

ConversionConnection



summer 2002

news about air force base conversion agency

Annual Award Ceremony Recognizes Top Employees



The 6th Annual AFBCA Awards Ceremony recognized our top employees and was attended by several distinguished guests, including:

The Honorable Nelson F. Gibbs,
Assistant Secretary for Installations, Environment & Logistics

Mr. Fred Kuhn,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Installations

Ms. Maureen Koetz,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety & Occupational Health

Mrs. Marilyn Olsen and her son,
Mr. Tim Olsen

The ceremony was hosted by **Mr. Albert F. Lowas, Jr.**, Director of AFBCA and **Ms. Joyce K. Frank**, AFBCA Deputy Director. **Elton Wilson**, Realty Specialist–Rosslyn, was the Master of Ceremony.

James Waldron, Claire Alicata, Cheryl Hayden and David Straing received AFBCA Annual Awards for their hard work, resourcefulness and teamwork

The AFBCA Awards Program was instituted to recognize outstanding performance and achievement by Agency employees. Nominees for an award must have worked for AFBCA for at least one year, be recognized as their Division Winner by their division chief, and approved for the award by the Director.

Agency personnel compete for one of four awards:

The GS-5 through GS-8

The GS-9 through GS-12

The GS-13 through GS-14

The Alan K. Olsen Award

Nominees for the first three awards are evaluated based on six categories:

Significant Accomplishments or Projects

Impact on Mission

Resourcefulness

Initiative

Teamwork, and

Professionalism.

All division winners were recognized and presented with a Certificate of Achievement.

GS-5 through GS-8

The recipient of this year's award in the GS-5 through GS-8 category was **Ms. Claire Alicata**, Secretary, Division D, Castle, California.

Ms. Alicata was noted for her professionalism and hard work. Her management of Castle's Operations & Maintenance budget, her work with time cards, typing, and management of documents and their files were all recognized as outstanding.

As the IMPAC cardholder for the Operating Location, she was noted for aggressively obtaining what is needed at the most economical price, according to Mr. Jay Clark, Site Manager, Castle. Ms. Alicata is quick to offer her time helping others complete their projects on time, he says. Her outstanding rapport with community leaders, regulators and contractors is a vital link in the teamwork chain, according to Mr Clark.

Her philosophy is "there is always a better way to build a mousetrap" and she continually strives to find better ways to enhance the operation of Division D - Castle. Those who work with her have said that Ms. Alicata is a "doer," not a "watcher."



Ms. Claire Alicata

GS-9 through GS-12

This year's Award in the GS-9 through GS-12 Category went to **Ms. Cheryl M. Hayden**, Environmental Protection Specialist, Division D, McClellan, California.

Ms. Hayden is the lead environmental program execution manager for McClellan. In this role, Ms. Hayden was directly responsible for FY01 obligations of over \$26 million. Her work resulted in a 99.4% obligation rate. Also in FY01, Ms. Hayden deobligated approximately \$2.6 million, and realigned these funds to more critical program needs.

Through these obligations, the AFBCA was able to support critical FY01 and FY02 out-of-cycle requirements such as the Time Critical Removal Action for a major radiological site, base-wide radiological investigations, and the Initial Parcel Feasibility Study for land critical to the Local Reuse Authority for redevelopment.

Cheryl's efforts to program, contract, and fund the time critical removal action at CS-10 provide an excellent example of how AFBCA staff can work together to execute a large project on an accelerated schedule, resulting in a quality product and positive public perception. Cheryl was noted for her professionalism and attention to details. According to her supervisor, Mr. Paul Brunner, McClellan Base Environmental Coordinator, she takes the high road on issues and strives for resolution rather than conflict.



Ms. Cheryl Hayden

GS-13 through GS-14

This year's Award in the GS-13 through GS-14 Category went to **Mr. James Waldron**, Environmental Coordinator, Division C, Rosslyn, Virginia.

Mr. Waldron was honored for his contributions to the success of environmental cleanup at Kelly, Carswell, Bergstrom, England and Williams Air Force Bases. He helped obtain Last Remedy In Place in FY 2001 for Carswell and England. He accomplished this in spite of rules changes, new BRAC Environmental Coordinators at Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence, and reluctance and skepticism from the regulators. This required extensive negotiation skills and effective communications.

Mr. Waldron's leadership ability, experience, and motivational skills were noted for keeping Kelly on schedule to achieve Last Remedy in Place in FY04. Jim uses initiative, resourcefulness, and prioritizes tasks to the maximum extent possible, according to Mr. Larry Leehy, Program Manager, Division C. Mr. Waldron finds a way to get the job done, Mr Leehy says.

He worked with Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence, AFBCA Environmental Division, and the AFBCA Director to reach a cost sharing agreement on a Permeable Reactive Barrier wall at Carswell. This agreement allows earlier transfer of BRAC property and mitigates contamination leaving Federal property, according to Mr Leehy.

Jim has earned the ultimate respect from everyone he works with, according to his co-workers. His high standards of professionalism are very apparent as he solves difficult problems, carries an extremely heavy workload, and always treats people in a courteous, respectful, and professional manner.



Mr. James Waldron

AFBCA Workshop 2002

Derence Fivehouse

Art Ditto

Cora Stephens

Joyce Frank

Ann Russell

Mr. Fred Kuhn

Kathy Peters

Dr. Brian Howard

Ms. Maureen Koetz

Kurt Kratz

Adam Antwine

Carolyn Davis

Dave Belyea

Doug Karas

Secretary Gibbs

Award Winners



AFBCA Annual Awards Program Division Winners

GS 5 - GS 8

Ms. Charlotte Cote

Administrative Assistant, Div A, Loring, ME

Ms. Angela Doyen

Secretary Div B, K.I. Sawyer, MI

Ms. Terie Glaspey

Secretary, Div D, McClellan, CA

Ms. Correen Pounds,

Real Estate Assistant, Div A, Griffiss, NY

Ms. Linda Sypult

Secretary, Div C, Chanute, IL

Ms. Cassandra Tate

Resources Assistant, Executive Services Division, Rosslyn, VA

Ms. Janet Watkins

Secretary, Div C, Lowry, CO

GS 9 - GS 12

Mr. Russell Betz

Computer Specialist, Executive Services Division, Rosslyn, VA

Mr. Randy Dennis

Engineering Technician, Div D, McClellan, CA

Ms. Debra Dickson

Law Office Manager, Legal Division, Rosslyn, VA

Mr. Stanley McVey

Realty Specialist, Div B, Wurtsmith, MI

Mr. Peter Forbes

Environmental Engineer, Div A, Loring, ME

Mr. William Hall

Technical Project Manager, Div C, Kelly, TX

Mr. John Villalpando

Engineering Technician, Div C, Kelly, TX

GS 13 - GS 14

Mr. David Belyea

Regional Site Manager, Div A, Loring, ME

Mr. Donald Buelter

Chief, Environmental Restoration, Div C, Kelly, TX

Mr. John Fringer

Environmental Coordinator, Div B, Rosslyn, VA

Mr. Michael McDermott

BRAC Environmental Coordinator, Div A, Griffiss, NY

Mr. Gary Shoemaker

Program Analyst, Environmental Programs Division, Rosslyn, VA

Mr. Dave Green

Environmental Protection Specialist, Div D, McClellan, CA

Alan K. Olsen Award

Mr. Robert Lackey

Site Manager, Div C, Lowry, CO

Mr. Frank Melendrez, Jr.

Caretaker Administrator, Div C, Kelly, TX

Director's Message

Mr Albert F. Lowas, Jr.



Great speakers, informative presentations and high participation describe the 2002 Annual AFBCA Workshop held this spring! The three-day event was such a success, thanks to the hard work of many people, we decided to devote this issue exclusively to the Workshop.

One of the highlights of the Workshop was the awards ceremony, recognizing so many of our people. We are indeed fortunate to have outstanding people in the AFBCA family -- all winners. I applaud your hard work, dedication and effort to make AFBCA a first-class organization.

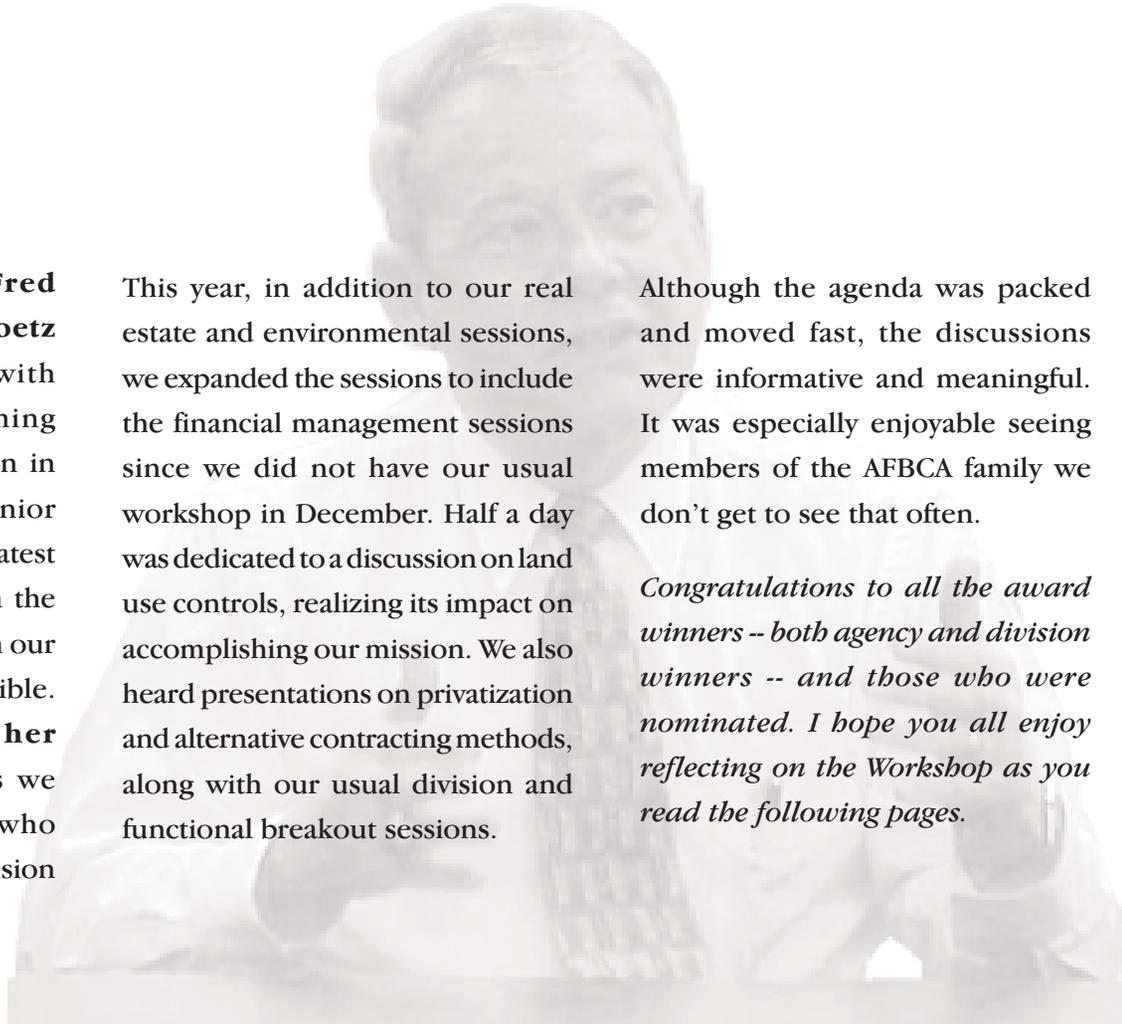
Award nominees, winners and the ceremony -- all are captured on the following pages. As you look at the pictures and read the stories, you will agree that this Workshop was top notch.

Mr. Nelson Gibbs, Mr. Fred Kuhn and Ms. Maureen Koetz supported the Workshop with their participation, confirming the importance of our mission in the eyes of the Air Force senior leadership. They brought the latest and greatest information from the Air Force to help us accomplish our mission in the best way possible. **Mrs. Marilyn Olsen and her son, Tim,** also joined us as we recognized our employees who best exemplified Mr. Olsen's vision of community reuse.

This year, in addition to our real estate and environmental sessions, we expanded the sessions to include the financial management sessions since we did not have our usual workshop in December. Half a day was dedicated to a discussion on land use controls, realizing its impact on accomplishing our mission. We also heard presentations on privatization and alternative contracting methods, along with our usual division and functional breakout sessions.

Although the agenda was packed and moved fast, the discussions were informative and meaningful. It was especially enjoyable seeing members of the AFBCA family we don't get to see that often.

Congratulations to all the award winners -- both agency and division winners -- and those who were nominated. I hope you all enjoy reflecting on the Workshop as you read the following pages.



Strange Story

By Carl Sabre, Division A, Regional Public Affairs

At the Annual AFBCA Award Luncheon, Mr. David Strainge received the prestigious **Alan K. Olsen Award**. He is the Base Environmental Coordinator at the former Loring Air Force Base, Maine.

The award recognized his *“clear and confident command of environmental contamination concerns and their associated laws and policies.”*

According to John Corradetti, AFBCA Program Manager for Division A, *“Dave’s accomplishments are even more outstanding, when you consider that he now provides services to two other sites besides Loring.”*

Strainge also is Base Environmental Coordinator at O’Hare, now O’Hare International Airport, in Chicago and the former Pease Air Force Base in New Hampshire. *“All three local reuse authorities and restoration advisory boards consult him regularly and rely on his environmental expertise,”* Corradetti said. *“He regularly delivers plain English messages to them, and to the public, at all types of meetings by addressing environmental concerns and*

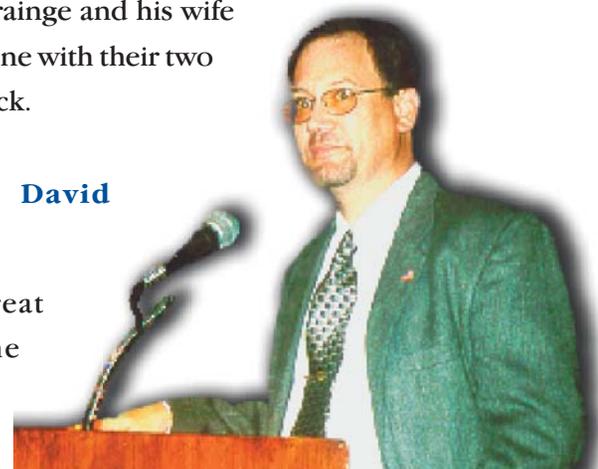
promoting redevelopment activities.”

David Strainge received his Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry Engineering from the University of Maine - Orono in 1979. He started his Federal Civil Service career in 1980 as a Forester in the Civil Engineering Squadron at Loring and shortly thereafter was named the base Environmental Engineer. Following an assignment with the U.S. Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) in Ramstein, Germany, he returned to Loring

and joined the AFBCA. Strainge and his wife Carla live in Stockholm, Maine with their two children, Victoria and Patrick.

From Dave Belyea, David Strainge’s Supervisor:

David Strainge was a great choice to receive the Alan K. Olsen Award! Dave demonstrated three things I feel were key in his winning the Award.



Mr. David Strainge

First: He always stepped forward and took risks, with total faith that Mr. Olsen, and Agency leadership over the years, would believe in his abilities and support his decisions. He took Mr. Olsen’s lead – to “Have No Fear” – this team of professionals could execute a very large environmental restoration program.

Second: He is very much a team player and consensus builder. He advanced his programs by building teams that had mutual trust, respect, and confidence in each other.

Third: He always considered what impact the environmental program had on the physical and perceived aspects of redevelopment; and he structured his program to not only minimize negative impacts but to also have positive impacts.

His acceptance speech at the Annual conference in May reveals Dave’s true character – he thanked and praised his staff, his peers, and Agency support staff for his successes.

Air Force Management Strategy for Land Use Controls

At the Annual Workshop, AFBCA devoted a large portion of Day One to the important subject of Land Use Controls. In July, Mr Lowas sent out a Memo outlining how AFBCA will implement, monitor and enforce Land Use Controls. Four specific modules to help BECs and SMs manage Land Use Controls at their bases are now available on the AFBCA website. Land Use Control Work Group members are also available to help you implement these modules.

Group members include:

Claire Buinno

AFBCA Land Use Controls Work Group Leader, EV Legal Counsel, (703)696-5360

Art Ditto

LUC Work Group Member, Environmental Engineer, (603)430-2586

Linda Geissinger

LUC Work Group Member, Regional Public Affairs Specialist, (916)643-1164x109

What are Institutional Controls?

Institutional Controls are used to prevent (or control) exposure to contaminants. They supplement and complement the engineering or technical parts of the environmental cleanup. They are part of a specific remedial action. Types of ICs include:

- (1) Governmental (e.g., zoning, well permits)
- (2) Real Property Based or Proprietary (e.g., deed restrictions)

Land Use Controls is an overarching term which refers to institutional controls, land use restrictions, and site controls. It means any type of physical, legal, or administrative mechanism that restricts the use of, or limits access to, real property to prevent exposure to hazardous substances above permissible levels.

Why do we have Land Use Controls?

There are some sites that may remain contaminated at levels that prevent unrestricted use at the time of transfer. The Air Force considers how the land will be used in the future when deciding how to clean up the property for transfer.

In some cases, sites have been closed with the knowledge that the land will be restricted for specific types of future use. This means that at these sites, some level of residual contamination may exist that is acceptable and safe for such industrial, commercial or other limited property uses, but not unrestricted use.

How does the Air Force make sure the land use controls are in place and working properly?

The Air Force developed a Management Strategy for implementing, monitoring and enforcing land use controls and institutional controls. The strategy emphasizes stakeholder education and involvement and promotes compliance with the controls. Base-specific tools have been developed to implement the strategy.

How are people reminded about the land use controls?

If you are a grantee, you may receive notices reminding you of the land use controls/use restrictions on your property. If you are a representative of an agency associated with the land in some way, you may also receive notice of the controls/use restrictions to consider in your decisions.

How does the Air Force keep track of the controls?

The Air Force will maintain a database in accordance with the requirements of DoD's Policy on Land Use Controls Associated with Environmental Restoration Activities, dated January 17, 2001. At a minimum, this database will contain the following: (1) relevant information on the property; (2) types of controls established; (3) Air Force land use monitoring and management responsibilities; and (4) location of real estate records.

Workshop Lunch

Ms. Cassandra Tate and Ms. Jeanette Chase helped serve and organize the luncheon.



Cassandra Tate

Jeanette Chase

Marilyn Olsen

Joyce Truett

Mrs. Marilyn Olsen with Ms. Joyce Truett who was responsible for organizing the annual workshop



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Conversion Connection is an official non-directive departmental publication. Its purpose is to educate, inform, motivate and update AFBCA employees on policies, programs, plans and news of the base conversion process and related activities. The views and opinions expressed in this periodical are those of the individual author and not necessarily those of the Department of the Air Force or of the AFBCA.

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