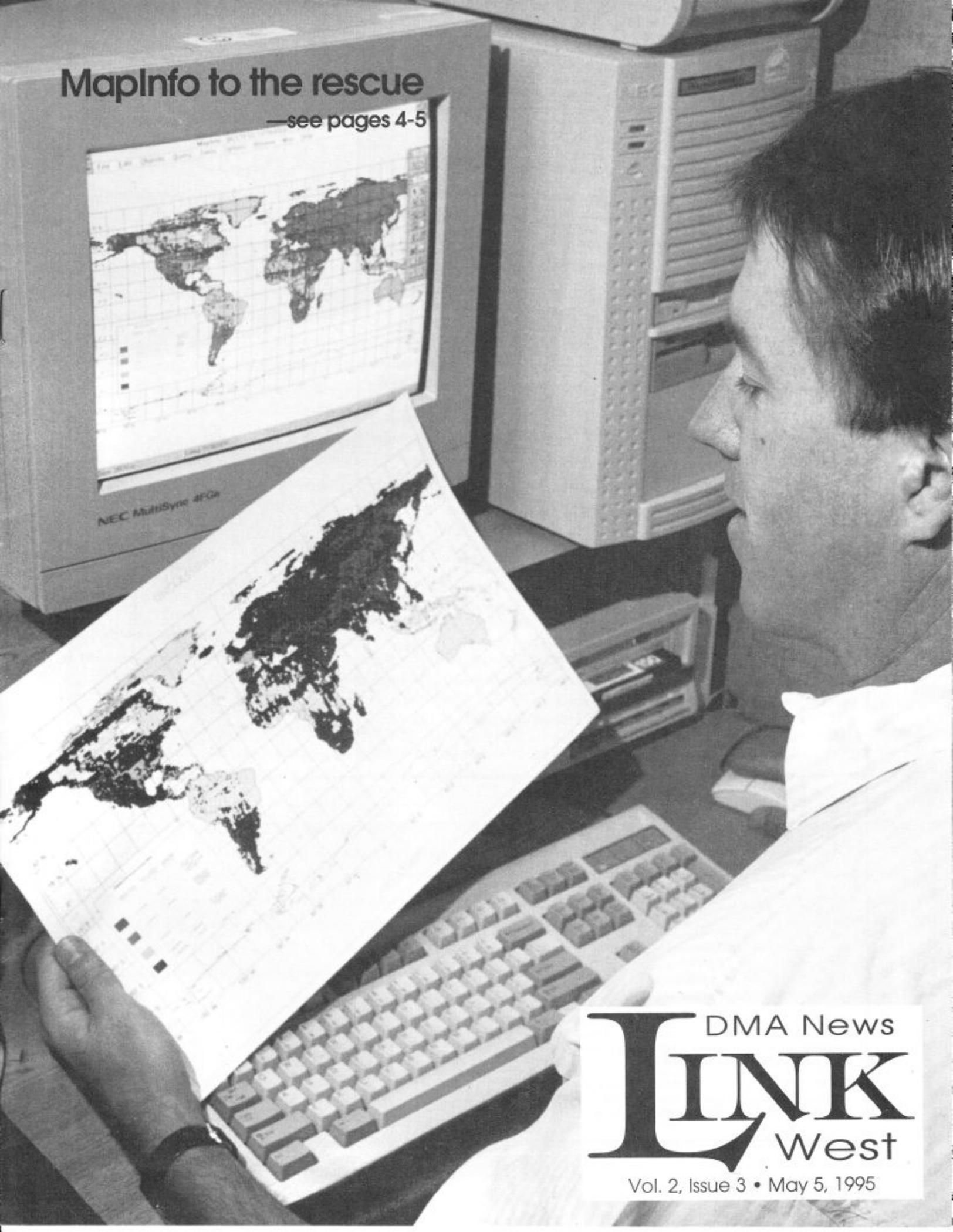


MapInfo to the rescue

—see pages 4-5



DMA News
LINK
West

Vol. 2, Issue 3 • May 5, 1995

Bits & Bytes

from the director

We are now beginning the steps to stand up or implement the "New DMA." The implementation planning is done. The plans have been reviewed, and the time is here to put into action what we have been working so hard to accomplish. The first full changes will occur in the headquarters units and how they do their work, followed by the larger groups outside the headquarters — Operations, Acquisition and Technology, and Installations Management.



Air Force Maj. Gen. Phillip Nuber

Standing up or implementing the 12 business units means putting front offices in place to respond to taskings and to get the right team working on the "HOW" part of accomplishing the jobs. As you read this column, the business unit leaders are working hard to fill all the positions in the "New DMA" with the best qualified people. The Reinvention Implementation

Office tells me the results of that effort will soon be announced agencywide, and that there will be full up operations later this year. As that process goes on, I want to reemphasize what I have said before: It is extremely important during this transition that we keep working as usual to meet the requirements placed on DMA.

Now, I must add that "as usual" does not mean that if you or a team member sees a better way to do the job, that we have to do it the old way because "that's the way we've always done it." Now is also the time to emphasize the Total Quality objective. Finding the better way should always be on your mind and in your workday.

I remain convinced that DMA is Responsive Today and Ready for Tomorrow.

OPM proposes tenure change

The U.S. Office of Personnel Management has proposed rules that would give employees career tenure after completing one year's service instead of the current three.

Now, most new federal employees are in career-conditional status for the first three continuous years of service; they are on probation during the first of those years.

Officials said exceptions and rules added over the years complicate career status rules. The federal government has used this system for 40 years. Simplifying the rules would give affected employees higher standing during reductions in force.

In addition, OPM proposes dropping the time limit on reinstatement eligibility. Currently, an employee without veteran's preference who has a break in service before obtaining tenure has a three-year limit on such eligibility. When the eligibility expires, the applicant must requalify as if a new hire.

DMA News LINK West

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COVER: Keith Paulson, SDPD, checks a printout of global WGS84 produced with MapInfo against the softcopy shown on the screen. Story on page 4.

Photos except as noted by Jim Stepanik

DMA St. Louis gives blood for victims

The nation has come together over the bombing in Oklahoma City, and the Defense Mapping Agency St. Louis is no exception.

During a recent blood drive at DMA St. Louis, 120 people turned out to help the cause. The Red Cross collected 103 units.

According to the dispensary's Phyllis Benson, this is a substantial increase to recent blood drive efforts.

In fact, the Red Cross had so

many volunteers that it was unable to keep to its schedule.

"Recently, we have been collecting between 60 to 75 units a month," she said.

According to Benson, many people cited the Oklahoma City incident as the reason for giving blood.

"The Red Cross called back to thank us for our help," she said.

E-Mail to offer net access

Many electronic mail users should have noticed a change in their E-Mail procedures May 1.

As part of the addition of Internet access, the Micro Systems Support Branch revised the local DMA network.

One change affecting everyone on the network is the change of E-Mail addresses.

When the system was initially set up addresses were assigned by the user's first name and last initial. However, with the additional Internet access this address assignment would have caused confusion for the system.

The computer delivers mail to the first deliverable address. Which means if the message address is "JohnS" the system will deliver all mail with this address to the first "JohnS" it finds.

The unfortunate part is the computer cannot distinguish between John Smith and John Samson. They both would have the same address under the old system. Which means John Samson would receive not only his own mail, but John Smith's mail as well.

Eventually, everyone using E-Mail will have their procedures updated.

Link West gets new editor

Hi. I thought I would interrupt your reading briefly to introduce myself. My name is Don Kusturin and I will be editing your magazine.



Donald R. Kusturin

I am a recent graduate of Murray State University, located in scenic Murray, Ky. I received a degree in communications.

Before attending Murray State, I served in the Air Force as a newspaper editor. My last assignment was at Ankara Air Base in Turkey. I also served tours in Saudi Arabia in support of Operation Desert Shield/Storm, and at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.

I am from a small town in Indiana. I have visited St. Louis many times and am looking forward to living and working here.

Now, I return you to your reading already in progress.

Trouble Desk up and running

Beginning May 1, customers are able to call a single number to request service for hardware, software, telecommunication and office automation problems.

All requests for customer service can be made by contacting the DMA Trouble Desk at 263-4751.

The DMA Trouble Desk technician will ask a series of questions to ensure a quick and prompt response by the Systems Center.

Callers will need to know: if the problem is related to office automation or the OA network; the DMAID

number of the machine; the name and model of the computer; the location of the system; the status of the computer; the time of the failure; and the symptoms of the computer.

The DMA Trouble Desk does not handle Digital Production System software or facility related problems.

For more information, contact Robert Cooke at (301)227-2152 or by E-Mail.

MapInfo: *Off the shelf and to the rescue*

By Wells Huff, DMA/CIW

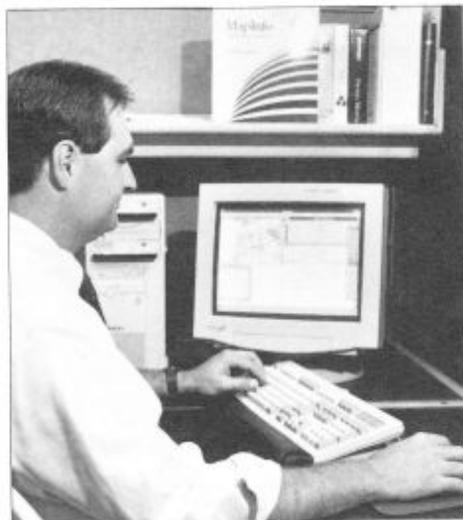
The Production Management Segment (PM/S) is the part of DMA's Digital Production System that provides managers the ability to schedule production and monitor progress. Designing and developing the proprietary PM/S software has required more than a decade and considerable expense.

Now an off-the-shelf software program called MapInfo is adding significant capability to the production management function. MapInfo runs on stand-alone or networked IBM-PC compatible and Macintosh microcomputers, and it costs about \$900 a copy.

"Yes, there's some irony in that," admits Barb Locke (HTC/PPI) who supervises MapInfo usage at the agency's Bethesda site. "But you have to remember that until recently we didn't have the micro capability we have now."

DMA also uses an earlier PC-based program called Map Graphics, "Primarily," Locke states, "that is used to send and receive information on MC&G Area Requirements from the eighteen commands and other DMA customers to Headquarters, via floppy disks."

In the spring of last year two employees of the Aerospace Center, Wayne McCormick (PPI) and Tim



Tim Washechek, SDPD, uses MapInfo software to display production data in a graphical form at the desk top.

Washechek (SDO) were sent east to look at the capabilities of MapInfo for potential use in Aerospace Center production.

"We were looking for better tools to help manage production information," says Washechek. "We knew about Map Graphics, and we wanted to evaluate how

gave us a quick demo of MapInfo. I was immediately sold on it. I could see a multitude of ways we could apply this graphical interface for production applications."

A number of DMA managers, including General Raymund O'Mara, then the DMA director, got their first look at MapInfo at HTC. They were all impressed, and by the end of the year, multiple copies had been acquired for further exploitation.

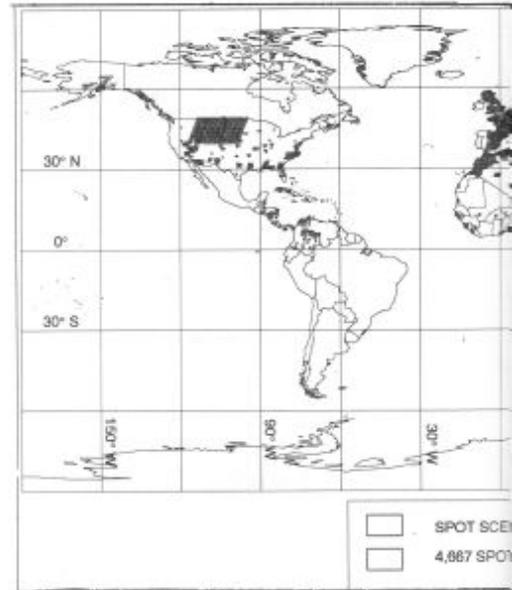
The three production centers have taken different approaches to the way the software is used. HTC was first to begin extensive interface with DPS and other data. Locke credits Hiram Skaggs, who retired from HTC/PPI in January, with their development of a prototype with capabilities for monitoring production, looking graphically at area coverage, and spotting areas of duplicate production. "He even rewrote the MapInfo User Manual, adapting it for our potential users," says Locke.

HTC uses both Macintosh and some PC compatibles, many of them networked. The MapInfo software is comfortable on both Macintosh and PC's, though it runs faster on the PM/S Pentium terminals; and it is easily adapted to cross-platform operation.

How does MapInfo work? It reads and converts ASCII-formatted, MapInfo-structured data sets of objects and metadata files. Through the MapInfo Import function it creates a Graphical User Interface (GUI) which connects objects to the data, so when a user selects an object, associated metadata is displayed.

Explains McCormick, "MapInfo allows managers and analysts a tool that can quickly and graphically display worldwide product and source coverage, a process not available on PM. It doesn't replace the PM process, it enhances it."

Barbara Locke, at HTC, agrees. "You can pull up jobs,



products and source data from all three production sites to do quick evaluations," she says. "With additional programming you not only see the data; you can do manipulations and see some things about the data to test its integrity, test for redundancy, things like that."

In St. Louis the decision was made to put the software

on Pentium PC's interfaced with the Production Management Segment. Installation of hardware for development of the St. Louis PM/S prototype was completed about two months ago, with completion of the prototype expected this summer.

Bill Hemple, AC/SDPD, heads a five-person Desktop Mapping team exploring all relevant applications and currently concentrating on the uses of MapInfo. "Our program managers need to see all of what's going on," he says. "Currently we are downloading PM

information from all three production centers. With MapInfo you can see what they are doing, where they are currently working."

While much of the MapInfo work has been with PM/S data, the software has found other uses. Vince Huening and Keith Paulson, also part of the SDP team, have created a MapInfo database that contains Controlled Image Base (CIB) related data. Using MapInfo, the SPOT scenes can be overlaid with other product data, such as rectangles, DTED, PPDBs, and special shading for ADRI-converted CIB scenes. Numerous graphic prints have been provided to support the CIB planning process at Headquarters, AC, and HTC.

Huening and Paulson have also developed an in-house MapInfo training course and manual, customized with DMA datasets. So far there have been ten one-day sessions with over 90 personnel trained.

The SD team, which also includes Washechek and Scott Spaunhorst, feels DMA has only scratched the surface of potential MacInfo applications. For example, AC/PPI and SDP are currently developing an AutoPlanning Tool that uses PM data to determine DPS MPO/SPO production. MapInfo will be used to display the output in a graphical form for Production Planning Managers.

AC's ge positioning division (SDC) is using MapInfo to portray CIB CD-ROM locations, associated SPOT scenes, and ADRI control points.

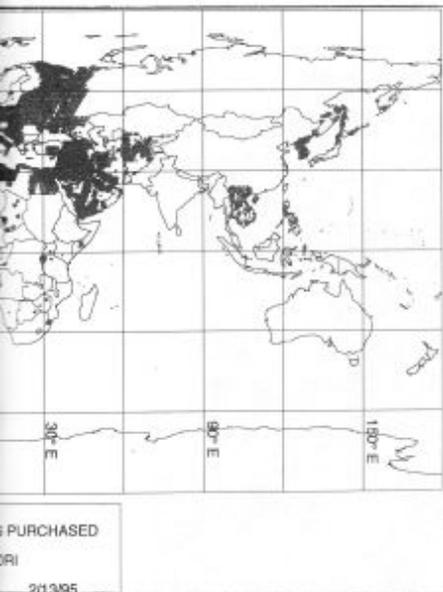
Jeff Bjerke, AC/MC, is using it to compare ADRG

(Arc-Digitized Raster Graphics) areas with DAFIF (Digital Aeronautical Flight Information File) info. "With MUSE (the MC&G Utility Software Environment) you have a raster importer that lets you import ADRG data, transformed to the WGS84 format. We now have about 6000

ADRG titles in the catalog. We load a portion of one of them into the raster importer, defining a geographic area, set the extraction area and create a graphic file." He can then create an extra layer of DAFIF data.

"In DAFIF we have all the runways of the world. We bring them into the new layer and overlay the ones that show on the ADRG and do a visual quality check."

John Geskermann, AC/PPI, likes the speed with which MapInfo assembles global information. He calls the program "our virtual colored pencils." In a more serious vein he adds, "MapInfo will greatly enhance our production management function. In five minutes we can see in graphics and tables exactly what information is available to us. It automatically matches requirements with availabilities, spots redundancies, and identifies the areas where additional work is needed." And he sees another benefit. "By being customer focused, it will continually direct our effort in exactly the right directions."



Jeff Bjerke, MC, verifies DAFIF runway placement against ADRG backgrounds.



At a production meeting, Jerry Bratz, DP, compares MapInfo-produced information on a digital product with Stella Brooks, SD.

Time flies

Aerospace Center Director William Brown presents Harold Madison a special memento on behalf of all DMA St. Louis employees during a farewell luncheon held at Orlando Gardens April 11 to honor Madison.

Brown noted in his remarks that the gift, a clock, was already set on Eastern Standard Time so "Harold should always be on time for his new job as head of the Information Management Group back East."

Madison returns to the Washington, D.C. area after two years in St. Louis at the Aerospace Center.

During that two year period Madison served as chief of both the Scientific Data and Digital Products Departments and was deputy director of the Aerospace Center prior to being named to his new position February 9.



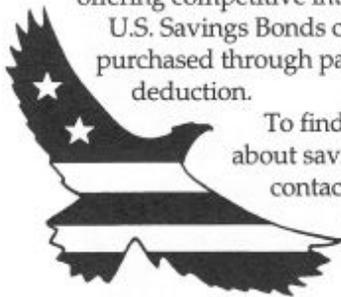
DMA Savings Bond Campaign workers

The 1995 DMA Savings Bond Campaign rally kicked off April 27 and will run to June 9.

Savings bonds provide a secure investment for investors while offering competitive interest rates.

U.S. Savings Bonds can be purchased through payroll deduction.

To find out more about savings bonds contact your campaign worker.



The following is a partial list of savings bonds workers:

CM - Jane Hackett
AQ - Holly Roberts
MC - Rick Roberts
DP - John Heard
SO - James Argabright

HR - Nora Landreth
D,PI,IG,SH,PP,LO - Nancy Brannon
PS - Janet Wray
SD - Anthony Wendle
GG - Nancy O'Dell
FE - Dave Jarvis
System Center - Patsy Plemmons
Reston Center - Geraldine Brown
RSOA - Geraldine Brown
RSOA - Geraldine Olzczak
RSOF - Donna Banner
RSP - Rick Bonnot
RSB - Terry Maloney
RSB - Marcelee Jackson
RSB - Joyce Kren
SOCS - Dona O'Connell
SOFA - Carol Moore
SOFB - David Boyet
SOFB - Richard Hawkins
SOCT - Christine Lofstedt
PP & PPI - Karen Angle
PPC - Ron Dexter

PPD - Bev Petersen
LOA & LOP - Linda Muessig
LOS (8900) - Charlene Hitz
LOT(8900) - Louise Esker
LOT(2nd St) - Madonna Reppell
SDCD - Anthony Wendle
SD - Marianne Norrenberns
SDT - Jeff Agnew
SDPA - Roger Henke
SDPB - Barb Willsey
SDPC - Jack Panula
SDPD - John Koenig
SDA - Martha J. Hovis
SDAA - Betty Stutzman
SDAB - Warren Bless
SDAC - Mary Ann Becker
SDAE - Russell Causey
SDAG - Terry Bainbridge
SDAH - Jeremiah Cronk
SDCB - Dan Peshek
SDCA - Tom Ritzheimer
SDCB - John Huddle
SDCC - Kathy Meier

The following are the award lists for January.

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE/PERFORMANCE AWARD

BRUNO, STEVEN G., SDDD
 BURKE, DIANN L., SDDB
 CALLIES, RANDAL W., SDDC
 FREEMAN, SILVIA D., SDDC
 GUTWEILER, SUSAN Y., SDDD
 LYNCH, TIMOTHY M., SDDE
 RIGGS, HERSCHELL F., SDDD
 ROSELLI, JEANNE M., SDDC
 SELLERS, DENNIS D., SDDD
 SMITH, SAMUEL E., SDDA
 WEISS, SHELLEY R., SDDC

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE AWARD

GARDINER, JOHN W., SDDB
 HALL, KELLY D., SDDC
 HALL, MARJORIE., SDDA

PERFORMANCE AWARD

AGIN, WAYNE R., SDDA
 BASTHOLM, KENNETH M., SDDC
 BOLLINGER, BEVERLEE K., SDFC
 BOONE, JEFFREY D., SDDC
 BRINKMAN, SUE M., SDDA
 BRUECKMANN, ROBERT P., SDDC
 BUNTE, RICHARD V., SDDD
 BURKE, DARRELL, SDDD
 CREGO, JUANITA M., SDDA
 DUNNE, JOHN F., SDDA
 FISHER, WALTER H., SDDD
 GOSLING, PHIL H., SDDB
 KANCIJANIC, PAMELA S., SDDC
 KLEEN, KARL H., SDDA
 LORBERT, MARY A., SDDB
 MARTIN, PHILLIP L., SDDB
 MEREDITH, MICHAEL O., SDDA
 NORMAN, MARTHA H., SDDC
 PARKER, RICHARD C. JR., SDDD
 PARRAN, BARBARA M., SDDD
 PIPER, WILLIAM B., SDDD
 SAVOY, LOUISE, SDDC

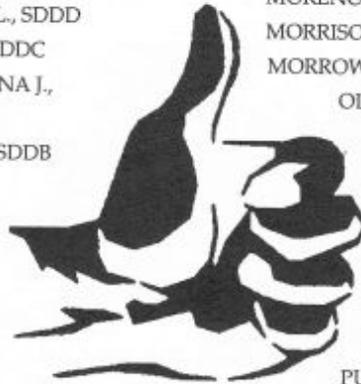
SCHADE, MARK F., SDDC
 SHARP, MONICA L., SDDD
 SWART, JESSE E., SDDC
 THORNTON, MYRNA J., SDDA
 TOPE, JEFFREY L., SDDB
 TUNNICLIFF, SANDRA L., SDD
 WENDLE, ANTHONY J., SDCD
 WILSON, GLENN M., SDCD
 WUTHRICH, FLOYD K., SDDB

QUALITY STEP INCREASE

GARDINER, JOHN W., SDDB
 HALL, KELLY D., SDDC
 HALL, MARJORIE, SDDA

SPECIAL ACT OR SERVICE AWARD

BAINBRIDGE, TERRY C., SDAG
 BAUGH, WILLIAM E., MCAB
 BECHERER, RICHARD H., EIWS
 BEHRENS, SUSAN J., MCBL
 BRECKNER, CAROLE S., DPBF
 BRYANT, STEPHEN N., TSSTA
 DAUGHERTY, JAMES B., MCDE
 DEBRULER, VERNON, RSB
 DITTERLINE, STEVEN E., MCDE
 EDWARDS, ROBERT G., SDR
 ELLIS, LEWIN M., MCBH
 ENGBRETSON, DAVID L., DPAG
 FACTOR, JOHN K., GGCB
 FOELLER, ROY J. JR., HRSD
 FORSTER, THOMAS E., HRSF
 GALLINO, JACQUELINE L., FES
 GILES, DEBORAH J., MCDE
 GUM, SCOTT M., TSSTA
 KUBIK, MARY E., EIWS
 LACKEY, GARY N., RDR
 MANNING, DENNIS M., GGCB
 MCCORMICK, WAYNE J., PPI
 MCELROY, DAN W., SDAG



MORENO, RANDALL T., TSSTA
 MORRISON, DIANA S., SD
 MORROW, RICHARD L., MCBL
 OLDHAM, STUART M., MCOE
 PACKMAN, JUDITH M., EIWS
 PARSONS, MICHAEL E., MCBL
 PERRY, JANICE M., DPT
 PESHEK, DANIEL L., SDCB
 PRATT, LINDA M., MCBL
 PRESTON, JAMES M., MCBL
 PRUETT, STEVEN J., RSOA
 PUETZ, LYNNE E., PPI

ROSENDALE, ROBERT D., MCDE
 SCHLICK, DARYL G., DPEB
 SCHOENBERG, DAWN M., MCBH
 SIMMONS, LINDA., DOS
 SMALL, HOWARD J., GGCB
 SPRIGGS, GEORGE R., MCBL
 STEINKAMP, GLENN D., DPBA
 STOHL, KELLY J., DPAF
 THOMAS, JANICE S., DPCE
 TOLCOU, DEBRA J., MCB
 TONEY, JOY N., SDDD
 TRIGGS, CURTIS W., PS
 WEBSTER, ROYAL C., MCB

SUGGESTION AWARD

MOLENDIA, STANLEY J., MCT
 SCHREWE, ROBERT F., HRSA

TIME OFF AWARD

ARCHIBALD, CHERYL L., RSB
 BOURBON, MARY ANN, DPPE
 BOYER, KEVIN G., SDPD
 BRANDON, MARGARET A., RSB
 DIECKMANN, BETTY, SDRF
 FLORIDA, ROBERT W., SDPD
 FOELLER, ROY J., SDCB
 HUNTER, JEFFREY D., SDPD
 MARTIN, RENE, RSB
 McDOWELL, CARL W., RSB
 MOORE, RANDALL J., DPCA
 POFF, DONALD E., DPPE
 PORTELL, RUTH A., GGFB
 SLAVIK, BRADFORD J., SDPD
 WILLMAN, CAMILLE, SDPD

DMA designs Cancer Survivor Network

Dealing with a tragic situation is never easy, however, it can be eased when you have the support of others.

The Defense Mapping Agency Employee Assistant Program has created the Cancer Survivors Network. The program is designed to provide support for people whose lives have been affected by cancer.

The program offers four separate services — Group Psychotherapy; the Self-Help Support Group; the Resource List; and the Mailing List.

— Group Psychotherapy meets once a week in the Employee Assistance Program office in Bldg. 7.

An initial counseling session must occur before inclusion into

regular meetings.

—The Self-Help Support Group meets at 9 a.m., the first Tuesday of

each month in Bldg. 7.

—The Resource List provides the names, office symbols, and work telephone numbers of people who are interested in helping others dealing with cancer.

—The Mailing List is a program which sends periodic information on variable topics including cancer and nutrition.

DMA employees and their families can take advantage of the Cancer Survivors Network by enrolling in one or all of the services provided.

For more information, contact Darla Purcell at 263-4848.



Dr. Alex Denes, an oncologist from St. John's Mercy Medical Center, spoke to a group of Defense Mapping Agency employees April 4 in the Lindbergh Room as part of the "Ask the Doctor" program. Dr. Denes gave a general overview of cancer, to include trends, research, treatment, and prevention. "Ask the Doctor" is a feature of the Cancer Survivor Network.

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