We received numerous donations to Portlight and Skookum decided to donate the full $10,000 to help people with disabilities that were affected by multiple hurricanes this summer. Thank you to all who donated! It has been quite a year for natural disasters in our country, and every little bit helps. Please keep Portlight in mind in the future.

Recently, our Community Support Committee funded a Professional Wear Clothing Closet for four students who are part of the Central Kitsap School District’s Youth Employment Preparation Program. This program assists students with disabilities gain work experience while earning school credit for both non-paid and paid work placements. The students participated in a reverse hiring event in their new professional clothing to build interview skills.

The Community Support Committee seeks to further the mission of Skookum by expanding opportunities for people with disabilities in our local communities. Organizations serving people with disabilities, and whose mission closely aligns with Skookum’s, are encouraged to apply for funds. To refer an organization for an application, please contact Jessica Lockwood at jlockwood@skookum.org.

Let there be LIGHT! Some light is designed to help you see and other light is just made to be seen. It is said, “A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.”

Skookum is rolling into its 13th year servicing the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard’s lighting. The lighting crew is made up of Wes Tietge, Jeff Richardson, Bev Simpson, and Tate Wade. Together, they maintain 48,000 lights within the controlled industrial area. This crew has recently received an excellent report from the auditors in the NAVSEA office/Naval Reactors 4 Star Admiral, as well as a “BRAVO ZULU!” from the Deputy Director of Security, PSNS & IMF. The Deputy Director said, “Not often do we get any good reports from this NAVSEA office.” Great Job Skookum!

The most recent project that just wrapped up, consisted of an LED retrofit on top of the 220 ft. collimation tower located in the middle of the shipyard. The tower was constructed in 1964, fitted with an aircraft warning beacon made with an old school Fresnel lens and a flashing unit that used mechanical gear controls. We upgraded the tower with LED lights and electronic controls were installed, it has never looked so good. The light can be seen for miles. Skookum is currently working with a curator at the Puget Sound Navy Museum to donate and display the vintage warning beacon that was removed from the tower. Well Done Skookum! Keep shining your light for all to see!
As we head into the Holiday Season it is a good time to reflect on all the good work we have done over the last year for our communities. The Skookum Fort Meade team believes in giving back to the community and supporting organizations that raise funding for aid and research. There are so many worthy causes and organizations that are in need of not only financial aid but the support and donation of one’s personal time to maintain the continued support they each provide.

Non-profit organizations such as the American Red Cross, American Cancer Society, Habitat for Humanity, Planned Parent Hood, Make-A-Wish Foundation, American Heart Association, Human Society, and the Alzheimer’s Association to name a few that are made possible due to the time and funding donated by the average citizens of this country, including our staff at Fort Meade. Some give because of their life experiences, strong beliefs in the organizations work, or their desire to help. The truth is that no matter the reason, the support is needed and greatly appreciated as our nation is dealing with a series of destructive events. I fully believe that one gives from the heart, not for recognition. Listed below are some of the many ways the Skookum Fort Meade team has given their time, energy, and money.

- Supplied donation centers with food and clothing to assist the Florida, Texas & Puerto Rico Hurricane Relief efforts
- Participated in Multi-State organized motorcycle rides and events to raise awareness and funds for the Breast Cancer Society
- Adoption of animals from pet rescue shelter to provide a loving nurturing environment
- Participated in local Church events to feed and clothe the elderly & homeless
- Orchestrated the American Legion Disabled Veterans annual dinner
- Sponsored a foster child in Ethiopia
- Funded Project Calendar Girls to promote Education and Advancement of female Liberian students
- Volunteered coaching the Fort Meade youth Football and Basketball Teams.

Skookum has provided opportunities to its work force which provides them the ability give back to issues and concerns that are dear to them.

Eric Waters | Maintenance Supervisor | Fort Meade, MD

JBLM Janitorial is saying good bye to our Swing Lead, Bryan Abejon. Bryan has been with Skookum since August 2014 and has excelled through hard work and determination to become a Lead. Bryan is directly responsible for the high quality scores and performance numbers achieved by this division. Bryan is pursuing a college education that will open bigger doors.

During this quarter, the following employees received the Perfect Attendance Award: Jeffery Jennison, Cary Lawley and Song Kanan received $75. Charmin Mills and Derrick Nakahara received $50. Christopher Robinson, Kyong Pagniano, Marcus Kouth, Robert Johnston, Robert Saxton, Steven Deitz and Youn Sim received $25.

Tom Whipple | Project Manager | JBLM, WA
John Iafrati
Programmer Analyst, Bremerton, WA
Nominated by: Scott Smith, Site Manager, NSBOSC, WA

Commitment – in a compressed 3 month period, John configured, loaded, trained, and “went live” with a complete Maximo system supporting 125 people at North Sound BOSC including over 150 desktops and IPADs. He and his team spent countless hours over thousands of tasks to get this right. Moreover, he trained a very diverse and skeptical group who had not used a “full system” before. The system went live day 1 and, by day 3, significant buy-in and use was achieved. This accomplishment ranks very high in global Maximo deployments in time, cost and quality.

Jennifer R. Corwin, Security Guard, Bayview, ID
Nominated by: Christopher Adey, Guard Supervisor, Bayview, ID and Brett Gunderson, ARD Security Director, Bayview, ID

There is a cabinet in the Entry Control Point (ECP) building that houses a lot of Electronic equipment. It gets extremely dusty and dirty. Ms. Corwin noticed this and took it upon herself to give the entire cabinet a thorough cleaning. The cabinet measures approximately 8’x40”x24”. Our Security director even noticed it during a routine inspection of the ECP, “during my post inspection yesterday I noticed someone took the extra effort to clean the phone closet. That person should be recognized for going over and above cleaning that out as it was almost a fire hazard. Please tell whoever did it thank you for me!”

April Pino, Janitor, JBLM, WA
Nominated by: MSgt Agustin Juradosegovia, Logistics Chief, JBLM, WA

I am submitting this for your review and request April Pino be recognized for her dedication to her work.

April is extremely hard working, has great initiative, and always conducts herself in a professional manner. She is the exemplary employee to represent the Skookum organization. Her attitude is always positive and her interactions with all personnel here are always pleasant. In short, I wish more of my Marines were more like April. Thank you for your time and consideration to this matter.

Caprice Smith, On-Call Janitor, JBLM, WA
Nominated by: Victoria Barkley, Janitor Lead, JBLM, WA

Caprice is one of the hardest on-call’s I have seen in this company. She is always on time, willing to work with anyone, and do the hardest jobs. She has brought up the cleaning level of anyone she has come in contact with and her work ethic is something to marvel at.

She always comes in and has never called-in when she is scheduled. She is committed to making any task better. I am in truly impressed with this employee.
Skookum’s Fort Lee Team is finishing up Year 5 of the DPW BASOPS contract and we’re ready for more! Over the past four years, the Skookum Team has developed an award-winning execution program that made major DPW facilities maintenance program improvements to include service desk upgrades, handheld mobile device implementation, and preventive maintenance optimization. The team also completed a number of community support projects such as hosting a Presidential visit, constructing an access ramp for a local Vietnam War Veteran, and conducting storm recovery operations.

As always, Skookum’s primary goal has been to provide exceptional customer support, however, we wouldn’t be able to count our program a success without achieving high marks for safety and quality. To accomplish this, Fort Lee found ways to improve and expand its repertoire of existing safety and quality programs by:

- Developing in-house training programs and broadening the range of people who receive OSHA 10 & 30 courses and CPR & First Aid Training
- Increasing equipment operator training
- Providing training/coaching for personnel to receive CDL licenses
- Integrating Project Management into our Computerized Maintenance Management Systems
- Improving communications and increasing employee feedback by e-mails, targeted employee surveys, and Site Manager Lunch & Learn sessions.

One of the things that has made Skookum successful is reliance employees for feedback. The majority of our most significant improvements were inspired and/or implemented by the people who perform the work. Examples of employee-led improvement initiatives include: New pool maintenance requirements; Grass cutting optimization; Property and vehicle management; Lead/abatement programs; Railroad maintenance inspections; and, Generator monitoring and reporting.

The Skookum Fort Lee Team has demonstrated the fittingness of Newton’s first law of motion by metaphorically being an object that stays in motion, and from all accounts, does not appear to be slowing down. The next five years will no doubt bring more opportunities for the team to innovate and find creative solutions for complex problems. Here is just a sample of projects that we will be tackling over the next several years:

- Natural Gas System improvements and ARC GIS/Maximo integration
- Automating Training and Other
- Online Sub-Contractor and Vendor Registration
- Inventory control using barcodes and handheld devices
- Defensive Driving Certification Courses

All of the progress we have made and enjoyed can be attributed to the incredible commitment that our Fort Lee employees have made to Fort Lee customers, to each other, and to Skookum’s Core Values. This commitment is reflected by the appreciation the management team has for the great folks who make it their mission to do their very best everyday they come to work.

Thank you to every person who works at Fort Lee!

Will Wright | Operations Manager | Fort Lee, VA
Tips for a Healthier Holiday Season

The holidays give us many opportunities to over indulge and wreak havoc on our wellbeing. Below are some tips to follow to help keep you on track while still enjoying the holidays.

1. Remember the true spirit of the holiday and try to make your focus on spending time with family and friends. Don’t let the food be your center of attention. Enjoy a plate of your holiday favorites and a dessert. It’s also helpful to not stand by the food table were it is easy to keep nibbling while you socialize. Don’t use the holiday as an excuse to gobble until you wobble. To keep the amount you eat realistic ask yourself, would I eat three plates of food and 4 desserts on a normal day?

2. Cheers! There are many opportunities to enjoy a few too many adult beverages during the holidays. It’s a good idea to have a glass of water between your drinks. It will help keep you hydrated as well as help slow down your intake of holiday spirits.

3. Plan time to get out and exercise! Even if you can’t keep your normal fitness routine. Some exercise is better than none. This is also a great time of the year to participate in seasonal activities like skiing, or sledding.

4. Most of all enjoy the time that you get to spend with family and friends. It’s fun to go to parties but don’t feel like you have to go to all of them. It’s ok to say no.

5. Take time to relax. With so much going on it’s easy to become overwhelmed. Give yourself permission to take a mental break and just breath.
The Skookum President’s Excellence 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. Four winners are chosen every month and awarded with a $100 prize along with a Skookum Excellence Pin. Winners are announced in the Skookum Skoop Newsletter. Anyone is welcome to nominate a Skookum employee for this award: customers, supervisors, employees, peers, managers, etc.

NOMINATE SOMEONE EXCEPTIONAL TODAY

NEW! We’d like to introduce the new **Exceptional Service to the Field Award**. This will be given to an administrative employee who has demonstrated exceptional customer service to our folks in the field. Home Office Staff, as well as administrative staff on each contract, are eligible for nomination. This new award will be given quarterly and the winner will receive a $100 prize along with a Skookum Excellence Pin. Winners are announced in the Skookum Skoop Newsletter.

SKOOKUM Contract Services

**OUR CORE VALUES**

**INTEGRITY**
We have the Integrity to do what is right

**QUALITY**
We are passionate about Quality

**PARTNERSHIPS**
We believe in Partnerships that create long term relationships with our customers.

**DIVERSITY**
We value the Diversity each one of us brings to the team

**COMMITMENT**
We have Commitment to our employees, customers and fellow team.

BANGOR JANITORIAL WELCOMES TEAMMATES

Bangor and Keyport would like to give a warm welcome to the newest members of our crew: Devan Amerman, Ryan Upton, and Quintin Austad.

Devan and Ryan are going to be supporting our ever-growing Janitorial Contract. They both have recently gone through Skookum’s New Hire Orientation and the Janitorial Basics training with Dennis and Fred. Devan is courteous, kind and she is eager to learn. Ryan always has a smile on her face and is happy to be part of the team. Ryan is willing to help out where ever she is needed.

Quintin is going to be helping out in the Bangor office as our new General Clerk III. Quintin is very outgoing and will provide great customer service to our crews and customers. He will be the voice at the front desk, and he is looking to improve his job skills while working here and attending Olympic College. We look forward to seeing all of you excel with Skookum. Welcome to the Family!!

Charles Faulkner | Janitor Supervisor | Bangor, WA