



US Army Corps  
of Engineers ®  
Rock Island District

# Tower Times

Volume 29

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January - March 2007





# Spotlight on the District

Story and photo by Mark Kane

## Dennis Shannon

Chief, Lock and Dam Section  
Mississippi River Project Office

The Corps of Engineers works with the navigation industry on a day-to-day basis and having a good rapport with them can have an impact on the safety and efficiency of traffic on our waterways. Dennis Shannon, chief, Lock and Dam Section, Mississippi River Project Office, was recognized March 6, for his significant contributions to the District's rapport with the navigation industry.

Shannon's focus on making customer service one of his highest priorities resulted in his recognition by the River Industry Action Committee in awarding him the Stemler Award for his contributions to the relationship of trust the District has created with the navigation industry.

"Ever since I came out to work at the Mississippi River Project Office, customer service was evident," said Shannon. "Bill Gretten (Mississippi River Operations Manager, Mississippi River Project Office) takes a lot of pride in it and that transfers down to his subordinates. Bill has worked tirelessly with the navigation industry for years, and so I was set up for success. The key things were keeping in constant communication with our customer regardless of the day of the week or the time of day. The Upper Mississippi River is a one-lane highway and very significant to the economy of our nation."

Shannon is the first Corps employee to win the award, other than its namesake, Joan Stemler, Engineering and Construction, St. Louis District, who received the award named after her on March 14, 2006, for monitoring and managing a challenging four-year cycle of low-water events during which dozens of new record lows were set.

Last year, Sammy Dickey, former chairman of the RIAC, said her work, and that of her section, allowed the towing industry to load barges consistently without fear of having overloaded barges in the system. It took an establishment of a cooperative partnership between industry, the U.S. Coast Guard and the Corps to create that relationship, as is true at the Rock Island District.

"By working as a team with the navigation industry and involving them from the start in decisions being made and building trust in each other, it becomes fun to work with them," said Shannon. "The river industry is filled with personnel who take a great deal of pride in their work."

Shannon stressed the other District employees who have significantly contributed to the relationship between the Corps and the navigation industry.

"Another key was working on a daily basis with the lockmasters," said Shannon. "They are the true heroes within the District who keep traffic moving on a limited budget."

Shannon said receiving the Stemler Award was different than others he's received for his work while he's been with the Corps.

"It's an honor to receive any type of award," said Shannon. "This one is more special, because it came from our customers."

Shannon's Stemler Award was given to him on the last day of Dickey's chairmanship of the RIAC. The words Dickey had inscribed on the award included, "Dennis Shannon's dedicated service to the Marine

Industry and the willingness to put forth the extra effort needed during times of crisis are heartily commended."

The day-to-day responsibilities Shannon juggles are a

handful, but he says he likes it that way.

"My job is different everyday," said Shannon. "I need to be able to multi-task. I talk with the lockmasters everyday and help them supervise their lock force and solve problems. We solve either technical issues or personnel issues depending on the situation. I'm also involved with construction projects as an end user. This past year has been a challenge working with a regional team (representatives from each MVD district on our team) to complete our backlog of maintenance. We also needed to implement Facilities and Equipment Maintenance this past year."

Shannon's personal reasons for enjoying his job are the people he works with everyday.

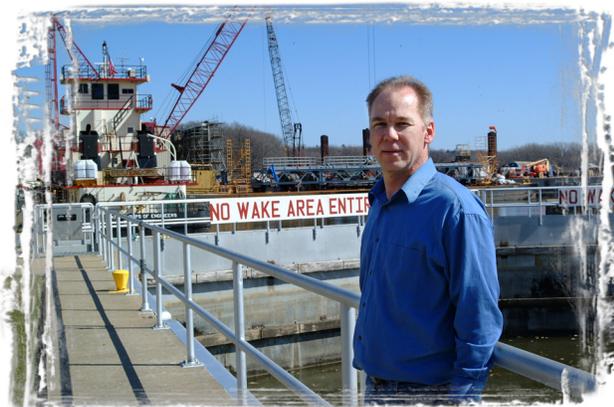
"Working with the people out here at the Mississippi River Project Office and the locks and dams is the best," said Shannon. "This is the most dedicated group of people I've met and I spent nine years in the private sector before becoming a public servant. From working with the lockmasters or assistant lockmasters, to working with our maintenance-crew foreman, motor-shop employees, or the dedicated group upstairs in the motor shop, it is always an interesting day. The days fly by and so much gets done. There is a lot of satisfaction in working with OD-M and OD-MV employees."

Shannon lives in Bettendorf, Iowa, with his wife of 18 years, Kim, their two teenage daughters, Jessica and Becca, and their dog Max. He said his entire family is very supportive of his work with the Corps.

In the realm of hobbies, Shannon said he likes being outside and tries to stay active.

"I love to golf, but don't do it as much as I should," said Shannon. "I also enjoy reading and working outside. I've recently started running and have a goal to run the Bix this year. Right now I'm on target and am up to running 2.5 miles. I have a spreadsheet that outlines my workout each day up until the Bix race. Imagine that, an engineer with a spreadsheet. Did I just put myself in a box?"

Shannon's advice to anyone reading this article is, "Enjoy life. Have fun with your family. Love and serve God and your country with pride. Galatians 6:9 is my life verse." 🙏



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# Tower Times

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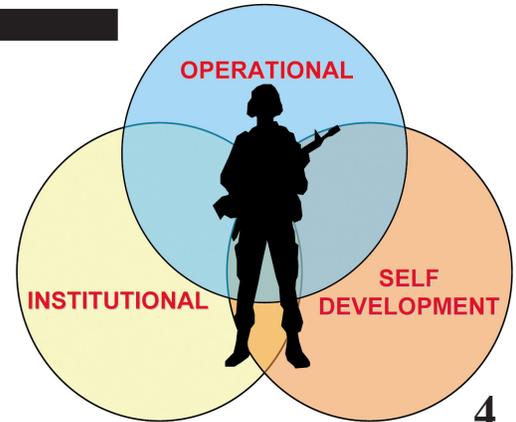


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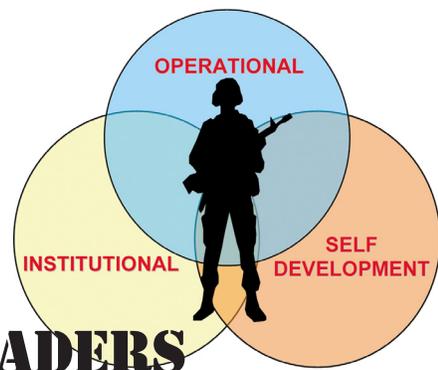
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**Developing Civilians, Growing Leaders**



### On the Cover

Jonathan Wuebker, ranger, Saylorville Lake, holds an injured and sick bald eagle captured on Dec. 22, in an attempt to save it, after it was spotted and reported to the Corps by kayakers. Story on page 14. Photo by Tyler Hill, ranger, Saylorville Lake.



By Mari Fournier, Strategic Planner

## DEVELOPING CIVILIANS, GROWING LEADERS

Army transformation, the Global War on Terrorism, and changing workforce demographics have created a higher demand to develop civilians to assume leadership roles and responsibilities to support Army operations. To address the growing need for developing civilian leadership, the Army developed a robust civilian leadership development program called the Civilian Education System.

CES is a new progressive and sequential leader development program that will provide enhanced leader development and education opportunities for all Army civilians. The series of courses begins by educating civilians the moment they become a new Army employee and continues the learning process throughout their career progression.

"Army civilians directly contribute to the Army's readiness and ability to accomplish its mission at every level and require a leader development education structure parallel to that of their uniformed counterparts," according to John Plifka, former Director of Program Development for CES at the Army Management Staff College. "Capitalizing on existing civilian and uniformed leader development instruction, a Civilian Education System will provide a standardized and universally effective leader education for Army Civilians; the first of its kind in the Army's history."

Building off the previous Army civilian leadership training core curriculum, the CES program includes the Foundation Course (for new Army civilians) and three levels of leader development training - the Basic Course (for first-line supervisors, team leaders or assistant lockmasters), the Intermediate Course (for more senior supervisors and lockmasters), and the Advanced Course (for managers of supervisors or programs typically GS-13 through GS-15 and WS-10 and higher). CES courses are also based on leadership competencies from the Office of Personnel Management and the Center for Army Leadership's FM 6-22, Army Leadership.

"These leaders must understand and display Army values and professionalism and exhibit creativity and innovation in joint, interagency, and multinational environments. Just as uniformed leaders, civilian leaders must set the standard for integrity and character and be confident and competent, prudent risk takers, adaptive, innovative, empathetic, and effective communicators," added Plifka.

The Army Civilian Education System policy states that team leaders, supervisors and managers employed after Sept. 30, 2006, are required to take the appropriate CES courses.

The Foundation Course, which is currently under development, is entirely taught through distributed learning. The other three CES courses include both distributed learning and resident instruction.

All distributed learning phases from the four CES courses will eventually be available to employees for individual self-development.

"Supporting this transformation of civilian training and education will align uniformed and civilian leadership education and training and enable Army civilians to contribute their fullest potential," said Plifka. "Investing in this systematic development, Army civilians will become increasingly multi-skilled and multi-functional, self aware, and highly adaptive."

"They will embrace life-long learning and be more capable of meeting the challenges of the future operational environment."

Once CES is fully implemented and deployed to the civilian workforce, the program will meet the Secretary of the Army's vision to develop leaders who are multi-skilled and possess the attributes of the 21st century Army Pentathlete - a civilian leader, who is multi-skilled, possesses the prescribed leader attributes, and personifies the Civilian Corps Creed and Army Values as a way of life.

The end results are to have Army civilians who aspire to gain pentathlete qualities as they progress through their careers, increase the quality of civilian leaders, and enhance Army civilians' ability to support the transforming modular force and an Army at war.

Additional information about CES is located at <http://www.amsc.belvoir.army.mil/ces/>.

### COURSES

**The Foundation Course** is entirely distributed learning. Students will learn to understand and appreciate Army values and customs, serve professionally as a member of the Department of the Army, acquire foundation competencies for leader development, develop effective communication skills, and be ready to assume a first leadership role.

**The Basic Course** is designed for leaders who exercise direct leadership. It will be delivered in a combination of distributed learning and resident attendance. Students will understand and apply basic leadership skills to effectively lead and care for small teams, apply effective communication skills, and develop and mentor subordinates.

**The Intermediate Course** is designed for civilian leaders who exercise direct and indirect supervision. It will be a combination of distributed learning and resident attendance. Students learn skills to manage human and financial resources; direct program management and systems integration; display flexibility, resilience, and focus on the mission.

**The Advanced Course** is for civilian leaders who exercise predominately indirect supervision. It is a combination of distributed learning and resident attendance. Students become skilled in leading a complex organization; managing human and financial resources; leading change; inspiring vision and creativity; directing program management and systems integration; displaying flexibility, resilience, and focus on mission.

# Harroun Earns Division, District Safe Employee of the Year

By Mark Kane

**R**oger Harroun, lockmaster, Locks and Dam 14, received the District and Mississippi Valley Division Safe Employee of the Year Award for his contributions to the District's occupational safety and health program.

Brig. Gen. Robert Crear, commander, MVD, presented the award to Harroun on Feb. 2, at the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Mississippi Valley Chapter of the Associated General Contractors, held in Destin, Fla.

This is the first year for the award, which is sponsored by MVD's newly created Safety Now Advocate Group to annually recognize and award individuals who make outstanding contributions to occupational safety and health.

Bill Gretten, Mississippi River Operations Manager, submitted Harroun for the award and said Harroun went above and beyond to have a positive impact on safety at Locks and Dam 14.

"Those locks are among the busiest locks in the District, with regard to recreational boat traffic, especially in the summer months on weekends and holidays between Memorial Day and Labor Day," said Gretten. "During this short period, which included only 15 weekends and four holidays in 2006, Lock 14 Auxiliary provided lockage for nearly 4,000 recreational vessels. This large volume of traffic brought with it a number of safety concerns on the river, particularly in and around the lock. Although Roger's Monday-through-Friday work schedule did not require his presence at Lock 14 Auxiliary on weekends, he took it upon himself to come to work and personally address and correct safety issues at the auxiliary lock."

Some of the unsafe behaviors seen in the lock area included failure of boaters to

observe the rules of road and lockage instructions, violations of safe speeds, boating and swimming in restricted areas, improper safety equipment or unsafe vessels, and failure to obey lock signals and hold lock lines.

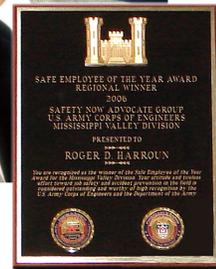
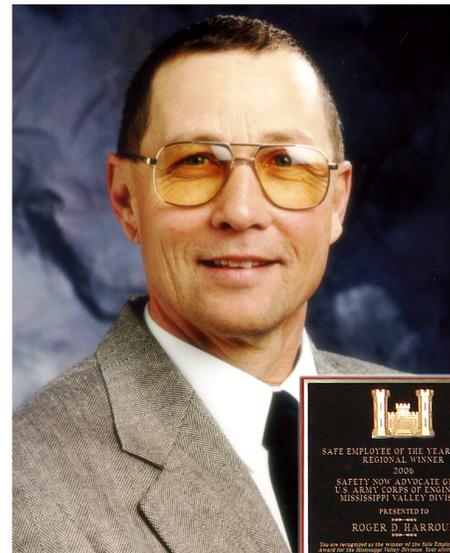
"As Roger understood that education was the key to improvement, he developed a simple lock-safety fact sheet that, along with the District's Locks and the River brochure, he personally handed out to every recreational boater who passed through Lock 14 Auxiliary during a period of several weekends in August," said Gretten. "His fact sheet effectively addressed safe-boating issues and safe-lockage procedures, and he devoted time to personally discuss these issues with boat operators as they passed through the lock."

In addition, Harroun and his crew have passed out customer surveys, which gave boaters an opportunity to provide constructive input regarding the Corps' safe operation of the lock.

"The results of Roger's efforts to improve lock safety were noticed immediately," said Gretten. "The number of incidents and accidents were greatly reduced, and the boating public has indicated their appreciation for the change and for Roger allowing them to be a part of the process."

Harroun shares the accolades with his crew and stresses how important teamwork was behind earning the award.

"Our crew here at Locks and Dam 14 is committed to customer care and customer safety," said Harroun. "The total team effort in making necessary adjustments in dealing with our waterway users have made our facility a safer place. I am honored to accept this award and would like to thank my crew for their part in



making it happen."

Harroun supervises a staff of 14 workers and is responsible for the safe operation and maintenance of two lock chambers, a dam, and all associated equipment, buildings, and grounds. In addition to these regular duties, Harroun also serves as a lead instructor for the District's Boat Operator License Program and recently retired from the Naval Reserve where he was a senior chief boatswain's mate and served as the command senior chief for Navy Operational Support Center Rock Island.

Since 1991, Harroun has been involved in the instruction and licensing of more than 400 Corps lifeboat operators, many who have since been involved in successful lifesaving operations.

The Safe Employee of the Year Award program's sponsor, the Safety Now Advocate Group, is composed of representatives from each MVD district to implement the Division's new program called Safety Now. The Rock Island District's representatives are Andy Barnes and Jack McDaniel, Operations Division. The program includes three initiatives, which include a safety award program to provide recognition to those advancing the program and making real contributions to reduce and eliminate accidents, an annual Safety Now banquet to recognize the safety movers and shakers within MVD, and a Safety Now Action Chat created to localize MVD initiatives and bring the Division constant awareness. ■



More than 50 District employees listen to Dr. Arthur Hawes during an electrical safety course on Jan. 18, at the Radisson in Davenport, Iowa. Photo by Mark Kane.

# Army, Corps, District Ramp-up Safety Awareness, Training

By Mark Kane

Throughout the Department of the Army the ripples of a campaign to increase safety awareness and training is impacting everyone who falls under DA, including the Corps. The Army has set an aggressive course for greater reduction in accidents and occupation illnesses to our Soldiers and civilian employees. The Department of Defense has challenged DoD components to reduce their mishap and accident rates by 75 percent by the end of Fiscal Year 2008.

The District has taken a proactive approach and has embraced the Army Leadership Focus and the Corps' Safety Management Action Plan for Fiscal Years 2007 and 2008 by emphasizing new initiatives such as the requirement to conduct an After Action Review for each accident that results in lost time away from work (after the day of incident).

"In the event of an accident that causes an employee to lose work time, a short conference will be scheduled within 14 days," said Dean Magee, former chief, Safety Office. "Participants of each conference will include the employee involved in the accident, the supervisor,

the division chief, the Safety Office, and the commanding officer, Col. Robert Sinkler. The conference will be held in Col. Sinkler's office."

Training is another part of how the District is being proactive in implementing the Army and Corps' safety campaign, and while some employees may believe it's targeted mainly toward field site employees, it targets everyone.

More than 50 employees from throughout the District participated in an electrical safety course held on Jan. 17-18 at the Radisson in Davenport, Iowa, one of the courses coordinated through the Safety Office to meet the District's goal to increase safety. Those who attended came from nearly every department and location in the District.

The course instructor, Dr. Arthur Hawes, said he thinks it's great that the Corps is taking this approach to safety and emphasized how beneficial a course like his can be for anyone who takes it,

not just an electrician. Hawes worked more than 19 years with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 17 of which he was a senior instructor at the OSHA Training Institute.

While the course was mainly lecture oriented with visual presentations supporting it, those who attended were exposed to graphic and straightforward information. The presentation included video of actual electrical fatalities.

"I have learned some excellent safety tips, but most of all, it taught me how

**"It was a good reminder to always keep safety first and the time clock last."**

**- Keith Weuste**

complacent I was getting about safety in this area and the consequences of what could happen to myself and others," said Judi Gooch, assistant lockmaster, Dresden Island Lock and Dam. "It also brought home the fact that safety rules and regulations come from lessons learned in accidents. Safety rules and regulations are written in the blood of others. I'm sorry if I sound dramatic, but

**USACRC Online Learning**

Welcome to the United States Army Combat Readiness University. This program inaugurates a long-term commitment to providing quality and timely force protection information across a broad spectrum to support Army needs around the globe. Delivering tools, resources, and training online this system provides user access anywhere in the world 24/7. Content on this site is designed to provide superior decision-making capability to our force. It is a repository for safety education, training, and other career enhancing tools for US Army, civilian, contractor, Department of Defense, and other government agency employees. Feedback from users will help focus future course development and products for the field.

Combat Readiness University Statistics  
2125783 logins since 1 January 2005

Course Name	Enrolled	Completed
Commanders Safety Course	76452	43343 (56.69%)
Additional Duty Safety Course	41697	38914 (93.33%)
Army Accident Avoidance Course	223991	181142 (80.87%)
Composite Risk Management (CRM) Basic Course	159185	145843 (91.62%)

**New Users**

Important Information - Please Read! As a first-time user you will be required to complete an online registration upon initial entry. Subsequently, your personal information and course completions will be automatically tracked for future reference and appropriate Army records updated. Netscape Navigator or Internet Explorer v 6.0 or better is required for correct system operation. You can download these required tools for the Commanders Safety Course and Additional Duty Safety Course here:

- Adobe Acrobat reader ([free download here](#))
- Flash 7.0 ([free download here](#))

**User Help**

If you can't find what you need, have a good idea, have a problem or are confused with our web site, e-mail us at: [dlcoordinator@crc.army.mil](mailto:dlcoordinator@crc.army.mil) or call DSN 558-0232 (334-255-0232) and let us know what you need. We will make every attempt to solve your problem.

**New Courses**

The following new courses are now available:

- Natural Disaster Information

[CRU Disclaimer](#)



This logo identifies MVD's Safety Now initiative, a three-tiered program aimed at increasing safety across the Division.

The Army's Combat Readiness Center's Combat Readiness University offers links to more than 1,700 courses and resources.

some of the stuff we saw on film had a profound effect on me.”

The impact of the training was echoed by other employees who took it.

“The course brought to point a lot of things that we take for granted,” said Keith Weuste, Lock and Dam 11. “It made me more aware of the total power available on electrical devices. The course also covered common safety practices that could be used for safety meetings. It was a good reminder to always keep safety first and the time clock last.”

“It was something everybody should go to,” said Shawn Bonnett, Lake Red Rock. “Dr. Hawes put on a very good class. He kept things simple enough for most everyone to understand, but made sure the intent of how dangerous electrical work can be.”

The importance of safety is also being stressed by our Division. Brig. Gen. Robert Crear called attention to it with the creation of MVD's Safety Now initiative, which is outlined in his letter to all Corps employees within the Division and published in the October – December print edition of the Tower Times available on

the Tower Times Online.

Safety Now includes three initiatives, which include a safety award program to provide recognition to those advancing the program and making real contributions to reduce and eliminate accidents, an annual Safety Now banquet to recognize the safety movers and shakers within MVD, and a Safety Now Action Chat created to localize MVD initiatives and bring the Division constant awareness.

While the District and the Division are heavily involved in the safety campaign, the Army's Combat Readiness Center is having a direct impact on employees' safety awareness and training as well. Most employees throughout the District have completed the Army Combat Readiness Center Safety Climate Survey, which has allowed the Army to collect valuable feedback about how an organization's policies and practices relate to safety and risk management. After the results are known, they're used to allow a commanding officer to identify problems early and intervene to solve them.

The CRC has also created the Combat Readiness University, a resource Corps

employees will be using in the future, which offers links to more than 1,700 courses and resources. Some of the courses being geared toward civilians include: Vehicle Accident Avoidance Training, Composite Risk Management, and a Collateral Duty Safety Officer course.

These courses will fulfill many of the coursework and training mandated through the Corps' Safety Management Action Plan.

The push to increase safety awareness and training has come from the highest levels of the Army to include the Chief of Staff of the Army, Gen. Peter Schoomaker. In May, Schoomaker sent out a letter to the Army underscoring the importance of safety and the Army's new Own the Edge campaign. The campaign was created to reduce the number of fatal accidents claiming the lives of civilians and Soldiers.

#### On the 'Net

<https://crc.army.mil/home/>

<https://safetylms.army.mil/>



An aerial view of Mud Lake and one of the Pool 11 Islands made to create the backwater habitat.

Seagulls take flight from a rock jetty found in the Mud Lake area. Photo by Mark Kane.

## District, J.F. Brennan, Earn Partnering Award

By Mark Kane

The Rock Island District and prime contractor, J.F. Brennan, Inc., received the 2006 Dan W. Renfro Partnering Award on Feb. 2 for work on the Mississippi River Pool 11 Islands, Stage 2, Mud Lake.

The award recognizes construction projects completed in 2006 where formal partnering was used and resulted in the successful completion of the project. The Mud Lake project was completed eight-and-a-half months early and was eight percent under budget.

The award was presented to the District at the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Mississippi Valley Chapter of the Associated General Contractors, in Destin, Fla.

Glenn Green, J.F. Brennan, Inc., received the award for J.F. Brennan and said they felt fortunate to have participated in the project with the District and look forward to partnering closely with the Corps on future projects.

"I had the opportunity to discuss this award with Brig. Gen. Robert Crear, and I believe he truly believes in the basic tenants of partnering that Brennan and the Rock Island District have embraced numerous times in the past," said Green.

"It was an honor to have facilitated this partnering alliance, and I believe that we will be able to use this project specific process for many projects in the future."

The Pool 11 Islands Habitat Rehabilitation Enhancement Project was created to benefit migratory waterfowl and fish by encouraging aquatic vegetation growth, providing habitat, and reducing wind fetch and sedimentation.

It was completed in two stages; Sunfish Lake, stage 1, completed in 2004 and located in Grant County, Wis., and Mud Lake, stage 2, completed in 2006 and located in Dubuque County, Iowa. Both "lakes" are actually backwaters formed by the completed project.

Backwater dredging in these areas has, and will continue to, increase diversity and fish habitat. This will improve the environment for animals and also citizens who enjoy fishing, hunting, or visiting the river.

The Pool 11 Islands HREP is part of the Environmental Management Program. Under the EMP, the Corps is planning, designing and building a multitude of environmental enhancement projects that restore and create spawning and feeding habitats for fish and

wildlife in backwaters and side channels of the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers.

"From a program standpoint this represents one of many projects up and down the river that have had a total impact of around 80,000 acres of habitat that we've helped to improve," said Marv Hubbell, EMP manager, Programs and Project Management. "This is a great example, the latest example, of one of those program projects that are happening in both the lower part of the river, as well as the upper part of the river."

This kind of accomplishment has put the focus on the EMP, which recently passed a major milestone.

"We just celebrated the 20th anniversary of the program, which is remarkable for a program to continue on for that kind of time," said Hubbell. "That was just celebrated up in LaCrosse, Wis., on Aug. 23. So, hopefully, we'll be able to continue on for another 20 years. But it's the partnership really between the states of Iowa, Wisconsin, and the Fish and Wildlife Service, who have been really instrumental in helping to pull all this together. It's another example of how working cooperatively you can do these kinds of projects."



# District Lockmasters Explore Diversity through Conversation Café

By Mark Kane

During the week of Feb. 6, District lockmasters participated in a conversation café, which is being used as a tool to assess whether the District is excelling or lacking in areas of organizational diversity and identify what actions could be taken for improvement.

The café was sponsored by District's Equal Employment Opportunity office and the members of the Special Emphasis Program Committee.

Doug Davis, Deputy for Small Business Programs and SEPC Asian Pacific Islander program manager, said participants sat at red and white checked café-style covered tables at the Isle of Capri Convention Center, as they explored five primary diversity challenges: race, age, gender, class, and disability.

"The conversations were captured on sheets of flip-chart paper and came together as a whole at the conclusion of the process to weave a tapestry of patterns and common themes from their collective conversations to improve awareness, deepen relationships, increase understanding, and develop recommendations for the District's future diversity," said Davis.

Linda Wiley, chief, Equal Employment Opportunity, and members of the SEPC were an integral part of the cafés as the hosts of each individual table. As such, they initiated the conversations and made sure the flow continued from question to question, while capturing the key points of the conversations on paper. Each table hosted a particular conversation on one of the five primary diversity challenges, and each host stayed at a particular table to facilitate a conversation, while the participants rotated from one table to another. The table hosts included Wiley; Sue Dikeman, EEO; Liz Robinson, EEO; John Punkiewicz, Operations Division and

SEPC Disability program manager; and Nancy Vanderleest, SEPC member. Davis was the host for the conversation café.

The comments gathered during the lockmasters' café varied and covered a wide field of insightful opinions, as well as recognizing the possible perceptions of District employees.

In regard to gender comments, some of the information gathered included, "(We) should not analyze people because of gender, but rather as an individual." Observations such as, husbands may not want their wives to work with men alone on a late shift, were discussed, and that when it comes to questioning gender-based stereotyping some people may believe it's an unspoken rule for employees to "shut up – keep opinions to self."

Discussing opinions, observations, and perceptions is critical to identifying the possible differences between District policy, how things are administered, and how things are perceived.

When it came to discussing age, there was no shortage of comments during the discussions, as they ran the gamut and covered a wide area of concerns about age-related issues. Some of the comments included opinions such as, "The Corps has not hired enough younger people to replace the older more experienced employees;" "Young people don't have the dedication and drive to learn, (they) believe they are owed a living;" "Some older employee's influence younger employees with negative work ethics;" and that, "both age groups can learn from each other if they are open-minded."

Many of those who attended the first conversation café thought it went well.

"The presentations and discussion provided a good, open atmosphere for learning and discussion," said Mike Cox, Illinois Waterway. "This type of interac-

tion helps each individual, each affected field and office site, and also the District as a whole."

"There are no right or wrong answers, and the only bad insight is no insight," said Davis. "I think the beta test, so to speak, went very well; now I can't wait to begin applying what we've learned and to use the café communication tool during the upcoming events in April."

Davis said the conversation café is based on the way we view the world around us and focuses on how we act based on those images.

"It makes all the difference in shaping our future together," said Davis. "It is designed on the assumption that people already have within them the wisdom and creativity to confront even the most difficult challenges."

"The innovative design of the process of the conversation café enables groups to participate together in evolving rounds of dialogue with three or four others, while at the same time remaining part of a single, larger, connected conversation," said Davis. "Small, intimate conversations link and build on each other as participants move from one café table to another, cross pollinate ideas, and discover new insights into questions or issues that really matter in their life, work, or community. As the network of new connections increases, knowledge-sharing grows. A sense of the whole becomes increasingly strong, and the collective wisdom of the group becomes more accessible."

Other conversation cafés will be conducted for the entire District and are planned for the April timeframe as part of annual diversity program. The idea is to tap into the collective intelligence of the entire District to identify important initiatives for incorporation into the District strategic plan. 📌

## Obligation

I am an engineer. In my profession I take  
Since the Stone Age, human progress has  
made usable nature's vast resources of mater  
vitalized, and turned to practical use, the pri  
not for this heritage of accumulated experien

As an engineer, I pledge to practice integ  
devotion to the standards and the dignity of  
with it the obligation to serve humanity by m

As an engineer, I shall participate in none  
knowledge shall be given without reservatio  
fidelity to my profession, I shall give the utm



**Matt Zager, left, and Scott Bullock, unveil the District Engineering and Construction Professional Registration board, which had been updated to reflect their names along with their four co-workers who earned their Professional Engineer license. The board is located in Engineering and Construction division and reflects numerous licenses earned by professionals within the division.**

Story and photo by Mark Kane

# Eight Join Order of the Engineer, Six Earn Professional

**D**uring the District's observation of Engineers Week, eight District engineers joined the Order of the Engineer. At the same ceremony, six District engineers earned their Professional Engineer license.

The Feb. 21, ceremony granted the Order of the Engineer to Chris Churney, Troy Hythecker, Roger Less, Denny Lundberg, Lucie Macalister, Tom Nock, Sibte Zaidi, and Adam Ziegler, Engineering and Construction. The six engineers who earned their PE license were Scott Bullock, Cory Haberman, Christian Hawkinson, Toby Hunemuller, Eric Johnson, and Matt Zager, Engineering and Construction.

The Order of the Engineer is described as a fellowship or association of graduate and professional engineers trained in science and technology and

dedicated to the teaching, administration, or practice of their profession. The initiation into the Order includes the acceptance of the Obligation of an Engineer (see above) and a stainless steel ring to be worn on the fifth finger of the working hand.

Being initiated into the Order and wearing the ring is a way for engineers to show they're wed to the ideals and ethics that are the foundation of the engineering profession, and that they are proud of their profession. The ring serves as a reminder of their calling to serve the public good as an engineer.

Eligibility to join the Order is restricted to licensed engineers and/or graduates from an Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology Engineering Accreditation Commission approved degree program.

Almost every state has organizations or agencies with chapters, called links, which

host the Order of the Engineer. The Rock Island District's chapter of the Order is link number 177 and was chartered in January 2001. Bullock is the point of contact for the District's chapter and was responsible for coordinating this year's ceremony.

Those engineers who earned their PEs, like doctors who have passed the medical boards or lawyers who have passed the bar exam, fulfilled the education and experience requirements and passed the rigorous exams that, under state licensure laws, permit them to offer engineering services directly to the public. PEs take legal responsibility for their engineering designs and are bound by a code of ethics to protect the public health and safety.

Engineering licensure laws vary from state to state, but, in general, to become a

# n of an Engineer

deep pride. To it I owe solemn obligations. I have been spurred by the engineering genius. Engineers have the material and energy for humanity's benefit. Engineers have the principles of science and the means of technology. Were it not for my efforts, my efforts would be feeble. My integrity and fair dealing, tolerance and respect, and to uphold the honor of my profession, conscious always that my skill carries with it the responsibility of making the best use of Earth's precious wealth. I will not be but honest enterprises. When needed, my skill and strength will be in for the public good. In the performance of duty and responsibility.

## On the 'Net



[www.order-of-the-engineer.org](http://www.order-of-the-engineer.org)

<http://posts.same.org/rockisland/>

[www.nspe.org](http://www.nspe.org)

[www.swe.org](http://www.swe.org)

# Professional Engineer License

PE an individual must be a graduate of an engineering program accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, pass the Fundamentals of Engineering exam, gain four years of experience working under a PE, and pass the Principles and Practice of Engineering exam.

In an e-mail to the District, Col. Robert Sinkler said it was his honor to recognize the engineers who achieved their professional registration and who joined the Order of the Engineer.

"One small mistake by an engineer can have devastating consequences, and we should all be proud that no one in the 140 years of this District who committed himself or herself to maintaining the honor, honesty and integrity of the engineering profession has ever disgraced our nation, the Corps, the District, or the

profession," said Sinkler.

Sinkler also emphasized the importance of Engineers Week and the historically important role engineering has for the Corps.

"The engineers in the Rock Island District clearly deserve this time of honor," said Sinkler. "As with nearly everyone I have met in our organization, they too are quiet, dependable professionals who without fanfare do great things for their nation each day. It (Engineers Week) is a time that we devote to recognizing their enduring value to our team. There was a time when the Corps was made up predominately of Engineers, but today the Corps is truly a multi-disciplinary organization. Because of the faith, confidence and trust the American people had in the engineering ability of the Corps, they asked the Corps to do much

## Rock Island District Engineering & Construction Division Professional Registration

### PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER (P.E.)

ANDERSON, BRENT  
ANDERSON, HEATHER  
ANDERSON, MARK  
BARTEK, JAMES  
BEHRENS, JOHN  
BEQUEAITH, DAVID  
BISHOP, CHARLES  
BISHOP, HEATHER  
BULLOCK, SCOTT  
BURANT, JOHN  
CERNY, DEAN  
DAVILA, NICOLAS  
DELONG, CORY  
DIESTELHORST, DEWAYNE  
DZIUK, JOE  
ELLERHOFF, JOHN  
ENGSTROM, RICHARD  
ENSEY, ALAENA  
GAMBUCCI, THOMAS  
HABERMAN, CORY  
HAWKINSON, CHRISTIAN  
HEINOLD, THOMAS  
HOAGUE, MARK  
HOFFMAN, ROBERT

HUBERT, PERRY  
HUNEMULLER, TOBY  
JOERS, FRED  
JOHNSON, CARL  
JOHNSON, ERIC  
KERR, TED  
KINCAID, JOHN  
KINNEY, RANDALL  
KIRKEENG, TERESA  
KIRKEENG, TOM  
KOWALCZYK, PAUL  
LACINA, JOHN  
LANDWEHR, KEVIN  
LESS, ROGER  
LESTER, BARBARA  
LUNDBERG, DENNY  
MACK, THOMAS  
MARTENS, MARVIN  
MARTIN, DAVID  
MCDANIEL, JACK  
MECH, GEORGE  
MELAAS, LARRY  
MITVALSKY, KARA  
MOORE, AMY

NANDA, SATYESH  
NICKEL, RICHARD  
NOCK, THOMAS  
PALMER, BRADLEY  
PATEL, KIRAN  
PATTSCHULL, BRYAN  
PERK, ROGER  
RADTKE, BRYAN  
ROCKOW, KENT  
SCUKANEC, JEFFREY  
STALEY, GEORGE  
STEWART, MATTHEW  
STIMAN, JAMES  
SUNDERMAN, KIRK  
TARPEY, MICHAEL  
TREFRY, CHRISTOPHER  
TRAICOFF, JOANNE  
TSAU, WEN  
WALTERMAN, MICHAEL  
WERNER, ANNE  
WILSON, KEITH  
XIA, RENJIE  
ZAGER, MATT  
ZAIDE, SIBTE

### ENGINEER-IN-TRAINING (E.I.T)

BALLARD, MIKE  
BROSIG, DANA  
CACKLEY, JOSH  
DUPONT, JEFFREY  
FISHER, JULIE  
FLEISCHMAN, JON  
HACKBARTH, ERIC  
HANSHAW, FRED  
HYTHECKER, TROY  
KOOL, SCOTT  
NUTI, DANIEL  
POVICH, JOTHAM  
PRATT, MARK  
STEBENS, RICK  
ZIEGLER, ADAM

### STRUCTURAL ENGINEER (S.E.)

JOHNSON, CARL  
WILSON, KEITH

### REGISTERED GEOLOGIST (P.G.)

HOTCHKISS, GLEN  
DUMOULIN, TOM

### PROFESSIONAL HYDROLOGIST (P.H.)

JOHNSON, SHIRLEY  
NANDA, SATYESH

### CERTIFIED COST ENGINEER TECHNICIAN (C.C.E.T.)

BARNDOLLAR, MICHAEL

### REGISTERED ARCHITECT (R.A.)

MOTT, RONALD  
TATRO, RAY  
TILLBERG, CATHERINE

### REGISTERED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT (R.L.A.)

HOLDEN, KEVIN

### REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR (R.L.S.)

KOOL, SCOTT

### CERTIFIED COST CONSULTANT (C.C.C.)

VANLAARHOVEN, CHARLES

more than be a technical organization.

And now, particularly in the civil works arena, we are expected to be interagency and multi-disciplinary leaders for designing, building and managing large systems that are often more organic in nature than mechanical. We are now finding ourselves as interagency and multi-disciplinary team leaders, team members and team builders, and public servants in a wide range of critical and important areas. Our missions are becoming increasingly more challenging and complex.

"But no matter what our nation asks us to do, the engineers in our District will always have the responsibility to be the guardians of our engineering reputation," said Sinkler. "A reputation is all that an organization has, and we will always depend on our engineers to preserve and strengthen ours." ■



Flood-fighting materials are loaded onto a truck from the District's Flood-Fighting Center of Expertise at the Rock Island Arsenal for shipment to the Little Rock District.

## Flood-Fighting Center Kicks into Gear

By Mark Kane

The Rock Island District put its Flood-Fighting Center of Expertise to the test on Jan. 12, when it received a request late in the afternoon to ship equipment to Little Rock District for use in fighting a possible flood.

The shipment of flood-fighting equipment arrived the next day, on Jan. 13, and was staged for possible use if needed.

Prolonged heavy rains in northern Arkansas caused high water stages on the White River and high flows on the Arkansas River. Forecasts predicted possible flooding from rain amounts of as much as four to six inches with isolated amounts approaching eight inches. The Little Rock District staged sandbags at Newport, Ark., the Jacksonport State Park, and the Bateman Levee District, while contacting the Rock Island District for innovative

**"The new innovative flood-fighting products have given us more efficient and expedient alternatives to sandbagging."**

**- Mark Clark**

flood-fighting materials.

Mark Clark, innovative flood-fighting program manager, Emergency Management, said by using the District's flood-fighting center and the Corps' own resources, we were able to get the materials there fast.

"The new innovative flood-fighting products have given us more efficient and expedient alternatives to sandbagging,"

said Clark. "Prior to the flood-fighting center, it would have taken the sponsor (the city, township, or county requesting the Corps' assistance) days or weeks to tap into the same resources that they're able to get through the Corps via the flood-fighting center. By having our hands on additional flood-fighting resources this has really enhanced our abilities. We used our own resources, we

got the equipment there quickly, and it went very well."

The District increased the Corps' flood fighting abilities and year-round readiness with the establishment of the District's new Flood-Fighting Center of Expertise in September.

The center, located on Rock Island Arsenal, stocks Rapid Deployment Flood Walls, Hesco Bastion containers and PORTADAMS, in addition to the sandbags, plastic sheeting, pumps, and technical assistance currently provided by the Corps.

The materials stored at the center will be used in Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Illinois, Wisconsin, Alabama, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, and Michigan.

The concept for the operational deployment of the flood-fighting products is to maintain an initial total stockage level of approx 5,000 linear feet of the products regionally dispersed and available for regional deployment to support state and local flood-fight operations within the region. 🇺🇸

Quad-City area students line up to look through the spotting scopes provided by the Corps at Sunset Park in Rock Island, Ill., during kids' day as part of the Quad-Cities Bald Eagle Days.



## Quad-Cities Bald Eagle Days Hits 20-Year Mark

By Mark Kane

The Quad-Cities Bald Eagle Days event, held at the Quad City Conservation Alliance Exposition Center in Rock Island, Ill., celebrated its 20th anniversary since beginning in 1987, when the Corps of Engineers joined with the the Illinois and Iowa Departments of Natural Resources to educate the public on the decline and astounding comeback of our national symbol and to promote conservation education.

Staff from the Mississippi River Visitor Center have provided important support for the event throughout the years, which once again included a special kids' day held the Friday before the Eagle Day weekend.

Wendy Frohlich, Mississippi River Visitor Center, said approximately 1,700 students, teachers and parents attended the school-day event and said that number is about average from where the numbers have run during the history of the Bald Eagle Days. With that in mind, Frohlich said she estimates that more than 34,000 people have attended the special day, which is free and set aside for area schools. This year, 37 schools participated, which includes more than 80 classes of students and teachers.

"The weather was great," said Frohlich. "It made for few eagles, but at least one decided to grace us with its presence for most of the day."

Frohlich said this year's presenter during the event was the World Bird Sanctuary of St. Louis.

"Roger Halloway brought a Hooded Vulture, which flew inches from the tops of the student's heads – a real crowd pleaser," said Frohlich.

She also said the Corps' booth had direct contact with more than 1,525 people throughout the event, and the total number of people who attended Bald Eagle Days exceeded more than 19,900 people.

As in the past, the Corps set up spotting scopes for the bald eagle event at a location near the QCCA Expo Center. This year, the scopes were at Sunset Park in Rock Island.

The Corps was vital to starting the Bald Eagle Days by organizing an early version of the event in 1985. The Corps and Elton Fawks, one of the first people to identify DDT as a cause for the decline in the numbers of immature bald eagles, organized the event at the Deere-Wyman House. That weekend featured an evening program on a Saturday night and on Sunday spotting scopes were set up along the river for public eagle-viewing. The event was small with only 50 to 100 people in attendance.

In 1987, the Illinois and Iowa Departments of Natural Resources joined the Corps of Engineers in creating a larger event. The Quad City Bald Eagle Days also gained a sponsor, Modern Woodmen. They offered their building to provide indoor programs and, just outside the building, there were excellent eagle viewing opportunities. With a sponsor, the Eagle Days organizers could hire a wildlife rehabilitator to give an educational presentation using live eagles and birds of prey. The Friday event, kids' day, kicked off as well and more than 2,500 students, teachers and parents attended.

By 1991, the event had grown out of the Modern Woodmen of America location. The Quad City Bald Eagle Days made its move to its present location – the QCCA Expo Center. The event has had many sponsors – Modern Woodmen of America,



Hank Heberer, World Bird Sanctuary of St. Louis, displays a bald eagle during the kids' day event held the Friday before the Eagle Day weekend. Photo by Mark Kane.

ALCOA, Quad City Conservation Alliance, the Corps, Quad City Audubon Society, and the Quad City Convention and Visitors Bureau.

The District sponsored, coordinated, and hosted bald eagle events at different locations on the Mississippi River, the Illinois Waterway, Lake Red Rock, and Saylorville Lake. For a look back at the schedule of the District's bald eagle events, take a look at the October - December Tower Times. 📖

The rifle used which freed the eagle caught on a branch at Lake Red Rock was a .50-caliber muzzleloader similar to the one at left. Modern muzzleloaders barely resemble the historic versions used in the days of the Civil War.



Park Ranger Jonathan Wuebker and Polk County Conservation Board Naturalist Patti Keyes try to sneak up and safely capture an injured eagle with a blanket. Photo by Tyler Hill, Saylorville Lake.



## Corps Assists Saving Two Eagles

By Mark Kane

Days before Christmas, on Dec. 22, rangers Jonathan Wuebker and Tyler Hill, Saylorville Lake, assisted Patti Peterson-Keys, environmental education coordinator with the Polk County, Iowa, Conservation Board in the capture of an injured and sick bald eagle on the Des Moines River downstream of Saylorville Dam.

Kayakers had reported the bird on a logjam in the river near the interstate 80/35 bridge.

The report of the incident sited that the eagle made an attempt to fly when it was approached, but only rose two feet into the air before falling back into the logjam. With the aid of a blanket, it was safely captured with no external signs of injuries.

The Polk County Conservation Board transported the eagle to Kay Neumann of a local group, Saving Our Avian Resources, who began caring for the eagle at her raptor rehabilitation center in west central Iowa.

Rangers at Saylorville Lake received word the day after Christmas, Dec. 26, that the eagle had died. SOAR is researching the cause of death of the eagle.

The center has conducted research in the past regarding the possible sources of lead poisoning in eagles, with preliminary evidence suggesting that eagles are

consuming lead in the form of shotgun slugs from deer carcasses where improper disposal methods are used.

Another bald eagle, this time at Lake Red Rock on Jan. 6, was a lot luckier when Corps employees contacted an Iowa conservation officer who freed the eagle that had become stuck on a tree branch and was hanging upside down above the lake.

The officer, Jason Sandholdt, had to use a rather unique method of freeing the eagle, because it was hanging 60 feet above the water and beyond the reach of where anyone could get to it. The method ... a single rifle shot from a muzzleloader. Sandholdt had the gun, because he was deer hunting when he was contacted by the Corps.

Once again, it was kayakers who spotted the eagle. This time John Pearson, a state botanist, and his two friends, Brian Lange and Scott Evans, all from Knoxville, Iowa. With binoculars, they could see the bird appeared to have caught a single talon in a knothole in the branch when it landed. Apparently, the bird tried to take off and lost its balance.

Because the bird was hanging over a cliff and high in the air, ropes and ladders seemed out of the question as rescue

tools, Sandholdt said. Many in the group thought a mercy killing was the best option.

Sandholdt asked for a chance to free the bird with his muzzleloader, figuring, at best the bird, would fall into the lake and have to be rescued for rehabilitation at a clinic.

"It's safe to say no one had any confidence that I could do that," Sandholdt said of his proposed sharpshooting. "My buddies were waiting for a poof of feathers."

Sandholdt bent a tree sapling over to use as a brace. He used the gun's scope to take aim with the .50-caliber muzzleloader. The bullet traveled 60 to 70 feet, cleanly through the edge of the knothole. Sandholdt figures he hit the talon, too.

"There were accusations of sheer luck," Lange, one of the kayakers, said of the single shot. He added, "It was really a heroic shot."

The eagle flew away. Officers waited for it to collapse. Instead, the bird kept flying, disappearing over the horizon. No one knows its odds of survival, but it faced certain death before the rescue, Pearson said.

*Perry Beeman, Des Moines Register, contributed to this article.*

# Avoiding Those Hidden Calories

By Mark Kane and Capt. Cherita Ogunsanya, Nutrition Care Division, William Beaumont Army Medical Center, Texas

Although many of us have decided to adopt a healthier lifestyle, there are still ways in which extra calories can sneak up on us. Some of those hidden calories are found in places where people are less likely to notice them.

There are ways to stay on track with your healthy lifestyle. By becoming familiar with foods that contribute to extra calories, and exercising, you have just made the first move in sneaking up on those hidden calories.

On the exercise front, the District's Welfare Association and Wellness Program has invited employees to become wellness champions. The wellness program has joined the Quad City Health Initiative's Moon Walk 2007. Between March 30 and June 29, the Quad Cities will compete with the Peoria/Rockford community to walk, as a community, a total of 954,800 miles, the equivalent to two round trips to the moon.

Juanita Heald, Operations Division, sent out an e-mail to the District on behalf of RIDWA and the wellness program saying that the Moon Walk is a fun way to resurrect our District's wellness program with a commitment to making healthy choices and life style changes to reinforce the importance of exercise and preventing disease. She also said registration is free.

Moon walkers will keep daily logs of their mileage on log sheets and report weekly totals to their team captain. If someone prefers a different type of exercise, they can translate the activity into miles using a conversion chart. Anyone who is interested in getting involved should contact the District's team captain, Juanita Heald, for additional information and registration forms.

Back on the nutritional front, we need to be aware of foods with reduced-fat labels. The fat content may be reduced, but the calories may remain unchanged. For instance, those of you who like to indulge in frozen yogurt; I have two words for you: "Buyer Beware!" Although it is indeed a lower-fat food, it can still pack a high-calorie punch. The waffle cone alone can have up to 100 calories. This may seem trivial to some, but to those who are not active, 100 calories can make a world of difference when added to other "trivial" calories (especially when you add in the 110-115 calories from each scoop of yogurt).

When one thinks of a salad, low fat immediately comes to mind. Sadly, that is not always the case. Sometimes people consume as many or even more calories and grams of fat in a salad than they would in a full-course meal.

The average-sized vegetable salad (lettuce, carrots, and broccoli) topped with eggs, ham, bacon bits, and Italian dressing can contribute about 340 calories and up to 23 grams of fat. That same salad, without the ham and egg toppings and a tablespoon of regular-fat Italian dressing, contributes about 180 calories and up to eight grams of fat. (What a difference a few toppings can make.)

Not only that, but for just a few calories more, you could have

had three ounces of grilled skinless/boneless chicken, one cup steamed broccoli, and a three-ounce baked potato with one tablespoon of sour cream (about 350 calories and 15 grams of fat).

Fruit juices can also be a culprit in adding excess calories. Think about this: It takes more than one orange to make a glass of orange juice, so it is safe to say that one glass of juice has more calories than the 60 calories contained in an average-sized orange. The average container of juice has about 110 calories per eight-ounce serving. However, most household cups start off at 12 ounces.

Should I dare to mention the sports drinks out on the market? If you take a look at the first three ingredients on the bottle, one is usually going to be some kind of sugar (words that end in 'ose' are a form of sugar). Even the smallest container of sports drink (20 ounces) can provide almost 200 calories per bottle. The 20-ounce bottle provides 2½ servings per the nutrition label; therefore, you are getting a lot more calories than originally thought.

Other than avoiding extra calories, the next best thing is to increase your amount of exercise.

In some cases, exercise plays an even greater role in helping to avoid those hidden calories. This statement is valid because of the fact that some of the energy from the calories that we consume is burned off with basic body functions (i.e. eating, sleeping, walking, etc). However, the energy stores that remain afterwards are converted to fat stores. Being inactive decreases the amount used for basic functioning and increases the amount that is converted to fat.

It takes about 500 calories a day to gain/lose 1-2 pounds per week. This may seem like a lot of calories, but as shown earlier with the salad, the calories add up fast. By walking at a moderate pace for about 60 minutes daily (even split up in shorter walks throughout the day), you can reduce your calorie load by 250-300 calories.

Maintaining a healthy lifestyle does not have to be a chore. By making a few simple informed choices, you can rest assured that you won't be hearing anyone say, "A moment on the lips, and a lifetime on the hips."

Within the Rock Island District, check your state's public health program for helpful information about initiatives taking place near you. 🖱

## On the 'Net

[www.armymedicine.army.mil](http://www.armymedicine.army.mil)

[www.protectionahealth.org](http://www.protectionahealth.org)

<http://health.illinois.gov/>

[www.dhss.mo.gov/mnn/](http://www.dhss.mo.gov/mnn/)



# CFC Campaign Awarded for Innovation, Highest Average Donation

By Mark Kane

The Rock Island District's participation in the Illowa Combined Federal Campaign came to an exceptional conclusion after earning two awards, which spotlight the District's innovation and giving spirit.

Aimee Vermeulen and Joe Nobiling, District CFC co-chairs, accepted the awards on behalf of the District for the highest average donation by a large organization and the award for the most innovative campaign.

District employees in the Illowa CFC who participated had an average donation of \$325 per person.

The most innovative campaign award was earned for continued annual events such as the chili cook-off and the online auction. This year marked the 10th annual chili cook-off held to raise funds for charities through the CFC.

The 2006 Illowa CFC campaign as a whole not only met their financial goal of \$600,000, but when all the donations were finished flowing in, the contributions exceeded more than \$614,000.

Col. Robert Sinkler, District commander, said he wasn't surprised, when he was told how much the District donated to the CFC or that it was

recognized as having the most innovative program.

"It didn't take me long after my arrival here to notice how the Rock Island District has a true selfless and serving heart, and it is always looking for ways to make serving the nation and others more fun," said Sinkler.

The awards are currently being displayed at the Clock Tower Building in the front lobby area.

An in-depth article about the District's 2006 CFC campaign is located on page 13 in the October - December print edition of the Tower Times.



## DRUNK DRIVING OVER THE LIMIT. UNDER ARREST.

<https://crc.army.mil>





## Around the District

### District Commander's Award

**Randall Kraciun**, Programs and Project Management, received the December Commander's Award.

Kraciun earned the award for completing a biological assessment, in coordination with Operations Division and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in four working days, which allowed the Regulatory Branch to complete a permit action. The permit allowed the company involved to construct a new facility on the Mississippi River during the winter months, so the construction could be completed by the spring.

**Jack McDaniel**, Operations Division, received the January Commander's Award.

McDaniel earned the award for planning and coordinating the Division's first Safety Now Awards Group Banquet held on Jan. 31. The coordination for the event took place between six districts and the Division.

### Congrats ...

Congratulations to **Mark and Jamie Pratt**, Engineering and Construction, on the birth of a baby boy, Aiden Mathias, March 20. He was 7 pounds and 11 ounces, and 20 inches long.



Congratulations to **Cory and Vanessa Haberman**, Engineering and Construction, on the birth of a baby boy, Finley Owen, March 14. He was 8 pounds and 14 ounces, and 20¾ inches long.



Congratulations to **Amy and Troy Moore**, Engineering and Construction, on the birth of a baby boy, Samuel James, Feb. 27. He was 8 pounds and 14 ounces, and 21½ inches long.



Congratulations to **Justine and Damon Barati**, Corporate Communications, on the birth of a baby girl, Sabrina Kathleen, Jan. 22. She was 6 pounds and 3 ounces, and 18 inches long.

### Retirements ...

**Michael Jeffcoat**, lock and dam operator, Lock and Dam 17, Operations Division, will retire April 30, after dedicating 34 years, 11 months, and 20 days to the federal government.

**Donald Olson**, lock and dam operator, Lock and Dam 18, Operations Division, will retire April 30, after dedicating 28 years and 29 days to the federal government.

**Richard Traver**, lock and dam operator, Peoria Lock and Dam, Operations Division, will retire April 30, after dedicating 36 years, four months, and 15 days to the federal government.

**Floyd Collins**, lock master, Starved Rock Lock and Dam, Operations Division, will retire April 3, after dedicating 32 years, nine months, and 21 days to the federal government.

**Michael Edlen**, master tender, Structures Maintenance Unit, Maintenance Section, Illinois Waterway Project Office, Operations Division, will retire April 2, after dedicating 35 years and seven months to the federal government.

**Gary Rose**, crane operator, Project Maintenance Unit, Maintenance Section, Mississippi River Project Office, Operations Division, will retire April 1, after dedicating 41 years, four months, and 23 days to the federal government.

**Alois DeVos**, civil engineer, Operations Technical Support Branch, Operations Division, retired March 17, after dedicating 24 years and six months to the federal government.

**Ruth Johnson**, management analyst, Budget, Manpower, and Management Analysis Branch, Resource Management, retired March 3, after dedicating 30 years and four months to the federal government.

**Joseph Olinger, Jr.**, lock and dam operator, Locks and Dam 14, Operations Division, retired March 3, after dedicating 30 years and one month to the federal government.

### NOTE

Please send achievements, births, and obituaries for this page to the editor at: [mark.a.kane@usace.army.mil](mailto:mark.a.kane@usace.army.mil).

Without your input we may not receive the information that enables us to inform the District.

Sympathy ...



**James "Jim" Saylor**, 94, formerly of Rock Island, Ill., died March 15, in Phoenix, Ariz. Saylor was chief of hydraulics with the District and retired in 1973 after 40 years of service.

He was a lieutenant in the Navy during World War II and served on a mine sweeper in the Sea of Japan.



**Edward McCann**, 81, of Geneseo, Ill., died Feb. 27, at Hammond-Henry Hospital, Skilled Care Unit, Geneseo. McCann was a construction and civil engineer for the District and retired in 1991.

He served in the Army Air Forces during World War II.



**Robert "Sarge" Stevenson**, 69, Des Moines, Iowa, died Jan. 30, at Iowa Methodist Hospital, Des Moines.

Stevenson retired from the District at Saylorville Lake after 40 years of service.



**Kenneth Phillips Jr.**, 56, Fulton, Ill., formerly of Rochelle and East Moline, Ill., died Jan. 21, at his home after a battle with cancer.

Phillips was a lockman at Lock and Dam 13 and retired in October 2006.

In 1969 he entered the Army, served in the Vietnam War, and received the Purple Heart.



**William "Bill" Degen Sr.**, 94, of Davenport, Iowa, died Dec. 14, at the Genesis Clarrissa C. Cook Hospice House in Bettendorf, Iowa, after a short illness.

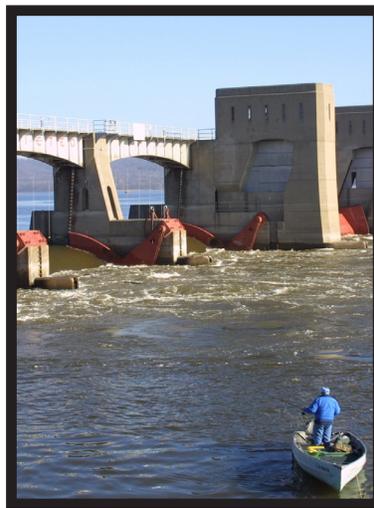
Degen was chief of the District's survey branch and retired in 1976 after 42 years of service.

He served in the U.S. Navy Seabees during World War II in the Pacific Theater.



**John Harader**, 79, of Aledo, Ill., died Dec. 14, in his home.

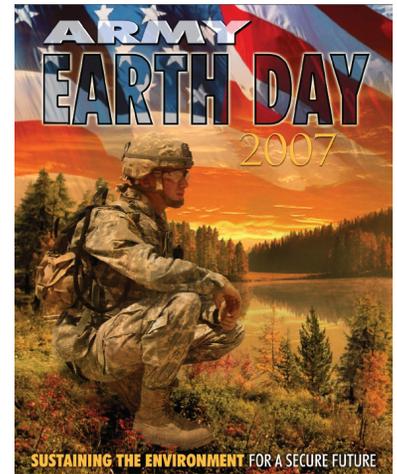
Harader worked for the District and retired in 1989.



**District 2007 Recreation Schedule**

The District's 2007 Recreation Schedule is available for download from the Tower Times Online.

The website is located at the bottom of each page of this issue.



**Need some help finding a book, an article or obscure report?**

The USACE Technical Library, located on the lower level of the Clock Tower Building, has a trained library staff with a professional librarian available for your research.

The library staff conducts searches and obtains interlibrary loans of articles, reports and other pertinent material for your informational needs.



Their website - [www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Library](http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Library) - offers an example to some of the many services provided. Call the District library at 309-794-5884 for more details.

# SUPPORT, SACRIFICE FOR CORPS

Thanks to our employees who are deployed or have completed duty in support of the Global War on Terrorism, as well as those who are deployed or have completed duty in support of Natural Disaster Relief Operations

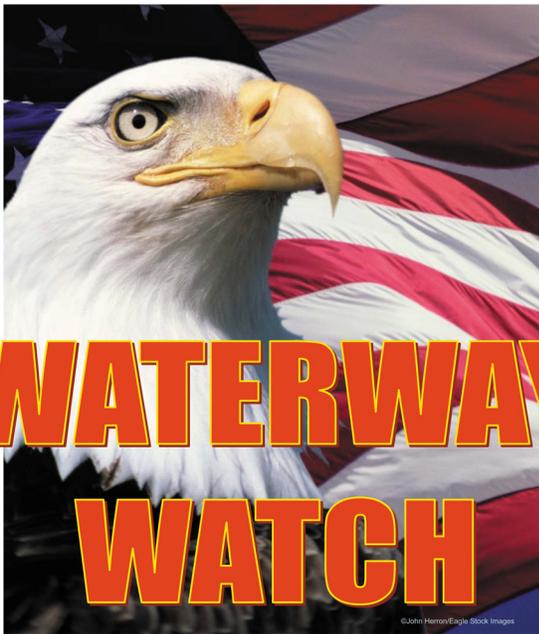
*Thank You For Serving!*



A listing of all the current District employees who are, or have been, involved in supporting the Global War on Terrorism and Natural Disaster Relief Operations can be seen on the District's Internet at:



[www.mvr.usace.army.mil/PublicAffairsOffice/TowerTimes/support-for-corps/support-for-corps.htm](http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/PublicAffairsOffice/TowerTimes/support-for-corps/support-for-corps.htm)



REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY TO  
**877-24 WATCH**



**FOR IMMEDIATE DANGER TO LIFE OR PROPERTY CALL 911  
OR THE U.S. COAST GUARD ON MARINE CHANNEL 16**

#### LOOK FOR AND REPORT:

- Suspicious waterfront loitering
- Forcible access
- Persons photographing, taping or sketching
- Boaters seeming to be forcibly controlled
- Liquids being poured into reservoirs or lakes
- Apparently dangerous loads and/or cargoes
- Items that appear to be weapons or explosives
- Boats loitering under bridges or by locks or dams
- Diving operations near any critical infrastructure
- Boats or divers in naval protection zones
- Note appearance, size, coloring of individuals
- Note type of boat, car, registration, etc.
- If diving is involved, note color of equipment

**REPORT WHAT YOU SEE TO 1-877-24-WATCH**



For More Information Visit  
[www.AmericasWaterwayWatch.com](http://www.AmericasWaterwayWatch.com)

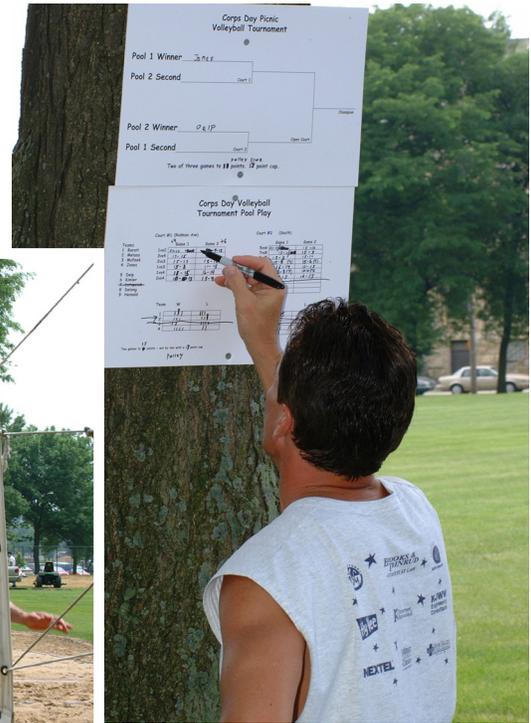


# Corps Day 2007

Thursday, June 21, at Memorial Field, Rock Island Arsenal

- The event will be from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.
- Events will include awards, a picnic, drinks, and games.
- Additional information will be made available on the District Intranet under sub-category "Corps Day" located at the bottom of the main page.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
 U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, ROCK ISLAND  
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