



FAS Times

May 2009 Vol. 3

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mother's Day

May 10, 2009

Memorial Day

May 25, 2009

(Federal Holiday)



Texas Ranger's Game



May 13, 2009

Rangers vs. Mariners
7:05pm

The GSA Employee Association is selling discount tickets.

Contact: Ron Lutman at (817) 978-8415 or any of your GSAEA representatives.

GSA Annual Softball Tournament

Teams are currently being formed. Games will be played at the Naval Air Station on Thurs., May 21, and Thurs., May 28. The Championship game will be played at the annual GSA Picnic on June 5 at 9:30 a.m. at the Lockheed Martin Recreation Area. Please come cheer for our FAS Team!

Individual Highlights

- Getting to Know You.....pg. 1
- Training Schedule.....pg. 1
- GSA's 60th Anniversary Sloganpg. 2
- On the Movepg. 2
- Kudos Korner.....pgs. 2-3
- Dave Schurg Retires.....pg. 3
- FAS Welcomes New Employees pg. 3
- Guidance on Recent Flu Outbreaks.. pg. 4
- FAS "Customers" Green Teampg. 4

Have a question?
Send to R07FAS@gsa.gov

Getting to Know You

FAS Welcomes George R. Prochaska.

George Prochaska became the Regional FAS Commissioner on April 26, 2009. He has also been serving as the Acting Regional Administrator for the Greater Southwest Region since January 16, 2009.

Prior to these recent assignments, George has served as the Deputy Regional Administrator in the Greater Southwest Region. He chairs the Acquisition, Marketing, Green, Financial and Executive Councils. He is a member of GSA's Human Capital Council and recently served as co-chief negotiator for the national AFGE contract. He is active with the region's internal controls, small business, human resources and civil rights programs. He recently served as the Executive in charge of the outgoing Presidential and Vice Presidential transitions.



George's accomplishments include directing the region's capital building program, participating in the acquisition of five office buildings, co-leading the region's Border Station Improvement Program, serving as Director of Real Property Disposal, as well as the Director of Planning, and serving as the Acting Assistant Regional Commissioner (PBS).

Prior to GSA, George was a study manager for the Civil Works Projects with the Corps of Engineers. He earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Texas A&M University and a master's in business administration from the University of Texas at Arlington. He is also a graduate of the Corps of Engineers Planning Associates Program in Washington, DC, the Federal Executive Institute and GSA's Advanced Leadership Development Program.

He is active in his church and cofounded three "dads" groups in his local diocese. He serves on the Local Combined Federal Campaign Coordinating Committee and previously served on the YMCA Board of Directors. He is the Federal Executive Board (FED) ADR board liaison, and serves on their Policy Committee. He is a past president of the Federal Business Association, and is active in other community activities. In his spare time, he enjoys outdoor activities - landscaping, camping and dirt-bike riding. He and his wife, Darlene, have four daughters. All are Texas Aggies!

FAS Training Schedule

- May 4-8, 2009—**CON 100 Shaping Smart Business Arrangements**, (FW FOB)
- May 12-14, 2009—**Creative Decision Making**, (FW FOB)
- May 18-22, 2009—**COR/COTR Training**, (FW Depot Multipurpose Center)
- June 16, 2009—**Mentoring and Coaching for Mentors and/or Proteges**, (FW FOB)
- June 16-18, 2009—**Supervisory Toolbox Training**, (FW HUD Burnett Plaza, 28th floor)
- July 21-23, 2009—**Supervisory Toolbox Training**, (FW HUD Burnett Plaza, 28th floor)

Contact Jennifer Koranda at (817) 574-4305 for more information on training.

KUDOS KORNER

FAS Hero Darren Hickman

The Customer Accounts and Research Division is very proud of Customer Service Director, Darren Hickman. Darren deployed with his Air Force Reserve unit in early April and he has arrived safely in Iraq as of April 10th.



We would like to congratulate Darren on his promotion to Major Hickman! Darren will act as the Deputy OIC over the PAD (Patient Administrative Department) at the hospital while deployed. Darren reports about his assignment: "It is the area you



may have seen on the "Hero's Highway" on the news. This is where they bring all the wounded soldiers from the heliport. They pull them off

of the helicopters, process them and perform other administrative/medical procedures. This includes the insurgents that just shot up our guys. We have to work fast due to the mortar and sniper fire at the helicopters and the base." Please keep Darren in your thoughts during this time. We hope to have him back safe and sound in July.

Kudos to Susie Owens, Contract Specialist in the Greater Southwest Acquisition Center

Customer testimonial -

"I write to advise you of the kind, courteous, prompt, professional, and patient manner in which Susie Owens guided me through the GSA schedule process . . . She unerringly provided me with correct, detailed information. She is a terrific asset to your organization and a tried-and-true customer service professional."



*Nancy I. Rose, Contracts Administrator,
Beckwith Electric Co., Inc.*

60th Anniversary Slogan Reflects GSA Past and Future

From more than 570 submissions, GSA has selected a new slogan befitting its 60 years as a federal agency.

"The slogan, 'A Legacy of Service, a Pursuit of Excellence,' articulates GSA's storied history and continued dedication to excellence on behalf of our customers and American citizens," said GSA Deputy Administrator Barney Brasseux. "These eight words capture the true essence of GSA's past, its present and its future."

The winning slogan was submitted by Kyle Van Someren, an architectural intern in the Great Lakes Region. Van Someren will be recognized at the 60th anniversary celebration and award ceremony July 1.

The July 1 event kicks off a year-long celebration to recognize 60 years of public service to the American people. Throughout the year, GSA will celebrate the agency's numerous accomplishments and the work of its nearly 12,000 dedicated employees. The slogan will appear on GSA posters, banners and other agency communications throughout the year.

Van Someren, with GSA less than three months, said he came up with the slogan after absorbing information on GSA's website and felt that the word "service" was of particular importance. "I also felt there should be two phrases: one to recognize the past and the other to say we're not done," Van Someren said.

Slogan suggestions came from 192 GSA employees nationwide. All 573 submissions were reviewed by the 60th Anniversary Planning Team, composed of representatives from GSA's Central Office staff, Public Buildings Service, Federal Acquisition Service and the 11 regions. The team selected the winning slogan from a group of three finalists.

GSA was formed on July 1, 1949, when President Harry Truman signed into law the merging of the Treasury Department's Bureau of Federal Supply and Office of Contract Settlement, the National Archives Establishment, the Federal Works Agency, and the War Assets Administration.

***A Legacy
of Service,
a Pursuit of
Excellence***



Thomas Morgan, Acting Deputy Regional Administrator, Region 5, congratulates Kyle Van Someren (right), winner of GSA's 60th anniversary slogan contest.

On the Move



Sherry Thompson joined the Southwest Supply Center (SSC) on March 30, 2009 as a Senior Contract Specialist. Prior to this position, Sherry worked in the FAS Greater Southwest Acquisition Center as a Team Leader. Before GSA, Sherry was a contracting officer for the U.S. Air Force. She will have duties in the Fire, Stock, and Special Order Program.

Susie Traylor was recently selected to serve as a Budget Analyst in the FAS Finance and Administration Division. Susie currently works in the FAS Greater Southwest Acquisition Center and will report to her new position on May 10, 2009



KUDOS KORNER

Kudos to Paul Price, Customer Service Director in the Customer Accounts and Research Division (CAR)



Regional Marketing Director Cindy Yandell and Customer Service Director Paul Price met with the Director of the City of Houston's Strategic Purchasing Division. The meeting was called to express appreciation for the city's use of GSA Schedules through the Disaster Recovery Program and sending representatives to GSA Expo 2009. The Director indicated that he was pleased with GSA's assistance and that he looks forward to developing a closer working relationship in the future. *Kudos to Paul for his continued efforts to educate city and local offices about our GSA solutions!*

Kudos to Donna Mylius, Contract Specialist in the Greater Southwest Acquisition Center

Customer Testimonial -

"... Donna has always made herself available for any assistance we have required. I only wish all federal employees were as professional and dedicated. Donna's hard work and great attitude have not gone unnoticed."

Steve Cook, General Manager,
Morningstar Industries Inc.



Kudos to Tommy Thomas, formerly a Contract Specialist in the Enterprise GWAC Center (SW), who transferred to the FAS Network Services Division on April 27, 2009



Customer Testimonial -

"Mr. Thomas consistently demonstrated an outstanding level of performance during the proposal evaluation process and was always responsive to our inquiries and requests for clarification. ... Mr. Thomas always demonstrated a positive, professional demeanor and was very helpful in understanding GSA's position during the evaluation process and follow-on requests for information through award ..."

Paul Bates, President,
Verizon - Federal Network Systems, LLC

Dave Schurg Retires with 31 Years of Federal Service

A retirement ceremony honoring Dave Schurg of the Southwest Supply Center (SSC) was held on March 26, 2009 to commemorate his 31 years of Federal Service. Mary Hewston, Director of the SSC, hosted the event to honor Dave's outstanding service to GSA.



Dave's career included working in several areas of GSA including Finance, Public Building Service, Administrative Contracting/Quality Control, Property Disposal and the SSC Product Management and Technical Services Division.

The event was attended by Dave's family along with a host of friends, co-workers, former employees, Central Office and NIB personnel. Dave was presented the Regional Administrator's Exceptional Service Award and retirement gifts.

FAS Welcomes New Employees

FAS recently welcomed Barbara Giddens as a Senior Contract Specialist in the Southwest Supply Center's (SSC) Special Order Program. She will be responsible for purchasing large complex actions for Global Supply customer agencies. Barbara, a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, comes to FAS from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and has previous experience as a Contracting Officers for the Veteran's Administration and the U.S. Air Force. She has Master's of Science (MS) Degree in Organization Human Resources Development from Abilene Christian University, Abilene, TX.



Kathy Butler will join the FAS Finance and Administration Division on May 10th as a Senior Budget Analyst. Kathy comes to FAS with a wealth of experience in budgeting having served in budget positions within the Regional GM&A Staff, Public Buildings Service, and Legacy Federal Technology Service.

Kristopher Cyrus joined the Southwest Supply Center (SSC) on April 27, 2009. He comes to us from the Bureau of Prisons where he worked as a Human Resource Specialist responsible for processing various personnel actions. Kristopher is joining GSA as a Contract Specialist in SSCs Special Order Program. He is currently in the Air National Guard as an Operations Manager for the Civil Engineering Squadron. Kristopher is married and has one son.

Kris received a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies with a Minor in Business from Columbia College in Fort Worth, TX.



Welcome to the FAS Family!

Guidance on Recent Flu Outbreaks

In response to the recent flu outbreaks, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) in conjunction with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Department of Homeland Security has issued a memorandum that contains guidelines on what you can do to protect yourself from the flu. It also includes guidance for federal agencies on human resources flexibilities, i.e. telework, available in an emergency situation.

GSA employees are encouraged to take the Pandemic Influenza training available through GSA's On-Line University as soon as possible at <http://gsaolu.gsa.gov>. After you log in, scroll down to Courses of the Month and select Pandemic Influenza 2009.

To stay healthy, the Centers for Disease Control advises:



First and foremost, wash your hands frequently. Follow the normal guidelines to promote good health. Get plenty of rest, stay physically active, drink plenty of fluids, and eat a well-balanced diet. Avoid close contact with people who are sick. Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing to avoid spreading germs to others. If you are feeling sick or displaying symptoms of a respiratory illness contact your doctor and supervisor.

For more information about the flu and what you can do to protect yourself, please visit the CDC's website at <http://www.cdc.gov>.

Additional OPM guidance for agencies in responding to pandemic flu outbreaks is available on the OPM's website at <http://www.opm.gov>.

The GSA Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer in coordination with the Office of Emergency Response and Recovery will continue to share information from OPM and other sources regarding this flu with you as it becomes available.

FAS "Customers" Green Team

Congratulations to our FAS "Customers" Green Team. They were recently honored at the April 20th Town Hall meeting for their many efforts this past year educating and promoting FAS "green" products to our customers.



(Haley Naegele, Cindy Yandell, James Henley, Gary Duffala, Tom Barnes, Al VanDongen, and Erich Schuette)

Also honored were the PBS "Buildings" Green Team for their work in helping to "green" our Federal buildings and the GM&A "Employees" Team for promoting "green" practices among employees and tenants including the weekly "Green Tips" sent via email.

