



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Nashville District

DistrictDigest

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Building Strong

November 2008

2008 National Public Lands Day



Photo by Tadd Potter

Eight Nashville District Projects help make National Public Lands Day a big success.

Story on pages 12 and 13

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Photo by Tadd Potter

Volunteers from Cub Scout Troop 526 and Boy Scout Troop 621 plant trees at Cheatham Lake's National Public Lands Day (NPLD) activities. NPLD is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands Americans enjoy.

District Digest

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Lieutenant Colonel Bernard R. Lindstrom

Lindstrom Sends

Greetings! Nashville is Building GREAT Expeditionary Professionals!

I am extremely proud of the men and women professionals of our district who have answered the call, and have sacrificed their time and personal freedom to participate in the greatest historical action that the Army and our Nation is contributing to in this generation. As the Nashville District Commander, I meet with every professional who volunteers to deploy, and I see in their eyes their commitment and dedication to our country, our organization, and to their personal individual spirit of adventure. And, after our folks deploy they write emails, letters, and send photos documenting their GREAT experience in a very dynamic and challenging environment. After returning home I hear the many new and exciting stories and challenging experiences that are spoken with enthusiasm.

So, why should you consider deploying? Why not! What is at stake for you and our country? Having personally deployed for over 28 months serving in both combat zones, Cara and I truly appreciate, understand, and have empathy with how hard the family decision can be to be separated from loved ones for months at a time, however, we will also tell you that the entire experience has only grown our family closer together. Clearly, the Nation is

in need for you to help, and as an Army Corps of Engineers professional you have the opportunity to apply your outstanding skills, talent, and enthusiasm to assist the Army to not only help our Iraqi and Afghani partners take the fight to the enemy. You also have the opportunity to help them secure their neighborhoods, foster local reconciliation, reject extremism, support local governance, and give them a chance at possibly becoming a democracy. Indeed you are the builders of their future and ours! General William Casey, Jr., stated in his opening remarks as the Army Chief of Staff what is at stake if we do not support this effort and fail:

“At stake are the power of our values and our civilization, exemplified by the promise of America, to confront and defeat the menace of extremist terrorists. At stake is whether the authority of those who treasure the rights of free individuals will stand firm against the ruthless and pitiless men who wantonly slay the defenseless. At stake is whether the future will be framed by the individual freedoms we hold so dear or dominated by a demented form of extremism. At stake is whether we will continue to expand freedom, opportunity, and decency for those who thirst for



it, or let fall the darkness of extremism and terror.”

Having personally faced the enemy as he describes, I attest that his statement is true. The enemy we face does not value life and freedom like you and I do. The enemy we face does not value the right to choose your religion, and they envision a world where their fundamentalist ideals are imposed on all. By being a part of this generation's GREAT legacy, your personal contribution supports and upholds the ideals and beliefs that made this country GREAT. Your willingness to go forward and assist those that are in need in the world to build a better future for others will preserve our way of life and has immeasurable benefits towards our Nation.

I am extremely proud to report that the Nashville District has come a long way in less than a year towards supporting Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) and expeditionary

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September Employee of the Month

Tim Higgs, the Chief of the Environmental Section, Project Planning Branch, was selected as Nashville District Employee of the Month for September.

Tim recently represented the Corps at a public meeting hosted by Congressman Whitfield about lake levels at Lake Barkley. He presented a history of Barkley lake levels, including past National Environmental Protection Agency evaluations and the recent Project Delivery Team on

recreational boating safety and briefly discussed the various factors/resources that must be considered in changing pool levels. Tim provided feedback and information where appropriate when concerns were presented. He also discussed efforts that could be executed to address concerns and issues for future studies.

Tim is being recognized for professionally representing the District and successfully engaging with some of our key stakeholders.



Tim Higgs is September Employee of the Month.

Steve and Grace Cochran Receive Commander's Award for Public Service

Story by Brian Mangrum and Photos by Gabrielle Cannon

On August 18, 2008, Lt. Col. Bernard Lindstrom presented Steve and Grace Cochran with the Commander's Award for Public Service at Cheatham Lake. The Cochran's have volunteered their time and talent for the past eight years through the organization and promotion of Cheatham Lake's annual fishing rodeo. The Cochran's strive to make each year's event better than the previous one, and

have steadily increased the number of participants over the last five years. During that time, their efforts have helped to expose over 1,200 children to the sport of bank fishing, and encouraged future generations to spend time recreating in the outdoors with their families. The Cochran's spend countless hours each year as they gather donations for door prizes and meals, tirelessly promote the event, and coordinate their

numerous volunteers. Their year long endeavor culminates each June on the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency's free fishing day, and is met with the reward of smiling children and bonding families. These outstanding individuals have contributed significantly to the local community, the sport of bank fishing, and the successful accomplishment of the recreation mission of Nashville District's Cheatham Lake.



Steve and Grace Cochran receive Commander's Award for volunteering at Cheatham Lake.

Lindstrom Continued

Continued from Page 3

missions and enhancing the quality of life for the civilians and families that deploy. Here are a few things that we have done so far:

- Established a family support program for district deployed professionals and families
- Developed and published a district "Deployment Family Assistance Handbook"
- Developed and published a district "Returning Home Handbook"
- Conducted over 14 district field office briefings and "State of the State" of Nashville Deployments.
- Created and posted the first district Family Support Network Website, <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/FSN/>, in USACE
- Conducted a district fundraiser to send 'care packages' to deployed GWOT professionals
- Developed a Nashville GWOT emergency telephone point of contact (POC) card providing a quick list of stateside and overseas emergency POC numbers
- Nashville represented on USACE Project Delivery Team (PDT) to develop Corps-wide family assistance handbook
- Nashville represented on LRD deployment TEAM to standardize GWOT support
- Publish monthly District Digest articles which highlight stories on our deployed professionals.

We currently have 11 employees deployed as of the writing of this letter. LRD has six new positions that are approved to fill which are specifically developed to fill essential positions to support Iraq in Gulf Region South (GRS), and we are utilizing USACE-increased financial incentives so GWOT positions can offer one of three bonuses all up to 25% of the base salary which include:

1. Relocation: relocating an existing federal employee to a new location. This is standard for all GWOT employees since we relocate them to the Transatlantic Center (TAC) who then puts them on temporary change of station (TCS) or temporary duty travel (TDY) to Gulf Region Division (GRD) or Afghanistan Engineer District (AED).
2. Recruitment: This is a hiring bonus for any non-federal employee which is hired. This will definitely be added to the vacancy announcements for six LRN GWOT positions that we plan to recruit for in the coming fiscal year.
3. Retention: This bonus is available to retain anyone who has indicated that they plan to leave federal service. This incentive is used to retain their services as needed.

As you can see, we have accomplished a lot in a short time to enhance your personal

decision. We are finding the sharing of personal experiences is the most effective recruiting tool. So, where do we need to go next? Well, I am glad you asked.

First, I have set a goal to get a minimum of 2% of our total workforce (15 Nashville professionals) to provide consistent deployment support to GWOT. The purpose is to adequately provide critical expertise, and if every district achieved this goal this problem would be solved.

Next, we are addressing your concerns about employee assistance program (EAP) and its ability to handle post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) concerns. Also, we are researching how often we should provide training so we can identify PTSD symptoms in our deployee heroes. Additionally, we are looking into how our returned professionals obtain adequate levels of medical and mental health care and how the costs associated with that care are handled. We are also communicating your desire to change current tax rules to provide another monetary incentive to deploy.

My hope is that every Nashville professional is provided exceptional support to be comfortable with making an informed family decision to be expeditionary during this time of need and volunteer to deploy.

To shift topics, I would

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EAGLE Raises Money for CAUSE

Story by Amanda Gill and Photos by David Kay

The Nashville District EAGLE class completed their first service project on September 17, 2008. As a team, the class decided to raise money for America's wounded soldiers through an organization called Comfort for America's Uniformed Services (CAUSE.) CAUSE organizes recreational and entertainment programs for members of the US Armed Services recuperating from injuries suffered in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other military locations. The EAGLE class planned a



EAGLE class raised funds for a worthy CAUSE.

donut sale to raise the money in order to send the soldiers a gift pack filled with the many different items on their "wish list". The class decided a gift pack would be a great way to send a personal

"Thank You." The EAGLE team had donut stands set up at four different locations around the downtown Nashville area. At each location, they sold Krispy Kreme Donuts and Krispy Kreme gift certificates. Within four hours the class raised

a total of \$2,375!!

After raising the money, the EAGLE class all participated in a shopping spree to purchase the items listed on soldiers' wish lists. Some of the items included: pajamas, athletic shirts and shorts, disposable cameras, hand-held games, and magazines. EAGLE then shipped all the items to the CAUSE organization where they could be dispersed to the soldiers.



Chad Braun, Daniel Keenum, Amanda Gill, and Jerry Sizemore sell Krispy Kreme Donuts and Certificates in downtown Nashville.



Items brought by the EAGLE class will be dispersed to soldiers by CAUSE.

The service project turned out to be a great success, and was a "team" effort that brought the class together while working to help military men and women.

Fire Claims Corps Office at Cordell Hull Lake

Story by Allison Jarrett

On September 26, the Cordell Hull Lake Resource Manager's Office in Carthage, Tennessee was destroyed by fire.

Firefighters in Smith County responded to a fire alarm shortly after 9 p.m. to find the building fully engulfed in flames. The

Cordell Hull Office was a total loss, while the attached Visitor's Center received extensive smoke and water damage. The fire was contained, and no injuries were sustained. The Cordell Hull Lake Visitor's Center will be closed until further notice.

Recreation areas and camp-

grounds at Cordell Hull remain unaffected and will continue to operate as normal.

The cause of the fire was investigated by the state. The investigation concluded the fire was not caused by arson and was likely due to electrical problems.

October Employee of the Month

Diane Frost has done an outstanding job during her deployment to Baton Rouge following Hurricane Gustav. In the early days of her deployment Diane helped secure a lease from the Port of Baton Rouge for warehouse space to store Blue Roof material. Diane worked extensively and professionally with parish representatives and was instrumental in finding and es-

tablishing Right-of-Entry (ROE) Collection centers for the 7 northern most affected parishes. Because of her initiative and enthusiasm Diane was drafted as co-trainer for all ROE Collection site staff. In summary, Diane's efforts contributed significantly to the success of the Blue Roof program following Hurricane Gustav. Diane demonstrated her determination, passion, and professionalism during this deployment.



Diane Frost is October Employee of the Month.

Lindstrom Continued

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be remiss if I did not take a few lines to recognize those high performing folks that are "Owning the Edge" and taking this organization from Good to GREAT!:

- Victoria Hooper for delivering all the Greatness that is listed as accomplishments above for developing and conducting an outstanding Family Support Network. The Engineer Inspector General (EIG) inspection states you are providing the BEST Family Support among the 1/3rd of all USACE Districts inspected. Thank you!
- Bill Bennett for supporting the HQUSACE Safety and Health Conference
- Mike Wilson, and the Programs TEAM for accomplishing a superior execution.
- Christine Rossi and the finance folks for achieving a very successful budget close out.

- The Roofing Planning and Response Team (PRT) who deployed to support Hurricane Gustav. We received nothing but GREAT comments about your performance.
- The Rapid Response Vehicle (RRV) TEAM who deployed to support Hurricane Gustav. Great effort to get the van running on a short notice to deploy.
- Kathy Grimes and the entire Emergency Management TEAM for supporting the 30+employees who deployed to support Hurricane Gustav
- Wayne Huddleston and the Chickamauga delivery TEAM for working diligently through very complex analysis and justification to get permission to do the right thing for the project.
- James Sadler, David Mistakovich, and the Hydropower TEAM for getting us closer to GREAT through the Short Term South Eastern Power

Administration (SEPA) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

- Every National Security Performance System (NSPS) employee and supervisor for putting forth new disciplined thought and action to define and communicate how to achieve high performance.

Your selfless service and dedication to our mission is continuing to promote a legacy of engineering excellence that will serve the future of this region as it has since 1888. Thank you for all you do. Your efforts will take you and the district from Good to GREAT! Cara and I are still enjoying every day serving you with the passion and commitment to lead our organization and preserve our legacy of excellence and achievement that makes this organization GREAT. Be Safe! God Bless America! One TEAM! Essayons! "Build Strong!"

Coin Recipients Save Lives Overseas

Story and photo by Allison Jarrett

Six Nashville District employees received Gulf Region Division (GRD) Commander's Coins last month for work that is potentially saving lives overseas. Electrical fires in Iraq had claimed the lives of at least 13 service members, and top commanders endeavored to create a checklist for contractors to identify the electrical problems. A former Nashville District employee on the ground in Iraq enlisted the help of his old employees, and in less than one day, a virtual team of Nashville engineers, electricians, and contract administrators provided GRD a formatted and referenced electrical checklist. The checklist was approved and in the hands of inspectors immediately, and is currently being used theater-wide to address problems, improve building safety, and save lives.

Mike Ensched, Director of Military and Civil Projects in GRD and former Nashville District Chief of Operations, got the ball rolling by putting in a call to Tony Bivens, Operations Manager for Nashville Area Office (NAS/A), on the morning of August 4. Because of the recent injuries and deaths due to faulty electrical service in facilities Corps contractors were building or repairing, inspectors had been hastily put in the field to identify the problems. These inspectors needed a guide or checklist to identify the problems, but Bivens learned

from Ensched that they had only a raw product in their hands, a list that needed some work. Ensched reached back for support, and asked Bivens and his fellow Operations employees to review the bare-bones electrical inspection checklist, format it for quality assurance inspections, and add electrical standards references. The catch? He needed the checklist completed in one day.

"The inspectors were already in the field needing the checklist," Bivens explained. "So we did it in one day as he requested." Following Ensched's call, Bivens immediately assembled a virtual team spread across the District. Cayce Tiesler, Power Project Specialist at Cheatham Power Plant; Travis Claud, NAS/A Operations Officer; Tommy Mason, Facility Manager at Old Hickory Lake; Greg Thomas, Facility Manager at J. Percy Priest Lake; Merle Cannon, Electrician at Cheatham Power Plant; and Tony Bivens made up the team. Bivens knew that these team members "had the

electrical and quality assurance inspection knowledge and skills needed and could get the job done quickly."

Bivens was right. The team dropped everything they were doing and immediately took on the task. They completely reworked the checklist, identifying and adding all the electrical standards requirements, and formatting it as an inspection checklist. Some worked well into the evening, but the task was completed on the same day Mike Ensched made the request. Even with the time change, the finished product was in Ensched's inbox when he logged in the following morning. Ensched had the checklist approved by GRD Commander General Dorko and it was in the hands of the inspectors right away. Bivens later learned that the checklist was being used by contractors and inspectors theater-wide.

Email communications from various Army and Corps officials stationed in Iraq indicate that the Nashville District team's work was invaluable, saving the



Recipients of the Division Commander's Coins are recognized by Lt. Col. Lindstrom at a staff meeting. Pictured from L-R: Merle Cannon, Greg Thomas, Tommy Mason, Lt. Col. Lindstrom, Travis Claud, Cayce Tiesler, Tony Bivens.

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Nashville District's Deployment Diary

Story by Victoria Hooper and
Photos by Sammy Alley

Sammy Dewayne Alley wears many hats; he is a Supervisory Power Plant Superintendent at Wolf Creek Power Plant, a Command Sergeant Major in the Army Reserves, and now a Construction Representative in northern Afghanistan. He has been deployed since May 2008 and has worked long and hard in building many local police buildings and border patrol structures for villages in the northern Afghanistan areas. Sammy works closely with Afghan engineers and workers during the building process.



Front row: Grandsons Seth, Cullen, and Colby. Back row: Son Jody, his wife Janet and Sammy.

Family is very important to Sammy. Between he and his wife Vicky, they have a blended family of his two sons, Chris and Jody, and four grandsons, Cullen, age 10, Colby, age 7, Seth, age 5, Trent, age 2, and Vicky's two daughters, Rachel and Alyssa, and one grandson, Eli, age 19 months. Vicky is also employed by the Nashville District at Dale Hollow Resource Office as a Civil Engineering Technician. She came to LRN in 2000 from USDA, where

Sammy Dewayne Alley

she had worked as a County Program Technician since 1983. Aside from their responsibilities at the Corps and the Army Reserves, the Alley's have a farm. Sammy's son, Jody, has been watching the farm's 35-40 head of cattle while he has been deployed, and Vicky's Dad, Ken, has rolled the spring and fall hay since Sammy has been overseas. The family will really be happy to have him



Sammy in Afghanistan at one of the construction sites with an Afghan interpreter.

home! There also has been a new shed constructed at the farm in Byrdstown. Sammy has only seen pictures of it and he is really looking forward to using his new facility to store his hay.



Alyssa, Vicky's daughter.



Sammy's son Chris, his wife Michelle and two grandsons Seth and Trent.

Projects have kept Sammy up and running through his overseas tour. Sammy says, "It will be hard to leave all the work. I am working 7 different contracts, one of them has 6 different sites. We are building lots of local police buildings for the villages." "The Police Headquarters is progressing well. It is hard to get the supplies needed to move very fast" Sammy explains.



"Play it again, Sam."

Sammy is looking forward to being home and has been keeping up with the hurricane relief deployments from Wolf Creek. He is a good man, ready to help where needed, and is a great asset to the Nashville District. Thank you Mr. Alley for a job well done!

Deployment - What are the Risks?

Story by Kathy Grimes

Tennessee is the Volunteer State and Nashville District employees are living proof. When disasters are declared, LRN employees volunteer in large numbers. Team members and those who deploy regularly are aware of the inherent risks. Others may wonder what exactly is happening in a disaster area. If you ever considered deployment, but were leery of living and working conditions, read on.

There are many causes for disasters and each one brings its own special circumstances. The following are minimum requirements for ALL deployments.

You **must** deploy with all your personal protective gear. The minimum is a hard hat and safety shoes. Depending on your deployed position, you should also consider rain gear, work gloves, safety glasses, ear protection, sunscreen, insect repellent, hand sanitizer, and a personal first aid kit.

You **must** have a recent Tetanus shot and at least the first of a two-shot Hepatitis A series. These are usually available from Ms. Mary Adams, the nurse in room A-440 of the Estes Kefauver Federal Building annex. If you deploy Outside the Continental United States (OCONUS) there may be other requirements, such as a Typhoid shot.

You **must** have a Personal Data Sheet filled out completely in ENGLink including

emergency contact information. If you are injured or become ill while deployed, your deployed supervisor may need immediate access to your designated point of contact.

You **must** have an approved medical screening from HQ. Questionnaires are available only in ENGLink and the information is available only to the Doctors who review them.

Natural disasters are the ones we respond to most often. These events include floods, tornados, hurricanes, fires, blizzards, and earthquakes. We may also be tasked to respond to terrorist events, hazardous, toxic, radiological, or chemical release events, and of course, global events including tsunamis, typhoons, and the Global War on Terrorism.

Flooding leaves vast quantities of contaminated surface areas and debris. If you are deploying in support of a flood disaster recovery mission, you should be aware of the following:

- Walking surfaces may be unstable and littered with debris, and cuts and scrapes may introduce a variety of viruses and/or bacteria into your system. Ensure your wounds are cleaned and dressed until they completely heal. A small cut can quickly become a serious infection.
- Walking surfaces are also contaminated, especially with E-coli. Wash your hands each time you touch your

shoes to prevent transfer, especially to your face.

The information above also applies to flooding from hurricanes. Wind damage from tornados and hurricanes will leave dangerous debris in precarious places. Be aware of your surroundings and pay close attention to where you are walking. You will be particularly vulnerable to puncture wounds.

Earthquakes cause obvious as well as unseen damages. You must always be aware of your surroundings. A building that has not been inspected may look sturdy from the outside, but may be unsafe. Aftershocks will occur and bring about additional damage. Falling objects, such as parapet walls and chimneys, may not be readily apparent. Balconies and decks should always be avoided, if possible. If you are driving, try to plan ahead so as not to be caught in traffic stopped beneath an overpass. An aftershock could cause it to fall and you don't want to be under it if that happens! Electrical lines will be on the ground and may be covered with debris. If the grid is suddenly energized, you could be electrocuted. Never touch any transmission lines!

Blizzards are rare, but snow removal missions do occur. All types of hazards will be buried in snow. Electrical transmission lines could be on the ground and the same risk previously covered still

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Deployment - What are the Risks? Continued

Continued from Page 10

applies. Cold weather gear is your responsibility. Ensure you have enough clothing to dress in layers.

There are generic risks involved that always apply. A short list follows.

Ensure that your deployed supervisor and your home EOC always know where you are and how to reach you. Your well-being is our number one priority and accountability is crucial to the mission. Remember that this works both ways – it could be your supervisor or your family trying to get in touch with you!

Visibility items, such as Emergency Operations shirts, hats, jackets, etc., will be provided to you by the supported district. Wear them! Remember that these are official government property – it is not appropriate to give items away, leave them in laundry or dry cleaning establishments to be donated to Goodwill, or to improperly dispose of them. Access to these may give unauthorized personnel official looking credentials.

Traffic signs and signals may not exist or may not be energized. Traffic will be heavy and frantic. Debris haulers, heavy equipment, emergency vehicles, and others will be everywhere. Drive as defensively as you can and don't speed. The little time you may gain is not worth the risk.

If the municipal water supply is contaminated, you will be instructed to drink only bottled water. Remember this

when you are brushing your teeth or purchasing drinks from a vendor. Drink only bottled or canned drinks or request beverages with no ice.

Crime tends to increase in affected areas. Do not leave valuables of any kind in vehicles, hotel rooms, or office areas. Be aware of your surroundings and never go anywhere alone. Lock your doors while inside your vehicle to lessen the likelihood of becoming a victim while at intersections, traffic lights, etc. Always tell someone where you are going and what time you anticipate your return.

Always take enough prescription medication with you to last at least 30 days. You should also have enough cash to last 30 days. There may be no stores or banks in operation during the initial response phase and lack of electricity will prevent ATM and credit card authorization.

There will be many homeless, confused, frightened, hungry animals and you may feel compelled to befriend, feed, or pet them. Don't do it! If you are bitten, you may be returned home for a painful series of rabies shots. If you are working around debris piles, watch for snakes, spiders, rats, and other opportunists looking for food and shelter.

OCONUS deployments are all different and specifics will be provided to deployees prior to travel and again at destination.

The Global War on Terror has inherent risks associated

with working in a war zone. You are compensated with Hazardous Duty Pay for a reason! You will be confined to a compound during your deployment with the exception of those working "outside the wire". If your work takes you outside the compound, a security detail will research the area, escort you there, provide security, and return you to the compound. Contracted security personnel are professionals and take their work seriously. They will do everything humanly possible to provide for your safety. You also need to do your part. Always follow instructions given you by your security detail. Remain keenly aware of your surroundings. Wear your "battle rattle" outside the compound and don't draw attention to yourself. Follow all computer Operations Security (OPSEC) requirements.

Deployment can be one of the most rewarding experiences of your life. You can see the difference you are making in the lives of those around you, whether you are in the United States, one of the US Territories, Iraq, or Afghanistan. There's always work to be done. Whether you deploy, or stay behind and support those who do,
YOU ARE PART OF THE TEAM.
Thanks for your support.



National Public Lands Day

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

Story by Carolyn Bauer

National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands Americans enjoy. In 2008, 120,000 volunteers built trails and bridges, removed trash and invasive plants, and planted over 1.6 million trees. Congratulations to all on a very successful 2008 National Public Lands Day! Eight Nashville District projects had events with 1,674 volunteers giving 7,661 hours of service with a value of \$149,466.

National Public Lands Day and other volunteer events are a great way to accomplish some work, foster good will in the community, and create a stewardship ethic in the public. Please read some ways the Nashville District participated this year.

Cheatham Lake

Story and Photos by Tadd Potter, Park Ranger

You could not ask for a better day to celebrate National Public Lands Day (NPLD), our Nations largest annual coast-to-coast, single-day volunteer restoration effort, at Cheatham Lake on September 27, 2008. Sixteen volunteers decided to roll up their sleeves and get down and dirty by improving an interpretive trail located off River Road next to Sam's Creek in Ashland City.

A total of 145 native plants were planted and mulched in man made berms that surround the interpretive trail. With the help of adults, each plant was carefully planted by the hands

of Clarksville's Cub Scout Troop 526 and Boy Scout Troop 621 from Nashville. After they finished planting and mulching, the hard working group managed to sow a food plot that will serve as a source of wildlife nutrition during the winter months.

Near the end of the event, everyone enjoyed a trailer tour of the Tennessee State University Research and Extension Demonstration Farm located directly adjacent to the trail. In appreciation of the volunteer's efforts and to say thank you for a job well done, pizza was provided along with NPLD Volunteer T-shirts. Everyone had a great time in making our public lands better for the future and asked

about working next year's event. With a group of volunteers like we had, you could only look forward to next year's event.



Members of Boy Scout Troop 621 planting native shrubs

Dale Hollow Lake

Story and Photos by Sondra Carmen, Park Ranger



Volunteers (L to R) Troy Wakefield, Harry Lancaster, Sarah Stoldt, John Carman, Carol Carman, Charlie Corns, and Jeff Longworth rest after unloading collected debris from Saturday's annual shoreline cleanup

This past Saturday, September 27, the staff at Dale Hollow, along with others nationwide, participated in National Public Lands Day by hosting our 27th Annual Fall Lakeshore Cleanup. Three hundred and twenty volunteers joined together to clean up trash and debris from the beautiful shorelines of Dale Hollow Lake. After the cleanup, volunteers were treated to a BBQ lunch and door prizes sponsored by the Friends of Dale Hollow Lake, Inc. The Friends of Dale Hollow Lake, Inc. is a nonprofit cooperating association who works closely with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on activities and issues concerning Dale Hollow Lake, with the goal of preserving and maintaining the unique beauty of the

lake and its outdoor recreational opportunities for all future generations. The staff at Dale Hollow Lake expresses their gratitude to all who participated in this event as well as countless others who take part in maintaining this beautiful and pristine resource.



Toni Johnson from the Friends of Dale Hollow Lake assists Ranger Bobby Bartlett and Jimmy Carter in drawing door prizes for a lucky volunteer

J. Percy Priest Lake

Story and Photos by Lindsey Houchens and Courtney Wilson

J. Percy Priest held two events in honor of National Public Lands Day. On the 13th, we partnered with the Nashville Clean Water Project to remove trash from Rivers Bend and Poole Knob islands. Boats were supplied by Elm Hill Marina, Nashville Shores, and Four Corners. Volunteers totaled 130 people for a total of volunteer 650 volunteer hours. Over 300 bags of trash were picked up.

Then, on September 27, we partnered with the TN National Guard for a shoreline clean-up of the Guard lease area that included 71 people for a total of 213 volunteer hours.

J. Percy Priest Lake had a total of 200 volunteers and 863 volunteer hours for NPLD!



Items gathered on NPLD day was 348 full trash bags, 49 tires, 12 chairs, 3 tents, 3 coolers, 3 tiki torches, 2 grills, 1 air mattress, 1 box spring, 1 toilet seat, 1 bicycle tire, 1 kiddy car, and 1 pick axe.

Old Hickory Lake

Story and Photos by Jonathan Wuebker

Old Hickory had a total of 343 volunteers signed in between two weekends of work related to National Public Lands Day.

One of the weekends involved Bledsoe Creek State Park. The other was on National Public Lands Day, September 27 and involved work on several sites.

In total, 1,027 hours of service were completed by volunteers who worked to clean garbage during the two weekends, removing invasive plants, planting trees, and re-painting parking lots.

Photo by Mindy Wuebker



The Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association volunteers at Shutes Branch Recreation to make a new bike trail.

Photo by Carolyn Bauer



Volunteer Mindy Wuebker, Ranger Crystal Tingle, and Ranger Jonathan Wuebker remove trash dumped in Shutes Branch Recreation Area.

Photo by Carolyn Bauer



A volunteer works to remove privet from a new bike trail.

Wolf Creek/Lake Cumberland

Story by Judy Daulton and Photos by Devlin Ridenour



Ranger Judy Daulton throws prizes into the crowd of volunteers at Burnside Island State Park.

Great weather on September 20 and a determined group of volunteers combined to make the 19th Annual Friends of Lake Cumberland Cleanup an important community event.

The Friends one-day cleanup produced some terrific numbers. A total of 745 volunteers, many of them representing a wide variety of groups, participated. Those willing volunteers collected a total of 2,448 bags of trash and 851 old tires, bringing the total trash collected since the cleanup began in 1990 to 84,501 bags of trash and 15,370 tires.

Individuals and groups began arriving as early as 8:00 a.m. with

volunteers departing at 9:00 a.m. by land and water throughout the morning to gather trash and debris. Marinas on the Lake donated the use of 25 pontoon boats, an invaluable asset to help with the collection effort. Local High School Junior ROTC units, Cub Scout Packs, and conservation groups were well represented.



Volunteers remove a sunken boat from Lake Cumberland.

Corporate America on the Move Week with the YMCA

Story by Flournette Roper, photos by Joanne Mann

The Corps of Engineers was one of 18 YMCA corporate partners who participated in the Corporate America on the Move (AOM) Week, September 22-26. The event was sponsored by the Middle Tennessee YMCA organization and the Nashville District Health Promotion Council in response to America's growing health crisis. The goal was to inspire people to make two daily changes -- move more and eat healthier by taking 2,000 more steps and eating only 100 fewer calories. Research has proven that these small changes make a difference.

Fifty-eight Corps participants from the District and Project offices registered and tracked their steps and activities throughout the week online via the YMCA's interactive web site. The culmination of the week's activities was a corporate walk on Friday, September 26, over Nashville's beautiful Shelby Street Pedestrian Bridge. Nashville District walkers were joined on the Bridge by walkers from the law firm of Bass, Berry & Sims, also a YMCA corporate partner. Project office employees also hosted walks at their respective locations. Corps of Engineers employees took a cumulative total of 3,025,233 steps during the

week and finished 4th place in the overall competition.

The top three Corps finishers were Velma Cross, Wolf Creek Power; Scott Fanning, Regulatory Office, J. Percy Priest; and Robert Pace, Wolf Creek Resident Office.

In support of the health theme of the day, the Management Sponsored Activities Committee (MSAC) held a healthy luncheon fundraiser featuring salads, salad fixings, fresh fruit, and plenty of water and low calorie drinks. Representatives from the YMCA and GetFitTN were also on hand to take photos, pass out materials and answer questions about healthy lifestyles.



Ted Cornelius, Downtown YMCA Executive Director, and representatives from GetFitTN welcome participants.



Management Sponsored Activities Committee serves a Salad Bar to raise funds.



American On the Move Walking Group stops for a pose while getting fit.

Coin Recipients Save Lives Overseas Continued

Continued from Page 8

GRD team the time to reference and format the list themselves, time that was critical to a team working long hours and doing tough work. As Ensich explained to Bivens and the team, "This issue is getting immediate, high-intensity visibility from Gen. Petraeus on down, and you all have done some great support work."

Bivens expressed pride in his team members and their ability to adapt to this urgent and challenging call. "We

immediately put together a team from different locations and different work groups," Bivens explained. "They worked together virtually by email and phone without knowing the full story, only the little technical information that was provided, and that Mike needed the information right away." The team's technical ability and dedication to the safety of our service members was clearly evident by this work, said Bivens. The team members were honored for their work

with GRD Commander's Coins, presented by Lt. Col. Lindstrom at a District staff meeting.

The ability to reach back and tie in to Corps capabilities to support the people on the ground in real time, and the flexibility and responsiveness of the Nashville team, together provided a critical tool for service members in Iraq. This checklist is in use throughout the Global War on Terror, preventing injuries and saving lives, and proving that a small group of dedicated people can make a big difference.

Raising the Sunken Rouse at the Ensley Engineer Yard

Story and Photos by Don Mayer, Mechanical Engineer, Physical Support Branch, Operations Division, Memphis District

The successful recovery of the "Rouse", on October 2, was due to the joint efforts of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Memphis and Nashville Districts.

A floating dry dock, the Rouse, is used to lift boats and barges out of the water for repairs. It sank July 20 after crew members used the dock to secure a barge for repair the day prior.

The dock was stable when the shift ended at 5 p.m., July 19. Within a few hours, security guards noticed one end of the dock was sinking and called District employees.

By the time they arrived, the wing wall at the sinking end was completely submerged.

Initially, the response crew had some success raising the sinking end, but was unable to save the dock.

The primary cause of the sinking is now thought to be two leaking valves that allowed water to enter the dock and eventually cause it to sink.

The sunken Rouse was raised by pumping air into the flooded compartments of its hull.

The dock was submerged in approximately 30 feet of water. Approximately 15 pounds per square inch (psi) of air pressure was needed in each compartment before it would start displacing water.

This was difficult to achieve since the deck of the Rouse was not airtight (this is common



The Rouse sunk on July 20, 2008

on old docks).

Divers installed temporary patches in the worst leaks, while smaller leaks were just overcome by supplying more air volume.

Technicians at Ensley Engineer Yard (EEY) fabricated two manifolds to distribute air through ten hoses to various compartments on the dock.

Special temporary deck hatches were installed by divers. The hatches included an inlet pipe for compressed air and a six inch discharge pipe, which allowed water to flow out of the pressurized compartments.

Divers also installed plugs in various vents on the dock and cut holes near the bottom of the dock wing walls to allow the water in them to drain out as the dock was raised.

The stern end of the dock was raised on October 1, but the bow would not come up. The dock was secured overnight partially submerged. The bow was successfully raised the next day.

Once the dock was partially raised, deck hatches were removed and small gasoline powered water pumps were used to remove the remaining water from compartments and finish raising the dock.

It is estimated by using the Nashville District dive team, the Memphis District saved close to \$100,000 in raising the dock.

Total cost was approximately \$60,000.

The divers from the Nashville District provided extra assistance beyond what was required by assisting with pumps after the dock was partially raised.

Numerous EEY employees assisted in the recovery effort. Yards and Docks Unit (YDU) is responsible for the operation and maintenance of all the dry docks at EEY. All YDU employees were involved in the recovery.



Dive Crew: Greg Cox, Jeff Neely, Carl Scott, Gary Harding, Col. Smith, Keith Holley, Don Mayer, Ross Cunningham

Counsel's Corner

Story by Pam Schmaltz

With the holidays approaching, it's timely to review the ethics of gift giving between employees. Title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations covers the "Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch." This regulation specifically addresses the issue of "Gifts Between Employees" and contains standards that prohibit an employee from giving, donating to, or soliciting contributions for a gift to an official superior.

Does that REALLY apply to holiday gifts?

When giving gifts to coworkers for birthdays or Christmas, the value of the gift should not exceed \$10. For special, infrequent occasions such as the birth of a child, or a wedding, the \$10 limit may be exceeded so long as the gift is "appropriate to the occasion."

What if my boss is retiring; why can't I give her a gift?

Although the general rule prohibits giving a gift to one's supervisor, there are exceptions. First, a gift "appropriate to the occasion" may be given to an official



Gift Giving



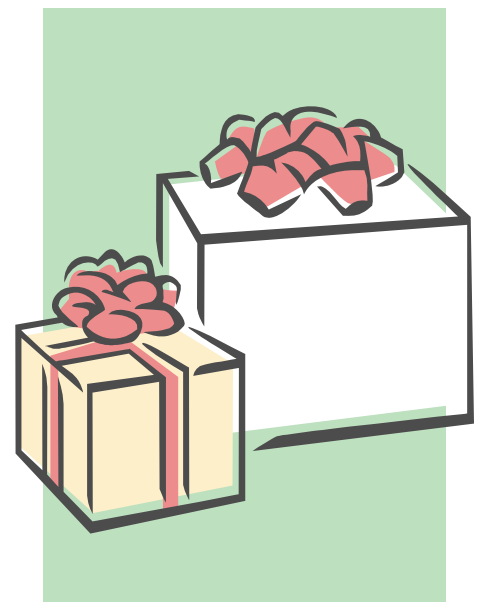
superior upon occasions that terminate a subordinate-official superior relationship, such as retirement, resignation or transfer.

I want to get my supervisor a really big gift. Can I get my co-workers to contribute?

Generally, an employee may not solicit a contribution from another employee for a gift for either his or the other employee's official superior. But an exception applies here, too. An employee may solicit voluntary contributions of nominal amounts from fellow employees for an appropriate gift to a superior on a special occasion such as retirement.

If you want to give a gift to a retiring employee, there are ways to do it in compliance with the regulation. For instance, if you want to give your supervisor or branch chief

a party and gift to mark the occasion of his retirement, you may distribute an announcement of the party and include a nominal amount for a retirement gift in the fee for the party. You may not, however, inform all the employees in the branch that they must each contribute \$5 for the gift. This method of collection is improper. Although you may recommend a \$5 contribution, **the recommendation must be coupled with a statement that the employee whose contribution is solicited is free to contribute less or nothing at all.**



If you would like a specific topic addressed in the Counsel's Corner, or have questions about serving on a selection panel, see Bill Hill or Pam Schmaltz in the Office of Counsel.

A Safe and Successful Year at Wolf Creek Dam

Story by Reshea Norris and Photo by Norris and James O. Johnson

As we reflect back on the past year, we are proud to announce that Wolf Creek Dam had no lost time accidents. This is an extremely great accomplishment for the Wolf Creek team due to the massive amount of construction that has been occurring on the project. Tasks such as repairing the leaking dam, rehabbing Unit 4, installing two new orifice gates, conducting daily river patrol, 24/7 berm inspections, and taking piezometer readings; along with, drilling and installing new piezometers and inclinometers are just a few of the possible hazardous tasks that have occurred this year.

The Wolf Creek team members are the first reason this has been a safe year. The employees have been observant of possible hazards around the project and noted them in the monthly safety meetings. An Activity Hazard Analysis was completed and discussed over daily toolbox safety meetings before each major task. The Activity Hazard Analysis discusses all possible dangers and precautions to take during the upcoming job. Employees have responded to Lt. Col. Lindstrom's 'Own the Edge' campaign by assessing possible risks and setting boundaries for the risk before completing the job. Without the employees' dedication and willingness to stay safe, this accomplishment



Voith Siemens received a Safety Award from Lt. Col. Lindstrom for no lost time accidents in 2008.

could not have been reached.

Planning for the upcoming summer months, employees discussed the risks of heat exhaustion, heat stroke, and ways to prevent them from occurring. Employees utilized proper personal protection equipment throughout the summer season. They also discussed issues such as how to stay hydrated and encouraged each other to stay cool. Wolf Creek made a wise purchase during the blistering summer months. Inflatable Personal Floatation Devices were purchased to assist the employees in staying cool this past summer. These lightweight life jackets allow the employees to stay cooler while working on the boat without the bulkiness of a regular life jacket. They also have several safety features. They automatically inflate when submerged in four inches of water, have reflective tape, and a safety whistle in case of an emergency.

Lastly, the Wolf Creek team would like

to commemorate the contract crews that have been at the project. At one time there were three prime contractors, Voith Siemens, ACT, and Arcadis, plus many sub-contractors at the project. All of the construction crews have done a great job in locating and assessing possible hazards and completing a safe job.

Voith Siemens was in charge of the rehab of unit 4. They completed the job on August 13, 2008, with 631 days of no lost time accidents. Voith received a safety award from Lt. Col. Lindstrom on February 1, 2008 for their safety while rehabbing the unit.

As you can see, safety is a main priority in the hearts of Wolf Creek. Without the support from Wolf Creek team members, up to date safety equipment, and the dedication of contract employees, this accomplishment would not have been possible. Our goal for 2009 is to continue to enhance and improve our safety program.



Brent Thompson, Electrician at Wolf Creek Power Plant, wearing a safety life jacket to insure his safety while conducting river patrol at Wolf Creek.

Opportunities Where Small Business is BIG Business

Story by EYDSS



Charles Appleton is the Deputy for Small Business at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nashville District. He is an advocate for small businesses. Qualified businesses are Small Business (SB), Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB), Service-disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) disabled veteran, and women owned. The Nashville District Digest met with Mr. Appleton to discuss the Nashville District Small Business Program.

District Digest (DD): How long have you been the Deputy for Small Business?

Charles Appleton (CA): In 2000, I was recommended by the Nashville District Chief of Contracting and the District Engineer to become the Deputy for Small Business and I was appointed by the Chief of Small Business in Washington, D.C.

DD: What is the role of the Deputy for Small Business?

CA: The main purpose of this office is to ensure that Small Businesses have the opportunity to participate in the procurement process. This program is vital for Small Businesses to compete in today's federal procurement marketplace.

DD: Have your work activities been primarily conducted in the Nashville District?

CA: No. Although my main focus is the Nashville District, I have worked closely with other Districts such as Savanna District, Mobile and Louisville Districts. I will help any contractor with any district I can.

DD: How do you help Small Businesses?

CA: We help by counseling, educating, organizing, outreach programs, and Small Business Conferences. For example, the USACE

12th Annual Small Business Conference is the largest and best conference for Small Business owners. This year the conference will be in Memphis, TN on December 8-10. Other conferences in the Nashville District that have been represented this year were the West Tennessee Veterans Conference, the 4th Annual National Veterans Conference, the East Tennessee Veterans Conference, and the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME).

DD: How do you measure your success for the program?

CA: There are goals for a percentage of contracts to be awarded to Small Businesses. The USACE Nashville District's goal is to award over 40% of contracts to Small Businesses. Therefore, being a resource to Small Businesses that will aid them in the procurement process is what makes this program successful.

DD: Do you have an example of how the Nashville District Small Business Office has been successful in reaching your goals?

CA: We were able to set aside two Operation & Maintenance Contracts for Lake Barkley and Dale Hollow Lake. The

contracts have a base year with 4 option years. The estimated dollar amount per year is about one million dollars. This will help us meet your Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSB) goals.

DD: Do you work with the Contracting Department to meet the Program Goals?

CA: This is a team effort. I work closely with the Contracting Department. They are excellent at flagging possible Small Business Opportunities. They are a major part of the district's Small Business program success. The Project Managers are also key players in the success of the program.

DD: Do you have anything to add?

CA: I enjoy working with Small Business owners. There is so much satisfaction in helping people reach their business goals. Goals that might not otherwise have been realized. It really becomes an interchange of knowledge, respect, and achievement. Small businesses are our partners and are absolutely critical to helping us get the job done.

Charles N. Appleton
Telephone: (615) 736-7674
e-mail: charles.n.appleton@usace.army.mil

Primary and Sub-Contractor Land Business Opportunities

The Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization Office (OSDBU) is where Small Business is Big Business. OSDBU are consistently pursuing ways for qualified businesses to improve their opportunities in the district's acquisition program. Small businesses are partners and absolutely critical in helping to get the job done. The Nashville District Digest interviewed two contractors that received guidance from the Nashville Small Business Program.

Veterans Construction, Inc. - Service-disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB)

District Digest (DD): How long have you been in business?

Michael Scott Golden, Owner

(MG): Veteran Construction, Inc. (VCI) was founded in 2003. The main office is in Knoxville, Tennessee.

DD: How did you meet Mr. Appleton?

MG: My wife and I met Mr. Appleton about 13 years ago in Nashville at the District Office. My wife owned a company that was 8a Certified. Mr. Appleton offered information and advice that helped her in the contracting process.

DD: Has your company been awarded any other contracts?

MG: My company is SDVOSB certified. We were awarded a major contract at Wolf Creek Dam.

DD: Do you recommend the program?

MG: Mr. Appleton has been a big help. My impression of him is that he is fair and works hard in his position to make the program successful. I would recommend the program to anyone who wants to do business with the Federal Government.

Photo by Charles Appleton



Charles Appleton congratulating Mary Golden, GLR Corp., 8a Certified, for working with the USACE.

Photo by Michael Golden



One of VCI's construction trucks at work.

Jerry B. Young Construction - 8(a) Certified by Small Business Administration

Photo by Jerry B. Young



District Digest (DD): How long have you been in business?

Jerry B. Young, Owner (JY):

Jerry B. Young Construction was started in the winter of 1994 in Lebanon, Tennessee.

DD: How did you meet Mr. Appleton?

JY: I met Mr. Appleton at a Business Match Maker Conference about 18 months ago. The goal is to match small businesses with federal, state,

and local government agencies and large corporations that have actual contract opportunities for products and services.

DD: Did you find a match?

JY: During the conference, I had an opportunity to talk to several vendors. Mr. Appleton stood out in helping my company. He arranged a follow-up meeting to discuss how the Nashville District Small Business could help my company.

DD: Are you working on projects for the USACE?

JY: We have been working for the last 6 months as a subcontractor to Kiewit - A.C.T. a J.V. on the Center Hill Dam Project. The contract is for less

than 1% of the total contract for the next 6 years.

DD: How did the program help you with this contracts?

JY: The Small Business Program opened the door for us to prove to a larger company that we could perform the work. The opportunity would not have materialized if it were not for the guidance we received from Mr. Appleton.

DD: Do you recommend the program?

JY: Most definitely! The program was very helpful in getting us to the negotiation table. I will always recommend someone who does what they say they will do.

Lock Dewatering Team Rewarded for a Safe and Successful Year

Story and Photos by Allison Jarrett

The Cumberland River Operations Center was full of the sights and smells of a low-country boil, as the Operations Division gathered on September 25 to honor the 2008 Lock Dewatering Team. The team successfully and safely completed five dewaterings this year, no small feat considering the District normally completes only three per year. Operations

Division Chief Diane Parks joined with her Operations Division Management staff to cook and serve a low-country boil for the team in appreciation for this great accomplishment.

"The guys really knocked it out of the park this year," Parks said of the dewatering team. She had the original idea to do something for the team, and when she brought it up at a meeting, the Operations Management Team agreed. Not only did they believe the dewatering team deserved the recognition, Parks also wanted to take advantage of the rare opportunity to bring together people across the District.

The luncheon did just that, with scores of people from across the Operations



The Operations Division Management staff worked hard to prepare a low-country boil for the Lock Dewatering team. From L-R: Tom Hale, Keith Holley, Tom Hood, Jim Davis, Gary Harding, Diane Parks, Jeff Ross, Tim Fudge, and Tony Bivens.

Division in attendance. Parks' cooking crew arrived early in the morning and boiled pot after pot of shrimp, potatoes, sausage, broccoli, and corn. The food was served 'low-country style,' spread on a large table for eager eaters to help themselves. Everyone had their fill, and plenty of leftovers were packed up and taken home. The lunch featured entertainment by the Deep Water Boys, Nashville District's resident bluegrass band.

Jim Davis, Operations Manager at the Mid-Tennessee River Area

Office, noted the unique challenges of this year's dewaterings. Pickwick and Kentucky Locks, originally scheduled for 2007, were delayed for various reasons, pushing five dewaterings into the 2008 calendar. The safe and successful dewaterings were performed at



Dale Raines, Scott Dennis, and Bobby Holt, all of the Repair Party, enjoy their well-earned lunch.

Kentucky, Wheeler, Cheatham, Pickwick, and Pickwick Auxiliary Locks. In addition to the heavy schedule, however, the team was faced with the added challenge of a new crew. According to Davis, the majority of the Maintenance Unit at both



Lunch attendees help themselves to shrimp, corn, sausage, and more.

through these obstacles to get the job done efficiently, effectively, and with no injuries or accidents.

Other Operations Managers felt this luncheon was a chance to not only reward the dewatering team, but more importantly, to bring attention to the work



Tom Hood cuts sausage with concentration and determination.

Area Operations Officer, as many of these employees are away from home and on the road all year. Jim Davis pointed out the stresses of the work itself. "These guys have a tough job, and they do hard, hot, dirty work," he said.

Acknowledging the dewatering team appropriately was clearly important to Operations, as every member was recognized by name and presented with a portfolio specially designed for the 2008 Dewaterings. A few folders, a whole lot of food, and a day of fun; a small price to pay to recognize the efforts of an essential element of the Nashville District TEAM.



Keith Holley and Tim Fudge hoist a steaming pot of shrimp from the water.

Wheeler and Pickwick were new to the work and new to the Corps. Davis explained that the crews really came together, working



Gary Harding shows off his choice of apron.

they do for the District. "People tend to lose sight of these guys at the District Office," noted Tim Fudge, Operations Manager at the Western Kentucky Area Office. "This is a chance to put them in the limelight." The work schedules and travel can take a toll on the workers and their families, noted Travis Claud, Nashville



Members of the Lock Dewatering team enjoy lunch while being entertained by the Deep Water Boys.



...shrimp, potatoes, sausage, broccoli, corn, and more...Yummy!

The Corps Crowd

Welcome to...

...Robert Franklin, who has returned from a one year deployment to Iraq with his Army Reserve Unit. Resource Management Office is very happy to have him back safely.

...Park Ranger, Charlotte Stenger, to the Nashville District as of October 14. Ms. Stenger brings with her six years of experience from Wappapello Lake, Missouri and West Point Lake, Georgia. Ms. Stenger will assume the Forest, Wildlife and Fisheries duties at Lake Barkley.

...Mr. Mitch Laird to the Planning office starting October 14. Mitch comes to us from Louisville District. Mitch brings with him a Regional Technical Specialist (RTS) in Economics. Mitch will also assist LRN in Plan Formulation duties. Mitch has over 20 years with the Corps of Engineers and is a great asset to the Nashville District.

...Ms. Karen Marshall to the Contracting Division as a Contract Specialist.

Halloween Costumes



From L-R: Melody Lawson, Frank McBride, Connie Hardeman, Angela Hamilton, Stephanie Coleman, and Pam Schmaltz show their enthusiasm for Halloween



Steve Barker gets his Halloween message across.

Congratulations to...



Yolanda Wimberly, M.D.

...Yolanda Wimberly, M.D. for being awarded the Humanism in Medicine Award from the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). Dr. Wimberly is the daughter of Bill Hill, Chief of Office of Counsel. The Humanism in Medicine Award, sponsored by Pfizer Inc., honors a medical school faculty physician who is a caring and compassionate mentor and a practitioner of patient-centered care. Dr. Wimberly is assistant professor of clinical pediatrics and program director of the Community Pediatric Residency Program at the Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM). Additionally, she serves as medical director of MSM's Center of Excellence for Sexual Health.

Baby Brigade to...



Ethan Greer

... Stacy Greer on the birth of son, Ethan Douglas Greer, who was born on October 27 weighting 7 pounds and 3 ounces.

Farewell to...

... Dickie Lovett, Power Plant Superintendent at Dale Hollow Power Plant, on his retirement October 3, 2008.

...David Mackie, Power Project Specialist, Center Hill Power Plant retired October 3, after 36 years of service.

Sympathy to...

...Steve Foshee, Public Affairs, whose wife Melissa passed away on October 3.

...the family of Leland Stovall of Eddyville, KY who passed away, at the age of 90, on October 8. Leland retired from Barkley Power Plant as a Senior Operator in 1976.

...the family of Mr. Stanley Young, retired Center Hill Power Plant employee, who passed away September 29, 2008.

Mr. Young's brother, Hershel South, is an employee at Watts Bar Lock and Mr. Young's son-in-law, Gary Bruce, is a Park Ranger at Center Hill Lake.

...Sharon Wilson, Regulatory employee from 1989 to September, 2007, whose mother, Dolly Mae Smith, passed away September 17.

...Marsha Holder, Lock & Dam Operator at Wheeler Lock, whose brother, Edward Holder, a Corps employee with the Huntsville District, passed away.

Thank you to...

...the Nashville District for all the kind words, cards, flowers and other support offered upon the passing of my wife, Melissa Ann Foshee.- *Steven Foshee and Family*

Corps Completes its Blue Roof Mission in Louisiana

Story by Shannon Bauer, St. Paul District; Photos by Alfred Dulaney, Vicksburg District

The Corps of Engineers wrapped up its Operation Blue Roof mission in Louisiana October 9, after completing approximately 10,500 roofs that were damaged by Hurricanes Gustav and Ike.

Operation Blue Roof is a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assigned mission in support of hurricane recovery. The program provides assistance to storm victims through the installation of blue plastic sheeting on damaged roofs. It helps to protect property from further damage and allows residents to remain in their homes until they are able to obtain permanent repairs.

Mission manager, Doug DeLong (Nashville District, Project Management), said they conducted damage assessments and used Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to plot out velocity charts for the hurricane; and with this information, they were able to select places to set up centrally-located Emergency Field Offices (EFO). Baton Rouge and Houma, La were selected.

"We were originally given 13 parishes to work on, centering on the main areas of damage, and it fit really well within our

EFO locations," said DeLong. "Then, they expanded the mission to include 25 additional parishes.

"Because we'd set up EFO sites based on wind velocities, it enabled us to fully work those parishes," DeLong continued. "Ninety-five percent of the Right



Blue Roof Team attends morning meeting at the Corps' Louisiana Recovery Field Office in Baton Rouge, La., September 7.

of Entry's (ROE) were located around the EFO sites, so it's really important to collect good damage assessments at the beginning of a mission."

The Quality Assurance (QA) and the Quality Control (QA) contractor traveled with two or more roofing crews. The QA and QC would make an assessment on one home and leave a crew there to do the work and then proceed to the next home. Later, the QA and QC would return to the first house to check on the crew's work and sign off on the ROE.

"You spend a little bit more on overhead doing it this way, but you finish the mission a little faster, a little safer, and with less mistakes," he said. "If there's a discrepancy or an issue with the roof, the crews can fix it right there.

"Additionally, with the government presence through the whole process, safety rules can be enforced," he continued. "We had a low number of safety-related incidents. None of the injuries resulted in lost time."

At its peak, around 1,000 roofers and 250 Corps' employees and contractors were working on the Louisiana Blue Roof mission. They processed up to 1,000 ROEs a day and completed the mission in almost a month.

Overall, DeLong said he though it went extremely well. "The great majority of the team is happy with the work. The morale is very high, and the folks are happy with volunteers that helped." He said. "I've heard a lot of happy stories from homeowners."



Two Corps' personnel on quality assurance duty inspect a blue roof contracting crew in covering a residential roof in La Place, La., September 7.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Nashville District
P.O. Box 1070
Nashville, TN 37202-1070

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



2008 Nashville District Christmas Luncheon

Tuesday, December 16th, 11:30 am
at
1st Lutheran Church (directly next door to the Federal Building)

Menu Includes:
Lunch
Turkey & Dressing, Ham
Green Beans, Sweet Potato Casserole, Corn
Cranberry Salad, Homemade Rolls
Dessert, Homemade Cakes, Beverages
Sweet Tea - Unsweet Tea - Water

Lunch will be \$10 per person and tickets can be
purchased from the following no later than December 10, 2008:
Kelly Wanamaker, RE, 615-736-7725
Jody Stanton, EC, 615.736-7906
Andreas Patterson, OP, 615-736-5118
Marla Klinger, DD-S, 615-736-7970

There will be a variety of entertainment—if you would
like to share your talent (singing, skit, poem reading, etc.)
please sign up with the Executive Office ASAP