



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
St. Paul District

Crosscurrents

Vol. 28, No. 10

November/December 2005



**Task Force Hope:
Katrina cleanup continues**



US Army Corps of Engineers
St. Paul District

Crosscurrents

Crosscurrents is an unofficial publication, authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1. It is published monthly for the St. Paul District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Editorial views and opinions are not necessarily those of the Corps of Engineers, nor of the Department of the Army.

Address all inquiries to:

Editor, *Crosscurrents*
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
190 Fifth Street East
St. Paul, MN 55101-1638

Phone: 651-290-5202

District Engineer Col. Michael Pfenning
Public Affairs Chief Mark Davidson
Acting Editor: Shannon Bauer
Editor Peter Versteegen
E-mail: cempv-pa@usace.army.mil



Photo by Oscar Reihsmann

Cover: Paul Machajewski and Mark Scholl, both with channels and harbors in Fountain City, Wis., are working on the Corps' debris removal mission in Hancock County, Mississippi. This county was ground zero for Hurricane Katrina and more than 70 percent of its buildings were destroyed.

New year brings new challenges, just as many deployments

By Lt. Col. John Kunkle
Deputy Commander

Ladies and gentlemen of the St. Paul District, it is my honor and privilege to have this opportunity to address you during this incredibly busy time for the district, the division and the Corps.



Since my arrival at the end of July, I am continually impressed with the professionalism, competence and commitment that I see demonstrated everyday. Regardless of mission, this district champions the Corps' watchwords "Relevant, Ready, Responsive and Reliable."

There are numerous challenges to the Corps, the Army and the nation these days. In addition to our civil works and military construction missions, we are decisively engaged in the Corps' number one priority, the Global War On Terror.

A close second is hurricane recovery efforts to Task Force Hope in Mississippi and Louisiana, following the single most destructive hurricane season in U.S. history.

I was in Vicksburg, Miss., in October for training and visited New Orleans. We began with a helicopter over flight. The destruction was difficult to comprehend. I saw fishing boats in the middle of highways and a

tractor trailer rig in a tree. We then went by ground to the Lower Ninth Ward, an area that has flooded three times during this contingency operation. The destruction there was impossible to imagine. Not a house was standing and livable. A barge sat on the dry side of a levee, one end on a school bus with a house on its side leaning against both. It was absolute destruction.

The men and women of the district were outstanding in 2005 by volunteering for GWOT deployments and hurricane response and recovery efforts.

Now, 2006 is upon us and the call for volunteers continues. The need for volunteers for Task Force Hope Louisiana and Mississippi recovery efforts will extend into 2007, primarily due to debris removal. Task Force Guardian will continue into the summer 2006, leading the charge to return the levee systems in New Orleans to pre-Katrina protection levels. The need for Corps' volunteers in Iraq and Afghanistan will still exist in 2006 and beyond, as the United States and its allies rebuild these countries.

As you spend quality time with family and friends over the holidays, I'd ask you to think about 2006 and the important work the Corps is doing around the world. Ask yourself these questions. Would you like to volunteer? Have you talked to your family about deploying in 2006? Have you talked to your supervisor about it? Fellow project delivery team members? Have you talked to your fellow workers in your division, office or branch about it? When

Deployments, continued Page 3

Deployments, continued from Page 2

would you like to deploy?

The bottom line is that there is a lot of work to do in the world today, and the Corps needs our help. The call has been made. Who will answer it?

It is important to balance the need and desire to volunteer for Corps' missions outside of the district with critical work we need to accomplish within the district. Philosophically, Col. Mike Pfenning, the district's commander, and I agree that volunteers should be given an opportunity to contribute, however, the timing must be synchronized with supervisors, project delivery teams and other stakeholders to minimize negative impacts to our district mission. It is also important to recognize that deployments result in other team members that stay behind having to absorb additional work. Planning and communication is essential as we prepare for 2006.

Thank you to those who have volunteered and supported contingency operations in the past. You have answered the call and performed admirably. Also, a special thank you goes to those of you who stayed in the district and picked up the slack. The St. Paul District couldn't have accomplished what we have without you.

I look forward to serving with each and every one of you. Be safe over the holiday season. Success is defined as everyone back at work in the New Year with family and friends safe and sound.

Have a great USACE day!

Student interns archive Nicklay photos

by Matt Percy

The St. Paul District maintains a large collection of roughly 24,000 photo negatives primarily compiled by Lyle Nicklay, a retired Navy photographer who came to work for the Corps in 1968.

Nicklay took a large majority of these photographs between 1968 and 1987, and they constitute an exceptional record of the district's personnel and their varied activities during that period. Nicklay documented Corps' projects, lock and dam activities, barge traffic and major floods. The photographs also record social events and awards presentations, as well as visits from various dignitaries.

Until recently, the only available reference source for that collection was a nine volume, handwritten

chronological index compiled by Nicklay himself.

Through the efforts of two summer student interns working in the district since 2003, Molly Wezel-Peterson and Scott Graham, the district now has a digital index to the entire collection.

Additionally, Graham is preparing a first-ever report on the nature, the content and the condition of the collection.

Plans are also underway to begin producing archival-quality scans of the Nicklay negatives and to create a linked database for accessing those images through the index. Ultimately, this collection may also serve as an impetus for the district's efforts to create a viable digital image database and to preserve contemporary photos and images.



Inside this issue

- Lock and Dam 8 renovation celebrated Page 4**
- Cranebarge Leonard christened Page 5**
- Ottertrail byway system selects Orwell as a stop Page 6**
- Lock and Dam 2 hosts district meet and greet Page 6**
- Hurricane Katrina still demanding massive effort Page 8**
- Emergency operations hopping Page 10**
- Temporary housing group puts quality first Page 11**
- District deployees make a difference Page 12**
- District pumps up for CFC Page 20**
- Bandy receives Army Bronze Star Page 21**
- News and Notes Page 22**

Lock and Dam 8 renovation celebrated

by Kurt Brownell

The district hosted an open house and dedication ceremony for the Lock and Dam 8 rehabilitation project Sept. 22

Lock and Dam 8 is located near Genoa, Wis.

Speakers included District Commander Col. Michael Pfenning, Wisconsin Department of Transportation Secretary Frank Busalacchi and Wisconsin State Senator Dan Kapanke.

The project was completed in November 2003 at a cost of \$7.9 million. It included building a new central control building and replacing the lock's electrical systems. Roads and parking areas were replaced and the site's landscaping, drainage and irrigation systems were improved. Due to budget concerns during fiscal year 2004, the district delayed the dedication until fiscal year 2005.

Approximately 150 people attended the event, including many former Lock and Dam 8 employees.

"It was a great day for all of us at Lock and Dam 8, and it was especially nice to have the Lock and Dam 8 retirees there," said Ted Engelien, lockmaster.

Following the ceremony, lock and dam employees hosted a luncheon and a public open house that included tours.



Photo by Kurt Brownell

Corps of Engineers and other officials involved with the Lock and Dam 8 renovation project participated in the official ribbon cutting at the dedication ceremony Sept. 22.



Photo by Tom Crump

Denise Lepke, Lock and Dam 8 operator, and Ted Engelien, Lock and Dam 8 lockmaster, prepare treats for the event attendants.

Cranebarge Leonard christened

by Mark Krumholz

The district unveiled nameboards and dedicated, with a bottle of champagne, its largest and newest cranebarge, the Leonard, at Lock and Dam 1 in Minneapolis, Oct. 28.

The Cranebarge Leonard is named after former chief of engineering and district Hall-of-Fame member Richard W. (Si) Leonard, who died in 2001.

Jim Maybach, district plant engineer, served as the master of ceremonies. He acknowledged Craig Hinton, former chief of the old dredging and structures section, now the physical support branch, and acting plant engineer, who oversaw construction of the cranebarge in the mid-1990s.

Maybach then introduced Pete Fischer, also a former engineering division chief and Hall-of-Famer, who worked for Leonard. Fischer provided insight into Leonard, as well as humorous anecdotes on his career. For someone who said he only had one page of notes, Fischer obviously wrote in tiny print. His comments helped the crowd feel like they all knew Leonard and his accomplishments much better.

Fischer was followed by Leonard's son, Tom Leonard, who liked the analogy of his dad to a "working" Corps' vessel. Tom and his wife had traveled from Atlanta to attend the event, along with his son, Justin, from Kentucky, and his sister, Georgia, from Maine. Local nieces and nephews, and close



Photo by Mike De Rusha

Si Leonard's daughter, Georgia Rose, christens the St. Paul District cranebarge, the "Leonard," with a champagne bottle Oct. 28. Behind her is Scott Uhl, physical support, in Fountain City, Wis.

friends also attended the event.

Lt. Col. John Kunkle, deputy commander, gave the keynote speech, talking about the cranebarge and its mission.

Following the unveiling and champagne shower, the Reverend Katie Estes-Collins gave an invocation for the safety of the crew and the Cranebarge Leonard.

The district received an e-mail from Tom Leonard following the event, saying the family was still 'abuzz' with gratitude towards the Corps and the honor bestowed upon his dad.



Photo by Mark Krumholz

The Leonard is the district's newest and largest cranebarge.

Ottertrail byway system selects Orwell Dam as trail stop

by Robert Schimming

The newly established Ottertrail Scenic Byway System selected Orwell Dam, located near Fergus Falls, Minn., as one of its 23 stops.

There are 19 stops along the main byway system, and there are four side-trip locations. Orwell is number four on the side trip stops.

Judy Stringer, coordinator of the byway project, said this project was a lengthy but very rewarding process. It involved forming a committee to review the concept and then meeting with state department of transportation and

county and city officials to get input. Next, the committee submitted an application to the byway commission and then filled out grant applications to obtain funding.

The total project cost ran around \$140,000. The Federal Highway Administration, the State Byway Commission and the Minnesota Department of Transportation provided the funding.

Stringer said, this is an excellent way to introduce travelers to the wonderful areas Minnesota has to offer. Since the Ottertrail River plays a major role in many people's lives in western Minnesota, offering both recreational opportunities and serving as a water supply for upstream, the dam seemed a very good fit for the Ottertrail Scenic Byway System.

A new sign was installed at the dam, marking it as a byway stop. The sign will give beneficial



Photo by Robert Schimming

Judy Stringer, coordinator of the Ottertrail Scenic Byway System, beside the new sign at the main recreation area.

information to visitors at Orwell, and, according to Robert Schimming, Orwell maintenance worker, the new designation will bring many new visitors to the site.

First district "Meet and Greet" hosted outside of district office

by Tricia Liggett

The Special Emphasis Program Committee, or SEPC, Field Subcommittee sponsored the first ever "Meet and Greet" held outside of the district office Aug. 3., at Lock and Dam 2, in Hastings, Minn.

The event provided an opportunity for new employees to mingle and meet other employees, while forging friendships along the way. Fourteen new employees were welcomed to the district.

Dave Nelson, Headwaters Construction Office project engineer, said, "This is the first Meet and Greet I have attended, and it was fun – people had a good time. I had the chance to reconnect with past coworkers and meet some new people as well."

Preparation for the Meet and Greet involved teamwork, coordination and the help of staff at Lock and Dam 2. In the span of an hour, the parking lot was



Photo by Tammy Wick

The Special Emphasis Program Field Subcommittee hosted a "Meet and Greet" at Lock and Dam 2 in Hastings, Minn., Aug. 3.

transformed from a parking lot to an "All-American event" with red, white and blue prominently displayed. The attendees enjoyed eating hot dogs, hamburgers, baked beans and apple crisp, while mingling with one another. Some Corps' personnel even played baseball.

Special Deployment Section



Photo courtesy U.S. Air Force Reserve

Inside Katrina

“Katrina will likely be recorded as the worst natural disaster in the history of the United States ... Producing catastrophic damage and untold casualties in the New Orleans area and along the Mississippi Gulf Coast ... and additional casualties in South Florida. The extent of the physical and human devastation from this hurricane cannot yet be estimated.”

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Hurricane Center



Hurricane cleanup still demanding massive effort across the Corps, St. Paul District

by Shannon Bauer

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be cleaning up after Hurricane Katrina for quite some time.

To date, around 3,000 members of the Corps of Engineers, both active duty and civilian, have deployed to the Gulf Coast. More than \$2.9 billion in hurricane recovery missions has been assigned to the agency.

In St. Paul, 200 of the district's 625 employees have deployed – several more than once, making the district's response consistently 10 percent. In addition, 10 employees supported long hours in the district's emergency operations center, or EOC, and many more picked up extra work while their coworkers deployed.

Dave Christenson, readiness team leader, said this disaster marks St. Paul's largest deployment outside of the district. He said, "From a regional perspective, Katrina is probably the largest Corps of Engineers' deployment for disaster response."

According to the National Hurricane Center, Katrina made landfall Aug. 29 in Plaquemines Parish, La., as a category four storm with 140 miles per hour winds. She continued northward and made a second landfall near the Louisiana and Mississippi border area as a category three storm with winds near 125 mph.

In New Orleans, she overtopped and breached the city's levee system, flooding more than 80 percent of the city. In Mississippi, she wiped whole towns off the map, including Waveland and Bay St. Louis. According to FEMA, or the Federal Emergency Management Agency, she left around 400,000 citizens displaced and affected around 90,000 square miles.

During the first few weeks of recovery, FEMA called upon the Corps of Engineers to deliver more than 100 million pounds of ice, 38 million liters of water and 8.1 Meals-Ready-to-Eat, or MREs, and to complete 885 power assessments. Additionally, FEMA requested the Corps assist it with installing temporary public buildings and temporary housing, as well as complete Operation Blue Roof – a program where residents with damaged roofs can apply for blue, temporary plastic sheeting to be placed on their homes.

The Corps also inherited missions under its own authorities to include repairing the New Orleans levees and reopening the Mississippi River navigation channel.

St. Paul personnel have been working on all of these recovery missions, as well as have been performing management, administrative and technical duties in support of them.

Katrina, continued Page 9

The beach front of Bay St. Louis, Miss., as seen from the air, shortly after Katrina hit. Most of the debris was carried north.

Photo courtesy DOD's Joint Combat Camera



Photo by Shannon Bauer

More than 70 percent of the buildings are gone in Hancock County, a Mississippi county just next to the Louisiana border. Above is what is left of a residential street in Bay St. Louis, Miss.

Katrina, continued from Page 8

Shelly Shafer, readiness branch, was on the ground in Mississippi, Aug. 27, even before Katrina hit. She served as an Emergency Support Function #3 assistant team leader at FEMA's Mississippi Joint Field Office in Jackson, Miss., for 65 days. "This was the most challenging, but also most rewarding, deployment I've ever had," she said. "I have responded to countless disasters over the past several years; but none compared to the devastation I saw along the Mississippi coastline. I am still amazed at how much was accomplished within the first 60 days. FEMA, USACE, the state and the other ESFs worked as a unified team to make it all happen."

Members of the St. Paul District's temporary housing project recovery team soon followed. Bonnie Greenleaf, project management, left for Baton Rouge, La., Aug. 28, to lead the temporary building efforts in Louisiana, while Kari Layman, engineering, headed to Vicksburg, Miss., to install public buildings in Mississippi. Since then, more than 55 St. Paul

members have deployed to support these missions.

Katrina also left around 47 million cubic yards of debris in her wake – enough garbage to circle the globe once and again from New York to Los Angeles with filled dump trucks. As this issue went to press, around 20 million cubic yards has been removed from the affected area. Around 103 district personnel have supported, or are supporting, this mission. Most are serving as quality assurance inspectors, monitoring debris removal contractors.

The district has also supplied information managers and administrators, as well as logistics, personnel and public affairs specialists, to support the cleanup efforts.

Christenson said he expects the deployments to continue well in to 2006. "Although the rate of deployment has slowed, the number deployed remains the same or is increasing," he said. "I expect there will be many more opportunities for Saint Paul personnel to volunteer throughout the year."

Christenson added that he continues "to hear laudatory comments on the hard work and professional demeanor of St. Paul personnel."

Emergency Operations hopping since Katrina hit

by Mark Davidson

There are about 625 full-time employees in the St. Paul District, give or take a few. When disasters like Hurricane Katrina hit, the St. Paul District responds quickly.

It's the job of the district's emergency operations center, or EOC, to send the right people to the place that needs them the most and keep track of them. As this story went to print, more than 80 district employees were deployed and 120 have returned from deployment.

There are a lot of things to do to get people deployed. Dave Christenson, readiness team leader, said, certain jobs and skills are identified by higher headquarters as the skills needed in a disaster zone. Then, the EOC has to coordinate with the district, divisions, offices and branches to select the personnel to deploy to fill these jobs and skills.

Funding is high up on the list of things to get done next. Dianna Tschida, funding manager, who normally works in project management, said, "We have to keep track of all money coming into the EOC by mission, and then we have to establish ordering and funded work items to insure that the money is available for travel, per diem, labor and all other expenses that will be incurred for all the deployees."



Photo by Mark Davidson

Dianna Tschida, project management; Bob Silvagni, readiness branch; Dave Christenson, readiness branch; and Aaron Snyder, project management, meet in the Emergency Operations Center.

Carol Johnson, resource management, has also been assisting the EOC by providing funding management.

Working with SATO and getting the deployee to the disaster area, usually by airplane travel, is often a challenge, said Richard Davenport, logistics, because of the tight time constraints that are put on all parties involved in the deployment process.

Keeping all the balls in the air is the job of the EOC chiefs, Aaron Snyder, normally in project management, and Brad Perkl, normally in cultural resources. In addition to recruiting people to deploy, they check to ensure deployees have medical clearances, government credit cards, immunizations, cell phones, hard hats, emergency shirts, travel orders, funding, travel

arrangements, supervisor permission and more.

"I enjoyed working with first-time deployees, answering their questions and helping them so they are comfortable with the endeavor they are about to embark on," said Snyder.

Doing travel orders, working with time sheets and overtime requests, and getting people paid is a big job for the administrative people, who include Tonya Baker, Stephanie Dupey and Jan Pream – plus, all three deployed south for a tour of duty.

"We all worked many weekends and late evenings during the workweek," said Dupey. "I answered many questions on travel vouchers, mess hall procedures and other questions. All in all, I felt I added value by helping my fellow coworkers in accomplishing their jobs."

Recruiting retired people to deploy and managing the equipment and clothing needs of the deployed kept emergency manager assistant Bob Silvagni busy. He said, "My most difficult experience during this hurricane recovery effort was making arrangements for a deployed person to be contacted about a personal family emergency."

Christenson said the process of deployment has now become routine for the EOC. "The initial surge to support immediate response in the area demanded an expanded EOC operation," he said. "Now, we have time to plan ahead, which reduces the number of hours needed. However, the job remains as support for the recovery operation continues."

Temporary housing group puts quality first

By Peter Verstegen

The temporary housing group at the Recovery Field Office in Baton Rouge, La., puts quality first in review of 33 projects which have been allowed to proceed to construction in southern Louisiana.

Although three contractors manage design, construction, operation and maintenance of the projects, the Corps' temporary housing team oversees the project for quality assurance.

The temporary housing mission, under FEMA authority, has overseen quality assurance, design and construction on more than 8,700 units in 16 parishes ravaged by hurricanes Rita and Katrina in late August and September 2005. FEMA is considering 86 sites now.

Allan Steinle, mission manager from Omaha District, said, "Thirty-three have been cleared to proceed to construction. If all 86 sites are fully developed, there will be approximately 8,700 units available."

The team assures quality in the process that provides temporary housing for residents of parishes hit by hurricanes.

"Once the project goes to construction, we monitor on-site activities to ensure the project is built in accordance with the approved plans," said Wesley Turner, resident engineer for the mission who normally works at the Huntsville Center in Huntsville, Ala. "We're on site to assist contractors with technical issues in construction."

The team has one mission



Arne Thomsen and Kevin Ressie, Louisiana Recovery Field Office, Baton Rouge, discuss quality assurance with Milton Lyons, James Construction Group, at a FEMA temporary public housing site in Chalmette, La., Nov. 19. Chalmette is within the New Orleans metropolitan area. Thomsen is a rehired annuitant from the St. Paul District and Ressie works as a boat pilot for the district.

manager, one resident engineer, two quality assurance supervisors and seven quality assurance specialists. Two civil engineers and two electrical engineers review and comment on all site designs as the initial quality assurance function the group provides to FEMA.

"There are two types of sites: exclusive and group use," said Arne Thomsen, quality assurance supervisor. He retired a year ago from St. Paul District as chief, maintenance and repair section of the physical support branch in Fountain City, Wis. The exclusive sites are used by teachers, hospital staff, airport personnel, city employees, state police employees



Photos by Peter Verstegen

and parish corrections officers and allow the groups to live near work. The group sites provide temporary housing for residents close to their old neighborhoods.

"I watched the news when the hurricanes hit Louisiana and Mississippi," Steinle said. "That's when I knew I had to come and help."

He and his team are helping by assuring quality in the process that provides temporary housing for residents of parishes hit by hurricanes.

District deployee features



USACE Photo

Paul Johnson, engineering, deployed to New Orleans.

Paul Johnson, Engineering St. Paul District Office

Deployed:

Oct. 11–Dec. 21, 2005

Where: New Orleans

Mission description:

Temporary housing team: quality assurance inspector

Highlights of this deployment:

“As housing QAs, we are the ‘eyes and ears’ of FEMA during the construction of temporary trailer sites. We arrive on the future sites when construction begins and report on the contractor’s progress, estimated time frames and compliance with design specs, and state and local codes. Prior to the arrival of the FEMA trailers, utilities are installed either above or below ground and

tied into the city’s mains and electrical grid. We are involved in the project until the trailers have been installed and ready for occupancy.

“The hours are long, and it can be overwhelming to see such vast areas of complete devastation day after day. But when the residents begin moving in to a completed site, they are typically extremely happy and thankful towards everyone involved. It is a nice change of pace from my typical duties in the St. Paul district as the survey crew chief. Plus, it is a lot warmer here than back in Minnesota.”



USACE Photo

Sara Crowson, Fountain City Service Base, deployed to Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.

Sara Crowson, Channels and Harbors Fountain City, Wis.

Deployed:

Sep. 17–Nov. 7, 2005

Where: Hattiesburg, Miss.

Mission description:

Roofing Team: doing data entry of all the Right of Entry, or ROE, applications for Blue Roofs

Job back home:

Administrative assistant for channels and harbors (hydrographic survey); Fountain City, Wis.

Highlights of this deployment:

“Lending an ear to the people that lost so much to Hurricane

Katrina – that was so humbling ... I met great people from all over the United State and made some great forever friends.”

What you learned from this experience:

“I learned that I don’t want to be here anymore – I want to be out there doing what I can to help. I am forever grateful to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St Paul District; my supervisor, Dan Krumholz; Denise Julson; and my children for allowing me to do this.”

Rebecca Gruber, Regulatory Waukesha Field Office; Waukesha, Wis.

Deployed:

Sept. 8–Nov. 21, 2005

Where: Hattiesburg, Miss.

Mission description:

Debris mission: quality assurance supervisor

Job back home:

Regulatory project manager, Waukesha Field Office.

Highlights of this deployment:

“The Jones County debris team has hauled more than 1.6 million cubic yards of mostly vegetative debris from roadway rights-of-way (to date). Our county includes a portion of the DeSoto National Forest and is known regionally as the “Pine Belt.” Many homes, businesses and significant amounts of the community infrastructure were destroyed during Katrina.”

What you learned from this experience:

“I have previously worked debris as a quality assurance inspector during recovery efforts associated with Hurricanes Ivan and early on during Katrina efforts. Debris missions are often not the spotlight of recovery efforts; however, debris is one of

the most pivotal parts of any hurricane recovery mission.

“This experience has definitely deepened my knowledge of how expansive and complicated these missions can be, from contract coordination to practical on-the-ground implementation. ...

“The staff I worked with here in Jones County worked hard to make our area the second most productive in the state of Mississippi (just behind one coastal county), they have been an asset to the Corps. I am pleased with the relationships I have had with them (to include our contractors) and the citizens of this locality, many of whom have been very supportive of our efforts.

“I am proud to say that this county is in the final stages of debris hauling. It has been quite satisfying to witness almost the entirety of the mission, from its messy beginnings to the end product (I could do without the unwanted debris pile fires though).

“Lastly, I have learned that fried okra is quite good, as are corn nuggets (also fried)!



USACE Photo

Rebecca Gruber, regulatory, deployed to Jones County in Mississippi.

Steve Mottl, Engineering and Design St. Paul District Office

Deployed:

Oct. 24–Nov. 22, 2005

Where: Vicksburg, Miss.

Mission description:

Debris data center: I typed reports from debris load tickets to the computer files

Job back home:

Civil engineering technical support

Highlights of this deployment:

“I stayed in the Vicksburg district office.”

What you learned from this experience:

“I liked their weather. In the early mornings, I didn’t have to wear a jacket.”



USACE Photo

Steve Mottl, engineering, deployed to the Vicksburg District Headquarters in Vicksburg, Miss.

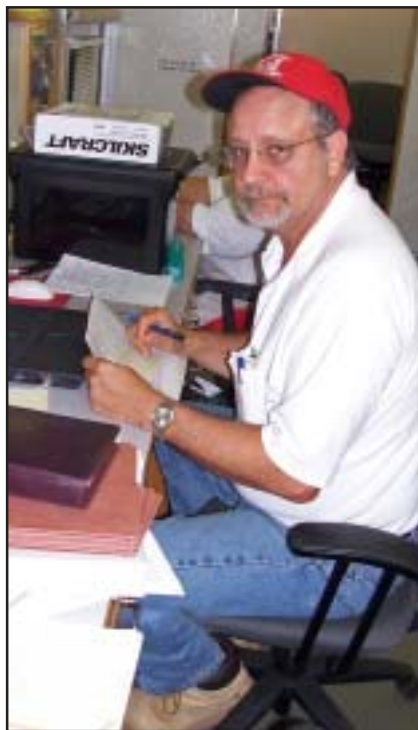


Photo by Mark Davidson

Tom Novak, project management, deployed to Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.

Tom Novak, Project Management St. Paul District Office

Deployed:

Sep. 13–Oct. 12, 2005

Where: Biloxi, Miss.

Mission description:

Point of contact for the Corps with congressional members and staff; the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA; the Mississippi Emergency Management Association, or MEMA; and local city and county governments.

Job back home:

Project manager

Highlights of this deployment:

“Working with and meeting other members of the Corps family

(which included people from Germany and Japan). Being able to help a few folks in Hattiesburg, Miss., and in the Harrison County school districts.”

What you learned from this experience:

“It makes me appreciate and reflect on what I have, but it also reminded me of how I take it for granted and how quickly it can all be gone. Also impressed on how the human being picks themselves up after a devastating event and begins to rebuild their life.”



Photo by Oscar Reihsmann

Mike De Rusha (right), Lock and Dam 1, deployed to Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.

Mike De Rusha, Lock and Dam 1 Minneapolis

Deployed:

Sep. 3–Sept. 30, 2005

Where: Biloxi, Miss.

Mission description:

Public affairs officer, which included writing stories; taking photos; escorting dignitaries and media; serving as liaison for Operation Blue Roof, disposal sites and various other projects; troubleshooting for the public affairs staff; and supporting senior public affairs staff to make sure that they had their reports ready for their media events; coordinating Operation Blue Roof center sites for media and Corps’ personnel; providing material for and maintaining the web site; and

served as office manager for the public affairs staff.

Job back home:

Lock and dam head operator.

Highlights of this deployment:

“The challenge of working totally outside of my normal profession and truly making a difference. Being part of a great team of driven people.”

What you learned from this experience:

“Thriving totally outside your box. Discovering what you can do, when you didn’t think you could. Thinking on the go in a changing environment. What truly great people work for the CORPS!”

Kimberly Bahls, Lock and Dam 10 Guttenberg, Iowa

Deployed: Sept. 10–Oct. 8, 2005

Where: Biloxi, Miss.

Mission description:

Debris mission: Entered debris data into Access program and assisted with timekeeping.

Job back home:

Variety of administrative work

Highlights of this deployment:

“Meeting people from different

districts and agencies. Having a good first experience in relief work.”

What you learned from this experience:

“That the human spirit can take a lot! It’s great that so many people come together and offer their time and talents to help clean up and rebuild.”

Al Canfield, Information Management St. Paul District Office

Deployed: Oct. 3–Nov. 4, 2005

Where: Baton Rouge, La.

Mission description:

Chief: information management

Job back home:

Information management systems operations branch chief. Oversee and manage the data servers, networking area, helpdesk and computer customer support operations

Highlights of this deployment:

“The ability to make a difference in people’s lives, the ability to see the progress as it happens. As a support function, there is no better feeling than knowing that I was directly responsible for enabling all mission areas to effectively communicate and share data.”

Mission-related highlights:

“Established communications at 10 resident engineer sites, deployed approximately 250 computers, 200 cell phones and Blackberry PDA’s and 100 GPS units, attended to countless customer related automation issues and supported a highly-motivated team of professionals.”

What you learned from this experience:

“No matter how heavily integrated and dependant business is with automation, there is still a definite need for face-to-face communications. E-mails and telephone conversations cannot replace the personal touch. This mission needed to move at a pace no other disaster recovery mission has done before; personal attention and communication was the key to achieving successful results.

“In my personal experience with ESF-3 elements and FEMA alone proved that if you’re going to get it done, you have to take it upon yourself to follow through with someone that your success depends on.

“I also learned the other aspects of the information management office that I don’t do on a daily basis, like establishing mail room support, managing web development, database administration and some Internet working’s of logistics management.



Photo by Mark Davidson

Kimberly Bahls, Lock and Dam 10, deployed to Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.



USACE Photo

Al Canfield (left), information management, deployed to Baton Rouge, La.



USACE Photo

Jonathan Petersen, hydraulics and hydrology, deployed to Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.

Jonathan Petersen, Hydraulics and Hydrology, District Office

Deployed:

Sept. 12–Nov. 10, 2005

Where: Biloxi, Miss.

Mission description:

Portable buildings mission: specialist and quality assurance inspector

Job back home:

Hydraulic engineer

Highlights of this deployment:

“Seeing school children going back and how excited they were and how fast a mission can be completed with a good team and adequate funding.”

What you learned from this experience:

“Good construction experience, as well as met many important contacts throughout the Corps.”

Schools open in Bay St. Louis

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and FEMA Press Release

Students from Mississippi’s Gulf Coast returned to school Nov. 7 and stepped into brand-new modular classrooms, thanks to the collaborative efforts of local and state officials, the Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

“This is another example of the ongoing cooperative effort between Mississippi officials, FEMA and the Corps to provide temporary educational facilities to the school districts that were so severely impacted by Katrina,” said Nick Russo, FEMA’s deputy federal coordinating officer in Mississippi.

While the process for providing the temporary classrooms involves numerous phases, the Corps has been working quickly to fill the requests of the Mississippi Department of Education. Of the 466 requested classroom units, 329 have been delivered and 188 have been installed and made ready for occupancy. More than 300 schools in the state were damaged or destroyed after Katrina.

“These plain, modular classrooms mean everything to families, communities and students who have lost stability and normalcy,” said Michael Logue, Vicksburg District public affairs. “Some of the students may still be playing band with cardboard boxes and sticks, but they are totally

excited to be back in class, and it is all because their world is starting to look right again.”

The modular classrooms are constructed with wood frames, insulation and aluminum siding and range in size from 24-feet-by-36 feet to 24-feet-by-60 feet. Small classroom units hold up to 30 students, while the larger units are designed to accommodate up to 60.

Each classroom includes white boards and bulletin boards, as well as carpeting, windows, air conditioning and heat. Units for elementary grades have restrooms, and some have wood ramps and decks. The cost of each new temporary classroom is \$117,000 which includes the cost of the trailer, delivery, site preparation, utilities, walkways and parking.

“They are really beautiful, very clean and spacious,” said Robin Craft, a teacher at North Bay Elementary School in Bay St. Louis. “Even though we’ve lost a lot, we know we have a lot of catching up to do – academically and with students’ emotional needs – but we’re trying to stay positive.”

Twenty-six cities will receive the temporary classrooms. These include: Biloxi, Brooklyn, Bay St. Louis, Carriere, Crystal Springs, D’Iberville, Gautier, Gulfport, Hattiesburg, Heidelberg, Kiln, Long Beach, Moss Point, New Augusta, Ocean Springs, Pascagoula, Pass Christian, Picayune, Poplarville, Purvis, Saucier, Stringer, Sumrall, Waveland, Wesson and Vancleave.

District leads Mississippi temporary building team

by Mark Davidson

As the people of Mississippi began to rebuild after Hurricane Katrina, most of them first returned to their still-standing or destroyed homes, to see if they could salvage and restart that part of their lives.

But there were thousands of other critical buildings that are also part of their normal lives – school classrooms, police stations, fire stations and other government offices – that had to be inspected to determine if they could be used again. Katrina destroyed or made unusable hundreds of school and government building.

This is where the St. Paul District came in. The district led the effort of the temporary public structures team, or TPS team. Most of the 14 St. Paul people were down in Mississippi within one to 10 days after the hurricane hit, making plans to start the recovery efforts.

Kari Layman, engineering, arrived in Vicksburg, Miss., on Aug. 28 and led the TPS team as the mission manager out of Biloxi, Miss. Layman was also a mission manager in Florida during the 2004 hurricane recovery efforts, supervising more than 20 people there.

“The day after Hurricane Katrina made landfall,” said Layman, “we gathered in the



USACE Photo

Randy Urich, channels and harbors, and Dave Kitzman, Lock and Dam 5, visit with a school official after installing a public facility. They both deployed to Mississippi in support of Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts. They served as part of the St. Paul District's portable building team

Vicksburg District emergency operations center and listened to a CNN-TV reporter say the country was breathing a sigh of relief because the storm had not been as bad as anticipated.

“A few hours later, we started to receive reports of the complete devastation of the Mississippi Gulf Coast and began to realize the true size of the mountain that stood in front of us,” she continued.

By the time the TPS team was in place, there was already nearly 100 requests from schools and local governments. Dennis Anderson, biologist, said, “Some of the requests only asked for one temporary building; one request asked for 57 temporary buildings.”

Dave Kitzman, Lock and Dam 5, initially worked TPS assessments in Hancock County, the hardest hit county in Mississippi.

“I met with county and city officials from within Hancock County from city governments, fire and police departments and schools to start to get their operations back to work,” he said. “I had the honor of being the person who turned over the first temporary public structure to the De Lisle, Miss., Fire Department for our team.”

Kitzman and the other members of the TPS team always had to start out with an actual site assessment after they got a TPS request. The site assessment engineers traveled in teams of two for safety reasons, said Kenton Spading, engineering.

“We would meet with our customers, the people who submitted the TPS requests, on site to assess their situation,” said

St. Paul Team, continued Page 18

St. Paul Team, continued from 17

Spading. “We would look at how badly their building or buildings were damaged, how many square feet of space they needed and if their site was large enough to hold portable buildings.

Other critical items assessed, he continued, were identifying environmental and cultural concerns, getting right-of-entry and figuring out the utility hooks ups needed for water, sewer and electrical needs.

After completing the initial assessments, a resident engineer would meet with a contractor and take the contractor to the various sites. “We would introduce the contractor to the customer and discuss how best to proceed with the work,” said Spading. “We would draw a field sketch on-site and agree on a scope of work.”

If all parties agreed on the scope of work, Spading would give the contractors permission to begin. A copy of the scope of work would go to the contracting office next, then the contractor would submit a cost estimate for the job and a schedule for completing the work.

“I would then assign a quality assurance inspector to the site to watch over the construction and make sure it was being done safely and that the work was what I agreed to on the scope of work,” said Spading.

After the site was ready for a temporary public building, Mike McGarvey, logistics, and his crew would step in. McGarvey was the temporary public structures staging area manager, and his 10-member crew ran a 24-hour operation for receiving, inspecting and deploying



Photo by Mark Davidson

Scott Jutilla, engineering, deployed to Mississippi to serve on the St. Paul District’s temporary public buildings team. Here, is at working out of the Corps’ recovery office at Keesler Air Force Base.

the single and double portable structures out to the sites.

“It was hard running a fully operational, 24-hour, seven-days-a-week staging area out of the back of our SUVs,” said McGarvey. “For two weeks, we didn’t have a roof over our heads to shield us from the heat, portable lights for night operations, portable bathrooms or a DSL line for e-mails, tables or chairs for desks.”

But the experience was amazing, he said, because the people he worked with melded into a cohesive team faster than he could have possibly imagined.

“I used to write war plans for the Air Force,” said McGarvey, “changing bare base locations into fully functioning mini-cities, but I never had the opportunity to build one from the ground up on the fly until now. It was awesome.”

As the initial TPS team was leaving, they noticed changes – changes in the people they were helping, their sincere comments of

appreciation and thanks – and changes in the weather and the environment as that part of the landscape was making a comeback.

“When I first arrived, many of the hardwood trees that were still standing didn’t have any leaves remaining,” said Anderson. “It was like winter in the south but only in September. Many of the needles on the conifers were all brown from the saltwater. The huge majestic oaks that have lived for more than 100 years, enduring countless other storms, survived rather well but carried new scars.

By the time I left in mid-October, he continued, the oak trees had leafed out and some of the conifers were turning green, recovering from Katrina, just like the communities that we were there to assist.”

As of Dec. 12, 2005, the TPS team in Mississippi has installed 329 classrooms and 182 public structures. Approximately 665 classrooms or offices have been delivered to their final site.

Initial team members:

Dennis Anderson, Rick Femrite, Greg Frankosky, Scott Jutilla, Dave Kitzman, Kari Layman, Mike McGarvey, Joe Mose, Jon Peterson, Kurt Reppe, Jim Sentz, Kevin Sommerland, Kenton Spading, Vivian Wippler

Follow-on team members:

Dan Cottrell, Lanny Cyr, Tim Fell, Janet Golubski, Bonnie Greenleaf, Tim Grundhofer, Bill Hurley, Terry Jessesky, Paul Madison, Ann Morrison, Liz Nelson, Steve Odegaard, Bryan Peterson, Marlin Ranum, Kurt Reppe (extended), Kevin Sommerland (extended), Randy Urich, Al Van Guilder, Gary Wolf.



Photo courtesy DOD Joint Camera Command

Active duty Army Soldiers assist the Corps of Engineers with temporarily fixing the New Orleans levees by air dropping sandbags into the breaches.

St. Paul District members who have volunteered to deploy

Teri Alberico, Eugene Alm, Dennis Anderson, Jeff Anderson, Tom Anderson, Greg Baecker, Jodie Bagniewski, Sherolyn Bahl, Kimberly Bahls, Tonya Baker, Shannon Bauer, Richard Baures, Michael Bean, Richard Beatty, Jason Bellerive, John Berger, Tim Bertschi, Terry Boland, Daniel Boone, Chris Botz, George Braunreiter, Judith Brownell, Jacob Busch, Al Canfield, Chad Caya, Tom Clay, Justin Coldwater, James Collins, Dan Cottrell, Chris Craig, James Crosby, Sarah Crowson, Lanny Cyr, Michael Dahlquist, Mark Davidson, David Deere, Dwight Deloney, Robert Dempsey, Mike De Rusha, Gary Deschane, David Diamond, Tom Dirnberger, John Dittrich, Patrick Duffney, Stephanie Dupuy, Elizabeth Dvorak, Ed Eaton, Michael Emmons, Ted Engelien, Todd Ennis, Tim Fell, Richard Femright, Kenneth Fleschner, Greg Frankosky, Tim Fuller, James Gallup III, Greg Gartner, Janet Golubski, Steve Grannes, Bonnie Greenleaf, Jay Grimsled, Michael Grossel, Becky Gruber, Joe Gurin, Ricky Hager, Doyle Hanson, Lowell Hanson, Jon Hanson, Lemonye Hartness, Felica Hector, Phyllis Hedberg, Tom Hermstreet, Kevin Henricks, Chris Hill, David Hill, Bill Hueblien, Anthony Hughes, Bill Hurley, Jeffrey Huseby, Otis Jacobson, Terry Jessesky, Dawn Johnson, Joel Johnson, Paul Johnson, Roger Johnson, Jeff Just, Scott Jutila, Douglas Kelly, Danny Kircher, Dave Kitzman, Mark Koenig, Dennis Krantz, Gary Krause, Charles Kunesh, Dennis Kupietz, Tom La Rose, Roy Lawson, Kari Layman, Leonard Lettner, Lisa Lund, Paul Machajewski, Paul Madison, Ray Marinan, Curtis Marquardt, Stan Marg, Curtis Marty, Fred Maule, Constance McCullick, Bruce McFarlan, Mike McGarvey, Jeff McGrath, Brad Miller, Jon Miller, Joel Miller-Oates, Lowell Moline, Bonnie Montgomery, Darrell Morey, Ann Morrison, Joe Mose, Steve Mottl, William Mountin, Steve Muller, Ronnie Naber, Liz Nelsen, William Nissalke, Tom Novak, Richard Otto, Ken Paulson, Matt Percy, Nancy Peck, Jon Petersen, Bryan Peterson, Ken Peterson, Col. Michael Pfenning, Joseph Piranio, Jan Pream, Jimmy Rand, Marlin Ranum, Dan Reinhertz, Kurt Reppe, Kevin Ressie, Dave Reynolds, Brad Richard, James Ryan, Josh Rye, Lupe Santos-Jenson, Dan Schmidt, Mark Scholl, John Schultz, Terry Schneider, Neil Schwanz, Mike Seibel, Jim Sentz, Shelly Shafer, Robert Sikkila, Jon Sobiech, Kevin Sommerland, Kenton Spading, Georgia Stanonik, Dan Swenson, Timothy Tabery, SherryAnn Tarte, Lori Taylor, Keith Traynor, David Trottle, Patrick Trudell, Jim Ulrick, Mark Upward, Randy Urich, Al Van Guilder, Nathan Van Loon, Peter Verstegen, Todd Vesperman, Pat Vickman, Murele Ware, John Welch, Dana Werner, Vivian Wippler, Gary Wolf, Gerald Wood and Terry Zien

District pumps up for the Combined Federal Campaign

by Shannon Bauer

The St. Paul District hosted its second annual Physical Fitness Challenge Nov. 3 for the purpose of raising funds for the Combined Federal Campaign, as well as for promoting the Army's wellness program.

Five contestants took on the challenge by competing in a sit-up contest. Each participant obtained pledges from coworkers prior to the competition. The event resulted in raising \$881.44, a record for any single district CFC fund-raising event.

The sit-up contest included completing as many Army-style push-ups as each participant could do, without taking a rest, in two minutes.

"Marvelous" Mark Klicka, representing engineering, took first place by completing 76 sit-ups. "Bulldog" Brent Johnson, project management, took second, with 64 sit-ups. Jodi "The Rock" Kormanik, hydraulics and hydrology, came in third with 59 sit-ups.

At \$332.69 raised, "Mighty Mouse" Shannon Bauer, public affairs, representing the support staff, brought in the most money. Aaron "Superman" Snyder, project management, came in a close second in this category, raising \$300.75.

Tom "The Body" Crump, executive assistant, served as judge and master-of-ceremonies, for the second year in a row.

All money raised during this event was turned over to Keystone Community Partners, a nonprofit organization in St. Paul, Minn.



Photo by Peter Verstegen

In front, Brent Johnson, assisted by Jim Stadelman, both project management, competed in the second annual St. Paul District Physical Fitness Challenge to raise funds for the Combined Federal Campaign. Behind them are contestant Shannon Bauer, public affairs, with coach Warren LaPlante, security, and contestants Aaron Snyder, project management and Mark Klicka, engineering.



Photo by Peter Verstegen

Contestant Jodi Kormanik, hydraulics and hydrology, finished third in the sit-up contest. Behind her is first-place winner Mark Klicka with coach Jim Mosner, both engineering.

Bandy receives Army Bronze Star for Iraq tour

by Mark Davidson

Maj. Leigh Bandy can't get enough of Iraq.

Bandy, Contracting Division deputy chief, was in Iraq from February to July this year. Now, the Corps is sending him back there in January for six more months.

Bandy's training for Iraq started at the Continental United States, or CONUS, Replacement Center at Fort Benning, Ga. "I underwent refresher training in weapons firing, chemical warfare, first aid, map reading and basic tactics, along with more detailed training in patrolling and convoy operations," he said.

In Iraq, Bandy served as the chief of contracting division for Gulf Region North and was responsible for procurement and administration of all contracts for construction services for reconstruction in Northern Iraq. He was stationed in Mosul, Iraq, about a six-hour drive north of Baghdad.

"The contractual direction he provided and actions he took were always timely, professional and right on," said Clarence McCann, resident engineer at Tikrit Resident Office.

McCann said Bandy had the drive to seek solutions to overcome the many obstacles associated with construction contracting in Iraq and that drive was paramount to the success of their office in accomplishing numerous high priority contracts. These projects included a \$7 million division



USACE Photo

Col. Richard B. Jenkins (right), commander of the Gulf Region Division North District, presents Maj. Leigh Bandy with his Bronze Star award certificate. Bandy, deputy chief of the St. Paul District's contracting division, served in Iraq from February to July of this year.

headquarters; an \$11 million prime power plant at Forward Operating Base Speicher, located about one hour north of Baghdad; and a \$13 million forward operations base for the Iraqi Army near Samarra, also one hour north of Baghdad.

"Maj. Bandy's skill, enthusiasm, intelligence and positive attitude are all attributes sought after but seldom found in a contracting officer," said McCann. "I consider Maj. Bandy as one of the very best contracting officers I have had the pleasure to work with in my 30 plus years in the government."

Brig. Gen. Thomas Bostick awarded Bandy the Bronze Star Medal from the Army June 13 for his "operational focus, acquisition and contracting experience, and leader competencies were

essential to the North District, Gulf Region Division."

Bandy's family was elated when he returned home. He said, "I received a variety of reactions from my fellow workers and friends when I returned. Most of them asked if I was happy to be back, some asked if I was relieved and others asked if it was dangerous at my location.

"The Corps' mission in Iraq is both vital and fulfilling, and I would highly recommend the experience to anyone who has the opportunity to deploy there," said Bandy, looking back on his deployment. "And, the camaraderie and cohesiveness you experience with your other team members is something you just don't find too many other places."

News and Notes



Photo by Jon Lyman

Lupe Santos-Jensen, equal opportunity, received the September Employee of the Month award from Lt. Col. John Kunkle, deputy district commander. The Special Emphasis Program Field Subcommittee nominated Santos-Jensen for her award.

September Employee of the Month featured

The awards committee selected **Lupe Santos-Jensen**, equal opportunity, as the district's September 2005 Employee of the Month.

The **Special Emphasis Program Field Subcommittee** nominated Santos-Jensen. Their nomination follows:

"We would like to nominate Santos-Jensen for the gracious help and hard work she does for the SEPC. Recently, the Field Subcommittee hosted a Meet and Greet at Lock and Dam 2 [in Hastings, Minn.] This was the first time a Meet and Greet was held at

a field site; and thanks to Santos-Jensen's hard work, the event was a resounding success.

"Most of the SEPC field members had never been to a Meet and Greet, so they were not sure what to expect and certainly not familiar with how to plan and execute one. Santos-Jensen coached other staff and was a wealth of information, as she enthusiastically jumped in to help.

"She sat in on conference calls, ran errands, helped set up and helped serve during the event. Her easygoing attitude during the planning stages made this a fun and successful field Meet and Greet.

"The field members now have a new appreciation for the importance of Meet and Greet events, as we welcome the new employees to the St. Paul District. Great job Lupe!"

October Employee of the Month named

The awards committee selected **Dawn Linder**, contracting, as the district's October 2005 Employee of the Month.

Barb Reckinger, project management, and **Natalie Siok**, engineering, nominated Linder for her willingness to assist with a critical contracting effort at the end of Fiscal Year 2005. Their nomination follows:

"Funds for a large contract became available near the end of the fiscal year and time was of the



Photo by Jon Lyman

Natalie Siok, engineering (left), and Barb Reckinger, project management (right), nominated Dawn Linder (center), contracting, as the district's October Employee of the Month.

essence. However, the person we normally contacted to do the obligation on the contract was not available. After being advised of the situation, Dawn [Linder] stepped up to the plate and completed the obligation. This not only contributed to achieving the district's obligation and expenditure goals, but also enabled the district to satisfy part of the debt owed to one of our major construction contractors.

"This is only one example of Linder's willingness to help get the job done correctly and in a timely manner. She has consistently helped us out many times over the years at the eastern area office."

Linder "is a great team player and can 'always' be counted on to go the extra mile with a pleasant

News and Notes, continued Page 23

News and Notes,
continued from Page 22

attitude. She is a greatly deserving of the Employee of the Month.”

Combined Federal Campaign events raise record funds

The St. Paul District raised around \$1,278 for the Combined Federal Campaign this fall with four fund-raising events. All money raised was turned over to Keystone Community Partners, a nonprofit organization in St. Paul, Minn.

Again, **Mark Davidson**, public affairs, served as the CFC coordinator. This was his sixth campaign.

The first event included a bake sale Oct. 20 that raised \$100. District employees donated the baked goods. **Dave Christenson**, readiness branch; **Carol Johnson**, resource management; **Georgia Stanonik**, office of council; and **T.C. Teed**, project management, sold the goodies. **Bob Mike**, logistics, set up the tables.

A second event included a book sale Oct. 27 that raised \$166. District employees donated the books. **Carol Johnson**, resource management; **Vivian Wippler**, resource management; and **Marge Thompson**, regulatory, sold the books. **Bob Mike** and **Patrick Harding**, logistics, set up the tables and chairs.

A third event, a sit-up contest, raised another \$881. (For more information, see story on page 20.)

The last event, a loose change contest, brought in \$130. Each floor at the district office competed to bring in the most change. The



Photo by Peter Verstegen

T.C. Teed and Terry Zien, both project management, peruse books at the district's Combined Federal Campaign book sale.

fifth floor brought in the most change, coming in at \$86. The sixth floor raised \$35, and the fourth floor raised \$9. **LeeAnne Eshom**, contracting; **Linda Haberkorn**, project management; **Chris Kroll**, engineering; and **Julie Ritter**, resource management, assisted in this event.

Overall, more than 70 people donated \$25,456 towards CFC.

Announcements

Kevin Baumgard, operations and emergency management branch chief, was selected as the new Operations Division assistant chief, Nov. 8.

Mike Evenson, Fargo, N.D. resident engineer, was selected as the new area engineer for the Western Area Office in Grand Forks, N.D., for a one-year appointment, effective Aug. 23.

Fred Maule, lock and dam operator, was selected as the new lockmaster of Lock and Dam 4, Oct. 31.

Jim Ulrick, engineering, and **Terry Zien**, hydraulics and hydrology, were hired as project managers in the Planning, Programs and Project Management Division, Oct. 25.

In November, Corps' Headquarters selected **Kari Layman**, engineering, for its CP-18 Leadership Development Program, Class of 2006.

Newcomers

Callie Helgeson, regulatory, Oct. 2.

Gary Palesh, retired project management, returned to project management, Oct. 3.

Bradley Richard, Dredge Goetz, Sept. 6.

Mark Theis, information management, Nov. 3.

Retirements

Larry Gilbertson, Lock and Dam 3, more than 21 years civil service.

Taps

Charles "Art" Duell, retired Lock and Dam 5A head operator, passed away Sept. 26.

Michael A. Emmons, Lock and Dam 5A, passed away Nov. 16. A longer obit will run in the next *Crosscurrents*.

Leonard F. Lohmann, information management, passed away Oct. 28. A longer obit will run in the next *Crosscurrents*.

Carl Daniel Noel, retired Lock and Dam 9 lockmaster, passed away Oct. 25.

Mel Platt, Upper Saint Anthony Falls Lock and Dam, passed away in November.