



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
Rock Island District

Tower Times

Volume 32

No. 4

January 2010



Concept Becomes Reality

Enterprise Geographic Information System implemented in three stages

2010 Eagle Watches

Learn more about our national symbol at a local eagle watch



Tower Times

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Engineers**
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District Commander
Col. Shawn McGinley

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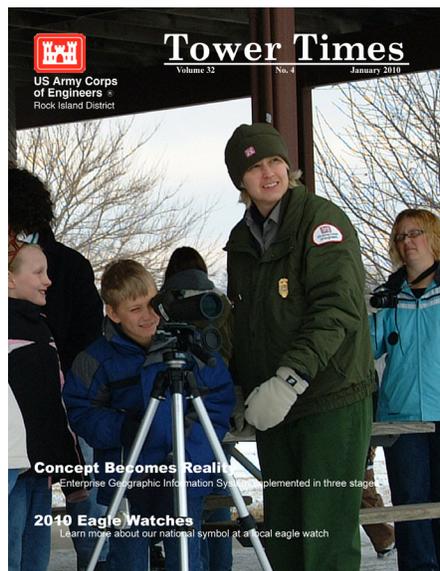
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On the Cover

Park Ranger Wendy Frohlich helps students view eagles roosting along the Mississippi River during the 2009 Quad Cities Bald Eagle Days.
(See information about 2010 eagle watches on page 8.)

Photo by Hilary Markin, Corporate Communications

2009 - A BANNER YEAR FOR THE DISTRICT

By Col. Shawn McGinley, District Commander



Welcome to 2010, the start of another decade and another busy year for the Rock Island District. If 2009 was indicative of what's to come, I'm sure we can all agree that this year will be just as busy if not busier.

As we start the new year I think it is important to reflect upon the District's accomplishments from 2009. Since 1868, the Rock Island District has proudly served the Midwest. During those 141 years we have a lot to be proud of and 2009 brought many new challenges and opportunities to excel, which I can say without a doubt – you did!

The year began with a historic establishment. The Rock Island District opened up the Rock Island New Orleans Support Office (RINOS). Although four years had passed since Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast, the aftermath still lingered and the Corps of Engineers was hard at work to help minimize the risk of such a catastrophic event. The Corps' number one domestic priority is to repair the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS) which means repairing and rebuilding the levees and floodwalls. RINOS was established to help with the HSDRRS efforts. With more than \$1 billion in projects, our RINOS team is an integral part of one of the largest domestic engineering projects in the world.

As the District got RINOS up and running, there was a commitment to ensure none of our other missions were affected by the increased workload. In March, many of our employees were knee deep in performing one of the District's primary missions – emergency management. A flood had struck our neighbors to the north. The Red River had swelled wreaking havoc on the lives of people in North Dakota and Minnesota.

The Rock Island District responded, sending employees to help the St. Paul District with flood-fighting efforts. All told, our District provided 100,000 sandbags, 2,000 rolls of polyethylene, 1,630 feet of Port-A-Dam and 19 pumps to our teammates in the St. Paul District. The efforts our employees made were a prime example of the dedication and diligence so prevalent throughout this great District. Flood-fighting is sadly nothing new to the District as many of our employees have seen, first-hand, some of the worst flooding in our nation's history.

Just prior to fighting record flooding on the Red River, the President had signed a historical bill that is greatly impacting operations within our District. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, also known as the stimulus bill, allowed our District to start investing on specifically authorized projects and programs within our boundaries. After some adjustments, the total funding for our District was more than \$140 million.

The ARRA money is being used by the District to improve

and strengthen the area's water resources by providing for the operation and maintenance of Corps projects and project studies as well as the construction of navigation, ecosystem restoration and flood risk management projects. Since receiving the first allocation of funds this past spring, our Contracting Division has been hard at work obligating more than \$50 million. And, as we enter into 2010, ARRA will continue to be a hot topic as we obligate more money to civil works projects throughout the District.

The ARRA money brought an additional focus and provided funding for projects and programs in our District. But, many other projects were underway as we executed our budget outside of ARRA dollars. One such project was the Flood Risk Management Feasibility Study for Cedar Rapids and the Cedar River. Most remember the horrific flood of 2008. Cedar Rapids was ravaged by flood waters 4.5 feet above the 500-year flood event. The damage was extensive to say the least.

Prior to the flood event, the Corps of Engineers and the City of Cedar Rapids entered into a Feasibility Study Cost Sharing Agreement in May 2008 for the Time Check Neighborhood (a mostly residential area prone to flooding). The study was initiated as a partnership between the Corps and the City to identify potential federal interest in a flood risk management project. After the record flood event in June 2008, the study area was expanded to include the entire Cedar River corridor within the city limits of Cedar Rapids. This expansion transformed the study into the largest Flood Risk Management Feasibility Study ever undertaken by the Rock Island District, with a current estimated cost of \$7.5 million.

There were many accomplishments this District can be proud to be part of in 2009 - many were District firsts. As previously mentioned, we opened our RINOS office but we also opened the doors to the Quad Cities Mississippi River Project Office, the newest of the six project offices along the Mississippi River between Lake Itasca and the Gulf of Mexico. The office, located near Locks and Dam 14 in Pleasant Valley, Iowa, manages nearly 75 percent of the District's funds for the central portion of the Mississippi River.

Along with opening the RINOS and the new Mississippi River Project Office, our District also cut the ribbon and began construction on the Peoria Upper Mid-sized Island Critical Restoration Project. Stage One was completed and Stage Two is underway. This project, which was authorized by Section 519 of the Illinois River Basin Restoration Program, is a two-stage project that includes the dredging of 55 acres of backwater and channels. The project results in the creation of a 21-acre island and restores deep-water fisheries habitat that has been lost in lower Peoria

(Continued on page 4)

Commander's Column, continued

Lake due to sedimentation. The project was five years in the making and your hard work brought it to fruition.

I think 2009 will be remembered as a banner year for this District. You operated and executed a budget that almost exceeded \$200 million in FY09 and by mid December 2009 you had already obligated almost \$7.5 million (non-ARRA funds) in the first part of FY10. Your accomplishments this past year are too numerous to list. Whether re-opening the auxiliary lock at Locks and Dam 15; or beginning repair work at the District's three major reservoirs at Coralville, Saylorville and Lake Red Rock; the Rock Island District went above and beyond in 2009.

Now, as we dig in for 2010, I know all of you are ready for the challenges ahead. Each one of you is ready to execute the new District Operations Plan as we help the Corps achieve its Campaign Plan goals.

I thank you for all of your tremendous efforts in 2009. I was only here to witness half of the year but those six months were eye opening and I am truly impressed with the District workforce. I know that with your dedication, this District will continue to do great things this year and for years to come. Continue BUILDING STRONG. 

CONCEPT BECOMES REALITY

By Hilary Markin, Public Affairs Specialist

The Rock Island District has developed and implemented a centralized access port to view and retrieve geospatial data. Geographical Information Systems (GIS) users within the Rock Island District and Corps-wide now have open and universal access to District geospatial data holdings. Enterprise GIS (EGIS) has been a concept in development for many years in the District and thanks to the hard work and dedication of several team members the concept is now becoming a reality.

In a recent Congressional Research Service Report, dated June 2009, Congress recognized that the consumer demand for geospatial information and the tools like GIS to manipulate, analyze and display geospatial information have dramatically increased. It also stated that as much as 80-90 percent of government information has a geospatial component and that the federal government's role has changed from being a primary provider of authoritative geospatial information to coordinating and managing geospatial data and facilitating partnerships. The challenge is coordinating how geospatial data is acquired and used, and how to eliminate collecting duplicative datasets.

There are two federal authorities that provide an outline for the coordination of geographic information and data acquisition and access: Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A-16 and Executive Order 12906. The Corps of Engineers has also developed policies, guidance and requirements of geospatial data and systems in Engineer Regulation 1110-1-8156 and Engineer Manual 1110-1-2909.

EGIS, as defined by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), is the integrated geospatial technology infrastructure delivering spatial information products, services, and standard data sets to all functional elements and business processes of the organization. At the District-level, this will ultimately be accomplished by universal access to geospatial data holdings, data consolidation and standardization, dynamic data management practices, and an open exchange of information and technology.

The implementation of the District EGIS was accomplished through a three-step process. The first release, Phase-I, launched

a new electronic file-based GIS library in September. The goal of this new District data repository is to move all District data holdings to a collectively accessible location. Historically, geospatial datasets were stored in multiple locations and on many servers across the District often resulting in disorganization, duplication, and restricted access for users. Allowing open access to data holdings, reducing duplication, data stewardship and integrity were top priorities during this phase.

Phase-II of the EGIS was the Oracle/ArcSpatial Database Engine (SDE) released in October. ArcSDE is a server software product allowing robust multi-user editing, storage and access of extremely large geospatial databases. These datasets are stored, maintained, and managed locally but accessible by all USACE organizations. ArcSDE supports the USACE EGIS Architecture and will be fused together with other Corps organizations to form the USACE EGIS. The Rock Island District's EGIS can be thought of as a single thread in the Corps EGIS web.

The final stage, Phase-III, is the Rock Island District's EGIS CorpsMap Viewer that was released in December. This web-based viewer will be available via desktop for anyone who has a cross-functional need for geospatial information. It is user-friendly and has already proven to be successful. Not only can people within the District use the viewer but it is available to anyone within USACE. The viewer not only caters to the current user base but also expands to a new community of users within the District and Corps.

Through the CorpsMap Viewer employees have direct and secure access to District, USACE, and other geospatial data holding including imagery, Corps infrastructure, project locations, federal levees, administrative/political boundaries, navigational features and even real-time information such as weather radar and stream gage data.

The creation of the Rock Island District EGIS will help us go from good to great as we streamline our business processes and use innovative technology to continue Building Strong. 

Building Strong Leaders

By Sara Paxson, Professional Development Specialist

Have you heard of LDP? Well if you haven't, LDP is an acronym worth learning! LDP stands for Leadership Development Program and it is the acronym used to identify the program here in the District.

The emphasis on leadership development has risen in recent years. Organizations are looking to employ individuals that possess strong leadership qualities. Individuals are now seeking out training to keep up with the latest leadership trends.

Incidentally, students across our nation are becoming acquainted with the subject at younger ages than ever before. Leadership is everywhere and most importantly we have a program here at Rock Island District to assist in developing strong leaders to carry forward our mission.

The District's LDP has been around for nearly a decade. Our newly revised leadership programs will be launching very soon. More specifically, Level II is scheduled for take off towards the end of winter. In addition to Level II, our District successfully launched its first ever Level I program this past April and will be starting again soon.

Level I LDP is open to all employees and is designed to provide a brief overview of leadership development with the primary focus on oneself. It is a six month program in which participants meet once a month and discuss a variety of leadership related topics. Readings will be assigned and participants will be required to participate in group discussions. Level I LDP will also include some form of mentoring. The application process is easy and more information will be forthcoming. Level I is a great introduction to leadership development and will provide participants with many tools that will assist them in becoming a better leader.

The next Level II LDP program will be coming along soon. The format will be similar to before, although we will be contracting the program out this year. This will ensure that our pro-



Leadership Development Program participants develop team building skills by doing a lap sit exercise, if one falls they all fall.

gram of Level II will partake in hands on learning that enhances team skills. Other items that this level involves include: leadership assessments, a team project, reading assignments, a college level course, as well as a few retreats to further enhance team building skills. This program lasts one year and typically involves an overnight team-building retreat.

The District's LDP has been very successful. Our committee looks forward to supporting the development of future leaders who will in turn assist our district as we continue to move from Good to Great.

"Dr. Noel Tichy, a professor at the University of Michigan's Ross Business School, was the head of General Electric's Leadership Center in the 1980s," said Major Jared Ware, Deputy District Commander. "In a few of his books, Dr. Tichy has commented on the emphasis, personal involvement, and resources that CEO Jack Welch and his executives devoted to training all of GE's leaders. Our own 'Good-to-Great' occurs when leaders at every level of the organization enthusiastically champion the LDP and make it part of our District's DNA. I can sense that our district team is very supportive of leader development and has high expectations for this year's program."

The LDP program at MVR supports Goal 4 of the USACE Campaign Plan, Recruiting and Retaining Strong Teams. Furthermore this program supports one of MVR's tasks in the Rock Island District Operations Plan, to strengthen competencies by supporting leadership and development at all levels. This program will assist MVR as we continue to "build our bench" of educated, competent, and experienced professionals who will continue to carry out our mission and build strong.



Participants in the Leadership Development Program learn about trust while working together to walk through the woods as a blindfolded team.

gram remains stable and successful in order to continue developing competent leaders. Each LDP class is unique and is typically designed to meet the needs of that particular group of individuals. Level II LDP is designed to target GS-09 to GS-13 and equivalent employees. The application process is competitive as participants are selected by the District Executive Steering Board. Participants

Partnering Brings Training On-site

By Hilary Markin, Public Affairs Specialist

The Rock Island District Equal Employment Opportunity office hosted the Special Emphasis Program Managers Course the first week of December. The course was taught by Jacqueline Chandler and Alberto Crespo, Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI), and provided attendees with an overview of EEO and Special Emphasis Programs.

Employees from the District's Special Emphasis Program Committee (SEPC) and Rock Island Arsenal attended the training. The EEO office has partnered with the Arsenal in many ways and sharing training resources is just one more way to strengthen that bond.

The training allowed new Special Emphasis Program Managers to learn more about their roles and also served as a refresher for longtime committee members.

During the training the class was divided into two groups and were given exercises to help them become more familiar with the process of being a program manager. Each group put together a presentation about a fictitious organization and presented it to the instructors. The presentations provided recommendations to the organization to increase its recruiting, hiring, and advancement of under-represented groups.

"The committee is all on the same page now," said Amy Hess, chief of EEO. "We can move forward with our program goals for 2010 and make it the best year yet." 



Above, instructor Alberto Crespo, Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute, checks to see if the class expectations were met during the week-long training.



Above, Rock Island District presented the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) with a framed Corps flag to show appreciation for their support and the training they provided. Pictured from left, Amy Hess, chief of EEO, Jacqueline Chandler, instructor at DEOMI, Maj. Jared Ware, Deputy District Commander, and Alberto Crespo, instructor at DEOMI.



Can you name where this photo was taken? If so, send your answer to Hilary.R.Markin@usace.army.mil. The first correct answer will receive a special prize and be recognized in the next Tower Times.

Dec. Answer:
Grant River Recreation Area
Submitted by: Jeff Nelson, Mississippi River Project



The Grant River Recreation Area is located two miles south of Potosi, Wis., along the backwaters of the Mississippi River. The area is not only a campground but also has a boat ramp, picnic shelter and playgrounds. It is a popular family get-a-way with beautiful sunsets. For more information visit www.missriver.org.

Information Security

As a government employee you have the responsibility to safe guard information and maintain its integrity.

A) Two regulations govern and describe information security:

1. Information Assurance (IA) Security, AR 25-2: The protection of systems and information in storage, processing, or transit from unauthorized access or modification; denial of service to unauthorized users; or the provision of service to authorized users. It also includes those measures necessary to detect, document, and counter such threats. The designation IA as the security discipline encompasses COMSEC, INFOSEC, and control of compromising emanations (TEMPEST).

2. Information Security (INFOSEC), AR 380-5: The policy for which the classification, downgrading, declassification, transmission, transportation, and safeguarding of information requiring protection in the interests of national security is executed. It primarily pertains to classified national security information, now known as classified information, but also addresses controlled unclassified information, to include "For Official Use Only" and "Sensitive But Unclassified" information.

Department of Defense (DoD) policy is to operate in an open manner and provide the public with a maximum amount of accurate and timely information concerning it's activities. However, there is a certain amount of information that we need to protect in order to sustain our operational capability, competitive edge and protect our privacy. Throughout the DoD, Department of Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Rock Island District, we all work with two-types of information that require safeguarding and special levels of protection, Classified Information and Controlled Unclassified Information.

B) Your role and responsibility

EVERYONE is responsible for safeguarding information.

- Each district employee should report, to the proper authority, all violations that could lead to the unauthorized disclosure.
- Supervisors should set the tone and lead by example, ensure employees are trained and understand security policies, include the protection of classified and sensitive information as a performance evaluation factor or objective based upon employees duties and continuously assess your employees need-to-know.

C) Reporting unsecure/unauthorized disclosure:

- Immediately take control and safeguard the information
- Contact immediate supervisor, or
- Contact Commander or Security Manager, 309-794-5820
- If Commander or Security Manager is involved, report incident to the next higher level, MVD Security Office, 601-631-7281.
- If Classified Information appears in the public media, personnel will not make any statement or comment that would confirm the accuracy or verify the classified status of the information.

D) What can I do:

- During duty hours place information out-of-sight if work area is accessible to non-government personnel and when removed from storage, attach a DA Label 87. Contact ACE-IT, Records Management for copies.
- During non-duty hours, lock up material in an adequate cabinet, file drawer or a room to preclude accessibility by non-government personnel. (Many district and field offices have non-government cleaning contracts that work throughout the evening hours.) 



BUILDING STRONG®

I BUILD STRONG by "providing legal advice to the District on diverse matters ranging from environmental regulation and environmental compliance to contracting and contract labor." ~ Leslie Bohl, Assistant District Counsel, Office of Counsel

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visit <http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/PublicAffairsOffice/CampaignPlan/CPHome.htm>

Rock Island District - **BUILDING STRONG®**

ONE DISCIPLINED TEAM - in thought, word, and action - meeting our commitments, with and through our partners, by **"SAYING WHAT WE WILL DO, AND DOING WHAT WE SAY."**

2010 Rock Island District Eagle Watches

Mississippi River Visitor Center - Eagle Watch/ Clock Tower Tours

Jan. 2-3 & Jan. 16 - Feb. 14, weekends only
Reservations required - call 309-794-5338

Quad Cities Bald Eagle Days

Jan. 8 - 10

QCCA Expo Center
Live eagle & bird of prey programs
Special attractions - Niabi Zoo
Call 309-794-5338 for more information

Clinton Bald Eagle Watch

Jan. 9

Outdoor viewing - Lock & Dam 13
Educational programs - Clinton Community College
Live bird and nature programs
Call 815-259-3628 for more information

Muscatine Bald Eagle Watch

Jan. 9

Outdoor viewing - Lock & Dam 16
Educational programs - Riverview Center in Riverside Park
Live eagle programs and Eagle Dance performances
Call 563-263-7913 for more information

Keokuk Bald Eagle Days

Jan. 16 - 17

Outdoor viewing - along river front
Educational programs - River City Mall, Keokuk
Environmental fair and live eagle programs
Call 1-800-383-1219

Dubuque Bald Eagle Watch

Jan. 23

Outdoor viewing - Lock & Dam 11
Educational programs - Grand River Center in Port of Dubuque
Live eagle and bird of prey programs
Call 563-582-0881 for more information

Illinois Waterway Visitor Center Bald Eagle Watch

Jan. 23 - 24

Educational programs - Illinois Waterway Visitor Center
Live hawks, owls and eagles
American Indian eagle program
Call 815-667-4054 for more information

LeClaire Bald Eagle Watch

Jan. 30 - 31

Outdoor viewing - Lock & Dam 14
Educational programs - Mississippi Valley Welcome Center
Call 309-277-0937x120 for more information

Saylorville Lake Bald Eagle Watch

Feb. 21

Driving tour around Saylorville begins at the Saylorville Lake
Visitor Center
Call 515-276-4656 for more information

Quincy Bald Eagle Watch

Feb. 27

Outdoor viewing - Lock & Dam 21
Call 217-228-0890 for more information

Hampton Bald Eagle Watch

Feb. 27

Hampton Heritage Center, Hampton, Ill.
Eagle programs, eagle dances, live bird of prey program
Call 309-794-5338 for more information

Red Rock Bald Eagle Day

March 6

Outdoor viewing - Lake Red Rock
Educational programs - Central College, Pella
Environmental fair and live wolf programs
Call 641-828-7522 for more information



Safety Corner

Working in Cold Weather Conditions

From the Safety and Occupational Health Office

Winter signals the need to take extra precautions because prolonged exposure to cold can cause problems, particularly with workers who must spend a lot of time outside.

Frostbite is a severe reaction by the skin to cold that can permanently damage fingers, toes, the nose, and the ear lobes. The symptoms of frostbite are a loss of feeling (numbness), whitish skin, and sometimes blister. If medical help is not immediately available, slowly re-warm affected areas, but do not soak in hot water, rub with your hands, or use a heat source!

Hypothermia occurs when the entire body becomes cold, and the body's core temperature drops below 95 degrees Fahrenheit. Symptoms include uncontrollable shivering, drowsiness, disorientation, slurred speech, and exhaustion.

Keep the victim as warm as possible until medical help arrives. If the body temperature continues to drop, unconsciousness or even heart failure may result. Warm the body first and then the arms and legs, using blankets. Get the person into dry clothing if possible. Do not give the person any alcohol or hot beverages or food.

Using certain drugs for diabetes, heart and vascular conditions, and thyroid problems can increase the risk of cold-related problems. So can alcohol, nicotine, and caffeine.

Dress for Cold Weather Success

If you will be working outdoors, wear loose-fitting, natural-fiber clothing. Wear several layers of clothing, rather than one

thick sweater. The air trapped between the layers helps to insulate the body. Outer garments should be of tightly woven, waterproof material.

Mother was right—wear a hat! Half of the body's heat is lost through the top of the head! If there is wind, consider wearing earflaps or a hood, a scarf, and a facemask. Use the scarf to cover your mouth in order to protect the lungs from frigid air.

To protect your other extremities, wear gloves that fit snugly at the wrist, sturdy shoes, and two layers of warm socks. Please refer to the EM385-1-1 for specifications.

Good Winter Work Practices

There are a number of things you can do to protect yourself from cold-related injuries:

- Allow a period of adjustment to the cold before actual work starts.
- Pace yourself to reduce the level of activity outside.
- Work/warm up scheduled breaks should be taken in a heated warming shelter such as: lock house, control shack, maintenance building, administrative building or other.
- Shield work areas from drafts and wind or, if possible, move work to a shielded area.
- Use tools with insulated handles.
- Change any wet clothing immediately.
- Watch out for your co-workers. 



A student from Pella Christian Grade School uses a Global Positioning System (GPS) to locate a hidden cache during a geocaching program at Lake Red Rock. The interpretive staff held the program in November on the increasingly popular sport of searching for hidden "caches" using a handheld GPS. A briefing on geocaching basics preceded participants testing their skills searching for hidden caches. Geocaching is another way to provide visitors additional encouragement to get outdoors and explore the lake's resources.

Around the District



Retirements ...

Lawrence Badtke, maintenance worker, Project Maintenance Unit, Maintenance Section, Mississippi River Project, Operations Division, retired Dec. 31, after dedicating 24 years and seven months to the federal government.

Gaylorl Helms, electrician leader, USACE Logistics Activity, retired Dec. 31, after dedicating 24 years and four months to the federal government.

Raymond Dzurisin, lock and dam operator, Marseilles Lock and Dam, Illinois Waterway, Operations Division, retired Dec. 31, after dedicating 27 years and three months to the federal government.

Daniel Leachman, lock and dam operator, Peoria Lock and Dam, Illinois Waterway, Operations Division, retired Dec. 31, after dedicating 22 years and six and one-half months to the federal government.

James Aschewitz, safety and occupational health specialist, Ordnance and Explosives Engineering Section, Design Branch, Engineering and Construction Division, retired Dec. 31, after dedicating 16 years to the federal government.

Claude Stewart, lock and dam operator, Peoria Lock and Dam, Illinois Waterway, Operations Division, retired Dec. 31, after dedicating 12 years and seven months to the federal government.

Millard Engelkins, lock and dam operator, Lock and Dam 11, Mississippi River Project, Operations Division, retired Jan. 2, after dedicating 36 years and seven and one-half months to the federal government.

Kevin Marker, realty specialist, Federal Lands Support Branch, Real Estate Division, retired Jan. 2, after dedicating 31 years and six months to the federal government.

NOTE

Please send achievements, births, obituaries and other happenings around the District to Hilary.R.Markin@usace.army.mil.



River Bend Brass, a band comprised of District employees, performed seasonal music during the Holiday Party at the Clock Tower.



Contracting Division participated in the Rock Island Arsenal Morale, Welfare and Recreation door decorating contest. There were 14 entries and although their door didn't win, they enjoyed creating a Corps of Engineers Frosty the Snowman.

Sympathy ...

Douglas Manary, 46, of Coal Valley, Ill., died Dec. 16, at Trinity Medical Center, West Campus, Rock Island, Ill.

Manary owned and operated Manary's, LLC, Moline and Doug's Vending Service. Previously, he worked for the Army Corps of Engineers for six years.





Spotlight on the District

Jennifer Hutchison

Occupational Health and Safety Clerk
Student Aide

By Hilary Markin, Public Affairs Specialist

Some of us seek a career while others happen upon one. That is how Jennifer Hutchison became interested in working in occupational health and safety.

Prior to working for the Corps she worked at an occupational health clinic (doctor's office) first as a receptionist and then was promoted to accounts receivable. During that time she learned a lot about the industry and decided she wanted to make a career of it.

She already had her associate's degree in business from Kaplan University, Davenport, Iowa, and decided to pursue a bachelor's degree in business from Western Illinois, Moline, Ill. While taking classes she learned of an opportunity to work in the Safety Office as a student aide and applied for the position. She started working for the Corps in November 2008.

As a student aide she is required to take at least six hours of classes per semester and work twenty hours a week.

"The student aide program is a great opportunity to learn about the organization and will hopefully lead to full-time employment," said Hutchison.

Working in the Safety Office has given her an opportunity to travel to the different field sites and assist with the field site visits. She also researches and writes the safety grahams and provides safety information to all employees.

"I worked in safety and occupation health for 10 years and enjoy working with people and being able to help gather information and answer questions," said Hutchison.

She will graduate from Western Illinois in May. Following

graduation she is looking forward to spending time with her family and hopefully continuing to work in the Safety Office.

Hutchison is married to a physician's assistant in the National Guard who recently spent a year in Afghanistan. He also works at Methodist Hospital, Peoria, Ill., as a physician's assistant. She has a son, Alec, who enjoys playing the guitar and soccer and is expecting a new addition to their family in May.

During her free time, Hutchison enjoys making cards for family and friends and scrapbooking. She also sews quilts and other assorted wall hangings.

Hutchison also enjoys traveling. They recently went to Hawaii's Big Island on vacation and were there the week before the Ironman Competition.

"It was cool to see them," said Hutchison. "We were amazed to see the course and that the portion they biked was on an asphalt

highway on the west side of the island that is all volcanic rock." They also learned that the top ten or so competitors usually complete this portion of the competition during the hottest part of the day.

Her favorite place to visit is Florida especially around the Tampa and Destin areas where some of her family and friends live. Her family is planning a trip to Scotland in 2012 and she is looking forward to visiting that part of the world.

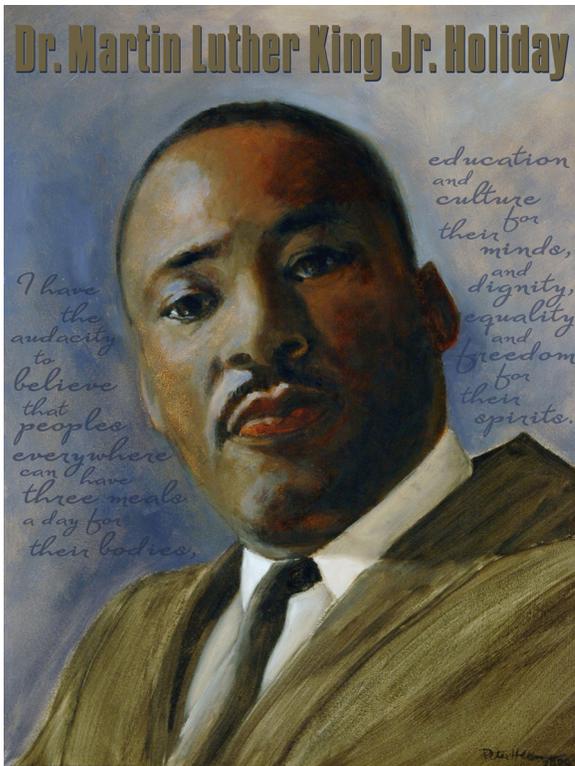
When asked about her favorite quotes she has two by Dr. Seuss memorized. "Sometimes the questions are complicated and the answers are simple," and "Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is Youer than You." 



I BUILD STRONG by "respecting myself and those around me and continuing to help with the solutions, not the problems." Pictured from left, son Alec, husband Richard and Jennifer Hutchison.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is a United States holiday marking the birth date of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and observed on the third Monday of January each year, around the time of King's birthday, January 15. King was the spokesman for nonviolent activism in the civil rights movement, which successfully protested racial discrimination in federal and state law. He was assassinated in 1968.

The Civil Rights Era



Poster created by Peter Hemmer, illustrator, Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute

President Harry Truman Wipes Out Military Segregation

On July 26, 1948, President Harry Truman issued two executive orders. One instituted fair employment practices in the civilian agencies of the federal government; the other provided for "equality of treatment and opportunity in the armed forces without regard to race, color, religion, or national origin."

This was a major victory for civil rights advocates in the quest for full citizenship.

The Montgomery Bus Boycott

When Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat to a white person in Montgomery, Alabama, and was arrested in December 1955, she set off a train of events that generated a momentum the civil rights movement had never before experienced. Local civil rights leaders were hoping for such an opportunity to test the city's segregation laws. Deciding to boycott the buses, the African American community soon formed a new organization to supervise the boycott, the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA). The young pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., was chosen as the first MIA leader. The boycott, more successful than anyone hoped, led to a 1956 Supreme Court decision banning segregated buses.

Two Baseball Greats

Born in 1921 in Philadelphia, Roy Campanella was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1969. Willie Howard Mays, Jr. ("Say Hey"), born in 1931 in Westfield, Alabama, was inducted ten years later. Both Campanella, who was a catcher with the Brooklyn Dodgers for most of his professional years, and Mays, the third African American player in the 1951 Giants outfield, began their careers in the Negro Baseball Leagues. Although Jackie Robinson was the first black player in the major leagues, these other players also faced difficulties and sometimes even danger from hostile players and fans.

Jazz and the Civil Rights Movement

Jazz performers responded to the force of the civil rights movement by recording and performing their music. The most ambitious response was the Freedom Now Suite of Max Roach, recorded in August and September 1960, and involving such major performers as Coleman Hawkins, Abbey Lincoln, and Nigerian drummer Olatunji. The Freedom Now Suite was issued on the small label Candid Records rather than on Max Roach's regular label, Mercury.