



US Army Corps
of Engineers
St. Louis District

Leaders in Customer Care

Information Bulletin

Vol. 11

No. 11

November 1986

Communications, Si!
Confrontation, No!

A broad selection of diverse viewpoints on environmental issues were brought together, recently, in an "Environmental Day on the River", in St. Louis.

Ninety-three individuals participated in a day-long program designed to encourage information exchange in a relaxed, non-confrontational situation. Seventy-two of these people represented 16 different federal and state agencies, private organizations and news media, all with an interest in environmental and conservation matters.

The event, sponsored by St. Louis District, was scheduled to coincide with the national convention of the Nature Conservancy and 40 of the attendees were members of that organization. Other private groups participating were Friends of the Earth, Sierra Club, Missouri and Illinois Wildlife Societies, and Ducks Unlimited.

The day began with a short orientation briefing, in a downtown hotel, and the group then proceeded, by bus, to Grafton, Illinois. At Grafton, everyone boarded a Corps of Engineers' work-barge, fitted out for the occasion. Several displays and exhibits were on hand, as were folding tables and chairs to accommodate the group. A cross-section of District employees were on hand to answer questions and participate in informal discussions. Presentations were kept to the minimum necessary to provide a background outline of the organizations present and the river segment to be traversed.

The barge proceeded down the Mississippi, through Locks 26 and 27, and terminated on the St. Louis Riverfront beneath the Gateway Arch, just two blocks from the point of origin. A catfish luncheon was served, enroute.

Comments garnered from participants were positive and complimentary. Many individuals expressed increased appreciation, particularly of how the Corps of Engineers cooperates and interacts with the variety of other conservation-related agencies and organizations. Many also termed this their first real personal contact with Corps personnel.

There was a solid consensus that the event had been well worth the time and effort involved.



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DISTRICT DOINGS

Lake Shelbyville

Mary Ann Crawforth gave a tour of the dam for Shelbyville Girl Scout Troop #55, and gave a snake program for the 4th grade students at the Mason Grade School.

National Hunting and Fishing Day was celebrated with a special program and display in the visitor center.

Keep America Beautiful Day was held on 11 October with 102 visitors participating in a trash pickup around the lake. Scouts, youth groups and adults collected several truck loads of trash.

The Project Eco-Meet was held on 7 October at Camp Camfield. The top three teams in each division from Carlyle Lake and Lake Shelbyville competed.

Maria Shafer presented a program at Eastern Illinois University Career Day on Careers with the Corps of Engineers.

Mike Skinner presented a program to the Strasburg Lions Club on Natural Resource Management.

Carlyle Lake

Roger Hayes was a participant on WILY Radio's Hot Line Show on September 25. Topics addressed included fall recreation, area closings and the National Hunting and Fishing Day Celebration.

National Hunting and Fishing Day was celebrated on September 27 at the Carlyle Lake Visitor Center. The public was treated to eight exhibits and demonstrations.

Park Ranger Francis Walton and Park Aid Julie Loepker travelled to Albers Monterey Coal Mine Site #2 for a Family Safety Festival on October 4. Approximately 600 people viewed the display and received brochures concerning water safety.

Park Aid Ken Filbeck and Park Ranger Francis Walton conducted a nature walk, and tours of the dam and visitor center for a group of first graders from the Mulberry Grove Elementary School.

An Eco-Meet was held on October 1. Despite the wet conditions, thirty-eight eco-teams showed up for the day-long competition. Acorn shaped plaques were awarded the first place finishers in each of the three age divisions, and winners then went on to Lake Shelbyville for the District Eco-Meet on October 16.

Mark Twain Lake

Steve Austin and Mary Anne Story led a tour of the power plant and presented "Building a Nation" for 90 students from Missouri Military Academy of Mexico. Mary Anne also took a class of gifted students from Eugene Field School on a nature hike and power plant tour.

Anne Behrens presented "Building a Nation" to members of St. Louis Community College. Anne then teamed with Mary Anne Story and Steve Austin in speaking to 70 Hannibal Central School 6th graders about "energy".



DISTRICT DOINGS (Continued)

Don Graznak presented "A Friend for All Seasons" to members of the American Lung Association's Bike Trek. They also toured the power plant.

Jeanette Campbell presented a program entitled "Early Americans" to the Ralls-Marion Counties Archaeological Society. Jeanette also took students from St. Brendon's 6th grade on a nature hike and power plant tour.

Several special events brought large crowds to the lake for National Hunting and Fishing Day, (1,000 visitors), the 2nd annual 5th grade Fall Outdoor Experience (200 fifth graders), and the 1st Annual Salt River Storytelling Festival. One thousand visitors of all ages gathered to hear a cultural mixture of stories from six professional tellers of the St. Louis area.

Rend Lake

The 1986 Fall Outing was held on Sunday, October 19th at the Visitor Center and Sleepy Hollow Group Camp. The event was co-sponsored by the Corps and Rend Lake Ducks Unlimited. More than 300 people attended and enjoyed such events as puppy and dog trials, duck and goose calling contests and a duck boat shoot. There were also boat and taxidermy displays, a knife show, wildlife movies, and everyone who attended received free Hunter's Stew.

A Conservation-Awards Program was presented to 2,000 students from 13 winning schools that participated in the National Hunting and Fishing Day Coloring Contest. Park Rangers Rachel Garren, Mark Roderick, and Park Aid Marti Schramm made the presentations. Eighty-two schools participated this year with almost 6,500 individual entries.

Approximately 30 volunteers from the Sesser-Valier Outdoorsmen Club spent a Saturday installing deer blinds in preparation for the up-coming Handicapped Deer Hunt.



Wappapello Lake

Park Rangers Dan Couture and Dick Conner presented information about the traditional access plan to the Ozark and Audubon Societies in Cape Girardeau.

Park Aid Shelley Needham and Mingo Wildlife Refuge employee Kevin Segler presented a morning series of wildlife programs to Cotton Boll Council Girl Scouts. This helped the scouts to earn wildlife merit badges.

Assistant Park Manager Richard Hite travelled to four Arkansas colleges for job recruitment, and Park Technicians Maureen Murrin and Sue Mueller attended Government Career Day at Arkansas State University.

While vacationing, Ranger Jude Harrington spoke with students at Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania.

Jude Harrington and Sue Mueller represented the Corps at the October meeting of the Wayne County Historical Society.

Congratulations to Park Rangers Kevin Curran and Maureen Murrin who tied the knot on October 11th.

Lock & Dam 26 (Replacement)

Bill Brown and Rich Reiter presented a slide show about the project on Alton Heritage Days.

Jim Dorsey gave a tour for an engineering class from the Florissant Valley Community College.

Jim Bissell gave a briefing and tour for 92 members of the Southern Ill. Industrial Assn.

Captain Talley and Ed Berghoff conducted tours for 58 members of St. Paul's Episcopal Church Leisure Friends, and for 46 from Edison Electric Institute of Biology.

Farrell Burnett gave a slide presentation for 65 members of Holiday Shores Social Club at their Club House.

Around the District

Terry Norris kept up the lecture tours with appearances at Sacred Heart School, Granite City, Ill., speaking about "18th Century French Presence in the 'Illinois Country'"; the Randolph County Historical Society; Kaskaskia Archaeological Society at Lake Shelbyville; and Parker Road School, Florissant, where 75 students learned about "Indians and Archaeology of Greater St. Louis Metro Area."

Beth Petrilo gave a presentation on Snakes to Cub Scout Pack 195 in St. Louis.

John Clark participated in a panel discussion at the American Consulting Engineers Council Fall Membership Conference. "Working with the Corps of Engineers" was the session topic.

Rob Davinroy lectured to engineering students in a Rivers and Harbors Class at Univ. of Mo.-Rolla. His subject was "River Meandering and Physical Models in St. Louis District."

Joe Bisher represented the Corps at the Procurement Technical Assistance Training Program sponsored by Missouri Small Business Center at Lesterville, MO., and he attended a conference at the Clarion in St. Louis where the subject was "Small Business Opportunities for Selling to the Federal Government and Its Prime Contractors."



LONG-TERM TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT ISSUED

The long-term training announcement for the 1987-1988 school year was issued on 15 October 1986. This annual announcement (green border) is being issued earlier than in previous years to allow interested applicants more time to consider and prepare. It is also anticipated that there will be an earlier due date for submission to the USACE for approval.

The announcement covers four training opportunities for employees meeting specific requirements with the basic requirement for all being that the applicant must have at least a bachelor's degree. The four programs are:

- PLANNING ASSOCIATES
- CIVIL WORKS PROGRAM
- GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP IN WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL LAW PROGRAM
- LOCAL LONG TERM TRAINING

Distribution of the announcement was made to Section level. Copies are available from PO-T, 5832.

INCENTIVE AWARDS

PROMOTIONS:

Barbara Cook, PO-F
David Berti, OD
Helen Schleipman, DC
John Noble, DE
Carolyn Morris, OD
Carolyn Carver, OD
Sharon Leeker, ED
Laurel Lane, ED
Richard Stubits, OD
Darrell LaPlante, OD
Evelyn Roland, OD
Ronald Messerli, OD
Brenda Kondritz, OD
Edward Middleton, IM
James Lynch, OD
Ronald Jones, IM

EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE:

Robert O'Shea, OD
Alton Jenkins, OD
Jacob Buckley, OD
Peter Coleman, OD
Mary Lou Lawson, ED
Gregory Bertoglio, ED
Dario Franzi, Ed
Sharon Hornback, ED
William Meldrum, ED
Paul Olson, ED
Linda Gilkes, ED
Antoinette Mueller, ED
Kathryn Crossley, PA
Carolyn Clark, CD
Dennis Woodruff, CD
Richard Astrack, PD
Jane Collins, BC
Diana Kutz, PO-L
Norris Davis, BC
Brenda Hammell, PO

SPECIAL ACT/SERVICE AWARDS:

Rhonda Smith, OD
Earl Ehlers, ED
Charles Talbott, OD
Paul Lingle, OD
William Levins, RE
Claude Strauser, ED
John Naeger, ED
James Lynch, OD

PERFORMANCE AWARDS:

C. J. Hilton, RO-F
Warner Embley, RO-L
Robert Kreinheder, RO-L
Barbara Boswell, PO-R
Kathryn Crossley, PA
Ronald Lindsay, PD
Michael Abernathy, OD
Joseph Caracci, OD
Kenneth West, OD
Alton Jenkins, OD
William Rogers, ED
Charles Turlin, ED
Robert Davinroy, ED
Antoinette Mueller, ED
R. C. Franco, RE

QUALITY STEP INCREASE:

William Levins, RE
Robert Muffler, OC
Gregory Hempen, ED

INTANGIBLE SUGGESTIONS:

William Jones, OD
Donna Adams, OD
Terri Nicholson, PO
Sharon Cotner, PD
Larry Garrison, ED
Charles Dees, OD
George Honeywell, OD
Rose Mohr, OD

TANGIBLE SUGGESTIONS:

Thomas Bloor, OD
Frank Schafer, OD

ON-THE-SPOT CASH AWARDS:

Norris Davis, BC
Diana Kutz, PO-L
Larry White, IM
Thomas Johnson, OD
Laurel Nelson, RE
Robert Bringer, BC
Ronald Bockhorst, IM
Kenneth Rogers, IM
Shelia Rodriguez, IM
Theresa Williams, SD

RETIREE NEWS

With 16 of the group's "aristocrats" off on a Caribbean cruise, it was not surprising that attendance at the October luncheon was down a bit. Only 28 showed up this month, but a good time was still had by all.

Loren Ligon emceed the gathering (and led a round of applause for the absence of Elmer Huizenga--which gave Loren a clear floor for telling his jokes?).

Aside from regulars, Charlie Gilpin was present.

Rusty Williams was also there and gave a short synopsis of his activities over the past 15 years. Rusty has been living in Florida, in the Sarasota area.

Loren had quite a tale. While enroute to Colorado, he managed to collide with a herd of loose cattle and all but demolished his truck. Loren, himself, came out with only a bruised ankle.

Let's hope the turn-out is a bit larger at the November luncheon, on the 20th.

REMINDER

For anyone who has somehow missed getting the word:

The Retiree's group meets for lunch on the 3rd Thursday, each month, at Pietro's Restaurant (downstairs), 3801 Watson Road. Cocktails at 11:30 a.m. and lunch around noon. The cost (not counting drinks) is normally \$5.00 or less.

This is a purely informal gathering, to maintain personal contacts; no membership is required. Anyone, retired or still active, who wishes to keep in touch with our former District employees is encouraged to attend.

WHAT EMERGENCY?

One man's emergency may be another man's trivial pursuit, and vice versa, but it sometimes reaches the point of being ridiculous.

St. Louis District recently experienced a severe flood event, reaching record stages on some gauges in the area. Following are some of the odder queries received on the special phone circuits of the Emergency Operations Flood Fight Center, (circuits used only during emergencies), during the peak of the flood.

--Would it be all right for me to take a Boy Scout troop on a canoe trip down the river?

--Could you give me the map coordinates of St. Louis? I need them for my FCC license application.

--The Coast Guard says I can't run across the river in my john-boat. Why not?

--Can you arrange a tour of Lock and Dam 26 for my grade school class?

--Is the Social Security office (housed in our building) open today (Columbus Day)?

--I am moving my yacht from Chicago to the Gulf. Will I have any problem getting through the locks?

There were numerous calls regarding fishing conditions in various locations, but the crowning anomaly came from a fellow Corps' employee (in another district). In the midst of a major flood, he called the EOC to request hunting information at Mark Twain Lake.

Footnote: Every caller received a tactful and cooperative response.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM UPDATED

The new DA Civilian Performance Management System was approved by the Office of Personnel Management. The process of establishing performance standards has been simplified by eliminating the requirement to develop supporting tasks, deleting "personnel management" as a mandatory critical element and clarifying the use of EEO as a critical element. Subchapter 2-5 Special Requirements for Performance Plans and Ratings states the following:

a. Furthering equal employment (EEO) and affirmative action is an important Army goal and a significant aspect of supervisory and managerial positions. To achieve this goal, EEO will be a critical element in all supervisory positions with responsibilities for carrying out local affirmative action requirements. Also, EEO will be a critical element in management official positions where program management actions directly affect EEO. Commanders shall provide for appropriate involvement

of the EEO officer in determining which supervisors and managers should have EEO as a critical element, and in advising the rating official on evaluation of performance. Performance standards for EEO will be stated in visible, positive terms and will indicate action desired. In the developing performance standards, the rating supervisor should use specific criteria such as:

(1) Recruitment, promotion, training and incentive awards actions.

(2) Program support as demonstrated by planned actions within the workforce and the community, through standards which build a harmonious environment free of discrimination, and through standards which reinforce EEO policy.

(3) EEO performance standards that higher level supervisors and managers impose on subordinate supervisors and other standards which lead to fair and equal treatment of people.

CAC PRESENTS: RUMA'S DELI DAY

DATE: November 13

Tickets sold 3-10 November - advance sales only (NO SALES AT THE DOOR).

PLACE: Room 629

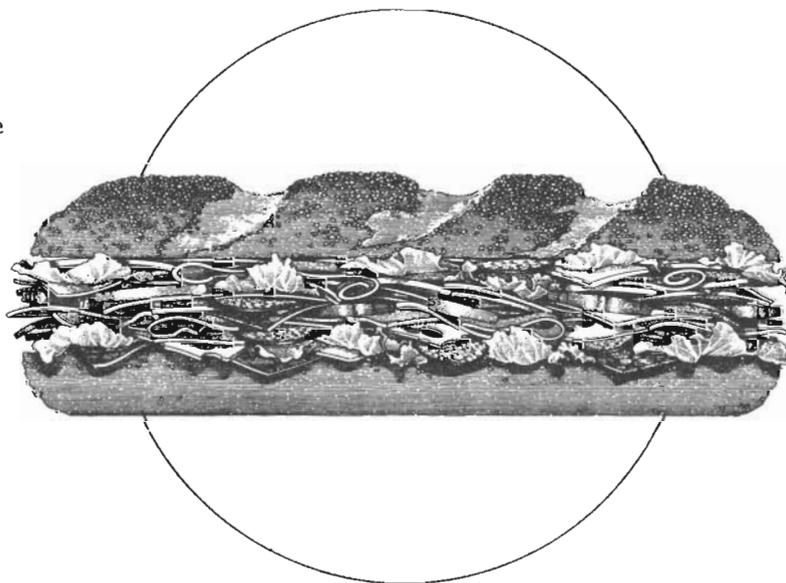
TIME: 11:30-12:30

PRICE: \$2.50 for 1/2 Super Sandwich

\$4.50 for whole Super Sandwich

CONTACT YOUR CAC REPRESENTATIVE

DON'T BE LEFT OUT.



TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

Federal Women's Program (FWP)-sponsored cross training opportunities will again be offered to interested, eligible St. Louis District (SLD) employees. A policy statement explaining the program was distributed on 4 Sep 86. Announcement of available positions and the location of an informational meeting will be distributed to all SLD employees within the next few weeks.

CHANGE IN PHONE NUMBER

Defense Metropolitan Area Telephone System-St. Louis has advised that effective 26 Oct 86, the AUTOVON access code for Fort McPherson, GA is changed from "588" to "572". The last four digits of all telephone numbers remain unchanged.

Sure It Is!

MISSISSIPPI NOT THE BIGGEST?

According to an Associated Press (AP) wire-service story, the Mississippi River was temporarily displaced as America's largest river, this fall.

During the month of September, the St. Lawrence River (at Massena, NY) averaged a daily flow of 211 billion gallons, while the Mighty Miss carried only 192 billion gallons past Vicksburg, MS.

Mississippi river-folk, however, have no cause to develop humility; over the 12 months of FY-86, Old Man River averaged 406 billion gallons a day, while the St. Lawrence trickled along with a puny 196.

No matter how often it's shown that money doesn't bring happiness, we're always willing to give it another chance.



THANKSGIVING DAY TURKEY

Naturalists tell us that the turkeys we buy for Thanksgiving dinner are but a far distant relative of the wild Eastern turkeys that graced the Pilgrims' tables.

Getting that turkey of the wilds was a challenge for any hunter, and more particularly for the new colonists. They had limited experience and inadequate guns.

But the great bird itself was the heart of the challenge. Eminent ornithologist Edward Howe Forbush wrote of his wild turkey shooting trip: "At the sound of my gun, the great bird rose splendid from the grass, gorgeous with metallic reflections, its broad wings throwing off sun rays like polished bronze and gold."

Benjamin Franklin was another admirer of the wild turkey. He found it a courageous bird with cunning and adaptability. In fact, Franklin advocated the wild turkey as the American national symbol rather than the bald eagle.

Today a slang term tries to say that a "turkey" is a dull person, easily deceived. Whatever source you may attribute this term to, it definitely wasn't the wise, tough-to-shoot turkey of New England. The distinctive flavor of the wild turkey came from its selection of food, including every sort of seeds, leaves, insects.

T-Day Q & A



Why did the Pilgrims have turkey on the first Thanksgiving?

Because it was too hard to stuff a bear.

Why do turkeys gobble?

Because they don't have any table manners.

Are tom turkeys as tender as hens?

Only during mating season.

How big does a turkey have to be to serve 10 people?

Big enough to reach above the table and carry things from the kitchen.

Take extra caution if you're driving or working with machinery right after lunch. Studies show that time to be one of the most dangerous of the day. In many cultures, a midday nap is the solution to the after-lunch energy dip. In the industrialized world, we just have to be more careful.



SECOND REMINDER: CHRISTMAS DANCE

Date: Saturday, December 6, 1986

Hilton Inn, Collinsville, Ill.

Good news! The hotel has given us a better price for staying over. Prices are now: \$30.00 for single and \$38.00 for double.

Remember, Cocktails start at 6:30, dinner at 7:00. Then dancing from 8:00 to 12:00 to the beat of "Fat Chance"

Be there!

Deadline for submission of items to the December Information Bulletin is November 27th. Earlier submission is encouraged.

NEWS FROM RETIREES WELCOME (Phone Public Affairs at 263-5662)

Positive attitude key to quitting smoking

By Evelyn D. Harris

American Forces Information Services

Smokers who reward themselves when they try to quit smoking are more likely to stay away from the cancer sticks permanently. Those who punish themselves aren't.

At least that's what a recent Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology article concludes.

A group of psychologists, led by Russell E. Glasgow of the Oregon Research Institute, looked at 134 adult smokers who volunteered for a stop-smoking contest conducted by the Minnesota Heart Health Program. The participants had smoked an average of 25 cigarettes a day for at least a year. To win, smokers had to abstain for a month. The contest sponsors told the participants that non-smoking status would be verified by biochemical tests of carbon monoxide.

The contest sponsors gave no suggestions as to strategy. Most participants (91 percent) quit cold turkey. Interestingly, those who gradually cut down on their smoking before the contest date were more likely to fail than those who quit cold turkey. At month's end, 55 people had succeeded in quitting.

How did they succeed where others had failed?

The successful quitters got no more help from their friends than those who failed. They had no less objective stress — unhappy life events, increased responsibility — although they may have perceived less stress.

Their main difference: self-reward. They told themselves how healthy they'd be and what a good example they'd set by not smoking. They bought themselves treats with money they saved by not smoking. They thought about the contest prize they'd win.

The unsuccessful quitters thought about how weak they would appear by smoking. This strategy may actually have increased their nervousness and made them more likely to smoke, the article concluded.

Positive strategies for staying smoke free

Secretary of Defense Caspar W. Weinberger and the service chiefs have declared that smoking hurts readiness. There are fewer places you can light up. "OK," you say, "I'll try to quit, but I'm not sure I can." Quitting is easier when you use positive strategies:

- Tell yourself that you have a lot of willpower.
- Make a list of all the reasons you want to quit, and put it where you can see it.



Calculate how much money you'll save in a year by not smoking. Decide what you want to buy for yourself with that money (how about a compact disc player?), and put up a picture of the item where you can see it.

Get in an exercise program. If you're in one already, make it more ambitious. You'll find you have more energy to put into it.

If you're afraid of gaining weight once you quit — and only one-third of ex-smokers do — use low-calorie oral substitutes like celery sticks or sugar-free gum.

Think of yourself as a non-smoker. Sit in the non-smoking area of planes and restaurants.

Pat yourself on the back every time you refrain from smoking in a difficult situation — at a party, writing a difficult report on the job — whatever. Brag a little to others about your success.

Get your teeth cleaned. Notice how much longer they stay that way.

HELP US FIGHT FOR YOUR LIFE

Don't Smoke

American Heart Association 

WE'RE FIGHTING FOR YOUR LIFE

ACCIDENT SUMMARY

GOVERNMENT VEHICLE

ACCIDENTS - OCT 86: None

Total vehicle accidents, FY 87: None

Total vehicle accidents, FY 86: Two

PERSONAL INJURIES - GOVERNMENT

EMPLOYEES - OCT 86: None

Total accidents for FY 87: None

Total accidents for FY 86: Fourteen

PERSONAL INJURIES - CONTRACTOR

EMPLOYEES - OCT 86: None

Total accidents for FY 87: None

Total accidents for FY 86: Fourteen

LAKE FATALITIES - OCT 86: None

Total lake fatalities for FY 86: Eight

Mark Twain Lake - 4

Carlyle - 2

Rend Lake - 1

Wappapello - 1

MAKE THIS THE YEAR YOU BLOW SMOKING OUT OF YOUR LIFE.

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

Great American Smokeout Nov.20

It'll Kill Ya!



...And that's NO JOKE



"Well, at least your hair is getting thin!"