



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®

Tulsa District

# TULSA

## DISTRICT RECORD

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Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) Martin Lancaster visited Tulsa District recently. He spoke at the Texoma Regional Conference hosted by the Tulsa Post of the Society of American Military Engineers. He is shown here with Tulsa's Mayor, Susan Savage, looking on.

## Conference and Call Bring Distinguished Visitors to District

Brig. Gen. Henry Miller, Southwestern Division commander, speaks over a bus' public address system to a group of officers. The successful Officers' Call included a briefing and tour of Keystone Project Office and Powerhouse and a barge trip on the McClellan Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System. Briefings included information on the navigation mission, flood control mission and the Operations and Maintenance challenges facing Tulsa District.



## Colonel's Corner



Col. Timothy Sanford  
District Engineer

# Success Stories

**T**HE STATISTICS ARE BEING COMPILED FOR **FY96**. They reflect what a great job you did executing the district's missions. I commend you for a job extremely well done!! The better way to judge the year, however, is to look beyond the statistics and see what you delivered to our customers. Look back and ask yourself the question our new chief of engineers asked all of us on his Transition Team, "How good are we at delivering the product?" How well did you do last year at delivering the product? I believe you did exceptionally well as a district!

In spite of all the challenges FY96 presented in the form of CEFMS implementation, you **Delivered Quality Products and Services** to your customers. This was reflected in the way our Information Management Office supported the entire district's computer requirements. It was reflected in the superb recreation, water safety and environmental management facilities our lake offices provided the public. Successfully executing \$40 million worth of contracts in the last week of the fiscal year says we delivered on commitments to customers. Meeting the runway upgrade timeline at Tinker Air Force Base, delivering a high quality child care facility to Sheppard AFB on time, and awarding a 48-man barracks contract for Fort Sill in spite of overwhelming odds are the indicators that you **Delivered Quality Products and Services** to your customers. I commend you for a job well done. We must ask ourselves everyday, "How good are we at delivering the product?"

We have been working to use the full resources of the Corps of Engineers as we support our customers. FY96 saw us make a major effort to develop a regional team in the Southwestern Division. I am very proud of the leadership everyone has shown in forging partnerships and building teams with our sister SWD districts, the division staff and districts outside SWD. You have excelled in **Creating Satisfied Customers** by finding win-win solutions to challenges rather than wasting time and energy on internal Corps competition. This **One Corps** attitude is the key and critical description of the future mode of operations for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers!! We will not be good stewards of the resources assigned to us and we will fail to meet customer expectations in an ever demanding environment if we do not develop a well coordinated **One Corps Team** that is built on **confidence and trust**. We need to work on this as we coordinate internal district missions. We need to proactively promote this kind

of relationship within the division and between stovepipes in the Corps. I believe you are at the forefront in setting the example and making **One Corps** a reality. Keep **Setting the Standard for the Corps in Customer Care and Professionalism**. **ESSAYONS!!!**



**T**HE SPOTLIGHT NEEDS TO SHINE **BRIGHTLY ON EVERYONE** for the professional, dedicated way you closed-out FY96. Every year-end is a challenge. This year was even more so as we discovered CEFMS problems, dealt with and worked around these problems, and still kept our focus on serving customers and meeting their expectations.

Many people from across the district played key roles in making the year-end effort a success. I want to commend specifically, however, Contracting and Operations for overcoming some unbelievable odds. I indicated above the volume of contracting completed during the last week of September. It really doesn't reflect the seemingly insurmountable pile of requisitions **Ivy Canole** and her team of **Linda Stephens, Susan Rolinski, Marlene Tanequoot and Trudy Cooper** successfully processed, or the double load of contracting actions handled by **Susan Killgore**, or the superb work of **John Weatherly, Rick Hedrick** and his entire team are to be commended for their exceptional customer support.

Contracting also played a major role in working with Operations Division to achieve the kind of FY96 execution everyone said was impossible. From lake offices to district office staff, the team worked to attain 99.6 percent obligations and 93.3 percent expenditures for FY96. The nucleus that pulled the effort together was **Cherri Jackson, Lynn Huggins and Shellie Bauer**. These commendations were earned not just by these individuals, but by the entire district team working together. **WELL DONE!!**

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### Tulsa District Record

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District Engineer, **Col. Timothy Sanford**; Public Affairs Officer, **W. Ross Adkins**; Editor, **Mary Beth Hudson**; Printing Coordinator, **Jim Laster**; Photographer, **Janice Orvis** (unless otherwise noted)

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Photo courtesy of Tinker Air Force Base Public Affairs Office

Mark Boling, Texoma; Jim Huggins, Operations Division; Col. Sanford and Gary Sallee, Real Estate Division, pose with a Hammer Award from Vice President Al Gore's National Performance Review. It was presented to Tulsa District for an Arcadia Project lease to the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation.



Courtesy Little Rock District PAO

ASA (CW) Martin Lancaster makes the presentation to Dan Gibson, Marine Terminal.

# District is Hammered for ODWC Lease at Arcadia . . . . . and Two Employees for Little Rock District Work

**I**N THE FUTURE, OKLAHOMANS AND TOURISTS WILL BE ABLE TO VISIT A STATE-OF-THE-ART WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER AT ARCADIA LAKE. The center will be located on part of 500 acres of Corps land leased to the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation in an agreement that is the first of its type in the nation for the Corps. For its efforts in this project, Tulsa District recently won "a hammer" in the category of "helping communities solve their own problems." Hammer Awards are given as recognition of government reinvention by Vice President Al Gore's National Performance Review.

The award was presented at the annual Federal Executive Board Hammer Award Luncheon, held this year at Tinker Air Force Base. Col. Timothy Sanford, Gary Sallee, Jim Huggins and Mark Boling attended. Sallee works in Real Estate Division, Huggins in the district office for Operations Division, and Boling at Lake Texoma.

The project was recognized, in part, for the outstanding interagency efforts which were involved. In addition to the Corps and ODWC, the Oklahoma Department of Education and the City of Edmond also participated. The center will be the first of its kind for Oklahoma.



Lancaster and Troy James

Courtesy Little Rock District PAO

**A**LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT TEAM WHICH LOOKED AT LOCK DEWATERING RECENTLY WON A HAMMER AWARD. Presentation was made by Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) Martin Lancaster. Two Tulsa District Marine Terminal employees, Dan Gibson and Troy James, served on the LRD team.

The team helped improve the district's level of service for navigation customers by decreasing the time it takes to dewater a lock. The industry average is 21 days. Prior to the team's work, LRD's average was 14 days. The team of managers and maintenance workers who studied the process reduced the time needed to dewater and inspect a lock to 10 days.

# The Challenge Continues

**Editor's Note:** Julie McCollough, Internal Review Office, was recently named Tulsa District's Total Quality Coordinator. She was asked to provide an article giving her thoughts on the district's quality initiative.

Julie McCollough, Total Quality Coordinator

**W**HEN LARRY DEARING TOOK OVER AS THE TOTAL ARMY QUALITY COORDINATOR, he said "I have never seen challenges as great as those that we will face in the next five years." I agreed with him then, and I still do today. Downsizing, more work and fewer people, satisfying our customers, finding new customers and keeping current ones are just some of these challenges.

Tulsa District took a giant step toward better serving our customers by merging the Total Quality and Internal Review functions in August. Many of us have viewed (and maybe still view) Internal Review as something to be avoided at all costs. I must admit that a few years ago, I was the same way. I didn't see how those two functions could ever work together, have a common goal or even be in the same office. Having learned many hard lessons along the way, I discovered that the quality folks and the audit folks have the same goals. What an amazing revelation that was!

This merger is a good thing for the district because both Total Quality and Internal Review want to ensure that the district is doing the right things, doing things right, and doing those things in compliance with the existing rules and regulations. Together, we provide a focus to help other district offices discover when something doesn't make sense and fix it so that it does make sense; and if customers are not satisfied, then figure out why not, and find a way to satisfy them.

To my knowledge, there is no other district or agency that has combined these functions. I firmly believe that Tulsa District is once again leading the way by combining functions with similar goals.

**B**ACK TO THE CHALLENGES WE FACE. Col. Sanford, in the October "Colonel's Corner," talked about the district's FY97 objectives. Later this year,

you might be asked to help as the district works toward implementing them. If you haven't yet talked with your supervisor about the district's goals and objectives, please do so today. We must all work together to meet them.

## District Goals and FY 97 Objectives

### Deliver Quality Products and Services

1. Develop a complete team understanding of the final customer product.
2. Develop and use tools that result in reasonable, realistic schedules and costs.
3. Improve the workforce through specific task analysis and training.

### Create Satisfied Customers

1. Promote the concept "We are a resource for the customer."
2. Prepare and use Customer Relations Plans.
3. Initiate co-location, staff exchanges, and weekly coordination with customers.

Tulsa District

Quality  
Driven

Be the Corps Standard In Customer  
Care and Professionalism

4. Close the execution loop: Survey, Evaluate, Change.

### Develop an Empowered Workforce

1. Develop an effective workforce training program.
2. Review authorities. Consider further delegation of authority and responsibility.

### Develop and Be A Caring Professional Team

1. Cross-train to develop a multi-talented workforce.
2. Implement effective issue resolution methods.
3. Conduct team building activities between offices.
4. Promote Regional Teamwork within Southwestern Division.

## A Bit About the New TQ Guru



Julie McCollough

Julie McCollough, Tulsa District's newly-appointed Total Quality Coordinator, is not new to the quality arena. She has worked in the discipline since 1987. Her first introduction to the philosophy was as a team facilitator; she also served as a team leader and trainer.

Later, she was the quality coordinator for the Defense Finance & Accounting Center, San Diego, and for the Logistics Division at Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton.

She says, "As Tulsa District's coordinator, I want to share the lessons I have learned, and continue working toward our district's goals and FY97 objectives. More importantly, I want to help the Tulsa District 'Be the Corps Standard in Customer Care and Professionalism.'"

Persons with questions, suggestions, or comments about the quality improvement process should visit with McCollough. Her office is on the third floor, and she can be reached at 918-669-7355 or by e-mail at MCCOLJ.

# EVOC – an Evolution in Water Safety

Mary Beth Hudson  
Public Affairs Office

**I**F YOU'RE COMING ALONGSIDE, DOCKING UPWIND, PILOTING A SERPENTINE COURSE, OR TAKING INSTRUCTIONS FROM A "TOP PROP," CHANCES ARE YOU'RE IN TULSA DISTRICT'S EMERGENCY VESSEL OPERATIONS COURSE. Employees throughout the district – rangers, lock operators, maintenance workers, etc. – spend at least part of their time on the water. EVOC equips them with the knowledge and skills they need to safely and professionally operate a boat.

EVOC is truly a Tulsa District tradition; it got its start in here, and spread throughout the Corps. It has been offered in the district for nine years. Several district employees have been certified as EVOC instructors – "top props," according to their hats – and they teach fellow employees in the zero-tuition course. Instructor certification is done



Basic water rescue is part of the EVOC curriculum. Here, class members are shown how to use a cargo net to rescue someone from the water.

at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Clencoe, Ga.

EVOC is a basic boating course which gives students navigational rules of the road and minor mechanical fixes they might need while afloat. It also teaches water rescue, towing, trailering, maneuvering, launching, loading, docking, etc.

Two courses are held each year with 20-25 students each time. The district has developed two versions of the course – a 3-day, 24-hour curriculum which is the minimum Corps licensing

program required by Headquarters, and a more intense 40-hour course.

Paul Roberts, Keystone Park Ranger and EVOC instructor, said the course raises the level of professionalism of personnel handling boats. "We have certified truck drivers and back hoe operators, but someone just gets in and out of the water, and we give him a boat license," he said. "The \$40,000 boats got Washington's attention."

The course has also gotten attention from other agencies. District courses have been attended by students from the Department of Interior, the National Parks Service and the Lake Patrol.

Fort Supply Park Ranger Don Underwood, EVOC instructor, said the course is professional and practical, and for those reasons, he likes being an instructor.

Cliff Hays, Keystone project manager, has been involved with EVOC from its beginning and has seen it evolve over the years. It began in 1987 when two rangers attended a boating class offered by the state of Oklahoma, and has grown into a mandatory course offered throughout the Corps. The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center has an expanded, two-week version which is offered to federal police officers. In May 1997, the national course is expected to evolve again, and for the first time, a formal training course for air boat operators will be available; it will be headquartered in and run by the Jacksonville District.



**Coming alongside – Students learn how to properly and safely approach another boat. This skill is often used during boat safety checks and also when disabled vessels need towing.**

# Tenkiller's First National Hunting and Fishing Day a Huge Success



A member of the Peavine Powder Burners and "Park Pals," a state parks mascot, take a break during Tenkiller's first National Hunting and Fishing Day.

Carlton Bailey, park ranger  
Tenkiller Project Office

**T**HE ALARM CLOCK WENT OFF AT 5:00 A.M. IT WAS SATURDAY MORNING; THERE MUST HAVE BEEN A MISTAKE. No, it was Sept. 28, National Hunting and Fishing Day – the day the folks at Tenkiller Project had been preparing for. After three days of rain, would we finally get a break?

As I crawled from my bed, I realized I had only been in it for a couple of hours and was exhausted. After a quick shower and a cup of coffee, I hit the road. My first stop was the Daylite Donut Shop. I had to get supplies for all the hungry helpers; no one had time for a real breakfast!

Dawn was slow in coming, there was a chill in the air, and a thick blanket of fog hung over Tenkiller Basin and the lower Illinois River. But, a big harvest moon was showing through the clouds in the



Peavine Powder Burners and Park Ranger Carlton Bailey discuss the day's activities.

west, and a little pink appeared in the east, offering promise of a good day.

I pulled into the Overlook where boy scouts lay huddled in their sleeping bags, shivering from the damp cold. I quickly rubbed two match sticks together and tossed them into the pile of dry wood that I had placed in the shelter house's fireplace. Thanks to a generous amount of charcoal lighter fluid, I soon had a roaring fire going. I hid the lighter fluid, and woke up the scouts; they started crowding around to soak up the warmth. The boy scouts were there to provide a food concession which they did in great style. Ever have fajitas cooked over a campfire?

My next stop was the Project Office to get the coffee going. We all had a zillion things to do. We needed to move the patrol boats and jet ski patrols to the Overlook, get the PA system set up on the flatbed, and move it to the Overlook; there were tables to move, signs to put up, etc.

The East Peavine Powder Burners, a muzzle loading club from the Stilwell area, had shown up to "ramrod" the muzzle loading shoot. They were rushing around in buckskin britches, setting up the targets (a buffalo, groundhog, squirrels, turkey heads and horse apples), but not a bulls-eye in sight.

Mike Clemons and crew were getting the trap shoot set up. Darrell Hendrix and the folks from Rocky Mountain Archery were putting up the 3-D targets for the archery shoot. Hendrix said he sure got some funny looks from a carload of kids passing by as they saw him wrestling to set up the life-size standing black bear target.

Judy Jarrard and Julie Cawhorn of our administrative staff were in charge of the registration and drawings for prizes. Charlie Crumpler was our emcee, and Sheryl Townsend the master of prizes and trophies.

Bill Mobly, Cathy Cooper and Bobby Warren were in charge of the B.B. gun shoot. Bobby Magie and a volunteer, Frank Cox, were doing the casting contest.

The state park naturalists had a primitive hunters/trappers camp set up and did a great job of presenting the Snakes of Oklahoma program.

Don Dixon teamed up with Dewayne Walters of the Oklahoma Lake Patrol and

"Little Toot," the talking tug boat, to present a water safety program.

The Oklahoma Department of Wildlife game wardens and fisheries boys were there and the Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge, to do their thing. The state forestry boys also had a display, but Smokey the Bear couldn't make it.

Many youngsters and oldsters alike had an opportunity to shoot a muzzle loader or clay pigeon or fling an arrow at a 3-D target for the first time.

The real icing on the cake was when we had to stop shooting while a herd of deer trotted across the firing ranges. This reminded me of what Hunting and Fishing Day is all about. It is a tribute to the sportsmen who have financed and led the way in the fight to conserve our wildlife and natural resources. We owe them a debt of gratitude much bigger than we often realize. Hopefully, NHF Day will promote the outdoor sports and get more people involved in the conservation of our natural resources.

Speaking of being involved, the local merchants and the Tenkiller Lake Association were very supportive of our efforts. We thank you!

About 500 people showed up for the festivities – not bad for our first NHF Day celebration. Plans are already being made for a bigger and better one next year!

## Personnel Notes

### September Hello

Shawna Crowson, OD, Robert S. Kerr Project  
Cindy Josselet, OD, Chloride Control Project  
Kimberly Lee, OD, Fort Gibson Project  
Misty Meadows, OD, Robert S. Kerr Project  
Chad Smith, OD, Robert S. Kerr Project  
Larry Wylie, OD, Physical Support Branch

### Goodbye

Harold Billings, EC, Design Branch  
Michael Corkran, PL, Environmental Analysis and Support Branch  
George Farr, IM, Automation & Communication

Jimmy Godwin, OD, Fort Gibson Project  
Paula Hilligoss, OD, Technical Support Branch  
Jerry Lawson, EC, HTRW Resident Office  
Donna LeBlanc, OD, Physical Support Branch  
John Logue, OD, Hugo Project  
Maurice Martin, OD, Fort Gibson Project  
Susan Meites, CT, Contracts Branch  
Loretta Orsburn, OD, Readiness & Security Br  
Frank Palmieri, EC, Design Branch  
Eleanor Pontius, PA

Virgil Reed, OD, Robert S. Kerr Project  
Linda Sharp, RM, F&A  
Mary Shepardson, RM, F&A  
Sherri Stangle, EC, Cost Engineering Branch  
John Staudenmaier, EC, Geotechnical Branch  
Jerome Stevens, OD, Tenkiller Project  
Roger Williams, OD, Eufaula Project

### Promotions

Jana Atchison, EC, Design Branch  
Billy Brown, OD, Fort Gibson Project  
Dale Cole, OD, Tenkiller Project  
Charlie Dooley, OD, Texoma Project  
Jeffery Fagg, OD, Eufaula Project  
Billy Fite, OD, Robert S. Kerr Project  
John Fredrickson, OD, Marion Project  
Hughie Guffey, OD, Robert S. Kerr Project  
Terry Harrell, OD, Fall River Project  
Tom Henry, OD, Tenkiller Project  
Nyle Hunnicutt, OD, Canton Project  
Karl Hunter, OD, Canton Project  
Stephen Lee, OD, Canton Project  
Ernest Martin, OD, Canton Project  
Charles Napier, OD, Keystone Project  
Jack Ofield, OD, Oologah Project  
Johnny Parrish, OD, Eufaula Project  
Howard Peters, OD, Marion Project  
Edward Phillips, OD, Eufaula Project  
Emerson Phillips Jr., OD, Waurika Project  
Troy Poage, OD, Waurika Project  
Carl Rea Jr., OD, Eufaula Project  
Marvin Simpson Jr., OD, Texoma Project  
William Smith, PP, Civil Works Branch  
Thomas Taylor, OD, Eufaula Project  
James Wann, OD, Hugo Project  
Robert Warner, OD, Physical Support Branch  
David Whiten, RM, F&A



**A young visitor to Tenkiller's National Hunting and Fishing Day event was captivated by Little Toot, one of Tulsa District's most popular water safety tools.**

## A Look at Periodic Inspections

Margaret Johanning of Planning Division is currently working on a developmental assignment in Technical Support Branch, Operations Division. She accompanied the inspection team on the periodic inspections of Hugo and Sardis Lakes, and prepared this article.

**E**ACH YEAR, A MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM HEADED BY ENGINEERS FROM DAM SAFETY SECTION, GEOTECHNICAL BRANCH, BEGINS A SCHEDULED ROUND OF PERIODIC IN-SPECTIONS OF THE CORPS DAMS. They are accompanied by structural engineers from Design Branch, Engineering and Construction Division; civil engineers from Technical Support Branch, Operations Division; the facility's manager and, sometimes, Southwestern Division representatives.

Periodic inspections on each dam are conducted once every five years. Technical Support Branch prepares the schedule that includes inspections of the stilling basin and the tainter gates.

A typical year's work plan will include about eight or nine dam inspections and three other structures. (In addition to the Corps lakes and five locks and dams, the team provides inspections of dams for the military bases at McAlester and Fort Sill, Greenleaf Dam, and the

Tulsa-West Tulsa Levee, Jenks Levee and the Wichita-Valley Center Floodway.)

Preinspection brochures are prepared by Dam Safety Section 15 days prior to the inspection, and distributed to team members. This document will be followed up with a comprehensive inspection report prepared at the completion of the inspections.

Inspection of the flood control structures is split between the two civil engineers in Operations Division who accompany the team. Larry Harp takes charge of inspections for the southern part of the district and Chuck Miles handles the northern part. Steve Chapman of Operations Division handles the navigation related inspections with the Dam Safety team.

As a result of the 1996 schedule, Jim Granwehr, Jimmy Rogers and Mike Southern of Dam Safety Section logged about 60 miles on their feet. The team inspects features such as the embankment road surface, the condition of the riprap, the instrumentation devices, the toe of the embankment, the stilling basin and the conduit. They look for any indicators suggesting possible problems

A difficult walk – The riprap section, roadway and toe of the dams must be walked by inspection team members during periodic inspections. Shown here is part of the riprap section at Oologah Lake.



Jim Granwehr



Jim Granwehr

Tainter gates must be inspected by structural engineers during periodic inspections of the dams. This photo shows the downstream side of the seven tainter gates at Oologah Lake.

with seepage through the dam, erosive forces at work or other conditions that affect the structure's safety.

At the inspection's close, findings are discussed with the project or lake manager, and are documented in the formal report.

This dedicated team takes the "safety" portion of the dam safety program very seriously. Their nearly 30 years of combined experience provides clues to potential problems concerning a structure's integrity.

## Perks and Problems

Although the inspection team sometimes runs into truly miserable weather, there can be fringe benefits on the yearly excursions. For example, one of the project offices plans a BBQ luncheon around their visit, or they may find cake and homemade ice cream awaiting them at the end of the day.

Their treks may also include some environmental "hazards" such as the prickly blackberry bushes and brambles at Broken Bow Dam. It also has a high, steep embankment with rock cobbles on the lake side. At John Redmond, the five-mile-long embankment includes two and one-half miles of riprap to be walked. Twisted ankles may await the inexperienced hiker.

The other half of the walking is often through chest high weeds. Inspecting Lakes Kemp, Optima

or Truscott requires careful movement to avoid startling any rattlesnake sunbathing on the riprap.

Even finding good food at reasonable prices while visiting some of the lakes can be a problem. The team selected the Kansas projects as their favorites, since Emporia, Kan., is just large enough to have a good selection in lodging and eating.

## Back to Work

In addition to the periodic inspections, Dam Safety Section is responsible for the instrumentation and data collection at the dams, preparation of the spillway erodibility studies, conducting the pavement evaluation and repair at the recreation areas and remedial O&M work at the facilities. During flood events, they take turns being on 24-hour watch, along with project personnel, in case a flood control structure needs surveillance.

The periodic inspections are part of a programmed regimen under the dam safety program to inspect and maintain the facilities. Under that same program, civil engineers in Operations Division inspect the projects annually with personnel from the project office, but in lesser detail than the periodic inspections. Each project and lake office also conducts monthly maintenance programs which identify problems. Items needing repair or replacement are fixed promptly or added to the work order program for attention.

# Taking a Trip to the Field

Article and photos by Rosemary Capshaw, Federal Women's Program Coordinator



The group looks down at Lock and Dam 18 on the McClellan Kerr Arkansas River Navigation Channel.



Part of the crew of the Mister Pat, Joe Johnson (seated) and Kenneth Wright gave the group a guided tour of the district's new tow boat.

**I**N OCTOBER, THE FEDERAL WOMEN'S PROGRAM COMMITTEE SPONSORED A FIELD TRIP TO LOCK & DAM 18. The visit helped the 21 Tulsa office employees who participated understand more about their supporting role to field offices.

A guided tour of lock procedures was given by Pat McQueen. He was assisted by Kenneth Todd, Robert Cyrus and Marc Chester.

To our delight, we saw Mister Pat dock. Then, we were given a stem-to-stern tour by Kelly Youngblood, Kenneth Wright and Joe Johnson.

Youngblood, who pilots Mister Pat, explained the functions of all the computerized equipment at the control panel, and readily answered the groups' questions.

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## Chloride Control Project Suffers Storm Damage – or – *“It was a bright and stormy night . . .”*

**S**EVERE THUNDERSTORMS PACKING HIGH WINDS, LIGHTNING, HAIL AND SUBSTANTIAL RAINS struck the lower panhandle region of Texas during the third week of September. The area around Truscott, Texas, including the Area VIII pipeline, incurred incredible damage.

“It's been a furious thing,” said Dennis Duke, project manager. “Rarely do you get all the aspects of a project damaged. We got hit with this tremendous flood and – the thing that turned out doing more damage than the flood – a tremendous lightning storm.” Duke said the National Weather Service reported 3,000 lightning strikes per hour during the storm.

On Sept. 20, the South Wichita River was still in flood stage cutting Chloride Control Project personnel off from about four of the 22 miles of pipeline. Project personnel reported extensive damage to at least 20 miles of pipeline access road. Much of the road surfacing was completely gone, and the road was unrecognizable in many places. Two major concrete slab road water crossings and three main pipeline crossings were destroyed.

Peak Surge, the highest point of surge tanks and valves on the pipeline, took a direct lightning hit which destroyed the power supply unit. About six miles of pipeline cover was either destroyed or removed. Bateman Pumping Facility had lightning damage to the electrical systems and its inflatable weir was underwater. Due to the high waters, the only way project personnel could inspect the damage was by ATVs.

Before the rains stopped, project workers were developing repair strategies. They also provided sandbags to three local counties to minimize flood damage.

Once the rains stopped, project personnel moved their dozer, loader, backhoe, grader, trucks and other repair equipment into strategic locations along the pipeline. Working diligently from sun up to past sun down, they went about the enormous task of putting the pipeline and Bateman Pumping Facility back in operation. Their dedicated, conscientious hard work put the Bateman Pumping Facility and Area VIII pipeline back in operation pumping chlorides by 8:45 p.m., Oct. 2.



The "Fab Four Plus One" – This shot was taken at the Combined Federal Campaign Kick Off back in September. Shown, left to right, are Ross Adkins, Public Affairs Office; Col. Timothy Sanford, district engineer and band leader; Joyce Heim, Castle Chorus director; Lt. Col. Thomas Frendak, deputy district engineer; and Claude Marshall, Information Management Office.

## It's a Wrap!

Ed Rossman  
CFC Coordinator

**L**ED BY THE DISTRICT'S OWN FAB FOUR, the Castle Chorus sang, "We get by with a little help from our friends." After the Sept. 16 Combined Federal Campaign Kickoff, Tulsa District folks did more than "get by." As of this writing, Tulsa District people gave more than \$65,000, and the contributions are still being counted.

Even with fewer folks working in the district than there were a year ago, we surpassed last year's campaign contributions. Retirees and field offices surpassed contributions made in the past. There were 27 Key Club members giving more than \$500, and many folks gave to CFC for the first time. Bake sales, the Halloween Contest and flower sales resulted in more than \$1,500 in contributions.

The "Did you Know?" theme played an important part in the campaign. Several district members made personal visits to agencies providing services in the Tulsa community. More than 60 Corps people worked at the Children's Day Nursery on the Day of Caring. Runners ran in the United Way Run in August. There were more than 200 first-day givers. Many employees bought tickets to the benefit NBA game in October.

Thanks to all who participated in this year Combined Federal Campaign. The bakers, the painters, the landscapers, the carpenters, the flower salespeople and the Trick-or-Treaters all made this year a success. Thanks to all the members of Col. Sanford's Big Heart Club Band . . . and you know who you are!

## Safety Notes

# Testing, Testing, 1, 2, 3

Judy Barker, Safety Office

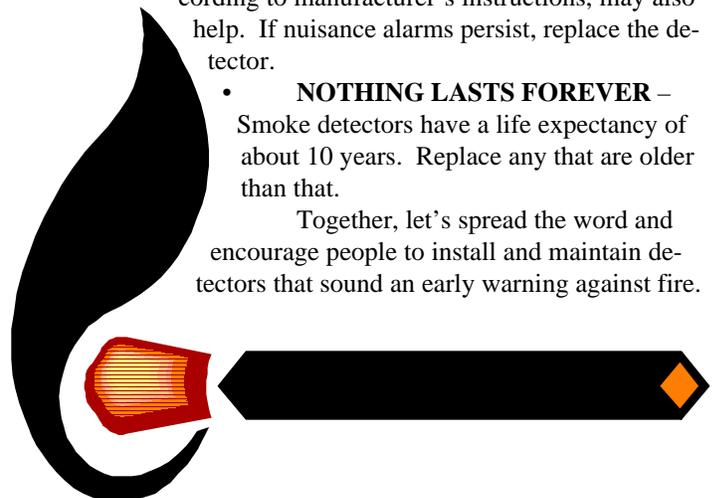
**T**HE OLD SAYING, "YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR," ISN'T ALWAYS TRUE. Sometimes, just a few dollars can save a life, as in fire protection. Inexpensive household smoke detectors can mean the difference between life and death. For that to be the case, however, the detectors must be functioning.

In recent years, 60 percent of America's home-fire fatalities have occurred in homes without smoke detectors. Even though 93 percent of U.S. homes have at least one smoke detector, the detectors don't work in 20 percent of those homes.

Most household smoke detectors are battery operated, and studies show that dead, disconnected, or missing batteries are the principal cause of non-working detectors. To be safe you should:

- **DO A MONTHLY CHECKUP** – Test your smoke detectors' batteries, following the manufacturer's instructions, once a month. Replace any too weak to sound the alarm.
- **HEED THE WARNING** – Most detectors "chirp" to alert you when battery power is low. When you hear the warning, **DON'T DISCONNECT THE UNIT! REPLACE THE BATTERIES!**
- **CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS; CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES** – Replace smoke detector batteries routinely on the same day each year. The National Fire Prevention Association suggests the last Sunday in October, the day you roll back the clocks from Daylight Saving to Standard Time each fall.
- **BORROWING TROUBLE** – Too often people disable smoke detectors by removing their batteries for other uses. Never "borrow" batteries from a smoke detector.
- **DEALING WITH FALSE ALARMS** – Smoke detectors are not recommended for use in kitchens, bathrooms or garages where cooking fumes, steam or exhaust can set off the alarm when there is no fire. Yet many people simply disconnect poorly placed smoke detectors in an effort to prevent these nuisance alarms. If your home is plagued by false alarms, don't disable your detector -- relocate it or install an exhaust fan. Cleaning your detector regularly, according to manufacturer's instructions, may also help. If nuisance alarms persist, replace the detector.
- **NOTHING LASTS FOREVER** – Smoke detectors have a life expectancy of about 10 years. Replace any that are older than that.

Together, let's spread the word and encourage people to install and maintain detectors that sound an early warning against fire.



# Business Process Improvements



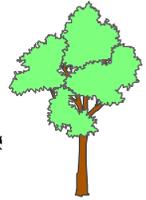
**Lt. Col. Thomas Frendak**  
Deputy District Engineer

**Planning Division** – Planning Division is preparing a Standard Operating Procedure which will allow study/technical managers to sign Planning Division mission correspondence, including memoranda and letters to customers. Currently, only the chief of Planning Division can sign correspondence to customers outside the Corps, and some internal correspondence must be signed by division or branch chiefs. In the future, study/technical managers will sign some correspondence, and route it through the supervisory chain for information only.

**Contract Administration Branch, Contracting Division** – We plan to map the modification process, and evaluate the value added of each of the steps.

**Office of Counsel** – A Brief Bank is being implemented to encourage a sharing of information amongst attorneys. This will, hopefully, reduce the number of times that we reinvent the wheel.

# Recycling Results



**September 1996 Saving:**  
KWHs of energy  
27,205

Gallons of water 46,448  
Cubic yards of landfill 21.90  
Pounds of air pollution 398

Month	Trees Saved	Tons of Paper	Amount Made
Jan.	97	5.7	\$143.00
Feb.	109	6.4	160.34
March	135	7.9	158.74
April	136	8.0	151.96
May	118	6.9	115.31
June	130	7.6	128.09
July	107	6.3	108.37
August	186	10.9	199.74
<u>Sept.</u>	<u>113</u>	<u>6.6</u>	<u>108.89</u>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1131</b>	<b>66.3</b>	<b>\$1274.44</b>

## From the Mail



**To Randy Hiatt, Waurika Project Office, from Lori Cody, secretary, Cub Scout Pack 232:**

The leaders and the boys of Pack 232 would like to thank you for the contribution of pamphlets for the Scout-O-Rama. Your donation helped to make this event a huge success. We would like you to know that your generosity helped the boys win first place at our regional Scout-O-Rama. This is the first time the pack has won first place, and the boys are very excited about their enormous accomplishment. The parents, the leaders and the boys of Pack 232 appreciated your support immensely.

**Excerpted from a letter to Chris Lynch, supervisory ranger, Texoma, from Steven Thomas:**

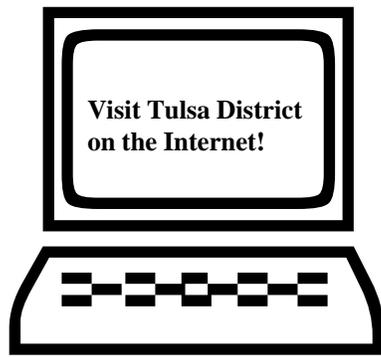
I wanted to express our sincere thanks and appreciation of your ranger, Brian Osberghaus. Our church, Denton Bible Church, sponsors an organization of fathers and sons called Christian Brigade. We have camped at the Rock Creek area before, and recently planned another such trip. We arrived well after dark, and did not see the "No Camping" signs that we now know were posted just weeks before.

Apparently early on Saturday morning, Ranger Osberghaus received a complaint regarding the location we were camped, and came to investigate. He could not have been any nicer and considerate of our situation. He escorted me to the Rock Creek campground to speak to the owners. We then drove around the area, and explored other possible camp sites, to no avail. We had over 100 fathers and sons on this particular trip. We returned to our camp site, and he authorized a special permit to finish the weekend so as not to disrupt the family atmosphere with the kids. Not only was there no place nearby that would have acceptably accommodated our numbers but with the short time we had available, moving our entire group and setting up in another location would have effectively ruined what turned out to be a great weekend.

Your ranger certainly went above and beyond the call of duty. His job would have been much easier had he simply ordered us to move, and gone on. Instead, he went out of his way to assist us in every way he could and, when his best efforts failed, he made an exception, and saved our weekend. His professionalism and dedication to the people he serves is appreciated by both myself and the Christian organization represented by these campers.

In addition, as responsible campers, we always clean our camping area when we leave. Our goal is to leave no indication that we have camped there and, when possible, leave it cleaner than when we arrived. When we departed your area, we removed over 30 bags of trash including beer bottles and drug paraphernalia. We strive to instill solid ethical and biblical values in our kids, and work hard at community service projects. If at any time you need assistance with clean-up projects, etc., please feel free to contact myself or Denton Bible Church/Christian Brigade.

Once again, thanks for a wonderful weekend and the consideration and professionalism displayed by Ranger Brian Osberghaus.



**Visit Tulsa District on the Internet!**

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

# Rec Council Appointed

As of Oct. 1, the following people are serving on the Civilian Recreation Activity Committee:

- \* Angela Harbin            Chairperson
- \* Debra Scheckel        Co-Chairperson
- \*\* Cynthia Wade      Member
- \*\* Michael Ware        Member
- \*\* Lavedia Harbin       Member
- \*\* Joyce Yarbrough    Member
- \*\* Paul Shockley        Member
- \*\* Tracy White          Member
- \*\* Khristi Whitley      Member
- Devin Knight, Auditor (non-voting)

- \* Term expires Sept. 30, 1997
- \*\* Term expires Sept. 30, 1998

The committee's primary purpose is to plan and develop special entertainment, recreational and welfare activities which will contribute to the morale of Tulsa District employees and their families.

Significant activities will be rotated between appointed division personnel to form ad hoc committees. The CRAC will act as an advisory committee on an as-needed basis for assigned events.

## ... Column

from page 2

Anyone who works in or has visited the Tulsa office this autumn has surely noticed the great fall decorations. Thanks to **Lucy Spaulding, Gary Sallee and Susan Killgore** for their great efforts.

On Saturday, Sept. 28, the third annual Waurika Lake National Hunting and Fishing Day was held. In addition to the Corps, representatives from the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, the National Wild Turkey Federation, Quail Unlimited and Duncan Bowhunters participated. This year's events included the annual duckblind drawing. Exhibitors included various local vendors of sporting goods equipment and local taxidermists. The main event was the 20-target, 3-D bow shoot; 85 participants paid entry fees.

More than 200 people attended, and raised almost \$600 for the local Toys for Tots effort. My compliments to the Waurika team for their community involvement and the great credit they bring to the district and the Corps with this kind of event.

Our team of emergency response personnel who deployed to assist the South Atlantic Division in responding to hurricane Fran is to be commended for superb performance in this demanding environment. **Jim Holderfield, Steve Sanders, and Earnest Howze** deployed to the North Carolina area. I have received several items of feedback on their exemplary performance. One letter specifically highlighted Steve Sanders, Copan Lake, for his excellent work helping the residents of Apex, N.C. Steve was commended for his professionalism, great communication with the community, resource accountability, and, in short, just great customer care! Well done, team!!

**Vernon George** demonstrated not only his expertise, but great One Corps spirit when he spent a week recently assisting the Sacramento District evaluate their Chief Financial Officer's Act performance. Vernon deployed on two-days notice and did a superb job for Sacramento. Thanks for sharing your expertise, and making the Corps team stronger, Vernon!

Congratulations to **Carolyn Russell and Liz Joyner** for successfully obtaining their credentials as Certified Environmental Auditors!

On behalf of all who participated in the second annual Year-End Picnic and Volksmarch, I want to thank everyone who worked to make it such a great success! It was a super celebration of an outstanding year. Special thanks and commendations go to **Jo Camrud** for leading the team that made it happen and to **Sue Morris, Loretta Turner and Sandi Egan** for being the team!!

The picnic was fully funded with **Recycling Money**. This program has not only been a great environment stewardship effort, it has generated a considerable amount of money which the Civilian Recreation Council is putting to good use to support morale building activities. I want to thank our program administrators **Greg Molchan and Charlie Transue**, as well as the many others who help and all of you who contribute paper and alumni-

num to the program. Keep up the great effort. *It really pays off!!*

Our Arcadia Lake Office organized Tulsa District's participation in the 1996 State Fair of Oklahoma in Oklahoma City. A Corps booth was set up in the outdoor section, and had a water safety theme. The fair had a published attendance of 1,630,000 people, and our exhibit was well received by all who visited it. Other district employees who worked the fair were **Mike Wingfield, Texoma; Stanley Spirlock, Kaw; Dewayne Glover and Tim Galloway, Eufaula; Billy Williams, Sardis; Mark Cazier, Fort Supply; Don Dixon and Cathy Cooper, Tenkiller; Louis Holstead, Waurika; Ben McKee, Keystone; and Debbie Chaloupek, Ray Robertson and Cheri Randall, Canton.**

**Mike Calavan, Eufaula Project Office; Jay Jones, Oologah Project Office; and Cliff Hays, Keystone Project Office; along with Cherri Jackson, Kerry McCalman and Margaret Johanning** of the district office, formed Operations Division's O&M Cost Reduction Task Force, a proactive response to proposed O&M budget cuts on the magnitude of 15 percent. Within three weeks, the task force developed a five-year plan to manage significant cost reductions. The plan provides a framework for identifying specific actions that can be implemented to reduce costs as we are faced with diminishing resources. It was an intensive effort which allows us to manage the future rather than react to the events that occur. Congratulations on a great start to dealing with a tremendous challenge.

As you know, I use this space to highlight employees who merit special recognition. This practice goes back through several previous district engineers. One of those DEs is singled out himself this month. **Col. Otis Williams**, my predecessor, has taken over as Chief of Staff at Corps Headquarters. Congratulations! Your Tulsa Corps Family is proud of your recognition!

*Engineer the Future!*

Questions for the Human Resources Office in Fort Worth?

1-800-453-8907



## Thanks for 50 Years of Help

**C**ANTON PROJECT OFFICE EMPLOYEES WERE RECENTLY PRESENTED A PLAQUE FOR 50 YEARS OF NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FORECASTING. Dennis McCarthy, Beverly Reese and Al Abernathy of the National Weather Service presented the award to staff members in recognition of their years of national weather forecasting.

According to the NWS, nearly 11,000 volunteer cooperative observers scattered over the 50 states, Puerto Rico and the American Virgin Islands are taking weather observations seven days a week throughout the year. The climatic data this corps of loyal observers has accumulated is a continuing source of gratitude and pride to the NWS, and has aroused the envy of numerous other countries.



Photo courtesy of National Weather Service

An Institutional Award for recognition of 50 years of weather reporting was presented to the Canton Project Office by the National Weather Service. Pictured are, left to right, front row, Ray Robertson, Tim Coffey, Patty Smith, Dennis McCarthy, Kathy Carlson and Beverly Reese. Back row, Ernie Martin, Debbie Scott, Mark Ernst, Ernie Kingcade, Nyle Hunnicutt, Lloyd Lance, Al Abernathy and Robbie Blackhorse. McCarthy, Reese and Abernathy are with the National Weather Service. Canton employees not present for the photo were Dixene Howerton, Johnnie Dudley, Debbie Chaloupek, Adam Roy, Bobby Thompson, Cheri Randall and Jim McFeeters.

## Trash to Cash

Gregory Molchan, Recycling Committee Chairperson

**R**ECYCLE OR YOU'RE GOING TO JAIL! That may be a bit strong but it has become obvious that the Department of Defense is serious about recycling. It is now actually illegal to throw away something that can be recycled.

Here in Tulsa District we've already learned that there are many benefits to recycling, including money to be made, and we're glad to do it! We are leading the nation with the implementation of our federally mandated Pollution Prevention Plan, and we're showing the other districts how!

We currently recycle about 95 percent of aluminum cans generated in the headquarters office. This brings in money. We also divert about 98 percent of our paper trash from the waste stream into recycled dollars. Surprise – more money! We also save money thanks to the 40 percent reduction in our bulk trash pickup.

We figured out long ago that we don't have to be threatened or coerced into recycling. We realize that recycling is good for the environment, energy conservation and our own economics. There are companies that pick the stuff up and actually pay us to do it! Sorting the would-be waste is necessary to assure top qual-

ity raw materials for them and top dollar for us. These simple rules define our current recycling program:

### Paper

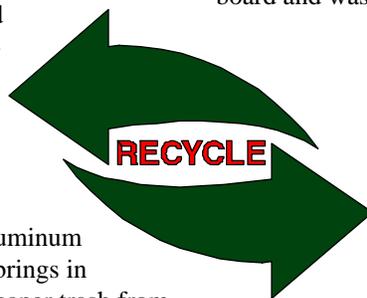
There are recycling bins on every floor to collect all **except tissue, carbon and food-contaminated paper**. There are also two bins outside on the west side of the building to collect cardboard and waste paper from home subject to the same three restrictions. The outside bins are emptied every Tuesday and Friday.

### Cans

Blue barrels on every floor are for **aluminum cans only**. The cans should be rinsed twice and empty (i.e., not half full). The barrels are emptied as needed by a designated floor monitor. (If you are always noticing that the bins need emptying—maybe you should be one of the monitors!) Cans are taken outside, and stored in the cage trailer located next to the paper bins. You can also “contribute” cans from home. The trailer is open during normal weekday duty hours.

What could be easier? If you think of a way we can make it any easier, please tell us!

And, if you get busted for wasting when you could have been saving, don't be surprised if we come to bail you out with two tons of recycled pop cans!



# Tulsa Family

## Family additions

**Robin Victoria Waldie, born Oct. 13** – daughter of Jeff and Susan Waldie. Jeff is an engineer intern currently detailed to Operations Division.



## Traveling for pleasure?

Tulsa District can help you, and you can help the district.

The recreation council receives rebates on leisure travel booked through the Carlson Agency. The money received helps defray costs of activities such as the Christmas Dance, Corps Day picnic, Corporate Challenge cookout, etc.

To take advantage of the travel service – and benefit the recreation council fund – make your reservations through Janell at the district office, 918/664-9122, or call Jean or Carol at the Eton Square office, 918/254-1608. Identify yourself as a Corps employee or retiree, and the personal travel rebate will be credited to the district's account.

## Where are you?

**Where are you while you're reading these words?** Are you at your desk, outside, in the break room, on the treadmill or in the restroom? Or are you reading it on your computer screen?

Starting in October, both an electronic version and printed version of the *Tulsa District Record* were produced. As time goes on, we'll see how this evolves. For the present, we'd appreciate your comments on print versus electronic. Please send them to the Public Affairs Office in your chosen format — print, electronic, or personal.

## Condolences

To Linda Lynde of Real Estate Division whose husband, Fred, died Oct. 5. He was the former chief of Appraisal Branch and retired from the Corps in 1981 with 38 years of service.

To Angelia Asberry, librarian, on the Oct. 7 death of her father, Ruben Buyckes.

To Fredene Manuel, former Human Resources Office employee, on the Oct. 7 death of her 26-year-old daughter, Earika.



Nov. 21	Native American Observance
Nov. 25	Sheppard AFB Senior Executive Review
Nov. 28	Thanksgiving
Dec. 3	Civil PRB
Dec. 4	Military PRB
Dec. 4	Christmas Tree Trimming
Dec. 10-12	Marketing Class, Tulsa & Little Rock Districts
Dec. 11	Ribbon Cutting, Longhorn Army Ammunition Plant
Dec. 13	Holiday Dinner/Dance
Dec. 16	Retirement Ceremony
Dec. 18	Holiday Update
Dec. 25	Christmas

## Retirees, Time to Party, Roast, Share Your Stories

Information Management Office is hosting a retirement get-together for Claude Marshall on Dec. 20, 2:00 p.m., room 210A. All retirees are invited to attend.

IMO personnel would also like to hear from any retirees who have interesting stories about Marshall.

Contact John Blackwell, 669-7423.

## Free Benefits Books Going Fast

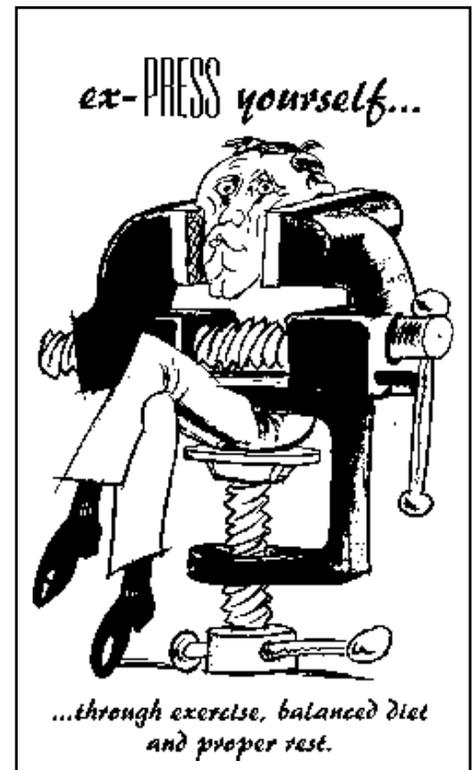
Washington, DC – Keeping up with the constantly changing rules about your federal benefits can be difficult, and the rules are often confusing.

To help federal employees make sense of everything from locality pay to parental leave, Public Employees Roundtable is offering a free newly revised 1996 guide to The "Ins" and "Outs" of Your Federal Benefits.

The 32-page booklet includes the latest information on changes which affect federal employees. Included in the booklet are chapters on salaries, leave benefits, health and life insurance programs, labor-management relations, retirement, buy-outs, reductions-in-force and relocation benefits. More than 45,000 copies have already been given away.

To get your copy while they last, call PER's toll free number, 1-800-112-6654. Supplies are limited to one copy per caller.

PER is a non-profit, non-partisan coalition of 36 management and professional associations representing more than 1,000,000 public employees and retirees. Founded in 1982, the Roundtable's mission is to educate American citizens about the significant contributions public employees make to the quality of our lives; to encourage esprit de corps among government employees at all levels; and to promote public service careers.



*Our Vision: Be the Corps standard in customer care and professionalism.*



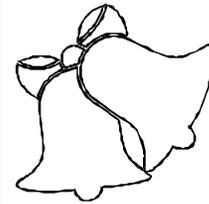
Left to right, Tom Heathcock, Darvin McClellan, Joey Spear, Jeff Beatty and Bob Vandegriff. Spear and Beatty are holding the Life Saving Awards they were presented. Heathcock and McClellan are park rangers at Fort Gibson and Vandegriff is chief of Tulsa District's Safety Office.

## Life Savers Recognized

**Bob Vandegriff**  
Safety Office

**I**N OCTOBER, JOEY SPEAR AND JEFF BEATTY RECEIVED TULSA DISTRICT LIFE SAVING AWARDS for actions they took during the summer at Fort Gibson Lake. The presentation took place at Beatty's workplace, Hesselbein Tire, 91st and South Sheridan, Tulsa.

On June 30, the two men were swimming at Taylors Ferry Beach when they heard screams. A man trying to swim to shore was in trouble. The pair swam to the man, and pulled him back to the island. The victim wasn't aware of his surroundings. Spear and Beatty borrowed an air mattress, and floated him to the shore where an ambulance took him to the hospital. After an overnight stay, the victim was OK.



### *Christmas Dinner/Dance Friday, Dec. 13*

**Social 6:30-7:00  
Buffet Dinner 7:00-8:00  
Dance 8:00-Midnight**

**Disc Jockey**

**Cash Bar**

**Casual to semi-formal  
\$15 ea. for dinner & dance  
\$6 ea. for dance only**

**Holiday Inn East  
1010 N. Garnett Rd  
Tulsa**

**Retirees:  
Call Dorma  
Watkins, 7250,  
for tickets**

