



ST. LOUIS ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT

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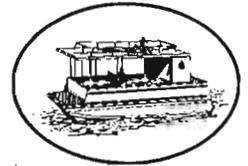
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Mark Twain Lake *We've come a long way*



Mark Twain Lake draws visitors from across the Midwest to experience its many recreational opportunities and special events. These people do not just come once. They return time and time again, bringing more friends and family. Mark Twain Lake's natural beauty, customer service and personal touch provide a positive experience for visitors. The following is an article from the Hannibal Courier-Post's 10th anniversary of Mark Twain Lake special issue written by **Chuck Herron**, titled "We've come a long way."

In some ways, it's hard to believe that it's already been 10 years since the official dedication of the Clarence Cannon Dam/Mark Twain Lake project.

In others, it's hard to imagine the region without the lake and the changes it has brought about.

Development has come in spurts around the lake. After the initial explosion of expected new businesses - bait shops, motels, restaurants, convenience stores, campgrounds - the visible growth has slowed somewhat, causing some residents to wonder if the lake has hit its peak.



Certainly it would be nice if plans for a major new development would be announced around the lake on a regular basis. However, those who have watched growth at Corps lakes note that it just doesn't happen that way, especially when the Corps controls the shoreline as it does at Mark Twain.

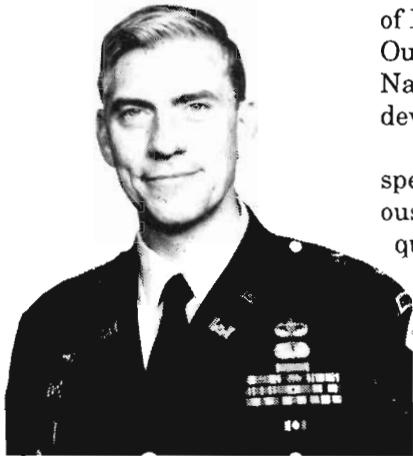
What we do have in just ten short years are several multimillion dollar attractions, including one of the state's four water parks, two marinas and the promise of a third by 1997, three different condominium projects, considerable new lodging, several new restaurants and many other new businesses. Literally tens of millions of dollars in new businesses have been started just because of the lake, which already draws close to two million visitors annually.

Towns surrounding the lake are steadily realizing that the lake's recreational activities are constantly bringing new people to the area. And a number of them enjoy what

This and other articles about Mark Twain Lake continue on page 6



Commander's Perspective



COL Thomas C. Suermann

You are a part of our national security strategy...

This month I want to share with you my perspective of the Corps of Engineers support to the National Security of the United States. Our civil works operations are vital to the economy. They are also a National Treasure and have been historically significant to America's development.

Many of you may think of security risks in strictly a military perspective or in an immediate time frame. However, there are numerous things that seriously affect our international stability and consequently our national security. Many of the environmental issues, such as degradation and depletion of our natural resources could contribute to our nation's instability. Our current national security strategy is "Advancing our interests through engagement and enlargement." The Corps, and this district, are currently supporting this strategy by enhancing our security, promoting prosperity and democracy.

We are enhancing security by constructing, maintaining and operating the Inland Waterway system. We are also maintaining strategic harbors and intermodal transportation hubs. Our laboratories are directly supporting military operations in several overseas locations. We are also providing real-time disaster response to natural and man-made events.

We are promoting prosperity through our extensive navigation support to more than 12,000 miles of waterways and 600 seaports. Our flood control structures are preventing damages with an average projected value of \$13.7 billion. Simultaneously, the Corps is providing 24 percent of the nation's hydropower at cost effective rates, particularly at peak demand times.

The Corps is promoting democracy through its technical assistance to such countries as Ecuador and Latvia and through its environmental assistance to Argentina and Uruguay. It also participates in organizations such as the Permanent International Association of Navigation Congresses and the Joint Canadian-American Waterway Commission. Our own district has hosted foreign delegation visits to our water control facilities throughout the bi-state area.

Finally, this district provides a fertile ground to train young Army engineers to prepare them for missions such as building the bridge across the Sava river, as the Army Engineers in Bosnia did recently.

As you pursue your daily activities, please keep in mind that you are a part of our national security strategy and a vital part of this nation's security forces - the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. You are a significant member of an international team, and nobody does it better than you!



US Army Corps of Engineers
St. Louis District

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- District Commander.....Thomas C. Suermann
- Chief, Public Affairs.....Sandra Clawson
- Editor, Design, Layout.....Ken Kruchowski

Address mail to: U.S. Army Engineer District, St. Louis, ATTN: CELMS - PA, 1222 Spruce, St. Louis, MO 63103-2833. Phone: (314) 331-8000.



News Briefs

Carlyle Lake:

Management mtg.

On January 3rd, an informational meeting was held by State Senator Frank Watson in Vandalia to discuss management and potential of Carlyle Lake. Corps of Engineers and Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) officials were there to answer questions and concerns. About 75 people, mostly waterfowl hunters attended. The Corps promised to try to make compromises in the management of the lake if climate conditions allow.

Duck hunt

The Corps, in cooperation with the IDNR, held a duck hunt for individuals with disabilities from November 1 to December 23. Eight hunters participated and most harvested ducks. People who otherwise could not were given the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors with little competition from others.

Access open

All access lots around the lake are open to accommodate outdoorsmen. Please check the Illinois hunting information brochure or poster for hunting seasons that are open and for season dates.

Winter fun

Although most people think summer is the only time to come to the lake, winter's arrival brings many opportunities. Winter is a great time for wildlife watching. Trails are open in Hazlet State Park and East and West Spillway recreation areas. Willow Pond Nature Trail is paved and wheelchair accessible. Camping is available at Eldon Hazlet and South Shore State Parks year round. All boat ramps are open when the lake is not frozen. The Spillway recreation area is open year

round and is one of the top fishing areas in southcentral Illinois.

Volunteer need

The Corps and the IDNR are requesting volunteers to help place Christmas trees in the lake for fish habitat. Volunteers can meet at 9 a.m. on Saturday, February 17. If thick ice or poor weather conditions exist, the project will be rescheduled for March 9.

Annual passes

Annual passes for the 1996 recreation season are available for purchase at the lake project office. The fee is \$25 and a duplicate pass may be purchased at the same time for \$5. Those having Golden Access and Golden Age Passport cards receive a 50 percent discount. The pass entitles driver and all passengers of a non-commercial vehicle to use boat ramps and beaches where day use fees are charged. Passes are good at all Corps projects across the country.

Rivers Project:

Eagle programs

To celebrate the annual migration of our nation's symbol, the Riverlands Area Office is conducting weekend eagle programs. The programs are being held on Saturday and Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. during January and February. Programs will run through Sunday, February 25. The programs will take place on the Missouri side of the river in the Riverlands Environmental Demonstration Area just north of Melvin Price Locks and Dam. A ranger with spotting scopes and binoculars will meet people at the intersection of Spur Dike Access Road and Weiss Road, near the FISCA gas station.

New officers

The Riverlands Association, a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising awareness of the Mississippi River and its tributaries and their effect on our economy, environment, culture and history, has elected new officers to serve the board of directors through 1996. The officers are: Julie Jenner, Alton, Illinois, President; Tamra Raven, St. Louis, 1st Vice President; Anne Vieira, Louisiana, Missouri, Vice President; Bruce McGuire, Clarksville, Missouri, Secretary; Kevin Tepen, Alton, Illinois, Treasurer.

The Riverlands Association operates as a cooperating association for the Corps of Engineers and assists our interpretive team in providing educational programs on the 110,000 acres of public lands managed by the St. Louis District.

Wappapello Lake:

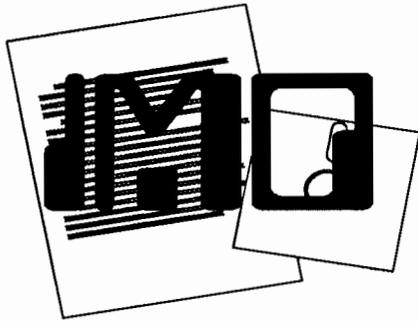
Festival of Lights

The 3rd annual Festival of Lights Auto Tour, partnered by the Wappapello Lion's Club, was attended by 12,505 people, almost doubling last year's total and almost tripling the first year's attendance. Redman Creek West campground was filled with decorations by businesses, organizations and individuals.

Drawdown

Every five years Wappapello Lake is drawn down an additional 1/2 to 1 foot from conservation pool level for inspection of the outlet and water control machinery. This additional drawdown will take place in late winter or

(Continued on page 4)



Video teleconferencing

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) mission demands rapid transfer of information for decisions and coordination in all areas of project and program management. Video communications links between USACE commands will promote maximum use of resources by reducing travel costs, improving communications and enhancing productivity.

Almost every lab, division and district can participate in a USACE video conference using their own or nearby facilities. Add to that the ability to have conferences with our military customers, other federal agencies, state and local governments and an increasing number of contractors makes using VTC the smart way to do business.

It is obvious that avoiding the time and expense of travel is an immediate reason to consider VTC before you plan TDY for your next meeting. But that is

just the beginning of the benefits your office or project can realize when you use VTC. You can get: Faster Decisions, Lower Cost Training, Inter-Agency Involvement, Presentation Assistance, Improved Outreach, and Increased Participation. Meetings, presentations, PRBs, training, emergency response or just the need to be two places at once; VTC can help. Travel savings, time savings, faster decisions and professional image; VTC can help.

Scheduling a video conference is just one phone call away.

Tips for teleconferencing

Here are some of the rules of multi-point conferencing that will make your conference go smoothly.

1. Planning a video conference. Set your objectives and list specific results to be achieved. Prioritize topics to be discussed and develop an agenda which provides the focus and time allotted for the conference. Prepare graphics and visual aids. Identify who must be present for the meeting and confirm their availability and attendance. Appoint a leader for each video site. Distribute any pre-meeting materials.

2. Recommendations on clothing. Avoid plaids and prints which may be emphasized on screen. Pastel colors are preferred over white which may glare. If wearing white, add a dark jacket to cut

down on glare. The color red may "bleed" and should be avoided.

3. During your conference. Begin on time. Open by introducing all participants. Review the objectives and time allotted for the conference. Encourage participation by asking questions.

4. Multi-point conferencing. Choose one person at the master site to act as chairperson and a meeting leader at each additional site. Go through a roll-call of each location and introduce every participant, even if they are off-camera and not seen by others. All sites other than the one speaking should use their mute button and unmute only when they wish to speak to and be seen by all other sites. Allow the on-screen site to finish speaking before you respond. For large multi-point conferences the USACE video communications office will provide technical direction.

5. Video conferencing etiquette. Transferring video through a network is not instantaneous. There is a slight delay. Give the person on the other end a chance to respond to your questions or commands. Keep the other end informed. For example, before sending graphics, announce your intention. This will allow the other side to finish viewing on screen and stop them from attempting to send
(Continued on back page)

News Briefs (cont.)

early spring this year and will last about three days.

Special events

The first special events of 1996 will be held in April. The Roadside Cleanup will be on the 6th. The 18th annual Old Greenville Blackpowder Rendsvous will be on 13 and 14.

The celebration of Earth Day should be on the 19th. The welcome mat is always out.

Rend Lake:

Cormorants

Rend Lake is the site of one of only six nesting colonies of Double-crested Cormorants in Illinois, according to a January 1996 publication of the Illinois Environmental Council. Populations

of Double-crested Cormorants plummeted in the 1970s because of reproductive failure caused by DDT in the environment.

The Double-crested Cormorant has recently been upgraded from an endangered species to a threatened species in Illinois. The state's nesting population has grown from a low of 12 nests in one colony in 1974 to 676 nests found in six colonies in the sum-
(Continued on page 12)



Locks 27 breaks tonnage record

by Brian Markert, CO-N

Dedication to quality and efficiency contributed to a record breaking year for the men and women at Locks 27. For twelve years the yearly tonnage record of 1983 has stood untouched. The record breaking tonnage of 1995 comes despite flooding, major electrical rehabilitation and talk of down sizing and federal shut-downs.

According to Lockmaster Ed Rogers, the 1983 yearly tonnage at Locks 27 was 80,844,273 tons. The 1995 yearly tonnage jumped about three million tons above that to a total of 83,638,103 tons.

"It was a busy year considering both the main and auxiliary chambers were closed from May 20 to June 4, 1995, for the flood of 1995, and we closed the auxiliary chamber for the remainder of 1995 in August so that the electrical rehabilitation could take place," Rogers said.

The 16 staff members of Locks 27 perform maintenance and operations around the clock to insure that millions of tons of coal, grain, oil and other materials move safely and quickly through the lock. Time is money to the busy barge industry which must compete with rail and vehicular transportation. About 30 tows go through the main lock each day, averaging about 30 minutes each to move through. A tow consists of as many as 15 barges and a towboat. The main chamber of the locks, measuring 1,200 feet long by 110 feet wide will accommodate a 15 barge tow. Most locks are 600 feet long, similar to the auxiliary chamber at Locks 27. Locks built in the era of the 600 foot chamber no longer can

accommodate the large tows of today, which must be divided in two and taken through the lock separately. The end result is a greater expenditure of time and labor.

Rogers says that the workers at Locks 27 take a lot of pride in what they do. "We are the first lock on the Mississippi and tows must pass through here as they continue their journey up river and to the mouths of the Illinois and Missouri Rivers, making us one of the busiest locks on the Mississippi River."

A report by the Iowa Department of Transportation notes the environmental and economic benefits of water versus land transportation. One 15 barge tow has the same cargo capacity as 870 large semi-tractor trailer trucks.

"It's a good feeling to know that we are helping keep the cost consumers pay for goods and services down by insuring that water transportation is an efficient, cost effective means to transport materials," said Rogers.

It has been a busy but good year for the team at Locks 27. On the road ahead they plan to continue the superior service in order to meet the growing needs of their customers, the towing industry.

Where's the plaque?

In 1974 the St. Louis Floodwall was dedicated and commemorated with a plaque. The plaque has since disappeared from the riverfront. If anyone knows where the plaque might have gone, please contact the Public Affairs Office.

Thank you.

Administrative points of contact

by Patti Carr, HR-R

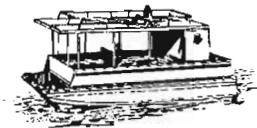
Did you know that every Division and, in many cases, Branch now has an Administrative Point of Contact (Admin POC) for personnel actions? Many of the field activities have historically operated with a central POC, but this is new to some of the District offices.

Now, managers and employees can go to their internal Admin POC for information on human resource issues to make the administrative personnel function run more smoothly and efficiently within each Division. SFs-52, training requests, award nominations, performance appraisals and any other personnel action processing request should be routed through the POCs for review and correction before forwarding to the appropriate HR branch. This procedure should help everyone by correcting errors up front and by ensuring that details, temporary promotions and other time sensitive actions are processed on time to avoid illegal appointments and overpayments.

HR is providing training, processing guides, reports and other reference materials to the POCs to be used to answer routine questions. In addition, each POC has been given automation tools such as PC Retire to allow individuals to estimate their own retirement annuity and COREDOC to help supervisors assess the position classification of their subordinate positions. If you have a need for this information, contact your POC for details.

Another of the reasons for establishing HR liaisons is preparation for the pending

(Continued on page 15)



Mark Twain Lake (continued)

we have to offer so much that they're building homes and moving here.

Not a bad start for a lake that hasn't even reached its teens. Just

wait. You haven't seen anything yet.

What better pride to Americans than the pride of ownership. This community feels their ownership of Mark Twain Lake. Notice this

author's use of the words "we have."

With this in mind, our goal continues to be one of fostering new partnerships with surrounding communities and forming new bridges between the public and use of our natural resources.

Clarence Cannon Dam & Mark Twain Lake

Clarence Cannon Dam rises formidably out of the rich, rolling farmland of Ralls County and spans the Salt River Valley 63 miles upstream from its confluence with the Mississippi River north of Louisiana, Missouri. It provides flood control, hydroelectric power, drinking water, navigation, fish and wildlife conservation and a multitude of recreational opportunities.

The concept of building a dam on the Salt River originated around 1831 as a means of maintaining navigation. Over the next century the idea resurfaced, as a flood control method, every time a major flood hit the region. Actual consideration began in the 1930s as a proposal to control flooding in the Mississippi River Basin. Three decades and much controversy later the multipurpose Joanna Dam and Reservoir was authorized in the Flood Control Act of 1962. The Joanna Project was later renamed to honor supporter Congressman Clarence Cannon and literary genius Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain). Construction was completed in 1983 and by spring of 1984 Mark Twain Lake was at normal pool. The project attracts two million visitors each year, provides a multitude of recreational opportu-

nities and can supply 4.5 million gallons of drinking water daily to 25,000 customers in local communities.

The Clarence Cannon Dam Powerhouse contains two turbine generator units capable of producing 58,000 kilowatts of hydroelectric power. Remote operation from the Truman Dam Control Room in the Kansas City District reduces operation overhead. The local Northeast Power Cooperative operates the switchyard and the Association of Electric Cooperatives of Missouri Incorporated purchases the power. If there is excess power available, the Southwest Power Association will market it outside of Missouri.

Besides providing hydroelectric power, recreation, water supplies and fish and wildlife conservation, the dam and lake have held up to their expectations when it comes to flood control. Just during 1995, Clarence Cannon Dam and Mark Twain Lake have prevented more than one billion dollars of flood damage in the

Salt River Valley and Mississippi River Basin.

Clarence Cannon Dam Powerhouse equipment and processes involved in hydroelectric energy provide an ideal location to learn about energy and energy conservation. An interactive exhibit area inside the powerhouse lets the visitor learn about hydroelectric power, home energy usage and other benefits this multipurpose project provides for the region. The Powerhouse Exhibit area is a favorite stop for thousands of school kids who come to gain information for school projects. Learning can be fun.

Next time you are in northeast Missouri, drive across Clarence Cannon Dam and see what wonderful things we have to offer.





M.W. Boudreaux Visitor Center

Environmental and water safety programs, dam and powerhouse tours, special events, radio and television messages, displays, news releases, interviews, posters, maps, brochures and personal contacts. These are the many common communication and educational processes used by the Interpretive Services and Outreach Program at Mark Twain Lake that tell the Corps' story and its

about natural resource management, water safety or hydroelectric power. You may be the visitor who visits the center to gather area travel information and maps, or the volunteer looking for ways to contribute to the stewardship of our public lands.

The Boudreaux Visitor Center Theater offers a location for public meetings, workshops or interagency training sessions.



The view from the visitor center overlook is indeed spectacular.

mission to serve the nation, its people and resources. Interpretive programming enhances public knowledge, provides information, promotes partnering and volunteerism, fosters community involvement, improves the agency image and builds greater public and political support.

The M.W. Boudreaux Visitor Center provides a basis for all of these educational processes. It is a dynamic learning center that houses ever changing displays on natural and cultural history. The center is a place to learn about environmental stewardship and management. You may find special events based at the Boudreaux Visitor Center or hundreds of school kids learning

Audiovisual support and its central location in the region make this an ideal meeting place.

A new attraction outside the Boudreaux Visitor Center is the Northeast Missouri Vietnam Memorial. The memorial is a 45 foot sundial with an 11 foot tall gnomon. Twelve monuments represent each month of the year and lists the names of Northeast Missouri men who died during the Vietnam era. The memorial was funded and constructed by the Northeast Missouri Area Vietnam Veterans Association.

The Boudreaux Visitor Center is a great place to begin your visit to the lake area. You can pick up maps, ask questions or simply enjoy the spectacular view of the lake from the overlook.

Recreation The total team effort

The Recreation and Facility Management Program at Mark Twain Lake consists of a team of natural resource and recreation specialists, civil engineer technicians and maintenance personnel dedicated to a goal of managing and operating public facilities and fostering customer service. Close coordination, technical assistance and support from many District elements is essential to the mission of this organization. As a team, we must be service-oriented, flexible, knowledgeable, adaptive, innovative and responsive to meet all customer needs.

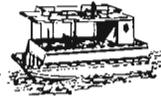
Recreation and Facility Management encompasses the stewardship of the Clarence Cannon Dam, Re-regulation Dam, 14 recreation areas and 28 Hunter/Fisherman accesses. Existing within these areas is an extensive infrastructure of 85 lane miles of paved roadways and parking lots, complete potable water systems, wastewater treatment facilities and an electrical network. These systems require wise use of staff resources and support from District elements to provide continued management and operation of services necessary to meet the needs of the public.

Additional recreation facilities are offered through two full-service marina concessions and a recreational land lease with the Mark Twain State Park. The marinas provide about 500 slips and offer convenience stores, food services and marine service departments. The Mark Twain State Park offers a campground, group campground, boat ramps, picnic

(Continued on next page)



Recreation (cont.)



areas and is currently in the proposal stages of developing Mark Twain Lake's third marina.

With 440 campsites, two group campgrounds, two beach facilities, six major boatramps, 12



A boater launches at the Ray Behrens Recreation Area.

single lane boat ramps, day-use areas, waterborne shower buildings and comfort stations in the Corps-managed recreation areas, constant preventative maintenance and monitoring is necessary to avert costly breakdowns, maximize visitor safety and minimize customer inconveniences.

A preventative maintenance plan has been developed and updated periodically for all facilities at Mark Twain Lake. This plan is used to identify immediate and long-term needs that are necessary to preserve the structural integrity of the facilities. In addition, an active customer survey is

used to solicit customer comments and feedback concerning the operation of the facilities and their operation have been a result of these customer surveys.

With District assistance and support, we provide a variety of services to meet the recreational needs of the public. A major portion is provided through contracted services such as turf management, refuse removal, facility sanitation services, minor repairs, facility and road maintenance and tree maintenance services. The result of these services, in concert with management and operation services, provide the visitors with a safe and enjoyable recreational environment.

With a visitation of about two



Kids play on the beach at the John F. Spalding Recreation Area.

million visitors annually, it is necessary to implement long-term, cost effective solutions based on

customer needs and the protection of natural resources. By monitoring user trends and pattern data, modifications to existing facilities may be necessary to maximize the recreational opportunity, provide safe facilities and protect the natural resource.

A few examples of achieving this balance include: the installation of hardened impact areas adjacent to intensively used campsites to reduce site degradation and erosion, an 800-foot floating breakwater installed at Indian Creek Marina concession to protect the facility from damaging wave action, replacement of worn-out playground equipment for visitor safety and the showerhouse recently constructed in the Frank Russell Recreation Area to provide a much needed waterborne sanitation facility.

The responsibility of being stewards of the natural resource and the facilities for the American public is a rewarding experience. Our satisfaction is derived from the smiles on childrens' faces or a passing comment of a visitor, such as "you sure do have a nice campground," or "We sure had a nice time here at the lake." This may seem trite to most, but to our staff it brings immense pride and satisfaction to realize the Corps' goals are being achieved.

Working together

Since its impoundment in the fall of 1983, Mark Twain Lake has attracted an increasing number of visitors each year and provides for a diversity of plant and animal communities.

To effectively fulfill our stewardship responsibilities of project lands requires an integrated management approach. This ap-

proach combines protection, preservation, enhancement and interpretation of our resources.

The greatest challenge faced is ensuring that public lands are used in a way that allows people and nature to exist in productive harmony, while still fulfilling the social and economic needs of future generations. These chal-

lenges are not met alone. With the help of partners we have been able to explore innovative and efficient ways to accomplish our mission.

Since 1993, high water has left a mark on the riparian corridors along the Salt River and its tributaries. Riparian corridors are a critical environment along



rivers and streams that maintains water quality. The floods destroyed a large section of the riparian corridor along Crooked Creek leaving only an exposed bank that quickly became a cutbank 1000 feet in length and 15 feet high. In order to restore this corridor, a cedar tree revetment was constructed with the help of the Monroe County Commission and Mark Twain Water Quality Project (USDA). The revetment consisted of about 150 large cedar trees. These anchored trees will allow silt and sand to be deposited along the bank and within the branches. The deposited material will form a good seed bed for bottomland plant species. By the time the revetment trees have decayed, the bank should be stabilized by the roots of living trees.



Park Ranger Diane Stratton and MDC Ornithologist Jim Wilson prepare osprey for placement in a hacking tower.

The reintroduction and supplemental stocking of Osprey to Northeast Missouri is a cooperative effort between the Missouri Department of Conservation, Associated Electric Power

Cooperative, Ralls County Electric Cooperative and the Corps of Engineers.

Osprey have not been known to nest in Missouri since 1884. Fish, tainted with pesticides, caused calcium deficiencies in egg-laying females. In 1995, a five year re-introduction program was started with the delivery of eight chicks to Missouri, four at Mark Twain Lake. In 1996, six chicks will be placed in hacking towers on project lands. These chicks are cared for and monitored by local volunteers and project staff. When reaching adult stages these birds should begin to nest within the vicinity of their artificial nests.

Another reintroduction program is accomplished in cooperation with the World Bird Sanctuary of St. Louis. Pesticides, fall plowing, harsh winters, a shortage of suitable nesting sites and nest robbing by predators are all factors which have negatively impacted the native Barn Owl population in Missouri. As a result of the reintroduction program, nine banded Barn Owls were raised on Corps managed lands. Of the nine raised, two of the owls reared three fledglings. The three fledglings were banded by the World Bird Sanctuary prior to leaving the safety of the nest.

The U.S. Forest Service North Central Forest Experiment Station, in cooperation with the Corps of Engineers, conducted a survey on project lands to evaluate the influence of habitat edge on nest predation patterns and cow bird distribution. The survey was prompted by the wide spread decline of many forest nesting Neotropical migratory birds. This decline has been attributed to frag-

mentation of North American breeding habitat. This survey site at Mark Twain Lake was chosen because of its location and because it is the largest tract of forested land in Northeast Missouri.



SCEPT employee, Tammy Cornine holds a barn owl for the restoration project.

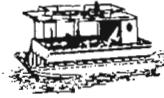
Fisheries management is conducted in cooperation with the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). A five-acre brood pond was constructed in the Sandy Creek area. This pond is managed in cooperation with the MDC and all fish raised in this pond will be released into Mark Twain Lake to augment natural reproduction and accommodate the intense fishing pressure from regional popularity.

Annually, the Paris and Monroe City Lions Clubs and local outdoor enthusiasts, with the cooperation of the Corps of Engineers, host special deer and turkey hunts and fishing trips for the physically challenged and youths on project lands. As separate events these special hunts and trips provide a unique opportunity for youth and the physically challenged visitors to experience the outdoors in a way that normally is not available to them.

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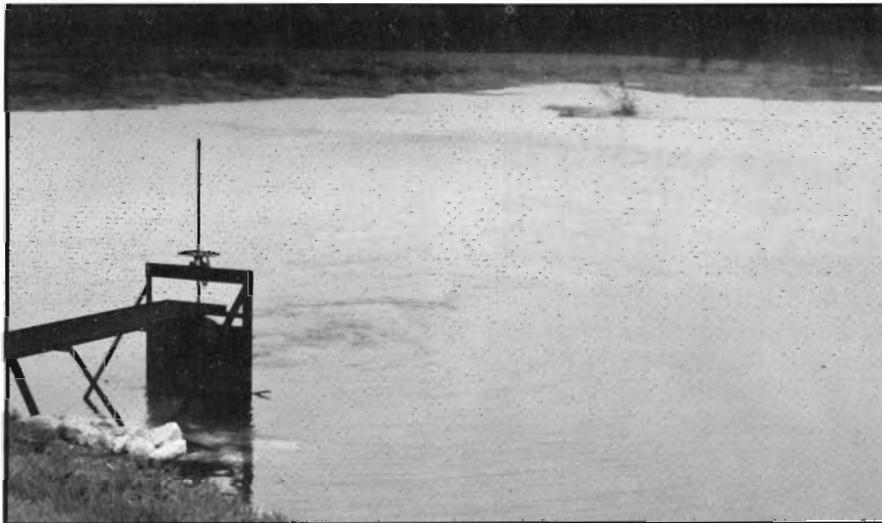
Working together (cont.)



With the cooperation of District staff, the Missouri Department of Conservation and Associated Electric Power Cooperative, a wetland restoration project was successfully completed in 1992. The Water Resource Development

and fulfills other project operational requirements.

Teamwork resulting from the project staff's professional involvement and commitment along with the help of our many part-



A regulation structure controls water levels in a wetland on the re-regulation pool.

Act of 1990, Public Law 101-640, was enacted because of declining wetland habitat from agricultural and clearing practices. This act provided for wetland restoration, enhancement and creation.

A unique opportunity existed to restore prime wetlands within the nine-mile re-regulation pool which is located downstream of the main dam. Eight moist soil management areas were restored during a two-year period. These units consist of 156 acres of various types of moist soil habitat. The pool levels from hydropower generation allowed natural resource managers to flood wetland units simply by opening water control structures. This partnership has allowed for the wetland areas to be managed in a way that provides a diversity of wetland habitat without a need for costly/labor intensive pumping

ners have made a difference. These partnerships have enabled the Corps of Engineers to establish a bond with other agencies, the community and our visitors while accomplishing agency land stewardship responsibilities.

— Earth Notes —

Cars in tune with environment

Every ten days North American motorists who drive with under-inflated tires and poorly-maintained engines waste more than 70 million gallons of gasoline.

In addition, each year do-it-yourselfers dump twenty times as much oil into the environment as was spilled during the Exxon Valdez incident in Alaska, according to the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence.

Special events at the lake

Special events are an important aspect of interpretive services and outreach at Mark Twain Lake. They are essential to promoting the importance of cultural, historical and environmental stewardship and accomplishment of the Corps' mission to serve the nation, its people and resources. The Environmental Education Fair is a good example of a popular event that attracts more than 1200 middle school students annually. Students and teachers meet representatives from business, industry and state and federal agencies to find out how each impacts the environment and what they are doing to promote, protect and enhance our natural resources. At this event, students are invited by the Corps of Engineers to enter a "Design a Turbine" contest. Participants learn the process and importance of hydroelectricity and are challenged to design and build a turbine that will power a generator. The team with the highest energy producing turbine is the winner and the turbine is displayed at the Clarence Cannon Powerhouse Exhibit area.

Another special event that receives much public support and attendance is the Annual Salt River Folklife Festival held in historic Florida, Missouri. The festival will celebrate its 16th birthday this year and is made possible by partnerships between the Corps of Engineers, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and a local group called Friends of Florida. The event centers around an 1800s atmosphere complete with dress, crafts, living skills, entertainment and food of that period.

The success of these and many



other events is based on the cooperation and participation of our volunteers, partners and customers. Community involvement and partnering with local citizens,

tural, historical and environmental resources that are important to the Corps and the surrounding communities. Special events provide a wealth of information to



An Environmental Education Fair demonstrator discusses water quality with a student group.

groups and other agencies allow the Corps to provide special events. Our events reflect cul-

the public and serves as a link between the Corps of Engineers and its customers.

Prescribed burning

Fire has always been important in determining which plants grow on prairies, plains and forests. Research and experience has shown that fire can control many wood plants and herbaceous weeds, stimulate desirable plants, improve vegetation distribution, reduce wildfire hazards, improve wildlife habitat and manage native grasslands.

Prescribed burning is a cost-effective land management tool used by resource managers. Prescribed burns enable resource managers to manage native grasslands. Properly used, the productivity of these perennial grasses and forbs are maintained and increased, undesirable plants are controlled and wildfire hazards reduced. The benefits of a good prescribed burn cannot be equaled by any other manage-

ment technique. This is why resource managers at Mark Twain Lake, with the help of a local contractor, aggressively manage project lands using the prescribed burning technique.

The natural resource management staff has been able to establish sound land management techniques on project lands. These techniques have exemplified our dedication to providing responsible stewardship of our public lands.



Visitor assistance, diversity with consistency

Just as diversity is a key in successful habitat management, it is also a central theme of the Visitor Assistance Program at Mark Twain Lake. Quality customer service often requires the knowledge and skills of several different vocations other than Law Enforcement. Natural Resource Management, Computer Science, Sociology and Interpretation are just some of the disciplines Visitor Assistance Rangers call upon to meet a challenge. We provide our customers with this diverse knowledge base while striving to maintain consistency in enforcement of project regulations.

Providing a safe and healthful recreation experience is a primary goal of our program. Through education, assistance and enforcement we protect the visitor and the resource while simultaneously fostering a better understanding of the interrelationships between both. Frequently, we are the only Corps representatives the public comes in contact with. As Visitor Assistance Rangers we represent Corps' values - integrity, quality, professionalism and caring.

As educators we are biology teachers, interpreters and resource managers. Whether describing Barn Owl and Osprey reintroduction efforts, explaining how bryozoans are indicative of good water quality, or illustrating the benefits of a prescribed burn, we provide accurate information regarding the Corps' efforts as environmental stewards.

By providing assistance we
(Continued on next page 12)



Visitor assistance (cont.)

are auto mechanics, tour guides and first responders. Using innovation often rivaling MacGyver, we assist stranded motorists with belt replacements, flat tires or starter problems. We provide information on upcoming events, and give directions to campgrounds or other Corps' attractions including beaches and access areas.

We are the people customers look for in an emergency, and often times are the first responders on the scene, trained with knowledge of emergency medical treatment. We provide assistance at auto accidents, drownings and heart attacks with competence and compassion. We cooperate with other law enforcement agencies in resolving conflict with professional courtesy and a common goal of providing exceptional customer service.

As enforcement officials, however, we strive to eliminate diversity for consistency. Recreational law enforcement requires a delicate combination of tact and flexibility. Knowing when to interpret a project regulation verbatim and when to be flexible is certainly challenging. Each situation requires a separate evaluation and judgment, based on present circumstances and past decisions.

Visitor Assistance Rangers at Mark Twain Lake strive for enforcement consistency through constant communication, with each other and the public. Decisions made out in the field are discussed and evaluated by group feedback at the office. These discussions are not for second guessing, but rather for learning, with the understanding that better customer service results from con-

sistent enforcement.

The Visitor Assistance Program at Mark Twain Lake is continuously striving for improvement. We will continue to provide safe and healthful recreation experiences by setting measurable performance goals and standards. Program evaluations based on customer needs are used to make improvements.

In Service to the Nation - the Spirit of the Corps, customer service is summed up as follows:

We are committed to improving our services, listening to you and increasing your satisfaction... We will constantly improve. We stay in constant contact with our own front-line work force - the people who work directly with our customers - and listen to their views on improving service. The ideas of our employees and our customers help us find ways in which we can better achieve our primary mission of serving the nation in peace and war. Service is the Spirit of the Corps.

As Park Rangers we are a significant part of the front-line work force. We are the people responsible for giving life to the words on paper.

Providing quality visitor assistance requires diverse talents working interdependently to balance the needs of project visitors with the limitations of the natural resource. These responsibilities are not and cannot be taken lightly. Success in these roles comes from personal commitment to the Corps, the resource and most importantly from commitment to public service. As Visitor Assistance Rangers, we use these uniquely diverse skills and abilities to ensure the consistent success of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

News Briefs (cont.)

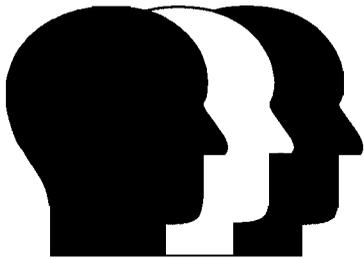
mer of 1995. Two of the five other Illinois colonies are found on the Upper Mississippi, two are located on lakes in northeastern Illinois and one is located along the Middle Illinois River.

Thespians - Campbell, Lookofsky

Lake Shelbyville Project Manager Winston Campbell and Park Ranger Al Lookofsky are members of the Shelbyville Players, an improv group that reenacts a famous debate between Abraham Lincoln and local Judge Anthony Thornton. Working from historical facts and backgrounds, the Players bring the spirit of Lincoln and Shelby County history alive.

Volunteers Campbell and Lookofsky portray colorful characters. Campbell plays local Civil War hero General Cyrus Hall, a brave man who fought during the entire war and was never wounded. Hall traveled 10,000 miles over the course of the war, and 4,000 of those miles were on foot. Lookofsky is Reverend Jasper Douthit, a dedicated man who preached honesty and temperance. Douthit believed in having both a strong mind and a strong body. The men wear period costumes and perform at the Shelby County Courthouse.

Organized in 1991, this group performs about ten times a year for hundreds of tourists and locals. This is an excellent opportunity for Corps personnel to interact with and educate the public. Ranger Lookofsky says he has learned a lot about Shelby County history himself. Both men plan to continue their involvement in the group.



EEO matters

Black History Month

The following is excerpted from an article by Yaw Boateng, Professor of Education at Eastern Washington University. The article appeared in the Ghana Review, January 1995.

A full appreciation of the celebration of Black History Month requires a review and reassessment of the social and academic climate that prevailed in the Western world, and especially in North America before 1926 when Black History Month was established.

It is important to recall that between 1619 and 1926, African Americans and other people of African descent were classified as a race that had not made any contribution to human civilization.

The academic and intellectual community was no different from the bulk of mainstream America. People of African descent were visibly absent in any scholarship of intellectual discourse that dealt with human civilization. In fact, Professor John Burgess, the founder of Columbia University graduate school of Political Science and an important figure in American scholarship defined the African race as "a race of men which has never created a civilization of any kind..."

It was this kind of climate that inspired the talented and brilliant African American scholar, Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson to lead the struggle and search for the truth and institutionalize what

was then referred to as "Negro History Week." A Harvard trained Ph.D., Dr. Woodson dropped out of mainstream academia to devote his life to the scientific study of the African experience in America, Africa and throughout the world.

Under Woodson's direction and contributions from other African American and white scholars, the "Negro History Week" was launched on a serious platform in 1926 to neutralize the apparent ignorance and deliberate distortion of Black History. Meetings, exhibitions, lectures and symposia were organized to climax the scientific study of the African experience throughout the year in order to give a more objective and scholarly balance in American and World history.

Today, this national and international observance has been expanded to encompass the entire month of February. The expansion, of course, has increased the number of days for celebration, but its strength and importance lie in the new meaning that has emerged. I believe that it is necessary to use the occasion to examine the collective ingenuity, creativity, cultural and political experience of the masses of Africans and people of African descent. In North America, a variety of programs - including lectures, exhibitions, banquets and a host of cultural activities are presented throughout the month of February to commemorate the occasion. It is not uncommon, dur-

ing these weeks in February, for African students in the U.S. to receive a number of invitations to speak at gatherings, schools and in community churches.

The month of February is significant and recognized in African American history for the birthdays of great African American pioneers and institutions. These include the birthdays of Frederick Douglass, W.E.B. DuBois, Langston Hughes, Eubie Blake, the NAACP and the first Pan African Congress.

Historians may also recall that the first African American Senator, Hiram Revels, took the oath of office in February 1870. Black History Month takes on a paramount significance as we approach the 21st century. The struggles for, and achievement of independence by African countries in the 20th century have shown the strength, the humanity, the ingenuity and the contributions of the African to the human civilization.

However, these revelations have not neutralized the prevalence of prejudicial attitudes which generate discriminatory acts both on a national and international arena. Behavior may be controlled by laws, national and international, but attitudes can only change through education and the elimination of ignorance. I believe strongly that Black History Month should be the reaffirmation of struggle and determination to change attitudes and heighten the understanding of the African experience. In the words of Ralph Crowder, "The observance must be a testimony to those African pioneers who struggled to affirm the humanity of African people and a challenge to the present generation to protect and preserve... the humanity of all people of African descent."





To your health

Dry mouth suggests underlying problems

Do you have difficulty swallowing and trouble eating crackers or other dry foods?

These are two symptoms of xerostomia, or dry mouth, a condition that may signal health problems.

According to the National Institute of Dental Research, dry mouth can be more than annoying, although it is certainly that. It can be a reaction to medicine, cancer and transplant treatments, or even a result of trauma to the head and neck. In rare cases, dry mouth may be caused by Sjogren's syndrome, an autoimmune disorder whose symptoms include dry mouth and dry eyes.

Device tracks sugar in diabetics

Researchers are testing a skin patch that would replace blood drawing to monitor blood sugar in diabetics. Cygnus, Inc. of Redwood City, California, is conducting further clinical trials of its GlucoWatch, as reported in the journal *Nature Medicine*. The device is worn on the wrist and fitted with a replaceable patch designed to extract glucose through the skin every half hour. It then measures the glucose, stores and displays the data and emits an alarm if glucose reaches dangerous levels. The cost will be about \$400 for a starter kit.

Other companies are working on their own versions of a high-glucose level warning system, but none has been so promising as GlucoWatch or so inexpensive.

Whatever the cause, it contributes to tooth decay and mouth infections.

When salivary glands don't function properly a whole range of important digestive and sensory activities are changed and missing. Saliva limits the growth of bacteria that causes tooth decay and other oral infections. It even helps to heal very early cavities by bathing teeth in minerals and prevents other cavities by cleansing the teeth and mouth of food particles.

Saliva plays a role in digestion, using special enzymes to dissolve and lubricate foods so they can be swallowed and easily digested.

If you experience dry mouth frequently, it is important to see

Ultrasound to aid crash victims

The first hour after a car crash can mean life or death to a victim. That's the time it takes to bleed to death. But researchers at the University of Washington and Focus Surgery of Fremont, California, have an ultrasound device that stops hemorrhages. It uses sound waves to pinpoint and cut off bleeding at its source.

The 300 pound device focuses on a small spot and cauterizes the injury in a noninvasive way. Researchers predict it will be in use by paramedics and the military within a few years.

your doctor because there is usually an underlying cause of improper salivary gland function.

In the meantime, occasional bouts of dry mouth can be helped by taking small sips of water or sugarless liquid frequently during the day.

Sugarless mints, lemon rinds or cherry pits are good stimulators of salivary glands. Do not bite them, but hold them in your mouth as you breathe through your nose. Chewing can also stimulate salivary glands, but if you want to chew gum, be sure to choose a sugarless variety.

Avoid tobacco, alcohol and spicy, salty, or highly acidic foods that may irritate the mouth.

Drugs to jam disease signals

Biotechnologists are working on drugs that block body messages which cause allergies, arthritis, osteoporosis and other diseases. In recent years, they discovered how proteins and hormones signal cells to change. This was originally envisioned as a control for cancer cells.

For osteoporosis, a drug would be designed to block signals given to cells called osteoclasts that are constantly destroying bone. Hoechst AG, a German chemical company, Ariad Pharmaceuticals, Merck & Co and Glaxo Wellcome PLC are also working on such programs. Research, according to experts in the field, is in a period of explosive growth.



Retiree Review

by the Retiree Correspondent

The weather on January 18 was a real grab bag. It started with rain and about 60 degrees. By mid-morning, the temperature had already dropped to about 40 degrees and was continuing to fall. This extreme cold and miserable weather put a damper on attendance at the retiree's luncheon. In fact, only 12 ventured out to share the lunch and stories.

Loni Stalder had a knee replacement on December 1 and is home and doing well. We wish you a speedy recovery.

Neva Dickmann, having endured cataract surgery, is now being tested for heart problems. You need to get well and back on your feet.

Kate Stiles, although absent because of the weather, did state she was scheduled to have minor surgery on her left eye - to better see everyone. Missed you. Speedy recovery.

Bill Douglas reports that he is doing well in Cape, but it's too far to come for lunch. We hear you, Bill.

Joe Bisher reported that he spent an afternoon (& lunch) recently on the Dredge Potter. It's work-

ing just downstream of the JB Bridge. He reestablished old acquaintances. Joe spent many years on the dredges before going to Supply Division.

George Clapp brought in a number of old pictures. Some dated back to the late 40s. My, how good some of us looked then, with dark hair (and some even had hair). He said these were just a few. Maybe he will bring some in each time he comes.

Mike Cullen reported that Charlie and Jane Denzel left today for Hawaii. Enjoy the week's vacation, Charlie. We'll save you some snow and cold. Mike also stated he met Alma Wilder recently at church. She is doing well, enjoying retirement.

Steve Williams was the Senior Retiree in attendance. Congratulations.

Mark your calendar for Thursday, February 15, 196. Salad Bowl - about 11 or 11:30 for lunch. See

Condolences

Howard Waters passed away December 10th. Mr. Waters retired in 1979 from L&D 26.

Points of contact (continued)

regionalization of the human resources function. While regionalization may seem distant, the time is fast approaching when there will be only three or four HR specialists to service the entire St. Louis District population. Activities will then rely heavily on the expertise of the Admin POCs to handle training requests, 52 processing, awards, retirements, insurances and recruitment. Our hope is that by getting internal POCs involved now on a daily basis, we will be in a better position to transition to a regionalized site.

A list of Admin POCs was broadcast over E-mail recently; please contact HR-R (331-8549) if you need a copy.

Visit Kaskaskia Lock & Dam

Come visit Kaskaskia Lock and Dam in the winter. Southern Illinois is full of historic spots. Within a 20 mile radius of the lock and dam there are two forts, a ferry, Kaskaskia Island, a covered bridge, a five sided one room school house, three bed and breakfasts, the home of the first governor of the state and many interesting towns.

The lock is open to the public during the daylight hours. Come on into our parking lot, walk down onto the walls and watch the place at work. Bring a camera with a good lens to take pictures of the eagles, deer, beaver or any other wildlife that happens to show up.

Tours are regularly accommodated, although we need to know

when a group is arriving and about how many people to expect.

Travel south on Highway 3 until you come to Ellis Grove, then follow the signs for six miles to the lock and dam. We're about a one hour trip from St. Louis.

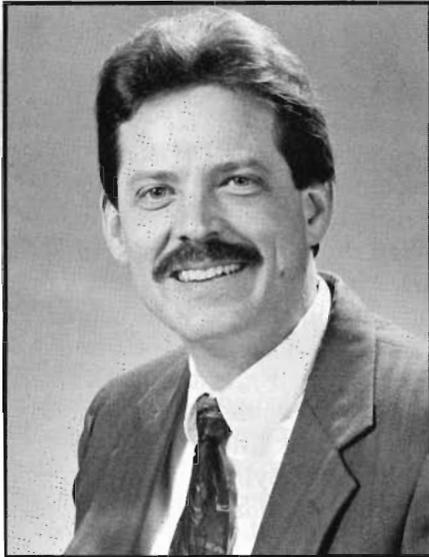
Robert Lockhart
Kaskaskia Lock and Dam

District Picnic

The tentative date for the District picnic is Thursday, June 13.

If you have any ideas for an activity at the picnic, please contact a CAC representative.

Innovation Award for Davinroy



Rob Davinroy, ED-HP, has been chosen as a recipient of the 1996 "Innovation Award" presented by the Academy of Science of St. Louis. This prestigious award is presented annually to young scientists under the age of 40 who have exhibited great potential

and/or superior accomplishment in a branch of science.

Rob received the award for his work in developing the bendway weir, a totally submerged rock structure that widens the navigation channel through river bends, making navigation of those

bends safer and at the same time improving the riverine ecosystem. Rob also created a new river engineering concept called micro-modelling. This is a relatively inexpensive and dependable method of achieving answers to complex hydraulic problems.

Rob is finding innovative ways to incorporate environmentally sensitive criteria into his river engineering projects. As a result, a harmony with the environment is being accomplished while achieving the desired navigation channel improvement objectives.

Rob will receive his award on Thursday, March 21, 1996, at a dinner held by the Academy of Science of St. Louis at the Missouri Botanical Garden. The dinner is open to the public.

In addition to the Academy of Science of St. Louis award Rob recently received the Distinguished Young Alumnus Award from the University of Missouri at Rolla Alumni Association. This award is presented to alumni of 40 years of age or younger who have demonstrated leadership ability, commitment to the service of others and a high level of achievement in his or her chosen career or profession.

Video teleconferencing (continued)

you a slide at the same time. Be yourself. Speak naturally and imagine that the participants at the other site are sitting opposite you. Avoid coughing into microphones, drumming your fingers, shuffling papers, or carrying on side conversations. Identify yourself as necessary. Pause occasionally so others may make comments. Be aware of what camera you are using. If you switch to the document camera to show a graphic, switch back to the main camera when the discussion turns to other topics. Remember that the people on the other end of the conference are looking at your image on screen and not directly into the camera.

6. Ending the conference. Conclude your conference on time. You will have a twenty minute signal before the video conference ends. Allow a few minutes for wrap-up and good-byes. If the meeting is running longer than expected, inform your VTC facilitator as soon as possible to determine if the conference can be extended. This notification must be made prior to the last 15 minutes of the scheduled conference end-time.

If you need further information or assistance, contact your VTC coordinator, Ginny Mueller at 331-8679.



Although Valentine's day is celebrated in Europe, Canada and the United States, no one is certain how the custom of exchanging gifts and greetings of love on this day began.

One story has it that a saint fell in love with his jailer's daughter and before his execution, signed his farewell note to her, "Your Valentine."

Others say it all began with the Roman festival of Lupercalia on February 15. Young men drew women's names out of a box, to be their sweethearts for the day or the year.

The church tried to change this custom by asking people to draw saints' names out of boxes, then imitating the virtues of that saint. Obviously, that had little appeal, and the practice died.

In medieval England, people said birds mated on February 14th, and it was a day for people in love too.

By the 17th century it was a popular custom to send handmade valentines to one's beloved, and by 1800 the first commercial cards appeared.

You have ties to your forefathers when you send Valentine greetings.