



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Rock Island District

Tower Times

Volume 27

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June 2005





Spotlight on the District

Story by Mark Kane

Leah Deeds, a park ranger at Saylorville Lake, lived in five different states in the nine years after she completed high school. The Montgomery City, Mo., native has settled down now in Des Moines, Iowa, but only after working at three other Corps districts and a national monument.

Deeds continues to push herself, and since she's no longer moving from one Corps district to another, the Rock Island District, Saylorville Lake, and the public, are now the beneficiaries of her hard work and dedication.

"I'm the team leader for the Interpretive Services and Outreach and Volunteer Programs," said Deeds.

"My team recruits, trains and monitors volunteers in many positions around the lake. I schedule, assign and sometimes even get to present programs for schools, community groups, and the general public. Our programs usually relate to environmental topics, recreation safety, or Saylorville Lake missions. I also manage the visitor center. My job often requires me to work in teams with other state and local agencies, community groups, and businesses to plan special events."

Deeds also knows about working for other agencies, because she had the chance to work at an Idaho national monument and preserve.

"I did get to volunteer with the park service one summer at Craters of the

Moon National Monument, but found that working for the Corps was actually more flexible and fun," said Deeds. "Truth be told, my dream was to work for the National Park Service, but a friend who was a park ranger/manager in the Omaha District encouraged me to try the Co-op (Co-operative Education) program (now known as the Student Career Experience



Program) with the Corps of Engineers. Mark Twain Lake offered me a co-op position and I jumped on it."

That position at Mark Twain Lake, working for the St. Louis District in the spring of '97, proved to be the starting point for the Mizzou alumni who walked into the job, while she was earning a bachelor of science in Parks, Recreation and Tourism from the University of Missouri – Columbia. Since her days at Mark Twain Lake, Deeds has accom-

Leah Deeds Park Ranger, Saylorville Lake

plished a lot and continues to be involved in a diverse amount of activities at Saylorville Lake, where she has worked since early summer 2003.

"Until I got married, I loved the mobility of a federal job," said Deeds. "Now, I would have to say that the Corps of Engineers interpretation program gives me the flexibility to try new things," said

Deeds. "This year, we planned lots of mini-events and programs for the public to find out what will work for our audience. I like the idea that it's okay to try new things."

Deeds enjoys the diversity of her job, but there are certain aspects she likes more than others.

"I would have to say that my favorite part of the job is giving programs," said Deeds. "It doesn't really matter who the audience is or the topic. I get excited about helping people understand and learn to interact with the outdoors."

Deeds is married, has a 5-year-old stepson, and enjoys their year-old lab mix that she

says, "eats everything."

As for hobbies, she said they vary from month to month.

"I'm currently into sewing, reading and playing the piano," said Deeds. "I'm learning to rollerblade, but I haven't figured out how to stop safely – yet. Camping season is here, and this year I hope to go at least once a month."

Deeds' advice to anyone reading this article is, "Have fun, trust fate, and follow your own path." ■

Tower Times
U.S. Army Corps of
Engineers
Rock Island District
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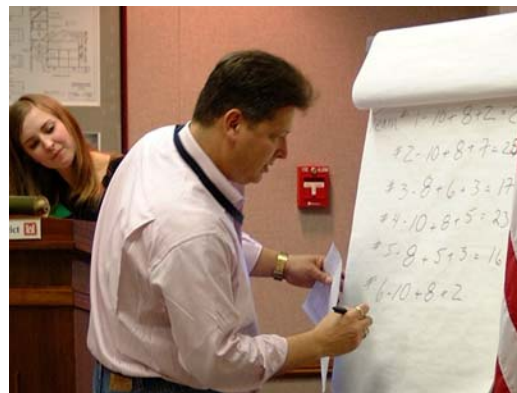
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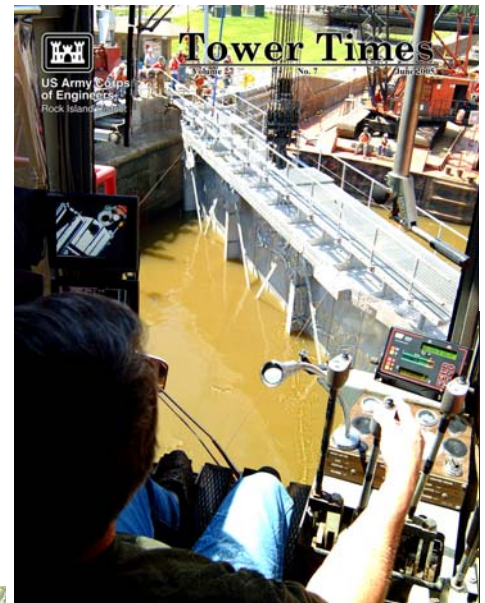


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On the Cover

Crane operator Johnny Dyer, Mississippi River Maintenance Crew, maneuvers one of the two newly renovated miter gates into place at Lock 15 using the District's Quad-Cities crane. The video monitor (seen middle left) enables Dyer to get a much better look at the situation. Photo by Mark Kane.

FY06 Budget, Funding, and Summertime Safety

By Col. Duane Gapinski, District Engineer

It's good to be back after my three week "secret mission" in Washington, DC. For those who are interested, I can talk about what I did in about three months. You may be somewhat underwhelmed when I do!

Recently, I had the opportunity to watch our great work crews install the miter gates at Lock 15. The repair work looks remarkable, and I was extremely impressed by our professionalism during the installation. Congratulations to all involved on a job well done!

As I reported to you in February, the president released the budget for Fiscal Year 2006. The House of Representatives reviewed this budget and passed our appropriations (funding) bill on May 24. In the House version, the Corps of Engineers' funding is higher than the President's Budget. For the District, in summary, the House bill includes: 1. Operations and Maintenance funding that approximates what was in the President's Budget; 2. Construction General funding that is higher than the President's Budget with the Environmental Management Program fully funded (this is unusual) and sufficient funding to keep the rehabilitations at Locks 11 and 19 on track; 3. General Investigations funding that is higher than the President's Budget, but still omitted funding requests for seven of the District's ongoing GI studies; and 4. The navigation improvements and ecosystem restoration projects from the Navigation Study are not funded.

Of course, the Senate must still take action on their version of our appropriation. Since they have yet to do so, I believe that it is very likely we will operate under a continuing resolution authority at the beginning of the next fiscal year. Once the Senate passes our appropriation, the Senate and the House must resolve conflicts before the bill can go to the president for signature (or veto).

Until the president signs our appropriation bill into law, we won't know our actual funding levels and the associated impacts. Of greatest concern is funding for O&M. If the final funding level is consistent with what was in the President's Budget and House bill, which is not sufficient to maintain the current level of service, then we are really going to need to work as a team to overcome this challenge. We are presently working with Division and Headquarters to get appropriate levels of funding for the projects to avoid problems in the out years. And, as I said

before, I am committed to taking care of our people when the time comes to deal with these impacts and challenges.

The Senate is working on our authorization bill, the Water Resources Development Act. Our governing committee sent the bill to the full Senate, which has yet to vote on it. The version to be considered by the full Senate includes construction authorization as recommended in the Navigation Study. The House has not begun work on their version of WRDA.

The bottom line is that it is still too early to draw any conclusions about the District's funding level for next year or predict if we will have a WRDA bill and, if we do, whether or not the Navigation Study recommendations will be authorized. But, I think it is important for you to be informed.

Finally, I must sadly report that an employee from J.F. Brennan, the contractor for the Mud Lake Environmental Management Program project, died May 12, while traveling to the job site by boat. Even though this very unfortunate event is still under investigation, it serves as a stark reminder of just how dangerous it can get on the water.

So, as we enter summer, I would urge you to be particularly safety conscious, especially when around the beautiful lakes and rivers throughout the District. Ensure you have adequate flotation devices when appropriate ... and use them. For more summer safety tips see www.wramc.amedd.army.mil/safety/safetip.htm.

I'm looking forward to Corps Day and hope to see you there. A lot of people are working hard to make this a good time.

Have a great, safe summer! 🇺🇸



River Rubbish Rendezvous A Success

Rangers from the Muscatine Ranger Office coordinated the fourth annual River Rubbish Rendezvous held on Earth Day April 22.

About 40 volunteers, mostly young adults, participated in the event held west of Andalusia, Ill., which featured the participants carrying garbage bags and gloves, while others pushed wheelbarrows full of dirt and woodchips to bushes alongside the Andalusia Slough Recreation Area.

Members of four different organizations participated: the Illinois City Methodist Church Youth Group, Venture Crew #4127, Boy Scout Troop #444, and the Red Cross Club from Sherrard High School, they picked up trash and mulched plantings.

At 9:30 a.m., with winds gusting at 20 to 30 mph, the workers were cold. By afternoon, the sun had given them a little warmth. Jim Homann, park ranger, Muscatine Ranger Office, said this year's turnout was the best yet.

"We've gotten a huge amount of work done," Homann said. "It's more volunteers than expected. "Despite the cool weather, they came out. This park doesn't seem to get the attention. It's a nice area. The Andalusia Slough is a popular boating area in the summer."

During the three-hour event more than 3/4 of the length of the park was walked and trash picked up from the shoreline, wooded areas, and highway shoulder filling a six-cubic-yard dumpster. Also, five tires were picked up and the bushes in the day-use area were weeded and mulched for the first time in about four years.

Two area media affiliates covered the event.

Stephen Elliott, Rock Island Argus/Moline Dispatch, contributed to this article. 📷



A small group from the nearly 40 volunteers who participated in the River Rubbish Rendezvous say "hello Quad-Cities" for the cameraman from KWQC TV who covered the event. Photo by Jim Homann, Muscatine Ranger Office.

Brig. Gen. Robert Crear speaks with Saylorville Lake employees during lunch in the project's cafeteria area. The visit marked the first time Crear has come to the District and exclusively visited field sites.



Brig. Gen. Crear Visits District Projects

Story by Mark Kane, photo by Larry Jones, Executive Office

Brig. Gen. Robert Crear, commander, Mississippi Valley Division, visited the District in early April, and for the first time restricted his visit specifically to field sites.

Crear's visit included stops at Saylorville Lake and Lake Red Rock.

At Lake Red Rock, Crear met and spoke with employees, visited the observation tower, visitors center, dam, and toured the campgrounds.

Later in the day, Crear had lunch with Saylorville Lake employees, visited the dam, participated in a discussion about

the Neil Smith Trail, and toured the Saylorville Lake Marina.

Crear awarded numerous employees with awards for their accomplishments during his visit to both sites.

The MVD commander plans to visit more of the District's field sites in the future. 📷

LOCK 15'S ORIGINAL GATES REPLACED

The District's Mississippi River Maintenance Crew removed the spare set of lower miter gates from the main lock at Lock 15 on May 24 and 26, and installed the original renovated set of miter gates.

Renovation of the original set of miter gates took place at the Mississippi River Project Office and began shortly after they were removed from Lock 15 last August. Prior to their removal, the District's dive inspection team discovered serious structural damage to the lower portion of the gates requiring immediate removal and replacement.

The spare gates' removal and the installation of the renovated original gates had minimal impact on river traffic at Lock 15, as it was only closed to traffic on May 24 and 26, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Lock 15's auxiliary lock remains closed until further notice due to structural damage to the lock's upper and lower gates. 🚧



Above - Crane operator Joe Goin, Mississippi River Maintenance Crew, looks on as one of the Corps' largest cranes, the Quad-Cities, removes the first spare miter-gate and slowly moves it toward a barge where it was secured next to the renovated gates that would replace the spares.

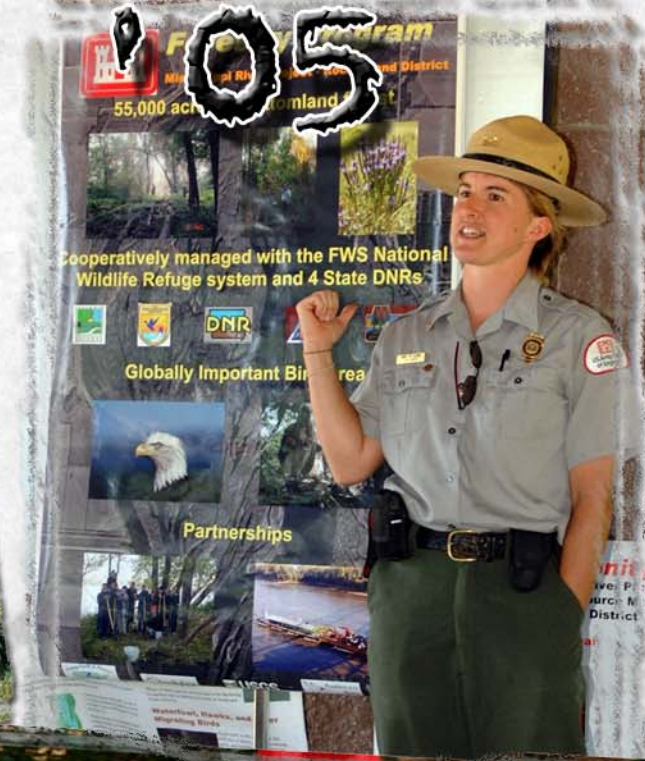


Left - Diver Daryl Packard, Operations Division, lowers himself into the water inside the lock chamber before checking a key area of the lock wall for any possible obstacles prior to the renovated miter gate being put into place.

Below - Welder Paul Braddock, Mississippi River Maintenance Crew, puts the finishing touches on the hinge area with the pin in place prior to the pin being removed.



Corps Day



June 16, 2005

US Army Corps
of Engineers
Rock Island District

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District
Rock Island, Ill.

Thursday, June 16

Arsenal Island, Sports Complex

2 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

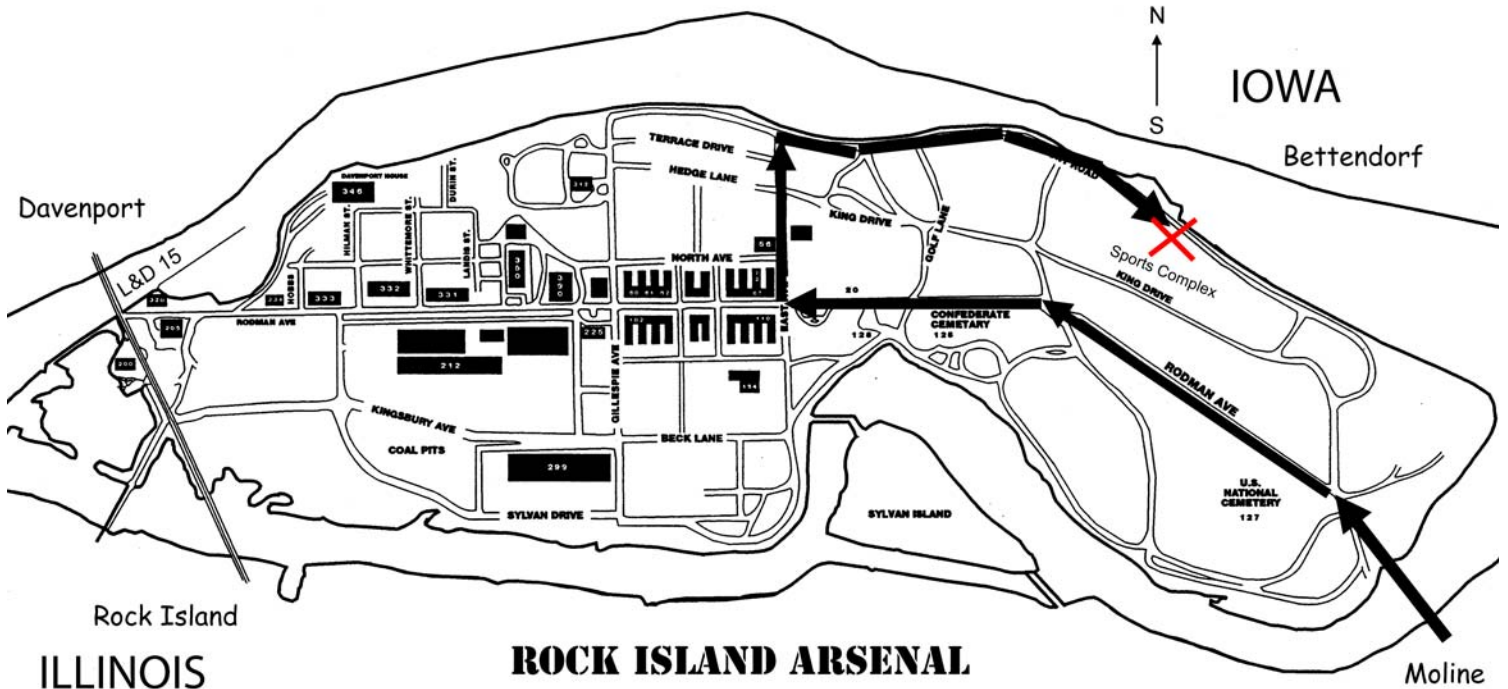
The 139th Anniversary

Rock Island District Program

Master of Ceremonies	Rhonda Johanson
Awards Presentation at the RIA Sports Complex	2 p.m.
Picnic	4 p.m.
Activities and Games	Immediately After Awards
Door Prize Drawings	During Lunch
Closing and Cleanup	7:30 p.m.



Corps Day Map To RIA Sports Complex



Rock Island District Welcomes ...

Patricia Badtram, Terry Bielser, John Blair, Alan Brewer, Charles Caldwell, Sherri Clark, Scott Cooper, Mary Damewood, Susan Dikeman, Matthew Emmons, Matthew Hann, Douglas Harris, Juanita Heald, Randy Hitchcock, Jeffrey Hopkins, Michael Loeffelholz, Timothy Koehn, Scott Kool,

Mary Peschang, Ann Roarty, Dallas Roberts, James Sager, Kent Stenmark, Adrian Swanson, Marion Taylor, Robert Toler, Julie Townsend, Brian Tuftee, Brian Turner, Michael Valle, John Williams, and Shane Wochner.

And Says Goodbye To ...



Holly Alford, Benjamin Bagwell, Cynthia Banks, Charlene Berryjensen, Gary Bertram, Gerry Bledsoe, Randall Braley, Cynthia Brown, Stephen Brown, Brett Call, Gary Coursey, Ronald Cover, Emily Crane, William Crist, Glenda Dedoncker, Sandra Dixon, Ronald Doerr, Daniel Fetes, Daniel Foltz, Stephen Frank, James Frederickson, Stephanie Gaspers, Dawn Gatlin, Kelly Gilhooly, Kathryn Gray, Russell Gruenwald, Steven Hampton, Sue Haas, Randall Heggen,

Gary Hipkins, Michael Hoh, Nancy Holling, Williadean Ineichen, Laurel Irvin, Jesse Job, Larry Johnson, George Kimbrell, Wesley Larsen, Dorothy Lindsey, Mattie Martin, Willie Mason, Richard Mattson, Robert McAfee, Frank McClintock, Robert McMullen, Eric Moldenhauer, Paul Ostrander, Kevin Peel, Michael Petersen, Joel Peterson, Maris Peterson, William Pettyjohn, Cindy Pleasant, Michael Reed, Thomas Reinhardt, William Riebe, Michael "Frank" Robbins, Nancy Schnoor, Heather Schwar, Michael Schwar, John Sederwall, Michael Smith, Robert Smolka, Chad Sperry, Aaron Steen, Larry Straight, Mary Strassburger, Scott Strotman, Ryan Svendsen, Richard Thomann, Steven VanderHorn, Galen Wanderscheid, Donna Willey, Elwin Yoder, and Jennifer Zeitler.

Length of Service Awards - June 1, 2004, through May 31, 2005

45 Years - Robert Riebe

40 Years - Jimmie Wells

35 Years - Gary Elliott, Glen Hotchkiss, Daryl Packard, Mark Schroeder, and John Wayne

30 Years - Cynthia Archer, Roberta Carson, Douglas Davis, William Evans, Joseph Gookin, Janet Hancks, Wayne Johanson, Murilene Knight, George Mech, Marvin Morris, Gregory Reyes, George Staley, and Richard Williams

25 Years - Kenneth Ayers, Patricia Badtram, Thomas Bales, John Betker, Herbert Boisso, Daniel Coder, Tom Dumoulin, Sally Duncan, Rowland Fraser, Randall Haas, Michael Hayes, Daniel Leigh, Michael Milobar, Mary Murray, George Ofslager, Gregory Patridge, Chester Peterson, Ronald Plante, Steven

Russell, Steven Saylor, Christina Smith, Leo Smith, Lawrence Squire, Richard Vesper, Linda Weiman, Keith Weuste, and Joann Wilgenbusch

20 Years - Kimberly Aust, Paul Burnette, Colleen Carlson, Charlene Cole, David Deal, Richard Defer, Jake Etheridge, Patrick Flaherty, Eddie Fowler, Rian Hancks, Danny Helmers, Rhonda Johanson, John Kilburg, Thomas Lafrenz, Sherri Lewis, Timothy Lux, Monte McNall, Marion Miller, Michael Mullinnix, John Punkiewicz, Larry Rodriguez, Carol Rotherth, Jon Savoia, Kent Stenmark, James Sturtz, David Swanson, Jeffrey Wamsley, Elwin Yoder, Joseph Zerbonia, and Michael Zerbonia

15 Years - Gerald Bateman, Harold Bryant, Christopher Churney, Mari Fournier, Judith Gooch, Harry Hill, Holly Hintzke, Terry James, Dennis Koenig,

Ronald Laatz, Lonn McGuire, Frank Mussatto, Jacqueline Peterson, Richard Sharar, Randy Steins, and Joanne Traicoff

10 Years - Donald Bardole, Larry Bernauer, Richard Blair, Paul Braddock, Delmar Burk, Gail Clingerman, Kevin Dziuk, Daniel Earhart, Donald Flinspach Jr., Robert Gullion, Nickolas Heleg-Greza, Danny Johnston, William Keeney, Kara Mitvalsky, Carol Morris, Bradley Palmer, Gordon Rush, Michael Serapin, Dennis Shannon, Matthew Stewart, Bradley Thompson, Jeffery Turner, and Gary Willits

Accrued Sick Leave: 2000 Hours - David Atherton, Donald Bawmann, John Betker, Roger Bollman, Daniel Coder, Richard Dolezal, Daniel Holmes, Thomas Lisco, Richard Moss, Michael O'Keefe, Donald Olson, Stephen Reeder, and Richard Williams

Corps Day 2005 Activities Committee

General Chairperson - Larry Jones

Awards Committee - Jim Toohey, chair;
Rhonda Johanson; Lindsey Wingate

Retirees Committee - LaVeta Bear, chair

Food Committee - Terry Riddle, chair;
George Hardison; Mark Lampe; Scott
Pettis; John Punkiewicz; Bob Wild

Fundraising Committee - Richard Rupert,
chair; Heather Bishop; Susan Dikeman;
Angie Gilbraith; John Lacina; Mary
Peschang; Brian Tuftee

Security - Rodney Delp, chair

Games Committee - Juanita Heald, chair;
Cliff Artis; Jan Hancks; Darron Niles; Brad
Palmer; Chris Rentz; Heather Rentz;
Robert Romic; Joann Wilgenbusch

Set up/Clean up Committee - Steve Hall,
chair; Mari Fournier; Eric Hackbarth;
Gretchen Leigh; Theresa Neff; Tom Nock;
Heather Schroeder

Logistics Committee - Gaylord Helms,
chair; Bob Nelson; Liz Robinson

Publicity Committee - Angie Freyermuth,
chair; Mark Kane



Duncan Awarded Liberty Bell Award

During Office of Counsel's Law Day celebration, observed May 9 by the District, the department awarded Sally Duncan, Contracting, with the 2005 Liberty Bell Award.

Duncan earned the award for her actions as contracting officer on the 2004 Illinois Waterway maintenance dredging solicitation. In a situation that was unprecedented for the District, protests were filed on this solicitation in all three possible venues – the Corps of Engineers, the Government Accountability Office, and the U.S. Court of Federal Claims. Each protest alleged that the government had mishandled and/or improperly evaluated bids and presented unique legal arguments for which there was no clear controlling precedent.

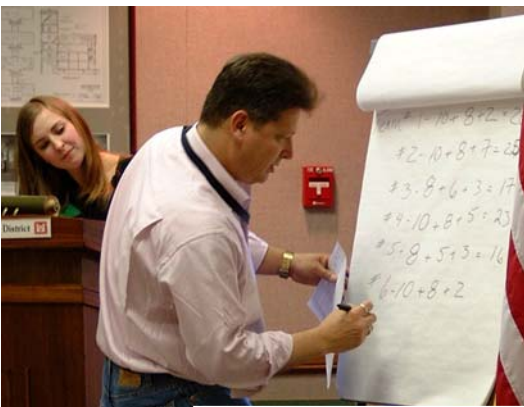
Duncan worked closely with agency counsel and her efforts were indispensable in the government's successful defense of the protests. By her efforts, Duncan promoted a greater respect for, and a better understanding and appreciation of our legal system, key requirements for an individual to qualify for the award. ■



Sally Duncan receives the District's Liberty Bell Award from Rian Hancks, Office of Counsel, at the Law Day celebration held May 9.

SPELLING BEE WRAPS UP LIBRARY WEEK

Story and photos by Mark Kane



The District library staff held a spelling bee that served to top off a week of events used to recognize and celebrate National Library Week.

The event featured six teams and three spelling rounds, which resulted in one teaming taking first place and the prize of lunch at Tratoria Tiramisu in Bettendorf, Iowa.

The winning team and spelling bee bragging rights went to Team #2, which consisted of Barb Lester, Diana Buck, and Olive Luckritz, Construction Division.

Team #4 earned second place and lunch at Belgian Village in Moline, Ill. The team consisted of Karen Hagerty, Steve Johnson and Mary Damewood, Programs and Project Management.

The third-place prize of lunch at Lagomarcino's in Davenport, Iowa,

was earned by Team #6, which consisted of Gretchen Leigh and Vicki Kohl, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center; and Sue Dikeman, Equal Employment Opportunity.

This year's National Library Week observation marked the fifth year of The Campaign for America's Libraries, a multi-year public education campaign sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries across the country to speak loudly and clearly about the value of libraries and librarians in the 21st century. More than 20,000 libraries in all 50 states participated in the event celebrated April 10 through 16.

The Rock Island District Library provides numerous resources and services to our employees. If you haven't checked it out yet, visit the library web site at www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Library and see what they have to offer. ■

Pictured at left: Top – Bob Romic, Information Management and District librarian, tallies the scores toward the end of the event. Bottom – Barb Lester, Diana Buck, and Olive Luckritz, Construction Division, brainstorm over their answer to one of the 30 words that challenged them during the spelling bee.

300 Pounds of Trash Collected at River Cleanup

After all was said and done, 15 volunteers collected more than 300 pounds of trash in more than 30 garbage bags as a part of the District's sixth annual river cleanup.

a-Mississippi-River-Mile Program.

The District adopted river miles 493-495. The locations cleaned include the areas around Locks and Dam 14 and Smith's Island.

The cleanup also took place during National River Cleanup Week, a nationwide effort that traditionally occurs during the second or third week of May each year.

Steve Vacek, Mississippi River Project Office, once again helped to coordinate the District's cleanup and said this year's event was successful.

"This was the first year the District targeted the nature trail and the 'house' for a large scale cleanup," said Vacek. "The majority of items came from the house located by Smith's Island trail. There were a number of layers of trash there."



District employees and their family members, participated in the event held May 21 at Locks and Dam 14. They collected trash and debris from our river miles adopted through the Adopt-

The Adopt-a-Mile Program is an important part of the Mississippi River Beautification and Restoration Project. Schools, organizations, companies, and families have adopted shoreline miles since the program started in 1999. There are no fees involved in adopting shoreline miles, only a voluntary commitment to stewardship. Chad Pregracke, coordinator of the MRBRP, estimates that by the end of the project more than 100 groups will be adopting Mississippi River miles.

The MRBRP was founded in 1997 with the objective of cleaning up the Mississippi River. In addition to cleaning the shoreline, the project's mission is to involve as many people as possible in the hands-on project.

Pictured at left: Top -- Steve Vacek displays one of the bags provided to the District from the National River Cleanup Week campaign, which were used during the cleanup. More than 30 of these bags were filled with trash and debris. Bottom -- Roger Perk, Programs and Project Management, emerges from a wooded area near Locks and Dam 14 with one of numerous pieces of trash he collected during the cleanup.

Illinois Waterway Features Arbor Day Tree Planting

By Mark Kane

Thirteen students from Grandma's Day Care in Ottawa, Ill., joined with their care providers and Larry Collins, lockmaster, Starved Rock Lock and Dam, in planting a tree on the lock and dam premises in celebration of Arbor Day.

Arbor Day is a nationally celebrated observance that encourages tree planting and care.

Founded by J. Sterling Morton in Nebraska in 1872, National Arbor Day is celebrated each year on the last Friday in April.

Trees can reduce the erosion of topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife.

Photo by Kevin Ewbank, Illinois Waterway Visitor Center.





Diversity Week Celebration

June 20-24, 2005

"The purpose of the Rock Island District Diversity Week Celebration is to combine all special emphasis program observances into one week of education and celebration of the people of the Rock Island District and of the entire world on their diverse cultures and to understand that all cultures share common values."

MONDAY

BG Robert Crear's Kickoff Ceremony

You're invited to help the SEPC kickoff diversity week at an informal presentation and discussion featuring Brig. Gen. Robert Crear, our division commander, and Judy Gooch, from the Dresden Lock and Dam.

TUESDAY

Cultural Wall Contest

Here's your chance to show the Corps how creative your office can be. The SEPC will assign each office a country to showcase for the week, and at the end of week, the SEPC members will award the winning office a special prize!

WEDNESDAY

Workshops

Communicating Across Your Full Spectrum

ED Conf. Rm.

9 - 10 a.m., 10 - 11 a.m., 1 - 2 p.m.

SEPC and Affirmative Plan for EEO for Managers

Exec. Conf. Rm.

9 - 10 a.m., 10 - 11 a.m., 1 - 2 p.m., 2 - 3 p.m.

Survival

OD Conf. Rm.

9 - 10 a.m., 10 - 11 a.m., 1 - 2 p.m., 2 - 3 p.m.

Disability Awareness

A, B, and C Conf. Rm.

9 - 10 a.m., 10 - 11 a.m., 1 - 2 p.m.

THURSDAY

Talent Day

Are you an artist, a woodsmith, a quilter, a cook or a musician? If so see Marsha Dolan and sign-up to showcase your talent.

ALL WEEK

Test Your Knowledge Quiz

How diverse are you? Join in on the fun each day as the SEPC "Tests Your Knowledge" about women's history, black history, Asian-Pacific Islander heritage, Hispanic heritage, and disability awareness. At the end of the week, the SEPC members will award the top field-site winner and the top headquarters winner with a special prize.

"Unity Through Understanding"

Duty time is not automatically authorized and employees are to account for their time with their supervisors.

This event is hosted by the Special Emphasis Program Committee and supported by the District Engineer, the Equal Employment Office, and the Executive Steering Board.



Investing In Our People

Around the District

Army Awards District Employee For Life-Saving Effort

David Purdy, lock operator, Lock and Dam 17, was presented the Secretary of the Army Award for Valor at an award ceremony held at the Pentagon on May 9.



Purdy earned the award for aiding in the recovery of a deckhand who had fallen from a barge at Locks and Dam 15 on July 7. He did not hesitate to risk his own life in an attempt to rescue the individual who had fallen into the turbulent waters of the Mississippi River.

Purdy placed his own life in jeopardy when he climbed down a lock-wall ladder to assist two barge deckhands in pulling a fallen man onto a barge deck.

Upon retrieval, the man was unconscious with a deep gash in his forehead and displayed little to no signs of life. Purdy immediately began CPR in a confined area on the barge deck. He diligently continued resuscitation efforts until the Rock Island Arsenal Fire and Emergency Services Division, Directorate of Force Protection, arrived and assumed the CPR process. He was then immediately transported to a local hospital, where he was pronounced dead by the Rock Island County Coroner.

In this particular instance, the victim did not survive, however, it was not due to the lack of effort and diligence on Purdy's part. He demonstrated a great concern for the safety and wellbeing of another, without any regard to his own personal safety or his future.

The Secretary of the Army Award for Valor was established by the Army's

Institute of Heraldry to acknowledge civilian employees and private citizens who perform an act of heroism or sacrifice, with voluntary risk of personal safety in the face of danger either on or off the job.

Purdy is an Army veteran with more than 20 years of active-duty service. He started working for the Corps in May 2002.

Fournier Earns Public Affairs Officer of the Year

Ron Fournier, chief, Public Affairs, earned the Michael C. Robinson Award for Public Affairs Officer of the Year for his work in developing and executing communication plans for the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterway System Navigation and Ecosystem Restoration Study from 1990 to 2004.

His team included Justine Barati, Public Affairs; Mark Davidson, Public Affairs, St. Paul District; Alan Dooley, Public Affairs, St. Louis District; John Rickey, Public Affairs, Mississippi Valley Division; and David Hewitt, Public Affairs, Headquarters, Corps of Engineers.

District Commander's Award

Chris Rentz, Information Management, received the March Commander's Award.

Rentz earned the award for creating several valuable tools for Contracting's web page, which will assist potential contractors in doing business with the Corps.

Retirements ...

Michael Bevelheimer, lock and dam operator, Lock and Dam 17, Operations Division, will retire June 30, after dedicating 34 years and 11 months to the federal government.

Paul Burnette, construction representative, Central Area Office, Construction Division, will retire June 30, after dedicating 20 years, five months, and 17 days to the federal government.

George Sporer, realty specialist, Federal Lands Support Branch, Real Estate Division, will retire June 30, after dedicating 18 years and one month to the federal government.

Penny St. Clair, program assistant, Programs Management Branch, Programs and Project Management, will retire June 30, after dedicating 21 years, seven months, and 21 days to the federal government.

Sympathy ...



Steven VanderHorn, 57, of Bettendorf, Iowa, died June 7 at his home in the company of his family and close friends.

He battled cancer for 29 months, but the spread of cancer to his liver could not be stopped.

VanderHorn retired from the District June 3, 2004, as the chief of the Regulatory Branch in the Operations Division, where he had held the position since 1983.

He served as the chief of the Enforcement Section, Regulatory Functions Branch, Operations Division, from 1977 to 1983.

VanderHorn began working for the Corps in December 1969 in the engineer training program. He served as Planning Division study manager from June 1971 to April 1977.

SUPPORT, SACRIFICE FOR CORPS

Thanks to our employees currently supporting the Global War on Terrorism

Maj. Melody Smith, Executive Office; Eric Aubrey, Randy Brotherton, Scott Bullock, Ben Ferrell, Perry Hubert, and Ron Plante, Engineering Division; Bob Balamut, Lance Gardner, David Varner, and Randy Walters, Operations Division; Randy Kraciun and Judy Walters, Programs and Project Management; Rod Hallstrom and Ron Williams, Real Estate; and Nancy Pierce, Logistics Management.

Kyle Retzlaff, Operations Division, is a District employee currently serving on military active duty in support of the Global War on Terrorism through his respective reserve unit.

Thanks to our employees for their support of the Global War on Terrorism

Eric Aubrey, Dave Bequeath, Dana Brosig, Pete Corken, Julie Fisher, Dan Foltz, Christian Hawkinson, Mark Hoague, Brian Lane, Larry Melaas, Ron Plante, Nicholas Peschang, Joel Peterson, Tom Reinhardt, Richard Rupert, Ray Tatro, Charles VanLaarhoven, and Judy Walters, Engineering Division; Bob Balamut, Randy Brotherton, Alois Devos, Dave Dierickx, Terry (Sam) Hoover, Lee Myers, Steve Russell, Karl Schmitz, John Stiffey, James Trail, David Varner, Randy Walters, and James Wilson, Operations Division; Darryl Carattini, Perry Hubert, Randy Kraciun, and Penny St. Clair, Programs and Project Management; Randall Braley, Daniel Holmes, Paul Holcomb, Tom Mack, and Rick Stebens, Construction Division; George Sporer, Ralph Werthman, and Ron Williams, Real Estate; Jan Hancks, Contracting; and Nancy Pierce, Logistics Management.

Eric Aubrey, Scott Bullock, Kevin Peel, and Scott Pettis, Engineering Division; Jason Larsen, Jonathan Perrault, Robert Petersen, and Larry Reeve, Operations Division; are current District employees who completed military active duty in support of the Global War on Terrorism through their respective reserve units.

Thank You For Serving!



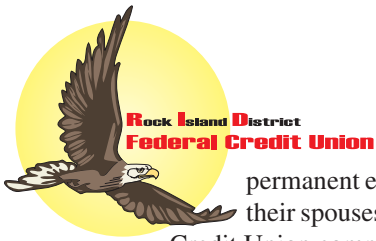
HAPPY 230TH BIRTHDAY U.S. ARMY

Since its birth on June 14, 1775 -- more than a year before the Declaration of Independence -- the U.S. Army has played a vital role in the growth and development of our nation. Soldiers have fought more than 10 wars, from the American Revolution through the Cold War, the Gulf War, to the current Global War on Terrorism. This 230th Birthday is a recognition of the Army's history, traditions, and service to the nation. Our Army at War -- relevant and ready. 🇺🇸



On the 'Net

www.army.mil/birthday/230/ball/



The Rock Island District Credit Union, located in the basement floor of the Clock Tower Building, offers many financial services to its members, including checking, savings, loans, Individual Retirement Accounts, Certificates of Deposit and other specialty savings and loan vehicles. All permanent employees, including military, students and Student Career Experience Program participants, their spouses, members of their immediate family, and retired employees are all eligible to join. The RID Credit Union compares their rates to other credit unions in the area and adjust their rates monthly so

that they can offer some of the best rates available in the area.

As a sample of their loan rates, in May, the vehicle loan rates were 4.5 percent for new cars, 5.5 percent for used cars, and recreational vehicle loans started at 5.5 percent. Home Equity lines of credit are also available with no activation or maintenance fees. The rate is variable and changes monthly based on the six-month treasury bill plus 3 percent. To make it even more convenient for you, savings or loan payments can be made easily through payroll deduction.

Many other types of loans and savings vehicles area available at your RID Credit Union, just stop in or give them a call at extension 5431 for more details. Be sure to visit their web based public folder on the District Intranet, Credit Union News, for the latest credit union news, savings, and loan rates. ■

opportunity to enjoy the splendor of our Nation's remarkable natural treasures and reminds us of our responsibility to be good stewards of the environment.

Across our great Nation, Americans are taking that responsibility seriously and volunteering to help keep our natural areas beautiful for future generations. I commend these citizens for helping to protect our public lands, and I encourage all Americans to do their part. The Department of the Interior's Take Pride in America website and the USA Freedom Corps website offer examples of ways to participate in environmental stewardship projects.

We have an obligation to protect the Earth, and my Administration is pursuing responsible initiatives to make our air cleaner, our water purer, and our land better protected. In doing so, we are demonstrating the important principle that environmental protection and economic prosperity are both vital parts of being good stewards in the land we call home. Through these and other efforts, we will continue to build a cleaner, safer, and healthier environment for all Americans. ■



During Great Outdoors Month, we celebrate our Nation's natural heritage, reaffirm our commitment to conserve our environment, and recognize the many volunteers who help maintain our natural spaces.

Americans are blessed by our country's expansive landscapes, diverse wildlife, and beautiful public lands. Outdoor recreation provides an

opportunity to enjoy the splendor of our Nation's remarkable natural treasures and reminds us of our responsibility to be good stewards of the environment.

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**Great Outdoors Month, June 2005
Excerpts from the president's proclamation**

On the 'Net
greatoutdoorsmonth.org
usafreedomcorps.gov
takepride.gov



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