



A Message From Our President

by Glenn Nohara

Happy New Year! As we start the New Year, we would like to thank all our people for making 2007 another very successful year for Koga Engineering & Construction, Inc. The most important accomplishment last year was that we had no lost time accidents, while having the third highest revenue and one of the best bottom lines in our company's 34 year old history. In our case, the old cliché, "safety pays" was certainly true.

In November of 2007 our project managers and foremen attended a two day workshop at Turtle Bay Resort dealing with **Increasing Employee Engagement** and **Handling Difficult Situations**. The workshop was conducted by Sarah Kalicki Nakamura of Th!nk, LLC and our own Kristi Koga White. An important aspect of this training was relating Deming's theory in our handling of these two issues. Thank you Sarah and Kristi for a job well done.

In July of 2007 and again in January of this year, we sent two groups of people to **Chaos Over** training sessions presented by Len Merson. This system for paper, computer and all information processing is billed to "Recapture Your Life; Be more productive; Increase creativity; and Renew the passion." Having gone through the earlier session and experiencing first hand the benefits that this information processing system produced, it seemed that it could take our Deming based management system to an even higher level. With this in mind, I contacted Karl Haushalter from Optimization Works, our Deming mentor, and invited him to attend the second session, which he did. In fact Karl and Len have been comparing notes on how to improve the benefits that each can bring to their clients.

Even though the last several years have been great, we cannot afford to sit on a plateau, but need to continuously push upward and optimize our entire system over time. We need to be the best that we can be, all things considered.

Again, thank you all for your efforts in making 2007 an extremely successful year for our company and continue to work safely. ...continues on page 3



Project Highlight Kapa'a Homesteads Well No. 3

by Andy Ragasa



Koga Engineering & Construction, Inc. is on the verge of completing its second major water well & pumphouse project within the past five years in the Wailua-Kapa'a area on the Island of Kaua'i. Upon completion, the Kapa'a

water." The Kapa'a Homesteads Well No. 3 is part of this Plan.

The majority of the project site was located within an existing pasture bounded by the Mo'ikeha Canal, an existing residential apartment complex, and the new temporary Kapa'a Bypass Road which was also constructed by Koga Engineering. The project included construction of a pump control building, a new 500' access road from the end of Alanae Street to the site and installation of approximately 1,600 lineal feet 6" water transmission main along the new access road, Alanae Street and Malu Road to the connection point at the intersection of Malu and Olohena Roads. It also included installation of a new



Byron Ariola guides Derek Ebesu while excavating a water line trench

60 HP vertical turbine submersible deepwell pump and motor unit in a previously drilled well along with pump piping and other appurtenances.

Although the ultimate owner of the constructed facility is the **Department of Water**,

To quote from the Department of Water, County of Kaua'i's website: "The Kaua'i Department of Water and members of the Water Board have completed a 20 year plan known as 'Water Plan 2020'. This is a comprehensive, long range planning effort to ensure that we continue to provide safe, affordable and sufficient drinking water in the

21st century for our community. The Plan is focused on potable water used for drinking and fire protection. It addresses the sources, infrastructure and funding needed to deliver potable



Kapa'a Homesteads Well No. 3 pump control building

our contracting agency was the **State of Hawai'i, Department of Land & Natural Resources** and acknowledgements go out to

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Keeping Up With Mal

In the past I have always started out a new year by writing about the Chinese Lunar animal and the personalities of persons born in that year and what it may predict regarding world events, etc. So, why break with tradition? Unfortunately, the year 2008 in the lunar calendar is the year of the mouse, or worse yet, the RAT. When I hear the word RAT it conjures in my mind sneaky looking grey furry creatures with slits for eyes, scurrying about and feeding off of anything. Ugh! So are people born in the year of the rat that type of character? On the contrary! Here comes information on the year 2008 that I was able to glean from Wikipedia, the online encyclopedia:



"Being the first sign of the Chinese zodiac, rats are leaders, pioneers and conquerors. They are charming, passionate, charismatic, practical and hard-working. Rat people are endowed with great leadership skills and are perhaps the most organized and systematic of the twelve signs. Intelligent and cunning at the same time, rats are highly ambitious and strong-willed people who are keen and unapologetic promoters of their own agendas, which often include money and power. They are energetic and versatile and can usually find their way around obstacles, and adapt to various environments easily. A rat's natural charm and sharp demeanor make it an appealing friend for almost anyone, but rats are usually highly exclusive and selective

when choosing friends and so often have only a few very close friends whom they trust.

People born in the Year of the Rat are noted for their charm and attraction for the opposite sex. They work hard to achieve their goals, acquire possessions, and are likely to be perfectionists.

Behind the smiles and charm, rats can be terribly obstinate and controlling, insisting on having things their way no matter what the cost. These people tend to have an immense control of their emotions, which they may use as a tool to manipulate and exploit another person, both emotionally and mentally. Rats are masters of mind games and can be very dangerous, calculative and downright cruel if the need arises. Quick-tempered and aggressive, they will not think twice about exacting revenge on those that hurt them in any way. Rats need to learn to relax sometimes, as they can be quite obsessed with detail."

Well, that makes me feel a lot better now because our grandson, Drew Ogomori, was born in the rat year and it looks like he has a promising future to look forward to.

And that's it for this time. I'm headed out to go to New Orleans to attend the Sugar Bowl!
GO WARRIORS! 🇺🇸



Project Highlight

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Pump platform and well piping configuration

both these agencies for working with us through the completion of the project. Acknowledgements also go out to the **County of Kaua'i Engineering Division** and **Akinaka & Associates** for the inspection services that were provided. We'd also like to acknowledge the general public and all the users of the roads and facilities in the area for their patience and understanding throughout the duration of the project. We'd also like to commend our subcontractors for a job well done, **Tomco Corporation, Wasa Electrical Services, Briant Construction, Beylik Drilling, Niu Construction, DY Mikami, Kaua'i Hydroseed & Landscape, Hirata & Associates** and **Esaki Surveying** along with the many suppliers and vendors associated with the project. Last but surely not least, as we approach project completion, I'd like to personally thank the three foremen **Kip Furugen, Lee Iboshi** and **Gil Rafael** for taking the lead at various stages along with each and every one of our employees from the Big Island to O'ahu to Kaua'i that lent a hand. Good job TEAM!!

Until next time, 'a hui hou malama pono..... 🇺🇸

Safety

by Dennis Okazaki



Happy New Year and congratulations to all Koga Engineering & Construction, Inc. employees for another successful and productive quarter with no lost time.

Items contributing to our success:

1. Education and training by our consultants
Kristi Koga & Ken Grote
2. Buy in of all our employees
3. Daily AHA (Activity Hazard Analysis) review by jobsite teams
4. Periodic jobsite visits
5. Light duty program

Again, congratulations to all and remember "Safety" is everyone's responsibility.

Upcoming Safety Commitments FY2008

Quarterly Safety Meetings

- Drug & Alcohol Awareness
- Bloodborne Pathogens
- Hearing Conservation
- Hazard Communications

Field Trainings

- Confined Space
- Fall Protection
- Trenching & Excavation
- Respiratory Protection

Additional Trainings

- CPR
- Hazwopper 8 Hour Refresher

Quote: "Ambition is the path to success. Persistence is the vehicle you arrive in." 🇺🇸

Koga Spotlight

Sugar Bowl 2008

by Kristi Koga

Our spotlight article takes us to the "Big Easy", and the Sugar Bowl at the New Orleans Superdome. The University of Hawaii Warriors vs.



Dee Sakamoto sitting next to her season ticket partner, Riley White

The University of Georgia Bulldogs... WOW! We, along with tens of thousands of Hawaiians and Georgians invaded New Orleans for the BCS Championship game on January 1, 2008. What a way to ring in the New Year! Carol Koga was not only able to get tickets for the game, but she went "above and beyond the call" and secured a luxury suite for our group. Our "luxury experience" included 25 seats, 2 TV screens and a kitchen complete with a delectable Cajun menu of Crawfish Etouffee, Natchitoches Meat Pies, Shrimp Pasta, Jambalaya and Red Beans and Rice...

"ono"-lish!! Mahalo to Gerard & Dee Sakamoto, June Kamioka, Lance & Linda Nakasone, Jen Ikeda & Brad Furukawa, Garold Kashiwa, Jon Tokashiki, Stanford Lee, Geri & Rayna Ichimura, Adolph Benevides and John & Melinda White for joining us in the festivities. Also to the Koga employees and their families, Mal & Carol Koga, Jason White & Kristi Koga, Drew & Riley White, Alvin & Carolyn Fujioka, Gregg & Lee Ann Ichimura, Garrett & Hae Min Ichimura and Brian & Brisan Kunioka for representing Hawaii and Koga Engineering & Construction, Inc. at this once in a lifetime event.



Brian Kunioka, Garrett Ichimura & Brisan Kunioka ... how SUITE it is!

Here are some of the Koga Employee insights from the memorable trip...

Gregg Ichimura - My most memorable experience at the Sugar Bowl was seeing all of the "white" in the Superdome and just the overall amount of the Hawaii people there for the game.



Mal & Carol Koga, June Kamioka and Drew Ogomori at the Superdome

Brian (Jits) Kunioka - My most memorable experience in New Orleans was how cold it got the days after the game and how there were still some Hawaii fans walking around in shorts! For the Sugar Bowl it would be just being able to hang out and indulge in the luxury box.

Brisan Kunioka (Brian's son) - Bourbon Street was crazy! Especially with the police horses walking right through the crowd in the middle of the street and then leaving their poop behind!

Alvin Fujioka - My most memorable experience in New Orleans was celebrating the arrival of 2008 on Bourbon St. No regrets. Had a great time. Thank you very much Carol and Mal.

Garrett Ichimura - My most memorable experience in New Orleans was standing on Bourbon Street in front of Johnny White's on New Year's Eve with all the Hawaii people that traveled to New Orleans. "What happens in New Orleans, stays in New Orleans", right??



President's Message

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Chaos Over training session at Koga's Sand Island facility



Intense work at the 'Handling Difficult Situations' Session

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Phone (808) 845-7829 • Fax (808) 845-3742
www.KogaEngineering.com • info@kogaeng.com
Lic.#ABC6826

An Equal Opportunity Employer

KOGA
ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION, INC.

P.O. Box 31289
Honolulu, Hawaii 96820

January 2008

Think Sitework...Say Koga!

Koga Bits & Pieces

Christmas Party 2007

Congratulations were given to the following employees for their years of service at Koga Engineering & Construction, Inc.

10 years:



Henry Acoba



Garrett Ichimura



Tommy Young

30 years:



Gil Rafael

Mahalo to Bob Connolly for representing Maui as our emcee for the event and to Kapena for their wonderful performance!

Mahalo also to the following companies for their Christmas party donations!

Akana Trucking • Allied Machinery Corp • Ameron HC & D • B & C Trucking • Bacon Universal • Contech Engineering • Fluid Systems Hawaii • Fred Rader Mill Supply • Garden Isle Disposal • Gaspro • Grace Pacific Corp. • Hawthorne Pacific • Hirata & Associates • HISCO • ISI Hawaii Water Solutions • J.P. Errett • Jas. Glover Ltd. • JG Associates • Kauai Veterans Express • Keith Kubo • Larsen's Tool • Laser Transit Clinic LLC • M. Tanaka Store • Mark's Place • MK Equipment Corp. • Pacific Concrete Cutting & Coring, Inc. • Pacific Service & Development Corp. • Panui Inc. • Princeville at Hanalei • Ramtek Fabrication Co., Inc. • Safety Systems Hawaii, Inc. • Senter Petroleum • Service Rentals & Supplies • State Tire & Repair, Inc. • Surveyor's Supply Co., Inc. • Toolmaster Hawaii, Inc. • Waalani Enterprises • Walker Industries • Wellington Fence

Congratulations on the new additions to the Koga Ohana:

New Parents

Gordon (Oahu Mason) and Robyne Ellis

Baby Boy - Gannon Dru Ellis

December 8, 2007 6 lbs 8 oz

Condolences to the Koga Ohana on the recent passing of:

Alejandrino Ragasa, Sr. (Kauai Island Manager, Andy Ragasa's Father)

1924 to 2007

Koga Jobs

Oahu Current Projects General Contractor / Client

Kaiser Moanalua Medical Center McCarthy / Kiewit JV

Capitol Place Condominium

and Offsite Sewer Albert C. Kobayashi, Inc.

Chaminade University Library S & M Sakamoto, Inc.

Hilton Hawaiian Village

Waikikian Tower Dick Pacific Construction Co., Ltd.

Trump International Hotel & Tower Albert C. Kobayashi, Inc / Kiewit JV

DHHL Kapolei Office Facility Kiewit Building Group

Waipio Business Center Nordic Construction

Nuuanu Stream Emergency Repair City and County of Honolulu

Pier 51 Waterline Hawaiian Dredging Construction Company, Inc.

Valkenburgh Road Widening MSC LLC

Kaua'i Current Projects General Contractor / Client

Kapa'a Homesteads Well No. 3

Development State of Hawai'i, DLNR

Ka'iulani of Princeville Shioi Construction, Inc.

Westin Princeville Ocean Resort Unlimited Construction Services, Inc.

Big Island Current Projects General Contractor / Client

Hilo Judiciary Building Swinerton Pacific

Kealakehe Intermediate School

Administration and Library Summit Construction

Dolphin Quest Waikoloa Village Swinerton Pacific

Maui Current Projects General Contractor / Client

Honua Kai Lot 4 Kaanapali Ledcor Construction, Inc.

Honua Kai Ph II Ledcor Construction, Inc.