



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Tulsa District

TULSA DISTRICT RECORD

March/April 2001
Vol. 24, No. 2

Mingo Creek Project Completed

Susan Satterfield
Public Affairs Office

On Memorial Day 1984, the Mingo Creek watershed in Tulsa was flooded with 15 inches of rainfall in 24 hours. After rescue efforts ended, three fire trucks, 80 police cars, three ambulances, and 70,000 other vehicles were destroyed. Fourteen people died in the flood, 288 were injured, and 7,000 structures were damaged. While flooding was not surprising, the cost in lives and property was.

This damaging storm was just another justification for the City of Tulsa and the Corps of Engineers to begin construction of the Mingo Creek Local Protection Project.

In the 1950s, Tulsa residents were not aware of the importance of flood management and were building houses along the banks of Mingo Creek. It wasn't until 1966 that an analysis of the Mingo basin began, and 1986 before Congress authorized construction of a federal project in the Water Resources Development Act.



A view of one of the completed detention sites. The multi-purpose areas provide walking trails, sports complexes, and fishing opportunities for area residents.

The project included 19 separate contracts, the dedication of many employees throughout the years, and lots of ups and downs. After more than three decades of tragedy and destruction, the city of Tulsa completed the project.

“At one time or another, everyone has worked on the Mingo project. It was a district effort,” said Richard Bilinski, project manager.

When the project first began, not only were many Tulsa residents skeptical of the plan, but a trusting relationship between the Corps and the city of Tulsa had to be established.



Destruction left from the flood of '84 emphasized the need for flood management in the Mingo Creek watershed.

See Mingo, page 4

Commander's Column



Col. Leonardo Flor
District Engineer

Let me begin with an apology to **Patty Frye**. I overlooked her when I mentioned names in the previous *Tulsa District Record* of those who participated in the Volksmarch. Patty, a very special thanks to you and my sincere apology.

Thanks to the 470 employees who took the time to complete the employee survey. You have provided the Self-Assessment Team great input to their report. As I've told each of you in an e-mail, the results of the employee, leader, and customer surveys done for us by the Engineering Research and Development Center are available on our team page.

The Information Management Office has developed a General Purpose Survey Program that can be customized to accommodate a variety of surveys. Contact the Help Desk for further information. This will be a tremendous asset to obtain feedback and improve operations.

Many employees volunteered in various ways to make our participation in the Martin Luther King, Jr. parade a success. Special thanks to **Michael Ware**, our coordinator, **Michelle Jackson**, **Willie Grimes**, **Karim Williams**, **Melissa George**, **Dorothy Griffin**, **Joyce Yarbrough**, **Georgia Lewis**, **Marcus Ware**, **Ralph Hight**, **John Roberts**, **Richard Freeman**, **Michael Gilmer** (formerly with Carlson Travel), **Ramona Wagner**, **Cherri Dean**, **Tom Logsdon**, **Angie Short**, **Jay Jones**, **Paul Shockley**, **Charley Dooley**, **Dale Workman**, **Lisa Samilton**, **Ted Holsomback**, **Maggie Fletcher**, **Kathy Riggle**, **Glen**

Snyder, David Manning, Preston Hunter, and Tracy White for your support.

Congratulations to **Dan Bentley** for his selection as a member on the National Recreation Leadership Advisory Team. This team provides oversight for the Recreation Management Support Program that was established in FY 99 to support the Corps recreation business function. It is a mechanism to identify national recreation program priorities and address them through valid research, management support, and technical information transfer.

I recently received a letter from Brig. Gen. Kenneth J. Quinlan, commander, Headquarters Multinational Brigade (East), Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo, thanking **Lt. Col. Glenna Wheatley** for her support and commitment to the peacekeeping mission in Kosovo. Thanks for your outstanding contributions.

Mark Cory, a private citizen from Kansas, acknowledged the outstanding support and professionalism he received during a group campout at Big Hill Lake over Columbus Day weekend. Special thanks to **Susan Couch**, **Tim Rasmussen**, and **Tom Benenati**.

Kevin Davee was the primary author of an HTRW Design Center technical article, "Petroleum Hydrocarbon Monitored Natural Attenuation: Essential Framework for Remedial Managers," that was recently published in the journal, *Environmental Geosciences*. Congratulations!



The Spotlight

The Spotlight

Lt. Col. J. Kevin Hackney, chief of Civilian Leadership Training Division at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., recently sent a letter thanking **Russell Holeman** and **Jimmy Pryor** for their exceptional achievement as Leadership Education and Development course facilitators. He stated, "Your dedication to the Army Leadership Program, while performing regularly assigned duties, is a direct reflection of living the Army Values."

Col. George H. Hazel, commander of the Kansas City District, acknowledged **Greg Snider**, **Emmett Billiott**, **David Jones**, **Rusty Roberts**, and **Penni Walker** for their support on the recently completed sampling of monitoring wells at the Former Richards-Gerbaur Air Force Base, Formerly Used Defense Site, Cass County, Belton, Mo. He wrote, "The success

See Spotlight, page 11

Tulsa District Record

Editor, Public Affairs Office
1645 S 101st East Ave
Tulsa, OK 74128-4609

918-669-7366 - Phone
918-669-7368 - Fax
<http://www.swt.usace.army.mil>

The *Tulsa District Record* is an unofficial publication authorized by AR 360-1. Contents are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or Tulsa District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It is published monthly using offset lithography. Contributions of articles, graphics and photographs are encouraged. All manuscripts are subject to editing. Printed circulation: 1,700.

District Engineer
Col. Leonardo Flor

Public Affairs Officer
W. Ross Adkins

Editor
Susan Satterfield

Technical Assistance
Mary Beth Hudson
Edward Engelke



The Knox County War Memorial

Duke Helps Memorial Dream Come True

Susan Satterfield
Public Affairs Office

On Veterans Day 2000, Dennis Duke, chloride control project manager at Truscott Brine Lake, stood with his grandson in his arms watching the dedication ceremony of the Knox County War Memorial in Knox County, Texas. Duke volunteered his expertise in construction to the community to help their vision become a reality.

“The committee members were great at raising money and researching the names, but they didn’t know how to design the memorial or push it from the plans to reality, so they called on me,” Duke said. “I had the engineering and construction background to make this work, so I was honored to lead the charge.”

The monument, which is located on the Texas Korean Veterans Memorial Highway, pays tribute to all men and women who served in the military and have ties to Knox County.

Except for the actual engraving and placement of the granite stone, funds for this monument were collected from private donations across the nation and constructed by volunteers in Knox County.

“This memorial crystallizes in its existence what a constant vigil the quest for freedom is. You can be told stories or read about the battles in

Dennis Duke holding his grandson at the dedication ceremony.

books, but when you see the memorial and put your hand on that red granite and touch that name, it becomes more than a history lesson,” Duke said. “It conveys the reality of sacrifice for all of us.”

The ten granite stones hold the names of more than 2,000 veterans. The community could not be more proud of the huge success their labor of love has been.

Each day, Duke drives past and sees the impact this project has had as people walk from stone to stone to honor the veterans of Knox County.

“One day, I noticed a young couple stopped at the site, so I decided to visit them. As I approached them, the young man held his 7-month-old son up to touch the name of his great-grandfather engraved in the granite. They turned to me with tears in the young man’s eyes and said I would never know what this meant to them. I think I do,” Duke said. “This turned out better than my wildest dreams.

Editor’s Note: For more on the memorial visit www.knoxcountytexas.com/vetsmem1.htm



. . . Mingo

from page 1

Over the years, the relationship has grown stronger and stronger, and both parties can stand back proudly and admire the accomplishment of their teamwork.

Soon after the project began, residents began to see that not only would this project help maintain flood management, they would also gain several new recreational sites for soccer fields, tennis courts, trails, and fishing spots.

“The community has completely embraced the project as a great accomplishment, Bilinski said. “In fact, so many organizations would like to use the sites, that Tulsa had to develop a review process.”

Another unique quality and example of the strong relationship between the city and the Corps is that the Mingo project was the first and only one in which construction began before the federal funds were in hand. Because of the urgency of the situation, the city began construction



After heavy rains in Tulsa, this scene was all too familiar to residents around Mingo Creek.

after legislation was passed ensuring that the Corps would reimburse funds.

The success of the Mingo Creek Project has been noted locally by Mayor Susan Savage and nationally by CBS in an “Eye on America” story, the *Des Moines Sunday Register*, and the *New York*

Times. It has received many awards, such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Public Service Award and Outstanding Engineering Achievement Award, and it was a semifinalist for the Innovations in American Government Award Program by the Ford Foundation and Harvard University.

Fifteen years ago, the city of Tulsa had more national disaster declarations than any other community and the highest insurance rates in the nation. The Mingo Creek Project – a benchmark in quality flood control – has made Tulsa a leader in successful flood management. According to a March 24 article in the *Tulsa World*, “Our flood-control program received the National Award for Excellence in Local Floodplain Management in 1987 and is emulated by many other communities. In 1992, the Federal Emergency Management Agency ranked Tulsa first in the nation in floodplain management -- giving us the nation’s lowest flood insurance rates.”

Detention sites across Tulsa are used for many recreational activities.



District Does Doubletake

APIC Drives District Success

Tulsa District was evaluated by its own employees for the second year. The Self-Assessment Team completed employee interviews in early March and held a day of analysis at a working meeting March 22. Work ahead includes analyzing all the data collected and briefing the senior leaders at their conference in mid April.

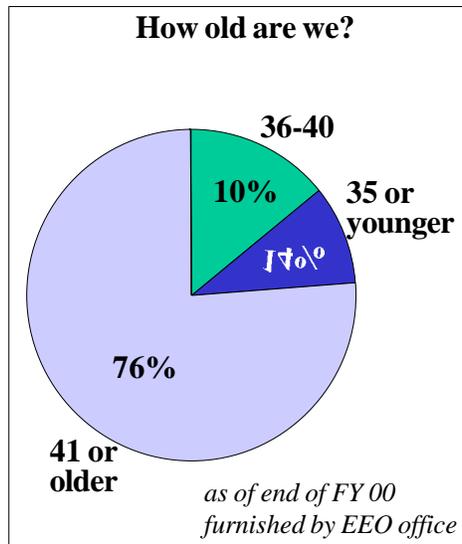
The team will identify areas for improvement and also look at what the district does well – our best practices. For example, our water safety program, our Vehicle Reservation System, and Operations Division’s Career Manual.

Last year’s top 10 identified gaps were incorporated into the district’s strategic plan, Implementation Plan FY 00–04. Concerns about our aging workforce and communication breakdowns were addressed.

The development of the Mission Essential Task Lists and the corresponding determination of the training needed for these tasks provided a framework for a Human Resource Plan. The current task of mapping key processes helps foster process improvement and leaves a trail for the layout of the work or product. Employee involvement in implementation planning and process mapping has

been highly encouraged. The commander worked to improve communication across the district with brown bag lunches initiated in March 2000. The Board of Directors have their own home page on our intranet site, and minutes of their meetings are posted for all employees to read.

The team’s work is challenging and brings a steep learning curve. “APIC isn’t something that just Tulsa District is doing,” remarked Margaret Johanning, leader of this year’s Self-Assessment Team Leader. “From the Headquarters vision and strategic plan to the campaign plan of Southwestern Division, words like ‘continuous improvement, learning organization, customer-driven, or benchmark,’ illustrate the framework of Army Performance Improvement Criteria.”



A Few Facts

- ? 175 employees have professional certification
- ? 83 are registered Professional Engineers
- ? 30 percent of the workforce will be eligible to retire by FY 05

Where do we work?

Number of Employees	Office
2	Internal Review Office
4	Equal Employment Office
4	Public Affairs Office
5	Executive Office
6	Safety Office
8	Office of Counsel
12	Logistics Management Office
21	Information Management
25	Contracting Division
30	Programs and Project Management Division
31	Real Estate Division
41	Planning, Environmental, and Regulatory Division
43	Resource Management
202	Engineering & Construction Division (162 in TDO; 40 in field)
447	Operations Division (40 in TDO; 407 in field)

as of end of FY 00, furnished by EEO

Intern Writes of Field Rotation

Dawn Knight of Civil Design Section, Engineering and Construction Division, recently did a three-month rotation at Fort Sill to study the many duties of a Quality Assurance Representative. Here are some of her reflections.

When the idea of doing an intern rotation through Fort Sill came about, my first thought was I was going to receive a simple overview of construction and field office experience. With great satisfaction, I found out very quickly that this was not the case. The rotation was designed to expose me to several aspects of the Fort Sill office, and I had the opportunity to work on actual assignments with the well-seasoned staff.

The rotation began in early October, which provided mild weather and long days for work — an ideal climate for construction. It didn't take long to realize that the duties of a Quality Assurance Representative are great and diverse. Initially, an overview of projects in progress was provided. The \$105 million construction underway would provide more work than could be addressed to any depth during a three-month rotation. My assignments initially incorporated overseeing steel construction, pier drilling, dirt work, concrete placement, and roof installations. Safety was a constant duty and always the primary concern, and inspection procedures were identified and performed repetitively for different sites. The 10-12 hour days slowly dwindled.

The days of great weather were soon followed by rain, freezing temperatures, and ice storms. Pressing deadlines and a commitment to quality created an opportunity to learn different construction procedures in adverse conditions. I was introduced to concrete placement in cold weather, pier placement in rain, and the temperature range for dirt work. During this same timeframe, a landfill was discovered beneath the railroad operations construction site. Protocol required that work in the vicinity be halted immediately, and the QAR began coordinating efforts to preserve the site and any materials that might be of significant historical value.

Discovery of the landfill led to a series of meetings. Negotiations involved determining a solution that would allow the construction to continue, the historians to retrieve their specimens, and the contracting officers to determine a price for the additional time, work, and materials.

Preparatory meetings and pre-construction meetings were also part of the assignment. Prior to any work being initiated, QARs and contractors met to review the details of each job. Many times the QARs knowledge of construction played an impressive role in determining additional issues that hadn't been addressed by the design or specifications. More than once, prior experience contributed helpful insight.

Office paperwork always needed attention. Submittal reviews, contract modifications, and pay and information requests were waiting for any spare moments. QARs must have an understanding of the design, specifications, and application. The Requests for Information generally asked for interpretation of the design and specifications or items dealing with engineering value. Requests could require knowledge ranging from civil, structural, mechanical, electrical, and architectural to regulatory or procedural. On Fort Sill's behalf, QARs fielded a constant stream of questions and advised on protocol in the office as well as in the field.



Dawn Knight drops a bell measuring device into a pier hole.

The field rotation will continue to contribute to my growth in the Corps because I realize what creates a successful team:

- Respecting and understanding the Quality Assurance representative's role;
- Recognizing the need for a rapport between designer, QAR, and contractor;
- Realizing the necessity of both theoretical design and common sense design; and
- Identifying design and drafting deficiencies early.

The rotation was very well planned to give the greatest exposure for a three-month period, although I was exposed to more material than I could possibly consume. A longer field rotation is warranted. I saw several buildings at different stages of construction, but it may have been more effective to see one building from foundation to roof. Highlights of other projects were worked into the schedule during bad weather days, although they were not in the original curriculum. This exposure was very valuable, even if brief, and it should be included in future projects.

By the end of December there had been no time for boredom or loss of interest, but a lot of time to gain respect for field duties.

Strengthening the Regional Team



John Roberts
Chief, Programs and Project Management Division

Pine Bluff Arsenal, Little Rock AFB, Fort Chaffee, Arkansas River Navigation Study, Webbers Falls Hydropower Study, and Camden-Shumaker Formerly Used Defense Site. What do all of the above have in common?

Need a hint? How about Regional Teamwork? It seems that Tulsa and Little Rock Districts have more in common than the Arkansas River and McClellan-Kerr Navigation System.

While many may think that Regional Business Center and Regional Teamwork are just the latest Corps buzzwords, we and our sister district, Little Rock, are proving that Regional Teamwork is not a futuristic idea – it is today's way of doing business. All of the projects listed above are being worked on jointly by our two districts.

Does this mean that our regional teams are working like well-oiled machines? No. After all, we are still just learning to work regionally. This is why Little Rock and Tulsa District counterparts met in Fort Smith, Ark., in January for a two-day partnering session. Also in attendance were Ed Shuford, Southwestern Division Directorate of Engineering Technical Services, and Ralph Hight, Tulsa District's chief of Engineering and Construction Division who is currently on a detail to SWD. The objectives of the partnering meeting were to strengthen working relationships, create an environment where trust and teamwork prevent disputes and foster a cooperative bond, and to discuss issues and questions in an open environment.

In the opening comments from Col. Holden and Col. Flor, both agreed that in a time of downsizing we need the strengths of other partners to blend talents and provide responsive, quality service to our customers. Satisfied customers is another commonality of the six projects being worked on by our regional teams. We may have six different models for how the regional teams are working, but innovative teams have found ways to satisfy customers.

Discussion focused on an overview of projects that our districts are working together on. Project managers from Little Rock and Tulsa led a discussion on the current issues, future work, and what's going well and what's not. Most discussion centered on improving communication. Better use of e-mails, more frequent telephone calls, video teleconferencings, and attendance at each other's project review boards and line item reviews will be used.

Both districts attended a Fort Chaffee site visit. Bob Coleman, Environmental Protection and Dr. Rose Zeiler, chief,

Environmental Compliance, gave a briefing on the fort's history. Currently, the districts are working together on the Building 460 TCE Groundwater investigations and the Building 477 Insecticide Contaminant Groundwater investigations. A tour was taken of the base that included the landfill caps that the districts designed. Dr. Zeiler said that she initially had reservations about two districts supporting the Fort Chaffee base closure efforts. Now she sees a high performing team working together without organizational biases.

Partnering will benefit both organizations. Communicating and sharing expertise, experience, and regional teamwork will make both districts more efficient and effective. Demonstrating teamwork to our customers will win trust and future business.

Waurika's Annual Water Safety Poster Contest was a Big Hit

Tim Adkin, Waurika Area Office

Waurika Lake has a new water safety billboard created from the artwork of an area student, Aimee Stewart. Her poster was the first-place winner in last year's Tulsa District Water Safety Poster Contest.

Her poster was recreated as a 7x 4-foot metal billboard to help educate the Waurika Lake visitors on water safety. The billboard was placed in front of our lake overlook just north of the project office. The billboard was very well done, and we anticipate that it will be well received by our visitors this summer.

To keep students excited and informed on the importance of water safety, the billboard will be updated yearly with the Waurika Area's overall winning poster.

Other first-place winners include Rebekah Rankin, Waurika Elementary; Katie Mosier, Walters Middle School; Patrick Turner, Central High Elementary; and Candice Camplain, Ringling Elementary. A total of 125 posters were submitted from five area schools.



Billboard of first-place poster made by Aimee Stewart

Artifacts Discovered at Fort Sill Landfill

Burl Ragland
Installation Support Manager
Programs Project Management Division

During a recent return by the Corps of Engineers to a site on Fort Sill known as Camp Doniphan, an interesting discovery was made that has roots dating back to the turn of the century.

During the excavation near the Ammunition Office on the site, an old Camp Doniphan landfill was discovered. Louis Vogel, archaeologist with the Tulsa District, was immediately contacted, and he contracted with an archaeology firm to evaluate this landfill to determine the site's eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. It was determined that the site was not eligible for the NRHP.

However, hundreds of artifacts were collected, representing the various activities undertaken at the installation in the early 20th century. Dozens of horse and mule shoes; hundreds of horseshoe nails; animal bones; medicine and tonic bottles; liquor, food, and condiment bottles; and army and domestic tableware were found. Doll parts, buttons, and buckles were also recovered, according to Scotty Hughes, Corps of Engineers quality control.

The project that the Corps is managing at the camp consists of constructing 9,800 feet of track to include new railroad road crossings, loading ramps marshalling area, container staging, two new ammunition storage buildings, a new rail operations building, and vehicle scales. The work is scheduled to be complete in June of 2002 is still on track, even after the discovery was made.

This was possible because of the dedicated teamwork of several different organizations which include the Fort Sill Directorate of Logistics, Directorate of Environmental Quality, Directorate of Public Works, Directorate of Plans, Training and Mobilization (Museum), the resident office, the construction contractor, the Tulsa District Office, the State of Oklahoma, and Wendy Lopez & Associates, Inc. (a contractor hired by Tulsa District to excavate the old landfill).

The kind of support that was given to this project when the discovery was made is an example of how teamwork will guarantee a successful project and program. The customer, contractor, and Corps all pulled together to make what could have been a



Some of the artifacts found at Camp Doniphan's landfill.

See Artifacts, page 11



Johanning
Named
Customer Care
Employee
Fourth Quarter 2000

Margaret Johanning, lead planner in the Tulsa District Planning Division, was named Customer Care Employee for the fourth quarter after being nominated by Sue Haslett, Planning Branch.

Margaret provides plan formulation support for many different planning studies which can be very complicated at times.

She was also the groundbreaker for the district's first ever 905b Analysis and Project Study Plan and worked as the Self-Assessment Team leader. Through all her tasks, Margaret maintains a positive and helpful attitude.



Hartwell
Named
Customer Care
Employee
First Quarter 2001

Harry Hartwell from Engineering and Construction Division was named Customer Care Employee of the first quarter. He was nominated by Raymond Tomasko.

Harry performs quality assurance inspections under the HUD Public Housing Program and the HUD Building Grants to Native American Tribes Projects.

Harry makes comprehensive inspections of each project to ensure that each customer will receive quality workmanship, and he maintains a positive relationship with the Public Housing Executive Directors on the projects he inspects.

Harry's caring attitude to the Tulsa District's customers is beneficial to creating a positive image of the entire district.

Building Castles

Glenda Vincent
Park Ranger, Oologah Lake Office



Prior to painting, Paul Shockley, Dale Workman, and Charlie Dooley stand proudly by one of the Corps Castle they constructed.

In preparation for the Martin Luther King Jr. parade, Dale Workman, Charlie Dooley, and Paul Shockley from the Oologah Lake Office put their heads together to build something new for the Corps float.

It did not take them long to get to work on their masterpiece. When the project was complete, the three men had designed and built two large, wooden Corps castles.

Great detail was put into the four-foot castles, and when construction was completed, the castles were painted bright red.

On Martin Luther King Day, the float was a great success. It was hard to miss by parade goers, and the parade commentators took a moment to notice and comment on the significant effort put into the float. Oologah Lake Office is proud of Dale, Charlie, and Paul's hard work and positive example.

First Centurion Named at Texoma

Charles Ray Andrews
Texoma Area Office

After passing 100 safety tests, Doug Wilson, Texoma powerhouse employee at Denison Dam, was named the first Centurion of the New Millennium by the Texoma Safety Council.

During the mid '90s, Texoma implemented a project Safety Council Committee. The council consisted of members from the powerhouse, operations and maintenance, rangers, and administrative staff. Their duties were to ensure a safe working environment and instill good working habits, such as personal property education, lifting properly, and fall protection.

Each work section was inspected, without bias, and a weekly safety meeting was conducted, which included testing from the Safety and Health Requirements manual.



Doug Wilson, Power House Employee, was recently named Texoma Safety Centurion after passing 100 safety tests.

All these functions have drastically improved the safety and health of Texoma's employees at both the project office and the Denison dam.

We owe a lot to our employees here at Texoma for their participation and dedication to the program. This is one giant step, but as any good thing goes, we must all continue to vastly improve on a daily basis to the next great step.



From the Security Office

Barrier Update

Although many have become accustomed to the barriers around the building, there are current plans being made to remove them.

Before eliminating the barriers, safety film will be installed over the windows. You will still be able to see out. Also, building curbs will be painted.

When you start to see the film being installed and the curbs being painted, you'll know that the barriers will soon be history.

Leaders Visit District

John Roberts
Chief, Programs and Project Management Division

Tulsa District recently hosted separate visits from two military leaders from Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. Valuable information was shared during both visits, and the great relationship currently enjoyed between the district and the Air Education and Training Command continued to grow.

Col. Homer Guy, chief of AETC's engineering division, made a presentation on AETC design standards to a group of about 30 employees from both Fort Worth and Tulsa districts. The presentation included examples of common "warts" that detract from a building's appearance. AETC's design standards can be accessed at www.aetc.af.mil.

"Business as usual is something we cannot afford," Col. Guy said, emphasizing that the Air Force needs service agents that are innovative and constantly improving. He explained that metrics are being developed that will enable the Air Force to compare the effectiveness of different service agents, such as the Army Corps and the Navy or Corps divisions and districts. Metrics will include data on the ability to have projects ready to advertise on schedule, design costs, contract cost growth, contract time growth, contract placement per day, and financial closeout.

When Col. Patrick Fink, chief of AETC's environmental division, visited, he gave a presentation to district leaders focusing on leaders' responsibilities for environmental stewardship and environmental compliance. He stressed the rapidly growing number of environmental laws that an installation must comply with. Failure to comply can adversely impact the mission of the installation and can result in fines or, in the extreme, civil actions against military or civilian employees.

Just as there are good service providers and bad service providers, there are good customers and bad customers. Good customers give constructive feedback. They also make the time to visit and get to know their service providers. AETC is a great customer, and we are privileged to be able to serve them. The district is at times a service provider and at other times a customer. As a customer, we should take a lesson from AETC and give constructive feedback and quality time to our own suppliers and service providers. The end result, just as with our service to AETC, will be better service and a delighted customer.

Questions for the
Human Resources Office

1-800-453-8907



This Date in History

Saint Patrick's Day is March 17. Highlights from that day in history:

0461 — St. Patrick dies in Saul

1905 — Eleanor marries Franklin D. Roosevelt

1958 — U.S. Navy launches the Vanguard 1 satellite

1966 — U.S. sub locates missing hydrogen bomb in Mediterranean



American
Red Cross

Next scheduled drives:

May 4

August 24

October 19

January 25, 2002

... Spotlight

from page 2

of this project is due to an excellent working relationship between all parties which includes your staff's personal knowledge, diligence and professionalism."

Over the past couple months, I've visited with many groups of employees, both at Tulsa and in field offices. In almost three years as district commander, I am still amazed at how varied and challenging our missions are. Luckily, we have many talented and dedicated folks who make things happen well. Over the same period, I've also met with numerous stakeholders and customers we serve. Consistently, they confirm my observations — Tulsa District is a great organization.

The results of ERDC's Army Performance Improvement Criteria analysis of the district confirm that we are a very good organization. The results also underscore the need for us to continue striving for improvement. Communications is still the number one area we need to work on. But we will never get there unless we agree with a principle that the chief keeps reminding us, "Communications is everyone's responsibility."

ESSAYONS!

... Artifacts

from page 8

not-so-good story become an excellent one. There's a saying that goes something like this, "A commitment to teamwork makes people proud to be a part of the team." The commitment displayed by all of the participants of this project certainly made all of us proud to be part of this team.



Family Additions



Kadyn Williams, born Feb. 5 — daughter of Karim and Donika Williams. Karim works in Safety Office.

Jack Thomas Wilson, born Feb. 6 — son of Dick Wilson, review appraiser in Real Estate Division, and his wife, Lisa.

Kayla Ray Brashers, born March 6 — daughter of Jennifer Price-Brashers, student aide in the Public Affairs Office, and her husband, Jamie Brashers.

Condolences

To family and friends of John Proffitt who passed away Jan. 25. John worked in Tulsa District's Management and Disposal Branch, Real Estate Division, but retired from the Ohio District.

To Tom Dacus, lock and dam operator at W.D. Mayo Lock and Dam 14, whose mother, Augusta Dacus, passed away Jan. 28.

To Leo Coffman, Dominion Leasing building manager, whose father, Carl, passed away Feb. 21. Carl previously worked here on a part-time basis.

To Jean Wilkins, Support Services Branch, whose mother, Doris Knoten, passed away Feb. 18.

To family and friends of William L. Martin who passed away Jan. 11. Bill worked at Canton Lake as an administrative clerk and finished his career as the project manager.

To family and friends of Bob Coats from Planning, Environmental, and Regulatory Division, who passed away March 12. Bob is survived by his wife, Cathy, and his daughter, Victoria.

To Ray Robertson, Canton Lake park ranger, on the March 3 death of his father, Ray Robertson.

From the Mailbox



To the Tulsa District from Maj. Gen. Charles L. Johnson II, USAF commander:

The 2000 Central Oklahoma DoD Combined Federal Campaign was an all-time record breaker! Our portion of the campaign totaled over \$1,362,000, more than 132 percent of the projected goal.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, your coordinator, Peggy Massey, and the men and women of your organization for the important role you all played in achieving this unprecedented success.

Working together, Team Tinker has made a tremendous difference in the lives of those who will benefit from the hard work and generosity of the nearly 11,000 Tinker area DoD personnel who so unselfishly contributed to this worthy cause.

I am very proud of your team's contributions!

from the Office of History

Flash from the Past

“He died because he was too brave to abandon his post even in the face of a fearful pestilence and too humane to let his fellow beings perish without giving all the aid in his power to save them,” wrote Capt. Charles W. Howell, responsible for Corps of Engineers works in Louisiana in 1873.

“His name should be cherished, not only by his many personal friends,” he continued, “but by the Army, as one who lived purely, labored faithfully, and died in the path of duty.”

Capt. Howell penned that tribute to his deputy, Lt. Eugene A. Woodruff, a young officer whom Howell sent from New Orleans to the Red River of Louisiana as supervisor of the project to clear the great log raft, a formidable obstruction to navigation. Henry M. Shreve first cleared the Red River raft in the 1830s, but the raft formed again during years of inadequate channel maintenance resulting from meager congressional appropriations and neglect during the Civil War.

Lt. Woodruff left his workboats and crew on the Red River in September 1873 to visit Shreveport and recruit a survey party. When he arrived, he found Shreveport in the grip of a yellow-fever epidemic. Fearing he might carry the disease to his workmen if he returned to camp, he elected to stay in Shreveport and tend to the sick. He volunteered his services to the Howard Association, a Louisiana disaster-relief charity, and traveled from house to house in his carriage, delivering food, medicine, and good cheer to the sick and dying. He contracted the disease himself and died in late September, “a martyr,” reported the Shreveport newspaper, “to the blessed cause of charity.”

“His conduct of the great work on which he was engaged at the time of his death,” said the New Orleans district engineer, “will be a model for all similar undertakings and the completion of



Crane boat crew clearing the Red River raft in 1873.

the work a monument to his memory.” Capt. Howell assigned responsibility for finishing the job on the Red River to assistant engineer, George Woodruff, brother of the lieutenant.

Woodruff’s selfless actions not only eased the suffering of Shreveport residents, but his decision to remain in the town no doubt lessened the threat to his crew. Spared from the disease, the engineers successfully broke through the raft, clearing the river for navigation on Nov. 27, 1873. An Ohio River snagboat built the following year received the name *E.A. Woodruff* in recognition of the lieutenant’s sacrifice. The vessel served until 1925. More than a century later, the people of Shreveport continue to honor the memory of Lt. Woodruff.