



Keeping Up With Mal



The Year of the Snake

Happy New Year! My first newsletter article traditionally focuses on the Chinese astrological animal for the New Year. Not wanting to break tradition, I've done some research and therefore, this article will address the year 2001 - the Year of the Snake.

From www.chinafrontier.com, "The Snake personality is believed to hold enigmatic power and influence. Appreciative of the finer aesthetics in life, the Snake possesses a keen pallor of calmness in situations of conflict. The Snake's ability to renew itself typifies the strength for rebirth and recovery. A resilient and strong will power enables the Snake to achieve objectives never faltering away from its true focus."

Another website states, "People born in these years are wise and firm. They can often become rich, because a person born during this

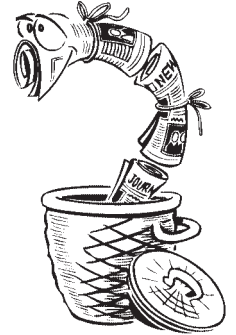
year should be able to make sound judgements and keep to the job until the work is finished."

Some of the things that Snake people like:

- To please others
- Dressing to impress
- To spend extravagantly on themselves
- To be asked for help

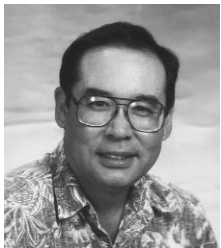
Dislikes are:

- People getting out of control
- Disputes and violence
- Superficial people
- To lend others money



Some celebrities and well-known people born in the Year of the Snake are Muhammad Ali, Pierce Brosnan, Henry Fonda, Greta Garbo, Mao Tse Tung, Oprah Winfrey and Carol Koga.

So what has all this to do with Koga Engineering? Absolutely nothing! But it's interesting anyway. Until the next issue - That's "Keeping Up With Mal".



From "Da Boss"

By Glenn Nohara

It seems like 2001 came upon us so quickly. However, before we move on to the new year, I would like to thank our employees, who have worked with focus and a passion to succeed,

in making 2000 a prosperous year for our company. For some, this included working away from home for months at a time. For all, this meant a feeling of ownership in this company, and expecting no less from our fellow workers than we expect from ourselves.

Though we enter 2001 at a hectic pace and with a healthy backlog, we need to obtain work that will meet our planned targets for later this year. However, we want to balance this objective with the types of projects and with the customers we have been profitable with. The Chief, Jits Kunioka, and our Estimating Department are marching towards this end.

Speaking of backlog, for the past several months, I had the opportunity to be part of a work group formed by the State Senate Ways and Means (WAM) and Education and Technology (EDU) Committees to look at long-term solutions for our schools' repair and maintenance (R&M) backlog. The group is lead by Senators Carol Fukunaga and Norman Sakamoto and includes representatives from the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS), Department of Education (DOE), and the construction industry.

Issues addressed included identifying, quantifying and prioritizing the R&M projects. Funding sources and amounts were discussed along with project delivery systems that would meet the end users requirements and desires. Contractors were invited to join DAGS and DOE teams as they visited the schools. I was able to visit eight schools and can attest that the backlog is real and needs to be addressed ASAP. Repairs are needed for leaking roofs, falling ceilings, peeling paint (including lead based), termite infestation, structural damage, and electrical and mechanical upgrading to name a few.

It seems like this problem can use Dr. W. Edwards Deming's methods for resolution and optimization. To a great extent, Senators Fukunaga and Sakamoto have done this in calling stakeholders together, having team meetings, brainstorming sessions, diagramming the processes and collecting, quantifying and prioritizing the data. This year's legislature will need to establish long-term funding and solutions for our schools' R&M backlog.

Well, that is it for now. So until the next Koga Report, continue using the Deming Tools (Team Meetings, Flow Charts, Run Charts, etc.) and work safely.

KOGA REPORT

GLENN NOHARA
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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Bits & Pieces

By Lori Isara and Vanessa Suganuma

Congratulations to Roger and Sang Mi Abad. Twin girls, Amy and Ashley were born on June 23, 2000. Amy was 5 lbs. 4 oz., Ashley was 5 lbs. 2 oz. and they were both 19 - inches long. Roger is a foreman currently working on the Schofield project.

Herman Jr. and Bernie Hamada, also gave birth to twins on September 30, 2000. Herman Henry Hitoshi Helemana Inoa III was 2 lbs. 13 oz. and 15 - inches and Noah Helemana was 1 lb. 3 oz. and 9 - inches. Sadly Noah passed away on September 30, 2000. Herman III (H-3) is presently a healthy 10 lbs 2 oz. and will always have Noah, his guardian angel, watching over him. We all send our aloha and support to the Hamada's. Herman is a project engineer working on the Kaneohe, Bellows, Keawe Locker Room and Pacific Command Headquarters projects.

Congratulations to Chad and Gayle Naone. They gave birth to their daughter Emma Iliahi on November 27, 2000. Emma was 7 lbs 10 oz. and 20 - inches long. Chad is a Laborer presently working on the Kaneohe and Pearl Harbor projects. Chad says that he is accepting any donations for his daughter's college fund.

Congratulations to Jonathan and Eri Lin. They gave birth to their daughter Sela on December 13, 2000. Sela was 7 lbs. 6.4 oz. and 20 - inches long. Jonathan is a project manager currently working on the Building 250 and the Pearl Harbor projects.

Congratulations to Paul and Tracy Aniya. They gave birth to the first Koga baby of 2001. Their daughter Kailee Skye was born on January 3, 2001 and weighed 5 lbs. 12 oz and was 18 - inches long. Paul is a project manager currently working on the Kamehameha School Athletic Field project.

Congratulations to all the happy parents!

Finally "The Jits" has returned to the Koga Christmas Party. On December 17th we had our annual Koga Christmas party. This year

we had special guest appearances by Michael Jackson (Clay Asato) and The Rock (Jits Kunioka). For those employees that were not able to attend you really missed out on all the entertainment and fun. For our song contest, Jits introduced each team which included our outer island guests, the Kauai Team headed by Andy Ragasa and "The Prince of Darkness" from the Big Island aka "My Way or the Highway", Kyle Sakaitani. Oahu teams included the "Mixed Nuts Team" starring Russell Inouye as the "Head Coconut" and Paul Aniya as the "Macadamia Nut". Other Oahu teams were the "Armed Services Team" headed by "Brigadier General" Hye Jin Warren, "Head Grunt" Mark Nakagawa and "Private 1st Class" Garrett Ichimura and "The Dogs and the Divas" of Sand Island staff (estimating, main office and equipment personnel). The Ninja Team, headed by "Karate Master", Alvin Fujioka known for going into the project, making money and pulling out, (except for Max Manipon who doesn't pull out), won the contest singing their rendition of "Jingle Bells". Each of the Ninja's won \$10 cash. Every employee won at least one door prize (thanks to all of our generous vendors). Kavin Denning was our grand prizewinner. He and his wife will be enjoying a round trip paid vacation to Las Vegas\$\$\$\$. Congratulations to Kavin. The Manuma Brothers provided versatile music for our listening pleasure. Until next year... "Can you smell what the Jits is cooking?"

Our first golf outing of the New Year was on January 6, at Waikolee golf course. Roger Abad had the best overall score, Dennis Okazaki won the front nine and Carol Koga won the back nine. Dennis Okazaki also won 3 of the 4 greenies. The next scheduled golf event is Saturday, April 7, at Kapolei golf course. Tee time is at 7:21 a.m., let Dennis Okazaki know if you want to play, he would like to win more money.

We still have lots of Consolidated movie tickets, expiring December 31, 2001 (\$5.00), so if you're interested in purchasing any tickets please let your supervisor or Lori know.

Remember if you got any news please let your supervisor know so we can share it with everybody in the next newsletter. Supervisors please let Lori know.

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News From Kaua'i

by: Andy Ragasa



HAPPY NEW YEAR!! Did the Year 2000 fly by or what? Doesn't it seem like only yesterday that we were preparing for the turn of the century, the New Millenium, and all the excitement it would bring? By the way, did you know that the actual New Millenium starts in the Year 2001? Something to think about!

Koga's Kaua'i operations were in high gear to finish out the last quarter of 2000. We completed several projects successfully including the Wilcox Memorial Hospital Employee Parking Lot and two D.O.T. Harbors projects, Revetment Repairs Between Piers 2 & 3 and Fire Hydrant Repair at Pier 3. We are about 70% complete at the Consolidated Pacific Missile Range Projects (Primatch Construction) and also broke ground at the new Kaua'i County Bus Maintenance Facility (Shioi Construction). In mid-January, we will start



PMRF Missile Magazine



Kauai Bus Maintenance Facility

work on Miscellaneous Traffic Operational and Safety Improvements to Existing Intersections and Highway Facilities (D.O.T. Highways) and expect to start the Kaua'i Police Main Facility (Shioi Construction) and Kapa'a Homesteads Well No. 2 (D.O.W.) sometime within the first half of this year. Projects on hold that should be completed very shortly include Hanama'ulu Water Development and Koloa Storage Tank.

Please pardon the inconvenience when calling or visiting our Kaua'i office, as we are temporarily without a receptionist on staff. A big mahalo to Sarah Dillon, our receptionist for the past four years. We wish her much success in her new endeavor. Congratulations to Presley Wann on his interim appointment to the Island Burial Council, Islands of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau. Work safely and conscientiously and remember, there is always room for improvement. Imua 2001....until next time, 'a hui hou malama pono.....

News from the Big Island

By Kyle Sakaitani



Our Big Island crew is moving right on schedule at the U.H.H. Classroom / Office Building in Hilo with Dick Pacific Construction. We are also starting up the Kona Highway Baseyard project with Stan's Contracting after a one-year delay due to redesign requirements.

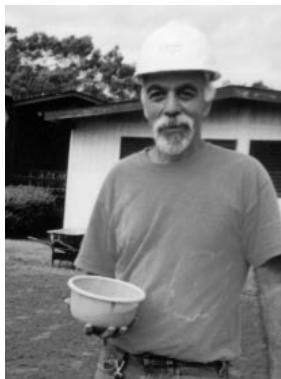
Completed projects this past quarter include

Aloha Airlines CTX at Kona Airport, Kahakai Elementary School Admin / Library Building, and Kaumana Elementary School Sewer System.

Upcoming projects include the Konawaena Middle School Building & Portable Renovations.

Be safe and remember, there's always a better way...

Left: Rico "Appleseed" Mosqueda finishing off at Kaumana Elementary School.



Above: Tommy Young takes over in the trenches for "Prime Time" and his monster rig at UHH classroom/Office Building.

Right: Irving Figueroa, "Prime Time," and Tommy Young taking car of business at UHH Classroom/Office Building.



News from Oahu

By Clay Asato



Happy New Year! Although it's the beginning of the year, Koga Engineering has already completed the first quarter of fiscal year 2001. The workload on Oahu has been steady and the projects are progressing. This past quarter we completed eight projects and we look forward to starting four new projects. Keep up the good work.

The bid preview for this year was recently published. Looking at the forecast for the year of the "Snake" there are still an abundance of government projects out to bid. Also, the inventories of single family homes are down. We are starting to see subdivisions being developed again. Looks like 2001 should be a fairly busy year for site work contractors on Oahu.

"Go get um Jits!"

One of the projects that we are presently working on is the Kamehameha



Bellows Regional Training Institute.



Bellows Regional Training Institute.

the field. This project has some unique characteristics. There are permanent soil nailed & beamed walls, there is a very high keystone wall, it has a professional field and last but not least, one of the most impressive views of the city. The field is scheduled to be completed in September of this year. If you ever get the opportunity, go to a game.



Again I would like to wish all of you a Safe, Happy, & Prosperous Year!



Aloha.

Kamehameha School Athletic Field.

Crunching Out The Numbers

By Brian Kunioka



The Estimating Department had a very quiet New Year, but unfortunately we're not talking about fire crackers. During the past quarter we were able to pick up work with Stan's Contracting at Konawaena Middle School on the Big Island and with SAN Construction at Schofield Barracks. The good news is that our bid schedule is full and should

provide us the opportunity to pick up more work this quarter. Some of the larger bids that we will be working on in the upcoming weeks include the Whole Barracks Renewal, Phase 2A at Schofield Barracks, Royal Kunia – Site 9 Subdivision, Improve Drainage System – PWC, Pearl Harbor and the Seal Delivery Team One Facility and Dry Deck Shelter Operations Facility at the Pearl City Peninsula.

The sub-par performance of the Estimating Team may be due in part to the impending eviction that has loomed over our heads as we have broken ground on our new office building. The estimating building is scheduled to be demolished once the new building is completed. As many of you may know, the Estimating Department is located in a building that is rich in history. This building has been

used to temporarily house Koga employees from the neighbor islands while they were working in Honolulu, our president and vice presidents have had offices in this building, our equipment manager was a fixture in this building and it has withstood 2 hurricanes and countless storms. Up until now, our building has been oblivious to the development of the rest of the Sand Island Industrial Park. As grateful as we are to be able to work in a brand new office building and embark on a new chapter in Koga Engineering history, we will miss this old building.

