



# *The* SKOOKUM *Skoop*

March 2014

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*“Happiness lies in the joy of achievement and the thrill of creative effort.”*  
- Franklin D. Roosevelt

## JBLM Update: Fleet is Back!



Fleet is back! We started again on February 24th working in building 9570. We are currently performing services for a reserve unit and everything is going great with the mission! We've brought back the folks from other departments that were able to keep them working while Fleet was in a suspended status. It's great to see the folks back turning wrenches again - I haven't seen that since last August! We have a different format this time for running the shop. We welcome the new position of "Lead Mechanic" filled by **Kevin Hitchner**. Kevin is responsible for the work on the floor, ensuring the technicians perform the work required, assigning work as needed, and then sending completed work to **Charles Sands**, our Quality Control Inspector. We now have two regular, full-time Mechanics, **Jim Gilmon** and **Mike**

**Concepcion**. Both are highly skilled and a great asset to the crew! Our Auto Workers are **James DeQuis**, **Vince Baza**, **Mike Noehl**, **Marlan Oaks**, **Brian Pearson**, **Victor Cobb**, **Joe Mesa**, and **Bill Jamison**. Recording all the daily data is **Millicent Baxter** who does a fantastic job recording time, status, and open jobs. **Rick Rezentos** is back as our Mechanic Helper and is also the division's Safety Representative, ensuring our shop is safe, clean, and ready for inspections at any time. All our supply functions go through **Leamon Woodley**, who also issues tools, is responsible for all Government Furnished Equipment, and ensures the shop has the supplies it needs to perform. **Andy Desotell** is the Operation's Manager ensuring that all of the above takes place. Andy has done this before and will no doubt continue to do with great success. Thanks and welcome back everyone!

The freezing weather has made things difficult for Sanitation the past couple of months. We've had frozen pumps, latrines, and of course, hand wash stations (sinks). Once the drivers get thawed out and hit the road, hoses and pumps start to freeze up again due to the wind chill factor while driving. It still amazes me that the drivers have such a positive attitude in saying "it is what it is, let's get it done". Off they go, returning at the end of the day telling each other what problems they encountered and how they were resolved. We continue making improvements around the yard, recently completing our kitchen, thanks to **Doug Miclette**, a man of many talents! Doug installed the new flooring, put in the counter top, and a sink with a cabinet above. We now have a real break room! Next on the list are a Maintenance cover, electrical work, porch, and a paved lot!

*Bob Ratliff/Sanitation & Fleet Project Manager/ JBLM*

## Great Teamwork from JBLE



At this time I would like to thank **Maris Figueroa** and **Frank McCatry** for taking on the mission of accepting turn in's from the VA National Guard customer that normally receives their supply support from the Ft. Lee DOL. We were asked by the Installation Supply Representative if we would be willing to assist this unit with their excess.

We jumped at the chance to help them anticipating that the turn-in section of the warehouse would work on the turn-in as they had time. The stock section consisting of **Maria** and **Frank** decided they would like to take on that mission and they did an excellent job. During that time they processed 830 lines which consisted of 5,431 pieces all while ensuring there was no backlog in the stock section. They continued to place all of the stock that was received into location, pull all of the issues for customers and the shipping section, perform inventories, and ensure all locations had bin labels.

They have been able to pick out a piece of Skookum apparel for doing such an outstanding job and ensuring they kept up with their work area!!! That is what I call terrific TEAMWORK!!!!

*Jean Spell / Site Manager / JBLE*

## March Birthdays

2	Clifford Berlin	22	Cindy Ellsworth
2	Christopher Crittenden	22	Abraham Goldberg
2	Alexander Horton	23	Logan Gazabat
2	Sierra Schackmann	23	Vincent Pollard
2	Daniel Wilson Jr.	23	Lorenzo Smith
3	Carolyn Dubler	24	Jarrett Becker
3	Bruce McDade	24	Ronald Potts
3	David Sutton	26	Timothy Dolezal
4	Irene Bush	27	Kassidy Deibert
4	Paul Rountree	27	David Reeder
5	Victor Dominguez	28	Stacy Gravely
5	Matthew Madrid	28	Jeanette Thompson
6	Randy Hartman	30	Craig Poitevint
9	Michelle Feedor	30	Jeremie Sandbeck
9	William Walker	31	Bryant Andrews
10	Mary Adams	31	Jimmy Dobras
10	Marcus Bird	31	William Malone Jr.
10	Shawna Boutwell	31	Cynthia Wilkinson
10	Timothy Dinesen		
10	Edward Garrido		
10	Steve Santacroce		
11	Becky Adams		
11	Connie Cryer		
11	Elisha Garcia		
11	Christopher Stange		
12	Dennis Jarnigan		
12	Jerome Smith		
13	Jakan Austin		
13	Gabriel Brothers		
13	RaShaun Parker		
14	Dale Moore		
15	Robert McComb		
15	Jonathan Pate		
16	Jesse Crews Sr.		
16	Jotiar Haji		
16	Willie Jones		
16	Jodi Kainu		
16	Heather Larson		
18	George Jacob		
18	Cory Miller		
20	Rosa Escalera		
20	Gregory Fitch		
20	DeRichieen Jelks		
20	Michael Smith		
21	Travis Nollette		
21	Michelle Ogan		



*Happy Birthday!*

## Skookum Excellence Awards

*Each Recipient Receives \$100 and a Skookum Excellence Pin*

**Connie McClendon**

***Fort Meade DOL - Nominated by: Reggie Pickett, Fort Meade Supply Supervisor***

I would like to recommend Ms. Connie McClendon for the President's Excellence Award for the recent Command Supply Discipline Inspection (CSDP) conducted by Army Sustainment Command (ASC) on 13 and 14 Jan 2014 at FGGM. Ms. McClendon was very instrumental preparing for and supporting the inspection. She clearly articulated to the inspection team every "inspection point" for the Stock Control Section and demonstrated the written processes and practical exercises including communication matrixes. The Supply Support Activity (SSA) received a score of 343 points out of a possible 344 (Commendable Rating). This reveals her superior logistical knowledge and dedication to the Fort Meade mission. Ms. McClendon's work ethic and "can-do" attitude make her a model employee to the SSA and Skookum Contract Services.

**Shauntell Robinson**

***Fort Meade DOL - Nominated by: Reggie Pickett, Fort Meade Supply Supervisor***

Mr. Robinson was very instrumental during the inspection articulating to the review team all the points for the Turn-in Section, demonstrating written processes and practical exercises including oral communication. The Supply Support Activity (SSA) received a score of 343 points out of a possible 344 (Commendable Rating). In addition to meeting all the inspection standards, the inspector witnessed the SSA personnel going above and beyond normal duties by assisting customers with complex problems and providing positive solutions. His actions show great credit to his logistical knowledge and dedication to the Fort Meade mission.

**Phimphone Kheuangmala**

***Fort Meade DOL - Nominated by: Walter Davis, Transportation Supervisor***

I would like to nominate Ms. Phimphone Kheuangmala for the President's Excellence Award for the exceptionally hard work that she demonstrated achieving a high rating from the recent CSDP inspection conducted on 15 January 2014. Ms. Phim was instrumental during the inspection of the Transportation Section providing documentation, reports, forms, and answering technical questions. The inspection team informed Skookum that this was the first organization to have a documented process for client follow-up in each category, specifically the Vehicle Preventive Maintenance Service Log. Further, the inspection team requested to use Skookum's Vehicle Preventive Maintenance Service Log as an example for other Transportation Motor Pools and the Fleet Vehicle Assignment Log. Ms. Phim's hard work played a key role during the CSDP inspection. We are very privileged to have Ms. Phim as a team member of the Skookum team at Fort Meade.

**Shermone Collier**

***Fort Meade DOL - Nominated by: Walter Davis, Transportation Supervisor***

I am nominating Ms. Sherone Collier (Dispatcher) for the President's Excellence Award for the outstanding coordination that she provided during the CSDP inspection conducted on 15 January 2014. Ms. Collier provided the inspector with dispatch records, mileage data and all related documents. The inspection team was extremely pleased with the way the transportation operation was being performed. Ms. Collier worked hand in hand with her co-workers to prepare for the CSDP inspection, demonstrating awesome team work. Ms. Collier is indispensable; always the first to commit to keeping the customers satisfied, while serving them with a great attitude. Ms. Collier is a positive asset to the Transportation Section and the Fort Meade Skookum team.

## JBLM CIF Has a Great Season!

Though it has been a while, nothing has slowed down at JBLM Central Issue Facility. The holidays have passed but WOW did we have a great party to celebrate with a feast for all! The menu included turkey, ham and roast beef as the main course and all of the sides and desserts to go with! A big thank you goes out to all that cooked and brought in the dishes.

We had a Secret Santa draw in which **Becky Jackson** and **Andres' Gonzalez** played the roles of CIF's version of the Clauses to hand out gifts. Everyone received a raffle ticket to claim a huge array of prizes donated by the leads and Management with everything from food to gift cards



We had a great turn out for yet again the "Great Ugly Sweater Contest". First Place went to **Kevin Hitchner**, 2nd Place to **Brandon Holmes**, and **Willie Taylor** took 3rd.



There was an awesome competition between our four sections. The games included the Boot Lace Race, where two people from each section received a pair of size 14 boots. They sat in a chair next to each other, one with the right and the other with the left. The first team to correctly and completely lace and tie won the event. This was a huge feat (no pun intended) considering we all just finished a very heavy meal. The Clerk section took first place with the winners, **Patricia Moana** and **Rita Quitugua** being prior military, tying Army boots a time or two. The OCIE Shakedown was next with **John Park** and **Joel Nededog** from the Line section overwhelmingly taking first by correctly breaking down and sorting soldier's equipment by station and racing to the line for turn-in. The IOTV assembly was also won by the Line section with **John Taylor** and **Vera**

**Marts**. The two employees of each team had to first find the correct pieces in a huge pile of body armor and correctly assemble the 15 piece body armor. The wet weather bag toss was next. Two employees filled wet weather bags with air, tied them off, and handed to the third person to toss in a tub. This event was won by the Warehouse team consisting of **Rudy Francisco**, **Marcus Kouth**, and **Ron Cabanlong**, with a bit of help from the MOB/DEMOB bags going in the wrong tub!! Hey, all is fair, right?! Last was the Hand Grenade Pouch Toss where each member of the team pulled the snap on the pouch and tossed into shopping cart targets with different point values, ultimately giving the Clerk section the overall high score taking 1<sup>st</sup> Place for the entire competition. The top prize was a lunch prepared or bought from the Project Manager and the Operations Manager, which by the way, we still owe! All received participation stickers or trophies to admire. The participation and enthusiasm by all made this the best Holiday Party by far.



We are continuing with the move of ROTC to Fort Knox, Kentucky. All of the equipment is being classified, sorted and boxed for shipment. The ROTC program has been part of CIF's operations for over a decade and will be missed. We have finished the re-deployment process of 2nd and 4th Brigade 2nd Infantry Division serving approximately 4,000 service members.

In January we had three employees hit their 5 year anniversary with Skookum. Congratulations to **Cindy Ellsworth**, **Eunice Jewett** and **Kristy Fregozo**. Great job to everyone - your hard work is truly appreciated!!

*Shelly Johnson / CIF Operations Manager / JBLM*



### *In Memory of Darcy Veeder*

It is with great sadness that the Bremerton Puget Sound Naval Shipyard crew must say farewell to a long term team member. Darcy Veeder passed away on February 23rd in a house fire in Bremerton. Darcy had been with Skookum since 1999. He was well-liked and always had kind words when you needed them most. We are sad to lose someone so young and such a valuable member of our team. We will miss you Darcy.

## Quality & Safety Department Corner: Safety Meetings

One of the many tasks Cathy Jones, Swing Shift Janitorial Supervisor manages is conducting Safety Meetings for approximately 75-100 janitorial, electrical, and grounds staff here at the Home Office. To ensure employees of all shifts have the opportunity to attend a safety meeting, Cathy conducts that month's training over five (5) different time slots in one (1) day!



**Cathy Jones** (left), Safety Representative & **Joni Klein** (right) Day Shift Janitorial Supervisor conducting Proper Hygiene training.

Because many people retain information better with visual aids as opposed to a verbal overview, Cathy creates flip charts complete with pictures or product samples relating to that month's topic. Cathy covered personal hygiene in one of her recent trainings and attached actual health and beauty aid examples to further illustrate methods of cleanliness.

Upon completing that month's training, Cathy makes the information available for employees to

review further by posting the flip charts on tri-pods in the muster area for a few days. Since utilizing more extensive and creative visual aids and posting them afterward, Cathy has noticed employees are more attentive and there is more discussion among staff relating to that month's training topic.

Those of you who are also responsible for both daily and supervisory tasks can certainly relate to the time constraints taking on a division's safety representative position can create. The Home Office Safety Department wants you (and Cathy!) to know how much we appreciate your dedication to ensuring Skookum continues to be a safe environment for all its employees.



**Cathy Jones** (left), Safety Representative & **Joni Klein** (right) Day Shift Janitorial Supervisor conducting Proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) training.

**Jenn Johnson**  
Quality & Safety Admin Assist

## New Babies to the Skookum Family!

Bremerton Navy Galley Welcomes... Little Chris J. Balajadia Mantanona Jr. was born to Mary Balajadia on Jan 27, 2014.



He weighed 5 lbs, 14 oz and was 19 inches long.

Congratulations to Mary & Chris!

Another Welcome from Bremerton Navy Galley... Little Isabel Marie Silkett born to Steven Silkett and his wife Joanne on Jan 31, 2014.



She weighed 7 lbs and was 19 inches long.

Congratulations to Steven & Joanne!

Fort Hood Welcomes... Kennedy Richardson, born to Kira Gumbs on February 19th at 11:47 pm.



She weighed 6 lbs and was 19 inches long. Congratulations to Kira!

Sign up to receive our newsletter by email! Go to [www.skookum.org/news/](http://www.skookum.org/news/) Under News and Current Events; click link to receive newsletter by email



### Why walk?

Walking is one of the easiest ways to be physically active. Walking is also inexpensive—all you need is a pair of shoes with sturdy heel support. Walking may:

- Give you more energy and stamina and lift your mood
- Reduce stress and help relax
- Tone muscles and strengthen bones
- Increase the number of calories a body uses
- Lower your risk of health problems, like high blood pressure, heart disease, high cholesterol, and type 2 diabetes
- Give an opportunity to socialize actively

### Is it okay for me to walk?

- Has your health care provider told you that you have heart trouble, diabetes, or asthma?
- When you are physically active, do you have pains in your chest, neck, shoulder, or arm?
- Do you often feel faint or have dizzy spells?
- Do you feel extremely breathless after you have been physically active?
- Has your health care provider told you that you have bone or joint problems, such as arthritis?
- Are you over 50 years old and not used to doing any moderate physical activity?
- Are you pregnant or do you smoke?
- Do you have any other health problems not mentioned that might keep you from starting a walking program?
- If you answered yes to any of these questions, please check with your health care provider before starting a walking program.

### How do I start a walking program?

Leave time in your busy schedule to follow a walking program that will work for you. Points to keep in mind when planning your program:

- Choose a safe place to walk. Find a partner or group of people to walk with you. Encourage and support each other in committing to walking regularly even if each of you has a different fitness level or walks at a different pace.
- Wear shoes with proper arch support, a firm heel, and thick flexible soles that will cushion your feet and absorb shock. Before you buy a new pair, be sure to walk in them in the store.
- Wear clothes that will keep you dry and comfortable. Look for synthetic fabrics that absorb sweat and remove it from your skin.
- For extra warmth in winter, wear a knit cap. To stay cool in

summer, wear a baseball cap or visor.

- Think of your walk in three parts. Warm up by walking slowly for 5 minutes. Then, increase your speed and do a fast walk. This means walking fast enough to elevate your heart rate while still being able to speak comfortably, concentrate, and breathe without effort. Finally, cool down by walking slowly again for 5 minutes.
- Do light stretching after your warm-up and cool-down. To avoid stiff or sore muscles and joints, start gradually. Over several weeks, begin walking faster, going further, and walking for longer periods of time.
- Try to walk at least three times per week. Each week, add 2 or 3 minutes to your walk. If you walk less than three times per week, you may need more time to adjust before you increase the pace or frequency of your walk.
- Set goals and rewards. Examples of goals are participating in a fun walk or walking continuously for 30 minutes.
- Keep track of your progress with a walking journal or log. Record date, time, and distance.
- The more you walk, the better you may feel and the more calories you may burn.

Experts recommend at least 150 minutes each week of moderate intensity physical activity. Divide these minutes up over the week as your schedule allows. The more you walk the more health benefits you may gain!

### Safety Tips

- If you walk at dawn, dusk, or night, wear a reflective vest or brightly colored clothing.
- Walk in a group when possible and carry some identification with you, as well as a way to contact someone if you need help.
- Notify family and friends of your group's walking time and route.
- Do not wear jewelry or headphones.
- Be aware of your surroundings.

### Taking the First Step

Walking correctly is very important:

- Walk with your chin up and your shoulders held slightly back.
- Walk so that the heel of your foot touches the ground first. Roll your weight forward.
- Walk with your toes pointed forward.
- Swing your arms naturally as you walk.

If walking fewer than three times per week, give yourself two weeks before increasing the pace and frequency.

*Wellness Quote....* “You have not failed until you quit trying.”

## Skookum Scholarship Program

Coming Soon:



## Skookum Scholarship Program

We are excited to announce that 2014 marks the 2nd year for Skookum's Scholarship Program! Skookum truly believes in supporting higher education in our employees and their children. All current Skookum employees, past employees employed during 2014, and their children are eligible to apply. Each winner will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to help cover the cost of their tuition. Please keep an eye out for this year's scholarship program announcement in the Skookum Skoop Newsletter and the Skookum Employee Webpage.

*Natalie Campbell | Marketing & Communications Manager | Executive Assistant*

## Skookum Excellence Award

The winner will receive a \$100 Prize along with a Skookum Excellence Pin. This award is based on our Core Values.

**The Skookum Excellence Award Nomination Form**



To Nominate Go to: [www.skookum.org](http://www.skookum.org)

Fill in form and click submit.

Your nomination will go directly to Skookum CEO, Jeff Dolven

Anyone is welcome to nominate a Skookum employee for this award; customers, supervisors, employees, peers, managers, etc...