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of Engineers®

Tulsa District

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Those dam bats!



Lee Perry, Oklahoma State University student working with Dr. Karen McBee, holds a Big Brown Bat captured at Keystone Dam during recent bat studies conducted

there. Perry has also been a summer ranger at Fall River, Kaw, and Keystone. Big Brown Bats can eat up to 3,000 mosquito-size insects per night.

by Laura Haggerty, Mannford Eagle
reprinted with permission

photo by Laura Haggerty, Mannford Eagle

They only come out at night. Their leathery wings beat strongly, making a disturbing ‘whicka whicka’ sound as they stream forth from their roost. Whether blood-sucking, swirling out of caves, or flapping out of belfries, bats have been popularized as the terrifying familiars of witches and vampires.

Classic horror films, such as “Count Dracula,” have caused the public to shudder at the mere mention of the species.

But what’s the real story? Mannford residents have the opportunity to find out.

See Bats, page 8



Col. Robert L. Suthard Jr.
District Commander

Commander's Comment

As I write this column, year end is fast approaching. As the new fiscal year gets underway, I'm confident you will continue to build on your successes and meet the challenges that confront us.

The recent restructuring of our district was certainly a challenge, and I appreciate the professionalism displayed during stressful times of change. We can all celebrate the fact that the restructuring is behind us, all employees were offered a job, and that more than \$10 million is now being directed to infrastructure repair. The district's exceptionally low G&A rates (overhead) translate into more dollars to the project.

Just as we are serving the citizens in our geographic region by providing safe structures, we are serving the citizens of our nation through our support to CENTCOM; 49 district employees have deployed since Sept. 11, 2001. Please keep the 13 who are still serving with FEST-M in your thoughts and prayers. Quite fittingly, numerous awards and accolades have been presented to those who volunteered to deploy. I'd like to also commend those of you who picked up their workloads and carried on during their extended absences.

We always focus on customer service, and our MILCON program proves it. Tulsa District was rated as the NUMBER ONE customer service district within USACE. Hooah!

As we begin FY04, keep up the great work. I am proud to serve as your commander.

Team award debuts

By Lori Hunninghake, PPMD

To nominate your team or get more information, contact Lori at 7224.

Congratulations to the Civil Works O&M Roads Multiple Award Task Order Contracts Project Delivery Team for being selected the first recipient of the newly formed Quarterly PDT award. The award is administered by the district's Board of Directors.

This team was formally recognized at the Sept. 12 Project Review Board. Col. Suthard presented each team member with a plaque and golf shirt with the "Excellence in Teamwork" emblem.

Team leaders were Dawn Rice and Ramona Wagner. Rice led the team from August 2002 until her FEST deployment in March 2003, and Wagner led from that point until the contract was awarded in May.

Members included Pam Chronister, Diane Cianci, and Maj. Rodney Davis, Contracting Division; Larry Dearing and Charlie Transue, Civil Design; Larry Stringer, Geotechnical; Stephen Walters, Specifications, Michael Nance, Tulsa Resident Office; Ted McCleary, Cost Engineering; Johnny Bell, Project Management Branch; and Russell Holeman, H&H Branch.

The PDT accomplished far more than the completion of a new contracting tool. It not only completed the complicated assignment of awarding three contracts by May 2003 as scheduled and within funding allocations, but it overcame long-standing cultural barriers

See Team Award, page 9

Tulsa District Record

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District Commander
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Garner named deputy district engineer

Mary Beth Hudson
Public Affairs Office

In a break with tradition, a civilian, Walter L. Garner, has been named deputy district engineer. His term comes at a time when Army officers are occupied elsewhere.

Garner makes the move into the Executive Office from Programs and Project Management Division where he has been a project manager since joining Tulsa District in 2001. He replaces Lt. Col. Stephen Zeltner.

Garner says he dealt with Tulsa District for years in his positions at Altus Air Force Base in Oklahoma and Fort Chaffee, Ark. When he signed on with the district in 2001, he took over project management duties for the military construction work at Altus and Vance AFB.

He says that he would have liked to volunteer to deploy, but that he wasn't in a position to do that. He looked at the temporary DDE opening as a challenge

and another way to help the district and the Corps do a job.

"I wanted to do the best I could to fill the gap until the time they get a lieutenant colonel back in," Garner explained.

With his military construction background, Garner says that other areas, such as civil works, will be new to him. "But I'm a firm believer in surrounding yourself with good people and let them do their job.

We have a lot of expertise in the Tulsa District -- notwithstanding the fact that we have lost a lot of the expertise with the reorganization and the early outs and so forth this past year. But, there's still a lot of expertise in the



Walter L. Garner, P.E., Tulsa District's deputy district engineer.

photo by Angie Short

district, and I believe if they're given the opportunity, they'll perform. They always come through, and I don't have any doubt about it."

When asked what the workforce could expect during his temporary assignment, Garner said, "Well, I think I have a pretty good understanding of how the civilian workforce thinks -- having been one and still being one myself. They've always got an open-door policy with me. They can pick up the phone and call me any time."

"I'm not a micro-manager," he continued. "I like to depend on the chiefs to do their job." He thinks his familiarity with the people, offices, and functions of the Tulsa District will be a big help.

"I'll do my best to divide equally my attention between the civil works and the military. I'll listen intently and do my best to make timely decisions," he concluded.

Garner began his federal service with a three-year stint in the Army. He was attending Oklahoma State University on the GI Bill when he heard of an Air Force commissioning program for students. He joined the Air Force, finished his civil engineering degree, and was commissioned. Garner retired from active duty in August 1987 and started his second career in federal civil service in September that same year.

Corps RIO mission

Beauchamp in Basra

Tulsa District's Randy Beauchamp works on the repair of a damaged pipeline at Ham Dan junction south of Basra.

The pipeline, essential to oil exports from the Al Faw Peninsula, transports oil from the Rumaylah Oil Fields to the Mina Al Bakr terminal in the Persian Gulf.



Employees support post-war recovery

By Sept. 10, Tulsa District had deployed 33 employees in support of the CENTCOM and Operation Iraqi Freedom; 11 remain deployed at the time of this printing. Following are some of their stories.

The only thing David Urbon knew about oil is what he learned from stopping at the gas station back home in Oklahoma.

"The closest I ever got to oil was when I filled my car up with gas and got the oil changed," said David Urbon, Tulsa District civil engineer.

"When I walked into the Gas and Oil Separation Plant 3R in Iraq, I was starting at ground zero. This was a most unusual challenge for the Corps. We are not petroleum experts. But a pipe is a pipe, and a switch is a switch. This was basic engineering," Urbon said.

Urbon arrived in Kuwait on March 18 as an electrical engineer. He spent the first two weeks at the Southwestern Division's Forward Engineering Support Team Main to Restore Iraqi Oil at Camp Doha. From there he went to Camp Commando, the base camp for the Southern Project Office, to serve



David Urbon speaks with a reporter about Operation Restore Iraqi Oil.

as a quality assurance inspector. From Camp Commando, team members travel each day into Iraq to the different work sites.

"After the coalition forces had gained control, the FEST teams went in with our contractor, Kellogg, Brown and Root (KBR), to do assessments of the sites. The gas and oil separation plants (GOSPs) were all shut down. KBR has the petroleum experience, but the Iraqis did not have drawings of the facilities or the pipelines. In order to start the GOSP running, we had to have power, water, and oil. Finding which pipeline had the oil would have taken quite awhile. But when the Southern Oil Company (SOC) workers returned, they knew the lines and got the plant started running within three days," Urbon said.

To start the GOSP running, they needed the best oil, lowest in water and salt content, since the plant wasn't running at full

capacity. "The SOC workers knew exactly which well had the sweetest oil, and we turned it on," he said.

GOSP 3R provides domestic oil for gasoline, diesel, and natural gas for a power plant that serves southern Iraq. "There was quite a bit of vandalism and the site had been neglected for years, but KBR and SOC quickly built a relationship that allowed the plant to get up and running quickly. Every day we get one more valve fixed, one more leak stopped, and it is getting better and better," Urbon said. "This is a real bootstrap operation. We want to keep it simple. This is antiquated equipment we are working with, and our goal is to get it running to pre-war condition," he said. The mission of Team RIO is to work together with the Iraqi people to safely and effectively restore the oil infrastructure to ensure the economy of Iraq.

"KBR brings the technical assistance and provides tools and equipment the Iraqis don't have," he said. "The SOC workers bring institutional knowledge, and they were standoffish at first, but we made it clear we were here to help them get going, and our working relationships have really taken off," Urbon said. Urbon is the chief of the Forecasting Section of the Hydrology and Hydraulic Branch. This is his second deployment for the Corps in support of the military missions in the past year.

"We went to Djibouti, Africa, last year, but that was a much simpler mission. We were putting together a master plan for a camp for the military. This deployment is a lot higher pressure, and our mission was classified before it began," he said. But the sense of adventure, seeing another part of the world and serving a role in the global war on terrorism inspired him to volunteer again. "I have great family support," he said.

Urbon is a native of Oklahoma with 25 years of service with the federal government. He also has five years of active duty time with the Air Force as a communications officer.

from FEST-RIO PAO

Telling the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers story is a daily challenge. Explaining the Corps role in wartime operations is the experience of a lifetime according to Alicia Embrey, a public affairs specialist.

"This has been one of the most challenging and memorable assignments I have ever encountered," Embrey said. She traveled to Camp Doha, Kuwait, in mid-February, and was the first Corps PAO into Iraq.

When the war began, Kuwait came under missile attack. "We had just gotten our chemical gear the night before the first attack which was quite an experience. On the first day of the war, we were at Camp Commando at Team-Rio's Southern Project Office when a long-range Chinese-made Silkworm missile hit the camp. We saw, felt, and heard the explosion," she said.

On March 27, less than five days after the war began, Team RIO, led by SWD commander Brig. Gen. Robert Crear, was ready to go into Iraq. The southern oil fields had been secured, with fires that needed to be put out, and damage assessments to be done. The day started at 3 a.m. The day was bright and hot with the heat of desert and the fire. Even though it was March, temperatures were well over 100 degrees. Combined with the heat, we were dressed in our full battle rattle, which consisted



Alicia Embrey, camera in hand, spent much of her time escorting members of the media. "It was like herding cats," she said.

of Kevlar helmet, flak jacket, gas masks, and load-bearing vests," said Embrey.

More than 90 media outlets, representing national and international news bureaus, television, newspapers, and magazines, met Team-RIO in southern Iraq. While working with the media, Embrey also took photographs.

"Media swarmed the area. It was like herding cats. Our first priority is always safety, and trying to keep the media in areas determined to be landmine free by the explosive ordnance experts was difficult,"

said Embrey.

"The amount of unexploded ordnance was surprising. I expected we would be fully involved in getting the oil fires out and oil back into production almost immediately. But part of getting the sites up and running again included clearing the sites of ordnance and securing the area from Iraqi soldiers," said Embrey.

Experts from the Huntsville Engineering Center and contractors that specialize in explosive ordnance disposal were part of Team-RIO. They cleared buildings of weapons, ammunition, and unexploded ordnance left over from the battles as coalition forces captured the oil fields and facilities.

The media continued to request visits to the oil fire sites for weeks. "I relied heavily on my subject matter experts to talk to the media, but most media wanted to talk with Gen. Crear. It was a real opportunity to tell the Corps story -- especially how our expertise in military and civil works programs provides a resource to the Army," Embrey said.

Each day Team RIO made a 150-mile plus round trip from Camp Doha into Iraq.

"The media interest continued and is still intense today," said Embrey. "The first trips included the oil fires; after the fires were out, we moved on to reestablishing the oil company, repairing the pipes, getting the gas and oil separation plants running at the refinery at Basra, Iraq."

Team-RIO opened a northern project office in Kirkut and, as the work moved north, Embrey moved with it.

She found living in Iraq to be much better. "You still work the long hours and days, but you don't have the long drive to the worksites," she said.

What she will remember most about the assignments will be the people. "We quickly formed relationships with the Iraqi oil workers who constantly came up to us and thanked us. They also liked to have their photos taken and were very open to the media. I also personally found heroes among our own people," she said.

"It has been a great opportunity and experience," said Embrey. "The friends I've made with contractors, fellow deployed Corps employees, Kuwait Oil Company employees and Iraqi oil workers, I will cherish the rest of my life."

from FEST-RIO PAO

Editor's Note: Readers of this newsletter may remember that Alicia Embrey is its former editor. She has returned to Tulsa and now works in Real Estate Division.



Chris Kennedy

Chris Kennedy, a Tulsa District chemist, saw the fight to free Iraq and has seen the fight to win peace there "up close and personal."

Since mid-March, Kennedy was assigned to the Corps Task Force RIO, a small group of some 70 Corps employees working to help the Iraq people rebuild their capability to exploit the world's second largest known oil reserves. Oil production supplies Iraq's

domestic needs as well as providing the vast majority of Iraq's foreign exchange.

"I came for the experience. I wanted the challenge of applying my skills a long way from home and with minimal support. I had no prior military experience and, to be sure, I was apprehensive. No, make that I was afraid," Kennedy said shortly before departing Kuwait.

Kennedy arrived at Camp Doha, Kuwait, on March 17, two days before the war began.

"The first time we came under attack by scuds, as I was sprinting to a bunker in my chemical gear and body armor, I heard and saw a patriot missile thunder into the sky from nearby. It was an attention getter, but I sure didn't stick around to watch," Kennedy reported.

Once ground forces had streamed north and driven any Iraqi military from the southern oil fields of Iraq, Kennedy's real work began in earnest.

"I was detailed to carry out assessments of oil facilities on land and offshore, as well as to examine pipelines. I was also

...FEST

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part of our response to oil spills and to other environmental and safety issues. Our mission was to secure the fields, fight fires and spills if they occurred, and in general make sure that Iraq's oil assets come through as well as they could," Kennedy said.

Kennedy told how he knew himself better following the experience. "I'm more confident now. I know I can anticipate problems and even deal pretty well with unexpected challenges. It's all about what the military calls situational awareness.

"I'm also more aware of the need for attention to detail as a result of this experience," he went on. "It's the little things like making sure you have a full gas tank, seeing if your spare tire is fully aired, knowing where your cell phone will and won't work, taking spare batteries with you, etc., that can make a real difference if you get into an unforeseen situation.

When asked if he would recommend this or similar experiences to others, Kennedy paused and replied, "That would be a qualified 'yes.' I'd tell them that they would need to be flexible. They will need to be tough. They may live in tents, it may be hot, and so forth.

"It's more than just their technical jobs with the Corps. You may have to change a tire too. That sort of life competency counts when the chips are down," he said.

Shifting to thoughts of home, Kennedy talked of his family. "It has been a long time," he said. "It will be nice not to have to look over my shoulder constantly, or to be careful about where I step (unexploded ordnance was a serious hazard where Kennedy worked). I want to be able to stop wearing shoes in the shower, and I think I'll go out in the yard and roll in the grass when I get home too."

Kennedy's contribution to the war and post-war oil recovery effort has been recognized by award of the Army Superior Civilian Service Award.

*by Alan Dooley
FEST-RIO Public Affairs*

John Forslund did not expect to be in the Middle East before the war began. The plan was to come after, but as the battle plans evolved and the need to preserve Iraq's ability to produce oil emerged, the Corps expertise was needed, and he arrived a month ahead of the war.

Forslund, a military construction project manager, sent out a message for volunteers in January, but did not intend to volunteer himself.

"When I talked to those who did, I was impressed and I volunteered. I knew we would be living in tents, eating MREs, and that everyday would be a workday, and it has met that expectation," he said. "I learned that there aren't any long days, just short nights."

Forslund was no stranger to the field environment. He spent almost four years in the Army serving as a helicopter pilot. It included time in Vietnam. He also has experience with cleaning up oil spills from working the Environmental Protection Agency.



John Forslund, left, speaks with reporter Chip Cummings about Operation Restore Iraqi Oil. Ron Timmermans looks on.

He arrived in Kuwait with the first group on Feb. 17. The team included subject matter experts in oil. "We spent the first few weeks at oil facilities in Kuwait to familiarize and train how we were going to shut down the Iraqi oil," said Forslund. The war began March 19, and the coalition forces and Team-RIO went to work.

The crew successfully helped shut down the oil fields and put out the fires, spending many days in chemical suits during the 24 SCUD attacks or alerts on Kuwait.

He served as the project manager of the Southern Project Office (SPO) of the Southwestern Division's Forward Engineering Support Team. The office was located at Camp Commando in northern Kuwait.

The SPO's list of accomplishments during his tenure is impressive. It includes establishing the SPO, closing more than 600 wells, safe-moding 32 oil production facilities, repairing damaged pipelines, cleaning up oil spills, and restarting the oil production facilities. This required coordination with the Marines, the Coast Guard, the Iraqi Southern Oil Company, the Army and the Corps' contractor Kellogg, Brown, and Root.

Forslund's day began at 5 a.m. with staff meetings and e-mails to coordinate the work for the day. Most days he drove more than 300 miles, travelling to the Rumayla Oil Fields, and ending back at the SPO tent at Commando.

The most frustration Forslund experienced was with extensive looting damage causing an impediment to getting Iraq up and running again.

The best part of his experience was with the Corps team and the Iraqis. "The camaraderie is great. I have been very impressed with the staff at the SPO. They are professionals, they pulled together in a difficult environment, and jumped right in and go out each day and get the work done," he said.

"The Iraqis are very dedicated, inventive workers. They have an innate ability to find work-arounds and keep their outdated facilities up and running. They have had to be adept at finding creative solutions to mechanical problems," Forslund said.

*by Nola Conway
FEST-RIO Public Affairs*



Brig. Gen. Robert Crear promotes John Connor to major at a July ceremony at Kirkuk Air Force Base. Connor also received the bronze star.

Serving as a project engineer at Tulsa District for six months prepared Maj. John Connor for his deployment with Team-Restore Iraqi Oil.

“The six months that I was with the Corps at Tulsa provided me a lot of insight into the nonmilitary aspect of this operation. I am very impressed with the abundance of knowledge and the links to the resources in the Corps staff serving on Team-RIO. No matter where you look, they have the experience and technical capability at their finger tips, and it really has helped in this mission,” Connor said.

Connor came in February on the advance team and helped to set up and operate the FEST-Main at Camp Doha, Kuwait. Serving as the operations officer, he moved on to the Southern Project Office and volunteered to come on the advance team that set up the Northern Project Office.

It has been an experience in his military career that has left quite an impression -- a second one. Connor had deployed to Kuwait with the 3rd Division from Fort Stewart, Ga., in 1998. When the call went out for volunteers, he was one of the first to go.

After the Southern Project Office opened, he moved up from Doha to Camp Commando, Kuwait.

While the battle to control the north was still going on, Team-RIO was working to put out the oil fires and get the south up and running.”

Answering the call for an advance team to the north, he was assigned as the North Project Office operations officer and was put in charge of the convoy that would move the staff from Kuwait deep into northeastern Iraq. “The convoy was a challenge. There were still battles being fought and along the way, we could see tanks firing off in the distance,” he said.

After arriving in the north at Kirkuk, Iraq, in April, they hit the ground running. “The Northern Oil Company, with a staff of some 9,000, was out of work. The oil production needed to be started back up, but the biggest problem was looting. We had to get security on the sites quickly,” he said.

One of Connor’s tasks was to get a security force in place. “The area had been secured by the 173rd Airborne Division, but

they did not have the resources to devote to all the sites. We met with the commander, and he made us aware of an available contractor,” he said.

Unlike the south, secured by the British and American troops until an Iraqi oil police force could be stood up, the Coalition of Iraqi National Unity (CINU) security force was already available to stop the looting.

“It did not stop completely, but it has made a huge impact,” he said. Affectionately known as ‘Capt. John’ by the CINU staff, he went to work in earnest, putting security at every Northern Oil Company site and with the NPO staff. “It stopped most of the looting and allowed the team to work,” he said.

“I found working with the CINUs quite an experience. It was my first time working with Iraqis. I had worked before with the Kuwaiti Army, but this was different. It’s a custom for the men to kiss the men and hold hands. I never kissed back, but I was kissed a lot,” Connor said.

“It changed my perception about Iraqis in general -- I always thought Iraqis were all Arabs -- but they also include Kurdish, Assyrians, and Turks. Also, I wasn’t sure if everyone was pro-Saddam. But since I’ve been up here, it is very apparent that there are many groups that struggled day in and day out to get a voice in society. Capitalism is alive and well in Iraq,” he said, citing the street-side vendors and contractors he worked with.

A native of Tupper Lake, NY, he is an ROTC graduate of Monmouth University, NJ. He returned to Tulsa District in August to take a position in Programs and Project Management.

*by Nola Conway
FEST-RIO Public Affairs*

Ed West

Information
Management Office

then (1975) U.S.
Marine Corps ...



... and now (2003)
U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers

Pam McNealey

... Bats

from page 1

Observation by U.S. Fish and Wildlife employee Steve Hensley has verified that Big Brown Bats, or *Eptesicus fuscus*, have found a home at Keystone Dam. This species of the world's only flying mammal is common all over North America. They prefer to roost beneath loose bark and in small cavities of pine, oak, beech, bald cypress, and other trees. According to Hensley, Big Brown Bats often use man-made structures, such as attics, barns, and bridges as summer roost to raise their young.

Big Brown Bats are low flying feeders, preying on beetles, mosquitoes, flies, mayflies, stoneflies, ants, and other insects. Some bats can eat up to their body weight in insects in one night.

The colony at Keystone Dam is "jammed like sardines" into the expansion joints along the top of the dam, according to Lead Ranger Mike Schrick. This has caused some problems with maintenance of both the dam and the powerhouse. Originally, metal guttering ran along the top of the dam, draining roadway water, debris, and winter road salts away from the machinery that operates the tainter gates. The gates are what actually raise and lower to let water out of the lake. Those original gutters were replaced when road salts eroded them. The new PVC guttering is being blocked by not only the waste it is there to catch, but also the bat droppings.



More than a decade ago, Schrick and, then Environmental Specialist, Randy Shannon, mounted bat houses under the roadway to see if the bats would roost there. Bat houses are artificial structures made specifically as bat roosts. Unfortunately, the bats took no interest in the artificial habitat, and remain a nuisance to dam personnel.



Schrack has been instrumental in sparking recent interest in the colony. OSU professor, Dr. Karen McBee, will be observing and studying the bats on Sept. 14, and Lee Perry, a summer ranger for the Corps of Engineers at Keystone Lake, will be mist-netting and banding the bats for further study of the colony, verification of the species, and to see if any endangered species are in the colony as well.

Although the Big Brown Bat is not an endangered species, special care should still be taken when addressing conflicts between bats and people. With the prevalence of the West Nile virus, it is important for officials to remember that bats are the major controller of the mosquito population. A brown bat can eat up to 3,000 mosquito-size insects per night. As a beneficial member of the local ecology, the destruction of the bats' natural habitat and roosting areas should be taken into consideration when determining how detrimental the effects of local bat populations really are.

Keystone bats, the rest of the story

by Michael P. Schrick, Park Ranger
Keystone Lake

The bats live under the roadway that passes over Keystone Dam. They roost in the expansion joints between the roadway sections. The bats roost there by day coming out at night to feed on the insects that inhabit the region.

The first attempt to catch some of the bats ended in a score of Bats 1, Biologist 0. We stretched mist nets under the roadway from the catwalk, thinking the bats would exit the expansion joint along its length from directly under the roadway, and we would catch them as they flew one way or the other under the roadway. They didn't do that! They exited the very end of the joints, dropping out like a rock, swooping back up into the air, and flying off up or down river. **Round one, five hours, no bats.**



The second attempt, we netted immediately at the end of the joints and were successful in capturing 12 bats. All were big brown bats, ornery little critters

that can bite like a bobcat with snake-like (fine, short, sharp) teeth. They did not like being measured, weighed, sexed, and banded. These are truly magnificent little creatures. Their fur is like long velvet. Their voices are strong and tell of their presence and their displeasure at being handled.

Hand releasing them was a grand experience -- seeing them just sit on your hand or shoulder until *they* were ready and then watching them drop into the dark and swoop away over the river.

Our third attempt will occur soon, and after two hours in my shop, I have fabricated a metal loop that attaches to the guardrail and will hold the mist nets in place. Hopefully this will allow us to test for bats at each expansion joint in the dam to better determine if more than one species exist. Some endangered species are known to use this region of the state, and we need to know if any of them inhabit our structure.

Stay tuned for the continuing story of "The Keystone Bats and the Boy who Loves Them." Sorry Lassie. I couldn't resist.

If you build it, they will come

Rocky Point ramp open for launching

Thanks to a group of boating enthusiasts, a new boat ramp is now in service at the Rocky Point Public Use Area on Fort Gibson Lake. Through an agreement with the Corps, the volunteer group built and installed a new 20-foot by 40-foot ramp, replacing the existing one that had been closed for several years because of its dangerous, sharp drop off.

Wayne Brauner, co-owner of R & W Sand, initiated the idea. He contacted employees of the Fort Gibson Lake Office and was

could get a group of people together to repair the ramp if the Corps of Engineers could furnish the materials.

A volunteer agreement was struck, the scope of work was written, and a pre-work meeting was held Sept. 26 to identify safety hazards and ensure that safe construction practices.

Construction got underway, and many visitors showed up to watch the progress. Heavy equipment was used to tear out the old ramp and push the new ramp in place on Oct. 9. After pouring the concrete approach and allowing the concrete to cure, the ramp was open for boat launching on Oct. 12.

Boaters have the following volunteers to thank for the labor that went into the new ramp: Wayne Brauner, Hulio Boyer, James Carter, Randy Conwell, Robert Hill, Rick Knowles, Duke Labat, Nick O'Neal, Dale Simpson, Rick Simpson, Mike Trout, Dennis White and Vernon Yokum.



Photos courtesy of Fort Gibson Project Office



Boats are now able to launch from the Rocky Point ramp, thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers.

told that the staff had been unable to repair the damaged ramp due to budget cuts and prioritization of all major construction items on Corps projects. Boat traffic was being directed to the other two ramps within the park. Brauner suggested that he

Boats are now able to launch from the Rocky Point ramp, thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers.



The first Quarterly Project Delivery Team Award went to the Civil Works O&M Roads MATOC team. Members included, left to right, Dawn Rice, Mike Nance, Johnny Bell, Steve Walters, Diane Cianci, and Larry Dearing.

... Team Award

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about how our district does work. The team's product, Multiple Award Task Order Contracts, has already transformed the FY03 O&M road construction with the award of five task orders for eight individual road projects for a total of \$924,000. The bid prices are \$200,000 below that estimated for using other fast-track contracting methods. Those prices and the swiftness of task order awards are the direct result of the highly flexible, well designed, and competitive nature of the MATOC. In addition to addressing roadwork, the MATOC will allow swift execution of shoreline erosion and painting projects.

Photo by Angie Short

Train derails near Eufaula Lake

Photos and Timeline by Charles Schrodt,
Eufaula park ranger



On May 23 (the Friday of Memorial Day weekend), a 98-car Union Pacific train traveling across Eufaula Lake derailed after a section of the track washed out. Following the accident, an accordion-like pile of 36 cars lay between two sections of the lake.

May 23: Eufaula rangers are already on the scene as news reports of derailment start hitting the media. There is initial confusion due to a car that has a poison placard on it. The manifest indicates this car is loaded with flour. It is determined that the car had been fumigated prior to loading and the placard did not get removed. A review of the manifest showed that there

were six cars of soda ash among the 36 derailed cars. Determination is made that only a small amount of soda ash had reached the water. There was no evidence of fish kill or other indicators of pollution. UP officials who had assessed the scene and all present felt that the only way to get equipment to the wreck was to construct a road along side the railroad. After deter-



mining that potential damage from road construction was outweighed by the immediate threat to the lake, permission was granted for the road to be built.

May 24: Road construction is underway. A nationwide 404 permit is issued to Union Pacific for a hazmat cleanup.

May 25: Road construction continues, crews are moving derailed cars off of the track. UP track engineers decide that the derailment was likely caused by a collapsed culvert under the rail bed. They elect to bridge over the sunken area.

May 26: Construction of prefab concrete bridge is underway.

May 26: Bridge construction and removal of cars continues.

May 28: The railroad is reopened to trains and Phase 1 of the soda ash cleanup begins

May 30: Phase 1 of the soda ash cleanup ends. Salvage operations are underway.

According to Schrodt, "Union Pacific has been great partner in this effort. They spared no expense to prevent pollution of the lake while getting the railroad up and running."



From the Mailbox

To Oologah Lake staff from Wendy Jones, Schools for Healthy Lifestyles

On behalf of all the schools that participated, THANK YOU for sponsoring Wacky Water Wahoo 2003. We truly appreciate your continued support and willingness to help make this event an overwhelming success!

The students and teachers had many positive comments to share about the day. Without the commitment of dedicated community organizations and interested individuals, it would not be possible to educate so many students about the importance of water safety and injury prevention.

NOTE: Space constraints prevented running two lengthy letters complementing the **Council Grove Lake** staff on the appearance of the campgrounds, the concern shown for campers, the peace and quiet of the park, and the helpfulness of the camp hosts. The only complaint was rain.

New financial manager hails from Pentagon

The Tulsa District officially welcomed Christine "Chris" Morrison as its new Resource Management Office chief in March.

Morrison is responsible for the district's resource management program including budget formulation, execution, and analysis; management controls; finance and accounting; manpower management; and organization efficiency reviews. She is the principle advisor to the district commander on financial matters.

Before coming to Tulsa, Morrison served in the Pentagon as a financial resources manager within the Program and Budget Division of the Department of Defense. She previously worked as a supervisory management analyst within the Directorate of Resource Management for the U.S. Army at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

Morrison received a direct commission into the U.S. Navy in 1992 and continues to serve in the U.S. Navy Reserves. She was nominated in 1996 and 1997 as the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 28, Junior Officer of the Year.

She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business from Columbia College, Columbia, Mo., and a Master's in Management from Webster University in Saint Louis.

Morrison has received many performance awards including a Commander's Award for Civilian Service and a Supervisor Civilian Service Award.

Her son is attending college in Springfield, Mo.



Christine Morrison, Chief, Resource Management Office

Congratulations, Graduate!

Margaret Johanning of Planning, Environmental, and Regulatory Division graduated in August from the Planning Associates program. The ceremony was held at HQ USACE, and she is congratulated here by Gen. Flowers, chief of engineers.

The program is intended to broaden the competencies of high potential, fully functioning planners to guide complex planning studies and provide water resources leadership in the future. Johanning was one of only eight students selected from a nationwide pool of applicants. She also helped facilitate the SWD-led segment of the class and has been selected to serve on the FY 04 USACE PA Program Steering Committee.



Our lake -- it's a very very very fine lake

Note: The following "Simple Story" was written by Michael Calavan, Red River Area Manager, and sent to employees in that area. A couple of them passed it along so it could be shared with readers of the TDR.

While checking into the Holiday Inn in Denison, I witnessed a conversation that was very ordinary, but the more I thought about it, it became less ordinary and more meaningful to me, so I want to share it with each of you.

I arrived at the motel behind two gentlemen who were commercial pilots checking in for the night. The men

were in uniforms and obviously strangers to the area. During the ensuing conversation, one of them started inquiring about the Denison area. He asked the clerk, "What is this town known for?" and "What industries or businesses are here?" and "Why do people come here?"

Nothing special here, right? No questions about the true meaning of life. These are

common questions that he probably asks at nearly every location he visits. The desk clerk's response is what caught my attention.

Her answers were: "Our lake. Our lake is the biggest thing in this area. People come to visit our lake."

These were not just words that she spoke to answer a question. They were statements that she made with an

obvious pride. She enthusiastically continued to provide directions to various points, gave the men a lake map, and encouraged them to take the time to drive out to see the lake she was so proud of.

Later, in my room, the impact of the scene that I had just witnessed hit me. It occurred to me that this same interaction could have happened at a motel, business, or chamber of commerce in Broken Bow or Hugo, Clayton or Waurika, Paris or Valiant.

What I had just witnessed was exactly what we try to tell our congressmen and those who provide the resources for us to manage our projects. What I had just witnessed was what we attempt to convince our customers of — those who like us and even those who are unhappy with us. What I had just witnessed was exactly what we attempt to convince ourselves of almost daily.

What I had just witnessed did convince me. It convinced me that:

☛ Your lakes are important. They are important to your neighbors, to your communities, to your visitors.

☛ Your jobs are important. Without the job you do, no one is going to be promoting your lake as his or her lake.

☛ You are important. Times have been pretty tough lately. Resources are rather scarce. It would be very easy to lose your desire to do a good job and be proud of it. Your loyalty and dedication have been severely tested, and I believe you have passed the test.

All I can say is THANKS.



Crash Landing —This was the scene May 18 at the Former Hudson Oil Refinery Superfund Site when the last structure standing stood no longer. The picture-perfect controlled fall used strategically placed linear shape charges and dynamite "kinepaks." More than 50 local citizens cheered as the 125-foot fluidized cat cracking tower crashed to the ground. Tulsa District began remediation activities at the Cushing, Okla., site last fall under contract with the Environmental Protection Agency. The tower demolition was a major milestone, and the Phase I work was completed this summer and celebrated in an August ceremony at Cushing City Hall. Eddie Mattioda was project manager and Frank Roth was project engineer. Both are with the HTRW Design Center.

Wet or dry, the Corps cares

September 11, 2003, dawned bright and sunny, but soon after the traditional pancake breakfast and kick-off at the Tulsa Fairgrounds, the skies opened, and a steady rain fell throughout the day. Many Day of Caring projects were postponed while other teams continued undaunted.

Just a sampling of the work and the people involved are shown on this page.



The team led by Marjorie Ellenberg spent their day at the Evergreen Care Center in Owasso where they sang, played bingo, were companions for the day, and conducted back-in-time interviews. Margaret Johanning, Day of Caring coordinator, is shown in the above photo with one of the residents while Kari Barr and Kalli Clark join another senior in the second shot.



The Tulsa Westside Y team braved the rain and completed their projects on Sept. 11. They were cleaning up the backyard of a house on the Y property, removing debris, and fixing a gate so the area could be converted to a nature garden. Team members shown are Steve McCarn, team leader Pam McCarn, Richard Murdock, Dot Danley, Glen Albertson, Christine Altendorf, Ed Rossman, and Linda Minter. Insert is Louis Vogeles posing in the rain, but not shown in the group shot because he was the photographer.



Diane Bishline, principal of Ator Heights Elementary in Owasso, celebrates the school's new flowerbed. The three-person team of Willie Grimes, John Tennery, and Cathey Williams (lead) did the work the week following the original Day of Caring. They created this garden from scratch, beginning with digging up all the grass.

Congratulations!

Allen Ryan was selected as the Southwestern Division Regulator of the Year. The award was presented at the Regional Regulatory Conference in Chicago in May.

Tom Beavers and Billy Stagner of Tenkiller Area Office, were the first quarter, FY03, Customer Care Award winners.

Sally Van Winkle was named Administrative/Clerical Employee of the Year.

Ron Scott was chosen as Mentor of the Year.

Danna Sumpter-Walker was named Woman of the Year.

Kari Barr was chosen as the second quarter, FY03, Customer Care Award winner.

All in the district who support our military customers are to be congratulated. Tulsa District is the highest ranked of all 22 military districts Corpswide for "overall satisfaction" based on FY02 survey of military customers. Of 32 questions asked of our military customers, Tulsa was ranked highest of all 22 districts in the following areas:

Seeks Your Requirements	Manages Effectively
Quality Product	Keeps You Informed
Your Choice for the Future	Your Overall Satisfaction
Project Management	Installation Support Check Book Services

Tulsa ranked second highest of all districts in these areas:

Real Estate Services	PM Forward
Provides Timely Services	Displays Flexibility
Studies	Environmental Studies
Treats you as a Team Member	A-E Contracts
Construction Turnover	End-User Satisfaction
Privatization Support	Environmental Compliance

Tulsa District ranked in the top 50 percent of all districts for all questions.

E&C and PAO worked together to tell the Corps story about the spillway construction at Tenkiller. Lots of coverage was sparked including the cover and inside spread of the August 4 edition of *Construction News* that serves Arkansas, Oklahoma, western Tennessee, Louisiana, and Mississippi.



Johnson is Customer Care Employee of the Quarter



Above and right, a couple of shots of William Johnson, Webbers Falls Power Plant.



William Johnson, Hydropower Branch, looks out for the customer and customer-funded expenses. He goes beyond the call of duty to ensure they get the best quality for their money.

According to his nomination, his expertise recently saved hundreds if not thousands of dollars during the installation of an automatic voltage regulator. "Mr. Johnson is one who performs his work above and beyond his scope of work. He stays late without being told . . . He will do anything he needs to do to maintain our (Webbers Falls) plant."

Commentary

By Mary Beth Hudson, editor

When word got out that I was, once again, taking over the duties of editor of this publication, a great hue and cry arose, and shouts of "Bring back the commentary!" were heard throughout the cubicle maze. Either that, or I was hearing voices again. Whatever the incentive – I took my pen in hand and put down the following thoughts for your consideration.

Autumn is my favorite time of year. I love it when the days are crisp, the nights are cool, and football season has arrived. I don't care that the dreary old days of winter are headed our way.

So, on a recent coffee break, I took my love of fall out of doors. Thought I'd sit on Tim Hunt's memorial bench outside the west door of the district office building and enjoy the day and some quiet reflection in that peaceful, landscaped area.

Unfortunately, it was like sitting in an ashtray.

Tim deserves better.



Communicate, Communicate, Communicate!

by Ross Adkins, chief
Public Affairs Office

It's Magic --



or is it?

SETTING: *Stage in the conference room. It's dark. All employees are in attendance (it's a fantasy).*

FADE IN: *Spotlight reveals PAO chief's white gloved hands waving a magic wand over the audience.*

SOUND EFFECT: *Poof!*

VOICE OF DISTRICT: *"Abracadabra! Now, you're all communicators!"*

Hmm, that didn't seem to work. Let's do a reality check. When all else fails, get back to the basics.

Webster's says 'to communicate' means, "to impart; transmit ... to give or exchange information ... to have a meaningful relationship ... and, to be connected."

That sounds simple enough. But, how many times have you spent what seemed like hours talking to someone only to discover they did not understand what you just told them? It's as if everything you just said went POOF! and disappeared into thin air. But hold on, there may be a non-magical explanation.

Communications is an art form -- not something that has width, depth, and length. I have had many engineers tell me, "If it has inches, pounds, or gallons, I can work with it. But when you talk reporters, newspapers, or web pages, that's *your* job."

I have news for you; it is also your job to communicate.

Stop and think about it. Who better to tell about your job than the person most intimately involved? That's not magic; it's just plain reality. When it comes to talking to the media or anyone else, the only difference between the way professionals do it and you do it is technique. The few simple techniques are easily learned, and they ain't magic. There are no tricks -- just common-sense things to remember.

When we talk about communicating, we are not just talking about dealing with the media. It's talking to your boss, your customer, your neighbor, your church, a civic organization, even your family.

Whatever you do, you have to communicate with many people. Whether you

realize it or not, you have become a spokesperson on the subject of what you do on your job and, therefore, on the benefits the district provides to the citizenry.

To that end, we are launching a series of articles you will be seeing in future editions of the *TDR* on communications.

Before I go into specifics on the upcoming articles, let me explain why it is so vital for you to realize you are an important communicator.

To tell all the district and Corps stories would take an army of spokespersons. There are stories in each one of us. It might be the story of how you accomplished a given project. Or it could be the story of the impact a project will have



on lives. Or it may be a story that a customer or stakeholder needs to know.

You are the best person to tell your story.

But how do you get comfortable doing that? For those who have not done it before, it can be a daunting challenge.

To quote a former president in time of stress, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

Once the unknown of how to communicate our stories is revealed, we remove some of that fear.

Our future articles are going to be about how to prepare yourself to talk about your job. You're going to find the role of spokesperson really is just getting over the fear of fear.

Next issue will be on how to determine *what* it is that you want to talk about. Future articles will provide tips on *how to* best do it. We will also discuss how to tell if you really are communicating, since true communication is a two-way process.

It is a whole lot easier than you think. The techniques we teach are not new or even original. They are what we have been teaching, preaching, and using for years.

It's not magic. But when the fear is under control and the techniques become tools to use, you'll be able to say, "Hocus pocus, I *am* a communicator. I can do that!"



This land is your land

In September, Canton Lake received a much needed helping hand when 20 volunteers donated 90 hours to plant 23 trees in Canadian and Big Bend campgrounds. Enthusiastic volunteers at Canton Lake joined thousands of others at 552 sites nationwide to mark National Public Lands Day on Sept. 20. The theme for this year's event was "Lend a Hand to America's Lands," and Canton Lake volunteers certainly did.

Canton Lake Park Rangers, Johnie Dudley, Ray Robertson, and Debbie Chaloupek, were crew leaders. They split the volunteers into two groups and took work crews to Big Bend and Canadian Campgrounds. The participating volunteers were all ages and included retired full-time campers and two families with children. These special volunteer groups helped plant, water, mulch, and stake lacebark elm trees.

Hopefully, the trees will provide shade for campers and visitors for many years to come. Kathy Carlson and Tim Coffey, Canton Lake employees, also donated their time planting some of the trees as well as trimming tree limbs and photographing the event.



photo by Tim Coffey

These Canton Lake volunteers are working the theme to this year's National Public Lands Day, "Lend a Hand to America's Land."



photo by Kathy Carlson

Volunteers plant trees during National Public Lands Day at Canton Lake.

Science fair tradition continues

Thank You!

Editor's Note – This thank you letter is from Joe Kovar, judging chair, Tulsa Regional Science and Engineering Fair.

The Department of the Army, through the U.S. Army Research Office, has been sponsoring special awards in Science and Engineering Fairs across the United States since 1960.

Tulsa District proudly continued the tradition at the 2003 Tulsa Regional Science Fair, the 45th annual event in Tulsa.

Judges for the U.S. Army Science and Engineering Fair awards were G.T. Gowda, Hugh Evans, Bill O'Neill, and were led by Peter Navesky. This year, district volunteers also helped judge the Tulsa Regional Science Fair awards. These judges were Andy Obrochta, Ahmed Majali, Rusty Roberts, Sandra Stiles, and Frank Roepke. Lt. Col. Stephen Zeltner, assisted by Pete Navesky, conducted the awards presentation.

Please thank your staff and members of the Tulsa District Corps who assisted with judging this year. We have a very successful fair, thanks to their help. I appreciate the extra coordination . . . provided to assist the Regional Fair Committee and manage the Corps Special Awards. This enabled us to properly judge the engineering categories at our fair.

The volunteers from the Tulsa District have set a fine example for community service by encouraging our youth to pursue education and become productive citizens. Thank you for their leadership!



Island design goes forward

Mary Beth Hudson
PAO and PDT member

The early bird may get the worm, but the endangered bird gets a special island – one designed by a student engineering team from Oklahoma State University under Corps sponsorship. The OSU students, Mary Crawford, Scott Schneider, and Matthew Simpson, recently took second place in a national design contest sponsored by the American Society of Agricultural Engineers. Plans are underway now to turn their winning design into an actual island, created specifically to provide protection for least terns. Potential sites for the island are being looked at, costs are being calculated, cost share considerations are being discussed, and partners are being sought.

The students and the Corps teamed up through Scott Henderson, hydraulics engineer in H&H Branch. Henderson is a Faculty Advisory Board member for the Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering at the OSU College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. The seniors look for real-world projects to design, and Henderson discussed the challenge with Ron Bell, chief of Water Control Section and a member of the Least Tern Management Project Delivery Team.

Each year, the PDT goes to great lengths to protect the habitat of the endangered population of the interior least tern without adversely impacting recreation, navigation, flood control, hydropower, and other water uses. PDT members are from the Corps, Southwestern Power Administration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority, and the



A couple of adult least terns check out their habitat.

Oklahoma Department of Wildlife. The team has worked long and hard developing a management plan that balances the missions of the various agencies and the habitat protection needed by the birds. Water levels and water releases at four district lakes are manipulated — within a predetermined safe range of operation — to provide the birds with suitable habitat for them to nest and fledge their young.

The birds prefer to nest on the ground on sandbars and islands within the river. Their habitat is vulnerable to flooding when water is high, and predators when water is low.

The team's long-term strategy calls for "safe" islands to be developed for the birds to use during their stay – islands that would give the birds what they need – a flowing river, gravelly sand, and protection from predators – and reduce the need for manipulation of water releases. Hence, the Corps sponsored the student design team, and now the PDT has an award-winning design to use as part of their long-term strategy to protect the terns' habitat.

The students did preliminary testing with a physical model of a stream to simulate river flow. They also worked with the Hydraulic Engineering Research Unit of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service in Stillwater. They tested their designs in a flume set up for physical scale modeling of the Arkansas River. And they used a two-dimensional computer-modeling program developed at the National Center for Computational Hydroscience and Engineering at the University of Mississippi.

It's the PDT's hope that someday when the terns arrive, both the birds and agencies will benefit from an island designed by three senior OSU students looking to solve real-world problems and brought to life by a cohesive group of cooperating agencies.



An Oklahoma State University television crew, doing a story on the Senior Design Team's Island Development Project, filmed interviews with members of the Least Tern Project Delivery Team. The segment was shown on OETA's *Sunup Program* on channel 11. Here, Ron Bell is interviewed by Ron Dahlgren of the OSU Communication Department.



Family News

Condolences to . . .

Family and friends of Ronald Fraiser who passed away in January. Mr. Fraiser had retired from R.S. Kerr where he worked about a year before his retirement. Much of the remainder of his 30-year federal career was served at Whitney Lake where he was one of the first power plant engineers.

Preston Hunter, Skiatook Lake manager, on the Feb. 11 death of his wife, Denise.

Family, friends, and co-workers of Berneil N. Brown, summer Park Ranger at Pat Mayse for more than 30 years. He passed away in February.

Family and friends of Timmy Moss, retired shift operator at Fort Gibson Powerhouse, who passed away Feb. 25.

Family, friends, and co-workers of Earnie Miller, Fort Sill Resident Office, who passed away March 1.

Jack Ball on the death of his mother in March.

Former co-workers of Wayne "Wimpy" Glover, a 1984 retiree from the Fall River Lake Office, where he served as maintenance leader. He passed away in March.

Family and friends of Charles "Chuck" Fortner, retired Robert S. Kerr Lock and Dam operator, who passed away March 18.

Family and friends of Helen Leila "Lea" Craig, 79, retired executive secretary. She died March 20.

Doug Wilson, senior mechanic at Texoma Powerhouse, on the March 21 death of his mother, Kathryn Wilson.

Graham Reeves, retired wage leader for the Big Hill and Elk City Lake Projects, on the March 25 death of his

father.

Jim Granwehr on the March 26 death of his wife, Carolyn.

Family and friends of John Egbert, 82, retiree, who died April 24.

Henderson Gardner on the death of his mother in May.

Kathy Riggle, EEO, on the May 5 death of her father, Fred Benton.

Steve Harmon on the May 6 death of his father, Darl Harmon.

Maggie Fletcher, EEO Officer, on the May 8 death of her husband, Aggett.

Family and friends of Dorothy Lee Richardson, retiree, who passed away

May 14.

Phyllis Jordan, retiree, on the May 21 death of her sister, Olivia Powers.

Friends, family, and former co-workers of Judy Barker, former district employee who moved to the Little Rock District. She passed away May 28.

Bob McCollum on the June 1 death of his mother, Virginia Ann McCollum.

Burgin Towe on the June 17 death of his father, William E. Towe, a disabled World War II veteran.

Family, friends, and former of co-workers of Kenneth W. Fielder, former chief of Planning and Control Branch and

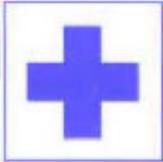
See Condolences, page 19

Want to Support Our Soldiers??

Brave men and women who were injured while serving in Iraq are returning home and being hospitalized in Walter Reed Army Medical Center before being transported to a hospital at their assigned Army post. Injured, away from home, and separated from their Army units, their needs are many. You can make a difference by donating any of the following items to the American Red Cross.

- Personal or corporate financial contributions. These are tax-deductible in accordance with IRS regulations governing charities.
- Women's clothing such as athletic shorts, t-shirts, underwear, sports bras, socks in small, medium, large (no extra-large).
- Men's clothing such as athletic shorts, t-shirts, underwear, and socks in all sizes (including extra-large).
- Luggage-Rolling luggage (small), totes, carry-ons, garment bags & more (in the \$20 price range).
- Telephone cards-30 minutes at least.
- Manufactured, individually-wrapped snacks such as cookies, crackers, and candy.
- Magazines-what you can provide would be great even if they are a couple of months old.
- Notepads and pens.
- Playing cards or games, including old GameBoys.
- Letters of encouragement from your chapter or club would be wonderful- the soldiers appreciate knowing that the American public cares about them.

All items should be donated to the American Red Cross, ATTN: Barbara Green, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, 6900 Georgia Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20307-5001. For more information, call 202-782-2000 or e-mail Barbara.Green.1@AMEDD.ARMY.MIL.





Corps Family members help with The Moving Wall

Article and photos by James Patterson

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Moving Wall was on display at the Creek Tribal Omniplex from June 12-18 in Okmulgee, Okla., sponsored by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1189.

James Patterson; EEO; and Tulsa District retirees Thomas Yahola, Jessie Butler, and Gary Sallee, served as volunteers.

The Moving Wall is a scaled-down replica of the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C. Vietnam veterans, John Devitt, Gerry Haver, and Norris Shears, founded the Moving Wall and first placed it on display in 1984. The Moving Wall is maintained by the Vietnam Combat Veterans of America.



James Patterson, left, and Gary Sallee volunteered at The Moving Wall during its June stay in Okmulgee.



The Moving Wall provides a backdrop for tributes to fallen soldiers.

Volunteers' duties included operating a computer with information on location of individual names on the wall, date of the casualty, and cause of death. They also watch over The Wall 24 hours a day, and a symbolic fire is kept going throughout the week.

There were about 300 visitors each day. On the final evening, a candlelight service was held. There were 17 casualties from Okmulgee County. As each name was read, a bell rang, and a candle was lit in their name and placed near The Wall.

... Condolences

from page 18

assistant chief of Real Estate Division. He planned and scheduled the land acquisition for the McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System.

Family, friends, and former co-workers of Jeanie Shook, retiree, who passed away June 30. During her 28 years with the Tulsa District, she worked in Labor Relations, Office of Counsel, and Construction Division.

Chris Keeler on the July 15 death of his father.

Family of Richard Bray who

passed away July 18. He was the father-in-law of Tom Heathcock of Fort Gibson Lake Office.

David Ardeneaux on the July 21 death of his brother, George Ardeneaux. David is an electrician in the Hydropower Section, Operations Division.

Family and friends of Douglas Dale Spence, retiree. He died July 25.

Joseph E. "Jack" Danner, retired maintenance worker from Kaw Lake, on the Aug. 8 death of his father, Eugene W. Danner.

Family and friends of Linda



New Additions

Stockton Glen Ryan, May 1, son of Allen and Jennifer Ryan. Allen is a regulatory project manager in Regulatory Branch, PER Division.

Emily Grace Farley, May 23, daughter of Hank and Crystal Farley. Hank works at the Broken Bow Power Plant as a power plant electrician.

Seaman, former employee, on her Aug. 15 death.

Robert Sherwood, former district employee currently with Galveston District, on the Aug. 18 death of his grandmother.

Family, friends, and former co-workers of Bob Bailey, former assistant chief of

Real Estate Division, who died Aug. 12.

John Meyer on the Aug. 18 death of his mother, Doris Meyer.

Mary Frye, PER Division, on the Aug. 28 death of her father.

Susan Rolinski, CT, on the Aug. 31 death of her brother.

Flash from the past

Tulsa District flexible in response to world events

The history of the Tulsa District from 1941 to 1961 highlights the flexibility of the district type of organization, which has often made possible a quick transfer from civil works activities to military construction, civil defense, and disaster relief.

In late 1940, the Tulsa District included some 500 officers and civilian employees. With the transfer of Army Air Corps construction from the Quartermaster Corps to the Engineers in December of that year, the district got its first military construction projects, the Tulsa Aircraft Assembly Plant, Tinker Airfield at Oklahoma City, and Enid Army Airbase. The transfer of all remaining quartermaster construction to the engineers on Dec. 16, 1941, nine days after the Pearl Harbor attacks, greatly increased the military construction load of an organization that only a year before had been concerned solely with civil works. The Tulsa District was now responsible for building cantonments, airbases, aircraft assembly plants, internment camps for prisoners of war and enemy aliens, ordnance plants, and military hospitals. During World War II, the district supervised \$800 million worth of military construction and procured equipment costing \$100 million. The number of employees reached a peak of 3,250 in 1942.

In the years immediately after World War II, as military construction declined, the district again became almost wholly concerned with civil works. Just before the Korean War broke out in 1950, the district had a \$17 million civil works program underway, with a military construction effort amounting to a mere \$1 million. With the outbreak of war, the military construction effort again expanded, the district making the transi-

tion from civil to military construction rapidly and efficiently. From 1950 through 1953, the district supervised a military construction effort costing \$150 million.

Military construction activities also were expanded occasionally in peacetime. In 1960, the district took on the crash program of building launching facilities for 12 Atlas ICBMs in the south-central United States. To provide protection against nuclear missile attack, the Tulsa District participated in the civil defense shelter survey program for the state of Oklahoma, entering into about 40 contracts with architect-engineer firms. About 4,500 buildings were surveyed.

The district, on a number of occasions, helped provide relief and assistance to areas stricken by natural disasters, easily taking in stride such added duties. In August 1947 the district was cited by the city of Tulsa for assistance rendered when the Arkansas River threatened to flood the Tulsa area. The district came to the aid of numerous communities when the Grand, Verdigris, and Red Rivers flooded in 1957 and 1959. It sent personnel to provide assistance to other districts during and after natural disasters, such as the California floods of 1955-56, the New England hurricane and

floods of 1955, and Hurricane Carla in 1961. At home in Oklahoma, the scene of many tornadoes, district personnel provided crucial assistance to communities wrecked by the storms.

In the ensuing decades this pattern of flexible response proves to be one of the great strengths of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.



With dazzling speed, the Denison and Tulsa Districts built facilities needed to mobilize a nation at war. A prime example was this Aircraft Assembly Plant, Tinker Airfield, here being used to assemble bombers in 1942.

from the Office of History