed Yago discuss features of the new Temporary Lodging Facility with Cletus Beard, PACAF chief of Services, Facilities and Purchasing.

Shafter Resident Office, oversees Corps construction projects at Hickam and coordinates daily with base officials and the contractor.

Fred Nakahara, HED program manager, and Gordon Tang, PACAF program manager, have worked toward this day to mark the start of this Air Force project. Nakahara describes the facility as two parallel two-story buildings separated by a central grass area which will double as an informal children's play area. Each building will have 10 two-bedroom and 10 one-bedroom units, with two of the two-bedroom units in each building designed for the handicapped.

Each of the 40 units will feature a complete kitchen, living room, dining area, one bath, washer/dryer, telephone, cable television, and air conditioning.

HED is design and construction manager for both the Army and Air Force in Hawaii.

Public meeting on Maalaea Harbor draws crowd

A boisterous crowd of nearly 300 people showed up June 23 to make their views known on a Corps plan to protect Maalaea Harbor on Maui. Although the group that attended a public meeting at Kihei Elementary School was split on their desire to see the harbor project constructed, the plan to make the basin safer for boating and double its capacity is reaching a final phase.

The Maalaea Harbor plan, co-sponsored by the State of Hawaii, has been in the works for three

decades. After a marathon of public review and scrutiny that included two supplemental environmental impact statements, the \$10-million project may have cleared its last hurdle and could be ready for construction next fiscal year. The plan calls for dredging the interior channels, realigning the entrance, and extending an existing breakwater. The project would increase the number of slips from 89 to 220 and eliminate dangerous swells that are damaging moored vessels.

Stupidity: *If you attack stupidity you attack an entrenched interest with friends in government and every walk of public life.*
—Robertson Davies, Canadian author

The Electronic Library

By Ruby Mizue

Construction Criteria Base (CCB) Update!

Technical difficulties with installation of the new edition are very close to being resolved. We are still working with the CCB tech staff and programmers to resolve the glitches. Instructions will be posted in the *E-Library mailbox, Outlook Bulletin Board*.

If you are still unable to access the network version when this issue reaches you, you may continue to access CCB on the Web at:
<http://www.ccb.org>.

The entire website is being remodeled and should be completed by mid-June.

Viewing Army Electronic Library Documents

Viewing ARs and DA PAMs online has never been easier! You now have another option to view Army electronic publications at the US Army Publishing Agency Home Page:
(<http://www-usappc.hoffman.army.mil/>)
In addition to the IBM Bookmanager Library

Reader which requires special installation (See *E-Library mailbox, Outlook Bulletin Board*), you can now select the *Browsable Publications* option. This option allows you to view and read the electronic publications online, without any special plug-ins or helper applications. Visit the site and test it out.

FTP Service—Transferring/Sharing Large Files

Do you sometimes need to transmit files that exceed 1 Mbyte in size to other Corps Districts or customers? With large CADD, GIS, or graphic files for the Web, reliable transfer between sites can be a problem for some users. The Corps Email Center of Expertise at Portland District offers an Anonymous File Transfer Protocol (FTP) Service to augment the Corps-wide email system.

Instructions on how to use this service can be found at:
<http://eml01.usace.army.mil/other/ftp.html>

An FTP program is available in the COMMO window on your PC desktop.

Visit the POD home page on the World Wide Web. Find it at: <http://www.pod.usace.army.mil>

PRODUCTIVITY CORNER

More vision and less greed

A loaf of bread fell from a bakery truck. As it hit the pavement a crumb broke off. Three sparrows swooped down on the crumb and began fighting over it. One bird finally succeeded in flying off with the crumb, the two others in close pursuit. A series of frenzied aerial maneuvers followed until the crumb was at last consumed by one of the birds.

The loaf of bread was untouched. Only the crumb had seemed worth the fight. If the birds had displayed more vision and less greed, they could all have been satisfied.

People, like birds, quarrel over trivialities. In the heat of the struggle life's bigger, more enriching prizes escape them.

--Bits & Pieces

Growth

Our growth is determined by the size of our world. The Japanese carp, commonly known as the koi, is a good illustration of this point. If you keep the koi in a small fish bowl, it will only grow to be two or three inches long. Place the koi in a larger tank or small pond and it will reach six to 10 inches. Put it in a large pond and it may get as long as a foot and a half.

However, when placed in a lake where it can really stretch out, it has the potential to reach sizes up to three feet.

--First Draft

Making good on your offer

P. T. Barnum, owner of the Barnum & Bailey circus and originator of the phrase "There's a sucker born every minute," offered \$10,000 to any person who could sucker him.

One day, he received a letter from a fellow in Maine who claimed to possess a cherry-colored cat, asking if Barnum were interested in such a thing for his circus.

Barnum said yes, if the cat were truly cherry-colored, he'd gladly put it on display. A few days later, a crate marked live animal arrived. When Barnum opened it, he found an ordinary-looking black housecat inside, along with a note that read: "Maine cherries are black. There's a sucker born every minute."

Thoroughly tickled, Barnum sent the man a check for \$10,000.

--Bits & Pieces

Desperation

A fox accidentally fell into a well and could not escape. To a goat who later came along, the fox cried, "To avoid the drought now coming it is best to share this water with me. It is the best water I have tasted. I have drunk so much that I can scarcely move."

Hearing this, the goat leaped in the well. The fox quickly jumped up on its back and scrambled to safety.

"Look before you leap," the fox advised the unfortunate goat. "And beware of the entreaties of the desperate."

--Aesop

Genius: *It is the essence of genius to make use of the simplest ideas.* —Charles Peguy, French poet, philosopher, 1873-1914

PRODUCTIVE PEOPLE



Sharon Schiavoni

*Hometown: Kalihi Valley
Years with Corps: 12-1/2
Works in: Real Estate*

It doesn't take long talking with realty specialist Sharon Schiavoni to discover that her loyalties run deep. She describes herself as "family oriented" but obviously her sense of family extends beyond her husband and children to the Corps of Engineers. Married for 27 years to Richard, PM, she says that she likes to travel and does so occasionally as part of her job, but her big trip this year will probably be to Nashville to visit Richard while he is away on extended TDY.

Meanwhile, she is mom and dad to daughter Jessica, 15, a student at Maryknoll, and son, Bryan, 22, home for a couple of weeks before starting dental school in California.

"I don't have any time at all for television," she said. "I'm very involved in Jessica's after-school activities and when I have a moment I'd rather read or do something cultural.

"I'm mostly a weekend reader," she said. "Once I'm started on a book I really like to get into it."

Schiavoni said her family also enjoys going to the Academy of Arts or to see movies. This year, they saw and loved Hawaii Opera Theatre's Romeo and Juliet.

Interestingly, one doesn't have to know of Sharon's year-long bout with cancer (now in remission) to comprehend that she just naturally makes great use of her time and loves life.

"I've always been that way," she said, laughing. Sharon is making HED more productive.



Roy T. Fujinaka

*Hometown: Pearl City
Years with Corps: 16
Works in: S. B. Resident Office*

Focusing on a particular problem or project for an extended period of time is his idea of an activity that's interesting and satisfying, said Quality Assurance team leader Roy Fujinaka.

"When I'm at home, I spend a lot of time working in the yard," he said. He's got a big lot and plantings extend from grass to fruit trees to a vegetable garden.

"I really enjoy seeing things develop," he said. "I guess you could say the same thing about a construction project."

Trained as a civil engineer, Fujinaka said that his interest in how things are made undoubtedly came from his father, a small-scale contractor, and that when he first went away to school at the University of Notre Dame, it was to study aeronautical engineering with the hope of becoming a pilot.

"I guess I read too much my first year," he said. "My eyes got too bad to pass pilot screening so I moved into civil engineering."

Interested in a large variety of things, Fujinaka regularly attends weekly Kiwanis Club meetings, gets involved in their service projects, spends a lot of time with his family, and still keeps abreast of developments in aeronautics and other areas. Married for 15 years to Pamela, a teacher at Iolani School, the Fujinakas have two children: Mark, 12, and Joy, 11. Both attend Iolani.

Roy is making HED more productive.

Law: *In civilized life, law floats in a sea of ethics.*—Earl Warren, American jurist, 1871-1974

Aloha means hello, and in this case, **welcome back**, to **Kenneth Suiso**, returning as an emergency operations planner with EMD after nearly two years as the emergency plans officer for U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii.

Condolences to **Allen Chin**, ED-E, on the death of his father in Boston, June 14.

Congratulations to the following HED employees upon receiving Certificates of Appreciation: **Patricia Billington**, OC; **Lincoln Gayagas**, ED-CE; **Amy Kitano**, RM-M; **Ronald Pang**, ED-S; **Timothy Young**, ED-CP; and to **Walter Goode**, **Debbie Alexander**, **Jeannette Anderson** and **Karen Nii**, who received recognition as members of the Logis-



District Shorts

tics Management Team.

Noteworthy: The following HED employees were recognized recently with certificates for teaching PROSPECT classes this past year: **Bruce Barrett**, SO, Construction Safety; **David Marquardt**, ED-DA, Advanced Roofing Technology; **Gary Nip**, ED-DA, Simplified Design Method; and **James Pennaz**, CE, Architect Engineer Contracting.

Congratulations to the following HED employees upon receiving the Commander's Award for Civilian Service: **Dawn Awaya**, OC; **Allen Chin**, ED-E; **Randall Chun**, CO-FQ; **John Emmerson**, PP-P; **Roy Fujinaka**, CO-SQ; **Donna Kanetake**, OC; **Shirley Koga**, OC; **Sharon Schiavoni**, RE; **Bruce Stevenson**, CO-C; and **Jeanne Tam**, OC.

Warning: 4th of July inattention can be hazardous to your health

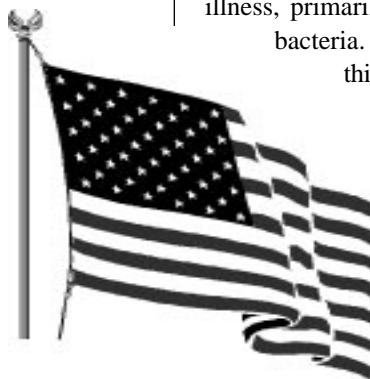
WASHINGTON (Armed Forces News) -- A Fourth of July message from the nation's capital: Saluting your country's independence needn't involve a trip to the hospital emergency room.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission noted Wednesday that emergency rooms treated 7,600 fireworks injuries last year, a third of them suffered by children under 15.

That's an improvement over 1996 when 11,000 fireworks-related injuries were recorded.

The safety commission offers these suggestions to reduce the risk of injuries from fireworks:

- Never allow children to play with fireworks.
- Read and follow all fireworks warnings and instructions.
- Never try to relight fireworks that have fizzled.
- Keep a bucket of water nearby in case of accident or fire.
- Only light fireworks on a smooth, flat surface away from houses, dry leaves and flammable materials.



As if that weren't enough, each year an estimated 80 million Americans suffer from foodborne illness, primarily from Salmonella and E coli bacteria. To keep friends and family safe this Independence Day, follow these safety tips:

- Never place cooked foods on the same plate already used for raw meats and poultry.
 - The same rule applies to utensils, cutting boards and preparation surfaces.
 - Use an antibacterial cleaner to kill and help stop the spread of bacteria. Water and detergent alone won't do it. Clean sponges and towels, too..
 - Symptoms of foodborne illness include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, fever or cramps and usually appear from 30 minutes to 48 hours after eating contaminated food, but can also take two weeks.
- With all this in mind, don't neglect traffic safety and remember that if you are going somewhere that involves drinking, make sure you have a designated driver so everyone gets home safely.