



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Rock Island District

Tower Times

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March 2010



Placing Concrete Underwater

Emergency repair begins at
Dresden Island Lock and Dam



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U.S. Army Corps of
Engineers
Rock Island District
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On the Cover

Adam Ziegler (left) and Jason Brown, Engineering and Construction Division, inspect the pipe transporting concrete from the staging area to the boom truck during a site visit at Dresden Island Lock and Dam. (See story about Dresden Island on page 8.)

Photo by Hilary Markin, Editor

MESSAGE from the CG

US Army Corps of Engineers



Teammates:

This year we will have the largest civil works program in MVD's history with more than \$10 billion available for obligation. TEN BILLION! To meet our project execution and delivery goals, our work pace will be fast and will require long hours. However, no job is so important and no delivery schedule so critical that we sacrifice safety to get the job done.

Before starting one of the hundreds of projects we will have on our plate this year, we must be certain the safety officer is involved and providing input during all phases of planning. There are limitless safety resources available and it is essential they are available to everyone. Safety isn't expensive--it's priceless. Safety is everyone's responsibility and must be carefully planned. Just as we plan our work, so must we plan safety. We must integrate production goals and safety while identifying and reducing risks before work commences.

Our goal is that everyone returns home each day unharmed. This is true for all employees and contractors. For this to happen, we can't rely on "luck" or the "that's how we've always done it" mentality. We must plan safety. Without your diligent support for planning safety, we could fail our responsibility to ourselves, families, and to others. When it seems there is not enough time to do things the right way, remember an injury can last a lifetime. We must not only plan safety, we must practice it. Set the example! Accountability is critical for an exceptional safety culture to take hold.

The one thing I've stressed the most since taking command ... almost 2 years ago now ... is safety. Since then we've had some great successes, including fewer fatalities (drowning deaths were down by 80 percent last year) at our recreational facilities. One of the critical factors for the successful safety record is the personal accountability that Park Rangers and Recreational Site Managers applied to the challenge. Our Park Rangers believe in the importance of executing clear communication to the public to make it happen. So when it comes to safety, we must plan it, do it, and communicate it. We must communicate in a manner that everyone understands.

As you may know, we have had serious contractor incidents in recent months. Three men lost their lives and one lost a leg. In two of the deaths, a double-fatality, the investigation is still underway. We don't know all the details, but we do know there was a break between the "plan" and its execution. I can't stress strongly enough the importance of a clearly executed safety plan.

To enhance our contractor safety, we will be developing standardized programs or applications. We will develop consistency throughout the valley. Currently there appears to be a disparity of how "safety" is applied between districts. As contractors cross district boundaries, this consistency will facilitate a common approach to our processes and expectations. These standardized programs will be made available to both our employees and contractors. As much as possible, our goal is to have the same application of safety standards from Robert Street in St. Paul to Canal Street in New Orleans.

Each of you is important to the success of our organization and to the success of our mission. We are making history together everyday, and we need you to be healthy and safe for that to continue. Whether at work or home, plan safety. Safety isn't expensive -- it's priceless.

BG Michael J. Walsh



Maj. Ware Promoted to Lt. Col.

Col. Shawn McGinley promotes Maj. Jared Ware to lieutenant colonel in a ceremony held on the lawn of the Clock Tower Feb. 25. Lt. Col. Ware has been the deputy commander of the District since Oct. 1, 2009. 
(Photos by Hilary Markin)

Ready for all Contingencies

Goal 1, USACE Campaign Plan

**Join the team in support of the
Overseas Contingency Operation**

Great experience, learn new skills, overtime, post differential, danger pay, relocation incentives, rest and recuperation leave

Critical vacancies: Engineers, Contract Specialists, Realty Specialists, and Construction Quality Assurance Representatives

For more information about the missions and work of the overseas Districts visit their websites.

Iraq - www.grd.usace.army.mil/index.asp

Afghanistan - www.aed.usace.army.mil

Contact Beth Nightingale, Rock Island District Emergency Management, for more information at 309-794-5595



DEPLOYMENT PROVES TO BE MORE THAN A JOB

By Julie Brown, Executive Secretary

Going to a foreign land, not speaking the native language, aware of the violence in the country, and concerned with my personal safety were my top concerns as I contemplated deploying to Afghanistan. After some hesitation I made the commitment to go and the experience was something I won't soon forget.

I saw the opportunity as the chance of a lifetime. As someone who considers themselves a risk taker, spontaneous adventurer and up to a challenge, deploying to Afghanistan seemed like a logical step. But once I decided, things happened so fast and I had many concerns -- how was my family going to manage without me? What do I need to do to prepare myself? Quickly, most of my concerns were answered.

I had medical appointments ranging from regular physicals to immunizations and blood tests, to eye exams and dental screenings. Then, there were online training courses I had to fit in my regular schedule. Anyone thinking about deploying should first apply for a passport and an international VISA. The VISA alone can take up to three or four weeks to process. Travel to the deployment center in Winchester, W.Va., is prohibited until a VISA has been approved. Once the preliminary preparations are finished, a person deploying should plan to spend a week at the deployment center attending more classes focused on areas like: Human trafficking; what to do if you are captured and held as a hostage; what the U.S. government will do if that happens; Afghanistan culture, and more.

While at the deployment center, a person deploying will get issued and trained on proper wear and use of gas masks, helmets, individual body armor, and other equipment necessary. Upon completion of the training, flight arrangements are made with the first layover in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, before flying to Kabul, Afghanistan.

From Kabul, most people have three to five days before going to their assignment. It took me three to four days to recoup from the traveling and to calm my nerves. The third day after my arrival there was a bunker call, which was the result of an attempt on the Afghani President's life. It was not as frightening as I thought it would be. Actually, after the ordeal, it became very easy to become complacent. We still had periodic bunker drills to maintain preparedness.

The only time I worried about my safety was on the return trip when I was pulled aside and patted down by an Afghani female in airport security.

All-in-all, the experience was definitely worth the time spent away from family and friends. I made new friends, learned new skills, and grew both personally and professionally.

Editor's Note: Julie Brown is one of many District employees who have deployed in support of the Corps missions in Afghanistan. 



MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

"Writing Women back into History"

By Rachal Deahl, Equal Employment Opportunity

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- **January 1915**, Ester G. Mueller reportedly became the first female employee of the Rock Island District.
- **July 1927**, Myrtle L. Burge entered the District. She was the first female department head at what is now Staff level.
- **From 1946-1947**, June Brevdy is believed to have been the first female engineer of the Rock Island District.
- **In 1981**, Janice M. Bennett became the second female engineer of the Rock Island District.
- **April 1981**, Pauline Zitzke was hired as the first female lock and dam operator at Brandon Road Lock and Dam.
- **In 1986**, Barb Lindquist was the second women to be hired as a lock and dam operator by the District. She was employed at Lock and Dam No. 11.
- **In May 1986**, the Federal Women's Program initiated the Federal Women's Program Lock and Dam Operator Detail for Women. "The goal of the program is to interest more women in applying for wage grade jobs." said Mary Ann Baker, the Federal Women's Program Manager at the time. Mary Scott and Brenda Chacon, both clerks at the time, were participants in the first lock and dam operator detail. Karolyn Benensee also participated in the temporary lock detail.
- **In October 1988**, Annette Bealer began her detail at lock and dam No. 14. "The locking business is great on a nice day; I loved it. You do a lot of walking, and you're by the water, so you can catch some rays along with a nice breeze. But, on a cold day, you still do a lot of walking, and you're by the water, and you catch a hell of a breeze. Let me tell you, it rips right through you."
- **June 1989**, Cheri Sersland began her temporary lock detail and on October 8, 1991 she became the third permanent female lock worker hired by the District.
- **In 1990**, Trudi Sholtz became a motor vehicle operator for the Illinois Waterway Project Office.
- **And in 1991**, Judi Gooch, formerly a secretary in the Operation Branch of the Chicago District, began her employment with the Rock Island District as a lock and dam operator at Lockport Lock. Presently, Ms. Gooch is the acting Lockmaster at TJ O'Brien. The first time in the history of the District a female has occupied the position.

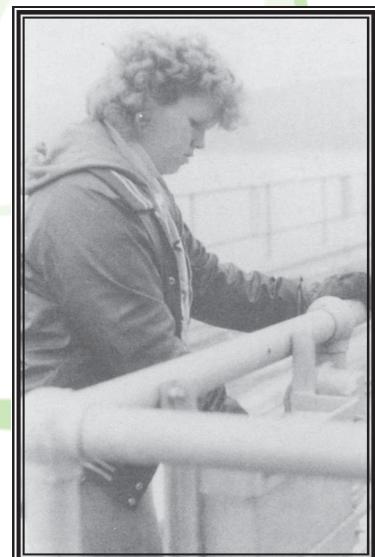
The Equal Employment Opportunity office welcomes your comments and feedback.

The current Federal Women's Program Managers are Donna Hardy (who participated in the Federal Woman's Program Lock and Dam Operator Detail for Women in the fall of 1991) and Melinda Bratthauer.

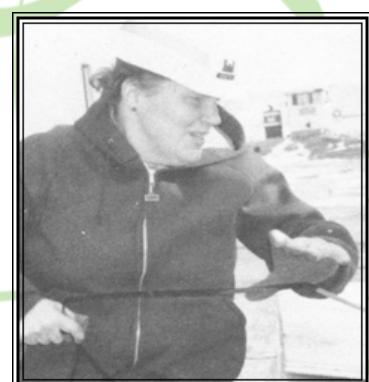
Editor's Note - Excerpts taken from March 1991 Tower Times article "District women at the locks and dams" by Evelyn Fincher:



Myrtle L. Burge



Annette Bealer (photo by Denise Yale)



Trudi Sholtz (photo by Evelyn Fincher)

Freshening Up

The Tower Times is due for a fresh new look - what about a new name to go with the new look?

An updated design is in the works and we would like your input on the idea of a new name - should it stay or should it go? In the 30s and 40s the publication was called Safe Channels before evolving into the present day Tower Times.

We are asking for everyone's input. Send your thoughts, name suggestions, and feedback to Hilary.R.Markin@usace.army.mil.

All the feedback will be consolidated and taken into consideration.

Stay tuned for more information on the future of the Tower Times. 



Tower Times
US Army Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District

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NCR uses pre-cast panels in lock repair
by Denny Lundberg

The Corps of Engineers currently has and maintains 183 navigation locks which were built prior to 1940. The concern in these structures is air entrained and, consequently, has been susceptible to damage from freezing and thawing. More than 75 percent of these older locks are located in regions where temperatures frequently drop below zero during the winter. Twenty of these navigation locks are located within the Rock Island District. Many of these structures currently exhibit significant degrees of surface deterioration and substantial structural damage. The Corps has developed a method of deteriorated lock surface and casting an overlay repair using reinforced concrete panels. This repair has not been used on any other structure. Cracking of the replacement concrete due to thermal shrinkage strains in the new concrete overlay has consistently been a problem using this method of repair.

In an effort to develop a repair method that would overcome the problems identified with previous repairs, the Corps of Engineers initiated a research effort involving the use of prestressed, strip-in-place concrete panels to repair deteriorating masonry gravity structures.

This research project was conducted at the Waterways Experiment Station in Vicksburg, Mississippi. Denny Lundberg and Dino Logsdon of the En-

Panel... Continued on page 4

The Rock Island News
VOL. 1 NO. 4 JUNE 1978

BUILDING TOMORROW TODAY

ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT • U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Armed Forces Day, 1978

Tower Times
VOL. 4, NO. 11, March 1983

Employee of the month

Mr. Howard Storer, the retired Chief of Office of Administrations Service.

Howard received commendation certificates from the Corps of Engineers for his part in fighting floods in 1967 and 1968; his contribution to team efforts in the preparation of the Final Environmental Statement (EIS) for the Nine-Foot Channel Project; his work on the Mississippi River and for the Saylorville Lake EIS; a Corps of Engineers reservist in one of the first units to respond to the early development of an Emergency Operation Center for Hurricane Agnes in March 1972; and his wife, Betty, for her continuous efforts to reside in Long Grove, Iowa, during the 1972 flood. Both Mr. and Mrs. Storer and their two sons, Tom and Howard, in their retirement, enjoy golfing and Howard, "How about them Hawkeyes?"

Mr. Verl L. Holtz, the Lockmaster at Lock and Dam 16, Peoria, Illinois, was the recipient of the Month Award for the month of November 1982.

Holtz (Cont. pg. 7)

Remember When...

Highlights from previous Tower Times editions

March 1978 - Construction of the Visitor Center, to be built at Locks and Dam 15, is expected to begin this spring, as a result of the bid opening held Wednesday, Feb. 8.

C.H. Langman & Son, of Rock Island submitted the apparent low bid of \$391,344. Two other bids were received for this project. The government estimate for this project was \$412,000.

March 1980 - Dale Hickle, who works in Channel Maintenance Section, became the first Rock Island District employee to ever receive the Corp's Deed of Valor Award. Dale was given the award for his heroic actions in saving the life of a fellow worker who had fallen into the Mississippi River unconscious.

March 1981 - The Waterloo and Clinton local flood protection projects were selected as award winners in the 15th annual U.S. Army Chief of Engineers Design and Environmental Awards program.

Mr. Doyle W. McCully, Chief of Engineering Division, was named "Senior Engineer of the Year" for 1980 by the Quad-Cities Engineering and Science Council at their National Engineers Week banquet on Feb. 21.

March 1982 - The Rock Island repair crew, headquartered on their Quarterboat in the Peoria project slip, has worked the last

two months on the damaged Peoria Lock gates under a variety of winter weather conditions. They have completed all the structural repairs and will soon apply the finishing protective coatings of paint. Bud Martin is in charge of the crew.

March 1983 - The busiest Mississippi River lock in the Rock Island District in January was Lock 22, Saverton, Missouri, with 297,000 tons. Traffic was reported as far north as Lock and Dam 15, Rock Island, Illinois, which reported 4,000 tons of cargo for January 1983.

March 1989 - Tom Lisco, a supervisory computer specialist in the Information Management Office, was chosen for the District Commander's Award for the month of December.

March 1990 - Jim Piper, Bill Long, and Howard Cooper rescued a young beagle hound from the icy waters of the lock chamber of February 6 at Lock and Dam 16.

On February 13, the Black Employment Program committee held a soul food sampling to celebrate Black History Month.

March 1991 - The Geotechnical Branch in Engineering Division and the Personnel Office presented "Earthwork and Concrete Inspection" on January 14-18, 1991. 



Left, Russell Construction, Davenport, Iowa, pumps concrete underwater through a boom truck (seen below). More than 10,000 cubic yards will be pumped into two scour holes below Dresden Island Lock and Dam.

PLACING CONCRETE UNDERWATER

Story and photos by Hilary Markin, Public Affairs Specialist

During an inspection late last year at Dresden Island Lock and Dam, scouring of limestone bedrock on the downstream side of the dam was discovered. This prompted an emergency contract to be awarded to prevent additional erosion and potential dam failure.

The erosion of the limestone bedrock was discovered by comparing previous sounding readings to the current. The soundings are taken from a boat using a multi-beam echosounder (or sonar). The beams go from the echosounder to the bottom of the river, then back to the machine. Engineers use the amount of time it takes for the beam to return to the machine to create a map of the bottom of the river and compare it to earlier soundings.

The area that the lock and dam was built on is limestone bedrock that is above a relatively weak shale formation that erodes





Left, Berry Pence, superintendent, Russell Construction, discusses the progress thus far with Tom Mack (middle), chief, Geotechnical Branch, Engineering and Construction Division and Jason Brown, construction control representative, Eastern Area Office, Construction Branch, Engineering and Construction Division (right). Photo was taken on day two of placing concrete underwater below Dresden Island Lock and Dam.



Above, Ed Stowitts, diver, Global Infrastructure, climbs the ladder after supervising the placement of concrete underwater below Dresden Island Lock and Dam. Part of the contract requires a diver to be underwater to oversee the operation and ensure proper placement of the material.

more easily than limestone. This formation is not completely unique to Dresden. It can be found throughout the Upper Mississippi River Valley.

Design engineers worked quickly to devise a plan to safely and efficiently fill the void. They worked closely with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to use an already established access road to route cement trucks and other necessary equipment to the far end of the dam.

The design work was kicked off with a meeting on Dec. 3 and two and one-half weeks later it was ready to hit the street.

"The quick turn around on contract documents is attributed to a lot of hard working, dedicated team members who put time into making the project a priority," said Adam Ziegler, civil engineer, Engineering and Construction Division.

The contract was awarded to Russell Construction, Davenport, Iowa, in mid January for \$2,895,445. The contractor started mobilizing equipment in early February to prepare for the placement of approximately 10,000 cubic yards of concrete.

The contractor began placing concrete in the largest scour hole on March 1. They are using a large pump to pump the material along the top of the dam and then down to a floating barge where the concrete enters a boom truck before being pumped underwater. Underwater, a diver oversees the placement of the concrete and ensures the operation is running smoothly.

"The contractor mobilized quickly with a good plan and some great subcontractors. They placed just more than 3,000 yards of concrete in their first week, with some of the hardest concrete I have seen. With high quality placement I believe they

should finish up ahead of schedule," said Jason Brown, construction control representative for the contract.

They have 60 days to complete the contract and are scheduled to be finished by March 28.

"The river levels have been cooperating thus far, also Jeff Blazekovich and his crew at the lock have been very helpful with keeping the water at a workable level below the dam, if conditions continue, the repair will be completed before the scheduled date," said Brown.

Dresden Island is located on the Illinois River, 1-1/2 miles downstream from the mouth of the Kankakee River and approximately 15 miles southwest of Joliet, Ill. ■

National Engineers Week



Center, Denny Lundberg, chief, Engineering and Construction Division, and Lt. Col. Jared Ware, Deputy Commander, unveil the updated Engineering and Construction Professional Registration Board. Also in the photo are employees whose names were added to the board.

Story and photos by Hilary Markin, Public Affairs Specialist

The Rock Island District took a moment during National Engineers Week, Feb. 14-20, to recognize engineers receiving their professional registration and the Order of the Engineer. The engineers whose names were added to the professional registration board join other team members in providing world-class engineering dedicated to the protection of public health, safety and welfare.

"The backbone of our organization is the professional engineers. I never cease to be amazed by the work done by engineers. The future is filled with challenges, but those challenges will be met by many of you in this room," said Lt. Col. Jared Ware, during the ceremony.

Engineers were also inducted into the Order of the Engineer which was initiated in the United States to foster a spirit of pride and responsibility in the engineering profession, to bridge the gap between training and experience, and to present to the public a

EC Professional Registration Board

Professional Engineer

Padmakar Srivastava
Charles Bauer
Richard Busch
Paul Holcomb
Matthew Coffelt
Yogendra Patel
Rachel Fellman
Matthew Schneider

Structural Engineer

Yogendra Patel

Registered Architect

Dennis Hawley
Ronald Mott

Professional Geologist

Alan Tamm

Engineer Intern

Kathleen Sullivan
Kalvin Kalafut
Erica Stephens
David Krahn
Trent Robertson
Joshua Hendrix
Elizabeth Bruns
Nathaniel Hanna-Holloway
Amanda Geddes

Land Surveyor in Training

Allen Giger

LEED Accredited Professional

Richard Busch
Bob Castro
Matthew Schneider

visible symbol identifying the engineer.

The Order of the Engineer was organized after the failure of a bridge that cost the lives of 76 construction workers. A group of engineers formed what became known as the Order of the Engineer, and through it, pledged themselves to always remember the sacred trust that resides with them in their work. They originally used a beam of that same bridge to form a wrought iron ring which was placed on the little finger of the working hand. Today the visible symbol is a stainless steel ring that reminds engineers of the pledge they took as an engineer to practice in a professional and competent manner. 

Order of the Engineer

Aaron Heidenreich
Andrew Goodall
Anthony Heddlesten
Bryan Snook
David Robison
Elizabeth Bruns

Felix Castro-Calderon
Jeffrey Tripp
Nathaniel Hanna-Holloway
Rachel Fellman
Trent Robertson
Yogendra Patel



Andrew Goodall, Project Engineering Section, receives his Order of the Engineer symbol from Gary Loss, Engineering and Construction Division.



Engineer Safety Gram

Engineering the Edge for Safety Excellence



ARMY SAFE
IS ARMY STRONG

Emergency Preparedness: Are You Ready?

Preparing for an emergency requires a bit of effort, but it's time well spent. What if an explosion, a landslide or a flash flood forced an evacuation of your neighborhood before you got home from work? Would you know where to find your family? Do you know the emergency plans for your children's school? And at work, do you know your role in the emergency response plan?

When you prepare for an emergency, you can reduce some of the stress and anxiety experienced by yourself and your family members during a difficult time. Here are some tips to help you prepare for an emergency, at work and at home:

At Work

Learn about the hazards of your workplace. Do you know where to find a chemical's MSDS (material safety data sheet), a safety shower or an emergency shut-off switch?

Know how to get out alive. Study evacuation plans and memorize two ways out of every area of your workplace - without an elevator. Note the number of doors and workstations between you and the exit so you can find your way out in the dark, if necessary. You should also know the designated meeting place and reporting procedures for personnel after an evacuation.

Note the location of the fire extinguishers and learn how to correctly use them.

Know where to find the first aid kit and how to contact employees certified to provide first aid.

Post emergency phone numbers by your workstation, as well as the address and exact location of your workplace.

Keep with you your identification, contact numbers and any necessary medical information.

If you have a disability or condition that might interfere with your ability to exit quickly, inform your supervisor.

At Home

Pack a disaster kit twice. Keep one kit in the home and a miniature version in your car.

Create an evacuation plan of your home. Review it with your family and practice it at least once a year.

Designate an out-of-the-area relative or family friend to be a contact - the family point person.

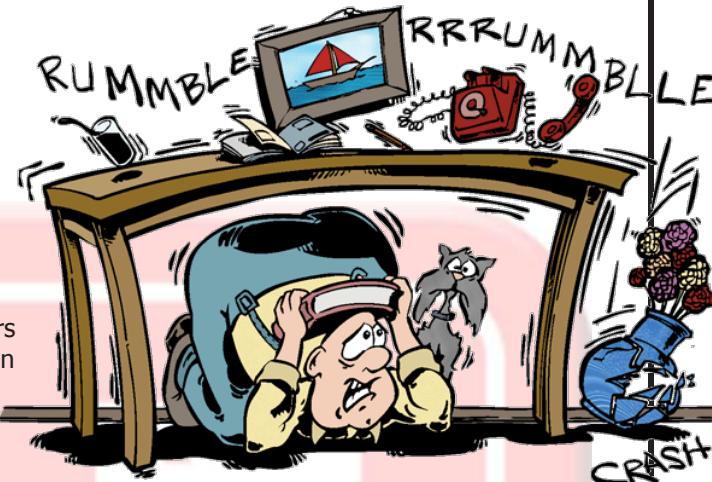
If family members are separated during an emergency, they can call the point person and leave or retrieve messages.

Pick two meeting places, one in your neighborhood and one far from home in case the neighborhood is evacuated.

Talk to your children's schools about emergency plans. Make sure they have your contact information and know who is authorized to pick up your child if you can't get there yourself.



Preparing for an emergency can not only reduce the stress experienced during an emergency, it can also make family members feel more in control of their safety. And during times of chaos, a little control is very powerful.



Clock Tower Historic Corridor

By Ron Deiss, Archeologist (*photos by Hilary Markin*)

The Clock Tower Building was listed as a contributing element to the National Register of Historic Places Rock Island Arsenal Historic District, September 30, 1969. It has been suggested that the Clock Tower Building may be one of the most significant structures in the Quad Cities. The Clock Tower and clock faces are visible from much of the area and have given the building its popular name and regional landmark status.

This Quad Cities landmark has served the U.S. Army for over 125 years and stands as the most recognized symbol of the Corps of Engineers presence on the Upper Mississippi River. In 1987, a Corps of Engineers inspection of the Clock Tower Building exterior identified deterioration due to weathering and water damage.

This inspection and proposed remedial actions were contracted in 1988 and met the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation. The Clock Tower Building achieved National Historic Landmark Status in 1988, along with the Arsenal's Old Stone Shops in recognition of their national significance.

In 1994, a proposed interior-remodeling plan was formulated. This plan included stair reconstruction and the development of a historic corridor. The building's significant interior fabric (original or initial construction materials and architectural elements) were analyzed and identified for coordination in an effort to meet the Corps of Engineers requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

The studies revealed that the Clock Tower Building was determined to be one of the most intact Civil War-era federal buildings in the Midwest. The restoration and remodeling was coordinated with the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office as directed by the National Historic Preservation Act. Coordination with the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation resulted in the development of the Clock Tower Building Historic Corridor, focusing on the restoration of the stairway, accentuated with interpretive displays.

In 1998 and 1999, exterior maintenance remodeling was proposed and in August 1996 the historic corridor concept was proposed to mitigate the effects of covering the interior wall baseboards, chair railing, and wainscoting on each floor and framing over the columns on the first and second floors. In February 2000, the Corps of Engineers conducted research, investigation, and analysis, focusing upon the identification of those architectur-



The Corps has been documenting the restoration of the Clock Tower throughout its history. The exhibit above explains how the stairwell has been restored to what it is today.

al elements dating from the period of initial or original design and construction and later repairs, maintenance, and modifications.

A contracted architectural historian made recommendations for restoration and repair of the clock tower faces, following the Secretary of the Interior's recommended guidance. The exterior restoration of the Clock Tower Building took place between 2000 and 2001 on the attic windows, stone walls, clock face, and roof; including repairs to the fire escapes, downspouts, and moat.

During the remodeling of the basement, a large oak floor beam was salvaged for posterity and the framing for the portholes was preserved from one clock face. The development and implementation of the historic corridor was one of the first of its kind in the nation, and is ongoing.

The Historic Corridor enhanced the stairway from the base-

ment through the fourth floor (attic area) as well as through the fifth and sixth floors of the tower by incorporating pictures and displays that tell the history of the Corps and the Clock Tower Building.

In 2007, the Corps conducted an exterior condition survey of the Clock Tower Building which proposed stone repairs based upon safety concerns. Many of these repairs remain too costly.

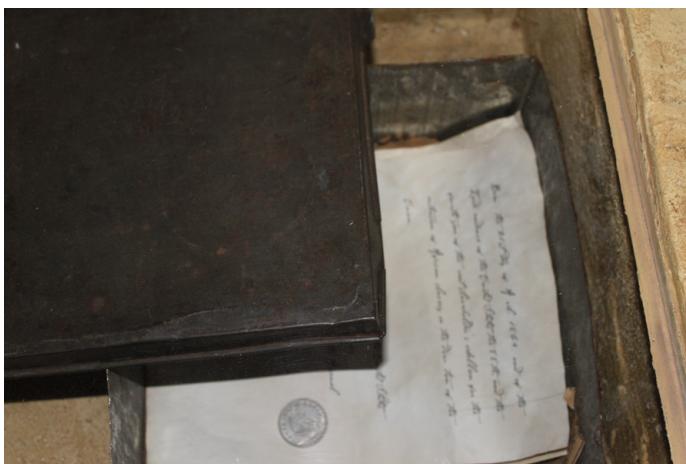
Since 2008, the Corps has continued to develop the Historic Corridor and improve the Clock Tower building grounds. A formal design report was written in 2008 to provide a conceptual plan for displays on the fourth floor of the Historic Corridor.

This year the Corps contracted with RH Innovative Technology Partners, located on the Rock Island Arsenal to develop and fabricate 10 displays described within the design report. The exhibits include information on the restoration of the Clock Tower, overviews of the Rock Island District, and a replication of the cornerstone that has never been located. A handicap accessible booth was also developed that has a video on the history of the Clock Tower, Corps of Engineers, and a detailed tour of the fifth and sixth floors accessible only by stairs. The displays all meet the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The Historic Corridor is open to all employees and will be available to the public during weekend Clock Tower tours scheduled and provided by the Mississippi River Visitor Center. 



A virtual tour of the Clock Tower building with detailed information about its history and a guided tour of the fifth and sixth floors was created during the most recent phase of the Historical Corridor renovations. The virtual tour booth is handicap accessible allowing visitors not able to climb the stairs a look at the unique floors above.



A replica, using the description from historic documents, of the missing cornerstone was created as part of the fourth floor Historic Corridor. (Photo from February Tower Times's Where's This?)



February Answer:
See photo above.

Winner:
Beth Hann, Resource Management

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.

Around the District



Congrats ...

Paul Whitmer, Eastern Area Office, Construction Branch, Engineering & Construction Division, is the recipient of 2009 Hard Hat of the Year for the Rock Island District and the Mississippi Valley Division and will be competing for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Hard Hat of the Year award.

Michael Edwards, Quincy resident engineer, Construction Branch, Engineering & Construction Division, received the 2009 Construction Management Excellence Award in the Rock Island District.

The Quad City Engineering and Science Council (QCESC) held its 48th Annual National Engineers Week Banquet. Two employees from the Rock Island District were recognized during the banquet and received awards from president Scott Bullock (below, left in photos).



The 2010 Junior Engineer of the Year went to **Chris Trefry** (right), hydraulic engineer, Water Control Section, Hydrology and Hydraulics Branch, Engineering and Construction Division.



The 2010 Senior Scientist of the Year was awarded to **Joe Jordon** (right), general biologist, Economic and Environmental Analysis Branch, Planning, Programs and Project Management Division.

Retirements ...

David Valentino, lock and dam equipment mechanic, Brandon Road Lock and Dam, Illinois Waterway, Operation Division, retired Feb. 15, after dedicating 11 years and eight months to the federal government.

Robert Morandi, assistant lockmaster, T.J. O'Brien Lock and Dam, Illinois Waterway, Operations Division, retired Feb. 28, after dedicating 29 years and four months to the federal government.

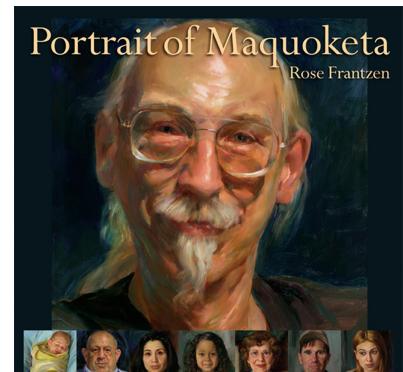
Dennis Franks, natural resources specialist, Quincy Ranger Station, Mississippi River Project, Operations Division, retired Feb. 28, after dedicating 32 years and six months to the federal government.

Paul Moltmann, lock and dam operator, Lock and Dam 13, Mississippi River Project, Operations Division, retired Feb. 28, after dedicating 37 years and one month to the federal government.

A. John Gall, Jr., civil engineering technician, Survey Section, Technical Services Branch, Engineering and Construction Division, retired Feb. 28, after dedicating 41 years and five and one-half months to the federal government.

Glenn Merry, lock and dam repairer, Structures Maintenance Unit, Maintenance Section, Mississippi River Project, Operations Division, retired March 1, after dedicating 31 years to the federal government.

A portrait of **Russell Gruenwald** is on the cover of this 100 page book by Rose Frantzen, documenting residents of Maquoketa,



Iowa. Gruenwald retired from Engineering & Construction in June 2004. The Portrait of Maquoketa is currently on display at the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery through July 5, 2010.



Spotlight on the District

Kathleen Sullivan Project Engineer

Sotry and photo by Hilary Markin, Public Affairs Specialist

Having an outsider's perspective is already helping Kathleen Sullivan in her career with the Corps of Engineers. When she started this past November, Sullivan brought with her ten-plus years of experience in the Central Area Office.

Sullivan has a degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Following graduation she worked for an engineering firm in a suburb of Chicago doing Phase I designs and construction inspections. She then returned to the Quad City area to work for another firm mainly doing construction inspections for city projects and the private and commercial sector.

Other past work experience includes working nearly six years for McCarthy Improvement, Davenport, Iowa, as a cost estimator and project manager.

"McCarthy Improvement really exposed me to a variety of challenges that contractors face. I had the opportunity to contribute to bids as great as \$11 million and work on-site at Minot Air Force Base installing new taxiways. It was a great experience that will always remind me that hard work does pay off," said Sullivan.

Prior to becoming a Corps employee she worked at Valley Construction as a Project Manager. Sullivan worked on construction projects with Exelon Nuclear and other private and commercial projects in the Quad City area.

"I like getting out in the field, plans in hand, and watching a project go from start to finish," said Sullivan when asked about her chosen career path. She also enjoys problem solving along the way.

"I really enjoy working with and seeing a project through from beginning to end and working with all the different parties along the way," said Sullivan. "It is interesting to look at a project through others' eyes and see what they see."

Her background experience has provided her with a wealth of knowledge of the construction industry and business. Her position with the District is a project engineer in Engineering and Construction, Construction Branch, at the Central Area Office, Davenport, Iowa.

Since starting, she has been doing a mini-rotation through the different field sites, branches and divisions, to get a feel for the organization and to meet fellow employees. She has also started



to provide input on a few projects including Coralville Lake, a generator at Lock and Dam 14, and the Davenport floodwall around the water treatment plant.

A big part of Sullivan's job is to ensure that construction projects are being completed and comply with the plans and specifications.

"The Central Area office is a fun and enjoyable place to work," said Sullivan. She is looking forward to her career with the Corps and getting out in the field, plans in hand.

Sullivan is married and has three very active boys ages 8, 3 and 1. Her hobbies include playing volleyball which she hopes to get back into one day.

Her family enjoys frequent trips to Chicago taking in all the sites and culture the downtown area has to offer.

When asked about advice she shared this: "There's no dumb question. No matter how big or small, it always brings a different perspective."

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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Newcomers were welcomed to the Rock Island District during a Newcomer's Briefing at the Clock Tower Building, February 10. These quarterly events help new employees become familiar with all District offices and their responsibilities. (photo by Hilary Markin)