



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Nashville District

# DistrictDigest

Volume 105, Number 7

*Respected-Responsible-Reliable*

August 2005

## Command Changes Hands at Nashville District

*See Page 5*



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## Laurel River to Host Security Exercise

A homeland security response exercise is scheduled for August 31<sup>st</sup> at Laurel River Lake.

Representatives from nearly 30 agencies will participate in the exercise which is designed to give each of them experience dealing with a wide range of scenarios. Those will include multiple emergency incidents in the picnic area and at the Resource Management Office.

One will simulate an unknown illness that affects several students who are visiting the picnic area. Shortly after that incident begins to unfold, there will be a hostage/kidnapping incident at the Resource Office.

Planners from the Division of Public Safety will set up a staging area on the Powerhouse road to allow response teams to be close to the exercise area instead of coming from remote locations. Response by participating units will be without lights or sirens.

A Command Post will be erected in the Resource Maintenance shop area.

The Post will be equipped to provide a news media information area close by and allow press access to the activities as long as they are under proper escort.

For more information, call Resource Manager Toni Rushing at 606-864-6412 or 606-573-1468. 📞



photo by Dan Loftin

## On the Cover

Lt. Col. Steven Roemhildt (left) accepts the Corps of Engineers Colors and responsibility for command of the 59,000 square mile Nashville District from BG Bruce A. Berwick July 22 at the War Memorial in downtown Nashville. For photo coverage of the event, see page 5.

## District Digest

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Information about the Nashville District may also be found on the District's homepage at: <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil>.



# Commander's Corner

I would like to extend my sincerest thanks to the entire workforce for welcoming my parents and me during the recent change of command. The ceremony was wonderful and I realize that there was a lot of hard work performed by a number of dedicated members of our staff. I am proud to be part of this great team and feel very fortunate to have had a great transition with Lt. Col. Jorns. Byron and his family have done so much for the District and I know that they really appreciated the heartfelt farewell.

I suppose that many of you are wondering just who I am and how I operate. I was born on a farm and raised in a small town in Southern Minnesota. My younger brother also

## Communication

chose the military as a profession and is in the US Navy stationed in Japan. I am single and have had a number of assignments all over the world to include a few with USACE in Alaska, Pittsburgh and the European District.

I view command of the Nashville District truly as an honor and blessing for me. I am extremely impressed by the professionalism and competence of the personnel within the District. This is truly a high-functional organization that efficiently and effectively provides a great service to the nation. I am excited to act as the District Engineer and look forward to working with each and every one of you. I would like to provide you an understanding of my leadership philosophy which I will strive to utilize as a framework for my decision making and expectations while serving as the District Engineer.

Nothing is more important than communications and simplicity. Complex solutions to challenges are usually difficult to explain to others and rarely succeed like a simple plan. I believe strongly that expectations become a self-fulfilling prophecy. People respond positively to positive treatment; conversely, they will not

meet their full potential in a negative environment. I believe the main job of management is to establish clear goals, develop subordinates and provide a positive work environment for our team members.

We are undergoing a fast pace right now and are faced with some challenging and exciting times. I remain optimistic and look forward to further discussions on some of these key events we will face in the District.

Dane Owens has an interesting and timely article in this edition of the Digest on year-end accruals. I would like to point out this article to our program and resource managers as this contains some relevant and important information as we near end of year closeout.

Lastly and most important, I would like to continue with Lt. Col. Jorns' tradition of closing with an important safety feature; I believe this helps communicate not only a "safetygram"



of wisdom but reinforces just how important safety is to the mission of the District. This month I would like to highlight hearing conservation. If you work around loud noise you are required to wear hearing protection. Not only does this protect your hearing but it is a visible standard to which you are communicating to fellow employees that hearing protection is important. Hearing loss can be permanent and many times "sneaks up on you" with low-volume, high-duration exposure. Please, wear your hearing protection when required. 🏠

## July Employee of the Month

Joanne Mann, budget analyst in the Resource Management Office, was selected Employee of the Month for July.

During the past month, Mann has worked extensively on the Fiscal Year 2006 General & Administrative budgets with the office chiefs, developing a budget within strict time constraints that meets all required metrics.

The analyst briefed the new Deputy District Engineer on G&A budget issues. She also established two new facility accounts for CADD and GIS, a significant effort, that will help track and properly allocate costs in those areas. She voluntarily took on additional responsibilities for tracking and reporting the entire district's manpower.

Never one to say no, regardless of her regular duties, she assisted at the farewell function for the departing District Engineer and for the Change of

Command. She consistently demonstrates professionalism, cooperation, and competence with and for all whom she works.

Senior Leaders select the Nashville District employee of the Month from the many excellent employees identified by the District's chain of command.

Selected individuals personify the seven Army values of loyalty, duty,



Joanne Mann

respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage. 🏠

# A Quiet Hero Walks Among Us

by Mark Willis

**D**uring the evening news programs we're accustomed to seeing heroes step out from our ranks, every now and then - whether it's a firefighter taking a risk to save a life, or a police officer putting his own life on the line, to help keep our streets safe.

We look on in quiet admiration and gratitude, as we watch television coverage of our country's soldiers and National Guardsmen working to restore order and establish democracy on the other side of the world in war-torn Iraq. We're accustomed to seeing heroes there - on our television screens - but it's not often that any of us get to see a "real-life" hero step forward, right beside us.

Joey Anderson, of Celina, Tennessee, is just such a hero. On Thursday, August 4, Dale Hollow Lake Resource Manager Ronnie Smith presented Anderson with the Commander's Award for the exceptional heroism he displayed at Dale Hollow Lake on June 17, 2005 - that extraordinary morning when he saved not just one young life, but *two*.

Anderson, age 37, was snorkeling at Pleasant Grove Recreation Area while his wife and daughter watched from shore, when his young daughter saw two children fall into the water, farther down

the bank. Grasping each other, the children - Whitney Wilburn, age 14, and Cole Cadanet, age 11, went under water, and did not re-surface.

When Anderson's daughter yelled for her Dad, he immediately went to their aid, diving down in 15 feet of water to first bring Miss Wilburn back to the surface, and then young Cole. Neither of the children - who had already been underwater several minutes - was



**Joey Anderson, of Celina, Tennessee, was recently recognized for his amazing *double* rescue and resuscitation of two drowning children at Dale Hollow Lake.**

breathing or had a pulse, so Anderson quickly began CPR procedures on both victims, as several onlookers assisted. After a few minutes, each child was revived and taken to the Clay County Hospital for observation and treatment.

The Commander's Award for Public Service - signed by Bruce A. Berwick, Brigadier General, Commanding - was presented by Smith to Anderson during the August meeting of the Clay County Rescue Squad. The Award commends Anderson for his "Exceptional heroism..." and states that his "...bravery and ability to properly assess and react to this life-threatening situation saved two precious lives." Anderson quickly dismisses the notion that he's a hero.

"I just happened to be at the right place, at the right time," insisted Anderson. "But I'm glad I was able to help them."

Joey Anderson's co-workers at Holly Creek Marina - upon hearing of his heroic feat - were duly impressed, but not surprised. Only a day and a half *before* his rescue of the two children, Anderson had *already* saved a life by performing the Heimlich maneuver on a co-worker choking on a piece of food lodged in his windpipe. To the staff of Holly Creek Marina, Joey Anderson was already a hero. 🏆

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## Court Decision Affects Employees in Guard and Reserve

by Dave Treadway

**N**ashville District employees who are members of the Guard and Reserve forces may be affected by a recent decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

In a July 24, 2003, decision, the Court ruled that, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 6323, employees were required to take military leave only on days on which they were required to work and that agencies should have allowed 15 workdays of military leave for reserve training (instead of 15 calendar days, as the language in this section was previously interpreted and applied prior to the court's ruling).

This guidance is based in part on an Apr. 13, 2005, memorandum from the Office of Under Secretary of Defense, which describes options an employee has in seeking settlement for charges of annual leave or leave without pay (LWOP) on either an intervening weekend or non-workday for periods of military active duty.

The courts ruled that agencies should not have charged military leave for non-workdays that occurred within the period of military duty prior to the change in the military leave law that became effective on Dec. 21, 2000. On this date, 5 U.S.C. 6323(a) was amended to include a new paragraph (3), which for the first time

allowed employees to take military leave on an hourly basis.

Following enactment of this amendment, employees were no longer required to take leave for non-workdays. The plaintiffs in *Butterbaugh* maintained that, because they were charged military leave for non-workdays within their period of military duty, they exceeded their allowance of 15 days of military leave each fiscal year and were forced to take leave without pay and/or annual leave to complete their annual reserve training.

(For complete story, see <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/pao/digest/>)



# Command Changes Hands

photos by Dan Loftin and Dave Treadway



Lt. Col. Steven Roemhildt addresses employees as the new DE and his mother is presented flowers by Ranger Stacey Bilbrey below.



Division Commander BG Bruce A. Berwick speaks during the Change of Command. Ranger Courtney Wilson presents flowers (below) to Megan Jorns.



BG Bruce A. Berwick presents the Legion of Merit to outgoing commander Lt. Col. Byron Jorns for "inspirational leadership ... that empowered employees to lead LRD in every measurable area."



Chief Counsel Bill Hill greets Lt. Col. Steven Roemhildt in the reception line following the formal Change of Command.



## District Divers Acquire New Skills

# Cutting and Welding. . .Underwater?

Story and photos by Dick Geyer, Commercial Diving Consultant

During the blazing hot temperatures in the first week of August, 18 Nashville District divers and two divers from Louisville District were learning how to 'make it hot' but they weren't talking about the weather. The group of divers were participating in a series of demonstrations and practical applications of techniques used to perform underwater cutting and welding.

Jeff Ross, chief of Navigation Branch, Nashville District, arranged and coordinated the diving activities at Tennessee River Operations Center (TROC) to expand the District Dive Team's skills base for underwater work. Developing techniques involving underwater cutting and welding will enhance the Team's in-house capabilities to perform routine maintenance of structures and provide skills for emergency response to critical navigation needs, according to Ross.

Skills were demonstrated and acquired by the Dive Team in three phases.

Phase 1: Demonstrations of Techniques emphasized diver safety and the productive use of underwater cutting and welding equipment. Dealing with special diver problems while working in an inherently dangerous environment and how to perform accurate cuts and welds in zero visibility conditions were also discussed. Eye protection, chaffing suits to prevent slag burns, and rubber gloves to prevent electric shock were covered at length.



Nashville District Dive Team

The divers had the opportunity to observe techniques in underwater exothermic cutting (gouging, piercing, slicing) of steel plate, sheet-pile interlocks, and non-ferrous materials. A technique called underwater shielded metal arc welding (horizontal, vertical, overhead, patching) of mild steel plate was shown and discussed in detail. An important group discussion covered such topics as diver positioning to prevent electric shock, dealing with the dynamics of shifting and/or falling heavy work pieces, venting/flooding of compartments, and, eliminating entrapment of explosive gases generated by the cutting process.

Phase 2: Application of Underwater Cutting. In the

### Process

Underwater Exothermic Cutting process, a steel tubular electrode (cutting rod) is used to burn-off metal. A specially designed and insulated "torch" (electrode holder) allows welder's oxygen to flow through the exothermic electrode to provide combustion to oxidize and blow away molten metal.

An electrical welding lead is attached to the torch which passes electric current to the electrode. A "knife switch" is



A diver enters the water to practice cutting techniques.

installed, in-line with the torch, near the topside dive station to provide a positive means for breaking the electric flow at the diver's direction. A ground cable is attached to the work which completes the electrical path between the torch and piece being cut.

With all equipment in position and the underwater site inspected to ensure a safe work environment, the diver was ready to cut the targeted metal piece. When ready, the diver requested "Make It Hot!" When "It's Hot" was confirmed, the diver initiated

*Author Dick Geyer has been a commercial diving contractor and consultant for the Corps of Engineers since 1967. Based in Pittsburgh, Pa., he has worked for almost every District/Division (Corps wide) and HQ-C/SOHO during those 38-years. The former Navy SEAL has served as the Chief Surface Air Supplied Diving Instructor at Key West, Fla., since the USACE Diving Safety Program began in 1976.*

## What Divers Thought about Techniques. . .

### Gary Harding

"I feel this was a very rewarding experience for the entire dive crew. Formal training in underwater welding and burning is not readily available outside of full diving courses given by commercial or military diving schools. I was trained in 1970 when I attended the Naval School of Diving and Salvage. Underwater cutting and welding are not everyday operations and we often go several years without call for either process. When a job requiring cutting or welding comes up it is usually an emergency and there is no time for practice or training. Presentations like this are very valuable for safety and controlled skill development. Mr. Geyer is a well-prepared and respected instructor who has personally instructed every Corps diver since the creation of the Divers Safety Course."

### Bill Bennett

"...as a safety officer and diver it was critical to each diver and diver in training that they understood the danger of this type of work. The experienced divers worked with the new divers so that

they understood the danger of this work. We conducted several training drills as the work was ongoing to see how each diver would react to the situation. You have to be prepared for anything. This was a value to our district to pass on this experience and training to our new divers. Each diver told me this was something from which they benefited, both in the diving field and from the safety perspective."

### Chris Clabough

"The underwater welding and cutting class was an awesome experience. I'm proud to say that I am capable of completing any task underwater that has to do with welding or cutting, and that wouldn't be possible without the training of Dick Geyer. I hope sometime in the future the Nashville District divers can experience this training again."

### Jeff Ross

"The opportunity to practice the cutting and welding techniques was very beneficial. Emphasis on safe work practices, both for the diver and

for the support crew, characterized the entire week and has always been a strong point for the Dive Team. This week provided newer members of the team a chance to work on a daily basis with more experienced divers."

### Carl Scott

"I have welded and cut underwater before this training but learned a lot from the class. The burning is really amazing. We burned a hole in a concrete cap block. We also burned sheet piling, brass, plate steel, and aluminum. We took our divers in training; Greg Cox, John Brewington, Ross Cunningham, and Chris Clabough in the water with us. They are not allowed to do any actual working dives but they observed and held an underwater video camera and recorded us welding and burning. Some of our older divers that have been diving since the 1970's even learned something and they say the welding has really evolved."

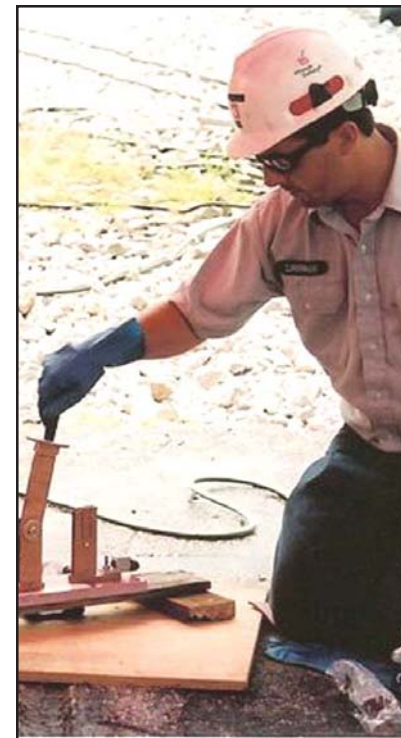
### Donald Dean

"One of the best training courses I have attended since joining the Corps." 📷

oxygen flow through the torch, struck the electrode on the work, and a sudden ignition occurred. What followed was a noisy, continuous rumble and fiery glow as the electrode consumed itself and the metal being burned through. When the cutting rod was fully consumed the diver requested "Make It Cold!" The diver changed out the electrode and the work continued until the targeted piece was cut off.

These exothermic electrodes are most remarkable in that the energy provided can cut, pierce, or gouge through virtually any object found underwater. Steel of all types, brass, bronze, aluminum, even wood and concrete can be cut with relative ease.

(Continued on page 11)



Ross Cunningham prepares to "make it hot" for a diver.



Jeff Neely, (from left) Donald Dean, Carl Scott and Gary Fleeman model dive gear.



# Understanding Accrued Expenditures

by Dane Owens, Internal Review

Here's how accruals work. Say, for example, you hire a consultant/contractor and they complete a job on September 15, but you haven't paid for it. You recognize all expenses in relation to that business transaction when they were incurred, regardless of whether you have yet paid. In this case the expenses are recorded for the current year, even if bills are paid the following November.

Why does anyone care whether accruals are processed properly? As long as the Nashville District receives the supplies or services requested and paid for, what's the big deal? Well...I'm sure most of you have heard about corporate scandals that have been in the news recently – Enron and Global Crossing to name two. Did these companies process transactions properly? Did they bend the rules? We will probably never know the whole story, however most would agree that something went wrong.

Therefore, it's important for the Nashville District to have procedures and policies in place so employees know what to do and how to properly process accrual transactions. Everyone (employee, supervisor, and resource management personnel) involved must know how to do it right. Employees must also ensure documentation exists to support the accrual transaction.

There are two methods of accounting used in the federal government – cash basis and accrual basis. Budgetary Accounting is cash basis and Proprietary (Financial) Accounting is accrual basis. The cash method records revenues when cash is received and records expenses when cash is paid. The accrual method, which is used by the Nashville District, records revenues in the month earned whether or not cash is received and records expenses in the month incurred whether or not paid. The accrual basis of accounting emphasizes the significance and accounting aspects of financial transactions and events as they occur. Accrual accounting can contribute materially to the effective financial

control over resources and costs of operations, and is essential to develop adequate financial management information.

There are three types of accounting – expenditure, reimbursement, and miscellaneous. The type of accounting that we are concerned about when doing accruals is expenditure. Expenditure

## Process

accounting has six stages: funding, commitment, obligation, accrued expenditure (accrual), expense, and disbursement. Here we are only going to discuss the accrued expenditure, commonly referred to as the accrual stage.

Accrual accounting must recognize the accounting aspects of financial transactions or events as they occur. Remember the hired consultant/contractor and the job they completed September 15. This transaction may be recorded in accounting records as it occurred or be adjusted to the accrual basis at month's end. Accrual accounting should be used to meet the specific needs of management and Congress.

To process accrual transactions properly, one must first understand the meaning of an 'accrual'. An accrual represents the actual or constructive receipt of supplies or services for which an obligation has been incurred. The key words are actual or constructive receipt.

Accruals are:

- reasonable estimates of the cost of services or items received.
- recorded without regard to whether payment has been made or an invoice/bill received.
- used to provide information on the total amount of supplies or services received in the accounting period, as opposed to the total amount of obligations incurred during the period.

Now let's take an in-depth look at the way money transactions flow in the Nashville District from obligation, receipt, anticipated receipt, and the required documentation for each. An obligation is a legal reservation of funds. An obligation means that you have set aside an amount of money to

pay a particular vendor for an item ordered or a service requested. The obligation process reserves the money for the expenditure and there is no reason to process an accrual transaction since nothing was actually received. Processing accrual transactions for items not received or services not yet rendered erroneously increases the Nashville District's expenditures. Actual receipt is pretty simple and clear. Do you have the item in your possession? Has the service been provided to you? If you answer yes, then you can process an accrual transaction if you have documentation to support the recording of an accrual. We will discuss documentation later.

Remember, the accrual method of accounting requires the recording of the expense in the month incurred whether or not paid. During a normal month, CEFMS is not shut down to close out the month. Every transaction that is processed on the last day of the month is processed or expensed in the month accrued. However, each fiscal year CEFMS closes down early to allow for a smooth closeout and transition to the new fiscal year. This is where additional attention to anticipated receipt comes into play and is crucial to properly processing accrual transactions.

For example, in fiscal year 2005 CEFMS will shut down in September. To follow the accrual basis of accounting, which is to record the expense in the month incurred whether or not paid, an anticipated receipt determination, also known as constructed receipt, must be made for any item or service that will be received during the period ending September 30. We all know that items must be ordered and services must be requested during the period CEFMS is closed down. Therefore, we must determine the items ordered that will be "physically received" and services requested that employees will "receive the benefit of" during the period.

**(See Accruals on page 9)**



# Corporate Challenge Returns Oct. 22, Seeks Runners

by Mark Klimaszewski

**N**eed some motivation to get in better physical shape? Maybe you just need something else to focus on while hitting the treadmill at the YMCA? If either of these fit you, then the Metrocenter Corporate Challenge is your ticket.

This year marks the return of the annual Metrocenter event after a three-year hiatus. Mark October 22 on your calendar as your target. That will be the date for the 25th running of the annual race which will feature more than 28 teams representing different companies in and around middle Tennessee. Now is your chance to prepare to represent the Corps of Engineers.

The Corporate Challenge is not just any foot-race. There is something for everyone. The Challenge features 11 running events, in addition to a biking event and a walking event.

The morning will start with a fitness walk for non-runners, followed by separate men's and women's 3-mile events. There will be one-mile races, relays, stationary cycling events and even an open race where men and women can compete against one another.

Here is how the competition works. The more participants each company enters, the more chances to score points in the events. To make the competition fair, companies are grouped into classes



photo by Dave Treadway

**Bill Barnes, (right) chief of Real Estate Division, approaches the finish line at the end of the three-mile event in the 2001 Metrocenter Corporate Challenge.**

## People

according to how many employees are scheduled to participate. Participants are also grouped according to age to ensure a level playing field. The team which finishes all the events with the highest point total wins the Challenge.

With more than two months to go before the event, this is the perfect opportunity to get in shape, compete against other companies and represent

the Corps of Engineers, not to mention grab one of the coveted Corporate Challenge T-Shirts.

Money raised from the Challenge will benefit Book 'Em, a charity that promotes reading among Metro Nashville pre-K and first grade at-risk children.

If you are interested in participating or would like more information, contact Mark Klimaszewski by phone at 822-4846 or by email at [mark.a.klimaszewski@lrm02.usace.army.mil](mailto:mark.a.klimaszewski@lrm02.usace.army.mil).

## Accruals

(Continued from page 8)

Don't get caught in the obligation trap! Some individuals get constructed receipt confused with spending all the money left under the obligation (undelivered order). They process an accrual transaction to cover the total amount left on the undelivered order with the mindset that they can spend it next year. Not true. Accruals provide information on the total amount of supplies or services received in the accounting period, as opposed to the total amount of obligations incurred during the period.

Earlier, I promised more about documentation. Accruals must be recorded only when supported by prescribed documentary evidence. They are adjusted subsequently, if necessary, upon receipt of more accurate documentation. Examples of acceptable initial documentation include receiving reports, bills of lading, job sheets, certified unpaid invoices, packing slips (stamped with the date received), shipping orders, contractor/supplier estimates (written, faxed, or email), Project Engineer/Quality Assurance Representative estimates, Website supplier price lists, and journal vouchers showing administrative estimates by

responsible officials. If you have physically received an item or received the benefit of a service and no documentation exists, then you must create the documentation to support the accrual transaction. This documentation reflects transactions and performance which actually occurred. When liabilities are incurred as work is performed rather than when deliveries are made, accruals must be recorded from performance reports for the affected accounting period.

You may ask 'Why all the attention to accruals?' Resource Management is required to review accrued expenditures (For complete story, see <http://www.lrm.usace.army.mil/pao/digest/>)

# The Corps Crowd

## Congratulations to ...

...Samantha Evans, daughter of Billy Evans, Real Estate, who won the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Outstanding Student award for 2004-05 at East Hickman County Middle School. "This was an overall academic award," said Principal Julie Thomasson, "that the teachers have never given before, but because of Samantha's extraordinary efforts in all subjects, they wanted to create this award for her."



**Evans**

...Harlene Hall, mother of Kimberly Spicer, Engineering Management Support Section, Engineering Construction Division, who was recently selected to appear on a poster for St. Thomas Hospital where she has worked for 42 years. The poster highlights the contribution of Nutrition Services where Hall is a supervisor.



...Mandy Sage, accountant in Finance & Accounting, Resource Management, who has accepted a position with Veterans' Affairs in Washington, DC. She starts her new job September 19.

## Welcome to ...

...Flournette Roper, to the Resource Management Office. Mrs. Roper was reassigned from the Safety Office to the Management Analysis Branch on July 10.

## Baby Brigade to ...

...Beryl Newsome, Contracting Division, on the birth of granddaughter Elizabeth 'Libby' Merrithew Snellings June 16. She weighed 5 pounds, 15 ounces and



'Libby Merrithew'



**Joshua Ryan**

measured 19 and 3/4 inches long. Proud parents are Lauren and Brad.

...to Laura and Ryan Hatley on the birth their first child, Joshua Ryan. He was born April 7th and weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces. Laura is the daughter of Corrine Paris, office assistant, Cordell Hull Lake.

...Denise Robertson, a student aide in the Information Management Office, who gave birth to Triniti May 26.



## Sympathy

### to ...

...the family of Paul Stewart, recently retired senior mechanic at Laurel Power Plant, who passed away July 18, from lung cancer.

...Barbara Stack, budget analyst, Resource Management Office, Budget Branch, whose brother, Jim McClellan, passed away on Friday, July 22.

...Bill Colvin, Natural Resource Management Branch, whose mother Mary Louise Colvin, passed away August 4.

...Connie Flatt, civil engineer in the Programs Section, Planning, Programs and Project Management, whose mother-in-law, Jo Anne Flatt, passed away August 2.

## Thank you to ...

...Thank you all for the thoughts, prayers, cards, and visits during the illness and death of my father. Words cannot express how much you all mean to me. I am proud to be part of the Nashville District Corps family. *Zina Ledford* ...My sincere thanks to everyone who sent cards, flowers, and made donations in my mother's name. It was greatly appreciated by my family and I. Your kind words and show of compassion have helped my family and I through a difficult time in our lives. *Dan.R.Dowlen, lock operator/mechanic, Cheatham Lock* ...all for your cards, flowers and prayers for me and my family during the loss of my brother. *Barbara Stack, budget analyst, Resource Management Office* ...I want to give my sincere appreciation for all the cards and expressions of sympathy and support due to the recent death of my mother. *Bill Colvin*

## Retirees Meeting

...Join the Corps of Engineers retirees Oct. 19 at Noon at the Piccadilly Cafeteria in the Madison Shopping Center. For more information, contact Hobart Parish at 855-1952. 🏠



Former Commander Lt. Col. Byron Jorns performed the installation of newly elected officers for the Music City Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers on July 13. Shown, left to right: Lucy Fears, Secretary; Barbara Stack, Treasurer; Joanne Mann, Vice President-Publicity; Cheryl Wallace, Vice President-Programs; and Christine Rossi, President. Not shown: Sandra Jackson, Vice President-Membership; and Amanda Gill, Alternate Treasurer.



# Members of Dive Team “Make It Hot”

Continued from page 7

But, because of the exothermic rod’s indiscriminate ability to cut through any material, it becomes a personal safety issue for the working diver. This is the paramount reason that proper, on-land demonstrations be conducted by a qualified, practiced specialist.

Diver safety also requires full-time topside monitoring of the underwater applications practice and any work in progress. All in-water work is monitored at the dive station by a video camera mounted to the diver’s helmet.

Phase 3: Application of Underwater Shielded Metal Arc Welding. This process requires a waterproofed, coated electrode (weld rod) of similar base material and size used for topside welding. A specially designed, insulated “stinger” (electrode holder) is used exclusively for underwater welding. No oxygen or other gas is used in the shielded metal arc process. As with the underwater cutting set up, a “knife switch” is installed in-line with the stinger and a ground cable is attached to the work piece.

The underwater welding work begins in a similar manner as cutting with the site inspected for a safe work environment and the diver directing the electrical current energy, hot or cold. Beads can be laid on beads with multiple



Richard Burney serves as Tender for Jeff Ross.



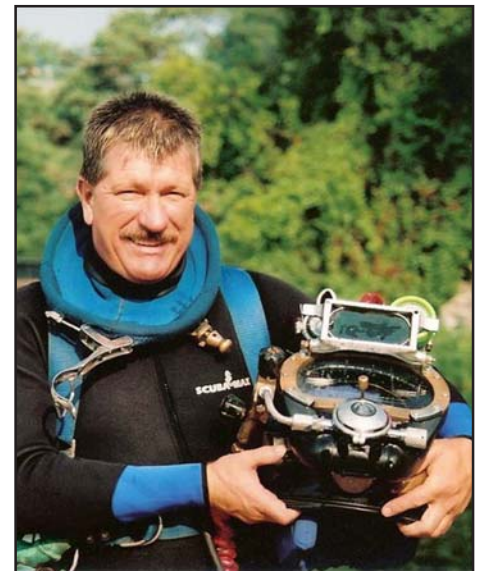
Gary Harding (left) and Gary Bowling plan the day’s activities and consider diver safety at the top of that planning checklist.

passes, and the chipping hammer is still used to clean between strings of weld deposits.

Because the work is submerged in water, the weld bead is being continuously quenched or cooled. This affects the quality of any weld properties resulting in welds that are more brittle, more porous, and, weld penetration is less deep into the parent metal. However, steel pieces can be welded together very effectively, pipes can be joined, patches fixed in place, and cracks can be repaired. A full range of weld repair or fabrication is achievable in the underwater environment.

When Phase 3 was completed, each participating diver had performed in-depth practice in two invaluable skills. These newly acquired skills will assist the Nashville District Dive Team with future work activities. Each

member’s attention to safety and regard for their dynamic, dangerous environment is to be commended. 🏆



Bill Bennett, one of the experienced divers in underwater cutting and welding who worked with the new divers so that they understood the danger of this type of work.

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# Just To Be On The Safe Side . . . Heat Injuries

by John Tibbels

**E**xcessive exposure to a hot work environment can bring about a variety of heat-induced disorders.

## Heat Stroke

This is the most serious of health problems associated with working in hot environments. It occurs when the body's temperature regulatory system fails and sweating becomes inadequate.

A heat stroke victim's skin is hot, usually dry, red or spotted. Body temperature is usually 105 degrees Fahrenheit (or higher) and the victim is mentally confused, delirious, perhaps in convulsions, or unconscious. Unless the victim receives quick and appropriate treatment, death can occur.

Any person with signs or symptoms of heat stroke requires immediate hospitalization. However, first aid should be immediately administered. This includes removing the victim to a cool area thoroughly soaking the clothing with water, and vigorously fanning the body to increase cooling.

Further treatment at a medical facility should be directed to the

**ARMY HEAT INJURY PREVENTION PROGRAM**

**Heat Can KILL!**

**Prevention Works**

- Drink enough water to replace your sweat losses.
- Don't wait to feel thirsty, your body may need water before you feel thirsty.
- Do not follow very low calorie diets while training in a hot environment.
- Remind your buddy to drink. Refill your canteens at every opportunity.
- Look at your urine. If it is dark or if you have not urinated, you need to drink more.
- Eat meals to replace salts. Drinking too much water and not eating enough salt (hyponatremia) may be fatal.
- Do NOT take any dietary supplements containing ephedra (ma-huang) ANY time.

**How to Spot Trouble**

Notify an Instructor if you are:

- Dizzy
- Have a headache
- Nauseated or have vomited
- Feeling very tired or weak
- Confused or your buddy notices you are 'acting differently'
- Sick or were sick yesterday
- On any medication

Army Values: Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Service, Integrity, Honor, Courage, Selfless Leadership

The above values are the guiding principles of the U.S. Army (AR 600-107, 12/2003)

recognition and treatment of heat stroke are the only means of preventing permanent brain damage or death.

## Heat Exhaustion

This includes several clinical disorders with symptoms which may resemble the early symptoms of heat stroke.

Heat exhaustion is caused by the loss of large amounts of fluid by sweating, sometimes with excessive loss of salt. Drinking lots of water during the day with normal salt intake from your food will generally prevent the on-set of heat exhaustion and the more severe heat stroke. Normally, drinking 5 to 7 ounces of water every 15 to 20 minutes is adequate to keep someone's water level normal.

Remember, drinking plenty of water is the most important thing you can do to prevent heat stress.

For a wide assortment of training aids, including posters like the one featured here, videos and other resources, visit the web site of the US Army Center for Health

Promotion and Preventive Medicine,  
[http://chppm-  
www.apgea.army.mil/heat/](http://chppm-<br/>www.apgea.army.mil/heat/)

continuation of the cooling process and the monitoring of complications which often accompany the heat stroke. Early