



S&K GROUP SPIRIT

Spring Edition, 2018

A View of the Past

SBA Award

S&K Aerospace Receives SBA 8(a) Graduate of the Year

Salish Spring

Spring festivities kick off the season

Los Alamos History

The interesting history of Los Alamos area

Letter from the CEO

Chad Cottet

What do we make?

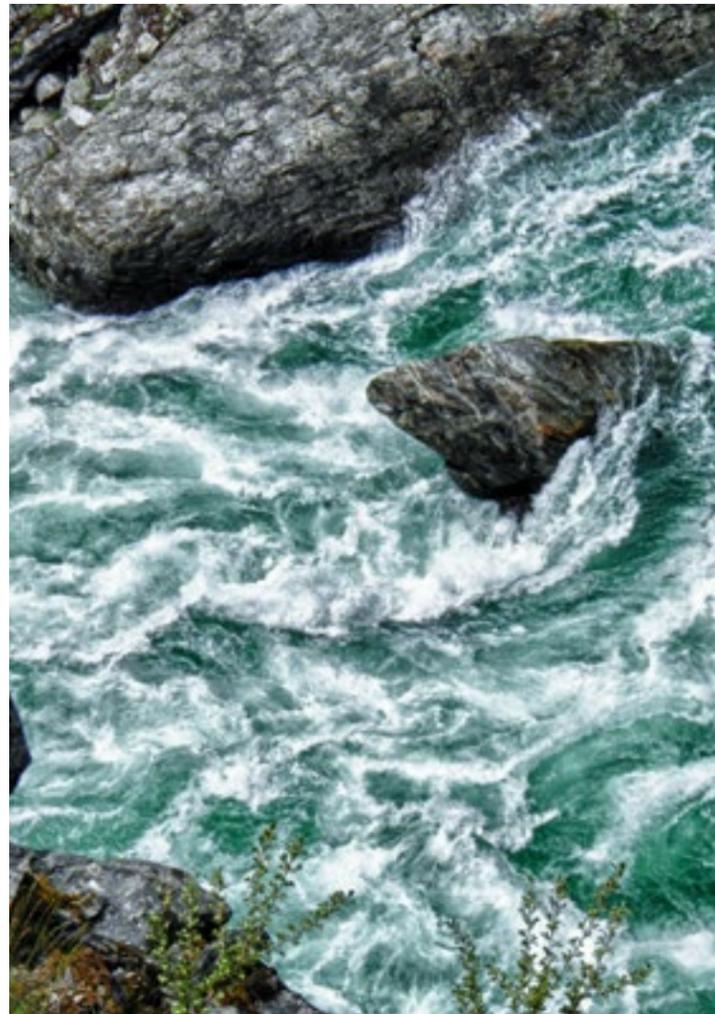
Since coming on-board at SKT the question I get the most is “what does SKT make?” I have had eight years on the board and six months as an employee to find the universal answer to that question without success. I struggled to explain manpower, tech orders, repair/return, and MRO to an audience several hundred miles from a military base and generally unfamiliar with a CPAR.

Recently, while helping my newly retired father move back to the valley, I realized my first successful explanation of ‘what we make.’ “We provide any support or need our customers request regardless of whether it is people to turn a wrench, people to buy the wrench, people to design the wrench, or people to support the wrench after the sale. We can do anything our customers need, and they pay us for it.”

His response was ‘that makes sense.’

You cannot believe how excited I was to have successfully answered the question. So excited I went on to describe the corporate structure and how we have a holding company that provides financial, HR, BD, contract, etc. services to the LLC’s—the LLC’s are created to win and perform contracts, and the corporation charter is to... I looked up to see the blank look I have become so familiar seeing, on my dad’s face.

I stopped, smiled, and said, “It’s the best company, with the best people, I have ever worked for.” My dad said ‘good people make all the difference’ and we went back to work.



Down stream from Salish, Kootenai, and Qlispe (SKQ) Dam.

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S&K Paqli “Firefly”- Toni Courville

Pronounced (Pac-Lee), S&K Paqli—Salish for Firefly—a new feature to get to know an employee that has been with the company for many years, or has a unique story that makes them stand out.

What did you do before coming to SKT?

I spent 14 years at Mission Valley Power as the Billing clerk then Billing Supervisor/System Administrator, then I went to work at Cenex as Office Manager before coming to SKT.

What is your current role at SKT?

I am the Payroll Manager.

In your time at S&K, how has the company changed?

We’ve added SKA, SKGS, Adelos, SKER, SKLS, and we’ve said goodbye to SKT and SKSG. We’ve added a lot of employees.

What do you think most people would be surprised to know about corporate?

We are a small staff in comparison to our LLCs and we support all of them.

What is something most people at S&K do not know about you?

I am a member of the Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes of Fort Peck, Montana and a descendant of the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes. I have been married to my wonderful husband Chuck for 48 years.

What are some of your hobbies, outside of work?

Genealogy, picking huckleberries, photography, and spending as much time as I can with my grandkids and the rest of the family.

What is your favorite S&K story or event that happen to you in your time at S&K?

Getting to meet the employees from the other companies when they come to the corporate office. It’s always fun to put a face to the name.

Managing people in the modern workforce isn’t easy. Everyone is busy. Stress is common. Tempers are short. Then a life event—a death in the family, a medical crisis, or a need for emergency child care—occurs and work grinds to a halt.

Your GuidanceResources program is the response to such crises. The program is made available, at no cost, to employees of our organization, as well as to you and your household members. GuidanceResources offers confidential, professional counseling and other resources for resolving personal, family, or workplace issues. As a supervisor or manager, you should look at the program as a tool to keep these personal issues from spilling over into the workplace or unduly affecting employee behavior and performance. The program offers many other benefits, including:

- Increased productivity and reduced health care costs through early recognition, intervention, and resolution of business and personal problems
- Better retention of valued employees
- Reduced absenteeism, accidents, and grievances
- Improved employee morale

Management Consultation

The GuidanceResources program offers managers and supervisors the opportunity to speak with experts regarding substance abuse, workplace violence, organizational changes, or any other employee-related situation. If you need information and support when handling such issues, a GuidanceResources staff member can provide a consultation, drawing upon knowledge and experience with workplace regulations, behavioral health issues, and Human Resources best practices.

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THE INTERESTING HISTORY OF LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY



*Top: LANL during WWII
Bottom: Pueblo dancers having an exhibit at LANL.*

High in the mountains of northern New Mexico, about 35 miles northwest of Santa Fe, lies Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). Owned by the Department of Energy (DOE), LANL is one of the largest science and technology institutions in the world, covering 13 acres and employing 11,000 people.

DOE's Office of Environmental Management (DOE-EM) selected S&K Logistics Services (SKLS) and its partner, Pro2Serve, Inc., to provide technical assistance in support of its legacy cleanup mission. This award is the largest DOE prime award at LANL in over 10 years and is directly attributed to S&K's reputation and project excellence on similar projects for DOE-EM at Moab, Utah and the Savannah River Site in Aiken, South Carolina. The Team in Los Alamos provides comprehensive technical and business support services to DOE-EM to safely, transparently, and efficiently complete the cleanup of legacy contamination and waste resulting from nuclear weapons development and Government-sponsored nuclear research.

Los Alamos was originally the site of the Los Alamos Boys Ranch School where Robert Oppenheimer had been a student as a young boy. Los Alamos was selected as the Top-Secret location for nuclear bomb design in late 1942 because of its remote location, controlled access, steep canyon walls for testing

high explosives, and existing infrastructure.

During World War II (WWII), Los Alamos was known as Project Y, one of a series of laboratories located across the United States given letter names to maintain their secrecy. Los Alamos was the center for design and overall coordination of the nuclear bomb, while the other labs, today known as Oak Ridge and Argonne, concentrated on the production of uranium and plutonium bomb fuels. Los Alamos was the heart of the project, collecting together some of the world's most famous scientists, among them numerous Nobel Prize winners including Richard Feynman. General Leslie Groves and Robert Oppenheimer, a study in contrasts, successfully worked together to accomplish the Manhattan Project.

The Los Alamos area was also home to several Pueblo communities. The Pueblos trace their heritage to the Ancestral Pueblo people, whose civilization began in 1200 B.C.E. and eventually extended over much of the Southwest. The San Ildefonso Pueblo was the nearest to the project site. Its community was small and steeped in tradition. Many of its residents were avid potters, a cultural art that had been practiced there for millennia. The arrival of the Manhattan Project in Los Alamos in 1943 was believed to be a temporary "interference" by outsiders into northern New Mexico. Instead, the "Lab on the Hill" has

become a permanent reality for the region. The Lab's existence was announced to the world in the post-WWII era when it became known universally as Los Alamos. The lab was focused on a wide variety of bomb designs but, with the ending of the Cold War, turned its focus increasingly to civilian missions. Today, Los Alamos is responsible for nuclear weapons stockpile stewardship. LANL's mission also includes nuclear nonproliferation and counter-terrorism, particle accelerator developments, health physics, fusion power research, and significant super-computing capabilities. Notably, in the field of health research, LANL recently made breakthroughs on a potential HIV/AIDS vaccine, as well as cancer detection and treatment technologies.

The Manhattan Project's research and development efforts left an environmental legacy. DOE-EM is responsible for legacy waste treatment, storage, and disposition; soil remediation including removal and disposition of buried waste; protection of the regional aquifer; and demolition, deactivation, and disposition of unneeded facilities.

Legacy Waste – DOE-EM is dedicated to packaging, shipping and disposing of legacy waste – low-level, mixed low-level, and transuranic (TRU) waste – from LANL. The most challenging legacy waste at LANL is TRU, which is currently stored at Area G, located

on a mesa 1.3 miles north of the residential community of White Rock and about 600 feet west of the San Ildefonso Pueblo boundary with LANL. Opened in the late 1950s, Area G is also the primary facility at LANL that characterizes and remediates TRU waste drums and oversized waste containers. In recent years, over 4,000 above-ground TRU waste containers have been shipped offsite from LANL and are now in long-term disposal. A top environmental priority for the DOE and the State of New Mexico is the safe and efficient removal of the remaining TRU waste stored above and below ground at Area G.

Soil and Groundwater - Legacy soil and groundwater remediation activities at LANL are conducted in accordance with regulatory requirements, DOE regulations, and other applicable environmental laws. This requires investigation and remediation of contaminated sites known as solid waste management units or areas of concern. The protection of surface water and groundwater is also within the scope of this legacy cleanup. Activities are prioritized to eliminate or reduce human health and ecological risks by addressing the highest-risk sites first.

Deactivation and Decommissioning - DOE-EM is committed to demolishing, deactivating, and disposing material from historical buildings at LANL. Current efforts are focused on Technical Area 21 (TA-21), one



Above: A weir holding waste water from entering the Rio Grande River.

of the early sites of the Manhattan Project and Cold War-era work conducted at LANL. TA-21 was the location of the world's first plutonium processing facility and where groundbreaking tritium research took place. Buildings such as a warehouse and a sewage treatment facility have been demolished and approximately 10 slabs and structures remain to be removed prior to land transfer. Upon their removal and the complete remediation of TA-21, the land will be transferred to Los Alamos County. "Our S&K/Pro2Serve Team is proud to be a part of restoring and preserving the beauty and majesty that is New Mexico." Jessica Moseley, Program Lead.





CSKT Spring Traditions

During the spring months, the Salish people traditionally honor the Creator for bringing new life to the land. Traditionally, Spring is the time of year the Salish gather roots and medicine for the upcoming year. The first root, or “the first visitor of spring,” is the Bitterroot. While gathering other roots such as Camas, the Salish people make a pilgrimage to the sacred Medicine Tree. Since time immemorial, the Salish visit the Medicine Tree to ask for healing and pray for ailing family members. Spring marks the time when the Earth is full of life and celebrations are held to honor new life and remember those who have passed on.

Bitterroot Dig

The Bitterroot is harvested for its nutritious value. It’s often referred to as the heart root because of its benefits to heart health, as well as the root itself has a heart. Before digging for the root can begin, an Elder will pick the first bitterroot, peel it and remove the heart from the root and place it back into the ground. The heart ensures that next year the Bitterroot will come back and make the people strong.

The Bitterroot, which is the Montana State flower, is pulled from the ground to expose its long roots. The roots have a thin layer of skin which is peeled off to expose the raw edible “meat.” Much like its name the Bitterroot has a strong bitter taste. When cooked, the Bitterroot is often mixed with berries, Salmon or game meat. Once harvested, the Salish celebrate with a Bitterroot celebration and feast.

Pilgrimage to the Medicine Tree

The story of the Medicine Tree comes from a Salish Creation story a battle between Coyote and a giant Ram. The Ram was a monster that killed anyone who crossed his path. To slay the Ram, Coyote dared the Ram to butt a tree with his head to show his strength. The Ram ran down the valley and hit the tree so hard that his horn went through the tree and the Ram was stuck. Coyote then proceeded to cut the head off the Ram leaving it in place. Coyote told the Salish that the head was to remain in the tree and that the people should come and bring

offerings to the tree for health and good fortune. A fur trapper by the name of Alexander Ross from the Hudson Bay Company made an entry in his journal dated March 11, 1824, which tells of an encounter with the sacred Medicine Tree. In his encounter, he mentions a skull and horns still embedded into the trunk of the tree.

In 2001, a strong wind storm damaged the tree but did not kill it. Shortly afterward, vandals poured salt on the roots, killing the tree. The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) purchased land adjacent to the location of the old Medicine Tree and placed parts of the old tree with a new ponderosa pine. A 20 foot stump of the old tree still exists. This did not stop the Salish who still make the pilgrimage to the Medicine Tree. Each spring, many tribal and non-tribal members bring offerings of ribbons, money, or other small items that are tied together and placed into the tree. Prayers are also sent to those who are ailing in health and those who have passed on.

River Honoring

Given the long history of the CSKT people along the Flathead River and its many tributaries, the CSKT decided to host a yearly river honoring. The event was an opportunity for CSKT elders to remind the youth of the importance of the river to our people as a means of sustenance and transportation. The first was held in 1986 and students of all grades were invited to attend. There are many events open to the public along with native games and educational stations.

In 1993, the River Honoring Committee decided to focus on fourth and fifth grade students as they are old enough to understand the importance of the river and maintain wonder and curiosity. Nearly 1,000 students attend the River Honoring each year. Students learn about cultural aspects of the tribe, environment, biology, games, and wildlife. Since its start, 20,000 students have attended the River Honoring and have learned more about the importance of the river system, CSKT culture, and how people and nature interact.



Top: Old photo of CSKT women digging for Bitterroot.

Center: Two of the “Stanislaw Sisters,” telling stories of past bitter-root digs.

Bottom: An Elder peels Bitterroot and removing the “Bitterroot Heart,” to place back into the ground for future growth.

Top: Chief Martin Charlo and others gathering at the Medicine Tree, Circa 1922.

Center: Family gives offering to the Medicine Tree.

Bottom: Yamn-cut Drum Group sings to honoring the river. Yamn-cut means Gathering in the Salish language.

SKA Receives the SBA Regional and Montana Graduated 8(a) of the Year

SKA was named the Small Business Administration's (SBA) 2018 Regional and Montana 8(a) Graduate of the Year. SKA President, Anthony Amadeo, and S&K Technologies, Inc. (SKT) CEO, Chad Cottet, received the awards at the Annual Montana SBA Awards held May 3, 2018 at the Camelot Ranch in Billings Montana.

The event was hosted by Montana SBA and Big Sky Economic Development Corporation. The Montana SBA Awards celebration highlighted 11 categories to recognize Montana's top small businesses, entrepreneurs, small business advocates, and champions.

The 8(a) Program offers a broad scope of assistance to firms that are owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals. It offers access to government contracts and participation in the program is divided into two phases over nine years: a four-year developmental stage and a five-year transition stage.

This award is given to a graduated 8(a) business development program participants that have successfully graduated from the 8(a) program with continued success.

SKA has demonstrated a history of successful performance in the 8(a), and in its current performance. This annual award from the U.S. Small Business Administration recognizes companies that have graduated from the 8(a) program, locally, regionally, and nationally.

SKA was measured on factors such as financials, contract performance, asset utilization, cost control, and quality engagement.

Businesses nominated for this award must meet eligibility requirements that included: a financial summary, contractor performance assessment report, business adversities, and engagement with its disadvantaged community. S&K Aerospace was nominated by its parent company; S&K Technologies because of the successful business achievements since its inception in 2005.



Back row (L to R): Pete White, Steve Dupuis, Kevin Howlett, Tony Amadeo, Rob Gauthier, and Ian Rufe.
Front (L to R): Troy Felsman, Bud Moran, and Chad Cottet.

SKA - PROS V - Star Performers of the Month*



December 2017 – Shane Allen, Logistics Specialist I

Shane maintains a 0% error rate while rapidly processing the requirements necessary to meet the stringent goals of the PROS V contract. He embodies all the attributes of an outstanding SKA employee! Shane prides himself on producing a timely, quality product and his dedication to the team and the mission is above reproach.



January 2018 – Carolyn Barber, Financial Analyst I

Carolyn has kept billing errors to a minimum by diligently looking for discrepancies in funding before sending invoices. Carolyn has played an integral role in helping the IT department develop the new PROMIS Finance Module. She is always willing to help her coworkers with any problems or questions they may have and is constantly looking for "better ways" to perform daily tasks in the finance department.



February 2018 – James Shaw, Logistics Specialist I

Jimmy is quick to assist and finds resolve to issues that pertain to quality, finance and more challenging customer inquiries. Often these issues are time sensitive, which he handles swiftly but with ease. Jimmy is one-of-a-kind and most deserving of the star performer award! He does not back down from a challenge and takes the bull by the horns to get the job done every time. We appreciate everything that you do!



March 2018 – Robert Blythe, Logistics Specialist I

On Robert's own initiative, he comes in early and/or stays late to ensure his work is done. He is quick to offer and implement ideas to create and improve efficiency for the team. He maintains a "can do" attitude and backs that up by getting the job done.



April 2018 – Lakeesha Blasingame, Logistics Specialist II

Undoubtedly, Lakeesha is the maintenance "go to" person and is thought of highly by her team and management. She often works well over eight hours a day and weekends to make sure the job is getting done and supporting where she can. Lakeesha is well regarded throughout the program as someone who is mission-oriented and will do anything to help, regardless of the department.

* PROS (Parts and Repair Ordering System)

Two Adopt a Highway Efforts - Montana and Georgia

SKT adopted two miles of Highway 93 in front of the Saint Ignatius Office (Below). Trash pickup is planned for May and October of each year. On May 11th, 10 SKT employees participated in our inaugural highway cleanup. The pickup resulted in 24 bags of trash and enough car parts to build a small car. S&K is looking into the feasibility of a Demolition derby. Stand by for more information.

Thanks to the Employees who participated in the May 11, 2018 highway cleanup: Teagan Fryberger, Kimimi Ashley, Charlotte Wheeler, Adele Vincent, Tiara Thomas, Marty Joseph, David Richard, Eric Skare, Corey Badgley, and Shirley Gallagher.



SKA (Below) contributed to Keeping Warner Robins Beautiful Initiative by adopting part of Booth Road in front of our new Foy Evans office. The first workday was Friday, March 23, 2018. We had a great turnout and everyone's efforts were appreciated! The group collected 24 bags of trash and one lucky individual found Tony Amadeo's \$20 that he had been looking for that somehow flew out the window on his way into town. SKA is planning on cleaning their adopted highway four times a year to keep the road clear of litter.



SKA Walks for Relay for Life to Remember Fellow Employee

This event resonated with SKA, not only because of the millions of lives effected by cancer each year, but also because on February 15, 2018 it really hit home. On this day, we mourned the loss of our Senior Program Manager, Alan Shaw. Al was not just an employee and colleague, but also a friend that was essentially family. So on May 4, 2018, SKA relayed for life as a family. We walked in memory of Al's life and the millions that have fought so diligently against this merciless disease. We walked to pay homage to the fallen, to celebrate the lives of survivors and to bring awareness to this life changing cause. We walked in support of Al's wife Jackie, his children and his grandchildren to honor his legacy and to take courage in knowing that days will pass and turn into years but his memory will never be forgotten.

R.I.P. Alan Shaw



Cantrell Center 5K Run

Melinda Taylor and friends participated in the 10th Annual Cantrell Center 5K on Saturday, February 24, 2018. Proceeds from the 10th Annual Cantrell Center 5K & Fun Run benefited Beverly Knight Olsen Children's Hospital, our local Warner Robins Children's Hospital, and part of the Children's Miracle Network. Picture (Melinda Taylor and Granddaughter, Kinsley Amerson).



The Mercy Tree

SKGS EPIC, IRCSS, and BETS Teams have been participating in The Mercy Tree since October of 2017. The Mercy Tree is a local organization that organizes meals for the homeless in the Clear Lake, Texas area. On a monthly basis, SKGS has a team of volunteers who cook, serve, and contribute to providing an environment where anyone can come sit and enjoy a meal at no cost.





Employees of the Quarter



William Steele – SKGS Employee of the Quarter (Winter)

Since assuming the Program Manager position at Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – Seattle, Bill has won the confidence of the Contracting Officer Representative. Bill has continually recommended and implemented improvements to the operational efficiency, morale, and customer satisfaction. Customer satisfaction is of course always important but, as we finish out the last six months of our EPA contract and endeavor to convince them to issue an uncompleted follow-on, Bill's contributions are invaluable and we believe he is an excellent choice for the SKGS' Employee of the Quarter. Congratulations Bill and keep up the good work.

Zoran Bilc – SKGS Employee of the Quarter (Spring)

Zoran was recognized by the NASA Engineering and Safety Center (NESC) for his outstanding technical support for the Calorimetry Test Unit. Zoran was able to identify Calorimetry safety concerns, and developed a new design to mitigate the problem. His ability to think outside the box and develop this new design was beyond his job scope and was extremely well received by NASA Johnson Space Center (JSC) and by NESC.

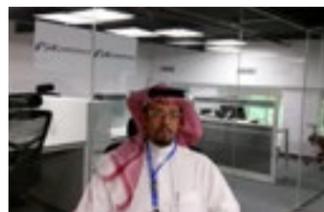


Jesse Moyer – SKLS Employee of the Quarter (Q1)

Jesse worked beyond his scope as an IT Technician by supporting the Enterprise Systems Management Team and improving the management of Department of Energy's (DOE) storage area network. He developed and implemented a plan to deploy new StorSimple storages devices and to optimize the storage environment. Most significantly, over a six-month period, he freed up more than 27 terabytes of storage space, thereby improving the storage footprint from a low of only 18% of storage available to having 47% of storage available, which resulted in cost savings for DOE.

Matthew Luke – SKA Employee of the Quarter (Q1)

As our only Data Analyst, Matthew's efforts and accuracy have been crucial in assisting SKA with getting the F-15 Supply Services contract up and operational. Matt has spent many hours of his own time at night and on weekends learning the intricacies of this system and has led the way in uploading usable data. His inquisitive nature and dedication to making this system work and helping with troubleshooting have brought us leaps and bounds from where we started. Matt's work ethic shows traits that are desired in a great employee. He is reliable, energetic, dedicated, and most of all he works very well as a member of a Team. Keep up the good work Matthew!



Othman Ahmed Al-Khelaiwi – SKA-MEB Employee of the Quarter (Q1)

Othman Al-Khelaiwi is a dedicated, self-learning, and polite employee who works well under pressure. Othman, often first and last to leave the office, helps many other departments with employee affairs. He shows great respect to his supervisors, concerns himself with administration issues, and welcomes guests to the office. He's an excellent performer and communicator and meets all deadlines. Othman continually improves his performance by recognizing weaknesses and actively works to alleviate them. Great job representing S&K in our Middle East Branch.

On-boarding

For the M-1 Project on-boarding support of SKER, Terri Hansel was joined by the SKGS team of Gregory Hawkinson, Eileen Smasal, Mary Custer, Ian Rufe, and Lisa Pendras. While on-boarding, they were able to meet two other contractors Erica Lane Enterprises, Inc. and DenMar Services Inc. The crew spent a week in Fort Rucker, Alabama on-boarding over 100 new S&K employees. "We were very busy but had time to get to know each other and get together for dinner." said Lisa Pendras.



Madness

SKGS' Larry Bradshaw Receives U.S. Forest Service's Highest Honor



The U.S. Forest Service recognized Larry Bradshaw (Left), SKGS, with it's highest award for innovation and initiative in developing an Improved National Fire Danger Rating System. Bradshaw used his background in Meteorology to incorporate new advantages in automated wind and temperature monitoring, satellite terrain observation, and archived wind conditions to detail weather factors quickly. The system that Bradshaw, along with another colleague Matt Jolly, helps fire teams predict risk when going out into the field. Bradshaw (Pictured right) is pictured with Jolly (Pictured Left), receiving their "Silver Boots" award from the U.S. Forest Service.

Picture courtesy of The Missoulian

SKGS Retirement Party

Ray Bailey (Right), SKGS, retired on March 23, 2018. Ray worked on the U.S. Air Force RAMPOD (Reliability, Availability, and Maintainability for Pods) project for 23 years, since 1995. Ray and the RAMPOD Team celebrated his retirement on March 15. Ray was hired by SKGS when they took over the contract in 2013. Ray will be enjoying his retirement with his wife Patricia. Have fun Ray!



Tim Horne Presents STEM Scholarship

Tim Horne (Below) presents the 2018 Houston County High School STEM scholarship Award to Lawson Smith. Tim is the Robins Regional Chamber representative and first Chairman of the Aerospace Industry Committee.



SKGS' Tallbott wins Orion Award

Sara Tallbott (Right) received an award from the PM of the Orion Project at NASA JSC. Sara assisted with the Orion Docking Hatch Design & Development Collaborative Team. Congratulations Sara!



Second Master's Degree

Tiffany Francis (Right), SKGS, graduated with her second master's degree from Georgia College & State University on May 11th. Her Master's is in Logistics and Supply Chain Management. Congratulations Tiffany from everyone at S&K!



For the third year in a row and fourth overall, SKGS has been awarded the CSF Safety and Health Award from Johnson Space Center (JSC) Contractor Affairs Safety and Health Committee (CASC) and Contractor Safety and Health Forum (CSF). SKGS was awarded the safety award on the following factors:

- TCIR and DART rates were both zero
- Participated in CASC, and JSC Safety Meetings
- Continued in the VPP challenge program
- Created SKGS KITES program which is a peer-to-peer award program focused on safety
- Several employees received Safe Not Sorry awards



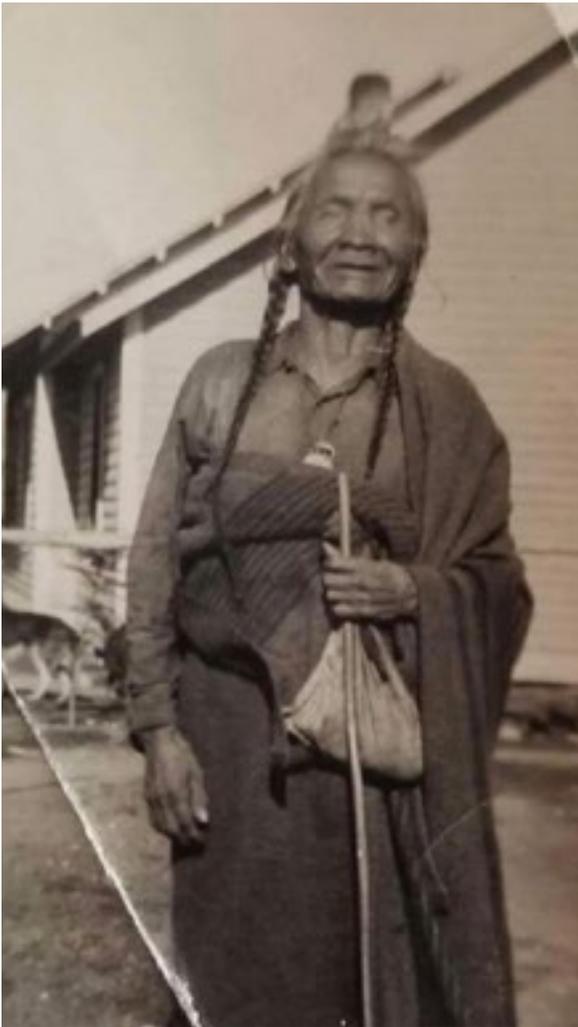
SKGS wins NASA Supernova Award



Rosie the Riveter

Mike Monahan, VP of Business Development, and Rob Taylor from our DMSMS Team, met with the wonderful ladies of the Rosie the Riveter Museum and Airfield in Ypsilanti, MI. The ladies of the Rosie the Riveter are trying to raise money to keep the museum going, as well as restore original World War II aircraft (Built by ladies of course). If you are interested in the organization and/or would like to donate, please visit the website savethebomberplant.org for more information.

Light-hearted Humor from Old CSKT Lore



One day Blind Michel was walking the Northern Pacific railroad tracks to Missoula. He knew he was on the high trestle, 220 feet high, the highest on the Northern Pacific route, the highest in the entire North-west. Using his stick to make sure of every step, Blind Michel walked slowly. He thought that he must be half-way across, now crossing the highest part of the trestle. Suddenly he heard a train coming. He could never make it to the either end. There was only one thing to do. Carefully Blind Michel let himself down between the ties and hung on with both hands. The trestle shook as the train thundered over him. He could hold on no longer and knew that he would be killed when he hit the rocks two hundred or more feet below. Quickly he said a prayer. Then he dropped but his feet hit firm ground. He couldn't have dropped more than a foot or two. He was not dead, not even broken or bruised. Joyful and thankful he again said a prayer. Instead of being in the center of the trestle he had been nearly across.



“One of the best ways to understand a people is to know what makes them laugh.”

- Vine DeLoria, Jr. (Sioux) from the essay “Indian Humor.”

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