



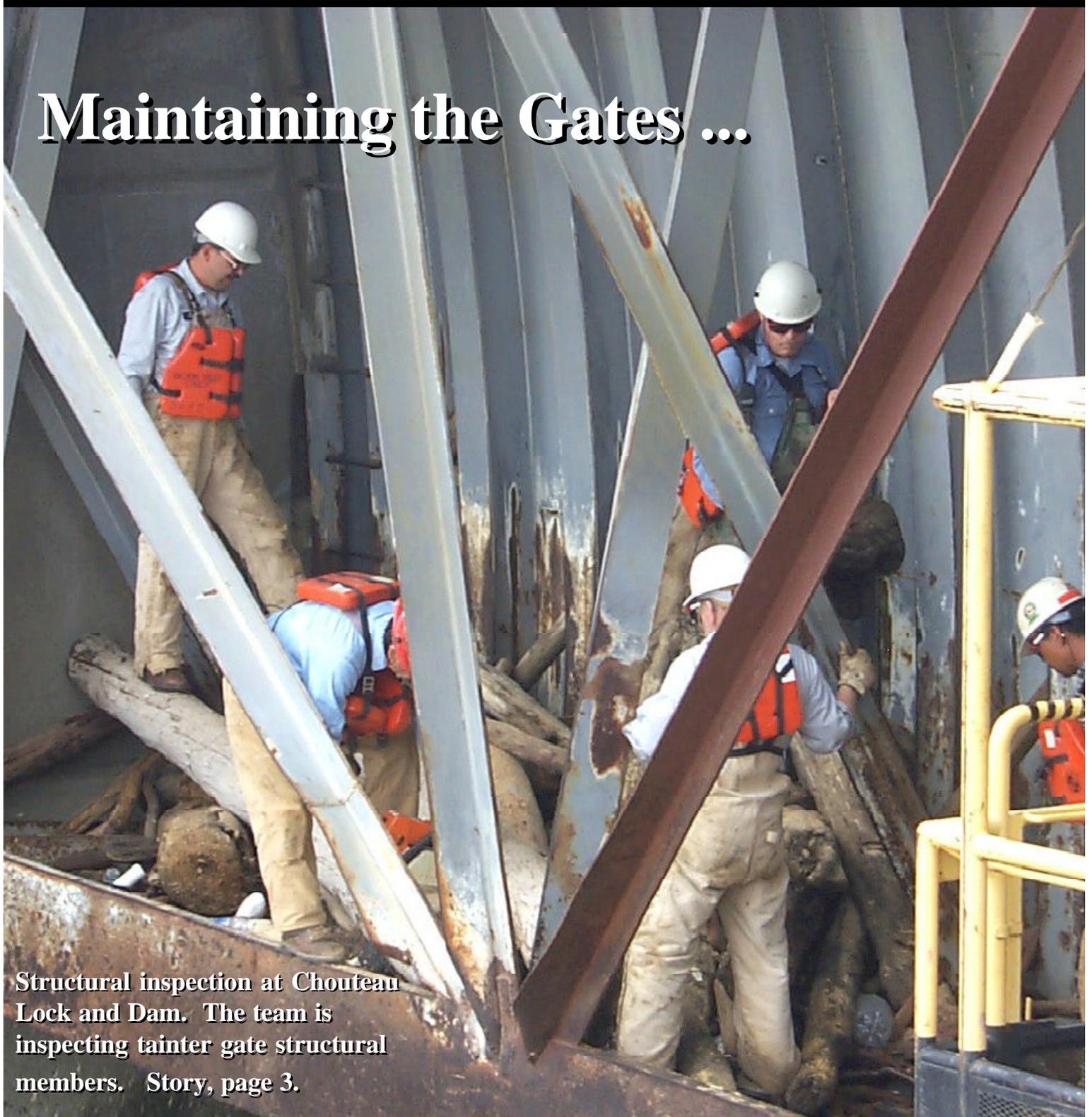
US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Tulsa District

TULSA

DISTRICT RECORD

July/August 2000
Vol. 23, No. 4

Maintaining the Gates ...



Structural inspection at Chouteau Lock and Dam. The team is inspecting tainter gate structural members. Story, page 3.

Commander's Column



Col. Leonardo Flor
District Engineer

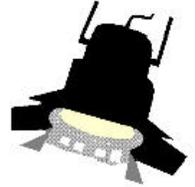
It's hard to believe that we are more than halfway through this year. You and the rest of the district continue to excel in many different ways. Here are some examples.

Once again, the American Red Cross recognized our outstanding contributions to help the community. On May 5, we had six first-time donors among our total of 45 productive donors. They also noted the recruiting and organization skills of **Helen Williams**.

I received a letter from Jeff Thompson, chair of the Fund Distribution Committee for Tulsa Area United Way, thanking **Shirley Rolison** for her commitment to serve as a 2000 fund distribution process volunteer. She worked with a panel of more than 275 community representatives that reviews each member agency's programs, operations, and needs. This review culminates with the panel recommending funding levels for each agency, and these recommendations have a direct impact on setting the fall United Way campaign goal. Because of this effort, our dollars are invested wisely in our community.

The Southwestern Division Officers' Professional Development was held in Tulsa on May 22. **Lt. Col. Norton, Kristi Helterbrand, Tim Hunt, Mike Kerr, Capt. Terry Orange, Nick Osier, Dennis Johnson, Wayne Peck, Bobbie Winstead, John Reeves, Chuck Wyckoff, Dan Bentley, and Don Dixon** were instrumental in making this event very successful and beneficial to the officers. The Small Business Fair/District Engineer Panel held May 23-24 was also successful thanks to **John Roberts, Yolane Hartsfield and Lori Hunninghake**. Many positive comments were received regarding both events.

Debe Homer, senior caseworker for Congressman J. C. Watts of Oklahoma, wrote a letter complimenting the district on "perhaps the most concise, clearly written, and easily understandable document I have had the pleasure of reading. Your office is to be commended for your efforts." She is referring to a document on the draft Standard Operating Procedure titled "Resolution of Encroachments and Trespass on Corps of Engineers Property within the Tulsa District." Team members were **James Holder, Mike Calavan, Stanley Spurlock, Keith Francis, Chris Lynch, Beth Sauls, and Brenda Randolph**.



The Spotlight

The Spotlight

Thanks to the efforts of **Lori Hunninghake**, the May 31 Altus Air Force Base Senior Executive Review and Partnering Meeting were great successes.

W. Kenneth Morris from the State of Oklahoma Water Resources Board expressed his gratitude for **Joe Remondini's** outstanding presentation on how floodplain management and flood insurance relate. "Joe is an excellent floodplain administrator and conveys his expertise very professionally in his educational presentations. The conviction Joe has for wise floodplain management comes across very well to his audience."

In early June, **Bob Thurman, Jim Martell, David Webster, and Richard Murdock** assisted the Tulsa Weather Coalition Air Conditioner Loan Program by delivering and installing loaner air conditioners in low-income homes whose residents are on fixed incomes. What a great example of community care and service!

On June 9, Corps Day 2000 was a huge success because of the tremendous teamwork and support from **Lt. Col. Norton, Mary Beth Hudson, Sheree Springer, Bill Cheatham, Tim Hunt, Angie Short, Jean Wilkins, Kristi Helterbrand, Ross Adkins, Russell Holeman, Nancy Crenshaw, Ralph Hight, Mona Wagner, Bill Erdner, Don Sanders, Kevin Weber, Lisa Brannin, Billy Pitts, Jim Martell, Jim Croston, Cathey Williams, Greg Estep, Barbara Reid, Marie Buster, Lucy Spaulding, Brenda Sutterfield, Pam Shelton, Craig Wright,**

See Spotlight, page 14

Tulsa District Record			
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Maintaining the Gates

Dan McPherson
Civil Maintenance Support Branch
Operations Division

Gate Operational Capability Inspections and Tainter Gate Structural Inspections are periodically performed on our flood control structures to assure the project will perform as intended during the spillway design flood. The inspections cover the facilities and equipment that must operate during floods, including items such as tainter gates, hydraulic and hoist operated sluice gates, hoisting equipment, generators, and sump pumps. The inspection is very detailed, covering the electrical, mechanical, and structural condition of these items.

Gates are fully opened and closed to check the protective upper limit, lower limit, and incremental switches. Voltage,

Everyone has a common goal to assure a safe and ready-to-perform flood control structure.



Left to Right, Robert Booker, Major Maintenance Section; Patrick Beard, Electrical Mechanical Section; Dan Baumann, Civil Support Section; and C.Y. Chang (since retired), Structural Section, E&C Division. All are trusting Larry Wylie, crane operator.

current, and electrical insulation resistance readings are measured and recorded. Mechanical systems and structural items are inspected including sampling and analysis of lubricants, gate cable tension adjustment, cathodic protection anode-replacement, and visual inspection of structural members. A gate structural inspection is performed in conjunction with the



Tainter gate in full open position. The Gate Operational Capability Inspection ensures we can make gate changes to release maximum floodwaters.

GOCI. Structural engineers take a close look at the gates to assure future performance.

It takes people from many different organizations to successfully complete these inspections: Civil Design Section, Civil Maintenance Support Section, Electrical-Mechanical Support Section, Major Maintenance Support Section, and all of the area and lake offices. Everyone has a common goal to assure a safe and ready-to-perform flood control structure. Recent inspections have been completed at Elk City, El Dorado, W.D. Mayo, Chouteau, Birch, Newt Graham, and Kaw Lakes.



Elk City Project – moving the emergency gate hoisting equipment. From left to right, Wayne Zimmerman, Charles Elsworth, Steve Siegele, and Joe Thouvenel.



Civil Section engineers inspect the tainter gate mechanical equipment. Pictured are (left to right) Rick Thomas, Chuck Miles, Dan Baumann, and Patrick Beard.



Up, up, and away! — Mark McVay, Civil Design Section performs a structural inspection on a tainter gate at Kaw Lake.



Lori Thomas, Civil Maintenance Support Section, assists Park Ranger Kelly Vanzandt with fall protection equipment. They are getting ready to inspect a tainter gate at Kaw Lake.



All ten tainter gates are open releasing 13,000 cubic feet of water per second. The water cascades a vertical distance of 152 feet down to the river valley below.

Two Weeks in the Life of Tenkiller Ferry

by Dan Bentley

It was a Monday, but unlike the song, it was not a day like any other day. The staff at Tenkiller was facing what is known in the interpersonal world as a re-entry/introduction crisis. The manager had just returned from two weeks of training in Kansas City. Waiting for him were 184 e-mail messages, two new employees from the Cherokee Indian Nation, and brand new CEFMS screens with no instructions. VISA needed to be approved but CEFMS could only flash messages that the client could not continue due to illegal operations. It was like Nomad the robotic space probe from an old Star Trek episode as it belted out its *error, error, error* messages. Users kept expecting it to start saying, "I am CEFMS; I am perfect."

On a positive note, the lake level was very near normal and everything in the parks was in order for the upcoming 4th of July holidays. E-mail messages rolled into the manager's inbox every day to inform him that the system was over its size limit. Daily

Editor's Note: Several Tulsa District projects were busy fighting spring floods. We asked Dan Bentley, at Lake Tenkiller, to share what life is like at a field office that time of year. This is his story.

he would trudge on as he attempted to quickly navigate through the fog of the electronic media, scanning them all, reading most, and responding to some as necessary.

Tuesday, he was dreading Wednesday.

Wednesday, his 51st birthday, would turn out to be much more. An unstable weather system entered Oklahoma that day setting off heavy thunderstorms. By Thursday afternoon, more than six inches of rain had fallen over the Illinois River watershed above Tenkiller Ferry Dam. The Illinois River rose to a flood stage that was the 15th highest ever recorded. The Baron Fork set a new record above flood stage. The 24-hour average inflow was 50,000 cubic feet per second. The lake rose rapidly.

Debris, including many round hay bales carried by the swollen rivers, entered the reservoir. The hay bales floated in the water like icebergs with most of their mass hidden below the water surface. The maintenance crew scrambled to shut off power to the lower camping loops, pulled out ground fault interruptor breakers to save them from destruction, turned off water supplies, and barricaded roadways.

Hydrology and Hydraulics Branch made predictions for the pool rise. Tenkiller would rise to 650 feet above mean sea level,

which would begin the day watch on the dam. The pool would continue to rise, and predictions were made that it would reach 653, which would trigger a 24-hour flood watch. Powerhouse personnel continued to make gate changes, opening and closing them as directed by H&H. Meetings were held, plans were made, and employees were named who would monitor the flood control structures.

The VISA statement was about to be late as CEFMS continued to burp and belch out its error messages. The lead ranger stayed in contact with the National Recreation Reservation System. Daily he would inform them which sites were soon to be inundated by the flood and therefore unavailable to the campers who had made reservations for the holidays.

The administrative staff at Tenkiller was kept busy with questions from anxious campers as they called to inquire about the floodwaters. A discharge of approximately 13,000 cfs through the 19-foot conduit finally overtook the declining inflow, and the lake crested at 651.99 feet above mean sea level. The pool began to drop, and within just a few days the day watch was over.

The maintenance crew began to reinstall the GFIs in the power pedestals at the campsites as the floodwaters retreated. The Lake Tenkiller Association was preparing for the big fireworks display. The current fall rate of the flood pool made it appear that the island plateau used for the fireworks launch point would be available by the weekend. On Tuesday, it was predicted that by Saturday evening the pool would be down another four feet which would allow access by the pyrotechnicians.

But Wednesday would change all of that. The sky darkened. Mid-morning changed to look more like dusk, and the storms came. It rained, and it rained, and then it rained some more. By the end of the day, another four inches of rain had fallen all over the watershed. Tenkiller's flood pool stopped falling and began a rapid rise once again. Quickly we were back into a day watch situation on the flood structures.

Plans for 24-hour flood watch from the weekend before were reviewed, revised, and made ready for implementation. Predictions were made that the Tenkiller pool would rise above 653 on Saturday afternoon, July 1. Once again, maintenance was pulling out GFIs, shutting down power, and turning off water to many of the camping loops. The lead ranger was contacting NRRS and providing long lists of numbers for removal from the

reservation system. Each number represented the holiday plans of one or more families that would now not have a place to camp **on Tenkiller for the 4th of July.**

One by one and loop by loop, Tenkiller's campsites and facilities were covered by the rising lake. During Saturday's early morning hours, the rise stopped just four tenths of a foot short of 24-hour flood watch. The lake had crested again, this time at almost 21 feet above normal. Everyone had done his or her job and all was as well as could be expected.

VISA was completed on time despite CEFMS. E-mail messages had been reduced to a more manageable number. Many campers were accommodated and allowed to use overflow areas. The successful \$10,000 fireworks display took place at an alternate location near the intake structure.

As a reward for enduring the many flood generated problems, lake visitors and staff were treated to a rare event. They witnessed the spectacle of a flood water release through the Tenkiller spillway. It is a sight to behold. The water drops a vertical distance of 152 feet from the top of the weir to the river valley floor below. There is considerable noise and spray as the water races down the apron, over the flip bucket, and then cascades down the high rock bluffs. Old timers say that this was only the third time that the spillway had been used for flood releases. Most are done through the 19-foot conduit, which is also very impressive to see.

It was an eventful two weeks with many ever-changing challenges. It is such challenges that make the job so entertaining. It keeps you anticipating and looking forward to what new or unexpected tasks the next Monday will bring.



Almost 100,000 gallons of water per second are being released through the 19-foot conduit. The tetrahedral shaped deflector at the end of the conduit fans the water several feet back up into the air.

Fighting Fraud Takes Communication, Documentation

Henry Iarrusso, Office of Counsel

Effective fraud fighting requires early and continual communication among contracting officials, project managers, support staff, technical managers, legal counsel, criminal investigators, and prosecutors.

Fraud cases usually involve noticing unusual events, asking yourself some questions, and dealing with large quantities of documents. It is crucial that significant events in the contracting process — in particular, communications with the contractor — are documented, organized, and securely maintained.

There are several organizations which investigate suspected fraud in government activities:

- Army Criminal Investigation Command (present on most Army installations);
- Defense Criminal Investigative Service (an element of the Department of Defense Inspector General);
- Naval Criminal Investigative Service and the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (focus on cases arising from their own services, or DCIS);
- The FBI and investigators of other federal agencies; and,
- State and local investigators (may become involved if there is a local interest).

If the U.S. believes there is a cause of action, there is an array of contractual, criminal, civil, and administrative remedies that are available in fraud cases. Three main remedies can be pursued and utilized separately or concurrently depending on the facts and circumstances of an individual case. Frequently, however, criminal prosecutions take priority. In addition, evidence obtained by a grand jury is not available for use in civil or administrative matters except by court order. Further, a criminal conviction is advantageous in a civil suit regarding the same conduct.

In criminal cases the types of misconduct we usually see in a case are:

- Knowingly making or using a false statement of material fact regarding a matter within the jurisdiction of a federal agency (18 U.S.C. § 1001).
- Knowingly making or presenting a false claim to a federal agency (18 U.S.C. § 287).

By law, the United States is permitted to seek civil recoveries against parties who defraud the U.S. The main advantage to trying a case civilly results from the lower standard that is necessary to prove a case.

The Civil False Claims Act is the most effective civil weapon against fraud. It permits recovery against contractors who knowingly present false or fraudulent claims, who knowingly use false records or statements to get false or fraudulent claims approved, or who use false records or statements to avoid an obligation to pay or transmit money or property to the U.S.

The act has been used in cases involving Tulsa District. Specifically, cases have included defective pricing, defective products, product substitution, failure to test, mischarging,

This article highlights aspects of fighting fraud, waste, and abuse. All government employees have an obligation to do their best to protect the interests of the United States.

A one-hour seminar will be held soon with some of the agents and Department of Justice attorneys who have worked these cases.

progress payment fraud, bribery, and violations of other contracting requirements, such as the Buy American Act.

Also, there are several administrative options available to the agency in fraud cases. We may: Refuse payment of public funds when there is a reasonable suspicion of irregularity, collusion, or fraud; and we can recommend a reduction in or suspension of advance, partial, or progress payments when a contractor's request for such payments contains fraud.

Additionally, the U.S. may suspend or debar from government contracts, contractors who are not "presently responsible", i.e., those who do not have the necessary integrity, ethics, management controls, and ability to perform.

Suspensions and debarments are business decisions made to protect the public interest. These contractors are also excluded from federal benefits such as loans, loan guarantees, grants, and insurance. This is a devastating result for contractors who do a lot of federal government business.

CASE IN POINT

A recent case in the Tulsa District that demonstrated these principles involved the Loe's Highport Marina located at Lake Texoma, a large lake on the Texas-Oklahoma border.

For approximately the last 30 years, the Loe family has operated a recreational marina at Lake Texoma. The Loe's Highport Marina leased the land from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and paid rent based largely on a percentage of the gross receipts from marina operations. This marina is believed to be the largest inland marina in the United States. Over the years, the Loe family built the marina into a lucrative business consisting of luxury boat sales, luxury slip rentals, a lodging facility, restaurants, and a clothing boutique.

Unfortunately, from 1990 to 1996, the Loe's corporation underreported its gross receipts from marina operations to reduce the rents due the Corps. The corporation, C. D. and Babo Loe, and their son, Henry, were indicted on various charges, including false statements to the Corps, tax evasion, mail and wire fraud, and money laundering.

The parties were convicted after lengthy trials. Babo and C. D. Loe are currently serving their respective 6-1/2 and 2-year sentences in federal prison. They were also ordered to pay fines, restitution, penalties, and forfeitures of approximately \$14 million dollars. The parties and several of their affiliates were suspended pending trial and have been debarred based on the resulting convictions. Currently the U.S. is pursuing civil fraud remedies against these parties.



Reporter Lance West and camera emerge from the ladder to the trunion block where he shot the downstream footage for a water safety follow-up story.



Lance West, reporter, and Wayne Peck, navigation manager, stand on the trunion block for a closer shot of the churning water. Flows on the day of the shooting were similar to those last July when the two boats went through the gate. The lock control house is seen in the background. This shot is taken from the top of the spillway where the other reporter filmed the upstream footage.

Rolling *on the* River

Article and photos by Mary Beth Hudson
Public Affairs Office

Rolling water, rolling film, and an empty raft combined to produce dramatic news footage on a recent rainy day at W.D. Mayo Lock and Dam.

Lance West, reporter, and Brad Riggan, producer, filmed an inflatable raft passing through the gates during high flows. The film would be part of a segment on the importance of safety on the river. West and Riggan work for Channel 4, the Oklahoma City NBC station.

Wayne Peck, navigation manager, and Greg Barnes, assistant manager, helped the newsteam film and provided lots of information about W.D. Mayo Lock and Dam, the navigation system in general, hazards during high flows, and the importance of water safety. The news team interviewed Tom Dacus, lock operator.

The crew's visit to the lock was a follow-up to the dramatic accident and rescue in July 1999 when two boats in the wrong part of the channel passed through the gates. The boats were carrying nine people, none of whom were wearing life jackets; three didn't know how to swim.



"It was a miracle none of them died," said Bob Vandegriff of Safety Office. "Don't expect miracles!" he added.

"We like to see people use the system for recreation," said Tom Dacus, lock operator who was on duty the day of the accident. "We also like to see them go home at the end of the day." He credited the good fortune of the nine people rescued to "the great lock operator in the sky."

The One That Got Away — This shot shows the swift releases passing through the gates at W.D. Mayo. Although not pictured, the reporters attached an inflatable raft to a rope and filmed the raft passing through the number five gate. The turbulence at the gates destroyed the rope, and the loose raft floated off toward Arkansas.

Engineer Day 2000

Russell L. Fuhrman
Major General, U.S. Army
Deputy Commander

This is not just an Engineer Day celebration; it is a historic occasion – the 225th anniversary of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The United States has never been without Army engineers. We were there at the birth of our nation. From the fortifications at Bunker Hill on June 16, 1775, to the taking of Redoubt Ten at Yorktown on Oct. 14, 1781, Army engineers played a crucial role in the war fought to make the United States a free and independent nation.

Since then, throughout our history, the Corps has earned a reputation for nation-building and national defense. One of our earliest missions was building and repairing fortifications, first in Norfolk, Va., and then in New Orleans. Today, we continue this tradition by building facilities for the Army and the Air Force throughout the world. In the past year the Corps built the Chemical Defense Training Facility and the Military Police School at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., new barracks and maintenance facilities at Fort Gordon, Ga., a new recruiting station in Times Square in New York City, and a new Medical Dental Clinic at Kadena Air Base on Okinawa.

The Corps of Engineers has always been a scientific organization, at the cutting edge of new technology. In 1825, Maj. Stephen Long calculated the length and angle of wing dams needed to prevent sandbar formation on the Ohio River. Steam-powered snag-boats designed by Henry Shreve dramatically improved navigation on the nation's rivers. Stephen Long developed a new design for railroad bridges in the mid-1830s. The Corps continued its innovation by fielding the TeleEngineering system that uses satellite communications to allow people in the field to participate in real-time video consultations with anyone in the Corps. Engineers in Albania used TeleEngineering to solve complex engineering problems through communications with experts at Europe District, Headquarters, and North Atlantic Division.

The Corps has had a flood control mission ever since the 1928 Flood Control Act, which approved dispersing flood waters in the lower Mississippi River through controlled outlets and floodways, and the 1936 Flood Control Act, which declared that flood control is an activity of the

federal government and put the Corps in the reservoir construction business. In January, the Corps dedicated Seven Oaks Dam in California, part of the Santa Ana River Mainstem Project, which will protect three million people, and 225,000 structures in the Los Angeles area.

Our first formal disaster relief mission took place during the Mississippi River Flood of 1882 when the Corps supported the Quartermaster Corps in rescuing people and property. The Corps wrote a new chapter in this mission during Hurricane Floyd. In Florida, the Corps purchased and distributed 300,000 pounds of ice, sent two Deployable Tactical Operations Centers into action, and seven soldiers from the 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power) prepped 280 prepositioned generators for the Federal Emergency Management Agency. In the Carolinas, the Corps distributed thousands of sandbags to stem flooding, provided 750,000 gallons of water and 960,000 pounds of ice, and stored flood run-off so it could be released in a controlled manner.

The Corps' role in protecting water resources has continuously evolved since the 1880s and 1890s when Congress directed the Corps to prevent dumping in harbors. Not long ago, a team in Jacksonville District continued that tradition as they wrote the "Central and Southern Florida Comprehensive Review Study," a plan to restore natural waterflow to the Everglades.

Our support for others dates back to the early 19th century when the Corps built many projects for the Department of Treasury, including three customs houses, several hospitals for merchant seamen, and dozens of lighthouses. That mission continued as the Transatlantic Programs Center helped the U.S. Agency for International Development rebuild buildings damaged in the U.S. Embassy bombing in Nairobi. In addition, Albuquerque District is building facilities for the U.S. Border Patrol.

Throughout the years, the Corps of Engineers has kept pace with our nation, supporting and building it in thousands of ways large and small. As we enter our 225th year, we continue writing chapters of our history that parallel the growth and life of the United States.

ESSAYONS!

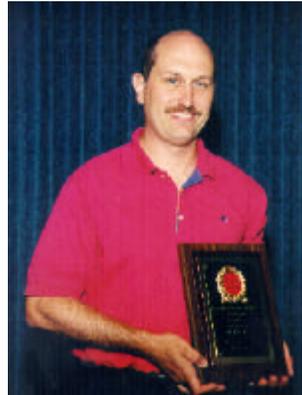
Corps Day Award Winners

Distinguished Civilian Employee



Donald R. Henderson inserts his picture into the Gallery of Distinguished Civilian Employees. He was inducted into the gallery during the awards ceremony.

Employee of the Year



Terry Rupe
Real Estate Division

Engineer of the Year



Burl Ragland
PPMD

Lt. Col. Mark Fritz Leadership Award



Peter Navesky
PPMD

Trades & Crafts Employee of the Year



Donald Duggan
Skiatook Lake Office

Hard Hat Employee of the Year



Steven Rous
Arkansas City Project Office

Customer Care Employee of the Year



Ray Robertson
Canton Lake Office

Suggestor of the Year



Curtis Pendergraft
Keystone Area Office

**Technical Administrative
Employee of the Year
GS-9 and above**



Lori Hunninghake
PPMD

**Technical Administrative
Employee of the Year
GS-8 and Below**



Pamela McNeely
Eufaula Area Office

Individuals and teams were honored at this year's Corps Day Award Ceremony.

Team Excellence

Altus Overflight Easement Acquisition Team

Team Leader: **Angela McPhee**

Joel Fuchs	Rick Gardner
Joyce Heim	Bob Hinds
Marsha Howe	Tom Ingle
Bonnie Moore	Jan Morris
Lou Patton	Leann Pearce
Rhonda Sallee	Jan Salter
Neva Smith	John Sturges

Construction Manager of the Year

Jimmy Inman

Project Delivery Team

Reese BRAC Cleanup
Team

Team Leader:
Dennis Thomas

Mike Britt, SWF
Norma Hale
Dawn Knight
Christy Ostrander
J. D. Stigall
Glenda Gallaway
Rita Hill
James Markham
Randy Roberts, SWF
John Weatherly
Guy Green
Cynthia Kitchens
Carol McConnell
Arlene Smith

Safety Accomplishment

Broken Bow Powerhouse
Central Oklahoma Resident Office
Major Maintenance Support Section, Technical Support
Branch, Operations Division

Virtual Teaming

Sandra Egan
Engineering and Construction Division

Also recognized at the ceremony were employees celebrating anniversary service years, the Corporate Challenge Team, the Self Assessment Team, community volunteers, and employees who participated in the Earth Day cleanup.

Corps Day ... an action packed day



Kent Dunlap (left), Keystone Lake manager, and Kenny Pricer (right), Dominion Leasing, prepare Sara and Hannah for their air boat ride.



Kristi Helterbrand, E&C, and daughter Bailey.



The air boat rides were very popular. Here, Dale Davidson, Keystone park ranger, speeds Angie Short (right) and her niece Natasha Patlan around the water. Angie works in Information Management Office.



The volleyball matches are always a highlight of the picnic gathering.



Tango anyone? Steve Chapman, Operations Division, clowns around after the awards ceremony.



Tim Hunt, standing, Logistics Management Office, and Tom Logsdon, E&C, relax following the awards ceremony.

District Honored by HUD

John Wagner
Programs and Project Management Division

Tulsa District was selected as a local Best Practices winner by the Oklahoma State Office of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The district was honored for its partnership with the Southern Plains Office of Native American Programs. SPONAP provides grants to Native American Governments for affordable housing and economic development projects. The grants expand home ownership, create jobs, and help Native American people become more self-sufficient.

The Corps role in the partnership is to provide technical assistance to Native American governments that have received HUD grants but don't have the technical

staff to provide adequate oversight of the private sector firms designing and constructing the projects. Historically, HUD provided this governmental oversight, but reductions in their technical staff have significantly reduced their ability to continue the practice. Thanks to the partnership, neither HUD nor the tribes have the expense of a full-time technical staff, but stewardship of the federal grants remains in force. This partnership is an excellent example of government agencies teaming to increase the effectiveness and economy of government service.

Memorandums of Agreement have been signed with 26 tribes in Oklahoma, and oversight work is increasing. Three

projects were completed in FY 98, 18 in FY 99, and 21 are currently underway.

A HUD Best Practice must fulfill at least two of the following characteristics:

- Generate a significant positive impact on those it is intended to serve or manage;
- Be replicable in other areas of the country, region, or local jurisdiction;
- Demonstrate the effective use of partnerships among government agencies, non-profit organizations, or private businesses;
- Display creativity in addressing a problem and demonstrate effective leveraging of resources.



Customer Care Employee -- Susan Trussell



Susan Trussell

Susan Trussell, Army Section, Hazardous, Toxic, and Radiological Waste Design Center, has been named the Customer Care Employee of the Quarter for the second quarter, FY 00.

Trussell is the technical lead for Fort Chaffee which has a multi-million dollar Base Realignment and Closure environmental program. She reviews all documents produced by the contractor and assures their technical competence. She is also

responsible for assuring that project schedules are maintained.

Trussell has worked hard to establish excellent communications with Fort Chaffee. According to her nomination, "Her hard work can be directly reflected in the closure of 42 environmental sites since she took over the Fort Chaffee program only 18 months ago." Trussell has frequently put in long hours to meet Fort Chaffee's fast-track deadlines.



LET'S GO FISHING!

Article and photos furnished
by Eufaula Area Office

The Eufaula Lake Project Office co-hosted a kids "Fishing Fling" in McAlester, Okla., recently. More than 250 local elementary students participated. Corps rangers and Oklahoma Lake Patrolmen presented a water safety program to the group and the members of the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation taught proper casting techniques. "Volunteers, park gate attendants and the Eufaula staff all chipped in and made it a rousing success" said ranger Ed Parasotto.



250 lines were cast! Ranger Ed Sands in the distance waits to lend a hand.



James Holder, lake manager, untangles a fishing line.

. . . Spotlight

from page 2

John Clark, Dallas Tomlinson, Marshall Boyken, Ron Bell, Mike Abate, Rex Ostrander, Chris Kennedy, Gina Arteche, Bob Vandegriff, Denise Henderson, Phyllis Jordan, and Don Wickersham. More coverage of Corps Day can be found elsewhere in this edition. Congratulations to all!

By the way, because supervisors and the Public Affairs Office took the extra effort, hometown newspapers published the achievements of our Corps Day awardees.

David Steele and **Phil Cline** were recognized by Richard Brontoli, executive director of the Red River Valley Association, for their professional, informative presentations at the Water Resource Conference on June 13 in Texarkana, Texas.

Congratulations to **Guy Green** for being selected to participate in the 2000 Emerging Leaders' Conference which will be held in October. Guy was one of six individuals from the ELC

Class of '99 who was nominated by fellow participants and the ELC management team to return this year as an ELC program coordinator/team leader. He was selected because of the leadership skills he demonstrated and the enthusiasm he brought to the program last year.

Cynthia Kitchens will be joining Guy at the October conference. SWD selected her as one of two division candidates to the Class of 2000, USACE Emerging Leaders' Program. SWD also selected **Jeff Waldie** as one of three SWD nominees to at-large positions for the Class of 2000. Jeff may possibly join Cynthia and scores of other emerging leaders from other districts at the USACE Emerging Leaders'/Senior Leaders' Conference in October.

Congratulations **to all employees** and especially the hard work of **IMO employees** for your diligence in keeping our LAN environment secure during the numerous virus attacks. Keep up the good work!

ESSAYONS!

TDR is Graded

The Information Strategy Division at Department of Army Headquarters recently evaluated the *Tulsa District Record*.

Retired Sgt. Maj. Gary G. Beylickjian, Army Newspapers, Office of the Chief Public Affairs conducted the review.

The issue being reviewed was the January/February 2000 edition. On a scale of one to five, with one being best, the *TDR* received a rating of one-minus.

Sgt. Maj. Beylickjian said it was an "outstanding issue," and concluded that it was "well written, edited, and packaged."

The review covers three areas, layout, writing, and content, with several criteria considered in each area.

"That really is good news," said Mary Beth Hudson, editor. "Everyone in PAO and lots of folks throughout the district contribute to each issue. It's good to see it is appreciated."



The Calm Before the Storm

Pete Navesky, Power Planning and Response Team Action Officer

Members of the Tulsa District's Emergency Power Planning and Response Team recently spent three weeks at the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Territorial Logistics Center in Fort Worth, Texas. The team provided contractual oversight to ensure that FEMA-owned generators are fully mission capable for the 2000 hurricane season.

FEMA owns 875 generators located in logistics centers in Puerto Rico, Georgia, Texas, California, Hawaii, and Guam. In Texas, 100 of these generators (ranging in size from 11.5 to 500 kilowatts) are stored in Fort Worth primarily for use in Gulf Coast disasters or emergencies.

The team's work was to ensure that all contractually required items such as overall preventative maintenance checking and servicing, oil and filter changes, and load bank testing were completed.

The team also documented the parts and labor for other work items needed to ensure that each generator is capable.

This assignment provided a golden opportunity for several new PRT members to see the full range of generator operations and requirements before a disaster strikes. As a result, we will be more effective at managing the in-place

Advance Contracting Initiative contracts to haul, install, and maintain generators in a disaster area.

Later this summer, the PRT will also conduct a pre-disaster exercise with elements of the 249th Engineering Battalion "Prime Power" with the Galveston District. The 249th Engineering Battalion personnel are the U.S. Army's electrical power distribution and generator specialists. They will be conducting electrical power needs assessments on critical public facilities in and around the Galveston coastal region as pre-planning for a Texas Gulf Coast hurricane. When a hurricane hits this area, these electrical needs pre-assessments will ensure that certain aspects of public infrastructure (like water supply, sewage treatment, police/fire/medical facilities) are operational while power companies are completing overall distribution system repairs.

Tulsa team members are: Pete Navesky, Emergency Support Function #3 Action Officer; Roger Eakle, Mission Manager; Wesley "Max" Fowler and Steve Lucas, Mission Specialists; Diane Cianci, Contracting Specialist; and Robert Stubbs, Kerri Stark, and Marc Chester, Logistics Specialists.

To date, the PRT members have responded to Hurricane Bonnie in 1998 and the Oklahoma tornadoes and Hurricane Bret in 1999. When the team responded to Hurricane Bonnie, it was the first ever to be deployed under the new USACE disaster response and recovery PRT concept.



We are always looking for a few more good men and women to be PRT members. You don't even have to know how to spell "g-e-n-e-r-a-t-o-r" or even "e-l-e-c-t-r-i-c-i-t-y." If the Emergency Power PRT sounds like something you might want to be a part of, contact Pete Navesky by e-mail or at extension 7327.

Students are S.A.M.E.

Capt. Terry Orange
Real Estate Division

After more than a year of work, the Will Rogers High School Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps has a student post of the Society of American Military Engineers. In May, retired Lt. Col. Chuck Anderle, Tulsa Post S.A.M.E. president, and retired Maj. Mitch McCoy, senior Army instructor at the school, signed the Memorandum of Understanding establishing the first S.A.M.E. JROTC student post. The ceremony took place as part of the small business fair.



Capt. Terry Orange and Gene Lily present Commander Matt Perrier and Administrative Officer Christina Rasler a check for \$1,000 on behalf of the Tulsa S.A.M.E. post. The money goes towards the establishment of a student S.A.M.E. post in conjunction with the JROTC program at Will Rogers High School.

S.A.M.E. Photo

By establishing a student post, the Tulsa post hopes to begin a tradition of academic excellence in the engineering and science disciplines of the students affiliated with Will Rogers JROTC. The signing of the MOU was accompanied by a \$1,000 grant to Will Rogers High School to help establish the post. In attendance at the ceremony were seniors Matt Perrier and Christina Rasler. Perrier, a 4.0 student, is the post's first commander, and Rasler is its administrative officer.

An annual \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to the student post's most outstanding cadet. Other initiatives the Tulsa post will conduct for the student post include holding joint business meetings, providing a summer hire program, and providing a bi-monthly field trip to expose students to engineering disciplines.

"Establishing the student post is one way the Tulsa post produces positive impacts on people's lives and on engineering as a discipline," said Anderle. "The experiences the student members will have through the JROTC post will help produce engineers, leaders, and solid citizens. The Tulsa Post is proud to be the very first S.A.M.E. sponsor of a JROTC post."

Society of American Military Engineers

Meeting Calendar

<u>When</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Aug 15	Corps of Engineers	Corps Expectations of A/E Contractors
Sep 19	Corps of Engineers	Personal Financial Management Seminar
Oct 17		Barge Ride
Nov 21	Corps of Engineers	Contracting with the Corps
Dec 19	To Be Determined	Christmas Social

From the Security Office

- √ Additional Security Guard in the loading dock area, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m, the time and place all deliveries are received. Guards patrol dock area and x-ray items received there.
- √ IRS identification has been placed on brick signs located at the front and back main parking entrances.
- √ Surveillance signage has been placed throughout the parking lot to discourage unauthorized loitering or parking.
- √ When computers are initially turned on, an automatic out-of-date virus definition warning message appears which allows users to update to the most current virus protection. To take full advantage of the warning message, users are encouraged to turn off computers at the end of each day.



From the Mailbox



To the editor from Evelyn M. Johnson:

This is a belated "Thank You!" for sending the *Tulsa District Record*. Although I retired in 1960 to visit foreign lands, my husband Frank, who died in 1992, continued to inspect Keystone Dam for several years. We both welcomed receipt of the "Record." The most recent issue noted the death of Helen Geary, a co-worker and dear friend.

Frank and I felt that our years with the Corps of Engineers were happy and well spent – many good memories. (I am now 91 years old and a bit shaky!)

Editor's Note: You're very welcome. How about sending in a photo or two for the "Flash from the Past" segment on the back page? (I wouldn't say shaky — your writing beats mine, hands down!)

Two of the many thanks received at Eufaula Project after their Spring Fling:

To Whom This May Concern,

Thank you for setting up the Water Safety Program. I bet it was hard. I learned a lot from the Water Safety Program. I learned what P.F.D stands for.

My mom and I play with the frisbee you gave us. My dad and me have used the bait too. Thank you for the gift bag.

I had a fun time and I hope I can come back. My dad had a fun time too. Thank you again.

Yours truly,
Kirk Ridenour

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for teaching us about water safety. I enjoyed your program about it. I also wanted to thank you for teaching us how to help a drowning person. One thing that was amazing was that half the people in McAlester die of drowning.

My favorite part of the trip was the fishing. I didn't catch any fish, but I had a great time trying though.

My favorite person of this trip was the man who told us about the lures. He was very funny. One thing I learned from him was what types of lure to use during

different times of the day, but I never caught his name. Even though I didn't catch any fish either, I had a great time fishing.

Sincerely,
Matthew Spinks

From Paula Templeton, Wagoner County Conservation District Board, to Jim Montgomery and Sheryl Townsend, Fort Gibson Area Office:

Each one of you are very special! You have a talent and you are willing to share it. We really appreciate your time and extra work you gave to make our Natural Resources Day a success . . . without you, we would not have a program.

To Col. Flor and all employees from Ann Cravens and family:

A simple Thank You isn't enough for all of you. We could not begin to tell you how much you mean to us. You are like our extended family.

Over the 13 months, you kept Barbara's spirits up with phone calls, cards, and visits. You gave your time; then you gave us time to rest so we could meet with her doctor every morning.

You are a wonderful group of people. We'll never forget you and will always keep you in our hearts.

God bless you all.

Bouquet Tossed, Fingers Crossed

There have been lots of changes around the Jan Morris household lately, and it is hoped there will be more to come. On May 6, Jan's daughter, Kimberley Elizabeth, graduated from the University of Tulsa with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education AND on May 13, Kimberley married Jimmy Jack Kirk.

The couple is doing fine, and mother Jan says she's recuperating. She has returned to her desk in Real Estate Acquisition and Realty Services Branch to recupe financially. Said she'd do it again for Kim, her pride and joy!

Jan was recently evaluated at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, Texas, for the kidney transplant list. She is anxiously awaiting a favorable report and praying daily for the "heads-up!"



Family Additions

Madissen Tresha Cymone Davidson, born July 2 — daughter of Tracy White of Real Estate Division.

Mary Jessica Knack, born July 2 — daughter of Jeff and Bobbi Knack. Jeff is a regulatory specialist in Planning, Environmental, and Regulatory Division.

Family Successes

Angela Graham, daughter of Sandra Stiles, Fort Gibson Area Office, was recently invited to the junior champion basketball tryouts at the University of Oklahoma. She was one of about 100 girls from Oklahoma, northern Texas, Arkansas, Kansas, and Missouri chosen for these tryouts. Her performance in the tryouts led to an invitation to participate in the USA Junior Nationals Championship Sports Festival in Madison, Wis., in July.

Graham will be a senior this fall. She attends Mannford, Okla., High School and carries a 4.0 grade point average. She is hoping for a basketball scholarship and wants to major in microbiology.

Anndrea Navesky, daughter of Pete Navesky, Programs and Project Management Division, received her Girl Scouts of America Gold Award in a ceremony at Central High School, Tulsa. The Gold Award is the highest award a Girl Scout can attain. While she met a variety of overall requirements for this award, her primary project was establishing a Student Against Destructive Decisions chapter at Owasso High School.

Navesky, a recent graduate of Owasso High School, will be attending McPherson College, McPherson, Kan., in the fall, where she will major in biology and play volleyball.

Former District Employees Celebrate 50 Years

Jean and Doris Burns celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 23. A reception was held in their honor at Riverview Baptist Church in Bixby, Okla. The Burnses, both graduates of Bixby High School, were married in Bixby on June 23, 1950.

The couple worked for the Tulsa District at Altus Air Force Base from 1952 to 1957. Jean was an electrical engineer and Doris was secretary to the area engineer. Jean continued his career with the Corps of Engineers in Karachi, Pakistan, 1958-1961; Izmir, Turkey, 1961-1962; and Livorno, Italy, 1964-1967. He worked for the Department of the Army, Europe, in Munich, Germany, 1962-1964, and STRATCOM in Ft. Huachuca, Ariz., 1967-1969. The pair continued their federal careers with the Panama Canal Commission, beginning in 1969. Jean retired in 1979 and Doris in 1983, when they moved back to Tulsa. They are active in Tulsa District retiree functions.

Jean and Doris are the parents of Laura Redemann, Budget Branch, and Scott Burns, Southwestern Power Administration. Son-in-law Mike works in Finance and Accounting Branch.

Jean and Doris Burns



Courtesy of the Burns Family

ON THIS DATE

July 8, 1835

As it rang during the funeral procession of Chief Justice John Marshall in Philadelphia on this date, the Liberty Bell cracked, according to tradition. Commissioned in 1752, it tolled for the last time on George Washington's birthday in 1846. The 2,080-pound bell has a circumference of 12 feet.

Condolences

- To the family of **Warren Gentz**, 84, who passed away May 10. He was a retired draftsman from Design Branch.
- To family, friends, and former coworkers of **Ronald Eugene Davis** who died May 17. Davis was a staff accountant in Resource Management Office. Following is a piece he wrote for his wife, Connie upon the death of her grandmother:

Life is a whirlwind crossing the ground
 Picking up dust and laying it down.
 And when it's all over, is it really the end?
 Or does the dust settle down & on with the wind?
 When my life is over and you're starting to miss me,
 Step outside, let the breeze give your cheek a soft kiss.
 Sometimes I'll be gentle, but often I'll shout.
 Place your faith in the Lord and don't ever doubt.
 Whenever the wind blows you'll know I came by.
 Just to tell you I love you, and please dear don't cry.
 Yes, life is a whirlwind crossing the ground
 Picking up dust and laying it down.
 And when life is over it isn't the end,
 Because the body's just dust,
 But the spirit's the wind.

— Ron Davis

- To David Manning on the May 22 death of his stepfather, Charles Miles. Manning is chief of Regulatory Branch, Planning, Environmental, and Regulatory Division.
- To Kim Shirley, civil engineering technician at Waurika Area Office, on the May 26 death of his father.
- To the Henderson family on the May 28 death of Ruby Henderson, mother of Don Henderson, retiree, and grandmother of Scott Henderson, H&H Branch.
- To family, friends, and former coworkers of **Fredene Manuel**, retiree, who passed away June 1.
- To family, friends, and co-workers of **Jimmy Inman** who passed away June 6. He was resident engineer at Altus Resident Office. Memorial contributions can be made to Bone Marrow Transplant Research at Baylor University Medical Center.
- To Mark Burkholder, chief, Dam Safety, on the June 9 death of his father.
- To the family of **Clifton Robert Holcomb**, retired civil engineer. He was 92 when he passed away June 26.

Memorial Bench Planned

Bonnie Moore
Budget/Manpower Branch

A few of us were talking the other day and decided we wanted to do something to remember our many deceased friends and family members. We came up with an idea and wanted to share it with the Corps Family so they would also have the opportunity to participate.

Here's the plan. With a donation of \$750, we can sponsor a memorial bench at the new butterfly exhibit at the Tulsa Zoo. A bench seems just the right thing – rest for the weary. The bench will be bois d'Arc or Osage Orange with an ivory porcelain plaque which will probably read, "*Dedicated by the Tulsa District Corps of Engineers in memory of departed friends and family.*" (No logo – they haven't tried any logos.)

The butterfly exhibit is permanent as long as the zoo wants to keep it. Even if the butterfly exhibit closes, the bench will always remain at the zoo.

If you wish to participate, please complete the form below. Make your check or money order **made payable to Tulsa Zoo Friends**. With a little luck, we could have our bench ready for immediate seating when the butterfly exhibit reopens next spring!

Editor's Note: Names of contributors and those being remembered will be featured in the *Tulsa District Record*. If you wish to remain anonymous, please let us know. If you have any questions about the project, call Bonnie Moore at 918/669-7555.

Personnel Notes

May

Hello

- ◆ Travis Miller, OPS, Canton Project
- ◆ Lisa Oxford, OPS, Oologah Project
- ◆ David Wallace, OPS, Waurika Project
- ◆ Kari Yorman, E&C, HTRW Design Center

Goodbye

- ◆ Ronald Davis, RMO, F&A Branch
- ◆ Larry Stringer, E&C, Design Branch

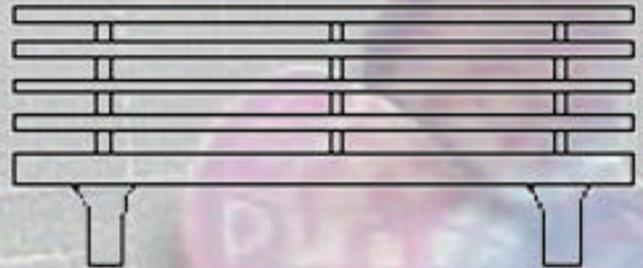
Promotions

- ◆ Thomas Benenati, OPS, Fall River Project
- ◆ Rebecca Butterfield, LO, Supply Branch
- ◆ Donna Dillard, RMO, Real Estate Sec
- ◆ Patricia Gilbert, OPS, Oologah Project
- ◆ Cynthia Kitchens, E&C, HTRW Design Center
- ◆ Craig Robbins, OPS, Hugo Project

Butterfly Bench

Contribution Form

Make checks to Tulsa Zoo Friends.



Amount: _____

Contributed By: _____

In Memory Of: _____

Information you'd like to include about the person being remembered (your relationship to them or their relationship to the district, etc.)

Mail Contribution To:

Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District
ATTN: CESWT-RE-A, Bonnie Moore
1645 South 101st East Ave
Tulsa, OK 74128-4609

To remain anonymous, check this block.

Flash from the Past



The First Spring Fling?

We don't know who, what, where, or when on this picture, but it looks like a precursor to some of the ones we run these days.

If you have any details which would explain this scene, please let us know, and we'll pass it along to the readers. See Page 2 for information on how to reach Public Affairs Office.

Editor's Note: We'd like to hear from you. If you have a picture from the past you'd be willing to share, please send it along with identifying information to the Public Affairs Office. The photo will be returned to you. Call 669-7361 if you have any questions.