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# THE ROCKETEER

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1996

NAVAL AIR WEAPONS STATION, CHINA LAKE

Vol. 52, No. 10

Thrift Savings Open Season 7  
Network series continues 10

## RIFed employees find hope in PPP

By Kathi Ramont  
Staff Writer

You got a RIF notice. What happened next? Were you one of the "lucky" ones who was placed within the organization? Or were you told you were going to lose your job and should register for the Priority Placement Program?

Let's presume that you've picked yourself up off the floor and recovered from the shock of losing your job. You've gone to the Human Resources Department and registered with Monica Hewston and Jean Simoneau for the PPP. Now what do you do?

According to Hewston and Simoneau, the worst thing you can do is sit back and wait for them to get you a job. The clock is ticking they say. "You can't sit in your office and wait for the computer to find you a job," said Simoneau. "You have to come and see us, talk to us. We'll listen to your worries and concerns. We can't tell you what to do, but we can give you lots of information. Work with us — we're here to help."

Hewston and Simoneau are working the PPP for both sites. As of May 6, 27 of 188 employees who were told that they were to "go out the gate" (AKA separation), plus two who were scheduled for change to lower grade, have been placed in positions at other government facilities. They've successfully placed eight people from China Lake and 21 from Point Mugu. Since Point Mugu has more DoD activities in the commuting area than China Lake, that is opening up the job market to a larger area and is helping to place those people faster than at China Lake.

One person who said he was very happy with Hewston and Simoneau's efforts is Wally Holcum, an electrician in the Public Works Department. He received a RIF separation notice and was afraid he wouldn't be placed in the bump and retreat process here at China Lake. He said that every time he's dropped by their office, in Room 211, they've been there to help. He was in their office last

Please see PPP, Page 12

## Boneyard cleanup: China Lake pioneers another technology

Materials Recovery Program removes range eyesores at bargain basement cost

By Barry McDonald  
Editor

Five man-years of effort for just over \$14,000 is a bargain at five times the price. Throw in clearing and returning to nature some 15 acres of eyesore boneyards, hazardous waste removal, useful equipment and materials returned to service, and discovery of historical artifacts, and the bargain becomes a bonanza.

These are the numbers for the first full accounting year (fiscal 1995) of operation of the boneyard cleanup effort by the Materials Recovery Program, which is now located in the Supply Department.

The program began in June 1994 on the premise that proceeds from the sale of scrap and reusable items would perpetuate the program until all boneyard and other old storage areas had been cleaned up. Dallas Allen, head of the program, and a small team of light-duty employees from Public Works first attacked a 10-acre boneyard at Charlie (C) Range. Since then they have cleared another five-acre holding area of one-time potential target vans at "C" Range and two-thirds of the boneyard at Little Baker (LB) Range. They plan to clear out a building at Armitage Field and have requests for their services at other sites on Station.

The initial site was cleared in about three months. Some of the equipment and material was snatched up by codes who otherwise would have had to buy it new. The rest was taken to a staging area at Charlie Tower. There it was sorted into items that could be sold through the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO); items of historical value; and various types of scrap metal. Some of the electronic devices contained hazardous components, which were properly removed before the remains were thrown on the scrap heap.

When the dust had settled on FY95 accounting, the proceeds from sealed bid sales by DRMO amounted to nearly \$120,000 for some 115,000 pounds of copper; 200,000 pounds of

Please see CLEANUP, Page 13



Photo by Terry Pascarella, S&TD

RECLAIMING acreage for the desert, the third crew in the Materials Recovery Program includes (l-r) Cecil Laing, Charles Johnson, Dale Jorgensen and Dave Larson. In background is a Caterpillar with a special attachment that is being used to cut up old vans for scrap.

## Two China Lake co-op employees get national honors

It's starting to become a tradition — having a China Lake co-op student named to receive a Department of the Navy Cooperative Education Recognition Award. Last year Linda Van de Weitgraven, a support services specialist in charge of the Salt Wells Trouble Desk, received the award in the Administrative Category. Mark Decker, took the award in the Scientific and Engineering Category in 1991, and Eun-Joo Gray, in 1992.

This year on April 3, Nikki Acevedo and Matt Boggs, traveled to the Pentagon to receive awards in the Administrative and S&E categories, respectively. Their supervisors, Stuart Blashill and Brent Teeter and Catherine Rogers, Co-op Program

coordinator, were also in Washington for the presentations, which were made in conjunction with the Nathaniel Stinson Equal Employment Opportunity Awards.

The award was established in 1989 by the chief of naval operations as a means to recognize cooperative education students who have demonstrated exceptional performance during their work or academic phases of the Cooperative Education Program.

Acevedo served as secretary for the Propulsion-Control Integration Section, of the Weapons/Targets Department, while completing her associate degree in business office technology at

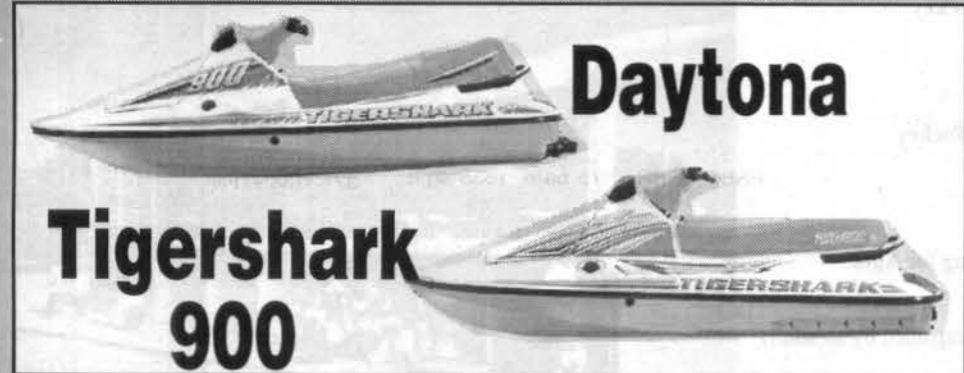
Please see CO-OPS, Page 11



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### Direct donations only income

## Help support fund drive efforts of China Lake's Navy Marine Corps Relief Society this month

By Kathi Ramont  
 Staff Writer

In the first four months of 1996, China Lake's Navy Marine Corps Relief Society has given \$2,100 in direct grants, and loaned more than \$18,000 to active duty military, their families and retirees who were in need of immediate cash for emergency purposes.

According to Joanne Miller, co-chair of the local chapter, the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society is holding their annual fund drive this month. "We receive no federal money, nor any money from the base command to support the relief society," explained Miller. "All monies come from direct donations, through military allotment, or from WACOM's Thrift Shop."

In 1995, world-wide, the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society gave out over \$43M, in 83,000 financial cases, to needy individuals and families.

"Since we're such a small command, we never get in as much as we give out," continued Miller. "Last year China Lake gave out \$56,731, but only received \$15,000 from fund drive donations and \$6,300 from WACOM. We're hoping this year that everyone will give generously."

An important service of the society is new born health visit by a visiting nurse. Laura Jessup, R. N., who works at the Branch Medical Clinic, works with new parents and goes to the home to check on the new baby and mother.

"I check in with each new baby twice before they are six weeks old," said Jessup. "I weigh and measure them, check the heart beat. Among other things, I'm here to counsel new parents on immunizations and how to register for DEERS, I tell them who to call if they have questions and give out packets of information." Last year Jessup saw 146 babies.

In addition to cash loans and grants, the society can provide a new born layette worth \$75 for the new baby. They also have food bags available for those tough budget times, and will sit down with new parents, or any military member, and plan a realistic budget.

Located at the Family Service Center at 610 Blandy Ave., the society also has a free uniform shop. Office hours are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. The telephone number is 939-2921.

Fund drive chairman for NAWs is Lt. John Spencer, who can be reached at 939-4097. Other commands should contact their command master chief.

## MILITARY NEWS



Photo by Kathi Ramont

**PRETTY BABY**—Holding her 11-day-old daughter, Mikayla Abigail — born on April 27 — during her first home nurse visit is AOAN Stace Horworka, from the Weapons Test Squadron. At this visit Mikayla weighed in at a healthy 8 pounds, 5 ounces. Her father is AO1 Gary Horworka, formerly at China Lake, and now stationed at NAS Miramar. The entire Horworka family is moving to Virginia Beach, Va. in July. Navy Marine Corps Relief Society nurse Laura Jessup sees all babies born to military families in the Ridgecrest/China Lake area.

## Naval Reserve Support Unit 0176 has longevity in Beachboard and Witt

Then... Now...



Photo from China Lake 50th Anniversary poster



Photo by ATC Glenn Risley

**1981**—Above, former AD2 Joseph Beachboard, now a senior chief, assists Lt., now Commander, Stu Witt during pre-flight check in a T-38 aircraft. A few months after assisting the lieutenant, Petty Officer Beachboard joined the Naval Reserve NWC China Lake Support Unit 0176. Progressing through the ranks from maintenanceman to Division Leading Petty Officer, to Division Chief, to acting Division Officer, CS Beachboard is currently the Command's Senior Chief. As a member of the naval reserves, he was allowed to participate in the NAWs

Enlisted Air Warfare Specialist qualification program. He earned his wings in 1987, the first to earn them as a member of his reserve unit.  
**1996**—CS Joseph Beachboard was recently reenlisted by Cdr. Stu Witt, for six years, at a Reserve Unit 0176 meeting. With this six-year reenlistment, CS Beachboard has 26 years combined service time. Beachboard said he hopes to be selected for Master Chief, and possibly, Warrant Officer, before he retires from the Navy.



Photo by Kathi Ramont

**SCHOLARSHIPS**—This year, the Indian Wells Valley Council of Navy League is giving two \$500 scholarships for academic excellence. At a recent presentation in front of the Administration Building, Mary Lundstrom, representing her father, Archie Meyer, and Warren Seal, president of the IWVC of Navy League, awarded this year's Archie Meyer Memorial Scholarship to Sea Cadet Melissa Murphy. Seal also awarded a scholarship to Richard Martin of the Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps. Both students will be attending college in San Luis Obispo next fall. These awards recognize their academic excellence, community involvement and leadership abilities.



Photo by BT3 Brad Stevens

**JUMPING OUT** of a HH-1U helicopter over Echo Range, NAWC Para Ops personnel, PR2(FPJ) Mark Esposito calls the count down for student jumper PR3 Michael Pierce and instructor PR2 Charles Denton. This training exercise on May 1 was held to test and evaluate different types of parachutes and to train both junior and senior para specialists on how to properly jump from a helo or other aircraft and land safely. They were jumping from between 8,000 and 12,000 feet above the NAWC desert.

## FSC Happenings

### Sign up now for classes

Effective May 13 all clients must check in through the reception area before seeing the counselors, the financial assistant, the TAMP manager or using the computers.

This is mandatory. Also, all areas of the Family Service Center will be closed every day from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch with the exception of Navy-Marine Corps Relief, American Red Cross, Embry-Riddle University and University of Tennessee.

#### New classes

May 21, 5-6:30 p.m. Home Mortgages. Do you own a home? Are you thinking about buying one soon? In this class you will learn about computerized tracking and early payoffs, which can save you thousands of dollars in interest. Registration is required. Call Karen at 939-1018 by close of business May 20.

May 29, 5-6:30 p.m. Car Buying Strategies. Almost every service member will purchase a new or used car while on active duty. They will spend more of their disposable income on a car than on virtually anything else, except food and shelter. Get prepared for this major step by learning car buying strategies. Registration is required. Call Karen at 939-1018 by close of business May 28.

June 4-6, 5:30-10 p.m., Community First Aid and Safety Class. This is a two part class given by the American Red Cross at 610 Blandly, Room A. Registration is required. Please call Pat Baker at

939-3208 on Tuesday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

June 4, 5-6:30 p.m. ABC'S of home buying and selling. Buying or selling a home is the largest investment you will probably undertake in your life. Learn to analyze your needs; locate property; and make and accept offers. Learn about the types of available financing; mortgage contracts (how to understand them); closing costs; what a short sale is; and how to pay off your home early and save thousands of dollars in interest. Registration is required. Call Karen at 939-1018 by close of business June 3.

June 11, 1-5 p.m., DANTES Testing. This covers CLEP (College Level Examination Program) and DSSTs (DANTES Subject Standardized Tests). CLEP tests are usually for freshman and sophomore courses. DSSTs are comparable to the final or end-of-course exam in college or technical subjects. Testing is free to the military. Family members can use this service, but a fee of \$40 for CLEP and \$25 for DSSTs is charged. Registration is required. Call Joan at 939-0966 by close of business one week before testing date.

All classes will be held at the Family Service Center, 610 Blandly Ave., unless otherwise stated.

These classes are open to all military members and their families. Civilians and contractors are welcome on a "space available" basis.

### Every commitment has its limits

"Don't Tread on Me," "Semper Fidelis," and "Be All You Can Be."

These and similar mottos have motivated America's fighting men and women since the birth of the country. There was at least one occasion, however, when a motto nearly cost the military a recruit.

It happened during the Civil War

when a midwestern unit was forming under a regimental flag that would bear the words "Liberty or death."

One prospective recruit wasn't quite sure about that kind of commitment.

"Make it 'victory or pretty damned badly wounded' and I'm yours," he told the recruiter.

## All Faith Chapel Services

Equipment for the hearing impaired and nursery are available

#### Protestant

Sunday Worship Service, Main Chapel 10:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School, Sept. - May, 1008-10 Blandly & 1903-05 Mitscher 9:00 a.m.  
 Bible Study (East Wing), Sept. - June, Wednesday 11:30 a.m.  
 Men's Prayer Breakfast, East Wing, Thursday 6:00 a.m.  
 Adult Bible Study, East Wing, Thursday 7:00 p.m.

#### Jewish (446-3613 Messages)

Weekly Services, Friday, East Wing 7:30 p.m.  
 Adult Education, Oct. - June, Saturday, 1902 Dibb 10 a.m. - noon  
 Hebrew Classes, Oct. - June, Saturday, 1902 Dibb 2-5 p.m.  
 Religious School, Sept. - June, Sunday, 1902 Dibb 9 - 11 a.m.  
 Jewish Classes (when Rabbi is here).

Four years and up: Friday, 1902 Dibb 5 - 7 p.m.  
 Sunday, 1902 Dibb 9 - 11 a.m.

#### Roman Catholic

Sunday Mass, Main Chapel 9:00 a.m.  
 Daily Mass, Blessed Sacrament Chapel 11:35 a.m.  
 Confessions, Sundays 8:15 - 8:45 a.m.  
 Confessions, Weekdays By appointment  
 Religious Education Classes, Sept. - May, Sunday, 1002 Blandly, 1008-10 Blandly & 1903-05 Mitscher 10:30 a.m.  
 RCIA, St. Ann's School Library 8:15 - 9:45 p.m.

#### Islamic

Jumaa Prayer, Friday (1002 Blandly) 12 p.m.



Chaplain Patrick J. McCormick, LCdr., CHC, USN  
 Chaplain C. Allan Ford, Lt., CHC, USNR  
 Chaplain Steve Leapman, Lt., CHC, USNR  
 Peter Levi, student rabbi  
 Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
 939-3506  
 939-2773  
 939-3873

# REC BITS



MWR Management Team, NAWC, China Lake, CA

## Tickle your funny bone

Comedy night takes a new twist. An evening of hot laughter and cool waters await you May 31. Start your summer evening with a pool-side party at the Community Pool, 6:30 p.m. At 8:00 p.m. pool shuts down and adults (18 and over) enjoy live comedy excitement featuring Gary Cooper, Tommy Chunn and Paulara Hawkins on the Barefoot Lanai, located behind the NAWC Exhibit Center. Reservations are highly recommended. As always, military are free and all others pay \$6.00. Advance tickets are available at the Wreck Center. Swimming is free for ticket holding comedy customers. For details, call the Wreck Center at 939-8660.



Paulara Hawkins



Gary Cooper



Tommy Chunn

## Aqua fiesta Fridays

Don't forget to "splash" your week with a nightside pool party at Solar Pool and park area for music, dancing, food and of course a cool dip in the pool. Event is held every Friday from 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Summer feast is served from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Bring family and friends and beat the heat. For details, call Jenny Slater at 939-0756.

## Have a splash

Schedule of Events:  
 Friday, May 24  
 Opening day for the Community pool

Memorial day, Monday, May 27  
 Summer Blast Off at the Community pool  
 1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. fun & games during open swim

Tuesday, May 28  
 Military swim lesson sign-ups begin

Monday, June 3  
 DoD swim lesson sign-ups begin

Sports Department Summer Brochure is available loaded with program information for fitness, aquatics, intramural sports and special events. Pick yours up today at the Sports and Fitness Complex. For details, call 939-2334.

## Transform yourself

Sports & Fitness Complex has a special day for you on June 22 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Come see and talk to the experts about activities and programs available this summer. Contractors and program coordinators are present to answer questions and give demonstrations. Exhibitors include Ballet, Ball Room Dancing, Karate, Personal Physical Fitness Trainers, Aquatics, Aerobics and more. That's not all, a special book signing from one of our local authors on fitness, Stanley H. Karotis, "74 and still going strong through exercise." For details, call 939-2334.

## Seniors, live it up

Hey seniors. Looking to improve your overall strength, range of motion and quality of life? Join the Sports and Fitness Complex May 21 to June 22 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Tuesdays & Thursdays and 8:45 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. on Saturdays. Designed specifically for our seniors fitness needs. Instruction centers on cardio and resistance exercise and stretching. Learn proper biomechanics (safety) when doing resistance, cardio exercise and proper exercise levels for seniors. Q & A session is conducted at every session to meet individual needs. Fees are Military-\$70.00, DoD-\$80.00 and Community-\$90.00 (does not include membership fees). Instructor is Daryl Goode, personal trainer. For details, call Loy Vincent at 939-2841.

## Be a winner

Save up to 50% on some tickets by using your Wreck Center Information, Ticket and Tour Office. Tickets are available for all Southern California amusement theme parks, lodging, special promotions and more. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 12 midnight, Friday and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. and Sundays from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. What a deal! Savings, and availability seven days per week. Who could ask for more? For details, call the Wreck Center at 939-8660.



### Clip-n-Save

## We'll delight everyone

### Outdoor Multipurpose Rink Hours

(Located on Blandly Avenue near Schoeffel Field)

Tuesdays, Pickup Hockey  
 1900-2100  
 Ages 8-12, 1900  
 Ages 13-17, 2000

Thursdays, Pickup Hockey  
 1900-2100  
 Ages 8-12, 1900  
 Ages 13-17, 2000

Fridays, Open Skating for Ages  
 Eight and Up  
 1900-2130  
 (Younger ages if accompanied by an adult)

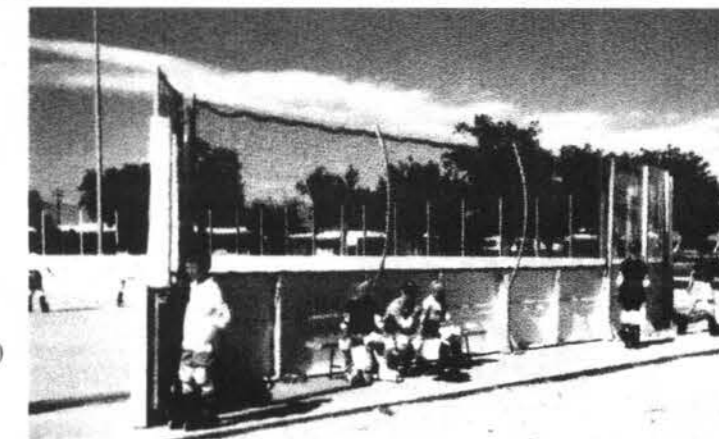
Sundays, Pickup Hockey for Adults  
 1900-2100

Hours are subject to change for clinics and special events.

For details, call Letta at 939-2909.

Skate Rental an additional \$1.00 and includes pads and helmet for pickup hockey.

Military, 50¢ DoD, \$1.00 Community, \$2.00



## Bowling spree

Hall Memorial Lanes announces its new summer bond and bowl league for adults and children up to 18 years. Summer is a great time to spend quality time with your children every Sunday at 1:00 p.m. League begins June 9. Fees are \$6.00 per person/per week. For details, call John Piroaska, Manager, at 939-3471.

## Rapid challenge

Adventure continues for active duty military on June 1, July 6 and August 3. Ride the mighty Kern River for only \$20.00 per run. Fee includes transportation, paddle, life vest, wet suit, splash jacket, and raft. If you make three runs, lunch is provided and rafting is free for the rest of the day. Reservations are required the Monday before trip date. For details, call Charmaine Haaland at 939-2010.

## Upcoming Single Military Events

Rock Climbing Trip to Fossil Falls on May 25 and Renaissance Pleasure Fair Excursion on June 8. For details, call Charmaine Haaland at 939-2010.



# COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Ridge Writers, local chapter of the California Writers' Club, will meet May 23 at 7 p.m. at the Maturango Museum. Vasquez Cabral, self-published mystery novelist, will be the guest speaker.

####  
The Global March for Jesus will be held on Saturday morning, May 25. In Ridgecrest the march will follow a route along China Lake Boulevard from Felspar south to the Kerr-McGee Civic Center. As plans are finalized in church groups throughout the Indian Wells Valley, details will be made available through the churches and local news media. For information call 446-3474.

####  
To help celebrate the Memorial Day weekend, Pearsonville Speedway has announced a two-for-one special for military personnel. All active duty, retired and reserve personnel with valid IDs may bring one guest to the May 25 show at no extra charge with their own paid admission. The race features Super

Street Stocks, Hobby Stocks, Factory Stocks, Factory Mini Stocks and Ladies and Mini Dwarfs. Race time is 7 p.m. Gates open at 5 p.m. For more information call 377-4585.

####  
Members of the China Lake Rotary Club have issued a call to golfers to join them for the First Rotary Golf Tournament at the China Lake Golf Course on Saturday, June 1. Play begins at 8 a.m. with a shotgun start at the course aboard NAWS. Proceeds benefit the Rotary Scholarship Program. For \$45 per person, linksters get green fees, share a cart with a team member, and are eligible for a number of prizes.

Entries should be mailed to Carol Beck at 510 S. China Lake Blvd., Ridgecrest, CA 93555. The entry deadline is May 24. Golfers may form their own team to compete in the four person scramble format, or the China Lake Rotary Club will match you with other golfers. For additional information please call Beck at (619) 375-4061.

## Area seniors will pull all-nighter at big Aloha '96 graduation party

"Aloha '96," an All-Night Safe Graduation Party, honoring the Class of 1996 will be held on June 6 at the NAWS Community Pool area.

It will be a night full of activities including games, swimming, dancing and lots of food. Souvenir T-shirts will be given to seniors and drawings will be held throughout the night for seniors only, with a grand prize to be awarded at the end of the night.

Seniors must be present to receive their prize and guests are not eligible. Entertainment will include hypnotist Michael Mesmer, fortune teller Tricia Siegel, DJ Ted Lemmon and the Sound Waves, Karaoke by Allen Bysma and the live band, "Too Late for Breakfast."

This party was started in 1988 by a group of parents who wanted to provide a safe environment for their seniors to celebrate and send a clear message that their celebration need not involve drugs or alcohol.

Tickets will be sold at the door. The cost for seniors is \$5 and the guests is \$8. Doors open at 10 p.m. and close at midnight.

Donations are still needed to fund the cost of this all-night party. The committee has received generous donations from the business community of

Ridgecrest totaling more than half of the estimated \$15,000 required to pay for the party. Parents of seniors have been asked to contribute \$25 to this fund and are urged to send their tax-deductible checks to CFSG, P.O. Box 2241, Ridgecrest, CA 93556.

The next meeting for the committee is May 28 at the Burroughs Library at 7 p.m. Questions should be directed to chairperson Debby Brickey at 375-6264, or treasurer Sandy Gamble, at 375-7097.

Food Committee members will meet on May 29 at 7 p.m. in the library. Those who would like to donate food, or their time to help at the night of the party, should contact food chairpersons Jan Benbow at 446-5484, or Bonnie Robison at 375-2380.

Junior parent volunteers are needed to assist with food preparation while the senior parents attend graduation.

Hosts and hostesses are also needed for the night of the party and volunteers should contact Sally Macy at 446-6696, or Ester Sires at 375-4715.

Volunteers are also needed to help with various activities throughout the night of the party. Please call Karen Shedlock at 375-4354, or Pam Clark at 371-2568 to volunteer your services.

## Okutsu and Chun profiled as Asian/Pacific Islander Month continues

By Kathi Ramont  
Staff Writer

In honor of Native Asian/Pacific Islander Month, *The Rocketeer* is profiling HMI Kenneth K. Okutsu of the Branch Medical Clinic, and Jay W. Chun, head of the Combat Environment Software Branch. The Ethnic Observance Committee's hope is to bridge the gap in cultural diversities by recognizing the contributions and achievements of all cultures in America and to increase mutual awareness and respect in hopes of creating one harmonious community.

### HMI Kenneth K. Okutsu

Okutsu is of Japanese descent — his father is second generation Japanese-American; his mother was born in Japan. Born in Washington State, Okutsu spent several of his early years in Germany. He's also lived in Japan and California and been stationed on several ships, including the *USS Independence*, *USS Excel* and *USS Galant*.

Okutsu's father was born in Los Angeles and during World War II, when he was nine years old, the family was moved with other Japanese-Americans to the internment camp at Manzanar near Lone Pine. As an adult, he joined the Army and served with an all Japanese-American battalion. While on leave to Japan, he met Okutsu's mother. They married in Japan and had two children. After the war, they traveled to Bremerton, Wash., by ship and moved to Tacoma.

"My mother couldn't speak any English when she arrived here and had to be a very trusting person. She would go to the stores and hand the clerks money and hope that they would not cheat her," Okutsu said. Okutsu and two more children were born in Washington State.

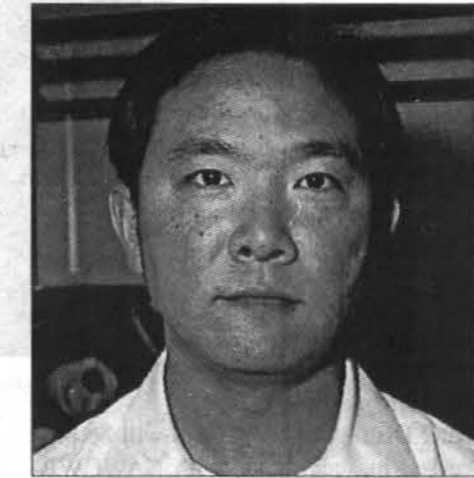
"While in Yokosuka with the Navy," Okutsu said, "I learned about the culture, style and enticement to further expand my personal accomplishments within my inner-being and maturity. The excitement of discovering a whole new culture with the willingness to learn and understand enticed my curiosity so well, that I continued to repeatedly expose myself to new surroundings and affairs almost to a state of compulsiveness."

Okutsu said the reason he joined the military is because he enjoys helping people. "The recruiters and I felt the Hospital Corps rating would relate well." He enlisted in the late 1970s and went right into patient care working on the wards, and was also assigned in Emergency Medicine as an EMT. He has also been stationed at the Naval Air Station Moffett Field, Calif.; San Diego; and finally, he transferred to the Branch Medical Clinic here at China Lake.

Okutsu said that the Navy has given him various challenges in his career path. He is a certified instructor in

CPR, HIV, Emergency Vehicle Operator Course, Emergency Medical Technician, Basic Trauma Life Support, IV certification, suture qualification, and he is the Medical Department Drug and Alcohol Program Advisor.

His short term goal is to successfully complete the Licensed Vocational Nurse and Registered Nurse boards and obtain his LVN and RN certification; and his



HMI Kenneth K. Okutsu

acceptance at the University of Washington to complete the PA Program. "Upon completion of the boards, I will then be able to return and train my military counterparts, therefore, enabling others to accomplish the same," he explained.

Taking a completely different direction, he said his long term goal is to open up a restaurant of specialty dishes.

Okutsu added, "My parents are my inspiration because they taught us to never cheat, steal, lie, prejudice and give the benefit of doubt to other people. To 'lose face' means total disgrace to yourself and family. Family is always first, and I live by that rule."

### Jay Chun

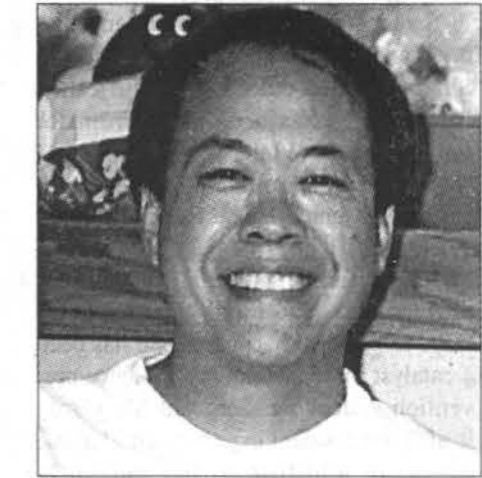
"Listen, learn, share, respect and enjoy what you have," said Jay Chun when asked about words that he tries to live by. This China Lake mechanical engineer is of Chinese descent, but a friend describing Chun once said that he "probably doesn't know that he's Chinese." His friend was alluding to the fact that Chun is extremely outgoing and friendly. Chun smilingly replied to that statement by saying that he's very aware of his roots. Even though he doesn't speak or read the Chinese language he laughingly said that he can use chop sticks to eat.

"Over the years I've only felt as if I were being discriminated against because of my race on very few occasions," Chun explained. "It isn't a problem." He talked about a family history that his grandfather prepared — the only problem being that it is written entirely in Chinese — that mentions only the male members of the family. "The Chinese family is very male oriented," he explained.

Chun explained one Chinese custom that is a form of honoring family and ancestors. "During Chinese New Year, at

weddings, funerals and special occasions, the eldest male presents red envelopes, filled with money, to give thanks, or to honor the person. At New Year's, it is a custom to leave these red envelopes around the house for ancestors-in-spirit as a way of providing for their journeys."

His parents are both Chinese-Americans — his mother was born in



Jay Chun

California, his father, in Canton, China. His father came to the United States in 1937 for better job opportunities. Jay is the oldest of five children. He has two sisters and two brothers, one of whom — Gene — is an electrical engineer at China Lake, in the RF Fuze Section. His

wife, Peggy, is a physicist in the Solid Propulsion Section.

Jay Chun graduated from the University of Nevada in 1970, and after several years spent building an earth dam in Puerto Rico, started work at China Lake in 1972 as a junior professional. He said he heard of China Lake through their recruiting on campus.

"I didn't like the desert at first, but my first spring here turned me around with its abundance of wild flowers," he said. "Additionally, the hands-on work and the caliber of the people have kept me here." He said that his dream is to participate on an orbital project on the space shuttle.

His hobbies and interests include classic cars, sailing his Hobie Cat, model trains, astronomy, weather, reading and traveling to see distant friends. He has been very active in CLOTA, a local theater group, on-stage as an actor and backstage as stage manager, past board member and technical advisor, and is a past winner of CLOTA's Jane Bugay Award. "I admire people with vision — who use it to benefit us all," Chun added. "My plans for the future include to keep learning, be the best branch head that I can be, continue to expand my knowledge and horizons and have fun. And most of all, I hope to find a 1965 Pontiac GTO."

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## Police News

By Will Levy  
Police Division

### Peggy McCurdy wins China Lake Police Officer of the Year Award

Hello to all. These are sure changing and challenging times! I hope everyone is persevering. Remember, we are here to provide assistance to you 24-hours a day... and are just a phone call away.

#### This issue . . .

Detective Sergeant Peggy McCurdy won the China Lake Police Officer of the Year Award. On Friday, May 3, local service organizations met to award IWW law enforcement agencies Officer of the Year. Detective Sergeant Peggy McCurdy has been a member of the China Lake Police for seven years. She was hired as a patrol officer in May of 1989. Upon completion of the Riverside Sheriff's Academy; where Sergeant McCurdy was selected by her fellow officers and instructors as the "Most Inspirational" candidate, and the China Lake Police Field Training Program, she was assigned to the Remote Range Patrol. While with the patrol, Sergeant McCurdy was certified as our first female Mounted Horse Patrol officer and was a member of our Color Guard Team. She was promoted to Patrol Sergeant in

March 1993 and further advanced her career when she was assigned to the Investigations section in April 1995.

Sergeant McCurdy's performance has been exemplary throughout her career. She reactivated our Child Identification Program and has been the coordinator for four years. While working in patrol, she served as Patrol Field Training Officer and Mounted Horse Patrol Assistant Training Officer.

As a detective sergeant, Peggy is very professional. She looks for innovative ways to perform her duties and has been a catalyst in our workplace violence prevention endeavors. Sergeant McCurdy is also our resident expert on child abuse cases. In addition to her currently assigned responsibilities with Investigations, Sergeant McCurdy continues to work as a Patrol supervisor when needed, is the recording secretary for the Safety and Physical Security Department Quality Council, alternate Family Advocacy representative, a presenter at monthly Military Indoctrination classes, assistant armorer, Phase I training

Instructor and the alternate remote range supervisor.

During her career with China Lake Police she has received three Special Act Awards and five accommodation letters. I'm sure you can see why Sergeant McCurdy was selected by her China Lake Police peers as their Officer of the Year.

#### Did you know?

Effective May 31, 1996: Special Visitor Badges will no longer be honored. These badges are still being used by a few codes to grant restricted area access for Distinguished Visitors. Guard post personnel have been instructed to deny access to those using these badges beginning on the effective date. Distinguished Visitors will be processed in accordance with NAWCWP-NSINST 5050.1 published by the Protocol Office.

Short Term Construction badges will no longer be honored. The superintendent of a contracted construction site may telephone the Visitor Center at 927-PASS (7277) and request an Official Visitor badge for delivery personnel. The following information will be need-



Detective Sergeant Peggy McCurdy

ed to process any construction badge request: full name of the Official Visitor, Social Security number, date and areas to be visited. The sponsors full name, and Social Security number will also have to be provided. Once the badge is completed, the visitor must come to the Visitors Center to pick up their badge.

We regret any inconvenience these changes may cause Station employees, contractors and official visitors, however to ensure greater control over who accesses the Station, these changes are required.

#### 'B' Mountain

I have received a number of calls from individuals stating that China Lake Police Division officers have told them that all access to 'B' Mountain was stopped. Of course, you all know that is not the case as was printed in our last *Rocketeer* column. I have made sure all my officers are aware of the correct policy.

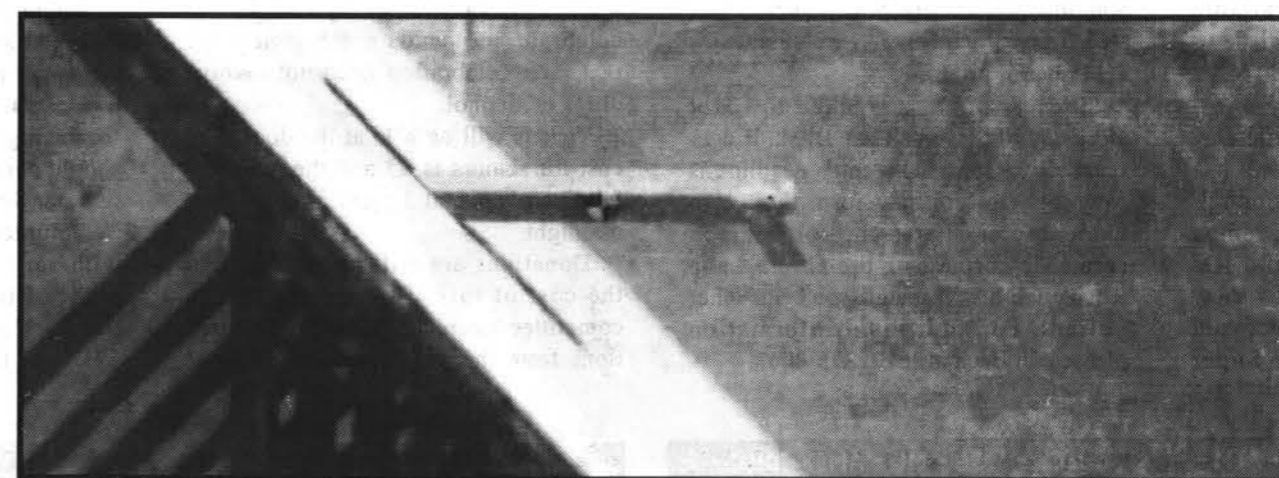
The policy remains: In order to access 'B' Mountain, you must fall into one of the following categories:

•Have an 'N' area designator on your badge. These are not to be issued solely for 'B' Mountain access. Department

Please see **POLICE**, next page

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# Safety Sense

By Dena Christison  
Safety and Occupational Health Specialist

## Sign up now for summer CPR and first aid classes

In the event of an emergency, quick and skillful delivery of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and first aid by you could mean the difference between life and death of a family member, friend or co-worker.

Just like it sounds, "first aid" is the first help you give someone who is sud-

denly sick or injured. In a serious accident or in the event of cardiac arrest, first aid can mean the difference between life and death. By knowing and practicing effective first aid techniques, you can also help relieve a victim's pain, help prevent further injury, and assist medical personnel that arrive on

the scene by giving them vital information about the victim.

Do you know what to do in the event of an emergency? It's time again for our annual summer CPR/first aid training opportunities for China Lakers and our community — so here is your chance to learn.

The NAWS Safety Office, in conjunction with Cerro Coso Community College, is offering a series of American Red Cross Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and First Aid classes from June 17 through August 22 at the Safety Office, Building 00465.

Adult CPR classes will be presented every Monday. The adult CPR class can serve as either initial, or re-certification. Topics covered include adult rescue breathing, how to deal with a choking victim, and adult CPR. Total class duration is four hours. Both morning and afternoon sessions are available on Mondays. Certification received from American Red Cross is current for one year.

The eight-hour first aid/CPR combination course, includes the adult CPR segment with the addition of first aid topics such as how to deal with bleeding emergencies, wounds and bandaging, splinting fractures, first aid for burns, poisoning, shock, etc. This class also serves as either initial certification or re-certification training. First aid certification is current for three years. These classes will be presented on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays June 17 through August 22.

There is no cost involved with these classes and they are open to the entire community. For additional information, or to sign-up for a class, simply call the Safety Office at 939-2315. Class size is limited and usually fills quickly, so sign-up early.

You will become a very important part of the emergency care team as you learn the skills to render life-saving care in the event of an emergency. Even if you have been involved in our summer classes in the past, it's time again for that valuable refresher. There is no other training as basic and as valuable for the entire community. Learn these life-saving skills today.

Through our annual summer CPR program we have the opportunity to train hundreds of people in these important skills.

Don't let this opportunity go by without your participation.

### POLICE, from previous page

heads should only approve 'N' designators to those who's job requires it.

- Have a China Lake Mountain Rescue limited access badge

- Be part of an official MWR sanctioned event (bike race, running events)

- Be part of a command sanctioned event; i.e. the painting of the rock by Burroughs High School students, the military pistol and rifle team, etc.

Please remember; SAAP badges are not authorized for 'B' mountain access and you must wear your valid badge in plain sight.

### Law Enforcement TIDBIT...

The difference between an assault and a battery is that battery requires physical contact or offensive touching of some sort, whereas assault is committed without physical contact. In assault, it is the attempt or threat, coupled with the present ability (can you inflict the injury at that moment) to inflict injury that is the offense. Most often you see the two used together. The assault being the first offense, and the battery, the actual carrying out of bodily harm or offensive touching, the second offense.

### CLPD Statistics

(Second quarter FY96)  
Total calls for service: 2866, up 20%  
Traffic accidents: 28, down 22%  
Alarm responses: 115, up 29%  
Traffic stops (citations): 334, up 83% in conjunction with attempts to decrease speeding in the housing areas.  
Traffic stops (warnings): 754, up 58%  
Arrests: 11, down 54%  
911 calls: 66, up 22%  
Security checks: 3943, down 6%  
Security infractions: 180, no change  
Petty theft: 10, no change  
Grand theft: 5, down 50%  
Burglary: 0, down 100%  
Vandalism: 4, down 50%  
Assaults and battery: 8, up 166%  
Spousal abuse: 0, down 100%  
Peace disturbance: 17, no change  
DUI: 0, down 100%  
Badges issued: 9,000 plus

## Thrift Savings Plan open season runs until July 31

By John Powers and Peggy Topham  
Human Resources Department

The Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Open Season started on May 15 and will continue until July 31. During the open season, employees have the opportunity to change their current enrollment, or make an initial application to start participation in TSP.

### FERS employees

TSP is the third part of a FERS employee's retirement plan. Personal contributions to TSP by FERS employees are a very important part of future financial security. FERS employees receive an automatic government contribution of one percent of their basic pay to the TSP.

In addition, the government will match contributions that FERS employees make to TSP. Matching contributions apply to the first five percent of pay each pay period that you contribute. Contributions are matched dollar for dollar for the first three percent of pay contributed, and 50 cents on the dollar for the next two percent of pay.

FERS employees may contribute as little as one percent of basic pay per pay period, or even a smaller, fixed-dollar amount, such as \$5 per pay period, and still get a government matching contribution. FERS employees contributing

five percent of basic pay receive government contributions of five percent, making a total of 10 percent of basic pay going into their TSP account. FERS employees can contribute as much as 10 percent of basic pay, and with the government contributions, can have a total of 15 percent of their basic pay going into their TSP account.

All contributions to TSP and interest are tax deferred.

### CSRS employees

CSRS employees may contribute up to five percent of basic pay. CSRS employees do not receive any matching government funds, but all of the contributions to TSP, and interest, are tax deferred.

CSRS and FERS employees can invest their contributions in any of the three investment options (C, F or G Funds).

Enrollments or changes will be effective the beginning of the first pay period in July (July 7) if received before that date. Elections should be submitted to your PMA Team before June 30 to allow time for processing.

### Interfund transfers

Submitting a TSP-1 during open season does not change the amount of money already in the investment funds. An interfund transfer must be done to

transfer money between the funds. An interfund transfer affects only money already in your account; it does not affect the way your future payroll contributions are invested.

You can make interfund transfers monthly if you wish. Interfund transfers can be made by using the THRIFT-LINE, telephone (504) 255-8777. For more information on using the THRIFT-LINE, at China Lake call John Powers, 939-2574, and at Point Mugu call Peggy Topham, 989-3323. Ask for a copy of the fact sheet — *Using the ThriftLine*.

### Rates of return

The latest Thrift Savings Plan rates of return are: C Fund — April 1.47 percent, 30.11 percent in the last 12 months; F Fund — April (-.56) percent, 8.52 percent in the last 12 months; G Fund — April .54 percent, and 6.54 percent in the last 12 months.

The following rates of return for the three investment funds are provided to assist in making investment decisions:

C Fund percentages 1991 through 1995 were 30.77, 7.70, 10.13, 1.33 and 37.41.

F Fund percentages 1991 through 1995 were 15.75, 7.20, 9.52, (-2.96) and 18.31.

G Fund percentages 1991 through 1995 were 8.15, 7.23, 6.14, 7.22 and 7.03.

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# Intelligram

By Jerry Broaker  
Information Research Specialist

## New documents available at the Intelligence Library

Listed below are documents recently received in the Intelligence Library. Our documents are filed according to the KWOC (Key Word Out of Context) number.

121042 — "Mirage 2000 Defensive Aids Suite-Threat Warning Subsystems" (NAIC). This document is the first in a series which deals with the Mirage 2000 DAS. It addresses only the threat warning subsystems including the crystal

video, guidance receiver and launch detector. Later publications will describe the jamming and dispenser subsystems and the overall system control and integration.

121043 — "Upgraded MiG-21/FISHBED Engagement Analysis" (NAIC). This report describes the results of a beyond-visual-range (BVR) air combat effectiveness of the MiG-21/FISHBED with advertised system

upgrades. The most significant advantages have been highlighted.

121044 — "Chinese GPS Jammer Concepts-Initial Assessment" (NAIC). The title of this document pretty much tells the story. There is no unclassified way to describe the contents. There is a lot of interest in GPS right now.

404791 — "SA-5 Surface-To-Air Missile System Detailed Characterization" (DIA). This is Volume 11 in a series of reports on the SA-5. It contains an overview of the downlink transmitter, including a summary and description of system hardware.

404792 — "PRITHVI Short-Range Ballistic Missile System" (DIA). The PRITHVI is one of a family of missiles developed by India. This document discusses the two versions of the SRBM.

404793 — "Theater Ballistic Missile Projections: Worldwide" (DIA). This is the first of a two volume report on worldwide theater ballistic missile (TBM) projections. It emphasizes the technical aspects-ranges, payload weights, external configurations, propellants, etc. — of future foreign TBMs.

Our next Brown Bag Briefing will be held on May 22 at 11:40 a.m. in the library. These briefings consist of ONI videos and are about 35 minutes in length. Bring your lunch and join us for an interesting half hour.

A partial list of the topics will be sent out on QuickMail.

For further information please call 939-1503. We are located at the end of Wing 5 in Michelson Laboratory and are looking forward to serving you.

## CLEANUP from Page 1

steel; 43,000 pounds of aluminum; 73,000 pounds of magnesium; and five scrap vehicles. Local DRMO auctions netted another \$8,000 for the program, for a total of just under \$128,000. Labor costs for Allen and (on average) four cleanup team members was \$142,000. So the net cost was just over \$14,000.

So far in FY96 they've already shipped more than 300,000 pounds of scrap.

Allen said the successes to date were due in part to the continued support of Range Department members Cheryl Weiss, Mary Austin and Sammie Ford, who have been helpful with

**Sales were just under \$128,000. Labor cost for Allen and team members was \$142,000. So the net cost was just over \$14,000.**

acquisitions and transportation since the program's inception. In all, 12 different light-duty PW employees have worked on the project over its existence. "These are people who are injured or partially disabled, but who are still capable of performing this type of work," said Dallas Allen. "They've been given meaningful assignments that they're proud of, and at the same time, the program has relieved PW of the costs of paying them when they're not performing their regular jobs."

Besides clearing the desert of unsightly materials, Allen said, the team members know they're also helping the environment by removing hazardous and toxic materials. "They've all been trained in the use of safety equipment for detecting these materials and the procedures for handling such materials, and they know who to call for removal," Allen said. "We've shipped out roughly 10 tons of solid core transformers, which contained PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls). These smaller transformers had to be hand-packed into 55-gallon drums and taken to a holding yard at PW before they were shipped out under a disposal contract. And there were another 30 large transformers, of the type you might see on power poles."

Because of this part of their effort, Allen says, some people have the idea they are a PCB or hazardous spill cleanup crew. "We're not," he says emphatically. "We leave that to the professionals. But because we knew we'd run into, going into this, we've made sure all of our people had the proper training." Besides PCBs, the crew has discovered and disposed of items containing cobalt 60, radium, beryllium and krypton.

Many of the items containing these hazardous substances were part of the electronics packages in 57 large trailer vans that were once intended to be used as targets on the ranges. Only after taking ownership from the Army was it discovered that the vans contained the potentially harmful materials and that

they couldn't be used as targets. With no money to properly remove the components, the vans sat for years at a remote site on Charlie Range.

Now that site has been cleared, the materials have been properly disposed of and some 30 of the gutted vans remain to be cut up in the scissor-jaw attachment of a boom-operated flex arm Caterpillar operated by Dick's Auto Wrecking of Fontana, Calif. Offering \$40 a ton for the vans, the auto wrecking firm was the high-bidder and is cutting them up on site and transporting them off Station.

Allen says they expect to finish the LB boneyard cleanup this year, and then move on to others that have already been identified. Besides yards that they expect will generate the revenue to pay for the cleanup, Allen's program has cleared four fenced Mainsite compounds paid for by owners' job orders.

Their goal is to cleanup all the boneyards and dumping areas on Station. Allen is actively seeking information on additional sites that could be included in the program. He says people should not be afraid to report sites where hazardous items might be found. "We're not looking to place blame," he notes. "We just want to clean it up."

Anyone with information on site locations is urged to call the Materials Recovery Office at 927-1487, or Lloyd "Tree" Crabtree at 927-1507.

# Technical Professionals

Booz-Allen & Hamilton Inc., an international management and technology consulting firm, is currently seeking Technical Professionals to support the Navy's premier Research, Development, Test and Evaluation facility in the Patuxent River area of scenic St. Mary's County in Southern Maryland. We are seeking individuals with a minimum of 3 years of military aircraft Developmental Test and Evaluation experience; BS/MS AE, EE, CS or related technical degree; and expertise in at least one of the following areas:

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## Fire safety important as summer cooks move outdoors

Hot dogs and hamburgers cooked on the grill are tastes hard to beat. The China Lake Fire Division reminds you that outdoor cooking can lead to tragedy when carelessness causes serious burns. Use common sense and remember to cook safely.

Use charcoal lighter fuel safely. Never use gasoline to start or freshen a fire. Gasoline is explosive and much too dangerous to use on grills. Be cautious with charcoal lighter fluid. Use on coals only before the fire is lit. Follow the

instructions on the package carefully. If you try to make a fire bigger by adding more fluid, the heat of the coals can ignite the stream of liquid and burn back into the can, causing it to explode in your hands. Try using electric starters in place of lighter fluids.

Place grills where they will not tip over or ignite objects above them. Never bring a grill into the home. The carbon monoxide produced by burning charcoal can be dangerous in an enclosed space.

Have a container of water or a garden

hose available and ready to extinguish a fire. Keep children away from fires and grills. They may try to climb on the grill to see what is cooking.

Though coals may appear cold, always soak them after cooking. Unsoaked coals can re-light a day later.

Keep damp or wet coals in a well-ventilated area. During the drying process, spontaneous combustion can occur in a confined area. If a bag of charcoal gets wet, leave it outside, away from the house.

## Check Internet for jobs

<http://jobsmart.org>  
JobSmart includes help wanted ads from newspapers, 450 job hot lines, a job fair calendar and a wide variety of career guides.

<http://www.emory.edu/CAREER/Links.html>  
Colossal career list at Emory University.

<http://www.careers.org>  
CareerNet contains 11,000 links to jobs, employers, business, education and career service professionals.

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Reservations Recommended. This show was a Sell-Out last time in Ridgcrest.

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Friday, May 24th, & Saturday, May 25th • 9:00 p.m.

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Sunday, May 26th • 12 Noon till 2:00 • LIVE BAND - THRESHOLD  
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Jaz drives are great for almost any large-data application from whole-disk backup to large data transfers & archiving. Jaz stores up to 1GB per disk, has a maximum sustained transfer of over 6MB/sec. A 1GB disk is only \$99.95. A 3 1/2" Jaz internal fast SCSI II drive is only \$499. A Jaz external SCSI drive for Mac or PC is just \$599. Includes disk. If you don't have a SCSI controller, a Jaz Jet high-speed PCI controller is \$99.

**Zip Drives in Stock**  
Zip drives are ideal for backup, transferring large files & a wide range of other uses. Zip weighs about a pound, stores up to 100MB/disk (200MB compressed), does sustained 60MB/min. & a 100MB disk is only \$19.95 (less than \$15 in qty.). Zip internal scsi drive (with an accelerator controller) \$199 & parallel port external drive \$199. External scsi version is \$199 but is sometimes on backorder.

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# PPP has placed 29 employees at other government facilities

Continued from Page 1

Monday to accept a job offer as an electrician at McAlester Army Ammunition Base in McAlester, Okla.

With no wife, and no kids, Holcum has the flexibility to relocate. He has family in Oklahoma and said he was looking forward to his housing search to look for a farm with a pond.

While the wage-grade salary paid to electricians at his new base is lower than those paid to China Lakers, Holcum will be receiving "saved pay." This means he will continue to receive his current wage, plus limited salary increases, for an indefinite period of time until the salary scale "catches up" to his rate of pay. He will also receive moving expenses, including 60-days temporary housing allowance in case he doesn't immediately find a place to live.

"The most important thing we can stress is that you have to be pro-active in your job search," said Hewston. "Talk to us. As busy as we are, we still want each and every person given a RIF notice to do it."

Currently running an extremely busy office, both HRD specialists said they want to see everyone — even if they are personally having a hard day. "When you think you've had all you can take — you have to stop and remember that this is a person who is losing their job on the other end (of the phone)," commented Hewston. "And, of course, if you can help them to find a new job, it is very rewarding."

**Flexibility the key**  
Not willing to relocate, or unwillingness to accept a lower rate, is keeping many people from finding a job. "The whole key to PPP is not to limit yourself to just China Lake if your personal circumstances allow," said Simoneau. Of the 28 people who have received and accepted job offers, all

have had one thing in common: flexibility. Hewston added, "They have all realized that they can not be rigid in their thinking. They've seen this as a way of opening up new opportunities. Many of these folks have found jobs near family or friends, some are striking out on their own for the first time. But everyone has had to consider the fact that they may have to leave the area."

If you are anxious about moving to another location do some research. "Look the area up on the Internet, call the Chamber of Commerce for relocation packages, talk to real estate agents about housing availability and costs," suggested Simoneau. "Find out about your Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders and the 10-day house hunting trip to your new site to look for housing."

Access to the Internet is available at the resource center if you do not have it available at your job site. There are many services providing job information on the Net. One method of job placement that Simoneau is also working is called an "expanded VSIP" (Voluntary Incentive Separation Pay). "This is a win-win situation," she explained. "We find an employee at another base who wants to retire or resign, but isn't being offered an incentive to go, or the job skill is a needed one. We match a RIFed employee with that job. Our person gets a job (in a new location) and the other employee gets to separate with a cash incentive." Hewston says that Simoneau is very aggressively working the system. "Why not save a job here and make another person happy?" Simoneau added.

Jill Guinn, a technical writer/editor of physical science and engineering, with 11 years of experience at China Lake, is another success story stemming from flexibility. "I've seen it coming for four years," she said. "So I've been doing everything I could to prepare myself." Guinn left

the area early this week to head to her new position as Congressional Liaison for the U. S. Army Reserve in the Pentagon. "A RIF puts your career behind schedule and this is a career path change," she explained, "But I'm looking forward to the future."

Guinn said she is excited and scared at the same time to be moving away from family and friends in the Ridgecrest area. "I've lived all my life here," she explained. "It is going to be a big change." She added that China Lake's TID has some of the most talented people in the world, and that she'll miss her customers.

Her flexibility to expand her job options out of California is what got Guinn a quick offer of employment. Simoneau explained that once Guinn gave the okay to expand the search across the United States, she received an offer within two days.

Wanting to share some of her "lessons learned" during her job search, Guinn said she wished she'd known what questions to ask in advance.

She ran into a few difficulties while on her house hunting trip. "First of all, make sure you know how much the per diem is for that trip." It is not the same as for regular government travel, and it comes out of the amount you receive for your 60-days of temporary housing. "Make sure you know a point of contact on the other end," she added. Guinn stressed the importance of working with the Personal Property Office located at the Housing Office for help with referrals and for moving household goods. The phone number for the property office is 939-3875.

**Counseling available**  
"We've seen all the extremes with this RIF," Simoneau said. "We've seen people who take the whole thing in stride, and we've seen people who are very, very upset." Talk to your family, friends and co-workers. Don't hold it in. Talk to the counselors at the Family Service Center (939-3059/3056) or the Career Transition and Resource Center (939-2359 at China Lake and Point Mugu at 989-3982), if you need to blow steam.

"Take advantage of the counseling service people available on Station. They've been great," said Guinn. "Do yourself a favor and check out procedures, question everything and everyone, find out your rights, set up your temporary housing from here, and remember — you must take control of your future. You are the only one who is in control of your situation."

A good piece of information to keep in mind for those scheduled to be separated in July: you will still be in the PPP through July 1997. HRD will continue to help you in your job search, even if you aren't immediately placed in another position.

Wally Holcum



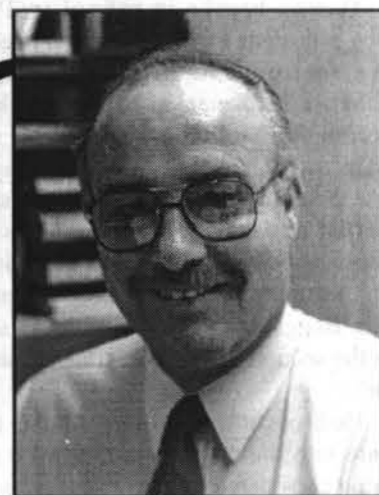
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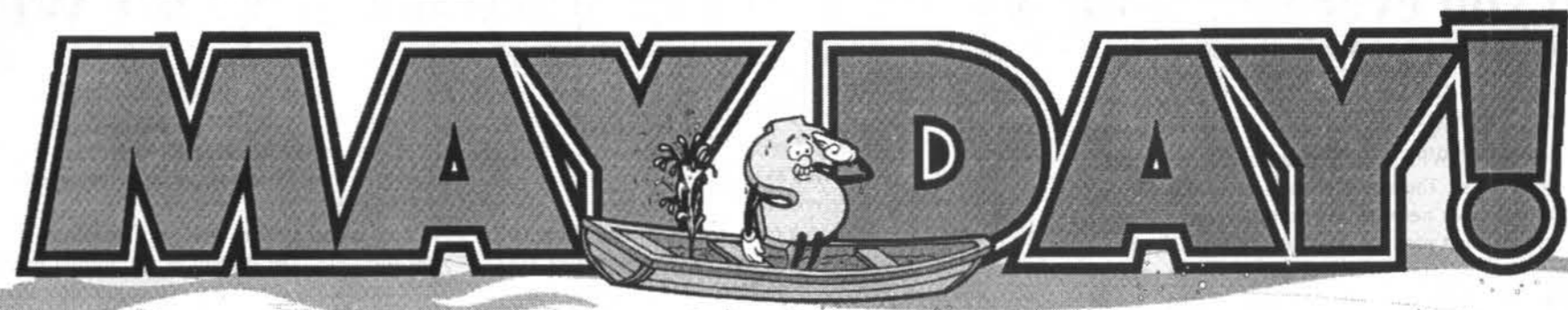
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