The Pacific Connection

Volume 31
Number 4

April 1997

US Army Corps of Engineers
Pacific Ocean Division

Pacific Ocean Division welcomes Alaska as 4th District after Division restructuring

Photo by AED

Story by Larry Hawthorne

After years of proposals, unconsummated reorganization plans and one very near miss, Alaska District officially joined the ranks of the Pacific Ocean Division, April 1. Alaska Engineer District was redesignated by the mail symbol "POA" signifying its place as the fourth district within POD's command architecture, joining Far East District in Seoul, Korea, Japan Engineer District at Camp Zama, Japan, and the Honolulu Engineer District.

The transfer was a key element of the Corps' restructuring plan that reduced the number of divisions from 11

See "Alaska," page 4.

Adding testimony that the Aloha spirit travels well, members of the Alaska Engineer District celebrate their first official 'Aloha Friday' as members of Pacific Ocean Division. Situated at more than 40 degrees of latitude north of Hawaii, Alaska is cold this time of year. With other division members wishing them equal amounts of 'aloha,' presumably enough warmth was generated to ward off even a hint of frostbite.

Organ transplant provides POD family member renewed life

Story by Alexander Kufel

On Easter Sunday this year, Karen Meyers, a diabetic for 28 years, responded immediately to her husband, POD civil engineering technician, Dan Meyers' offering of a chocolate candy bunny.

"You know I can't eat that!" she said. "I'm a diabetic!"

"Not any more," he responded. And he was right.

"When I checked my blood sugar level on the glucometer a little later, I was amazed," she said. "Dan's blood-sugar levels were higher than mine! Both of us were completely normal."

Karen Meyers is the sixth person in the state of Hawaii to successfully undergo transplantation

See "Transplant," page 8.

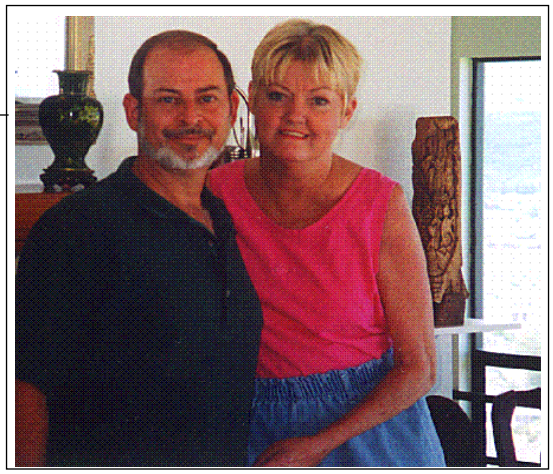


Photo by Dan Meyers

Civil engineering technician Dan Meyers, ET-PO, and his wife Karen in a self-portrait by Dan following Karen's successful January kidney and pancreas transplant operation, the sixth to be performed in Honolulu.

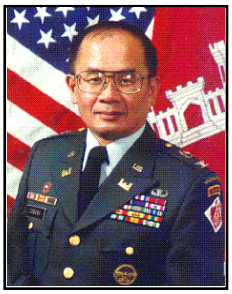
Inside

Map— new boundaries defined ...Page 5

USACE Deputy Commander visits Hawaii ...Page 9

Productive People ...Page 11

Persistence: *Good ideas are not adopted automatically. They must be driven into practice with courageous impatience.*
—Hyman Rickover, 1900-1986, U.S. admiral



By Col. Robin R. Cababa
POD Commander

Commander's Comment

Alaska transfer leads change in POD

I have spent much of this space in the past talking about change. Yet, never in my three-plus years here in POD have I ever seen us on the brink of so much change and transition and with so little time to enact it.

I'll try to simplify things, if I can. We are on the verge of two major developments: One is integrating Alaska District into our new division organization that has become the expanded POD; the other is separating our Pacific Ocean Division function from our Honolulu District function by creating two distinct and identifiable organizations. Additionally, we are working on our own campaign plan that supports that of the Chief's Vision for the Corps of Engineers.

Let's consider the first two transitions. The melding of Alaska District with POD is a done deal. It has happened. Unlike in the past, this is not a reversible proposal, nor is it one that has waited long on the planning to enact it. It is done, but we still need to change the supporting structures in our organization to make it work effectively. We are fortunate in having the tremendous cooperation on the part of Alaska District to assist in the transition. Just take a look at the smiling, aloha-shirt-clad faces on the front page of this newspaper and you will realize that this is a "friendly merger" in every sense of the word. And we want to keep it that way. We are also fortunate in having a visit by the Chief of Engineers this month to gain first-hand guidance from the top on how we should fit these pieces together. Lt. Gen. Joe Ballard will first visit JED and FED and then POD and HED. We should be able to get early-course corrections as we continue with the integration of Alaska into our overall POD operation.

The restructuring of POD/HED into separable distinct division and district organizations is our second challenge. It must be met in a manner that is coincidental — not incidental — with the assumption of Alaska's program. That makes it harder now, but easier in the long run because we won't have to restructure ourselves twice. We have grown accustomed to being both a division and a district, with most people wearing two hats, depending on what needed to be accomplished. While efficient, the price paid in the clear understanding of authority and accountability has been high. We are moving to a separate Pacific Ocean Division and a Honolulu District, both of which will have clear, distinct functions to perform. We will retain much of what was best about our old organization while improving command and control and accountability. That will put all our four districts in line with each other and our division in line with those on the Mainland and throughout the Corps of Engineers. It sounds easy enough, but it will likely be the hardest challenge we have faced in many years. No one should expect this to happen without a measure of personnel turmoil. We've been together as one combined organization too long for us to assume that to suddenly become separate and distinct will not come without pain. We will have to consider a number of separation scenarios — from the obvious structural separation to perhaps some physical separation as well.

> *"...this is a "friendly merger" in every sense of the word."*
> **—Col. Robin R. Cababa**

In both instances — the transfer of Alaska District and the separation of division and district — we have a deadline to complete a workable plan and submit it to headquarters by May 2, a short time frame to be sure. I'm confident that we can do this and am encouraged by the fast start. It's a fact that on March 31 there was little or nothing we could say about the Alaska transfer and the next day we couldn't say enough! So it goes when we live and work in the Pacific, several time zones and a calendar day removed from each other. We're used to dealing with distance and time to accomplish even the most difficult tasks in the most professional manner possible.

Finally, we are developing campaign plans at

See "Transfer," page 5.

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

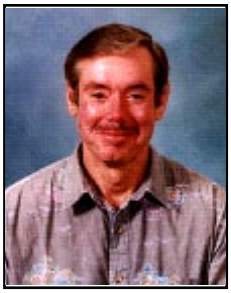
Division Commander . . . . . Col. Robin R. Cababa
Chief, Public Affairs . . . . . Larry Hawthorne
Editor . . . . . Alexander Kufel
Photographer . . . . . James Dung

This newspaper is printed on recycled paper.

Problems: *The chief cause of problems is solutions*.—**Eric Sevareid, journalist**

Opinion

A Fresh Look at CEFMS

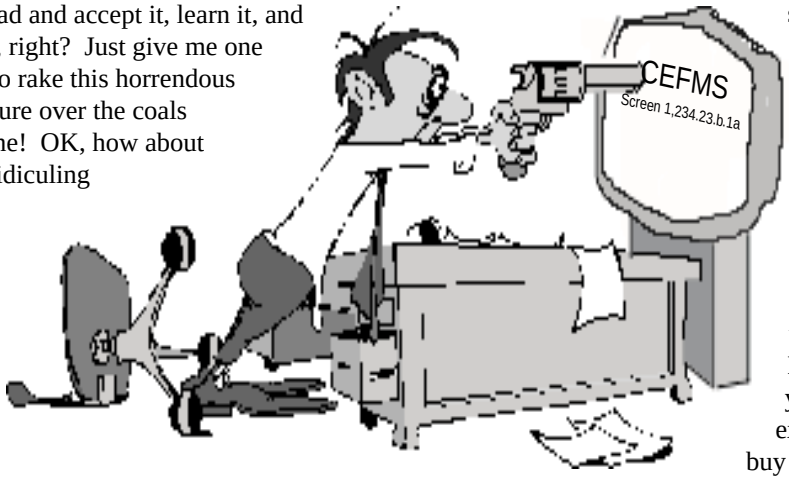


The View from Here
by Larry Hawthorne

Here's a quiz: What's the difference between the Hindenburg Explosion, Hurricane Iniki, and CEFMS?

You guys are really sharp! No fooling you. Most of you answered: "C'mon, Larry, everybody knows that Hurricane Iniki was a *natural* disaster and not *manmade*!"

So, OK, why spend time bashing CEFMS once again? We're stuck with it, right? Complaining about it won't do any good. Better to just go ahead and accept it, learn it, and get on with it, right? Just give me one good reason to rake this horrendous computer torture over the coals again. Just one! OK, how about the fact that ridiculing CEFMS one more time would be a whole bunch of fun. Now THAT has real meaning, don't you think?



So let's concentrate on what would serve to make this financial management system a more usable, friendly system. Well, we could scrap it and start over, but that has already been considered. Now that we've had the opportunity to make CEFMS a part of our daily lives — much like eating, breathing, and sleeping, CEFMS comes next — let's take an objective look at what we can do to make it work for us.

Scrap it and start over.

Now, that's not fair and I'll try to refrain from a suggestion that the system is ABSOLUTELY WORTHLESS.

I have one positive, constructive suggestion for CEFMS. When CEFMS version 1.01 hits the streets, I hope it has an "undo" command. That would make life simpler, n'est-ce pas? Many of us have spent much more time than we should trying to undo something that CEFMS disapproves of.

For example, I was doing a reimbursement voucher for a TDY I took during the blackout and got caught in the CEFMS time and distance warp. This happens when a traveler has the temerity to travel outside of CONUS and the software not only doesn't recognize this, but if it had its say, it wouldn't even allow it (buy American!). If you forget to let CEFMS know that you're O (as in OCONUS) instead of C (as in CONUS) CEFMS has a bad habit of holding you captive until you tell it the truth. But, since the truth can only be told several blocks earlier, and since CEFMS won't let you return to that block until you confess this dirty little lie you're trying to perpetrate, well, it's time to reboot and start all over again. An undo command, or at least an "I'm sorry and I promise never to lie again" command would be helpful here.

It gets even better when people travel to FED or JED, especially when they return to Hawaii. I mean, you don't really expect CEFMS to buy your story that you left Tokyo or Seoul and arrived back in Hawaii the same day an hour before you took off, now do you? Get real! This software didn't just fall off a turnip truck, you know.

I know I speak for all of us when I pass along our heartfelt gratitude to those who have come to Hawaii, endured the personal inconvenience and depravation of having to live out of a suitcase in a Waikiki beach hotel, just to help us through this transitional period while we learn CEFMS and a better way to conduct our business. They have served, and continue to serve, in an exemplary manner on our CEFMS help desk. I pass along all our thoughts when I say, STAY HERE AND NEVER LEAVE US ALONE WITH THIS GAWDAWFUL BAG OF MIND-ROTTING MENU COMMANDS!

Enough, already. I'm being petty, and I apologize. There are so many good things that can come from this automated system and I'm going to spend the rest of my space here talking about the positive things that CEFMS can add to our daily working lives.

.... As an acronym, CEFMS is easy to pronounce.

Enthusiasm: *Every great and commanding moment in the annals of the world is the triumph of some enthusiasm.*
—Ralph Waldo Emerson, American author

Alaska...

Continued from Page 1

to eight. It required realigning the staffs of four division offices into two, each under control of a single division commander. The headquarters of the North Central and Ohio River divisions were combined to form the new Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, with headquarters located in Chicago and Cincinnati. The North Pacific and Missouri River divisions combined to form the new Northwestern Division, headquartered in both Portland, Ore. and Omaha. Also, the New England Division was converted to the New England District and now reports to the North Atlantic Division Commander in New York City.

The realignment of Alaska out of North Pacific Division and into POD puts the military mission more in step with POD's major customers in the Asia-Pacific region. Planners had argued for years that major commands in the Pacific like US Army Pacific and Pacific Air Forces would be better served if their component commands in Alaska were serviced by the same Corps division headquarters as their units in Hawaii, Japan and other Pacific areas. With Corps district boundaries decided by natural watersheds rather than military command lines, the inconsistencies of authority on the military side continued, at least in the case of Alaska. The transfer to POD clarifies the military engineering chain of authority in the Pacific.

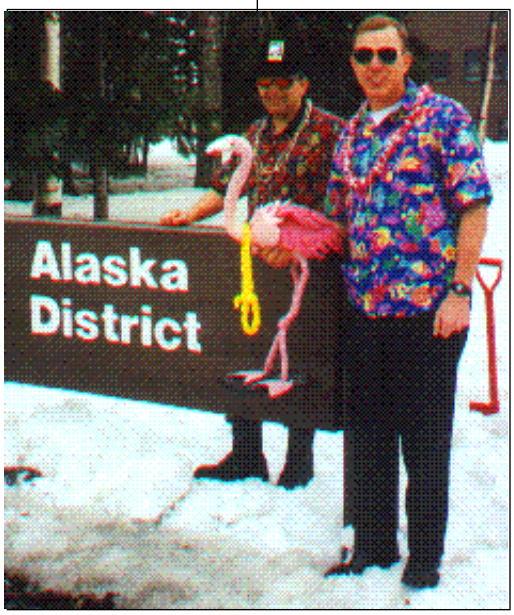


Photo by AED

Neither sleet, nor rain, nor snow, nor lack of authentic Hawaiian icons (thus the pink Florida flamingo) can keep Col. Peter Topp, Alaska District Commander (holding bird), and Lt. Col. Chris Turletes, Deputy Commander, from celebrating their first Aloha Friday as part of the Pacific Ocean Division. Rumor is that Lt. Col. Turletes, whose most recent assignment prior to AED was here in POD with the PPM Directorate, had opened an Aloha Shirt Loan Closet for the day.

The reduction to eight divisions was mandated by federal law. Public Law 104-206, Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 1997, required the Corps to reduce its number of divisions and begin that process April 1. An earlier plan proposed last year to reduce the number to eight divisions had POD disbanding as a division and joining an expanded South Pacific Division as the Honolulu District. That plan was scrapped and replaced by the one that has been implemented. It has POD remaining as a division and picking up Alaska as its fourth district, while South Pacific Division picks up the program of Albuquerque District who formerly reported to Southwestern Division, headquartered in Dallas. In other district reporting changes, St. Paul and Rock Island districts now report to the new Mississippi Valley Division. The law required that all remaining divisions have at least four districts under them.

Lt. Gen. Joe Ballard, Chief of Engineers, said the new structure does more than meet the letter of the law.

"It optimizes support to military forces, minimizes district realignments and maintains geographical balance," he said.

POD had come close to adding Alaska in the past (see related story page 5). At least two earlier reorganization proposals had Alaska District transferring to become a part of POD. In November 1992, the division came within a weekend of adding Alaska as a fourth district. The Chief of Engineers, Lt. Gen. Arthur Williams, announced on Wednesday, Nov. 18, 1992, in Washington that the district would be "cut over" to POD the following Monday. However, over the next several days political opposition mounted to the plan. The plan included closure of divisions headquartered in Chicago (NCD), Dallas (SWD), New York (NAD), Omaha (MRD), and San Francisco (SPD). By the end of the weekend the entire plan was dead and Congress had requested the Corps reconsider its reorganization proposal. Subsequent plans followed, but this is the first to be enacted.

POD Commander Col. Robin R. Cababa said the addition of Alaska "makes sense" and can work from a number of standpoints.

"Our military customers have wanted us for years to make this change, because they have been confused at times by our own chain of authority. They will welcome this change," he said.

Beauty: *The most beautiful thing in the world is, of course, the world itself.*—**Wallace Stevens, American poet**

Transfer...

Continued from Page 2

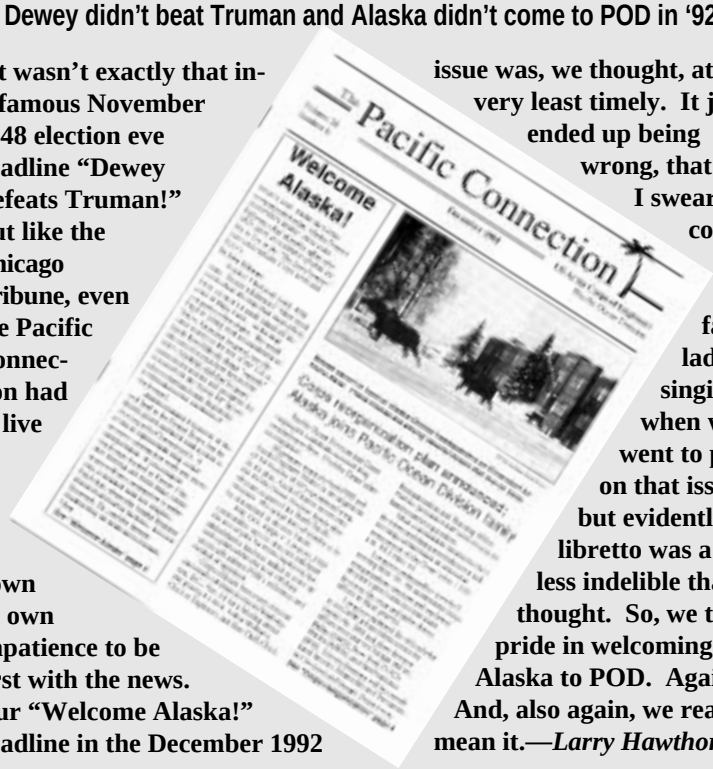
the division and operations plans at the district to support the Chief's Vision and the USACE campaign plan. Our campaign plan contains the process by which we will support the Chief's Vision. We will manage our efforts and the efforts of our districts using the Chief's seven sub-strategies.

Much of our effort in POD 2010 still applies and can fit nicely into the Chief's Vision. Concepts like moving to a regional organization, a matrix operation and clearly establishing a process for change and decision-making — these are principles developed in our 2010 Plan that still have relevance and potential. We'll be working to integrate them into our campaign plan and further planning as we perfect the expanded, separate division and four districts.

I've only scratched the surface on the tremendous transition that confronts us. I haven't even mentioned the normal command changes that will occur. Some will be routine, some will be not so routine and will be command changes that we haven't seen in POD in quite awhile. We certainly do live in "interesting times." Exciting times as well. You didn't really think it would be any other way, now did you?

Welcome Alaska!...Again

Dewey didn't beat Truman and Alaska didn't come to POD in '92

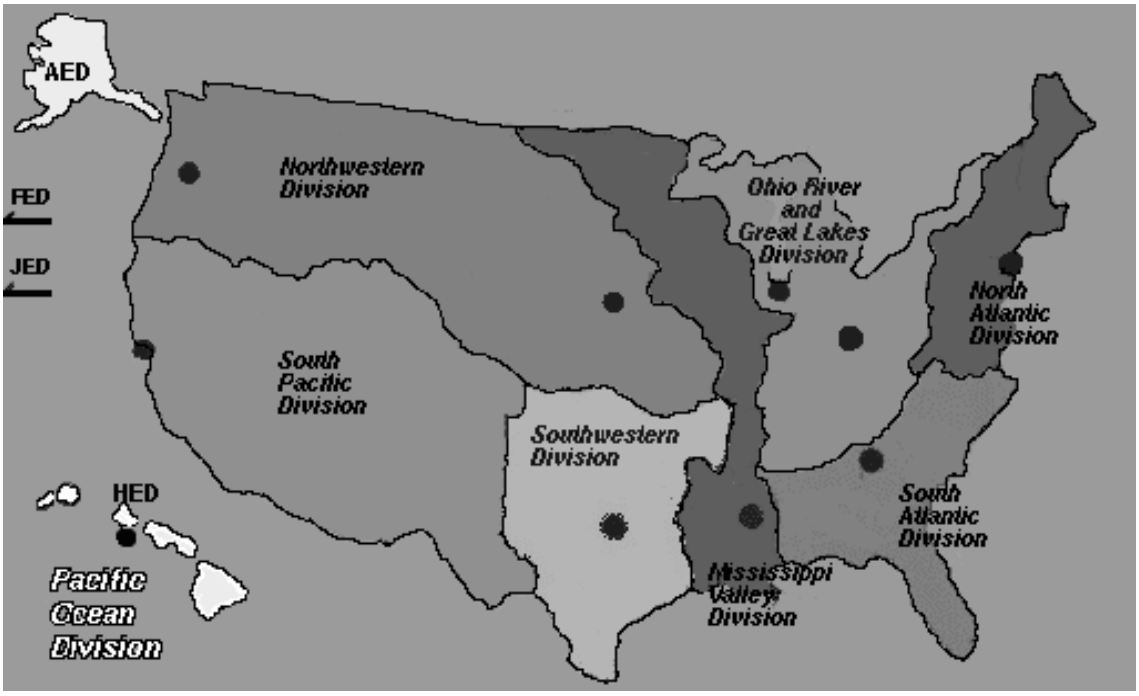

The Pacific Connection

Welcome Alaska!

Corps reorganization plan announced: Alaska joins Pacific Ocean Division family

It wasn't exactly that infamous November 1948 election eve headline "Dewey Defeats Truman!" But like the Chicago Tribune, even the Pacific Connection had to live down its own impatience to be first with the news. Our "Welcome Alaska!" headline in the December 1992 issue was, we thought, at the very least timely. It just ended up being wrong, that's all. I swear I could hear the fat lady singing when we went to press on that issue, but evidently her libretto was a lot less indelible than we thought. So, we take pride in welcoming Alaska to POD. Again! And, also again, we really mean it.—*Larry Hawthorne*

New boundaries defined in division restructuring



Map (not to scale) depicting revised division boundaries. Pacific Ocean Division is shown in white, with its four districts named. AED (Alaska Engineer District) comprises 586,000 square-miles of territory, one-sixth of the total land area of the United States.

Happiness: *Most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be.*
—Abraham Lincoln, American president

9th Annual POD Retiree Day

Retiree Day gathering brings

(L-R) Kaye Hokama (OC), Harvey Minsky (ET), Evelyn Kam (CO), Sharon Nakasone (PP), Lt. Col. Todd Barnes (HED Muratsuchi (HED), Clara Murasaki (RE), Phyllis Shibuya (RM), Sadie Inouye (RE), Fred Hirayama (CO), Susan Shimabuk (HAO), Bob Thomas (LO), Barbara Okubo (DDE), Bessie Uchiumi (ET), Col. Karl Piotrowski (DDE, top), Col. Cababa Commander), Bill Paresa (CO), Danny Buell (LO alum), Henry Sato (ET), Sue Yamamoto (RM), Clarice Choy (RM), Stanle Dang (ET), Barbara Tillery (CT), Lenora Endrina (PP), Col. James Kennedy (top), Milton Smith (CO alum), Virgie Chong (g Carol Walker (RM), Chiye Takishita (RE). Not shown: John Pelowski (ET).

(Above) Former executive secretaries Maxyne Matsuoka and Barbara Okubo comment on changes in the command offices, accompanied by provost marshal Maj. Linda Fischer and Jane Shimonishi, secretary to the POD commander.
(Left) First-time attendees Lt. Col. James Muratsuchi and Lt. Col. Todd Barnes receive their lifetime membership "ohana" cards from Col. Cababa during lunch hour festivities.
(Right) Marsha Phillips, IM, dances to "I ho'i ka pili" as part of the lunchtime entertainment program.
(Far right) Led by committee person Justina Bagasani, RM-B, retirees show that they too can dance the "macarena" as well as the younger generation.

Compliments: *The compliment that helps us on our way is not the one that is shut up in the mind, but the one that is spoken out.* **—Mark Twain, American writer**

POD 'ohana' together again

O), Maxyne Matsuoka (ET), Janet Setogawa (CO), Lt. Col. Jim uro (CO), Shizuo Shintaku (CO), Esther Young (CO), Ellen Higa (POD Commander), Bobby Chong (ET), Lt. Col. Graves (HED ey Glatt (RM), Wally Hong (ET), Marian Yamashiro (ET), David guest), Elsie Kamikawa (RM), Thomas Tam (CO), Rose Lee (ET),

(Left) Barbara Tillery chats with her former boss, Joe Swift, Director of Contracting

Story and photos by Jim Dung

Always a nice way to renew old friendships, the 9th Annual POD Retiree Day activities were no exception as laughter, hearty greetings and happy "talk story" times prevailed throughout the day. Following the welcome and update orientation program by POD commander Col. Robin R. Cababa and HED commander Lt. Col. Ralph Graves, lots of extra time was included throughout the morning so retirees could reminisce with each other and visit their former work places.

An excellent luncheon at the Tripler Officers' Club included a program of entertainment and games. A lot of thanks to all the committee members, headed by Vernon Kajikawa, HR, who made this another memorable day.

Inspiration: *The most beautiful thing in the world is, precisely, the conjunction of learning and inspiration.*—**Wanda Landowska, concert musician**

Transplant...

Continued from Page 1

of both kidney and pancreas. With a healthy kidney, she is no longer on dialysis; with a healthy pancreas, she is no longer a diabetic. There is renewed feeling in her legs, which had become quite numb preceding the surgery. Deterioration of her vision has been arrested. Her recovery following an operation of this magnitude was deemed by doctors nothing short of amazing.

Karen will not be medication-free. Although the operation was in early January and she is now out of the hospital, she limits her contact with other people to family members and her doctors because her immune system is still quite vulnerable.

In a medical turn of events, because the new organs will require continued doses of immunosuppressant medications to keep them from being rejected by her body, she has traded one physical condition for another. Now, however, she can eat candy.

Candy is a universal treat. To nearly everyone, that is, except persons with diabetes mellitus, a chronic disease that can become incurable that affects the pancreas and creates an inability in the body to process carbohydrates, fats, and excess sugars. For them, the sugar and fat in a single chocolate Easter bunny means excessive thirst, hunger and urination, weakness, shakiness and, possibly, coma and death. A particularly devastating side affect of Type I, or juvenile-onset, diabetes is kidney failure.

Two years ago the Meyers' saw certain disaster coming and placed Karen's name on the waiting list for both kidney and pancreas. Kidney transplants have become relatively common. The combination of pancreas and kidney transplants, however, is rare and considered experimental.

Seen from a distance, the prospect of continuing life through the replacement of body parts may seem unnatural, even gruesome.

"The idea of organ transplants is abhorrent to some people," said Dan Meyers. "In many ways it's a taboo subject. So taboo that people shrink away from talking about it, let alone considering it as a possibility. We want to change people's thinking. Obviously, Karen and I and our daughter, Carianne, 24, came to understand that it was so desirable as to be worth the risk. We felt that Karen still had something to offer the world that the operation would make possible... that would otherwise be lost."

"It wasn't at all that I wanted to prolong my life," said Karen. "I really didn't understand how serious my condition was until I happened to notice the stress reflected on the faces of the people around me. It was the beginning of December. There I was, undergoing kidney dialysis five hours a day, three times a week, and getting worse. I was just living from moment to moment. During that period, thoughts of a transplant operation were always in my mind. It was my only hope."

Carianne came home from college in New Hampshire for the holidays. Karen was pretty much confined to the house, so Christmas and New Year's were very subdued. Finally, Jan. 5, Carianne told her mother that she thought they both needed to go out. They would take the wheelchair and spend a few hours in a large bookstore. They had a wonderful time.

When they reached home, Dan was standing in the driveway with a concerned look on his face. Acting very formal, he didn't say hello, good-bye or greet them at all.

"Do you have a cold?" he asked. "Are you feeling okay?"

Then it all came out in an excited jumble. Dr. Alan Cheung, the transplant doctor from Honolulu's St. Francis hospital had just called.

"They have a match," said Dan. "The doctor wants to know if you have a cold that would affect your ability to receive the new organs. He wants to know if you still want to go through with the transplant operation. If not, they'll ask somebody else. They need to know immediately."

Karen said that the implications of those simple questions were enormous. It not only meant that someone whose healthy organs matched her body's requirements had died, and that Dr. Cheung had successfully retrieved the organs, but that she was at a crossroads. The two-year wait was over and she was now hours away from either a renewed life, or death. Transplanted organs have to be reconnected as quickly as possible, or they become unusable.

Continued on next page

Solutions:

There are no such things as incurables; there are only things for which man has not found a cure.
—Bernard M. Baruch, U. S. statesman

Continued from preceding page

"Frightened silly, I thought to myself, 'This isn't fair to Dan and Carianne. I've got to do what I can to end this misery without making things worse for them,'" said Karen. She summoned all of her courage and said, "Give me the phone."

Following the operation, Karen said that it was a bizarre experience to wake up realizing that inside her body was somebody else's kidney and pancreas.

"I hate to say it," she said. "But I experienced 'buyer's remorse.' I was full of regrets. Husband Dan and Dr. Cheung were quick to remind her that feelings of psychological depression were side effects of the massive doses of immuno-suppressant medications and steroids that she was taking intravenously and that the operation itself had gone very well. That didn't change anything, she still felt sad.

Three and a half months later, Karen Meyers is no longer suffering from kidney failure, is no longer a diabetic, is no longer depressed.

"It was a miracle," she said. "My doctor drives around with a bumper sticker that says, 'Don't take your organs to heaven. God knows we need them here.' I couldn't agree more. Please tell my story."

Donors Wanted

April is Donor Awareness Month

Organ Donor Center of Hawaii
1000 Bishop Street, Suite 302
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Telephone: (808) 599-7630
Neighbor Islands Toll Free 800-695-6554

Dispelling myths associated with organ donation

The following was compiled from information provided by the Mickey Mantle Foundation:

Myth 1: *The doctors will let my loved one die in order to get the organs.* False. In order for organs to be recovered, the individual must be declared brain dead. Following brain death, respiratory and circulatory functions would cease immediately without mechanical support.

Myth 2: *Some religions are against organ donation; there cannot be a normal funeral for an organ donor; incomplete bodies are not admitted to heaven.* False. No major religions are opposed to organ donation. In fact, many believe that it is the person's soul that passes to a new life and the body itself is "matter" that will return to dust. Donation does not interfere with open casket services. Generally speaking, amputees are not considered ineligible for "heaven."

Myth 3: *Organ donation is expensive; there is a lot of money to be made selling organs for transplant.* False. There is no cost to donate organs. The donor's family will not have to pay for any charges related to recovering the organs. Medicare currently covers many of the associated costs, with private insurers and recipients covering other costs. Transplantation ethics do not allow for the sale of human organs. Organ donation is a gift, a gift of life.

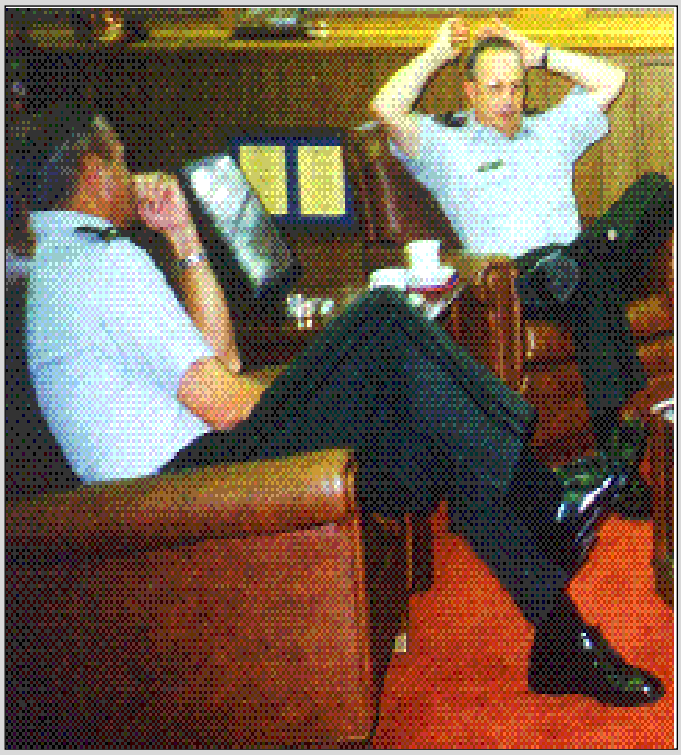


Photo by Alexander Kufel

USARPAC Commander Lt. Gen. William M. Steele and USACE Deputy Commander Maj. Gen. Albert J. Genetti take time to chat during Genetti's early April visit to Hawaii. USARPAC is a major POD customer.

Curiosity: *Civilization was born of curiosity and can be kept alive no other way.*—**Louis L'Amour, American writer**

Construction Criteria Base (CCB) on the Network

Ruby Mizue, IM, reports that CCB is an electronic construction library published by the National Institute of Building Sciences. It contains the complete texts of over 10,000 construction-related documents from 17 federal agencies and 125 industry organizations. The information is completely indexed and easy to search, copy, print or just read on-screen. For more information on the contents, visit the CCB website at:

http://www.ccb.org.

CCB is available on the POD LAN for use by all POD employees. IM installs updates quarterly. Instructions for installing and accessing this networked product can be found in the E-Library mailbox, ccMail Bulletin Board.

The installation is limited to PC's; however, Mac users and those who prefer to search CCB databases on the Web, can do so at the URL above with a password provided in the E-Library instructions. If you need assistance or have questions, contact Ruby Mizue at 438-8348.

Don't forget to check out Engineering Information Village on the Web during the April free trial period for Corps employees at:

http://www.ei.org/eihomepage/village/intro.html.

Instructions for accessing this site are also provided in messages posted in the E-Library mailbox.

Photo by Peter Galloway

Comet lingers in night sky. ***Comet Hale-Bopp has been providing spectacular night views for the lucky person able to see it without clouds blocking the way. The persistence of ecologist (and amateur astronomer) Peter Galloway, ET-PP, pays off in this photograph taken from Mokuleia on the north shore of Oahu just after sunset in early April. Film exposure was for about eight minutes.***

Editor's Note

The ***Pacific Connection*** is *your* connection to co-workers within the Division. Share your activities.

CCMAIL: Kufel, Alexander, POD01, CEPOD-PA.

Telephone: 438-9564/438-9862. FAX: 438-8318

POD has launched its own home page on the World Wide Web. Find it at: http://www.pod.usace.army.mil

PRODUCTIVITY CORNER

Ten things you learn about computers from the movies

1. All monitors display two-inch high letters.

2. High-tech computers, such as those used by NASA, the CIA, have easy-to-understand graphical interfaces.

3. You can gain access to any information you want by simply typing "ACCESS ALL OF THE SECRET FILES" on any keyboard. Likewise, you can infect a computer with a destructive virus by simply typing, "UPLOAD VIRUS."

4. All computers are connected. You can access the information on the villain's desktop computer, even if it's turned off.

5. A hacker can get into the most sensitive computer in the world and guess the secret password in two tries.

6. Any PERMISSION DENIED has an OVERRIDE function.

7. Complex calculations and loading of huge amounts of data will be accomplished in under three seconds. In the movies, modems transmit data at two gigabytes per second.

8. No matter what kind of computer disk it is, it'll be readable by any system you put it into. All application software is usable by all computer platforms.

9. Computers never crash during key, high-intensity activities. Humans operating computers never make mistakes under stress.

10. Programs are fiendishly perfect and never have bugs that slow down users.

—*from the Internet*

Fun with office machines

U.S. Office Equipment, a Chicago office machinery retailer, recently ran a nationwide contest to seek out examples of copier abuse. The winners:

•In one office, employees used a copier's glass surface to warm pastries; the melting sugar oozed into the machine.

•A worker let his pet gerbils escape their cage; they chewed through the back of a copier and built a nest inside.

•One fellow tried to copy coins, which were gobbled up like an automatic piggy bank before stopping the machine.

•An Illinois sheriff's deputy, frustrated by a copier's electronic instructions about paper jams and toner levels, simply took out his gun and blew a hole in the damn thing.

—*Fortune, March 3, 1997*

Brotherhood: *On this shrunken globe, men can no longer live as strangers.*—**Adlai E. Stevenson, American statesman**

PRODUCTIVE PEOPLE

Kit Lee

Hometown: Honolulu
Years with Corps: 12
Works in: Programs and Project Mgt.

A supervisory computer engineer for IM (Information Management) detailed to PPM as a program manager in the Support For Others program is how Kit Lee describes himself. That's only part of the story.

Lee said that because he has had experience in both construction management and engineering, it's only natural that he would have interest and understanding in diverse areas.

"My parents liked to say that they wouldn't be around forevever," said Lee. "So I learned to be self-sufficient at a fairly early age. I try to instill the same values in my boys."

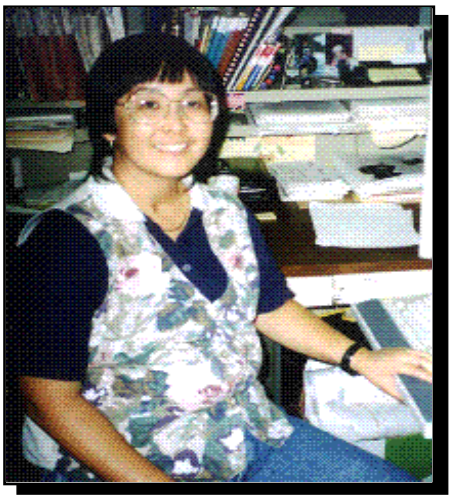
Together with Jennifer, his wife of 12 years, Lee spends a lot of time with his sons Robert, 8, and Kevin, 3.

"We go to the beach together, and Robert plays soccer. But, I find that if I spend a few minutes learning about the video games they like so much, it makes them more receptive to listening and learning about the things I want them to know."

Lee describes parenting in terms of teaching children to recognize possibilities.

"It was only in college that I realized I might have what it takes to be an engineer. I want my kids to be successful," he said. "But I want them to be the ones to determine in what, and how they're going to get there. I think they'll be stronger and better for it."

Kit is making POD more productive.



Karen Chang

Hometown: Honolulu
Years with Corps: 11
Works in: Hawaii Resident Office

Describing decisions she made on her way to becoming a civil engineer, Karen Chang communicates that she has great love for her family, older and younger generations alike, and concern for keeping things in balance.

Thus, she attended the University of Hawaii at a time when women did not really become engineers because she didn't want to place a heavy economic burden on her parents by studying out of state. Nowadays, she is involved in her own daughter's piano lessons, team sports and other activities.

"I don't want to be one of those parents who drop off their kids at practice or whatever, then disappear," said Chang. "My husband and I are both really involved in Stefanie's activities. She's eight. Sometimes we're coach, or referee. Sometimes I'm even the 'team mom.'"

Raised in Kalihi Valley, Chang talks proudly of Farrington High and the values she learned as a child: honesty, integrity, industriousness, respect. For her daughter to grow into a good adult, she said that she has had to learn to be a good parent.

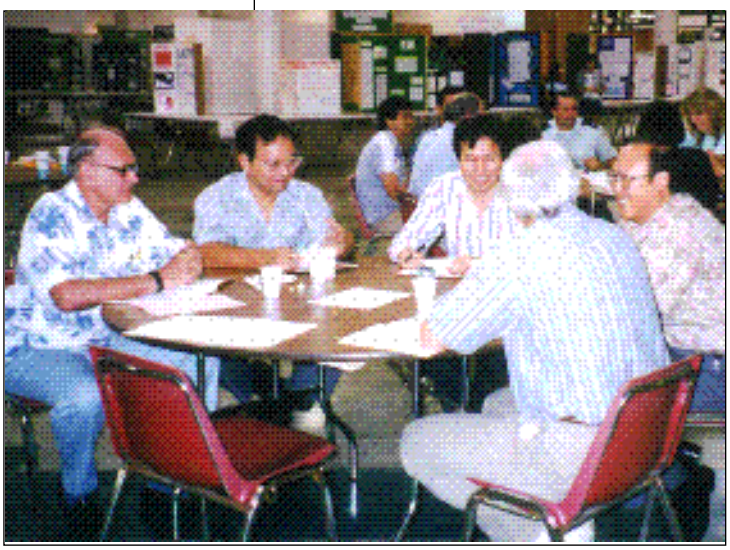
Chang noted that the Corps is a special place to work simply because there are so many people willing to work as hard as they can to do a good job.

Karen is making POD more productive.

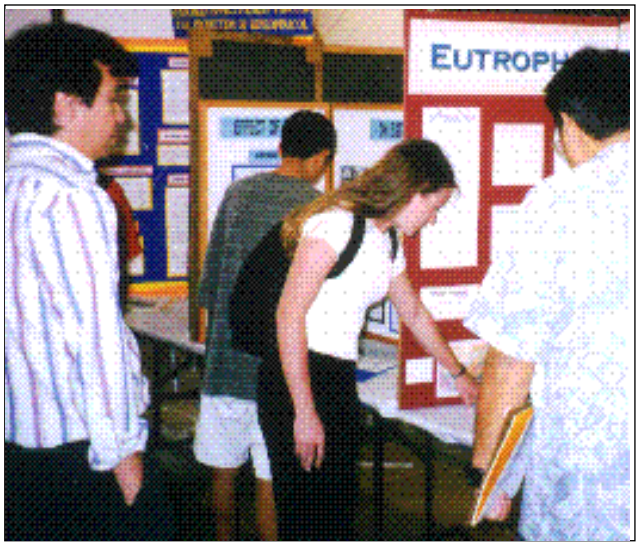
Reading: *Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.*—**Joseph Addison, English writer, statesman**

Annual fair sees wide variety of projects

POD presents science awards



POD once again presented awards to young scientists in the 40th Annual State of Hawaii high school Science and Engineering Fair held in Honolulu in early April. Overall winner was 12th grader Elizabeth F. Young of Waialua High for her project "Eutrophication in Lake Wilson." Category winners were Blair Yamashita, Kapaa High and Intermediate, for his study of contaminated soils; Ben Schmidel, Hawaii Preparatory Academy, for his project exploring artificial communication; Francis Robert Gress, Kalaheo High, for "The Effect of Kinetic Energy Munitions on Simulated Tank Armor"; and Craig Koyanagi, Leilehua High, for his biological study of fish in Moanalua Stream.



(Above) Making the final pick of the overall winner out of five categories in Senior Research are Bill Lennan, ET-PP, Roland Chong, ET-TA,Stan Wakumoto, ET-TE, Kit Lee, PP-P, and Tom Lichte, ET-EH. Not shown is Peter Galloway, ET-PP, who was busy taking the photo. Displayed at Blaisdell Center exhibition hall, the Science Fair projects are visible in the background.

(Right) Overall winner in the Corps' prize in the Senior Research division, Elizabeth F. Young,Waialua High explains her project "Eutrophication in Lake Wilson" to Stan Wakumoto and Roland Chong. Young received a silver medallion for science and engineering excellence and a $100 savings bond. There were 87 projects competing in five categories in the Senior Research division. Category winners received a certificate and a $50 savings bond.

Division Shorts

Congratulations to **Lt. Col.Garrett Sullivan**, JED deputy commander, and his wife, **Susan**, on the birth of their son, Ryan Linck Sullivan, March 26, 1997 at Yokota Air Base. Ryan entered this world weighing 8 pounds 12 ounces and was 21-1/2 inches long. By all reports, both Susan and Ryan are doing well.

Noteworthy: Winning the Active-Army category in the FY97 Army Communities of Excellence competition was the **U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii**. Runner-up was the **34th Support Group in Seoul.** Both communities are heavily supported by Pacific Ocean Division engineers.

Mark your calendar!

POD
Organization Day
is scheduled for Fri., June 13, 1997 at Bellows Beach Park in Waimanalo.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of POD.