

ST. LOUIS ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT

# ESPRIT

Vol. 34 No. 1

GATEWAY TO EXCELLENCE

January 1997

## In this issue...

**District Motto**  
... page 4

**Spirit of the Season**  
... page 5-6

**Holiday Challenge**  
... page 7

**Suggestions**  
... page 8

**Opinion**  
... page 8

**M.L. King**  
... page 9

**Better knees**  
... page 10

**Drivers**  
... page 12

## Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

January 15, 1929 - April 4, 1968

Christmas and Easter are hard to ignore, thanks to decorations and gifts. Some holidays are not so well celebrated.

One wonders, do Americans actually memorialize on Memorial Day? Do Canadians really remember on Remembrance Day?

Now comes the most recent of U.S. holidays, the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. King was born on the 15th of January, but we celebrate this year on January 20th. Who was Dr. King?

He was the father of the civil rights movement. He dreamed of freedom, of a country that would judge his children on their merits, of a non-violent revolution in the land that would bring education and job opportunities to all.

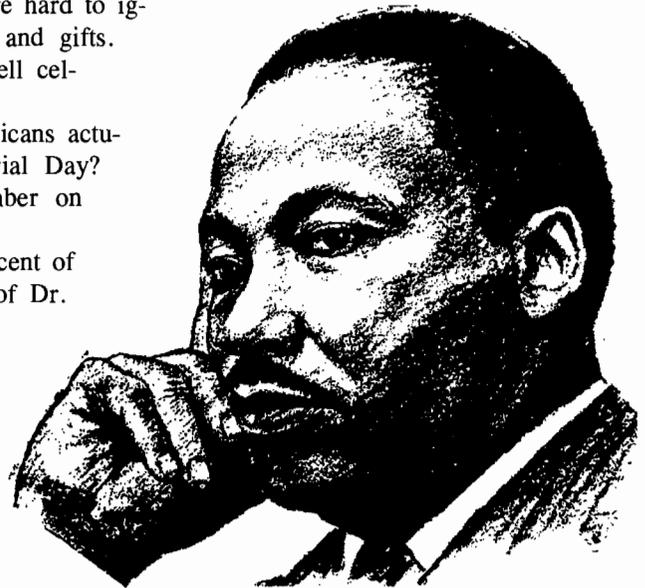
He was a minister, a leader. He was a passionate speaker whose words could make others believe in his dream.

For his work and the social progress he fostered, Dr. King was awarded the coveted Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

Some historians have compared his non-violent protests to those of Mahatma Gandhi, a father of liberty in India, but it's a matter of personal judgment whether the comparison is just for either figure in world history. Both were creators of the non-violent way, each in his own time.

Of one thing we are certain. That Dr. King was correct in his belief that, second only to legislative fairness, liberty and opportunity would be created through education and the acquisition of marketable skills. He preached the doctrine of knowledge at every opportunity.

On January 20, pause to remember and honor this pioneer of the civil rights movement and think about how far we have come since it all began. Though it's not a perfect world and may never be, it's a much better place because of him.





## Commander's Perspective



**COL Thomas J. Hodgini**

**... we are all ambassadors for the U.S. Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and St. Louis District.**

I trust everyone enjoyed the holidays. Several holiday photos, depicting the season's spirit, appear in this month's ESPRIT. These highlight District team members celebrating together and giving to others less fortunate. Imagine the excitement and joy your gifts must have brought to those families you sponsored. Your generosity reinforces one of my first impressions of the District - that it consists of caring people. Keep up the great work.

The Chief's visit to the District went well. Several good briefings and a successful town hall meeting served to impart a very positive impression of the District, our team, and our products. LTG Ballard was particularly intrigued by the diversity, variety and professional quality of our work. Mrs. Ballard's visit also went quite well. She enjoyed meeting several District representatives and was thrilled with the District's caring attitude, our CASU, CAC, and the Fit to Win center, among other activities.

As we begin 1997, I ask you to be mindful of a couple of themes. First, think, act and work safely. Of immediate concern: cold winter months generate potential safety hazards. Among these are increased risks associated with driving, walking and working in inclement weather, home and office hazards such as fireplaces and electric heaters, and potential injuries from winter work such as shoveling snow, and winter recreation such as sledding and skiing. Keeping safety a priority for yourself and your family helps ensure a safe, comfortable and enjoyable winter season. Stay alert!

Second, we are all ambassadors for the U.S. Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and St. Louis District. Neither I, nor any one person, can effectively tell our story alone. I solicit your help to tell the public about our organization. Recently, a few of our folks offered the following comments when asked what they felt is good about working in the District. My unedited version of their responses is: good reputation, benefits, job satisfaction & challenges, caring people and innovation. One person summed it up by saying that our folks are "...captured by the challenge, kept by the caring." We can all relay this story daily. If you need more information for formal discussions, ask. Tools are available.

A few days ago, one of our staff members asked me about my priorities for this year. I sum them up as "caring for our team, promoting our work and planning for our future." I'll discuss each of these with you in future ESPRIT perspectives.



**US Army Corps of Engineers**  
St. Louis District

ESPRIT is an unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-81. It is published monthly, by contract, in 1450 copies, by the Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Engineer District, St. Louis. Views and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army.

District Commander.....**Thomas J. Hodgini**

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:

### **Trees for habitat**

Those who live near Carlyle Lake will once again have an opportunity to dispose of their Christmas trees after the holidays while improving fish habitats at the lake. Collection points will be established to collect used Christmas trees. These trees are used to provide an effective and economical means of providing fish habitat in the lake.

### **Recycling bins**

Beginning in the 1997 camping season, recycling containers for aluminum cans will be installed at the Boulder, Coles Creek and Dam West campgrounds. The Corps is now looking for interested volunteers of nonprofit organizations to collect the cans on a minimum weekly basis and maintain the collection sites. The proceeds will go to the volunteering organizations.

### **Economic study**

After 1995's abnormally high pool elevations during the peak recreation and planting seasons, many concerns were raised by interest groups both upstream and downstream. The Corps has been asked to have correct economic data available when evaluating deviations from the approved Water Control Plan. In FY96, Congressman Durbin directed the Corps to update their economic data both upstream and downstream of the lake. The economic study has been completed and was presented to interest groups at an informational meeting on December 10th.

### **Habitat work**

The 1135 contract at Carlyle is 87 percent complete. Work on the

contract aimed at improving wetland habitat was delayed until mid-August in both 1995 and 1996 because of high pool levels and flood damage mediation operations. This prevented drainage of the subimpoundments. Work was stopped in mid-October because of re-flooding of the impoundments for habitat during the fall migration. The contract will be completed this coming construction season.

### **Partners sign MOA**

A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was signed between the Carlyle Lake Project and the Greenville College Institute for Environmental Studies (IFIS) at Greenville, Illinois. The Carlyle Lake Association and the IFIS have also signed a MOA to do projects at the lake. In 1995 a new partnership was formed between the Conservation 2000 Program and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to develop a program to cooperatively enhance public lands. The first grant of about \$46,000 will be used to do a bird survey of the lake. Other grants will be applied for to do ecosystem restoration and management.

### **Master Plan**

The Carlyle Lake Master Plan Update is nearing completion. The master plan update includes a maintenance and repair plan with a focus on repairs or replacement facilities which have exceeded their service life and do not meet current codes, operations and maintenance cost reductions and increased revenues. The master plan is scheduled to be submitted to LMVD for review and approval this Spring.

### **Managers meeting**

The Project Managers meeting, hosted by Carlyle Lake Project Office, will be held February 11-13 at the Wayne Fitzgerald State Park Resort at Rend Lake. Speakers have been invited from Headquarters, LMVD and the St. Louis District. The meeting will be divided into workshops to resolve issues, problems or projects that occur in field operations.

## Wappapello Lake:

### **Safety banners**

Wappapello Lake is planning to expand on its present water safety campaign by placing banners on the light poles that run along the dam. These banners will carry the same water safety messages that are presently being used on Corps of Engineers posters. The graphics will be taken from the water safety posters we receive from headquarters. The banners will be used throughout the recreation season to get the message to all who travel across the dam.

### **Banner greetings**

The staff has partnered with area businesses, clubs and individuals to obtain seasons greetings banners. The banners were purchased by these partners and placed on light poles along the dam by Corps personnel. With the installation of these banners we hope to bring the Corps and the community closer together. The banners with their bright colors add holiday cheer to all who are passing through the area.

(Continued on the next page)



## News Briefs (cont.)

### Festival of lights

The Corps of Engineers and the Wappapello Lake Lions Club worked together this past holiday season to host the 4th Annual Festival of Lights Auto Tour at Redman Creek West Campground. Because of its popularity the event was extended a week until December 28. Businesses, groups, organizations and individuals participate in this free holiday festivity by decorating a campsite with as many lights as possible.



### Fish shelters

The lake staff has been collecting Christmas trees from December 26 through January 12 at three lake locations for replentishment of fish shelters in the lake.

### Lake Shelbyville:

### Draw down

The annual draw down to conservation pool began December 1, about two weeks ahead of schedule. The early draw down will facilitate the placement of rip rap along the shoreline. This draw down allows for storage of an additional 5.7 feet of water for anticipated precipitation from January through March.

### Gift certificates

Gift certificates for camping at St. Louis District operated campgrounds are now available valid through the end of the next camping season. Contact any of the District's projects that offer camping for more details on the gift certificates.

### High water ramps

Five new high water boat ramps are being constructed at Lake Shelbyville. The Corps started work on the two lane high water boat ramps November 8th. The ramps are located in the Dam West, Opossum Creek, Lone Point, Lithia Springs and Bo Wood Recreation Areas.

Corps employees from Memphis District did the clearing, grading and rock placing at each ramp. The concrete work was done by Corps employees from the Vicksburg District and Lake Shelbyville. All boat ramps should be finished by May 1997.



High water boat ramp construction.

### Reservations

The staff at Lake Shelbyville is now accepting reservations for picnic shelters, fishing tournaments, Okaw Bluff Group Camp, campground group camps and the Visitor Center. Reservations can be made at the Project Office Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. either by telephone or in person. No reservations can be made through the mail.

### Mark Twain Lake:

### Turbine contest

Park Rangers Chris Coe and Brenda Henry finished the testing for the lake's annual "Design A Turbine Contest." They evaluated 38 turbines from participating schools. Madison Elementary's turbine produced the most voltage. Their turbine will be displayed at the Clarence Cannon Dam Powerhouse for one year. All students involved in the contest received certificates of recognition.

### Corrections

ESPRIT would like to correct some errors contained in the article on rehabilitation needed at Locks and Dams 24 and 25, which appeared in the December issue. These errors were pointed out by Economic and Social Analysis Branch.

Net transportation savings for shipping on the UMR is about \$650 million a year instead of \$1 billion as stated in the article.

(Continued on page 11)

### District motto

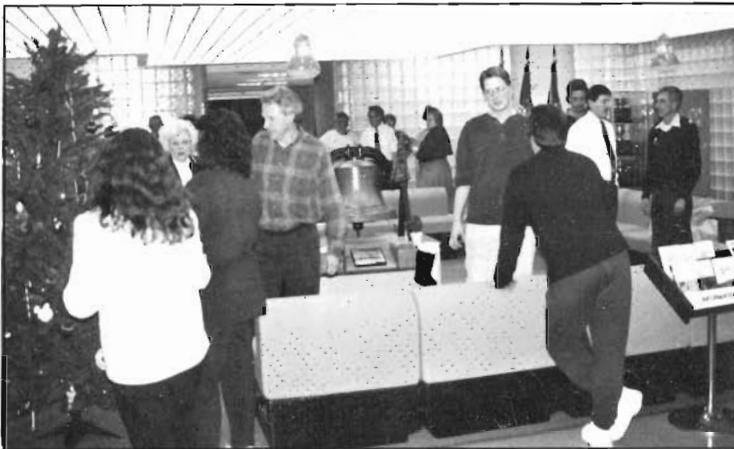
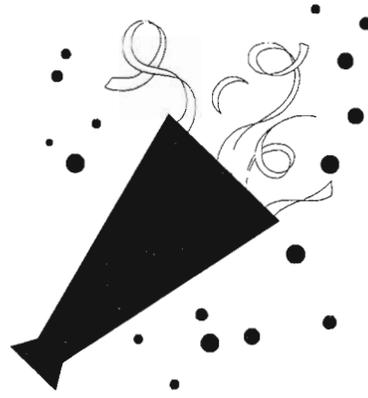
**Gateway to Excellence** is the new District motto. It received 53 of the 147 votes cast. Second place went to Preparing Today for Tomorrow's Challenges with 30 votes.

Gateway to Excellence was submitted separately by two people, Tom Hewlett, RE, and Jim Wolak, CO-N. Both will receive St. Louis District sweatshirts.

The District thanks all who participated in the contest. We received many excellent suggestions for mottos. But there can be only one. And the people of the District have spoken.



# In the spirit of the Season



On Monday, December 16th the CAC hosted the annual District tree trimming in the 4th floor lobby.

Human Resources put together a package of holiday cheer for a family with seven children in need from Collinsville, Illinois. They received donations of clothes and toys, \$200 worth of gift certificates for food and \$100 worth of gift certificates for shoes from those in HR and from ED, DB, VE, DS, PA and OC. The children had had several of their bicycles stolen, but Santa brought two new ones and a third is on its way. After all, HR has a direct line to Santa.



Park Ranger Mark Meador looks excited to receive some toys for his new house cat at Rend Lake's Christmas party.



HR folks gather with some of the gifts they had wrapped.



Some RM folks party aboard the Casino Queen.





Pat Hosford encouraged her Con-Ops fellow employees to bring in toys, food, clothing and/or money to help a needy family at Christmas. The family was suggested by the House Springs School District in Jefferson County, Missouri.

Items collected included at least one new coat for each family member (a mom, two girls and two boys), new shoes for all the children, 14 boxes of food which included a turkey and a ham, 4 computer boxes of clothes, 50 wrapped gifts (mostly toys) and a gift certificate for \$180.

All gifts were delivered after the Christmas party on December 19. Con-Ops ended up with an ad-

ditional \$80 that was used to help another needy family in Illinois, a single mother and two children, whose mobile home burned down a few days before Christmas.

**NOTE:** Pat Hosford suffered a heart attack on December 18. She is doing well and is scheduled to return to work in four weeks.



Loading the van with goodies.



Roger Hayes and Jim Carter sing? Christmas carols at the Con-Ops party.



Rachel Garren holds up the Bah Humbug shorts she was given at the party.



Claudia Tonsor and Pat Hosford wrap presents for a family in need.



Retirees Bill O'Herin and Josephine Bischan join Dee Ebert and Walter Ohar at the OC Christmas party.





# Fit to Win Holiday Challenge '96

by Joell Webb, Fitness Center

Did you know the average American gains anywhere from 7 to 10 pounds between Thanksgiving and New Years'? Holiday Challenge '96 wanted to challenge the Corps of Engineer employees

After the kick off event each site held a raffle. Prizes such as Holiday Challenge '96 sweatshirts, t-shirts, socks, low fat Holiday cookbooks, were given to the lucky winners.

3 mile run to the Arch. The field sites once again tailored their program to their area.

Phase three of the Holiday Challenge will be held Wednesday, January 8th at the Fitness Center. Once again, the raffle and weigh-in will be held promptly at 11 a.m. followed by the 1.5 mile walk to the stadium, or the 3 mile run to the Arch, or a lecture titled, "New Year, New You". The lecture will focus on motivational tips to keep you fit and healthy for 1997. All Corps of Engineer employees are encouraged to attend. Please call Joell Webb at 539-7822 for more information.



A group of health concious people participated in the Fit to Win Holiday Challenge on December 18th.

A food drive was also held in conjunction with the Holiday Challenge program. A Holiday Challenge '96 hand towel was given to the individuals who brought in two cans of food. The food was given to the area food banks.

Congratulations to all the raffle winners, and a special pat on the back to all the Holiday Challenge '96 participants that managed to maintain their weight over the '96 Holiday Season. Happy New Year to all!

to maintain their weight over the '96 holiday season. The participants were asked to mark down three dates on their upcoming calendar, November 27, December 18, and January 8.

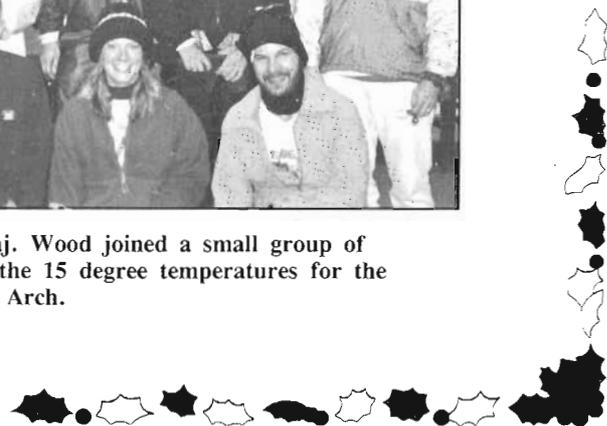
The program started with a kick off on Wednesday, November 27. Yes the day before Thanksgiving, approximately 60 individuals from the District office and eight of the field sites, with 5 to 10 individuals per site, participated.

The kick off offered a variety of events for the individual to choose from: a Holiday Eating Tips lecture given by Connie Diekman, R.D. (the field sites received a nutrition video), or a 1.5 mile walk to Busch stadium, lead by LTC Jones, or a 3 mile run to the Arch, lead by COL Hodgini. The field sites suggested that the stadium walk and Arch run might be a little far for them, so they tailored their walk/run to their area.

The Jingle Bell walk/run on Wednesday, December 18th was the second phase of the Holiday Challenge '96. The raffle and weigh-in was held promptly at 11 a.m., then participants weathered the chilling 15 degree day for the 1.5 mile walk to the stadium or the



Col. Hodgini and Maj. Wood joined a small group of runners who braved the 15 degree temperatures for the three mile run to the Arch.





# FY96 suggestion highlights

by Jose Juarez, RM

Your new AIEP Coordinator was appointed last October. I am Jose Juarez in RM. I will continue



working with everyone in the District on suggestions submitted to the RM Office.

During FY96, adoption of your suggestions resulted in tangible savings to the District of \$17,200. Awards totaling over \$1,900 were paid to District employees for these ideas. Highlights of suggestions adopted include:

Steven Jones of the M/V Pathfinder was awarded a total of \$1,210 (\$605 was paid in Jul 96 with the remainder \$605 to be paid upon implementation). His recommendation was to replace the single head transducer with a Multi-Beam transducer/receiver system which will definitely increase efficiency of the MV Pathfinder's channel patrol mission. First year savings are estimated at \$16,800.

Christopher Morgan of Lock and Dam No. 24 received a \$500 award for his recommendation to purchase Concertainer Defense Walls for use as flood barriers at lock projects. This system can be erected in minutes and stores easily pending usage. Implementation of this idea will significantly improve flood response at Lock and Dam No. 24, and may be implemented at other projects.

Richard Stubits, Steve Deterding, and Andrew Griffith shared a \$250 award for recommending installation of a new ladder extension on the lock wall cul-

vert ladders. Implementation of this idea will enhance safe working practices at the Kaskaskia and Melvin Price Lock and Dam

projects.

In addition to the above, we received approval for a cash award resulting from a 1987 suggestion. Richard Sovar, formerly of Design Branch, Engineering Division, was awarded an additional \$15,000 by OPM. The District had previously awarded Mr. Sovar \$5,000, LMVD an additional \$3,000, and HQUSACE an additional \$2,000. The OPM award of \$15,000 brings the total cash award to the maximum allowed of \$25,000. The approved suggestion resulted in using approximately 300,000 linear feet of used Government-furnished sheet piling which was removed from the Second Stage Cofferdam cells for construction of the upstream and downstream guidewall cells for the Auxiliary Lock at the Melvin Price Locks and Dam. He also suggested that the height of the pilings could be reduced without compromising the quality of construction. His idea saved the Department of the Army more than \$5.3 million in new procurement costs.

Remember, your ideas are always welcome. Simply complete DA Form 1045 stating the current situation, your recommendation, and the benefits that will be derived, either tangible(\$\$) or intangible, and send it to CELMS-RM, Attn: Jose Juarez. Your name could appear in this column sometime in the future. Send your money-saving ideas today!

# Opinion

## On "Minorities and the glass ceiling"

by Harry Hamell, RE-A

I read the EEO Matters article in the Nov. '96 edition of ESPRIT with mixed emotion. After soul searching, my mixed thoughts and being approached by others in the District who were in somewhat of a quandary as well, I prepared the following, hopefully to help put the article's information in some sort of useful perspective for the District. So, for those who were offended by the article, please don't be! The indicative behaviors are realities to many minority groups, to include people from Third World Nations.

There were, however, inferences made in the article I consider unreasonable.

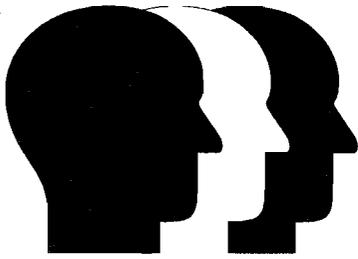
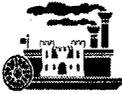
1. All minorities are "Third World people". This is an incorrect presumption.
2. If it were true, the above conclusion further infers that minorities, working in organizations, don't subscribe to the United States' constitution and/or its policies. This too is incorrect.

Certain other discussions in the article need to be clarified for the reader's understanding and application to personal work ethic. This is my perspective.

1. People are different. We are as unique as the fingerprints on our hands.
2. People are treated differently. Our experiences and beliefs are manifested in the character and personality we reflect.
3. Discrimination and disparate treatment relate to physical and emotional stimuli from personal experiences. The collective experiences transform into a cultural behavior through or by assimilation ("an ass by emulation").

There is another term for the se-

(Continued on back cover)



# EEO matters

By Jean Stephens, EEO Officer

## Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a Baptist minister and passionate fighter for civil rights, inspired and sustained the struggle for freedom, nonviolence, interracial brotherhood, and social justice. By the time he was assassinated in 1968 at the age of 39, he had been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and had led millions of people in a nonviolent movement that shattered forever the Southern system of segregation of the races. He was the closest this country has come to producing a leader with the moral stature of Mahatma Gandhi.

Throughout his brief life, his words communicated his vision, his passion, and his faith and they demonstrated his gift to inspire others to follow his lead. Dr. King's speeches and writings are as inspiring and fundamental to life today as it was during his lifetime. Coretta Scott King is the author of "The Words of Martin Luther King Jr." created as a living memorial to his philosophies and ideas. The following are just a few of the selections that focuses on areas of his concerns:

### THE COMMUNITY OF MAN

"An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity."

"Our cultural patterns are an amalgam of black and white. Our destinies are tied together. There is no separate black path to power and fulfillment that does not have to intersect with white roots.

Somewhere along the way the two must join together, black and white together, we shall overcome, and I still believe it."

### RACISM

"To develop a sense of black consciousness and peoplehood does not require that we scorn the white race as a whole. It is not the race per se that we fight but the policies and ideology that leaders of that race have formulated to perpetuate oppression."

"A doctrine of black supremacy is as evil as a doctrine of white supremacy."

"We must use time creatively, in the knowledge that the time is always ripe to do right. Now is the time to make real the promise of democracy and transform our pending national elegy into a creative psalm of brotherhood. Now is the time to lift our national policy from the quicksand of racial injustice to the solid rock of human dignity."

### CIVIL RIGHTS

"Through education we seek to change attitudes; through legislation and court orders we seek to regulate behavior. Through education we seek to change internal feelings (prejudice, hate, etc.); through legislation and court orders we seek to control the external effects of those feelings. Through education we seek to break down the spiritual barriers to integration; through legislation and court orders we seek to break down the physical barriers to integration. One method is not a substitute for the other, but a mean-

ingful and necessary supplement. Anyone who starts out with the conviction that the road to racial justice is only one lane wide will inevitably create a traffic jam and make the journey infinitely longer."

"Morals cannot be legislated, but behavior can be regulated. The law cannot make an employer love me, but it can keep him from refusing to hire me because of the color of my skin."

### JUSTICE AND FREEDOM

"Freedom has always been an expensive thing. History is fit testimony to the fact that freedom is rarely gained without sacrifice and self-denial."

"Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable. Even a superficial look at history reveals that no social advance rolls in on the wheels of inevitability. Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals. Without persistent effort, time itself becomes an ally of the insurgent and primitive forces of irrational emotionalism and social destruction. This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is a time for vigorous and positive action."

### FAITH AND RELIGION

"The belief that God will do everything for man is as untenable as the belief that man can do everything for himself. It, too, is based on a lack of faith. We must learn that to expect God to do everything while we do nothing is not faith but superstition."

"Science investigates; religion interprets. Science gives man knowledge which is power; religion gives man wisdom which is control. Science deals mainly with facts; religion deals mainly with values. The two are not rivals. They are complementary. Science keeps religion from sinking into the valley of crippling irrational-

(Continued on page 15)



# To your health

## Yes, you can have better knees

One national class weight-lifting coach says people have painful or easily-injured knees because their legs are just not strong enough. Whether you have a still-painful knee injury hanging on, or you have trouble climbing those long flights of stairs, strengthening your legs will help.

The coach and therapist, Marc Chasnov of Rye Brook, New York, also says that people who participate in sports particularly should be strengthening their knees to avoid injury. Here's how to go from week-kneed to strong enough for skiing.

Phase one: This is the preconditioning stage. It includes leg lifts and partial sit-ups. Lie on your back with legs straight in front. Slowly raise one leg about 24 inches off the floor, then lower it to

six inches off the floor. Repeat for a set of 10. Try to do four sets of 10 reps with each leg.

For the sit-up, lie with knees bent. Sit halfway up with hands clasped behind the head. Try to do four sets of eight each. This strengthens both the abdomen and the legs.

Phase two: Start with the stationary lunge squat. With your feet shoulder-width apart and toes turned slightly out, squat down until your seat touches a chair behind you. Use a table to help at first if you are still weak. Start with four sets of six reps and progress to ten.

For step-ups, use a step or block that's 12 to 16 inches high, step up, leading with your weakest leg and following with the other one. Step back off the block and

do it again. As with other exercises, you might need some support if a leg has been injured.

Phase three: After doing the first two phases for a couple of weeks, you can try leg extensions to isolate the knee joint. Sit in a chair or at a leg extension machine. Start with legs bent 90 degrees, raise them to almost lock out the knee. Hold for several seconds, then slowly return to the starting position. Weights can be used with the leg extension machine.

By strengthening your legs, you will be better able to perform common activities and be less likely to sustain an injury in your favorite sport. After any injury, however, wait two weeks after pain is gone to begin strengthening exercises, or act on your doctor's advice.

## 1997 District Golf League now forming



The District Golf League is now looking for new members for the 1997. The Golf League is open to all St. Louis District employees and retirees. You don't

have to be Tiger Woods or Laura Davies to play in the league. If you have your own clubs and have been on a golf course without windmills, ramps, and alligators you are eligible to play in the league.

A handicap system is used so all golfers - no matter what your skill level is - can compete. If you're not interested in competing in weekly matches and would just like to come out and play you can join the league under a non-competitive status.

Our goal is to staff 8 teams with 8 golfers. League play will tentatively begin on April 22 at Clinton Hill Country Club in Belleville, Illinois. The regular season matches are on Tuesdays and run for 18 weeks. All matches consist of 9 holes and tee times run between 4:00 to 5:00. You are not required to play every week. After team rosters have been finalized you will arrange with your team cap-

tain on the weeks you are available to play.

League fees are tentatively set at \$20 for competitive and \$10 for non-competitive. League fees cover the costs of weekly prizes during the season and hosting the fall tournament and league banquet at the completion of the season.

If you are remotely interested or have any questions call Jay Fowler (8134), Tracy Butler (8592) or Paul Louse (8390). We will be putting teams together shortly, so if you are interested give us a call and we will do our best to convince you that you cannot live a fulfilling life without being involved in the league!



# Retiree Review

by the Retiree Correspondent

December 19 was a very cold and windy day, but 27 retirees braved the elements to come together to enjoy each other's company and some holiday cheer. Unfortunately, due to the small number, everyone went through the "line" rather than having a buffet of our own.

The weather did not keep Kate Stiles from attending. She was there with her nurse Laura. Kate looks great for all she has endured. She indicated her appetite is good and that she is learning to walk again. It's a slow process, but it is working. Keep it up Kate. We want to see you back on your feet again. Although Katie has been under the weather, she has been active with the retirees. She reported that Charlie Gilpin passed away shortly after Thanksgiving.

Pete Puricelli reported that Eleanor Rabe, former secretary to the Comptroller (Homer Duff), passed away just before Thanksgiving. Our condolences to both families.

Lew and Helen Scheuermann "brought" word from the Huizengas that Elmer was under the weather and would not be able to make the trip up from Jackson. Elmer, you can run but you can't hide from the mean old bug. Hope you shake it in time for the January luncheon.

Bob Maxwell said he was leaving for about two

weeks in Florida. His children have a place there and they celebrate holidays together. What a time to leave the St. Louis area, and go to the "not so warm" South.

Joe Bisher related an interesting fact as a result of a recent cruise through the Panama Canal. The main lock at the Mel Price Locks and Dam (the new L&D 26) is 200 feet longer than any one lock in the "Big Ditch." He said that if we could only raise the bridges and lower the river bottom, the cruises could come through this area. Sounds interesting. Someone tried to do that and bring the battleship Missouri here, but found it a little difficult.

Charlie and Jane Denzel received a Christmas card from the Cullens. They are about moved in and Mike is working on his golf game. Some would say that a lot of work is required, but in the spirit of the holidays, we'll just say that he is playing a lot of golf.

Bob Maxwell was the "Senior Retiree." There were several winners of the Pot-of-Gold: Georgia Petersen, Kate Stiles, Elsie Kalafatich, Don and Othella Wampler, Paul Trauth, Ron Bockhorst and George Clapp. CONGRATULATIONS.

Our thanks to Bob and Barb Lutz for the wonderful table decorations. THANKS.

Let's hope that the weather and the turnout is better for the January Luncheon on the 16th, at the Salad Bowl, about 11 a.m. Hope to see you there.

## King (continued)

ism and paralyzing obscurantism. Religion prevents science from falling into the marsh of obsolete materialism and moral nihilism."

### NONVIOLENCE

"I've decided that I'm going to do battle for my philosophy. You ought to believe in life, believe that thing so fervently that you will stand up with it till the end of your days. I can't make myself believe that God wants me to hate. I'm tired of violence. And I'm not going to let my oppressor dictate to me what method I must use. We have a power. Power that

can't be found in Molotov cocktails, but we do have a power. Power that cannot be found in bullets and guns, but we have a power. It is a power as old as the insights of Jesus of Nazareth and as modern as the techniques of Mahatma Gandhi."

### PEACE

"True peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice."

"Now let me say that the next thing we must be concerned about if we are to have peace on earth and good will toward men is the nonviolent affirmation of the sacredness of all human life. Every man is somebody because he is a child of God."

## Corrections (continued)

Commerce passing through L&Ds 24 & 25 has grown by between 3,000 and 4,000 percent since 1940. Not 42 percent.

The article stated \$100 million of additional repair to that already authorized for L&Ds 24 & 25 was urgently needed. Additional repair is still being studied. It has not yet been decided how much additional repair, if any, is needed.

# Drivers are thinking of "something else"



Use of a car phone while driving is the hottest topic when it comes to thinking of "something else while driving. Cellular phone owners have 33 percent more accidents than those who don't own one. Using car phones (and typing on lap-top computers!)

have been blamed for many accidents, but there are many other distractions from the task at hand.

How dangerous is the distracted driver? In 1994, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration concluded that 6.1 percent of fatal accidents happened because of inattentive drivers. In the meantime, the Minnesota Department of Public Safety reviewed 3,916 truck crashes. They found that 21 percent were caused by driver distraction or inattention.

Eating and drinking, fiddling with the radio and lighting cigarettes are some of the most common

causes of inattention. And everyone has heard stories of being rear-ended by someone who was reading a street map or applying makeup.

One spokesperson for the California State Automobile Association in San Francisco sees tourists with maps spread out across the steering wheels as they cross the Bay Bridge. Another says dogs in the driver's seat are his pet peeve. He's seen quite a few and sometimes has to look twice to see if the dog or a person is driving.

"People don't think," says C. Van Tune, editor of *Motor Trend*. "They sit there like they're in a movie theater. They eat their popcorn. They put their feet up."

Why do we do these things? Brian O'Neil, president of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, says we think driving is a task that requires little skill. That turns into little attention. Often drivers seem to be on autopilot.

Everyone talks about the high number of traffic accidents there are, but the only way to reduce them is to change how people behave in their vehicles. They don't seem to realize that lives are at stake.

---

## Opinion

lected behavior presented in the article, and that is "Hidden Racism"; a major dysfunction in our society.

So, the real question is to whom is the article addressed; who is the intended audience? The fact is, anyone within an organization can be a perpetrator or victim of the identified behaviors. However and unfortunately, due to the tainted historical background of this country, the evolved culture has relegated African Americans and other minority groups to an underclass status, real or perceived. Corporate behaviors are presumed to pattern the ideologies of White American ancestry. The methods and intent of America's forefathers and their ensuing lineage, to seize opportunities of power and control, have dealt a blow to humanity and America's true greatness; a fateful legacy poised under a hood of racism and the burden of slavery.

Consequently, the stigma of faulty thinking and distorted teachings have crippled our society, leaving people at both ends of the spectrum equally confused about each other. The confusion causes cultural shifts toward capitalistic and superficial views and the succumbing to societal hype and loss of identity. The dominant social order, in order to maintain its prominence, adheres to the discriminating practices as presented in the article. These people lack redeeming qualities of respect, sensitivity and justice.

How is this type of mentality allowed to persist in such a highly evolved and technical society you ask? Fear, ignorance and uncertainty are the culprits. These curable diseases manifest so deeply into the human psyche that people become blind to reality. They exist in self-centered, self-righteous and self-destructive realms which can only be overcome by recognizing their personal dilemma, owning up to it and committing to change for a better environment.

The enlightened realize the epidemic proportion of the diseases which separate us from truth and see a need to reconcile and appreciate the differences in culture, race, gender. Ultimately, they challenge themselves and the organizations that condone the previously mentioned ills of our society.

Clearly, the objectives of the article are the necessary elimination of superficial assessments of character and capability and the embodiment of a culture that is heartfelt, objective, merit-based, and open-minded; focused on people and intangible truths, i.e. love, integrity, and righteousness rather than money and material consumption.

Leadership can implement the best of policies, aimed at eliminating system deficiencies, but policies won't change practices, without some kind of behavior adjustment, either self-imposed or at the whipping post!