



CONSTELLATION

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Engineer internship program taking off, making a difference with the Corps of Engineers

Story and photos
by **Katisha Draughn**
Public Affairs Office

When Martin Dougherty went to the University of Maryland Career Fair last April, he came out with more than just a bunch of pamphlets and give-aways. He walked away as a future candidate with Baltimore District's Engineer Internship Program.

The intern program is funded by the Department of the Army with the objective of recruiting and hiring college graduates who are interested in pursuing a career in engineering and construction with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

"The intern program is absolutely essential to the lifeblood of the District," said Stan Gembicki, chief of Engineering Division. "It is currently the best human resources tool we have to bring on

and develop leaders for the future."

At the fair, Dougherty met intern coordinators Randy Sitton, Bruce Ware and then-intern, Emily Devillier.

"I was really excited to tell him about the Corps and the intern program," said Devillier, an environmental engineer with the Remedial Investigation and Design Branch in Engineering Division. "I told him that it was a very unique experience and a great challenge."

The idea of working large-scale military projects and Civil Works projects caught Dougherty's ear and compelled him to put down his other pamphlets and give-aways and step into the world of engineers.

And that is exactly what he did.

A little more than a year later, Dougherty finds himself working on a \$1.7 billion National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency campus at Fort Belvoir, Va. He conducts ongoing site visits, performs quality assurance and prepares daily reports in the residential management system.

"I particularly enjoy this project and the anonymity of it," said Dougherty. "It's very cool and being exposed to the different programs is very interesting."

After being accepted into the program, interns are assigned a sponsor and are set up in their first division. The intern may be scheduled to stay in that division for a few weeks to a few months or work in another division or project site. Interns rotate through the District's different divisions during the two-year program, working on various projects for military construction, civil works and interagency and international support programs. About 80 to 90 percent of the current interns are working on Base Realignment and Closure projects at Aberdeen Proving

(continued on page 3)



Martin Dougherty, an intern at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency New Campus East at Fort Belvoir, talks to Ann Johnson, public affairs specialist at the Fort Belvoir Integration Office, about the status of the NGA project.

**In
this
issue:**

Meet John Houvener and the Safety Office



Page 5

Children learn about the Corps of Engineers



Page 8



U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
Baltimore District

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Commander's Comment

Professional Development, Another Team Sport

By Col. Peter W. Mueller
Commander and District Engineer

“Learning is not attained by chance; it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence” — Abigail Adams, 1780. This is a great quote that puts into perspective the role we each play in not only our own professional development, but also in the professional development of those around us — superiors, peers and subordinates. I believe we should strive for “lifelong learning” and pursue learning something new every day. As an organization composed of engineers, scientists, specialists, technical experts and leaders honing our skills, learning more about our community of practice and enhancing our leadership ability is critical, and we need to understand our responsibilities in this area.

As individual members of the Corps Team, we must obtain and maintain our own technical skills in order to execute our duties and support our project delivery teams. As team members, we need to listen to our teammates, learn from them and share our knowledge and experience to provide lessons to others. As leaders, we must provide direction, mentorship, training opportunities and resources to assure the development of subordinates. Abigail Adams notes learning requires both passion and eagerness — this applies to the trainees and the trainers. We must be thorough and careful in executing our training opportunities.

Professional development is taking place every day throughout the Corps and in the Baltimore District. Our intern program, one of the best in the Army, is a superb example of professional development. The Corps’ PROSPECT training is another example. The District Leadership Development Program, our three-tiered approach, is another super program to enhance our workforce. The Regional Executive Leadership Development Program will be seeking nominees soon. District leaders recently attended our program offsite

where we pursued metric development, studied Jim Collins’ book *Good to Great* and applied his tenets on a staff ride of the Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville battlefields. Our military officers recently toured the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency’s New Campus East project site at Fort Belvoir to expand their knowledge. I recently participated in a superb staff ride of the Gettysburg battlefield with Maj. Gen. Don Riley and the headquarters Civil Works team. It provided valuable insights on leadership and communication, just as *Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day* provided insights to our children. Deployments are also another opportunity for growth.

Professional Development is not limited to formal activities such as those listed above. Nor does it require significant resources. Learning also comes with informal mentoring, performance counseling and on-the-job training including spot corrections! Project site visits, client meetings and After Action Reviews are developmental sessions. Recurring activities provide learning opportunities, monthly project review boards, safety and staff meetings and acquisition strategy boards. Project delivery team meetings can be great venues to develop subordinates for each other. Meetings can provide opportunities to train regular attendees or bring in subordinates to gain a new perspective on where they fit in the execution of our mission.

Each of us plays a role in our personal development, as well as the development of others. Opportunities for training, lifelong learning and professional development are all around us. Football great Vince Lombardi once said, “People who work together will win, whether it be against complex football defenses, or the problems of modern society.” Taking full advantage of developmental opportunities takes everyone working together too — it is indeed a team sport!

Army Strong , Engineer Ready — ESSAYONS!

Baltimore District's Engineer Internship Program (continued from the cover)



Erin Mahoney, an intern in Engineering Division, and Randy Sitton, acting chief of the military design branch in Engineering Division, go over NGA design reviews.

Ground, Fort Detrick, Fort Meade, Fort Belvoir and the Realty Services Field Office. A new addition to the program is assigning interns to the integrated program offices at various installations.

Devillier completed the program in March after working on such projects as the Nansmond formerly used defense site, contract administration for contracts at Spring Valley and the Defense Medical Logistics Command at Fort Detrick.

"I was able to do so many things and meet so many people," she said. "It was great to be able to move around and experience different projects. It acclimated me to what the Corps really does."

The intern program dates back to the 1970s, when interns were called junior engineer trainees. Many District leaders and employees also began with the Corps through the program.

"The Baltimore District intern program is the largest within the North Atlantic Region and perhaps within the Army," said John Chubb, chief of Construction. "The interns have become a coordinating force that can help transform the District. The fresh new ideas the interns bring will definitely benefit our customers and ensure we are fully prepared to solve the toughest problems using collaborative innovation."

Chubb and Gembicki — along with supervisors, managers, branch chiefs, area engineers and current interns — recruit potential interns by attending career and job fairs at schools throughout the region. That effort, along with first-hand accounts of the value of the program by current and past interns, has helped grow the program into the successful recruiting tool it is today.

"The intern program is a huge success because of the patience and diligence Baltimore District recruiters have had at the numerous university and college career fairs over the past three years," said Randy Sitton, acting chief of the military design branch in Engineering Division. "It's also successful because of our very effective volunteer intern mentoring program and the ownership and sponsorship that seasoned interns have taken."

Throughout the years, interns have proven their commitment to the program and continue to serve as a vital piece of the Corps' puzzle.

"Experienced employees should use the interns, give them work and teach them their specialty," said Jennifer Schmeltzle, an intern working as a project engineer for the West Parking Structure at Fort Belvoir IPO. "We are all here to learn."

Quick Poll: What have you enjoyed the most about the District's Engineer Internship Program?



**Shareema Houston
Construction Division**

"I enjoy the opportunity to work with different people in different parts of the Corps and being able to see what the Corps does as a whole."



**Kenneth Rush
Construction Division**

"Getting to talk with seasoned District employees about their experience with the Corps."



**Michelle Schwendenmann
NGA IPO**

"Meeting new people and the ability to go out in the field and see construction in real life as opposed to in the classroom."

What our Leadership Development Program can learn from Baltimore's first 'District Engineer'

By Thomas McClellan
Real Estate Division

Most of us remember Robert E. Lee as a General who led the Army of Northern Virginia during the U.S. Civil War. But few of us may know him as a young officer who led the Baltimore District from 1848-1852.

We have much to learn about leadership from this fine engineer and leader. While most of us may not have received our training at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., we may have begun our careers much like Lee. After graduating as a second lieutenant of engineers in 1829, he received orders to a military construction project at the mouth of the Savannah River. This may have been the beginning of the program we



(Photo courtesy of Kraig Anderson, Lighthousefriends.com)

Shown is the lighthouse at Fort Carroll, Md. Robert E. Lee was one of the construction supervisors for Fort Carroll from 1847-1850.

know as military construction, because it was the first congressional program building coastal defenses. At the time, this assignment could be called 'isolated duty.' Even though it was 12 miles downstream from Savannah, Ga., it was located in a swampy river delta infested with dangerous critters the late Steve Irwin would have loved to taunt and film. However, Lee was not filming but learning how to tackle and solve the same engineering and management problems that vex us today. He also learned how to lead local labor forces hired from local landowners. For example, in his biography of Lee, Douglas Freeman states that he was in superb physical shape and was not above standing all day, waist deep in the water, assisting the laborers struggling to set massive stones which became the foundation for Fort Pulaski, S.C.

Next, Lee was ordered to Fort Monroe, Va. Due to his expertise in rock foundations, he was put in charge of the work to build the casemate and moats. Later in this tour, he worked on nearby Fort Wool, another sandy island of dubious foundation qualities. While serving as a staff officer in the premier coastal artillery headquarters, he learned the diplomacy and tact necessary to accomplish 'slow moving' projects under the pressures of high-tempo operations and the constraints of contract law. He mastered the art of contract paperwork, cost estimating, project accounting and personnel management. During this time, he had the great fortune to marry and start his family with Mary Custis, a descendant and namesake of First Lady, Mrs. George Washington. They had seven children during their life-long marriage.

Lee then did a headquarters posting as a staff assistant to the head of the Engineer Corps and rounded out this experience with a civil works tour to the St. Louis District, improving the channels of the Mississippi River. Here again, he led by example in the field. In the words of then-Mayor John F. Darby, as quoted by Freeman, Lee "went in person with the hands every morning about sunrise, and worked day by day in the hot broiling sun... He shared in the hard task and common fare and rations furnished to the common laborers... He maintained and preserved under all circumstances his dignity and gentlemanly bearing, winning and commanding the esteem, regard and respect of everyone under him."

Following this, he was sent to repair the defenses at Fort Hamilton in New York Harbor, served a combat tour during the Mexican War and inspected defenses in Florida. It was at this juncture that he took full charge of the military construction of Fort Carroll at the mouth of the Patapsco River, for which his earlier work had made him an expert. He was the man the Army and Baltimore needed at the time. Throughout his career as an engineer, he developed leadership skills, adapted and excelled in a variety of challenges, serving and learning to respect everyone while maintaining his dignity, humor and patience.

Editor's Note: Every two months, a student from the Leadership Development Program will write an article in reference to leadership to further educate their class on the topic as well as to show how leadership is beneficial to the Baltimore District.



Preventing injuries and hazards: Safety

By Jennifer Walsh
Public Affairs Office

As a young man about to graduate from high school, John Houvener was faced with the one question all graduates must answer — what next? For Houvener, the answer was the U.S. Army.

He joined the Army in 1980 and was assigned to various locations in the United States and Europe. During an assignment as a cavalry regiment squadron safety officer, he found his true calling.

“That’s where I really grew my passion for safety,” said Houvener, chief of Safety and Occupational Health.

With the goal of working in safety in mind, Houvener continued to serve until 1994, when he left active duty for an industrial hygiene position with the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine in Europe. In 2001, he took a position with Baltimore District as an industrial and environmental hygiene specialist in the hazardous, toxic and radioactive waste branch in Engineering Division. In 2004, there was an opening in Safety and he jumped at the chance to become a safety specialist.

“The job I really wanted to do was the job I had been doing the last five years of active duty — safety,” he said.

In 2005, Houvener became the District’s chief of Safety.

As the chief, Houvener is responsible for helping managers identify and effectively manage hazards in the workplace.

“We’re part of every process in the District because every process has activities that have hazards associated with them,” he said.

In order to help District employees follow the correct safety procedures, the Safety Office focuses on three main tasks —



(Photo by Jennifer Walsh, Public Affairs)

John Houvener, chief of Safety and Occupational Health Office, discusses safety issues with his staff.

modifying human behavior, training and site assistant visits.

Modifying human behavior refers to training employees to do the right thing all the time. These behaviors range from wearing a safety belt while driving a vehicle to putting a hard hat on before entering a construction site or ensuring a confined space is safe before entering it.

The team also spends a considerable amount of time training their field representatives about how to identify and eliminate safety hazards, said Houvener. The representatives are responsible for ensuring the appropriate safety measures are in place and the safety policies are being followed at their sites.

In addition, the team conducts site assistant visits and audits at all the field sites to identify leading indicators that may lead to hazards or injuries. The safety specialists try to visit each site once a quarter or at least once during the life cycle of a project, said Houvener.

The office is comprised of seven employees. In addition to the chief, there is an administrative assistant, who handles time sheets and schedules; an industrial hygienist, who is responsible for projects where employees are exposed to physical and chemical hazards; three safety specialists, who conduct training sessions and field site assistant visits to identify safety hazards; and an intern, who is usually in the field learning about safety.

“I’m very fortunate to have a great staff that makes the managing part of my job very easy,” said Houvener.

Overall, Houvener’s days are full of training and managerial tasks. However, his favorite task is one out of the office.

“I enjoy being in the field, boots on the ground, getting my hands dirty,” he said.

Did you know...

- Houvener was part of the U.S. Reserves until 2006 and acted as the military liaison to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- He and his wife are newlyweds.
- He has completed five marathons and other short distance races.
- He was a Miami Dolphins fan until his wife turned him into a Pittsburgh Steelers fan.
- He has a son who is pursuing a degree in psychology and hopes to become a rescue swimmer in the Coast Guard.

Employee makes a difference one project at a time

By **Katisha Draughn**

Public Affairs Office

What types of projects am I going to work on? How are the living and working accommodations? How frequently does the base get rocketed? During what month does the temperature break 120 degrees?

These questions were all running through Tiffany Matthews-Lay's head when she stepped onto Iraqi soil back in January.

Matthews-Lay, a civil engineer in the Engineering Division, deployed to Iraq as the project engineer for the Mosul Resident Office in Mosul, Iraq. During the past five months, she has managed construction of projects valued at about \$4.2 million. She has assisted in building nine schools, a drinking water treatment plant and is also refurbishing two additional water treatment facilities.

"I will never forget how it felt to see someone drink clean water from my water treatment facility or to see kids learning in one of the schools that I helped build, or to see villagers — especially children — smile and wave as we drove by on our way to a project site," said Matthews-Lay.

Running water, electricity, sanitary systems, health care facilities and schools do not exist in many of the Iraqi villages, according to Matthews-Lay.

"When we arrived, most knew that we were there to help, and they truly appreciated our efforts," she said. "That's why I'm here. The work is extremely rewarding."

Some of the work on the refurbished drinking water treatment plants involved installing water compact units, replacing pumps, repairing the existing pump building, constructing plant operator's quarters and low-lift pump station, building an access

road, installing more than 4,000 linear meters of pipe and upgrading electrical supply. At the new water treatment facility, Matthews-Lay and her team built a 1,000 cubic meter concrete water storage tank, four support facilities, installed new pumps, provided electrical supply, constructed a 200 linear meter perimeter fence, installed 600 linear meters of pipe and constructed an access road. The facilities is restoring and further increasing the supply of potable water to more than 22,000 residents in seven villages.

Additional work Matthews-Lay completed on the schools included providing furniture, recreation supplies, a playground, a garden and chalk boards. Eight of the schools are one-level, six-classroom buildings and will benefit 150 students. The other school is a two-level, 12-classroom building and will benefit 300 students. A total of 1,500 students are now able to receive quality education in the newly constructed schools.

Lt. Col. Dale Manry, officer in charge of the Mosul Area Office, has been working hand-in-hand with Matthews-Lay on site visits to her projects in the Ninewa Province.

"She is doing an incredible job," he said. "She is extremely talented and dedicated. She always smiles and is encouraging to be around."

Margaret Williams, a construction representative with the Fort Worth District who deployed as a resident engineer and contracting officer's representative in Mosul, has also been working closely with Matthews-Lay.

"[She] works closely with the local government officials to prevent any delays that would potentially impact schedule or cost," said Williams. "She also volunteered for additional duties to alleviate excessive issues within our office as a whole."

Although Matthews-Lay is enjoying her deployment and is benefitting from her experience in Iraq, she misses many things about home, such as her husband of nearly four years and her three-year-old son.

"Before deploying, my husband and I set goals, so while we miss each other tremendously, we are extremely focused on reaching our goals," she said. "That makes the time apart slightly more bearable."

That time apart will soon come to a close, as Matthews-Lay is expected to come back to Baltimore in early July.

"The [experience] has been amazing," said Matthews-Lay. "I could not have done it without family support and the support of the Baltimore District."



(Photo by Michael Miller, Vicksburg District)

Tiffany Matthews-Lay inspects the water compact unit at the Al Hadher drinking water treatment plant in Mosul, Iraq.

Niche Wall halfway to completion...



(Photo by Joyce Conant, Public Affairs)

Shown to the left is the construction of the Arlington National Cemetery Niche Wall. The \$6.6 million construction project was awarded to Forrester Construction Company of Rockville, Md., in Nov. 2007, and is expected to be complete this December. The one-half mile long, eight-foot tall wall will serve two primary functions. The first is for protection and a noise barrier from Virginia State Route 110 — the primary state highway in Arlington County, Va., and the other is to serve as a columbarium for the cemetery's cremated remains. Precast niches are inserted into the inside portion of the wall. Each niche will have a marble cover with rosettes to hold them in place and the individual's name heat engraved in the stone.

Identify theft strikes home...again

For some of us, we see identity theft as nothing more than a string of humorous commercials where a man speaks in a woman's voice because she didn't regularly monitor her credit. But for a growing list of Baltimore District employees, this form of crime is no longer a laughing matter.

In 2007, 8.4 million Americans lost their identities, according to Javelin Strategy and Research.

The Department of Justice defines identity theft and identity fraud as types of crimes in which someone wrongfully obtains and uses another person's personal data in some way that involves fraud or deception, typically for economic gain. To reduce or minimize the risk of becoming a victim of identity theft or fraud, DoJ offers "SCAM," a four-step process for reducing the risk of identify theft.

1. Be **Stingy** about giving out your personal information to others unless you have a reason to trust them, regardless of where you are.
2. **Check** your financial information regularly, and look for what should be there and what shouldn't.
3. **Ask** periodically for a copy of your credit report.
4. **Maintain** careful records of your banking and financial accounts.

District employees should also remember to take time to secure their home computers by installing antivirus software and use caution with opening email messages from unknown

senders, according to Joanie Collins, information assurance security officer with ACE-IT. "It is possible that by 'double-clicking' on attachments to these messages, recipients will cause malicious software such as viruses, keystroke loggers, or other Trojan horse programs to be launched on their computers."

Wireless computers should also be properly secured because hackers have easy access to steal information due to the lack of security on many of the sites.

For more information on how you can protect your identity, visit DoJ's Web site: <http://www.usdoj.gov/criminal/fraud/websites/idtheft.html> or the Federal Trade Commission: <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/>.

If you fall victim to identify theft, the District's Security Office offers the following guidelines:

- File a police report ASAP and get a copy of the report.
- Immediately report the incident to all three credit reporting companies (Equifax, TransUnion & Experian) and provide them a copy of the police report.
- If the theft involves credit cards or bank accounts, cancel all accounts and provide them with copies of the police report.
- If you're not the one initiating a telephone transaction, do not provide any personal or financial information to anyone who calls you.
- If the theft involves your social security number, immediately go to a Social Security Office to report the incident and provide a copy of the police report.

Children learn about the Corps up close and personal

Story and photos
by David Ruderman
Public Affairs Office

There was plenty of hand sanitizer to go around when 40 children of Baltimore District employees handled wetland soil, harbor dredge material and terrapins raised on Poplar Island at the annual Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day April 24.

The morning's presentations at Fort McHenry started with a discussion of wetlands environments by Sandy Zelen, enforcement program manager in the Operations Division. Chuck Frey, geotechnical engineer in the Engineering Division, discussed the Poplar Island reconstruction project, and Mark Mendelsohn, biologist in the Planning Division, directed skits describing the habitats and traits of



Cristian Pastrana, son of Kim Brewton, EEO, watches in wonder as Damien Dallas, great-nephew of Marie Johnson, EEO, lifts a Poplar Island terrapin aloft.

several species of turtles. Mendelsohn also brought living terrapins for the youngsters to examine.

"I liked the terrapins because you actually got to pick up the turtles and see what they're like," said third-grader Ben Gross, son of Kim Gross, design team leader in the Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Waste Branch in Engineering Division. "They're small and they kind of tickle. And the shells were really cool — they had diamonds on them."

A picnic lunch, a crab shell crafting interlude and visits aboard the District's harbor survey and debris removal vessels rounded out the day.

"It was a structured educational event," said Maria Teresi, biologist in the Operations Division who played a lead role in planning and running the day's event. "There were interesting activities that pulled together nicely. And then the crab painting . . . nothing could be more perfect than that."

The crab shell crafting activity was voted most popular in a random sampling of participants, but getting up close and personal with the live terrapins elicited the most glee and amazement.



Sandy Zelen, enforcement project manager with the Regulatory Branch in Operations Division, explains the construction and use of a simple but effective aqua scope used to view underwater objects.



One of the activities during the annual Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day was the crab shell craft. The children made the crafts and then laid them out in the sun to dry.

Summer Vacation Safety Tips

By John Houvener

Safety and Occupational Health Office

Summertime is a great time for the family to get away and have some fun in the sun. Keep your family safe while on your trip by following these tips:

Don't drink, but if you do decide to:

- Don't drink too much!
- Decide in advance what and how much you will drink.
- Plan on how you will refuse once you reach your limit.
- DO NOT DRIVE. Use a designated driver or choose public transportation.

Outdoor recreation tips:

- Drink plenty of water, non-carbonated and non-alcoholic drinks, even if you do not feel thirsty.
- Be aware of the weather conditions. It can change quickly. Seek shelter in case of a storm.
- Watch out for traffic — many outdoor recreation areas are crowded this time of year so watch where you are going.
- If you head to the beach, stay within the designated swimming areas and ideally within the visibility of a lifeguard.
- Never swim alone.
- If you plan on boating make sure you wear a personal flotation device. On a larger boat, locate the life jackets, life rings and lifeboats so if the captain gives the order to use them, you can reach them quickly.



Sun safety for the family:

- The sun's rays are the strongest between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Try to keep out of the sun during those hours.
- The sun's damaging ultraviolet rays can bounce back from sand or concrete, so be particularly careful of these areas.
- Most of the sun's rays can come through the clouds on an overcast day, so use sun protection even on cloudy days.
- When choosing a sunscreen, look for the words "broad-spectrum" on the label — it means that the sunscreen will screen out both ultraviolet B and ultraviolet A rays. Choose a water-resistant or waterproof sunscreen and reapply every two hours. Also, make sure you use a minimum of SPF 15 (the higher the SPF number, the better).
- Wear sunglasses. When buying sunglasses, read the label to make sure they are made of a material that will protect against ultraviolet radiation.
- Cover up with clothing. A hat, long-sleeved shirt and pants are recommended. Light colored fabrics reflect the heat and feel cooler.

While you are enjoying the beautiful weather and your break from work and school, remember to take your on-the-job safety awareness with you.



**BALTIMORE DISTRICT'S
ORGANIZATION DAY
PICNIC**

DATE: Friday, June 20, 2008
TIME: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
PLACE: Centennial Park, Pavilion H

Entrance to the park is FREE!

Food Ticket Sales
May 27 - June 13: Children \$10.00/ Adults \$15.00
Late ticket sales \$18.00 week of event
or bring your own lunch

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE
Iron Man/Iron Woman Contest
Softball & Volleyball
Sack Races & Horseshoes
Kids' Games (face painting, fishing lessons)

Purchase your food tickets from your POC
Drawing to be held June 20, 2008 at 12:45 p.m. for the 50/50 raffle at Picnic
All donations are to support the 2008 Organization Day Picnic

See your POC below:



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Belvoir IPO – Julia Regan (703) 806-3767
DCPO – MAJ Ralph Radka (202) 730-3705

EAA Sponsored Event



We appreciate your service...



(U.S. Army Corps of Engineers photo)

Col. Peter W. Mueller, Baltimore District Commander, showed his support for Baltimore District employees who were recognized at the 41st Annual Federal Executive Board Awards Luncheon at Martin's West May 2. Silver award nominees were Brian Glock, EN; Gary Faykes, Lydia Hill and Rhonda Sturdavant, DCIPO; and Tesia Furman, RM. Bronze award nominees were Chris Correale (retired); Cori Brown, OP; Douglas Deeter, OP; Cyndi Geppi, RM; Virginia Schoen, CO; Erik Tesnau, WA; and Stephanie Roth, HR.

Preparing for hurricane season



(Photo by Katisha Draughn, Public Affairs)

Michael Schuster, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Hurricane Program Office Study Leader, briefs the District's National Level Exercise Project Delivery Team on the use of the Hurricane Evacuation program, or HURREVAC. The team used this program as a tool to help make critical command decisions throughout this year's exercise, which the District took part in from May 5 - 8. HURREVAC tracks hurricanes using information from the National Hurricane Center and estimates when various evacuation and hurricane preparation decisions should be made, such as when to relocate emergency vehicles outside potential storm surge areas. In addition to storm tracking, HURREVAC is capable of monitoring other real-time data, such as, wind speed, path forecasting, transportation clearance times, tidal gauges, river gauges and rainfall forecast.

Baltimore District's "Check It" Program June's Theme is: Safety



Speakers Bureau Update

Bob Blama, a project manager in Operations Division, **Maria Teresi**, a biologist in Operations Division, and **Larry Mathena**, a civil engineer in Engineering Division, spoke to students from Dumbarton Middle School in Baltimore at their career day May 15. They gave presentations to the students regarding their careers and projects they have worked on with the



Corps. Blama spoke about navigation and environmental restoration projects, Teresi spoke about wetlands and Mathena spoke about civil engineering.

Breaking ground...



(Photo by Mike Fetterolf, Construction Division)

The Harrisburg Area Office team break ground on their new office building May 13. The new office building will replace the current building, which dates back to the World War II era. The \$749,990 contract was awarded to A.A.M.C. Inc., and is expected to be completed this fall.