



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Tulsa District

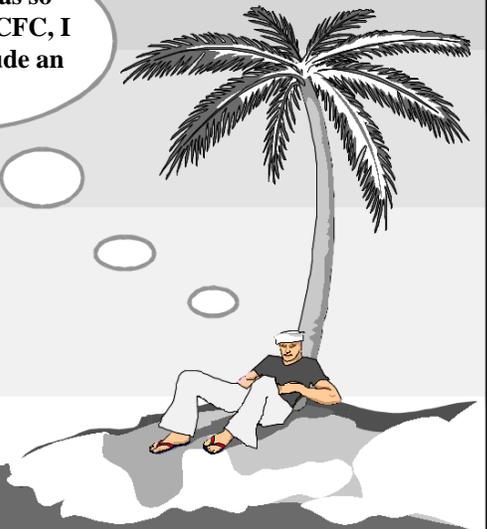
TULSA

DISTRICT RECORD

September 1997
Vol. 20, No. 9

share
and
show You care

*Oh, no!! I was so
excited about CFC, I
forgot to include an
S.O.S!!*



Combined Federal Campaign Sets Sail Sept. 16

**Colonel's
Corner**



Col. Timothy Sanford
District Engineer

**Share and
Show You
Care!!**

WE ARE BUSY THIS TIME OF YEAR WORKING HARD TO ENSURE THAT PROJECTS ARE UNDER CONTRACT FOR OUR CUSTOMERS AND LATE YEAR FUNDS ARE COMMITTED BEFORE SEPT. 30. We do an exceptional job of executing all our programs, culminating in extraordinary accomplishments during the final days of the fiscal year. We are a “make it happen” organization.

September brings another kind of opportunity to “Make IT Happen” that is even more important than serving customers and having high execution rates for our programs. This opportunity comes in the form of the **Combined Federal Campaign!** This campaign gives us the opportunity to make a big impact on the lives of millions of people through our contributions to worthwhile organizations of our choice. These organizations are helping children and families directly, conducting research to treat some of our most debilitating diseases, or working to improve our living environments. In giving to these organizations through CFC we *make it happen* for people we don’t even know, for our loved ones who are in need, for our hometown, and for our state and nation. We will never know how many lives we touch with our gifts. We will know, however, that our gifts do make a difference.

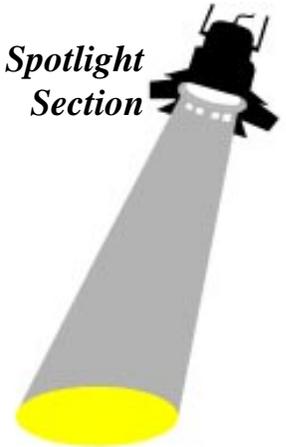
The goal we have set for the district this year is \$72,000. This is slightly more than the \$69,500 we collected last year, but is well within our reach. I encourage everyone to take time to fill out a payroll deduction form and give to the organization of your choice. Your gift will “Make It Happen!”

I appreciate your support for this very worthwhile campaign. Our contributions to the CFC are much more than gifts – they are investments. They are investments in our community, our state, and our nation. Let’s all be part of a great investment in our future. The warm, satisfying feeling we get in return will be price-

less. Let’s all *Share* our contribution to CFC today *and Show We Care!*

A district team recently worked with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, Southwestern Power, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and Southwestern Power Associates to improve dissolved oxygen levels at Tenkiller Dam in order to prevent fish kills. This was a superb, multi-agency team effort. **Charlie Crumpler, Perry Crupper, Ray Harrison,** and the entire **Tenkiller Powerhouse crew** were exemplary in supporting this project. Well done!!

**Spotlight
Section**



Have you seen a copy of *The Robert S. Kerr River Rat Report*? If not, you’re really missing a treat. The July edition included articles by **Dennis Johnson, Donna Wright, Chuck Wyckoff, Cindy Potts and Phyllis Sands** as well as a monthly calendar, several catchy quotes and some inside jokes. The whole thing is pulled together by **David Rozzell**, a power plant employee, who does the layout. The report features honest, straightforward messages and is a great communication tool. Congratulations to everyone involved!

Congratulations to **Randy Bratcher and Tammy Moreno** of Contracting Division for their completion of the challenging four-week Basic Contracting course at Fort Lee, Va. This class was attended by personnel from all of the services and some other federal agencies. Randy was given a Letter of Commendation from the commander of the Army Logistics Management College for finishing as the course’s top graduate. Tammy also did very well, finishing in the top one percent of the class.

Retirees and employees attending this year’s Retiree Breakfast will be treated to entertainment by “The Essentials.” Band members, **Ed Rossman, Frank Winchell, Jim Boggs and Craig Wells**, agreed to provide the musical entertainment for this year’s gathering. Thank you, Essentials, for sharing in the Corps Family spirit.

Over the past several months, **Nancy Harris** of Contracting Division closed out more than 700 contracts and sent the contract records to our record holding area. This was a tremendous task

See Column, page 9

Tulsa District Record: Contributions of articles, graphics and photographs are encouraged. All manuscripts are subject to editing and rewriting.

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Courtesy Oklahoma Department of Transportation

Oologah Project Manager Jay Jones is flanked by Oklahoma Secretary of Transportation Neal McCaleb, left, and Governor Frank Keating holding the hubcap award won by Oologah Lake during TRASH OFF '97.

Oologah Lake Wins State Honors

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS OF OOLOGAH LAKE. They walked away with three of the top honors for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's TRASH-OFF 1997. The lake received awards for Most Trash Picked Up, Most Volunteers and Most Trash Per Volunteer at a Corps of Engineers lake.

A total of 91 cities, 17 counties, 13 state parks and four Corps lakes participated in the ninth annual TRASH-OFF's statewide spring cleanup.

At Oologah Lake, 87 people from seven organizations picked up 119 bags of trash from around the lake. The groups included Boy Scout troops and a 4-H club, Girl Scout troop, church group and local bow hunting club.

At an awards picnic in June, Oologah Area Manager Jay Jones was presented the "hubcap" award and certificates by Governor Frank Keating and Secretary of Transportation Neal A. McCaleb. The picnic was held at the Harn Homestead in Oklahoma City. After lunch, award recipients toured the farmhouse which was built in 1904 and the restored barn, herb and family vegetable garden, storm cellar and restored school house, all located on ten acres near the state capitol and governor's mansion.

Quality Driven

Be the Corps Standard In Customer Care and Professionalism

Partnering Enhances Regional Teamwork

Julie McCullough
Total Army Quality Coordinator

THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS HAS SUCCESSFULLY USED PARTNERING AS A PART OF ITS CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTING PROCESS FOR SEVERAL YEARS. Tulsa District adopted this team-building and relationship-enhancing technique with its military customers, and has begun to partner with other Corps districts. District-to-district partnering has the potential to help revolutionize effectiveness within the Corps, and will provide support to our many customers.

In the past, sister organizations have found themselves competing for customers. This competition once existed between Tulsa and Fort Worth Districts. These two large, full-service, high-performing and proud districts competed for environmental restoration work at military installations and other federal agencies. Each district's objective was to increase its own workload, and focus was diverted from the customer.

Then, the **ONE CORPS** focus began. It set the stage for a partnering meeting between Tulsa and Fort Worth Districts. The meeting's objective was to support the Corps goals to *Revolutionize Effectiveness*, *Seek Growth Opportunities*, and *Invest in People*.

The partnering initiative met all of the Strategic Vision's seven sub-strategies the Corps is focusing on, particularly *Satisfy the Customer*, *Build the Team*, and *Reshape Culture*.

See Partnering, page 11

Ahoy, matesys!

Cast Off Party!!!

Combined Federal Campaign Kick Off

2:30, Sept. 16

Second Floor Conference Room



Mission Is Possible

Tom Verdel, DFAS Team Member
Mary Beth Hudson, Public Affairs Office

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is . . .

Prepare a fully coordinated concept design to renovate and remodel the 150,000-square-foot former hospital and clinic at Fort Sill to house the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, Lawton Operating Location.

Time is of the essence; however, if you accept this mission, you must . . .

Provide superior quality work, and keep costs down. Also, investigate new criteria and new customer requirements, and ensure those are incorporated.

Some facts as they pertain to your mission:

There are not enough qualified people available in your workforce to complete the mission in the time allotted nor is there time available to select an architect-engineer contractor. By the way, there is significant congressional interest in this project, and funds will be managed in Louisville District.

It is up to you to find a solution. This tape will self destruct in . . .

ALTHOUGH THERE WERE NO SELF-DESTRUCTING TAPES, AND IT WAS REAL LIFE AND NOT SOMETHING ON A NOSTALGIA CHANNEL, THAT'S THE SITUATION THAT TULSA DISTRICT FACED WHEN GIVEN THE CHALLENGE OF DESIGNING THE DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE OPERATING LOCATION AT FORT SILL, OKLA. The solution? Share the project among districts and, in the process, create one of the "virtual" teams currently functioning in Southwestern Division.



Laurie Driver, Little Rock District

Dushan Mrdja, Mark Thompson, Brinda Jackson and Mike Vanlandingham, all of Little Rock District's Architecture and Support Section, confer over drawings for the DFAs project. LRD provided architectural design and CADD file management for the project. Not pictured: Royce West.

Mission Notes

To tackle the challenges presented by the DFAS project, a multi-district team made up of members from Tulsa, Fort Worth, Louisville and Little Rock Districts was formed. It was decided that technical management and project management responsibilities needed to rest in the same district, and the team was organized as follows:

Program Management: Louisville
Project Management: Tulsa
Project Engineering: Tulsa

Design Discipline Assignments:
Civil Engineering: Fort Worth
Landscape and Interior Design: Fort Worth
Architectural Design: Little Rock
Structural Engineering: Fort Worth
Mechanical Engineering/Fire Protection: Fort Worth
Electrical Engineering: Tulsa (by A-E contract)
Specifications: Tulsa
Cost Engineering: Tulsa
Contracting Services: Tulsa

The team's original plan was to make a quick start and bring the project up to a level of 30-percent design. At the same time, they planned to pursue A-E selection, and have a well thought-out concept design ready to turn over to that A-E firm. About halfway through the effort, the team reviewed its progress. They estimated the future in-house workload, and made a decision to continue to work together through final design. The team's decision also honored the customer's request to maintain a consistent design team through the life of the project.

Mission (Virtually) Possible

The completed 30-percent design was submitted for review in May. Tulsa District performed an independent technical review of the work using in-house labor and a biddability, constructability and operability review using resident office staff.

The design was also reviewed carefully by both the DFAS operating location and national staffs. As anticipated, there were a number of concept-level functional comments and corrections made by the

user. The level of detail, technical adequacy and comprehensiveness of the design submittal, however, was deemed outstanding.

The review also pointed out that the total design effort was actually about 50-percent complete, so the design schedule was revisited, and future design time was reduced by four weeks. This new schedule will provide project design documents two months ahead of the original schedule.

Project design costs to date have remained well within USACE targets, with \$38,000 remaining from an original \$215,000 budget target for this phase of the work.

Members of the DFAS “virtual” team have gone out of their way at every turn to guarantee their customer the best possible service. The team’s commitment reflects a recognition that Corps of Engineer designers and technical personnel work in a competitive environment where reinvention and a change in culture are essential for their continued professional growth and service to the Army.

Lessons Learned

While the project is far from complete and faces its expected share of future hurdles, some noteworthy lessons have already emerged. Some of them are:

- Technology is important, but team confidence and commitment is crucial. When the team was being recruited, possible members were consulted and given the opportunity to join. This resulted in an enthusiastic team, with members excited about working together. “Bureaucracy” has been notably absent from the work on this project, and every team member appreciates that keenly.

- A very important face-to-face team meeting at the beginning of the project gave the members an opportunity to meet each other and start to develop a team relationship. Most coordination efforts have been satisfactorily maintained using normal fax, telephone and e-mail messages.

The team has decided to schedule periodic telephone conference calls during subsequent design phases to determine the best frequency of these meetings. Face-to-face meetings at critical times (such as in-

Team members look over files relating to the DFAS project. They are, left to right, Larry Gage, Cost Engineering Branch, and Tom Verdel, Sandi Egan and Joanne Hensley, Design Branch, E&C Division. Not pictured: Burl Ragland, Tom Skelton and Charlie Pratt.



Janice Orvis

progress reviews) are essential communications tools. Desktop video teleconferencing capability offers some desirable features for the future, but the team has functioned very well so far with the capabilities it has.

- Despite a common library of CADD details and conventions, different offices ALWAYS find slightly different ways of displaying design information and slightly different sequences of work. A smart, flexible technical manager who is savvy to the ways in which disciplines work together and who can foster early consensus on these sorts of details is critical to project success.

- Although “keystroke intensive,” CEFMS provides a better way to manage funds than COEMIS did, and provides a level of confidence in funds control that was not there before. The team would have liked for CEFMS to provide a faster, more user-friendly interface with relevant, tailored summary reporting, however.

Unfortunately, although all three districts are on CEFMS, the funds transfer process among districts is not yet automated and must still be accomplished by faxing hard-copy Military Interdepartmental Purchase Requests back and forth.

The practice of funding the project with monthly funds transfers from Louisville District to Tulsa District and thence to Fort Worth and Little Rock appears to the team to be an unnecessary complication. Funding the project design effort upfront, through the entire effort authorized in the design directive, would appear to be less labor-intensive.

- Project schedules are faxed from Tulsa to the other two districts. Since PROMIS is soon to become the Corps standard project management software application, all three districts are in the process of switching to Microsoft Project – which is reportedly “uploadable” into PROMIS – as an interim scheduling software tool. This software hasn’t yet been fully implemented or extensively used in the three districts involved. This is

See Possible, page 8

| Team Members | |
|--|-----------------------|
| <u>Defense Finance and Accounting Service</u> | |
| Lynn Anderson | Mark Kopsky |
| Al Van Brocklem | Micky Stokes |
| Paul Brunstad | Randy Wahl |
| Ellis Haynes | Kris Wells |
| <u>Louisville District</u> | |
| Gary Serke | |
| <u>Little Rock District</u> | |
| Brinda Jackson | Royce West |
| Dushan Mrdja | Mark Thompson |
| Mike VanLandingham | |
| <u>Tulsa District</u> | |
| Sandi Egan | Burl Ragland |
| Larry Gage | Tom Skelton |
| Joanne Hensley | Tom Verdel |
| Charlie Pratt (A-E) | |
| <u>Fort Worth District</u> | |
| Darrell Alverson | Zeke Monteros |
| Tony Berrios | Jack Osborne |
| Bette Bronstad | Kendall Waldie |
| Roseanna Brown | Gregg Woodard |
| Mike Kerr | Dan Zrna |
| James McKenzie | |

Joint Effort Has Far Reaching Results

Tracey Jordan, Operations Division
Mary Beth Hudson, Public Affairs Office

FISH IN THE RIVER BELOW LAKE TENKILLER OUGHT TO BE BREATHING A LITTLE EASIER NOW THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF AN IMPRESSIVE GROUP OF EXPERTS JOINED TOGETHER ON THEIR BEHALF. Engineers and biologists from both federal and state agencies, with financial help from a rural electric cooperative, are working to help improve the level of dissolved oxygen in the tail waters below the lake's powerhouse.

"The lower Illinois River below Lake Tenkiller is a marvelous, diverse fishery which produces everything from state record-class striped bass to some quality trout fishing. It's one of only two year-round trout streams in this state, and is at its very best in the bright, cold days of winter. But when the river goes several days at this time of year without fresh, cool water from Tenkiller, it can turn into an overheated, short-on-oxygen stream," wrote Sam Powell, outdoor writer for the *Tulsa World*, in a July 29 article.

That problem is being addressed by representatives of the Oklahoma Depart-

ment of Wildlife Conservation, the Tulsa District and Southwestern Power Administration, along with consultants from the Tennessee Valley Authority. They have joined forces to try and improve the oxygen content of water released from the lake during electrical power generation. The latest stage of their plan was funded by an \$81,000 contribution from Western Farmers Co-Op.

While all fish require some level of oxygen, trout need between four and six parts per million of oxygen in water to survive. In the summer, the portion of Lake Tenkiller being drawn into the turbine has less than one part per million. The recent combined effort hopes to dramatically improve the water leaving the turbine.

TVA looks upon water quality enhancement of hydropower discharge as part of the cost of doing business. It has pioneered considerable research, and there have been significant advances in aeration technology. TVA has demonstrated many effective techniques including autoventing turbines, hub baffles, surface water pumps,

oxygen injection systems, aerating weirs, etc.

In 1996, with cooperation from SWPA, Tulsa District placed hub baffles on Unit 2 of the Tenkiller Ferry Powerhouse using a TVA design. Upon completion, district biologists, engineers and powerhouse employees ran a series of tests on the unit and the tailrace water below the powerhouse to see if the modifications had been successful. Tests included air flow measurements, dissolved oxygen measurements at various locations in the stream, vibration data, etc. The tests were performed at different gate settings and at varying loads. Test data looked very promising; TVA was called upon to analyze the data, and in May 1997, submitted a new design to the Tulsa District.

With the critical summer months starting, immediate action had to be taken in order to reap the benefits of the design during the 1997 summer season. With three government agencies involved – all with shrinking budgets – funding quickly became a concern. SWPA, through the generosity of Western Farmers Co-Op, was able to fund the portion of the project contracted to TVA. Tulsa District Office and Fort Gibson Area Office financed the Corps involvement.

Through close coordination with SWPA, TVA and ODWC, Tulsa District established a schedule enabling TVA to first come to Tenkiller to gather additional data and then return to help implement the new design.

The new design included changes to the baffles and removal of the vacuum breaker valve. The valve was replaced with a conduit, T-joint fitting, which allowed more air to flow into the unit. TVA personnel installed the vacuum breaker bypass system while powerhouse personnel handled the changes to the turbine. The team first began working on the previously unmodified Unit 1. While the engineers, pipe fitters and welders constructed and installed the vacuum breaker bypass, another group of



Tracey Jordan

Tom Henry with TVA is in the foreground. In the background on the left are Steve Mills and Ray Harrison. They are fabricating baffles and bypass piping prior to installation.

electricians, welders, machinists and engineers worked on installing the hub baffles.

On Tuesday, July 22, the modification process began. The groups de-watered the unit, manufactured and implemented all the changes, and re-watered the unit in two and one half days – not an easy feat, especially with high humidity and 100-degree temperatures.

On Friday, July 25, everyone involved descended on Tenkiller powerhouse to test the Unit 1 modifications.

Testing apparatus were set up at the intake structure in the lake, in the powerhouse control room, in the wheel pit, by the turbines, on the wing wall in the tailrace and on the riverbank. The tests showed the incoming dissolved oxygen level to be less than 1.0 ppm. The vibration of the unit did not seem to be impacted by the changes. The increased noise level could be fixed by placing a muffler on the bypass system. The negative head pressure inside the unit was increased, which indicated more air was being drawn in the unit – but was that oxygen being induced into the turbine getting absorbed into the water?

Dissolved oxygen levels while running the turbines under the same conditions without the increased air were 1.05 -



Charlie Crumpler

T. W. Hickerson, welder, gets the turbine ready to start welding baffles.



Tracey Jordan

Perry Crupper, senior electrician, exits the turbine area.

1.29 ppm. Preliminary downstream data collected just below the tailrace with the increased air were 4.3 - 4.7 ppm, a much greater improvement than was anticipated.

Unit 2 was then fitted with the same modifications, and testing showed similar results. These improvements will provide more flexibility to the SWPA generation schedule as well as better water quality for the trout.

The entire aquatic ecosystem below Lake Tenkiller will reap the rewards of this project far into the future. As for now, wildlife enthusiasts, fishermen, and fish can all breathe a little easier.

It was my privilege to be involved in a project of this caliber. The attitudes and efforts of Corps employees, Kimberly Oldham, Perry Crupper, Charlie Crumpler, Ray Harrison, Tom Henry, Steve Mills, France Reitz, Charlie Smith, Gene Lilly and T.W. Hickerson, along with the support of SWPA, expertise of TVA personnel and the encouragement of district office supervisors, Earl Groves and Kerry McCalman, made this a very successful project.

– Tracey Jordan

Personnel Notes

June Hello

Justin Bell, OD, Keystone Project Office
Nathan Groves, OD, Oologah Project Office
Holle Hooks, OD, Oologah Project Office
John Jefferson Jr., OD, Hugo Project Office
Gary Jones, OD, Eufaula Project Office
Rustin Kimmell, PL, Environmental Analysis and Support Branch
Kurt Miller, OD, Keystone Project Office
Patrick Sanders, OD, Fort Gibson Project
Seth Walters, EC, Design Branch

Goodbye

Sharion Brightwell, RM, F&A Branch
Jeanne Kirkpatrick, RM, F&A Branch
Hugh Russell, EC, Design Branch
Joseph Wall, OD, Hugo Project Office
Jan Whiteley, RM, F&A Branch

Promotions

Corey Claborn, OD, Hugo Project Office
David Hays Jr., SO
Barry Matthews, EC, Design Branch
Allen Ryan, OD, Texoma Project Office

July

Goodbye

Kathleen Molony, RM, F&A

Promotions

Sheila Beavers, EC, Geotechnical Branch
Teresa Broomhall, OD, Eufaula Project Office
Darrell Coffey, OD, R. S. Kerr Project Office
Kirt Curell, OD, Fort Gibson Project Office
Mark Ernst, OD, Robert S. Kerr Project Office
Fred Kloeckler, PP, Civil Works Branch
Andrew McVeigh IV, EC
Debra Mills, PP, Civil Works Branch
Cheri Randall, OD, Fort Gibson Project Office
Carol Roberts, PP, Environmental Branch

Hello

Melanie Curtis, OD, Marion Project Office

From the Mailbox



To the Corps Family (fraternally and with love) from Reggie Kikigawa, retiree:

Please permit me to take this means to express to you, my dear extended family, how much your phone calls, the beautiful cards of sympathy and all of your precious care thoughts meant to me during the days I walked in bereavement recently.

Your expression of concern for me and my family were very comforting to me. I have always known but now I am positive I left behind a core of loving people (including all of the retirees) throughout the Tulsa District.

I am grateful to each one of you.

... Possible

from page 5

an area where additional experience is needed and will be developed as the project progresses. It remains to be seen whether PROMIS will provide features that make CEFMS a management tool at the district level as opposed to primarily a finance and accounting program.

- The use of “virtual file drawers” on a district server (ideally, with the server located where the architects are working) appears to be the best way to maintain project drawings.

There are three file drawers maintained on the Little Rock server. The “new” drawer contains all the architectural drawings (typically used as an “underlay” for the work of other disciplines.) At Little Rock District, there is a batch file that runs nightly and searches all project files that have been changed during the day, saving the most current version to the “new” file drawer. This practical, time-saving process maintains current files which the various disciplines can access whenever they begin work on a drawing.

There are two additional drawers, “tulsa” and “ftworth” where overlays and separate drawings produced in those two districts are maintained. This is an innovative use of technology that is readily available and has provided very satisfactory service. Download time for a five-megabyte drawing file is typically less than 10 seconds.

- All three locations use Intergraph Microstation CADD software. None of the three use discipline-specific application programs such as Project Architect, Project HVAC, etc. Microstation may be viewed as the lowest common denominator of the various CADD programs. It has been sufficient because of the nature of the DFAS project, a renovation where the basic building envelope is a given, static feature.

Using discipline-specific application programs where different members of the team might not be familiar with those capabilities and conventions, and where compatibility with Microstation could be less than 100 percent, would add some complexity to the coordination effort.



Eufaula Project Office Photo

Rangers Mike Dumford and Johnny Parrish examine Lake Eufaula’s freshly painted water safety trailer.

Ranger Turns Talents Towards Trailer

The water safety message is on the move in the Lake Eufaula area. Johnny Parrish, park ranger, volunteered his time and artistic talent to paint portraits of Little Toot and several water safety messages on the project’s trailer. Park Ranger Mike Dumford says, “This trailer looks great, and it will sure catch the kids’ attention. I know this will help to get the water safety message out while we are traveling to the area schools.”

The Eufaula Water Safety Team uses the trailer to transport Little Toot and other supplies used when they give water safety presentations at area schools and civic events. The trailer makes it very convenient for travel in inclement weather and when other projects borrow Little Toot for presentations at their lakes. When the ranger staff is not giving water safety presentations, the trailer makes a nice place to store the boat and other supplies.

Parrish transferred from Broken Bow to Eufaula about five years ago. He earned an associates degree at the College of Fine Arts in Berkley, Calif. While there, he learned the air brush technique he used on the water safety trailer.

Thanks, Johnny, from all the Lake Eufaula staff!

- Customers are convinced by results, and the recent submittal has helped convince the customer of the benefits of the virtual team method.

Questions for the Human Resources Office in Fort Worth?

1-800-453-8907



Visit Tulsa District on the Internet!

<http://www.swt.usace.army.mil>

Orvis is Customer Care Employee

Janice Orvis, district photographer, has been named Customer Care Employee for the third quarter, fiscal year 1997.

Her nomination, submitted by Rick West, Fort Sill Area Office, states, "She is always responsive, and the quality of her work is excellent; however, her recent work in capturing the new Environmental Training Facility at Fort Sill, Okla., is exceptionally so."

According to the nomination, Orvis spent the better part of two nights braving low temperatures and high winds to capture the facility's intriguing night features. The resulting photograph was specifically requested by the using agency for presentation to personnel connected with the facility. A matted and framed print was presented to Mike Walker, assistant secretary of the army for environment, and another to Sherri Goodman, deputy under-secretary of defense for environmental security.

Jim Laster, chief of Support Services Branch and Orvis' supervisor, said, "Janice is the kind of employee that every



Angie Short

Janice Orvis Customer Care Employee

supervisor hopes to have on their staff. I've had the privilege of working with her for a number of years, and have watched her willingness to make hard decisions in career changes that required extensive training and dedication. It is clear to me that she truly cares about her customers and will not accept anything less of herself than being the best."



Courtesy Canton Project Office

Rodeo Results – The 1997 Walleye Rodeo fishing tournament held at Canton Lake marked the 30th year for the event. During the awards ceremony, the rodeo committee presented an appreciation award to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Canton Lake, for cooperation and assistance through the years. A very nice plaque was presented to Kathy Carlson, area manager, who acted as master of ceremonies for this year's rodeo award ceremony.

. . . Column

from page 2

and involved a great deal of investigation and record review. Her efforts cleared these contracts out of the automated database and freed up room for new ones. Great job, Nancy!

As experience levels and workloads change within the Corps, technical expertise and capabilities in certain engineering functions will need to be maintained. Congratulations to **Eugene Erwin**, Geotechnical Branch, who has been selected to fill a civil engineer position as a technical expert in the Dam Safety and Survey Section. He becomes the first GS-13 technical specialist in E&C Division.

Excellent job by the five ladies on the Women's Equality Day panel! Thanks to **Earnestine Brown-Roach, Kathy Carlson, Pam Chronister, Kay Hoover and Ruth Norris** for participating.

Liz Herman, chief, Engineering Geology and Soil Mechanics Section, graduated number one in her class at the Army Management Staff College. She received the Association of the U.S. Army Award for being the honor graduate in a class of '96. In addition to the demanding basic course, she also completed the National Military Strategy and Installation Management electives. Congratulations, Liz!

Ron Bell and Karol Rutz, Hydraulics and Hydrology Branch, are to be commended for their help with two emergency watershed protection projects on the Washita River in Oklahoma. Their work helped protect a Custer County road and Mountain View's city lagoon. Good work during a critical situation!

I started this column with CFC and I'd like to end on the same note. Lots of people are working very hard to make this year's campaign a success. **Mary Beth Hudson** is serving as coordinator, **Bert Sherrell** is leading the Day of Caring effort, and **Cynthia Wade** is our loaned executive. Team members are **Russell Holeman, Burgin Towe, Ed Rossman, Amy Picarella, Cathey Williams, Cherri Jackson, Hailey Barton, Bill Cheatham and Leanne Pearce**. Key people from each office are now being selected. This year's campaign will have a nautical theme. In that vein, I wish them and their efforts calm waters and smooth sailing!



FORT SILL'S THIRD QUARTER EAGLE EYE SAFETY AWARD GOES TO ECI CONSTRUCTION INC. for their work on the 48-person barracks project. Earnie Miller of the Fort Sill Area Office has the responsibility for this contract as he has had for past award winners.

Rick West, project manager, says this accomplishment is due to the proactive approach and seriousness with which both Miller and the contractor take their safety responsibilities. "The fact

that Mr. Miller's contractors have been the recipient of this award for two of the last three quarters best exemplifies his personal involvement and commitment toward safety," West says. "The entire Fort Sill Area Office extends their thanks to Mr. Miller for actively contributing to our successful safety program. Keep up the good work Earnie!"

CENTRAL OKLAHOMA AREA OFFICE'S THIRD QUARTER EAGLE EYE AWARD WINNER IS ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMICAL CORPORATION. The contractor is currently involved in asbestos removal and reinsulation of facilities at the federal prison in El Reno, Okla.

Wesley Baker, COAO construction representative, said that Environmental Chemical Corporation operates in a very difficult environment. Work areas are not only located within the prison itself, but in old tunnels and crawl spaces beneath the prison power plant and other facilities. Not only are they faced with many difficult opportunities because of the old and barely accessible facilities, they are faced with the additional challenge of operating within the prison security system which requires long security checks each work day and numerous work stoppages due to possible security breaches.

While safety is of paramount importance always, it is of special emphasis in the prison environment, since prisoners are working in adjacent areas. Since prisoners are so close to the abatement areas, any breach of safety requirements, no matter how small, becomes a possible source of government liability and possible litigation.

JIM SELLERS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY WAS THE THIRD QUARTER WINNER FOR THE TULSA AREA OFFICE for work on the contract for modification/additions to the U.S. Army Reserve Center in Muskogee, Okla. Construction Representative Joe Greaves has worked diligently with the contractor's quality control and management personnel to develop employee awareness and enforcement of the safety plan.



Tulsa Area Office photo

A new water line is installed adjacent to the north addition of the training building at the Army Reserve Center in Muskogee.



- Sept. 11 Retiree Breakfast
- Sept. 12 Day of Caring
- Sept. 13 Public Land Appreciation Day
- Sept. 16 CFC Kick-Off
- Sept. 27 Second Annual National Hunting and Fishing Day at Tenkiller Lake, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- Sept. 27 National Hunting and Fishing Day activities for southeast Kansas, Big Hill Lake.
- Sept. 27 Kansas Ultrarunners Society third annual Flat Rock 25K and 50K Endurance Trail Runs, Elk River Hiking Trail, Elk City Lake
- Sept. 20-28 Physically Disabled Deer Hunt, Marion Lake, with Kansas Dept. of Wildlife and Parks
- Oct. 7 Retiree Barge Ride
- Oct. 10 Tulsa Office Autumn Decorations
- Oct. 13 Red River Valley Association Conference, Wichita Falls, Texas
- Oct. 14-15 Tulsa/Galveston Districts Partnering Meeting
- Oct. 16 End-of-Year Closeout Picnic
- Nov. 4-6 Ranger In-Service Training, Sheraton Hotel, Tulsa
- Nov. 8-9 Deer Hunt (slug only) for Youth with ODWC, Lake Texoma
- Nov. 13 Native American Indian Program, Tulsa Office
- Nov. 15 Non-ambulatory Muzzle-loader Hunt, Old Boy Scout Area, south of Whitehorn Cove

ON THIS DATE

September 16, 1620

With 102 passengers and a small crew aboard, the Mayflower sets sail from London, bound for the New World. Heavy storms en route cause some to question the wisdom of continuing. But on Nov. 21, the Mayflower reaches Provincetown, Mass. Thirty five days later, the Pilgrims are set ashore at Plymouth, Mass.



Parking Lots – Havens for Hidden Hazards

Judy Barker, Safety Office

AT FIRST GLANCE, PARKING LOTS MAY SEEM SAFE, BUT THEY ARE HAVENS FOR HIDDEN HAZARDS AND POOR DRIVERS. Most “fender benders” and minor crashes in parking lots may look like no big deal, but they cost big money. Low-speed crashes such as these can cause \$50 to \$500 worth of damage in the blink of an eye.

Many employees periodically drive government vehicles. Some tips for maneuvering safely in parking areas are:

- **SLOW DOWN.** It is recommended that you drive no faster than 5 to 10 miles per hour in parking areas, no matter what the conditions.
- **BACK UP WITH CARE.** Improper backing ranks as the number-one cause of parking lot mishaps. Before you back up, check your position to make sure you are not about to hit the cars parked near you, and make sure no vehicles are approaching. Remember, a backing vehicle does not have the right of way just because it is partly out of the parking space.
- **WATCH FOR PEDESTRIANS.** In most parking lots, there are no pedestrian paths, so watch for those on foot. Pedestrians, particularly children, can dart from between parked cars. Pedestrians are given the right-of-way in parking lots. Double your caution in the dark. Most people won't be wearing reflective clothing.
- **OBEY PARKING LOT ETIQUETTE.** As you drive in a parking lot, remember there are some written and unwritten rules that not only promote safety but are courteous as well:
 - **FOLLOW LOT MARKINGS.** Fight the urge to cut through empty parking spaces and lanes. The odds are not in your favor. It is too easy to collide with a vehicle traveling with the markings.
 - **DON'T CREATE YOUR OWN PARKING SPACE.** Not only are you parking illegally when you tack your car onto the end of a row, but you may be blocking a fire lane or pedestrian access. It is easier to find a legal space than try to explain to the boss why the government vehicle was towed.
 - **DON'T INSIST ON PARKING IN THE CLOSEST POSSIBLE SPOT.** Hitting the brakes suddenly or backing up to a spot you passed can cause a collision with a following vehicle. Be sensitive to the needs of customers because ultimately, they are your customers, too.
- **PROTECT YOURSELF,** and don't forget personal safety in parking lots. Park near other cars and under lights at night. Don't park in a remote area where you might be assaulted or tempt thieves to break into the vehicle. When you walk to your vehicle, check the back seat before you enter. Have your keys ready to use as you approach the vehicle, and lock the doors immediately once you are inside.

If you are a car-jacking target, throw your keys in the middle of the parking lot, and run the other way. If someone sticks a gun in your face, give everything up. After all, you were hired to do the job, not to die for it.

Reference: *National Safety Council*



... Partnering

from page 3

The meeting addressed topics such as contract sharing, development of a “Hazardous, Toxic and Radiologic Waste Filter,” and the responsibilities of the geographic district project manager. The “HTRW FILTER” is a simple but significant process. Using a predetermined process, the geographic project manager uses a screening panel of representatives from both districts to determine how a project can best be done using each district's resources as well as known capabilities elsewhere in the Corps.

The partnering effort resulted in the adoption of an “abundance philosophy.” If we strive to use our best resources to support the customer, it will result in customer satisfaction and additional work for the Corps.

Southwestern Division noted this effort, and included an initiative in their Campaign Plan to “Make the HTRW Design Center (Tulsa District) an effective example of regional teamwork.” Also, SWD included an initiative for the HTRW Design Center to partner with each of the SWD districts.

A partnering meeting has also been conducted with the Little Rock District. This meeting placed special emphasis on understanding the need for mutual goals in the Base Realignment and Closure environmental programs at Fort Chaffee, developing transition plans for geographic project management implementation, and identifying the need for restructuring the HTRW Design Center.

A third partnering meeting is scheduled with the Galveston District in October.

Col. Timothy Sanford, Tulsa District commander, said, “Without partnering, the commitment of the districts to work together in support of our customers would not have been possible.” His counterpart in Fort Worth District, Col. Peter Madsen, summed up the effort by stating, “Here is an opportunity for both organizations to win. If we are successful on our follow-through, our customers will be the real benefactors.”

Be the Corps standard in customer care and professionalism.



From Trash to Treat – a Bit of Relief on a Hot Summer Day

Steve Buie and Joyce Heim enjoy the July ice cream social. The ice cream and extras were paid for with money made in the district office's recycling program.



Condolences

Belated condolences to the family and friends of Glenn M. "Pete" Bowman who died May 15 after a long illness. Mr. Bowman, a "colonizer," came to Tulsa when the district was first established, in June 1939. He retired Feb. 9, 1967, after 30 years federal service.

To the family and friends of Walter "Sparky" Mallory, retiree, who passed away July 29.

To Karla Fleming, Geotechnical Branch, on the July 29 death of her husband, Jerry.

To the family and friends of James Cleghorn, retiree from Planning Division, who died Aug. 4.



Barbara Cravens

Bob Freeman, retiree, sits among his wood carvings of historical figures. He won the "Best Display" at the Eastern Oklahoma Woodworkers Association's July show held at Eastland Mall in Tulsa.