



The **SKOOKUM** *Skoop*

March 2016



Curtis Bay, MD

Curtis Bay Welcomes Skookum



Skookum finished 2015 by starting a new contract servicing the US Coast Guard at Curtis Bay, Maryland, Skookum's first Coast Guard contract. The shipyard or the "YARD" is the only USCG shipyard on the East Coast, just south of Baltimore. The YARD provides critical repairs to USCG buoy tenders, cutters, navigational aids, and the USCG Academy historic ship, Barque EAGLE. Our 30 employees provide facilities maintenance services, 24/7 boiler and compressed air operations, grounds maintenance, HVAC and utilities maintenance. **Bill McKenzie** from our Bangor operation has assumed site manager responsibilities along with **Cory Golden** as his deputy. Perhaps the biggest challenge in Skookum's scope of responsibilities is snow removal throughout the YARD. That challenge was tested in mid-January, when a "monster" 1,000-mile wide winter storm barreled its way up the East Coast and engulfed the YARD in its path. The Skookum Team, with help from our subcontractors went head-to-head, battling the 29.2 inch Maryland record snowfall.

Our team worked 24/7 operations for more than three days straight, plowing, loading, scraping ice, sanding, and overall clearing snow, and Skookum loaded out more than 400 dump truck loads of the white stuff. The team could not leave the YARD because Maryland was placed on a "state of emergency" status, and most cities were completely shut down.

Curtis Bay opened up two days earlier than the surrounding military bases in the area, and the YARD was fully operational on-time as requested.



Bill McKenzie | Site Manager | Curtis Bay, MD

Changes at Skookum JBLE

January was a big month for Skookum at Joint Base Langley Eustis (JBLE). We turned over the Fuel Operations to the 733rd Logistics Readiness Squadron, which is an Air Force unit at Langley Air Force Base, due to joint base transformation. At the present time, we are in the process of working with our customer on adding additional manpower due to GCSS-Army conversion.

JBLE also received its ISO Certification with Verisys Registrars. I want to take this opportunity to thank **Earl Nichols** who is JBLE's ISO Representative. Earl did a terrific job! I also want to thank everyone who worked with Earl to ensure all of the documentation was accurate.

Both **Linda Bryant**, Supply Tech, and **Maria Figueroa**, Stock Clerk returned to work after being out for a few months. It has been very nice having everyone back at work.

Jean Spell | Site Manager | JBLE, VA

Skookum Welcomes Frederick Spencer to NRL



In January, Skookum welcomed **Frederick Spencer** as the new Project Manager (PM) for our Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) Transportation Operations in Washington DC. **Frederick** arrives following a 20+ career in the US Army with a wealth of transportation expertise. He succeeds **Duke Pendergast** who served as our PM since we took over the contract 4 years ago. **Frederick** has hit the ground running learning the various functions of NRL. Skookum developed a fantastic reputation with our customers at the laboratory due to the strong and dedicated service of our 14 employees. We provide critical services such as vehicle and equipment maintenance, shuttle bus support, VIP personnel movement throughout Washington, DC metro area, cargo and supply movements, and transportation support services. Skookum continues to be passionate in their support of the Navy's laboratory mission. Welcome, **Frederick**!

Robert (Bob) Cordell | General Manager | Bremerton, WA

March Birthdays!

2	Alexander Horton	10	Stephen Santacroce	19	Richard Ramsey
2	Clifford Berlin	11	Connie Cryer	20	Michael Smith
2	Christopher Crittenden	11	Christopher Stange	20	DeRichieen Jelks
3	Carolyn Dubler	12	Scott Coffman	20	Gregory Fitch
3	Bruce McDade	12	Jerry Berlin	20	Rosa Escalera
3	Todd Fluke	12	Dennis Jarnigan	21	Bradley Moscou
3	Christopher Riso	13	Gabriel Brothers	21	Michelle Ogan
3	David Sutton	13	RaShaun Parker	21	Ariel Duckworth
4	Paul Rountree	13	Ricky Ketcham	21	Fredrick Knott Sr
4	Irene Bush	14	Dale Moore	22	Abraham Goldberg
5	Clyde Nabors	15	Ashleigh Jennings	23	Lorenzo Smith
5	Grace Spencer	15	Jonathan Pate	23	Vincent Pollard
5	Victor Dominguez	15	John Chavis	24	Ronald Potts
5	Cory Golden	15	Robert McComb	25	Charles Dickson Jr
5	Robin Merrell	16	Jodi Kainu	26	Albert Johnsen
6	Randy Hartman	16	Luis Cartagena-Burgos	26	Timothy Dolezal
6	Joshua Germain	16	Jesse Crews Sr.	27	Kassidy Deibert
7	Michael Miller	16	Jotiar Haji	27	Lakendrion Wright
7	Nettie Hawkins	16	Heather Larson	27	David Reeder
8	Mazi Akil	17	Mark Carlin	28	Jeanette Thompson
9	Michelle Feedor	18	Cory Miller	28	Stacy Gravely
9	William Walker	18	Janene Frenette	30	Gregory Baletto
10	Edward Garrido	18	George Jacob	30	Craig Poitevint
10	Terry Moore	19	Nathan Myers	31	Kenneth Moreland
10	Mary Adams	19	Ryan Rieks	31	Bryant Andrews
10	Marcus Bird	19	Christopher Lewis	31	Martin Fritz Jr.

March President's Excellence Award Winners

Skookum Safety Culture Award

David Sutton & Bill Thurston - Grounds Crew, Fort Lee, VA

Nominated by: **Ann Robins**, QC & Safety Manager, Fort Lee, WA

David and **Bill** are team members of the Roads and Grounds Crew at Fort Lee. They are models of safety excellence to their colleagues, and there is never a question or concern that they have the appropriate safety measures in place. Leading by example, they are always in full Skookum PPE for all tasks. They share their extensive knowledge of grounds maintenance and skills with heavy equipment with junior members of the team. Our customers consistently mention them by name with positive service feedback for the excellent and professional job that was completed.

They are called upon in difficult jobs to assess the hazards for some of the more difficult situations that require special skills and other than normal approach to service request. When they find a service issue, equipment failure or special tool need, they don't just come with a problem, but they bring a potential solution at the same time. This attention to detail, "can do" attitude, and dedication to the Skookum mission is evident to all who meet them.

Rod Cunningham, Dwayne Flannery & Shelley Christopherson - Naval Hospital Bremerton, WA
Nominated by: **D.K. Weiss**, Commanding Officer, Naval Hospital Bremerton

Naval Hospital Bremerton would like to convey our appreciation to several of Skookum's hospital janitorial staff members. Recently we received an email from one of our staff who has many years of experience maintaining hard surface floors and noted that *"the quality of floor care in the hospital is clearly trending up in recent months and wanted to thank Ms. Violeta Candare and Mr. Marcus Bird for having good people who tirelessly maintain the cleanliness of this hospital and for good hiring and management practices in place."* During his time spent working the night shift, he routinely sees staff members *"doing things right to ensure we have a hospital that looks clean and well cared for."* He also noted *"cleanliness is one way our patients judge the quality of this Medical Treatment Facility"*.

Skookum's services play a key role in the first impression of our staff, inspectors, patients, and visitors. CDR Pate specifically noted the excellent work performed by the floor crew members, **Mr. Rod Cunningham, Mr. Dwayne Flannery, and Ms. Shelley Christopherson** stating *"it takes integrity to do quality work in the middle of the night when nobody else is around"*. The Skookum team's efforts have contributed greatly to the mission and effectiveness of Naval Hospital Bremerton, and I offer my sincere thanks for a *"Job Well Done"*.

Skookum Honors Robin Counsellor



It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of one of our own. Skookum employee, **Robin Counsellor** passed away on Saturday February 20th. Robin joined the Skookum Home Office in May 2012 working in the Finance Department, where she also often filled in working the front reception desk.

Robin was a joy to work with and was always an active participant in our home office events, such as our Halloween costume parties and Holiday Sweater contests; she always took home a prize for one of the most voted categories! She was always cheerful and greeted you with a wonderful smile. Robin will be deeply missed and our thoughts and condolences go out to her son and all of her family. We are so sorry for your loss.



Skookum Scholarship Program

We are excited to announce the 2016 Skookum Scholarship Application is opening on March 28, 2016! Skookum truly believes in supporting higher education for our employees and their children. All current Skookum employees, past employees (employed during 2016), and their children are eligible to apply. Each winner will receive a \$1,000 scholarship to help cover the cost of their tuition and/or books.

You will be able to find the link to the Scholarship Application on both the Employee Page of Skookum's Website and on Skookum's Facebook page.

Applications will be accepted from Monday, March 28th until Friday, May 27th.

Winners will be announced Friday, June 24th.

Natalie Vann / Communications Specialist / Executive Assistant / Home Office

Fort Riley gets New Irrigation System



Fort Riley Grounds Maintenance recently completed the installation of a new irrigation system at the Fort Riley Victory Chapel. This new system consists of 25 different watering zones and will save the Directorate of Public Works (DPW) thousands of dollars hand watering the lawn around the chapel during the summer. The amazing aspect of this new project was having the sprinkler system tested and accepted by the DPW in the middle of February when snow should be covering the ground! The saying in Kansas is, "if you don't like the weather now, just wait 5 minutes, it will change." Our team is off to a solid start in 2016 and they look forward to celebrating their one year contract anniversary in April. **Damon Darroch**, Site Manager, and his team have developed a strong relationship with DPW and provided outstanding customer service, quality performance and ensured safety first.

Robert (Bob) Cordell | General Manager | Bremerton, WA

"LIKE" us on Facebook!



Stay up-to-date on Skookum News and Updates by "Liking" our facebook page. Find us on facebook under: Skookum Contract Services

New to Skookum?

Get the Skoop sent to directly to your inbox. Sign-up to receive our newsletter by email!

www.skookum.org/news-media/newsletter

To receive "The Skoop" newsletter via email click ["Sign up to Receive Newsletter"](#)

Introducing Skookum's Programs Team

The Programs team supports Skookum's mission by working with Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), Developmental Disability Administration (DDA), Division of Services for the Blind (DSB) and other state and local agencies to support people with disabilities in finding and maintaining meaningful employment within the communities of Jefferson and Kitsap Counties.

The Programs team is made up of Employment Specialists and Job Coaches who work together to conduct Community Based Assessments and Discovery and Person Centered Planning to learn a client's interests, skills, and abilities. They also identify possible barriers to employment and create accommodations to ensure the client's success once they are employed. The Employment Specialists then assist clients with all aspects of their job search such as creating resumes, completing applications, and practice interviewing. The next step is to go out into the community and meet with potential employers, help them to identify their business needs, and match them with a client/employee who can fulfill that need. The Job Coaches provide support to the Employment Specialists and the clients throughout the process and continue providing long term 'follow along', funded by DDA, for eligible clients for as long as they are employed.

Our team is made up of a diverse group of people coming from many different backgrounds who have many different interests, skills, and abilities of their own and share one common goal: Creating Opportunities for People with Disabilities.

Meet Our Team:



Candy Kerr
Employment Specialist
Port Townsend



Robin Burdick
Employment Specialist
Port Townsend



Nettie Hawkins
Employment Specialist
Port Townsend



Amanda Gorley
Vocational/Programs Assistant
Bremerton/Port Townsend



Taylor Webster
Job Coach
Port Townsend



Shauna Warren, Community
Employment Programs Manager
Bremerton/Port Townsend



Debra Fa'a'ita
Employment Specialist
Bremerton



Jamie Handy
Employment Specialist
Bremerton



Mark Carlin
Employment Specialist
Bremerton



Alysha Erickson
Employment Specialist
Bremerton



Ben Steinmetzer
Job Coach
Bremerton



Isolde Perry
Job Coach
Port Townsend



Robert McComb
Job Coach
Port Townsend

WSMR Welcomes Warm Weather and New Faces

We want to wish you a happy and warm hello from White Sands Missile Range! It is getting warmer and we are loving it as we begin dusting off the BBQ and welcoming the warm weather with open arms. Time for family backyard BBQs!

It is also change-over time and we are working extra hard to get the HVAC units in proper working order. We would like to welcome two new HVAC technicians, **Jesse Cervantes** (left) and **Jorge Jimenez** (right); glad to have you on our team! Also, we thank **Mr. Joseph Rodriguez** (middle) for all his hard work and dedication to Skookum. Joseph was previously our QC Safety Specialist II and recently accepted the Specialist I position.



Valerie Flores | Maintenance Scheduler / WSMR, NM

Skookum Baby Alert!



Will Wright, our Operations Manager at Skookum Fort Lee, and his wife, Margaret, and son, Jericho, welcomed their second baby boy on February 22, 2016.

Ronen Kolaiah Wright was 7 lbs. 14 oz. and 21 inches long. His name is Hebrew for “Song of Joy in God’s Voice.” Welcome to the Skookum family, baby Ronen!

Skookum Safety Zone: Safety Incentives

The Safety Department would like to take this opportunity to express its appreciation to **Steve Fuhrman**, General Maintenance Worker for the Home Office and surrounding local divisions. In recent months, Steve has installed plumbed eyewash stations at the Bangor and Bremerton Janitorial areas and built interior walls to divide a large space into an office and conference room at the Port Townsend location.

Steve has also been vital in assisting with the implementation of several safety improvements at the Home Office to include security upgrades in the emergency safe rooms and CAD maps showing all the emergency exits. Steve not only fulfills typical work orders, but has also contributed several innovative ideas and solutions. His final work product reflects the utmost in professional standards and Chris and Jenn are very grateful for Steve’s creativity, skillful approach, and willingness to assist them in achieving their safety goals.

Chris Crittenden | Safety Program & Environmental Manager
Jenn Johnson | Quality & Safety Admin Assistant

Another Skookum Baby

Congratulations to **Lauren Hill**, Vocational Specialist, Home Office and J.D. Brillhart on the arrival of their baby girl, Vivian!

She was born January 22nd, and measured 20 inches long and 7 lbs. 7 oz.





Skookum Wellness

March 2016

Skookum's Wellness Worksite Champions Rock!

Each month, the site wellness champions meet to discuss what's going on at each site. I can not begin to express how impressed I am on a constant basis at the enthusiasm and creativity that the wellness champions possess. In addition to their regular jobs, our champions have committed to help develop and promote Skookum's vision for worksite wellness. Since each site is unique in it's own daily operations, the wellness champions develop plans to promote wellness the best way for each individual site. The worksite wellness champions work hard to create and promote wellness events. They also serve an important role as liaison between the Department Managers, Wellness Program Committee, and the work location employees.

Skookum takes pride in promoting the six dimensions of wellness model to our employees through our wellness programs at each site.

1. The occupational dimension recognizes personal satisfaction and enrichment in one's life through work.
2. The physical dimension recognizes the need for regular physical activity.
3. The social dimension encourages contributing to one's environment and community.
4. The intellectual dimension recognizes one's creative, stimulating mental activities.
5. The spiritual dimension recognizes our search for meaning and purpose in human existence.
6. The emotional dimension recognizes awareness and acceptance of one's feelings.

(Six Dimensions of Wellness Model ©1976 by Bill Hettler, MD)

I wanted to send out a very special thank you to Skookum's worksite wellness champions. They are a huge asset, and the wellness programs would not be possible without them. The Wellness Committee is always welcoming people committed to excellence. If you are interested in becoming a wellness champion at your site, we'd love for you to join the team of worksite champions.

Happy Wellness!

Erica Schulte

Skookum Home Office



Skookum Veteran Spotlight



Meet **Mile Grant**, a Virgin Islands native, who works as a Stock Clerk in the Central Issue Facility (CIF) at Fort Hood, Texas. Mile is a Bronze Star recipient and Iraq War combat veteran who was in the Army for 16 years until 2012. He and his wife, Antoinette, served as a dual military couple and have seven wonderful children, three of whom are still in grade school and reside with him in Killeen, Texas. Mile is a humble, hard-working family man who loves spending his free time taking his children to practices and games. He is very proud of his family and has been a wonderful addition to our Skookum family at Fort Hood since January 2015.

"I love my job here. I am happy with my position and the people I work with." –Mile Grant

Chad Rogers | Veteran Vocational Specialist | Fort Meade, MD



Skookum President's Excellence Award

CORE VALUES



Partnership



Diversity



Commitment

SKOOKUM



Integrity



Quality

Each week, an employee wins the Skookum President's Excellence Award. The winner will receive a \$100 Prize along with a Skookum Excellence Pin. This award is given to an employee who has demonstrated excellence in one or more of our Core Values or exceptional commitment to Skookum's Safety culture. The winners are announced in the Skookum Skoop Newsletter every month. Anyone is welcome to nominate a Skookum employee for this award: customers, supervisors, employees, peers, managers, etc.



Exceptional Results with Extraordinary People

To nominate, go to: www.skookum.org/news-media/award-winners
Fill in form and click submit. Your nomination will go directly to Skookum CEO, Jeff Dolven.