

FOCUS

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Photo courtesy of Dusty Lens Photo

Motocross and desert racer Weishin Woltz, from Cubic Defense Applications, riding at Superstition, California.

The Need for Speed for a Tough Motocross Racer

Story on page 5.

*Rock 'N' Roll Takes Flight
for One Cubic Pilot*

*CTSL Golf Society Plays
for Trophies and Prizes*

**CTSL Employees Honored
with Outstanding
Achievement Awards**

**Cubic OTD Hosts PIE
Leadership Forum**

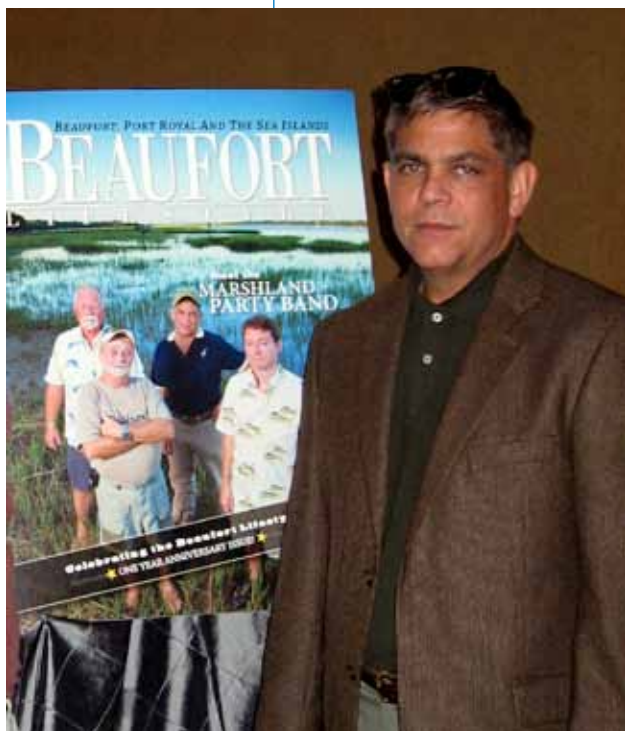
**Service Award Winners at Cubic
Transportation Systems**

Keeping the Lid on Bee
Swarms at Cubic

**Are You Up for
A Challenge?**

Beaufort,
South Carolina

Rock 'N' Roll Takes Flight for One Cubic Pilot



Buck Plunkett

*We learned more from a three minute record,
than we ever learned in school.*

— Bruce Springsteen's "No Surrender"

Buck Plunkett is an F/A-18 Hornet Contract Simulator Instructor for Cubic Worldwide Technical Services by day, and a guitar player in a rock 'n' roll band by night.

When he was 12, his uncle took him flying and it was an instant attraction for Buck. Several years later, he joined the Marines and was able to travel the world while serving his country.

One day, Buck saw Bill Luebke playing guitar for The Groovetones, a fast paced, high energy blues/rock band. Watching Bill perform at The Back Porch Grill in 2005 and 2006 inspired Buck to start playing guitar. He now owns six guitars, including a Les Paul.

Buck, along with Mills Rooks, vocals, Jimmy Sauls on drums and David Anderson on bass, decided to get together and start the Marshland Party Band.

The success of the Marshland Party Band is the classic rock and beach/shag style of their music. Beach music is closely associated with the style of swing dance known as the shag, or the Carolina shag, which is also the official state dance of both North Carolina and South Carolina.

Playing songs from artists, such as Tom Petty, Bruce Springsteen, Roy Orbison and the Eagles, the Marshland Party Band can generally be seen at venues in and around Beaufort, South Carolina.

For more information, visit www.beaufortlifestyle.com/Beaufort_Lifestyle_ISSUE.html

Community Outreach

Columbus, Georgia

Cubic OTD Hosts PIE Leadership Forum



Natasha Glab distributes ID badges to Reese Road Elementary PIE Leadership Forum Students during their visit to Cubic OTD.

Photo by Peter Dobson

What is PIE? The Greater Columbus "Partners in Education." PIE was established in 1987 as a joint venture of the Muscogee County School District and the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce. Originally known as "Adopt-a-School," its purpose was to improve education by stimulating meaningful business and community involvement with schools. Through individual partnerships with business, professional organizations, churches, and civic clubs, public and private schools are now much better postured to tap resources to meet the individual needs of each student body, provide excellent educational programming, and recognize achievement.

On Feb 8, Cubic's Omega Training Division (OTD) hosted an on-site visit for a Leadership Forum from their PIE school, Reese Road Elementary. Eight students who have shown leadership potential and strong character were chosen to attend. The students were treated to juice and doughnuts as they sat at a conference table in executive chairs. They introduced themselves and discussed their future plans. OTD Administrative Assistant Natasha Glab coordinated the entire event and, with help from Deputy General Manager Greg Stone and Operations Manager Kevin Kelly, steered the discussions. All three shared their backgrounds, emphasizing the linkage of education and leadership. An excellent rapport was swiftly built between the students and their OTD hosts. Hailed as a huge success by teacher/parent chaperones, the students enjoyed their visit to Cubic and left with a better sense of what leadership means in the corporate world.

Keeping the Lid on Bee Swarms at Cubic

San Diego, California

Senior Systems Engineer Neil Howell at Cubic Defense Applications happened upon the unlikely hobby of beekeeping when a bee colony moved into a wall void of his house in 2005. He wanted to save them, without sacrificing the brick wall, but he needed a queen bee to help the colony reproduce. Unfortunately, it was a time when he couldn't find a queen bee anywhere, so he extracted them and lost them all.

He put all his bee equipment in the shed and shortly afterward got married. His wife happened to see the bee equipment, and thought it was an odd hobby until the spring of the next year. She came running in the house saying, "We have bees, we have bees." One of their orange trees had a swarm on it. Neil got out the bee equipment, pulled the bees off the tree and moved them into a hive.

Throughout Dec. 2010 and Jan. 2011, employees started to notice swarms of bees developing outside around Cubic: one in the breezeway between buildings; one in a crate behind building one; and one on a fence behind building eight. Neil volunteered to remove them.

"We have encountered a few recent issues with bee swarms. As you know, the bee population has been declining, so the last thing we want is to have the bees nest somewhere where we'll end up having to have them exterminated," said Joy Hagin, Director of Facilities/Maintenance.

How do you remove a swarm, you ask? Neil removed the swarm on the chain link fence by putting the bees in a hive body that he placed near them.



In his protective gear, he first grabbed a couple of handfuls of bees off the fence and pushed them through with one hand and pulled them out with the other, setting them in a box. This process was tedious, so he found a stiff piece of cardboard, and used it to carefully scrape some of them off into the box, removing a large portion of bees that way. But there were still a lot more of them on the fence. Then he realized that if he turned the box in a certain direction and hit the fence just right, the majority of the bees would fall into the box. He could then toss them into the hive once they built up enough mass. When they want to signal that a hive is home, there are bees that line up on the entrance of the home and stick their rears up in the air to fan out the pheromone that tells the other bees when and where they are supposed to be going. So once you see that, you know that you've pretty much got your bees moving in. This is not a guarantee, but a good indicator.

"I like the puzzle part of it for the engineer in me. Every time you inspect a swarm or hive, you try to figure out why they do what they do. You put out the sugar water thinking they are going to eat it and they ignore it. I could move it around and they would go somewhere else to get food. What's going on here? Trying to understand how they think and work is fascinating," said Neil.

An established honey bee colony will sometimes divide itself, and a swarm will leave the hive. The new swarm may cluster in a staging area while scout bees search for a suitable place to establish a new home. Usually scout bees find a hollow tree or void with a minimum opening slightly larger than their body, about three-sixteenths of an inch, and will look for a home that is about the size of a bushel basket. It could take a day or several days, and if they don't find a good site, they will move to another set distance and search that area for a location to move into.

The Smart Swarm: How Understanding Flocks, Schools, and Colonies Can Make Us Better at Communicating, Decision Making, and Getting Things Done, by Peter Miller, describes how the collective decision-making system of the bees works. It resembles the TV show *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire*. When they poll the audience for the answer to the contestant's question, the audience is about 91 percent accurate. It comes down to percentages. The book explains that. Let's say you have 100 people and seven out of the 100 audience members are experts of that knowledge and know the answer. Then 25 percent take an educated guess and the rest take a random guess and they all have a certain percentage of being right. When you add up all the percentages, you actually end up with a high accuracy of the correct answer. In one study on how swarms behave, researchers actually numbered every bee in a colony, by putting a dot on the



Neil Howell



Swarm of bees on a fence behind building eight.

back of every bee. From that study, they were able to learn how bees decided when and where a swarm will move.

The size of the recent swarms at Cubic have numbered about 8,000 to 10,000 bees. You can estimate the number of bees in a swarm based on half cups, which contains about 400 bees.

Recently, Neil removed two more swarms from Cubic in the hopes of keeping the hives thriving.

So, if you are concerned about swarms and want to keep bees from invading your walls, look for very small holes. One-quarter-inch wire mesh placed over openings will not help—use one-eighth-inch mesh. Bees will also chew through foam if they want to, assuming a colony of bees stayed there before.

For more information on the hobby of beekeeping, visit www.sandiegobeekeepingsociety.com.

-By Dianne Sala, Focus Editor

CTSL Golf Society Plays for Trophies and Prizes



George Aberdour, Senior Software Engineer and Treasurer of the Golf Society.

*By Andy Moore
Software Engineering Supervisor
Cubic Transportation Systems Ltd.*

The Cubic Golf Society in the United Kingdom is preparing for its busiest year so far, with 46 events arranged at eight different golf clubs. There will be scope for everyone, from beginners to experts, to enjoy themselves, improve their golf, and to hopefully win some trophies. The first meeting of 2011 will be on 29th January when the conditions are expected to be cold, wet and muddy. The last meeting in 2010 had to be cancelled due to the course being covered in a foot of snow - this was the first meeting that we have had to abandon.

2010 proved to be a very successful year. John Marshall, Software Engineering Supervisor, was the eventual order of merit winner. Twenty-four players turned out for the society championship on a hot day in June for 36 holes over the Phoenix and Griffin courses at Cottesmore Golf Club. Paul Brennan, Contract Senior Software Engineer, was the overall winner with prizes and trophies awarded to various people on the day. We had 32 entrants in the singles knockout competition, which ran throughout the year at various courses with Chris Smith, Contract Mechanical Design Engineer, going on to win

the trophy. Sixteen teams entered the pairs' competition, which also ran throughout the year and was won by Gary Bryant, Senior Electronic Engineer/Sustaining Engineer and Jeremy Hammett, Assistant Project Manager.

The first major competition of 2010, the Spring Cup, was won by Roger Crow, Managing Director. The final major of the year, the Horne Cup, was won by Richard Rowlands, Engineer Director.

During September's Stableford, Richard Castle achieved a hole-in-one – the first in the society's brief history!

The Directors' Cup was played out between five teams in 2010, representing Roger Crow, Richard Rowlands, Joe McCaffrey, Customer Services Director, Colin Fullalove, Business Development Director, and Tim Elles, Commercial Director. The competition was in November, with Tim Elles' team winning by a fairly comfortable margin.

The number of events for 2011 has increased at the request of the society's members, and although most of the 2011 competitions will be played at our local course, Horne Park, we will also be visiting Redhill & Reigate, Gatton Manor, Reigate Hill, Mannings Heath, Surrey National, and Royal Ashdown Forest Golf Clubs for a bit of added variety throughout the summer months. We will again be running the ever-popular series of group golf lessons during April and May. These lessons are aimed at beginners, and give everyone the chance to have a go at swinging a club before investing in any expensive equipment.

On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank everyone who took part last year (all 38 of you) and Cubic for their continued support.

If you are an experienced golfer, or have considered playing but never got around to it, why not join the Cubic (UK) Golf Society now and help make 2011 our best year to date?

For more information about the golf society, please contact andy.moore@cubic.com or visit our website at www.cukgs.com.



The Need for Speed for a Tough Motocross Racer

San Diego, California

A crowd gathers at the track to see seasoned motocross racer Weishin Woltz as she waits her turn to compete. In a sport where bumps, berms, and jumps are the norm, Weishin has proven that she can overcome obstacles.

Currently a student at San Diego State University, Weishin will graduate with a mechanical engineering degree in May and for the past five months has worked as an intern at Cubic Defense Applications.

"I'm really honored to have an internship at all. Everyone in the design drafting group is willing to answer any questions and provide lots of tips on how the business works," said Weishin.

Check out more about Weishin below:

How did you get started in motocross racing?

My dad got me started. He used to race dirt bikes and in 1977, he raced the Baja 1000. When I was 15, he bought me a Honda CRF70, a little mini-bike, then progressed up to a CRF100, then the CRF250.

Does your dad still ride?

Yes, he's into Harley-Davidson motorcycles right now. He has five street motorcycles and a dirt bike that he occasionally takes out to the desert. It's a fun family thing to do.

Is there anyone in motocross that inspires you?

My boyfriend, Justin, of course, then my friend Jake who races supercross. Justin always reminds me that I need to be riding for fun rather than anything else. Jake inspires me because he is very talented at what he does and he works harder than any other racer I know.

What kind of a bike do you have and when do you find time to practice?

I have a Yamaha YZ250F and a Honda CRF 250X. I go out on Fridays to practice on the track and then on the weekends for play riding in the desert.

Have you ever crashed?

Yes, several times. Even though I wear safety gear, including a neck brace and chest protector, I fractured two vertebrae in my back last June racing in the Mammoth Mountain MX. I was in a back brace for two months. Since I couldn't race for a while, I would go to the track and take pictures of friends who were racing.

I fractured one vertebra three years ago free-riding out on some trails and that wasn't fun. In addition, I broke my shoulder blade and I've had stitches in both knees. With little scratches, you just keep riding. The last crash took me out for a while, so I started to calm down a little.

Where do you ride?

I ride motocross on a track at Pala Raceway and Barona Oaks Raceway and off-roading in the desert at District 38. I practice at Barona and I've raced at Perris Raceway in Riverside County, California.

What does it feel like to ride on the track and off-roading?

It's a real adrenaline rush. It's something I love doing and it is my main stress-reliever.

What does it feel like to compete?

It's really nerve-racking. Not so much off-roading in the desert, because that's where I grew up riding, but racing motocross is different. Motocross racing is more intense because of the drop of the gate at the start, but once I'm on the track, I'm fine.

How do you prepare for a competition?

I drink lots of water the day before so I'm hydrated for the race. A typical race can be two or three hours long, traveling 40-50 miles per hour for 75 miles. I also work out at the gym. It boosts my energy level and helps develop muscle strength and agility for the jumps and tight turns. I also wear a camelback with water to keep me going during desert races.

Do you have any superstitions?

Never say "one last moto" because you're going to crash on that last motocross practice run. Also, if we're talking about injuries or broken bones, you have to knock on something, anything.

What awards have you won?

My most prestigious award is the #1 plate from District 38 in 2009. I also entered the 2009 Hot Summer Night's Race at Perris Raceway, where I won most of the rounds, and on March 13, 2011 I received my first Home of Champions trophy from Barona Oaks Raceway!

Who has helped you throughout your racing career?

I would like to first of all thank the man above, Jesus Christ, for looking over me and giving me countless blessings. I also couldn't do anything without the support of my dad. He usually comes out to all of my desert races, and he is always working on my bikes. He is the best mechanic I could ever ask for, next to Justin. My friends have all been extremely supportive, as I have met most of them racing desert or motocross.

I also wanted to say that I love the racing community. I have met some of the most talented people as well as some of the most compassionate. It's also fun meeting other girls that race. They're some of the toughest girls around.



Weishin Woltz poses next to her CRF 250X.

Photo courtesy of Taplin Photo



Racing up a hill at District 38.

Photo courtesy of Dirt Focus.com



Speeding through a sand wash.

Photo courtesy of Dirt Focus.com

-By Dianne Sala, Focus Editor

Employee Service Awards

Tullahoma, Tennessee

Service Award Winners at Cubic Transportation Systems



Senior Administrative Assistant JoLynn Amelang (left) accepts a 25-year service award from Human Resources Manager Carolyn Workman.



Factory Foreman Jim Austin (left) receives a 15-year service award from Supervisor Corey Davis.



Associate Buyer Dana Champion receives a 5-year service award from Purchasing Manager Kevin Harris.



VP John Madeiros presents IT Manager Mary Crossno an award for 15 years of service.



Technician A Scott Wise (left) accepts an award for 5 years of service from Depot Repair Supervisor Gil Locke.



Quality Control Foreman Mark Ware (right), accepts a 20-year service award from Manager Aled Thomas.



Quality Control Clerk Butch Scott (left), accepts an award for 20 years of service from Sr. Foreman Mark Ware.



Field Service Engineer Director Glenn Newton (right) congratulates Field Engineer Manager Harry Moodie for 20 years of service.



Finance Director Rod White (right) congratulates B-IT Technician Benji St. John for 15 years of service.

If you'd like your service anniversary photo published in a future issue of the Cubic Focus, e-mail your photo to dianne.sala@cubic.com.

CTSL Employees Honored with Outstanding Achievement Awards

United Kingdom



Left to right are: Mike Goodman, Shift Operations Manager; Alan Holliday, Technical Specialist; Bill Murphy, Field Service Team Leader; George Krimmel, Field Service Engineer; Sarb Rattu, Stores Team Leader; Steve Breen, Stores Team Leader; John Pycroft, Field Service Engineer; Clive Collett, Field Service Team Leader and Roger Crow, Managing Director.

On 3 February, Roger Crow, Managing Director at Cubic Transportation Systems Ltd., surprised members of the Customers Services Team with some outstanding achievement awards: Mike Goodman, Shift Operation Manager, was thanked for his dedication and tireless commitment to delivering outstanding performance across all contracts. Alan Holliday, Technical Specialist, received his award for identifying the need for “gateline emergency open circuits” training and the development of an appropriate course and demonstration equipment, much of which he did on his own time. Bill Murphy was thanked for his commitment to his role above and beyond expectations. George Krimmel was acknowledged for his long term support of the two Bulk Enablers, and the assistance he has given to the project team in setting to work the two new Bulk Enabler machines, allowing the delivery deadline to be met. Sarb Rattu and Steve Breen received recognition for the additional responsibilities they have taken on over the last three months following the transfer of their manager to another part of the business. An award was made to John Pycroft, Field Service Engineer, in recognition of the excellent working relationship he has developed with station staff at Kings Cross station which enabled us to obtain a stores room there, helping to reduce downtime and supporting our special relationship with London Underground. Clive Collett, Field Service Team Leader, received recognition for his development and maintenance of an infrequently used parts database, which will be included in the new electronic field service manual, and which will support efficiency across the field service team.

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|------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Service Anniversaries | FEBRUARY 2011 | CTS | DEFENSE | MARCH 2011 | 15 YEARS | CTS |
| | 35 YEARS | James Austin | Roger Bernard | 35 YEARS | CTS | Diane Himes |
| | CTS | Mary Crossno | Scott Bouldin | CTS | Thomas Busch-Sorensen | Ira Michael |
| | Valerie Gibson | Benji St. John | Lamar Cole | Elmer Walker | DEFENSE | Glennmark Tan |
| | 30 YEARS | DEFENSE | Crispin Fierro | DEFENSE | Gale Clouse Jr. | Charles Todd |
| | CTS | James Crooker | David Lefavre | Rick Duran | Katherine Martinez | Kenneth White |
| | Yuchiu Lo | Vester McCollum | Katrina McConkey | 30 YEARS | Gerard Richard | CTSL |
| | DEFENSE | Chad Miller | Cleta McInnis-Dixon | DEFENSE | 10 YEARS | Barry Deering |
| | Maureen Cassidy | Carol Troha | Marcus Merritt | Bonny Cook | CTS | Tuomo Karjalainen |
| | 25 YEARS | Donald Winslow | Timothy Miller | Robert Lewis | John Creedon | Selva Selvanayagam |
| DEFENSE | Gary Washam | James Minsky | 25 YEARS | DEFENSE | Darrin Vicary | |
| Michael Cliett | 10 YEARS | David Penfold | DEFENSE | DEFENSE | DEFENSE | |
| 20 YEARS | CTSL | Robert Perrone | Mark Rice | Bambang Gunadi | James Bailey | |
| CTS | Andrew Cowland | Gary Peters | 20 YEARS | Paul Tweedie | Roberto Bugayong | |
| Thomas Scott Jr. | Ian Lemon | Jason Scerbo | CTS | DEFENSE | Anthony Clapp | |
| Donald Ware | Nasma Malik | Hitul Shah | Clifford Boggs | Dennis Sorrell | Peter Foot | |
| CTSL | 5 YEARS | Michael Stiffler | Charles Graves Jr. | 5 YEARS | David Gillarm | |
| Steve Etienne | CTS | Vishal Verma | DEFENSE | CORP | Jason Jeane | |
| 15 YEARS | Carlos Duarte | John Zhang | Frank Remond Jr. | Robert Gleason | Kevin Landry | |
| CORP | CTSL | CTSL | Christy Schoenfeld | | Ben Mount | |
| Patrick Barton | Mark Whitcombe | | Michael Wesdell | | Jon Rebholz | |
| | | | | | Enedelia Stephens | |
| | | | | | Oleg Zavartsev | |

Are You Up for A Challenge?



Cubic golfers left to right are: E.J. Szymczak, Bob Stamp, Jim Matlock, Brett Stewart, Frank Borsotti, Dan Hawkins (driving), Jerry O'Rourke, Mike Wesdell, Valdek Przyborowski, Janet Baz and Cheng Yeh.

If you like to golf, sign up for the 11th annual Cubic company-wide golf tournament scheduled for Friday, April 22, 2011. The shotgun start begins at 8 a.m. at the Navy's Admiral Baker Golf Club, South Course, in San Diego, California.

Take a break from your computer, BlackBerry, and cell phone and join your coworkers for a spirited day of golf. The 18-hole course features 6,061 yards of golf, a par of 72, is very scenic and home to an abundance of wildlife.

"This annual company-wide golf tournament is a fun time for everyone. The course is challenging enough, in a great setting and is centrally located in the Mission Valley area. After play, we have a great barbeque lunch, and a keg of beer is on hand to ease the pain of your score. Prizes and trophies are given out, plus you get to meet Cubes from other Cubic companies," said Bob Stamp.

Cubic employees, retirees, and their family members may participate. The event costs \$47, which includes a buffet lunch, no-host bar and keg of beer. Closing date for registration is Friday, April 16. To sign up, please contact [Jerry O'Rourke at 858-505-2253](tel:858-505-2253), or jerry.orourke@cubic.com.

In addition to the company-wide tournament, the Cubic Golf Club hosts 12 tournaments a year, held on our "off" Fridays. Cubic employees, retirees, and their family members interested in participating are invited to join the club. Please contact [Jim Matlock at 858-505-2385](tel:858-505-2385), or jim.matlock@cubic.com to become a member.

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