

ST. LOUIS ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT

ESPRIT

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Corbin's Comments by Col. James E. Corbin



Hi! It's me again. Have heard nothing new that's useful about the reorganization. Once again, stay out of the rumor mill and don't get in any oral altercations with those districts around us!

Plan to have Col. Craig, my replacement, here about two weeks early. He and I will take a tour of the District together to facilitate a smooth

handoff, ensure he understands what's been ongoing and why, and to ensure that he isn't inadvertently

led into policy changes by any of us who may only be dealing with our view or part of the District's effort. It's the third time he has followed me into an assignment, so I doubt he will find any surprises. I think you can probably count on him to continue most of our ongoing efforts. The reorganization, if it begins to really move forward, will require a lot of your time and effort and will require a reordering of some priorities.

Looks like everyone had a good time at the Open House and the Picnic. If you have ideas on how to improve either, please let us know. We want it to be a good day for all!

Most efforts appear to be moving forward in a reasonable manner. Appreciate very much your efforts and enthusiasm. You, every one of you, are doing a great job! Thanks!

Corps Reorganization

Job competition rights

One of the more serious matters that has been mentioned about the Corps-wide reorganization is the possibility that HQ USACE may attempt to redesignate "competitive areas." As you know, under the initial plans for the Corps-wide reorganization, it is proposed that the St. Paul District and the Rock Island District be merged with the St. Louis District. The competitive area sets the organizational and geographic boundaries which determines what groups of employees compete for placement under reduction-in-force (RIF).

Currently, the competitive areas are set so that employees of the St. Paul District will compete only with employees of the St. Paul District; Rock Island District employees will compete only with Rock Island District employees, etc. In other words, employees from St. Paul or Rock Island are not

entitled to displace (bump or retreat) St. Louis employees.

One issue that has been raised in the reorganization is whether the competitive areas of the three districts, entire divisions or the entire Corps should be combined, i.e. that St. Paul, Rock Island and St. Louis District employees would be combined into one competitive area to compete for placement at the St. Louis District. While we can't promise this won't occur, the likelihood of such a change is extremely slim.

To understand why this is unlikely, one needs to understand the procedural requirements to make such a change occur. To attempt to combine these three competitive areas, or otherwise change the current definition of any district's competitive area,

(continued on next page)



US Army Corps of Engineers
St. Louis District

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Rights continued

would require each district commander to negotiate with all affected employee organizations (unions) and to obtain agreement from those organizations that such a decision should be made and implemented.

The St. Louis District currently has seven separate unions. The odds of any of the local unions in a "gaining district" agreeing to combine employees of another district into their competitive area are remote to none, and more likely, none. In fact, while the commander may be asked to attempt to negotiate such a change, we would anticipate few commanders would have their heart in it when the result would be likely displacement (bumping) of their district employees.

In addition, a decision to change competitive areas is also subject to contest by affected employees who are not represented by a union.

It is our view that St. Louis District employees need not be concerned about the employees of other affected districts competing for our currently-held jobs. A more likely occurrence is that our St. Louis District vacancies would become frozen for placement of displaced employees from the St. Paul and Rock Island Districts.

So if you have been concerned about being bumped out of your job, we hope that the above information will provide you a better perspective from which to make informed decisions. The District's Personnel Office has ordered pamphlets from the Office of Personnel Management about RIF for those who would like to know more about the procedures of RIF and what RIF'd employees can expect. They will be available soon.

Drainage structure construction

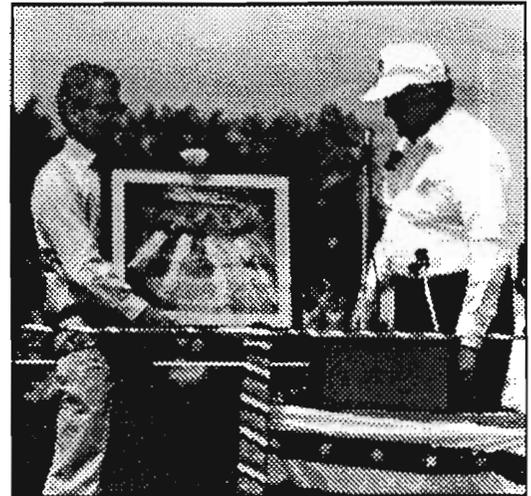
In 1985, the four massive drain pipes under the Harrisonville levee, in Monroe County, Illinois, began to collapse, weakening the levee and increasing the risk of flooding from the Mississippi River.

The levee district couldn't afford repairs and appealed to Congressman Glenn Poshard for help. He succeeded in obtaining \$1 million in federal funds. Additional financial assistance amounting to \$400,000 was provided by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs.

The Corps of Engineers designed the repair project and awarded a construction contract 10 months after receiving funds. The contractor, Luhr Brothers, Inc., of Columbia, Illinois, recently completed the essential work about one month ahead of schedule, before the most dangerous time of the year

for flooding on the Mississippi.

The commissioners of the Harrisonville Drainage and Levee District dedicated the repair project for the Maeystown Creek



Floyd Niebruegge, president of the board of levee commissioners, presents a photo of the project to Congressman Poshard.

example of what can be accomplished when all concerned work together to properly manage a project.

New Riverlands office opening

The Riverlands Area Office is expanding. It is opening a branch in Clarksville, Missouri. A ceremony will be held to mark the opening. It will begin at 10 a.m. on Thursday, July 25, in the park adjacent to Lock and Dam 24. An open house will follow the ceremony. District employees are welcome to attend.

A bus will be available to take employees to the ceremony. It will leave from in front of the RAY Building at 8 a.m. The bus will leave Clarksville for the

return trip at 1:30 p.m. It will arrive at the building at 3:30.

Three area restaurants are located within walking distance of the ceremony site. A picnic area overlooking the river is also available for picnic lunching.

Employees wishing to take the bus must sign up NLT Tuesday, July 22. Contact Roger Hayes, in OD-R, at 331-8635. For further information contact the Riverlands Area Office at 899-0405.




Promotions & Incentive Awards

PROMOTIONS:

Vanessa Alexander, IM
 John Baker, IM
 Laurie Busse, ED
 Martha Conrad, OD
 Peggy Gravot, OD
 Donna Henrichs, OD
 Carol Hilderbrand, ED
 Joseph Kissane, ED
 Kathleen Kornberger, PM
 Claudia Tonsor, ED
 Clarice Trigg, CD
 Linda Werner, OD

EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE RATINGS:

Artemio Basuel, OD
 Ronald Bockhorst, IM
 Barbara Boswell, PO
 Robert Crocker, OD
 Norris Davis, PM

Sandor Dombi, ED
 Stevenson Ellis, OD
 Phillip Eydmann, PM
 Barry Fehl, ED
 Larry Gutzler, OD
 Clyde Hopple, ED
 William Jones, OD
 Roger Loughridge, OD
 Robert Mesko, ED
 Dennis Morgan, ED
 Ida Morris, PD
 Kathie Shelton, ED
 Gary Webb, CD
 Janet Wilhite, CT
 Darold Woodcock, PO

PERFORMANCE AWARDS:

Joy Bode, CT
 Deann Chambers, DC
 Stevenson Ellis, OD
 Phillip Eydmann, PM
 Marcia Gerdes, CD

Danny McMurphy, PM
 Nicholas Mudd, OD
 Virginia Mueller, IM
 Stephen Redington, ED

SPECIAL ACT AWARDS:

Joan Brickey, CT
 Nancy Connor, CT
 Mary Daher, CT
 Janet Howard, CT
 Carl Huber, CT
 Vick James, CD
 Barbara Jarman, CT
 Loretta Jenner, CT
 Deborah Krems, CT
 William Slabaugh, DC
 James Steele, OD
 Richard Stubits, OD
 Kathy Tober, PO
 Benedict Venturella, PM
 Kenneth Wingrove, OD

Corbin lauded by Illinois Senate

Our District Engineer has received more accolades for his environmental work in the region. The 87th General Assembly of the Illinois Senate has lauded the Colonel in Senate Resolution No. 237.

The resolution offered by Senator Sam M. Vadalabene, from Edwardsville, lists some of the Colonel's accomplishments, such as initiation of remarkable

environmental programs, unswerving dedication to sound water resource management, favorable Corps relationship with diverse public interest groups, providing the Corps with dynamic new commitment, to name a few, and commends him for his devotion to his country, his professional courage and sterling leadership.

Earlier this year Colonel Corbin received the Conservation-

ist of the Year award from the Missouri Conservation Federation, the Conservationist of the Year award from the St. Louis Chapter of the Audubon Society, the Conservationist of the Year award from the Migratory Waterfowl Hunters, Inc., and an award for support of conservation in the Riverlands area from PRIDE, Inc., of Alton, Illinois.



On the Soapbox

Telling the District's story this month were:

Around the District

Ken Koller, PM-M, spoke to 30 members of Our Lady of Loretto Men's Club about the Melvin Price Locks and Dam project.

Terry Norris, PD-A, lectured 18 Southwestern Illinois high school honors students from Piasa, Illinois, about the history of navigation on the Mississippi River aboard the Belle of Grafton tour boat.

Antionette Fort and Pam Knutt, OD-R, gave a Woodsy Owl presentation at Children's Hospital. The young patients were pleased to have this exciting addition to their hospital visit.

Riverlands Office

Employees at the Riverlands Area Office took about 400 people on tours of the Melvin Price Locks and Dam in June. The tourists included delegates from Mexico and members of the National Wetland Research Program (NWRP).

Riverlands also hosted a barbeque for NWRP on June 26th coordinated by Monica Ellis.

Rend Lake

Park Rangers Brian Van Horn, Pam Robinson, Sherry Hilscher and Randy Stewart gave programs on animals at the annual Kiwanis Fun Day for mentally impaired youths and adults held at the Sleepy Hollow Youth Area.

Park Rangers LeeAnn Greenwell and Lee Messersmith

presented a program on pollution to 31 youths at the Sesser, Illinois, Library during story hour. LeeAnn and Woodsy demonstrated how not to pollute and how to conserve energy in their homes

Courtesy boat safety inspections by Park Rangers Mark Roderick, LeeAnn Greenwell and David Smothers were performed at the Rend Lake Marina and at boat ramps in recreation areas to help promote National Safe Boating Week.

Park Rangers Brian Van Horn, Pam Robinson and Thomas Malkovich gave programs to Kinder-Prep students at the Sleepy Hollow Youth Area on "Why Birds Build Nests," "Indians" and "Water Safety."

Park Ranger Mark Roderick was interviewed by radio station WMIX (Mt. Vernon) and Z100 (Carbondale) about water safety and boating during Safe Boating Week.

Mark Twain Lake

Snakes, snakes and more snakes. Snakes were the most popular subject for programs at the lake. Park Rangers Tyson Shelley and Kyle Kendrick traveled the countryside talking to Boy Scouts, pre-schools and audiences at library programs heralding the snake's role in nature.

Water safety puppet shows have been a hit at the area safety town held in Mexico, Missouri. Numerous performances by Park Rangers Shelly Basinger, Hope Simmons and Becky Ebbing have started children on the road to a safe water recreation future.

Lake Shelbyville

Park Rangers Terri Morris and Carla Endsley took the Herrick Hustlers 4-H Club on a tour of the dam.

Park Rangers Toni Cyr and Carla Endsley took 42 students of Stew/Stras Elementary School on a tour of the dam.

Park Rangers Dee Carlock and Toni Cyr spoke about Wildflowers at the Shelby Memorial Nursing Home.

Toni and Carla Endsley demonstrated prehistoric fire starting to 150 Effingham Cub Scouts at their annual summer camp.

Park Ranger Krista Schwerman put on a program about Lyme Disease at the Visitor Center.

Park Ranger Kara Hauk gave a water safety program to 150 students at Moutrie County's Conservation Field Day at Okaw Bluff.

Park Rangers Lara Johanpeter and Carla Endsley talked about the reptiles of Illinois and Larry Gutzler and Toni Cyr did a program on pond life for 48 students of Arcola Jr. High School.

Kara Hauk, Mark Ferguson, Krista Schwerman and Toni Cyr took 50 students of Humboldt Grade School on a tour of the dam and spoke to them about snakes.

Terri Morris and Carla Endsley presented a boating safety program for 35 employees of Cabot Corporation in Tuscola, Illinois.

Maintenance Supervisor Bill Gidcomb gave an overview of the lake from construction to the

(continued on page 7)



NEWS BRIEFS

Brown Pelican

Wappapello Lake has a new and rare resident, a Brown Pelican. Although the large fish eating birds are normally associated with coastal bodies of water, it is possible that the Pelican got lost during migration and is simply spending the summer. Unlike its relative, the White Pelican, the Brown Pelican is an expert diver and is often seen plunging headfirst into the water in pursuit of fish. Populations were once threatened by DDT, but the Brown Pelican is making a comeback.

Acorns planted

About 100 acres of Nuttall Oak acorns were planted in a wildlife management area at Wappapello Lake. The Mingo Refuge and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service cooperated in the planting. Lake staff are inspecting additional areas for possible acorn planting in the fall.

Armed Forces Day

Armed Forces Day for 1991 was held June 8 at Wappapello Lake. More than 6,000 visitors enjoyed a day filled with fun and excitement which included KC-135, C-130 and F-4 flyovers, helicopter landings, static displays, dog team demonstrations, flying rifles drill team, CNN news clips of Desert Shield/Storm and live entertainment.

Navy Sea-Bees

The Navy Sea-Bees from Cape Girardeau have upgraded two picnic shelters, spread rip-rap at Rockwood Point Beach and performed minor maintenance to the Ranger Office at Wappapello Lake.

Safety course

A state certified boating education safety course sponsored by the Corps of Engineers and the Illinois Department of Conservation was held at the Rend Lake Visitor Center as part of National Safe Boating Week. The course, taught by the ranger staff, provided nineteen students with the requirements to meet the state's mandatory safety education for boat operators between the ages of 12 and 17.

Landscaping

The Resource Volunteers at Rend Lake have been busy landscaping the entrance to the Visitor Center as well as maintenance of existing landscaping. They are now in the process of mulching trees to prevent damage to the bark. A Wildlife Habitat project is in the planning stages coordinated by Park Ranger Sherry Hilscher. It will start this fall.

Summer Daze

Summer Daze was held at the Rend Lake Visitor Center and enjoyed by 6,000 people. Summer Daze consisted of two days of crafts and flea market items and live entertainment. Activities were for all ages.

Beach mats

Shelby County Community Services, Health 708 Board and Mental Health and Retardation Association donated \$4,000 worth of beach mats to Lake Shelbyville. These mats allow for easy transportation of disabled people across the sand to the water. They have proven valuable to many visitors to the lake's beaches.

MTL Craft Show

The Second Annual Mark Twain Lake Craft Show was held on June 8 and 9. Crowds of visitors jammed the M.W. Boudreaux Visitor Center to spot the perfect work of art. Echoing throughout the shade trees was that infamous phrase heard at all craft shows. "I could do that."

Degenhardt drills

The Corps has finally found the right job for Gene Degenhardt. He was spotted sitting in his cubicle drilling the little nobs off the toilet paper holders. You know, those irritating little things in the rest rooms that will only turn a half turn. Well they go all the way around now. Way to go Gene. This is the epitome of value engineering. The St. Louis District is proud of your work.

We heard Gene talked Kathy Tober into helping. Well, she's still relatively new here. She'll learn to walk the other way.



NEWS BRIEFS continued

Car show

Carlyle Lake's Show, Shine and Cruise '91 Car Show drew about 4,500 people. More than 130 cars entered this year's event, with several entries from other states. Park Ranger Joe Smothers appeared on WPMB Radio in Vandalia to promote the event.

Safety inspection

Park Rangers at Carlyle Lake conducted free boat safety inspections as part of the 1991 National Safe Boating Week Campaign. This event, in cooperation with the Illinois DOC, is performed yearly to emphasize boating safety.

Fishing clinic

In celebration of the Free Fishing Days Program in Illinois, Park Rangers at Carlyle Lake conducted a free kids/parents Fishing Clinic. About 300 people attended the event. Guest speakers talked to the children about the proper techniques employed to catch panfish, catfish and bass. Casting contests were held and prizes awarded to the most proficient.

More falcons

A second batch of falcons found a new river home in the Riverlands in June. One male and two female falcons were officially released June 23rd. They are being monitored by volunteers from Raptor Rehabilitation and Propagation Project throughout the summer.

Pond stocked

The Missouri Department of Conservation completed stocking of Teal Pond, a 60 acre lake in the Environmental Demonstration Area adjacent to Mel Price Locks and Dam in the middle of June. There should be some great fishing in the lake in a couple of years.

Corbin award

Congratulations to Colonel Corbin who received yet another Conservationist of the Year award, this time from the Migratory Waterfowl Hunters, Inc. The award was presented in June at the group's monthly meeting. It is only the seventh time they have presented such an award in their 21 year history. The award is reserved for individuals who have made special efforts in the

interest of conservation. It has never before been presented to a Corps of Engineers commander.

Soapbox Continued

present to 90 members of the Illinois Counsel of Carpenters at the Clarion Inn at Eagle Creek State Park.

Carlyle Lake

Park Rangers William Howard, Cara Clouse and Tanya Michael participated in the Centennial Parade for the Village of Albers, Illinois. Smokey and Woodsy made guest appearances. About 10,000 people attended

Wappapelo Lake

Park Ranger Deborah Swinford presented a program entitled "Snakes Alive" to about 30 campers at Camp Latonka. She talked about safety and identification of snakes in Missouri.

During June Park Rangers Becky Hays, Deborah Swinford and Tia Hatfield did 60 recorded radio interviews. These interviews became the Wappapelo Lake Weekly Recreation Report and informed the public of water levels, camping and fishing conditions, special events and safety.

Mississippi River remains high

Recent flooding on the Upper Mississippi River has continued, with only brief respites, since early April because of heavy rain in the Upper Mississippi River Basin. The resulting high flow rates in the river have caused open-river conditions to exist at the navigation dams within the St. Louis District for an extended length of time. Open-river conditions mean the gates at the navigation dams are completely

out of the water. The gates are removed from the water to prevent the dams from causing flooding.

Open-river conditions have existed at the navigation dams within the St. Louis District continuously since the following dates:

- Dam No. 24 (Clarksville, MO) 15 April 1991
- Dam No. 25 (Winfield, MO) 28 March 1991

Melvin Price Dam (Alton, IL) 15 April 1991

The most recent river forecasts indicate that, even without additional rainfall in the Upper Mississippi River Basin, open-river conditions will continue for another two or three weeks.

Extended periods of open-river conditions at the navigation dams are not uncommon. On the average, a period of open-river (continued on page 14)



Roger Hoell Day at the ball park

By Kathie Shelton, ED-DG

Ask Roger if he is a Cub Fan and you get an immediate glare with a rapid shaking of the head to say no. Roger is a loyal Cardinal Fan and nothing will ever change that. It was because of his devotion to the team that we decided to take him to the game and to make it something special. Various ideas were shared between Mike Brazier, Tom Ruf and myself for the "Roger Hoell Day at the Ball Park." We contacted Bryn Smith (Cardinal pitcher) and asked if Roger could meet some of the players. A call came in from Joe Strohm (Cardinal Marketing Assistant) letting us know that Mr. Smith had contacted him about doing this for Roger and he would be making the arrangements. Tickets were purchased for Roger, three of his children, and forty-six of his friends from work. Rex Hudler said he would give Roger one of his bats.

On June 10th we left for the game. Roger had no idea why we were going so early. We met with Joe Strohm and Mike Ball in the



Rex Hudler presents an autographed bat to Roger.

lobby and it was then that Roger was informed he was going to meet the Cardinal players. At first he looked as if he didn't believe it, but after Mike handed him a ball to get autographed, Roger grinned. Mike also gave a ball to each of Roger's children, Julie, Tracey and Chris. Once the elevator arrived it was just a matter of minutes before we were at our destination.

Roger looked around in amazement upon arriving at the dugout. The majority of the players were out on the field warming up for the game. He scanned the field as if he was trying to see how many players he could recognize and with each nod one would assume that

meant he knew the player. He was having the time of his life. You could see the excitement in his eyes as Ozzie Smith stopped to shake his hand. He appeared to be awed as he listened to every word that Ozzie had to say. When Ozzie left, I noticed Roger was staring at his hand as if he was asking himself, "Did this really happen?"

Pedro Guerrero appeared to be one of his favorites. He listened to him as if he didn't want to miss a single word. After Pedro left, Roger exclaimed with wide eyed amazement, "He's big!" Red Schoendienst approached him and struck an instant rapport. If one didn't know better you would think they had been life-long friends. Mike Shannon, Todd Zeile, Tom Pagnozzi, Joe Torre, Geronimo Pena, Jose Oquendo and Jose DeLeon were among the many others who stopped to give Roger and his children a big hello.

Everyone went out of their way to insure that Roger was having a good time. Some of the players had time to get their picture taken with Roger and others had to get back to practice. Still, knowing that they took the time to give a special hello to a very special guy meant a lot to all of us.



Roger and kids, Tracey and Chris, pose with Tom Pagnozzi and Ozzie Smith.

Roger, his children and I were each presented with a bag of Cardinal memorabilia. As we were showing Roger the various gifts he received, Willie McGee walked by. Milt Thompson came up, shook Roger's hand, talked for a few minutes and had his picture taken with Roger. There were moments when Roger's eyes would appear to be misty. Seeing how happy this was making him made me a little misty-eyed too.

Rex Hudler autographed a bat while talking to Roger and then presented it to him. To describe the look on Roger's face as he accepted the bat is best done with

one word, "WOW." I took their picture. Then it was time for us to go to our seats. He did not get to meet Bryn due to practice, but I am grateful that Bryn had talked to Joe so that Roger could have this wonderful day with the Cardinal players. Roger was still clutching the bat as we left for the elevator. At one point he started swinging it just like he was ready to go play ball. I could tell that he was proud of the bat he had just received. He sat the bat beside him as we got on the elevator.

We got Roger to his seat and he was greeted by many of his friends. Mike Brazier presented him with gifts from all of us. First thing he received was a Cub pennant which he responded to by shaking his head no to let Mike know he is not a Cub Fan. Then Roger received a Cardinal jacket, Cardinal pennant and a



Red Schoendienst visits with Roger and his children, Tracey, Julie and Chris.

Cardinal squeeze bottle. Roger's son, Chris, was given a Cardinal T-shirt and a complete set of Cardinal baseball cards.

About the fifth inning Roger noticed the score board was displaying "Roger Hoell Day at the Ball Park." He got so excited and tried to get Mike Brazier's attention. I was trying to get a picture of it and noticed that Roger's eyes were shining with excitement. He was waving his hands towards Mike. He wanted everyone to see the scoreboard.

Around the seventh inning we took Roger down to get a couple of baseball cards made of him with his bat. They came out great. We came back to our seats and finished watching the game.

A few minutes before the game was over, Roger left to meet everyone out in front of the Musial statue for our group picture. The Cardinals won 3-2 against the Giants. There was no doubt the Cardinals would win. After all, it was Roger's special day.

A special thanks to the 50 plus friends from the St. Louis District who helped make this a special event for Roger.



Recycling Corner

Your recycling committee would like to use this month's column to tell you of some of the recycling ideas the members use. We encourage you to participate by sending your recycling methods, ideas or questions to us for publishing in the upcoming ESPRIT issues. Send any or all to "Dear Aunt Trashie" in care of CELMS-ED-R. Every effort will be made to publish all innovative recycling ideas. We'll try to answer your questions.

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce Aunt Trashie. She is a Missouri native, born near the Arkansas-Missouri border and absolutely refuses to share her age with anyone. She has been active in her community and is a regular at town socials, bingos and church quiltings. Although widowed, she remains active and is often seen herding her '47 Packard through the town square, glasses perched on the tip of her nose, waving to those dodging her on the sidewalks. She's a bit eccentric, but a wise lady in the business of recycling. Look for her to share her enthusiasm for recycling in upcoming ESPRIT columns.

For this month, a few members are sharing their ideas. From Connie Driscoll, PO, it's a family activity. Her 11-year old son, Lenny, collects aluminum cans for recycling. Connie uses newspaper to clean her windows. (Aunt Trashie recommends using vinegar water for washing and the final polishing with newspapers. The result is shiny, lint-free windows!)

Jerry Hawkins, ED-GI, engineer and handyman, says the best way to recycle is to reuse the

"throw away" item essentially as it is without recycling. He has found that glass jars with lids make great storage containers for small items in the workshop, such as screws, bolts, washers, nails and other small parts. The see-through glass allows you to immediately identify what is in each jar. Jerry says to make this storage more efficient, simply attach the jar lids to a simple rotatable holder or underneath a shelf. The holder is easy to make from scrap pieces of lumber, some 2x4 pieces and a dowel rod. Simply glue or nail two short pieces of the 2x4s together, making a square piece of lumber (about 3 1/2 inch end section). Next, drill a hole in the center of each end of the holder large enough for the dowel rod. Glue or permanently affix short pieces of the dowel into the holes. Use the rest of the scrap lumber to make a wall bracket and cut a notch or slot in the end just large enough to fit the dowel and allow the holder to rotate. Attach jar lids to the four sides of the holder and attach the jars. The holder will rotate making all 4 sides accessible and placing the parts at your finger tips.

Aunt Trashie, gardener extraordinaire, thinks recycling doesn't always mean loading recyclables in the family station wagon, but finding a use for those items. She, after carefully planting by the moon signs and nurturing the healthy young tomato and pepper seedlings to about 10 inches, provides a trickle of water system. Although she favors 1-gallon milk containers, she allows that 2-liter soda or even detergent or fabric softener bottles may be used. First, remove the top portion of the bottle about 1 1/2

inches or to the top of the handle. Then punch 1 small hole in the bottom, center of each. Carefully dig a spot between each plant and place the containers with the top at ground level and fill them with water. The water will seep below surface level to irrigate the root system of the plants, and voila! (Aunt Trashie's mother's cousin was French, you know) a bountiful pepper and tomato crop.

Next month, we will share your ideas and questions, as well as some more of Aunt Trashie's. We will get an update from the St. Louis Abused Women's Center on how they are using the proceeds from the can recycling monies for their organization.

Thanks to all of you who remember to recycle your aluminum cans. We know some areas (primarily ED-D and IM) have had overflow problems with the single collection containers available in those areas. Good news! Permission has been received to purchase two new 44-gallon collection containers for those areas. When they are received, crushing of cans will no longer be required. We would like to ask that you please empty cans before depositing them, uncrushed, in the collection containers. The sharp edges of the crushed cans cut the plastic bags and allow the soda to run onto the carpet during collection.

Again, thanks from your committee and the St. Louis Abused Women's Center.

Remember, send your ideas, questions, comments or whatever to: Dear Aunt Trashie, in care of CELMS-ED-R. Until next month, Aunt Trashie says, "If you can't recycle it, don't buy it!"



Coming Events at the lakes

CARLYLE LAKE

Aug 10 Wildlife Arts Show
 Sept 21 National Hunting and Fishing Day

MARK TWAIN LAKE

July 20 & 21 Indian Artifacts Exhibit
 Aug 10 & 11 Salt River Folklife Festival
 Aug 17 & 18 Rock and Mineral Show
 Aug 24 Mark Twain Lake Photo Contest
 Sept 28 National Hunting and Fishing Day

LAKE SHELBYVILLE

July 13 & 14 Energy Conservation Weekend

July 26 - 28 Water Follies
 Aug 2 - 4 Smokey Bear Weekend
 Aug 17 Okaw Indian Festival
 Sept 1 & 2 Dove Hunt
 Oct 3 Eco Meet
 Nov 15 - 17 Handicap Deer Hunt

REND LAKE

July 13 & 14 Arts and Crafts Fair
 Aug 17 Jam on The Dam
 Sept 14 Rend Lake Cleanup

Accident Summary

PERSONAL INJURIES - GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES - JUN 91: Two

Total accidents for FY91: Six
 Total accidents for FY90: Thirteen

An employee suffered a severe laceration across the palm of his hand while trying to remove debris from a mowing tractor. He thought the mower was turned off when he attempted to unclog the cutter bar, but when the material was removed, the bar suddenly started moving.

An employee suffered a dislocation of his lower back while helping another employee carry 70 lb. grills and rings to be placed into freshly poured concrete.

PERSONAL INJURIES - CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEES - JUN 91: One

Total accidents for FY91: Five
 Total accidents for FY90: Eight

A contractor employee suffered fractures of both feet and the lower back when his crane tipped on its

side. Because the boom was extended and the positive pin lock was not secured, the crane boom drifted out, causing the crane to tip. The employee jumped eight to ten feet from the crane, landing on both feet, causing fractures.

GOVERNMENT VEHICLE ACCIDENTS - JUN 91: None

Total vehicle accidents for FY91: None
 Total vehicle accidents for FY90: Five

LAKE FATALITIES - JUN 91: None

Total lake fatalities for FY91: One
 Lake Shelbyville - 1

Total lake fatalities for FY90: Five

Carlyle Lake - 1
 Lake Shelbyville - 1
 Rend Lake - 2
 Wappapello Lake - 1



U.S. communities fete Desert Storm troops



American Forces Information Service

Communities across the nation honored members of the armed services with Operation Desert Storm "homecoming" activities over the Fourth of July holiday. Some major July 4th observances reported to DoD include:

* Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, had a "Spirit of '76 at Valley Forge Honors the Heroes of Desert Storm" celebration.

* Philadelphia had a homecoming celebration parade called "America, Come Home to Philadelphia" combined with traditional Fourth of July festivities.

* Atlanta featured a "Welcome Home/Fourth of July Celebration" parade and additional activities at the Fulton County Stadium.

* Escondido, California, had a parade honoring local Marines combined with traditional Fourth of July festivities.

* Washington, D.C., scheduled an "Event on the Mall" featuring headline entertainers, the U.S. Navy Band and the National Symphony, as well as a fireworks display; the event recognized Desert Storm troops and celebrated the nation's 215th birthday.

* Milwaukee planned a parade and port visit of the USS Nicholas.

* Arlington, Texas, had a parade honoring service members.

* Robins Air Force Base, Georgia, had a big "Independence Day Celebration."

* Camp Pendleton, California, slated a "Beach Bash" featuring the Beach Boys and other celebrities as well as a fireworks display.

* Naval Air Station Lemoore, California, called its celebration "Operation Homecoming;" Dick Clark Productions videotaped homecoming ceremonies for later broadcast.

* Fort Bragg, North Carolina, had a "Welcome Home/Independence Day Celebration" in honor of the XVIII Airborne Corps; in addition to fireworks, there was a parade, circus, picnic and entertainment.

* In one overseas celebration, the U.S. Army Japan/IX Corps Independence Day Celebration was open to Japanese citizens to give them a chance to learn about the United States.

Slogans sought for 1992 voting campaign

By SFC Linda Lee, USA
American Forces Information Service

DoD's Federal Voting Assistance Program is looking for a few good words — a slogan for its 1992 voting campaign.

The winning slogan will be used on voting posters, manuals and publications. Everyone may enter the contest, and there is no limit to the number of slogans or times an individual may enter. All entries must be received by July 31.

Submit slogans on letter-size paper. Each entry must include the individual's full name, mailing address, daytime telephone number and branch of service. Art work may be submitted with the slogan.

Entries will be judged on originality and motivational value. The winner will receive a plaque and certificate from the secretary of defense. In addition, the top two slogans will be entered in a national competition.

Henry Valentino, DoD's voting officer, said the contest is one way "to increase voter awareness and participation by service personnel, their families and all U.S. citizens overseas. Voter apathy is one of the hardest things to overcome."

Submit voting campaign slogans to:

Federal Voting Assistance Program
Pentagon, Room 1B457
Washington, DC 20301-1155



Leave Bank created for Gulf reservists

By SFC Linda Lee, USA
American Forces Information
Service

Federal workers of executive agencies can donate some accrued annual leave to a voluntary leave bank established by the Office of Personnel Management as a thank-you to fellow workers in uniform during the Persian Gulf crisis.

The open season for donations ends July 13.

OPM officials said the program will help compensate federal workers who, as National Guardsmen and reservists, were called to active duty during Operations Desert shield and Desert Storm. To maintain their income levels, many civilian

employees used all or most of their accrued leave while on active duty; others were on leave-without-pay status, said personnel officials.

The leave hours donated to the bank will be pooled, equally divided by OPM and credited to the leave accounts.

A federal worker may donate from one hour up to the lesser of either half the leave already accrued or half the leave that will be accumulated in the year the donation is made, according to the Desert Shield/Desert Storm Reservist Leave Bank Act of 1991. Donors may not designate who is to receive the leave.

Only certain members of the National Guard and Reserve are eligible for shares of leave bank

donations. Eligibility depends on, among other things, individuals' employing agencies and the section of the law under which they were activated. Only those activated from Aug. 2, 1990, for Desert Shield and Desert Storm are eligible; presidential proclamation or law will determine the closing date.

Ineligible for shares are service members activated only for training purposes and those employed by the District of Columbia government and U.S. Postal Service. OPM officials emphasized that people who don't return to their federal jobs are also ineligible.

Direct questions about giving and receiving donations to local personnel offices.

Korean War Vet Memorial design approved

By Rudi Williams
American Forces Information
Service

After more than two years of changes, the design for the Korean War Veterans Memorial was approved in April and the artist conception finished in early May.

The memorial will be built on the Washington (D.C.) Mall in a 2.2-acre section south of the Reflecting Pool near the Vietnam Veterans and Lincoln memorials. Groundbreaking ceremonies are scheduled for Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 1991. The memorial will be built with private funds under the auspices of the American Battle Monuments Commission.

The 230-foot-long design features 38 larger-than-life-sized bronze statues of troops; their number represents the 38th

Parallel, the demarcation of North and South Korea. Figures in the 180-foot-long column formation represent all services. The statues will reflect on a long brown granite wall with inscriptions that honor nurses and other specialists not represented in the troop formation. South Korean combat troops are also represented.

"It honors those who fought and survived and those who didn't make it home, including those still listed as missing in action," said retired Army Gen. Richard G. Stilwell, chairman of the memorial's advisory board.

The column of war-weary combat troops march toward a circular pool and American flag at one end of the memorial. Stilwell said the pool pays a simple, solemn tribute to the 38,000 Americans killed or missing in

action and to the 4,000 who endured and survived as prisoners of war.

"It's a long-awaited recognition of victory achieved on the battlefield," said Stilwell, a Korean War veteran. "The strategic results of that three-year war have been enormously favorable to the United States and the Free World. We saved 40 million human beings from being overrun by communists," Stilwell said. "We laid the foundation for the development of the very formidable Republic of Korea — a major player on the world scene today. I remarked at the Seoul Olympic Games that the playing fields of 1988 were made possible by the battlefields of 1950 to 1953.

"The memorial will highlight a phase of military history that, for a moment, was forgotten," Stilwell said.



Retiree Review

Attendance was down at the June luncheon. Only 26 turned up at the Salad Bowl. It's not that hot yet folks.

Evelyn Grote, though absent, got the word to the group that Sylvia Reininga had surgery early in June and is doing fine. She's getting excellent care from her children.

Kate Stiles reported that George Clapp had awakened from his coma and was improving. He was moved from Barnes to Jewish to be near his wife, Betty, who had a slight heart attack. Betty is now out of the hospital and doing well. George is still at Jewish.

Mildred Miles was in Barnes Hospital, but is out and doing fine. Al Wurstel is not doing well, but his wife seems to be doing okay. George Anderson is doing well. He came to the District offices for a visit and was reported looking and feeling good. Ollie Hesler's wife is doing okay. So is Dave Lytle's wife.

Howard Beinke was not - repeat, not - the senior retiree present. Bill Haynes, who retired in 1962 (Howard retired in 1965), was there. When asked to speak, he told the group what Mark Anthony said to Cleopatra when they met in her room, "I didn't come here to make a speech," and sat down.

Elmer Huizenga was Emcee as usual. He reported that Bill Douglas, who promised to be here in June, has now changed his time of attendance to July. Elmer read some of the birthday cards he received. One contained a joke that was better than his usual stuff. If he gets more cards, maybe we won't have to listen to his jokes. Elmer also read some notices taken from church bulletin boards. They were furnished to him by Celeste Baker. They were a riot.

Clyde Wilkes, our usual chronicler, was absent. He's busy trying to get all the little repairs made to his house for final inspection before he can sell it. He has a buyer. As soon as the house is sold, he's heading west. He reported his brother, who lives in New Jersey, is very seriously ill. Clyde may make one more luncheon before he goes. Charlie Denzel was voted, by secret ballot of those retirees present, to be the one to write the Retiree Review for ESPRIT after Clyde leaves.

Mary Lou Lawson, from the Public Affairs Office, represented the District. She gave a report on the potential for loss of jobs in the District from competition with St. Paul and Rock Island Districts which are slated to be absorbed by St. Louis if the Corps reorganization goes through as planned. It appears that is improbable because of the union problems it would cause.

The next luncheon will be on Thursday, July 18th. Let's get that attendance back up to where it belongs. See you at the Salad Bowl about 11 a.m.

Condolences

Mr. Elmer Berhorst passed away on June 23. Elmer worked in DC-F when he retired in 1985 after 39 years of federal service.

George Clapp recovering

George Clapp is out of coma and able to receive visitors. He is in room 5011 in Jewish Hospital. He is in physical therapy much of the day, but can have visitors late in the afternoon and into the evening.

George had a stroke right after Easter. His left hand is paralyzed. He had a tracheotomy and has difficulty speaking. His wife, Betty, said he would love to have his friends at the Corps visit him.

High water (continued)

conditions of three months or more occurs once every three years. Periods of open-river conditions greater than or equal to the period experienced this year occurred during 1982, 1983 and 1984.

The drainage area of the Upper Mississippi River, which covers about 171,500 square miles, encompasses portions of the States of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois and Missouri. Most of the Upper Mississippi River Basin has received above-normal precipitation this spring, with the State of Iowa experiencing its wettest spring in 99 years and its second wettest spring on record. This heavy rainfall has caused several reservoirs in Iowa (Saylorville Lake, Lake Redrock and Coralville Lake) to rise to elevations 30 to 40 feet above normal summer levels, nearly filling the flood control storage within these reservoirs and compelling high sustained water releases. These releases are contributing about 25 percent of the flow in the Upper Mississippi River at this time. These releases will continue for several months.

During the recent drought, low flow rates in the Mississippi River occurred during 1987, 1988 and 1989. These flow conditions allowed the Corps to maintain very stable water levels, providing almost perfect pool conditions. In contrast, both this spring and last spring the more typical, higher flow conditions occurred.



To Your Health

"Chicken Disease" infects steaks, too

By Rudi Williams
American Forces information
Service

There has been a lot of publicity lately about an illness dubbed the "new chicken disease," but campylobacter isn't new, and it can infect anything it touches.

The disease-causing organism, campylobacter jejuni, is found in cattle, sheep, swine, rodents, birds, pets — even infected human infants. People get sick from eating infected meat, poultry and vegetables, or drinking unpasteurized milk or unchlorinated water. Infected children can transmit the disease to puppies, kittens or other pets, which may then pass it to other children or animals.

Dr. David Swerdlow, a disease specialist with the center, said salmonella and campylobacter symptoms are generally similar — diarrhea, abdominal pain, malaise, fever, nausea, vomiting and blood in the stool. Inflamed joints, chills and meningitis may occur. Some cases mimic acute appendicitis.

"We've been aware of the campylobacter organism in animals since the 1940s, but it wasn't until the 1970s and early 1980s that we recognized its effects on human health," said Swerdlow. "Campylobacter probably occurs more often than salmonella, but our survey reports probably underestimate the incidence. You hear more about it now because it's getting a lot of media coverage."

Campylobacter lives in the

digestive tracts of many animals including chickens, turkey, cattle and swine. As raw meat and poultry are processed, the bacteria can spread from the intestines to the animals' flesh. If the meat isn't thoroughly cooked, the bacteria can survive and illness may result, according to Susan Templin Conley, chief of the Department of Agriculture's Meat and Poultry Hot Line in Washington, D.C.

"Undercooking poultry is a main cause of the disease. Undercooked meat and poultry are often eaten during the summer — barbecue season — because they look cooked on the outside, but aren't completely cooked inside," Conley said. "Campylobacter is a fragile bacteria, much more fragile than salmonella, so it's easy to kill with thorough cooking."

She said the bacteria can also be spread by letting juices from raw meats or poultry get onto food served raw, such as vegetable salads. Food handlers can contaminate cooked food by placing it on unwashed plates that held raw food before.

The disease control center and Agriculture Department jointly warn that prevention depends on educating food handlers about proper practices in cooking, food storage and personal hygiene. The Meat and Poultry Hot Line provides the following tips to prevent spreading campylobacter and salmonella:

- * Thoroughly cook all raw poultry, meats and seafood.
- * Disinfect cutting boards, plates and utensils used with raw

meat and poultry with hot soapy water and a little bleach before reuse.

- * Don't allow juices from raw meat or poultry to contact any other foods.

- * Practice good personal hygiene and overall kitchen sanitation.

- * Wash hands thoroughly after handling raw meats and poultry.

- * Drink only pasteurized milk and chlorinated water.

- * Recognize, prevent and control infections among pets. Diarrhea is a common symptom; antibiotics can control pets' infections, reducing the risk of transmission to children.

- * Stress hand-washing after animal contact.

- * Minimize contact with poultry and their feces; wash hands when this cannot be avoided.

Consumers can order free copies of the Agriculture Department's "The Safe Food Book" and "Talking About Turkey," Publications 1 and 2, and "Safe Food to Go — A Guide to Packing Lunches, Picnicking and Camping Out," Home and Garden Bulletin 242, by writing to:

FSIS Publications Office
Room 1165-S, USDA
Washington, DC 20250

Conley said people with questions about food poisoning can call the hot line at 1-800-535-4555 or write to:

The Meat and Poultry
Hotline
USDA-FSIS, Room 1165
Washington, DC 20250