



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Honolulu District



The Pacific Connection

BUILDING STRONG®
Winter 2019 Vol. 52 No. 2

WHAT'S INSIDE

- 4 District Honors 2018 Employee Work Excellence
- 6 Preparing NOW can help save lives during 2019 Hurricane Season
- 8 District personnel, engineering speed Super Typhoon Yutu recovery efforts
- 10 Early discussions lead to Guam, National Silver Jackets program's first territorial charter
- 13 Project manager "hooks" first Kwajalein Army garrison command coin she designed



Honolulu District's Chief, Engineering & Construction branch Todd Barnes joined forces with his wife Andrea Barnes as judges and event supervisors for the Plastics Detective event at the 2019 Oahu Elementary State Science Olympiad Tournament held at Pearl City High School. Andrea Barnes is a science teacher at Iolani School in Honolulu and was assisted by Iolani 8th grade student Myami (last name unknown) for this event. The Hawaii Elementary Science Olympiad (ESO) is open to all public, private, charter, and home schools in Hawaii as well as groups that involve students in grades 3 to 6. The Hawaii State Science Olympiad was established in order to provide Hawaii's students with an environment in which they can reach their fullest potential in STEM. Started by a single school in 2004, the Hawaii Science Olympiad program has grown into a competition featuring nearly 100 schools and opening doors for more than 1,000 of Hawaii's students each year to strengthen and showcase their STEM skills. Courtesy photo



Honolulu District's Chief, Construction Branch Jamie Hagio (second from right) participated in U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM) Enterprise Scalable Data Center groundbreaking ceremony Dec. 6 at Fort Shafter. Also participating in the ceremony was (center left) Senior Executive Michael A. Canna, ACoS, G6/Director, Ground Intelligence Support Activity, Intelligence Security Command (INSCOM) and (center right) Col. Arnold K. IAEA, GISA-Pacific. Honolulu District will be providing Quality Assurance management during construction on behalf of USACE's Baltimore District. Leading the Hawaiian blessing and groundbreaking ceremony was Kahu Kordell Kekoa. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan, Honolulu District Public Affairs

On The Cover

USACE Director of Military Programs Senior Executive Lloyd Caldwell (right) listens as senior District engineer leadership discuss construction progress for the U.S. Army Pacific's Mission Command Facility. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan, Honolulu District Public Affairs



Honolulu District Commander
Lt. Col. Kathryn P. Sanborn

Honolulu District Deputy Commander
Maj. Joshua M. Sturgill

Deputy District Engineer for
Programs and Project Management
Stephen Cayetano

Chief of Public Affairs
Dino W. Buchanan

The Pacific Connection Editor
Dino W. Buchanan

Public Affairs Specialist
Bryanna R. Poulin



The Pacific Connection, an unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1, is published quarterly by the Public Affairs Office, Honolulu District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440. Telephone: (808) 835-4004. This command information publication is published for Honolulu District employees and others who request it in writing and is also available online at: <http://www.poh.usace.army.mil/>. The expressed views and opinions are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army. Contributions are welcomed and highly encouraged. The editor reserves the right to make editorial changes to any material submitted as deemed necessary. Circulation: 1,200.

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



Lt. Col. Kathryn P. Sanborn
District Commander



Aloha District Ohana!

We've had a quick start to 2019 with several key leader engagements, District leadership visits to our Pacific nation partners, celebrating the District's 114th birthday, visits by the congressional staff delegates and senior military officials, and welcomed many new employees into the Ohana.

I continue to assess our people, processes and customer relationships and have seen first-hand the excellent project progress and the positive impact we are collectively making on military communities, the Pacific region, and Nation.

Early in 2019 District leadership and senior engineers met with key Army (IMCOM, USACE), U.S. Air Force, Missile Defense Agency, congressional and foreign defense officials while discussing and displaying some of our major projects. We met with congressional delegates from the senate committee on Environment and Public Works led by Staff Director Mary Frances Repko, delegates from the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and delegates from the Senate Appropriations Committee; Lt. Gen. Bradley A. Becker, commanding general, Installation Management Command; Dr. Christine Altendorf, IMCOM Pacific Region Director; Brig. Gen. Doug Anderson, Commander, 9th Mission Support Command; Brig. Gen. Andrew Preston, Deputy Commanding General – Support, 25th Infantry Division; and Brig. Gen. Michael Guetlein, Program Executive for Programs and Integration, Missile Defense Agency.

During a spring, trip to Washington, D.C., our District team of Steve Cayetano (DPM) and Mike Wyatt (Chief, Civil & Public Works Branch) and I met with our elected officials serving in Congress and their staffs, and senior leaders at Headquarters, USACE. They are very happy with all we do, and the positive impact we make in the Pacific region. Those meetings also provided a venue to receive candid feedback so we can continually improve on all aspects of delivery to stakeholders.

Additionally, Civil Works Branch Chief Mike Wyatt and District Deputy Commander Maj. Joshua Sturgill represented Honolulu District in American Samoa in mid-April for their annual Flag Day celebration. They later met with U.S. Congresswoman Aumua Amata Coleman Radewagen as well as directors from the port authority, power authority, and transportation directorate. Each of these engagements allowed the District to strengthen our relationship with our stakeholders and increase our ability to deliver our program. In these briefings, I have received accolades on the District's professionalism, quality of work, and support provided throughout the Pacific Region.

During the last nine months, Honolulu District also continued disaster and humanitarian response support efforts to the people of the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands as they recover from the devastation incurred by Super Typhoon Yutu. More than 40 District personnel deployed - several multiple times - in support of the emergency response efforts to install 180 temporary power generators on Saipan and 12 on Tinian, assist in debris removal processes, manage construction of 50 temporary classrooms for Saipan's Hopwood Middle School and Northern Marianas College students, and Architectural and Engineering Support to Permanent Housing for FEMA on Saipan. I also traveled throughout some of the Hawaiian Islands as well as to Kwajalein, Japan, Guam and the CNMI, where I met with representatives from the various governments, local project stakeholders, and USACE personnel. In all locations, we are seen as a vibrant, value-added organization ready to tackle tough challenges.

Throughout the past few months our engineers, interns and staff have participated in numerous STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education-oriented outreach events such as the 2019 National Engineers Week, the 2019 Oahu and State MATHCOUNTS competitions, the Hawaii Elementary School Science Olympiad, and the Hawaii FIRST robotics competition. Also, District employees spoke to potential future engineers about STEM and the Corps of Engineers in February at the University of Hawaii-Manoa College of Engineering and UH-West Oahu career fairs.

On April 15 Honolulu District marked its 114th year of dedicated service in the Pacific and celebrated the milestone with an April 25 pre-dawn hike to view the Makapu'u Lighthouse. Throughout our history, the District has truly demonstrated we are the "Engineers of Choice in the Pacific" by providing excellent engineering products and services during times of war and peace, to our Nation, Army, sister services, and the public.

The District will be also be reaching several milestones in 2019, as we turn over to our customers the Schofield Barracks Health/Dental Clinic Addition – Parking Garage in April and Phase Two of the USARPAC Mission Control Facility project in July.

The District continues to increase hiring and onboarding, bringing on many new employees utilizing different recruiting options. In addition to recruiting, we are developing our workforce through training provided by Pacific Ocean Division, Prospect courses, and local technical seminars. These opportunities help to build our employee's knowledge as well as strengthen the bond between the various branches through joint classroom experiences.

To our stakeholders, the Honolulu District is ready to assist your engineering needs with a commitment to deliver excellence; if there are areas we fall short, please don't hesitate to provide that feedback so we can deliver on our commitments to you.

To the District Ohana, *mahalo* for the great work you do each day.

America's Engineers in the Pacific stand ready to provide the highest engineering value while making a positive impact on our Soldiers, Hawaii, our Pacific region neighbors, and the Nation.

Essayons!



District Commander Lt. Col. Kathryn Sanborn (center right) and Pacific Ocean Division Commander brig. Gen. Thomas Tickner (left) congratulated the Project Manager Lance Seawke (center left) and the 2018 Project Delivery Team of the Year for their outstanding work on the FY16 OMA Pkg .A-015 Repair/Replace Cesspool, Pohakuloa Training Area. Photos by Duy Ta, ACE-IT Visual Information Specialist

District honors employee excellence in 2018

Eight Honolulu District employees and one District project delivery team were honored in January at the District's annual awards townhall for work excellence in 2018.

The award winners for 2018 were honored as those who helped meet the District's mission, goals and values for the year.

Awardees were:

Administrative/Technician of the Year: Vestavia Greene

Professional Employee of the Year: Grace Ishihara

Emerging Leader of the Year: Samantha Smith

Mentor of the Year: Chen Sam Lee

Project Manager of the Year: Jon Hosaka

Leader of the Year: Olson Okada

Team Excellence: Project Delivery Team for the FY16 OMA Pkg. A-015 Repair/Replace Cesspool, Pohakuloa Training Area

Honolulu District Hard Hat of the Year: Gerald Young



Admin. of the Year: Vestavia Greene



Professional of the Year: Grace Ishihara



Emerging Leader of the Year: Samantha Smith



Mentor of the Year: Chen Sam Lee



Project Manager of the Year: Jon Hosaka



Leader of the Year: Olson Okada



POD Hard Hat of the Year: Gerald Young



Volunteers collect debris on Fort DeRussy beach, beach berm for 2019 Earth Day

Story by
Dino W. Buchanan
Pacific Connection Editor

Honolulu District and Pacific Ocean Division leadership, District and Tripler Army Medical Center employees joined forces with Punahou School Junior ROTC cadet volunteers to clean the Fort DeRussy area beach and beach berm April 27 for Earth Day 2019.

The 2019 U.S. Army Earth Day theme was “Sustain the Environment to Secure the Mission.”

“This is a great opportunity for the Corps of Engineers employees to partner with local volunteers to sustain the beautiful environment of Hawaii we enjoy so much,” Lt. Col. Kathryn Sanborn, Honolulu District Commander told the more than 45 volunteers prior to the clean-up.

Joining Sanborn at the cleanup was U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pacific Ocean Division Command Sgt. Major Patrickson Toussaint.

This was the 14th consecutive year Honolulu District held the Earth Day-focused event by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pacific Regional Visitor Center (RVC) at Battery Randolph on Fort DeRussy in Waikiki.



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Park Rangers Angela Jones and Stephen Lawlor coordinated and led the beach sweep with assistance from Punahou School Junior ROTC program commander Lt. Col. (ret.) Robert Takao.

More than 25 cadets and the other volunteers scoured the beach area fronting and adjacent to the Fort DeRussy beach park collecting nearly 70 pounds of debris.

Takao said the Corps' Earth Day event is one of several community support events the cadets participate in each year as part of their JROTC training program.

“We had a great volunteer turnout and collected more trash this year,” Lawlor said



Punahou School Junior ROTC cadets and Tripler Army Medical Center volunteers collect trash at Battery Randolph on Fort DeRussy for Earth Day 2019. This was the 14th consecutive year Honolulu District has held the Earth Day event at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pacific Regional Visitor Center (RVC). Photos by Dino W. Buchanan



after the clean-up. “Our Earth Day event shows the Corps' commitment to protect and preserve the environment we live in.”

Each year Earth Month and Earth Day activities increase awareness and support for ongoing education and efforts to build partnerships and grassroots involvement to keep the 'aina clean year-round. Earth Day was established March 21, 1970 as an annual event to deepen reverence and care for life on the planet.

Though Earth Day was originally designed to bring public awareness to environmental issues, the U.S. Army uses this day to highlight environmental successes and help people understand how sound environmental stewardship not only supports the quality of Soldier training, but also the quality of life of families that live on Army installations and neighboring communities.

Having one of the largest federal environmental missions and being the Nation's environmental engineer, USACE is com-

mitted to taking care of the environment and creating a mutually supporting economic and environmentally sustainable solutions. An umbrella concept, sustainability includes energy, climate change, and the environment to ensure today's actions do not negatively impact tomorrow. Environmentally sustainable events held each year by Honolulu District aligns and supports the Corps commitment.

Honolulu District continues to strive to live to our principles and develop better practices that show we are the *Engineer of Choice within the Pacific*, delivering quality products and services on time and within budget.





Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Kathryn Sanborn (kneeling front right), Honolulu District Deputy Commander Maj. Josh Sturgill and Pacific Ocean Division Command Sgt. Maj. Patrickson Toussaint led nearly 40 District and Division employees, families and friends on a two-mile round-trip hike to view the sunrise from the Makapu'u Lighthouse, in celebration of the District's 114th birthday. The Corps built Makapu'u Lighthouse in 1909 on sits on a 647-foot sea cliff overlooking Makapu'u Beach in southeast Oahu. The Corps' history in Hawaii and the Pacific began in 1905 when Lt. John Slattery became the District's first commander. His original mission was to construct lighthouses for navigation, like Makapu'u. Makapu'u Point is a critical location passed by all ships moving between Honolulu and the U.S. Mainland. Photo by Bryanna R. Poulin, Honolulu District Public Affairs

Empowering the workforce with sunrise hike to Makapu'u Lighthouse

Story by
Bryanna R. Poulin
Public Affairs Specialist

As the sun began piercing the dark morning sky nearly 30 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Honolulu District and Pacific Ocean Division, family, and friends began celebrating the Honolulu District's 114th birthday April 25 with a two-mile sunrise hike of the Makapu'u Lighthouse Trail to the Makapu'u Lighthouse.

Access to the lighthouse is usually off-limits for the public, leaving visitors to view from a lookout point at the top of the one-mile long trail. However, a long-standing relationship and planning between Honolulu District and the U.S. Coast Guard sometimes allow Army Corps hikers a rare opportunity for an inside and outside tour of the 110-year-old lighthouse sitting atop a 647-foot cliff overlooking Makapu'u Beach.

"I enjoyed myself," Honolulu District Administrative Assistant Brittany Keyes said. "Today was the second hike I've been on since I arrived in Hawaii last year."

Hikers stepping off uphill had breathtaking views of Oahu's windward coast and the offshore islets wildlife sanctuaries for Hawaiian seabirds, like the 'iwa (frigate bird) and tropic bird.

"The hike was a little challenging," added Keyes. "The incredible view at the top made it worth the climb."



Ethan Lau, son of Honolulu District Chief of Resource Management Robert Lau, enjoyed the sunrise view from the Makapu'u Lighthouse Trail summit. Photo by Bryanna R. Poulin, Honolulu District Public Affairs

The Makapu'u Lighthouse dates back to 1905 when USACE began their mission in Hawaii and the Pacific. Charged by Congress to construct lighthouses for navigation in the territory, the District's first commander Lt. John R. Slattery, drew up plans for Makapu'u Lighthouse. In August 1906, Slattery designed a short tower keeping the light as low as possible, but high enough the wind could not blow pebbles into the lantern room glass. The

first-ever 12-ton lens produced a fixed white light, while a set of copper panels revolving on a track between the light source and lens produced a distinct flash.

The District honors Slattery's contributions and the command's establishment in 1905 in Hawaii every year by hiking to the lighthouse. "Hiking Makapu'u Lighthouse Trail each year honors the District's birthday and arrival on the island," said Master Sgt. Shane McDonell, Honolulu District executive assistant who was in charge of coordinating the hike. "Also, Corps personnel build esprit de corps and a sense of camaraderie through the hiking event."

As the brightly shining sun started inching above the horizon, hikers reached the trail summit allowing them to get a glimpse of the islands of Moloka'i and Lana'i. On this day, a criminal break-in postponed the tour but everyone still enjoyed the spectacular rainbow-filled shoreline views.

"The Makalu's Lighthouse hike was splendid," Kathleen Abille, Honolulu District administrative assistant said. "It was my first time going up there, so I wish the lighthouse didn't close and we could have gone on the tour."

With new friendships and relationships forming, hikers trekked down the winding trail surrounded by sun-drenched scenery.

"You can't beat the enormous rainbow, spanning over the clear Hawaiian skies," Abille said. "The view could take any person's breath away."



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Director of Military Programs Senior Executive Lloyd Caldwell (right), listens as senior Honolulu District engineer leadership discuss progress for the U.S. Army Pacific's Mission Command Facility. Photos by Dino W. Buchanan, Honolulu District Public Affairs

USACE Director of Military Programs visits Fort Shafter, Schofield Barracks MILCON sites



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Director of Military Programs Senior Executive Lloyd Caldwell (center left) listens as Darin Aihara (right), chief of the Wheeler Army Airfield Resident Office explains the construction timeline for the aviation fuel pump station, which was a part of the 25th Infantry Division Combat Aviation Brigade Phase 1 construction project.



On the first day of a two-day visit to Honolulu District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Director of Military Programs Senior Executive Lloyd Caldwell (left), listens as Honolulu District's Todd Barnes, chief of Engineering and Construction branch describes some of the constructed features of Phase 2 of the U.S. Army Pacific's Mission Command Facility project site.



Director of Military Programs Senior Executive Lloyd Caldwell (center), listens as project managers for the Behavioral/Dental Clinic construction project talk about the project progress.



A deployed Honolulu District Power Planning and Response team member checks an offloaded FEMA emergency power generator at Saipan Airport in October 2018 during relief operations in the aftermath of Super Typhoon Yutu. Courtesy photo

District personnel, engineering speed Super Typhoon Yutu recovery efforts

Story by
Maj. Brett Fuller

On Oct. 25th 2018, Super Typhoon Yutu struck the islands of Saipan and Tinian in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) causing widespread catastrophic damage. With sustained winds of 178 mph and gusts up to 190 mph, Yutu was the second strongest tropical cyclone to ever hit the United States.

In anticipation of landfall and at the request of the CNMI Governor, President Donald Trump signed an emergency declaration on Oct. 23, 2018. He followed up with an official disaster declaration on Oct. 26. These declarations authorized the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to establish a Joint Field Office in Saipan to begin the flow of relief supplies and to fund disaster response missions.

One of the major federal partners FEMA turns to during disaster responses is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). For the Super Typhoon Yutu response, FEMA initially funded USACE to support two mission assignments. The first was for a USACE Regional Activation mission that allowed USACE's Pacific Ocean Division and their subordinate organization, the Honolulu District, to activate their Emergency Operations Centers. Upon activation, Honolulu District became the "Supported District" meaning the entire USACE response to Super Typhoon Yutu was managed locally by the Honolulu District Commander Lt. Col. Kathryn Sanborn and her District Emergency Management staff.

Within the FEMA Joint Field Office, USACE serves as the lead agency for the Emergen-



Honolulu District's deployed Power and Planning Response teams working together with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) installed 160 temporary power generators on Saipan. (Above) The final electrical power re-connection is made to Saipan Airport. Photo by Maj. Brett Fuller

cy Support Function #3 (ESF#3): Public Works and Engineering. After receiving the authority for a Regional Activation, USACE immediately deployed an ESF#3 team leader to Saipan before Super Typhoon Yutu's landfall.

ESF#3 Team Leaders are specially trained to operate within FEMA's Incident Command System, to coordinate mission assignments in the JFO, and to report to the USACE Supported Commander. After landfall, the ESF#3 Management Team expanded to include action officers and subject matter experts (SMEs) for the various missions, assistant team leaders, and military liaison officers.

USACE's second initial mission assignment was the generation of temporary emergency power. Applying lessons-learned from recent emergency response to storm events such as Hurricanes Harvey, Maria, and Irma, USACE

developed a contract vehicle to quickly respond to missions such as temporary emergency power. The Advanced Contracting Initiative allows USACE to reach out to a pre-qualified contractor ahead of landfall to begin movement of personnel and equipment.

While the USACE contractor was deploying to the CNMI, FEMA began moving generators and materials staged at warehouses in Guam and Hawaii. USACE personnel, including military Soldiers from the 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power) arrived on Saipan, sheltered in place ahead of the storm, and then received the contractor's personnel and equipment.

USACE and their contractor team worked tirelessly through the 2018 year-end holidays to assess facilities and install more than 150 generators on Saipan and 27 on Tinian. These generators were placed at critical public facilities such as water pump stations, airports, schools, a hospital, a prison, and a waste water treatment facility. Once commercial power was restored to the critical facilities, the generators were "de-installed".

Shortly after landfall, FEMA also requested USACE to provide debris management SMEs as well as a critical public facilities SME to assist with the recovery efforts. Two debris SMEs deployed from USACE's Louisville District and the critical public facilities SME deployed from USACE's New York District.

The USACE debris SMEs joined with the FEMA Debris Task Force, the CNMI Department of Public Works, and the Mayor's Offices of Saipan and Tinian to provide lessons learned, best practices, and regulations on topics such as federal reimbursement.

The critical public facilities SME worked closely with the FEMA Critical Infrastructure



Honolulu District employees helped manage the construction of 42 classrooms for the new temporary campus of the Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Middle School near the Koblerville Elementary School (KES) and 24 temporary classroom at Northern Marianas College. On Jan. 18, contractor Brice Engineering placed concrete for last four tent foundations and four bathroom foundations at KES. Photo by Kimberly Bautista

Branch and the CNMI Public School System to solve the urgent problem of getting students back in school as many campuses were devastated by the storm.

Following the initial scoping effort by the critical public facilities SME, the Corps of Engineers deployed a critical public facilities Planning and Response Team, utilized their critical public facilities Advanced Contracting Initiative to hire a construction contractor, and successfully constructed two temporary school campuses on Saipan.

One new campus was for Admiral Herbert G. Hopwood Middle School that suffered catastrophic damage during the storm. After sharing classrooms at other schools for months, the children and faculty of Hopwood will soon enjoy 42 new temporary classrooms and 4 bathrooms located in a field next to a nearby elementary school.



Power Planning and Response Team (PRT) Mission Manager Joe Tribbey (center) takes roll call and issues daily tasks in October to the Honolulu District Power PRT, Soldiers from A Company, 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power) and contractor Louis Berger, while deployed to Saipan in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in support of the federal emergency response efforts for Super Typhoon Yutu. Courtesy photo

The Northern Mariana College also received 24 new temporarily classrooms.

As the Super Typhoon Yutu response continued, the mission requirements for USACE expanded into other areas.

From the initial days of the storm response in October, FEMA's temporary roofing mission was managed by the Department of Defense. A joint team of Army, Navy and Air Force engineers ultimately completed more than 560 temporary metal or plastic roofs for residential homes.

USACE was asked by FEMA in December to send additional SMEs to conduct a temporary roofing mission analysis in the event additional roofs were needed once the Department of Defense personnel fully redeployed in February. Four USACE temporary roofing SMEs deployed to Saipan, conducted an assessment, and were prepared to award a construction contract within seven-10 days if needed. The need did not materialize, but USACE was prepared and the SMEs were able to create a "Pacific Islands Temporary Roofing Standard Operating Procedure" to be used by FEMA, CNMI, USACE, and others agencies in future responses.



Honolulu District's Temporary Emergency Power Subject Matter Expert Don Schlack (left), 249th Eng. Battalion (Prime Power)'s SSG Maksym Zymyn and Power Mission Commander Chief Warrant Officer 2 Clive Dunrod, discussing the technical aspects of the Saipan International Airport's power control facility prior to re-energizing the primary circuit. Courtesy photo

USACE also provided engineering and design services for FEMA's Permanent Housing mission assignment. Honolulu District engineers and other specialists worked jointly with FEMA, local building officials and other stakeholders to develop three standard home floor plans.

Super Typhoon Yutu response operations in the CNMI require tremendous teamwork, partnership, and coordination at all levels to meet the needs of the people of CNMI and restore critical infrastructure. USACE worked closely with federal and local partners to execute FEMA missions quickly and effectively. Building strong partnerships was essential to overcome vast challenges in a remote location and complex post-disaster environment. Honolulu District and the USACE enterprise were key members of the team, lending vast technical competencies to assist American citizens in the CNMI rebuild their communities.



Power PRT Power Action Officer Debbie Solis edits a Concept of Operation document that assists in retrograding generators to Guam during relief operations in the aftermath of Super Typhoon Yutu. Photo by Bryanna Poulin, Honolulu District Public Affairs

Early discussions lead to Guam, National Silver Jackets program's first territorial charter

Story by
Bryanna Poulin
Honolulu District Public Affairs

During a landmark occasion Feb. 5, the Honolulu District Silver Jackets Coordinator held the first formal meeting of the Guam Silver Jackets team. Building resilience across our Nation, beyond the 50 states, the historical event marked a first for the Guam Silver Jackets as well as the National Silver Jackets program.

The Guam Silver Jackets team charter was recently signed and adopted by six agencies within the government of Guam, marking the establishment of the first territorial Silver Jackets team. The charter is now being routed to federal partners for signature.

Honolulu District initiated discussions with the government of Guam's Coastal Management Office and the Office of Civil Defense in August 2018. Despite the challenge of being 19 hours ahead of the Honolulu District coupled with being 15 hours ahead of the east coast, the Silver Jackets serves to be the catalyst for interagency collaboration across all the agencies and territory.

"What we have done these past few months is an exemplary demonstration of leveraging resources," Edwin Reyes, administrator of the Guam Coastal Manage-



Guam Silver Jackets team members gather for its initial meeting, officially creating the first Territorial Silver Jackets team in the Nation. Courtesy photo

ment program said. "The technical studies that USACE provides, along with the local and federal partnerships, truly empowers the planning process by providing us with an understanding of our threats as well as a portfolio of options and pathway forward to help those who experience chronic flooding and erosion threats."

During their remarks to the Assembly of Planners Feb. 6, Guam Governor Lou Leon Guerrero and Lt. Governor Josh Tenorio both expressed the Guam administration's commitment to working with the Corps of Engineers and local and National groups as well as emphasized the risks Guam battles like riverine flooding, coastal flooding, coastal erosion, tsunamis, typhoons, and intrusion into the Guam's fresh water aquifer.

"We find ourselves in this cost culture environment at all levels of government," said

Jeff Herzog, Honolulu District Silver Jackets coordinator for the Pacific Islands region who attended the meeting of both local and federal partners in Guam. "The ability to align visions and priorities, working together addressing hazards assists leaders in making informed decisions."

Herzog stressed it's not about creating more work, but maximizing outputs with limited inputs aligning the already identified work.

Ellen Berggren from the National Silver Jacket's Team and Herzog attended the meeting of both local and federal partners in Guam.

The Guam Silver Jackets team met in March to develop an interagency proposal for the federal fiscal year 2020 proposal cycle.

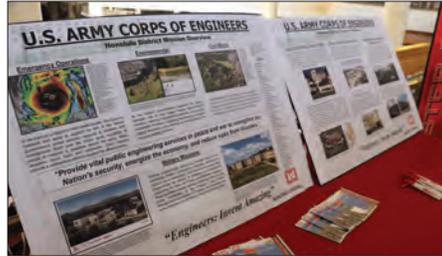
Engineers volunteer services for 2019 MATHCOUNTS



Honolulu District employee volunteer proctors (standing left, right and seated back left) listen as lead proctor and master of ceremonies Lou Muzzarini (center at podium) reads the rules for a test round for tired mathletes at the 2019 State MATHCOUNTS competition held in March at Kamehameha Schools. Sixth, seventh and eighth grade students from public and private schools across the State of Hawaii participated in the competition. MATHCOUNTS builds skills, promotes strategic problem solving and challenges students to sharpen their analytical abilities in a lively exchange of mathematical ideas through competition. Honolulu District has actively supported the MATHCOUNTS program since 1997 and provided volunteer "engineer" manpower for the events. The winners of this event advanced to the MATHCOUNTS national finals in Orlando, Florida. District volunteers shown here (left to right) are (standing back) Jin Onuma, (seated back) Billy Borengasser, Robyn Au, (standing right) Steve Cayetano, Wendy Mow and Alina Cayetano. Photo by Kevin Araki

District missions showcased on intern storyboards

Honolulu District Department of the Army and PATHWAYS interns created mission-focused storyboards that were the centerpiece for the District exhibit at the 2019 Engineers Week static display event held Feb. 18 at Windward Mall on Oahu. The 2019 Engineer's Week theme was "Engineers: Invent Amazing." Photos by Dino W. Buchanan, Honolulu District Public Affairs



District hands new parking garage keys to Schofield Barracks' U.S. Army Health Clinic

Story by
Dino W. Buchanan
Pacific Connection Editor

Honolulu District senior engineers joined U.S. Army Health Clinic Schofield Barracks and U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii officials, and Schofield Barracks Soldiers and their families, for the ribbon cutting ceremonies and grand opening for the U.S. Army Health Clinic Schofield Barracks' new 181,000 sq. ft. parking garage.

Tom Crump, Hoonolulu District military branch chief, provided remarks and participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony.

The garage, constructed by Swinerton Builders, adds 429 standard and 19 handicap parking spaces to the Schofield Barracks Health Clinic campus as well as an additional 55 rehabilitated ground level spaces located adjacent to the new garage.

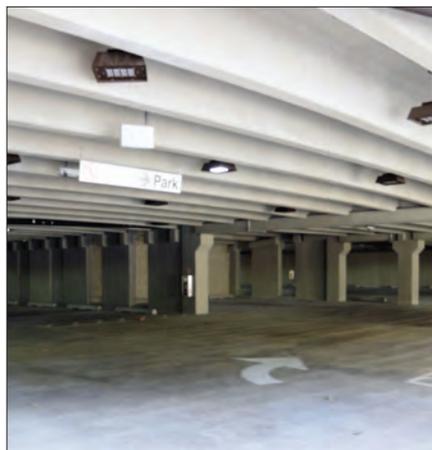
After the ceremonies, the five-level, \$26 million facility welcomed the first vehicles via the McCornack Road entrance that is adjacent to the Schofield Barracks Health Clinic.

Construction of the structure in the Schofield Barracks Historical District began in 2016 and was designed by USACE personnel to "emulate and the surrounding buildings and landscape."

The open-air facility has multiple entrances accessible via the post's McCornack Road and the adjacent parking lot and features wide parking spaces and drive lanes.



Honolulu District's Tom Crump, military branch chief (second from left) provided remarks and participated in the ribbon cutting and grand opening ceremonies for the U.S. Army Health Clinic Schofield Barracks' new 181,000 sq. ft. parking garage. Photos by Jamie Hagio





Honolulu District Environmental Branch Chief Michael Wong (center right) explains some of the nuances of the Ala Wai Watershed to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers enterprise personnel during a field trip hosted by Honolulu District that included a site visit to Tantalus, Manoa Stream, Waiakeakua, Kanewai Field, Pukele Streams, and the Ala Wai Canal during the three-day Ala Wai Watershed Flood Mitigation Design Charrette. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan, Honolulu District Public Affairs

District completes Ala Wai Watershed Flood Risk Management project design charrette

Story by
Dino W. Buchanan
Pacific Connection Editor

Honolulu District's three-day Ala Wai Watershed Flood Risk Management Project Design Charrette concluded Oct. 11 with stakeholders from the Hawaii governor's office, mayor of Honolulu's office, State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, as well as key technical experts from the USACE enterprise, proposing a way forward with construction of the \$345 million project.

"An opportunity to execute a project of this magnitude does not occur every day, so it's important for us to have everyone gain a common understanding of the project, from Congressional authorization and funding through local real estate policies," said Ala Wai Flood Risk Mitigation Project Manager Jeff Herzog. "It's also important to get expectations and perspectives presented with everyone in the same room. Communication and collaboration between the stakeholders and Corps enterprise will be the key element to the successful execution of a project this size."

During the charrette participants were given tours of upper and lower watershed locations where retention basins and debris catchment areas are planned and also areas along the Ala Wai Canal where flood control features are planned.

Local stakeholders ranging from the City and County of Honolulu Department of Climate Change and Resiliency, City and County of Honolulu Department of Design and Construction, to the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources Land Division, State of Hawaii Historic Preservation Division, and State of Hawaii Office of Planning participated to ensure understanding of the requirements and perspectives of the stakeholders. Enterprise personnel from USACE's Seattle District, New Orleans District, USACE Contracting Enterprise, and Risk Management Center identified best prac-



Ala Wai Project Manager Jeff Herzog (second from right) explains some of the natural and cultural sensitivities for the proposed retention basin in the Waiakeakua Stream area to State, City & County of Honolulu officials, and USACE enterprise personnel. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan, Honolulu District Public Affairs

tices, lessons learned and suggestions for how to execute the project.

"Having the Enterprise participate was invaluable," Herzog said. "New Orleans District executed \$14.6 billion in constructing the Hurricane Storm Damage Reduction System while working with the State of Louisiana from 2005 to 2011. Similarly, we are negotiating with the stakeholders to construct a Flood Control System here in Honolulu. These are not just separate projects throughout Honolulu but are all integral pieces to an overall system which will reduce the risk to life, safety, and property for the communities in the Project Area. New Orleans District didn't accomplish that work alone - they used Engineers without Borders, engaged other USACE Districts. Honolulu District is planning to engage in a similar manner."

The Ala Wai Watershed encompasses a drainage area of 16.2 square miles and is located on the southeastern side of the island of Oahu in urbanized Honolulu. The three major streams within the watershed include the Makiki, Manoa, and Palolo streams, all of which drains into the Ala Wai Canal. The Canal is a two-mile-long waterway constructed during the 1920s to drain extensive coastal wetlands, thus allowing development of the Waikiki district. The Watershed's highest elevation is about 3,000 feet, before dropping to 300 feet at valley floors and rolling to sea level — all over the span of about four

miles. Given the combination of sheer slope, considerable rainfall — up to 150 inches a year in the Koolau Mountain Ridge — as well as the dense Waikiki population and growing climate-change concerns, the waterway is pegged as "high risk" for flash flooding. An October 2004 storm that flooded Manoa Valley, described as a 25-year event, caused \$85 million in damage.

Honolulu District is currently negotiating particular terms of the Partnership Agreement with the stakeholders. The project is being funded under the Fiscal Year 2018 Emergency Supplemental and allocated \$345 million for Pre-Construction Engineering & Design and construction to be cost-shared proportionately. Project features include the following eleven individual structural elements and two non-structural components.

"Having the City and County, and State participate in the design charrette helped to lay a foundation for future successes," added Herzog. "Understanding the stakeholder plans, projects, processes; as well as the mutual respect for the historic, cultural, and economic significance of the Ala Wai Canal amongst all the parties in the room is key to advancing current designs into a final product. They (stakeholders) will be encouraged and invited to participate throughout the entire design and construction to keep communication and collaboration moving in a direction of project completion."

The proposed project will reduce riverine flood risks and help protect metropolitan Honolulu, the University of Hawaii, and Waikiki, Hawaii's economic center for tourism. The population at risk includes approximately 65,000 residents and an additional 200,000 transient visitors to the watershed daily (tourists, workers, students, etc.). The likelihood of flooding so severe that it encompasses all of Waikiki and the canal's tributaries is approximately one percent (a 100-year event), with potential damage to 3,000 structures and requiring more than \$1 billion in repairs. Construction of the Army Corps-led project would help protect Waikiki, the heart of Hawaii's tourism industry and neighborhoods along the streams.

Project manager “hooks” first Kwajalein Army garrison command coin she designed

Story by
Dino W. Buchanan
Pacific Connection Editor

Kara M. Larson, a project manager for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Honolulu District, who works remotely as a project manager forward with customers on Kwajalein took on the challenge in designing a commander’s coin.

In November 2018, U.S. Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll Commander Col. James DeOre asked for local military or civilian government employees on Kwajalein Atoll to use their artistic skills in generating a new commander’s coin design. The most specific requested standard for the new design was that it be “something unique to the Marshall Islands and not a circle coin.”

“I was inspired by the unique wooden hook from (the island state of) Pohnpei in (the Federated States of) Micronesia,” Larson said in an email describing her participation in the design process. “Since I didn’t know what a garrison or challenge coin was, I studied other coins to learn what is placed on these coins and drew up my sketch for consideration.”

Little did she know that her interest in creating a new design would later take on a unique twist.

Larsen entered coin design in the shape of a hook similar to one found on Pohnpei. The front of the coin features the U.S. and Marshallese flags and the U.S. Army Values (loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, personal courage and integrity).

“Respecting the U.S. government’s partnership with the Marshallese government, I included the words ‘Republic of the Marshall Islands’.” Larson said “Since these coins are given in recognition of special achievement; I added the words of ‘Presented for Excellence’.”

The reverse side of the coin identifies the units stationed on Kwajalein Atoll, 7th Infantry Division, 4th Marine Division, 30th Signal (NETCOM), U.S. Army Space & Missile Defense Command, USACE, U.S. Navy Seabees, U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll (IMCOM), the insignia of sergeant major and colonel, and Operation Flintlock.

Larsen was informed by USAG-KA at the end of December 2018 her design was selected for the new garrison coin.

In late February 2019, Lt. Gen. Dickinson, Commander, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command formally recognized Larson for creating the Kwajalein garrison’s new command coin.

“He (Lt. Gen. Dickinson) shook my hand and handed me his commander’s coin,” said Larson. “Col. DeOre then recognized me on behalf of the garrison for the design and presented me with the first new (USAG-KA) coin - the coin I designed. What an honor!”



Courtesy Photos by Kara Larson

Emergency Preparedness: are you ready?

Preparing now for contingencies reduces the personal stress experienced during actual emergencies and helps family members feel more in control of their safety.

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

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



At Work

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

At Home

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

EMPLOYEES OF THE QUARTER

1st Quarter 2019



JAMES AOKI

James Aoki is a Structural Engineer in the Regional Engineering Center leading the structural design efforts for the \$57 million Quad A Renovations project located in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. The project will consist of renovating three buildings and construction of a new central utility plant. James spearheaded the structural scoping actions, prepared fee quotes for the structural work involved and provided detailed coordination with the entire design team to launch the project to a smooth start. His strong technical skills along with his friendly demeanor and hard work ethics is exemplary characteristics of the traits required to successfully complete this project.



PATAUA (TAUA) LABAN

For approximately three years, Honolulu District has been trying to put the required training grounds in American Samoa under contract. Some of the challenges that delayed completing this action included working with different customs and land ownership issues, awaiting timely receipt of funding, and ascertaining the required real estate appraisal. Taua was instrumental in accelerating this project which last month ultimately led to the execution of this short term maneuver permit for the Army Reserves in American Samoa. This permit will pave the way for enhanced maneuver exercises on Tutuila Island while a long term solution (new lease) is being executed by the Honolulu District. Because of Taua's technical support, professionalism, and demeanor, Honolulu District was able to finally secure this important permit.

Hawaiian blessing held for PARC seawall repair project



Kahu Glen Kila of Waianae (left photo) leads the traditional Hawaiian blessing in March for the workers and leadership for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers'-managed Piilaa Army Recreation Center (PARC) seawall repair project. The \$4 million project will demolish and replace 700 linear feet of the existing seawall that protects the PARC shoreline along Pokai Bay in West Oahu. Photos by Dino W. Buchanan, Honolulu District Public Affairs



Au selected to serve as Honolulu District's Chief Counsel

Robyn Au is responsible for a staff of six, as well as the oversight and delivery of legal services for execution of District's missions, including the military, civil works, environmental and regulatory programs. The Office of Counsel also gives guidance and advice in matters of contract/procurement law, fiscal law, personnel and labor law, ethics, real estate law, and Freedom of Information Act.

Au most recently was serving as the District's Acting Chief Counsel, following the departure of former District Chief Counsel Shivaun White in 2018.

Her tenure with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers commenced in 1986 as an Assistant Division Counsel with Pacific Ocean Division, where she advised in contracts, personnel, labor law, and was Assistant Division Trial Attorney from 1992-1996.

Au has earned a Bachelor of Arts degree (Criminology) from Indiana State University and earned a Juris Doctor degree from the Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. She is admitted to practice in the State of Hawaii and admitted to the United States Supreme Court Bar.





Jennifer Eugenio (third from right), a Honolulu District civil engineer volunteers her personal time as an assistant coach for the Kamehameha Schools - Kapalama girls soccer team. Eugenio and the 2019 team were presented a Certificate of Achievement by the Honolulu City Council Feb. 17, after Kamehameha won the Hawai'i High School Athletic Association Division I state championship title earlier this month. Courtesy photo

Goo named new Chief, Civil Works Tech Branch

Justin Goo was recently selected to serve as the Chief, Civil Works Technical Branch, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Honolulu District.

Goo has 11 years of experience working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, having most recently served as a Design Manager/Technical Lead in the Engineering Services Section, Regional Engineering Center, Engineering and Construction Division at Honolulu District.

He started at Honolulu District as a Department of the Army intern in 2008 and upon completion of the two-year program Goo worked in the Civil Works Technical Branch as a Coastal Engineer until 2015. In early 2015, Goo transferred to the USACE's Japan District, working first as a project manager in the Navy Section until 2016, and then later as the Navy and DLA Military Construction Program Technical Lead from 2016 to 2018. Goo returned to Honolulu District in September 2018.

Goo received his Bachelors of Science Degree from the University of Southern California in Civil Engineering in 2005 and a Master's Degree in Ocean and Resources Engineering from the University of Hawaii in 2007.



McAninch selected to lead Schofield Area Office

Jean McAninch (center, left) was recently selected to serve as the Schofield Barracks Area Engineer, Schofield Barracks Area Office, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Honolulu District. She will oversee critical construction programs such as the Kunia Station Tunnel renovation work (National Security Agency) and the Hawaii Infrastructure Readiness Initiative (HIRI). She has more than 27 years of experience working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and served most of her USACE career as Resident Engineer in USACE Construction Field Offices in Arizona for Los Angeles District and in Egypt for Middle East District. McAninch holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Arizona, is licensed as a Professional Engineer (Civil) in Arizona, and has achieved DAWIA Contracting Level II certification. Photo by Dino W. Buchanan, Honolulu District Public Affairs



Transitions

Welcome: Master Sgt. Shane McDonell / Jamie Hagio / Nathan Han / Ryan Nakamoto / Steven Mow / Mark Wagatsuma / Bryce Montalbo / James Bramblett / Bruce Chun / Matthew Yoshioka / Jeremy McCraine / Frank Winter / Brittany Keyes / Jason Takimoto / Godofredo Chico / Michael McMahon / Paul Fujiyama / Shawn Morimoto / Madelyn Martinez / Kevin Haggerty / Charles Blair Jones / Capt. Cellec Coleman / Master Sgt. Ryan Scott / Glenn Leonard / Brittany McCranie / Bernadette Osterhaus / Blade Wayne / John Alden / Yvonne Hallman / Alisa Zarbo / James Nelson / Khoa Truong / Joel Francisco / Troy Phan / Analisa Gutierrez /

Welcome Back: Lauren Spencer / Jeff Cochran

Goodbye: Rebecca Frager / 1st Lt. Thomas Park / Billy Borengasser / Geoff Lee / Lissa Maxwell / Mitchell Moore / Jackie Conant / Jason Tanaka / Olson Okada / Paul Fujiyama / Lauren Spencer / Jeff Cochran / Delilah Orrantia / Grace Nakaoka / Jessie Duarte / Jerome Santos / Darlene Duarte / Allan Ponciano / Maj. Brett Fuller / Paul Fujiyama / David Giliam / Jeff Daniels / Yun Chu / Nanette Nicholas / Jennifer Ko / Tunis McElwain / Scott Mocizuki / Darren Carpenter / Randall Chun / Gary Soriano / Malaea Stanley / Cathy Paresa / James Pak / Jimmy Lam

US Army Corps of Engineers-Honolulu District Public Affairs Office

Building 230, Rm. 302

Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440

Official Business