



U.S. Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Honolulu District

2009  
Year in Review



The  
Pacific  
Connection

Vol. 44 No. 1 January 2010

BUILDING STRONG®

Year in Review 2009

# Commander's Comments

Happy New Year! The year 2009 is now in the history books. We thank all of our supported commands, contractors and federal and state partners for an outstanding year of teamwork. As shown in this year-in-review, we have accomplished much by working together cooperatively. We can look back fondly at what has been achieved on behalf of the American people - especially our service members. The District was blessed with many opportunities to celebrate the completion of top notch projects, studies and initiatives. Our District is highly focused on producing quality products in a timely manner and providing outstanding services.

Recently, our District Ohana completed our annual climate survey in which two-thirds of our workforce took part. The survey confirmed that our workforce's morale is high for many reasons. Based on the comments, a great majority of our Ohana enjoys working with our partners and for their supervisors.

Our folks understand (even if they don't relish) the crunch-time periods including disaster relief support or end-of-year close out when we are asked to work long hours racking up

**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. Jon J. Chytka  
 District Commander

many hours of paid overtime. We realize our efforts are very important and our partners and the public need our unique capabilities, authorities and expertise.

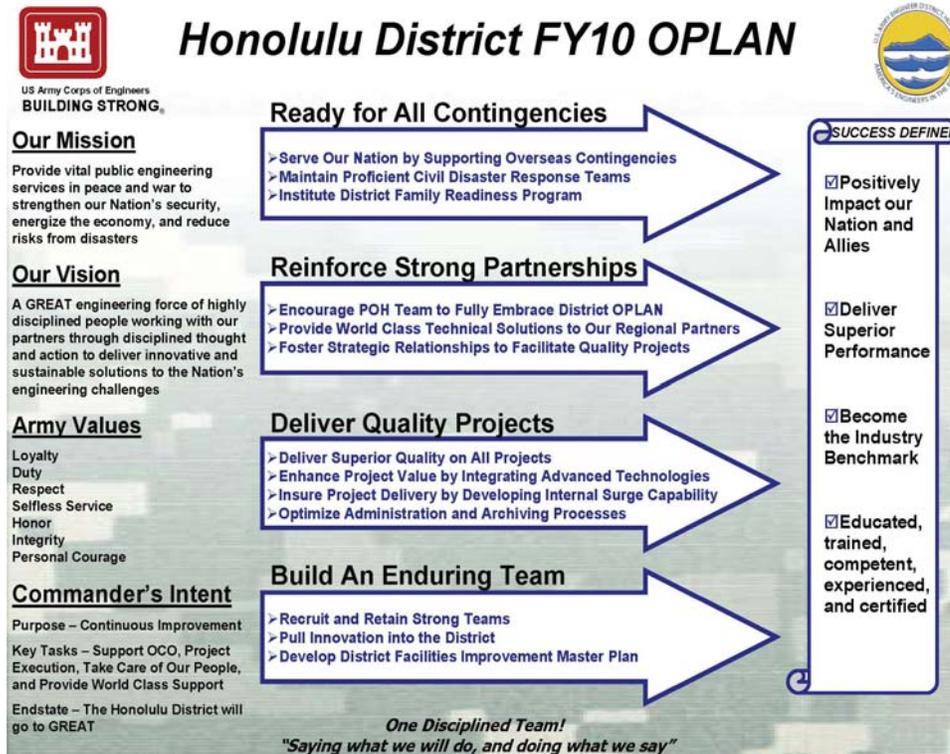
Our workforce greatly appreciates being empowered to accomplish our mission and feel what we do is historic and that it truly matters.

The top three concerns of our Ohana centered around providing better support to our commands and partners. Comments focused on internal information technology and management, improving processes and increasing access to training. The District Leadership has and will continue to address these support improvement desires in both our 2010 budgets and various command initiatives.

At left is our yearly Operational Plan which is nested in the campaign plans of our higher headquarters (Pacific Ocean Division, USACE and the Army). We carried over six of the original 15 FY09 initiatives and moved nine more to a sustainment or enduring process status. A great majority of this year's initiatives and sub-initiatives are focused on supporting and empowering our supported commands, partners and our employees.

We are very much looking forward to 2010 knowing that we will again have great opportunities to study, design, model, contract, construct and renovate things that matter and are essential to our national defense and our economy.

**BUILDING STRONG!**



Honolulu District Commander..... Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka  
 Honolulu District Deputy Commander..... Maj. John Henderson  
 Deputy for Project Management..... Anthony Paresa  
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**On The Cover**

Staff Sgt. Matthew Nelson (center left) and Sgt. David Manjarrez, B Company, 249th Engineer Battalion work with American Samoa Power Authority workers at a FEMA generator in the Pago Pago Market Plaza. Photo by Maj. John Henderson



# 2009 Award Winners

The Honolulu District's 2009 Annual Awards  
Townhall honored the special  
accomplishments of its employees.

Photos by Lacey Justinger

The District Awards Committee manages the employee recognition program all year. From left to right: Maj. John Henderson, Jeff Cochran, Toni Agustin, Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka, Bob Finch, Kevin Araki and Ann Loo. Not shown are: Debbie Alexander, Phillip Mun, Beverly Ledesma, John Ramos and Glenn Kusaka.



**District Awards Committee**

## Gail Sasaki

The *Ikaika Loa* Award for Technical Employee of the Year is presented to Gail Sasaki, Program and Projects Management Division, Real Estate Branch by District Commander Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka for her superior performance of duty resulting from noteworthy application of principles of hard work, technical superiority, and customer service. *Ikaika Loa* means mighty, power of knowledge, professional skills, and expertise.



## Harold Nakaoka

The *Alaka'i* Award is presented to Harold Nakaoka, Programs and Project Management Division, Civil Works Branch by District Commander Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka in recognition of his commitment to excellence in project management while leading project delivery teams and delivering outstanding quality projects. *Alaka'i* means leader, personal strength and exhibiting leadership quality.



## Roxane Iseri

The *Mai ka'i* Loa Award for Leader of the Year is presented to Roxane Iseri, Program and Projects Management Division, Programs Management Branch, by District Commander Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka to recognize her as a leader who creates positive change through her talents, energy, creativity, leadership and communication skills. *Mai ka'i Loa* means mighty, achieving excellence.



## Maria Buckner

The *Ikaika Loa* Award for Professional Employee of the Year is presented to Maria Buckner, Contracting Division, for her superior performance of professional duties through solid application of principles of professional knowledge, enthusiasm, and pride in serving customers. *Ikaika Loa* means mighty, power of knowledge, professional skills, and expertise.



**Employees of the Year**

Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka (center) poses with the 2009 Employees of the Year: (left to right) Maria Buckner, Professional Employee of the Year; Harold Nakaoka, Project Manager of the Year; Gail Sasaki, Technical Employee of the Year; and Roxane Iseri, Leader of the Year. Not shown is Vickie Cleaver, Administrative Support Employee of the Year.



**Project Delivery Team of the Year**

The Hui O'i Loa Award for Project Delivery Team of the Year is presented by District Commander Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka to Fort Shafter Barracks Project Delivery Team members Don Schlack (center left) and (left to right): Randy Mita, Paul Choy, Jon Yoshinaga, Dorinda Won, Russell Leong, Lynn Ishii, Grace Nakaoka, Lori Suzuki and Jeff Cochran. Several team members including Project Manager Karen Chang were unavailable for photo.



**ULDP Graduates**

Left to right: USACE Leadership Development Program Advisor Kanalei Shun (left) and 2009 program graduates, Reid Maekawa, Lori Wong, Doris Aguilar, Polly Bjorken, Vecy Pascual, Wendy Mow, Sandra Ishida, Edith Matsuki and Steven Yamamoto pose with District Commander Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka. Not pictured: Cindy Barger.

# 2009 Year in Review

*Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Robert L. Van Antwerp (third from left) made a visit via helicopter to the island of Hawaii in January where he made stops at the Waikoloa Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) and at Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA). In this photo Lt. Gen. Van Antwerp listens to a briefing about PTA construction projects. Also listening are (second from right) Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Mark W. Yenter and PTA Commander Lt. Col. Warline S. Richardson. Photo by 1st Lt. Susan Knapik*



## January

**Chief of Engineers Visit:** Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Robert L. Van Antwerp made a visit to Pacific Ocean Division and Honolulu District Jan. 19-23. Van Antwerp spent a day with District leaders on Jan. 22, flying via helicopter over Kaunalapau Harbor (Lanai) plus stops at the Waikoloa Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS) and Pohakuloa Training Area on the island of Hawaii.

**Flooding in Hawaii:** President George Bush declared a major disaster in Hawaii after heavy rains drenched areas of Oahu Dec. 10-16. On Jan. 9, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued a verbal mission assignment to provide technical assistance on Oahu. On Jan. 13, a hydraulic engineer deployed as part of a Preliminary Damage Assessment team surveying debris in streams in the Waianae and Makaha areas of Oahu.

**FSM/RMI Flooding:** Flooding in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and the Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI) resulted in the District participation in a teleconference with Joint Task Force-Homeland Defense (JTF-HD), U.S. Pacific Command, U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll (USAKA), U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), U.S. Strategic Command (STRATCOM) and the RMI embassy Jan. 7 to discuss two parallel response operations; one for damages to Department of Defense (DoD) facilities and one for damages to facilities owned by RMI/FSM, which were led by USAID.

**Loss of Ohana:** Former District Ohana John Pelowski passed away Jan. 4 following a two year battle with brain cancer. John was chief of planning for many years and he retired in 1996 at age 60.

**Pacific Ocean Division Commander Promoted:** Col. Mark W. Yenter was promoted to brigadier general during a ceremony Jan. 9, inside the Old Assembly Chambers at the Nevada state capitol building in Reno, Nev.

**VIP Meeting:** District staff met with Deputy Federal Preservation Officer, Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management Jennifer Groman Jan. 9 to discuss issues and concerns of the District in reference to the interface between U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii cultural resources actions and District program execution.

**Ala Wai Canal Project, Feasibility Study:** The Corps' Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) experts on stream restoration assisted District Wai-

lupe, Kuliouou and Ala Wai Project Delivery Teams Jan. 12-22 with identification of potential stream restoration measures.

**NSPS GAO Audit of Pay Pool Processes:** Honolulu District was selected to represent the Department of Defense in an audit of the National Security Personnel System (NSPS) March 2-3, 2009.

**2008 District Annual Awards Town Hall:** The 2008 Annual Awards town hall was held Jan. 20 at the 9th Mission Support Command Assembly Hall on Fort Shafter Flats where employees were recognized for length of service (30, 35 and 40 years) and presentations of annual awards were made for Administrative, Technical, Professional of the Year, Leader of the Year, Project Manager of the Year and Project Delivery Team of the Year.

**New RVC Park Ranger:** The Pacific Regional Visitor Center welcomed new Park Ranger Angela Jones on Jan. 23.

**Employee Retirement:** Yvonne Watarai's retirement farewell was held Jan. 26 in Bldg. 230.

**POD Commander Visit:** Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Mark W. Yenter visited the District Jan. 26-29. Yenter, along with Honolulu District leadership, visited projects on the islands of Maui and Hawaii. On Jan. 29, Yenter conducted a town hall meeting with District employees where he shared his key priorities, and later stopped in District offices and visited Air Force projects at Hickam Air Force Base.

**District Deployer "coined" in Iraq:** Iraq Central District Commander Col. Ronald Light (a former Honolulu District Commander) presented Civil Engineer Jon Hosaka with a Central District coin for his efforts. Jon was deployed to Taji, Iraq, working as a FEST team member on the



*The Pacific Regional Visitor Center welcomed new Corps Park Ranger Angela Jones (right) on Jan. 23. Here she assists a Washington Middle School student with water analysis during the 2009 World Water Monitoring Day field investigations in September. Photo by Lacey Justinger*

# 2009 Year in Review

Theater Internment Facility and Reconciliation Center (TIFRC).

**RTC Designations:** The District announced Jan. 16 that the Technical Support Branch/Regional Technical Center name officially transitioned to the Regional Technical Center (RTC) and established two subordinate sections within the RTC, Architectural/Civil Section and Electrical/Mechanical Section effective Feb. 6.



**Civil Engineer Grace Nakaoka and Chief, Construction Branch Louis Muzzarini watch students from LeJardin Academy take their 2009 MATHCOUNTS tests during the competition held at Kamehameha Schools in February.** Photo Courtesy of Lou Muzzarini

## February

**2009 MATHCOUNTS:** Twenty-four District engineers and staff acted as test proctors/scorers during the MATHCOUNTS (Oahu Chapter) competition Feb. 7 and for the state competition March 7 held at Kamehameha Schools on Oahu. Moderator for the Oahu competition was Chief, Construction Branch Lou Muzzarini.

**ASCE Award:** The American Society of Civil Engineers Region 9 (West Coast) awarded first place in their 2008 ASCE Hawaii Section award competition to the Palau Compact Road project in the Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement category. The entry was submitted by contractor Belt Collins (in conjunction with contractors Earth Tech, AECOM, Parsons Brinckerhoff and R.M. Towill Corporation).

**Kawai Nui Marsh Project Design:** The Kawai Nui Marsh Restoration Project, Design - Water Quality Certification Permit (401) for the Kawai Nui Marsh Restoration Project was submitted to the State Department of Health on Feb. 9. A follow-up meeting at Department of Health with the Corps and Department of Fish and Wildlife (DOFAW) was also held.

**Regulatory Branch Deployer:** Regulatory Branch's Farley Watanabe deployed Feb. 9 to Afghanistan in support of Overseas Contingency Operations. Farley returned in early May and his in-the-field experiences were chronicled in the Summer 2009 *Pacific Connection*.

**Pacific Ocean Division (POD) Command Assistance Visit:** The District hosted POD staff Feb. 9-13 who met with key District

personnel, reviewed procedures and addressed corporate issues via focus sessions.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers/ General Contractors Association (GCA) Meeting:** Lou Muzzarini (co-chair) and Dorinda Won from Construction Branch participated in the monthly Corps of Engineers/GCA committee meeting Feb. 13 where the committee discussed experiences in working with the Corps and provided recommendations to streamline processes that allow contractors to begin jobsite work faster.

**Makani Pahili 2009 Exercise:** The District Commander and Emergency Management chief attended the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hawaii Catastrophic Disaster Response Program (CDRP) Senior Leader Steering Committee (SLSC) Information Analysis briefing Feb. 11 in Honolulu.

**EC-Q Deployer:** Civil Engineer Ray Kong deployed Feb. 17 to Kosovo. Ray returned in June.

**Alaska Catastrophic Disaster Response Plan (CDRP) Exercise:** The District participated in the CDRP exercise Feb. 17-18 and used the exercise to develop/refine response plans for a no-notice catastrophic disaster at any sister District (Alaska District in this case), identify required resources to support this plan and exercise continuity of operations (COOP) plans.

**2009 Engineers Week:** District representatives were present at signing of the state's proclamation of Feb. 15-21 as Engineers Week in the State of Hawaii. From Feb. 15-21 the District provided a static display at



**Jon Hosaka prepares to inspect the roof of a dog kennel in the TIFRC under construction near Taji, Iraq.** Courtesy photo



# February

Kahala Mall in Honolulu and various personnel attended the Engineers Week kickoff luncheon Feb. 17.

**2009 World Wetlands Day:** Civil Works Branch Civil Engineer Nani Shimabuku gave a presentation - "Kawai nui Marsh Environmental Restoration Project" - at the 2009 event, which was held at Kawai nui Marsh Feb. 16.

**Community Outreach:** Steve Cayetano, deputy chief for Project Management spoke to senior high school students at Iolani School Feb. 17. Steve's presentation "Living and Working Abroad" served as an outreach to promote engineering, math and science. He also spoke of his experiences of working for the Corps at the Honolulu, Japan and Europe Districts.

**District Dive Coordinator Assistance to Alaska District:** Geologist Eric Bjorken traveled to Alaska District Feb. 16-19 and provided underwater diving operations monitoring for the Bar Point Harbor Breakwater Repair Project in Ketchikan, Alaska.

**Afghanistan Engineer District Briefing:** On Feb. 27 in the Pacific Ocean Division conference room, Col. Miroslav Kurka, Northwest Division deputy commander and a former commander of Afghanistan Engineer District (AED), delivered a briefing on AED and shared his unique insights into the mission there.

**Guam EIS Executive Leadership Meeting:** The deputy District engineer and the regulatory project manager from the District's Guam office (Frank Dayton) attended this interagency session hosted by Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific (NAVFAC PAC) and the Joint Guam Program Office (JGPO) to discuss the progress, issues and timeline for the Guam Environmental Impact Study (EIS), that was scheduled to be published in May 2009.

**Pacific Ocean Division Support to Honolulu District:** Alina Cayetano ended her four-month assistance to Honolulu District Feb. 13 where she had graciously agreed to work in the District's Military Branch (PPMD) to manage multiple critical projects in various phases while Mechanical Engineer Jon Hosaka was deployed to Iraq as part of the Japan District FEST-A.

**DPW Cultural Resource GIS Database Development for USAG-DPW:** Justin Pummell, Technical Information Group (TIG) and Loren Zulick, Environmental



*Civil Works Civil Engineer Nani Shimabuku (right) spoke about the "Kawai nui Marsh Environmental Restoration Project" at the 2009 World Wetlands Day held at Kawai nui Marsh. Courtesy photo*

Branch met with the U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii (USAG-HI) Directorate of Public Works (DPW) environmental staff Feb. 16-20 to provide them with a draft copy of USAG-HI's first comprehensive cultural resource database available in a geographic information system (GIS) format. The database will meet DPW's cultural resource GIS needs and provide the Army garrison with a one-stop access to cultural resource data for Hawaii military installations.

**Ala Wai Canal Project Feasibility Study:** The District's Ala Wai Watershed project team conducted information briefings for the Hawaii State Legislature Feb. 25 and the Honolulu City Council Feb. 26.

**GWOT Deployer Returns:** Honolulu District Mechanical Engineer Jon Hosaka returned in February from his 2008 deployment to Iraq where he worked as part of the

Japan District's Forward Engineering Support Team - Advanced (FEST-A).

**University of Hawaii at Manoa Engineering School Career Day Outreach:** On Feb. 25, District workforce management personnel and several command engineers provided potential future Corps recruits with information about the Corps and Department of the Army Intern program.

## March

**NSPS GAO Audit of Pay Pool Processes:** The District conducted a Government Accountability Office (GAO)-mandated audit of NSPS Pay Pool Processes March 2-3.

**Women's History Month Events:** A Women's Self Defense Workshop was held March 25 with guest speaker Renee Inouye. On March 30, in observance of the Wom-



*As part of Women's History Month, a Women's Self Defense Workshop was held March 25 where Renee Inouye (left) demonstrated various self-defense techniques against her "attacker" District EEO Chief Phillip Mun. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan*

# 2009 Year in Review



**Workforce Management Office's Marsha Phillips directed a stream of water from a portable water fire extinguisher toward the base of a fire during simulated training provided by the District Safety Office and Federal Fire Department in April.** Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

en's History Month Theme "Women Taking the Lead to Save Our Planet," Annelle Amaral, the native Hawaiian liaison to the U.S. Army Garrison - Hawaii Commander, spoke about her job responsibilities and shared her experiences as the Native Hawaiian liaison for the Army in Hawaii. On March 31, Biologist Cindy Barger spoke at a Women's History Month event held on Fort Shafter Flats.

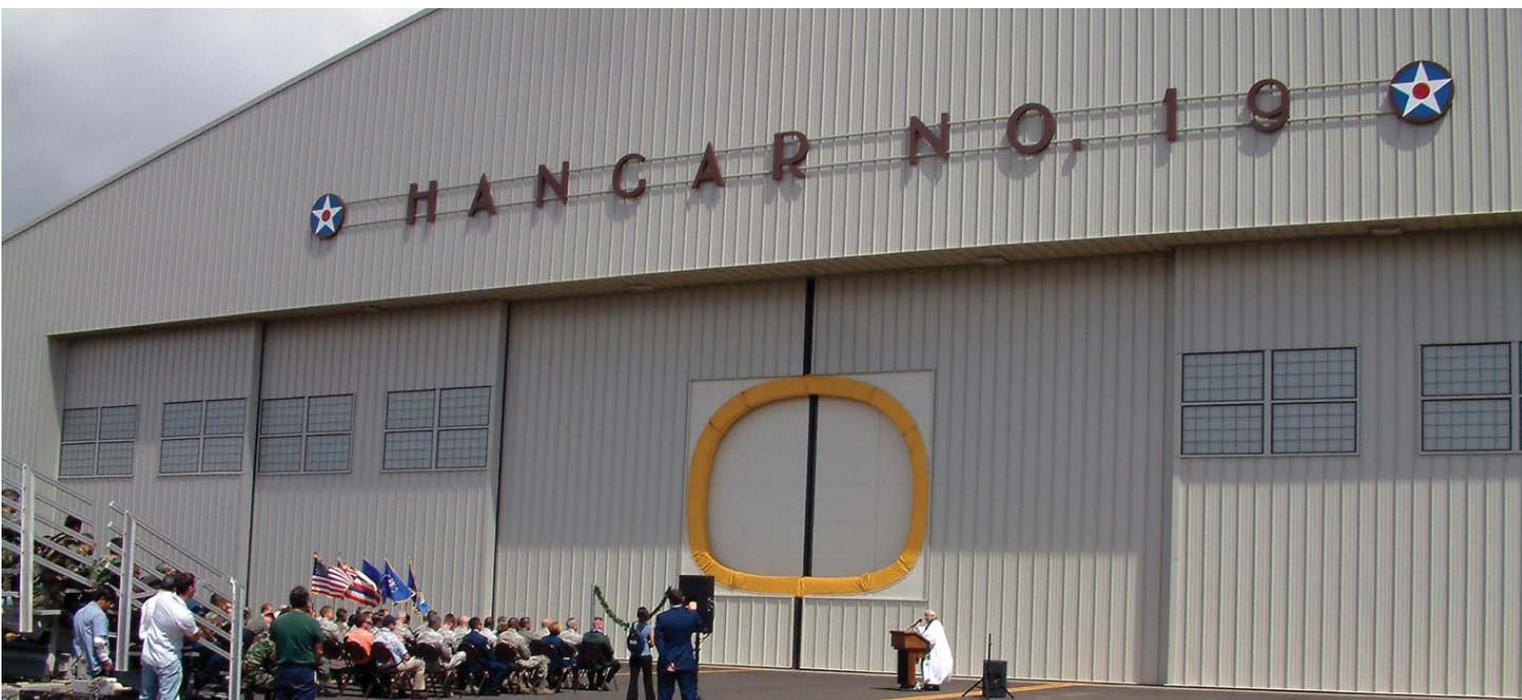
**Portable Fire Extinguisher Training:** A hands-on training presentation by Federal Fire Inspector Joseph Yamane was held for all personnel March 24.

**In Memoriam:** Tony Flanders, a former Pacific Ocean Division chief of construction informed Honolulu District of the passing of John S. Ravina on March 29. Ravina, age 78, who was the head of the former Foundations, Material and Survey Branch, had retired in the early 1990s.

**PPM Deployer:** Toni Agustin, an administrative support assistant in the District's Programs and Project Management branch, deployed March 29 to Afghanistan Engineer District (AED). Her experiences "at the tip of the spear" were chronicled in the Summer 2009 *Pacific Connection*.

## April

**Valerie Lee Luncheon:** Chief, Programs Branch, Valerie Lee was honored April 3 at a luncheon in Bldg. 230 before she left to work for the Corps' North Atlantic Division. Lee had worked at Honolulu District from June 1984 to April 12, 2009. Valerie rose from the ranks of a Corps of Engineers intern, to budget analyst, program analyst, CEFMS program manager and supervisory program analyst/branch chief.



**The Rev. William Kaina (far right) at podium) addressed the audience prior to his imparting a Hawaiian blessing of Hickam's new Hangar 9 on April 14. The hangar, built as the C-17 Fuel Cell Nose Dock facility, will be the only hangar in the state of Hawaii specifically designed for C-17 fuel tank maintenance.** Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

# 2009 Year in Review



## April

*The 2009 Pacific Ocean Division Senior Leaders Conference was held in Honolulu April 6-9 under a theme of "Managing Transition." During the conference leaders toured several project sites on Oahu and (at left) posed on the steps of the Pacific War Memorial at the National Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan*

**2009 POD Senior Leaders Conference:** Was held in Honolulu April 6-9 under a theme of "Managing Transition."

**CCIR Process Initiated:** A new Honolulu District Project Management Business Process (PMBP) Portal Quality Management System (QMS) process B.14005.0 Commander's Critical Information Requirements (CCIR) was published April 8 on the District PMBP web portal. The new process identified the Honolulu District Commander's Critical Information Requirements (CCIR) reports list and notification requirements and provided the required procedures associated with them. The CCIR items and reporting requirements listed in the process are disseminated to ensure leaders are kept informed of critical events occurring within the District Area of Responsibility (AOR). All CCIR identified as reportable items will be reported using ENGLink website, which mirrors the format located at figure 9-1 in Army Regulation (AR) 190-45.

**Building 230 Renovations:** The exterior wooden stairway located between Bldgs. 230 and T-223 was closed April 8 to June 18 for renovation and repair. The Bldg. 230 Ewa-end restrooms were closed starting April 13 for 12 weeks for renovation, while conference rooms 322 and 323 in Bldg. 230 were closed April 13 to May 1 for the replacement of the partitions.

**Corps, Air Force Open New Hickam Hangar:** In continuing support of the C-17 beddown, a traditional Hawaiian blessing

and maile lei-cutting ceremony was held April 14, to officially open the second new hangar on the Hickam flightline – Hangar 19 – since World War II. The hangar, built as the C-17 Fuel Cell Nose Dock facility, will be the only hangar in the state of Hawaii specifically designed for C-17 fuel tank maintenance and was also designed with a self-contained generator capable of powering the facility for up to 24 hours.

**New RTC Chief:** Kevin Araki was named chief, Regional Technical Center (RTC),

Engineering and Construction Division, Honolulu District, effective April 19.

**2009 Corps of Engineers Workshop:** More than 220 local architects, engineers, construction contractors and others in related fields attended the 14th Annual U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Workshop April 21 at the Ala Moana Hotel in Honolulu where the workshop theme was, "A Year for Change."

**New AED Districts:** On April 9 the Corps of Engineers (USACE) announced the fu-



*(Standing left) Honolulu District Office of Counsel Chief Shivaun White and attorney Kanale Sadowski answer questions during their panel discussion "Whose Fault Was It? Playing the Blame Game" during the 2009 Corps of Engineers Workshop held at the Ala Moana Hotel in Honolulu April 21. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio*

# April

ture establishment of two Districts within Afghanistan; AED-North and AED-South. Due to increased workload, the Corps Kandahar Project Office will become a new District: AED-South. Col. Kevin J. Wilson became the first AED-South District commander in Kandahar. Rich Schiavoni, from Pacific Ocean Division, deployed in May as the deputy for Project Management for the Kandahar District.

**Interim Chief, Programs Management Branch:** On April 15 Roxane Iseri was designated as the interim chief, Programs Management Branch (Valerie Lee's former position).

**Recognition:** On April 16, the 130th Engineer Battalion presented a command coin to Todd Barnes and the 7th Engineer Dive Detachment presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Wayne Yamashita.

**In Memoriam:** Retired U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Herbert Wolff, 83, a decorated veteran of three wars and active member of the military and civilian communities in Hawaii, died April 17 in Honolulu. Among his accomplishments, Wolff led the effort to save Battery Randolph at Ft. DeRussy and create a museum dedicated to the men and women who served in the Pacific arena. Battery Randolph currently houses the Corps' Pacific Regional Visitor Center.

**Real Estate Branch Realignment:** On April 20, Real Estate Branch moved from being within the Executive Office to a branch within Programs and Project Management Division, effective May 15. The new office symbol for Real Estate Branch, is CEPOH-PP-R.

**FEST-A:** Pacific Ocean Division Permanent Orders 100-01 of April 20 attached the 565th Engineer Detachment, Forward Engineer Support Team - Advance (FEST-A) to the Honolulu District effective March 6.

**Regulatory Branch Changes Electronic Distribution:** Regulatory Branch issued a public notice April 20 that announced the District will no longer mail full paper copies of public notices to those individuals on the office's public notice distribution list and proposed to initiate a more efficient distribution system by replacing currently mailed public notice paper copies with electronic notification to established mailing lists.

**Balikatan 2009:** The District FEST-A management cell deployed to the Philippines



**Lt. Col. Robert Takao, commander of the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps at Punahou High School, directed his cadets in a clean up the Ft. DeRussy beach berm as part of the Corps and City and County of Honolulu's Earth Day 2009 Mauka to Makai Connection to the Ala Wai Cleanup.** Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio

for U.S. Pacific Command's 2009 *Balikatatan* Exercise.

**Earth Day 2009:** On April 11, the District partnered with the City and County of Honolulu and concerned citizens to participate in the City and County of Honolulu's *Earth Day 2009 Mauka to Makai Connection to the Ala Wai Cleanup*. District Park Rangers Angela Jones and John Mueller led approximately 20 volunteers from the Punahou High School Junior ROTC program, 20 Cub Scouts from Pack 464 in Mililani, District employees and family members and numerous community members in a beach and berm area clean up at Ft. DeRussy.

**OCO Deployer Returns:** Overseas Con-

tingency Operations volunteer Ignacio "Ike" Borja returned from deployment to Iraq. He later volunteered to deploy to Afghanistan in December 2009.

# May

**Ohana Retirement:** Earl Hiraki, Schofield Barracks Area Office, retired May 1.

**U.S. Navy Regulatory Permit Application:** The District's Regulatory Branch expedited processing of a U.S. Navy permit application received May 1 for removal of rubble created incident to the grounding of the USS Port Royal near Pearl Harbor.



**Federal Employee of the Year-Clerical and Assistant Maria Billena accepted her award from Hawaii Lt. Gov. James "Duke" Aiona and Honolulu-Pacific Federal Executive Board Chair Marine Corps Col. Kirk Bruno at the annual awards luncheon held May 9 in Waikiki.** Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

# 2009 Year in Review

**Brig. Gen. Alexander Kozlov** (back row center), outgoing commander of the 9th Mission Support Command, posed with Honolulu and Louisville District personnel May 8 at the future site of an Army Reserve Center and warehouse on Fort Shafter Flats. The 9th Mission Support Command, headquartered at Fort Shafter, supports 24 units and 3,500 reserve Soldiers. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan



## May

**Surprise Aloha Coffee Hour:** A surprise Aloha coffee hour for Amy Tashiro, outgoing executive secretary for the Engineering and Construction Branch, was held May 4. Amy left the District for a new job at Pacific Ocean Division.

**Regulatory Branch; Honolulu District Regional Supplement:** Regulatory office issued a Public Notice (POH-2009-003) to solicit potential peer reviewers of the recently issued Draft Honolulu District Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual.

**2009 Excellence in Federal Government Awards Luncheon:** The annual luncheon was held May 9 in the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel Hawaii Ballroom. The District's Federal Executive Board (FEB) honorees were:

- » *Federal Employer of Choice:* Honolulu District
- » *Team Excellence:* Replace Hydrant Fuel System Project Delivery Team
- » *Federal Supervisor/Manager of the Year:* Timothy Phillips
- » *Federal Employee of the Year-Professional, Administrative, Technical:* Brian Chung
- » *Federal Employee of the Year-Clerical and Assistant:* Maria Billena
- » *Leader of the Year:* Gary Shirakata

**Technical Integration Group (TIG) Intranet Web Site:** On May 13, TIG announced their District intranet website, which originally launched in 2006, was "overhauled and updated" with new geospatial information and resources. The web site has on-line mapping tools, links to a variety of hardcopy maps (civil works, military, real estate, etc.), as-built drawings, topographic maps, nautical charts, satellite imagery, technical drawing software information, benchmark and survey data, "how to" manuals and more.

**TIG Deployer Returns:** Josette Pullen returned May 23 from a six month deployment to Afghanistan – her third Overseas Contingency Operations support deployment.

**EC-DE Deployer:** Timothy Inouye deployed May 29 to serve as an engineering technician for six months in Bagram, Afghanistan.

**EC-T Deployer:** Steve Stello deployed May 23 for a six months to Afghanistan Engineer District in Kabul, Afghanistan.

**FED Command Coins:** On May 8, Far East District (FED) Commander Col. Clarence (Dave) Turner presented FED command coins to Regional Technical Center personnel James Pak, Wayne Muraoka, Jon Yoshinaga, Michael Onuma and Gary Yamauchi "for their great support to FED."

**New Army Reserve Center and Warehouse:** A ground breaking/Hawaiian blessing ceremony was held on Fort Shafter Flats May 8 for a new \$17 million, two-story 29,987 sq. ft. Army Reserve center and a 913 sq. ft. storage building.



**At the Pacific Ocean Division Regional Management Board on May 8, Far East District (FED) Commander Col. Clarence (Dave) Turner presented an FED command coin to Regional Technical Center's James Pak "for his great support to Far East District."** Photo by Dino W. Buchanan

# May

**CFC Platinum Award:** Honolulu District received the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) Platinum Award for employee contributions in 2008. The award is given to organizations having more than 60% participation and a \$95 per capita goal. For the 2008 campaign Honolulu District had a 70% participation rate and raised \$56,321.56 in cash and pledges - a per capita rate of \$254 - which was an increase of more than \$9,000 from the 2007 total.

**ULDP Brown Bag Lunch:** The USACE Leadership Development Program (ULDP) - Level 2 teams and ULDP Program Manager Phillip Mun hosted an informational brown bag luncheon May 18 in Bldg. 230 to discuss the ULDP level 2 training.

**Interagency & International Support (IIS) Programs:** From May 25-June 6 Project Manager Paul Bowen conducted site visits to Laos and Vietnam in support of the U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM) Humanitarian Assistance (HA) program. During the visit Bowen met with other HA personnel, in-country embassy personnel, and local Vietnam government officials to discuss the progress of ongoing HA work and future needs - including roads, bridges, new schools, school renovations, rehabilitation of intensive care wards, replacement medical clinics, medical clinic repairs as well as safety and quality training.

**ISO 9001 External Surveillance Audit:** The District hosted Walter Thomp-



*(Right) Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka (center, back) pondered the variety of delectable food entries awaiting his judging at the 2009 Asian-Pacific Heritage celebration. (Left, top) The Korean and Filipino cultural display at the celebration. (Above left) The Korean Gujolpan entered by Civil Works Branch Secretary Kay Chin was judged best in three of four food categories.* Photos by Dino W. Buchanan

son of Lloyd's Register Quality Assurance (LRQA) in May for an external ISO 9001:2000 Surveillance Audit where he identified the Honolulu District Operations Plan (OPLAN) planning and implementation process as a "best practice" and reported during the out-brief he would recommend recertification during the Fiscal Year 2010 certification review of the District.

**Asian Pacific Heritage Month Celebration:** This year's event sponsored by the Special Emphasis Program Committee (SEPC) was held on May 29 in Bldg. 230 under the 2009 theme of "Leadership to Meet the Challenges of a Changing World." Employees viewed cultural displays, tested their Asian-Pacific knowledge in a trivia contest and sampled more than 15 different employee-made ethnic food dishes. "Celebrity" judges - Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka, Maj. John Henderson, Tony Paresa, Todd Barnes and Dan Meyers - rated the food entrees on originality, appearance and taste.

**Makani Pahili 2009 Exercise:** The District started pre-exercise actions in support of the June 2-4 Makani Pahili exercise. On May 28, key leaders from the District participated in the Makani Pahili Senior Leader Tabletop Exercise (TTX), which was sponsored by the Hawaii State Civil Defense and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The TTX was designed for federal, state and local leadership to evaluate the operations plan (OPLAN) while exercising their roles, responsibilities and authorities when responding to a catastrophic hurricane. The District also conducted key leader, staff and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) training in preparation for the exercise.



*Standing in front of the Kwajalein Resident Office in 2006 are Corps employees (left to right) Rodney Leong, George "Marty" Olson, Jesse Duarte, Lou Askew, former Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Charles H. Klinge and Fred Nakahara.* Photo courtesy of Lt. Col. Charles H. Klinge

# 2009 Year in Review



The photo at left shows the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers "Kwajalein Atoll Office" after it opened in 1959. Kwajalein is now home to the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site (RTS) and U. S. Army Kwajalein Atoll (USAKA) installation. Honolulu District has been instrumental in supporting the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force mission on Kwajalein and throughout the atoll - designing and building many of the facilities to house and support the American civilian and military personnel who have lived there during Corps' 50 year on-site tenure. Courtesy photo

## June

**District Summer Hires:** The District welcomed the first of 16 "summer hire" personnel May 18.

**Kwajalein Resident Office (KRO) Closure After 50 Years Of Service:** The KRO was officially established in 1959 when Kwajalein was selected to be the testing site in the Nike-Zeus Anti-Missile Program of the (then) U.S. Army Rocket and Guided Missile Agency. With the current slow down of military-related construction on Kwajalein, the need to have the KRO has lessened. The U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll (USAKA) installation has also been downsizing, in part because of budget constraints and technological improvements, such as a new trans-oceanic fiber-optic cable that will allow the testing range to be operated extensively from sites in the United States, thus minimizing operation costs, new construction and the need for on-site workers or residents. All remaining contract administration actions are to be accomplished via temporary duty deployments.

**ICE Building, Honolulu:** During the week of June 1, Harold Nakaoka, Gordon Kuiuoka, Kanalei Shun and Derek Chow met at various times with program managers and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) representatives about work on the historic ICE Ala Moana Building. The current ICE management has been keen on making improvements at ICE facilities in Hawaii and the Pacific territories and will be using Honolulu District to execute interior and exterior work.

**Ocean Renewable Energy Symposium:** Civil Engineer Debbie Solis attended the Ocean Renewable Energy Symposium June 1-4 that was held as part of the International Conference on Ocean, Offshore and Arctic Engineering. Work was presented by many researchers on technology and methods to harness wave and wind energy.

**Makani Pahili 2009 Exercise:** The District joined forces June 2-4 with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region IX, Hawaii State Civil Defense, city and county and other federal services to test the state and federal response to a simulated Category 4 hurricane landfall in Hawaii. The exercise was designed to provide an opportunity for federal, state and local leadership to evaluate the operations plan (OPLAN) while exercising their roles, responsibilities and authorities when responding to a catastrophic hurricane.

**DBEDT Watershed Summit:** On June 8, Debbie Solis, Kristen Chun and Derek Chow participated in the State Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism's (DBEDT) Watershed Summit.

*District employees, retirees, families, and friends enjoyed a day of festive camaraderie June 11 at Turtle Cove on Bellows AFS for Organization Day 2009, which included bingo, a kickball tournament, an awards ceremony to honor the District's OCO "heroes" as well as beach activities. Lucky Org Day beachgoers also won door prizes. Photos by Dino W. Buchanan*

The original purpose of the summit was to coordinate various agencies' watershed planning activities in an attempt to assist the State of Hawaii to meet its Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program (CN-PCP) requirements in accordance with the reauthorization of the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1990.

**Pacific Ocean Division Retiree:** After 33 years of federal service, Pacific Ocean Division's Robert (Bob) Kidani retired. Bob started his career as an engineering draftsman (GS-3) and retired as an engineering technician (YE-2/GS-9 equivalent) from the Division's Mechanical Section.

**Honolulu District Organization Day 2009:** The 2009 event was held June 11 at Turtle Cove on Bellows Air Force Station, Oahu. More than 150 personnel, friends, families and retirees enjoyed a day of fun, food, camaraderie, games, door prizes and beach activities. Honored during ceremonies during the event were five District volunteer "Heroes" who have deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan in support of Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO).





*Honolulu District personnel (from left) Kevin Nishimura, Gary Chalifoux and Roberto Tan set up a Containerized Tactical Operations Center (CTOC) for the establishment of emergency field communications as part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and State of Hawaii-sponsored 2009 Makani Pahili Hurricane Preparedness exercise held June 2-4. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio*

# June

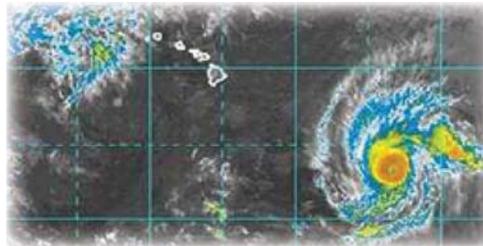
**DAR Coral Reef Workshop:** On June 10, Biologist Cindy Barger attended the State of Hawaii Coral Reef Strategy workshop sponsored by the state Department of Aquatic Resources (DAR).

**General Contractors Association (GCA) meeting:** Lou Muzzarini, Russell Leong and Olson Okada attended the monthly GCA committee meeting June 12, where the topic of discussion was National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit processing.

**MILCON Transformation Industry Forum:** Chief, Military Branch Andrew Kohashi represented the District in Fort Lewis, Wash., at the Center of Standardization Management Board meeting and industry forum June 15-19. Discussions at the forum impact the execution of the Army and Grow the Army Military Construction (MILCON) programs.

**Congressional Delegation Visit:** District Commander Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka, Tony Paresa, Steve Cayetano, Andrew Kohashi, Milton Yoshimoto and Gary Shirakata held a briefing for Walt Kaneakua, Sen. Daniel K. Inouye's Legislative Aide for Military Affairs at the District June 23 to provide a District overview and brief on military construction and environmental programs.

**POD SLC Appreciation:** On June 17, District Commander Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka



presented the Division Commander's coin on behalf of Brig. Gen. Mark W. Yenter to Wendy Hammer; Milly Arzaga; Amy Tashiro; Ed Yoshimura; Cindy Barger, Debbie Solis; David Kam; Donna Kanetake; Susan Chun; Steven Yamamoto; Ximena Williams; Dino Buchanan; Lou Muzzarini; Amy Kitano; Julie Rohrer; Angela Jones; Jarrett Hara; and Eric Li in appreciation for their work in coordinating the Division SLC that was held April 6-9 on Oahu.

**New AED District:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) officially established a provisional District, Afghanistan Engineer District-South (CEAES) on June 17 to provide integrated USACE support to U.S. Forces-Afghanistan, other U.S. government agencies, the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and other friendly forces, as required within the following provinces: Kandahar, Helmand, Nimruz, Farah, Herat, Oruzgan and Zabul.

**2009 Safety Day:** Honolulu District's 15th Annual Safety Day was held June 18. The day kicked off with a fun run/walk and continued with informational health/wellness seminars and safety training.

**CDFM Certified:** Honolulu District's Chief, Finance & Accounting Branch Mark Yoshimura successfully completed the requirements for and obtained his Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM) professional certification in June.

**Partnering Efforts:** On June 25, Civil Engineer Debbie Solis gave a presentation at the Hawaii Coral Reef Initiative (HCRI)/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Workshop for Maunaloa Bay. This workshop was developed to share information with HCRI's counterparts in Florida and the Caribbean on HCRI's partnering activities with federal, state and local agencies; and community organizations (Malama Maunaloa) in addressing research and management needs for coral reef conservation and restoration.

**New SBAO Engineer:** On June 26, Chris Takashige was named the Schofield Barracks Area Engineer (SBAO). Chris was formerly a resident engineer at Schofield Barracks. Under Chris' leadership, as the Schofield Barracks resident engineer, several high quality projects were completed to facilitate the Army's Transformation mission. Among these are the 130th Engineer Brigade Complex and the Battle Command Training Center.

**American Shore and Beach Preservation Association (ASBPA):** ASBPA accepted Hydraulic Engineer Tom Smith's abstract on Southeast Oahu Regional Sediment Management for presentation at the 2009 National Coastal Conference, "Integrating Science and Policy" in St. Petersburg Beach, Fla. Oct. 14-16.

**Waikiki Natatorium Task Force:** Hydraulic Engineer Tom Smith and Program Manager Milton Yoshimoto discussed shoreline restoration alternatives June 25 with the Waikiki Natatorium Task Force. These alternatives were conceptually analyzed and described in the District's report entitled "Waikiki Beach War Memorial Natatorium, Honolulu Hawaii - Shoreline Restoration Study, Conceptual Design Review Report" dated July 2008.

**Mailiili Channel (Oahu) Unauthorized Dumping:** The District Commander issued a Notice of Unauthorized Activity to the Director of the Department of Facilities Maintenance, City & County of Honolulu (DFM) in mid-June in reference to unauthorized dumping by DFM into the Mailiili Channel in West Oahu. The dumping issue was brought to the District's attention by a citizen complaint and two news articles.

# 2009 Year in Review

**New Employees Overview Course:** The first of three sessions for the 2009 Overview Course was held June 22-24.

**CODEL Visit:** At the request of Hawaii Congresswoman Mazie Hirono, Tony Paresa, Derek Chow and Jessica Podowski met with the Congresswoman June 29 and provided an update for the Haleiwa Harbor and Waianae Harbor dredging projects. Hirono further requested Derek and Jessica attend her town hall meeting in Haleiwa on July 1, where Podowski provided information on the dredging work-scope and schedule to Haleiwa boaters.

**NOAA ARRA Projects:** On June 30, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) issued Recovery Act grants for three projects that are to be implemented in Honolulu District's Civil Works area of responsibility, two of which are within watershed areas where Honolulu District is currently working - Maunalua Bay, Honolulu, Oahu and Pelekane Bay, Kawaihae on the island of Hawaii.

## July

**Honolulu High Capacity Rapid Transit Project:** Susan Meyer and George Young provided a briefing to Pacific Ocean Divi-



**On site visits to current Corps projects at Schofield Barracks were one part of the New Employees Overview Course.** Photo by Lacey Justinger

sion Commander Brig. Gen. Mark Yenter and District Commander Lt. Col. Jon Chytka on July 1 regarding status of the jurisdictional determination (JD) for the city's project environmental impact statement. The city's consultant team provided a technical submittal for the jurisdictional information May 13, which was found to have extensive technical flaws and omissions, making it impossible for the Corps to issue a JD for the streams and wetlands along the rail alignment. These technical comments were formally transmitted to the lead consultant, Parsons Brinkerhoff by letter on May 29. Based on a coordination meeting with representatives of the consultant team on July 2, a final technical submittal covering the missing field information may be

finalized for submittal to the Corps during the week of July 6.

**Guam Regulatory Field Office Guru Frank Dayton Retires:** Environmental Engineer Frank Dayton, who manned the one-person Honolulu District Regulatory Field Office (RFO) on Guam for some 30 years, and was responsible for the implementation and execution of the U.S. Army permit program in Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), retired July 1, after serving 32 years with the Honolulu District.

**DoD-Cooperating Agency Meeting/ Guam Build-Up:** District Regulatory Branch staff met with representatives of Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific Environmental Department, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service July 7 to discuss the status of studies associated with the proposed transient nuclear carrier berth at the Apra Harbor Naval Complex, Guam.

**PPM Deployer:** Engineer Technician Lauren Vizcarra deployed to Afghanistan Engineer District on July 12.

**Guam Military Buildup Meeting:** District Commander Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka attended the DoD-Cooperating Agency Meeting for the Guam Build-Up Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) at Ford Island July 14, chaired by Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific (NAVFAC PAC) Commander Rear Adm. Michael Giorgione.

**Deputy District Engineer Promotion:** District Commander Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka announced on July 14 the U.S. Army's had selected Maj. John Henderson for a below-the-zone (early) promotion to Lieutenant Colonel.



**Frank Dayton (center) discussed a shoreline protection project at Apra Harbor, Guam with a contract worker and former Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Charles H. Klinge (right) in 2007.** Photo courtesy of Lt. Col. Charles H. Klinge

# July

**DoD Small Business Forum:** On July 15, District Commander Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka attended the 7th Annual DoD Small Business Forum in Honolulu where the District was recognized twice for being in the top three (based on percentage of program awarded to small business) in awarding contracts to Hawaii 8(a) and Historically Underutilized Business Zone (HUBZone) small businesses.

**SADBU SES Visit:** Senior Executive Tracey Pinson, director, Office of Small Business Programs for the Secretary of the Army, met with District and Division leaders July 16 at Pacific Ocean Division (Pinson was in Hawaii to be the keynote luncheon speaker at the 7th Annual Small Business Forum on July 15). During her visit she attended briefings by contracting staff and Honolulu District's Deputy for Small Business Cathy Yoza.

**Emergency Management Brief on Response Teams:** Emergency Management conducted a briefing July 16 for all new supervisors on the contingency team manning process, requirements, roles, commitments and held a discussion about training and medical requirements.

**"13 GREAT Wonders of the Corps"-Palau Road:** On July 21, a panel of five judges at Pacific Ocean Division (POD) selected the District's Palau Compact Road project nominee – a poster sized photo and extensive narrative – as the Division representative for the "13 GREAT Wonders of the Corps" presentation at the USACE Senior Leaders Conference. Courtesy photo



On July 21, a panel of five judges at Pacific Ocean Division selected Honolulu District's Palau Compact Road project nominee – a poster-sized image of this photo and extensive narrative – as the Division representative for the "13 GREAT Wonders of the Corps" presentation at the USACE Senior Leaders Conference. Courtesy photo

representative for POD for the "13 GREAT Wonders of the Corps" presentation at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Senior Leaders Conference. According to the panel, the Palau Road project "is more indicative of the Corps' core competencies and uniquely represents the POD mission in the Pacific. The project positively impacts the economic development and safety of the nation of Palau, and simultaneously conducted training of native Palauans to assist throughout the project has helped to advance the self-sufficiency of that nation."

**SEPC Outreach:** The District Special Emphasis Program Committee (SEPC) - in



District officials attended the "topping off" ceremony July 24 for the new six-story Fort Shafter barracks being built by the Corps on the old Favreau Field site. The barracks, slated to begin housing 156 Soldiers in July 2010, will meet LEED Silver certification requirements and was designed to match the motif of the buildings around it, namely the Fort Shafter Community Theater and Building 520. Photo by Lacey Justinger

support of a community outreach project - collected a van load of school supplies via voluntary donations from District employees for Kalihi Waena Elementary School. The supplies were delivered July 23, just in time for the new school year on July 30.

**In Memoriam:** John Gouveia Jr., age 59, a payroll clerk in the District's Resource Management office, passed away on July 23 at Straub Hospital, Honolulu as a result of cancer. John worked for the Corps for 27 years and was a Vietnam veteran. A memorial service for Gouveia was held August 31 at the National Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl, attended by District Commander Lt. Jon J. Chytka and other District Ohana. His immediate supervisor, Mark Yoshimura, and Lt. Col. Chytka spoke on behalf of the District at the service. John served for more than 40 years as a military and civilian service member within the DoD and had worked at Honolulu District since 1983.

**Topping Off Ceremony:** District officials attended the "topping off" ceremony July 24 for the new six-story Fort Shafter barracks being built by the Corps on the old Favreau Field site. The barracks, scheduled to begin housing 156 Soldiers in July 2010, will meet the requirements to be LEED Silver certifiable and designed to match the motif of the buildings around it, namely the Fort Shafter Community Theater and Building 520. The U.S. Army uses Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) as a system to rate the green standards in construction.

**Pau Hana:** More than 30 Honolulu District employees gathered for a special Pau Hana July 29, sponsored by the Engineering and Construction Division. The event was held for current or recent graduates of the intern program, summer hires, West Point Cadets and command or management staff. According to Engineering and Construction Chief Todd Barnes the Pau Hana event idea was to "...to develop camaraderie, allow them (participants) to intermingle and to provide information and opportunities to the summer hires and interns."

**Honolulu District New Employees Overview Courses:** The District conducted the final two overview sessions for 2009 on July 27-29 and July 29-31.

**DoD Ocean Current Study:** The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), under an agreement with the Department of Defense (DoD), placed ocean



# July

current monitoring sensors at two munitions sea disposal sites off Oahu the week of July 20 as part of DoD's ongoing efforts to assess the potential impact of sea-disposed munitions on human health and the environment. Sensor data collected will be used to determine the potential fate of munitions constituents that may be released from sea disposed munitions into Pacific Ocean currents at these two locations. On July 24 - 25, NOAA's researchers deployed four high precision sensor arrays at a conventional munitions disposal site off Waianae known locally as "Ordnance Reef" and one sensor array at a deep-water chemical munitions disposal site approximately 10 miles off shore from Waianae. Crews deployed the submerged ocean current monitoring sensors at depths ranging from 50 to more than 300 feet at Ordnance Reef and at a depth of approximately 8,000 feet at the deep water chemical munitions disposal site.

**OCO Care packages:** From July 13-21 Honolulu District Family Readiness Group assembled care packages to send to the District's deployed civilian volunteers supporting Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO): Toni Agustin, Stephen Stello, Timothy Inouye and Laureen Vizcarra. The care packages were mailed on Aug. 25 (Agustin) and Sep. 3 (Stello, Inouye, and Vizcarra).

**Army Cadet Interns:** Three U.S. Army Cadets arrived the week of July 15 to spend a part of their summer training at Hono-



**Mechanical Engineer Wayne Muraoka from the District's Regional Technical Center, Engineering and Construction Branch, gave a synopsis of the center's responsibilities and function to a group of new personnel during the July New Employee Overview Course.** Courtesy photo

lulu District learning about day-to-day operations and specialized engineering techniques. The Cadets were: U.S. Army Cadet Sgt. Edward Chando, U.S. Army Cadet Sgt. William Caffery and U.S. Army Cadet Sgt. Stuart Vaughn.

# August

**New AED District:** Former Alaska District Commander Col. Kevin J. Wilson assumed command of the newly established Afghanistan Engineer District-South, at an activation ceremony held Aug. 3 at Kandahar Airfield. The first Corps District in

Afghanistan, AED-North, was established in Kabul in March 2004. AED-South will provide integrated Corps support to U.S. Forces-Afghanistan, other U.S. Government agencies and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, as required within the following provinces: Kandahar, Helmand, Nimruz, Farah, Herat, Oruzgan and Zabul.

**TIG Reorganization:** Effective Aug. 7, Technical Integration Group (TIG) reorganized with the establishment of a separate Technical Integration Branch within the Engineering and Construction Division.

**Emergency Management Talk Story Session:** Emergency Management (EM) Division held a "Talk Story" session Aug. 20 where personnel from various District EM support teams provided answers to employee questions regarding mission or team duties, training requirements and actual team anecdotes from deployments. Several District deployers to Iraq or Afghanistan were present to "talk story" about their deployment adventures.

**Emergency Management:** Honolulu District Power Planning and Response Team was alerted for a possible deployment Aug. 15 to the U.S. Virgin Islands in support of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Hurricane Ana Contingency Plan.

**New Schofield Barracks:** On Aug. 18, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii and District officials participated in a maile lei untying and ground blessing ceremony hosted by Absher Construction Company for a new barracks complex on Schofield Barracks.

**Maalaea Small Boat Harbor:** Civil Works Project Manager Cindy Barger met with Ed Underwood, State of Hawaii Department of



**Farley Watanabe (left), who recently returned from a deployment to Afghanistan, talked with Catherine Yoza and Sean Sackett during the Emergency Management talk-story session held Aug. 20.** Photo by Lacey Justinger

# August

Boating and Recreation on Aug. 19 to discuss the Maalaea Small Boat Harbor Feasibility Scoping Meeting package (baseline conditions) milestone as part of the general re-evaluation.

**PACOM Humanitarian Assistance:** Three U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM) Humanitarian Assistance projects in Vietnam were completed and returned to the Government of Vietnam Aug. 19. All five projects in Vietnam this year have now been completed.

**Kikiaola Light Draft Harbor Ceremony:** District and Pacific Ocean Division leaders joined Hawaii Congressional staff and state and local officials for the ceremonial untying of the maile lei on Kauai Aug. 26 to mark the successful completion of the joint federal/state work on the Kikiaola Light Draft Harbor repair project. The project has successfully eliminated breaking waves, making the harbor safer for boaters.

**Palau Road Damage Assessment Update:** The District coordinated with the U.S. Department of Interior as well as other authorities in Palau to assess a rain-damaged section of the Corps-built Palau Road. Although the warranty period for the road was over, Honolulu District deployed Ray Kong and Kevin Pien on Aug. 31 to get detailed assessment of the damage.

## New District Army Engineers:

- Capt. Jeremiah Gipson and his wife Allison arrived on Oahu from Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. Gipson will serve as a project engineer at the District's Schofield Barracks Area Office.
- Capt. Jon Colledge and his wife Susan arrived on Oahu from Fort Lewis, Wash. where he completed his initial active duty service with the 864th Engineer Battalion. Colledge will serve as a contingency planner and alternate FEST-A officer-in-charge.
- Capt. Ben Hassel and his wife Jessica arrived on Oahu from Fort Bragg, N.C. via Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. and Fort Benning, Ga. Hassel succeeded 1st Lt. Susan Knapik as the Division Commander's aide.

# September

**USACE Civil Works CG Visit:** Maj. Gen. Meredith "Bo" Temple, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Commanding General for Civil Works, visited District project sites on Sept. 1. Accompanying Maj. Gen. Temple were Division Commander Brig. Gen.



**Honolulu District and Pacific Ocean Division staff posed in front of the Corps' Kikiaola Light Draft Harbor project monument before the maile lei untying ceremony. (Left to right) Pacific Ocean Division Executive Officer 1st Lt. Susan Knapik, District Fort Shafter Area Office Chief Tim Phillips, Kikiaola Harbor Project Manager Sharon Ishikawa, District Legal Counsel Lindsey Kasperowicz, Honolulu District Deputy District Engineer Tony Paresa, Senior Executive Gene Ban, Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka, Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Mark W. Yenter, Senior Executive Jim Bersson, District Civil Works Branch Chief Derek Chow and Honolulu District Construction Representative Steve Takeguchi.** Photo By Joseph Bonfiglio



**PACOM Humanitarian Assistance Project Manager Paul Bowen (back row, right) posed with children at the Hoa Phu Primary School at a ground breaking ceremony. Bowen gave a short speech and passed out the soccer balls shown here at the construction site located in the highlands outside Da Nang, Vietnam.** Photo courtesy of Paul Bowen

Mark Yenter, District Commander Lt. Col. Jon Chytka, Derek Chow and various project managers who provided briefs at project sites.

**Bldg. 230 Exterior Renovation Work:** Installation of new Corps logos on the building exterior was completed Sept. 18. A new canopy and aluminum railing were installed at the Ewa-side entry door and ramp Sept. 28-Oct. 16.

**PM Lauded by American Samoa DPW:** Civil Works General Engineer Harold Nakaoka was recognized by the Federal Highway Administration and the American Samoa Government Department of Public Works, "for his outstanding contributions

to the Civil Highways Division" in a letter to the District Commander dated Sept. 2. Nakaoka was lauded for being "an effective project manager for both roadway and seawall projects in American Samoa. His contributions to the transportation program in American Samoa have been priceless..."

**Contracting Staff Departure:** On Sept. 8, David Kam, the District's contracting office chief for many years, was selected to be the Chief of Contracting, Albuquerque District.

**Former POD Commander Visits Oahu:** Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Art Williams, former Pacific Ocean Division Commander from 1987-1989 and a former Chief of Engineers from 1992-1996 and his wife Pat visit Honolulu Sept. 14-19.

**Job Quest Job Fair:** Pacific Ocean Division and District Workforce Management personnel participated in the Job Quest Job Fair held Sept. 22 at the Neal Blaisdell Center in Honolulu where they provided information on vacancies in the Division.

**In Memoriam:** The District mourns the passing of former District engineer Col. (Ret.) Benjamin R. Schlapak on Sept. 6. He was Honolulu District commander in 1978 and 1979-1980. Services were held Sept. 19 at Oahu Cemetery, Honolulu. Schlapak was also known for his service as Oahu District Manager, Airports Division, Hawaii Department of Transportation and as Honolulu International Airport manager where he co-authored a book titled "Honolulu International Airport: The First 80 Years, 1927-2007." He led Honolulu District through important years in the late

# September

1970s as the Corps was finishing significant missile range facilities in the Kwajalein Atoll, completing the Corps' largest family housing project (for that time) at Aliamanu Military Reservation (on Oahu, which consisted of 2,600 units), conducting radiation cleanup and facilities improvements in the Enewetak Atoll and performing the last major update to all eight historic quadrangle (Quad) barracks at Schofield Barracks prior to the current upgrades. The District also either completed or continued to work on several Civil Works projects during his tenure in command to include the Kaneohe-Kailua Dam; Iao Stream; Waianae Small Boat Harbor; Kekaha Beach; Maalaea Small Boat Harbor; and Pohoiki Bay. Also, the District had just started the pre-construction planning for the Kikiaola Small Boat Harbor upgrade.

**2009 World Water Monitoring Day:** District personnel spent two days - Sept. 10 and 11 - at Makiki Stream and Ala Wai Canal to educate and give 130 Washington Middle School (Honolulu) students hands-on environmental experience for World Water Monitoring Day. Corps Park Rangers Angela Jones and John Mueller and Hydraulic Engineer Michael Wong helped the students test nitrate and phosphate levels of the stream and canal water.



**Honolulu District mourned the passing of former District Engineer Col. (Ret.) Benjamin R. Schlapak on Sept. 6. Schlapak was the Honolulu District commander in 1978 and 1979-1980. He is shown above standing at the Honolulu International Airport where he worked as the Honolulu International Airport manager for many years.** Photo courtesy of Marilyn Kali

**CFC 2009:** On Sept. 14, the District commenced collection of donations for the 2009 Combined Federal Campaign season that finished Nov. 9. The District raised more than \$56,500 in cash and pledges through the generous donations of employees. The total equated to a 74% participation rate and a per capita rate of \$186.

**Small Business Administration (SBA) Update Training:** On Sept. 17, guest speakers Michael Youth, a SBA lead business development specialist and Larry Orr,

a SBA Procurement Center representative provided District personnel with a training session in support of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Small Business Program, to increase knowledge on some of the policies and procedures of the Small Business Administration.

**National Public Lands Day 2009:** Corps Park Rangers Angela Jones and John Mueller from the District's Pacific Regional Visitor Center led more than 50 volunteers on Sept. 26 in scouring the Ft. DeRussy beach, beach berm and park where the volunteers picked up trash and debris and performed beautification projects as part of National Public Lands Day. Honolulu District coordinated the event that was attended by Soldiers from the 7th Engineer Dive Detachment, Punahou High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Course (JROTC) students, Girl Scouts from Troop 893 in Mililani and Corps employees. National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands Americans enjoy.

**In Memoriam:** District employee Rodney Nishizawa passed away Sept. 13 at Wahiawa General Hospital as the result of liver complications related to Wilson's Disease. Nishizawa, 49, started working for the Honolulu District Oct. 18, 1982 and spent his entire 27-year career at the District. Rodney was known by all in the District and Division for his hard work, sharing, conscientious character and personal attention in assisting fellow employees and our partners. Services were held at Nuuanu Mortuary in Honolulu Sept. 21.



**Three Washington Middle School students listen as Hydraulic Engineer Michael Wong explained watershed monitoring for Maikiki Stream on World Water Monitoring Day Sept. 10.** Photo by Lacey Justinger

### Waikiloa FUDS IDIQ Contract Award:

For the first time, the District awarded its own ordnance removal contract - an Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract of \$70 million - to Honolulu-based company Environet, Inc., that has five years to clear 3,950 acres of private and state-owned property. In the past, the Corps' Huntsville Center had issued the contract award. The contract entails the removal of more unexploded artillery shells, grenades and other World War II ordnance from old training sites near Waimea on the island of Hawaii.

**New Surroundings:** On Sept. 24, the installation of new systems furniture began for the Regulatory Branch inside Bldg. 214.

**Farewell:** On Sept. 25, after serving 29 years at Honolulu District, Civil Engineer Dillie Rapley left for a new job at the Guadalupe Project Office, San Francisco District. Rapley had lived in Hawaii for 31 years.

**Ft. DeRussy Restoration Project:** Details are announced Sept. 23 for a planned Ft. DeRussy restoration project at Battery Randolph which includes: interior renovation to 2,200 sq. ft. on both the first and second floors; interior partition walls, electrical wiring, lighting, telephone wiring, finishes, furniture for administration office space; and finishing the interior of the new parapets on both sides of the Battery. The Historical Army Museum Society (HAMS) and the 416th Theater Engineer Command plan to reconstruct the ramparts (parapets). These parapets were removed in the early 1970s and the museum would like to restore them to their original sizes. The restored parapets



**Paul Dobie (left) and Donald Schlack work in the American Samoa Emergency Support Function #3 office.** Photo by Mark Wingate, South Pacific Division

would create museum display space on the roof deck, while freeing up space on the first floor for more administration offices/space.

**American Samoa Earthquake/Tsunami:** After an 8.0 magnitude earthquake shook the American Samoa region Sept. 29, a tsunami estimated at 15-20 feet high ravaged island coastal areas of American Samoa. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), non-governmental organizations and the District support to American Samoa under Corps authorities was immediate and comprehensive. American Samoa Gov. Tulafono told Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Mark W. Yenter (during Yenter's command visit Oct. 15-17) that "he is (was) very happy with the Corps' support as well as the overall response of the federal government." Honolulu District deployed or activated local professionals as

well as accepted Soldiers and subject matter experts from the Corps of Engineers at large. The District was tasked to support FEMA's Emergency Support Function-3 (Public Works and Engineering) cell, provide emergency power to the island of Tutuila, build several structures to temporarily replace heavily damaged schools, oversee the "Aloha Center" (RSOI) cell, provide contract support, and provide subject matter experts for emergency power, temporary housing, debris removal, water/wastewater and other engineering specialties as needed.

## October

**Corps Deploys Response Teams to American Samoa:** Honolulu District, under the leadership of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), deployed teams to American Samoa in response to the Sept. 29 earthquake and subsequent tsunami and in support of President Barack Obama's major-disaster declaration. Nationwide USACE Planning and Response Teams (PRT) and subject-matter-experts deployed to provide immediate assistance, with additional personnel preparing for the emergency situation. Honolulu District deployed subject-matter-experts in debris, emergency power support and water systems where they provided engineering expertise for assessment and evaluation of the extent/quantity of damage, while working with the local American Samoa government to assist with repair plans. The District's Emergency Power PRT management cell joined 15 Soldiers from the 249th Prime Power Engineer Battalion, Company B, for management of the installation of FEMA generators at critical prioritized life-saving/life-sustaining public facilities like shelters, sewer and water treatment plants or emergency management facilities.

**District Awards Fiscal Year-end Contracts Worth \$132.6 Million:** The District completed a successful Fiscal Year-end 2009 (FY09) during which more than \$132.6 million in contracts were awarded, including more than \$41.2 million to small business firms. Altogether, the District awarded more than \$195.3 million worth of contract actions during FY09. Small business 8(a) contract awards totaled more than \$30.78 million with \$1.4 million awarded to Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small



**Staff Sgt. Matthew Nelson (center right) and Sgt. David Manjarrez, B Company, 249th Engineer Battalion work with American Samoa Power Authority workers at a FEMA generator in the Pago Pago Market Plaza in American Samoa.** Photo by Maj. John Henderson



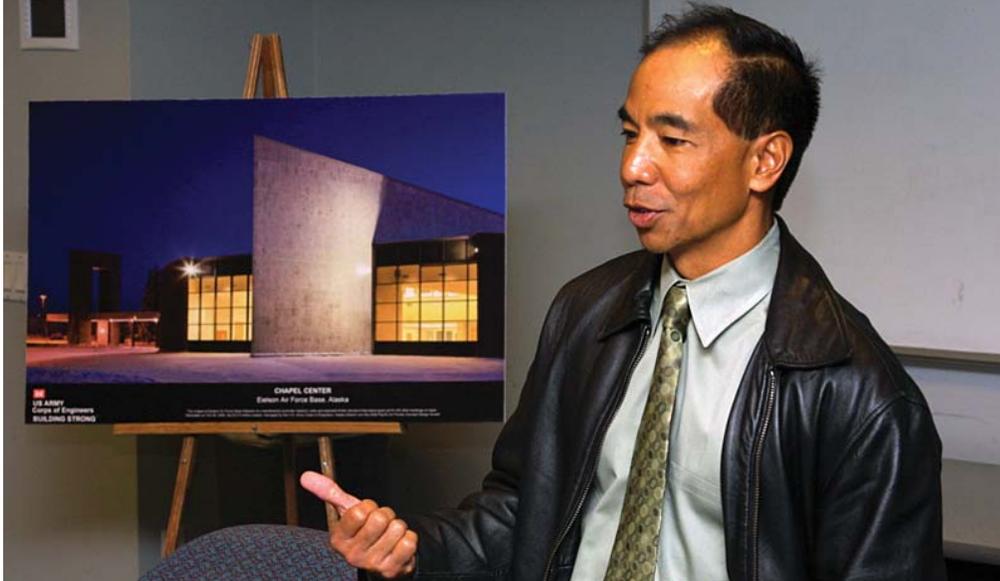
# October

Business (SDVOSB) contractors. During the year-end, Honolulu District awarded three Army Facilities Sustainment, Restoration and Modernization (FSRM) American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) projects and two Air Force Facilities Sustainment, Restoration and Modernization ARRA projects.

**District Pa'ina:** The District's Project and Programs branch, Engineering and Construction branch and Office of Counsel branch deputies hosted a *Pa'ina* in the afternoon of Oct. 7 at Fort Shafter's Hale Ikena lanai where they celebrated the District's Fiscal Year 2009 accomplishments.

**U.S. Coral Reef Task Force Meeting:** Regulatory Chief George Young and Susan Meyer traveled to San Juan, Puerto Rico Oct. 31-Nov. 6 to support Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) Terrence "Rock" Salt's attendance at the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force (USCRTF) meeting and to lead a USACE/U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) interagency panel discussion on coral threat mitigation as requested by the USCRTF's steering committee.

**565th Engineer Detachment (FEST-A) Training:** The FEST-A completed High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV: "Humvee") drivers training Oct. 19-23 and attended the 2010 *Cobra Gold* exercise final planning conference in Thailand Oct. 24-31.



**Honolulu District's Deputy Chief for Programs and Project Management Stephen Cayetano (above) was part of an outreach roadshow of Division representatives who visited Southern California, Arizona and Nevada to recruit project managers, design engineers and construction representatives for Corps jobs in Japan and Korea.** Courtesy photo

**Guam Military Build-up:** Regulatory Branch staff participated in a Oct. 26 teleconference chaired by the Council on Environmental Quality staff with Naval Facilities Engineering Command/Joint Guam Program Office, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Management and Budget, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to discuss potential issues in meeting the U.S. Navy's Nov. 10 print date for the Guam Build-up Draft Environmental Impact Study (DEIS).

**New RM Chief:** Ronnie Kirkland was named the District's new Chief of Resource Management on Oct. 15. Kirkland took the

helm after the departure of Colleen Holmes. Kirkland was selected from a list of more than 140 applicants, which also included one SES employee.

**Pacific Ocean Division (POD) Outreach Roadshow:** Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Mark W. Yenter led an outreach roadshow of POD personnel that included Division SES James Besson, Lisa Chan, Paul Yoo, Jodi Yamamoto and Honolulu District's Deputy Chief for Programs and Project Management Steve Cayetano, that visited Southern California, Arizona and Nevada to recruit project managers, design engineers and construction representatives, for Corps jobs in Japan and Korea.

**2009 Command Climate Survey:** District personnel provided feedback via a 20 question web-based survey Oct. 13-23 that addressed current issues within the District. The survey allowed senior District leadership to determine how to best remedy issues or improve processes.

**District, Air Force Celebrate New Air Force Intel Facility:** The District, Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) Agency, the Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) and Watts Constructors LLC, celebrated the completion of a new 25,000-square-foot, ISR operations facility Oct. 21 on Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, with a maile lei untying ceremony.

**Native American Heritage Month Performance:** District employees celebrated National Native American Heritage Month Oct. 23 by attending a drum and dance ceremony that honored the cultures of the 564 Native American nations.

**Public Outreach:** Civil Works employees manned an Ala Wai Watershed booth at the Palolo Pride Day Oct. 24.



**Oahu Native Circle Dancers David Beveit, a Tripler Army Medical Center clinical psychologist, and David Long performed in full regalia for District employees during a National Native American Heritage Month celebration held Oct. 23. The drum and dance ceremony honored the cultures of the 564 Native American nations.** Photo by Lacey Justinger



**Civil Works Student Engineering Aide Kristen Chun closed her eyes as she received her seasonal flu shot from a Fort Shafter Medical Readiness medical technician Oct. 28 in Bldg. 230.** Photo by Lacey Justinger

**Annual Flu Shots:** On Oct. 28, 118 District employees and military personnel received flu shots in Bldg. 230 provided by medical technicians from Fort Shafter's Medical Readiness Center.

**American Samoa Recovery Update:** The District established a temporary project office in American Samoa to execute Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) mission assignments and future missions assigned. As of Oct. 27, the District had six subject-matter-experts and 18 Soldiers from B Company, 249th Prime Power Engineer Battalion deployed. To relieve stress to the Tafuna power station, the Soldiers of the 249th Engineer Battalion installed 46 generators and four transformers of various sizes at several locations to generate nine megawatts of power for island usage. FEMA tasked the Corps with constructing 12 buildings to serve as five temporary schools in communities heavily damaged/destroyed by the Sept. 29 tsunami.

**University of Hawaii at Manoa, Engineering School Career Day Outreach:** District Workforce management personnel and several command engineers provided potential future Corps recruits with information about the Corps and Department of the Army Intern program Oct. 9.

**Pacific Regional Visitor Center (RVC) Outreach:** The Corps' RVC welcomed 40,614 visitors from January to October 2009 and more than 56,000 for Fiscal Year 2009.

## November

**Quality Assurance Materials Testing Workshop:** More than 20 construction representatives, project engineers and technical experts attended the Nov. 4-5 workshop held at the District's Fort Shafter Area Office. The focus was quality assurance oversight of contractor testing including which tests are required, proper material sampling, proper test reporting and how to read the re-

sults. Savannah District's Mike Wielputz conducted both lectures and the hands-on lab demonstrations of testing of soil, aggregate, concrete and asphalt.

**565th Engineering Detachment (FEST-A) / Palau Road Recon:** Several 565th Engineering Detachment (FEST-A) personnel deployed to Palau Nov. 7-14 to conduct a route assessment on the rain damaged section of Palau Road.

**Ethics Training:** Office of Counsel provided sessions starting Nov. 13 at various District sites to accomplish the annual required training.

**Civil Works Summit:** The Pacific Ocean Division summit was hosted by Honolulu District Nov. 18-20. The summit is held every 18 months with the sites alternating between Alaska and Honolulu Districts.

**District Supervisor Training:** Honolulu District supervisor training was held Nov. 17 in Bldg. 230 with the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center.

**Division/District Town Hall:** A joint town-hall was led by Pacific Ocean Division Commander Brig. Gen. Mark W. Yenter Nov. 18 in the Fort Shafter Gym where he provided a Division/District update to personnel (since his last town hall in Jan. 2009); recognized personnel who supported the post-tsunami recovery efforts in American Samoa and answered questions from employees. A Deployment Fair sponsored by the Pacific Ocean Division Family Readiness Program was also held prior to the town hall.



**Honolulu District employees Beverly Ledesma, Susan Chun and Dinah Lazaro talked to James Bibbee, the Military OneSource representative, during the Pacific Ocean Division Family Readiness Program Deployment Fair at Fort Shafter Gym Nov. 18.** Photo by Lacey Justinger

# November

**Honolulu District GIS Day:** Technical Integration Branch celebrated Geographic Information System (GIS) Day Nov. 19 with demonstrations of GIS capabilities/applications for employees in Bldg. 230.

**American Samoa Update:** The District managed the shipment of temporary school structures (SPRUNG) by ship from California and the 249th Engineer Battalion redeployed to home station after the contractor (KBR) assumed responsibility for 21 deployed generator sets (nine GSA-leased and 12 FEMA-owned). Deputy District Commander Maj. John Henderson deployed to American Samoa Nov. 1-5 to help with Corps recovery effort transitions.

**New Chief, Programs Branch:** Roxane Iseri was selected to be Chief, Programs Branch on Nov. 12 after working as the acting chief since Valerie Lee departed for North Atlantic Division earlier this year.

**American Samoa VIP Visit:** American Samoa Congressman Eni Faleomavaega discussed the Corps' recent tsunami assessment and the possibility of getting future Corps work with District and Division leaders in the Pacific Ocean Division conference room Nov. 13.

**Pacific Risk Management Ohana (PRIMO):** During the week of Nov. 5-10 Civil Works Branch Chief Derek Chow initiated discussions with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regarding the PRIMO coalition initiative. PRIMO's purpose is to coordinate hazard risk management issues in the Pacific. Honolulu District had not previ-



**This three-dimensional conceptual design graphic shows the future U.S. Army Pacific Headquarters facility that will be built at Fort Shafter.** AECOM Services, Inc. graphic

ously participated within this collaboration group, as the Corps' Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) is usually the Corps' sole representative.

**Emergency Management / American Samoa Update/Nov. 23:** Emergency Power Update: American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA)-leased containerized generators (one megawatt) arrived Nov. 13. ASPA contractor Aggreko International Projects Ltd. transitioned the ASPA system from FEMA generators to Aggreko units; Temporary Schools: On Oct. 16, the District was tasked to provide 12 temporary structures for five schools severely damaged by the tsunami. Contracts were awarded Oct. 21 and site preparation began Nov. 2 with anticipated completion Dec. 20; Temporary Housing: Wyatt Kmen, housing subject-matter-expert from the Corps' Huntington District arrived Nov. 6. Estimate for demand of temporary housing was about 200 households; Debris: All field debris ac-

tivities were accomplished by the American Samoa government with FEMA monitoring trucks at the landfill. About 40 percent of the debris clean-up was completed as of Nov. 13.

**Corps Awards Design Services Contract For New USARPAC Headquarters:** The District awarded a contract in November for architect-engineer services for the design of Fiscal Year 2011 through Fiscal Year 2015 projects, phases one through four of the Command and Control Facility Complex (Future U.S. Army Pacific Headquarters, Fort Shafter) to AECOM Services, Inc. doing business as AECOM Design of Roanoke, Va., for \$21,526,998.

**National Disability Employment Awareness Month Observance:** Dozens of District personnel attended a Special Emphasis Program Committee (SEPC)-sponsored presentation Nov. 18 by Dr. Megan Conway from the Center on Disability Studies, University of Hawaii in Bldg. 230.

**Big Island Flood Damage Reduction Projects:** District Chief for Programs and Project Management Tony Paresa, Civil Works Branch Chief Derek Chow, Nani Shimabuku and Debbie Solis represented the District at the Nov. 23 meetings on the Keopu-Hienaloli, Waiakea, and Palai Streams flood damage reduction projects.

**FY 2009 Clean Audit Opinion:** On Nov. 25, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced the Corps received a clean audit opinion on its Civil Works Financial Statements for the second year in a row. In reference to this opinion District Resource Management Chief Ronnie Kirkland said: "To my knowledge, no other major agency or activity has accomplished this achievement."

**American Samoa Update / Nov. 30:** District support to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in American



**A Corps debris removal expert examined structural damage outside Pago Pago's Satala Power Plant Oct. 29. The power plant, American Samoa's largest, was rendered completely useless after the Sept. 29 tsunami.** Courtesy photo



*Civil Engineer Darin Aihara asks Santa what he wants for Christmas during the District's 2009 Holiday party, which was held Dec. 3 at the Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter. Enjoying the jocularity are Santa's "elves" (left to right) Marsha Phillips, Steve Cayetano and Eddie Johnson. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio*

- **Emergency Power:** After the arrival of America Samoa Power Authority-leased containerized generators Nov. 15, the District held contract negotiations Nov. 24 for operations & maintenance (O&M), removal and de-installation of generators and transformers.

- **Temporary Schools:** Anticipated completion of the five temporary school structures ordered by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) was now delayed to mid-January due to weather conditions.

- **Temporary Housing:** The estimated demand for temporary housing was 200-250 households. Honolulu District received a draft mission assignment (MA) from FEMA that requested the District provide one construction subject-matter-expert to support FEMA as a project manager and up to 10 quality assurance representatives (QARs) for this mission.

- **Debris:** All field debris activities being done by the American Samoa government.

**Command Visit to American Samoa:** District Commander Lt. Col Jon J. Chytka, accompanied by District Civil Works Branch Chief Derek Chow, conducted a command visit to American Samoa Nov. 19-23. The leadership met with senior leaders from the Territorial Government of American Samoa, including Gov. Togiola Tulafono and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), as well as key project stakeholders. Lt. Col. Chytka also assessed the District's support to tsunami recovery activities and well being of deployed District staff.

**District Small Business Success:** Honolulu District's accomplished contract awards to small business in Fiscal Year 2009 (FY09) was 37% (\$71 million), surpassing the FY09 Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Small Business contract award goal of 32%.

## December

**Division CG Presents Awards:** On Dec. 2 Division Engineer and Commanding General Brig. Gen. Mark W. Yenter presented awards to nine District employees at the weekly District staff meeting.

**2009 Honolulu District Holiday Party:** More than 210 employees, family, friends and retirees attended this year's event held Dec. 3 at the Hale Ikena on Fort Shafter.

**COLA and Locality Pay Updates:** In early December informational briefings led



*Informational COLA and locality pay briefings were held at Fort Shafter and Schofield Barracks Dec. 2 and 3, led by staff from Sen. Daniel Akaka's Federal Workforce Subcommittee, officials from the Office of Personnel Management and Gloria Uyehara (above), executive director of the Honolulu-Pacific Federal Executive Board. The briefs provided updates on the FY10 National Defense Authorization Act. Photo by Joseph Bonfiglio*

by staff from Sen. Daniel Akaka's Federal Workforce Subcommittee, officials from the Office of Personnel Management and the Executive Director of the Honolulu-Pacific Federal Executive Board were held Dec. 2 and 3 on Oahu for federal employees. The briefs provided information on the FY10 National Defense Authorization Act legislation on the subjects of locality pay/cost of living adjustment (COLA) conversion and the new adjustment to the Federal Retirement System (FERS) sick leave credit benefit. Sessions for Department of the Army civilian workers were held at Fort Shafter and Schofield Barracks.

**Small Business Safety Training:** Honolulu District's Safety Office and Deputy for Small Business hosted more than 40 small business and general contractors in December for a half-day safety training seminar. The seminar goal was to assist small and disadvantaged businesses meet required Corps and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) training requirements, develop abilities to manage safety on Corps job sites, how to write effective accident prevention plans and provide training on safety management tools. The District has trained more than 1,350 small business and general contractor personnel since 2003 and has received very positive feedback from small business partners.

**Engineer Inspector General MILCON Transformation Inspection:** Honolulu District was notified in early December the Engineer Inspector General will conduct an inspection of the District's Military Construction (MILCON) Transformation Principles Feb. 2-4, 2010.



# District, Air Force Celebrate Completion of Strategic ‘Building within a Building’

Story by Lacey Justinger  
Public Affairs Specialist

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) Agency, the Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) and Watts Constructors LLC, celebrated the completion of a new ISR Operations facility Oct. 21 on Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, with a maile lei untying ceremony.

The ISR structure houses the Distributed Common Ground System (DCGS) operation center and the Global Hawk ground mission unit, and was designed to facilitate partnerships between the United States and allies for worldwide missions.

“For five years we worked from a vision and a focus that’s coming to fruition and reality today,” said Air Force Gen. Gary North, PACAF commander. Highlighting the flexibility of the construction team, North commented that during construction, “We could go to the Corps of Engineers and Watts and say; ‘let’s tweak this and finalize this to make it better and work for a long time.’ This is a state-of-the-art facility.”

The design-build project was a five-year partnership, from concept to occupancy, between the Corps of Engineers, PACAF, Air Force ISR Agency, the Air Force Center for Engineering and Environment, and Watts Constructors LLC to build the more than 25,000-square-foot, \$15,500,000 facility.

“The facility is a better fit for the mission while we also stewarded our citizen’s hard earned dollars and our history,” said Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka. “This project had challenges but we accomplished all of our goals with a great sense of teamwork.”

Rev. William Kaina from the Kawaiaha’o Church in Honolulu dedicated and enlisted the help of



*(Left to right) Col. Daniel Johnson, commander of the 480th Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Wing; Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka; Pacific Air Forces Commander Gen. Gary North; and Brig. Gen. Thomas Harwood (partially hidden), mobilization assistant to the commander of 13th Air Force, PACAF, assist Rev. William Kaina (middle) from Kawaiaha’o Church, Honolulu, in blessing the new Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Operations facility on Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii. Photo by Lacey Justinger*

Gen. North; Brig. Gen. Thomas Harwood, reserve assistant to the commander of 13th Air Force, PACAF; Air Force Col. Mark Westergren, director of ISR for PACAF; Air Force Col. Daniel Johnson, commander of the 480th ISR Wing; and Lt. Col. Chytka for the ceremonial Hawaiian blessing and maile lei untying.

“It’s a great honor to represent the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers today and share this historic moment with the world’s premiere air power, our United States Air Forces,” said Chytka. “As a Soldier and an engineer, I’m very impressed with the Global Hawk system and I’m sure my future units will benefit from its high resolution imagery.”

Watts Constructors and the Corps of Engineers maintained a strict safety regimen that resulted in

more than 54,000 man-hours without a lost-time accident, in spite of many restricted spaces and some areas constructed with only five feet between structures.

“This (facility) is remarkable and highlights all of our commitment to building safely,” said Chytka. “This is even more impressive considering the confined spaces of literally constructing a building, within a building, next to another building, inside a building. Watts almost needed to recruit spelunking craftsmen to be a part of their DCGS team.”

“DCGS is a force multiplier, enhancer and enabler for pervasive and persistent surveillance in our AOR,” said North. “I couldn’t be prouder of the Corps of Engineers and Watts, as I watched this vision come to fruition.”

# Timely Vaccinations Help Prevent the Flu

On average, seasonal flu causes millions of Americans to miss work and school, hospitalizes about 200,000 Americans and results in about 36,000 deaths every year.

The seasonal influenza vaccine protects against flu strains that normally cause the most illness during the flu season. However, it *will not* protect you from the new H1N1 influenza.

Everyone - including DoD employees - should be vaccinated against both

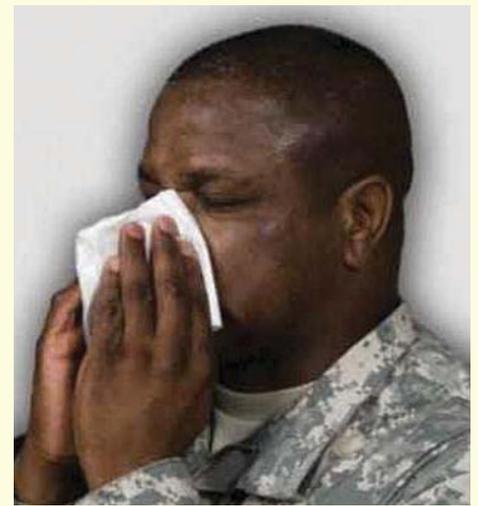
influenza viruses to get maximum protection.

All active duty military personnel and Department of Defense (DoD) employees with specific work requirements are required to receive the seasonal flu and H1N1 vaccines, unless they have certain medical conditions. The H1N1 vaccine was distributed in October and is now readily available in Hawaii.

Updated information on availability can be found in base newspapers and websites.

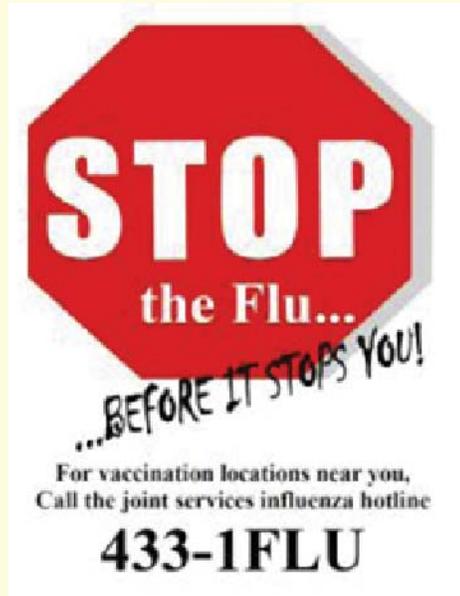
The Center for Disease Control encourages the following people to get the H1N1 flu vaccine: people with underlying health conditions like asthma or diabetes; health care workers; pregnant women; caregivers for infants under six months of age; children and young adults from six months to 24 years of age; and adults, 25-64 years old, whose health conditions include higher risk of complications from influenza

Practice good hygiene habits and other preventive health precautions. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, or sneeze in your sleeve. Throw tissues in the trash after use. Wash your hands often and



thoroughly with soap and water, especially after coughing and sneezing. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Clean regularly, knobs, telephones and items that many people use or touch as these items can spread germs.

Try to avoid close contact with sick people. If you are sick with flu-like illness, stay at home to prevent others from getting sick. Stay away from other people for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone or after you have stopped using any fever-reducing medicine.



## Honolulu District Awards Fiscal Year-end Contracts Worth \$132.6 Million

Honolulu District completed a successful Fiscal Year-end 2009 (FY09) in September during which more than \$132.6 million in contracts were awarded, including more than \$41.2 million to small business firms. Altogether, the District awarded more than \$195.3 million in contract actions during FY09.

Small business 8(a) contract awards totaled more than \$30.78 million with \$1.4 million awarded to Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) contractors.

During the year-end the District awarded three Army Facilities Sustainment, Restoration and Modernization (FSRM) American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) projects and two Air Force Facilities Sustainment, Restoration and Modernization ARRA projects.

The ARRA contract awards signify the Corps' commitment to provide high quality facilities to the armed forces of the United States; protect and improve the lives of the people of Hawaii and the region; and award contracts which make a positive impact on the local economy.

Significant military construction contracts recently awarded at the end of the FY09 included:

» Combined Arms Collective Training Facility, Kahuku Training Area, Oahu, Hawaii awarded to Watts Constructors LLC, Honolulu, HI for \$22,300,000.

» Design Charrette for FY11 through FY15 projects, Phases 1-4 of the Command and Control Facility Complex, Fort Shafter, Oahu awarded to M & E Pacific, Inc., Honolulu, Hawaii for \$1,087,705.

» Battle Area Complex and construction of a tactical vehicle wash facility, Pohakuloa Training Area, island of Hawaii, Hawaii awarded to Kiewit Pacific Company, Kapolei, Hawaii, for \$32,155,000.

» Expand Strategic Airlift Aircraft Ramps - Western Keyhole, Hickam Air Force Base, Oahu, Hawaii awarded to Watts Constructors, LLC, Honolulu, Hawaii for \$7,418,897.

» Design/build an Unaccompanied Enlisted Personnel Housing (UEPH), Schofield Barracks, Oahu awarded to Hawaiian Dredging Co., Honolulu, Hawaii for \$27,579,000.

» Child Development Center, Schofield Barracks, Oahu awarded to Su-Mo Builders, Inc., Honolulu, Hawaii for \$10,300,000.



# Division Focuses on Deployment Opportunities in Town Hall Meeting

Story by Lacey Justinger  
Public Affairs Specialist

Honolulu District and Pacific Ocean Division employees gathered at Fort Shafter Gym Nov. 18 for a town hall meeting and to attend an Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) and disaster response/emergency relief Planning and Response Team (PRT) deployment information fair.

Brig. Gen. Mark W. Yenter, commanding general and division engineer for the Pacific Ocean Division, discussed the Corps of Engineers' response to the American Samoa tsunami and the talented efforts displayed by District and Division emergency operations, PRTs and subject-matter-experts.

"It's our job to support FEMA in disaster relief; and there was amazing teamwork between the response from FEMA, the Corps of Engineers and other government agencies," said Yenter. "The reach-back to the Honolulu District has been phenomenal. Additional tasks rolled down to the Honolulu District; they stepped up and made it a reality. They couldn't have done it better. The people of American Samoa are going to come back stronger than ever and we're going to be there with them through this long-term recovery process."

Yenter also addressed the future policy changes and opportunities available in PRTs and OCO, and reiterated that supporting OCO is the number one mission for the Division.

"This Division leads the Corps in the percentage of people who volunteer to support OCO, and we have for a long time, even though we are a small Division," said Yenter. "It's the most important thing that we do."

The Pacific Ocean Division averages five percent of its workforce deployed in OCO missions. Many employees also serve on multiple PRTs and may deploy on short notice after natural or man-made disasters.

"It's important to support the families of those who deploy not only for OCO but for PRT missions," said Yenter. "The Family Readiness Program is phenomenal. In the same calendar year that it was developed; they have leveraged the help that is available to families. It's important to know what we can do for you and to get help when you need it."

The Pacific Ocean Division Family Readiness Program sponsored the



**FEMA-provided tents substituting for homes dot a shoreline on the American Samoa island of Tutuila in November. District and Division employees may deploy for FEMA relief missions on short notice after natural disasters like the Sep. 29 tsunami that devastated this region.** Photo courtesy of Lt. Col. Jon J. Chytka

deployment information expo to promote understanding of the support available for families of deployed civilians, whether for OCO or PRT.

"This is to help families and deployed individuals, and ensure they have all the information that they need," said Juli Chytka, from the Pacific Ocean Division Family Readiness Program. "Many civilians and their families are not aware of what they are entitled to."

Employees had the opportunity to speak to representatives and gather information from Army OneSource; Blue Star Card Program; Military OneSource; the American Red Cross; Military and Family Life Consultants; the Army Community Service (ACS) Deployment/

Mobilization program and Financial Management and Readiness program.

"We are here to let civilians know what ACS has to offer them as part of the military community and the Army Family," said Lis Olsen, outreach director for ACS. "We're here to serve the deployed civilians and families as well as the Soldiers. The need is great and we don't want anyone to hesitate because they are concerned that their family is not taken care of."

The Pacific Ocean Division Family Readiness Group will also connect families of deployed, deploying or recently returned civilians and Soldiers to provide an outlet for families to share experiences and problems, said Zenaida Bate, the community support coordinator.



**Zenaida Bate (left) and Lisa Yenter, members of the Pacific Ocean Division Family Readiness Program, encourage town hall attendees to visit the information booths during the deployment fair Nov. 18 at Fort Shafter Gym.** Photo by Lacey Justinger

# EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

October



**DON SCHLACK** led extraordinary efforts to restore power to critical facilities in American Samoa and helped stabilize the American Samoa Power Authority grid to provide relief to American Samoa residents after the Sept. 29 earthquake/tsunami. He helped synchronize the execution of 46 generator installs by the 249th Engineer Battalion, served as a liaison officer to the FEMA Emergency Support Function-3 cell, solved complex technical, logistical/administrative problems and led efforts to scope/procure contingency contracts that had significant impacts on the people of Samoa. His efforts have garnered laudatory comments from the Governor of American Samoa, FEMA Leaders and POD Commanding General.

October



**LINDA TSUGAWA** is recognized for performance over and above her project assignments. During the FY09 4th quarter, while Linda succeeded in accomplishing her regular work, she volunteered to take on workload of a vacant analyst position and provided much needed assistance to cover urgent actions for colleagues on leave. She did all of this with her positive, "can do" attitude and accomplished all actions accurately with minimal delays. Linda is extremely efficient in prioritizing numerous actions, she gets the work done quickly and accurately and responds quickly to queries from customers, project managers, fellow program analysts, engineering techs as well as resource management and other district personnel.

November



**JONATHAN SWANSON** His support to the Army's program to remove munitions and explosives on the island of Hawaii has been outstanding. He was an instrumental part of two PDTs that awarded two service IDIQ contracts for removal and response actions for munitions and explosives with a combined capacity of \$100 million. After both awards were protested to the Government Accountability Office (GAO), he led the team putting together the agency report, including writing the legal memorandum. In total, Jonathan defended the District on three protests as one contract received protests from two unsuccessful offerors. The result is significant in that the District received only two GAO protests in the past eight years.

November



**MICHAEL SAKAI** was nominated for his great work on preparing and submitting the condemnation package to acquire the road easement from Galbraith, George Trust Estate on a short-fuse, timely basis. The easement allows the government to start construction on a portion of the Schofield-Heleman Road to support the Army Transformation mission. By his efforts, ongoing negotiations with the Cedar Grove portion of the road continues to make progress and they have accepted the Offer to Sell Agreement. Mike has also been negotiating with Dole Foods, the State of Hawaii, City and County of Honolulu, and other land owners to ensure the project will be completed on time.

December



**JOEL HENDRIX's** exceptional leadership and vast experience in emergency response operations has been critical to the success of the District's support of FEMA and people of American Samoa in the aftermath of the Sept. 29 tsunami. Joel took immediate, decisive action to stand up the District's EOC, activate the Crisis Action Team, coordinate with multiple echelons within USACE and the complex inter-agency framework, stand up an Aloha Center in Honolulu and immediately begin the deployment of Corps civilian personnel and 249th Engineer Battalion Soldiers to provide emergency power, debris clean up, water/waste water assessments, construction of temporary public structures and subject-matter-experts to the reconstruction of individual homes in support of FEMA mission assignments.

December



**KANALE SADOWSKI** is recognized for his leadership in the successful settlement of an Armed Services Board of Contract appeal of a termination of default of the contractor for the Fernandez Hall Parking Lot project on Schofield Barracks. He led the team during the litigation phase of the appeal and worked tirelessly to reach a settlement with the contractor that benefited the Army. Kanale's numerous conversations and letters with opposing counsel was instrumental in persuading the contractor to reach a settlement that included a payment of \$90,000 to the United States. This payment will allow the Army to procure the entire scope of work under the follow-on contract with no additional costs to the Army.



## 2009 USACE Excellence in Contracting Awards

# Dave Kam Wins Contracting Leadership Award

David Y. Kam, (shown at right accepting award) former contracting chief for Honolulu and Omaha Districts recently was presented with the 2009 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Excellence in Contracting Leadership Award by Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Robert L. Van Antwerp during ceremonies held in Washington, D.C.

The excellence in contracting leadership award defines the winner as having “demonstrated ability to foster synergies internally and externally resulting in more efficient and effective business practices; promoted the dynamics of positive change in support of defined organizational strategies; forged ahead in uncharted areas with results that increased operating capability.”

Kam also recently was selected to become Albuquerque District’s new chief of contracting.

Nominated in the Customer Service Award category was Honolulu District’s Chief of Contracting Daniel Costello. Customer Service Award nominees are defined as having “Fostered a climate and spirit of teamwork producing unprecedented operational results; significantly streamlined or improved the delivery of contract services, processes or support to customers (internal or external); a level of performance and care, above and beyond that normally expected, which averted a detrimental outcome for a customer.”

Honolulu District contracting office’s Kent Tamai was a nominee in a new contracting excellence awards category - the Rock-The-Castle Award: Journeyman/Leader/Manager. The Rock-The-Castle Award defines its nominees as having “broken barriers to effective communication and/or contract execution by improving technical knowledge and/or internal/external relationships; led change of a contract process or procedure that significantly contributed to the District/Center/Division; shaken the status quo by challenging the premise that ‘this is the way it has always been done’ resulting in improved processes, communication, and/or contract execution; individual/team effort that has assisted in moving the NCO (National Contracting Office) from “Good to Great.”



# Aloha

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

**Ike Borja & Laureen Vizcarra**

## TRANSITIONS 1st Quarter FY10

### Welcome

**Myron Oh  
Walter Perrett  
Elton Saito  
Joan Kaimikaua  
Athline Clark  
Ted Turney  
Joseph Scanlan  
Kwang Coh**

### Welcome Back

**Steve Stello  
Tim Inouye  
Frank Dayton**

### Goodbye

**Gene Harlan  
David Kam  
Robert Ishiara  
John Mueller**

## District Awards A-E Design Services Contract for Future U.S. Army Pacific Headquarters

Honolulu District awarded a contract in November for architect-engineer services for the design of Fiscal Year 11 through Fiscal Year 15 projects, phases one through four of the Command and Control Facility Complex (Future U.S. Army Pacific Headquarters, Fort Shafter, Oahu) to AECOM Services, Inc. doing business as AECOM Design of Roanoke, Va. for \$21,526,998.

“This is exciting news for the United States Pacific Command and the entire Army from Alaska to Japan,” said Commanding General, U.S. Army Pacific, Lt. Gen. Benjamin R. Mixon. “We look forward to the ground breaking for the Army’s premier command and control headquarters in the Pacific. This command and control facility will enable us to exercise our responsibilities across the Pacific Region including additional responsibilities supporting the United States alliance with South Korea.”



**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Honolulu Engineer District  
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Building 230, CEPOH-PA  
Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440**