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# the Columbus Federal Voice

<http://federalvoice.defensesupplycentercolumbus.dla.mil/voice>



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## FEA Awards 2012

# Local federal employees lauded for excellence at awards luncheon

By Dan Bender

DLA Land and Maritime Public Affairs Office

The top individuals and teams from among thousands of federal employees in central Ohio were recognized as winners May 10 at the Federal Executive Association of Columbus and Central Ohio's 35th "Excellence in Government Service" awards luncheon.

During the luncheon at the Villa Milano Banquet Center in Columbus, a total of 18 individuals or teams were announced as winners in seven award categories before a crowd of more than 250 attendees. The top three finishers in the annual Public Service Recognition Week essay contest were also

recognized.

Tom Leach, Columbus Field Office director for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and chair of the FEA awards program, congratulated all the award winners and finalists for their hard work.

"You should all be congratulated for this," he said. "You have raised the bar for your co-workers."

During the awards portion of the luncheon, **Danielle Head** of DLA Land and Maritime was named the winner of the essay contest. The theme was "One Person, One Team, One Idea: How One Can Make a Difference." She received a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond. Her essay is in this issue of the Voice.

The two runners-up were Laura Finlay of the Veterans Service Center, VA Regional Office in Huntington, W.Va., and **Carolyn Buhler** of HUD Columbus Field Office. Each received a \$50 U.S. Savings Bond.

**The Cross Domain Enterprise Solutions Administrators** for Defense Information Systems Agency/Defense Enterprise Computer Center won the Outstanding Productivity or Process Improvement Award, Team from a Small Federal Agency, for working to design a process that took a manual effort of monitoring that required more than 500 hours



DLA PHOTO BY LAURA SANMIGUEL-FEARING

Tom Leach, director of the HUD Columbus Field Office and chair of this year's FEA Excellence in Government Service awards luncheon, provides opening remarks for the event.

[PLEASE SEE AWARDS, PAGE 5](#)

## ONG dedicates Pentagon stone on DSCC installation



(OHIO NATIONAL GUARD PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. PETER KRESGE)

Army Col. Tod Mayer, Task Force Grant commander, prepares to dedicate a stone extracted from the Pentagon rubble following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, at the 174th Air Defense Artillery Brigade Headquarters during a May 6 ceremony on the Defense Supply Center Columbus installation. The stone, shown above, is a memorial to those who lost their lives and is dedicated to the Ohio Army National Guard air defenders for their contribution to the ongoing National Capital Region security mission. Ohio National Guard soldiers serving under Task Force Grant will mobilize later this month for an NCR rotation in the Washington, D.C., area.

## Culture survey to measure employee satisfaction

By Beth Reece

DLA Strategic Communications

Defense Logistics Agency employees will soon be able to share their opinions about the agency through the 2012 DLA Culture Survey.

Denison Consulting, the independent contractor administering the survey, will send military, civilian and local national employees an email invitation to take the survey May 29. About 7,000 employees who do not have convenient Web access while on duty will receive paper copies of the survey one week before that, said DLA Human Resource's Jackie Cookston, program manager for this year's survey.

Employees will have three weeks to take the survey, which takes about 30 minutes to complete and includes questions on such topics as telework, diversity and performance management.

DLA Director Navy Vice Adm. Mark Harnitchek encouraged employees to participate in the voluntary survey.

"Your feedback will help us focus and track our progress in areas critical to maintaining our high-performance culture. It will also add to our pool of available knowledge and provide details that help your leaders and me improve DLA's work environment," Harnitchek said.

DLA Land and Maritime Deputy Commander James McClaugherty encouraged all DLA associates in Columbus to participate in the survey.

"It's a great way to offer feedback on your job and your work environment and let DLA Land and Maritime leadership know how you feel about working for DLA," he said. "One of the secrets to our local culture progress has

[PLEASE SEE SURVEY, PAGE 2](#)

# DFAS Columbus conducts change of site directors at ceremony

By Micki J. Young

DFAS Corporate Communications

The Building 20 auditorium on the Defense Supply Center Columbus installation was filled May 7 as hundreds awaited the first change of leadership ceremony for Defense Finance and Accounting Service Columbus in more than three years.

During the ceremony, Martha Smith officially took over as Columbus site director from Jonathan Witter.

DFAS Director Terri McKay took the podium and outlined the career progression of Witter, who served as the Columbus site director from October 2008 through January 2012. She listed Witter's numerous accomplishments during his time in Columbus.

"He changed the perspective of the agency in this role," McKay noted, "and he skillfully led the 3,000 people serving America's heroes from DFAS Columbus."

In January, Witter took over as the deputy director of Strategy and Support, a position that took him to Indianapolis.



PHOTO BY LAURA SANMIGUEL-FEARING

DFAS Director Terri McKay administers the oath of office to Martha Smith, the new DFAS Columbus site director. Seated on the right is former site director Jonathan Witter.

"We needed a proven executive to hold the reins here in Columbus," McKay said as she complimented and motioned to Smith. "I welcome you and know that you will do well; you have my support—whether you want it or not.

Welcome and congratulations." After welcoming Smith back to Columbus, Witter thanked McKay and the DFAS employees in Columbus.

"Since 2008, it has been my

[PLEASE SEE DFAS CHANGE, PAGE 3](#)

## Obituaries

### Francis “Frank” Joseph Bauer

Francis “Frank” Joseph Bauer, 90, died May 12. Mr. Bauer was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II and retired from DESC.

### Frances Wolfe Copas

Frances Wolfe Copas, 93, died May 10. Ms. Copas was retired as a first rate specialist at DCSC.

### Leo M. Fink

Leo M. Fink, 64, of Rushville, died May 10 at Fairfield Medical Center in Lancaster. Mr. Fink was a U.S. Army veteran and a former employee at Newark Air Force Station.

### Gene K. Maxwell

Gene K. Maxwell, 91, of Alexandria, died May 12 at Sterling House in Newark. Ms. Maxwell was a retired secretary at Newark Air Force Station.

### Ellison “Mac” (Exie) McWhorter

Ellison “Mac” (Exie) McWhorter, 65 died May 8 at the Bellbrook Rehab and Healthcare Center (Hospice). Mr. McWhorter was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and retired with 23 years of service from DESC/DSCC.

### Gene L. Strunk

Gene L. Strunk, 83, died May 14 at Hospice of Dayton. Mr. Strunk was a U.S. Air Force veteran and retired in 1983 from DESC after 28 years of service as a systems analyst.

## Thank You

Margaret “Peggy” Calland Stout and Vicki Calland, daughter and daughter-in-law of Margaret Martha Calland, along with our family, would like to thank our teams of FMSC, FMUB and other DSCC teammates, Patricia A. Shields, Capt. James R. Dolan, David M. Glasscoe, Kelly T. Penwell, Richard Furchner, William T. Manning, Susan A. Knisley and Paula F. Webb for their heartfelt expressions of caring and sympathy after the passing of our mother and mother-in-law, Margaret M. Calland. Your prayers, cards, kind words, flowers, visits to our family at the funeral home, the outstandingly beautiful floral arrangement from the Civilian Welfare Council and all your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated and comforting. What a privilege and pleasure it is for Vicki and me to work for and with a team that supports our warfighters, our customers, and each other! Thank you for the priceless value of your friendship, your work and your support of us during this difficult time and at all times.

### Margaret A. “Peggy” Stout

DLA Land and Maritime

Thank you to all of my DSCC friends for the sympathy you extended to me and my family during this difficult time. My family and I greatly appreciate all of the flowers, cards, prayers and support offered to us in honor of our mother, Mabel Flanagan. Although this is a sad time for me and my family, knowing how fortunate I am to have such an awesome support system is a source of comfort that cannot be measured in words. Gestures of such significant sincerity vividly illustrate my DSCC experience as much more than just a job or career. Thank you, again, from the bottom of my heart.

### Kelly Vingle

DLA Land and Maritime

To submit a thank you for publication in the Columbus Federal Voice, e-mail the thank you to [dla.land.and.maritime.publicaffairs@dla.mil](mailto:dla.land.and.maritime.publicaffairs@dla.mil).

## Briefs

### Five to be inducted into Hall of Fame

Five former Defense Logistics Agency employees will be the inductees for this year’s DLA Land and Maritime Hall of Fame ceremony. The five honorees are Carol Black, John Cooper, Col. Jonathan House, John Shaw and Robert White.

The Hall of Fame induction ceremony will take place Wednesday, May 30, at 1 p.m. in the Building 20 auditorium, with a reception to follow.

### Recruiting battalion to get new command sergeant major

The Columbus Army Recruiting Battalion will hold a Change of Responsibility ceremony at 1 p.m. Thursday, May 24, in Building 11, Section 10 on the DSCC installation.

During the ceremony, Command Sgt. Maj. Charles G. Pulliam will relinquish responsibility to Command Sgt. Maj. Walter K. Hampton. A reception will follow.

For more information, call Janie Moore at 614-693-2900.

### Supplier conference June 11-13 in Columbus

DLA Land and Maritime and the National Defense Industrial Association will hold the NDIA Supply Chains Conference & Exhibition June 11-13 in Columbus at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, 400 N. High St. This event features speakers from the Office of Secretary of Defense and the military services, informative breakout sessions and exhibits from major suppliers.

The theme of this year’s conference is “Supporting the Warfighter in an Austere Budget Environment – Partnering with Industry.”

More information about the conference is available at the National Defense Industrial Association web site at [www.ndia.org](http://www.ndia.org).

### DSCC Day at Kings Island set for June 23

The MWR Office on the DSCC installation is selling discounted admission tickets to Kings Island for “DSCC Day” at the amusement park. Once again, one admission price covers the amusement park, water park and a picnic lunch buffet.

DSCC associates have until noon June 8, or the supply runs out, to purchase tickets for \$28.75. For children under 48 inches tall, it’s \$19.75, the same price for senior citizens age 62 and over. Single day adult tickets are regularly \$53.99 at the gate.

The tickets are available only to federal employees who work on the DSCC installation. As in the past, the discount is through MWR and the Civilian Welfare Council.

### BIG luncheon/style show set for June 30

The Columbus Area Chapter of Blacks In Government is sponsoring a luncheon/style show on Saturday, June 30, at the Hilton Columbus Easton from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The theme is “BIG On Fashion” and will include fashions by Charlesie Love as well as various vendors. Jazz music will be played by “TP Project” and a buffet lunch is included with the tickets, which cost \$40. The deadline to purchase a ticket is Friday, June 22. For more information or to purchase a ticket, call Monica Tinker at 614-692-3829, Foronda Hall 614-692-2434 or Monica Oliver at 614-692-9606.

## It’s A Date

### May 2012

**ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**  
**MAY 23** – Asian Pacific American Heritage Month celebration, 1 p.m., Building 20 auditorium  
**MAY 25** – American Red Cross blood drive, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Building 20, Pod C basement  
**MAY 28** – Memorial Day holiday  
**MAY 30** – DLA Land and Maritime Hall of Fame induction ceremony, 1 p.m., Building 20 auditorium  
**MAY 31** – Memorial Day  
**MAY 31** – DLA Land and Maritime spring retirement ceremony, 9 a.m., Building 20 auditorium

### June 2012

**JUNE 8** – Armed Services Blood Program blood drive, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Building 20, Pod C basement  
**JUNE 14** – Flag Day  
**JUNE 14** – U.S. Army’s 237th birthday  
**JUNE 17** – Father’s Day  
**JUNE 20** – First day of summer  
**JUNE 22** – American Red Cross blood drive, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., Building 20, Pod C basement

### DLA field agency receives CINC award

DLA Distribution San Joaquin, Calif., was one of five winners of the 2012 Commander in Chief’s Annual Award for Installation Excellence recognized during a May 2 ceremony at the Pentagon.

Marine Col. Adrian Burke, DLA Distribution San Joaquin commander, accepted the award and thanked the gathered leaders and attendees.

The service winners of this year’s award were: U.S. Army Garrison Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield, Hinesville, Ga.; Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif.; Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Fla.; and Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Tucson, Ariz.

Frank Kendall, acting undersecretary of defense for acquisition, technology, and logistics, who presented the awards, said the criteria established for the CINC Award reflect the broad scope of installation responsibilities.

### Job expo for veterans set for May 31

Recruit Military is sponsoring a free jobs expo for veterans May 31 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Great American Ballpark, home of the Cincinnati Reds, in Cincinnati, Ohio.

It is free for veterans who already have civilian work experience, men and women who are transitioning from active duty to civilian life, members of the National Guard and Reserve, and military spouses.

To register for the event or for more information, visit [www.recruitmilitary.com](http://www.recruitmilitary.com).

### Last MRAP out of Iraq goes to museum

The Army’s final Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle from Iraq came back to the U.S. May 7. It will be displayed in Fort Hood’s First Cavalry Museum in Killeen, Texas. In chalk on the flank of the vehicle, which was built in Sealy, Texas, by BAE Systems, were the words, “Last Vehicle Out of Iraq.”

# ‘One Person, One Team, One Idea - How One Can Make a Real Difference’

*Editor’s note: The following essay by Danielle Head is the winner of this year’s Public Service Recognition Week essay contest. The theme of the contest was “One Person, One Team, One Idea - How One Can Make a Real Difference.”*

### By Danielle Head

DLA Land and Maritime

Great ideas do not happen by accident; it requires everyone working together toward a shared vision or goal. In order for any organization to successfully accomplish its mission, it must work as a unit to overcome evolving challenges.

The best member of a team is not only a person that understands the mission and goals of that team, but recognizes how to contribute in order to make the team successful.

As a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom, I truly understand and grasp the idea of how important one person with one idea on a team can make a difference in getting the mission complete while saving lives.

Imagine March 2003, the start of the war and combat forces are moving north to Baghdad. You are the maintenance officer with a team of 10 personnel in a senior

logistical organization.

As combat forces travel north, military vehicles are breaking down for maintenance issues. Your mission is to recover those assets from Kuwait to Baghdad. What are you going to do? What is your plan?

Your initial thought and plan is to use tow trucks and rove the routes looking for equipment to recover. Although that plan seemed logical and good, it was flawed due to the many hours consumed, limited capabilities of the tow trucks, and the lack of security and safety of the personnel recovering the equipment.

So what do you next? What else can you do to make this plan better? And then you remember, “Hey I do have a team and I am part of that team. I wonder what they think can be done.”

As you solicited the team for a better plan or solution, one person spoke up, “if only we knew exactly where to recover the equipment on the battlefield.” Another person said, “Yes, then we could go to that exact location and save on man-hours.” While another person said, “We need a satellite or aerial view to locate the equipment.” And that is when one soldier said, “I have it, let’s see if we

can get Army aircraft time to fly over the routes and locate the equipment.”

This one meeting with the team led to one soldier’s idea to use Army helicopters to fly over the area, locate and record the location of stranded equipment, map it and strategically recover it. Understanding the importance of everyone’s contribution regardless of their rank and position on the team allowed one person’s idea to make a difference in successfully accomplishing the mission.

Now that was just one example of how one idea can make a real difference to the overall outcome of a given mission.

Although the example above was a military team of public servants in a “wartime” environment, we as civilian public servants face very similar evolving “warlike” challenges right here in our nation. Just as the team faced the limitations of man-hours, resources, equipment and safety, we also face those same challenges, especially in this slow economy.

Therefore, as we perform our duties as public servants whether as members of the military or civilian workforce, we are challenged to be innovative and “think outside of

the box” in order to accomplish the mission with less. Hence, it may require public servants from one agency building relationships with another agency to represent and promote one idea. When there is collaboration between two, the effectiveness and efficiency of support to that goal is enhanced.

We must work together, combine resources and discover that we are in this together.

When an environment is created that enables all to feel part of something great, the outcome becomes great. One person, One team, One Idea is all the difference we need to continue to provide the great and significantly important service to our nation. We are public servants, millions of individuals providing service at different levels of government across the United States for the “prosperity and greatness” of our nation.

As President Abraham Lincoln graciously said to an Ohio Regiment of soldiers on Aug. 22, 1864, “I am greatly obliged to you, and to all who have come forward at the call of their country.”

## Survey

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

been the traditional excellent participation of our workforce. Since it’s been a couple of years since the last DLA-wide Culture Survey, this is a great opportunity for us to refresh our thinking and continue to get better.”

Feedback is confidential, Cookston added. While Deni-

son Consulting uses employees’ email addresses to conduct and track the survey, Denison’s network and database are separate from DLA’s.

“Denision is under a strict confidentiality rule, so no one at DLA ever receives raw survey data that could directly or indirectly identify employees,” she said.

This is the sixth time the survey has been conducted since Denison Consulting began

administering it in 2003. The Denison Culture Model used is the result of more than 25 years of research on the link between organizational culture and performance measures such as quality, innovation and employee satisfaction.

Cookston said it’s important for the agency to conduct the survey because it assesses the shared beliefs, values and behaviors of DLA employees and provides a framework for

growth.

The last survey, which ran from Oct. 18 to Nov. 5, 2010, revealed that employees were gaining more clarity and alignment with the direction of the agency and an understanding of how their roles and responsibilities fit in to make those goals and visions happen, said DLA Human Resources Director Brad Bunn. Some of the lowest scores in that survey were in such areas as communica-

tion within the organization and goals set by leadership.

The 2010 survey drew feedback from 68 percent of the workforce. This year, the agency is aiming for a 75 percent response rate, Cookston said.

Results are expected to be released in July.

For more information on the DLA Culture Survey, email the DLA Culture Team at [culture@dla.mil](mailto:culture@dla.mil) or call 703-767-7130.

# Ceremony recognizes Strategic Acquisition Programs directorate

By Tony D'Elia  
DLA Land and Maritime Public Affairs Office

At many times it seemed like building an airplane while it's in flight, thought Steve Rodocker, director of DLA Land and Maritime's newest organization—the Strategic Acquisition Programs directorate. Two years of work and planning were over as of May 20, when SAPD became official according to General Order No. 30-10.

During a May 16 ceremony in the Building 20 auditorium, Rodocker cut a ribbon to symbolically start the new directorate's operations.

"This has been a long time in coming," said Milton Lewis, who Brig. Gen. Darrell K. Williams referred to as the "father" of the new organization to be known as SAPD, or the Z directorate.

SAPD's key mission is to execute and administer strategic and the more complex long-term contracts while at the same time managing relationships with key Land and Maritime suppliers and tracking progress of some key programs such as EMALL and the Fleet Automotive Support Initiative. Of course, the key reason for the organization's existence is to efficiently enhance

warfighter support and protect the supply chain.

Lewis, executive director of Contracting and Acquisition Management at DLA Land and Maritime, told of the organization's very beginning.

"There's a saying that you should never waste a good crisis," Lewis said. "In December of 2008, we had a crisis. We had some really big and important programs and discovered we had some serious gaps in our processes."

Lewis told of how work began under a former commander, then-Army Brig. Gen. Patricia McQuiston, and the forming of a team to study the gaps. SAPD was the result of two years of planning and development that eventually earned full backing from then-DLA director Navy Vice Adm. Alan Thompson.

Lewis referred to SAPD as the long yardage play that a football team needs when there's a long way to go and time is running out.

Cautioning SAPD's staff of 166 associates of the challenges ahead, Lewis said, "We need you to be innovative. This organization has already demonstrated it can take on tough jobs and do well. You've got to look at situations and be creative. If



DLA PHOTO BY LAURA SANMIGUEL-FEARING  
Steve Rodocker (center) cuts the ribbon that symbolically starts DLA Land and Maritime's new organization, the Strategic Acquisition Programs directorate. Joining Rodocker in the ceremony are Milton Lewis (left), executive director, Contracting and Acquisition Management, and Commander Army Brig. Gen. Darrell K. Williams.

it's hard and really big, we're going to give it to you to do."

"This is a great, great organization," Williams said. "The concept of SAPD is where this organization is going. When you've been here a while you see that this is where the organization is headed. There is no more important organization than SAPD."

Added Lewis, "We don't want you to take on new risks but we want you to be bold and aggressive. I have full confidence in you."

## DFAS CHANGE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

honor to be a part of the DFAS Columbus team," he said.

Witter also thanked many people who helped him during his tenure, including senior DFAS leaders, former deputy site director Pam Franceschi, his support staff and all the employees of DFAS Columbus.

"I'm turning over leadership, confident that you are the right leader," Witter said in closing, as he acknowledged Smith on the stage.

He received a standing ovation from the crowd as he left the podium.

Next to the American flag, McKay administered the oath of office to Smith. A round of applause welcomed Smith her to her official role as Columbus site director.

"We have a large journey in front of us again," she told the audience. "I'm so excited about audit readiness and all the opportunities ahead of us."

"We are having a lot of fun; keep up the good work. Thank you for everything you do every day," Smith said, smiling widely as she left the stage.

Smith had been serving as the site director of DFAS Cleveland and previously served as deputy director in Columbus when she was known as Martha Stearns.

Smith, who has 28 years of federal government experience, was the deputy director of Commercial Pay Services at DFAS Columbus from February 2003 until her appointment to DFAS Cleveland in January 2006.

Sabrina Larson served as mistress of ceremonies and Philippa Houston sang the national anthem.

Those in attendance included DLA Land and Maritime Commander Army Brig. Gen. Darrell Williams and DLA Installation Support at Columbus site director Kenny Youn.

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## the Columbus Federal Voice



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# Air Force colonel helps with transition of U.S. mission in Iraq

By Tony D'Elia

DLA Land and Maritime Public Affairs Office

Air Force Col. Christine Erlewine, director of Land Supplier Operations since June 2011 at DLA Land and Maritime, recently returned from a six-month deployment to Kuwait.

But almost as soon as she returned to Columbus, she was preparing for her next assignment. After taking some well-earned leave time and then attending three weeks of specialized training at Maxwell AFB, Ala., she'll be off to Texas this summer to become the 902d Mission Support Group commander at Randolph Air Force Base (Joint Base San Antonio).

As DLA Support Team Kuwait commander, Erlewine not only supported the drawdown of troops and equipment from Iraq, but also the transition to supporting the State Department mission in Iraq. Specifically, her team handled food and fuel support.

"I was proud to represent Land and Maritime," Erlewine said from her office in Columbus. "It was a great experience and I'm happy I did it. I received a lot of support from back here at Land and Maritime and it has given me a greater appreciation for DLA's role."

"I learned a tremendous amount about the DLA enterprise and how important our support is to the warfighter and to the nation builders, too," said Erlewine, who spent a year at Naval War College at Newport, R. I., before coming to Land and Maritime.

Erlewine said the DLA Kuwait mission is extremely important now that it provides much of the life support to the State Department in Iraq. Without that support, the State Department mission would be in jeopardy. DLA owns many of the contracts that provide food and fuel, and Erlewine and



PHOTOS COURTESY OF AIR FORCE COL. CHRISTINE ERLEWINE  
Above, Air Force Col. Christine Erlewine, director of Land Supplier Operations at DLA Land and Maritime, stands beside a tank at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, during her deployment there as commander of DLA Support Team-Kuwait. Erlewine returned from her deployment in early May. Left, Erlewine met country music star Toby Keith during her deployment to Kuwait.

her staff were helping to transition those contracts from DLA to the State Department.

Erlewine's Air Force career began in 1989 shortly after she graduated from the University of

Connecticut. She would later add a master's degree in aeronautical science from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University at McGuire Air Force Base and a second master's degree from the Naval War College.

# Maritime acquisition specialist selected Associate of the Month

By Dan Bender

DLA Land and Maritime Public Affairs Office

An acquisition specialist in Maritime Supplier Operations who acts as a liaison to a major contractor was recently recognized as the Associate of the Month for February at DLA Land and Maritime.

Daniel Monahan, a member of the Switches/Raytheon Team in Maritime Supplier Ops, was recognized by DLA Land and Maritime Commander Army Brig. Gen. Darrell Williams during an April 19 presentation.

Monahan, who has worked for DLA for three years after retiring from a 21-year career in the Air Force, serves primarily as a project liaison between DLA Land and Maritime and Raytheon, a major defense contractor.

Monahan's supervisor, Malinda Motley, said his team has created "exceptional initiatives and improvement processes" while working with Raytheon to improve communications and foster a better working relationship.

Motley said Monahan led the team by identifying available Government Furnished Material on a unique set of radio frequency cables on numerous high priority orders. His negotiation on the price resulted in a savings of about \$70,000. In addition, Monahan was the lead for his team's Negotiation Pilot Test, which resulted in savings of nearly \$690,000 in one month.

"Dan has assisted in developing a monthly spreadsheet, which details specific status to help improve our backorder situation, identify more complex issues and works to resolve discrepancies," Motley said.

He completed the Level II Mentoring Program last year and is now a mentor for the Level I Mentoring Program. He is currently working on a Green Belt Project that is focused on reducing aging backorders.

Monahan said he enjoys the flexibility to look for and make improvements to work processes to better support the warfighter.

His efforts to reduce backorders earned praise from Williams, who said any time spent on that initiative "is time well spent. Thanks for doing a



DLA PHOTO BY CHUCK MORRIS  
Dan Monahan, an acquisition specialist in Maritime Supplier Operations, receives the Associate of the Month award memento for February from DLA Land and Maritime Commander Army Brig. Gen. Darrell Williams during an April 19 presentation.

super job."

Monahan was also praised for his superior performance and his teamwork with other associates.

"His pleasant disposition, coupled with hard work, accountability and the desire to help others makes him a 'go to' person on the team," Motley said. "He exhibits a continuous desire to improve performance."

Monahan, a Massachusetts native, said good communication is key to successfully implementing any initiative and getting buy-in from other associates.

"Acquisition remains a very complex discipline, but Dan researches regulations and directives for clear direction and provides this knowledge, training and insight to his co-workers," Motley said in agreement.

The Pickerington resident thanked Motley for nominating him for the award, but pointed out that "nobody gets an award like this without the help of their team and supervisors, so this is really a team award."

Along with two associate degrees from the Air Force Community College, Monahan has a bachelor's degree in business administration and a master's degree in security management from Bellevue University. Away from work, he enjoys spending time with his family and attending church activities.

# Awards

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and reduced it by 80 percent. **The Nutrition Services Team** from the Chalmers P. Wylie VA Ambulatory Care Center won the Outstanding Productivity or Process Improvement Award, Team from a Large Federal Agency, for undertaking an initiative to improve seamless nutrition care to the veteran population, improved productivity, a positive fiscal impact and the potential to improve the overall health of the site's veteran population.

Donald Robinette of DLA Land and Maritime won the Outstanding Productivity or Process Improvement Award, Individual from a Large Federal Agency, for his efforts to reduce the cost of space used to store un-issuable material, which ultimately freed space in several warehouses resulting in storage cost avoidance of more than \$250,000 in 2011, while **Myrna Cokes** of the HUD Columbus Field Office won the Outstanding Productivity or Process Improvement Award, Individual from a Small Federal Agency, for her efforts as a support staff member in processing reports and correspondence for an office of 20 people that administers more than \$300 million in grants each year.

**The Navy Nuclear Reactors Program Team** from

DLA Land and Maritime won the Excellence in Customer Service Award, Team from a Large Federal Agency, for achieving material availability above 95 percent for 52 months in a row for one of the U.S. Navy's highest-profile weapon system programs.

**The Global Information Grid Infrastructure Services Management Center** for DISA/DECC won the Excellence in Customer Service Award, Team from a Small Federal Agency, for exceeding its goal of providing a 90 percent first contact resolution rate in customer contact management while facing the challenge of handling a 30 percent increase in workload.

**David Drake** of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency won the Excellence in Customer Service Award, Individual from a Small Federal Agency, for his exemplary management of the Ohio Farm Loan Programs, for which he oversees an agricultural loan portfolio worth more than \$1 billion and provides loan assistance to Ohio farmers.

**Matthew Sanker** of DFAS Columbus won the Excellence in Customer Service Award, Individual from a Large Federal Agency, for reworking outdated system support documentation and establishing a new level of support accountability for his team members and other workers of the Level 1 Technical Help Desk.

**The Field Working Groups** for the HUD Columbus Field Office won the Innovation Award, Team from a Small Federal Agency, for their success at tackling many high-risk, time-critical housing and community issues that no single organization could successfully impact independently.

**The Tire Successor Initiative Team** from DLA Land and Maritime won the Innovation Award, Team from a Large Federal Agency, for its support of a \$1 billion tire contract that now provides seamless customer support at a reduced cost, projected to save the DoD about \$60 million during the next



DLA PHOTOS BY LAURA SANMIGUEL-FEARING

Representatives of the DISA/DECC Global Information Grid (GIG) Infrastructure Services Management Center team accepting the award for Excellence in Government Service, Team from a Small Agency, were (from left) Kellie Cheney, Roger Vetter, Sueanne Liddle-Shaw, Dennis Egbert, Steve Phillips, Margie Brady, Marty Duccilli, FEA awards chair Tom Leach of the HUD Columbus Field Office, Virginia Hodge, Tim Kennedy, Colleen Rice and Karen Gordon.

seven years.

**Michael Lanning** from DLA Land and Maritime won the Innovation Award, Individual from a Large Federal Agency, for his efforts in eliminating defects that cause otherwise issuable material to not be used, clearing more than \$24 million in material and \$19 million in backorders with this effort.

**Carolyn Buhler** from the HUD Columbus Field Office won the Innovation Award, Individual from a Small Federal Agency, for her efforts to implement a web-based Correspondence Tracking System to improve the speed and accountability of critical correspondence.

**Frances Quinones** of DLA Land and Maritime won the Outstanding Equal Employment Opportunity Award, Individual from a Large Federal Agency, for her efforts to develop action items and implementation plans from DLA strategic objectives, establishing EEO program priorities and listening to employee concerns about employment barriers.

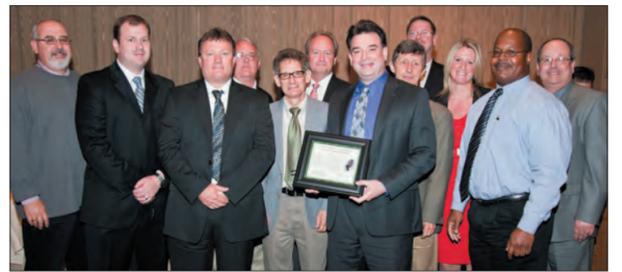
**Roseann Hurst** of DFAS Columbus won the Community Service Honor Award, Individual from Any Federal Agency, for spearheading her agency's annual support to the Homeless Families Foundation.

**The Columbus East Social Security Team** won the Community Service Honor Award, Team from Any Federal Agency, for its volunteer service to the local community through donations of food and household goods to needy families and clothing to help college students look professional for job interviews.

**Liza Tom** of DLA Land and Maritime won the People with Disabilities Award for serving as primary caregiver to her mother and raising and supporting her nephew while being legally blind with mobility impairment and dealing with



Members of the DLA Land and Maritime Navy Nuclear Reactors Program Team who accepted the award for Excellence in Customer Service, Team within Large Agency were (upper left) Kent McCord, (next row) Josh Warmund and Ian Vega, (next row) Jody Brooks, Evelyn Stewart, Gary Meyer (face hidden), Chris Zahnow (face hidden), David Bisel, Trevor Thacker (part of face hidden), Beth Zuniga, Terry Thacker, Ryan Collier and Michael Blocker; and (front row) Stephanie McCormick, Tammy Munro-Reyes, Yirha Torres-Cruz, Navy Lt. Brandon Palmer, Luci Maldonado, Teresa Fennoy, Jim Duffala and Susan Lupo.



Representatives of the DLA Land and Maritime Tire Successor Initiative Team accepting the Innovation Award, Team within a Large Agency were (from left) Gerardo Davila, Shaun Bunnell, Philip Ludwig, Matthew Harmon, Marc Shepler, James Linard, Jeffrey Spratt, Douglas Dapo, Jonathan Sanders, Rebecca Parks, Daniell Helton and Thomas Bunnell.

complex regional pain syndrome.

**Stephanie Stephen** of the Navy Operational Support Center won the Supervisory Leadership Award, Individual from a Small Federal Agency, for her meritorious service in passionately and aggressively leading the Reserve Services Department to new levels of success.

**James Eschmeyer** of DLA Land and Maritime won the Supervisory Leadership Award, Individual within a Large Federal Agency, for his efforts to ensure that the parts his team manages help reduce life cycle costs of systems, so that warfighters can get the right part at the right time from reliable sources.

The FEA also recognized

seven groups of combined local federal agencies for their efforts working together to accomplish a community or national goal or to meet an urgent local need. Certificates were presented to representatives from numerous central Ohio federal agencies who partnered with other federal agencies to accomplish a project in the non-competitive Cooperative Interagency Recognition portion of the program.

Barry Roberts of HUD served as master of ceremonies, while the Navy Operational Support Center performed the presentation of colors, Richard Harris of DFAS Columbus sang the national anthem and Flora Martin of DLA Land and Maritime provided the invocation prior to lunch.



Receiving the Outstanding Productivity or Process Improvement Award, Team within Small Agency award were DISA/DECC Cross Domain Enterprise Solutions administrators Josh Shawkey (left) and Don Crawford.



Representatives of the HUD Field Working Groups Team accepting the Innovation Award, Team within a Small Agency were (from left) William Graves, Jorgelle Lawson, Tom Leach and Ken Hamilton.



Receiving the Outstanding Productivity or Process Improvement Award, Team within Large Agency were members of the Chalmers P. Wylie Veterans Affairs Ambulatory Care Center's Nutrition Services Team (from left) Kari Mularcik, Willa Walker, Ann McDowell and Felica Gust. Not present were Kandace Bletzacker, Joy Midkiff and Debbie Tirpak.



Representatives of the Columbus East Social Security team accepting the Community Service Honor Award, Team from Any Agency are (from left) Maurice El-Amin, Bryan Yoss, Lynette Johnson and Elizabeth Gutierrez-Arent.



**David Drake**      **Matthew Sanker**      **Myrna Cokes**      **Donald Robinette**      **Carolyn Buhler**      **Michael Lanning**      **Frances Quinones**      **Liza Tom**      **Roseann Hurst**      **Stephanie Stephen**      **James Eschmeyer**

The individual winners in the 35th annual Federal Executive Associate of Columbus and Central Ohio Excellence in Government Service awards were (from left) David Drake from the USDA Farm Service Agency in the Excellence in Customer Service, Individual from Small Agency category; Matthew Sanker of DFAS Columbus in the Excellence in Customer Service, Individual from Large Agency category; Myrna Cokes of HUD Columbus Field Office in the Outstanding Productivity or Process Improvement Award, Individual from Small Agency category; Donald Robinette of DLA Land and Maritime in the Outstanding Productivity or Process Improvement Award, Individual from Large Agency category; Carolyn Buhler of HUD Columbus Field Office for Innovation Award, Individual from Small Agency category; Michael Lanning of DLA Land and Maritime in the Innovation Award, Individual from Large Agency category; Frances Quinones of DLA Land and Maritime for the Outstanding Equal Employment Opportunity Award; Liza Tom of DLA Land and Maritime for the Overcoming Disabilities Award; Roseann Hurst of DFAS Columbus for the Community Service Honor Award, Individual from Any Agency; Stephanie Stephen from the Naval Operational Support Center in the Supervisory Leadership Award, Individual from a Small Agency category; and James Eschmeyer of DLA Land and Maritime in the Supervisory Leadership Award, Individual from a Large Agency category.

# Workshop focuses on retaining information

By **Mislin A. Perez-Fernandez**

DLA Columbus EEO Hispanic Employment Program  
Public Affairs Liaison

A March 27 workshop on “Effective Learning and Retrieval” was the latest installment in the “Professional Enhancement Series,” sponsored by the DLA Columbus EEO Hispanic Employment Program and the Morale, Welfare and Recreational Office.

The workshop, which provided audience members with techniques to improve their ability to learn new information and better recall it, was held in the Building 20 auditorium on the Defense Supply Center Columbus installation. Associates from the Defense Logistics Agency and Defense Finance and Accounting Services had the opportunity to participate in the presentation for their professional growth.

The workshop speaker, Ferdinand Avila-Medina, is a learning skills specialist and adjunct faculty member at The Ohio State University-Newark. He focused on three major topics: information processing (how the brain processes information), active learning (how to be a better listener), and memory tips (how to retain more information).

“It doesn’t matter if the information is in your brain, what matters is if you can retrieve the information quickly,” he said.

From forgetting where you left your keys to forgetting to return a phone call, memory failures are an almost daily occurrence, said Avila-Medina, who explained the “forgetting curve,” which

describes how someone can retain or get rid of information they take in.

He used an example of listening to a one-hour lecture. Shortly after the lecture, someone will remember most of the information, but by the next day, if they have done nothing with the information, they will have lost 50 to 75 percent of what they learned. In two weeks, they will remember even less, retaining only about 5 to 10 percent of the lecture information.

Avila-Medina, a native of Puerto Rico, shared several techniques that can help make the learning and retrieval of information more effective. One of these techniques was the Rule of 7, introduced in 1956 by cognitive psychologist George A. Miller.

“Face the reality about the limited capacity of our brain. We need to chunk the information, organize it in small groups and categorize so it is easier for the brain to remember,” he said.

Other techniques for retention and retrieval are discussions, practice by doing and teaching others.

“A one-on-one conversation is more productive than simply reading a book by yourself,” Avila-Medina said. “Find an opportunity to talk to somebody about any experience you had before. This helps you to have more retention. Personal experience is the most powerful tool in learning.”

Avila-Medina discussed the following memory tips: 1) Focus – do not multi-task, 2) Summaries – write a short summary describing in your own words what

you learned, 3) Connections and associations – personal experiences are the most valuable, 4) Organize outlines – transforms concepts and ideas into questions, and 5) Concept/mind maps – break down the content in manageable pieces.

“People say all the time that in order to be proficient, you need to be multi-tasking. This is a myth. The human brain is not meant to multi-task. Therefore, stay focused on one single task,” he stated.

In order to better focus, Avila-Medina recommended using the “Pomodoro Technique,” in which a person breaks time into chunks of 25 minutes.

“To be effective, you are going to need to use a digital timer. The message for your brain is that you have 25 minutes to do a particular task. After that time, you take a break of 5 minutes, and repeat the process. You are going to notice the difference,” he said.

During his career, Avila-Medina has spoken to young students, parents, teachers and counselors about the challenges and opportunities of higher learning. His goal is to motivate and assist young and adult students in the pursuit of college degrees. For more information about active learning, adult learning, memory, motivation and time-management, associates can visit Avila-Medina’s web page at: <http://mylearningnetwork.com>.

The “Professional Enhancement Series” continues with a May 29 seminar on “Diction: Pronunciation and



DLA PHOTO BY LAURA SANMIGUEL-FEARING

Ferdinand Avila-Medina, a learning skills specialist and adjunct faculty member at The Ohio State University-Newark, discusses “Effective Learning and Retrieval” during a March 27 workshop in the Building 20 auditorium.

Enunciation” with speaker Kathi Cennamo, coordinator of the Spoken English Program at Ohio State University. In this seminar, attendees will learn to be better understood by improving the degree of clarity and distinctness in their speech.

Anyone interested in participating in this seminar can register online at [www.dscmwr.com/seminar](http://www.dscmwr.com/seminar). All participants will receive a certificate of completion. More information about the “Professional Enhancement Series” is available by calling HEP manager Maria Buch Castillo at 614-692-9704 or MWR Relocation Assistance Program manager Lisa Passalacqua at 614-692-7220.

# Detachment director retires after 33 years of service

By **Dan Bender**

DLA Land and Maritime Public Affairs Office

The director of the DLA Land and Maritime detachment in Mechanicsburg, Pa., has retired after 33 years of federal service.

Bob Taylor was feted at an April 30 ceremony attended by DLA Land and Maritime Commander Army Brig. Gen. Darrell Williams, contracting execu-

utive Milt Lewis, family and co-workers. His last day was May 3.

During the ceremony, Taylor received the DLA Meritorious Civilian Service Award from Williams, along with other mementos.

“Bob has done a marvelous job managing the Mechanicsburg DLR detachment for the past two years,” Williams

said. “He’s tackled a number of challenges and has always kept our Navy warfighter customers supplied and satisfied.”

Taylor became the director of the Mechanicsburg detachment in March 2010, replacing Doug Nevins, who left to become director of the DLA Aberdeen detachment.

He spent his whole federal career in Mechanicsburg,

starting in May 1979 as a contract negotiator for the Ships Parts Control Center. Prior to becoming the detachment director, he was the director of Nuclear Material Management for Naval Inventory Control Point.

Williams has announced that Brian Watkins will succeed Taylor as director of the Mechanicsburg detachment.

He is coming from NAVSUP Weapon Systems Support in Mechanicsburg.

“Brian’s extensive contracting experience and his deep understanding of the Navy customers’ requirements will allow him to pick up where Bob leaves off and continue our record of excellent support from the Mechanicsburg detachment,” Williams said.

# Local Army Reservist feted by hometown fire department

By Master Sgt. Dave Johnson

412th Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne), Columbus, Ohio

Army Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Kloha was recently recognized as the firefighter of the year – for the second time in his career – in Midland, Mich.

Kloha is also a citizen-soldier, serving as the command sergeant major for the 412th Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne), an Army Reserve unit based in Columbus, Ohio, on Defense Supply Center Columbus installation.

There are several common ties between the Army Reserve and being a first-responder, a firefighter.

“Leadership is the main thing common to my civilian and Army Reserve jobs,” Kloha said.

The Army Reserve prides itself on developing its leaders. Kloha, as a command sergeant major, is in the key position in his battalion to mentor and groom junior non-commissioned officers for future leadership roles.

“Army values and caring for people go hand in hand with being a firefighter,” Kloha added.

The Army values Kloha alluded to include selfless service, respect and integrity.

“He always goes above and beyond to help junior soldiers,” said

Army Sgt. 1st Class Jennifer Skunza, a training NCO with 412th. “He really puts forth a great effort with Best Warrior Competition and other endeavors that develop leaders.”

“He is always looking to take the next step and roles for the betterment of his department,” fellow firefighter Mark Laux wrote.

Kloha has been an American Red Cross first aid and CPR instructor since 1986, and has hosted 13 minor league baseball players at his home in the last three years.

“I think that Mark’s involvement with the community is way beyond the call of duty,” Laux wrote.

“He is always looking out for soldiers’ well being, and ensuring we have everything we need to be successful,” said Army Spec. Vancil Casebolt, the Best Warrior representative for the 412th.

Kloha entered the U.S. Army in 1982. He has traveled the world, including Germany, Kuwait and Iraq, and amassed an extensive list of decorations and awards, including the Bronze Star Medal.

Kloha began working as a city of Midland firefighter in 1991 after beginning his firefighting career as a volunteer in Midland Township. Kloha won his first Firefighter of the Year Award in 1999.



PHOTO BY VAL MINOR  
Army Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Kloha holds his Firefighter of the Year award following a ceremony in Building 2 on the DSCC installation.

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