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Lewis & Clark: They're back!

By Alan Dooley and Nicole Dalrymple, PA

An epic bicentennial retracing of the path of the Corps of Discovery's exploration of the northwestern portion of the United States ended Saturday, September 23, on the banks of the Mississippi River in St. Louis.

The two-year, four-month, nine-day journey of the original expedition group was completed 200 years earlier – to the day – as reenactors in period garb arrived in faithfully recreated boats to cheers of hundreds at the foot of the historic Eads Bridge on the riverfront.

Eighteen states, 24 federal agencies, 41 Native American tribes and countless communities participated in the commemoration, which began on a blustery January day in Monticello, Virginia in 2003. It traversed the Ohio, Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, crossed the Rocky Mountains and then traveled down the Clearwater, Snake and Columbia Rivers before reaching the Pacific Ocean.

The reenactment of the original journey saw a cadre of people retrace the entire journey of the group led by Army Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to explore the vast lands added to the United States by the Louisiana Purchase of 1803, traveling from Pittsburgh to the Pacific Ocean and back to St. Louis.

The original purpose of the journey, ordered by President Thomas Jefferson, was to explore the vast, uncharted territory and to establish peaceful relations with its Native American inhabitants. The bicentennial commemoration went ahead with a parallel mission. It was to reenergize interest and excite-



Two centuries after returning from their epic journey of discovery, Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, accompanied by their faithful dog Seaman are immortalized in bronze on the bank of the Mississippi River in St. Louis, Mo.

ment in this historic exploration and to remind all and reinforce the message of productive and mutual ties between the

continent's original inhabitants and the citizens of the then-fledgling nation.

Lewis and Clark Cont. page 3



Commander's Perspective



Col. Lewis F. Setliff III

Wow! How about those Cardinals! A team that many dismissed as little more than a place-holder in the post-season has instead won the Division Championship, the National League Pennant and the World Series. Most pundits wrote the Cards off on paper, but in the end, the games were played on dirt. There's a lesson there. But without philosophizing, just Wow! How about those Cardinals!

Next, I'm going to skip ahead and around on the calendar.

Thanksgiving will be the next major family holiday. This is one of those holidays that traditionally feature a lot of travel. I want to encourage every one of you to put safety uppermost in your mind as you celebrate. Most of us just completed defensive driving training. But there are more potential pitfalls to mar an otherwise joyous holiday. For example, if you're going to hunt, stress safety in the fields and woods. Even pay attention to safe food handling. I want everyone to

come back to work safe and healthy.

Looking ahead another month we will run up to more holidays and the beginning of 2007.

We will hold our annual holiday party, this year on Thursday, December 14. We're breaking the mold this time and heading for the Olivette Lanes Bowling Center at 9520 Olive. We will "own" the place – all 24 lanes and a great buffet – from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. We've made this precedent-setting move for a couple of reasons. Like Cardinals baseball, bowling is a great part of our city's heritage. This city hosts the Bowling Hall of Fame and is home to some of bowling's greats. But most importantly, nobody will have to hear me sing this year!

Seriously, whether you carry a 240 average (?) or bowl with both hands, there will be fun and prizes. I encourage you to attend and spend time outside the office with our team, celebrate the season, and maybe see some good comedy bowling.

The 2006 holiday party is not just for current employees and spouses or significant others. I want to emphasize to our retirees that they are still part of our District family and we would love for you to be there to celebrate with everyone. Contact Phyllis Thomas at 314-331-8883 for information and tickets.

Finally, the holidays are about more than just having a good time. They are about counting our blessings and giving thanks.

One of the best ways to give thanks is to support the annual Combined Federal Campaign – the CFC. During recent years, numerous St. Louis Corps employees have deployed across the nation and around the world. Others have worked doubly hard to keep work moving forward here in the District. Five St. Louis people

are currently on duty in the Global War on Terrorism. More than 70 have served and another is en route. More than 350 went to New Orleans and elsewhere along the Gulf coast. Ten are down south as I write.

Whether deployed or working here, you know firsthand that not everyone is as blessed with good fortune as we are. This year's CFC is a great opportunity to help to level the playing field and to provide some blessings for those who are less fortunate.

Our goal for the CFC this year is \$55,000. It's critical that you get to choose whether or not you will give to the CFC. If your key worker doesn't seek you out, seek them out. If nothing else works, call me.

You may contribute either a one-time donation or by automatic deduction each pay period. You may let the CFC allocate your gift to one or more agencies, or you may go online at: www.gatewaycfc.org. There you will find a searchable database of the more than 3,000 eligible recipient organizations to help you target your contribution to one or more organizations you especially wish to support.

Let me close by stating once more, my most important message: safety, safety, safety – at work, at home, on the road, everywhere. This overarches everything.

Without safety, nothing else – not celebration, charity or work accomplishment – is possible. We did better in FY 2006 than we did in 2005. But until we can look back on a year with no fatalities, no lost time injuries and especially, no preventable accidents, we can't call our efforts completely successful. Of course, almost nobody thinks a perfect safety record is possible. But just like the St. Louis Cardinals, if we plan and train, if



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St. Louis District®

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we believe, if we focus, if we execute, we can be champions too – of safety.

I have urged many actions in this message: to attend the party; to donate; to be safe. I would also like to reiterate how proud all of you should be to be a part of the St. Louis District. It is an exceptional team of teams and my observations have only reinforced what the St. Louis District is all about: professionalism, a “get-er done” attitude, and great people. Thanks for all you do each and every day from your cubicle, your motor vessel, your project, your office, or your vehicle. The employees of this District continue to make this a successful organization which serves this great country with honor and distinction. Let’s keep the campaign going!

Hooah!



In This Issue:

Lewis and Clark Expedition Returns Cover Story

Commander’s Perspective Page 2

Five Days for the Chief in St. Louis Page 6

Dr. Michael “Sonny” Trimble Gives Voice to Iraq’s Dead Page 8

Mo. Gov. Matt Blunt Announces Missouri River Water Trail Page 11

Leadership Development Program Begins Page 12

Possible Improvements to Lock 25 Page 13

We Just Were Wrong! Page 14

David Berti Joins Gallery of Distinguished Civilians Page 15

CFC Key Workers Back Cover



Lewis & Clark reenactors in period vessels arrive in St. Louis, Saturday, Sept. 23, exactly two centuries after the original expedition returned from its three-year exploration of the lands of the Louisiana Purchase. More than a thousand cheering citizens waited ashore near the historic Westward Expansion Arch as they paddled into sight.

Lewis and Clark cont. from page 1

The national commemoration was spearheaded by the National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial, created in the 1980s as the Bicentennial Committee of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. The council led collective planning efforts for 15 national signature events and provided educational resources and support for other events.

The council made an early commitment to include the voices of Native Americans, whose ways of life were so greatly altered by the expedition. In fact, the co-host of Currents of Change, the September 22-24 final national signature event in St. Louis, was the Osage Nation, whose homelands include Missouri.

Observances in St. Louis began Friday night, September 22. Representatives of Native American tribes from the entire region explored by Lewis and Clark gathered with U.S. Government participants, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, for an honors banquet at a modern, downtown hotel.

Showing phenomenal support, military officers from USACE Headquarters; Ohio, Lakes and Rivers Division; Northwestern Division; and St. Louis, Portland, Omaha and Walla Walla Districts were in attendance for the dinner and subsequent weekend activities.

Chief of Engineers, Lt. Gen. Carl A. Strock was in town with his wife Julie for the entire three-day commemoration. He stayed an additional two days to tour District projects and hold a town hall.

After dinner, the large gathering quieted to hear remarks from Native American representatives and from government and education groups that participated in the commemoration. The emphasis was on the role that Native Americans played in furthering the accomplishments both of the original expedition, in the intervening 200 years and throughout the commemoration of the historic journey.

Perhaps nothing symbolized the event better than the presentation of blankets, bearing the Lewis and Clark commemoration logo that combined the red, white and blue of the American flag with numerous designs representing the heritage of the Native Americans who were so deeply involved in events both two centuries ago and today.

Lt. Gen. Strock beamed as one blanket was placed around his shoulders. In the course of his brief remarks, acknowledging the contributions Native Americans made to the successful completion of the expedition, he presented a faithfully reproduced peace coin to Nez Perce tribal member Allen Pinkham, Chairman of the Circle of Tribal Advisors. COTA is made up of each of the 58 tribal nations who met Lewis and Clark.



Reenactors forming a unit of period soldiers, are seen here at Fort DuBois firing a replica bronze cannon such as Lewis and Clark and their Corps of Discovery carried on their exploration of the lands of the Louisiana Purchase.

Amy Mossett, of the Three Affiliated Tribes of Fort Berthold, North Dakota, and Dark Rain Thom of the Shawnee United Remnant Band, joined Allen on the COTA board.

When asked why the tribes chose to be partners in the bicentennial, Mossett said, "This is the first time the tribes have been given the opportunity to participate in telling the Lewis and Clark story. In the past, most Americans believed that Lewis and Clark succeeded on their own in their monumental mission, when in fact, they probably wouldn't have survived without the tribes. This time around the tribes are being asked to tell the story from our points of view."

Events Saturday included numerous demonstrations and exhibits for people to experience at the foot of the St. Louis Arch and at various locations in Illinois. Corps of Engineers rangers from all over the country staffed several exhibits on the St. Louis Riverfront and in Illinois. During the three day event Corps of Engineers staff talked with over 11,000 people.

One of the highlights of the signature event was the dedication of a statue of Lewis and Clark, accompanied by the dog, Seaman, placed near the south side of the Eads Bridge, as a permanent reminder of the expedition.

During the statue dedication, Lt. Gen. Strock said Captains Lewis and Clark embodied Army traits – strength and fortitude.

"These heroes were Soldiers," he said. "They answered the call to duty and demonstrated the Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless-service, honor, integrity and personal courage. They placed the mission first. Never quit. Never accepted defeat, and never left a comrade."

Educating people about the U.S. Army's role in the expedition, and the fact that Lewis and Clark were Army officers, has been a central focus of the Army Corps' outreach and education program during the bicentennial.

"The bicentennial provided us an opportunity to talk to people about not only the Army's role in the expedition but also the current missions of the Army Corps of Engineers," said Jean Nauss, from Omaha District. Nauss served as the national Lewis and Clark coordinator for the Corps.

Patti Williams, the Lewis and Clark coordinator for Portland District, who was here in St. Louis for the final signature event, said, "There has been a universal effort from around the Corps to educate and inform people about Lewis and Clark. This was an Army

expedition and it has provided a great opportunity to talk about what the Corps is doing now, whether it is water safety, cultural resources, conservation, natural resources management or recreation.

Fifteen Districts sent representatives to the area to help tell the Corps story. Employees came from Baltimore, Fort Worth, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Mobile, Omaha, Pittsburg, Portland, Rock Island, Seattle, St. Louis, St. Paul, Tulsa, Vicksburg, and Walla Walla.

Shortly after the statue dedication, a Legacies Ceremony was held. It began with a flag procession with representatives from 37 tribes carrying their tribal flags.



Two centuries ago there were no convenient Home Depot or Lowes stores to buy planks from. Instead, they had to be sawed, individually by hand. Here reenactor Marc Miller and an unidentified period-costumed partner, make the first laborious cuts with a two-man saw. In addition to great strength, Miller requires good balance.



More than a thousand St. Louisans gathered on the city's riverfront to see representatives of some 37 Native American tribes among the 58 that were contacted by Lewis & Clark two centuries ago. Ceremonial flags carried by modern descendants of the original people who were encountered by the expedition, symbolized the many faceted relations recorded between the Corps of Discovery and the peoples they encountered on their three year journey.

Several times the announcer added that flag bearers were veterans of various military campaigns to include , Vietnam, Just Cause, Desert Storm, Joint Endeavour, or that they were currently serving in the Armed Forces.

Elsewhere in the region, reenactors from the Corps spent Friday, September 22, meeting with and educating hundreds of area school students at the National Great Rivers Museum at the Melvin Price Locks and Dam, near Alton, Ill. In addition, more Corps reenactors spent the day at Fort Bellefontaine in Missouri, acting as members of the company that welcomed the Lewis and Clark Expedition back to the St. Louis area.

The next day they moved on to the Lewis and Clark State Historic Site in Hartford, Ill., with many taking up residence in the fort built to show people how Lewis & Clark's men lived as they prepared for their journey. Exhibits running the gamut from demonstrations of period firearms, to sawing planks with a huge hand saw, to how people otherwise worked, lived and recreated took place throughout the day in and outside of the museum.

On Sunday, many participants gathered on the Eads Bridge for a symbolic

religious service blending Native American and Christian traditions in a final show of togetherness and partnership – then and now.

The commemoration is now officially over. For some people it has been a labor of love for several years. Others came into and departed from its events and travels, contributing as they could and then going home.

The bicentennial's conclusion brings to an end eight years of dedication and hard work on the part of planners.

“Organizers became a family,” said Jean Nauss. “I’ve had a phenomenal time doing this. We had fun but it was a lot of hard work.”

Ken Wilk, from Kansas City District, the Corps’ assistant national coordinator, said the lasting legacy will be the partnerships that were created.

“Agencies that never worked together before, tribes that didn’t talk to each other and local communities were all brought together under the banner of the bicentennial,” Wilk said. “These partnerships will continue. The success of the commemoration was everyone working together.”

The Corps’ participation in the commemoration started as an idea in

Headquarters with just one person at the helm and evolved into a traveling exhibit that was sought out nationwide.

What began as participation in a committee evolved into an exhibit that included a discovery box used for programs presented by Corps rangers, a video of the expedition, numerous brochures, several portable display backdrops, a group of period artifacts known as the “History Tent,” a group of 22 living historians who set up Army camps similar to those of the expedition’s, and a speaker’s list covering various expedition and Corps of Engineers related topics.

The national Lewis and Clark team participated in all 15 national signature events and numerous local and regional events as time and budget permitted. The team included 319 employees and 48 partners from 29 Corps districts, two division offices and Headquarters.

“At these events and at programs at our water resources projects, the Corps team contacted approximately 1.3 million visitors for commemoration activities,” Wilk said proudly. “We garnered a reputation and were sought out to support events across the nation. We really made the Army Corps of Engineers a household name in a very positive manner.”



A bronze seal exhibits elements of the friendship coins from then-president Thomas Jefferson, which were given to Native American Tribal leaders two centuries ago. The seal is located on the base of the Lewis & Clark bronze statue at the St. Louis riverfront.



Lt. Gen. Carl Strock, USA, Chief of Engineers, dedicated five days of his busy schedule to visit St. Louis for the bicentennial commemoration of the end of the Lewis & Clark Corps of Discovery expedition and to visit St. Louis District people and projects.

Five days for the Chief in St. Louis

It is virtually unparalleled for a Corps District to “capture” the Chief of Engineers for nearly a week, taking him away from his busy schedule in Washington, DC for such a lengthy period.

But from Sept. 22 to 26, Lt. Gen. Carl Strock was in St. Louis. He spent those five days here for two distinct purposes: to take part in the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Commemoration (see that story elsewhere in *Esprit*) and to visit several projects and events in the District.

On Monday and Tuesday, his last two days in the St. Louis District, the General took part in a whirlwind of activities that spanned the spectrum from visits to a levee and drainage district to a barbecue with area stakeholders and finally a town hall in the second floor auditorium downtown.

Between Prairie Du Pont, Ill., on Monday morning, and downtown St. Louis on Tuesday, the Chief got both an eyeeful and an earful.

Following a quick briefing in the District headquarters, the Chief, Col. Setliff and key program managers headed south and across the Mississippi River to the Prairie Du Pont Drainage and Levee District.

There, he bumped along the top of the levee that forms part of the flood damage reduction system that protects southwestern Illinois from Alton to Gale, in a pick up truck driven by Mike Sullivan, president of the drainage and levee district. What Lt. Gen Strock saw was a well-maintained, albeit aging levee.

The half-century-old levee can be likened to a car of a similar vintage. Those still capable of performing as they were originally built can do so only with extensive, loving care.

At one point the visiting group stopped to look over the scene of a massive sand boil that occurred during the 1993 flood. Even though the levee was built using the best engineering of the middle of the 20th century, the sand boil indicated a design deficiency that had allowed underseepage to get out of hand.

At the conclusion of the visit, the story of a levee system in need of both rebuilding to restore original design

capabilities and for upgrades with the best engineering of today, had been set forth in a single firsthand visit. Senior district leadership told the Chief on the way to the next visit site that these same issues were present elsewhere in the District, including at Wood River and in the St. Louis Flood Damage Reduction system on the Missouri side of the river.

Next, the Chief of Engineers stopped at a small concrete bridge in a flat, semi-rural setting at the scene of a project known as the East St. Louis Ecosystem Project.

There he saw a vast expanse of a delicate ecosystem that once characterized the flood plain in that area, from the Illinois bluffs to the Mississippi River. Now protected by a levee, the area is under an inexorable assault of development that includes a growing number of businesses and residences.

The region is one of the last such in Southwest Illinois with a connected environment. With swift and decisive action he was told, we may be able to preserve thousands of acres of this kind of valuable environment. But once it is gone, there’s no more of this kind of land being made in the region, he was told.

From there, Lt. Gen Strock went to



Nez Perce tribal representative and Chairman of the Circle of Tribal Advisors (COTA) Allen Pinkham smiles as he accepts a reproduction peace coin from Lt. Gen Carl Strock at the Friday, Sept. 22 banquet commemorating the important roles of Native Americans in the Lewis & Clark Corps of Discovery expedition two centuries ago.



Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Carl Strock and Project Management’s David Leake listen as Program Manager Michelle Kniep explains the East St, Louis Ecosystem Restoration initiative during a visit to the site of the project.

Locks 27, near Granite City, Ill.

There he observed the half-century-old locks operating. He also toured machinery in the underground gallery inside the intermediate wall between the main and auxiliary chambers. He then sat down with Lock Master Randy Jones and key district personnel to discuss plans for a major rehabilitation of the locks and their machinery.

On his walking tour he saw the aging, massive lift gates at the upstream ends of the lock chambers, which are now served by new machinery, replaced last year with O&M funding.

In the discussion around the lunch table at the locks, the Chief was told about the types of funding that have been applied thus far, future plans and various possible impacts of funding and the timing of those funds. Throughout, Lt. Gen. Strock peppered the St. Louis District personnel present with insightful, detailed questions about current operations and future plans.

The Chief headed toward the end of his long day and back across the Mississippi River to West Alton, Mo., where he first sat down for an hour with St. Louis’ inaugural Leadership Development Program participants, who are

embarking on a year of intensive opportunities to evaluate and then develop their leadership abilities.

Lt. Gen. Strock was briefed on the new program, its structure and intent, and he obviously relished this chance to exchange views with some of the brightest District employees. He provided his own insights from three-plus decades of service and leadership and took on some questions about the future of the Corps, as well as his own future following his retirement from the Corps. He ended his session with them by leading the emerging leaders outside for a group photo in the evening light with the Mel Price Locks and Dam as a distant backdrop.

The evening drew to a pleasant close with a sunset barbecue, during which Lt. Gen. Strock “coined” several park rangers for their work. He also took part in numerous informal discussions with stakeholders with vital interests in the work of the St. Louis District and the rest of the Corps.

Tuesday was another long day for the Chief. After discussions with Col. Setliff he spent an hour walking through District offices, stopping to chat with individual employees and to recognize

them for their service.

One highlight was a visit with Dr. Sonny Trimble, to discuss his work in Iraq in support of the Justice Department and Iraqi courts trying former regime leaders for crimes against the Iraqi people. The general also got a chance to view and handle Civil War artifacts recently dredged from the bottom of the Ohio River by Dredge Potter. (See the October *Esprit*.)

In his closing official visit, Lt. Gen Strock took part in a Town Hall session in a filled auditorium on the second floor of the downtown headquarters.



Engineer Chief Lt. Gen. Carl Strock shares the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Vision with an audience of St. Louis District employees during a town hall conducted Tuesday, Sept. 26 in the District Headquarters Building auditorium

The Town Hall began with awards being presented by the Corps’ senior leader, to recognize individuals for their service to the Corps and the nation.

The general then presented a briefing on the future of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, discussing changes that must be made to ensure the Corps’ continued relevance and reliability.

Following lunch in the RAY Building cafeteria, the general and his small group headed for Scott Air Force Base in nearby Illinois for a military air flight back to Washington, DC – and an in-box with five days of waiting work.



Dr. Michael “Sonny” Trimble: Giving voices to Iraq’s murdered peoples

He has to count his deployments to Iraq on his fingers. There are five of them. Together, they comprise 17 months of the last two years of his life.

And he will go back in late November.

These have not been pleasure trips for archaeologist Dr. Michael “Sonny” Trimble, to satisfy his desires to know more about the ancient history of the land where some say civilization began.

Rather, they have been journeys to explore more recent history, where others might claim that one man, Saddam Hussein, has single-handedly tried to remove the “civil” part of the concept of civilization by systematically exterminating individuals and groups that opposed his dictatorial rule.

Dr. Trimble has led the U.S. – Iraqi efforts to assemble an irrefutable body of forensic evidence against Hussein, to be used in his trials in Iraqi courts.

“I want to give his victims their voices,” he said, staring straight ahead, seeming to see the horrors of the mass graves of Iraq one more time. “I want them to be able to tell the world what happened to them.”

Trimble was asked by the Justice Department to undertake an effort to excavate mass graves more than two years ago after Saddam Hussein was captured alive, cowering in a hole in the ground under a shed.

He went to Iraq with a small team of archaeologists, forensic anthropologists, photographers, collections managers, archivists and a broad range of others who specialize in sorting, cataloging and preserving exhumed items for future applications. The team also included a legal specialist to ensure that the results would be “air tight” legal records of events and findings.

Some of the key people Trimble assembled were U.S. Army Corps of Engineers personnel from the St. Louis District. Others he drew from across the country – from medical institutions, law enforcement organizations and academia.



A scream silenced in unspeakable horror 15 years ago is finally heard as Iraqi remains see the first light since they were allegedly killed by Saddam Hussein or members of his government in about 1991. The blindfold on the person on the left tells something of the nature of their death.

What ensued was more than a mission simply to excavate and count victims. “This program was more like a large scale crime scene investigation,” Trimble noted. We developed a system to meticulously exhume these victims, to carefully determine the circumstances and causes of their deaths and of perhaps equal importance, to tie them precisely and indisput-

ably to their origins where possible. We wanted to be able to show the entire sequence of events of their deaths from their homes to their graves,” he affirmed.

“I didn’t appreciate the scale of the mission the first time I went,” Trimble went on. That was supposed to be a one-time investigation. “But the level of detail our team was able to document was so



The Corps of Engineers team investigating mass graves in Iraq operates from self-contained camps set up within defensive perimeters in the nearly featureless deserts of that Middle East nation. In addition to the stationary defenses, security was further insured by military patrols and contractor guard personnel.



precise that the Justice Department asked us to continue to investigation the way we were carrying it out.

The bodies exhumed were not simple skeletons. Rather, there were clothes they wore, toys, and incredibly, detailed, still-legible identity papers. “The clothing was very often preserved extremely well, down to showing its original colors. There’s almost no acid in the soil in much of Iraq,” Trimble explained. “Kurdish women especially, often concealed their ‘papers’ inside of their clothing. Sometimes these data caches included other family member’s papers,” he added.



Former Marine Tommy Lavoti of Monatana, delicately removes materials from around the shoe of a person whose final walk was into a deep hole in the Iraqi desert. Scientific objectivity must be balanced with compassion in this kind of work.

During the first weeks and months, Dr. Trimble’s perspective began to change. “Originally, I think we saw the victims as a source of data. We saw that we could derive detailed information that could stand up in legal proceedings. “As we worked through, we have gained a great respect for these people – not simply as remains, which we of course handled with great care and compassion – but for the people that they had been when they lived,” he said.

To convey that feeling, Trimble told of one lady, in whose clothing they found a nearly full term fetus in the folds of her clothing. Many of the graves contained large numbers of mothers and children. In one case there was ample illustration of a mother holding her child, perhaps trying to shield him from the hail of small arms

bullets that were the last thing they both ever heard.

What prepares people to undertake this kind of work in a far away, hostile place?

Dr. Trimble, who heads up the Curation and Archives Analysis Center for Expertise, in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ St. Louis District, said it is an ability to focus under stress.

“I worked in an emergency room as a teenager and young college student,” Trimble told. “I learned from the first day, that you have to remove yourself from the horror of injured and ill people. It wasn’t that you couldn’t be concerned for them. But if you didn’t focus on your work, you could make mistakes – mistakes that might have very grave consequences.”

It was much like that in Iraq. Getting emotionally involved could cause you to fail to follow proper procedures – perhaps to fail to correctly document something accurately or to break the evidence chain.

Dr. Trimble was also one of several Corps investigators in the Kennewick Man study. “I worked with attorneys and a number of people who were very particular about the final report and how we arrived at our conclusions.”

Each member of the team, usually hand picked by Trimble, brought both their specific skills and a great deal of adaptability to the desert and the mission. There’s not a Walmart or other convenient “go to” location for supplies. Frequently, team members had to adapt to circumstances and work around equipment failures.

Rare skills emerged, even during off duty hours. One example reported by Dr. Trimble was of a gentleman hired to maintain infrastructure, who made jewelry from scraps of artillery shrapnel found near the Karbala gap, the scene of fierce fighting in the war. “Henry could make anything,” Trimble told. “I assumed we could work off of what essentially were picnic tables in our camps. But people resisted that, wanting tables to place equipment at proper heights and furniture for specialized uses. Again, there were no nearby office equipment stores. So Henry just made what we needed – and it was exquisite.”



The mass graves of Iraq were buried under several feet of dirt after the victims they contained were gunned down. To expedite work, a large excavator was employed to remove overburden. Here, Dr. Trimble walks closely to the giant bucket as the skilled operator removes fractions of an inch. When Trimble sees the first evidence of remains, the inch-by-inch archaeological methods will start.

Another “find” was Wade Ricard, a heavy equipment operator hired to run the excavator that enabled the investigators to remove heavy overburden quickly. “He was excellent. He could remove fractions of an inch of material at a time. But he very quickly proved he could do more than we bargained for,” Trimble said. “Within two months he was serving essentially as my logistician. He led advance parties to set up camps in the remotest sites. I had had to do that in the past,” Trimble noted. “But that detracted from my work with the investigation. He just took a huge burden off me.”

Speaking of his own personal experience in Iraq, Dr. Trimble told how he related to the Iraqi people.

“It was hard to get to know them. First, mostly for security, we were isolated from most of them. Second, there was a



Accuracy, thoroughness, meticulous measurements and accurate records are essential to capturing and preserving the data recovered. Here, Dr. Trimble (L) and colleagues pause to accurately plot the precise position of emerging remains.

language barrier. Having said that, when we did meet, I loved their food, their culture and their hospitality.

“But I came to know that they are under a great deal of stress. It’s not just two wars. It’s not the current situation. They have been under extreme stress as a culture for more than 30 years now – without a break,” he said.

Looking back – and forward, because Trimble will return one more time, perhaps

to testify personally in Saddam Hussein’s trial – how does he feel about the events that have consumed so much of the most recent two years of his life?

“This is the first time a nation has tried its own leaders for these kinds of crimes against its own people,” he said.

“The allies tried German and Japanese war criminals after World War II. The World Court at the Hague is trying individuals for crimes in the former

Yugoslavia. But the Iraqi people are trying their own leaders, in their own courts and they are determined to show the world that they can adhere to rules of law in punishing the people who have treated them so badly. These are courts of law, not lynch mobs.”

“The Iraqi people and the world need to know that the people who did this are not typical of their population, but rather, are terrible aberrations.”

Trimble also thinks it is time to stop digging.

“Nobody has ever done this under these types of wartime conditions. In over two years of doing something that greatly distresses certain elements within Iraq, we didn’t lose a single team member. I firmly believe that further work won’t reveal any different evidence or trends. It’s time to stop stretching our luck. The job was to assemble a body of evidence that will be more than sufficient. We have done that.”

As Dr. Michael “Sonny” Trimble sits in his office in St. Louis and quietly pages through the voluminous report on his team’s activities, he considers the group’s legacy.



Accurate but useless, a thermometer “pegs out” at 120 degrees in late morning. The temperature rose to heights immeasurable with this normally useful device mid afternoon.



A shade provides some welcome comfort from the intense Middle East sun as temperatures climb toward highs in the 130 degree range as scientists labor to find and record the victims stories in this mass grave in Iraq. On the far right there is one of the ever present armed guards to ensure security at the site.

“We went as a team. We moved and grew as a team. People came and went, but always it was the team. We became like a family, one that has endured and overcome great challenges and odds. It will be sad to part,” he said, staring straight ahead. “Our legacy is excellence, excellence under incredibly tough environmental conditions,” he added quietly.

Trimble still has a “to do” list. It includes technical and personal goals.

“We are continuing to support the court process. We have all the data we can develop and that is the desired end state. We will stay engaged to ensure that this evidence data is available in its proper form, throughout the trial’s process to bring a just end to this ordeal,” he said.

“Next, we have to take the reports, written for technical specialists and the legal process, and edit them to produce a narrative document. It’s anticipated that Iraq will release these reports to the public at some point. The world will then know the immensity and grisly details of these crimes,” he said.

“Finally, we must go through the demobilization process. There’s paper-

work, contracts, and records to be assembled and archived. Perhaps some equipment will be transferred to Iraqi authorities. We are not simply going to walk away from these events. This will be a phased process.”

And finally, Dr. Trimble has a personal goal.

“I want our team to finish this by repatriating the remains that have been a part of our lives. We want bodies returned to their families so that they may have closure, so that they may rebury them with honor, reverence and love. We came to know them as we studied their deaths, as we put the clothing they were wearing when they were taken from their homes and then killed on mannequins to give form to their final minutes of life.

Other investigators have located and talked to surviving relatives in the villages from which these people were so cruelly taken. We know a number of the families of the dead. They should be together finally,” he said firmly but quietly.

“I never thought I’d be doing something like this,” he said as he ended.

Nobody in the world ever thought anyone would have to.

Blunt Announces Statewide Water Trail on Missouri River

Lewis and Clark Water Trail would be the nation’s longest river water trail

JEFFERSON CITY— Gov. Matt Blunt announced September 23rd, that the State of Missouri will begin developing the nation’s longest river water trail in honor of famed explorers Lewis and Clark.

“This will tap into the growing nature and adventure tourism trade by encouraging and facilitating the use of the Missouri River by canoeists and kayakers,” Blunt said. “More than 500 miles of the Missouri River borders or bisects the state, offering us an unprecedented tourism and economic development opportunity.”

At 500 miles, the Lewis and Clark Water Trail would be the nation’s longest river water trail. The water trail could emulate the tourism and economic success of Katy Trail State Park, the nation’s longest developed rails-to-trails project.

More than 300,000 people use the Katy Trail each year. “Many communities along the Katy Trail have seen a resurgence due to tourism traffic,” Blunt said. “The Lewis and Clark Water Trail is expected to have a similar effect on river towns.”

With more than 150 miles of Katy Trail State Park’s 225 miles along the river, many amenities already exist to support the water trail in this area.

Blunt has directed the Missouri Departments of Natural Resources, Conservation and the Division of Tourism to develop an information campaign for Missourians and state visitors. River access points and the locations of campsites, bed and breakfast establishments, points of historic or natural interest and outfitters will soon be available through an Internet site and printed materials.



Left to Right, Kevin Slattery, John Tatum, Brian Johnson, Steve Hobbs, Nicole Dalrymple, Tandika Gates, Chief, Lynn Neher, Jackie Taylor, Dave Gordon, Stacie Bedard, Brian Markert, Pam Doty, Anne Kosel, COL Setliff III.

Leadership Development Program Set to Begin

By Anne Kosel, Chief, Real Estate Branch

In October, the St. Louis District kicked off the Leadership Development Program (LDP). The LDP is a part-time, year-long, multi-faceted leadership and management development program designed to identify tomorrow's potential leaders in the Corps and to help them develop skills to lead.

The inaugural St. Louis District Class participants are Stacie Bedard, Carlyle Lake; Nicole Dalrymple, Public Affairs Office; Pamela Doty, Lake Shelbyville; Donald Duncan, Hydraulics Branch; Tandika Gates, Equal Employment Opportunity Office; David Gordon, Applied River Engineering Center; Robert Gramke, Regulatory Branch; Brian Markert, Project Management; Allen Mehrer, Mark Twain Lake; Lynn Neher, Operations Technical and Policy Branch; Kevin Slattery, Environmental Quality Section; John Tatum, Locks 27.

The program includes an analysis of one's leadership style, structured leadership training, guided preparation of an Individual Leadership Develop-

ment Plan, field trips and site visits, on-line and classroom training, participation on team projects, strengths coaching sessions, and a mentoring relationship with a senior member of the district.

The St. Louis District LDP was developed in direct response to policy and minimum requirements recently established by Headquarters for USACE Leadership Development Programs that aligns them with the USACE Learning Organization doctrine and the strategic direction of the Corps.

This alignment of shared outcomes and objectives includes a shared language that describes leadership, a shared concept of what we mean by leadership, and enables the teamwork required by USACE 2012, the Project Management Business Processes, as well as mobility in the workforce.

When leadership programs are aligned, we develop leaders focused on a shared vision, who accomplish missions, meet challenges and create a learning organization that enables us to continuously adapt and adjust the USACE strategic direction to sustain our relevance to the Army and the nation.

The St. Louis District LDP includes all of the required Headquarters compo-

ments, and additional segments specifically designed by the district. A contract facilitator will implement the program throughout the year, integrating the program components and relating lessons learned to the Corps' missions.

The commitment of the Commander and District executives to leadership and management development is reflected in the direct involvement these leaders will have in many facets of the LDP throughout the year. Graduates of the district LDP will be eligible for selection and participation in the MVD Emerging Leaders Program.

The target audience for the LDP includes District employees who are serving in, or have clearly demonstrated potential for advancement to, leadership/management positions; have career/career conditional or equivalent under exceeded service status and have at least a Level 2 rating on the two most recent performance evaluations.

Up to twelve employees, competitively selected from among field activities and the District Office, participate on a voluntary basis in the LDP. Applications are reviewed by the LDP Steering Committee and selected by the Corporate Board.



Corps, Citizens Discuss Possible Improvements at Lock 25

Old Monroe, Mo. – More than 50 people attended a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-sponsored public meeting, Tuesday, Sept. 26. There, they got the latest information on possible plans to add a 1200-foot lock chamber to Lock 25, near Winfield, Mo., and about parallel plans to restore a more sustainable ecosystem to the Upper Mississippi River. The work is projected as part of the Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program (NESP.)

At the meeting, a team of Corps engineers, program managers and representatives of other disciplines, presented the latest information on the project.

The session was organized to enable citizens to hold informal discussions with Corps subject-matter experts before the presentation. A detailed presentation was followed by a question and answer period. Corps representatives also stayed after the meeting ended for additional informal dialog.

Participants were told that results of extensive physical hydraulic modeling has indicated that the project as completed, will not require that the Corps acquire any land on a point immediately southward



Afterward many people stayed behind to discuss individual concerns with District representatives. Here, Real Estate specialist Lynn Hoerner responds to questions from two meeting attendees about the Sandy Slough area adjacent to the Lock.



More than 50 citizens took part in a public meeting to learn about and discuss possible improvements to Lock 25 at Old Monroe, Mo., Sept. 26. Here they are getting a formal briefing on the project.

along the Missouri bank of the river.

This issue had been contentious at an earlier public meeting in May 2005. There was a caution however, that work still remained to be done to determine if there would be any requirements during the projected 10-year construction period.

There was also discussion of temporary construction easements that would be required, as well as areas to deposit dredge material on land.

During the question and answer period, two subjects were the primary focus.

The future of a body of water located inland of the existing lock structure – Sand Slough – generated substantial comments and questions. Progressive silting of the slough has diminished its ability to support fish and other water animals.

Alternatives to reverse this trend – in connection with the lock expansion plan or as part of an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) project – were discussed. Missouri State Representative Wayne Henke and a Missouri Department of Natural Resources representative at the meeting said they would look into moving Sandy Slough up on the priority list if there was enough support for that.

The other issue was changes to

navigation and impacts to operating the Winfield Ferry. The audience was told that studies of the 1-to-120 model in Vicksburg, Miss., showed that navigation safety and efficiency was improved with the new lock. They also learned that the Corps will explore those conditions as they will exist during various stages of completion during the construction effort. Measures including helper boats may have to be implemented during that period.

Local residents also voiced concerns about construction traffic and potential damage to their access road.

Attendees were encouraged to enter written comments after the meeting and to sign up to be on distribution for periodic newsletters concerning the NESP. They were also told that future meetings are planned, including smaller sessions with specific land owners that might be affected during construction.

Just as comments at the May 2005 meeting were factored into the last 15-months of planning, comments from this latest session will be carefully considered as planning moves forward.

Interested persons may get additional information about all aspects of the NESP at: <http://www2.mvr.usace.army.mil/NESP/>



We were wrong! Just Wrong!

Last month in *Esprit*, we made a last-minute addition to the Retiree's Corner to note of the passing of Jim Fogilphol. In that report we said he was the last lockmaster of the old Locks 26 at Alton.

Anytime you identify a person as first, last, or something as the largest, you run the danger of learning that someone preceded or followed that person, or something is bigger.

To correct the record, Jim Fogilphol was not the last lockmaster at Locks 26. Tom Durham followed him in that job. Don Schrader was next, last and first: he was the last lockmaster at Locks 26 and the first lockmaster at the Melvin Price Lock and Dam. (It was singular, "lock" then, as there was only the 1200-foot chamber at first.)

With no slight intended either to Tom Durham or Don Schrader, that's the end of their involvement in this story.

In the days since we found our foot in our mouth, we have heard from Wally Feld, Paul Kornberger and Fogilphol's secretary at Locks 26, Billie Sanna. With their inputs, we are going to try to tell what Paul Harvey terms, "The rest of the story."

James O. Fogilphol was born August 16, 1918. He served his nation for more than 44 years. His service ranged from work as a laborer on Corps vessels, to combat in Europe during World War II, including in the bloody battle of St. Vith, in Belgium. He had come to the Corps in 1936 and worked his way up through the ranks to assistant lockmaster in 1966 and then the top job at Locks 26 in 1976.

The Fogilphol name, although somewhat unusual was not uncommon in the Corps of Engineers. Jim's brothers Gus and Frank served in the Corps for 46 and 45 years respectively as well. That's 136 years of family service.

In 1992, eight years after he retired,

Fogilphol was nominated as a Distinguished Civilian Employee of the St. Louis District. Today he is one of only 23 St. Louis people distinguished by this prestigious selection, which highlights contributions of the best of the best during more than a century of the District's history.

Paul Kornberger told *Esprit* a lot about Jim Fogilphol, including such facts as his having red hair in his youth, and being called appropriately, "Red." That nickname stuck even after his hair turned white in later years. Kornberger also said that even though Fogilphol never graduated from high school, he sure knew how to lead people and get the job done.

Kornberger also told how, when a directive came down that lockmasters had to wear ties, Fogilphol said he had a neck like a snapping turtle and he had no idea where he could find a tie to enable him to comply and look good.

Wally Feld shared a story of dark winter nights, running ice through Locks 26. "Two teams were alternating that night. Jim led one. Between frigid stretches on the job, they warmed themselves in the control house. Each time they switched, there was considerable profanity and gate resetting. I learned that night that running ice was an art, not a science," Feld said.

Feld seconded Kornberger on one point. "He didn't have any book learning on supervising people, but he was a master at getting them to get the job done." He added, "If I got an excited call from any other lockmaster in the night, I knew that things were only half as bad as they said they were. If Jim was excited, I knew it was probably twice as bad as he said it was and I had better get up there right away."

Both men also told the story of Jim Fogilphol being a key in delivering the message that eventually led to replacing the deteriorating Locks 26 with the Melvin Price Facility.

Kornberger told how at the height of the dialog, congressmen and other VIPS were arriving for briefings on what seemed like three-times-a-week schedule.

After formal briefings with slides, charts and drawings, the influential visitors' eyes often started to glaze over from the volume and complexity of information. But they came back to life as they toured Locks 26 with



This 1984 Alton *Telegraph* photo by Robert K. Groul shows Billie Sanna and Lockmaster Jimmy Fogilphol working together at old Locks 26.

Fogilphol.

He led groups of important decision makers out onto the lock walls, over miter gates and into the old control house. Often he had to compete with a large tow locking through, but high-powered visitors were invariably impressed by his combined enthusiasm and pride as he pointed out both the capabilities and warts of the old locks and dam and his vision of where the future lay to sustain navigation at the bend of the river near Alton. In fact, many attribute his persuasiveness with carrying the argument to get the new Melvin Price Locks and Dam approved.

Those who knew him best miss him the most.

Perhaps Wally Feld best captured that thought in his closing comments to *Esprit*: "I would love to be able to take one more ice run drive up the River Road in the lock's pickup truck with him to see if the ice was ready to run (through the dam) and listen to him tell his stories, even though I had heard them many times before."

And Billie Sanna reminded: "Those who never met Jimmy, Red or Fogie, should flash him a smile and say "Thanks" when they pass his photo on the wall of Distinguished Civilian Employees. With what he did to get the Mel Price Locks and Dam moving forward, he may have preserved a lot of our places in the family of Corps employees."

Thanks to everyone, especially Paul Kornberger, Wally Feld and Billie Sanna for their help in bringing this information to the readers of Esprit.



Dave Berti Joins District Gallery of Distinguished Civilians

Editor's Note: Dave Berti joined an elite group of St. Louis District employees on October 12 when he was inducted into the Gallery of Distinguished Civilians, an honor shared by only 22 others. The posthumous recognition was presented to Dave's wife and two children before a gathering of family, District co-workers and partners at Mark Twain Lake. A second ceremony was held in the District Office on October 17 where Dave's picture was slid into place on the wall that honors the District's brightest and best. Dave's stellar career with the Corps was sadly cut short on March 2, 2004 when he died of cancer. Below is just one remembrance of the man Dave was and the difference he made, and still makes to this day, in the lives of the hundreds he touch during his 28 years of service with the Corps.



Dave Berti: father, husband, colleague, outdoorsman, mentor and determined champion of the environment, was taken from us all tragically, March 2, 2004. He and his excellence were recognized Oct. 12 when he was inducted as the 23rd St. Louis District Distinguished Civilian.



L to R Ted Johnson (Alison's husband), Michael Berti (son), Alison Johnson (daughter), Susan Berti (wife) and District Commander Col. Lewis F. Setliff III

By Steve Wagner, Mark Twain Lake

Dave Berti was a force of nature that entered an environment, challenged the status quo and forced everyone to improve, or they were left devastated in his wake. To Dave, life was a game and he was always preparing to win. He would accept nothing less than your best effort and if you were willing to go with the "Berti Plan" you would be swept into an endeavor that would make you proud.

He spent many hours mentoring employees sharing his enthusiasm for the Corps mission. When you were with him, you engaged in a mental exchange that would leave you exhausted. He had a way of making you explore your very essence and wonder if you were reaching your fullest potential. When you left Dave, and reflected on the conversation, you realized Dave was asking you to be a part of something special.

Dave felt the Corps had a moral imperative to provide recreation opportunities for our visitors. Many times he expressed his belief that what he was doing with recreation was just as important as other missions of the Army. In the hectic modern world it is just as important for people to have the

ability to pursue recreation and relaxation. The Corps of Engineers provides this very important respite in the hectic modern world.

Dave was a man who loved the outdoors and reveled in the opportunity to be the impetus of changes that affected the ecosystem and wildlife of America. He shared his love by spending valuable time with family and friends in the outdoors. To go on an early morning duck hunt with him gave you an opportunity to appreciate and share his world.

Dave's courageous final fight inspired everyone who knew him. Dave was preparing for a life where he would enjoy family, friends, and his career. He would eventually retire from public service and enjoy more time with his family. His untimely death left us in a lurch and anxious about the future. But we are confident, the future is in good hands as the friends and colleagues — Dave Berti trained people — who have taken up his enthusiasm, assumed their roles and are pursuing their missions using his advice as their guide. Dave's legacy will be the effect his life had on the many people who met and knew him — and on the America in which we all live.

This year's Combined Federal Campaign, "Every 1 Makes a Difference," could not have been successful without the hard work and dedication of the following key workers:



Dana Barrentine
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