

KOGA REPORT

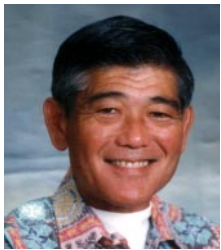
We dig . . . Hawaii!

Volume 13, Number 4, October 2002



The Newsletter of Koga Engineering & Construction, Inc.

Keeping Up With Mal



HEADLINES:

New York Times, August 12, 2002 – “US Air Files for Chapter 11”

New York Times August 14, 2002 – “American Airlines to Cut Jobs, Planes and Flights” (announces layoff of 7,000 employees)

New York Times, August 15, 2002 – United Hints at Chapter 11 Without Cutbacks”

(United Airlines considering asking for \$1.8 billion bailout loan guarantee from the federal government)

Now I don't claim to be an airline know-it-all, in fact I am first to admit that I know very little about the airline industry other than that I have to use it whenever we leave the islands. Being here in the middle of the Pacific puts all of us at the mercy of air travel to get to any destination. What are our alternatives? By Boat? By Train? By Bus? The answers are Yes, No and No.

As we all know, the airline industry claims that the events of 9-11 have caused a slump in air travel and thus their bottom line has been severely

affected. Experts in the industry have hinted that they suspect that the airlines were already in trouble before 9-11 and the World Trade Center incident only exacerbated the already deteriorating situation. After being subjected to bad airline food, cancelled flights, delays, flight attendants with bad attitudes, I guess most travelers don't have any real sympathy for the airlines and their current plight.

What bothers me is the way they run their fare structure. As contractors, we submit our bids or proposals based upon quantity take off, and pricing of equipment, material and labor to build a project. Often we use the term “unit price” that denotes how much a given quantity costs per item, i.e., \$2.00 per square foot. It would seem logical that if the airlines used unit prices, that they would use a cost per mile unit price, and this is where I am simply bewildered! For example, a representative price from here to the West Coast on a 14 day advance purchase usually runs about \$330. The round trip distance from here to the West coast is 5,100 miles, so the unit price would be \$330 divided by 5,100 miles or \$.0647/mile. Now if we take that price and use it for interisland travel from Oahu to Hawaii Island (a round trip distance of 400 miles) the cost would be \$.0647x400 or \$25.88! As we well know, the current fares run about \$140.00. I guess the cost of mobilization and demobilization causes the increase in fares.

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From “Da Boss”

By Glenn Nohara

On Saturday, October 5, 2002 we held the first of three statewide company picnics. The “BAM! Koga TQM Challenge 2002” outings were planned to combine Deming and team building learning with some family fun. The

October 5 picnic was held at Bellows AFB on Oahu. We would like to thank Senator Cal Kawamoto for sponsoring us at Bellows.

The Kauai Challenge will be held on October 28 at Anini Beach and the Big Island will hold the event on November 16 at Kapoho Beach.

The activities started with a team building-organizing exercise in which

the teams elected their leaders, spokespersons and recorder. Then each team chose a unique team name and designed a team logo. A short presentation was given by each team on why they chose their particular name and the significance of their logos.

After this ice-breaker exercise, the teams rotated through three physically and mentally taxing activities. These were Space Escape, Toxic Waste Dump and Earthquake. After each session, the teams were critiqued on teamwork/communication, creativity/brainstorming, plan-act-study, use of flow charts, group participation and accomplishing the task.

Though there was one “text book” solution for each activity, we found out how creative, innovative and efficient our people are. Exactly the kind of attitude and thinking that is needed to keep our company ahead of the curve.

KOGA REPORT

GLENN NOHARA - EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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News from Kaua'i

By Garrett Ichimura



A sign of a good leader is delegation, and that is why Andy is the leader of Kauai. Our fearless leader "requested" that I let everyone know what is going on here on the Garden Isle.

Current ongoing projects are Marriott's Waiohai Beach Club (Unlimited/Maryl Joint Venture), Kalapaki Parking Lot Improvements (Aina Hou Development), Kapaa Homesteads

Well No 2 (DOW), Waimea Tech Center Phase 2 (Unlimited Construction), and Lydgate Park Bicycle Paths (Kauai Builders). Upcoming jobs are the Kauai Judiciary Complex (Unlimited Construction) and Kuhio Highway Intersection Improvements at South Leho Drive (D.O.T. - Highways).

At the Waiohai Beach Club, you can feel the excitement as all the contractors add the final touches to the new hotel set to welcome visitors January 2003. We have completed work for the Phase 1 portion that is set to open. We are well into Phase 2 and looking to finish early next year.

Until next time, watch out for falling coconut trees and 'a hui hou malama pono...



Marriott Waiohai project with Unlimited Construction/Maryl JV.



Waimea Tech Center with Unlimited Construction.

News from the Big Island

By Kyle Sakaitani



We completed another very successful project this quarter with Nordic Construction. The Home Depot Kona project had quality work, was efficient, clean, and on time. Thanks to Willie and crew for a job well done, for making my job less stressful and for making Doug Riley's butt a little more sore with all the whippin' he was given out there!

Ongoing jobs on the Big Island include Kamehameha Schools, Phase III on the Hilo side, where Hye Jin and company are working with Hawaiian Dredging. Alvin and gang are finishing up Kealakehe High School Increment 4 with Dick Pacific. We would like to thank Presley Wann, Tommy Makanane, and Kent Tada from Kauai for their hard

work and extended tour of duty at Kealakehe. We also would like to congratulate the Loa brothers, Cheston, who just became a proud daddy on October 10th and Guy, who finally became an obedient husband on October 18th. Way to go!

Upcoming projects include the Kailua-Kona Wharf Improvements with Hawaiian Dredging. Rockin on the Big Island. Work safe and remember, there's always a better way...



Upcoming projects include the Kailua-Kona Wharf Improvements with Hawaiian Dredging. Rockin on the Big Island. Work safe and remember, there's always a better way...



Kamehameha School Team: Lee Iboshi, Louie Alvarez, Roger Abad, Asotasi Afi, Irving Figueroa III, Henry Kanahale, Rudy Inong, David Ige, Tosh Hamada (missing Hye Jin Warren).



Home Depot Kona crew: bottom (l to r): Tommy, Willie, Ige, Arthur. Top (l to r) "Bully", Jerry, Henry "Hanalei", "Bilge Pump" Riley.



Kamehameha School Phase 2 project with Hawaiian Dredging.

News from Oahu

By Russell Inouye



Flying back and forth to Kauai has its good and bad points. One is I did not have to write a news article for some time now as Upper Management did not know if I was coming or going. But low and behold with the power of technology (e-mail) I was asked to write this quarter's news article.

This past quarter Koga's Oahu operations were able to complete several projects which included Rehabilitation of Streets Unit 11B (City & County of Honolulu), Department of Agriculture Annex 3 (Nordic Construction), 298th Regional Training Institute @ Bellows (Ocean House Builders) and Abrasive Blast/Paint Facility @ Pearl Harbor (Bodell Construction). Ongoing projects include Marriott's Ko' Olina Timeshare (Dick Pacific), Kai Lani Subdivision @ Ko' Olina (Armstrong Builders), and Pacific Command Center at Camp Smith (Dick Pacific) Jobs anxiously awaiting start dates are Mokaua Street Improvements (City & County of Honolulu), Hale Koa Hotel Laundry Renovation (Kiewit Pacific), and Traffic Calming Improvements Pearl City (CCH-DTS).



Regional Training Facility at Bellows with Ocean House Builders.

We started the Regional Training Facility @ Bellows with Ocean House Builders in December of 2000 and it is finally completed. Congratulations to the Army and Air National Guard and Ocean House on a successful project. I would like to personally thank every single person that worked on the Regional Training Facility @ Bellows for a job well done. It would take the whole page to name everyone, but I would like to especially recognize Johnny Sanchez who through thick and thin completed the job from start to finish. Much Mahalo Mr. Sanchez!

Until next time, 'a hui hou malama pono.....Sorry this is Oahu, Until next time.....Bam Booyah!

Crunching Out The Numbers

By Keun Pak



Well it is the month of October and the general elections will be next month. As a new adult in Hawaii, I have been made aware of the issues that are involved in this year's election. As a student, I was not brought to the attention of the agenda of each party involved with the election. Actually, to tell you the truth I didn't care. Although it did affect me in a way, I didn't really

understand, and therefore I didn't care. Now that I'm more involved as a tax payer and more importantly a part of the work force of Hawaii, I feel that I must do my part as a citizen of Hawaii to better our home not only for myself, but for our future generations as well. I hope everyone decides to vote this coming general election.

On October 5, 2002 we had a TQM picnic at Bellows Beach. It was a great time to get to know everyone outside of the work environment.

Keeping up with Mal continued from page 1

And then every once in awhile the airlines will run a special, but the restrictions; e.g., no travel on days ending in the letter "Y", a 3 day minimum stay is required, no changes can be made, etc., etc., etc. Also, try to purchase a ticket at the last minute and you get "whacked." One airlines fare from here to LAX on a 14 day advance is \$327.00. But if you try to purchase the same ticket only two days in advance, the price rises to \$1,253.00! How you figgah?

Another thing that airlines can cut back to save costs is to eliminate some of the services. I mean if you cannot survive a 20-30 minute flight

Also it allowed us to meet family members and enjoy time with them at the beach. There were games set up for the employees as a way to show us how to work as a team and not leave anyone out of the thought process of planning, because everyone's input is important when it comes to the accomplishment of a goal. As far as the Warriors that day against Boise State, ah c'mon!

The estimating department has been busy crunching out the numbers this past quarter, but we were only able to pick up one job on Kauai which is a new parking lot at the Kalapaki Marketplace. We do have some pending projects on all of the islands that we feel we have a good chance of getting which should help build up our backlog of work. Also, with the end of the year quickly approaching, we look forward to the many County and State projects that are normally put out to bid. This will give us a good opportunity to pick up some more work.

without a cup of juice, soda, beer or wine, forget traveling. Maybe they should install vending machines with drinks and sandwiches on the air-planes. Shortly after 9-11, most airlines cut out food service on flights less than two hours in duration. Nobody griped as passengers were forewarned at the gate and advised to get a sandwich or pizza if they wanted to eat on the flight.

I better stop before someone at the airlines gets hold of this newsletter and I may be banned for life from air travel. So that's "Keeping Up with Mal for" this quarter. Aloha!

Bits & Pieces

By Yolanda Anderson

Its time again, to give our support to the Aloha United Way. Every year AUW helps thousands of people of all ages. Finding an AUW agency is easy to do. Just dial 211 and a referral specialist will assist you, even if you want to volunteer. In our 2001 campaign we achieved \$7,683. Can we top that for our 2002 campaign? Please show your support and turn in your pledge cards by November 22, 2002.

Have you noticed the new look of your paychecks? That's our new laser print. With the laser style you receive more information on your pay stubs and direct deposit statements. Now you will know your federal exemptions and filing status all the time.

Those of you, who still rush to the bank every Friday to cash your check, or if you travel back and forth to the outer islands should consider signing up for direct deposit. It will save you a lot of time, because your check is automatically deposited into your account every payday, without you standing in long lines after you've worked all day!! Even if you are out of town you don't have to worry about where your check is. We can also divide your check between two accounts. Call Yolanda @ 842-9352 if you are interested.

Our annual Christmas Party will be held on Sunday December 15, 2002, at the Waikiki Beach Marriott. Sign up sheets will be sent out in November, so be sure to get yours turned in on time.

Best wishes to Bernardo Mateo who retired in October 2002. Bernardo was a laborer with Koga Engineering since February 1997. All of us at Koga would like to thank you for your loyalty and hard work. We wish you the best in your future.

Congratulations to Guy and Denise Loa. They were married on October 19, 2002. Guy is a laborer on the Big Island. Let's also congratulate Jason & Kimberly (Kim) Kubo who were married on August 10, 2002. Kim is the youngest daughter of Mal & Carol. May you share a lifetime of happiness.

We would like to welcome Chyston Loa into the world. Chyston is the newborn son of Cheston Loa and Shyann Bagay. He was born on October 10, 2002 weighing 8lbs 15 ozs, 21 1/2 inches long.

Let's also welcome Chaziah K. Alvarez, son of Louis and Paige Alvarez. Chaziah was born on October 18, 2002, weighted 1 lbs. 8 oz. and was 21 inches long. Congratulations to the new parents.

If you have any new additions to your family or exciting news that you'd like to share please let the main office know for our next newsletter.



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We dig...Hawaii!



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