

# DDJF Employee Appreciation Day – 2003



*There were an abundance of flavorful delicacies prepared by DDJF's top chefs. The cooks boasted that the aroma was in the air, the food was ready to taste and appetites would be satisfied. (In the photo: two supervisors Dave Lamont on left and Joe DeCristofaro on the right)*

At Defense Distribution Depot Jacksonville, Florida (DDJF), October 2003, is going into the record books as being the warmest on record. As employees arrived to work on October 22nd, eager to begin the day and anticipating the fun activities that awaited them at their Employee Appreciation Day, the weather wasn't warm, it was "Beautiful".

DDJF celebrated their Employee Appreciation Day at Seaside Bay Park on the Naval Air Station in Jacksonville. The fun-filled day was a time for workers to get together, relax and enjoy themselves. The Commander and Supervisors of DDJF sponsored the celebration in appreciation of the employees' dedication and hard work involved in transitioning from a contracted organization to an Interim Government Organization (IGO). This task was completed in a mere five months. DDJF Commander, CDR Steve Ellis commended the DDJF workforce, "This accomplishment was done through a tremendous team effort by all involved."

What's a celebration without food? DDJF's menu for the celebration included hotdogs, hamburgers, potato salad, cole slaw and all the fixings and were prepared by DDJF's top Chefs.

Among the activities were many games, which were designed to enforce the concept of teambuilding. "If you bring people out of the workspaces you can accelerate the process. We need to give workers a chance to express and hear each other's dreams and aspirations, likes/dislikes, etc. The end result is a motivated, committed workforce," stated Ellis.

Events included volleyball, horseshoes, tug-o-war, hula-hoop, suitcase shuffle and box kicking.

The employees were just as appreciative, Takecia Green commented, "The picnic was a good opportunity for everyone to get together as a team and have some fun. It also let everyone get to know each other a little better outside of work. It was just good to see everyone get together and have some fun. For that one day there were no supervisors, no team leads, no packers just a team." Evy Chesser stated, "Thanks Commander Ellis and staff, I had a great time. It was a fun-filled day of games, good food and good people. Working as a team, we will accomplish our goals, in work and at play."



*Lisa Paprukilo from PPP&M, was the all time winner of the hula-hoop contest.*

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## DDJC's Hatt Promoted



*DLA Director, Vice Admiral Keith Lippert, SC, USN, presents LCDR Murray Hatt, Royal Canadian Navy (RCN), one of his commander's coins after promoting Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, CA's (DDJC) Canadian Foreign Exchange Officer to the rank of Lieutenant Commander. On the left is Beverly Hatt, wife of LCDR Hatt. This was the first time in his career VADM Lippert promoted a foreign officer.*