



Volume XVII No. 3
May - June 2006

Flagship

SEATTLE DISTRICT

**Reflecting on
serving the Corps
in peace and war**

Pages 6 and 7

Inside this issue:

Commander's Column 2

Safety First — Seek shelter in summer storms 3

Focus on Security and Law Enforcement Office 4

New construction at Mountain Home AFB 5

District commander reflects on the past three years 6 and 7

Employee emergency preparedness 8

Earth Day activities 9

Biking saves dollars, improves health 10

Around the district 11

Welcome to the district 12



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Vol. XVII

No. 3

So long and thanks for all the fish

Title borrowed from humorist Douglas Adams.

Just as the sand in an hourglass appears to move more quickly near the end, so too I am realizing just how fast my three-year tour as your commander is coming to a close. If I'm not careful and blink, I may miss these last special days.

Our Chief of Public Affairs, Patricia Graesser, recently asked me some terrific questions that allowed me to reflect on the past, even as I look ahead. You might find my responses helpful to you. Her interview is included in this *Flagship* magazine.

Additionally, the accomplishments of our Seattle District team were significant and many, always amazing and inspiring me throughout this command.

Yes, I did learn about the fish here... and so very much more! Each of you serve this nation so well and I am so very proud to know you. I will definitely miss the people of the great Northwest most, especially those of you who make Seattle District what it is today. I will never forget you or my many wonderful memories.



Col. Debra M. Lewis
District Commander

By the time you read this article, I should be in Iraq, serving as the Central District Commander for the next year.

My special thanks to those of you who have already stepped up to perform this difficult task in support of the Global War on Terror (GWOT) or have directly supported others so they can serve. I would very much enjoy the honor of serving with you again someday, and look forward to seeing some of you in Iraq during the next year.

Very soon, your new commander, Col. Mike McCormick, will be arriving to assume command, officially July 27. He has tremendous experience and will do a terrific job, as he did commanding the San Francisco District.

I know you will serve him well and gladly welcome him into the Seattle District family. Trust me when I tell you that he eagerly awaits the time when he can be here with you, and considers himself most fortunate to be given his first choice of assignment. No surprise there!

Our deputy, Lt. Col. John Leighow, has the challenging task to serve as Acting District Commander in the period after I deploy until Col. (Michael) McCormick arrives. John is one of the very finest officers I've ever had the good fortune to serve with and I know he will be awesome.

I do plan to return briefly for the Change of Command ceremony. My family and I look forward to seeing many of you there. May your future be filled with many blessings and much love.

"Live well, laugh often and love much."

Debra M. Lewis



On the job

Ben Lazo, an engineer with Design Branch, starts his day at sunrise on Feb. 28 on the New Orleans Avenue Canal as a quality assurance inspector. Corps employees from throughout the world have been supporting hurricane recovery in the South. More than 160 Seattle District employees volunteered to support recovery and some went several times. There are currently six employees, including Ben, still helping out. Corps Photo



Cover: Col. Debra M. Lewis, Seattle District commander, at the Seahurst Park Shoreline Restoration Project. See more photos and story on pages 6 - 7.
(Cover photo by Maria Or)



This issue was especially prepared for Quience Reeves, budget analyst, Albeni Falls Dam. In addition to her budget, she patiently handles any issues that arise in administering the affairs at Albeni Falls. She is always available to provide accurate, timely help.

Flagship

- Col. Debra M. Lewis, Commander**
- Patricia Graesser, Chief, Public Affairs**
- Nola Leyde, Editor**
- Casondra Brewster, Contributor**
- Steve Cosgrove, Contributor**
- Dick Devlin, Contributor**
- Ashlee Richie, Contributor**
- Elizabeth Townsell, Admin. Contributor**

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Check out the online edition of **Flagship** at www.nws.usace.army.mil

Corps announces results of A-76 competition of IM/IT functions

HQUSACE (June 21, 2006) — Following an 18-month competition of its Information Management/Information Technology (IM/IT) functions, the initial performance decision of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers is to retain the work in-house for performance by the Most Efficient Organization.

The Government's Most Efficient Organization was selected based on lowest cost technically acceptable. As part of the competition process and before implementing the results of the competition, the unsuccessful offerors are afforded an opportunity to protest the decision in accordance with the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

The competition began in June 2004, and involved work performed by more than 1,300 employees and more than 500 contractors at Corps locations throughout the United States. The IM/IT competition was conducted in response to the President's Management Agenda, which requires all federal agencies to streamline and become more effective.

The IM/IT services included in the competition are:

- (1) automation services and systems support,
- (2) communications services and systems support,
- (3) information assurance service and support,
- (4) record management services and support,
- (5) printing and publication services,
- (6) visual information services, and
- (7) IM/IT administration and management.

Public-private competitions are conducted



under the provisions of Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76. The process included a public comment period on the Performance Work Statement that describes the Government's requirements. The process also included three industry forums where potential service providers were provided additional information and given an opportunity to offer comments on the competition.

Under the OMB circular, the Federal employees performing the work compete against the private sector and other public reimbursable service providers for the requirements described in the Performance Work Statement.

In addition to the IM/IT competition, the Corps is currently conducting two other competitions for its Finance Center data entry activity in Millington, Tenn., and the Directorate of Public Works functions at two research facilities. -- *George Halford, HQUSACE PAO*

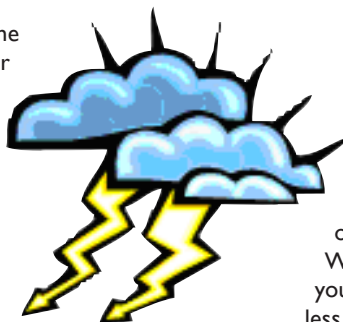
Safety note

Seeking shelter from summer storms

Summer is the peak season for one of the nation's deadliest weather phenomena: lightning. In the United States, an average of 67 people are killed each year by lightning.

Some things to remember: **Watch for Developing Thunderstorms.** Thunderstorms are most likely to develop on warm summer days and go through various stages of growth. As the sun heats the air, pockets of warmer air start to rise in the atmosphere. When this air reaches a certain level in the atmosphere, cumulus clouds start to form. Continued heating can cause these clouds to grow vertically upward in the atmosphere into "towering cumulus" clouds. These towering cumulus clouds are one of the first indications of a developing thunderstorm.

When to Seek Safe Shelter. Lightning can strike as far as 10 miles away from the rain



area in a thunderstorm. That's about the distance you can hear thunder. When a storm is 10 miles away, it may even be difficult to tell a storm is coming. If you can hear thunder, you are within striking distance. Seek safe shelter immediately.

The 30-30 Rule. Use the 30-30 rule where visibility is good and there is nothing obstructing your view of the thunderstorm. When you see lightning, count the time until you hear thunder. If that time is 30 seconds or less, the thunderstorm is within 6 miles of you and is dangerous. Seek shelter immediately. The threat of lightning continues for much longer period than most people realize. Wait at least 30 minutes after the last clap of thunder before leaving shelter.

Don't be fooled by sunshine or blue sky! If it is cloudy or objects are obscuring your vision, get inside immediately. It is always safer to take precautions than to wait.

For more information on lightning safety go to: <http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/overview.htm> -- *Provided by the Safety Office, Tim Grube*

Focus on Security and Law Enforcement Office

Programs protect personnel, facilities, equipment and information

Adversaries of the United States are not always found on the battlefield, nor do they always overtly display their loyalty to countries which oppose the U.S. Their intent is usually to be undetected long enough to create chaos and cause casualties to the intended target. Considering our current security climate, it is necessary for Department of Army Soldiers and Civilians to understand and recognize that our country's enemies have many faces, allegiances, and destructive agendas, and we must be prepared to protect ourselves against them.

As a federal agency, we are considered a primary target for surveillance and collection efforts by extremist groups. These groups want to conduct surveillance and exploit any vulnerability that we have by collecting information and using it to further their own agendas.

The Security and Law Enforcement Office has the responsibility of enforcing Executive Orders, Department of Defense Directives, and Department of the Army regulatory guidance, in an effort to protect soldiers and civilians, prevent compromise of classified information, and to prevent any exploitation of unclassified or sensitive information.

We are also the proponent for reporting any serious criminal incident or suspicious activities to the proper local and federal agencies for investigation and analysis, in support of Seattle District objectives. We do this by implementing a combination of security measures, educational aids, and training programs developed to provide consistent oversight for the protection of our workforce. These programs include:

- Personnel Security
- Physical Security
- Antiterrorism
- OPSEC (Operations Security)
- Foreign Disclosure
- Foreign Travel



The Security and Law Enforcement Office staff, Ken Earls, left, chief, Courtney Wright, security clerk, and James Sydnor, security specialist, gather around the new finger prints computer at the district headquarters office. Photo by Nola Leyde

- SAEDA (Subversion and Espionage Directed Against the U.S. Army)

- INFOSEC (Refresher Training for individuals with access to classified information)

All of these programs are designed to help protect personnel, facilities, equipment/property, and information, without minimizing the effectiveness of accomplishing the Seattle District goals.

It is the goal of the Security and Law Enforcement office to provide quality service to the employees of the Seattle District in the facilitation of these programs.

Feel free to stop by our office with any questions that you may have concerning further detail about our programs. We are here to help, and are continually striving to be an asset to the Seattle District team. -- Ken Earls



SRTV's visit highlights Ft. Lewis sustainability efforts

Jini Ryan of Soldier's Radio and Television (SRTV) discusses potential areas for filming with Seattle District's quality assurance representative Ron Harris, center, and architect Tom Tolman, right. Ryan recently came to Ft. Lewis to highlight construction projects with an ongoing emphasis on sustainability to be included in a news story about the Army's focus on being sustainable nationwide. Photo by Ashlee Richie

05/04/2006

New construction supports mission at Mountain Home

It's almost impossible to take a drive around Mountain Home Air Force Base and not see new construction taking place.

Seattle District is currently overseeing the building of facilities for the 726th Air Control Squadron (ACS) and a Base Operations and Radar Approach Control Center (RAPCON).

At the end of June, the 726th Air Control Squadron complex was nearing final completion. The construction provides two new facilities for the squadron: A supply and services building, as well as a building to perform vehicle maintenance for a heavy deployable fleet, satellite communication system maintenance and general office space. This site also includes over 6,000 cubic yards of concrete pavements, supporting parking, new access roads and storage facilities. Several unique construction activities are seen in this project, including the largest known application of volumetric Portland Cement Concrete "in-place batch" site paving in the industry.

"This project successfully meets highly critical mission timelines, as completion of the 726 ACS complex is a key enabler to foster follow-on Base Realignment and Closure actions that are bringing new flying missions to Mountain Home AFB," said Mark Slominski, project engineer at the Seattle District Mountain Home Resident Office.

"The 726 ACS project is a great example of the Corps ability to be able to schedule well. They have done a great job at bringing this project to fruition at the right time," said Scott Mayberry, Chief of Engineering Flight 366 Civil Engineer Squadron.

In April ground was broken on the new Base Operations/RAPCON facility which will also include an airfield lighting vault. The \$8.1 million project will be built by Record Steel and Construction, Inc. and will provide two new buildings with a total of 19,100 square feet as well as a 2,500-square-foot airfield lighting vault.

"The new lighting vault is essential to the heart and soul of the Air Force flying mission," said Mayberry.

"Seattle District is able to accomplish planning, design and construction for our Air Force customers only through the efforts of a talented and experienced inter-disciplinary team, at several geographic locations. Teamwork is the key to success," said Seattle District program manager Andy Maser.

Like work at other installations, district designers (both in-house and contractor) and many other in-house staff members provide respective support for all projects. On site construction management and direct user coordination is accomplished through the on base Resident Office. -- *Ashlee Richie*



From left: Lt. Col. Benjamin Wham, 366th Civil Engineer Squadron, Zeke Johnson, Record Steel and Construction, Col. Debra Lewis, Seattle District Commander, Col. Bill Schaal, Base Operations Commander, John Henderson, Record Steel and Construction and Joe Avallone, Headquarters Air Combat Command military construction program manager for Mountain Home AFB break ground on the new Base Operations/RAPCON facility on April 14.



Col. Debra Lewis discusses the advantages of the new ACS Complex with Lt. Col. Gene Lee of the 726 while Seattle District Construction Representative, Jim LaFluer and others look on. *Photos by Ashlee Richie*



The 726 Air Control Squadron complex contains a new vehicle maintenance building, shown here, which will allow for maintenance of the fleet and satellite communication system as well as new office space. *Photo provided by Mark Slominski*

District commander reflects on

Col. Debra Lewis, the 46th commander of Seattle District, departed June 4 for a year as Gulf Region Division's Central District Commander in Baghdad, Iraq. Her safety will be in the thoughts of many throughout the coming year. While it is a time when she is looking forward to her future assignment, it is also the moment the district asks her to reflect on her time at Seattle District. Col. Lewis's tenure in Seattle was marked by fast-paced change, deployments exceeding 10 percent of the workforce and a continued push to do more with less. Col. Lewis steered the district through this period with an emphasis on asking effective questions, treating one another with consideration, and fact-based decision making. Many in the district will miss her quotes, birthday wishes and concern for the success of the district and each individual in it.

What do you consider your greatest achievement while at Seattle District?

I tried to make a difference in how we choose to approach each other and our work, to include keeping a sense of humor, even as our personal and professional lives are increasingly stressful. At a recent newcomers briefing, I was thrilled to hear the responses to my question "What excites you most about working for the Seattle District?" The responses included: the positive attitudes of our people (even as they walk from their cars to the office), the family aspect of our organization, feeling appreciated, an opportunity to do their best work, the overall positive atmosphere, and the quality of the remarkable people in Seattle District. If I had a part in unleashing the tremendous talent of our employees to accomplish the incredibly tough work for this nation, and highlighting the importance of recognizing, appreciating and including others in our daily actions to sustain our successes, then my time in command has been well spent.

What were your ideas about Seattle District prior to arriving here? Were they borne out?

While district commands are the very best jobs in the Army, Seattle District is considered an extra special assignment, and it absolutely has been so for me.

Do you ever sleep? (Seriously, many people want to know.)

Not much... Just imagine how much energy I'd have if I was well rested [she grinned].

What are your greatest frustrations or unrealized goals?

Not enough time to spend with each member of the district. I did what I could do. I enjoy being with everyone, yet our requirements and competing demands for my time kept mounting. I would like to have visited more and taken time to get to know more people—to really learn what motivates them, what ideas they have. The more time I am able to interact with other people, the more fun it is for me. I draw tremendous energy from the people of Seattle District and those we work with each day.

What did you gain, what lessons do you take away from leading Seattle District?

This assignment reaffirmed my belief in the quote that I often wear on a pin, "Together we can accomplish anything." I certainly believe it and so do many others. I had no idea how much we'd be asked to do over the past three years. Also, it was harder than we thought it would be to successfully build and maintain high-performing teams at every level of the organization that take advantage of our incredibly talented workforce and genuinely support each other. Everyone is so different... a big reason to celebrate and motivate us to work together! But it does take time to properly form and

improve our teams, especially as members come and go.

Another key lesson for me was to practice more patience with myself as I learned alternative ways to reach out to diverse individuals in a way that was helpful to them and allowed them to more fully contribute to the team. Everyone I have met consistently demonstrated he or she wanted to be successful. Yet we are human and some passionate discussions we had made it hard for us to adhere to our most important ground rules, when we really needed them most to keep us focused and respectful. We did it with the best of intentions!!!

Who have you encountered here who has influenced or affected you?

Every person I met! Within the district and our many partners outside the district, from the newest employee to the most senior employee, from day one to today, each person plays a role in what we do as part of our team, and just might hold the key to our future success. I'm always wondering "What is it that we might learn from each person?" We need to hear their stories of how they've achieved success. They often provide insights into our own issues and actions. I often hear the best stories from the most unlikely sources, so I try to "Never judge a book by its cover."

What are you most looking forward to about your next assignment?

Serving our nation in what will likely be the greatest challenge of my career.

What is your secret in working with a civilian workforce, and how does it compare with working with the troops?

Not sure if I have any secrets here. I know I genuinely value the people I work with, including both military and Civilians. There have been different expectations of each in the past, but I see these lines are



Col. Debra Lewis loves sharing quotations. The following photos of her time at Seattle District are used to illustrate just a few of those she presented.



"Together we can accomplish anything."



"Success is a journey, not a destination."



in the past three years

blurring now. Military units expect changes in team members, so each member is keenly aware of the chain of command, is mentally prepared to assume a leadership role, and may be required to make decisions that have serious impacts on the lives of others. In the civilian workforce, each person has tremendous potential and is providing some type of leadership to others already. Many of our Civilians are finding themselves increasingly being placed in key leadership positions or roles in extremely challenging environments. Deployments to support GWOT [the Global War on Terrorism] or hurricanes are obvious indications Civilians can and do step up. They are doing a great job leading the way today.

What would you do if you had the opportunity to serve another three-year tour here?

Spend more time with people and constantly find better ways to ensure our main priorities drive how we spend our time (e.g. meetings, the calendar) and not vice versa. I would love to see the realization of some tools in the works that are designed to make it easier for our people to do exactly that. For example, our district senior leaders are finalizing a District Charter to clarify and map our strategic objectives (very important!), highlight the meetings we attend (where we focus our efforts to achieve our objectives), improve our decision-making processes, and identify key considerations to build and maintain the high-performing teams (that get the real work done at meetings and elsewhere).

Was there any event or series of events in this command that stands out as most memorable or an “ah-ha” moment?

In my first year, I realized we faced similar challenges in the executive office and the District Executive Team as other teams in the district—such as people transiting (I had five

deputies in three years), maintaining effective communications (especially when so many were traveling), more requirements than people available, and tracking the many taskers we received from others. The tools mentioned earlier, the need to really embrace the Army concept of Consideration of Others (improves teaming instead of allowing stress to impact respect), and enhancing our skills in written and oral communications were fundamentals that would serve us well, especially if we wanted to work well together as a team and make our district and the Corps a Team of Teams. At times, what initially appeared to be failures were often breakthroughs right before success. While not always easy or fun, progress may not have been possible without some really rich experiences. “Good judgment comes from experience... experience often comes from bad judgment.” In an ever-changing world, it became increasingly important to lay out the context of whatever we were dealing with. We value brevity, but brevity may not provide adequate context in the time needed to convey the message.

What words of advice would you offer or have you offered to the incoming commander?

This is the best job you’ll ever have. Enjoy the time - it flies by. Believe in the people and work the issues accordingly. Since our organizations often run on the questions being asked by the senior leadership, try to ask those effective questions!

Is there anything else you’d like to add?

It has been an honor and a privilege for my family and me to serve three years here. It is difficult to describe the breadth of the district’s accomplishments and how everyone has really made a difference. Our sincere thanks to each of you for making this a truly amazing time together. Best wishes for many wonderful and successful years to come! -- Patricia Graesser



“Chance favors the prepared mind.”



“A change in attitude has the power to change my day.”



“Together, everyone achieves more.”



“Nobody knows how much you know until they know how much you care.”

LDP Class 2005-2006

Employee Emergency Preparedness Team

The attack on the World Trade Center and recent natural disasters brought to light the importance of emergency preparedness both for employees and the maintenance of mission essential functions.

Seattle District is geographically in an area vulnerable to natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanic eruptions. So, members of the 2005 - 2006 Seattle District Leadership Development Program developed a project to address emergency preparedness.

"First, we developed an employee preparedness brochure to assist Seattle District employees in becoming personally prepared for an emergency," Joanne McWilson, construction administration specialist for the district's construction office.

"Second, we sought out a survivable communication system that guarantees continuous communications during outages. We selected the TeleContinuity system, which will ensure the performance of essential functions during any emergency and allow the district to account for employees when normal operations are disrupted," McWilson said.

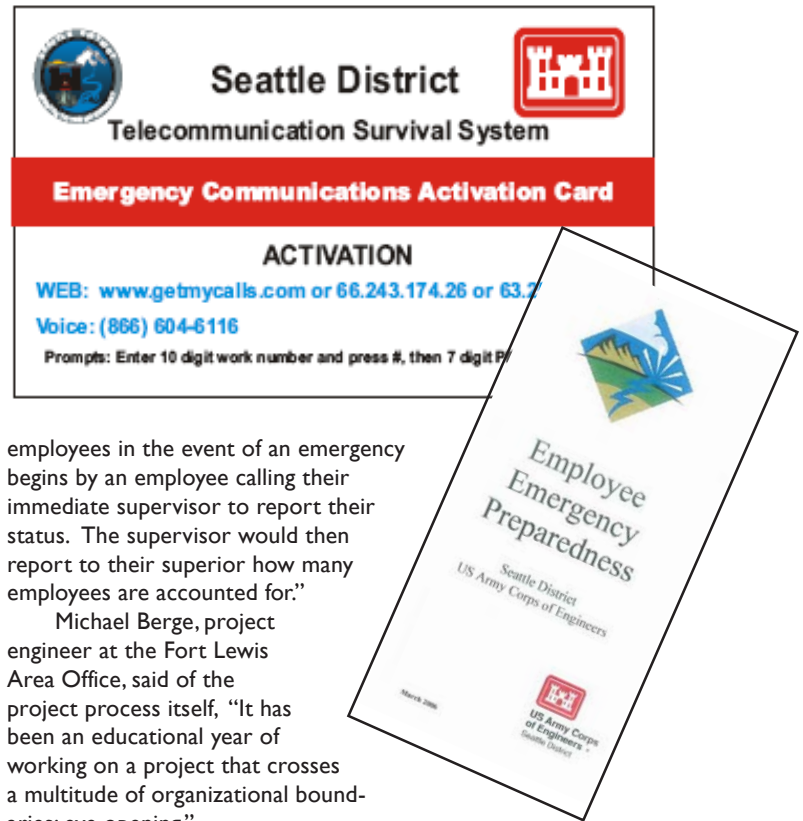
The employee preparedness brochure, which will be distributed to all employees, contains informational tips on what to do before, during and after an emergency event, at home and work. The brochure also contains useful national and regional Web sites to prepare employees in the event of a disaster and for assistance after the disaster.

"We also developed a wallet sized punch-out card. It contains important contact numbers and space to write in supervisors' phone numbers, local radio stations and out-of-state contact numbers," said Jessica Winkler, project manager in the district's Regulatory Branch.

The TeleContinuity system will facilitate accountability for district employees in an emergency by enabling supervisors' phone numbers to be prioritized and routed through a diverse network, which bypasses local network congestion points and network failures.

"This system offers voicemail capabilities that could be used for broadcast messages to provide information to employees regarding emergency operations," said Nicolle Rutherford, biologist in the district's Environmental Resources Section.

"What makes this service unique is that it guarantees that every Seattle District supervisor will be able to receive all inbound calls to their original telephone number. Accounting for all

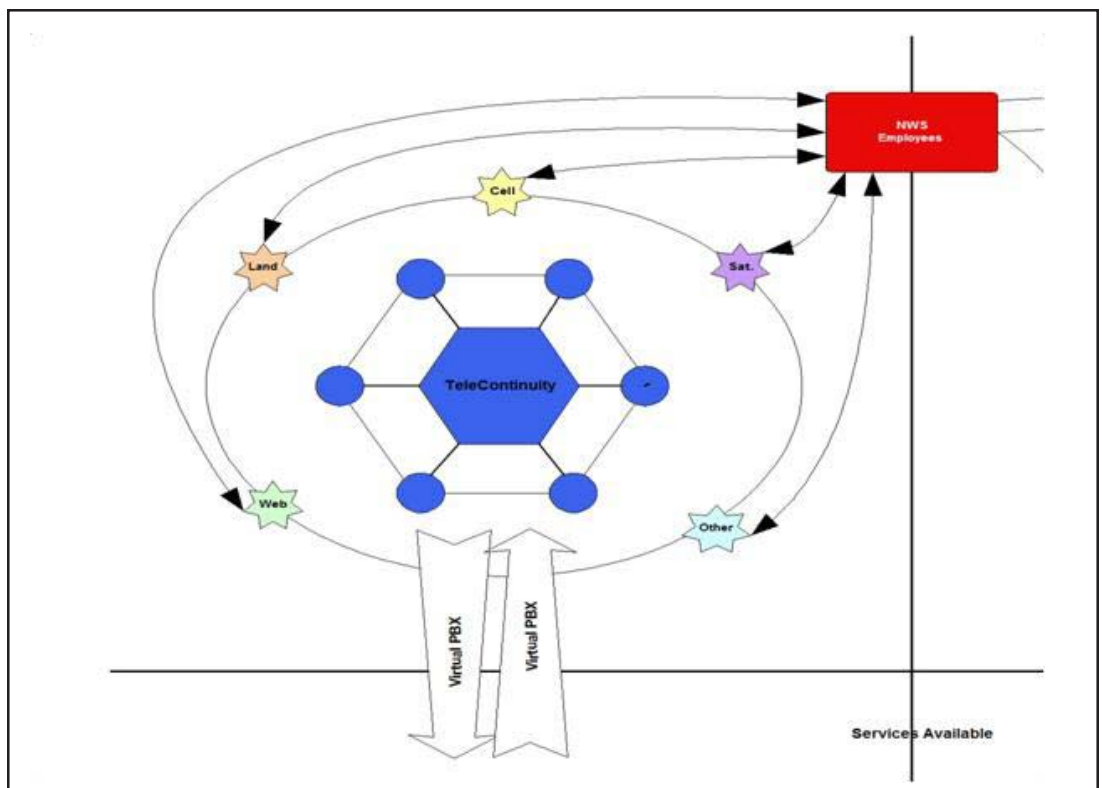


employees in the event of an emergency begins by an employee calling their immediate supervisor to report their status. The supervisor would then report to their superior how many employees are accounted for."

Michael Berge, project engineer at the Fort Lewis Area Office, said of the project process itself, "It has been an educational year of working on a project that crosses a multitude of organizational boundaries; eye opening."

"The district leadership made this project a top priority and is committed to implementing a communications system that enables the district to account for all employees in an emergency event," McWilson said.

The Employee Emergency Preparedness team members included Mike Berge, Anna Dudek, Cathy Martin, Joanne McWilson, Nicolle Rutherford, Cathy Martin and Jessica Winkler. -- Joanne McWilson





Earth Day — Corps family digs it!



Seattle District employees and their families prepare to plant shrubs along Seahurst Park in Burien. District GIS analyst Dave Fox digs in at Seahurst Park. District employees Amy Kinney and Alicia Austin Johnson enjoy a break with children Owen and Annie. Seshu Vaddey and Jonathan Smith work to remove invasive species from a wetland at Union Bay Natural Area. Matt Bennett (left) and Evan Lewis, organizers of the District's Earth Day events, prepare to work at Union Bay Natural Area. Photos provided by Evan Lewis

Corps volunteers and others dug in during two Earth Day work parties held locally, said Evan Lewis, fish biologist at the headquarters office.

According to Lewis, both events were great successes. "At Union Bay Natural Area we had about 10 Corps folks and their families. We freed a patch of native snowberry from encroaching invasive, non-native blackberry, mulched some of the trees that are planted, and planted wetland grasses in a wetland buffering the natural area from an existing parking lot. The weather was fantastic and everybody had a great time," said Lewis. At Seahurst Park in Burien, slightly more than 20 people associated with the Corps joined a similar number of volunteers from Anchor Environmental (a consulting firm) and EarthCorps volunteers to plant a couple hundred ferns, shrubs, and trees along the beach restored by the Corps and the city of Burien in 2004. "With such a great turnout, we finished the planting early and were done by the time the skies opened up to water the planting areas and prime them for growth through the spring and summer," he said.

The park and beach look great and are a prime example of how the partnership between the Corps and a local sponsor can really help restore essential environmental functions while maintaining public access," said Lewis.

"At both sites, it's rewarding to see the restoration progress with each year and to see the fruits of the previous year's work. I look forward to the 3rd Annual Earth Day Restoration Parties at these and potentially other areas," said Lewis.



Riding a bike saves gas, takes the junk out of your trunk

Lose 13 pounds in your first year. Save \$1,200 a year on gasoline for your car. Shake the automobile habit. How might you achieve those statistics? Ride a bicycle to work.

At least 20 members of the Seattle District took the challenge to heart and participated in Bike to Work Month, an annual event sponsored by the Cascade Bicycle Club Education Foundation and Group Health. The Cascade Bicycle Club is a bicycle advocacy group dedicated to bike safety and maintenance of community walking and bicycle trails. As the Flagship was going to press, the two 10-person teams were well on their way to topping 2,000 miles ridden representing Federal Center South.

On May 19, the two teams also took part, along with some 5,000 other cyclists in the Seattle area, in Bike to Work Day, the highpoint of the month-long promotion, both on the road and at one of 37 commuter stations strategically placed around the area. Ferry commuters were even exempted from the bicycle surcharge on ferry routes to Seattle allowing them to take the short three-mile pedal from the Colman Dock to the district office.

Team members of *Helmets, not Hummers* include Carolyn Fitzgerald (captain), Glen Chihara, Kathy Dunn, Catherine Duvall and Veronica Henzi. Rounding out the team were John McAvoy, Steven Saepoff, Lawrence Schick, John Pell and Sarah Massuch.

As an aside, Massuch, who works for the Government Printing Office, is the sole non-Corps team member while mega-miler Catherine Duvall routinely wheels in from the Issaquah area...a 25-mile jaunt each way.

Team members of *Traffic* included Dan Katz (captain), Bruce Hale, Jeff Laufle, Seshu Vaddey and Evan Lewis. Filling out the roster were Noel Gilbrough, Chris Pollock, Dave Gustafson, Marian Valentine and Maryann Baird.



Pictured left to right: Kathy Dunn, Seshu Vaddey, Larry Schick, John McAvoy, Noel Gilbrough, Glen Chihara, Carolyn Fitzgerald, Catherine Duvall, Evan Lewis, Marian Valentine, Dave Gustafson, Sarah Massuch and Jeff Laufle. Not pictured are Dan Katz, Chris Pollock, Bruce Hale, Maryann Baird, Steve Saepoff, Veronica Henzi and John Pell. Photo by Dick Devlin

According to one state-sponsored study 20 percent of Washingtonians rode a bicycle in 2001. Another study notes that 60 million Americans bicycle at least once per year and that 25 percent of the U.S. population bicycles to some extent. Yet only 1.6 percent of Americans bicycle to work while in Japan 15 percent bicycle to work and in the Netherlands 50 percent of commuters bicycle and in China, a whopping 77 percent of the work force get to there on two wheels.

If you'd like to know more about what it takes to commute by bicycle or if you feel as if you'd like you're ready to try it, but need a few pointers the Cascade Bicycle Club conducts monthly three-hour bicycle commuting classes where you'll learn:

- safe bicycle operations in traffic
- strategies for carrying items (work clothes/work items)
- riding at night and in foul weather
- using bike racks on buses
- making minor bicycle repairs

There will be an optional on-road skills session immediately following the class so bring your bike and helmet if you want to take part. For more details, look in on their website at www.cbcef.org/classes.html. -- Dick Devlin

Bruce Hale recognized as Corps' top architect

This is going to be a busy year for Seattle District's Bruce Hale, who was selected as the Architect of the Year for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Bruce has several events throughout the year he will attend to represent the Corps and receive his award and participate as the Corps' Architect of the Year.

Bruce, a licensed architect, and a professional member of the American Institute of Architects, is the lead architect in the district with the responsibility to carry out a full range of project design requirements.

A graduate of Washington State University, and with experience working overseas and for private firms, he joined



Bruce Hale

the architectural staff and design team of Seattle District in 2003.

Given his varied experiences with both the public and private sector, Bruce was able to bring a unique skill set to the district's design branch. He has worked on some of the district's most visible projects, to include the Whole Barracks Renewal projects at Fort Lewis. As the lead architect he designed a new duplex Company Operations Facility (COF). According to the nomination, This energy efficient design incorporated many features outlined in the draft standard COF design, yet was in a scale and style more appropriate for the historic site.

The award recognized Bruce for his excellence performance in 2004 for the barracks program and during his six years of service with the Corps (three with Seattle District), "Mr. Hale has consistently demonstrated his ability to lead, mentor, execute, take charge, and adhere to the principals of quality design in all of his projects."

Around the district

Speaking Outreach

Lynn Melder and Marian Valentine,

Hydrology, met with the Floating Homes Association at their annual meeting and presented a presentation on the "Corps' Management of Lake Washington," in April.

Gail Terzi, Regulatory Branch Environmental Analyst, gave a presentation entitled "The Federal Compensatory Mitigation Tool Box: Where we've been and where we're going" at a Law Seminars International Workshop on "Wetlands and Natural Resource Damage Mitigation on April 7. Also in April, Gail participated in the 9th National Mitigation and Conservation Banking Conference in Portland, Oregon.

Departures

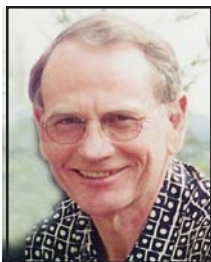
Casey Ehorn, support assistant in Regulatory Branch, departed on June 1 for a position as a wetland biologist with Sullivan International Group in Chicago, after completing his masters in environmental studies at Evergreen State College.

Gail McDowell, IMO Communication Specialist contractor, departed on April 13 to take a position in Bellevue, Wash.

In Memory

Leon K. "Lee"

Moraski passed away May 31, 2006, from an aggressive brain tumor. He left far too soon for the people who knew and loved him. Lee was born in Waterbury, Connecticut, on November 2, 1937, and was a proud graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, Class of 1959. Lee also received a Master of Science Degree with distinction in Astronautics and Engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology. Col. Moraski served his country with distinction for 22 years as a member of the Army Corps of Engineers. During his military career, Col Moraski spent two years as an assistant professor at West Point, served in Vietnam and Germany, and worked for the Department of the Army at the Pentagon. Col. Moraski also received numerous honors during his military career, including the Soldier's Medal, four Bronze Stars, two Meritorious Service Medals, and the Vietnam Service Medal. Col. Moraski's last post was as the Commander and District Engineer for the Corps of Engineers' Seattle District. Following his military career, Lee worked as a Program Manager for the Honeywell/Alliant/Raytheon naval systems facility in Mukilteo,



Lee Moraski

Washington. Lee retired in 2000. He remained vigorous in retirement, traveling around the country, and spending countless hours as a volunteer for the Washington Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, and the Potter League for Animals. Throughout his life, Lee enjoyed travel, hiking, biking, boating, wine, the company of his family and friends, and his daughter's cooking. Lee's family has established a memorial website for Lee at <http://lmoraski.home.comcast.net>.

Robert Harrison Fielding died June 15, 2006. He was with the U.S. Corps of Engineers for 20 years, after a career at Boeing and employment with the VA Hospital.

James J. Leonard died July 20, 2005. He was with the U.S. Corps of Engineers as an "Instrument Man" on the Alcan Highway and the Trans-Alaska Canadian railway survey. He worked as a "Logging Engineer" for about 2 years and as a Civil Engineer with the Federal Government for 31 years. —Twenty-two years of his time was spent in Africa, S.E. Europe, the Middle East, the Trans-East, the Orient and Alaska. During that period he received numerous commendations and awards including the "Citation for Meritorious Service". He also served as a consultant in Alaska, the Northwest and the Mediterranean.

Retirements

Vic Yoshino, civil engineer tech in Emergency Management, retired in June with 30 years of service, including two years in the Army and 28 years with the district.

Mick Easterly retired on June 1 with 34 years of service with the Corps. He began his career as a Coop student with St. Louis District in 1972 where he worked on drafting, drilling, soil testing, and dam and lock construction. He moved to the LA District in 1981 to work on the MX Missile Project as the senior geologist. He also worked on dams, levee, water supplies, breakwaters, and beach replenishment. Mick came to NWS in 1991 as a hydrogeologist to work on the Fort Lewis Logistics Center Superfund groundwater cleanup pilot studies. He helped design and complete the construction of three superfund pump and treat projects in his early years with NWS. In recent years, Mick has worked on the Kootenai River EIS and helped support EPA environmental remediation projects.

Larry Mann, Senior Geologist, retired June 2 with nearly 34 years of Federal service. A Vietnam veteran, he served four years in the U.S. Navy Seabees. He landed a job with the Corps in Seattle District in early 1977 as a temporary employee assigned to foundation exploration for Libby Re-Regulating Dam. Shortly thereafter he was sent to the University of Minnesota for long-term training

in engineering geology. During the 1980s he was involved with the seismic evaluation of several dams for Seattle, Walla Walla and Sacramento Districts. In the early 1990s became heavily involved in groundwater remediation activities at McChord AFB and Fort Lewis. He spent the last 10 years of his career as chief of the Geology and Instrumentation Section. He also was heavily involved in dam safety issues and instrumentation throughout his 29 years with the Seattle District. Plans for the future include working at a telephony consulting and software business he and his wife own as well as finding more time for hiking, camping, woodworking, and grandchildren.

Jim Kluge, Technical Writer-Editor, in Specifications Section, is ending his 38-plus

years of federal service with his retirement on June 30. Jim started with the Corps of Engineers in Seattle District in 1985, in the now defunct Resource-Program Management Branch. He also worked in the Geotechnical and Environmental Restoration Branch before moving to Specifications Section in 1998. At various times, he helped out in the Public Affairs Office. All of Jim's previous federal service was in the Department of the Interior, mostly in Denver, Colorado, including the Bureau of Reclamation, Geological Survey, Minerals Management Service and Bureau of Land Management. One of his notable accomplishments with the Seattle District was editing and doing the rough layout for the Seattle District history book, *Northwest Passages*. Since going to work for the Corps, Jim and his wife, Char, have enjoyed living near Port Orchard. He has commuted to work by ferry with several of his co-workers for the past 21 years, vanpooling to Federal Center South.



Jim Kluge

Kathleen Dunn, a financial analyst in the Resource Management Office, retires in July with more than 31 years of federal service, with the Army, Department of Interior, Army Reserves, Portland District, European Division and Seattle District. At Seattle she worked in Real Estate, Engineering and Resource Management. Highlights of her career includes briefing the House Armed Services Commit-



Kathy Dunn

Welcome to the district family



Leah Lin Garner
Granddaughter, Annette
Garner, Project Mgt



Leila Bantique
Budget Analyst
Programs and Project Mgt



Dick Devlin
Public Affairs Specialist
Public Affairs



Krystal Murphy
Park Ranger
Libby Dam



Ferdinand Rimorin
Office Automation Asst.
Real Estate



Ernest Treadway
Mobile Equip Servicer
Logistics Management



Casondra Brewster
Public Affairs Specialist
Public Affairs



Sean Dalton
Engineering Assistant
Libby Dam



Isaiah Villafana
Office Automation Clerk
Real Estate



Mark White
Laborer
Chief Joseph Dam



Jordy Byrd
Student Park Ranger
Albeni Falls Dam



Lessy Valdovinos
Office Automation Clerk
Chief Joseph Dam



Arlen Beers-Green
Student Engineering Tech
Albeni Falls Dam



Cacy Bowman
Student Admin Clerk
Albeni Falls Dam



Beverly Price
Summer Gardner
Lake Washington Ship Canal



Tom Gillespie
Summer Maintenance
Lake Washington Ship Canal



Ed Brown
Summer Maintenance
Lake Washington Ship Canal



Michael Baumann
Summer Painter
Lake Washington Ship Canal

Retirements

Continued from page 11

tee; opportunity to work with foreign national employees supporting Army mission's overseas; preparing budgets in seven different currencies; flying with the commanding general in Europe; and returning to Seattle District after 15 years overseas and seeing former co-workers still here. What a great place!

Annette Garner, a program analyst in PPMD, retires July 3 with 32 years of service. Annette Garner's career began in 1974 with the Seattle District as a Lead Key punch Operator in Automatic Data Processing. Annette has a reputation for getting things done, taking on challenges and has been an asset to the Corps in providing the information needed. She has worked with construction, small projects team, military, civil, and environmental people in the training and data management. The past year she has helped with the PRB in it's reporting requirements. She has never missed a suspense date in the past 32 years! The biggest change Annette has seen working for Corps is moving from the pencil and paper reporting to automation, the great personal computer. Also to see that women have been given more rights and recognition and finally having a woman commander.



Annette Garner

Robert Parry, chief of Navigation Section, Operations Division, retires on June 30 with 38 years of service, all of his Corps time he was in the navigation section at the district. He also spent seven years in the active Army and 13 years in Army Reserves.

Kudos

Several Seattle District staffers were recognized at the Seattle Federal Executive Board Public Service Recognition Award ceremony for 2006.

The district's **Water Management Team** was recognized for safely managing nearly record rainfall and construction at Howard Hanson Dam on the Green/Duwamish River.

Sharlene Friel, secretary in Technical Services Branch, Engineering and Construction, was recognized for her stellar performance and dedication to public service, dealing with difficult, demanding and varied assignments.

John Christensen, Logistics Management, was recognized for his quick thinking and through analysis of the the District's rent account discrepancy, alerting Resource Management.

Elizabeth Chien, Environmental Engineering and Technology, was honored for her role in support of the Army's Sustainability Program and her efforts toward achieving the net zero waste goal.

Flagship is published bi-monthly. Let us know when you're retiring so we can feature you in our next Flagship. We also want to know about professional accomplishments, speaking engagements, wedding engagements, marriages, births and memorials. Guest features are welcome, or if you just like to write, we want to hear from you. Please contact the editor, nola.r.leyde@usace.army.mil or (206) 764-6896.