



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
St. Paul District

# Crosscurrents

Vol. 31, No. 4

April 2008

**Paul Bunyan greets visitors at  
Crosslake Recreation Area**





Photo by Tammy Wick

**A 13-foot tall Paul Bunyan rag doll welcomes campers and visitors to the Crosslake Recreation Area, Crosslake, Minn. At left is Deb Griffith, a park ranger at Crosslake, and at right is Ray Nelson, park manager.**

**Command Corner  
by Col. Jon Christensen  
St. Paul District Commander**



St. Paul Teammates,

Spring has officially arrived in our portion of the Upper Mississippi River, although early April snows continue to pop up on the radar and the thick ice on Lake Pepin continues to thwart efforts to completely open the Upper Mississippi River to unimpeded traffic. Soon, the remaining ice and snow will disappear, and we can look forward to our regular spring and summer activities. [The first tow broke through ice on Lake Pepin on April 10. The average opening date of the navigation season for the last 30 years has been March 20.]

As most of you know, the Mississippi Valley Division welcomed a new commander on board this winter. Brig. Gen. Robert Crear passed the mantle of leadership to Brig. Gen. Michael Walsh on Feb. 20, and Walsh has set upon a busy schedule touring and evaluating the division. When Sen. Byron Dorgan called for Senate hearings on the issue of rising water levels in the Devils Lake Basin, the St. Paul District had an opportunity to invite the new commanding general into our footprint. Walsh visited Devils Lake and, thanks to Bonnie Greenleaf and the Devils Lake project delivery team, provided outstanding testimony at the hearings.

Due to time constraints, I could not schedule other visiting opportunities for him at the district office or field sites. I did give Walsh a good overview of the district, to include our current workload, our many diverse programs, and our efforts towards regionalization. Overall, he was very impressed with what we are doing as a district and with the character of our workforce.

As I said before in an earlier e-mail message to each of you, Walsh is an extremely passionate leader, and he will challenge us to be the best we can possibly be. He is also very experienced in how the Corps operates - this is his fifth Corps of Engineers' command. Based upon our conversations I expect he will ask us to search for creative and innovative ways to approach integration/regionalization up and down the river and better ways to share our best business practices. He is a firm believer in the "power of an idea" - and believes great things can be accomplished armed with nothing but an idea, the desire to act upon it and the strength to see it come to fruition.

I expect Walsh to reenter our district footprint in May for the 2008 Joint Engineer Education and Training Conference hosted in Minneapolis. I encourage each of you to reach out and share your ideas with him at this time, and give him a warm welcome to the district. Once again thanks to the Devils Lake team for making his visit a successful one. Have a safe, productive and enjoyable spring.



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 Commander** Col. Jon Christensen  
**Public Affairs Chief** Mark Davidson  
**Media Specialist** Shannon Bauer  
**Editor** Peter Versteegen  
**E-mail:** cemvp-pa@usace.army.mil



# iinside



A 13-foot tall Paul Bunyan rag doll, the world's largest, greets campers at Crosslake Recreation Area



District expands its role in rebuilding New Orleans hurricane protection system

**8** Corps' core values

**9** St. Paul District core values

**10** 800-634-7710: Numbers you can count on

**11** Lock personnel rescue freezing canoeists on Mississippi River

**12** News and Notes

**13** December Employee of the Month: Judy Marshall

Army rolls out new service and support mechanism for Soldiers and families

**14** Six from district judge annual state science fair in St. Paul

**15** 66 from the district make a difference to rebuild Iraq, Afghanistan

**Crosslake Recreation Area**

**13-foot tall Paul Bunyan rag doll greets Crosslake campers**

*Reprinted by permission.  
Originally published in the Pine River Journal, Crosslake, Minn., Feb. 27, 2008.*

It's listed in the *Guinness World Records* as the world's largest rag doll. It even comes with its own wooden chair. It's one of a kind.

It's coming soon to the Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway exhibit room at the Crosslake Campground Corps of Engineers Administrative Building, and it's coming to stay.

Of course it is ... because this is a Paul Bunyan rag doll. Constructed like a jointed Cabbage Patch doll and measuring nearly 13 feet tall, rag doll Paul Bunyan will rule over the array of Bunyan memorabilia and exhibits that are on display from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.

That, however, won't be rag doll Paul's only job. He'll show up at various parades and community celebrations. Depending on his schedule, he may even be available for such things as library story hours or school visits.

How did a World Record-holding Paul Bunyan rag doll find its way to the Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway in Minnesota?

The story starts with a vigilant Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway Association board member, Wayne Chamberlain. Wayne's alter ego is, in fact, Paul Bunyan.

For several years, he has been the official Byway Paul Bunyan, appearing in parades, acting as an event judge, being a celebrity reader and performing many other "Paul in the Community" roles.

Wayne has an extensive Paul Bunyan memorabilia collection,

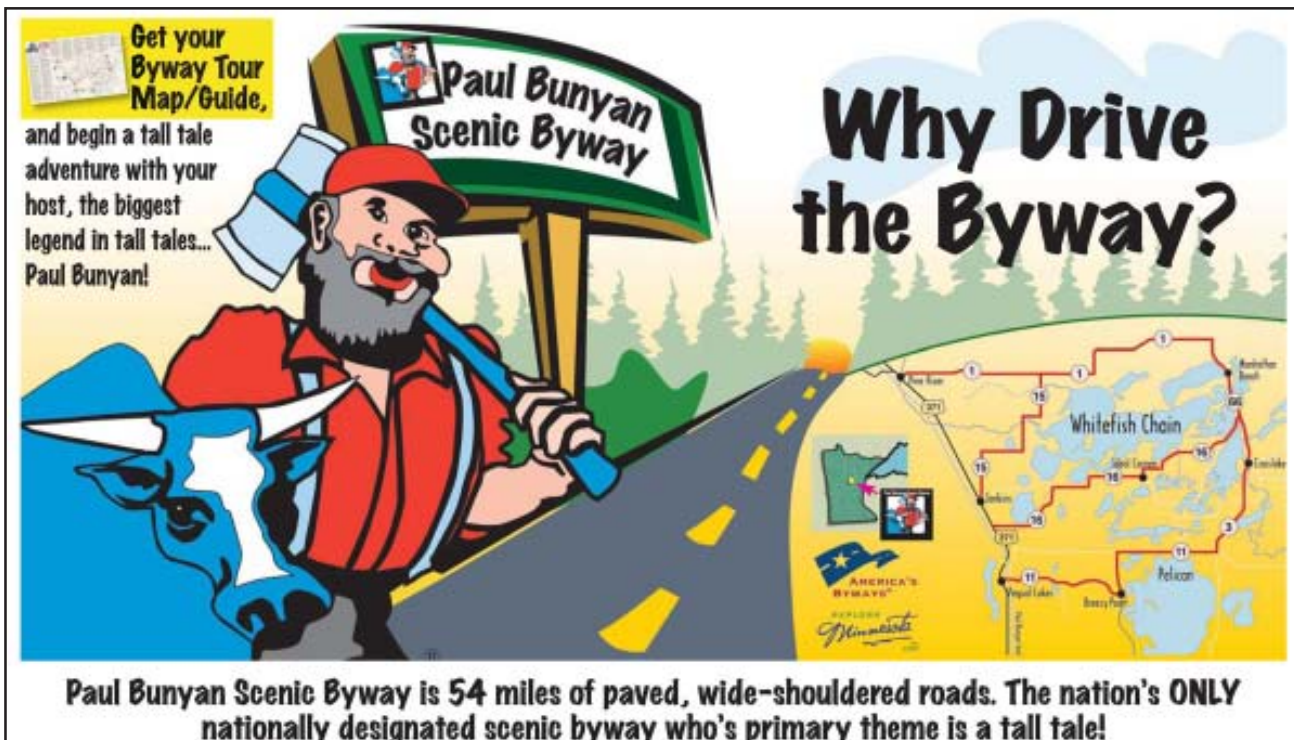
and he's always on the lookout for items to add to it.

So, while on an e-Bay shopping excursion, he noticed the big rag doll, complete with his own big chair. Wayne got in touch with the owner and told her about the Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway Association and the Bunyan memorabilia exhibits.

Maybe there was a subconscious bond between the two "Paul" alter egos, but whatever the reason, ragtime Paul and his chair became a donation to the Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway Association.

This spring visitors to the exhibit room in Crosslake will be able to view ragtime Paul, the world's largest rag doll.

The Paul Bunyan web site is [www.paulbunyan scenicbyway.org](http://www.paulbunyan scenicbyway.org).



Excerpt of poster: © Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway Association

# District expands its role in rebuilding New Orleans hurricane protection

by Bill Csajko

St. Paul District significantly expanded its involvement in the largest civil works project in Corps' history: restoring the existing hurricane protection system and increasing the level of protection for New Orleans, La., and its vicinity.

The largest design-build contract in Corps' history, the Inner Harbor Navigation Canal – Surge Protection Project, was recently awarded to Shaw Environmental and Infrastructure, Inc., of New Orleans for almost \$700 million.

The structure is expected to be located at the confluence of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway and the Mississippi River gulf outlet. It will reduce the surge flood levels associated with hurricanes in the Intracoastal Waterway and the Inner Harbor Canal.

St. Paul employees are playing major roles in the design and construction of this huge effort, including Michael Bart, chief of engineering and construction; Neil Schwanz, Gary Smith, both design branch; and Tim Paulus, project management.

This is the first of what will eventually be a total of almost \$15 billion in design and construction to provide a 100-year level of protection for the area.

One of the largest projects for providing a 100-year level of protection to the New Orleans area is St. Bernard Parish, which is southeast of downtown New Orleans and includes 23 miles of

levees and floodwalls, a navigable sector gate structure and several roadway and railroad crossings. The estimated cost for construction of this project is more than \$2 billion. The district is managing the overall design of the project, with a team that includes Bill Csajko, project management; Kent Hokens, Ralph Berger, Darrell Morey, Grant Riddick and Gary Smith, all from design branch.

A team from Rock Island District is assisting St. Paul with the design management. They are

managing the preparation of plans and specifications for the sector gate structure replacement at Bayou Dupre.

The designs for this project are being prepared by Bioengineering-ARCADIS, from Metairie, La. An Engineering Alternatives Report is scheduled for completion in May and will recommend the final alternatives for construction. Immediately following will be preparation of plans and specifications for the remaining reaches in the parish.

*New Orleans, continued on Page 6*



Photo by Bill Csajko

**Left to right: Gary Smith, Kent Hokens, Marsha Mose and Ralph Berger, all design branch. Said Mose, chief of design branch in St. Paul, "I am serving as U5 liaison for the month; Grant Riddick, design branch, is also serving as a U5 liaison, but was not here for the picture." U5 is shorthand for upper five districts in the Mississippi Valley Division: St. Paul, Rock Island, St. Louis, Memphis and Vicksburg. The design branch team was in New Orleans April 9 for a selection meeting on work in St. Bernard Parish.**



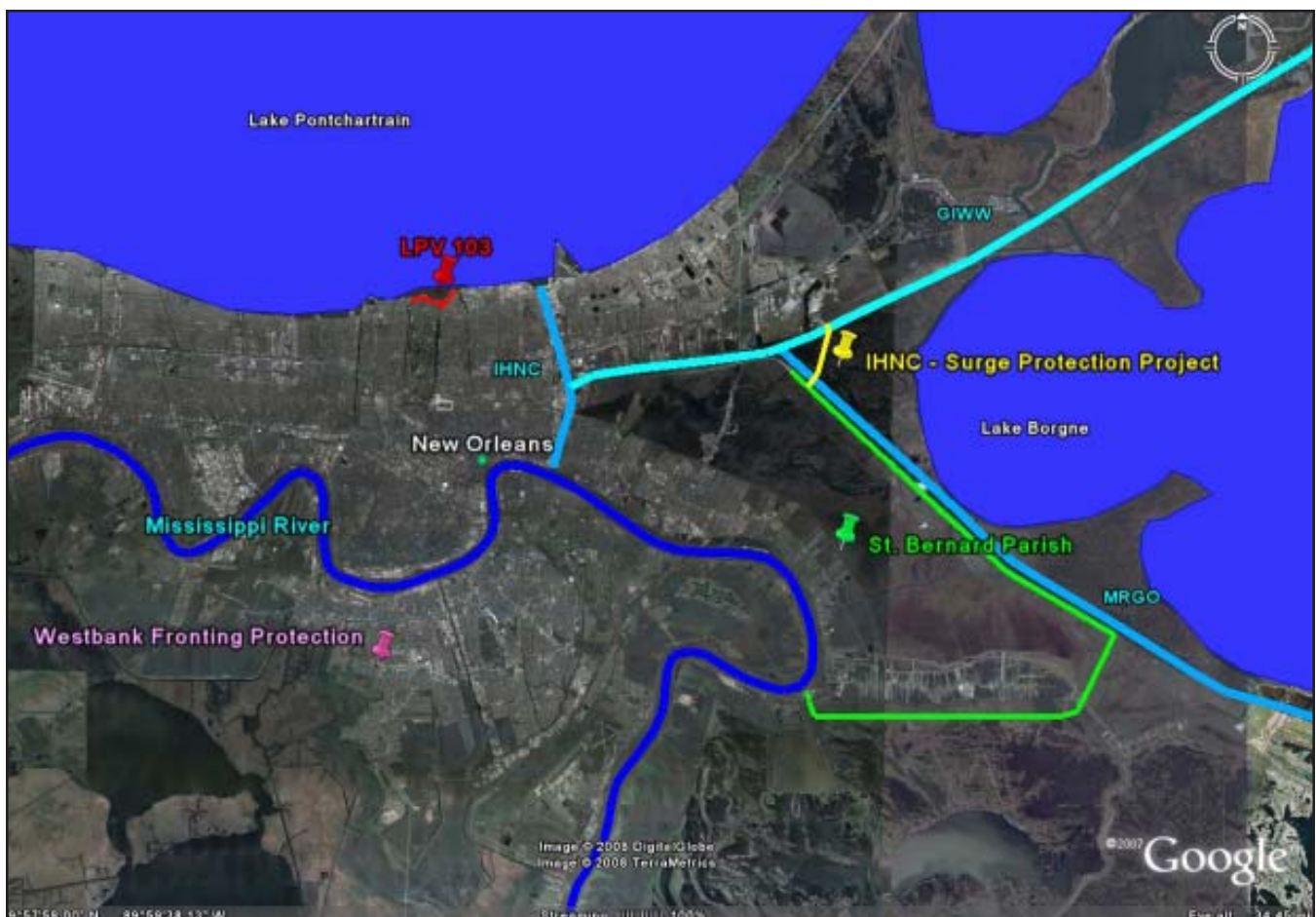
**New Orleans**, continued from Page 5

St. Paul District also continues to be involved in the design and construction of the Lake Pontchartrain and vicinity reach 103 on Lake Pontchartrain, which is the area between the Orleans Avenue Canal and the London Avenue Canal. This area includes almost two miles of levees, floodwalls, roadway crossings and a navigable sector gate structure. “Construction is underway on the levee portions of the reach, under a \$5.2 million contract with Merrick Construction,” said Rick

Femrite, design branch. The borrow material for the contract is obtained from the Bonnet Carré spillway, which has just been in the national news, because the spillway had to be opened for the first time since 1997 to divert water from the Mississippi River into Lake Pontchartrain to lower the river stages in New Orleans. Said Femrite, “The borrow material for LPV 103 had to be hauled out of the spillway to a temporary stockpile area because of the high water.”

Two more construction contracts are under design for the remaining floodwalls, roadway crossings and sector-gate structure in LPV 103. Construction of these remaining features is scheduled to begin later this year. The LPV 103 team in St. Paul preparing the designs includes Csajko, project management; Femrite, Hokens and Schwanz, all design branch; and Stanley Consultants, based in Muscatine, Iowa.

In November 2007, St. Paul District assumed the technical lead **New Orleans**, continued on Page 7



©Google® and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Reference points, such as the Mississippi River, area communities, and Corps of Engineers’ project sites, such as LPV 103 project, in red near top, are incorporated into this Google Earth satellite image. The Inner Harbor Navigation Canal – Surge Protection Project is at mid-right. The district is managing the overall design of the St. Bernard Parish project site, lower right.

**New Orleans**, continued from Page 6 for the design of the pump station protection project for seven west bank pump stations in Jefferson Parish. The project, known as the Westbank Fronting Protection Project, raises the floodwall and levees protecting the seven pump stations at five distinct locations in Jefferson Parish. The St. Paul team consists of Russ Snyder, project management; and Hokens, Schwanz, Ralph Berger, Mark Klika, Jim Sentz and Dave Kollars, all design branch. Preparation of the plans and specifications for the pump station project was awarded to Stanley Consultants this April with completion of plans and specifications scheduled for the end of the calendar year.

Construction cost is estimated to top \$100 million with the construction contracts targeted for award in early 2009.

St. Paul District also continues to provide major assistance in other ways. This includes providing what are termed “HPO liaisons,” who are individuals who spend about a month in New Orleans working as a liaison among the upper five districts, or U5, in Mississippi Valley Division, the Hurricane Protection Office and New Orleans District. Marsha Mose, chief of design branch and Riddick, Femrite and Mike Dahlquist, all design branch, are the most recent district-level liaisons from St. Paul.

Tom Sully was recently selected as the next U5 regional project manager with a focus on overall division-level coordination and strategy. Sully will coordinate reachback-activities of all the upper five districts in their support of the HPO. This role had previously been provided by

Dennis Hamilton from Rock Island District.

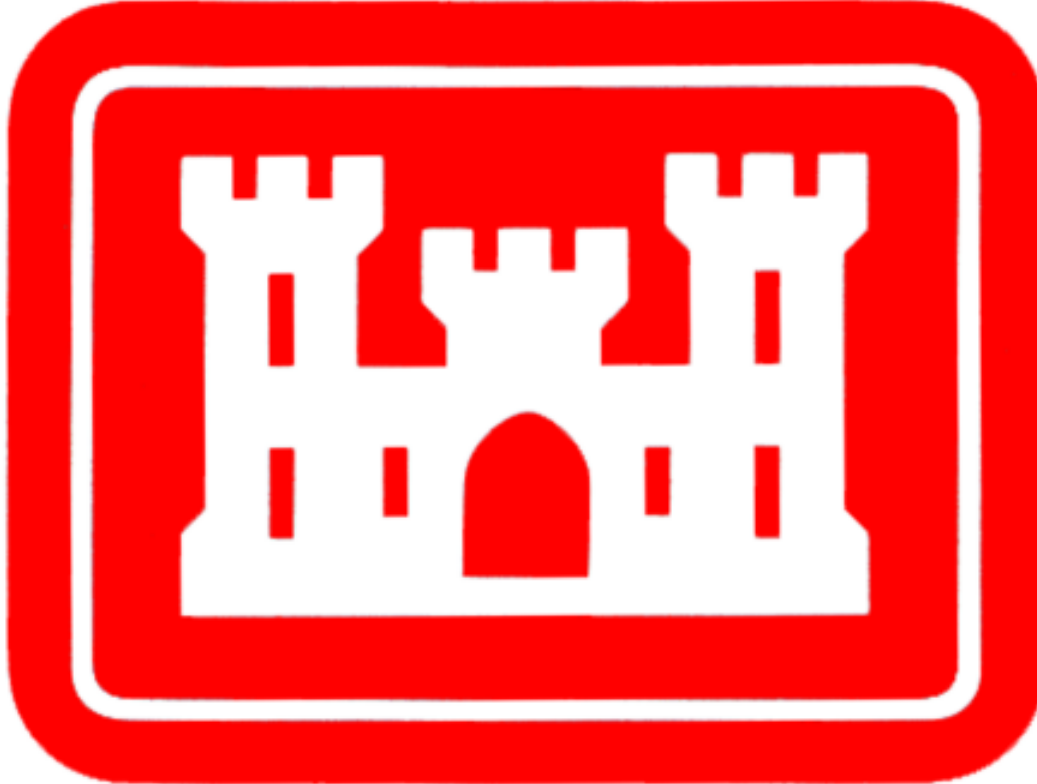
Hokens and Schwanz continue to lead the development of design standards in New Orleans, including new T-wall design standards. Hokens and Schwanz, along with others from Corps’ headquarters, the HPO and New Orleans District, recently presented the new design standards to a gathering of about 175 architect-engineer professionals in New Orleans.

And, the St. Paul District also continues to support New Orleans District by assisting them with non-hurricane protection system projects, such as Bayou Sorrel Lock, which involves design branch personnel Tim Grundhoffer, Fred Bischoff, Jan Lassen, Chris Behling, Tony Fares and Lori Taylor.



Photo by Bill Csajko

**Ralph Berger, left, and Grant Riddick, both design branch, view Lake Pontchartrain and Vicinity 144, one of the district’s projects in St. Bernard Parish, March 27. This view of LPV 144 looks northwest.**



## *Good to Great*

# Corps' core values

by Judy DesHarnais  
Deputy for programs and project  
management

I hope you all got the chance to view the Chief of Engineers' videos on Good to Great, or G2G, located at: [https://mvpiis.mvp.ds.usace.army.mil/exec\\_office/](https://mvpiis.mvp.ds.usace.army.mil/exec_office/). [This and the following links are closed to public access.]

If you have not yet had the opportunity to check out the book, written by Jim Collins, the district has some copies in the library or you can read an overview at: [https://mvpiis.mvp.usace.army.mil/exec\\_office/GoodToGreat\\_summary.pdf](https://mvpiis.mvp.usace.army.mil/exec_office/GoodToGreat_summary.pdf).

While G2G is not a method for improving the organization, there are a great many things we can learn from, or steal shamelessly from, the most successful private businesses.

One observation Collins makes is that successful companies understand their core values. Although they made some

drastic changes, they did it while holding tightly to what it was that made them who they were and who they wanted to be at their very core.

During the Mississippi Valley Division senior leader conference last fall, we heard from Brian Bagley, a senior researcher on the G2G book, that it was very important to identify only a very small number of values that were essential to the organization.

In a senior executive team, or SET, meeting discussion of G2G, we decided it was important to clearly identify the core values of St. Paul District. We met to brainstorm ideas, and then we discussed, edited and refined them. Using the Hedgehog concept, "Only those values about which you are so passionate that you would never, under any conditions, give them up qualify as truly core," found in the G2G book on Page 200.

The definition of core values included in

*Core, continued Page 9*



*Core, continued from Page 8*

Jim Collin’s previous book, *Built to Last*, is: “The organization’s essential and enduring tenets – a small set of general guiding principles; not to be confused with specific cultural or operating practices; not to be compromised for financial gain or short-term expediency.” From this effort, the SET identified the following core values:

- Passion for technical and leadership excellence,
- Commitment to serve with integrity, and
- Open communication with respect.

In order to accurately and completely capture our core values, we also wanted to hear from others in the organization. We decided not to share the SET list until we had a chance to hear input from others.

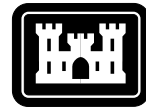
G2G “core value” listening sessions were held with five other groups within the St. Paul District totaling approximately 60 district employees. The group discussions came from sessions held in project management, engineering and construction, operations, the support staff chiefs and a project information exchange meeting. Michael Bart, chief of engineering and construction division, and Mark Nelson, chief of real estate division, distilled and synthesized these comments, listed below, along with those identified by the SET.

**St. Paul District Core Values**

• **Passion for technical and leadership excellence.** St. Paul District employees are dedicated professionals, who embrace challenges and are not frightened by change. We are experts in our fields and perform our duties selflessly with quiet confidence. Competence. On point. Forefront of change.

• **Commitment to serve with integrity.** As public stewards, we live by the mantra “ready, reliable, responsive and relevant.” We are dependable and accountable to the public we serve. Our work ethic is beyond reproach. We have the courage to say “no” when appropriate and the courage to admit to our mistakes. Cost conscious. Service to the customer. We help people. Be straight forward, no lies of omission.

• **Open communication with respect.** Courage, compassion, trust and honesty are the cornerstones of communication within the district. Treating others with dignity and respect is expected throughout the organization. We look internally before criticizing others, and we value an environment which maintains a balance in our professional and private lives. Our employees are empowered to do their jobs in a manner that best serves the public.



**US Army Corps of Engineers®**  
St. Paul District

**Comments that did not fit as neatly into the above groups**

Get behind decisions once made. Loyalty to the team and loyalty to our partners. Do what you say you will, on time. Allow people to take risks and make mistakes. Do the right thing, even if people do not understand. Feel you can make a difference.

In a follow-on meeting, the SET analyzed the input from the teams and determined that the input aligned with the three core values the SET identified. The input could also be used to further describe and communicate the core values.

The next steps include how we can apply these values in “First Who then What.” Collins, in G2G Page 199, says, “Practicing ‘first who’ means selecting people more on their fit with the core values and purpose than on their skills and knowledge.” And since change will happen, we now have some insight on what we need to hold onto.

Watch for more articles soon as we continue the process and don’t hesitate to ask questions of the district leadership. We will not be able to move from good to great without your involvement and support!

## 800-634-7710: Numbers you can count on

by Peter Verstegen and Liz Dvorak

Ten numbers open the door to a dozen support services, 24/7, at the district's employee assistance provider, Total Employee Assistance Management, or TEAM.

A call to 800-634-7710 by an employee of the district or their family opens the door to confidential discussions, appointments and referral to a professional appropriate for a given set of circumstances.

That's the kind of access St. Paul District employees and their families have to the district's employee assistance program provider, or EAP, year around, holidays included.

Since 1998, TEAM, Inc., has been the district's EAP provider. Their counselors have confidentially offered referrals, presentations and back-channel support in a dozen areas including elder-care, financial challenges, family counseling, depression, stress and addictions.

Liz Dvorak, human resources specialist in the civilian personnel advisory center, has a unique relationship with TEAM, Inc.

As a human resources professional, she provides supervisors and employees information on TEAM's services.

As an individual in recovery from alcohol addiction, she is also a very satisfied TEAM customer.

Based on her experiences in recovery, Dvorak sees hope when someone chooses – or is forced –

to confront a substance-abuse issue.

"The down-and-out-drinks-every-day-alcoholic WILL confront on-the-job issues," she said. "But not all who suffer from substance abuse issues allow it to come into the workplace. Alcoholics and addicts are notorious 'control freaks.' Not much happens in their lives without extreme efforts to control. Use of alcohol and drugs is in itself a desperate attempt to extract from life exactly what the user feels he or she needs."

Dvorak agreed to be interviewed for this article because she hopes to reach others, who, like her, may be suffering from a severe case of the "yets," she said. "That is, those who use drugs or alcohol to excess but have yet to be arrested, yet to be in trouble on the job or yet to drink in the morning – those who regularly try to moderate how much they drink."

Said Dvorak, "If you have a strong desire to drink moderately – well, guess what – you're most likely a problem drinker. Normal men and women drink moderately without giving it a second thought.

"I think we all have a picture of an addict or alcoholic. Someone who looks good, always answers the bell, pays the bills and shows up on time is not part of that picture. We fail to realize that alcohol addiction is often an off-and-on disorder and that half of all addicted people are not drinking in any given month."

One of the greatest difficulties is that it's not the elbow or kneecap that becomes addicted but the brain. The very organ that

likes alcohol is making the decision on whether to change the behavior. Left to it's own devices, guess what it will always decide?

"Those of us with substance abuse issues can be forcefully led to recovery because of a positive drug test, on-the-job accident or poor attendance record or we can be attracted to it as a choice to live a richer, more authentic life. I think we each have moments of clarity, when we can catch a glimmer of light calling us to a right decision. It's our choice to listen or turn away. For me, once I decided to make a change, it was important to act quickly.

"I had, for too many years, bought into the myth of self-sufficiency. To the lie that says you CAN make it on your own and that asking for help is weakness. Most substance abusers are extremely self-reliant. Our motto generally goes something like 'This time will be different. This time we'll get it RIGHT.' We're used to getting things done, getting our way, finding our way out of any problem situation. We'll just make one more go of it. Really, this time, we'll get it. This time, it will all be different.

"Sometimes it takes until our world falls apart before we'll give up that last attempt to duct-tape it all back together again. But we can always choose a high bottom ... we can get off the descending elevator of alcohol abuse with that call – quickly made – for help. "Fifth floor? . . . Thanks, I'll get off here. No sense in riding this baby to the third floor of the basement.

"When the time comes, it's important to call NOW.

*TEAM, continued on Page 11*



*TEAM, continued from Page 10*

“Experience has shown me over and over again, there is no end to the number of times a substance abuser can convince himself it’s not that bad. We can fool ourselves right into an early grave and destroy so much around us in the process.

“I’ve learned in my job and in my personal life that often what people think of as the worst thing that ever happened to them turns out to open a door to what can be the best,” said Dvorak.

The call she made to TEAM got Dvorak a referral to a reputable treatment program. TEAM also helped by checking eligibility with her health-care provider. Dvorak’s health insurance paid part of the treatment. Dvorak paid the balance.

One of many lessons learned she was asked to share with others is, “I’d like others to know you’re not alone,” said Dvorak, “Eighty percent of alcohol is consumed by 20 percent of drinkers. But if we’re lucky, we get to a time when we realize it’s no longer necessary, nor is it even possible, to go it alone.”

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Web site defines alcoholism, also known as alcohol dependence, as a disease that includes the following four symptoms:

**Craving** — A strong need, or urge, to drink.

**Loss of control** — Not being able to stop drinking once drinking has begun.

**Physical dependence** — Withdrawal symptoms, such as nausea, sweating, shakiness and anxiety after stopping drinking.

**Tolerance** — A need to drink greater amounts of alcohol to get ‘high.’

The disease is a form of substance abuse. The Army has five categories of testing for substance abuse, three of which apply to the district:

- Testing in conjunction with an accident;
- Illegal use of drugs; and
- Operations division, operators of surface vessels and flood control structures are subject to substance abuse testing.

Dvorak said, “TEAM has provided excellent support when we have needed to refer employees due to drug test results and other issues. When employees contact TEAM on their own, the district has no information on

who’s seen or why. The people who work in the district have the benefit of good, respectable plans to benefit them,” she said.

“They’re a phone call away, 24 hours a day.”

“Starting with TEAM, you have improved the probabilities for a better outcome for yourself,” she said. “I’ve been four-and-one-half years clean and sober this past March. Life is richer and more rewarding, and now, I truly know that I’m not alone.”

If you need help with a substance abuse or other personal issue, make use of the resources available to you. “If you use TEAM, Inc., that’s great. If not, just get the help you need somewhere.”

## Lock personnel rescue freezing canoeists on Mississippi River

The southbound Motor Vessel Robin B. Ingram called Lock and Dam 5, Minnesota City, Minn., on April 21 around 9:30 a.m. to report a canoe was capsized at Mississippi River mile marker 730.8 with three people in the water.

Dave Tropple, lockmaster, sent Curt Marty, head lock and dam operator, and Nathan Van Loon, lock operator, to the site in a Corps’ lifeboat. The lock and dam is at river mile 738.1, 10 miles northwest of Winona, Minn.

When the lock and dam personnel arrived, they found three males in their 30s sitting on the shore. Hypothermia was setting in, two of them could not talk or walk, the third one was

shivering uncontrollably. Marty and Van Loon provided them coats and sweat shirts.

Marty called the lock and talked to Jamie Gibbons, automation clerk, who requested an ambulance meet them at the public landing in Fountain City, Wis.

The ambulance took the shivering canoeists to the hospital. Marty and Van Loon returned to the lock, canoe in tow with what gear they could find.

The father of one of the guys later called the lock to set up a time to pick up the canoe and gear.

“I did find out on April 22 that they are all out of the hospital and doing fine,” said Tropple.

## News and Notes



St. Paul District photo

**Terry Jessesky, central area lockmaster (left), and Ashley Schnable, human resources specialist, represented St. Paul District at the Metro Community and Technical College job fair in Minneapolis, April 7. “We were there to talk about positions that the Corps has to offer, mainly technical positions at the locks and dams, and how to apply for these positions through our Web sites,” said Schnable. Jessesky and Schnable positioned their table in a highly visible commons area at the school where people stopped by to gather information about the Corps. Other vendors were the Internal Revenue Service, the U.S Army recruiting, Americorps and Mary Kay Cosmetics.**



Photo by Tammy Wick

**Jeff Kleinert, Pokegama Park manager, cleaned wood duck boxes as part of seasonal cleanup at the recreation site March 27. “We switch out nesting material in the boxes and take out egg shell fragments,” said Kleinert. He replaces it with wood shavings. “It’s part of the district’s environmental stewardship mission,” he said. Other activities occur as teachers or scout leaders approach the staff at Pokegama. Earth Day and Arbor Day are celebrated at Pokegama on May 3 by planting two trees in the recreation area, picking up litter and presenting a manager’s program on environmental stewardship.**



**December Employee of the Month: Judy Marshall**

*Carolyn Nolan, construction support clerk at the Western Area Office, Grand Forks, N.D., nominated Judy Marshall, a program analyst in project management, for employee of the month.*

Judy Marshall is an extraordinary person that is always there to lend a helping hand.

I am sure that it is not in her job description to help the “new girl” at one of the field offices whenever needed. None the less, she had been there to answer any (many) questions that I have had and has even guided me through any problems that I may or have incurred. She has gone so far as



Photo by Jon Lyman

**Lt. Col. John Kunkle recognizes Judy Marshall, project management.**

to help me solve problems that I have encountered within CEFMS and other areas with in my job that are outside her normal realm of work.

I am sure there have been a few days when she has heard “Hello Judy, this is Carolyn,” and wished she hadn’t picked up her phone or

opened her e-mail to see a new e-mail from me.

However I would never know if that were true because she is always courteous, kind and very understanding. She is the epitome of an employee of the month!

**Army rolls out new service and support for Soldiers and families**

*The Family and Morale Welfare and Recreation Command requested wide distribution of the following:*

A web-based services portal, [www.MyArmyLifeToo.com](http://www.MyArmyLifeToo.com), integrates base line services and resources traditionally found on installations into a network that supports Soldiers and families.



Photo by Peter Versteegen

**Eight students in the Student Career Education Program, or SCEP, participated in an orientation program at the district office April 18. Seated, from left, are: Rachel Neutzel, Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam; Tamryn Johnson, Big Sandy Recreation Area; Lindsey Reding, Crosslake Recreation Area; Willie Storm and Mark Blanchard, Pokegama-Lake Winnibigoshish Recreation Area; Benjamin Nelson, Leech Lake Recreation Area; Leah Palmquist, Big Sandy Recreation Area; and Renee Hanson, Black Hawk Park. Standing are Jason Hauser, Park Ranger at Leech Lake, and Mark Theis, information management. Ashley Schnable and Amy Hingsberger, both from the civilian personnel office, supported the orientation.**



Photos by Peter Verstegen

**Dave Christenson, a science fair judge and acting logistics chief, paused next to an entry which asked, “How does the structure of a bridge affect how much weight it can hold?” He judged junior high school entries.**

**Jon Sobiech, project management, interviewed 30 students as part of his judging. He judged high school entries in environmental sciences and life sciences.**

## Six from district judge annual state science fair in St. Paul

by Peter Verstegen

Six volunteers from the St. Paul District represented the U.S. Army at the Minnesota Academy of Science 71st Annual State Science Fair in St. Paul, Minn., March 30 - April 1. The fair culminates nine regional competitions. More than 400 students presented projects at the state level.

The Army recognized scientific and engineering excellence with a certificate of achievement and silver medallion for the best projects in engineering, environmental sciences, math and computer sciences, life sciences and physical sciences.

Carl Gray, Jon Petersen and Mark Koenig, all in engineering and construction; Jon Sobiech and Tom Sully, project management; and Dave Christenson, logistics, judged students from junior high schools and high schools across the state.

“I was on two special awards panels, the Herbert Hoover Award and the Yale Award,” said Sully. He was one of four judges on the panel that evaluated each award. Petersen, Gray and Sobiech also judged special awards.

Koenig participated as a judge in the grand awards and had a daughter in the junior high school competition. [He did not judge her entry and judged a different age group and category.] “She surpassed competition at her school and at the regional levels to make it to state competition,” he said. “Only the top 25 percent make it [to state].”

The gold grand awards honored the top five percent in points scored; silver grand awards recognized the next 10 percent and bronze grand awards honored the next 15 percent.

### Wedding

Capt. Adam Rasmussen, project manager, celebrated his marriage to Brianna Milbath in Warroad, Minn., April 12.

### Birth

Adele Braun, engineering and construction, celebrated the birth of her daughter Samantha, April 3. She arrived at 8 pounds, 11 ounces and 21 inches long.



# 66 from the district make a difference to rebuild Iraq, Afghanistan



“As you know, support for the Global War on Terror and the expeditionary mission remains as the Corps’ number one priority. The president’s message [distributed via internal e-mail] indicates that our efforts in support of reconstruction in Iraq and Afghanistan are bearing fruit. As stated in the message: The president’s decision reflects the improved security situation in Iraq – one made possible

by your unwavering commitment and willingness to sacrifice.

“I want to thank all of those that have deployed in support of the mission, and all those who shouldered some extra work back home that enabled those folks to deploy. Your efforts have made a difference, and will continue to make a difference.”

--Col. Jon Christensen  
St. Paul District Commander

*The following personnel have deployed from the St. Paul District in support of the Global War on Terror between April 2003 and April 2008. Some have retired; some now work for other agencies. Fourteen have deployed more than once. Many initially deployed under Operation Iraqi Freedom, which began March 19, 2003. Nine have deployed to Afghanistan.*

Teri Alberico  
Thomas Anderson\*

Maj. Leigh Bandy\*  
Bert Bateman  
Chris Beaman  
Kraig Berberich\*  
Bruce Boldon  
Dan Boone\*  
Douglas Bruner  
Allen Canfield  
David Christenson  
Ronald Corey\*  
Lanny Cyr  
Robert Dempsey  
David Diamond  
Patrick Duffney\*  
Stephanie Ehnstrom  
Thomas Eidson  
Matthew Emmons  
Michael Emmons  
Cathy Frederickson  
Jay Grimsled  
Keith Hayter

Kurt Heckendorf  
Michael Hlady  
Gordon Holman  
Dennis Holme  
Paul Johnson  
Joel Johnston  
David Kitzman  
Mark Koenig  
Paul Kosterman  
Mark Krenelka  
Lt. Col. John Kunkle  
David Lato  
Roy Lawson\*  
Steve Lenhart,\*  
Chris Lennon\*  
Sue Lenski  
Leonard Lettner  
Eric Lockington  
Michael McGarvey  
Randy Melby\*  
Darrell Morey

Delene J. Moser  
Steven Muller  
Allan Nelson  
Alda Ottley  
Jim Peak  
Jeffrey Pfannes  
Col. Michael Pfenning  
David Raasch  
Marlin Ranum\*  
Kurt Reppe\*  
Lewis Riggins\*  
Robert Roffler  
Mike Seibel\*  
David Sheryak  
Robert Sikkila  
Brian Souter  
Don Speulda  
Henrik Strandskov  
Theresa Teed\*  
William Vennemann  
David Valen\*  
Byron Wiechel

**\*Multiple deployments**