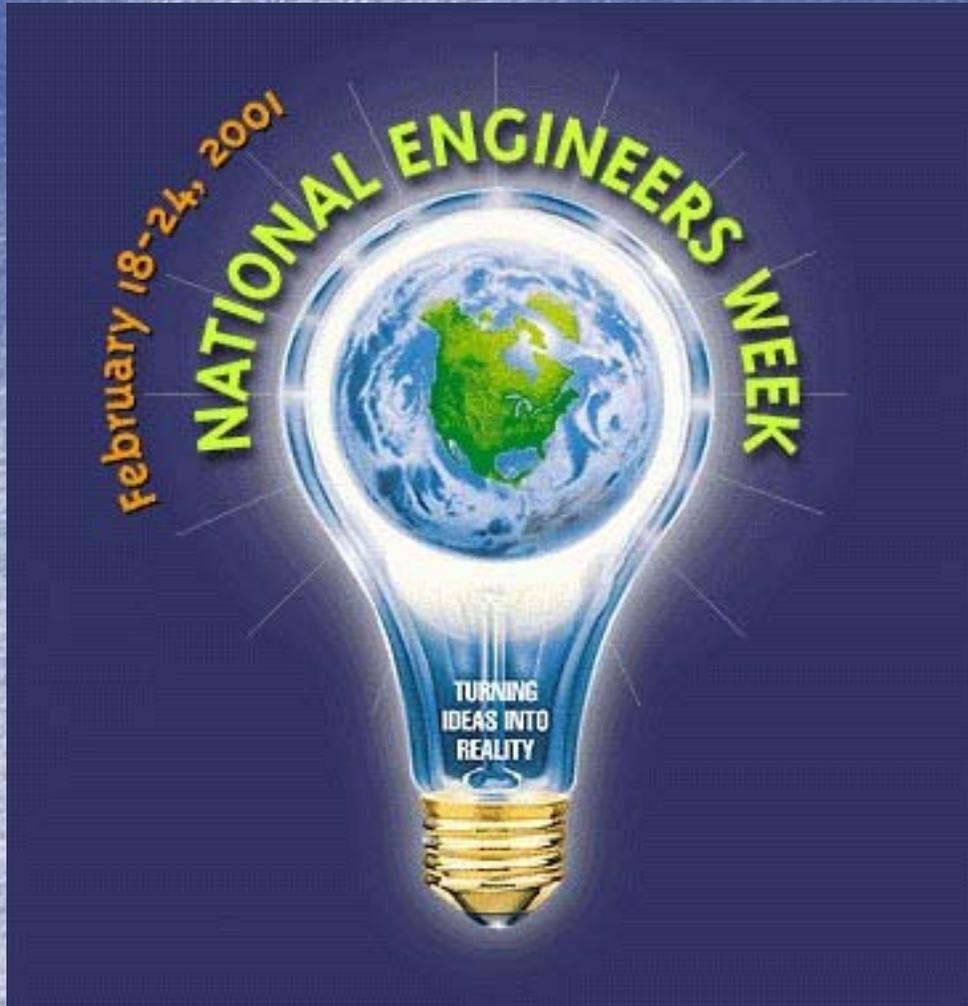


*Detroit District*

# *Soundings*



*US Army Corps of Engineers*



*National Engineers Week  
features... pages 8 and 9*

# Soundings

**Lt. Col. Richard J. Polo**—District Engineer  
**Lynn Duerod**—Chief, Public Affairs Office  
**Alia Bracey**—Student Clerk  
**Barbara Morris**—Editing/design/layout,  
 RPI Marketing Communications (contractor)

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The Public Affairs Office welcomes comments and opinions about the information published in *Soundings*. News tips, ideas, suggestions and articles may be mailed to:

*Soundings*

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Detroit District  
 P.O. Box 1027  
 Detroit, Michigan 48231-1027

or faxed to: 313-226-5993

or e-mailed to: [Lynn.M.Duerod@usace.army.mil](mailto:Lynn.M.Duerod@usace.army.mil)

For general information, call toll free:  
 1-888-694-8313

# Dennis Rundlett, graphics specialist retires after 32 years

After 32 years of outstanding service to the government Dennis Rundlett, the district's visual arts/graphics specialist extraordinaire, retired and moved to Colorado Springs, Colo. He celebrated his retirement with a host of friends, coworkers, and well wishers --probably one of the largest retirement luncheon turn-outs in district history. After the luncheon at Niki's Pizzeria in Greektown, fellow Corps members honored him with a cake, various memorabilia and certificates at the headquarters building.

Passages in his memory book included an "Ode to Dennis Rundlett," by fellow retiree Ron Wilshaw, that echoes the thoughts expressed by many.

"...He had integrity, a winning personality, a ready smile



*Dennis greets all of his guests including retirees Mike Perrini, former public affairs officer, and Bill Gilliam, former writer/editor in PAO.*

To match a talent, we hadn't seen in a while..."

Dennis – you will be greatly missed, but we wish you many years of happiness and good health – enjoy your retirement. ■

# Women's History Month – The nation celebrates women

The Department of Defense celebrates Women's History Month in March with many events and informational sites on its webpage, <http://www.defenselink.mil/specials/womenshistory2001>, including the site below.

## Women are veterans too

How's your knowledge of the history of women in the military?

Did you know that there are almost two million women veterans? From the American Revolution to Panama, Bosnia, Kosovo, and more, women have served in some way in every conflict. Not that they were legal in the early days. History tells us that thirty three thousand women served in World War One and almost 500,000 took part in World War Two. During the Korean era 120,000 women

were in uniform and seven thousand were deployed in theater during Viet Nam. During Desert Storm seven percent of the total U.S. forces deployed were women - over forty thousand of them. So on these pages (<http://userpages.aug.com/captbarb/>) you will find the history and accomplishments of those women who have served this country - voluntarily - since it's beginning. ■



## Inside...

Commander's Column.....	3
Corps Speaks .....	10
Kudos!.....	11
Employees of the Month .....	12
Retirees' Corner .....	12

## Features...

Dennis Rundlett retires .....	2
Women's History Month.....	2
Personnel Actions Made Easier .....	4-5
African American History Observance.....	6
Detroit's 300th.....	7
The Lake Effect .....	7
National Engineers' Week.....	8
Rube Goldberg Contest .....	9
Richard Dickson Welcomed .....	9

*On the cover: Poster designed for National Engineers Week*

# Commander's Column

by Lt. Col. Richard J. Polo, Jr.,  
District Engineer

## Synergy: a win-win situation

***"Nature has given to men one tongue, but two ears, that we may hear from others twice as much as we speak."***

— Epictetus, Greek philosopher

Lt. Gen. Flowers recently sent an email in which he explained Steven Covey's definition of synergy. He asked that we adopt and support this definition, as well as commit ourselves to this idea. Recall that "synergy is the fruit of thinking win-win and seeking first to understand ... It's not compromise ... It's the creation of third alternatives that are genuinely better than solutions individuals could ever come up with on their own."

While senior officers frequently sign correspondence prepared by others, it is worth noting that General Flowers personally believes the attainment of synergy will empower us to serve the Nation better.

Let me offer a few addi-

tional thoughts after having observed our organization pursue 'synergy'.

Quite frankly, there are times when a superior disagrees flatly with a recommendation from a subordinate. One might say that synergy is not possible in this case because a range of alternatives does not exist.

---

**Ultimately, it is clear that supervisors and team leaders must set the attitude and the tone.**

---

Clearly, the subordinate has no choice but to comply with the directive.

More often, the case is very different. The solution set for a particular problem encompasses a wide range of alternatives from which the creation of a 3rd alternative may be discovered. The key is attitude! Not far behind in importance is the willingness of superiors to listen and be open to this discovery process.

Interestingly, surveys typically reveal that the

vast majority of people consider themselves great listeners, but only average speakers. One explanation is that people believe that good listening is a passive activity, which only involves the physical ability to hear words.

Closely observing a discussion between several people can usually illus-



viewpoint.

It is easy to say that the creation of synergy is a win-win situation. In practice, it requires an attitude of openness and an ability to discard the idea that one loses when one's preferred alternative is not necessarily adopted, in sum or in total.

Ultimately, it is clear that supervisors and team leaders must set the attitude and the tone. As a federal agency, we are, after all, a hierarchical organization. As such, there is always a supervisory chain empowered to make final decisions. But, if the final decision is that 3rd alternative which was not immediately discernable, then perhaps we can say that there is a much greater likelihood that synergy was created.

General Flowers said, the collective skills and energy of our workforce make the creation of synergy possible. I couldn't agree more. Let's make it a reality!

# Personnel actions made easier with modern computer system

by Barbara K. Filbert  
CPOCMA PAO

(Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.)

Improving services to federal employees continues to be a top priority for the Department of Army. Since regionalization began in 1994, the Army has made drastic changes in the way it performs its duties. The principal vehicle of these changes is a more sophisticated, enhanced and complex computer network.

Today, human resource professionals throughout the Defense Department play an important role as they deploy a new automated data system, better known as the "Modern System," at its personnel centers throughout the world.

The modern Defense Civilian Personnel Defense System (DCPDS), a defense-wide initiative, will launch an automated human-resources system that will link all military branches under the same personnel system. Defense officials said the database is designed to support about 800,000 employee records.

The Modern System uses new technology to simplify processing personnel actions, accessing civilian work force information and standardizing the way personnel services are man-

aged. The system is designed to streamline personnel paperwork and services, and will support appropriated and non-appropriated fund, and local national civilian personnel operations.

Because of the Army's reorganization, infrastructure changes, and centralizing personnel functions in the last decade, the human resources workforce has reduced its staffs by 41 percent. Their job of providing pay and benefits services is evolving into a more strategic role, as personnel specialists focus on recruiting a skilled workforce for the future.

"The modern DCPDS will support regionalized personnel services by allowing direct access to up-to-date information," said Denise Copeland, a personnel management specialist at the Civilian Personnel Operations Center Management Agency (CPOCMA), headquartered at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

"One of the advantages of the new system is that everyone involved in the civilian personnel process (managers, supervisors, resource managers and human-resource personnel) can access the system, and data will flow quickly and efficiently to organiza-

**The modern DCPDS will support regionalized personnel services by allowing direct access to up-to-date information.**

— Denise Copeland



tions and geographic locations," she said.

The Civilian Personnel Operations Centers' (CPOCs) staffs will be the most frequent users, as they are the ones that process personnel actions, which will be recorded electronically. This will allow managers and human-resources officers to track personnel activities from their desktop computers. Managers will be able to track the status of personnel actions from their desktops and retrieve personnel information regarding their employees. With the new system, human resource providers can simplify the processing of personnel actions and provide expanded access to information on civilian employees.

The Northeast Region, headquartered here, will begin using the new system Mar. 16. Late last year, the Southwest and North Central Regions started using the modern system, and the transitions of both went well. Army personnel officials hope to be fully deployed throughout their 10 regions by September 2001.

The Pacific Region, which was one of Defense Department's three Operational Test and Evaluation sites, continues to show steady progress with system usage and customer acceptance. They have helped other Army and non-Army regions prepare for deployment since initially deploying the modern system in October 1999.

Copeland said the Ora-

cle-based system, which DoD developed in partnership with Oracle Human Resources, will capitalize on new technology to deliver personnel services.

"Our biggest challenges have been the time and training to accomplish the CPOC's deployment tasks, keeping up with the volumes of information regarding the system, and overcoming the overall fear of change from some of our customers," said Mike Vajda, director of the Northeast CPOC.

"We met these challenges by designating a project officer (for the modern system), establishing a deployment committee and training the customers."

Vajda said his staff keeps customers informed through newsletters and e-mail messages. "Our trainers have done a remarkable job in instructing and demonstrating how the system works and how user-friendly it is. As with any new system, there are changes, and we plan to offer refresher training sessions to our customers."

Greg Wert, of CPOCMA's Training Management Division, said the system has user-friendly screens. "The modern system is based on a commercial, off-the-shelf product that uses a graphical Windows environment with drop-down menus, point-and-click maneuvering, and cut-copy-paste capability," he said. "Users

who have more than one 'role', such as a budget officer who also supervises civilian employees, will appreciate the ease of switching between these roles without having to exit from the system."

The modern system is moving toward greater standardization in the way we process personnel actions, Wert said, and added that it is getting us away from reliance on locally-developed systems. He said that customers and managers who move from one organization to another should see a marked similarity in the operation of the civilian personnel system between organizations in the Army.

"Organizational and employee data can be displayed in a variety of different formats that can be modified, filtered, sorted and exported for use in other applications such as an Excel spreadsheet."

Training is a key element of the system's success, and CPOCMA is coordinating an extensive training effort. They established a charter team to conduct the training on the new system, using a "train-the-trainer" approach. The members served as the key trainers for the regional operations centers, and developed job aids and training modules for use in training the regional human resource personnel.

"We have a great deal of training material available

for all the audiences using the system - personnel specialists, training coordinators, administrative and resource management staff, managers and supervisors," Wert said. "We (CPOCMA) have coordinated an extensive training effort, which includes workshops for trainers from the Major Army Commands and CPOCs, and multiple training sessions at each region as they prepare to deploy."

During the past six years, the Army has led the way for the other services in regionalizing and modernizing civilian personnel operations, and is now 100 percent regionalized. Civilian personnel operations across DoD continue to

regionalize and modernize to provide more cost-effective services and support services with fewer personnel specialists.

Army officials said more improvements are needed and will come with everyone's support. The Army's goal is to have a personnel system that has more integrated processes, and is responsive to the customers' needs.

For more information and current up-to-date information on the modern system, see the Web site, <http://cpol.army.mil>, under "Modernization." Current information on policy and procedural changes also is posted on the Web site. 



# African American History Observance: 2001

by Carletta Degroat

Something brand new and exciting occurred this year. **An open marketplace** featuring drummers, dancers, educators, and much more entertainment. That is how the Detroit District celebrated the history of African Americans in February 2001.

There were a dozen vendors on hand to sell art, artifacts, books, clothing, crafts, food, and fragrances. The goal was to reach all of the federal agencies inside the PVM building. And that goal was achieved with the combined efforts of the **Corps, CUSTOMS, FED, FBI, GSA, HUD, IRS, and the VA.**

The kickoff began on Thursday February 1st and every Thursday thereafter the marketplace and guests drew crowds from the other agencies within the building. **The national theme: Creating and defining the African American community: Family, Church, Politics, Culture.** Dr. Robert O. Bland, Vice President of Lewis College of Business, opened up the session emphasizing the need to recognize the hero's in our own families and not entertainers. Malik Yakini, Director at Nsoroma Institute (K-8) in Oak Park, insisted the need to retain our culture and the political issues we should be concerned with. Mikal Abdul, owner of Healthwise Enterprise, spoke of changing our diets and Sammie Hart Jr., a contract specialist for the Detroit District, gave a history lesson on the Gullah people of the Carolinas and Georgia. Sammie explained

some of the contributions made by the Gullahs such as: farming, language, and gospel songs. For example, the Gullahs brought rice cultivation to America from Africa and whenever you use the word "OK" you are speaking Gullah.

On February 22nd, a tour was conducted of the African Heritage Cultural Center, located at 21511 West McNichols Rd. Detroit, Michigan 48219. This is a very unique and hidden treasure in the Detroit community that is owned by the Detroit Public Schools. On February 28th, a documen-

tary video called, **A Great A Mighty Walk** was our grand finale. Executive producer/narrator Wesley Snipes, captured Dr. John Henrik Clarke's compelling and stimulating lesson about the history of African peoples. Dr. Clarke strolls through five thousand years of African history.

We thank all our volunteers who helped lend a hand including: FEB, Rose Hubbard (Observance/Welcome), GSA, Doris Pittman (Room setup) Corps, Dennis Rundlett (video taping), Corps, Jennifer Thomas (digital pictures) Corps,

Twylla Lucas (Coordinating the tour), Corps, Charles Muhammad (equipment setup) Corps, Shanell Wilkerson (Free Raffles) Corps, Vernard Moore (Poster Creations) Corps, FBI, Rhonda Flemming, (Tour scheduling), HUD, Jannie Williams and Daisy Lucious (Decorations) IRS, Charles Edwards (History Quiz) CUSTOMS Rose Frisco and Corps Ruby McGill who worked in all capacities. Corps, Carletta Degroat volunteered to chair this year's event. 



*The Thiosane Performing Arts Company (Thiosane pronounced Cho-san) The company has been in existence since March 1998. Members are comprised of Nsoroma students and alumnae, ranging from ages six to 14. The group began with a total of 20 members. The current total is 43 active members.*

*Ancient Royalty-Queen Tiye of Kemet, Egypt, one of many animatronic figures at the African Heritage Cultural Center*



*Mr. Warren A. Hollier, Jr., Supervisor/Director of the African Heritage Cultural Center, explains the African-Olmec connection which extends over more than 2,500 years.*

## CORPS COOK-OUT

June 22, 2001

Metro Beach

For more info contact  
Erwin Dungy, (313) 226-5044 or  
Sandra Jones (313) 226-2363.

**Volunteers needed!**



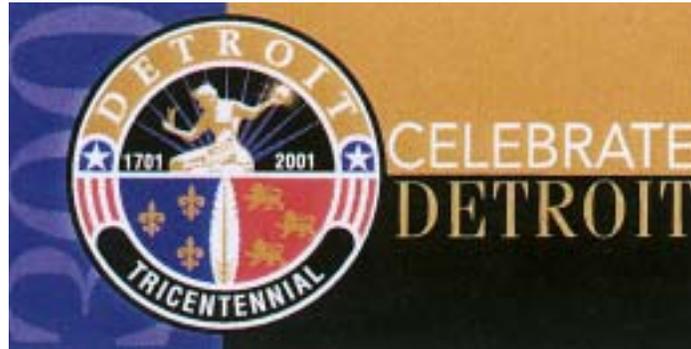
# Celebrate! It's Detroit's 300<sup>th</sup> Birthday

**A**s Detroit observes its tricentennial, the Detroit District commemorates 160 years of being a part of the city's rich history.

The Detroit 300 Business Recognition committee honored the district at its Heritage Recognition Breakfast, one of its first official events, honoring 950 businesses and non-profit organizations at least 50 years old, and founded or headquartered in Detroit.

"The Detroit District far exceeds the 50 year mark and is in fact one of the oldest organizations having been established in 1841. You can take pride in the fact that the organization you are a part of has been serving the nation since 1841," said Maj. Scott Jackson, deputy district engineer.

Jackson and Jeff Weiser, the district's business development coordinator, accepted a specially commissioned



tile for the district, because it's an organization more than 100 years old.

In addition to this honor the Corps' name, along with the names of all awardees founded more than 100 years ago, is inscribed on the sterling silver Detroit Tricentennial Cup, designed and donated by Tiffany & Co.

Detroit 300 has many plans for celebrations throughout the year including "a Parade of Historic Tall Ships." For more information about Detroit 300, the planned celebrations, and schedules go to: <http://www.detroit300.org/indexj.htm> 



The Detroit District Received this plaque (with Pewabic tile) from Detroit 300 for our contributions to the Detroit community since 1841.



Tiffany created this trophy for Detroit 300. On it are the names of all the businesses recognized by Detroit 300, including the Detroit District. This trophy will be displayed around Detroit this year before being permanently housed at the Historical Museum.

## The Lake Effect: Superior's Influence

by Rich Gutleber, Marquette Field Office

**T**his is the theme for a new exhibit being planned for the Marquette County History Museum. The museum contacted the Detroit District, Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Office, through the Marquette Regulatory Field Office, to participate on the planning committee for the exhibit. Participating in public outreach the Marquette Field Office, with assistance and

coordinated efforts of several District offices in supplying resources for the exhibit. The Hydraulic and Hydrology Office is providing lake level and effect information, and the Soo Area Office has been contacted regarding the history and operation of the Locks. The Regulatory Office has been asked to provide input regarding Lake Superior ecology, with the focus on wetlands. Other topics that will

be on display include weather, flora and fauna, watershed influence, MDNR fishery efforts, United States Coast Guard, shipping and shipwrecks, history of settlement, commercial development, tourism, and mineral resources. The exhibit is expected to open mid-April 2001, and run for a year. The Museum is located at 213 North Front Street, Marquette, with business hours of 10 AM

- 5 PM Monday through Friday, and on the third Thursday of the month remaining open until 9 PM. The Museum can be reached at (906) 226-3571.

Look for updates of this event to be provided by the Marquette Regulatory Field Office in future issues of 'Soundings'. The Marquette Regulatory Field Office can be contacted at (906) 228-2833.



# National Engineers Week: emphasize positive contributions

by Pat Klever, Grand Haven Area Office

National Engineers Week seeks to increase public awareness and appreciation of the engineering profession and technology by emphasizing their positive contributions to society. To help students better understand the practical applications of mathematical and scientific principles, the National Engineers Week Committee sponsors an annual National Engineers Week *Future City* Competition. ESD The Engineering Society sponsors the Michigan regional competition.

This year's regional event was held at the Spirit of Ford building in Dearborn

on January 30th. 26 teams from various schools throughout Michigan participated in this event. Students used *Sim City 2000* software to design their future city. They then plotted a map, built a scale model with a moving part, wrote an essay, and made oral presentations to panels of judges. Pat Klever, from the Grand Haven Area Office, took the time in early January to read and judge most of the essays. On the 30th, Pat then joined with three other engineers (Paul Ostrowski, *VA Medical Center*; Larry Jedele, *Soils and Materials Engineering*; and Chip Hoist, *Detroit Edison*)

to do preliminary judging of five of the models and the presentations from the students. St. John Lutheran School from Rochester won this year's regional event and will be going to the National Competition in Washington, DC, during Engineers Week, Feb 18-24. The national champion will receive a trip to the US Space Camp in Huntsville.

"It is really neat seeing these bright enthusiastic kids and their visions of the future" Klever told another judge. "It really gives one hope for the future." This year's theme centered around future communications. Ideas for communications ranged from neural implants ("You don't receive a message; you know it. You don't send a reply; you think it.") to wrist communicators and holographic eyeglasses to DNA implants. "You know, we adults may think that some of these ideas will never work; but then again, why not? It is neat to see that kids don't have the same self-imposed restraints on what is or is not possible. They are not limited by what is."

Each school was allowed to sponsor one team. While the team at the regional competition only has three students, a teacher, and a mentor, some schools have so embraced the *Future City* Competi-

tion that it has become an integral part of their curriculum for ALL 7th and 8th graders. These schools then have their own individual competitions to decide which students will represent them at the regional competitions. "I've already made plans to talk to several local school principals this spring to see if we can get a little more SW Michigan representation in next year's competition. Waiting until fall is too late to allow teachers to incorporate the competition into their classrooms."

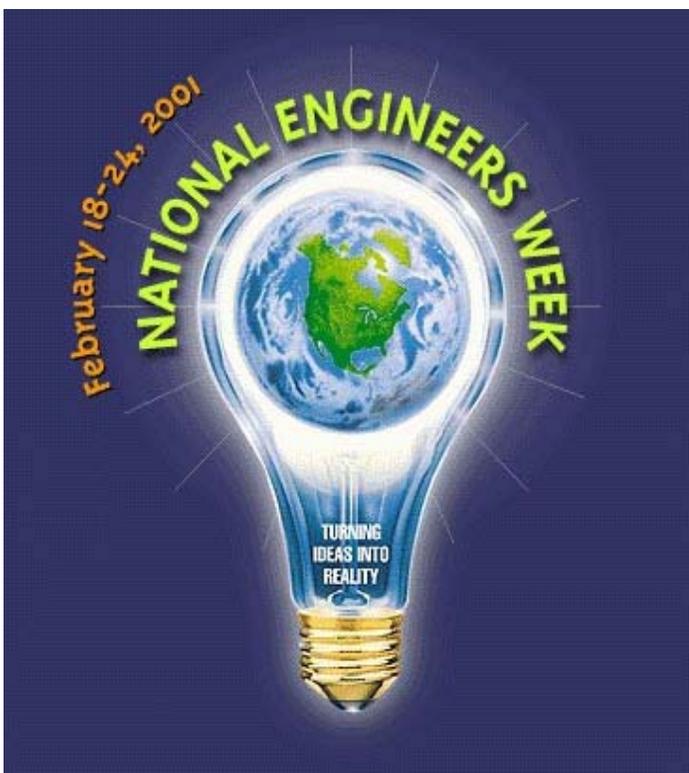
Each team also has an engineer mentor. Mentoring provides these junior high school kids with an opportunity to learn about engineering at an early age and to see that Engineers have a large role to play in society. Klever mentored a local Grand Haven team a couple of years back. "It is a lot of work, but the personal payoff is in the interaction and the potential for society that you watch developing before your eyes."

Next year's materials will be available in mid-August. Interested engineers, parents, and students can find out more information by visiting the *Future City* website at

<http://www.futurecity.org>

More information on Engineers Week can be found at

<http://www.eweek.org> 





John Overfield, Ch. Facilities Management Br., Soo Area Office (left), was one of the judges of the Rube Goldberg contest.

## Rube Goldberg contest held in conjunction with National Engineers Week

By: Carmen Paris  
Soo Area Office

**H**eld in conjunction with National Engineers Week, the Lake Superior State University School of Engineering Technology sponsored a Rube Goldberg contest on February 19th. The event took place at the campus' Walker Cisler Center. It featured high school teams from the Eastern Upper Peninsula, Northern Lower Michigan and nearby Ontario. Serving as judges in the contest were personnel from the Soo Area Office, including, John Overfield, Ch. Facilities Management

Branch; Jim Peach, Asst Ch. Construction Branch; Kurt Bunker, Asst Ch. SYM Branch.

The goal in this years competition was for students to cause a standard metal slinky to walk down a series of three standard seven-inch steps. The design was to include a minimum of 15 energy changes, with no identical energy changes in sequence. Each team was to make a presentation that explained the device's theme, the energy changes and stages. 

## Richard Dickson welcomed to the Detroit District

**D**etroit District welcomes Richard Owen Dickson, as the chief of the Project Management Branch. He's responsible for the leadership, supervision, and management of the district's Project Managers, ensuring the Corps' Project Management Business Process is



fully implemented and executed within the district.

Rich completed his undergraduate degree in 1979 as a Civil Engineer at Clarkson College of Technology (in upstate New York), and upon graduation, was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He served almost ten years in the U.S. Army, enjoying challenging assignments at Ft. Belvoir VA, Ft. Ord CA, Camp Humphreys Korea, Stuttgart Germany, and with the Corps in Winchester, VA.

Rich's most recent assignment was as the Corps' first Regional Program Manager for the 6th Area Support Group (ASG), USAREUR's base operations command in southern Germany.

Rich's leadership/management/supervisory focus is on the incredible synergistic possibilities of Project

Delivery Teams (PDTs). He also strongly believes that one must (1) work hard and play hard, no matter how difficult, (2) take intelligent risks, and (3) execute projects with a single-minded passion.

Rich's personal interests include being an avid scuba diver and underwater photographer, an avid (but untalented ! !) thrower of darts and hitter of golf and racquet balls, and looks forward to the boating and fishing possibilities in the Detroit/Michigan area. He is single and has a very unique feline "child" named Genau (means "exactly" in German). He looks forward to returning to the U.S. for the first time in nine years, living and working in Detroit, and executing projects in an almost-pure Civil Works District that has an outstanding reputation. 



## Corps Speaks...

# Corps presents at Boat Show



**D**oug Zande, chief of Operations, lets a group of young boaters participate in the dredging activity in the Corps' booth at the 43rd Annual Detroit Boat Show. The hands-on water-based dredging activity was a big hit with the kids, as evident by the number of youngsters that wouldn't leave the booth -- voluntarily. Record crowds visited the show and left the Corps booth with a wide variety of posters, brochures, pamphlets, and of course candy. But, one big draw to the booth, as it is every year, was the state of the lake levels. Corps participants demonstrated, on a computer set-up to simulate our website, how anyone with access to the web could get lake level and dredging information, talked about lake levels, distributed monthly bulletins and permit applications.

## Of Note:

*When George Fastland, budget analyst at Duluth Area Office, is not running the office he puts on his Red Green outfit and sits over a hole in the ice of Duluth - Superior Harbor.*



**O**n April 20, 2001, **Amy TenEyck**, Civilian Pay Clerk at the Soo Area Office spoke at the Sault Area Career Center for their Challenges and Choices Conference. Amy herself began her career at the Corps of Engineers as a student hire and gained a full time position in 2000. She is a local Sault Area High School graduate and a graduate from Lake Superior State University in May 1999.

**O**n Monday March 5, 2001 **Curt Goltz** presented a simple class to the students of Lake Superior College, route surveying class, on applying for a Corps job on the CPOL system. This class informed the students how to look for a job, use the Resumix system and then to apply for a job announcement. Also covered was the types of jobs that these students would qualify for, i.e. Civil Engineering Technicians and Construction Inspector/Representative. Other area of conversation where, pay starting issues, job locations w / locality pay, summer positions.

**E**PA held a workshop in Chicago on March 30, "Climate Change and the Great Lakes Water Levels: What Are the Potential Impacts and What Can We Do?" **Dr. Galloway** was a panelist, along with **Scott Vowinkel**, for a discussion of "Water Management and Mitigation Strategies."

**P**atricia Borden and **Gina Nathan** were speakers at the Annual Harbormasters Conference on March 7 and 8, 2001 at Higgins Lake, Michigan. A presentation was given to a group of harbormasters and marina owners about the Regulatory Program as it relates to the application process, various types of permits available for dredging and other marina maintenance type activities, etc.

**O**n November 16, 2000 **Joyce Henderson**, Ch, Administration Br. at the Soo Area Office gave a briefing to the Natural Sciences class at Lake Superior State University on careers in the Federal

**O**n February 21, **Sue Bright** of the Sault Ste. Marie Regulatory Field Office participated in the Contractor's Soil Erosion Control Workshop for Cheboygan County by giving a joint presentation with the MDEQ on permit jurisdiction, wetland regulations and permit processing.

**O**n March 15, 2001, **Trudi Britz**, Chief, Construction Branch, Soo Area participated in the local Sault Middle School Career Night held at Lake Superior State University.

# Kudos!

## The Mary Lefevre scholarship awarded to Denise Gulley

by John Grundstrom

 **Denise Gulley** was awarded the Society of American Military Engineers Mary Lefevre Scholarship at the Society's monthly meeting on February 14, 2001. Ms. Gulley is the secretary in the District's Operations Technical Support Section. Since 1998, she has been attending Henry Ford Community College part time while working full time at the Corps. Ms. Gulley is working towards an Applied Science Degree in Computer Information Systems which she anticipates receiving in 2002.

Ms. Gulley was sponsored by Douglas Zande, Chief of Operations Technical Support Section. In his nominating letter, Mr. Zande said he appreciates Ms. Gulley's contributions towards meeting the Section's many needs and he greatly admires her dedication and energy in the pursuit of her educational goals. He also noted that he particularly appreciates the friendly disposition and sunny smile Ms. Gulley radiates while maintaining a very taxing schedule of



work, family obligations and education.

The Mary Lefevre scholarship is awarded annually by the Society of American Military Engineers. The scholarship is awarded to a deserving individual who is working full time and pursuing a degree either part time or full time. The scholarship is named to honor the memory of Mary Lefevre, who, while she was the efficient and cheerful secretary for Design Branch, raised a large family and completed work towards a Bachelors Degree. Before she could utilize her education, Mary was stricken with cancer and passed away. Although the Society of American Military Engineers has awarded the Mary Lefevre scholarship for 12 years, Denise Gulley is the first recipient who works for the Corps.



## Wrights win trophy

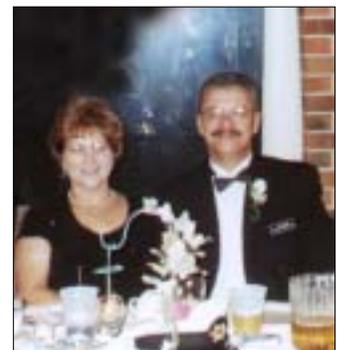
 **Jack Wright**, Chief Engineer aboard the tug "Fourney", also commodore of Windmill Pointe Yacht Club. Jack and Denise attended Anchor Bay Yachting Association's spring rendezvous in Midland MI the first weekend of March. About 500 members were there for the "Big Party". Jack and Denise entered the rubber band boat races with two wooden paddle wheel boats he built from recycled Chris Craft parts. Jack and Denise received trophies for best in exhibition class. Jack said they didn't run very well this year, but they sure looked good.

 **Bob Kerr**, captain for the Corps tug *Fourney*, proudly received the Captain Lewis Ludington Award at Mariner's Church of Detroit at the Annual Great Lakes Memorial Service during the Blessing of the Fleet. As a licensed ship master he was nominated and chosen by his peers to get this award for demonstrating values and virtues lived by Captain Ludington. Presented by a

Ludington family member, Kerr was honored with an ornate certificate, a gold Mariner's shield lapel pin, a copy of Ludington's license, and other memorabilia. During the ceremony Kerr and other Detroit Area Office personnel were present for the blessing bestowed upon the Detroit District's fleet.

 Congratulations to **Sharon Lawrence** on receiving her Level III Certified Acquisition Professional certification in accordance with the Defense Acquisition Workforce Act. Level III is the highest accomplishment for Contracting personnel and Sharon is the second in Contracting to fulfill the requirements.

 **Jack Wright**, Chief of Engineers of the tug "Fourney" installed as new Commodore of Windmill Pointe Yacht Club at ceremony "Change of Watch", new officer installation. Seated with him is wife, Denise.



*Kudos!* (continued)

 **Charlie Uhlarik** and wife Leeann welcomed their third child Emily Therese, on October

1, 2000 at 9:00a.m.. Emily weighed 7lbs 7 ounces and was 20 inches long. Older

sister Sarah and older brother Nicholas are excited over the new addition. Everyone is healthy and doing well as

their sleep deprivation study continues...

*Employees of the Month*

JANUARY

**Chris Schropp**

**C**hris prepared and presented Grand Haven's post construction projects. He did this with minimal guidance and assistance putting in that extra effort staying late to assure the presentations were ready prior to the required date and in time for review with time to spare. The presentations were prepared and presented without a flaw. The presentation consisted of several hundred photos that had to be scanned into power point format along with maps, cross sections and contract data. GHAO was the only office that had the required handouts as requested by the Contract Admin. Branch. Comments received from the conferences audience enhanced the fact that it was conducted in a professional manner.



GREAT JOB CHRIS! CONGRATULATIONS ON THIS WELL DESERVED HONOR. Keep up the Good work.

*Retirees' Corner***James Bumford retired**

**J**ames Bumford, Kewaunee Area Office, retired March 2nd from his position as Master, Large Tugboat aboard the Tug Kenosha. Jim's impressive career of over 33 years at the Kewaunee Area Office started with him serving as a Deckhand. He also served as a Survey Boat Operator and Master, Tug Class I. Jim did a great job of safely operating the tug on the Great Lakes under sometimes less than ideal weather conditions. One of his many accomplishments was receiving the District Safety Award in 2000. The entire Corps family wishes Jim a healthy and happy retirement.



FEBRUARY

**Tammy Caperton-Ramos**

**T**ammy is a first rate employee who has a customer care attitude. She has a penchant for gaining as much knowledge about the workings of the District and never has a problem sharing this knowledge or her expertise with other employees in the District. Tammy is considered a perfect "team" player. She works hard and embraces doing other duties as assigned. When Tammy is given a job, you can be assured that it will be completed correctly, on time, and within the parameters given.



CONGRATULATIONS ON A JOB WELL DONE.  
Keep up the Good work.

**Remember summer?**

**I**t was a grand summer, I spent three weeks in England, did the London tourist spots, saw "The Tempest" at the new Globe Theatre, and took train trips to Oxford, Stratford and Bath, a beautiful Roman bath/city, found when they were constructing water lines 25 feet underground. You should try this for your next vacation.

Now we are immersed in the minus zero temperatures and blowing snow here at the SOO, I can remember the warm summer days in London.

Regards,  
Virginia Shoffer  
Retiree  
Safety, Emergency, PAO