



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Tulsa District

# TULSA DISTRICT RECORD

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Vol. 24, No. 1



Above - These McAlester children use a makeshift sled constructed from an Oklahoma highway sign to take bottled water to their homes. Tulsa District had the job of getting 250,000 gallons of water to victims of the holiday ice and snow storm.

Left - One of the semi-truck loads of bottled water reaches the stricken area.

*More on page 3.*

# Commander's Column



**Col. Leonardo Flor**  
District Engineer

Thanks to each of you for making 2000 a very successful year. I just completed the State of the District, and you can find it at <http://www.swt.usace.army.mil/TeamTulsa/team.htm> (just to the right of my photo). As a member of the Tulsa Team, it is worth your time to read and take pride in your accomplishments; the State of the District document also explains which way we are headed in 2001.

We continue to excel and be recognized for our accomplishments. I received a memorandum from Brig. Gen. Melcher and Brig. Gen. Hawkins, deputy commander for military programs at HQUSACE, thanking **John Forslund** for his outstanding dedication and attention to detail while serving as a member of the FY00 Formerly Used Defense Sites Team. Because of the team's efforts, 100 percent obligation execution of the FY00 FUDS program was achieved.

Special thanks to **Shirley Rolison** who superbly served as our campaign chair for the Combined Federal Campaign and to **Sheron Hardesty** who served as our loaned executive. In the September/October 2000 *Tulsa District Record*, I acknowledged and thanked **Joyce Yarbrough**, Day of Caring coordinator, and her team for their contributions. Thanks to everyone who had a part in making this year a success (those who made a pledge, baked goods, coordinated or participated in fund raising events, etc.). What a great team effort — our total contribution was \$53,685!

The Central Oklahoma Area Office also participated in CFC through Tinker Air Force Base. Their recommended contribution was \$793, but because of their outstanding commitment to uphold our corporate and individual leadership obligation to

make the community we live in better, they turned in payroll deduction contributions of \$1,449.98. For the past several years, the COAO has exceeded its goal, and this year the office received the Silver Award. Congratulations!

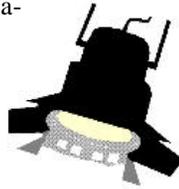
Army Audit Agency audited us recently regarding USACE FY00 Financial Statements, General Property, Plant, and Equipment. Because of the hard work and diligence of many employees, AAA found all selected personal and real property and track supporting documentation in order. Your efforts do make a difference —special thanks to **Robert Stubbs** and **Joyce Heim** for their invaluable assistance.

Col. Thomas Holden, Jr., commander of Little Rock District, recently sent me a letter thanking **Patricia Lutz** for her persistence in acquiring legal access to the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System via the issuance of Originating Agency Identifier numbers for park rangers. This access will enable the rangers at Arkansas projects and the Quachita Project Office in Vicksburg District to perform their duties in a safer and more effective manner.

Resource Management Office employees spearheaded our FY00 Year-End Block Party. Even though the weather didn't cooperate, we enjoyed the delicious food and relaxation. Nine employees braved the elements and joined me in the Volksmarch — **Lt. Col. Michael Norton, Billy Banks, Willie Grimes, Dana Linduff, Laura Long, Connie White, DeRhonda Osmond, Darrell Jones, and Cheri Fowler**. A very special thanks to

**Ruth Fritz, Gloria Lowe, Jackie Goranson, Marie Buster, Linda Phillips, Nikki Carr, Karen White, Mike Redemann, Laura Redemann, Albert Candelaria, Melonie Stahlman, J. D. Stigall, Cheri Ferguson, Norma Hale, Susan Wimbish, Glenda Gallaway, Tonya Manry, Cherri Jackson, Redia Hill, Jewell Swift, Shellie Bauer, Nita Williams, Carol McConnell, Pam Alambar, Jane Noble, Richard Murdock, Christine Roye, Neva Smith, Laura Long, Melissa George, Tim Hunt, Nick Osier, and Roberta Lewis** for making this year's celebration memorable despite the short notice.

Congratulations to the following individuals selected to participate in the fifth Tulsa District Leadership Development Program: **Ron Crank, Andrew McVeigh, Andrew Obrachta, Ed Parisotto, Bill Powers, Rick Sellers, Lori Thomas, and Dorinda Young**. This will be an excellent experience for personal and professional growth.



*The Spotlight*



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<b><i>Tulsa District Record</i></b>			
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# Ice Storm Rings in an Unforgettable New Year

Susan Satterfield  
Public Affairs Office

December 25 and the days following will be a Christmas to remember. A destructive ice storm, stretching over 450 miles, left 32 Oklahoma counties in enough wreckage to be declared disaster areas. Tulsa District projects were not left out of the chaos.

An assessment of the damage is still underway, and the list of damages is increasing. At this point, damage to Tulsa District Operations projects is estimated to be \$12-15 million, according to Stan Spirlock, outdoor recreation planner, Operations Division.

"New situations, such as waterline breaks, are still occurring, but hopefully, we are getting close to completing the assessment," Spirlock said. "There is a considerable amount of damage to boundary line fences, power lines, recreational sites, and waterlines."

"One of the first tasks is cleaning up the large amount of tree debris. An example of that incredible destruction is Eufaula, where 4,980 trees were damaged in 11 parks.

Repair work began as early as midnight on Christmas and it continues throughout the affected areas of the district. The Eufaula Project Office was without electricity for ten days, and all personnel had to be relocated to the powerhouse until electricity was restored.

Winter volunteers also suffered through the storm. "Many of the volunteers were left stranded in the parks with no service for days, and all they could do was listen to the frightening sound of limbs popping and raining down all around them," said Mike Dumford, park ranger at Eufaula.

Park ranger Jeff Paskin and maintenance worker Terry Teague, from Pat Mayse, spent December 26-28 clearing

trees and debris from the roads, compound, and parking areas. They made necessary repairs to water hydrants and cleared debris from camping areas while working without any electrical, telephone, or water services.

The Tulsa District Office was also tasked with emergency response work. The Readiness Team was given a mission to deliver 500,000 gallons of bottled water, which was later cut to 250,000 gallons, to the Muskogee, McAlester, Poteau, and Idabel National Guard armories. Tish Livesay from Wister Lake Office, Paul Bisdorf of Engineering and Construction Division, Sue Morris and Tim Hunt from Logistics and Richard Freeman of Real Estate Division volunteered to help in delivering the water. Tom Logsdon, chief, Military Branch, Programs and Project Management Division, helped provide technical assistance to the state of Oklahoma on the Federal Emergency Management Agency generators the state was deploying to various public utilities. Troopers from Fort Lewis, Wash., also assisted in the installation.

Clean up and repair work continues throughout the district. Many employees at the projects gave up their holiday time and risked the dangers of the storm to help repair, clean up, and check on fellow employees. They won't soon forget the Christmas storm of 2000 and the ice-covered new year 2001.



This field of ice is a typical scene from the holiday ice storm.

# Reflections on Building Dams

Dan Bentley  
Tenkiller Lake Manager



Aaron Goldner

This shot, taken last November, shows placement of mass concrete in spillway monolith 3.

The dam work at the Tenkiller auxiliary spillway site continues to progress. The excavation work under Phase I construction is complete, and the contractor has started to place concrete. The first mass placement took place during the evening hours Aug. 7, 2000.

I visit the site regularly to observe the construction activities. I spent several years at Copan, north of Bartlesville, during its dam construction and always enjoyed watching the many phases come together. I thought it was my Copan experience that drew me to the Tenkiller construction until just the other day when I remembered some dam work from 40 years ago. I believe it is true that many times you never really recognize some of the significant events that will shape



This downstream view of the spillway work shows the new weir taking shape.

Donald Dixon

your life while they are happening. A few days ago, I stood atop the wall of the 57-foot deep excavation at the Tenkiller site and watched the construction workers busily going about the business of dam building. They looked small from my vantage point, and suddenly I was taken back to another dam work of a much smaller scale.

One hot summer day in the early 1960s, three little boys stood on the creek bank that separated their back yard from that of their Granny and their Pappa's. The brothers were clad only in cut-offs made from last year's school jeans. They were barefoot and shirtless, just as they were on any given summer day. Their upper torsos, their arms, and their legs were colored a deep dark bronze from several weeks of playing in the summer sun. Some of that same sunlight filtered down through the tree leaves and branches overhead. It flickered and danced over the waters of the slow moving shallow stream before them. The creek had always been a place to play, catching frogs and chasing crawdads, but on this day the three young brothers were contemplating it for something else all together. They needed a swimming hole to escape the summer heat. The nearby coal strip mines were strictly off limits by order of their mother. The youngsters were making plans to transform the creek by building a dam.

The boys had never heard of Navigable Waters of the United States or of Section 404 permits. It would not have mattered. The problem was no swimming hole, and the solution appeared to be a dam. With an old wheelbarrow taken from their Pappa's shed and some shovels, rakes, and hoes borrowed from near the garden fence, the boys started to work. First attempts failed. Readily available silts and gravel from the creek bottom were first used to build the dam. It washed away quickly as the creek waters rose behind the new structure, piped through it, and collapsed it. The boys were not familiar with the term impermeable materials, but it did not take long to realize that the blue clay from the high bank just downstream would work best. They had never heard of borrow areas, but they knew that with the wheelbarrow



Aaron Goldner

**This December shot shows concrete placement for spillway chute slab.**

and their shovel they could take the clay from where it was and move it to where they wanted it to be. They had no knowledge of placement lifts or compaction, but soon learned that it was best to place the clay in thin layers and pack it into place with a little water to make it stick together. None of them had ever seen a sheep's foot roller, but they were quick to learn that the ball and heels of their bare feet could stomp the clay to a good compaction.

The first finished dam made a pool of water waste deep and provided a place to wallow.

The first summer shower that came along overtopped the new dam with enough water to breach it. The boys had no knowledge of spillways, but the wash out exposed the need for some way of controlling the flow. First attempts at controlling the overtopping were several sections of an old garden hose that siphoned the water over the dam. It failed. The boys' dad was a mechanic. There were several old radiator hoses available. The boys buried the hoses through the dam near its top to spill the creek water below the downstream toe of the dam. It worked for a while until the next summer storm.

Something better was needed that could handle the higher storm flows. A section was cut out near the bank, and it was armored with old house shingles. Their edges were bent down and buried into the new spillway to prevent undercutting from the flowing water. It worked and kept the dam from washing away after each small summer shower.

Life was good.

The boys spent their days playing in the water and maintaining their new dam and tiny lake. There was even enough water to irrigate the sweet corn, tomatoes, and purple hull peas in their grandparent's garden.

Summer began to fade, and it was time to go back to school. The heavier fall rains washed away the summer dam, but it became summer tradition to build it back year after year.

Each year in May, when their mom declared it to be barefoot weather, the work would begin. Each year the dam would be a little higher to accommodate the boys' growing frames. The annual dam project was finally abandoned as the brothers got older and their mother lifted the ban on strip pit swimming.

Much was learned about dam building, common sense, and cooperation. One brother became a mechanical engineer, one became a counselor, and the other became a lake manager with the Corps of Engineers.

As I stood at the Tenkiller work site the other day watching the dam building, I realized that the young boy was still with me. He is forever clad in his summer cut-offs, and is always excited and anxious to see the dam building and waterworks. He stands here inside me just behind my weathered face. He looks out through my eyes with awe and wonder at the dam building before him and remembers his work some 40 years ago. I am sure that I will take him to the auxiliary spillway site many times during its construction to let him see its progress. Or, maybe I should say that he will take me.



Donald Dixon

**This aerial view of the excavated work site shows some of the the number of vehicles and equipment needed to build a dam.**

# Scientists Swarm the Osage

Greg Bersche  
Park Ranger

Most residents of Osage County, Okla., do not realize that they live on an Indian Reservation. What they do realize is that oil wells, tank batteries, and separators dot the landscape. Osage oil has been an integral part of Oklahoma's history since production began in 1896. In fact, 20 percent of Oklahoma's oil production comes from Osage County. About 38,000 wells have been drilled in the county, and 17,000 of these wells are still open. Couple this with the county's 1,500 tank batteries, and the potential for a significant environmental impact is clear.

Several years ago, the U. S. Geological Survey began an environmental impact study on private property in the Wildhorse Oil Field southwest of Skiatook Lake. But as the study progressed, the oil company working the lease became concerned and started cleaning up the site. This remediation work, which removed hydrocarbon and chloride deposits from the soil, interfered with and eventually terminated the study.

The USGS then went in search of a cooperative landowner with a test site that would remain undisturbed throughout the du-

facts of "produced water." Produced water is the salt water that is pumped from the well along with the oil. About ten barrels of produced water is recovered with every barrel of oil. On an average lease, about 62 percent of this produced water is used for enhanced oil recovery, and about 27 percent is deep well injected. A varying percentage is lost into the environment due to a variety of reasons.

During November 2000, the Osage-Skiatook Environmental Research Project Conference was held in Tulsa to finalize plans for the study. This conference included a site visit by about 30 scientists from various organizations and disciplines.

Tulsa District is currently reviewing for signature a Memorandum of Understanding between the Corps, USGS, Osage Nation, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of Energy. Temporary housing arrangements in the Skiatook area are being made by the USGS to facilitate visiting scientists. This study is expected to have national significance; future remediation and land use practices will be based on its results.



Photos courtesy Skiatook Lake Office

**A site visit was made to Skiatook Lake in preparation for the study.**

ration of a five-year study. They contacted the Skiatook Lake Office last summer, and two sites on the shoreline of Skiatook Lake were recommended. After a preliminary site evaluation, the USGS decided to use both sites. Since the lake serves as a water supply reservoir for Skiatook, Sand Springs, and Sapulpa, the USGS felt that it was an excellent opportunity to see how water quality was being affected by current and past oil recovery activities.

Specifically, this multidisciplinary study will look at the long-term effects of chlorides, hydrocarbons, NORM (Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material), trace metals, and other oilfield contaminants on water quality. Of particular interest are the ef-

## . . . Spotlight

from page 2

In November, we held a Congressional Update for the Oklahoma delegation and had excellent attendance and discussion because of the hard work of **Christine Altendorf, Joyce Yarbrough, Billy Banks, Sue Haslett, David Steele, Debra White, Peter VanGorp, and civil works project managers.**

George Bonnett, director of public works in Wichita Falls, Texas, conveyed his appreciation for the outstanding assistance he received from **Christine Altendorf and David Steele.** They were instrumental in resolving discrepancies in the before-and-after flood plain boundaries in the Plum Creek Project.

Despite snow and hazardous conditions, the Holiday Update and Family Gathering was a success and enjoyed by all in attendance. We collected canned goods to help needy families in the community, gave door prizes to many of our employees, awarded employees and teams, and served refreshments. Santa and his elves visited with the children, and we viewed the videotape showing many of your accomplishments for the year. **Becky Northern, Carolyn Schultz, and Vicky Weatherly** did an outstanding job of decorating, and provided a variety of refreshments. Others who contributed to the success include: **CARE Council; employees in Planning, Environmental and Regulatory Division; employees in the video; Mary Beth**

See Spotlight, page 10

## New TQ Guru

Richard Bilinski has been named Total Quality Coordinator. In addition to heading up the TQ program, the coordinator serves as project manager for the Self Assessment Team, appointed annually by the commander to assess the district's strengths and weaknesses. Bilinski retains his project management function in Programs and Project Management Division.

## Self-Assessment Team

### Leadership

Karla Fleming  
Mark Ellison  
Ralph Hight, Sponsor

### Strategic Planning

Capt. Dominic Sparacio  
Kenny Whitehead  
Col. Flor, Sponsor

### Customer Focus

Phillip Weger  
James Patterson  
John Roberts, Sponsor

### Information & Analysis

Ruth Norris  
Bonnie Moore  
John Roselle, Sponsor

### Human Resource Focus

Jan Salter  
James Snyder  
Cheryl Wickson  
Larry Hogue, Sponsor

### Process Management

Patrick McQueen  
Tracey Jordan  
David Steele, Sponsor

### Business Results

Ken Kebbell  
Dennis Thomas  
Charlotte Stockwell, Sponsor

### Meet Us at the Web

Self-Assessment Team Home Page:  
[www.swt.usace.army.mil/teamtulsa.htm](http://www.swt.usace.army.mil/teamtulsa.htm)

# Looking at ourselves again

Margaret Johanning, APIC Team Leader

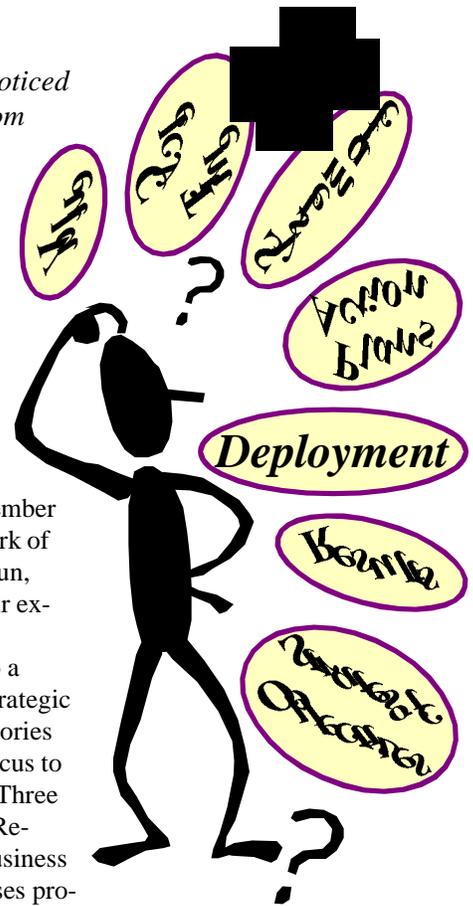
*"...Then she began looking about and noticed that what could be seen from the old room was quite common and uninteresting but that all the rest was as different as possible."* From "Through the Looking Glass" by Lewis Carroll

Like Alice exploring the old from a new perspective, Tulsa District is once again looking at itself with the eyes of the Army Performance Improvement Criteria. Based on the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award Criteria for Performance Excellence, APIC moved to the Army in 1995. A 17-member Self-Assessment Team is using the framework of APIC to review our organization, how it is run, and how we focus on our customers and their expectations.

The seven APIC criteria are grouped into a leadership triad composed of Leadership, Strategic Planning, and Customer Focus. These categories emphasize the importance of a leadership focus to set direction and seek future opportunities. Three other criteria form the results triad, Human Resource Focus, Process Management, and Business Results. The employees and the key processes produce the work of the organization that yields its business results. The remaining category, Information and Analysis, provides a fact-based system for organizational performance and improvement and ties the six criteria together.

The team gathers data for the self assessment from interviews with customers, the senior staff, and employees. Additional data is gathered from the employee APIC survey that assesses participants' knowledge and understanding of APIC. The survey also generates comments from employees on organizational improvement. The Engineer Research and Development Center at Champaign, Ill., administered the computerized survey in January.

All of this data is then used by the Self-Assessment Team to prepare a finding of our strengths and areas of improvement. That information is provided to the senior staff to use in developing the strategic plans for the coming year. Members of the team are available to answer any questions about the assessment process.



From left, Total Quality Coordinator Richard Bilinski meets with some SAT members, James Patterson, Ruth Norris, Capt. Sparacio and Bonnie Moore.

# Real Estate Reality

Lanny Pricer  
Real Estate Division

The Real Estate Directorate with its division and district offices is one of the Corps organizational mysteries. Many within the organization don't know what we do – or what all we do. We are one of the most multi-faceted entities within the Corps, and much of what we do escapes others.

All land-holding agencies have real estate personnel, but the Corps has more than any other federal agency. The Corps doesn't have anywhere near the land to manage that the Department of Interior does, though, so why do we have more personnel? Because of our numerous and diverse missions. We are the real estate agents for the Army and sometimes for the Department of Defense and other federal agencies. We've even done work for the Department of Interior.

Many people know that we lease and license land for all types of activities such as marinas, parks and recreation, wildlife, or agricultural, at civil works projects. But many don't know that we also do agricultural leases and other leasing, such as for ATMs at military installations.

Many people know that we purchase property, but there's not much buying going on nowadays. However even though our Acquisition Branch is winding up one of the few acquisition projects currently operating in the Corps at Altus Air Force Base, they have plenty to keep them busy.

Let's take Armed Forces recruiting as an example. Over the past year, recruiting has been one of the hottest issues in DoD. Every shopping mall and strip mall recruiting office that you see is leased and managed by the Corps. Most towns of any size have at least one recruiting office. In Tulsa District, we negotiate and manage 53 leases for the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines. These equate to 97 recruiting offices throughout Oklahoma. We have recently been assigned to lease housing for many of the recruiting personnel working out of those offices. We also have recently been tasked by the National Guard to lease two recruiting facilities for them.

When the heating or air conditioning is not working properly, the locks need changing, the plumbing is on the blink, the office needs painting, the carpet needs cleaning, etc., Real Estate gets the call from the recruiter to get it fixed. We're the Tim Hunt for the Recruiting Command.

Another area most folks don't know about is our support for military contingency operations, such as those in Bosnia and Kosovo. We deployed two specially-trained people to Bosnia to lease land, buildings, and facilities for NATO bases, staging areas, pre-positioned artillery sites, and the like during 1996 through 1998. They also negotiated for damages and participated in base closures and inspections.

We are building managers and land stewards. We review business plans and financial statements. We create bills and collect rents. We place values on all types of land and buildings. We buy and lease land and buildings from others. We sell and lease

land and buildings to others. We enforce the integrity of land boundaries from encroachment. We review and approve development by commercial and industrial entrepreneurs. We inspect facilities for proper use and for health and safety. We lease and purchase military real estate for

*We're the Tim Hunt for the Recruiting Command.*

the Army and often for the Air Force. We often lease or purchase real estate for other federal, state, or local governments.

Real estate is a specific study in law, and we rely heavily on Office of Counsel. We work with legal documents and legal questions daily, but few people in Real Estate Division are lawyers, and none are in the attorney job series.

In its generic sense, real estate is also unique in that there is only a limited supply of it. This is what sustains and increases its value. The majority of the district's controversies deal with the land we all steward or impact. It may be about flooding someone else's land, cleaning up hazardous waste, or closing a park, but it's happening on real estate that someone has an interest in, and people tend to be sensitive about it.

This enigma organization called Real Estate will probably continue to look as it has in the past because it has proven itself in handling a multitude of seemingly unrelated missions very well. However, it will continue to evolve to keep up with the fast-breaking trends in land use that continually affect the land we all steward.



## From the Mailbox

To the Fall River Lake staff from The "S" Family:

Thank you for your generous gift of love by donating the food you provided for my family in our time of need. It couldn't have come at a better time. My family applied for SRS services the day before Thanksgiving when they called to give us the food donated by your wonderful people. Dropping my pride that day proved God does answer our prayers.

We are a family of four. My husband and daughter are disabled, and I recently lost my job due to health problems. My other child works and goes to school and gives up her paycheck to help out her parents on food.

God has blessed us richly by dear people like you. Your gift is greatly appreciated. I will carry on next year of what you've done for my family by giving to others. Thank you from the bottoms of our hearts. May God bless each and every one of you.

**From Vicki Riggs to: the lady at the front desk, main office; the man in charge of the Oologah Lake area, main office; park rangers x2; the lady in charge of the gate, Hawthorne Bluff:**

On Oct. 18, my friends and I were camping at the Hawthorne Bluff camping area at Oologah Lake. We discovered that road work was going to begin in the park. This was very upsetting to us because we had planned a fun, relaxing weekend. We were quite aware of the inconvenience that this would cause (dust, noise, and not being able to come and go as we pleased). We are teachers, and this trip was planned a long time ago. I might add that we're not just cranky, old, complaining women.

The reason that I am writing this letter is to commend the people listed above for everything they did. These people did everything possible to accommodate and make our weekend pleasant. We had a wonderful time.

# Keystone Volunteers Make a Major Difference

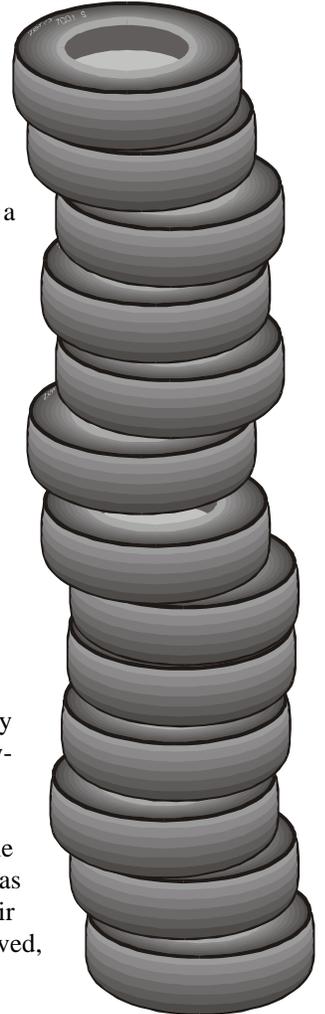
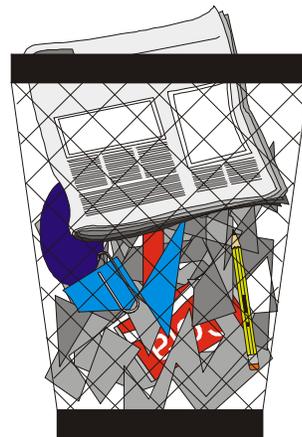
**Rita Anderson  
Keystone Area Office**

**V**olunteers at Keystone Lake have provided important working hours where the Corps of Engineers cannot. Many grueling hours were worked by an assortment of groups and individuals, young and old.

Brandon Wikins, an Eagle Scout candidate, organized a group to plant various trees at Whitewater Park, an eagle sanctuary. In the future, eagles will be able to roost in the trees. Wilkins' group was made up of his fellow Troop 222 members, a part of John Know church in Tulsa. They planted 11 cottonwoods in the sanctuary, five willows in the eagle observatory, and five sycamores in Brush Creek, the nearby campsite.

When the lake levels hit record lows this past September and October, the volunteers were able to reach the lakeshore and pick up trash. The volunteer hours were critical in removing the debris which included glass, cans, monofilament, and tires.

Different groups picked up litter along the shoreline while the lake was low, including the Thunderbird academy from Pryor. The Thunderbirds plucked 100 tires from Keystone State Park shoreline and gathered more than 40 bags of trash at Whitewater Park. Some of their bulging plastic bags held only fishing line which had been embedded in the rocks below the dam. Removing the line from the rocks was an extra bonus because eagles and other large birds eat their prey there. Broken glass in the fishing area was also removed, reducing the threat of injury to fishermen below the dam.



A group from Oklahoma State University helped pick up litter at Keystone State Park. These volunteers pulled 40-50 tires out of the lake in addition to their many bags of litter.

Other countless individuals cleaned the shoreline on their own. Camp hosts and gate attendants all took part in the litter removal.

The extra effort of the surrounding communities provides the Corps with needed help. The Keystone Lake staff is exploring additional resources to make Corps parks and shoreline safer and cleaner.



## From the Security Office

### Vehicle Identification

District Office vehicle identification allows the security guards to quickly detect, report, and act upon any suspicious vehicle or to notify a specific employee when their vehicle is in trouble. Contact Logistics Office to request a permanent or temporary ID sticker.

Field employees visiting the district in their private vehicle should park in the designated visitor parking area. If you are driving a government-tagged vehicle, identification stickers are not required; however, employees visiting the district for an extended time will need to get stickers in the Logistics Office.

Questions for the Human Resources Office?

1-800-453-8907



### This Date in History

Presidents' Day is Feb. 19.  
Highlights from that day.

1800 — Napoleon becomes first counsel

1807 — Aaron Burr arrested for treason

1847 — Donner party found

1942 — Roosevelt signs Internment Order

1945 — U.S. Marines invade Iwo Jima

## ... Spotlight

from page 6

**Hudson; Bill Cheatham; Jean Wilkins; Angie Short; Tim Hunt; Michael Ware; Louis Vogele; Rick Thomas; David Steele; Jeff Waldie; Joyce Heim and choir; Maggie Fletcher; Melissa George; and Ruth Norris.**

The following employees received awards or were recognized: **Patrick Beard, Cherri Jackson, Don Sanders, the Reese Base Realignment and Closure Cleanup Team (names listed in November/December 2000 TDR); David Hays; Clif Warren and Altus AFB Project Delivery Team; Susan Killgore and Tinker AFB Repair Primary Runway Team; Kevin Weber and Fort Sill Rail System and Container Facility Team; Sandi Egan and Snow Hall Life Safety, Fort Sill, Okla., Team; Yolane Hartsfield and Tulsa District Y2K Team; Cherrie Dean and Miscellaneous Road Upgrades Team; Kevin Weber and FY00/01 Fort Sill Tact Equipment Shops Team; Lori Hunninghake and Tar Creek Wetlands Concept Plan Team; and Rhonda Sallee and Joint Recruiting Facilities Command Program Team.** Congratulations to all!

Congratulations also to **Russell Wyckoff** who completed the requirements for a certified floodplain manager.

We recently had a COMSEC inspection, and **Janice Coy** received laudatory comments regarding her record keeping, organization of materials, and attention to detail. Tulsa District was the first of 17 accounts inspected which has no discrepancies. Well done!

As I write this, 14 of your peers who comprise the Self-Assessment Team are busy assessing the district against the Army Performance Improvement Criteria. Part of their effort is the employee survey. We did one last year, and we used the results heavily to institute some changes in the district. I encourage all of you to participate to help ensure that we fulfill the promise our bright future holds.

ESSAYONS!



## Condolences

To Randy Moe, hydrologic technician in H&H Branch on the death of his father, Walter Moe.

James W. Caps died Dec. 13, 1999. Before going into the service in 1942, he worked at Fort Supply Dam for a year. After his military duty which included the Battle of the Bulge, he resumed his career with the Tulsa District, working at Wister and Tenkiller Dams and Altus and Perrin Air Force Bases before transferring to Air Force Civil Service.

Bud Roth, long-time service contractor and friend to many in the district, passed away Dec. 14, 2000.

To family, friends, and co-workers of Dwayne Glover, park ranger, who died Dec. 15. He had worked most of his career at Lake Eufaula, transferring to Texoma in July 1999.

To Helen Williams on the Dec. 19 death of her mother, Dorothy Williams. Helen is a regulatory project manager in Regulatory Branch, Planning, Environmental, and Regulatory Division.

To Zane Harding, retiree, on the Dec. 20 death of his father, Harry Harding, in a house fire.

Leffie N. Snider died on New Year's eve. He retired in 1967 after 33 years of service to the Corps.

John Reznicek, father of Kenny Reznicek, passed away Jan. 4. Kenny is the facility manager at Marion Area Office.

## Candidates Named

Candidates for the fifth Leadership Development Program class have been selected.

Operations Division participants will be park rangers, Ron Crank, Ed Parisotto, and Dorinda Young; lake managers, Bill Powers and Rick Sellers; and civil engineer, Lori Thomas.

Engineering and Construction Division participants will be Andrew McVeigh, project engineer; and Andrew Obrachta, geologist.

Congratulations to all!

## Doing Double

### Duty

Karl Hunter, maintenance worker at Fort Supply Lake, serves his community as fire chief. On Dec. 3 at 3:00 a.m., he and the rest of the volunteer fire crew were called to fight a house fire near the entrance to Fort Supply Lake.

The home's owner, Howard Theiss, wrote a letter to *Woodward News* editor commending Hunter and all the firefighters. His letter also offered the following advice:

I would like to remind your readers of the importance of having working smoke detectors. It is also important to have fire escape routes and a designated meeting place established. We had all these things in place and were still faced with a chaotic morning. Finally, if you know a volunteer firefighter, thank him for his dedication to duty. It's the only pay he gets.



**Karl Hunter**  
maintenance worker  
and fire chief

**Editor's Note:**  
Thank you, Karl!



Courtesy Oologah Area Office

Benny the Beaver handled the reins while Corps family members braved the cold to ride on Oologah Area Office's float in two area Christmas parades.

## Oologah Floats Through Holidays

Corps family members of the Oologah Area Office celebrated Christmas this year by entering a float with a water safety theme in two parades. The equipment trailer was used as a base for the float. Four deer archery targets were decorated to look like Santa's reindeer with lighted wreaths and reins. The reindeer pulled a personal watercraft sleigh that was piloted by Benny the Beaver in a Santa hat. Snowmen and Santas adorned the sides of the float along with banners wishing parade watchers "Happy Holidays" and urging them to think water safety year round.

## Butterfly Bench Donations Received



### Contributor

Nikki Minnick

Col. & Mrs. Flor

Susan M. Killgore

### In Memory Of

Brittney Satterfield, Scotty Matthews, Steve Synar

Barbara Cravens and other Tulsa District, Corps of Engineers, employees who dedicated their lives for the public good

Ronald G. Killgore, husband and Tulsa District retiree

## Brewer Bags Buck

Lake Texoma's third annual Youth Deer Hunt was a success for Wills Brewer, son of Steve Brewer of Engineering and Construction Division. Wills' hunt was over soon after daylight on opening day when he pulled the trigger on a young buck.

Wills and two other young hunters, Steven Easom and Brandon Willis, applied for the hunt through the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife's computer drawing. The hunt was held Nov. 4 and 5 at the 400-acre Southeastern Oklahoma State University Bioscience area.

Rangers Ron Crank, W. T. Holder, and Phil Newton treated the hunters to a hot dog and marshmallow roast lunch on Sunday. Everyone saw deer and seemed to have a good time in the great outdoors.



**Wills Brewer poses with the buck he took early on the first morning of Lake Texoma's Youth Deer Hunt.**

*from the Office of History*

## *Flashes from the Past — Did you know . . .*

*. . . this tale of a former Chief of Engineers?*

**B**rig. Gen. William L. Marshall, chief of engineers from 1908 to 1910, weighed some 300 pounds. A gifted raconteur with a sense of humor, he enjoyed telling the story of how he became chief.

Summoned to the White House in the summer of 1908, he reported to President Theodore Roosevelt who asked him if he wanted to be chief of engineers. "I have never asked for anything," Marshall replied, "I am a soldier, sir." "Well," said the president, "I'm going to make you chief if you can complete the 90-mile ride I'm requiring of all mounted colonels."

"Sir," Marshall responded, "If you have a horse that will carry my 300 pounds for 90 miles, I guarantee to stay on top of him."

"That's just the trouble," Roosevelt shot back, "You should keep fit like I do. My aides and I pound the saddle five hours a day when we can find the time, in order to stay fit and be worthy of our cavalry tradition."

Chuckling in a most respectful tone, Marshall answered, "Mr. President, a cavalryman keeps fit by pounding the saddle. But an engineer, you know, has to do most of his work with the other end of his body." Roosevelt burst out laughing and soon thereafter sent Marshall's nomination to Capitol Hill.



Marshall was no slouch. Early in his career he was part of Lt. George Wheeler's expedition that explored the Southwest and the Rocky Mountains on horseback. Marshall Pass in Colorado is named for him. He was involved in river and canal projects on the lower Mississippi, the Fox River in Wisconsin, and the Illinois River. He made innovative use of concrete and developed cost-saving methods of canal construction. After retirement, he served as a consultant to the secretary of the Interior Department on hydroelectric power projects. He died in 1920 at the age of 74.



**William L. Marshall**

*. . . about this 19th century Corps civilian?*

**T**oday, the Corps of Engineers combines civil and military talent in a way that is unique in the government. After the Civil War, however, the position of civilian professionals employed by the Corps was uncertain at best. Some officers saw them as an unwelcome necessity, forced on the Corps by a shortage of military personnel. Then, toward the end of the 19th century, some exceptionally able civilians — and the officers who believed in them — helped change the outlook.

Bernard Richardson Green was a 20-year-old graduate engineer in 1863 when he began work as a civilian assistant on the defenses of the New England coast. There he met a man who was to transform his life, Capt. Thomas Lincoln Casey of the Corps of Engineers. By 1877, Casey was a lieutenant colonel in Washington with responsibility for a variety of Corps projects. Remembering his able young assistant, he sent for Green and together they redesigned and finished the long-neglected, half-built monument. They went on to complete the State, War, and Navy Building (now the Executive Office Building) and on to construct the Library of Congress. After Casey died in 1896, Green continued to supervise construction of the Library's building. He went on to oversee construction of the Museum of Natural History of the Smithsonian Institution, the District of Columbia's Central Public Library on Mount Vernon Square, and the Pennsylvania State Capitol in Harrisburg. A distinguished figure in Washington life, he became president of the Cosmos Club and a leader in urban planning and civic reform.

In the early years of the Corps, the place of civilians had been in doubt and proper recognition not always accorded to their services. Green demonstrated what civilian professionals could offer the Corps and showed that the Corps could provide a rich and satisfying career.

**Perched on a wooden platform atop the Washington Monument, Green (far left) joined Casey (fourth from left), and others, as the 100-ounce aluminum tip, inscribed with the words, "Chief Engineer and Architect, Col. Thomas Lincoln Casey, Corps of Engineers," was placed on the monument's capstone.**



**From S.H. Nealy's sketch of the 1884 ceremony**