



# FEDERAL MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

## Chapter 19

VOL 4-02

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2002

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### Newsworthy:

- ❖ *Wilfred Castro was Zone 7 Gil Guidry Finalist at the National Convention*
- ❖ *Chapter 19 Newsletter won "Best FMA Newsletter (large chapter)" at the National Convention*

### Reminders:

- ❖ *Adopt-A-Highway will be held 18 May; meet at Nimitz Gate Pass & ID at 0800*
- ❖ *Help balance our books. If you pay FMA dues through cash/check, please bring your dues up to date. Call Yvonne Ajimura 488-0613 for status or information*

## DAY ON THE HILL



*Attending the FMA National Convention in March (left to right) Chapter 19 Director Mike Pia, PWC Peal Harbor Chapter President Tony Dillulo, Chapter 19 Director Shelley Kaya, and Zone 7 President John Priolo*

# Day On The Hill

*By John Priolo*

On March 20, 2002 we visited the Washington DC offices of Senator Akaka, Senator Inouye, Representative Abercrombie, and Representative Mink. We spent an hour at each location. In addition senior staff members were present at each meeting. The issues we discussed were:

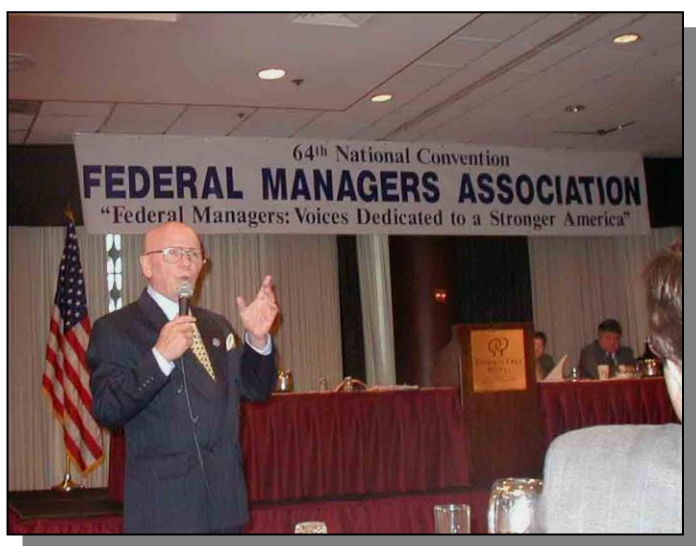
- Locality pay as part of COLA.
- MILCON P-309 in 2003. This is a Military Construction Project that consolidates the mechanical shop and renovates Building 67. Also included are new machines and tooling.
- Privatizing DOD utility systems (will increase not decrease costs).
- Continued need for workforce revitalization

We also included FMA Issue Briefs on Government Rightsizing, Pay and Benefits and Civil Service as well as FMA Action Letters on allowing older workers to catch up on TSP contributions, helping to offset rising FEHBP premium rates and expanding the definition of "Law Enforcement Officials" to include other critical Federal positions.

Our Congressional delegation was extremely knowledgeable of our positions. As a result of our discussions real progress will continue to be made in improving our agencies.



*(left to right) Tony Dillulo, Mike Pia, Senator Daniel Akaka, John Priolo, Eric Kimura, and Shelley Kaya*



*FMA President Mike Styles opening the National Convention*

## FMA Election Results

Mike Styles and Brad Casas ran unopposed and were unanimously re-elected as President and Secretary respectively. Darryl Perkinson was re-elected Shipyard Conference chair; Richard Coutu of Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and Stephanie Dunmire were elected as East and West Coast Vice Chairs respectively.

Unfortunately, Mike had to leave for home after the first day in order to continue his cancer treatment. Nancy Schaffer ran the remainder of the Conference.

Chapter 19 wishes Mike success in his medical treatments and a quick recovery!

# Impressions Of A First-Time Delegate

*By Shelley Kaya*



The first thing that struck me as a first-time delegate to the FMA National Convention in Washington D.C. was how the four Naval shipyards played such a prominent role in the FMA organization. Out of almost 200 chapters nationwide, the shipyard chapters are the oldest and the largest, and produce many of the national and regional officers. The shipyard “caucus” comprised of FMA delegates from the four Naval shipyards is the ideal mechanism to discuss common issues. Both Admiral Klemm and Tom Davies were present at our caucus and continued to talk with us during the follow-up luncheon.

Also eye opening was how organized the FMA lobbying effort was at the national level. Issues of benefit to many members were extensively researched and clearly presented by our FMA lobbyists, who systematically taught the chapters how to obtain co-sponsorship from their respective congressional delegation. There are 550 Congressionals members, 2,000 staffers, and 110,000 lobbyists in D.C.

Talk about getting heard! OPM solicited advice from FMA in their quest to improve the civil service. Issues such as the 32 percent pay disparity between public/private salaries, phasing into retirement with part-time work, and reshaping the workforce are being addressed. FMA represents 200,000 federal managers and supervisors from almost every Federal agency.

The highlight of the Convention was our “Day on the Hill” when we actually spent time with Senator Dan Inouye, Senator Dan Akaka, Representative Patsy Mink, and Representative Neil Abercrombie. Having had a couple of years experience at the local level obtaining support for our shipyard interests from our congressional delegation, it was gratifying for me to see that they were well-versed in our local issues. All four of them gave us serious consideration by meeting with us and assigning senior staff to follow up. Issues we presented were locality pay, MILCON P-309 and the facilities maintenance plus up, utilities privatization, and the Apprentice Program.



*John Priolo, Representative Patsy Mink, and Tony Dillulo*

I can’t say enough about how excellent the Government Affairs Institute training was. In only one day we were taught the legislative process, the budget process, the inner workings of Congress, and current legislative agenda and climate.

An interesting tidbit: 70 percent of federal managers are eligible to retire by 2010; of that number, 40 percent are expected to retire. Bottom line – federal managers need to groom their replacements.



# Understanding and Working with Congress Training at the FMA Convention

*By Shelley Kaya*

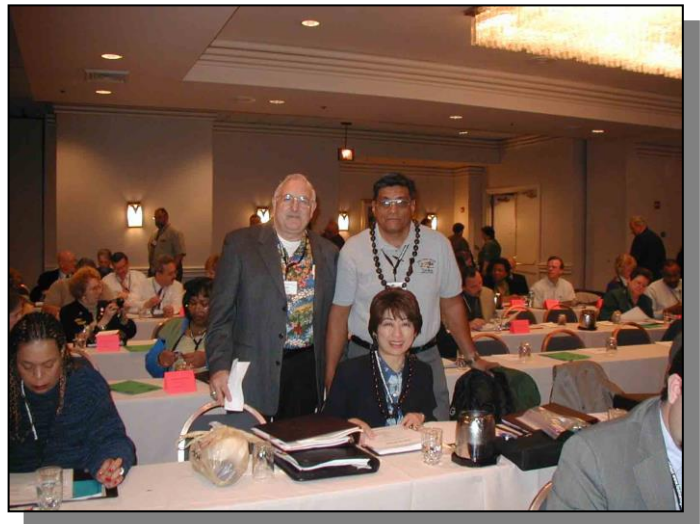
The challenge in writing an article like this is how to condense eight pages of notes of a jammed-packed one-day class. Experts at the Government Affairs Institute taught five lectures on the Nature of Congress, the Legislative Process, the Budget Debate, Working More Effectively with Congress, and an Assessment of the 107<sup>th</sup> Congress. These instructors are senior faculty at Georgetown University who routinely give 4-day classes to the Executive Branch and legislative staffers.

Any Congressman can introduce a bill but only 5-6 percent pass – mostly by getting other Congressmen to co-sponsor the bill. Bills are referred to one of 19 committees; and it is the sub-committee chairman who decides which bills will be scheduled for hearings. Subcommittee chairmanships are based on seniority and our Congressionals are senior enough to chair important subcommittees for defense appropriations and civil service.

There are 110,000 lobbyists in D.C. who spend time making friends with and educating Congressional staffers on complex issues; some are invited to testify. FMA has our own paid lobbyists. Our national officers are routinely invited to testify on civil service issues, and our chapter's Legislative Action Teams (LATs) maintain good relationships with Congressional staffs. As government employees, we are prohibited from lobbying in our official capacity; however, we are allowed to respond to Congressional inquiries and provide tours of our facilities and operations.

Resolutions and authorization bills set budget allocations and authorize programs but they don't get us any money. Only Appropriations bills get us the money. Everyone watches the Appropriations Committee discretionary spending, which is 16 percent of the \$2 trillion budget for defense and 19 percent for non-defense. There are 13 Appropriations bills that must pass by 1 October. Anything can be attached as a rider to an appropriations bill. If the Senate version is different from the House version, a Conference Committee is appointed. The resulting Conference Report then goes back to the Senate and House for vote, then on to the President for signature, veto, or allowing it to become law. Two-thirds of the House and Senate can override a Presidential veto.

Whew! How's that for the briefest of summaries? That's one more thing we learned –be brief. The Congressional staffers are inundated with people asking for things every day. What they need is a one-page briefing sheet that explains complex issues and is reliable and credible. Our FMA contingent has focused on locality pay, MILCONs and facilities maintenance funding, anti-privatization of utilities, and workforce revitalization through the Apprentice Program. And we ARE getting results!



*John Priolo, Mike Pia, and Shelley Kaya*

## Professional Liability Insurance

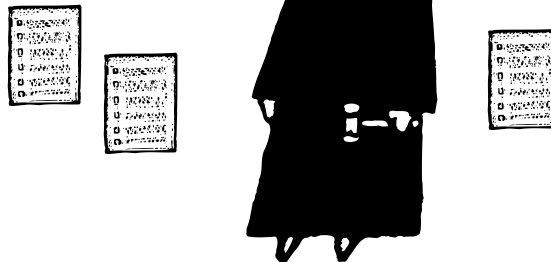
Federal managers and supervisors who face one or more lawsuits related to their employment during their federal careers, can find protection with professional liability insurance. Although the law provides immunity from lawsuits in many cases filed by subordinates and the public, some cases can proceed to the courts. Managers can also be named in EEO complaints, FLRA unfair labor practice charges, or grievances. They can be the subject of investigations by the Office of Special Counsel and the IG, and can ultimately face disciplinary action in many of these cases. All of these actions may require the manager or supervisor to consult with an attorney. Fortunately, Federal managers are able to get an extra dose of immunity with professional liability insurance. Federal agencies are now required to reimburse up to one-half of the premium costs for supervisors, managers, executives and law enforcement officials. For more information, go to the Wright & Company Website at <http://www.wrightandco.com/cseba/csebapage34.htm> or call toll-free 1-800-424-9801 and ask for more information on professional liability insurance.

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## Still Waiting for Your COLA Check?

The Claim Administrator has set up a hotline for those class members who are experiencing difficulties processing their claims. The hotline phone number is 1-800-750-3526 and is available from 10:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Pacific Time or, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Hawaii time. The claims representative's name is Don.

The regular 1-877-480-2652 number should be used for most people calling to check on the status of their claims. When calls come in through the regular line that seem to be above the normal issues, the operators are transferring the calls to Don. He does the necessary research and calls them back with the information. According to the Claim Administrator, call the hotline number if you have the following problems:

1. Calculation disputes not yet resolved.
2. Name discrepancies not yet resolved.
3. Check issued in deceased class member name and having trouble cashing.
4. Sent in a calculation dispute but have not received a letter back.

Another batch of checks was issued on April 11. Checks are generally issued every two weeks.

# Happy Birthday

# FMA-PAC

Happy Birthday to all those born  
in May!

- 5/1 Randall King
- 5/2 Jorge Barbosa
- 5/2 Rolly Casison
- 5/3 James Tagalog
- 5/5 Bertram Yoshioka
- 5/9 Milton Nasu
- 5/9 Wayne Wilcox
- 5/10 Jack Martinez
- 5/12 Erwin Ford
- 5/14 Raymond Jablonski
- 5/15 Michael Hahn
- 5/15 Robert Muraoka
- 5/15 Brian Yim
- 5/17 Gilbert Ching
- 5/18 Frank Mondik, Jr.
- 5/19 Michael Kawachi
- 5/21 Anthony Say
- 5/25 Thomas Lum
- 5/26 Ronald Chun
- 5/26 Thomas Hardy
- 5/26 David Morris
- 5/26 Michael Pia
- 5/26 Russell Pinho
- 5/27 Amado Viernes
- 5/27 Ronald Ayonon
- 5/28 Buell Davis
- 5/30 Joseph Vallejo
- 5/31 Rudy Generalao



FMA-PAC is the political arm of our organization.  
Contributions up to April 2002:

Name	Amount
John Priolo	170
Mike Pia	152
Frank Dietz	140
Wayne Wilcox	120
Eric Kimura	116
Roy Armstrong	100
Bridgit Bales	100
Barbara Paris	100
Freeman Correa	50
Shelley Kaya	50
Diane Pierce	50
Keith Galang	14
W. Anonymous	14
K. Anonymous	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1186</b>

## Chapter 19 Awards

Award results from the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual FMA NATIONAL Convention:

Best Newsletter (Large Chapter) FMA Chapter 19!

Gil Guidry Finalist from Zone 7: Wilfred Castro

PAC/FEEA Award winners:

Mike Pia - plumeria flower and 200.00 cash

Dianne Pierce - plumeria flower

Bridgit Bales - PNS Mug

Wayne Wilcox - PNS Mug

Roy Armstrong - PNS and an FMA Mug

Freeman Correa - PNS Mug

Frank Dietz won - \$400, FMA Mug, and a PNS donated Ship in a Bottle

Eric Kimura - PSNS Apprentice Cap, package of Jellyflops

Owen Okumura - 500.00 cash and a 1 week stay in a condo

*Note: Those who contribute to PAC and FEEA are automatically entered in a drawing for prizes at the Convention.*



*Eric Kimura accepting the "Best Newsletter" Award at the National Convention*

# President's Message

# ZoNews

By John Priolo



By Eric Kimura

In the past four weeks I have been to Washington DC twice, over issues that directly affect us in the Shipyard and FMA. The first trip was to attend the National Convention. Shortly after returning home, I was sent back to Washington DC to discuss the privatization of Naval shipyard utilities.

The message I heard is that there is an overwhelming push by Senior Civilian Political Appointees in the Department of Defense and Navy hierarchy to divest public depots. These well-meaning but misguided individuals believe that private companies can do what we do better, cheaper, and more efficiently and that the government should not be involved in industrial activities.

The first step is to "privatize" pieces of facilities. For example, the Army has decided that its facilities are so worn out that they are selling the ownership of their facilities such as electric power distribution, sewers, or natural gas on base to private companies, sometimes for **one dollar**. These companies don't just run the system; they own it and have legal access and rights over the hardware. One recent example is the electrical distribution for Fort Hamilton. Fort Hamilton was within two months of turning over the deed and the keys of their power distribution system when ENRON (the winner of the bid) went bankrupt. Had ENRON taken ownership, Fort Hamilton would be just one of many creditors who needed something from the bankruptcy court. Who would have been provided power in the meantime? It would certainly not have been cheaper once the PWC of the base was gone. By the way, our Hawaii Congressional delegation told ENRON to go somewhere else when ENRON came seeking their support for a similar bid in Hawaii.

We as FMA members and Federal workers need to make sure we understand the issues, educate others when possible, and make our views known.

*This report will cover the items I was involved in as your Zone President and a member of the General Executive Board during the recently completed National Convention.*

On Monday March 18, I provided testimony before the Senate subcommittee that oversees the civil service chaired by Senator Daniel Akaka (D-Hawaii). Also present was Senator George Voinovich (R-Ohio). Details of my testimony may be found on the FMA Web Site but suffice it to say that thanks to the efforts of Didier Trinh and Kristin Royster I managed not to embarrass FMA and myself and found testifying before Congress a unique experience. Senator Akaka is a dear friend and made me feel at ease with his interest in our testimony. Senator Voinovich proved to also be very supportive of FMA and our positions in addressing the problems in hiring, developing and rewarding federal employees. It certainly speaks well of FMA that the Senate subcommittee responsible for Federal employees seeks and recognizes our input.

Our Zone 7 meeting was also held on Monday during which we discussed our Treasurer's Report, preparations for the Day On The Hill, PAC, and the upcoming Mid Year to be held in Las Vegas.

On Tuesday I was back in Washington again attending a meeting of the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) with associations representing various federal management groups. NAPA is conducting a study entitled "The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Federal Manager: A Study of Changing Roles and Competencies". The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the specific issues the associations would like to see addressed. We also prioritized the issues we identified using individual work stations which allowed us to anonymously key in issues and comments. FMA will participate in future meeting.

Wednesday, of course, was our Day On The Hill followed by a Congressional Reception. Rep. Patsy Mink and Walter Jones attended as well as 15 to 20 Congressional staff. We are planning on a repeat in 2003.

At the Thursday Convention close it was announce that future Mid Year Conference will be held in San Antonio (2003) and Hawaii (2004). In addition Zone 7 did very well in the PAC drawings winning the trip to Ireland (Leonard Lew), the condo/cash (Owen Okumura), and two of the three cash awards. \$9246 was raised for PAC.

Many thanks to the National Office and National President Nancy Schaffer and the NEB for their outstanding effort in bringing about another successful National Convention.

## Next General Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, 25 April 2002

**Time:** Doors open at 1530 hours

**Place:** Ho'aloaha Room, Shipyard Cafeteria

**Cost:** Food and refreshments are available for \$3



## BOARD MEMBERS

Eric Kimura	President	473-8000 X2883
Wayne Wilcox	1 <sup>st</sup> VP	473-8000 X3372
Owen Okumura	2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	577-0808 pager
Yvonne Ajimura	Treasurer	488-0613
Wil Castro	Recording Sec	671-1562
Edmund Lum	Corresp Sec	473-8000 X3057
Clem Lopez	Sgt-at-Arms	473-8000 X9250
Shelley Kaya	Director	473-8000 X2939
Michael Pia	Director	577-0322 pager
John Priolo	Director	474-8477

## NEWSLETTER CONTACT

The FMA Newsletter is published monthly. Articles are due by close of business at the General Meeting. Please send them to Eric Kimura (kimuraey@phnsy.navy.mil). Your comments are always welcome.

Pamela Dittrick.....Editor (541-2296)

## FEDERAL MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

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*Address correction requested*