Project celebrates success, refunds $121,000

Not many people receive $121,000 for their birthday, but that’s exactly the amount that Butch Clements, on behalf of Safeguards and Security, received as a refund for the security upgrades project team on his special day.

Attending a celebration of the project team’s success, Clements, Safeguards and Security division manager, noted how 9/11 changed our world, including some things that Y-12 had to address. He suggested that those assembled look no further than current events in Iraq and North Korea to understand that the work we do is “deadly serious.”

Clements further commended the team for doing a “tremendous job.” He noted that their efforts will ensure anyone with hostile intent toward Y-12 will “have the worst day of their lives.”

Dennis Grove, Projects division manager, expounded on the team’s efforts by stating that “every project in Safeguards and Security is on schedule and on or under budget.” He acknowledged that these projects were not easy jobs to complete and complete safely, but the team’s performance has proven that Y-12 can execute projects, and that proof will keep the work coming in.

George Dials, president and general manager, noted the “Y-12 of the future is coming to life before your eyes.”

Obviously, projects of this magnitude could not be completed without cooperation and coordination. The security upgrades project team includes personnel from the National Nuclear Security Administration’s Y-12 Site Office, multiple organizations across Y-12 and craftspeople from the Knoxville Building and Construction Trades Council.

Speaking about Y-12’s partnership with the KBCTC, Vice President Charles Connatser (who is also the business manager of Pipefitters and Plumbers Local Union 102) indicated that things were “changing for the better” and congratulated the assembly on their outstanding efforts.

Project Manager Bret Sullivan summed up the team’s effort simply as “teamwork.” Any team that is on schedule, under budget and makes Y-12 more secure is a winner by anyone’s score.

Have questions? Get answers!

Cheryl Sanz and Mary Radford of Human Resources’ Employee Support Services are here to help when you have questions.

Sanz and Radford help employees with myriad concerns—from attendance and absenteeism, promotions, co-worker relationships, hiring and staffing, sexual harassment, and the needs of employees with disabilities to personal issues that may be affecting an employee’s ability to do his or her job.

“We want employees to feel comfortable talking to us and if possible, head off issues before they become problems,” said Radford.

Sanz and Radford will be partnering with Jim Nobles, the Ethics manager, to ensure that issues relating to ethical behavior are quickly addressed.

Employee Support Services will administer No More Surprises and plans to improve the system. Sanz said that No More Surprises will remain an appropriate forum to address safety and health concerns and that Employee Support Services will complement No More Surprises.

To get your questions answered, contact Sanz at 574-7744 or Radford at 574-7755.
United Way Campaign ‘tips’ off

What started as a rainy morning turned out to be a beautiful Big Orange day for the Y-12 United Way Campaign kickoff.

More than 300 people enjoyed the festivities and, along with the Y-12 Jazz Band, welcomed keynote speaker Bruce Pearl, The University of Tennessee’s men’s basketball coach.

Pearl told the crowd, “Thank God United Way is there to help with the basic needs of food and housing. No matter what basketball team I am working with, usually half of the members will tell me that if it weren’t for a safe place to go to after school, or a place to go to be respected or challenged—a place benefiting from the United Way—that they don’t know what they would have done.”

Randy Spickard, National Security and Development Programs; George Dials, Y-12 president and general manager; Ted Sherry, Y-12 Site Office manager; and Kenny Cook, Atomic Trades and Labor Council president, thanked employees for supporting United Way.

Pearl told the audience he appreciates Y-12. “I know that you [Y-12] help protect the security of our country, and we’ll be all right because of your talent and expertise. Thank you.”

A silent auction for four basketballs autographed by Pearl raised $1,060. Bake sales held throughout the Complex raised $2,701.

A chili cook-off will be held Oct. 28, at the Oak Ridge Civic Center plaza. All proceeds will go toward the United Way Campaign. Visit YSource for more details.

Campers win contest

Thanks to the interest generated at the Y-12 co-sponsored ASM Materials Camp held earlier this summer, five local high school students took the initiative to enter the International Metallographic Society’s poster competition. Their interest paid off; they won first place in the undergraduate student category and third place overall.

Their Y-12 mentors, material scientist Jaret Frafjord and interns Elena Garlea and Rob Panaro, helped the students create a poster showing what they learned by examining debris from space shuttle Columbia.

The campers and their mentors (back row, left to right: Garlea, Frafjord, Mike Manrod, Panaro and Benjamin Petersen; front row, left to right: Emily Simonds, Hubert Gibson and Katie Strader) show their award-winning poster.

These budding scientists (and perhaps future Y-12 employees) will share great stories when that first period bell rings.
Screening saves lives

Roane County resident Art Hensley says he owes his life to a cancer-screening program showcased in Oak Ridge this week.

And he would recommend other U.S. Department of Energy workers use it, too.

Hensley was among the numerous attendees of a Wednesday afternoon ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Atomic Trades and Labor Council building on Viking Road. At the ceremony, officials showcased an early lung-cancer detection unit designed to screen for cancer in some current and former workers at the Y-12 National Security Complex and Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

The screening has been done at DOE gaseous diffusion sites in three states.

ATLC President Kenny Cook said his staff is sending out letters to candidates who qualify for the screening. ATLC represents 2,200 workers at Y-12 and ORNL.

Cook said officials plan to continue screening through at least 2009.

The screening is part of the Worker Health Protection Program, which began about a decade ago and is funded by DOE. Locally, the program is operated by ATLC and Queens College of the City University of New York.

—Condensed from The Oak Ridger, Aug. 17

Habitat names board

Rob Gifford, chief financial officer with BWXT Y-12, has joined the Habitat for Humanity of Anderson County board of directors.

Habitat for Humanity of Anderson County is an ecumenical ministry that builds simple, decent and affordable houses with participating families. Habitat for Humanity works with diverse individuals and faith communities to serve others.

Habitat for Humanity does not give houses away. Instead, Habitat offers a hand up to those in need by providing zero-interest mortgages and homeownership training.

To learn more about Habitat for Humanity of Anderson County, call (865) 482-7713 or visit its Web site at www.hfhac.org.

—Condensed from The Oak Ridger, Aug. 18

Oak Ridge featured on History Channel

The History Channel featured a documentary film, “Secret Cities of the A-bomb,” about the history of the Manhattan Project. Oak Ridge was one city highlighted in the documentary.

Included in the film were interviews with Y-12 retiree Bill Wilcox and Y-12 employee Ray Smith. This episode is one of 12 in the Atlantic Productions’ “Lost Worlds” series. The British production company filmed the documentary here in March 2006.

Y-12’s history and heritage

A series of articles is planned for the BWXTymes that features Y-12’s history and heritage. The accompanying logo will appear with each article. The D’s in the logo are actual D-coils from a calutron that was built during the Manhattan Project to create the atomic bomb that ended World War II.

Y-12 is a major resource that has had regional, national and international impact since 1943. Today, Y-12 continues to have major impact on both national and international nu-clear-related situations and will continue to have a worldwide impact as a specialized resource.

Y-12 is a special place with unique characteristics that only its employees can fully appreciate. We hope this series will be of interest to employees who remember times gone by. We also hope that newer employees will come to better appreciate Y-12 after reading stories of the site’s past.

In the series you will learn how much enriched uranium was obtained in the first year of operation at Y-12; find out what “Operation Dog” was; read the real story about how Bear Creek Valley was selected for the location of Y-12; discover where John Hendrix may have been born; identify the location of an early radar station in the Cumberland mountains north of Y-12; and many more stories about Y-12’s history and heritage.

Contact Ray Smith (srd; 576-7781) to suggest stories for inclusion in this series. You may have knowledge and experience that would be appreciated by others.
Small businesses = big successes

The Y-12 of the future will be a vibrant place, and small businesses have a role there. This year’s Socioeconomic Programs annual awards program held Aug. 30 recognized the small businesses with which Y-12 does business and the Y-12 employees who advocate working with small businesses.

Ted Sherry, Y-12 Site Office manager, said that small businesses bring technologies and flexibility to Y-12 and help shape the future Y-12.

“Small businesses are a key component of our national economy, and Y-12 plays a role in that [by partnering with small businesses],” Sherry said.

Commissioner Matthew Kisber from the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development was the keynote speaker.

“When I talk to people in small business, I like to talk from the heart,” said Kisber, who grew up in a family who owned a small business.

“You can’t be a big business without starting as a small business. Innovation and creativity are essential to succeed,” Kisber said.

Five small businesses and four Y-12 employees were recognized at the ceremony.

For more information on Socioeconomic Programs or working with small businesses, contact Gloria Mencer (gmv; 576-2090).

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<th>Award</th>
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<td>Small business of the year</td>
<td>Mid-American Precision Products</td>
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<td>Small disadvantaged business</td>
<td>Navarro Research and Engineering</td>
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<td>Woman-owned small business</td>
<td>G&amp;S Construction</td>
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<td>Hubzone small business</td>
<td>Haselwood Services and Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Veteran-owned business</td>
<td>Cherokee Steel Supply</td>
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<td>Division manager of the year</td>
<td>Kevin Finney, Applied Technologies</td>
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<td>Small business advocates</td>
<td>William Hevrdeys, Construction</td>
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<td>Paul Hight, Manufacturing</td>
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Graduates earn McDermott and Bechtel scholarships

Patrick McKenrick, son of Manufacturing’s Don McKenrick, and James Vaughn, son of Manufacturing’s Brad Vaughn, are the 2006 recipients of the McDermott International Scholarships. McDermott is one of the parent companies of BWXT Y-12.

McKenrick and Vaughn are graduates of Oak Ridge High School. McKenrick plans to attend Vanderbilt University. Vaughn, who received a perfect score on the SAT, will be attending The University of Tennessee and majoring in chemical engineering. Each student receives $1,500 per year for four years of college-level study.

Joseph Saei, son of Engineering’s Kamal Saei, and Keely Roberts, daughter of Engineering’s Toni Roberts, are the 2006 recipients of the Bechtel Systems and Infrastructure Citizen Scholars Scholarships. Bechtel National is another parent company of BWXT Y-12.

Saei plans to attend the College of Charleston and major in business and international studies. Roberts plans to attend Maryville College and major in sports medicine/physical therapy. Each student will receive a $2,500 award for undergraduate study.

Keely Roberts (second from left) is one of the 2006 recipients of the Bechtel Systems and Infrastructure Citizen Scholars Scholarship. Denis Grove (right), Y-12 Projects division manager; and John Howanitz (left), Uranium Processing Facility program manager, presented the award to Roberts. Also pictured is Roberts’ mother, Toni.
George Dials, president and general manager, welcomed more than 2,500 employees to the 2006 All-Hands Meeting held Sept. 13.

Before the meeting, employees were entertained by their fellow co-workers in the Y-12 Jazz Band, Y-12 Celebration Choir and the ever-popular Parrot Brothers Band.

After a warm recognition of Y-12’s personnel who have served and are serving our country, Dials acknowledged that all employees are “patriots” because they are working to protect America’s future. All jobs at Y-12 are important.

“What you do every day counts in enabling our country to project its political and military power around the world,” Dials said.

Dials introduced an animation video showing the Y-12 of the future saying, “The Y-12 National Security Complex of tomorrow is emerging today. The new infrastructure will be responsive to changing missions and needs. We need to be responsive too. I need your help in transforming Y-12. I know you’re up to it.”

He went on to encourage employees to meet the challenge of building a new, vibrant Y-12 that will continue to be “a beacon of liberty.”

“I thought the meeting had a really nice tone. I loved the celebration and focus on our patriots. We really do have a lot of good talent at Y-12 and should celebrate together. The music and singing were outstanding!”
—Becky Williams, electronic publisher

“I was moved and motivated by the presentation of where Y-12 has been, is now and where we’re headed. I came away from the meeting with a sense of pride and am encouraged to do my best to help meet our missions.”
—Jamie Arnold, training specialist

“What I do does make a difference. It’s easy to get caught up in your work and forget about how the little things you do each day make a big contribution.”
—Garland Sharp, nuclear safety trainer

“The meeting was very uplifting. Mr. Dials fully understands and appreciates what we do individually and collectively.”
—Barry Totten, business developer

“I appreciate the acknowledgement and attention that our senior government leaders and site officials have given to Y-12.”
—Clemence Noakes, shift technical advisor

“I liked the animation view of the future Y-12. The meeting was interesting—a good way to get information.”
—Ralph Lockhart, electrician
They may come from diverse backgrounds, but they all want you to know that they are much more than the voice on the loudspeaker or on the phone.

The six control center assistants in the Plant Shift Superintendent’s office do come from diverse backgrounds, such as the plant laboratory, maintenance and the Protective Force. Yet despite such diversity, they also have several common traits, including a willingness to help their fellow employees and the ability to survive, and even thrive, in a fast-paced and often stressful environment.

Between logging phone calls, testing systems and communicating with employees, Debbie Napier, the newest CCA, noted that she likes being busy and working in “the heartbeat of the plant.”

Quite often that heartbeat is racing. Peggy Grider, a CCA with 24 years of experience, said that “phones ring constantly, people are talking all the time and you have to monitor many radio nets.” The staff also responds to 911 calls, outages, spills, fires and other emergencies. In addition, the PSS office also monitors lightning detection, elevator operations and the plant’s compressed air.

There is some humor in the job as well. In fact, the compressed air triggered a humorous memory for Napier, who once made the compressed air announcement Elmer-Fudd style—with the r’s pronounced as w’s. Grider remembered a late-night, collect phone call by a lady who had seen a UFO. Grider suspected that the caller “might have been dipping in the wine cellar a bit much that night.”

At the other end of the spectrum, natural disasters certainly rank as memorable. Grider related being unable to go home (or be relieved) for three straight days during an ice storm. Carole Schulman recalled being on duty during a flood: “There’s nothing like the fascination and horror of seeing water pouring through your building, knowing that you may soon be standing on the desks.”

For all the CCAs, it’s the employees that make the job worthwhile. Cheryl Womack, who has 17 years of CCA experience, said she hopes that employees understand that “we will do all we can to support them and get their problems resolved.” Grider agreed, noting that she “enjoys knowing that, by the end of the day, just maybe we have helped someone.”

Help is something the CCAs certainly do provide. Thanks to Napier, Grider, Schulman, Womack, Pat Burrell and Debby Duncan, Y-12’s heart won’t miss a beat.

Y-12’s Hall receives INMM special project award

Connie Hall, Y-12’s Nuclear Materials Control and Accountability program manager, was awarded the Special Service Award by the Institute of Nuclear Materials Management. Hall, who has more than 30 years of experience in NMC&A, was also named as a new senior member of the INMM.

“This award signifies that the recipient has continually accomplished positive results at an extreme high standard in the nuclear material management field,” said Cathy Key, INMM president.
During the first three quarters of fiscal year 2006, incidents of security concern increased. But according to O.J. Sheppard, IOSC manager, all IOSCs are preventable. Through increased attention to detail, such as knowing where your cell phone is, IOSCs can be prevented and the number of instances significantly reduced.

The three most common types of IOSCs are classified e-mails being sent on the unclassified network, cell phones being brought inside the property protection area and repositories being left unattended while open.

Classified e-mails sent on the unclassified network are the most common incidents reported. \( \text{It costs approximately $210 to clean a computer, not including lost man-hours for the person cleaning the computer and for the person waiting on it to be returned. That can take four days or more,} \) Sheppard said. “If you multiply that by how many employees are on the distribution list of the original e-mail and the number of times they forward it on, you’re looking at a very large number of lost man-hours and dollars.

“Terminations resulting from an IOSC occur not because of the incident, but because of the behavior after. Employees who try to hide an incident or are dishonest about it will likely find themselves in more trouble than if they self-report,” Sheppard said.

As an employee, you have an obligation to report an IOSC if you have knowledge of an incident or are the offending party. You should protect the information, then call 574-1594 using the secure STU telephone or report the incident in person to Sheppard. “Reporting IOSCs is important to your employability and the plant’s survivability,” he said.

**Alarm system migration test successful**

While Versa Modula Europa is not the latest-named star in the solar system, it may produce stellar results for Y-12.

Safeguards and Security completed the VME Migration Project—a test to see whether the current alarm system could be moved to a commercially available operating system—in July. The Y-12 Site Office representative on the project scored this portion of the performance-based incentive as exceeding expectations, and Y-12 received $100,000 for its successful completion.

Although the current system meets all U.S. Department of Energy requirements, migration to the new system would bring increased alarm capacity and enhanced protection of special nuclear materials, not to mention potential savings in maintenance costs to Y-12.

“It would’ve been very costly to maintain the old system, but the new system is widely supported,” said Jesse Moore of Security Systems.

The project team tested migration of the system graphics that communicate alarm status to security forces. The team connected an alarm panel to a prototype platform. The panel, where all alarms are collected, manages the alarms and reports back to the main computer with alarm status.

“We changed the status of the data-gathering panel and could observe the status change at an alarm station,” Moore said. “We were able to perform a health check on the panel from the station.”

The new alarm platform should be fully operational by July 31, 2007.

**Traffic ‘arms control’**

Y-12 commuters have most likely noticed several changes along Bear Creek Road in the last few months. One of those changes is the installation of traffic control arms at Checkpoints 20 and 23.

These devices have been installed to, as the name implies, control traffic.

When the arms are operational, most drivers will notice no difference because the arms will be in the up position during peak hours. As Larry Bornstein of Safeguards and Security noted, the installation “will not impede traffic at peak times but will expedite random searches at checkpoints.”

**Reporting IOSCs**

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For Jim Nobles, Ethics manager, ethics is about practicing the highest standards of conduct day in and day out. "Ethics is about who we are," explained Nobles. "It defines our character as a company.

“You must start with integrity; it’s the key ingredient to doing business ethically internally and externally," he continued. "I want to make sure that integrity drives everything we do."

After having spent the last 15 years in Internal Audit, Nobles feels at home in his new position and said he wants to get to know employees at all levels. “I want to work with employees, supervisors, directors and senior managers so that they feel comfortable raising issues without the fear of reprisal and have confidence that concerns will be resolved fairly and ethically,” he said.

Typical issues Nobles will handle include potential or alleged violations of Internet, telephone and e-mail policies; questionable time records and expenses; conflicts of interest; misappropriation of government property; and inappropriate behavior in subcontracting activities.

Nobles emphasized that employees should first raise ethics-related concerns with their supervisor but noted that employees have several other avenues for putting forth questions, including No More Surprises and the Ethics hotline (576-1900) or by contacting Nobles at 574-4199 (phone) or 877-790-7356 (pager).

"As BWXT Y-12 employees," he concluded, “we have to be mindful of what we do not because we’re afraid of being caught but because it’s the right thing to do.”