

The NEW DELJENGENERATION

The Newsletter for
Employees of DEL-JEN, Inc.

Issue #22
September 2009

OA/CTS

DEL-JEN's three contracts with the Dept. of Labor to provide Outreach Admissions and Career Transition Services (OA/CTS) to young people in the New England, Ohio, and Albuquerque areas are not high visibility contracts. Staff work pretty much in the background on a 1:1 basis with their clients - helping them prepare for admission into the Job Corps Program or, after completing the Program, helping them find jobs or continue onto higher levels of education.

It's a highly personal, yet highly gratifying service they provide and each and every staff member leaves at the end of the day, knowing he or she made a difference in someone's life. *Here are a few examples:*

From **Brenda Spencer**, Career Transition Specialist, Ohio OA/CTS



"Scott was very frustrated when I first met him at his orientation but I knew there was something special about him." When the steel and auto industries abandoned his home town of Youngstown, OH, unemployment skyrocketed. Unable to pass the graduation test to earn his HS diploma, Scott enrolled at Atterbury JCC in July, 2008 and a year later, left with his GED and certificate in Facility Maintenance.

Armed with his certificates and portfolio, Scott stopped by to thank Ms. Spencer for her help and was surprised when she handed him a \$1200 "transitional bonus" for completing his diploma and trade. *"It will come in handy when he begins his studies at Vincennes University next week"* commented Ms. Spencer. *"I'm just tickled that he didn't give up on himself!"*

From **Carla Harris**, Career Transition Specialist, Ohio OA/CTS



"Before I started working for DEL-JEN I worked at a homeless shelter and that's how I first met Linda" She was a high school dropout, homeless, and a single mom. On several occasions Carla recommended the Job Corps Program to her but they lost track of each other as Linda had another baby and Carla switched jobs. You can imagine their surprise when they ran into each other at a Job Corps orientation meeting. *"It was humbling to know that she remembered not just me, but Job Corps, too."*

That was April, 2008. By November, Linda had earned her GED and completed her training as a Nursing Assistant at Cleveland JCC. Today, she's working at a nursing home in Cleveland, successfully supporting herself and her children. Ms. Harris states, *"Some people's lives get a little bit ahead of them. Job Corps made it possible for Linda to gain control of her personal and professional life. I know she can keep it up and we're doing everything we can to support her through her career transition."*

From **David Mullins**, Career Transition Specialist, Ohio OA/CTS



David first met Steven when he applied for admission to the program in January, 2008. David comments, *"He was a little unfocused. He had no job, no diploma, no direction and he was down and out. We talked about what he wanted to do and he said he was interested in welding."* A month later Steven was on his way to Earle C. Clements JCC but transferred to Cincinnati to be closer to his mom who had fallen ill.

Steven earned his GED and completed the welding training program. He has applied for an apprenticeship program and as he waits for it to start, he's already working two part-time jobs: one as a welder and the other cooking at a restaurant. *"I guess once you get used to the temperature of burning steel, a cooking grill is nothing!"* joked Mr. Mullins.

These are but a few examples of the hundreds of lives our counselors have touched. ✦

Ohio OA/CTS Red, White & Boom

The July 4th fireworks celebration in Columbus, OH attracts over 500,000 people and continues to provide, as it has every year, the perfect venue for Ohio OA/CTS's biggest outreach and recruiting event of the year.

This year's "Red, White & Boom" event was more successful than ever due to the partnership between the Ohio National Guard and our Columbus office. As the half million downtown visitors streamed past our Columbus office, they were attracted by the rock climbing wall brought by the National Guard, and the popcorn and snowcones offered by the OA/CTS staff.



CT Manager, **Antonio Caffey** stated, *"We've seen an increase in the number of graduates taking advantage of military enlistments, but we're particularly pleased with our association with the National Guard. It enables our students to attend college while serving our country. It's a great association."*

"We're hoping to develop more opportunities where we can share the spotlight with the National Guard," added Outreach & Admissions Manager **Robin Creer**. *"It's just another way of helping our students see that it's an uphill climb, but not insurmountable."* ✦

New England OA/CTS Events

"Surviving Everyday" is a television talk show designed to raise public awareness of the physical and mental disabilities afflicting millions of people in the U.S. It also help to empower those afflicted with disabilities by providing them with information, inspiration, and



tools to improve their lives.

Recently, **Sue Clark** (L), manager of the OA New England contract, appeared on the show with host, Leslie Pavia, who herself is a stroke victim. During the hour-long interview, a variety of topics were covered, including an overview of the Job Corps Program and how *“every individual has the ability to overcome barriers with hard work and determination.”*

Ten Year Counselor Honored



During the annual New England OA/CTS Conference, held July 7th in Hartford, CT, a tribute was paid to Admissions Counselor veteran, **Pete Carlson**, who, over the past decade, has helped over 2,000 young men and women enter the Job Corps Program. Director of Operations, **Eunice Johnson**; Project Director, **Larry Bennett**; and OA Manager, **Sue Clark** read letters of congratulations from DEL-JEN E&T Group President, **David Stout** and Boston Regional Director, Joseph Semansky. After a short, emotional speech where Mr. Carlson gave thanks and shared credit for his accomplishments with the entire New England Team, co-workers and attendees gave him a standing ovation.

More Recognition



Larry Bennett and **Eunice Johnson** were themselves recognized during June 11th's Boston Regional Meeting. Mr. Bennett for his leadership as chair of the Regional Automotive Committee and for developing standards and objectives that will be used for other committees to follow. He also created the first Regional Industry Advisory Board. Ms. Johnson was recognized for the work she did as chairwoman of the region-wide Reciprocity Work Group that, over a 6-month period, created reciprocity spreadsheets for each Career Technical offering in each of the 10 Boston region states. Shown left, Ms. Johnson receives a plaque from Regional Director, Joseph Semansky.

Military Business Round Table



Representatives from the Army, National Guard, Marines, and Air Force joined area Job Corps officials and students in the inaugural Military Business Round Table, organized by OA/CTS Center Liaison, **Nilda Barreto**. Among the goals of the meeting was to establish partnerships and pipelines of information between students and the various military branches, enabling students to make informed decisions about career choices in the U.S. military. The day-long meeting resulted in valuable contacts being made with everyone looking forward to the next quarterly meeting. ☺

Transitions



Vance AFB

On July 17th, after more than 43 years of continuous service, flight line taxi driver **Jackie Cash** retired. A member of the Vehicle Operations Team, Mr. Cash spent much of his career transporting pilots and maintenance personnel to and from aircraft on the flight line. At his retirement ceremony, Mr. Cash was recognized by several of the flying training squadrons as well as the 71 FTW Commander who thanked him for four decades of *“a job well done”*.



DEL-JEN Education & Training Group

Joe Deacon was part of the Fluor acquisition team responsible for the purchase of DEL-JEN in 2003. He joined the company as Sr. Vice President of Human Resources shortly thereafter and, in 2007, helped establish the Job Corps Graduate Placement Program (GPP). Joe's dedication to the mission led to the placement of over 200 Job Corps students at Fluor construction projects across the country. Mr. Deacon celebrated his official retirement on August 7th but will be involved in the orderly transition of the GPP until the end of the year.



Fluor Corporation

Part of the Fluor founding family, **Robert Fluor** has been with the company since 1967, holding leadership positions in Human Resources and Drilling Services before joining Community Relations in 1984 where he has led the company in its philanthropic goals and endeavors. Mr. Fluor announced his retirement, effective August 7th after 42 years of dedicated service.



DEL-JEN Corporate

Finally, we are sad to announce that **Walter Larsen**, Vice President of Cost & Pricing, passed away on July 31st. Walt was with DEL-JEN in the 1980's and returned to the company two years ago to work in the Clarksville office. He is survived by a loving wife, three children, and numerous grandchildren. ☺

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Issue #22 - September 2009

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Services Group Kudos Korner

Andrews AFB



The 459th Air Force Reserve Wing received a Unit Compliance Inspection on June 5th and TW/DJI Supply's Mobility Element and Flight Service Center was evaluated on control and compliance of Mobility Bags, Weapons, and Mobility Readiness Spares Packages.

Our personnel reviewed inspection checklists and reports of other units as well as AFM 23-110 to ensure their work areas were within compliance and standards. As a result, they received "0 documented findings" with all 3 areas "virtually error-free."

The Inspector General thanked our employees for their dedication and involvement with the MRSP and support provided to deployed personnel and the 459th Flying Mission.

NAS Fallon



As subcontractor to small business contract prime, Chugach, DEL-JEN is responsible for billeting, custodial, and supply functions at NAS Fallon in Nevada.

The most recent *Facility Satisfaction Survey Scorecard* reflected a 100% rating for Facility Cleanliness and 93% ratings in *Needs Met, Coordination, and Safety* at the Fallon Medical Facility. Congratulations to Annex 13 employees, **Mike Young, Ken Reynolds,** and **Kyle Knapp** who received "Excellence in Action" certificates from Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center staff.

NAS Pensacola



Project Manager, **Henri Fuentes**, presented May and June's Safety award certificates to **David Sundie** (L) and **John Rebic** (C) who also received 4-hour passes for their outstanding efforts in the area of Safety.

NAS Whidbey Island

The Transportation Maintenance Shop at NAS Whidbey Island is responsible for the service and repair of vehicles, equipment, arresting gears, and boats assigned to the Naval Air Station. In addition to their work in the shop, staff is often dispatched to call-outs in the field and marina, both day and night - frequently in the extreme weather conditions typical of the Pacific northwest.



On Aug. 6th, Site Manager, **Linda Lockwood**, held a special luncheon to recognize staff who attained 1,769 days of "ZERO recordable incidents."

L to R: **Harry Henderson, Dennis Wright, Paul Sanford, LeAnn Lang, John Cook, Brandon Chambers,** and **Steve Whalen.** Not shown: **Alan Mitchell.**

Rock Island Arsenal

Rock Island Arsenal joined U.S. Army bases around the world to celebrate the official birthdate (June 14) of the Army with their annual "Birthday Ball", held this year on June 19th.



Jim Fleming (R) from the Unscheduled Services Dept. was once again responsible for staging and setup that included: 50-state flags for the stage; multiple podiums; flags for the General's receiving line; special lighting; and sticking around during the festivities to make sure everything went smoothly.

In the early morning hours after the very last attendee left, Mr. Fleming disassembled and loaded everything into trucks and returned the cargo back to storage at the Arsenal. The Army Sustainment Command Protocol Officer responsible for planning the program praised Jim for his, "excellent attention to customer service and willingness to go beyond what was required - and provide exceptional support to make this event so successful."

RIIS Human Resources Manager, **Debbie Baldwin** (L) spent her evening assisting husband, Michael, who provided on-site formal portraits of all attendees, making the evening an extra memorable event.

Tyndall Civil Engineering

Civil Engineering's Transportation Fleet Manager, **Robert Clemans** manages the Fleet Driver Qualification Program for 325 commercial drivers at 14 DEL-JEN sites and is the company's 49 CFR/DOT expert. He coordinates all DOT drug screenings for each site and trains personnel in DOT regulations at new contracts. He also manages Tyndall's maintenance program for the 162 base vehicles and conducts regular safety briefings that have resulted in a ZERO incident rate involving equipment failure.

For his dedication and hard work, Mr. Clemans was selected as Supervisor of the Semi-Annual Year.



Tyndall Logistics



Q2 2009's quarterly awards were presented by Program Manager, **John Wyatt** to the following deserving individuals and departments for outstanding accomplishments, safety practices, and for *going above and beyond* (top to bottom):

- **James Armstrong** (Employee of the Quarter)
- **Melvin Benton** (Safety Employee of the Quarter)
- **Fuels Division** (Safety Division of the Quarter accepted by **Foley Riley**, DEL-JEN Fuels Division Manager)



During an Air Force audit of the HazMat warehouse on July 28th, the auditor found no errors as she checked 495 line items to make sure balances were correct in the Environmental Management Information System and Standard Base Supply Systems. She also checked the MSDS books and shelf-life program and commented that, "this was the best I have seen on shelf life." For their meticulous methodologies, Mr. Wyatt presented "Caught in the act of performing outstanding service"



certificates to: **James Clyde, Joe Marquez, Terrill Trageser,** and **Jermiah Viveiros.**

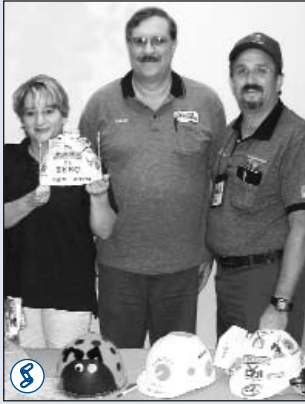


The Defense Energy Support Center audit that began on August 3rd resulted in similar kudos extended to **Tim Nelson** for his program, impeccable bookkeeping, and overall knowledge - all important factors in safeguarding fuels at Tyndall AFB.



When Tyndall Logistics received a request to support the 325th Munitions Flight by creating custom munitions storage, **Dewayne Everett** stepped up and designed, acquired the materials for, and constructed 17 MBA crates that would come to be

used for compiling munitions; freeing up floor space in storage areas. A letter of thanks stated, "Please extend special regards to Mr. Everett who personally played a huge part in your organization's exceptional support."



Occupational, Health, Safety, and Environmental (OHSE) Manager for both our Tyndall contracts, **Gary Snyder** (R) recently held a contest to raise awareness of safety issues in a lighthearted way. Each department was given an old hardhat to decorate and the contest winner was selected based upon creativity, craftsmanship, and artistic appearance. It was a close competition but, in the end, **Mary Statom** (L) and **Mark Woods** (C) from the Procedures & Quality Assurance Office won the first place prize of a \$50 gift card. Second place winners, Customer Service were treated to a pizza party for their entry.

Recent kudos came in from the base Vice Wing Commander who wrote, "Thanks to the hard work of everyone on Team Tyndall, the ESOHCAMP...results were overall extremely positive! The team visited 145 facilities, reviewed 1,615 documents, and interviewed 200+ personnel. We are the first base in AETC to have ZERO findings in Universal Waste and the first base in 15 years to have ZERO findings in HazMat."

Finally, kudos must be extended to Team Tyndall for their continued dedication and support for the *Relay for Life* charity event. For the eighth consecutive year they held fundraisers and events to raise money for the American Cancer Society's signature event - this year raising over \$2,500.



Laughlin AFB

DEL-JEN continues to improve their already excellent and highly lauded Supply services by earning level five of the seven level AF developed Career Development Courses (CDCs) which provide in-depth mastery of the Material Management career fields. ✦



L to R: Sherrie Vick, Vivian Pagoaga, Tara Johnson, Liesl Newman, Kevin Illsley, Elma Garcia, Hiram Hernandez, Melinda Chavira, Mary Palafox, Guadalupe Cardenas, and Michael Proulx.

Whidbey Island News

LOX Man

One of the important tasks DEL-JEN provides at NAS Whidbey Island is providing cryogenic oxygen and nitrogen services to the Fleet Readiness Center NW and other tenant squadrons. Our small staff of LOX technicians are led by 20-year Navy veteran, **Jim Okialda** who joined DEL-JEN as a warehouseman/LOX technician in 1988.



During his tenure as lead, Jim has dispensed over 1 million gallons of LOX and LN₂ products with no lost time injuries or accidents, contributing to the success of our customer's mission.

Recent Undertakings



Following hand signals from Chugach rigger/director, Brad Trumbull, **Everet Seeley** at controls of crane, removing inoperative pump from above ground fuel tank.



After replacing water pump clutch assembly on one of Whidbey's T-1500 Oshkosh crash trucks, Heavy Equipment Mechanic, **Steve Whalen** tests the pump, roof turret, and bumper turrets on this critical piece of emergency equipment. ✦

Laughlin Safety Performance by Luis Chavez



Safety is not a priority at Laughlin AFB. It's a core value. We all know that priorities change but core values remain constant. This project has adopted this concept and has set new safety performance records along the way.

Through the commitment and leadership of Project Manager, **John Guinn**, the Health, Safety & Environmental (HSE) Program continues to set new safety performance records thanks to the safety awareness and positive attitude of our employees. Through them, we have successfully achieved 1,162 days... over 3 years...without having a *lost workday case*. We have also completed 387 days...over 1 year...without experiencing a *Restricted Workday Case Rate*. In 2009 we've gone 223 days on our "Road to Zero" without having a single employee mishap.

Our strong proactive safety culture has been meticulously developed by our Management Team. Mr. Guinn explains, "Safety should not just be practiced at work but at home, too. That's how an organization develops a solid safety culture."

As Tyndall's HSE Program Manager, I maintain, "Our HSE Program is on the right track and we continue to improve in all areas". Our employees understand that no job is worth getting hurt for and as I remind everyone, "Let's take care of one another!" By being vigilant and watching out for each another, all our employees can go home at the end of their work day in the same condition they started in...with all their fingers, toes, hands, and eyes.

We encourage our employees to be proactive in our safety culture by: *practicing safe behavior; asking questions; identifying potential hazards; stopping any employee performing an unsafe act; and by realizing that disagreeing does not mean disrespecting.*

Our newest challenge is overcoming *complacency*. Safety is often taken for granted when we assume nothing will happen because "we have gone this long without a mishap." That's complacency and we can combat it by continually reinforcing our safety culture, making the message relevant and personal, and by striving to set higher safety performance records. ✦

Peterson AFB Transportation is On The Move

Under guidance of Project Manager, **Blake Mathies**, DEL-JEN manages Fuel requirements at six of the eight Multi-Wing Air Force Space Command locations: Buckley AFB, FE Warren AFB, Malmstrom AFB, Patrick AFB, Peterson AFB, and Vandenberg AFB – as well as Cape Canaveral Air Station, and Kennedy Space Center. Our obligations extend beyond the 21st Space Wing with service to HQ Air Force Space Command, HQ North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), USNORTHCOM, 50th Space Wing (Schriever AFB), Cheyenne Mountain Air Station, and the 302nd Airlift Wing.



By far, DEL-JEN's biggest presence is at **Peterson AFB** where we also take care of transportation and surface freight – not only on base, but throughout the Colorado Springs area.

As we enter the second half of the second year of the contract, the **Transportation** team at Peterson continues to exceed customer requirements. Immediately following contract start-up, we began preparations for a HQ Space Command *Unit Compliance Inspection* (UCI) and *Operational Readiness Inspection* (ORI). Our team proudly completed these critical inspections with no major findings, contributing to the 21st Space Wing's success.

Our primary workload consists of distinguished visitor support for 5 protocol offices, home station/transit aircrews, and 5 different duty shuttle bus routes. Over the past 6 months, our Vehicle Operations professionals have transported over 241,000 passengers, moved 1.3 million pounds of cargo, driven 184,360 miles (many during extreme weather conditions), transported 688 aircrews, and provided 1,615 *U-Drive-It* vehicles. The Protocol Services we provide are some of the most intense in the Air Force and can be compared to Andrews AFB and McDill AFB. We have supported the President and Vice President of the United States, the Secretary of Defense, Congressional members, Homeland Security delegations, foreign attachés, and countless conferences and tours.



The recent addition of a hybrid shuttle bus to the fleet has placed Peterson AFB in the forefront of Air Force "green" initiatives. When the city of Colorado Springs discontinued on-base bus service, a search for an internal answer began, resulting in the acquisition of a hybrid bus. Named, "The Orbiter", this ADA-compliant, 16-passenger shuttle uses electricity as its primary source of power and only switches to internal combustion when the batteries get low. It's already proven its reliability and resilience, servicing an 11-hour/day, 5-day/week, 400 passenger/month workload.

Our transportation Manager attributes the team's successes to three key factors: *SAFETY in all we do*, *TEAMWORK at all levels*, and *FLEXIBILITY in job performance*. This team of professionals has many accomplishments to be proud of and has sets the standard for providing the best service possible.

The **Vehicle Maintenance/Management** team has also exceeded all challenges, supporting vehicles at 4 locations, 3 of which are off-base. They maintain 208 "blue fleet" vehicles and manage 500 total vehicles while tracking an additional 126 low-speed vehicles. The team is very innovative and proud of the 96.5% 6-month average Vehicle In-Commission (VIC) Rate, well above the 90% contract requirement. Additionally, they've attained a 100% monthly completion rate for all vehicle preventive/scheduled maintenance. They have strived to increase Air Force operator care, safety awareness, and accident prevention throughout the Peterson complex and their efforts have paid off with no incidents, accidents, or near-misses to date.

The **Surface Freight** section processes over 1,000 inbound and outbound shipments every month and has achieved a 100% accuracy rate in shipment billings. Their expertise was noted during the recent UCI/ORI in shipment of classified items where no discrepancies were noted. This is a milestone considering the emphasis on classified shipments in light of recent events concerning these types of shipments. **Pickup and Delivery** ensures on-time delivery of all MICAPS to customers. Not only do they provide service to the Peterson Complex but also have delivery requirements to downtown government contractors and Buckley AFB in Denver, Colorado. ✦

Range Support Services by Stet Reid

Range Support Services' workforce is spread across three locations within a 220 mile radius. Tolicha Peak Electronic Combat Range (TPECR) sits right in the middle, about 90-minutes from our Program Management office.

A recent Government *reduction in force* has made things leaner and tighter across the entire contract, resulting in many employees doubling-up on their duties with some having to learn new jobs to backup their coworkers.

Our concerns escalated exponentially when our TPECR Site Manager had to take an extended leave of absence and we had to fill his boots.

The answer appeared in the form of Vehicle Maintenance (VM) Lead Tech, **Calvin Babbitt**. Working within his authority as a member of the Teamsters Union, he ensured us that the hundreds of detailed undertakings would be accomplished as needed without affecting VM's operations. He quickly learned the *ins and outs* of Vehicle Operations, Supply, and Fuels...and became a self-taught Safety expert, keeping our injury rate at ZERO during the entire period.

As a result, Trend Western ops continued to garner world-class ratings and kudos from RSS auditors and Government FACs.

In recognition of Calvin's outstanding service and willingness to voluntarily ensure all contractual tasks were accomplished in keeping with Air Force and RSS requirements, we held a special TPECR award ceremony in early June. Calvin



L to R: TPECR Site Manager, **Johnny Scarborough**; Program Manager, **Stet Reid**; Safety Manager, **Jim Dillon**; and honoree, **Calvin Babbitt**.

received a special certificate from Safety Manager, **Jim Dillon** and returning Site Mgr., **Johnny Scarborough**. Program Manager, **Stet Reid**, awarded him the DEL-JEN President's coin. ✦

Albuquerque JCC

Green Initiatives

The goal of AJCC's Green Committee is to expand awareness of the importance of plants and trees to the environment through staff and student activities.



Their most recent project, entitled "Secret Garden" attracted additional participation from campus

trades. After claiming an unused piece of land, students prepared the soil, planted seeds, and took daily care of the crops.

Welding students built a green house so decorative flowers and ornamental plants can be grown throughout the year. Vegetables will be used by Culinary Arts and served in the cafeteria.

The Green Committee is also working toward providing a certified *green training program* to our Construction students to train them in alternative energy sources and how to work with solar, wind, biomass, and other alternative energy sources.

To set an example for our students, the Center itself is implementing "green" practices and policies:

- Utilization of green products in the cement masonry area.
- Future plans for construction of an expanded greenhouse to cover the entire Secret Garden.
- Facilities Maintenance to use paint free of VOCs and solvents and will employ *Xeriscape* techniques for all future landscaping projects.
- Low-flow toilet installation training in plumbing.
- Energy conservation on all future electrical projects.
- Styrofoam has been eliminated from the dining hall.

We have also *reached out* to our community partners for support. Santa Fe Community College was the first to step up, making courses in Weatherization, Heating, Solar Water, and Solar Electrical available to our students.

Central New Mexico Community College is offering additional certifications to our construction trades students: Electrical photovoltaic and residential wiring; Green Build Carpentry; Construction management with a green emphasis; a LEED criteria class; and Solar Thermal Plumbing.

We are working towards offering the N. American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners certification, which is the required course for taking their entry-level certification exam and have also been asked to participate in the *Green*

Coalition with the Dept. of Workforce Solutions, Central One Stop, and the Green Collaborative that work toward leveraging legislation for weatherization and mortgage refinancing.

Long-time Employee

Betsy Padilla was 16 when her family moved to the U.S. from Germany in 1966. She and two aunts were hired to work at the then, all-female Albuquerque Job Corps Center and she's been here ever since. A special presentation was made for Ms. Padilla on May 26th to honor the Center's most senior and one of its most valuable employees.



Karate Club

With 17 members and 3 staff sponsors, AJCC's Karate Club is one of the most popular extracurricular programs on campus. In addition to learning both the physical and spiritual aspects of the ancient martial art, students also acquire *soft skills* such as social graces, self-confidence, and presentation. Karate develops self-control, self-confidence, teamwork, and shows how to live a balanced, healthy lifestyle. Karate is about conflict resolution and defense - not offense.

Club instructor, Sensei Lee Kittell, volunteers his time at the Center and is a member of the U.S. Karate Alliance Hall of Fame, the Trias Int'l. Society, and is a full-time student at the University of N. Mexico where he is completing his Bachelor's degree. He has over 35 years of teaching experience and has held classes on "conflict de-escalation" for Center staff.

On June 19th, the club traveled 400 miles to Phoenix, AZ to compete in a 2-day karate competition and considering the fact that the club was barely 3-months old, they performed beyond belief, taking home two 1st place and four 2nd place trophies.

With the club in Phase 2 of a 5-phase plan, the success of the program and positive effect on the students is evident and we look forward to future news from the Karate Club. ☯



Club Sponsors, Mr. Rivera and Ms. Williams (rear, 3rd & 4th from left) and Sensei Lee Kittell (6th from left) with Karate Club members.

Albuquerque JCC Hosts U.S. Secretary of Labor

Distinguished visitors are not uncommon at Albuquerque Job Corps Center. As one of the DOL's top-performing Centers, AJCC hosts a wide variety of visitors from Government, private industry, the community, and other countries - but when President Obama's newly appointed Secretary of Labor, Hilda Solis, asked for a tour of the Center, both staff and students looked forward in nervous anticipation.



By June 30th, the date of the Secretary's arrival, the list of distinguished visitors had grown to include Senators Jeff Bingaman and Tom Udall; Fluor Senior VP, Garry Flowers; Dallas Regional Job Corps Director, June Boswell; and DEL-JEN's President of Education & Training, **David Stout**.



Secretary Solis was welcomed by students representing each career field, then treated to a campus tour during which time she took the opportunity to engage the students in dialogues about their Job Corps experiences.

During subsequent meetings, she was briefed on the Graduate Placement Program, the Center's Green Initiatives (which include the LEEDS compliant dormitory), SIATech, and a wide variety of other topics. By the end of the day, local and national media had shown up and the Secretary and Senators praised the students, staff, Center, and the Job Corps Program. ☯

Albuquerque JCC (continued)

Job Corps Ambassador

Established in 2007 by the National Job Corps Director, the "Job Corps Youth Ambassador Initiative" created a student speakers' bureau and ambassador program where students introduce Job Corps to potential industry, employer, workforce, and recruitment partners and reinforce our value as a vital resource for workforce recruitment to existing partners.

Ambassadors are trained by the National Director for speaking engagements and have become a valuable resource in developing business and community relations.

Student, **Erika Easterly** (shown with National Office Director, Dr. Esther Johnson), completed Facilities Maintenance and was well into her second trade, Plumbing, when she was selected as AJCC's Youth Ambassador. During her tenure, she was called upon numerous times for speaking engagements and exhibited true commitment to the program. Erika has since graduated and was recently hired by the Fluor Corporation as a utility worker. ☩



Kittrell JCC Graduations

Student Daniel S. enrolled at Kittrell Job Corps Center only 3 short years ago. He'd already earned his HS diploma but his goal was to attend Vance Granville Community College (VGCC) for a degree. Upon completion of the CPP he enrolled in Business Office Admin. and went on to complete his WBL with "exceptional" ratings. He completed his trade in 6-months, then enrolled in KJCC's Off-Center Training and VGCC's Advanced Career Training. We are proud to report that Daniel received his Associate of Science Degree in Web Technology on May 15th from VGCC.



May 28th saw VGCC's Certified Nursing Assistant "Pinning Graduation" that included 14 Kittrell students who are now eligible to take the North Carolina competency exam to earn certification that will allow them to work in area healthcare facilities as CNAs.

After months of hard work and sacrifice, fifteen KJCC students received their diplomas during VGCC's High School and General Education Diploma Commencement Exercises. These hard-working students will all be continuing their studies at VGCC in a wide variety of studies.

"Ladies and gentlemen, you can be what you want to be," said Carol Hamilton as she addressed the class during KJCC's summer graduation ceremony. Ms. Hamilton had come to the U.S. from Haiti in 1973 and, after attending Kittrell, earned degrees in Early Childhood Education and Elementary Education. She is currently teaching at Comstock Elementary School in Miami, FL. Her inspirational



speech segued into the diploma procession for the 90 new graduates. Newspaper reporters from The Daily Dispatch were on hand to interview students who recounted fascinating stories of overcoming adversity that made the front page of the June 20th edition.

Teen Pregnancy Forum

KJCC is located in Vance County which has the 2nd highest rate for teen pregnancies in the state. To address the problem, Congressman G.K. Butterfield held a forum in support of the state's "Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Campaign" (APPC), bringing together representatives from education, government, healthcare, and social services. Many issues were discussed and resolved that will result in increased awareness and education, the first step in solving the problem.

After the meetings, BCL, Joan Robinson, took the opportunity to discuss Job Corps related issues with the Congressman, including House Concurrent Resolution 163 - designation of Sep. 23rd as "National Job Corps Day". ☩

Pictured above, L to R: Principal Victor Fenner, BCL Joan Robinson, Congressman Butterfield, APPC Exec. Director Kay Phillips, and Vance Granville Health Dept's. Jackie Sargent.



Kittrell Success Story

Before enrolling in the Job Corps Program, Melnaisha J. says she was living a life without goals... "I was sitting around home doing nothing but hanging out with my friends", she says.

She contacted an admissions counselor in Greensboro, NC to learn more about the program and her life has been on the fast track to success ever since. After enrolling in November of 2008, she obtained her HS diploma, trade certification in Culinary Arts, and gained valuable social and employability skills. She completed 360 hours of Work-Based Learning at Maria Parham Medical Center, Soul Delicious Restaurant, and the Golden Coral Family Steakhouse and graduated from the Job Corps Program 7 months after first enrolling.

Melnaisha praises trade instructor, **Chef Stacy Smith** for the positive role-model and inspiration he provided, saying, "He kept me focused - holding me accountable for my actions and taught me the trade skills I need to be successful in the culinary profession." She added, "Job Corps prepared me for the real world and I'll never forget my Job Corps experience."



Chef Smith commented, "It was an easy task working with Melnaisha because she was willing to learn...open minded and self motivated."

We are happy to report that Melnaisha was accepted into the Art Institute in Charlotte, NC and became a full time student there this very month.. Her goal is to obtain her Bachelors Degree in Culinary Arts and open a five-star restaurant. We have full confidence she will achieve her goal. ☩

Mississippi JCC Graduations



For MSJCC's 116th graduation ceremony on June 5th, we were honored to have Dr. M.J. Williams, Sr. as commencement speaker. Dr. Williams graduated Job Corps over 40 years ago and delivered a powerful message on "Maximizing Your Potential" to the 57 graduates and 500 of their family, friends, and staff. Director of Job Corps Operations, **Eunice Johnson** (insert) also delivered a message of encouragement to the graduating class.

Men's Month Celebration

It was a good day to be a man on June 11th as MSJCC celebrated National Men's Month. The day's activities included workshops on male health issues, drug awareness, and "Positive Appearance and Positive Relationships" - conducted by **Dan Davis, Darryl Hilliard, Robert Lenoir, Jessie McGowan, Claude McInnis, Antwan Nicholson, Christopher Roby, Cedric Strudevart, Arthur Thomas, Dr. Kennis Harris,** and Crystal Springs Mayor, Arthur Lee Evans.



After the workshops, 220 of our male students were treated to a special luncheon during which Jackson Police Chief, Tyrone Lewis delivered an inspirational speech as female staff and students served our male guests of honor. ✦

Words of Gratitude

Henry Ward Beecher wrote, "Gratitude is the fairest blossom which springs from the soul." Three blossoming young recipients of the Fluor Foundation's Job Corps Scholarship expressed their gratitude by sending DEL-JEN President, **Kent Smith** letters of appreciation for their \$5,000 scholarships.

Mississippi Job Corps Center's Brandi Ayers was one of 2009's four recipients. She wrote, "You have made a significant difference in my life. This scholarship is just what I needed to accomplish my goals...to attend the University of Memphis... Thank you for your generosity, support, and for helping me reach my goals."

Nursing student, Tsedey Kassahum, from our former N. Texas JCC contract and business major, Shatara Bogan from MSJCC were recipients of renewed scholarships. Shatara wrote, "...I will continue to work hard to prove to you that this scholarship means a lot to me and my family...Thank you for investing in me."

We are confident that these fine examples of what the Job Corps Program can do to change young people's lives will go on to the highest of achievements and we look forward to hearing of their future successes. ✦

Gainesville JCC Graffiti Abatement

After several businesses in downtown Alachua County were vandalized by graffiti, the non-profit organization, "Keep Alachua County Beautiful (KACB)" asked GJCC for our help in giving downtown a much needed "face lift."

In response, 17 student volunteers boarded a Center van on June 23rd determined to purge the city of this urban blight.



Equipped with only brushes, paint, and determination, our volunteers covered the walls, doors, and even a few garbage cans on West University Avenue. Business owners were ecstatic and the manager of the Papa John's Pizza was so

happy, he treated the workers to free lunches.

The day was such a huge success that Human Resources Manager, **Barbara Walker** and KACB coordinator, Katharine Ayers decided to hold beautification projects 4 times a year. Ms. Ayers stated, "This is exactly what the county needs. The partnership with Job Corps and the County is going to be beneficial for Alachua County and the students (who) will gain so much from appreciating their community by keeping it beautiful." ✦

DEL-JEN's Road to Zero Leads to \$4K for Wounded Warriors

According to the web site, www.WoundedWarriorProject.org (WWP), a group of veterans watching the evening news one night were touched by a story on the difficult times wounded service men and women returning home from Afghanistan and Iraq were having. The veterans decided then and there that something needed to be done for these brave individuals. The result was the formation of the Wounded Warrior Program whose goal is to raise public awareness, to help financially, and to provide services directly to *wounded warriors* and their families.

Organized by the Safety Office's **Stan Redding** and **Deb Doney**, DEL-JEN held a "Safety Stand-Down" on July 2nd with two goals: to celebrate the project's success with their "Road to Zero Accidents" campaign (no recordable injuries since 8/6/08) and to raise funds for the WWP. DJI provided an elaborate BBQ lunch and local band, "Riptide" provided the music.



With 48% of our staff coming from the military, the event was a huge success. Over 6,000 "ballots" were purchased by employees at 25¢ each to vote their favorite supervisor into the dunk tank and a magnificent patriot quilt, donated by Deb Doney, was raffled off. When the proceeds were added to funds raised from previous charity events, everyone was proud and on July 24th, Project Manager, **Henri Fuentes** presented a check for \$4,303.75 to WWP representatives in a ceremony attended by NASP CO Capt. William Reavey and other dignitaries. ✦