



# “GROUP SPIRIT”

Published for the Employees of S&K Technologies, Inc.



This is a follow on letter to the previous ones about how the Salish & Kootenai Tribes receive revenue from the private enterprises they own and operate. In this letter I will cover the tribally owned gaming business that exists on the reservation.

In 1988, Congress enacted the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act in response to a case pending before the United States Supreme Court. That

case concerned the scope of gaming a Native American tribe could authorize in a state that also regulated gaming but did not prohibit. The state of California regulated bingo but limited the scope of bingo, the Cabazon tribe authorized bingo but also authorized play in excess of what the state allowed.

The Cabazon tribe's position was upheld in the lower courts. As the case proceeded to the United States Supreme Court both litigants became unsure as to the outcome the Court would find. So while the case was pending before the Supreme Court, legislation was introduced in Congress that would provide a favorable result to both sides.

The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act recognized the right of Native American tribes to conduct gaming but also required that a tribe enter into a compact with the state if the tribe wanted to conduct casino style gaming. The Act defined three categories of gaming: Class 1 (traditional forms of gaming practiced

historically by a tribe), Class 2 (bingo, but also authorized the use of technological aides), and Class 3 (generally house-banked gaming of the casino style variety).

The Congressional act by its very title was written so as to regulate Indian gaming not as an act of authorization. The Supreme Court's ultimate decision was in favor of tribe gaming under tribal rules in a state that only regulated but did not prohibit the activity.

Of course the immediate problem that arose under the Act was the necessity of a state and a tribe agreeing to the terms in a compact. Naturally, as a general rule the states wanted to limit the scope of gaming and to exercise some type of regulatory control. The tribes generally saw this as an invasion of their sovereignty as separate nations within the United States.

Despite this difficulty, the Salish & Kootenai Tribes agreed to a compact for Class III gaming with the state of Montana. This compact heavily favored the state by limiting the number of gaming machines and the size of the payouts. The state was protecting the tax revenues it received from the then 10,000+ gaming machines located throughout the state. There is currently in excess of 18,000 gaming machines licensed by the state of Montana.

During the period the compact was in place the Salish & Kootenai Tribes received revenues from the machines authorized under the compact. Once the term of the compact expired the Tribes chose not to renew the compact but instead opted to conduct Class II gaming, which does not require a tribal/state compact. The state currently has five tribal/state compacts in place out of seven possible. *Continued on page 2.*



The KwaTaqNuk Resort is located in Polson, Montana on the banks of Flathead Lake. The resort is owned by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and features a casino, lake cruises, and meeting spaces.

*Continued from page 1*

Operating Class II gaming has allowed the Salish & Kootenai Tribes to offer higher payouts and to place more machines in its two locations. Despite these positive changes the Tribes have not seen an appreciable improvement in revenues. This stagnation can possibly be attributed to two scenarios, the recession and the lack of receptivity by the public to the Class II style of machines.

What the future holds for Salish & Kootenai Class II gaming

remains an open question. Once the recession has ended and the public feels more comfortable with spending disposable income, the Tribes could possibly see an increase in gaming revenues. If there is no revenue increase the Tribes will in all likelihood have to consider whether Class III gaming under a tribal/state compact would be financially beneficial. ♣

## S&K Global Solutions awarded two new U.S. Navy support contracts

1 S&K Global Solutions (SKGS) will be joining the Navy Region Northwest (NRNW) effort for improved communications throughout the region by supporting command and control systems, administration, and force protection including crucial nodes which provide connectivity. These systems are essential to retaining situational awareness over the Navy's most critical assets, as well as providing rapid, secure, and inexpensive communications transport.

There is a series of communication links between the major Navy facilities in the Pacific Northwest which use Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) and Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) to provide voice, video, and data communications. This network is referred to as the Pacific Northwest Information Grid (PIG).

While the current equipment is in place and performs well, much of the equipment is approaching the end of its useful life. In addition, devices that support or integrate with ATM technology are no longer being supported by vendors. If this situation is not addressed there is substantial risk to NRNW's ability to meet force protection security and information security policy requirements.

SKGS will be supporting system upgrades to design and build a replacement for the existing ATM devices currently used to provide voice, video, and data circuits over a metropolitan area network. Work includes the integration and replacement of existing legacy communication systems to resolve issues, and the design of a network to replace the current ATM network.

2 S&K Global Solutions (SKGS) is a key subcontractor to Booz Allen Hamilton on a recently awarded contract to provide a wide range of IT Support to the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard (PSNS) and Intermediate Maintenance Facility (IMF) in Bremerton, Washington. This contract will provide critical technical support to PSNS.

SKGS is the lead vendor supporting the Customer Support/ Help Desk task area, and will provide approximately 12 full

time employees to manage that requirement. This includes providing application support to PSNS end users across multiple domestic and international locations, including Yokosuka, Japan.

The PSNS help desk is a mission-critical, 24/7/365 operation, and our personnel work across multiple shifts to provide full technical coverage to PSNS users in the field.

## Small Business Administration officials visit S&K companies

S&K Global Solutions President Binky Bowman (right) stands with Montana Small Business Administration (SBA) representatives Kelly Dixon (left) and John Donovan (center) during a recent visit at our Polson, Montana office. The officials travel the state for annual site visits to all 8(a) certified companies. S&K Aerospace and S&K Global Solutions are both 8(a) certified companies.



## Get to know the newest S&K company: S&K Environmental

S&K Environmental, LLC (SKER) is proud to be the newest member of the S&K Family of Companies. SKER is an environmental restoration company that provides tree planting, weed abatement, native plant revegetation, riparian reconstruction, and heavy equipment services.

2010 has been a busy year for our company as we've tackled many large and small projects across the western United States. SKER has just completed another planting season at Opportunity Ponds near Anaconda, Montana. Once used as a repository for mine tailings from the Berkley Pit in Butte and the smelter plant in Anaconda, the area is one of the largest superfund sites in the United States. Part of the cleanup involves the creation of new wetlands as well as restoration of the native plants in the area. This 550 acre project is the largest wetland creation ever attempted and so far it has been a success. SKER is planting over three million plants into the new habitat over a three year period. The planting is being done using our patented "Stinger" machine and mechanical augers, as well as planting by hand.

Additional projects in Montana include the continued restoration along the Jocko River at Post Creek and on K Canal on the Reservation. We also are working with the U.S. Forest Service to repair ATV and off-road vehicle damage at numerous creek and drainage areas in the Lolo, Kootenai, and Flathead Forests.

In central Idaho, SKER is working to return the Red River Narrows to its original pristine condition. This project includes the planting of over 24,000 plants, trees, sedges, and shrubs as well as browse protection fencing. The area being replanted is about 30 miles from Elk City, Idaho, which prides itself on being "the end of the road AND the middle of nowhere."

To continue our company growth, SKER will apply for 8(a) certification from the U.S. Small Business Administration in early 2011. This will allow SKER to take advantage of environmental opportunities with the Department of Energy and Department of Interior, as well as teaming with other S&K companies. Our first partnership has been with S&K Aerospace on the Uranium Mill Tailings Remediation Action project in Moab, Utah.

In mid-July, we purchased the DeMers Mercantile building and nearby acreage in Arlee, Montana, which will serve as our headquarters. The building has a long history in the Jocko Valley and dates back to the early 1900's. The building was first built as a bank and then became a mercantile for many years. In the 1980's, 90's, and early 2000's it was a restaurant, laundromat, gaming room, and office space. SKER will begin remodeling the building to accommodate our needs and to also bring the building back to its original 'western' style on the outside. In addition, SKER will be building a new shop on the north side of the property. Be sure to stop by and see the old safe and the amazing hand crafted tin ceiling!

SKER looks forward to working with all the S&K companies in the future. We invite you to visit our website at [www.skercorp.com](http://www.skercorp.com) to learn more about our services and projects.



Top: At SKER, safety and the health of our employees is paramount. The field crew starts the day by limbering up and stretching during a few yoga poses.

Middle: Young plants wait in holding pools at the Opportunity Ponds Project site near Anaconda, Montana.

Bottom: SKER's headquarters in Arlee, Montana was once the DeMers Mercantile. This photo, taken sometime in the 1950s, shows (left to right) Louis DeMers and Harry Bouch behind the counter. The customers are unknown.



Left: Scott Colton, SKT INC CFO, stands at 14,000 feet on Mt. McKinley, also known as Denali. In the background is Mt. Hunter. Right: Scott ascending the West Buttress Ridge under favorable skies.

## Climbing North America's highest peak

Have you ever thought about what it must feel like to stand on one of the world's tallest peaks? To have worked for months in preparation and finally tackled a technical climb in sub-zero temperatures? To be one of a few souls to look down on this continent from above? In the summer of 2010, S&K's own Scott Colton, Chief Financial Officer, challenged himself with this very undertaking. Below is a short interview about a long story, one Scott himself says is hard to express in so few words.

Amy: Scott, why did you decide to climb Denali?

Scott: I grew up in the foothills of Mt. Rainier and spent a lot of time skiing and hiking in the mountains around our home. Later in life a passion for backcountry skiing naturally led to an interest in mountain climbing and so I started climbing some of the peaks of the Cascade Mountains. The first time I climbed Mt. Rainier, one of the guides that I was with told me about the Denali expedition that he had just returned from. It sounded amazing to me and so I decided a Denali summit would be in my future. This was in 1993 and at that time I couldn't take enough time off work to make my dream a reality but I never lost the desire to stand on the tallest peak in North America. Seventeen years later I finally made my dream a reality.

Amy: How did you train for the expedition?

Scott: I spent a lot of time, up to 12 hours per week, climbing up and down Jette Peak, which rises 1,600 vertical feet from my house. I started out carrying about 35 pounds in my pack and gradually increased the weight to 70 pounds. In addition, I spent a lot of time on cardio machines, did some weight training, and covered many miles mountain biking and tele-skiing.

Amy: Can you describe the climbing experience?

Scott: The Alaska Range is huge, humbling, and absolutely amazing! I enjoyed virtually every minute of the expedition. We flew into base camp, which sits on the Kahiltna Glacier at 7,300 feet, from

Talkeetna, Alaska in a DeHavilland Turbine Otter outfitted with skis. We stayed at base camp for only 8 hours, waiting inside our tents for the sun to dip low enough so that the ice bridges we needed to cross on the lower glacier could firm up. During our wait, we saw and heard several roaring avalanches and even got sprayed with the snow plume from one of the closer ones.

That evening we walked from base camp to camp one at 8,200 feet, each carrying about 100 pounds of supplies distributed between our packs and sleds. From there we worked our way up the mountain through a series of camps at 11,000, 14,000, and eventually to high camp at 17,000 feet. On the morning of June 23rd, 12 days after we arrived at Base Camp, we woke up early with clear skies and temperatures hovering around -30 Fahrenheit to begin our summit attempt.

Luckily, there was very little wind that day, but we fought to keep our fingers and toes warm as we ascended up over Denali Pass, through Zebra Rocks, and to an area called the Football Field, eventually warming as the sun moved up off of the horizon. From there we worked our way up "Pig Hill" struggling to breathe in the oxygen deprived atmosphere at 19,000 feet. Finally, we arrived on the summit ridge and from there we made the relatively easy, but fairly exposed walk to the summit, arriving at the highest point in North America (20,320 feet) at about 2pm.

We stayed on the Summit for only 30 minutes, high fiving and snapping photos, happy to have made the summit, but knowing that we still had a lot of work to safely descend back to high camp. We arrived back at high camp around 10 hours after we left, exhausted but feeling like we had conquered the world. Two days later we were back at base camp, eager to fly back to civilization and enjoy a warm shower, a hot meal, and some cold beverages! 🍷

# Revegetation plots taking off

By Kathy McGill, Revegetation Technician, SKA, LLC

The S&K Aerospace Moab Technical Assistance Contract revegetation crew has succeeded in establishing multiple new plots at the Moab uranium mill tailings site in Utah. In spite of very salty soil, unfavorable weather conditions, and initial water dispersal issues, most of the newest D plots (shown left in photo) planted in late May/early June are off to a remarkable start. The team is excited to see that C plots - 1, 2 and 5 that were planted in late October 2009 are thriving with good growth as well as “volunteer” seedlings coming up in both the C and D plots.



An aerial view of the uranium mill tailings pile in Moab with the Colorado River seen on the right. Red areas are previously established plots, and blue areas are new plots established in 2009 and 2010.



Before and after: Plot D-8 planted in late May/early June of 2010 and after three months of growth.



Before and after: Plot C-2 immediately after planting and first flood irrigation, then less than a year after with lots of volunteer flowers.



## HMS student wins first place in Oratorical Contest

Huntington Middle School sixth-grade student Joshua Pegues, the son of Sharon Richardson, a Help Desk Specialist with SKA, LLC, has won first place at the Area 3 Georgia District Optimist Oratorical Contest held last month in Warner Robins, GA. Josh qualified to advance to the state competition.

Students delivered a four to five minute speech on an assigned topic. The 2010 topic was “Cyber Communication: Progress or Problem?”

Josh is pictured holding his plaque with Andrea Monday, language arts teacher. “Josh did an outstanding job presenting his speech on cyber communication,” said Monday. “We are so proud of him!”



The Optimist Oratorical Contest provides young people the opportunity to “speak to the world,” according to the Optimist International website. The first contest was held in 1928.

## Subject Matter Expert honored in Iraq

Scott Westervelt, of SKT LLC, was awarded the Certificate of Appreciation for his volunteer activities supporting the Department of State in Baghdad. After three years of providing subject matter expertise in Iraq, Scott returned to his home in Florida in September and will lead SKT’s regional marketing activities in Florida and neighboring states. Scott joined SKT after retiring as a Lt. Col from the U.S. Marine Corps where he held numerous executive positions in the U.S. and overseas. Scott holds a Masters degree in Business Administration and Management and looks forward to helping SKT expand business activities in the southeast U.S. region.



## S&K Technologies scholarship recipient

By Tracy Schall, Executive Assistant, SKT INC



Mr. Wendell Matt has been awarded this year's S&K Technologies, Inc. Scholarship. Each year for the past three years, SKT INC has offered a scholarship to graduate students in the Business Administration or IT field of study. This year's recipient is currently a student at the University

of Montana, entering his second year of the joint Master of Business Administration and Juris Doctor program.

Wendell Matt graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from University of Montana in Missoula, Montana. During his time as a student of the University of Montana, Wendell spent his summers fighting wild land fires for the Gila River and Flathead Reservations. He later served as a Forestry Technician with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. After graduation, he worked with Chickasaw Nation Industries, a federally chartered 8(a) tribal business

corporation, where he provided project support, web development, and training to the Department of Interior and Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians. His work in Indian Country opened his eyes to the opportunities working with tribal organizations and he has dedicated his young career to working with Native peoples.

Wendell is currently entering his second year of the joint Master of Business Administration and Juris Doctor program at the University of Montana and is an excellent student. He receives high marks in all his classes, and in his second year, was selected to a Graduate Assistantship. This is a sought-after position which requires graduate assistants to assist the School of Business Administration professors with research and other projects. His academic interests include Entrepreneurship and Tribal Law.

In addition to his studies, Wendell contributes his time to a number of organizations and causes, including the Native American Law Students Association and the American Indian Business Leaders. His remaining free time is spent participating in a recreational hockey league and when possible, playing for the University of Montana rugby team. 🍀

## Moab TAC Team member volunteers on a very different team

By Wendee Ryan, Public Relations, SKA, LLC

Finding a lost family of four who were dehydrated but alive in the Book Cliffs Mountains near Grand Junction, Colorado, was the "ultimate high" for Mark Hart, a member of Mesa County's Search and Rescue ground team.

"We saw their campfire at 1 a.m., got to them by 3, and had them out by 6 (a.m.)," said Hart, who was the first of his team to walk into the family's camp last spring. Twelve hours later after a night of no sleep, Hart and other team members were called upon again for a recovery on Douglas Pass where a woman had crashed her motorcycle over an embankment. Responders climbed down over the cliff with ropes and a litter to retrieve the body. "Putting somebody in a body bag was a huge reality check," Hart said. "That day was the high and the low."

Hart's "day job" is a Project Controls Analyst on the S&K Aerospace Moab Project Technical Assistance Contract. About 9 months ago, he also became one of 32 volunteer search and rescue ground team members who keep pagers next to them 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Search and rescuers are prepared to rouse themselves out of sleep, postpone vacations, and brave extreme weather to go searching anytime for injured or lost people in the wilderness.

The Mesa County Sheriff's Office has an unfunded mandate to provide search and rescue, and depend largely on volunteers to provide that service to the public. The search and rescue ground team averages 50 to 60 missions a year. It takes 16 people to carry a person placed on a litter safely for 1 mile; search and rescue members often get by with just six to 10 people.

To be a team member, a person must pass a background check, be physically fit, and be able to carry a 30-pound pack across several miles. Each spring a prospective member course is offered that

teaches basic skills like map and compass reading, using a global positioning system (GPS), knot-tying, and carryout techniques. The training culminates in an overnight mini-mission "final exam" that all prospective members must fulfill. "We spend all night searching for someone using the skills we developed over the 8 weeks," Hart said.

Despite being on call all the time, and investing a substantial amount of personal time and money, "it's probably one of the most rewarding things you could do, saving somebody's life," Hart said. When his pager goes off Hart said his adrenaline "goes through the roof," and he's ready to go. "One of the best things I've ever done is join search and rescue and help people who are having a bad day," Hart said. "It's an awesome feeling to be able to help them out!" 🍀

Rescuers often have to go to remote or hard-to-reach locations, such as repelling down a mountain, as Mark Hart demonstrates [here](#).



## Future employees learn about diversity

By Wendee Ryan, Public Relations, SKA, LLC



Photo Left: Kevin Walker, TAC Quality Assurance Specialist, describes his native Navajo culture. Middle: Donald Metzler, Federal Project Director, likes to share his knowledge of Eastern Europe, especially Germany, where he has traveled many times. Right: Joe Ritchey, TAC Senior Program Manager, dressed in traditional Middle Eastern attire to capture his young audience's interest.

Being employed in today's workforce isn't just about having the knowledge and skills to do your job. It also involves recognizing and accepting the diversity of others. "Our Diverse World" was the theme of this year's Take Our Children to Work Day, which the Moab Technical Assistance Contract (TAC) Team hosted at the Grand Junction, Colorado, office on July 7. Two dozen children and grandchildren of employees participated in the event.

Upon arrival, the children received a passport with their photograph and a "suitcase" to

decorate with stickers and paper. Included in their luggage were tickets that took them on a journey to four cultures—Germany, Mexico, Native America, and the Middle East—where they learned about the language, traditions, dress, economy, and monetary system of each one. They also got to sample a traditional food from each culture. When they departed each destination, the travelers received a stamp to put in their passports.

Afterward, the kids wrote a postcard to someone of their choosing telling them about their favorite cultural visit and painted

hieroglyphics on rocks. The youngsters also explored two areas of the Moab Project that are included in the TAC's scope of work. The future scientists and environmentalists cleaned up "contaminated" ground water using the sand tank models and learned about radiation in the environment by testing everyday items to see which ones were radioactive.

The event culminated in a picnic at Lincoln Park for all Grand Junction office employees and our guests. ✍

## It's not public speaking class anymore

Toastmasters International is a non-profit public speaking organization that was started in 1924 and currently has nearly 260,000 members. It is comprised of over 12,500 clubs in 113 countries and offers a fun and nurturing environment for honing communications and leadership skills. A Toastmasters meeting has approximately twenty people who meet once a week for one to two hours. Participants practice and learn skills by filling a meeting role, ranging from giving a prepared speech or an impromptu one to serving as timer, evaluator, or grammarian.

S&K Technologies, Inc. has many members currently and formerly part of Toastmasters. For instance, in Montana, Ian Rufe (pictured right), Business Development Manager, has been a member since 2006, and Amy Yalon (pictured left), Marketing Manager, since 2008.

Both Ian and Amy were nominated to represent their club at the Fall Area Speaking Contest. The topic for the event was "Speaking Humorously". Ian gave a six minute speech entitled "Picking the Wrong Line" where he lamented experiencing queue rage at the checkout line. Queue rage is a feeling Ian endures because he always picks the slowest checkout line at the store.



Amy competed in the Table Topics portion of the contest. In Table Topics, a contender is asked a question that they must do their best to answer in 2-3 minutes time. Various requirements for the Speech and Table Topics evoke a winner from the contestants. Both Ian and Amy won at the contest and will be going on to the Division Contest in Butte, Montana in October.

If you are interested in learning more about Toastmasters, the organization's website is a great resource. You can locate a club near you and attend a meeting. As a guest, you get to sit back and watch members speaking, having fun, and developing in ways that impress professional and personal relationships. ✍



**S&K Global Solutions, LLC is proud to award Paul Neumann, Engineering Technician I, the Employee of the Quarter Award for Fall 2010.**



Paul Neumann works at the Priority Material Office (PMO) and provides supply management of Issue Priority Group – 1 parts to U.S. Navy, Military Sealift Command, U.S. Marine Corps, and deployed expeditionary forces around the world on the Swing Shift. Under very limited supervision, Paul routinely processes several hundred requisitions per month with very significant savings to PMO customers and the nation.

Paul is a very consistent employee who routinely produces excellent results in a very important position. His work on the Swing Shift encompasses all facets of the PMO model. He and a small staff essentially are the PMO from late afternoon until Midnight. As a civilian contractor, he is the Subject Matter Expert and provides the continuity needed in a military/civilian team. Congratulations Paul!



**S&K Aerospace, LLC is proud to award the Defense Travel System Team of Clifton (Butch) Pogue, April Barbee, Lynn Hughes, and Jami Husband, the Team of the Quarter Award for Fall 2010.**



Congratulations to the Defense Travel System (DTS) team which works on the Air Force Reserve Contract (AFRC) and is based at the Robins Air Force Base in Georgia. Mr. Pogue was assigned the team lead and as such was instrumental in putting together a team with excellent travel regulations knowledge. During the period prior to the implementation of DTS to AFRC command on October 1st, 2010, the team analyzed the process, reviewed and updated all the applicable regulations, and developed a plan

to deploy the program in the Headquarters. The roll out of DTS took approximately 6 months, and it now supports over 800 customers by reviewing their voucher submissions, spotting mistakes, and walking them through the correction process to ensure they are paid in a timely manner.

The team recognizes what needs to be done, properly prioritizes their tasks, and accomplishes them expeditiously. The team is very methodical with their testing skills whether it is a new feature or performing system verification and regression testing. With their vast knowledge of the application, the DTS team is very fast to analyze and resolve customer reported problems. They are the best when it comes to communicating with customers and staff alike. They are constantly requested to conduct DTS training classes and to provide system demonstrations. The team is outstanding when it comes to explaining to and training our customers over the phone as a part of their help desk duties. The DTS help desk team has received several letters of recognition from customers expressing how knowledgeable and helpful they are.

Photo (left to right): Butch Pogue (Team Leader), Jami Husband, April Barbee, and Lynne Hughes



### **S&K Technologies, LLC is proud to award Jonah Charette, Computer Specialist/Advisor, the Employee of the Quarter Award for Fall 2010.**

It is not unusual for customers to offer up kudos for outstanding SKT, LLC employees. Recently, U.S. Army Major Alexander Rendon took time out of his busy day, in Baghdad, Iraq, to send word of the great job being accomplished by Mr. Jonah Charette.

Jonah is a Computer Specialist/Advisor located at the U.S. Embassy/PRT Diyala in Baghdad, Iraq. One of five Subject Matter Experts representing SKT, LLC in Iraq, Jonah provides internet and communications support to 50+ users for Department of State and U.S. Army operations.

“Mr. Jonah Charette has proven to be an essential member of the Diyala PRT team,” stated Major Rendon. “He is hardworking, always professional, and his dedication to mission accomplishment is outstanding.” Major Rendon also stated. “He is highly responsive to any technical problems and issues with computer/server equipment, and strives to complete repairs with little down time.”

Recently, Jonah’s efforts supported the 2010 Provincial Elections in the Diyala Province. He set up remote communications (both commercial and secured); including telephone, internet, and satellite communications at the Diyala Operations Center. Jonah maintained these needed communications capabilities during the election for the Team Leader and political advisors who were instrumental in gathering information for the Embassy. “This greatly aided in political reporting, voter education, voter polling, electoral analysis, and results,” said Major Rendon. “Most importantly, it assisted the Iraqi Police and Army in maintaining situational awareness of potential threats to candidates, voters, election volunteers, and to the civilian population in general.”

Jonah is continuing to work with the Diyala Governance Center to upgrade their internet capabilities, and improve government capacity, a cornerstone of the Department of State Diyala development plan. He also provides software for classes being given at the Governance Center, to promote computer-based learning. Congratulations to Jonah!



### **S&K Technologies, Inc. is proud to award Toni Courville, Payroll Manager, the Employee of the Quarter Award for Fall 2010.**



Congratulations to Toni Courville, the winner of the Employee of the Quarter at S&K Technologies, Inc. Toni’s workload has grown exponentially in the past year with the success of the S&K family and the resulting addition of companies and employees. Toni is very knowledgeable in all aspects of her job and in helping others with their questions. Foremost in excellence is Toni’s deft handling of multiple company payrolls.

Kimimi Ashley, SKT INC Payroll Clerk, notes that, “when I first started working at SKT INC, Toni taught me my job from the ground up. I am sure there are days when she wanted to strangle me, but she was very patient and would walk me through step by step. Toni has been through a lot of changes during the company’s growth, and with each event she has adapted to the increased responsibilities and larger workloads. I feel that Toni is a big asset to SKT INC and important to our continued growth. I know that I appreciate her guidance and teaching very much.”

## Back-to-back World Champions

Teams from all over the world came together for the 2010 Little League Softball World Series held in Portland, Oregon, on August 12-18. Representatives were from the Philippines, British Columbia, Puerto Rico, Poland, California, Texas, New Jersey, Oregon, Ohio, and Georgia.

Roger Stella Sr., a Senior Program Manager with S&K Aerospace at Robins Air Force Base, is the grandfather of star team member Sierra Stella. Her father, Roger Stella, Jr. is the team coach. The team defeated the West representative team from Burbank, California with a score of 8-6.

At the World Series, the players from Puerto Rico weren't sure what to think of the littlest Little Leaguer at the softball World Series. They could hardly see her as she high-tailed it around the bases, motoring and sprinting in a timed foot race after a hit. The blonde blur bolting toward home plate, all 4-foot-7 — “and a half,” she said — and 68 pounds of her, had the Latin American players buzzing. “Mira a la chiquitita!” one player shouted. Translated, that's, “Look at that little-bitty girl!”

Stella, who is 12, is known to her teammates as “C-Bo.” One of her pals on the squad thought her first name started with a “C” and well, the name stuck. Her dad, the team's manager, Roger Stella, has another name for her. At practice one day, she looked at the sky and out of the blue, said, “Airplane!” It cracked her teammates up. “You've got a new nickname,” her daddy told her, “Tattoo” — after the diminutive character on the old TV series “Fantasy Island,” who at the start of every episode declared, “The plane! The plane!”

Stella has been playing since she was four and currently bats leadoff. She wears jersey number two because that's the number of her New York Yankees hero, Derek Jeter. She is, according to many who know her, the team's spirit and its spark plug. One fan calls her “Kid Dynamite”. Of the World Series, Stella says, “It's like a one-in-a-million chance. I never thought we were gonna win it all again. We were struggling at first, but then all the practicing paid off.”



Pictured above is the 2010 Championship Team with Sierra Stella center.



## Bringing home the trophy

In other softball news, the S&K Technologies, Inc. sponsored men's softball team has won the Mission Valley Softball League. The team defeated Cotter Law Office of Polson 18-16 in a game that played-on through a downpour of rain. The team proudly capped a great season with this victory after going six weekends of play without a single loss. Their record was 14-0.

Eric Skare, pictured above was named Co-MVP in the League. Eric is the Finance Manager at SKT INC. “I have played with most of these guys for the last five years. It was our third straight year of being league champions and league tourney champions.” said Eric.



## Summertime experience

Adessa Durglo and Thomas McClure spent their summer as interns at S&K Technologies Corporate office. Adessa, a Senior at St. Ignatius High School, worked with Judy Decker, Receptionist, (pictured center) in the front office. She put her computer skills to work and also learned to operate unfamiliar office equipment. Thomas, a Senior at Arlee High School, worked with Kenny Krantz, Facility Manager, (not pictured) keeping our landscaping and building looking spectacular.



# New and Transitioned Employees

Join Us in welcoming these new members of S&K's winning team!



<b>WASHINGTON</b> Sheets, Steven P	Engineering Tech I
<b>ALASKA</b> Courville, Christina M Duggins, Stacey Holley, Carol L Jenkins, Keith D Parks, Reginald L Sook, Henry Spears, Andrea L Truesdell, Zabrina M Youngblood, Samuel J	Senior Project Manager DCO Technician VI Photographer Travel & Training Coordinator DCO Technician DCO Technician Technical Support Specialist Utilities Support Specialist DCO Technician
<b>TEXAS</b> Frisbie, Casey Goldstraw, Heather	Web Design/Multimedia Designer Software Developer



<b>OHIO</b> Brown, Joan J	Technical Writer
<b>IRAQ</b> McDaniels, Lathia	Operations Affairs Specialist I

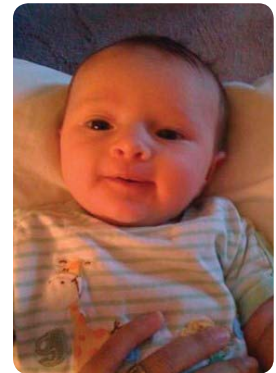


**CORPORATE OFFICE - MONTANA**  
Schwartz, Brenda      Accounts Payable Clerk



SKT employee K.W. Thomas, Project System Analyst and Deputy Site Manager, welcomed first grandchild Morgan Marie Thomason on November 13, 2009. Morgan was 8 lbs/13 oz. Her parents are Jennifer and Gabriel Thomason.

The Brakenhoff Family welcomes Kaela Brakenhoff who was born July 12, 2010 to her proud parents SKGS Engineering Tech I Eileen Brakenhoff and her husband Joshua. Their daughter Shia is very excited to be a big sister. Kaela was 6lbs. 12oz. 19.5in.



On August 14, 2010, Trien Lien, SKT INC Sr. Network Engineer, married Sarah at the Fig Tree Restaurant on the Riverwalk in San Antonio, TX. Congrats to the couple!



Congratulations to the Tikunoff Family with the birth Addison Delores Tikunoff. She was born July 18, 2010, to her proud parents, SKGS Program Analyst Support Specialist Ann Tikunoff and her husband Steve. Their son Cole is very excited to be a big brother. Addison was 6lbs. 14oz. 18in.

Congratulations to SKT Employee Melinda Taylor, who welcomes her first grandchild, born July 29, 2010 to John and Ali Amerson. Baby Kinsley Haven Amerson weighed 8 lbs. 12 oz. The family is doing well.





# “GROUP SPIRIT”

Published for the Employees of S&K Technologies, Inc.

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**S&K “Group Spirit” | Fall 2010**



A colorful display of cattails and tall grasses warm with the rising sun at Ninepipes National Wildlife Refuge, north of our Corporate Office in St. Ignatius, Montana. The refuge is 390 acres of upland habitat and 1,672 acres of water dedicated to the preservation of wildlife. Photo courtesy Amy Yalon.

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