



Federal Executive Board Greater Los Angeles News-At-A-Glance October, 1998

501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 3200
Long Beach, CA 90802
(562) 980-3445/Fax: (562) 980-3448
KathreneHansen@Compuserve.com

This publication is prepared by the staff of the Greater Los Angeles Federal Executive Board. Its content is extracted from information received in the FEB Office and gleaned from public information sources. Please forward your agency newsletter or "news items" to the FEB Office for inclusion in future FEB News-at-a-Glance editions.

FEDS GIVE GENEROUSLY TO CFC

Federal employees may not be at the peak of their popularity in 1998, but no one can deny their generosity in giving back to the community. The 21 1998 Combined Federal Campaigns (CFC's) within FEB's territory (Southern California, Arizona, and Southern Nevada) collected \$14,359,167. or 7.2% of the U.S. total, according to figures compiled by the Office of Personnel Management.

CFC provides all Feds, civilian and military, with an annual opportunity to give voluntarily to hundreds of local, national, and international independent and federated charities that have passed a careful screening process. Most of the charities approved ensure that at least 75 cents of every dollar received goes to the needy population served. This contrasts with many other charities studied, whose fund raising and administrative costs may consume up to 90 cents of every dollar collected.

Of the Southwestern U.S. total, 62% was donated by Feds in San Diego (\$5.2 million) and Los Angeles (\$3.7 million) Counties. These two campaigns rank fourth and ninth in total contributions among 395 total CFC's.

The Washington, D.C. Area bested all CFC's with total donations of over \$38 million. Nationally, close to \$200,000,000 was raised at an average cost of only 8.6%. Costs are minimized because of the prevalence of volunteers administering the campaigns. Federal employees serve on the Local Federal Coordinating Committees and as Loaned Executives, Coordinators, and Keyworkers to ensure CFC success. Leadership support is crucial to CFC attainments! May we count on you to champion CFC this autumn?

CFC Needs LE's

We would like to bring to your attention an excellent CAREER DEVELOPMENT opportunity for enthusiastic, creative employees who are well-organized self-starters. At no cost to your agency, your employee acquires leadership, public speaking, time management, team building, effective communication, and marketing skills by serving as a CFC LE (Loaned Executive).

It is widely recognized how important CFC is to enhancing our image as federal employees in our communities. LE's are of critical importance to CFC success by increasing donations and keeping overhead low. The most successful CFC's in America make extensive use of LE's, selecting a minimum of one for every campaign. For federal populations of more than 2,800, LE's are chosen, at the ratio of 1:2800 federal employees.

Your FEB is working closely with local CFC personnel to assist in making the CFC LE experience optimal. We strongly endorse the CFC LE program and encourage your agency to participate by volunteering an employee with advancement potential. Your agency will benefit when your employee returns with IMPROVED SKILLS and you will contribute to our community service efforts.

Title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 950, Section 104, encourages local Federal agencies to appoint LE's and to allow them the time to assist in the conduct of the CFC. The LE program is also fully supported by the Office of Personnel Management.

**To pity distress is but human; To
relieve it is godlike.**

Horace Mann

Huge Success: 7th Annual Executive Leadership Conference

EXCELLENT was the overall rating received by this dynamic Conference jointly sponsored by the Greater Los Angeles and San Francisco Federal Executive Boards, the Office of Personnel Management and the College Federal Council. Hosted by the Federal Executive Association of Southern Nevada, the Conference was held in Las Vegas from May 12 - 14, 1998.

Over 100 Federal managers, state and local officials, private industry leaders, and college/university colleagues attended highly-rated sessions, such as *PRIVATE SECTOR TRENDS, CUSTOMER SERVICE, THE ROLE OF THE GOVERNMENT IN THE GAMING INDUSTRY, WORKPLACE CHALLENGES: THE IMPACT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, LAUGHING AT STRESS, RESHAPING THE WORKFORCE, ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION AND CONFLICT MANAGEMENT, FRONTIERS IN FEDERAL SERVICE, AND HOW TO PUSH YOUR ORGANIZATION TO THE NEXT LEVEL.*

Condolences

July and August brought sadness to the Federal community when colleagues died in the service of their country.

Our sympathy goes to the families of heroic Capitol guards John Gibson and Jacob Chestnut.

We also grieve for the Federal employees who died in August working at the American embassies in Nairobi, Kenya and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Forever honour'd, and forever mourn'd.
Homer

CFC KICKOFFS - BE THERE!

THURSDAY OCTOBER 1

HAWTHORNE: 10 TO 11 A.M. FREE PARKING
HOST: FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
TRIANGLE ROOM, 15000 AVIATION BLVD AT MARINE
HAWTHORNE, CA 90261

DOWNTOWN L.A.: 11:30 A.M. TO 1 P.M.
HOST: INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
255 E. TEMPLE ST., ROYBAL PLAZA
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
PARK: TEMPLE & ALAMEDA \$2.00

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 7

CITY OF EDWARDS: 10 A.M. TO 1 P.M.
HOST: DRYDEN FLIGHT RESEARCH CENTER
ISF MAIN AUDITORIUM - BUILDING 4825
EDWARDS, CA 93523 FREE PARKING

WEST L.A.: 11:30 A.M. TO 1:30 P.M.
HOST: FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
11000 WILSHIRE BLVD. - EAST LAWN
LOS ANGELES 90024 FREE PARKING

THURSDAY OCTOBER 8

LONG BEACH: 11 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.
HOST: VETERANS' ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER
5901 E. 7TH ST. - PANTAGES THEATER
LONG BEACH 90822 PARK FREE IN LOT "P"

BRING YOUR LUNCH - REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

CONVERSATIONS WITH AMERICA **"MY GOVERNMENT LISTENS"**

We want to compliment **WILLIAM WITTHYCOMBE**, WESTERN PACIFIC REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR of the **FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION**, on appearing to answer the public's questions about Los Angeles International Airport aircraft noise and related issues on July 9 at the Hermosa Beach City Council forum.

Your **FEB** appeared at the Panorama Mall Government Day in Panorama City on July 18, with representatives from the following Federal agencies: **SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE, INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, CENSUS BUREAU, & ARMY.** San Fernando Valley residents obtained answers to their questions and other information at this very successful event.

The Inquiring Reporter on ORGAN & TISSUE DONATION

Last December Vice President Gore launched the **National Organ & Tissue Donation Initiative** to help save lives. Each day 10 Americans die awaiting a transplant.

The July 30, 1998, **Blood Drive & Bone Marrow Registration** sponsored by the IRS, the Roybal Building and the American Red Cross, was a tremendous success with triple the usual turn-out of generous employees. Kudos to Coordinator Ann McFadden of IRS!

Two bone marrow registrants, who had just given blood, took time to answer the QUESTION:

WHAT MOTIVATES YOU TO GIVE BLOOD AND BE A BONE MARROW REGISTRANT?

JACKIE ASHBY, IRS, shared that, "People have helped members of my family and friends with blood donations in the past. I feel, by donating blood & registering for bone marrow donations, I can pass their generosity and good faith on. Besides it only takes a little time & doesn't hurt."

A male DEA employee who preferred to remain anonymous, told us, "It is a nice feeling to know that your contribution of blood might help someone. The procedure is not as bad as you think unless you're afraid of needles, so be nice to yourself & to someone else by contributing blood."

Doris Fannin, American Red Cross Bone Marrow Recruitment Specialist, informed us that it takes only 3 to 4 weeks for marrow to be replenished in our bodies & that there are no medical risks in donating marrow which involves an overnight hospital stay with minimal discomfort. She stated, "We need more people on the registry, especially all minority groups (African-American, Asian-American, Hispanic-American, and Native American). People are more likely to find a match within their own ethnic group. Males may donate to females and vice versa. Most recipients suffer from leukemia. People feel good when they can save lives!"

Potential donors may contact Web sites www.organdonor.gov & www.marow.org or toll-free numbers (888) 907-4273, (800) 526-7809 or (800) 627-7692 for information. Agencies may call OPM at (202) 606-1269.

film forest

Some of you may recall, "And The Oscar Goes To..." from our January 1998 News-At-A-Glance, in which we encouraged strong partnerships between Federal agencies and the Entertainment Industry. Hats off to the **U.S. Forest Service** for an award-winning CREATIVE initiative led by Mt. Pinos District Ranger MARK BETHKE, assisted by Los Padres National Forest Grants & Agreements Specialist JUDY REYNOLDS!

For the last year and a half, these dedicated public servants have promoted an *Attitude Adjustment* throughout the Southern California province of the **Forest Service**, which includes the Cleveland, Angeles, and Los Padres Forests. Now, film makers asking to shoot in a national forest receive encouragement, including a 72-hour turnaround time on their requests, thanks to a Memorandum of Understanding written by JUDY REYNOLDS. Formerly, when customer service to film companies was less of a **Forest Service** priority, movie makers would be fortunate to receive permits in two weeks.

During the spring of 1998, MARK BETHKE invited about a dozen Southern California Film Commissioners from communities like Santa Barbara and San Diego and local **Forest Service** staff to the public signing of the Memorandum of Understanding. As liaison to film companies, the Commissioners quickly publicized the new customer service initiative. The streamlined process currently involves direct contact of local **Forest Service** personnel by filmers and easier fee payment procedures.

Other outreach efforts by MARK and JUDY included attendance at a film trade show and a presentation to a Federal Quality Conference in Washington, D.C. The Outstanding Achievement Award MARK received from The Film Commission attests to the gratitude of the movie making public for facilitating their work.

Forest Service employees presently have a more positive attitude when asked to assist the film companies on a shoot. They realize the importance of service to all segments of the public and of a more favorable image of Federal employees in the media. Finally, they recognize the economic boost to smaller communities, such as Frazier Park and Santa Maria, generated by film makers on location. JUDY noted that, "These smaller communities have been very excited about what we have been doing...If we can show our communities that we're trying to take care of their national forest, it will make better relations for everyone."

[That is the best government which desires to make the people happy, & knows how to make them happy.](#)

MACAULAY

KUDOS

US ATTORNEY GENERAL EXCEPTIONAL HEROISM AWARD

Officers Scot Elliott, Scott Leedham, Marcos Marquez, Mark Stephenson, & Scott Williams (posthumous) all received this award for their courageous actions in 1997 when a vicious, unprovoked attack by a *U.S. Penitentiary* inmate at *Lompoc, CA* left Williams dead and the other four seriously wounded, as they aided Williams.

PRISM EEO AWARD NOMINEE

Deborah Guajardo, IRS Public Affairs Specialist, created a highly-regarded outreach program to the Hispanic community & wrote a report on multilingual customer communications used by Vice President Gore in his IRS reinvention recommendations. One of several ways she fulfilled President Clinton's Federal volunteer expectations was to found a Carson, CA Teen Center, a safe place for teens from diverse cultures.

NO SICK LEAVE IN 39 YEARS

Congratulations to DANNY JOHNSON, 63, of the WILMINGTON POST OFFICE, who retired July 31 with 3,800 hours of unused sick leave, the most of the 9,000 postal employees in the Long Beach Cluster. His health secrets include, "I read the funnies every day."

INVESTIGATOR GENEROSITY

WEST L.A. VETERANS MEDICAL CENTER patients appreciate the exercise equipment received from the IRS CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION so much that use hours were cheerfully extended.

DAILY NEWS "VOLUNTEERS"

Fed volunteers in the San Fernando Valley thank this newspaper for its huge selection of community opportunities published the fourth Thursday of the month in *L.A. LIFE*.

PUBLIC SERVICE FOR ATTORNEYS

ATTORNEYS MAY NOW RECEIVE CIVIL & CRIMINAL JUDGMENTS, ORDERS & OTHER DOCUMENTS BY FACSIMILE OR E-MAIL, BY REGISTERING WITH THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA. THE SERVICE IS FREE. CONTACT SHERRI CARTER AT (213) 894-4445, FAX (213) 894-4422 FOR AN APPLICATION.

BANISH GOBBLEDYGOOK

President Clinton and Vice President Gore have set dates for the simplification of Federal agency documents.

10/1/98: All new letters, forms, notices & instructions must be in plain English.

1/1/99: New regulations must be in plain English.

1/1/2002: Existing documents must be rewritten in simpler English.

Gore's guidelines include, "Short is better than long. Active (voice) is better than passive. It's OK to use pronouns like 'we' and 'you.' In fact, you should."

Gore's monthly "No Gobbledygook Award," a button with a turkey head overlaid by a slash, goes to Feds who write clearly.

Check the Web site, Plainlanguage.gov, for more information.

do you want to survey your public customers?

The Web site, www.npr.gov tells you how under "Frequently Asked Questions about Customer Survey Clearance & the Paperwork Reduction Act." If you want a faxed copy, contact FEB Project Coordinator Andrea Winkler at (800) 735-2922 & request (213) 894-2739 or by FAX (213) 894-2726.

Have you been told, "We have no more government-rate rooms"?

GSA needs the specifics to stop this situation & save the government money. Go to GSA Web site, www.gsa.gov and click on Office of Governmentwide Policy, then OGP home page, then per diem rates, & finally NO VACANCY.

21st Century Non-Polluting Auto Fuel - China Lake Navy Creativity

Your future car may run on hydrogen peroxide alone, thanks to Navy chemical engineer JOHN RUSEK of the *NAVAL AIR WARFARE CENTER WEAPONS DIVISION*, who has invented a patent-pending catalyst to activate the common bleaching/disinfecting agent. Other potential applications include rockets, turbines, missile thrusters, one-person submarines, & defense against biological weapons.