

FMA CHAPTER 19 NEWSLETTER

June 2020

FEDERAL MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello again, I don't have any overriding topics to share but just a few things and also to share any whatever news I

have. I am teleworking four days a week because I am in the "higher risk" category. The precautions in place of everyone wearing masks, frequent cleaning, social distancing and the fact that the shipyard workers are in a nice tight community allows me to feel comfortable when I do come into work. I had lunch in a restaurant last weekend at Ala Moana- NOW THAT occasion was scarier for me than coming to work.

I was reflecting the other day that this current wave of crises affecting America has had some interesting effects. The Japanese word for crisis is "Kiki" which is composed of two kanji or characters. The two characters are "danger" "危" and

"opportunity" "機". Those two characters capture the situation we are in. Both the COVID-19 and the turmoil involved in the Black Lives Matter movement both represent "dangers" and "opportunities".

In the case of COVID-19, we continue to run the risks of many of our vulnerable family members and friends dying until we come up with a vaccine. And as we learned from USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT's experience, our most powerful and capable ships

can be rendered combat ineffective if we become careless with our current protective systems including simple things like frequent hand washing and wearing masks. But on the other side, the virus has forced us to look at new ways to communicate, ways to avoid traveling for meetings. Most of us can now meet with health care providers via telemed. And, perhaps more importantly, the virus has forced us to spend more time at home with our families and again relearn togetherness, something we forget sometimes in the press of "being busy." Lastly, I cannot remember a time when the country was so united in the appreciation of our health care workers and those others who have kept the wheels of essential tasks going such as food delivery. (Shipyard workers are in that category so give yourself and a fellow shipyard worker a thumbs up!). These have been opportunities that the COVID crisis has given us. We need to keep these gifts alive.

In the case of the Black Lives Matter turmoil, perhaps this is now the opportunity for us to change and to re-examine our values. When I first joined the Navy in the '70s or Zumwalt era, the Navy was just beginning to integrate. The mantra being preached to all of us was that the Navy was not going to regulate each individual's attitude but it was sure as heck was going to regulate our behavior to avoid discrimination and avoid racial language. Perhaps that ap-

proach in the 70s was a mandatory first step. But, as I learned in TALK and the Learning Organization, the only way to have LASTING change in our behavior is to start with the root of behavior, that is, to re-examine our true attitudes and then be willing to look at our true mental models which shape those attitudes. The statistics of disproportionate death rate (FACTS) point to a systemic issue which points to underlying changes needed in our attitudes and mental models. I say "our" because all change starts first with looking at ourselves. We may not like the reality of what we see, but if we desire change, we have to be willing to face facts about ourselves. Perhaps this is the gift of opportunity we are being presented with today.

Lastly, I do want to mention the passing of Greg Ng. Greg Ng was a longtime Shipyard Manager and member of FMA who passed away recently after a long battle with cancer. He was a pipefitter, nuclear inspector, instructor, Shop ND, Shop Head, among the earliest Project Superintendents and lastly a dean emeritus of Project Management College. He was of course, an avid Saint Louis High School football fan for which many of us who cared for him, loved to rib him about. Most of us have funny stories about Greg Ng. I have my share. I would like to collect those stories and share them with his family. (only clean ones now). So please send them my way.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (cont.)

NEWS to share:

Upcoming FMA General Meeting on Thursday, 25 June at the Navy League Headquarters. This is the first General Meeting since the start of the COVID-19 crisis. Please let a Board member know if you are coming. We can reasonably fit about 15 people with social distancing. Please bring and wear a mask. The topic will be a webinar on Federal Retirement with a live presenter to assist. I learn a lot each time I hear the training.

Shipyard Ohana Day. The Shipyard Commander is still expressing an interest in an OHANA Day, sometime in March of 2021. We understand that things are too busy and fluid to try to plan for one this year. Standby for next March!

Very respectfully,

Eric Kimura
President FMA Chapter 19

BRENDAN CRAVAHLO SUPERVISOR OF THE QUARTER Award”.

Our most recent recipient of this honorary award has been presented to Mr. Jeffrey Letterii, the Organizational Learning Branch Head (C100PI.2), within the Performance Improvement Department (Code 100PI). He was nominated by Ms. Shayla Deitch of Code 100PI.

LEGISLATURE ACTION

The FMA Chapter 19 board continues to address the following concerns with our state legislative team: the Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Plan (SIOP), Workers compensation outreach –need to expand the pool of providers, and continued support of the Apprenticeship program.

FMA CHAPTER 19 SCHOLARSHIP

The Chapter is once again sponsoring a scholarship for any member or child, grandchild or spouse of a Chapter 19 FMA member in good standing continuing their education through college for an undergraduate or graduate degree. Applications will be mailed to membership shortly. Applications should be received by the scholarship committee by 2 October 2020.

Professional Liability Insurance

With numerous issues affecting the exposure of federal managers to allegations, investigations, disciplinary actions and lawsuits, today's manager cannot afford to not have liability insurance. The shipyard can be responsible to pay up to half the cost for this insurance. Future issue of this newsletter will provide information regarding the reimbursement process.





2020 FMA Upcoming Events:

- June 25 General Membership Mtg. GPIS guest speaker
- July 11 Fishing Tournament Cancelled
- August 1 Adopt-A-Highway Clean-up
- August 27 General Membership Mtg. Shipyard Commander guest speaker
- Oct. Proposed Golf Tournament

GPIS is an Employee Benefit Specialist. Come and learn to plan, understand, and maximize your Federal Benefits.

Help Needed

Need Mentors for speed mentor events. Future dates to be provided.. Must be willing to invest time to meet with the mentee afterwards and submit a BIO in advance. Please also sign up if YOU wish to have a mentor. Everyone can use a mentor. Contact Eric Kimura for details.

Adopt a Highway Cleanup. Volunteers always welcomed. August 1, from 0730 to 0900 hrs. Meeting place will be at the block arena parking lot, inside of the shipyard. Please KOKUA. Come out get some exercise and help keep the highway to "our" workplace Clean. Clean up will take about 1.5 hours. We will have snacks and refreshments for you at the finish line. Please, dress appropriately to working out in the morning sun with covered shoes (no slippers please). Gloves, vest, and trash bags will be distributed to all the participants.

