THOUGHTFUL GIVING
Employees donate time and gifts to charity

BUFFALO
The sacred
The honorable

NASA’s Orion
Successful test launch & S&K’s support of this next generation spacecraft
Challenges of a new government

Although we are well into our new fiscal year it is still exciting to contemplate what the 2015 calendar year has in store. We constantly try and make educated guesses as to what we think will happen. Our general business plan continues to be in effect but as always we regularly evaluate the various strategies we employ to make our overall business effective.

I do expect that we will be making some introductory trips to Washington, DC, for meetings with some of the new members of Congress. We will of course work independently and with the Native American Contractors Association (NACA) in this effort. We have a new senator from the state of Montana that we met with briefly when he was a Congressman and we surely will spend more time with him now in his new role. Of course, we continue to have a positive working relationship with Montana’s Democratic Senator.

Along with this approach, it will be extremely interesting to see what this new Congress controlled by the Republicans will bring about. The one expected change is that we should see budgets being passed. This will certainly help the various administrative agencies plan more effectively. This could help our business throughout the year as contracts that may have been delayed are awarded.

Although we clearly embrace the SBA’s 8(a) program and work diligently to win contract awards through the program, we are well aware of just how important it is to win awards outside of the program. With this in mind, as we have in the past, we will continue to seek these non-8(a) contracts. Of course, this is especially important for our graduated 8(a) subsidiaries and the ones about to graduate. Our new bid and proposal approach will be of extreme importance in improving our win rates in this venue.

Finally, I commend all of you who work so hard to meet and exceed the obligations of the contracts in progress. Your efforts in this endeavor continue to create a very positive image with the various federal agencies. All of this contributes towards positioning our companies for new contract awards.

Building a natural environment

Historic dredge mining in Newsome Creek, near Elk City, Idaho, left tailings piles across the floodplain and stream channel, leaving poor habitat quality for plants and fish. These tailings piles isolated the creek from the floodplain and limited the riparian area. Last summer marked a new era for the site when S&K Environmental began remediation work on 2.75 miles of the creek area. The project was commissioned by the Nez Perce Tribe and administered by the U.S. Forest Service.

S&K Environmental first removed 38,500 cubic yards of floodplain dredge piles over 9.5 acres and placed them in adjacent repositories. Revegetation efforts involved planting over two acres of upland and floodplain areas with 3,499 single-hole plants. 3,052 feet of stream bank were trench planted with 3,246 riparian plants.

“Wherever feasible we used existing mature woody vegetation at the new floodplain elevation,” said Lorna McIntyre, Vegetation Management Specialist. “We placed large trees and slash on the floodplain to increase roughness and create what we call ‘microhabitats.’” Top soil was salvaged and placed over the cobbly soils and a native seed mix was broadcast over the area. To minimize in-stream water quality impacts, temporary wooden bridges were installed at all of the stream crossings.

Months of hard work went into healing the floodplain and returning it to a more natural environment. The benefit to fish and native vegetation will be immediate.
Suppliers and foreign military head to the PROS Customer and Industry Forum

Each month, hundreds of supply and repair requests totalling $20 million in procurement costs are processed by the Parts and Repair Ordering System (PROS) contract team in Stockbridge, Georgia. That’s just a snapshot of U.S. Air Force Security Assistance and Cooperation (AFSAC) Directorate’s total Foreign Military Sales program, which exceeds $145 billion.

The PROS contract is in its third year with the S&K team, which includes S&K Aerospace and subcontractors P.A.R.T.S. Inc., and General Dynamics Information Technology. The team serves the AFSAC Directorate by managing the logistics needs of over 100 foreign military services around the world that use equipment and machinery from the U.S. These countries come to the PROS team for parts, spares and repairs for existing and new equipment, and the PROS team reaches out to a network of private vendors to meet the demands.

“We work hand in hand with our foreign customers and the vendors who supply the parts and equipment they need to keep their military moving,” says PROS IV Division Director, Tim Horne. “It’s a vast and complicated machine that we try to keep well oiled.”

Each year the PROS team hosts a collaboration conference called the PROS Customer and Industry Forum. It’s a chance for industry and foreign customers to gain and share valuable information about the program, meet PROS team members, foreign military service country customers, and key AFSAC members. This year the Forum is being held in Dayton, Ohio, from March 2-5.

Forum attendees include private industry members who are looking to learn more about the program and how they can market their product, and foreign military personnel sent to represent their country, learn about the program, and find new products.

“We host a general session and workshops targeted at answering questions about product supply, maintenance requisitions, quality, and general finance topics,” said Alicia Zahn, S&K Aerospace’s Forum planner.

This year’s keynote speaker is Cynthia (Hertenstein) Abbott, the Deputy Director of AFSAC. Mrs. Abbott is responsible for supporting and advising the AFSAC Director in the overall operation and administration of the Directorate by providing guidance, coordination, and direction. The S&K PROS team is looking forward to hosting another successful Forum! Learn more at: www.pros-forum.com

Photo Above; S&K Aerospace Forum planner, Alicia Zahn, hands out a raffle prize to a lucky attendee at last years’ PROS Customer and Industry Forum. A raffle with many different prizes is held at the Social event on the first night of the conference.

At right, Tim Horne, S&K Aerospace Sr. Program Manager for the PROS IV contract, addresses industry and military representatives during the General Session. Tim and his PROS Team of over 145 procurement, logistics, quality, and financial specialists support more than 100 of our Allies.

Moving on up! Brett Hanser is a Project Manager with S&K Environmental and just became a Rosgen Level IV certified Stream Restoration Specialist (SRS) in October. Rosgen Level 4 certification is a requirement for stream work in Montana and will expand the technical expertise at the environmental services company.

Brett attended a 10-day course on River Restoration and Natural Channel Design to receive his certification. Three prerequisite courses in fluvial geomorphology, river morphology, and river assessment/monitoring are required to complete the certification.

“The course was a hands-on training experience,” said Brett. “We covered techniques for river restoration, stabilization and fish habitat enhancement in very complex environments.”
The day Orion took flight

December 5, 2014: Uncrewed Mission: 2 Orbits: 4 Hours

“It was a unique experience like none other to see Orion launch and I was thrilled to be able to share it with my son and many of my Orion software teammates,” said Diana Rodgers, a member of the Orion Flight Software Team who has been supporting the Orion project since 2010, even before S&K Global Solutions was awarded EPIC. “There were tears of joy all around me...okay, I had tears too! I am so proud to be one small part of this awesome team that is making a difference in the world for mankind!”

EPIC stands for Engineering Product Integration Contract, a grand title for a large contract that spans many support functions for projects at the Johnson Space Center Engineering Directorate. S&K is teamed with Booz Allen Hamilton and together they currently employ about 80 people.

Many S&K employees attended the Orion Experimental Flight Test (EFT) launch, including Houston S&K Sr. Program Manager, Barb DeBernardo, and S&K Technologies CEO, Tom Acevedo. Unfortunately, the launch was postponed nearly 24 hours because of technical difficulties, and Tom missed the liftoff.

Orion is NASA’s new human spacecraft designed for exploration and possibly a trip to Mars. It has been in development since 2005 and had its first unmanned test launch in December of this year. The technology used on Orion is some of the most advanced systems ever built.

NASA says, “It will be the safest, most advanced spacecraft ever built, and it will be flexible and capable enough to take us to a variety of destinations.”

One of the many tasks that S&K performs for NASA is integrated IT management. Over 40 labs and 1150 devices are part of our support network across many programs and projects, including the Capsule Parachute Assembly System (CPAS) on Orion. Employees rely on our specialists when it comes to IT security, systems, applications, database, and process improvement. Many groups utilize Microsoft’s SharePoint to manage documents and processes, and S&K provides technical administration to hundreds of these sites.

Lana Rouse, a project administrative specialist supporting CPAS along with Sylvia Faden and Erica Blackburn, attended a drop test for CPAS in Yuma, AZ, earlier this year preparing for inclusion in this test launch. “I just wanted to share how much I LOVE working on this team!” said Lana Rouse, after the successful launch of Orion.

“The team here in Houston is just outstanding,” said Barb DeBernardo. “Working on manned missions requires such dedication and commitment to excellence. It really permeates all we do.”

Tom Acevedo, who frequently visits office locations and who just returned from the launch in Cape Canaveral, Florida, had this to say about the experience; “The EPIC team is a crew of talented professionals and the entire S&K family is very proud of their work. It’s great to see how our small company can have an important role in something as big and fun as Orion.”

Background photo and cover photos (courtesy NASA) show the prelaunch and launch of the Orion Spacecraft which is mounted atop a Delta IV Heavy rocket in Cape Canaveral, Florida. The flight took four hours and orbited the earth twice. Photos at right capture a beautiful sunset and crowd excited for the launch; Tom Acevedo, S&K CEO waiting among other fans for the liftoff; and the CPAS Assembly Parachute system being tested earlier in the year.

“Oh what a beautiful morning to see a great liftoff! Yeah, Orion’s flying!”

Deborah Horton, IT Professional
NASA’s International Space Station (ISS) program has been working to shorten the certification schedules for science and exploration technology hardware. Streamlining the process will lower costs for researchers and help speed the use of experiments and technology aboard the orbiting lab.

Because new technology must be deemed safe before it can be used on the station, it must undergo a long sequence of testing to meet qualification standards. Employing the “old processes” can result in it taking more than 2 years for the experiment to be certified as safe.

“Both NASA and industry want to make it faster and less expensive to get these advancements in new technology onto the space station,” said S&K Global Solutions Process Improvement Specialist, David Dean.

One of the task orders under the EPIC contract has S&K Global Solutions providing strategy and process improvements to the JSC Engineering Directorate. “Our team is made up of experienced scientists, engineers, and support personnel that have in-depth knowledge of all the aspects of delivering flight hardware to the ISS,” said Dean. “We were able to identify inefficiencies and develop a more streamlined methodology that reduced time and cost by about 40%.”

The overall goal for this effort is maximize the ISS’s use as an international laboratory for discovery and technology advancement, while also ensuring there is no harm to the vehicle or crew. “We’re really working to help the Johnson Space Center and ISS leadership meet their goals,” said Dean.
US Marine Corp work expands for S&K Logistics Services

The S&K Logistics Services Military Technical Data Team was awarded four defense contracts to develop or revise Technical Manuals, Electronic Technical Manuals, and Interactive Electronic Technical Manuals for the United States Marine Corps (USMC). This team of professionals has provided technical expertise, dedication, and perseverance while working this very detailed and complex tasking for the USMC customer. Their high standards and genuine concern for the end user are why the USMC enjoys working with S&K. The crew is based in Byron, Georgia.

Photo front row: Greg Doss (Program Manager) and Rose Kenny (Technical Data Engineer) Middle: Jonathan Crowell (Provisioning Specialist), Nicole Craneweir (Illustrator). Back row: John Risko (Illustrator), Mike Bearden, Ammy Pearson, Jeff Sumrow and Keith Whigham (Technical Data Engineers).

A Technical Order celebrity retires

Senior Program Manager, Roy McBride (affectionately known as Eeyore) bid farewell to customers, coworkers, colleagues, and friends on November 20th, 2014 at a retirement luncheon. The luncheon was to recognize and honor a renowned employee who completed forty-six (46) years in the business of technical orders.

Early 1997, Roy’s employer at the time was tasked to accomplish a F-15C/D/S Technical Order (TO) digitization study for Saudi Arabia to determine feasibility and present the costs. Later that year, the digitization effort began, FrameMaker was recommended, and the conversion process began to process an entire Suite update. During this timeframe, the entire TO team consisted of Mr. McBride, a writer, quality, and a Government Lead. Despite the small number of personnel Roy and the team were able to complete the Suite update in six (6) months at a cost of about $250K. The savings in both cost and schedule validated the program and paid for it at the same time. It was during this time that the contract was beginning its transition to S&K.

Roy was hired as a Program Manager on the F-15 International Programs contract effort on June 1, 2004, by S&K Technologies, Inc. Roy transferred to S&K Aerospace, LLC on September 1, 2011, as Senior Program Manager to support the US Air Force and Royal Saudi Air Force programs. He was recognized as Employee of the 1st Quarter, 2011.

Following the successful digitization effort, another study was accomplished to determine the cost of establishing a printing press in Saudi Arabia. The funding for the printing press was provided by the Royal Saudi Air Force (RSAF). Roy and team went to Saudi to setup the printing capability. The first of two - 45 day trips were eventful. Saddam was starting his march to the second gulf war and the representative with the specialized expertise left the Kingdom at the end of the first week. Despite these setbacks, more than 30 days later Roy and others returned home with the printing press fully operational for all of the TOs, with the exception of the pilot’s checklist.

In the years following the initial effort, we were able to provide a five (5) color printing press and a three (3) color printing press that would allow the RSAF to print on the specialized material to print the checklist. We also built a network allowing us to electronically deliver technical orders to the RSAF Headquarters and the printing press. It was eventually expanded allowing delivery of the data to remote locations of Dhahran, Khamis Mushayt, Tabuk, and Taif. Roy and team spent many hours with RSAF leadership at Headquarters and the bases drinking tea, coffee and eating dates, which a was a large part of doing business in the Kingdom.

“We’re going to miss Roy, of course, but he’s only retiring,” said Melinda Taylor, Staff Support Manager. “You may pass him on the road driving his RV to some remote location. And no doubt there’ll be things he’ll miss too – like the 4am tyranny of his alarm clock and the wonderful trips to Saudi – but he’ll learn to live with it!” S&K sends a big thank you to Roy for everything he has done and for being a great colleague and friend to many. We wish him all the very best for a long and happy retirement.

Photo: Roy is all smiles at his Retirement Party in November. He was presented with a tribal design “Big Medicine” Pendleton Blanket. Standing with him is John Sims, VP Operations, in the green shirt. Bottom right photo he is joined by John McEntee, Program Manager of RSAF F-15 Technical Order Program. Roy has been mentoring John for the last year or so to take over the program.
The Salish, Kootenai, and all tribes of the U.S. plains and surrounding areas were dependent on the hunting of buffalo. The buffalo provided many resources; such as food, shelter, clothing, tools, and ceremonial sacrament. The buffalo were respected by the tribes and thanks were given to the buffalo for the continued subsistence. Many rituals and songs are about giving thanks to the buffalo.

Due to a government program that was designed to eradicate the buffalo to help defeat many Indian nations, the population of buffalo decreased to almost extinction. The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) were one of the first tribes to take steps to foster the growth of buffalo populations. Today, the CSKT help maintain the National Bison Range a few miles from the S&K Headquarters in St. Ignatius, Montana. Yellowstone National Park also maintains buffalo herds, and per treaties with many tribes, there are still annual buffalo hunts. Our people do not hunt buffalo for sport, but rather for the subsistence of our culture.

Long ago, the Salish people would travel over the mountains to the plains area to hunt buffalo. They knew how many buffalo would provide for the tribe that year and they did not waste or overkill because their livelihood depended upon the buffalo’s return. Hunting buffalo in the plains was dangerous as many tribes fought over certain hunting lands. The buffalo was so important that the Salish braved war with neighboring tribes to obtain what they needed. Often the Salish would hunt with ally tribes, such as the Niimiipuu (Nez Perce) and the Shoshoni to fend off many enemy tribes.

Before a hunt, many bands or groups of families would solicit the assistance of a medicine man to help them find buffalo. The medicine man would fast and pray, often using ceremonial buffalo objects like skulls. The medicine man would relay messages from buffaloes of the past, often in an older form of the Ancient Salish Language, or in the language of other tribes like Blackfeet, Crow, or Sioux. The Salish believed that the spirit of the buffalo spoke in the language that it was most familiar with.

After a buffalo kill, the hunter kept the hide and harvested the cuts of the meat that he wanted. The remainder of the buffalo was given to other members of the tribe or hunting party. The hunters would skin and cut up the buffalo for transport to hunting camp where women would dry the meat for the winter months and prepare the other parts of the buffalo. Nothing was wasted, as it was taboo to disrespect the buffalo that gave its life for the People.

Today, the CSKT help maintain the National Bison Range in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The National Bison Range is a National Wildlife Refuge for the buffalo as well as many other species of wild animals such as antelope, deer, and mountain lion. The Bison Range is one of the oldest wildlife refuges in America and has about 18,800 acres of grazing land located a few miles from the S&K headquarters office. It also contains many great views of the entire Reservation and visitors can drive a scenic road to the top of the range with almost guaranteed sightings of buffalo, elk, deer, and even black bears.

Recently, a Salish hunting party was accompanied by a few students from Stanford University who are working on a documentary about the traditional buffalo hunt. The students were given full access to the hunt and recorded the process of hunting, skinning, and breaking down of the meat and other parts of the buffalo. The students were also given a perspective of why Indian people still hunt buffalo, which is guaranteed to the tribes by treaty with the U.S. In recent years, many organizations have protested the traditional buffalo hunts but are reminded of how non-native ancestors decimated the buffalo populations. Our tribe continues a legacy of hunting buffalo for subsistence and ceremony, not of sport. We respect the buffalo and give thanks to the buffalo that have given their lives to our people.

Background: Bison cross the Yellowstone River (courtesy National Park Service). Left: Bison mingle at the National Bison Range on one of the many beautiful vistas of the Mission Mountains (courtesy USFW Dept. of Interior). Right: A group of Salish and Pend d’Orielle tribal members work on field dressing a buffalo for transportation (courtesy Shawnee Spotted Eagle).

By Brian Tanner - Business Development Specialist
Holiday Parties

UTAH = The Moab Technical Assistance Contract Team held its holiday party in the Hospitality Suite located on the top floor above the press box and concessions for the local baseball and football stadiums in Grand Junction, Colorado. The group enjoyed a nice catered buffet dinner of prime rib and chicken cordon bleu. Door prizes were given away and fun games of “name that Christmas movie quote” and a charades-style Christmas carol relay were played. Each guest also received a “cheesecake in a jar,” made by a local company. Mary Bachtell, Scott and Michelle Shaffer, Joe Stieber, and Scott Williams enjoy the buffet-style dinner.

WASHINGTON = Instead of a holiday party, S&K Global Solutions in the Northwest decided to have a Halloween party in October. There were door prizes and a DJ for karaoke and dancing. Darth Vader (aka Tim Gray, IT Helpdesk Specialist), used his light saber to have a Limbo contest. The winners of the first place prize were Gene Simmons (aka Tana Gill, IT Helpdesk Supervisor), Paul Stanley (aka Clyde McFadden, IT Helpdesk Specialist), Eric Singer (aka Ann Tikunoff, Technical Support Specialist), and Tommy Thayer (aka Steven Tikunoff). Taking second place was Jack Torrance from the Shining (aka Vern Meyer, IT Helpdesk Specialist) and third prize went to Flo, the Progressive Insurance lady (aka Jordan Chargualaf, Program Analyst Support).

GEORGIA = the S&K Global Solutions crew from the Warner Robins office and employees from the Warner Robins Air Force base combined forces and had one big holiday party at the Blacksmith Shop in Macon, Georgia.

GEORGIA = the S&K Aerospace employees in Georgia gathered at Plantation Farms in Byron for their holiday party. Just under 100 people attended and were treated to hickory smoked BBQ pulled pork, brisket, a ton of veggies, and a ‘mashed potato and grits bar.’ A band named Session Road played for the audience and dancers.
UNITED WAY = The giving season was in full force for the Moab Technical Assistance Contract Team. It began with the annual in-house United Way campaign in October when the team coordinated activities to tie in with the Mesa County theme “Through the Decades.” Employees at the Grand Junction office brought in their baby photos, other mementos from past decades, and verbally shared their favorite decade. The 80s were a popular decade among the group. Memorabilia included Jiffy Pop popcorn, Beanie Babies, and newspaper clippings or magazines highlighting important stories of the time. The TAC team raised more than $3,350, including an S&K corporate donation of $250.

TURKEY/COAT DRIVE = The Grand Junction office also held its traditional turkey drive the week before Thanksgiving. The Catholic Outreach soup kitchen gratefully accepted the donation of 13 turkeys, as they had received very few turkeys this year. The turkeys totaled just over 212 pounds, with the Drumstick Award going to “Marguerite,” weighing in at a whopping 23.03 pounds! The giving continued with an additional donation drive for coats that were delivered to Catholic Outreach. Twenty-two coats were collected, along with scarves, gloves, and even some long underwear.

CLOTHING DRIVE = S&K Logistics Services employees in Georgia collected a truck load of clothing and other essential items later donated to the Abba House. These charitable items will support women during their 15 month stay at the Abba facility located in Perry, Ga. The Abba House is a residential ministry for women dealing with the emotional challenges of life—past, present and future.

CHARITY = Every year the PROS Team in Georgia has an Elf Contest that raises money for charity. The person with the most votes will get to dress up in the official PROS IV Elf Costume and assist with the duties of the Holiday party/lunch. All in all a pretty fun time was had by the entire team. Vote by donation meant 25 cents for one vote or a “special” 5 votes for a whole dollar bill! The winner of the PROS IV Elf Contest was Andre Brown. The team contributed just over $1,000 to Golden Crest Assisted Living. Photo shows Tim Horne, PROS IV Division Director, handing the charity funds over to Gayla D’Hollosy of Golden Crest.

TOY DRIVE = the S&K crew at headquarters held their annual White Elephant give exchange party. Participants each bought a gift to "give" to another employee and described why they selected the toy. All the toys went to charity.

TOY DRIVE = The S&K Global Solutions NASA EPIC Team Activities Committee put together a Toys for Tots competition as a fun way to encourage camaraderie and participation in a worthwhile cause. Many of the team members also participated by volunteering at the distribution site to help pass out toys to the kids. Toys for Tots is sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corp.
Exciting Enhancement to the Well onTarget Fitness Program!

We all know that being physically active is good for our hearts – and now through Well onTarget you can track your physical activity and get incentivized for those minutes you rack up!

You can now sync your activity through multiple mobile apps as well as some of the fitness tracking devices, such as the Fitbit, Jawbone, Fitbug, and the VivoFit. Each day that you sync your fitness device or approved app to Well onTarget, you will receive 55 Life Points!

For more information on the Well onTarget program, please contact a member of our wellness team at wellness@bcbsmt.com

Putnam is now EMPOWER Retirement

You’re going to start seeing this new look and new name beginning January 2, 2015, when you call the service center, check your account on the Web or receive communications.


The update is expected to be completed by March 2015. New materials will be created over the coming months and they will work with us to build a comprehensive plan to communicate all changes related to the new name to you.

You will access your plan account information by going to www.empower-retirement.com/401kparticipant. We recommend you bookmark the new site address so you can easily take advantage of all your plan. (Please Note: You automatically will be redirected to the new site from www.putnam.com/401k for an extended period of time.)

Employees of the Quarter

S&K GLOBAL SOLUTIONS - Sonja Parker is the Employee of the Quarter for S&K Global Solutions. She is a member of the Engineering Product Integration Contract (EPIC) at Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, and works directly with the engineers and lab personnel in the EV8 Wireless and Communication Systems Branch within the Avionics Systems Division. One of her major responsibilities includes maintaining budget data for all of EV8’s ITAs – over $7M (the largest asset pool in ASD). She tracks budget variances and acts as the liaison for the PM and Budget Office. Sonja was awarded with an ASD Recognition of Excellence award for her dedication and commitment to completing and delivering the budget products in the short 3-day turnaround timeframe each month. The EV8 Branch Chief sent a personal letter acknowledging the “Outstanding Support” that Sonja provides. Sonya also recieved an On the Spot Award for her hard work.

S&K AEROSPACE - As a lead for Division Flight Test execution, Flight Test Engineer Derek Kirkendall distinguished himself this quarter through utilization of his flight test engineering experience, detailed understanding of systems and sub-systems performance characteristics, rigorous adherence to the acquisition test planning and subsequent execution processes. Derek’s unswerving commitment to deliver required system capabilities on schedule helped resolve software errors and allowed on-time deployment of the most capable Medium Altitude Unmanned Aircraft System ever. Through a clear understanding of system performance, history, and expected behavior, he was able to detect and report a critical issue that was undetected during Ground Test. For his efforts to guarantee our customer operates the latest technology in the field, Derek Kirkendall is deserving of selection as the S&K Aerospace Employee of the Quarter.

Please join us in also congratulating the PROS IV Finance Department as the Team of the Quarter for S&K Aerospace. Finance Manager, Lynn Daniel oversees the PROS IV Finance Team which consists of four Financial Analysts: Ashley Lott (Lead), Brandi Ellingham, Kim Powell and Shannan Bertrand.

The PROS IV Finance Department handles invoicing for over 600 PROS IV vendors. Each invoice submission requires an email response from the Finance Department that confirms receipt of the invoice with an expected payment date. Invoice packets must be validated prior to payment and incomplete or erroneous packets require further correspondence with the vendor. During the previous quarter, the Finance Team processed over 5,000 complete vendor invoice packets to S&K Corporate for payment to vendors and weekly invoices totaling $82 Million to the government for payment to S&K Aerospace.
SAFETY DAY RUN/WALK and Fall SOCIAL

The EPIC team at Johnson Space Center (JSC) took part in the JSC-wide Safety Day event (pictures right). Many Safety and Health related activities are planned across the campus including breakfast, motivational speakers, flu shots (always a favorite), vendors, cooking demonstrations, and a health walk/run.

The team also enjoyed some time away from work for the JSC Engineering Directorate/EA Fall Social (photos below). The social was held at the Gilruth Pavilion.

GRAN FONDO

Last September, two of S&K’s most daring employees rode 55-miles of Montana backroads to help raise funds for the Missoula Symphony Association. Dermot O’Halloran, Sr. VP of Corporate Development, and Dean Hendrix, IRM Director, were also the safest team on the ride, sporting S&K logo’ed high visibility jerseys, and Dean Hendrix with his trademark Longhorns helmet accessory.

CASA Rookie of the Year

Doye DeBolt, Sr. Equipment Specialist with S&K Global Solutions, and his wife Roberta, were honored as 2014 Rookies of the Year at the Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner. Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) for Children is a network of 951 community-based programs that recruit, train, and support citizen-volunteers to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children in courtrooms and communities. Pictured left to right: Honorable Gregory J. Ryan, Roberta DeBolt, Honorable Cassandra M. Williams, and Doye DeBolt.

4-H Fun Run

Lorna McIntyre, Revegetation Specialist with S&K Environmental, participated in the Butte-Silver Bow 4-H Fun Run in October. The three mile run is a fundraiser for 4-H, one of the largest youth development programs in the U.S. Photo left to right: Judy Conlan, Sarah Fredlund, her son Zane Fredlund and Lorna McIntyre. All runners received a pumpkin and a baseball cap.

On the Spot Award

S&K Global Solutions Program Analyst, LaTanya Fourth, was awarded an On The Spot Award by Program Manager, Curt Marsh. LaTanya supports the FAA Directives Management Team at FAA Headquarters in Washington, DC. She was recognized by her FAA manager with a Letter of Appreciation noting her hard work and professionalism. “LaTanya always demonstrates a high level of commitment, dedication and loyalty to our customer,” said Marsh. “She is highly deserving of the award.”

Nutcracker

Kent Mueller, Senior Acquisition Program Management Analyst on the F-15 Mission Support Services contract for S&K Global Solutions, once again reprises his role as the grandfather in the Nutcracker of Middle Georgia performance at the Grand Opera House in Macon, GA. This is Kent’s 12th performance and his wife Brenda has played the grandmother for 21 years.
Mad Skier  Madi Pill-Kastens, daughter of Ken Pill, Ground Water Manager for the S&K Aerospace Moab TAC Team, races down a giant slalom course in Crested Butte, Colorado, in one of her U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association races. Madi is 14 years old and races for the Powderhorn Racing Club. She was introduced to downhill skiing at a young age by her parents and has been racing since she was 7 years old. Her dad always says, “Fortunately she inherited her mom’s ski genes, and not her dad’s.”

Chef Skills  Proud dad, Steven Klepzig, S&K Technologies, Inc. Senior Communications Engineer, sent us this note about his son, Kevin, who’s culinary team won the 2015 Western Region American Culinary Federation competition in November. It is the second consecutive year a team from Western Colorado Community College has taken the top honor in the state.

Sarah Sorenson, S&K Environmental Construction Coordinator, had a baby boy on Dec. 9, 2014. His Name is Caleb Albert Sorenson. He weighed 7 lbs, 2 oz. He joins his older sister Karli.

Welcome newborn baby girl Londyn Iman Desire, born to S&K Aerospace Procurement Specialist Len Desire and husband Bobby Desire. Londyn was born on Dec 8, 2014, 6 lbs, 15.8 oz, 21 inches long.

Brayson Wayne Bertrand was born Oct 22 and weighed 6 lbs, 12.4 oz, and 19 1/2 in long. He is the grand baby of Shannan Bertrand, S&K Aerospace Financial Analyst.


Brett “Roscoe” Cordier, S&K Environmental, became a grandpa for the fifth time on Nov 20 to a little girl named Brynlee Yvonne Cordier-Johnson. Brynlee weighed 7 lbs, 7oz. She is now the baby sister to Milee Cordier and Evelyn Johnson. Brynlee is also the great-granddaughter to Binky Bowman (President of S&K Global Solutions).

Little baby James Buford “Ford” Lawhorn was welcomed on Dec 19 to grandpa Steve Manning, S&K Global Solutions Acquisition Program Management Analyst. He was 6 lbs, 11 oz and 20 inches long.

Heather Staton, an Administrative Support Specialist on the F-15 Mission Support Services contract, welcomed her new daughter Avery Elizabeth on Oct 25. She was 7.5 lbs and is growing quickly!

Grad  Tyler Tucker graduated from Ga. College and State University’s J. Whitney Bunting College of Business with a BBA degree in Accounting and Finance. Tyler’s father is Marty Tucker, Sr. Program Manager/Site Manager with S&K Global Solutions in Warner Robins. In the photo are Tyler’s mother Teresa Tucker and father Marty Tucker.

In Loving Memory  As we remember our Vets on Veteran’s Day I can’t help but think back to November 8, 2007. It was on that day my family received the life altering news that Senior Airman, Kenny Hauprich Jr., had been killed in a helicopter crash in northern Italy. Since that day we continue to get support from our Air Force family locally and from around the world, fellow government and S&K workers, the community, and the Patriot Guard. This year marked the seventh year memorial for Kenny, and though very early on an extremely cold morning, 30 people (19 were Patriot Guard Brothers and Sisters) supported the Hauprich family. We all paid our respects not only to Kenny but to the entire crew, passengers and the survivors. At the end of the memorial every year we all place a rose on Kenny’s grave as sign of honor and respect for each and every one of them.

Story Courtesy Ken Hauprich, Subject Matter Expert, S&K Aerospace