

# The MIL CONNECTION

People Making *the* Difference

SUMMER 2012 ISSUE 02

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MIL Annual Crabfeast

## Contract Announcements

### **United States Department of Agriculture**

The MIL Corporation has recently expanded into the Land of Enchantment. In February, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service (FS) awarded MIL a five-year contract to provide Level 1 GovTrip e-travel help desk service.

The FS provides Temporary Duty Travel (TDY) services to its 35,000 permanent and temporary personnel. Because of the diverse FS mission, employees travel around the globe and MIL will assist them in securing TDY, as well as claiming reimbursements.

Based in beautiful Albuquerque, N.M., the staff of eight GovTrip experts provide excellent, nationally-recognized customer service to the 40,000+ FS employees. The FS travelers perform tasks such as putting out forest fires, maintaining wildlife habitat, creating and protecting forest trails, and developing recreation lands. The USDA-FS performs these and other tasks in the U.S., as well as many countries throughout the world.

The team, which includes **Jennifer Montano, Paige Parsons, Johnnie Scott, Paul Strid, Jenn Hughes, Shawn Stewart, Liz Iturralde, and Jenny Kwan**, is led by MIL Project Manager, **Bruce Canty** under the direction of MIL Vice President, **John Hinkson**. The GovTrip staff will provide:

- Timely, knowledgeable, courteous, and professional assistance to FS travelers.
- Enhanced FS traveler capabilities with the eTravel system through help desk responses, which teach FS travelers how to be self-sufficient with travel needs.
- Efficient and effective help desk staffing to ensure achievement of performance standards, while minimizing staff down time.
- Demonstrated value to FS travelers and financial savings through efficient and effective contractor approaches.

When dining in New Mexico, one is often asked, "red or green?" The question applies to a preference of chili, the favorite local food. This question can also be applied to a USDA-FS traveler in GovTrip. Travelers often are at a red light; feeling stopped because they cannot figure out the GovTrip system and require additional assistance. They usually get a green light to travel following the guidance from our top-notch MIL GovTrip Help Desk agents. The USDA-Forest Service will be implementing a new SAP-based financial system entitled FMMI in October. The MIL GovTrip Help Desk team is already working closely with Albuquerque Service Center Budget & Finance team with this FMMI implementation to ensure a smooth transition.

Congratulations on the win and thanks to everyone who provided support on the proposal. We would also like to welcome the team to the MIL family!

Celebrating 30+ Years of Service

# Contract Announcements (cont'd)

## China Lake, NAWCWD, RDT&E

MIL is currently providing the Naval Air Systems Command's (NAVAIR) Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWD) with expert consultation in the area of organizational communications strategy development and implementation. Over the next several months, MIL staffers **Jim Simmons**, **Denny Kline**, and **Liz Armogida** will be assisting NAWCWD executives in their examination of the current state of the organization's communications plans. Review of the communications plans includes their vehicles, tools, and key stakeholders in information dissemination.

After completing this current state assessment, the MIL team will help the organization to craft a new communications plan. The new plan will reflect their goals and expectations for future information sharing among its growing constituents. The new plan will recognize and comply with the realities of tightened budgets, potential organizational changes and restructuring, as well as emerging and evolving data sharing needs, among other real world challenges.

We appreciate the dedication and support being provided by Jim, Denny, and Liz. Keep up the great work!

## Central Travel Agency

As of April 12, 2012, **Rose Guyther** stepped down as the Program Manager for the Central Travel Agency (CTA). After four wonderful years in this position, Rose determined it was time to retire—for the second time. Rose retired after 37 years as a civilian with the Government in 2007. She surpassed her goal of working for two to three years in the private sector. Rose and her husband, Joe, have plenty to keep them busy between caring for elderly parents, traveling, biking, and swimming, to maintaining their and their parents' homes and having fun with grandchildren. Rose will continue her tenure with MIL as a consultant on special projects.

Rose gathered the team for one last photo that she can look at from time-to-time to remember her awesome team members. One of Rose's hobbies is photography and she has been known for taking fabulous pictures. Although there are several members of the CTA team that grumbled about Rose's need for pictures, someday they will be happy these pictures exist.



Back Row (L to R) – Judy Gibson, Tammy Linger, Eva Durkin, Barbara Henson (NSI), Trever Henson, Janet Lawrence, Kneeca Somerville-Blackwell 3rd Row (L to R) – Kristen Norton (NSI), Nga Nguyen-Felton, Millie Velazquez-Briscoe, Gwen Runion, Kayla Duffy, Vicky Siegel

2nd Row (L to R) – Greg Stevens, Kayla Amthor, Cathy Purcell (NSI), Ann Hewlett, Lisa George, Josie Gaido, Wanda Howard Front Row (L to R) – Rose Guyther, Terry Miles (NSI), Kristy Lingenfelter (NSI), Tonya Brown (NSI), Diana Gluz Not Shown – Brittanie Abell

Congratulations to **Diana Gluz** who has been selected to fill the position as Program Manager for the CTA project. Diana has been with CTA since July 2001. She started her CTA career as an Authorizations Review Agent and then served several years as a Help Desk Analyst. She was promoted to team lead in 2005 and quickly moved to an operations/senior manager in 2006. With over 10 years of experience with CTA, the team is in very competent hands. Diana will lead the team to continue their excellent services to the NAVAIR customers at Patuxent River.

The CTA would also like to introduce and welcome its newest team member, **Brittanie Abell**. Brittanie joined the team at the end of May and has quickly settled into her role as a claims review team agent and has become a valuable member of the team.

## CTA Kudos

The Authorization Review Team continues to provide support to the NAVAIR and Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAWCAD) community at Patuxent River and St. Inigoes, providing guidance to ensure that Navy travelers always travel with the proper documentation. A system upgrade created multiple challenges for a period, but the team was able to get through it and still provide customer service to the NAVAIR travel community. While they have been very busy since the first of the year, the Claims Review Team (CRT) is sure to provide top of the line customer service. In fact, we received comments on the exceptional performance of the CRT in which one customer equated members of the team as his "personal travel agent."

# Contract Announcements (cont'd)

Recently, a travel preparer sent kudos to **Eva Durkin**'s team lead, stating in part: "I just wanted to make you aware of the outstanding service Ms. Eva Durkin provided. She helped me resolve issues with DTS that I've been dealing with for months."

**Lisa George** also received praise for her work performance: "The assistance I received from Ms. Lisa George was very much appreciated. She went over and above to make sure that all of my questions were answered properly and emailed me some much needed links, which will help me in the future. Ms. George was very pleasant and professional. Ms. George has to be an asset to your organization. She is one of a kind!"

## PAX River, NAWCAD, RDT&E Contract News

Recently, MIL employees **Renee Green** and **Jeff Bailey** attended a Joint Mission Environment Test Capability (JMECT) Users Group Meeting in Tempe, AZ. Their purpose was to brief conference attendees on the new network tools hosted at the System Control (SYSCON) Center, located at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station. MIL provides network engineering and management to the JMECT Program Office at the Test Resource Management Center.

JMECT is a corporate approach for linking distributed Department of Defense facilities across the country, enabling customers to more rapidly develop, test, and evaluate warfighting capabilities in a joint context, often in a virtual environment. This approach helps to reduce the cost and time to plan and prepare for distributed joint testing by providing a readily-available, persistent connectivity with network security accreditation support, common integration software for linking sites, and accredited test tools for distributed testing. The JMECT SYSCON forms the enabling services to ensure rapid problem identification and solution, if and when they occur. It also provides the JMECT community's customers with a dedicated technical support team, which is staffed exclusively by MIL.

Renee and Jeff assist with various JMECT products, such as:

1. Persistent connectivity – Readily available Virtual Private Network configured for exchanging test data over an existing DoD network.
2. Middleware – Universal data distribution software used to control distribution of data between nodes.
3. Standard interface definitions – A collection of interface definitions and software algorithms that provide a common language used in data exchanges between systems.
4. Distributed test support tools – A collection of common software applications that assist test engineers to plan, prepare, set-up, check-out, monitor, and analyze the distributed test event exchanges between systems.
5. Data management solutions – A suite of data archiving solutions to store test data collected at multiple locations enabling efficient data collection and analysis for events.
6. Reuse repository – An online Web portal with relevant distributed event information (latest middleware, software components, documentation, lessons learned, meta-data) and Web-enabled collaboration services.

At the Users Group Meeting in May, Renee briefed the JMECT community on MyConnection Server, which delivers a broad range of automated and user initiated self-help connection testing and monitoring services. MyConnection Server provides end users with the ability to test their network bandwidth capacity, firewall rules, and other network components. Jeff briefed the forum on Adobe Connect. Adobe Connect offers an online meeting conference for event participants to share, communicate, and collaborate more efficiently during JMECT test events. Both briefs were well received by both the JMECT Users Group attendees and the JMECT Program Office at Pax NAS.

**Well done Renee and Jeff!**



# Conferences

## Federal Financial Management Conference

MIL attended the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program's annual Federal Financial Management Conference in May. The conference hosted an array of government officials leading panel discussions on current auditing, accounting, and financial management issues.

This year's Federal Financial Management Conference theme was, "Government Financial Management in Lean Times: The New Normal." MIL attended to learn about how the government is evolving with the state of federal financial management and new initiatives that will be put in place during these harder economic times.

"MIL has such a wide array of financial management support services and initiatives with our customers, that learning how government practices are evolving during these tough economic times is very important to us as an organization," MIL Senior Assistant Vice President, Karen McGee said. "Giving the best service at the most cost effective price is something everyone is looking for these days, and attending conferences like these gives us the tools to modify our practices to make sure we are hitting the mark."

## HDI 2012 Conference and Expo

Several of our Vice Presidents, along with a few members of our help desk team at Commerce, headed south in April to Orlando, Fla. to attend the Annual HDI 2012 Conference and Expo. The conference is always a premier venue for IT service and technical support professionals to engage and learn about today's most pressing service and support challenges.

The 22nd annual HDI conference attracted over 2,200 professionals ranging from seasoned directors to frontline analysts. The HDI Conference and Expo has long been a training resource for MIL as our help desk professionals support users from around the globe. This conference provided the opportunity to bring back important tools and techniques to better standardize help desk processes as well as expand our knowledge.

The conference boasted 80 break-out sessions, six keynote speakers, and eight in-depth tracks to inspire education and innovation throughout the week.

## COLLABORATE 12: Technology and Applications Forum for the Oracle Community Event

This past April, we attended COLLABORATE 12: Technology and Applications Forum for the Oracle Community. The event is a platform for over 5,000 Oracle users to enjoy a collaborative experience, hosted jointly by Oracle Applications User Group,

Independent Oracle Users Group, and Quest.

The 2012 forum was designed for and by users to attend dynamic sessions featuring tips, techniques, and best practices for the growing family of Oracle Applications: E-Business Suite, Fusion Applications, Hyperion, Siebel, PeopleSoft, Primavera, and more.

"Events like these allow us to analyze what we are doing for our customers and how we can improve upon our standards of practice," said Assistant Vice President, Jeff Suhanick. As an Oracle Certified Gold Partner, MIL is continuously looking for ways to improve upon its practices. COLLABORATE 12 enabled MIL staffers to take part in numerous skill-building opportunities, which gave us innovative ideas for our federal financial management professionals.

## American Society of Military Comptrollers, National Professional Development Institute Event



Sonya Holland, John Yansky, Samantha Cohen

In June, MIL senior management attended ASMC PDI in Anaheim, Calif. The Professional Development Institute (PDI) facilitates the enhancement of skills and abilities that personnel in the financial and resource management community must possess to meet the challenges of working in the 21st century. This year, the PDI focus was on education and training- it offered more than 20 hours of educational sessions and speakers, and the ability to earn up to 26 continuing professional education (CPE) credit hours. The sessions informed attendees of updates to emerging issues and tips to help professionals transform today for tomorrow's success. MIL was able to listen to a series of excellent speakers present on trends and describe tactics that will help us to tackle organizational challenges and develop innovative solutions.

Attending a premier training event for defense financial managers, such as this one, provides MIL with the opportunity to go through a check-and-balance of our services so that we may best assist our customers. Thanks to those who attended to keep us up-to-speed on financial management excellence!

# Conferences (cont'd)



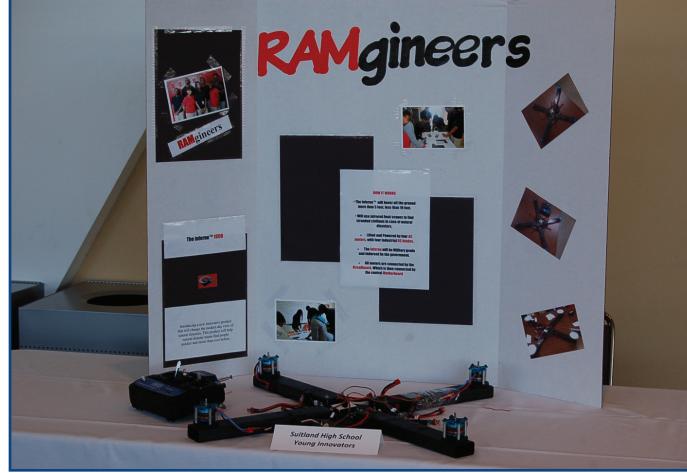
Lloyd Farmer and Dr. Jeanette Epps



Lloyd presenting at EduSerc



Suitland High RAMgineers



RAMgineers 2012 Engineering project: "The Inferno"

## MIL Participates in the EduSerc Convention

MIL continues its support to EduSerc (Educators Serving the Community) through participation in the EduSerc annual convention. Since 2003, this convention has been held at the Baltimore Convention Center, training thousands of youths in the fields of science, engineering, and information technology. EduSerc also focuses on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), and provides job training and career development to members of the community.

MIL Vice President, Lloyd Farmer, participated in a panel discussion on the importance of STEM for future generations. Lloyd addressed the group about careers in information technology and also introduced the Keynote Speaker, Jeanette Epps, Ph.D., from the NASA Astronaut Class of 2009.

Dr. Epps is one of two women selected out of 3,500 candidates for the recent NASA space program to become one of our next top astronauts in the U.S. At this year's convention, Dr. Epps received an award for her contributions to EduSerc. In addition, MIL provided direct sponsorship to the Young Innovators Chapter of EduSerc at Suitland High School.

As a result of this sponsorship, several members of the Suitland High chapter (RAMgineers) were able to attend the conference and present their 2012 engineering project named "The Inferno." The project uses infrared heat scopes to find stranded civilians in case of a natural disaster.

**Thank you, Lloyd for your dedication to EduSerc! MIL is very happy and proud to support the next generation of engineers!**

# Membership

*This spring, MIL joined several alliances and associations to show support for our communities and as a means to strive for continuous improvement and education as an organization. Joining these types of groups helps MIL stay connected and up-to-date on the trends and issues in our service areas, while serving as a platform to help others and raise awareness.*

## Army Alliance

MIL recently joined the Army Alliance as a “2 Star Corporate Sponsor.” The Alliance is a non-profit civic organization that works on behalf of the Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG), an Army Installation Management Agency, which hosts units and activities of nine major Army Commands.

Established in 2001, the Army Alliance was formed to support APG programs and infrastructure by informing government and the community, promoting a clear, coherent image of APG, and enhancing the Post as a national asset. Working to ensure and enhance the vitality, visibility and awareness of the APG, the Army Alliance is sponsored by individuals, government contractors, local Northeastern Maryland businesses, and grants.

The Army Alliance uses community and sponsor support to achieve its goals of increasing its local job force, economy, and technology base. Through its efforts, the Alliance has secured over \$200M for APG-related programs.

## Northeastern Maryland Technology Council

MIL is now a member of the Northeastern Maryland Technology Council (NMTC), one of Maryland’s fastest growing technology organizations. The group connects many successful technology companies and growing enterprises, as well as government and academic leaders. NMTC strives to accelerate economic growth and expand the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) educated workforce throughout Md. The organization achieves its mission through its networks by fostering a process that allows technology industries to connect, collaborate, grow, prosper, and sustain their communities.

As an NMTC member, MIL will have the opportunity to interact with other professionals and organizations through events, programs, presentations, and conferences, as well as have access to training opportunities. As a part of this organization, MIL joins the ranks of those who represent companies and government agencies with billions of dollars in purchasing power. This membership also allows the ability to network with those whose influence and connections stretch beyond the region.

## Fort Meade Alliance

MIL has joined the Fort Meade Alliance, a 501(c)4 non-profit independent community membership organization created to promote Fort George G. Meade as an economic asset and resource to the region. As a 2 Star Member, MIL is among more than 275 large and small companies, government agencies, community organizations, and non-profit groups representing 60,000 employees in the Fort Meade Region.

The Alliance’s mission is to support and promote Fort George G. Meade (FGGM) as an economic asset and resource to the region. As a part of this unit, MIL joins a group that plays a critical role as a leader in the community, championing and facilitating Fort Meade regional initiatives to remain the first choice for military services, civilian support services, and federal departments and agencies.

# MIL CARES

## MIL CARES takes Great Strides

MIL CARES teamed up with the Woodburn family this spring to support the fight against Cystic Fibrosis (CF) at the Second Annual Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Great Strides walk in Leonardtown, Md. With help from friends and family, MIL Systems Analyst, Casey Woodburn and his wife, April, brought the event to the area last year to aid in fundraising efforts for a cure, inspired by their son, Waylon, who is afflicted with CF.

MIL signed on as a community sponsor and formed team MIL CARES to walk on a beautiful and sunny day in May. The event was full of energy, with approximately 400 participants wandering the grounds of the scenic Leonardtown Wharf in anticipation of the walk. Live music and a cool breeze had everyone in high spirits, especially when it was announced that in the previous year, the Leonardtown Great Strides walk raised the second highest amount for a first-year walk in the entire United States at \$46K. This year, the group raised over \$65K to benefit the cause.

"We chose Great Strides because it benefits the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and nearly 90 cents of every dollar goes directly toward CF research," said April. "We are so happy and grateful for MIL in its support for this cause, which is so near and dear to our hearts!"



Cia Cook, Rhonda Cadogan, Adam Ptack and Erin Cooper walk for MIL CARES



The Great Strides Walk for Cystic Fibrosis began at the Leonardtown Wharf

Today, Waylon is three-years-old and has showed true strength. He has fought several lung infections, endures daily breathing treatments, chest physical-therapy, special diets, and a multitude of medications in addition to routine trips to see his doctors and visit the hospital.

"He never ceases to amaze me," said April. "Even when he is at his sickest, he always puts that silly, big smile on his face. We are so proud of him and how he handles all of his special maintenance requirements! What three-year-old do you know who can swallow 18-27 pills a day? Waylon can!"

MIL was proud to help Waylon and those like him fight for a cure at the Great Strides Walk! With effective fundraisers like these, we are helping those who are affected by CF have a chance to live long and healthy lives.

Thank you to all who participated in the walk and donated to the cause! To learn how to get involved, visit [www.cff.org](http://www.cff.org).

## MIL CARES Preps Food for Those in Need

MIL CARES took part in the DC Central Kitchen's (DCCK) mission to provide meals to individuals and families who often go hungry. However, the DCCK is not what you would think. It's not a soup kitchen, rather a bustling kitchen that prepares over 3,000 pounds of food that may otherwise be thrown out by local restaurants and businesses into 4,500 meals for delivery... DAILY.

DCCK chefs, staff, and volunteers load these meals onto their fleet of trucks and deliver them to 100 partner agencies in the Washington metropolitan area, including homeless shelters, rehabilitation clinics, and after-school programs, at little to no cost.

MIL Service Center team members recently visited the facility and helped to prepare meals on an evening after work. The experience was very rewarding, and the chefs and staff patiently taught everyone how to properly cut fresh vegetables for meals as well as package healthy snacks for those receiving the deliveries.

In addition to providing meals to men, women, and children in the community, the Meal Distribution Program also acts to provide long-term solutions to hunger. By acting as the classroom for the DCCK's Culinary Job Training Program, the Kitchen gives men and women the chance to gain valuable job skills and contribute back to the community at the same time.



Rhonda Cadogan, Dian Paramita, Nita Santoso & Jessica Downing work together to prep food

# MIL CARES (cont'd)

Since its founding in 1989, DCCK has prepared 25 million meals for low-income and at-risk neighbors in Washington, DC. MIL was proud to be a part of their mission to combat hunger! Thanks to all who participated!

To learn how to get involved, visit their website here, <http://www.dccentralkitchen.org/>



Erin Cooper busy prepping veggies



Rhonda...and yellow stuff!

## MIL Races for Cancer Survivors

What do you get when you cross Cinco de Mayo with traditional Chinese dragon boat racing? One of Charleston's most fun, best attended charity events: The Charleston Dragon Boat Festival, which raises money for people going through cancer treatment and cancer survivors.

This year, MIL sponsored a team of 20 paddlers. Paying homage to the relaxed signature dance of the South, the Shag, the "MIL Shaggin' Dragons" joined a field of 66 teams ranging from cancer survivors and corporate teams to intimidating contenders like the Bonecrushers and the four-time winners, the Vikings.

"I think we were all a little nervous the first time we got onto the water together," said team captain, Sally Beckett-Jeffery. "But what an incredible feeling when we all started paddling in unison."

Unlike many sports, the key to dragon boat racing is not strength, but synchronicity. When everyone paddles together, the boat glides across the water with ease. After a few soaked sleeves and a couple bruised fingers, the MIL Shaggin' Dragons found their groove.

This year's Dragon Boat Festival raised over \$109,000 for wellness and fitness programs for cancer patients and survivors. With so much money being committed to cancer research, survivors are often left to fend for themselves just when they need guidance and support in their continued fight. Dragon Boat

Charleston provides this support through dragon boat clinics and races, workout regimens, and healthy eating programs. MIL contributed over \$2,100 through corporate sponsorship, t-shirt sales, and individual fundraising.

The cherry on top? The MIL Shaggin' Dragons placed third in their division, beating their closest rival in the final race by an astounding 8-second margin.

With a Chinese dragon piñata swinging overhead in the late afternoon breeze, team stroke, Heather Teague said, "We will definitely be back next year. Great cause, cool vibe, and 'team-work' expressed in a whole new way."



MIL Shaggin' Dragons

# MIL CARES (cont'd)



Racing to raise money for cancer patients and survivors.



MIL Shaggin' Dragons placed 3rd in the Charleston Dragon Boat Festival.

## MIL CARES for the CURE

On a warm and breezy June morning, MIL CARES took on a new challenge this year: the Susan G. Komen's Race for the Cure Global event in support of the fight against Breast Cancer. Approximately 25 MIL team members showed up to form Team MIL CARES for the CURE to walk or run among thousands of participants in Washington, D.C.

Susan G. Komen™ is recognized as the world's largest breast cancer organization and the largest source of nonprofit funds dedicated to the fight against breast cancer with more than \$1.9 billion invested to date.

MIL Assistant Vice President, Jeff Suhanick, has participated in the event for several years and after speaking with several other employees, realized making it a company effort would be a great move. He suggested it to the MIL Service Center and MIL CARES for the CURE team was formed.

"The event is so much fun and supports such an amazing cause," said Jeff. "I couldn't be happier that we made it part of MIL CARES this time around."

MIL CARES for the CURE and its supporters contributed approximately \$1,000 to the cause! Thank you to everyone who participated in such a worthy event!



Chantelle Berry and her sister, Richelle, all decked-out for the race.



Team MIL CARES for the CURE.

# MIL CARES (cont'd)



Julie Aguilera and Jeff Suhanick.



Dian Paramita, Yuanita Santoso and friends support Race for the Cure together.

## MIL Charleston-bred Band makes Finals in FORTUNE Battle of the Corporate Bands

The Cordovans, a local Charleston, S.C. rock band, whose members met while working at MIL, decided to enter the FORTUNE Battle of the Corporate Bands this year. After being picked as a contestant and competing in the regional finals, the group won a spot in the final round of the competition. Where might this take place? At the one and only Rock 'N Roll Hall of Fame.

The Cordovans' blend of high energy blues and rock performances, along with soulful Americana ballads keep audiences coming back for more across the greater Charleston area. Members Beau Johnson, Billy New, and Nick Zareski blend their original Lowcountry melodies with fan favorites at watering holes all across the region.

"Even though many fans guess we are a band of brothers due to our style and loose resemblance, we are not related – just co-workers," said Nick. "While working together at The MIL Corporation, Beau was introduced to Billy as a fellow singer/songwriter and they began to collaborate. Beau and I knew each other from playing together in other bands in the past and he brought me in to rhythmically round out the mix."

Billy, a payroll help desk team lead at MIL, shares the role of singer/guitarist with Beau, a previous systems accountant at MIL. Nick, a MIL compensation analyst, adds to the group on the drums and with his vocals.

The rock group competed against a smaller group of the 18 bands selected at the regional finals. This leg of the competition took place in New Orleans, La., where The Cordovans ultimately won a spot in the fall finals, which gives them a slot to compete against seven other bands at the Rock 'N Roll Hall of Fame.

The competition, which celebrates musicians with day jobs, was put in place to raise funds to benefit The Rock Hall Education Programs. The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, a non-profit, prides itself in knowing that its education programs have become one of the most celebrated and award-winning emanating from any fine arts museum in the nation. All entry fees must be fundraised by the band to enter each round of the competition, with full proceeds going to the Education Program.

"We are awed by the opportunity to play at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame," said Beau. "New Orleans was our first true road trip as a band and winning the semi-finals truly served as validation of all the hard work and passion we put into our preparation and the performance. We very much look forward to representing The MIL Corporation in Cleveland and cannot express enough thanks for the support the company and our co-workers have given us throughout this journey."

Congrats to The Cordovans! MIL couldn't be prouder to have such a fine group of musicians representing the company. Want to learn/hear more? Check out their Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/TheCordovans](http://www.facebook.com/TheCordovans).



Members of The Cordovans: Beau Johnson, Billy New, and Nick Zareski

# Employee of the Month

## April

**Karen Hall** has supported MIL's NAVAIR projects for over 23 years, and is a recognized expert on Navy Marine Corp Intranet (NMCI) technology. Karen consistently demonstrates technical excellence in her handling of complex NMCI issues, while maintaining a professional and amiable approach to customer service. As MIL's primary point of contact and leader of the 5.1 NMCI support team, Karen is responsible for ensuring her users have uninterrupted service to the NMCI network and is available to assist NAVAIR military, civilian, and contractor staff in accomplishing their important, mission-critical support activities.

Within the last month, MIL project management has received feedback via email from two of our AIR 5.1 customers, Mr. Paul Hurt and Ms. Jackie White, describing Karen's outstanding support services. On April 12, we received an e-mail from Mr. Hurt, the Deputy Maintenance Officer supporting HX-21. In his email, Mr. Hurt stated:

*"As you know, Karen is our NMCI coordinator here at HX-21. She has been doing an outstanding job in that capacity! Her work ethics are above reproach. Ms. Hall's problem solving ability, tenacity in following projects and issues, as well as her over all ability to "get the job done" make her indispensable in our day in, day out operation here at HX-21. She is THE subject matter expert on NMCI here at HX-21."*



Karen Hall

*Karen anticipates issues and seeks resolutions ahead of time, often protecting the 5.1 employees' computer access from their own potential actions. She understands our needs and represents our requirements very well at broadly attended IT meetings. She has a strong reputation for accurate information, getting the job done, and volunteering her helpfulness."*

It is clear from their words that Karen's knowledge, diligence, and commitment to supporting their mission is valued by her NAVAIR customers across the nation. We echo their sentiment and believe her performance is deserving of Employee of the Month recognition!

## May

The MIL Team members and management staff of the Research, Development, Testing and Engineering (RDT&E) project being conducted for the U.S. Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station (Pax River), have selected **Julie Foley** for MIL's May employee of the month!

Julie currently serves as a Systems Administrator on the RDT&E contract, where she provides support to the E-2 Hawkeye Greyhound Facility. Julie conducts critical duties such as network/device scanning, hardening of information systems, infrastructure build-out, and system configuration and troubleshooting, among other vital responsibilities.

Recently, Julie took on the role as the Information Assurance Officer (IAO) for the E-2 Air Vehicle Flight Test Lab (AVFTL), and was responsible for obtaining the lab's Authorization to Operate (ATO). An ATO is a formal declaration signed by a Designated Approving Authority after a Certification Agent confirms that a system has met and passed all requirements to become operational.

Julie's efforts as IAO were recently acknowledged by her customer, Missy Turner, Branch Head of the 7.2.6.1 organization in a letter sent to Julie via Duane Salzman, head of the 5.4.1.1 Branch at Pax. Ms. Turner extended praise and appreciation for Julie's "outstanding support of the Information Assurance (IA) program at the Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAWCAD)." Ms. Turner also noted Julie's "exemplary support with respect to hardening and scanning systems comprising the lab," and recognized that Julie assumed the role of the IAO for the lab, a critical leadership position that provides guidance on the proper support, monitoring, testing, and troubleshooting of hardware and software IA problems, especially in a networked environment.

# Employee of the Month



Julie Foley

Ms. Turner's letter reads, in part:

*"The NAWCAD 7.4.6.1 Certification and Accreditation (C&A) analysts that worked with you to obtain the Approval to Operate (ATO) for your lab have consistently commented on your exceptional support to the RDT&E C&A Team Leads. Your knowledge of the system, Information Technology, implementation of mitigations, and secure system administration contributed to enhancing the overall security posture of the AVFTL. Additionally, your outstanding attitude was recognized and greatly appreciated by all of the members of the RDT&E C&A team.*

*Your professionalism; effective communication and organizational skills; and exemplary performance and dedication to the IA program brings great credit upon yourself, NAWCAD, and the Navy."*

Julie's outstanding performance also brings great credit upon MIL, and we are very proud to recognize Julie's exemplary and exceptional efforts. Congratulation to Julie for a job well done!

## MIL Associates Achievement Training Award

Congratulations to **Janet Bussell** for receiving an MIL Associate's Achievement Training Award!

On June 5, 2012, MIL's Lexington Park HR Manager and AFSO, Sue Abell, presented Janet with an award certificate and bonus gift for completing 15 professional development courses through MIL's online training program, MILTON.

Over the past 16 months, Janet has completed multiple administrative professional courses, as well as classes in accounting fundamentals, MS Access, and Excel—all while working full-time for MIL and pursuing an undergraduate degree in business.

Janet chose to commemorate her achievement by selecting a Sony Cybershot camera from among the bonus rewards available to program participants. Janet currently supports the administrative and travel functions of MIL's Lexington Park office in Southern Maryland, where she provides vital logistical support to MIL personnel assigned to contracts at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station and Webster Field. Please join us in recognizing Janet's exceptional professional training accomplishments!



Sue Abell presents Janet Bussell with training award.

# Staying Excited About Your Job

By Kenya Anthony

Working is a very basic function in society that is important to our culture as well as our daily lives. It helps us fill our day with productivity, and it contributes to our well-being as well as the well-being of others. Unfortunately, there are moments in our careers when working becomes mundane and some of the excitement begins to lose its luster. When job burnout or boredom seems to be setting in, there are a few steps we can take to generate a newfound excitement about the careers we have chosen. These steps may not work for every employee, but they can at least inspire individuals to create a few techniques of their own.

**Change Your Perspective.** A great way to have the right perspective is focusing on others rather than yourself. Helping others will create opportunities of goodwill that can be reciprocated towards you. It also creates a happier work environment for you and your colleagues. Helping members of your team enjoy what they do can also help you enjoy what you do within the workplace. Assisting coworkers with sharpening their skill-sets can help strengthen your knowledge as well as assist with your own professional growth.

**Connect With Your Colleagues.** It's not unheard of to become friends with other employees on the job. It actually makes perfect sense, especially when the majority of our day is spent within the office. Sometimes the difference between job burnout and job satisfaction is who you know and associate with at work. Getting up and preparing for your workday can become much more appealing when you take the time to make friends with your colleagues. Having a group of people that you enjoy seeing every day will make going to the office more enjoyable and can contribute to your daily productivity. Maintaining positive friendships within the workplace can add to a more positive outlook of your job.

**Challenge Yourself Daily.** One of the best ways to bring the excitement back into your work is to set challenges for yourself on a regular basis. This is crucial and can be the hardest step to take if you allow complacency to completely consume you. Boredom is one of the greatest enemies of enjoyment. Taking on new challenges does not have to be a daunting and overwhelming task. Challenges can be simple ones like trying to get more work done than you did yesterday or they could be more long term ones like trying to work your way up into a new position. Set personal goals to keep yourself motivated, and find ways to reward yourself for meeting your goals. Your daily goals can be a great way to make sure you are engaged at work. By setting daily challenges (big and

small), you will become more focused and driven. Taking on new challenges will allow you to feel little accomplishments every day, which can make work more interesting and satisfying.

**Have Hobbies and Interests.** Generating some excitement outside the office may rejuvenate interest and excitement at work. Find a new hobby that will give you some incentive to get through the day. It doesn't matter if it's building model airplanes or taking a photography class; add something new to your daily life.

**Confide in Someone.** Confiding in someone you trust – whether it be a spouse, significant other, family member or friend – can help relieve stresses and frustrations stemming from the job. Your confidant can be a source that offers suggestions, comfort, or commiseration. If you have a positive and supportive rapport with your manager, consider him/her as a great source to talk about any job stagnation or burnout you may be experiencing. Many supervisors want to know when their employees are unhappy or in a rut. Perhaps now is the time to ask for new responsibilities. Talk to your boss and ask if there are additional ways to contribute to your project. Express to your manager that you feel you are ready to take on new challenges, roles, and responsibilities. Performing new tasks can help keep your job fresh and interesting.

**Establishing Work-Life Balance.** Life is short. Work-life balance plays a crucial part in preventing job burnout. It is important to get out and have a life outside of the workplace. Having a feeling of gratitude while working is another way to obtain and maintain excitement about what you are doing, even if no one else finds your work exciting. Appreciating what you do and how you contribute on the job will make it more satisfying and allow you to achieve more within the office. Maintaining an overall positive approach about life will have a positive impact on your outlook about your job.

Work is something that can be very fun and engaging if you have the right perspective. While you may not enjoy everything you have to do at work, the whole environment can still be very satisfying, allowing you to accomplish your duties and become a better employee overall. Staying excited about your job can help ensure professional growth, fulfillment, and success.

# Announcements



Congratulations to Greg Stevens of the Central Travel Agency and his new wife, Aurelia. Greg and Aurelia tied the knot on March 29, 2012. Best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Greg D. Stevens!



Congratulations to Corporate Accountant, Tiffany Woodridge, and her family as they welcome baby Mariah Audrey to their family! Mariah was born on June 12, 2012, weighing 6lb 8oz.



**MILTON**  
Training Online

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- *Continuing Professional Education*
- *Business Skills Development*
- *Certification Preparation*
- *Software Application Instruction*
- *Self Confidence Booster*

**Sign up for MILTON and gain invaluable skills online.**

Join the 160+ employees who have already enrolled in our free online training program this year. Choose from over 4,200 courses ranging from highly technical topics to software application instruction to business skills development. Many employees take advantage of the academic and professional credit programs to earn college credits and certifications.

A sampling of newly added titles are:

- Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2 Hyper-V
- CompTIA Network+ 2012
- Essential Selling Skills
- Java SE7 Professional
- Mentoring Systems Security Certified Practitioner
- TestPrep ITIL V3 Foundation
- TestPrep 70-178 Microsoft Project 2010, Managing Projects
- Mentoring 70-516 VB - TS: Accessing Data with Microsoft .NET Framework 4
- Handling Difficult Conversations Effectively

For more information, including the MILTON Enrollment Form, course catalogs, and the lists of training awards and prizes, please go to **the MILtranet** at [www.milcorp.com/members](http://www.milcorp.com/members) and click on MILTON on the left side of the page. For further questions, contact Colleen O'Connor at [coconnor@milcorp.com](mailto:coconnor@milcorp.com).

# Word Search Puzzle

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CISCO  
CUSTOMERSERVICE  
FFIS  
FORESTSERVICE  
FORMS  
GOVTRIP  
GREENCHILE  
JOBCODE  
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MILEAGE  
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OPENAUTHORIZATION  
PERDIEM  
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REGULATIONS  
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# On the Calendar

## The AGA PDC

The AGA's 61st Annual PDC, Training to Solve Today's Fiscal Challenges, is the authoritative source of education for government financial managers and accountability professionals. Participants will:

- ▶ Learn about the new developments in government accountability research.
- ▶ Hear from the experts on the battle to reduce improper payments, the newest innovations in financial systems and long-term budget projections.
- ▶ Get the latest pronouncements from GASB, FASAB, GAO and OMB.
- ▶ Gain exposure to new management techniques, technological advances and practical tips to increase efficiency in government operations.

*MIL will exhibit at the conference, held in San Diego, CA on July 29-August 1.*

## The ASMC-AGA- Golf Tournament

*MIL will be participating in the 2012 American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) Washington Chapter Golf Tournament as a sponsor at this year's event. Lloyd Farmer and a group of MIL employees will play on July 25, 2012 at the Gunston and Woodlawn Course at Ft. Belvoir. The ASMC is an organization that exists to promote education, training, and professional development in all aspects of military comptrollership.*

# MIL Annual Crabfeast

## The MIL Crab Feast and Summer Picnic Survives Storms and Heat!



Despite a storm hitting the area, tearing down power lines the night before and temperatures pushing 100 degrees the day of, MIL employees gathered at Mayo Beach Park for the Annual Crab Feast in June to enjoy good food and good company. A nice breeze off the water cooled guests as they mingled, picked crabs, and enjoyed an array of activities at the park in Edgewater, Md.

New to the annual party was an inter-branch kickball tournament. Although the heat may have deterred some, Team Kickin' Grass and Takin' Names from the C4 division and SuperOBO from the Dept. of State OBO Travel Office, battled each other to take home a "W" for their office. After a tough game, team Kickin' Grass won with a final score of 4-3. They were awarded gold medals for their victory. Both teams clearly had their game faces on that day, as they all showed up to the party with uniforms. Congratulations to the C4 based team- who wants to challenge them next year??

While the kickball teams were busy rounding the bases, the rest of the guests enjoyed music courtesy of DJ Cerebral while picking what seemed to be never-ending rounds of crab. After eating, guests enjoyed getting their faces painted, having caricature artists draw a portrait of themselves, and staying cool by the water on the boats. A rock-climbing wall was also available for the adventurous as was a moon bounce for the little ones.

It was great to see everyone from the MD and DC area kick-off the summer together and enjoy the day with friends and family. MIL is always proud to host the crab feast in recognition of all the hard work and commitment our employees show towards this organization. We hope everyone enjoyed themselves as much as we did!



# MIL Annual Crabfeast

