



ST. LOUIS ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT *ESPRIT*

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COL Williams, new St Louis District Commander



The Color Guard of the U.S. Army Reserve Personnel Command, St. Louis, Missouri, parades the colors for the District's Change of Command.

“The transfer of command is symbolized by the passing of the command flag, a symbol of the District.”

In a ceremony tracing its origins back two millennia, the red and gold flag of the US Army Corps of Engineers exchanged hands, and with it, District command passed from Colonel Michael R. Morrow to Colonel C. Kevin Williams.

Representing the District's 800-plus employees, Mr. Joe Kellett took the flag from its stand and handed it to Colonel Morrow. Colonel Morrow in turn, relinquished it to his immediate superior, Mississippi Valley Division Commander Brigadier General Edwin J. Arnold, Jr.

Next Colonel Williams accepted the



The flag is passed—and with it, Command of the St. Louis District is transferred to Colonel C. Kevin Williams, USA

flag from BG Arnold and with it the responsibility and authority of command of the District. And finally, as a symbol of civilian leadership of the Army, the flag was returned to Mr. Kellett, who replaced it in its stand. Command had been passed in an age-old and traditional manner.

More than 450 members of the Corps family, employees, their family members and guests looked on during the 30-minute ceremony conducted in downtown St. Louis' Adams Mark Hotel.

They heard Division Commander General Arnold call Colonel Morrow a “people person — first, last and always. There's probably not a District employee here this morning who's hand he hasn't shaken and with

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Commander's Perspective



COL C. Kevin Williams

I've been here in St. Louis now for a little more than two months. They have been two great months. Once I knew I was coming here, wherever I went in preparation, everyone told me how lucky I was to get this assignment. They all told me I was really coming to a great District. They have all proven to be absolutely right.

I am trying to get out to all of the projects as quickly as possible and I've been very impressed with what I have seen so far. You are doing an outstanding job. Where you work, what you do and how you do it is what is important, far more so than the piles of paper that seem to appear endlessly on my desk.

Late in July I conducted my first Town Hall meeting here in the second-floor auditorium. In case you couldn't be with us then, I want to take this opportunity to introduce

myself to you. This will also give me a second chance if anyone there snoozed through part of the session as well.

I'll leave out the details of my education, military assignments and other information that is in my biography, which is on the web. But let me start with some semi-useless factoids:

- Born and raised in Smyrna, Delaware
- Married for 22 years
- Love sports: tennis, golf, baseball, football
- In 23 years of military life I have moved 14 times, lived in 18 homes, in 11 states and owned or been owned by 5 dogs.

I went on to layout my philosophy on life and work, and it's pretty simple:

- Teamwork - There is nothing we cannot achieve by working together.
- Expertise - We are the subject matter experts.
- Attitude - Come to work every day with a positive attitude.
- Management - Use all of our resources to their fullest.

I concluded that part of my discussion by telling everyone that there is no "I" in TEAM. And while that is true, it is only true in so far as spelling goes. Without "I" we truly have no TEAM, so:

- Integrity - Do what's right, legally and morally.

I also have a vision for the St. Louis District, where I want us to go and what I want for us all.

I want the St. Louis District to be seen, both by others and ourselves, as the best District in the Mississippi

Valley Division. I want us to be seen by everyone as people who do the right things the right ways.

I want us to be the "go-to" District. When people elsewhere have problems I want them to know they can call on us for solutions. I also want people within the District, our customers, to know that they can depend on us to deliver the best product or solution at the fairest cost. I want them to know they will receive value. I want the St. Louis District to be the answer to the question - every time.

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US Army Corps of Engineers
St. Louis District®

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New District Commander, cont. from page 1



A variety of emotions go through the families of Colonel Williams and Colonel Morrow as the ceremony takes place.

whom he hasn't visited on one or more occasions during the past three years."

He described the outgoing commander's management style of mingling with his people. "District employees didn't have to come to the headquarters on Spruce Street to see him. Instead, he went to them - into the field - connected electronically to his office and the world by his cell phone and Blackberry - but connecting personally with his people where they work and succeed."

Comparing the St. Louis District with some of the city's great sports franchises, General Arnold said, "They talk about great St. Louis Teams - the Rams in the Superbowl... The Blues and two-plus decades of playoff hockey... the Cardinals powering through the central division - but let me tell you, the Army Corps of Engineers team in the St. Louis District is pretty hot as well."

And he praised Colonel Morrow for his people-style and his team building skills. "The District team's success has been built on the kinds of relationships that Colonel Morrow stresses so much - on the kinds of relationships that built confidence and trust that was essential when things went from bad to worse. Success has been based on relationships nurtured when the sun was shining so that they would work when it rained... and rained... and

rained."

Colonel Morrow's leadership and personal contributions were recognized with award of two high Corps and Army honors: the silver de Fleury medal recognizing his contribution to military engineering and the Army's Legion of Merit.



Colonel C. Kevin Williams addresses his new command for the first time.

General Arnold then welcomed the new District commander, telling the audience he was coming from a year of education at the Army's War College at Carlyle Barracks, PA. He also noted Colonel Williams' previous service at a Corps District, at the Fort Huachuca, AZ Resident Office of the

Los Angeles District.

"There he had to look for water," the general explained. Referring to the recently receding Spring 2002 flood, he said "In St. Louis he's going to have to find places to put it."

In his remarks to the audience, Colonel Morrow spoke of the core values that make the Army what it is, focusing his attention on personal courage.

He personalized his remarks on courage by telling of the conduct of two District civilian employees who were accompanying him on congressional visits in Washington, DC on September 11, 2001. With aircraft crashing into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, he told how Julie Ziino and Jane Collins quickly elected to stay at their jobs vice seeking quick returns home.

He closed by thanking the Corps family for their dedication and service with him in St. Louis, noting that he and his wife Michelle intended to return here after his tour with the U.S. Central Command.

The ceremony was preceded by a medley of patriotic songs presented by the Lincolnland Brass Ensemble of the US Air Force Band of Mid America from nearby Scott Air Force Base, IL. The group, which also played a stirring rendition of the National Anthem and entertained guests with a lighter repertoire after the ceremony, was one of two guest groups supporting the ceremony.

The other was the Color Guard of the Army's Reserve Personnel Command in St. Louis, MO, which marked the event's martial solemnity with its flawless precision presentation of the Nation's colors and an equally breathtaking retirement of the Stars and Stripes at the conclusion.

Following the formal events, a receiving line offered guests both an opportunity to bid goodbye to the Morrrows and to welcome Colonel Williams and his wife Debbie and their two daughters to the St Louis District.



Triple Christening of St. Louis District Corps Working Boats



(L) Crane Barge, FISHER, Tow Boat GRAND TOWER and Dredge POTTER lay ship shape and ready for the historic triple christening at the St. Louis District Service Base.

There are slang terms for three of many things. A big sale of three items at a store is often called a “three-for”. When the Chicago Bulls carried away three consecutive NBA world championships their fans cheered their “Three-peat.”

While the christening of three St. Louis District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers working water vessels was neither a sale nor a championship, it was a unique and momentous event.

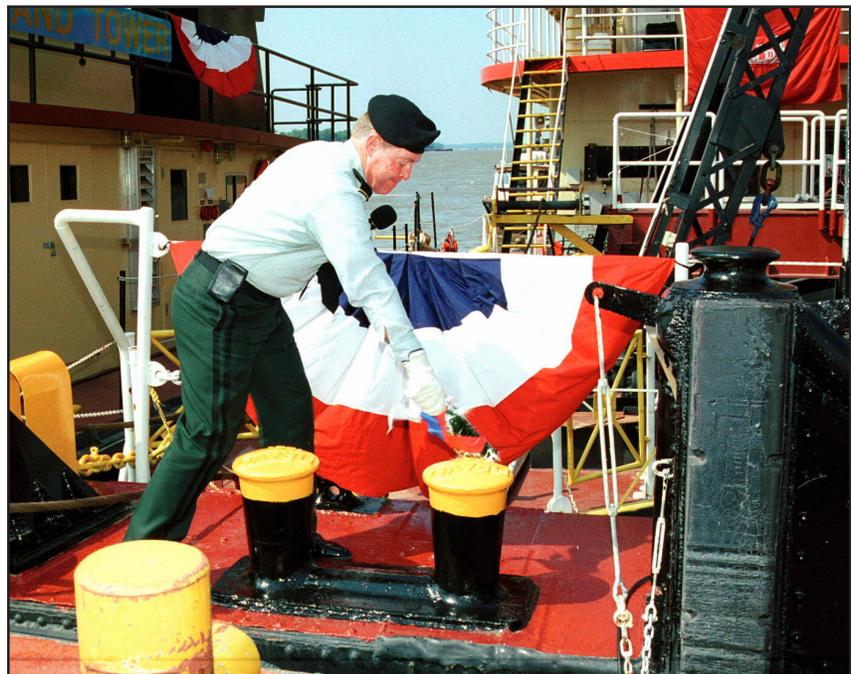
US Army Corps of Engineers vessels have been working out of the District’s Service Base continuously since 1882, and July 27, 2002 was a modern milestone in our long and proud history on the rivers. On July 27, 2002, amid the crack of champagne bottles, a color guard rifle volley, martial music, a hail of boat whistles, horns and sirens and a fireboat’s 100-foot plume of water above the assembled crowd of 250 guests, the Dredge Charles L. POTTER, towboat GRAND TOWER and Crane Barge Nevan A. FISHER were christened at the Service Base in St. Louis.

The Dredge POTTER, originally built in 1932 and named for former

St. Louis District and Mississippi Valley Division Engineer Charles Lewis Potter, was re-christened during the festivities in recognition of its total re-powering from steam to diesel-electric.

The 240-foot long dustpan dredge

now boasts 2400 horsepower for both propulsion and dredging motors, two 81-inch 5-blade propellers with kort nozzles and totally new electronic control systems. The Corps’ Marine Design Center and the St. Louis District prepared the new design.



Mississippi Valley Division Commander starts the festivities with the christening of the dredge POTTER



Colonel Michael R. Morrow christens the new towboat GRAND TOWER

The new 1100-horsepower GRAND TOWER, named for the town near the tall rocky Mississippi River landmark called Tower Rock. Built in 2001, the new 65-foot, 111-ton motor vessel is the latest replacement towboat in the District fleet.

The Crane Barge FISHER is named for the late, 36-year veteran crane operator and labor foreman of the Engineer Service Base, Nevin A. Fisher. It is a 150-foot by 46-foot crane barge with a 100-ton Manitowoc 222 crawler crane and two 59-foot long hydraulic spuds.

The mission of all three vessels is to support the Corps' maintenance and repair mission on the Mississippi, Missouri, Illinois and Kaskaskia Rivers.

A host of red Corps' flags waved in the clear blue sky as Brigadier General Edwin Arnold broke a champagne bottle over the bow of the POTTER; Colonel Michael R. Morrow assisted by former Grand Tower, IL mayor and boat pilot Charles Burdick, christened the GRAND TOWER; and Walter C. Feld assisted by a 38-member contingent from the Fisher family, christened the FISHER.

Speakers highlighted the ties between the current Corps family and past leaders and workers who prepared the way for future successes in the Corps' navigation mission.

One speaker stated, "So often in the Corps, we find ourselves caught up in the importance of our daily work, focused on performing our mission for that day and planning for the days after that. But unless we take time to pause and look back on our history, and on the men and women who came before us to prepare the ground we operate on, we can lose focus on where we are headed. Our past is the window to our future, and we grow when we learn and honor that past." Honor the past they did, and the future was ushered in by well-wishers from both inside and outside the Corps on this happy and historic day.



CONOPS Chief, Walter C. Feld christens the new crane barge, FISHER as thirty eight family members of the vessel's namesake, Nevin A. Fisher look on.



Helper boat sinks near Locks & Dam 25

Disaster was narrowly averted Saturday afternoon, July 20, north of Locks and Dam 25 at Winfield, MO, when a helper boat, MV Mary Fern capsized and sank while assisting 16-barge tow being pushed by MV Sierra Dawn. The two-man crew of Mary Fern was able to scramble to safety on the barges before their craft sank in the Mississippi.

The incident occurred at approximately 3:45 p.m. as the towboat MV Sierra Dawn was moving north, having completed its lockage at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Locks and Dam 25 with its tow of empty barges.

Details of the incident are under investigation by the U.S. Coast Guard's Marine Safety Office in St. Louis and are not available at this time.

After the safety of the Mary Fern's crew was assured, the larger tow was

able to continue its northbound transit up the Mississippi.



A St. Charles, MO commercial salvage firm, Okie Moore, Inc., was contracted by the Mary Fern's owners to raise the vessel from the river bottom where she lay on her port, or

left side with about 4 feet of her hull projecting above the water. Since the helper boat sank outside the navigation channel, navigation both directions through Locks 25 was able to continue, although lockmaster Jerry Stroud said he and lock personnel were prepared to suspend lockages and/or modify water flow at the dam if requested by the salvage company and Coast Guard.

Work first to right Mary Fern and then raise her attracted substantial media attention, with FOX-2 TV broadcasting live from the public area north of Locks and Dam 25 and other TV stations covering the work periodically.

By mid afternoon Wednesday, Mary Fern had been refloated and the salvage party and equipment prepared to depart the area. The entire operation was accomplished without interruption to navigation or operation of the Locks and Dam.



The Silver De Flurry Medal Presentation. l-to-r: BG Edwin Arnold, Walter Feld, daughter Kerry, wife Kathy Feld, Colonel Micheal Morrow.

Commander's Perspective (Cont. from page 2)

Finally, I want everyone to enjoy what they are doing, to have fun. I know that if we are truly a "TEAM", with "I", we will enjoy what we do because when you do your best at the right things, satisfaction is inevitable.

That's a little about who I am. That's my philosophy. That's the way I work, the way I want us all to work together and what I think is important, all in a nutshell. It's pretty simple. It isn't rocket science. Rather, you are the "rocket scientists" who have a track record for solving problems and who will solve the next ones that come in the door. You owe the District, the Corps and the Nation - and yourselves no less.

Essayons.



Around the District



Alive and Kicking: The Missouri Mule

The traveling exhibit *Alive and Kicking: The Missouri Mule, Then and Now* examines the historical development, present uses, and folklore surrounding the Missouri mule. This exhibit was developed by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Missouri State Museum and the Missouri Cultural Heritage Center at the University of Missouri. It will be on display at the M.W. Boudreaux Visitor Center weekends September 14 — October 13, 2002 as part of Mark Twain Lake's Missouri Mule Days event scheduled for September 28 & 29, 2002. (The following is provided by the State Museum).

What creature can have no offspring but continue to have more of its kind born? The Missouri Mule.

A mule, reputed to be the most stubborn animal alive, is the hybrid offspring of a male donkey (jack) and a female horse (mare). Because of this genetic cross, the mules cannot reproduce; every mule must have a donkey and a horse for parents. The result is an animal with the horse's massive size and weight, and the donkey's features, intelligence, agility,

and endurance. This combination created an animal highly suitable for farm work in the 19th century.

In 1821, William Becknell led the first trading party along the Sante Fe Trail from Missouri to Sante Fe and returned with Mexican donkeys, mules, and silver – wealth for the new state of Missouri. Missouri mules, bred from the Mexican donkeys and American mares, were frequently used to pull wagons west to Oregon and California.

Mules were also used to expand the cotton kingdom of the South. Before the Civil War, more than half the mules in the United States were employed on cotton plantations. Missouri mules were driven overland and shipped

nation, and Callaway County claimed the title of Mule Capital of the World. Missouri farmers could earn \$60 or \$70 for each young mule, at a time when the average farm income was scarcely \$700 a year.

Besides meeting most of the demand for mules in the United States, Missouri also supplied buyers from throughout the world. When mules owned by W. Elgin of Platte County swept the competition at the 1904 St. Louis World' Fair, the term Missouri Mule entered the American vocabulary. These Missouri mules served the United States and her allies during both world wars.



A young Mark Twain visitor considers sharing his chips with his new friend, a Missouri Mule.

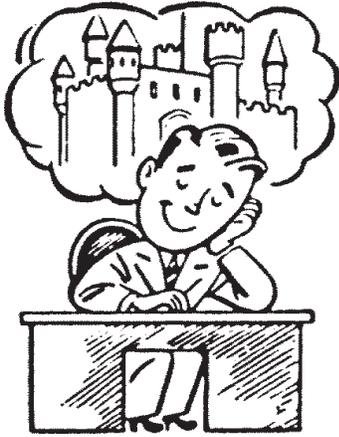
south on steamboats to fill the need. In addition, the mules provided power for America's developing coal, lead, and logging industries.

The demand for Missouri's large, docile mules, stronger than the small mules reared in Kentucky and Tennessee, continued to increase. In fact, from 1870 to 1900, Missouri bred more mules than any other state in the

The mule story is more than tall tales and bravado. It is the history of rural life and the family farm. At one time, 45 percent of Missouri farmers were involved in using or breeding mules. Although the tractor has driven the mule off the farm, the animals are still popular in other areas, including forestry and recreation.



The Way I Remember It



Henrietta Creel at WUG 5 base station

I recently made a trip to Cape Girardeau to attend a meeting. While traveling to Cape, during my stay in Cape and while traveling back to the District Office, I was constantly in contact with my employees using a cell phone and a wireless blackberry (email). In essence, I had a mobile office and was conducting business almost as if I were in the building. I had a brief moment to think about how it used to be and this is the topic of this article.

WUG 5, WUG 5 this is WUG 5486 calling for a radio check. How do you read me? WUG 5486 I read you loud and clear, have a nice trip. WUG 5 out. (WUG 5 was the call designation for the District Office central radio).

This was the beginning of every field trip in a government vehicle. You were required to check your car radio before you left on a trip. We had a system of towers throughout the district's watersheds. For example, if you were heading north, you pushed a series of buttons that would allow you to transmit through the appropriate radio towers. Sometimes they would work and sometimes they wouldn't. I remember my flood fight years on the Illinois River - we could seldom reach anyone using our district car radios.

During the mornings, the Water Control Office would call the projects and get the hourly water level readings for the previous 24 hours. It seemed like they would dominate the radio all morning. No one else could

use the radio while this information was being transferred. At the time, it seemed to me, it took forever for them to get finished. Note - now this is done with our data collection network via the GOES satellite system. The computers in the gage house transmit the hourly data to a satellite and then the satellite relays the information to a receive site and then directly into our computers.

At 1 pm, WUG 5 would come on the air and give river stages and forecasts. Towards the end of the broadcast, a weather forecast was also given. I remember the radioman named Frank (I never did know his last name). He had a rather strong "Brooklyn New York" type accent. He would give the river stage information, weather information and then finally end his broadcast with a safety tip. For example, he might say, always look both ways before crossing the road, WUG 5 out. He was required to give a safety tip after each broadcast but I don't think he had his heart in it. I believe they gave him a book of safety tips and he would turn a page during each broadcast and read a tip for us. After a period of time he must have used up all the safety tips. I believe this because he finally got into a routine of ending all his messages by saying with his thick accent, "Alright youse guys, obey duh rules, WUG 5 out".

I think most of the towers have been

taken down now. I am glad they are gone. The district radio system worked intermittently and episodically. Some areas were "dead areas" and you never could reach anyone, anytime - ever! Another aspect of the radios I didn't like was everyone in the district with a radio heard every broadcast. You could hear the conversations at the lake projects, the construction projects, almost everyone in a car or truck, etc. If your supervisor was unhappy with you - everyone knew about it if he used the radio. I guess one of the positives was you could keep up with the daily business of the district. You could tell who was where and what they were doing. Another casualty of the radio system was the AM radio. No government vehicle was allowed to have an AM radio (don't even think about having a FM radio). The reasoning was this - if you were listening to the AM radio, you might miss someone trying to contact you on the district radio. This idea was soon overpowered by the fact that all of the later model vehicles came with AM/FM radios installed and it became too expensive to have them removed.

Communications have dramatically changed during my career with the Corps (for the better). I sometimes miss the old days - but not too much! That is the way I remember it.

Claude



The St. Louis District- Educating the Educators

by Lattissua D. Tyler

On July 25, 2002, 25 Illinois high school teachers, got an introduction to the application of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and Global Positioning System (GPS). Who gave them their first lesson in this technology? We did, the St. Louis District.

The teachers were participating in a Southern Illinois University summer training program called the Rivers Project. Before visiting the District, the teachers attended a special class that introduced them to new technology that is available on the market. The teachers arrived at the downtown District headquarters armed with basic information, but they left with an abundance of practical knowledge from their day with the Corps.

Keith Short and Paul Clouse of the Engineering Division helped develop the all day workshop to educate our educators. The program consisted of presentations of how GIS and GPS data is gathered and used; the benefits of GIS and GSP technology and how the Corps uses GIS and GPS in our business process.

The teachers were also given demonstrations of different GIS equipment and an opportunity for hands experience. Although the basis of the workshop was GIS and GPS, the teachers also learned about the Army Corps of Engineers and the St. Louis District in particular.

They were especially interested in the Corps' Seven Environmental Operating Principles and our ongoing environmental mission.

When asked why so much effort was put into developing this workshop, Keith Short said, "These are the individuals who are teaching possible future Corps employees. We want them to be prepared. We also wanted the teachers to see and understand the technology their students will be using



Colonel C. Kevin Williams presents an overview of the St. Louis District

Photo by Lattissua D. Tyler

in the future. Hopefully our presentations will encourage them to introduce such topics in their classes."

"All of the presenters were excellent. They seemed to have a wealth of knowledge. I especially liked the presentation by Paul Clouse. He spoke with such certainty and passion. You can tell he really likes what he does," said Kenneth King, a teacher at Springfield High School, Springfield, IL.

The teachers end their day with the Corps by touring the District's survey boat and the Applied River Engineering Lab at our Service Base. There,

Dave Gordon and Dawn Lamm gave them an overview of river navigation structures including Bendway Weirs, micro-modeling and the District's Environmental River Engineering efforts.

Keith Short, Paul Clouse, Al Berman, Dave Gordon, Dawn Lamm, Nancy Tokraks, Joe Burnett, Tim Pinner, John Naeger and Randy Trout were District employees who played key roles in this Community Outreach effort. Major Joseph Tyron also took time from his busy schedule to participate and discussed the effects of the "Hypoxia Zone".

**Veterans, Retirees,
and
Reservists!!!**



You are invited to participate in the "First Annual Celebration Honoring the St. Louis District's Veterans".

The theme is "Honoring Our Veterans Serving Our Country".

Your participation is strictly voluntary. All participants must provide a military photo of themselves and a short paragraph or two about your length of service in the military, your awards or contributions, and any additional information you may wish to provide. The photos and information provided will be displayed in the RAY Building and at the field sites. Your photos will be returned to you.

If you would like to be a part of this special event, please notify the EEO Office at 314-331-8436 or Tan Gates at 314-331-8059.

You can also e-mail Tan at: tandika.gates@mvs02.usace.army.mil.



Lewis and Clark, So What?!

By Park Ranger Tim Bischoff

“Oh great, another article on Lewis and Clark. I am really getting tired of hearing about these guys. So they grabbed a couple of guys and ran out to the coast and back. Big deal! And, I am going to have to hear about this stuff for a couple of more years, wonderful.”

Ok, this is how you might be beginning to feel. But, I am definitely not feeling this way after returning from the Lewis and Clark Boot Camp that I just attended in Louisville, Kentucky. The Corps of Engineers and the Forest Service hosted this session. Jeannine Nauss, Page Cruz, and Ken Wilk did a superb job of planning and managing this training session. They lined up phenomenal speakers to help educate us about what it was like to be part of the Corps of Discovery. But, this is where I stop telling you about the training. Instead, let me share with you some of the interesting things that I learned and that you will not read in a high school history book.

Did you know that Captain Meriwether Lewis was shot through the behind by one of the members of the group? Pierre Cruzatte, a near-sighted private that was half French and half Omaha Indian, was hunting in a thicket with Capt. Lewis, when he spied an Elk. Peirre acted quickly and shot the animal for dinner. Unfortunately, that elk turned out to be the buttocks of Capt. Lewis. Capt. Lewis spent some time on his stomach in the bottom of a canoe until the party rendezvoused with Capt. Clark at the Missouri River. Capt. Clark promptly doctored his friend with unprocessed cotton as a dressing. This pulled out all the nasty stuff and allowed Capt. Lewis to sit in the canoe much sooner than he would have otherwise.

How would you like to be able to carry soup in your pocket? The



Here, in an artist's depiction, Lewis and Clark look out over the vast plains of America's new Louisiana Territory, and see great herds of bison extending to the horizon. *Original oil painting by Wappapello Lake Park Ranger Kathy Dickson.*

members of the Corps of Discovery were able to do just this. They carried along barrels of black, spongy, 1 oz. balls of a concoction that was called portable soup or pocket soup. It was similar to the bouillon cube of today. All the soldier needed to do was drop this ball into 1 pint of boiling water and, as they say, soup's on. It is believed that pocket soup was the emergency ration and was not used on a daily basis. The daily menu consisted for the most part of boiled meat such as salt pork, salt beef, bison, pickled bison, or elk; grains such as parched corn, corn meal, hominy, or the wonderful corn and fat; and rock-hard biscuits that were more like crackers than bread. It was actually against Army regulation to fry meat during this time. On occasion, the soldiers would have additional items that they could hunt, catch, pick, or trade for with the Indian tribes, including fish, antelope, prairie dog, berries, pumpkins, squash, and other vegetables. Occasionally, they even had boudins, which were wonderful sausages that were packed in the first six feet of unwashed, bison's large intestine. Enough said.

Remember your last vacation? First, you thought of where you were going to go and how long you were going to stay. You got out all the maps, maybe got driving directions off the computer, and sent for brochures on what you were going to do and where you were going to stay. You might have even made reservations for your hotels along the way. Next, you figured out what you were going to take and what how you were going to pack it in your suitcase. Finally, you packed everything into the family station wagon, told the neighbors to get your mail and water the plants, and you headed out. Now lets compare that to what Lewis and Clark did. President Jefferson said go out to the pacific coast. Well, they went and got out the maps like you did. Oops, there were no maps and they had no idea where they would stay. O.k., now they had to get the men to help them. So, would you like to volunteer? We don't know where we are going. We don't know how to get there. We don't know how long it will take to get there and back. Are you interested? Great, now we need to figure how much food, supplies,



tools, etc., that we will need to go to someplace that we don't know where it is and how long it will take to get there and back. Now all we have to do is find a way to pack all this stuff so it will last forever and get it from here to the Pacific and back by unknown modes of transportation. Oh, and along the way could you make friends with everyone you meet, even though you can't speak their language; write down exactly where you are at all times; make sure you note every detail about every animal, plant, person, and river bend you pass; and pick up some souvenirs for me along the way. No problem!

This just gives you some idea of how interesting the story of the Corps of Discovery can be. It is not just a chapter in a history book. It was an undertaking of historic proportions for a very young America. This story was made even more interesting to me when I watched it "come to life" for a fellow ranger. I watched as he realized that he had walked across the same wooden threshold of the historic home, in which Capt. Lewis and Capt. Clark had stopped for two weeks before taking the items the Corps of Discovery had collected to President Jefferson in Washington. It was one of my favorite moments to see this ranger realize that he had stood in the same room as these two historic figures had almost 200 years earlier. So, next time you hear about Lewis and Clark, try to take your own expedition of discovery and find out a little more, because it is your history too.



2nd Annual, CAST For Kids

The Mark Twain Lake Catch A Special Thrill (CAST) For Kids event is the only one in the State of Missouri and one of 52 in the Nation. CAST for Kids is an extraordinary outdoor event, which teams experienced volunteer fishermen with disabled and disadvantaged youngsters for a day of fishing enjoyment. The event is steered toward youth ages 7 to 14, with little or no fishing experience. For many disabled and disadvantaged children this is the first opportunity to fish because of limitations caused by their disability.

Sponsors for CAST for Kids were the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, The CAST for Kids Foundation, the Mark Twain Bassmasters, B.A.S.S. Federations, Leggett & Platt Aluminum Group - PACE Industries, Indian Creek Marina, NEMO Bait Company, United Missouri Bank, Perry State Bank, KHQA, Wal-Mart, and C & R Grocery.



Young CAST angler shows her catch for the day.

Thirty-three kids enjoyed the fishing adventure and received a t-shirt and hat with CAST logo, rod, reel, tackle box, photo plaque, and bait. After the fishing outing, participants and volunteers enjoyed a picnic lunch. All registrants received a Fun-pack containing water safety information, pencils, stickers, and color books donated by sponsoring organizations.

John C. (Jack) Briscoe Group Use Area

On Monday, August 26, 2002, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers officially renamed the M.W. Boudreaux Group Use Area to honor John C. (Jack) Briscoe. The new name, John C. (Jack) Briscoe Group Use Area, honors one of the local men who worked hard to gain support and approval for the Clarence Cannon Dam project.



(L) John Briscoe II, Mrs. John Briscoe, Rachael Bringer, John W. Briscoe, Joy Briscoe, (F) Andy Briscoe.

Mr. Briscoe was remembered by area dignitaries, friends and family at the renaming ceremony, held at the site, south of the Clarence Cannon Dam. Family friend Ed Hamill, Operations Manager Dennis Foss, son John W. Briscoe, and friend Ed Behrens addressed the audience, describing Mr. Briscoe's dedication to the original Clarence Cannon Association and his efforts to get the annual construction budget approved in Washington. He served the association for 21 years. Mr. Briscoe also served as county assessor.





The Land Before Water Safety

By Park Ranger Tim Bischoff

What do paleontology and water safety have in common? Normally, nothing! But at Rend Lake during the month of March, 2002 dinosaurs were water safety superstars. Several hours are typically spent each year to brainstorm for a new and exciting way to teach k-4th graders the 5 rules of water safety. This year Park Ranger Mike Edwards cut the hours to minutes as he sat and wrote a script for the program that would soon be the hit of 34 elementary schools in southern Illinois. "Land Before Water Safety" came to life as Park Rangers from the Rend Lake Project Office took the show on the road. Literally.

The program incorporates two things: One, kids favorite extinct reptiles - dinosaurs - and two, something no one wants to hear about - safety. In the program, a park ranger portrays the legendary paleontologist "Digger Malloy." With the help of his partner Corkey, the robotic water safety boat, Digger and Corkey entertain and educate the students about the 5 rules of water safety in a way that makes the unsuspecting students fail to realize they are learning about water safety. By disclosing their "findings" Corkey and Digger tell the students how they found a collection of 3 dinosaurs, that are now extinct. The duo shares with the students some of the characteristics that all of the newly discovered dinosaurs had in common - they all lived near the water and none of them knew how to swim.

As the story is told, a poster depiction of the dinosaur is revealed to the students. The first discovery, the Sinkasaur, never learned to swim. He was safe as long as he stayed in shallow water, but one day he accidentally tripped and the rest is history. Volunteers from the class-



"Digger Malloy", a.k.a. Park Ranger Dawn Kovarik of Rend Lake, captures the attention of students at Ewing Northern Elementary School in Ewing, IL with tales of now extinct dinosaurs that perished because they failed to follow water safety rules.

room were asked to assist Digger and Corkey in demonstrating how a Personal Flotation Device should fit and how to determine if it was right for them. Sinkasaur could have been saved from extinction if he would have only worn his PFD.

Buddysaurus Rex was the next fantastic discovery made by Corkey and Digger. Buddysaurus Rex was one of the smarter dinosaurs since he always swam with a buddy. His big mistake was made when he failed to recognize that his buddy was drowning and had never heard that he should only swim in a designated swimming area. These two things lead to the demise of the Buddysaurus Rex. As students were learning about Buddysaurus, five "wanna be" paleontologists were recruited from the audience to test their clue finding abilities by following the dinosaur tracks to clues that would help them save a drowning victim. Reach, Throw, Row, and Go is the way to help a drowning buddy.

The final discovery of the troublesome twosome was the egg of a Leapadactyl. This flying dinosaur got his meals by diving headfirst into the

water to snag a fish. Unfortunately, he wasn't the smartest dinosaur to fly between two wings and he attempted to catch a log which looked like a fish. He quickly became extinct because he never learned to "look before he leaped."

Throughout March, Corkey and the Park Rangers from Rend Lake presented this lively program to over 4,500 students from Pre-K to fourth grade. Thirty four different schools from Salem to Metropolis learned about water safety from some make-believe dinosaurs, a "Wanna Be Paleontologist" and a water safety robot named Corkey. The final message left with the students was that the dinosaurs that we talked about may have been make-believe, but the water safety message is definitely for real! If you don't want to become extinct too, remember to be safe in and around the water."

We look forward to March of 2003 when we hope to introduce Seamoor the Sea Serpent to the students of Southern Illinois. We are already receiving requests from teachers for programs on water safety. That's a switch!



Ste Genevieve, MO - High and Dry

The historic city of Ste. Genevieve on the Mississippi River has been subject periodic flooding since its founding three centuries ago when the site was part of the French Louisiana Territory.

But with completion of a new urban design levee flood damage reduction system to protect the city, flooding will be only a bad memory.

“Never again will Ste Genevieve suffer flooding from the Mississippi River,” Congressman Dick Gephardt (D-MO) told an assembled audience of more than 100 who attended the project’s dedication. Gephardt cited numerous roadblocks that had to be overcome to complete the project, but pointed out that in the end, the great historic value of the many buildings in the city’s downtown area and elsewhere in proximity to the river helped to carry the day.

Ste. Genevieve lays claim to being the site of more historic structures than the better-known Williamsburg, VA. For example, there are only four or five early French poteaux-en-terre - or post in ground - structures in the Western Hemisphere. Three are in Ste Genevieve.

St. Louis District Engineer COL Kevin Williams echoed the congressman’s remarks when he said, “The levee shields a modern, vibrant community of people and resources that are so important to the region today. And at the same time it preserves an irreplaceable heritage of diversity and achievement that helps us all to understand who we are and where we came from.”

Williams went on to praise the teamwork necessary to complete the project. “All of you who worked so hard - together - to move this project from a dream to completion - the citizens, your elected representatives and appointed officials, the Joint Levee Commission, the construction



Congressman Richard Gephardt (D-MO) addressed the proud citizens of Ste. Genevieve at the urban design levee that now protects the centuries old city from the Mississippi Rivers’s repeated ravages.

contractors - many groups and individuals - are the true heroes of this day.”

The \$49 million project’s largest and most visible features are a 3.5 mile long levee that provides protection from Mississippi River flooding and a pumping facility that uses three electric-powered pumps to lift interior water from North and South Gabouri Creeks over the levee when



One of two closure structures in the new Ste. Genevieve levee

flood gates are closed and they cannot discharge naturally.

Two closure structures allow the levee to be sealed tightly where it crosses a highway and rail line. At a third point the design was altered to elevate a highway, in effect making it part of the levee structure and eliminating the need for a third closure gate.

Other features include a 505-acre ponding area; interior drainage ditching and grading; railroad and utility relocations; 20 relief wells; tree screens; an environmental mitigation area; two smaller interior levees and in the future, recreation facilities such as picnic areas and trails on flood control lands along the tributary improvements and the levee.

Some items remain to be completed, including the recreation amenities. But the project turned in its first dividend during the spring 2002 flood. This year, when the Mississippi rose on one of its periodic floodings, it found the levee ready and the closures on the highway and rail line shut tightly. The only damage? There are fresh water stains up to about two feet on the outside.



District Man Fights Forest Fire

by Gregg Kocher

Hiking above 10,000 feet in the Rockies is a challenge under the best circumstances. Altitude, steep slopes, boulder fields and unpredictable weather can conspire against the most seasoned hiker. Adding live ordnance makes hiking much more risky.



For three summers, the Ordnance and Technical Services Branch of Engineering Division (ED-P) has worked at the former Camp Hale Army training area near Leadville and Vail, Colorado with the Omaha District and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to identify areas that may contain unexploded ordnance (UXO).

Camp Hale was previously a World War II training ground for the 10th Mountain Division, and as a CIA training facility for Tibetan guerrillas fighting the Chinese in the 1950's. On previous visits, numerous pieces of UXO were found and disposed of. The USFS was long-concerned with the threat these munitions posed in the White River National Forest.

Tom Murrell, ED-P's Camp Hale Project Manager, says, "With increasing numbers of hikers, campers and RV owners on old military properties,

more unexploded ordnance is being found. Our mission is to help reduce the risk of injury or death."

This summer, forest fires occurred in the Glenwood Canyon area west of Vail. The USFS posed the hypothetical situation of fighting a fire in a UXO-contaminated area to representatives from the Omaha and St. Louis Districts, but only a day passed before it became a real issue when smoke was reported on a hillside dubbed Chicago Ridge, above a training area known as "Nazi Village."

If no people or structures were directly threatened, I thought it best at first to let it burn, prohibiting entry into the area. Occasionally, firing ranges on active military installations are burned off and dud ammunition explodes.



But this was contrary to the USFS policy, which is to fight every fire. But first we had to develop guidance and procedures if we were to assist.

My role was to draft an amended safety and health plan for clearing a path to the fire.

The general area was defined by GPS. It appeared to be a large pine tree that had been struck by lightning. The fear was that the fire would grow

and sweep across the whole ridgeline. At 10,600 feet, fighting any fire would be difficult, so extinguishing this one early was key.

The plan called for flying teams up to 11,700 feet by helicopter. Once there and outfitted with flame-retardant clothing and emergency fire shelters, the OE team led the way down a rugged slope to the fire, helping to identify any possible UXO and mark a safe path, both for entry and emergency escape.

The plan also involved sweeping an area around the fire so the firefighters could work.

First with GPS and then our noses, we located the fire source, a large fir tree. Immense shards of jagged timber littered the area. The fire was limited to the tree and its remains.

A thorough search revealed only two small ordnance fragments and a pile of rusty ration cans dated 1952.

The fire commander allowed us to remain. This afforded a spectacular view of the helicopter dumping water on the burning tree trunk.

The old fir tree was felled with a chainsaw and mopping up the embers completed the firefighters' task.

Because of an approaching storm and the steep, rugged terrain, we decided to hike down to the valley. The course took near a training area dubbed "Nazi Village", so I wasn't surprised to spot an intact 57mm recoilless rifle round. This armor-piercing munition may have lain there for over 55 years. I marked it with orange tape, took photos and fixed its position by GPS.

Once back, as we relaxed and slurped water, one of the firefighters commented, "You guys are crazy for working around those bombs." I laughed and replied, "And you guys fight forest fires — who's nuts?"

The following day, an Army bomb disposal team destroyed the 57mm round. The entire operation was successfully and spawned a plan for future Corps support to forest fires in ordnance-contaminated lands.



Employees of the Month



Kathy Hatfield, of human resources is the June 2002 Employee of the Month. Kathy, our District labor relations officer,

was cited for mediating solutions that result in correction personnel problems with the least possible workforce disruption. Kathy was also recognized for work with EAP counselors and personally calling physicians and treatment facilities to get the employee appointments, housing and treatment. She works not only for District employees but for other Department of the Army organizations serviced by our human resources office. Her work with unions has built excellent relations and has made Kathy much sought for union relations here, Division and Corps wide.

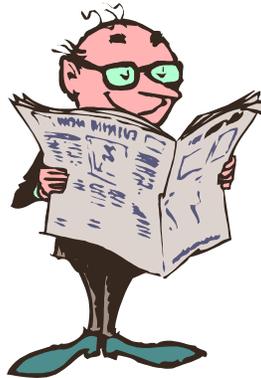


Donald L. Brown was selected Employee of the Month for July 2002. During June and July 2002, Brown, a Civil Engineering Technician at Lake

Shelbyville performed his normal duties while coordinating electrical needs for Shelbyville's special events this summer: Chautau-qua Days Celebration and Musket & Drums Muster. He did both superbly.

Though not an electrician, he coordinated installation of distribution panels and ran cable from the panels to the electric pedestals for concessionaires. This was the first implementation of the new portable electric distribution system designed largely by Mr. Brown. Without his efforts, the events would not have been nearly as successful and in fact might not have happened at all.

Retiree's Corner



It was a great but sad day, June 20, for the Retirees luncheon. The weather was hot with the usual humidity, but everyone was saddened by the death of the Cardinal's sport announcer, Jack Buck. Many of the retirees reflected on growing up with Jack Buck's voice during the summer, bring the baseball game to life. Everyone had their own memories of the Voice of the Cardinals.

Lew and Helen Scheuermann were recognized for their participation in the Senior Olympics. They won a Bronze medal for doubles bowling and Lew was awarded a 'ribbon' for golf. Now that's real competition. Even they are both "over 50", they are still active and competitive. CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Lew also mentioned that the Division golf tournament is scheduled for July 17 & 18 in Jackson Mississippi. Unfortunately, that is all the information he had, since nothing has been published by the District's golf league.

Charlie Denzel mentioned that he recently had lunch with John Jansen. Charlie had some old pictures that he had John look at and try to identify the people pictured. John was able to make some identifications, but stated that "that 1946 was a long time ago and the mind begins to play tricks after a number of years." Charlie said that John is slowing down a little, now that he is in his 90's, but that he is in

great shape.

Joe Bisher mentioned the christening of three Corps vessels on June 27th at the Service Base: dredge POTTER, and two new vessels-the towboat "GRANDTOWER" and the crane barge "NEVAN A. FISHER". Joe also brought a picture of a christening held on July 27, 1977, for the "M/V FOGILPHOL", "M/V MOORE" and the "M/V NEFF". This prompted a discussion about the christening of some boats back in the late 1960's. The then District Engineer, Col. Ed Decker, had submitted names for the new boats through channels to the Chiefs Office. When it was received, it was noted that the names were the names of the gunboats that Gen. Grant used to blockage the city of Vicksburg, during the Civil War. Needless to say, the Division Office was none too happy, when the approval was received from the Chiefs office with a note to that affect. (A little trivia for the new employees, about the "fun and games" that existed in those days.)

Gordon Davis provided an interesting discussion about honey bees. Gordon has been in the "bee" business for a number of years and has had a very good time learning and teaching about honey bees. He told some interesting stories about giving, what he calls demonstrations to 4th grade students, who have never seen any country life. He provides them with a little of what nature is all about.

During a discussion about age, Don Wampler mentioned that he and his wife, Othella, just celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary. One of the retirees stated that Don has been married longer than some of the retirees are old. (CONGRATULATIONS to both of you. In today's environment, that is quite an accomplishment.)

Joyce Eura passed away on July 29, 2002. Joyce retired from the Dredge Potter.



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Environmental
Sustainable Housing
Fort Lee, VA

1

Strive to achieve Environmental Sustainability. An environment maintained in a healthy, diverse, and sustainable condition is necessary to support life.



Wetlands at Melvin Price
Lock and Dam

2

Recognize the interdependence of life and the physical environment. Proactively consider environmental consequences of Corps programs and act accordingly in all appropriate circumstances.



Endangered Whooping Crane
Arkansas National Wildlife Refuge, Texas

3

Seek balance and synergy among human development activities and natural systems by designing economic and environmental solutions that support and reinforce one another.



Planting a tree within
Mississippi Delta

4

Continue to accept corporate responsibility and accountability under the law for activities and decisions under our control that impact human health and welfare and the continued viability of natural systems.



Listening to the public at
Lake Hartwell drought meeting

5

Seek ways and means to assess and mitigate cumulative impacts to the environment; bring systems approaches to the full life cycle of our processes and work.



Alligator as found
in Everglades

6

Build and share an integrated scientific, economic and social knowledge base that supports a greater understanding of the environment and impacts of our work.

Corps labs support research and
development in Far East District

Respect the views of individuals and groups interested in Corps activities; listen to them actively, and learn from their perspective in the search to find innovative win-win solutions to the Nation's problems that also protect and enhance the environment.