

Detroit District *Soundings* US Army Corps of Engineers



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Corps rewards lifetime of dedication

BY LARRY REILLY
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

For 33 years, James Demolen donned his steel-toed boots, blue work clothes and his engineer hardhat and then went to work on various Corps vessels. On June 7, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District, repaid Demolen for his dedication to the Corps by bestowing upon its newest tugboat his namesake.

At the commissioning ceremony of the tugboat DEMOLEN, held at the Detroit Area Office, James' wife Shirley and son James were on hand as many people came to see the newest District tugboat and pay tribute to the man whose name is painted in bold white letters on its bow and stern.

"In the Navy and the Corps of Engineers, most all the ships are named after great men with very recognizable names. Although James C. Demolen, better known as Jim or Jimmie to some, may not be famous outside the Corps of Engineers, he is well known within the District," said Lt. Col. (P) Richard J. Polo, Detroit District Engineer. "Jim always went the extra mile in everything he did. On his last day of duty, Jim insisted on painting the hull of the tugboat FORNEY and even after his retirement in 1991, Jim would visit the boatyard and share his expertise with the crew."

A number of people were considered when the task of naming the newest tugboat began, which was well before the tugboat arrived. "I was asked if I knew of anyone," said Shirley Demolen, who works at the Detroit Area Office, "but I was more interested in getting



Lt. Col. (P) Richard J. Polo, District Engineer addresses the audience during the commissioning ceremony of the tugboat DEMOLEN on June 7.

James to come down to the boatyard to see the new tug. James had retired from the Corps in June of 1991 and this new tug was to replace the tugboat Forney, which he had served on for the last 19 years of his time in the Corps."

Getting James to see the new tugboat was not a problem. In fact, he wanted to go with the crew to bring the tugboat to Detroit. "It was a challenge to convince him that he couldn't go get the new tugboat, but he would be one of the first people to go on board when it arrived here," said Shirley.

The day the new tugboat arrived in Detroit, James was informed that he could see the boat the next day.

James never got the chance to see the new tugboat as he passed away that evening.

see DEMOLEN on page 4

Commander prepares for new Pentagon assignment

As I write my final column for Soundings, I am filled with mixed emotions. Proud to have served as one of the many team members in the Detroit District and happy to rejoin my family in Virginia, I am nevertheless sad to leave.

Together we have accomplished much in the past two years and we can take justifiable pride in our many successes. But at the same time, there is always more to do and much to accomplish, all in the name of serving the Corps, the U.S. Army, and the Nation.

In the next few months, a new District Business plan will be "fleshed out", Project Management Business Process training will continue, and a myriad of other missions will be accomplished. A couple of major projects loom on the horizon, not the least of which is the \$220 million dollar

Replacement Lock at the Soo. I trust the District will remain as busy and productive as it has ever been.

I personally know the next District Commander, Lt. Col. Tom Magness, and as such it is extremely easy for me to give a glowing testimonial on his behalf. Hard working, conscientious, and talented, I predict that Tom Magness will "fit right in."

I want to thank the many friends I have made in the District and the surrounding communities, and, from the proverbial bottom of my heart, I appreciated the tremendous support. I don't mind telling you that this assignment has been the best assignment of my career, and it is hard to envision a better job or even a better place.

If you are ever in the Washington DC, or northern Virginia area, by all means give me a call and I'll be happy to offer you a guided tour of the Pentagon. The "Building", as they call it, is a little bigger than the Patrick McNamara Building or any of the Area Offices, but it is not nearly as friendly and it will be quite a while before it has half the meaning as my old home at the intersection of Cass and Michigan Avenues.

I wish you all the best in your future endeavors and Godspeed. 🇺🇸



Lt. Col. (P) Richard J. Polo, Jr.

Soundings

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Schatz Publishing Group (contractor)

Soundings is an authorized unofficial newspaper of the Detroit District. It is published quarterly, under supervision of the Public Affairs Office, in accordance with provisions of Army regulation, AR 360-1. It is prepared using desktop publishing and printed by offset press. Also available on the internet at: <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/functions/pa/press/html>.

Circulation: We print 600 copies per issue and circulate them to employees, retirees, and anyone requesting a copy in writing.

Contents: Views and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. The U.S. Army doesn't endorse any product or service that may be advertised or mentioned in this publication. News copy is prepared in accordance with Associated Press, AP, Style Guide. All photos are U.S. Army photos unless otherwise indicated.

Submissions: 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, Fax: 313-226-5993. Email: Lynn.M.Duerod@lre02.usace.army.mil. For general information, call toll free: 1-888-694-8313.



The 12 millionth visitor(s) to the Maritime Visitor Center in Duluth were Derek and Dana Woodford, their sons, Christopher and Cole, and Dana's parents, Jerry and Kathy Gould. (Photo courtesy of the Maritime Visitor Center.)

Maritime Visitor Center welcomes 12 millionth visitor

BY MARY T. GEORGE,
MUSEUM TECHNICIAN

The Corps of Engineers' Lake Superior Maritime Visitor Center in Duluth welcomed its 12 millionth visitor on June 7, 2002 in Canal Park. Dana and Derek Woodford and their family from Redwood Falls, Minnesota were greeted by museum director Thom Holden, Visitor Center staff, and Barbara Oswell of the Duluth Convention and Visitor Bureau.

Dana and her son Christopher came through the museum doors together followed by Dana's husband Derek. Close behind were Dana's parents, Kathy and Jerry Gould of Duluth, carrying baby grandson Cole.

The Woodfords were in Duluth visiting family. Dana said her husband and sons had never visited Canal Park and she wanted to show them the Marine Museum. Grandparents Kathy and Jerry Gould of Duluth said this is one of their favorite places in town. Members of the Lake Superior Marine Museum Association along with the Duluth Convention and Visitors Bureau, Lake Superior Magazine, Duluth-Superior Excursions and others provided gifts for the families.

"It was a delight that our 12 millionth visitor was part of a three-generation

family group. The Goulds brought their young daughter Dana to the museum many years ago. Now, she is showing off the museum, ship canal, and Lake Superior to her husband and sons," said Thom Holden, Visitor Center Director. "Perhaps sons Christopher and Cole will carry on the family tradition in the years to come."

"We count visitors the easy way," Holden said, "electronically. We have electric eye counters at the upper and lower entries that count visitors in and out. We just add up the numbers and divide by two. It may not be 100 percent accurate, but it's a pretty consistent figure."

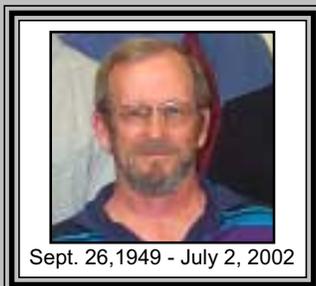
The Visitor Center opened in the fall of 1973 as part of the Corps of Engineers' St. Paul District and was reassigned to the Detroit District in a Corps reorganization in the 1980s. Nearly half of its visitors come from the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area, plus Upper Michigan, northern Wisconsin, Iowa, the Dakotas, and Ontario. Other milestone visitation events were in 1976 when the 1 millionth visitor arrived, the 5 millionth in 1986, and 10 millionth in 1997.

"This Association, the Board of Directors, and its membership are very proud of our successful and longstanding partnership with the

Corps of Engineers in providing this wonderful facility, its exhibits, and its programs for so many people for so long," said Bruce VonRiedel, Lake Superior Marine Museum Association president. "The Woodfords and Goulds are among the thousands of families who will visit us this summer. Our Association's 30th anniversary is just a year away and we hope to be working together for years to come. We are nearly done with a new lighthouse exhibit featuring a beautiful rotating 5th Order Fresnel lens with six flash panels. The staff is also finishing up an exhibit for the Lewis & Clark bicentennial commemoration that was one of the Army's earliest civil works missions leading to other exploration and eventually the Corps' work here on the Great Lakes. Programs about both will be offered free to schools and community groups this fall."

The Association is a non-profit group dedicated to the preservation of Lake Superior and Great Lakes regional maritime history and helps the Corps of Engineers through its support of the exhibits and programs. The group is one of the oldest cooperating associations within the Corps, actually being formed before the visitor center opened. 📷

In Memory of Paul R. Baxter



Sept. 26, 1949 - July 2, 2002

The Detroit District lost a true friend and great worker when Paul R. Baxter passed away on July 2, 2002. Paul worked in the Environmental Analysis Branch, analyzing sediment and project site contaminant issues. He joined the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in December of 1994. Prior to working for the Corps, he worked for a civilian contractor for sediment analytical services including many Corps contracts. He was a military veteran who served his country in Vietnam.



Paul Baxter took part in many of the District events. (left) During the recent District Summer Cookout on June 28, he volunteered to cook the food. (right) During the Detroit Boat Show in February, he worked at the Corps' booth and met Detroit City Mayor, Kwame Kilpatrick.

DEMOLEN

Continued from page 1

"After James' death, I had not heard much more about the naming of the new tugboat until one day when Mike O'Bryan, District Chief Engineering and Technical Services, told me the new tugboat would be named after James - no questions asked," said Shirley. "It was a good thing he said 'no questions asked,' because I was speechless."

During the commissioning ceremony, Shirley's son James addressed the audience and presented one of his father's engineer hats. "Now that they (the Corps) are immortalizing my father's name by naming this

tugboat after him, I'd like to donate one of his engineer hats to the tugboat DEMOLEN," said James Demolen as he looked skyward and added, "Congratulations Dad."

Both Shirley and James Demolen were invited to the tugboat DEMOLEN'S first public showing when it was entered into the International Freedom Festival Annual Tugboat Race on the Detroit River on June 22.

"James would be very happy with this tugboat. It is a super tug and we can't thank the Corps enough for remembering James this way," said Shirley and James as they left the tugboat DEMOLEN after the tugboat race, in which the tug captured second place overall.

James Demolen's steel-toed boots



The son and wife of James C. Demolen, James and Shirley, sit next to Lt. Col. (P) Richard J. Polo during the ceremony.

and blue work clothes have been retired from service, but his engineer's hardhat now rests on the District's newest tugboat, below the plaque noting the tug's Demolen namesake. 

2002 Employees of the Year



David M. Gerczak

Scientist of the Year

David M. Gerczak, HQ, Building, Detroit. David negotiated nearly 600 thousand dollars of a cost-sharing project with Door County, Wisconsin to develop framework data for the entire county. This included high-resolution elevation mapping for the entire county using airborne LIDAR surveys and high-resolution controlled aerial

photography for mapping all cultural and environmental features throughout Door County.

David conducts GIS studies and manages photogrammetric mapping projects pertaining to the hydraulics, hydrology, and social-economics of the Great Lakes watersheds and costal zones.



Kevin E. Sprague

Engineer of the Year

Kevin E. Sprague, Soo Area Office. Kevin was instrumental in the development of the Derrickbarge Nicolet Strike Removal System, which is an automated system that integrates survey data, vessel and crane positioning and vessel-mounted sonar. He authored a paper on this process, which was published by the Permanent International

Association of Navigation Congresses. Kevin organized a GPS land survey of the St. Mary's River using surveyors from four of the District's Area Offices.

He has been working on systems to improve the efficiency of time spent by Lock Operations Branch personnel between vessel lockage.



Mary F. Corio-Hoenscheid

Engineer of the Year

Mary F. Corio-Hoenscheid, Detroit Project Office. Mary is a Project Engineer with a number of on-going construction contracts with many different customers. She has worked projects as varied as office renovations, fire detection and suppression retrofits, large roof installation and "HVAC systems for laboratories, which require

calibration to one degree Fahrenheit. One project in particular was the construction of a Bridge Test Facility for the Selfridge Air National Guard Base. Mary started as the Project Engineer and was able to take the project through completion in spite of the many user-requested changes totaling more than 460 thousand dollars.



Sabrina N. Ayers

Student of the Year

Sabrina N. Ayers, HQ Building, Detroit. Sabrina is the MODERNS expert for ETS. In a very short period of time, she has become the "go to" person for all of ETS in ensuring the MODERNS submittals are prepared accurately, properly and in a timely fashion. Recently, she was required to prepare about

eight RPAs for engineering and scientist interns whom the District was recruiting under a new program call the Federal Career Intern Program. She quickly figured out the requirements and flawlessly prepared all the RPAs to ensure that the interns could be processed quickly.



Alfred A. Holman

Operator/Maintainer of the Year

Alfred A. Holman, Duluth Area Office. Alfred has been instrumental in the cross-training program developing and instructing equipment operators. Through his efforts, the office has established a program where all employees now operate equipment, such as cranes, forklifts and loaders and receive the proper training prior to receiving their

licenses. He also performed emergency strike removal at Cornucopia Harbor, Wisconsin, when the record runoff in the spring created a blockage of the harbor in Port Wing, WI. He conducts safety meetings to insure his men are aware and alert for any safety hazards that they may be involved with throughout the day.

Employees partake in District's annual cookout

Although the temperatures hit the mid 90s and the sun was scorching, it didn't deter the hundreds of District employees and their family members from traveling to Metro Beach to celebrate the District's annual summer cookout and Engineers Day ceremonies on June 28.

A number of children's games and activities occupied everyone's time during the morning hours. For those who wanted more, Metro Beach offered activities from tennis to volleyball to golf. By the time the temperature had reached the 90s, everyone had completed their selected activities as well as lunch and was settling into the area where the Engineers Day ceremonies were to be held.

Donned in shorts and a T-Shirt, Lt. Col. (P) Richard Polo, district engineer, praised the efforts of those who helped make this year's Cookout and Engineer Day ceremony a success and then proceeded to hand out the awards.

After the official awards ceremony was complete, he then led the group in the fine art of Salsa dancing.



There was plenty of food to go around for the hundreds of employees and family members who participated in the annual cookout and Engineers Day ceremony.



Tyler Borden, 7, daughter of Tenecha Bland, maneuvers through the obstacle course.

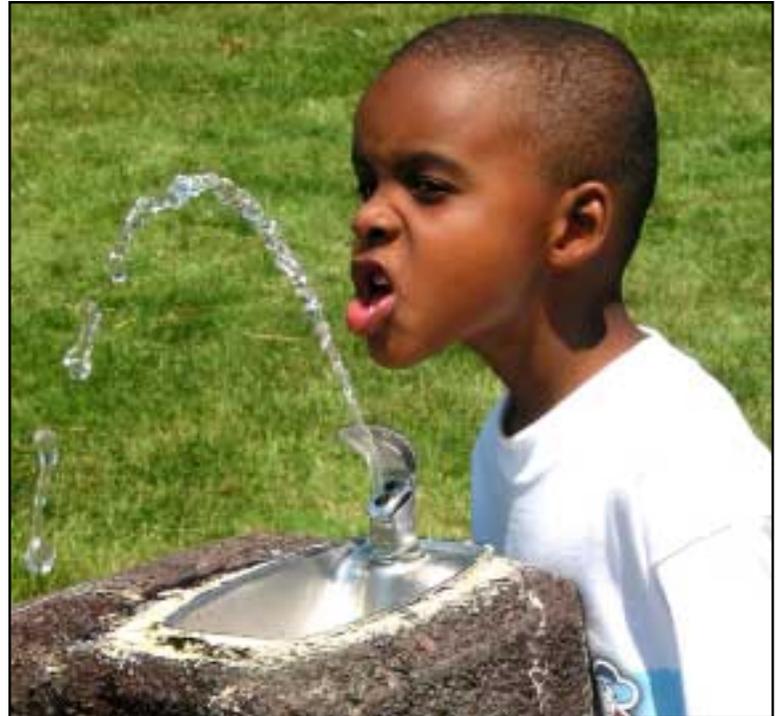


Just a small sample was what Bill O'Donoghue, left, Mary McDonald, center, and Mary Anderson wanted when they gathered at the barbecue grill during the District's annual cookout June 28.

out, award festivities



hundreds of District employees and their family members
ingineer Day ceremonies on June 28.



Shannon Dundy takes his turn at the water fountain during the
June 28th cookout at the Metro Beach & Metro Park.



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Top: Lt. Col. (P) Richard Polo leads the way during
the Salsa dancing session.

Right: With temperatures nearing the century mark,
the Sno-Kone machine was a favorite snack for all
ages.



Photos by Larry Reilly

2002 Employees of the Year (continued)



Joseph R. Wanielista

Leader of the Year

Joseph R. Wanielista, HQ. Building, Detroit. Joseph has daily contact with various District and Division Corps offices as well as agencies like FEMA, State and local governments, Native American Tribes and private citizens pertaining to water resource and environmental studies, issues and policies. He is a registered

Professional Engineer and holds a membership in the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Joseph established procedures that have streamlined the District's ability to become more effective in meeting the goals and challenges of the Corps' CAP program and FEMA's Flood Insurance Program.



Joann M. Neinas

Administrator of the Year

Joann M. Neinas, Kewaunee Area Office. Joann is the primary advisor to the Area Engineer on all administrative issues. She provides input to supervisors on performance standards, appraisals, job descriptions, reassignments or other status changes. She monitors area office overhead budget and ensures quality and timely input on funding

and budget information.

Joann prepares service contracts for area office maintenance projects and assists supervisors on overall personnel requirements. Joann is the liaison for the area office's public affairs information and communication and reviews accidents and related paperwork.



Wayne Schloop

Project Manager of the Year

Wayne Schloop, HQ. Building, Detroit. Wayne was selected to be one of the first Project Managers in the Detroit District and has recently been selected to the position of Senior Project Manager. As a project manager and now senior PM, Wayne is responsible for coordinating and leading the various project delivery teams to ensure project success. He ensures his project delivery teams are well

lead and managed, ensuring all people on his teams understand the scope, cost, and schedule required to successfully execute the projects. He continuously briefs Congress and others on the Great Lakes Navigation Study, which has had a tremendous positive impact on the perception of the Corps by Congress and the general public.



James H. Hop

Technical Employee of the Year

James H. Hop, Grand Haven Area Office. As the area office construction representative, James is the go to person on the staff concerning issues related to computer technology. During the transition to GPS hydrographic surveying, James was able to detect potential quantity calculation problems with the HyPack software, which

could result in overpayment. Accordingly, the commercial software developer modified its program to include the "Grand Haven Method" of quality calculations directly into the program. James has also become an expert in the Resident Management System, a headquarters directed program to manage and track construction at the field office level.

Distinguished Civilian of the Year



Alfred C. Eliason

Alfred C. Eliason served more than 30 years with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He was the youngest chief engineer in the Corps for the Hopper Fleet. He was the chief engineer for the Dredge Haine for 20 years.

Team of the Year

The Vidal Shoals Equitable Adjustment Team. This 12-member multi-disciplined negotiation team was formed to utilize the vast and varied expertise of its members to investigate, analyze, and then negotiate the request for an equitable adjustment for deepening the Vidal Shoals Channel area of the Upper St. Mary's River.

Kewaunee floating plant hits the high seas

BY JOANN NEINAS
KEWAUNEE AREA OFFICE

The floating plant crews from the Kewaunee Area Office put on their sea legs in early April and sailed out onto Lake Michigan. The crews could easily be called the Army's sailors as they perform their work for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers aboard tugboats and floating construction equipment on the Great Lakes.

Traveling from their homeport of Kewaunee, Wisconsin, the crews of the Cranebarge Manitowoc, Tug Kenosha, and Tug Racine will perform a variety of projects and missions on the Great Lakes.

Throughout the summer, the Cranebarge Manitowoc will use Type C stone, which can weigh from 50 to 500 pounds each, to perform work for the Chicago District.

Master of the Tug Racine, Mark Dreifuerst and his crew will deliver the stone to the job site by guiding a scow loaded with 600 ton of stone across the lake.

"The Tug Kenosha, operated by Master John Laitinen, will tender the Cranebarge as it performs its work placing stone along the deteriorated sides of break walls in the harbors near Chicago," said Pat Gallenberger, Master, Derrickbarge. "Duane Andler, operator of the crane, carefully grasps the grapple bucket, swings the bucket out, and precisely places each stone in place to create an amazingly straight wall of interlocking stone. The wall is built to a natural slope and grade, which blends in with the water's landscape. Approximately 2,800 tons of stone will be used to repair these walkways: that's more than 5.6 million pounds of stone."

This floating plant crew does more than just place big rocks out in the water. This spring, in the harbor near Holland, Michigan, they used the crane onboard the Cranebarge Manitowoc to remove 25-foot-

high wood pilings, which had been imbedded in the harbor for years.

"These pilings were used many years ago by the Dredge Haines as a cushion when tying the dredge to the dock," said Gallenberger. "In Holland Harbor, they also removed 80 steel inspection plates from the breakwall, each two feet square in size, then filled the holes with six to 12 inch stone. Steel reinforcing bars were installed along with plastic 'breather' tubes, and the openings were capped with concrete. These 'breather' tubes allow the openings to breathe when the waves slam against the breakwall and prevent unnecessary damage to the wall."

These Army sailors also did work this year in Manitowoc harbor, digging and removing more than 1,000 yards of sand to deepen the federal channel for boat traffic near the Inner Marina.



Workers on the Cranebarge Manitowoc transfer large stones from the shoreline to the barge for transport across the Great Lakes. (Photo courtesy of the Kewaunee Area Office.)

In addition to the Master of each floating plant, the crew consists of a Chief Engineer who keeps the diesel engines running. Other members include the crane operator, equipment operators, welders, and deckhands. A typical day for the crew begins at 6:30 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m., unless work requires a longer day. Sometimes an entire eight to 10 hour day is spent towing from one harbor to another.

Weather dictates a good portion of the crew's schedule and when high winds create high seas, the crew is forced to seek safe refuge on shore and perform other duties.

"On these 'blow days,' as they are called, the crew will do cleaning, painting, and preventative maintenance on equipment. Each crew takes pride in having a clean and safe operating vessel," said Gallenberger. "Safety is an extremely important factor while working out on the water. All crew members are acutely aware of the dangers and make sure they wear lifejackets, hard hats, safety shoes, safety glasses, and other personal protective equipment."

Camaraderie among the crew can be an important factor to the successful completion of the work projects. The crew travels into town on Sunday evenings and are together until Thursday evening.

"Many projects can require a change in the schedule, which can result in the crews having to work weekends. During the summer, we spend more time together than with our own family," says Gallenberger. "We have to get along."

The typical traveler may be unaware of how those big rocks end up in the harbor, creating an impressive wall of stone. The next time you see a tug out in the harbor with its Corps of Engineers flag flying, you'll know you're witnessing the Army's sailors at work. 📷

In the
news...



The
Corps Speak...

SOO AREA OFFICE EMPLOYEES ADDRESS PUBLIC FORUMS

Carmen Paris, Soo Area Office, represented the Corps of Engineers at the Ontario Provincial Police Boaters Awareness Night May 10 in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada. Paris answered procedural questions on how small craft can transit the Soo locks.

Stan Jacek, the Soo Area Engineer gave a presentation on the replacement lock and current Corps activities in the St. Mary's River to the International Shipmasters' Association meeting in Sault Ste. Marie, in Ontario, Canada on March 11. The Area Engineer also addressed that city's Transportation Advisory Committee on March 28. This group included the city's mayor and several city council members.

Ray Lane, the Soo Area Assistant Engineer attended and spoke during Career Day activities at the Tahquamenon Area School District April 5. Approximately 100 high school students participated in the activities.

EMPLOYEES INSPIRE STUDENTS DURING CAREER DAY

Curt Goltz gave a presentation at the Northwest Middle School in Popular, WI. On April 26. Goltz addressed three groups of seventh graders on the subject of surveying and the Corps of Engineers and the tasks performed by the surveyors.

Rich Sallans addressed nearly 100 students during the Blanche Sims Elementary School Career Day on May 3. Sallans highlighted many different aspects of working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers but emphasized the

importance of an education and graduating with a diploma.

Carl Platz, Professional Civil Engineer at the Grand Haven Area Office participated in Career Day 2002 on April 11 at the Grand Haven Middle School. Platz conducted four presentations to seventh and eighth grade students on pursuing a career path in Engineering and Technology.

DISTRICT EMPLOYEES ADDRESS PUBLIC CONFERENCE

Several District employees attended and spoke at the International ASCE "Dredging 2002" conference in Orlando, Florida. May 5-8. Those who attended and spoke included: **Carl Platz**, who gave a presentation on dredging disposal at the St. Joseph Harbor, MI; **Pat Klever**, who gave a presentation on dredging disposal at the Holland Harbor, MI; **Dave Bowman**, who gave a presentation on dredging disposal at the Milwaukee, WI.; and **Doug Zande**, who gave a presentation regarding the Detroit District perspectives on confined disposal facilities. 

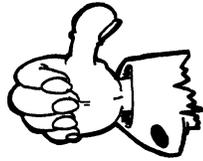
What's your 30 second commercial?

Jeff Weiser,
Project Manager

Hello, my name is Jeff Weiser and I work for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the world's foremost public engineering organization. Did you know that the Corps of Engineers has been evolving in recent years? Our traditional role of flood control and navigation has been expanded to include missions such as environmental restoration, improving water quality, and supporting other agencies. We have developed successful partnering relationships with state, county, and local government as well as other federal agencies to produce effective solutions to meet engineering and scientific needs. Our "one door to the Corps" policy provides access to our worldwide network of Corps labs, centers of technical expertise, and our contractors. Our values-based organization is respected, responsive and reliable and continues to seek ways to streamline operations to maintain our affordability for our customers. Our customers benefit because we offer one stop service, efficiency, and experience. Our emphasis is on performance and sharing of accountability. We work with our customers to make things happen. With our diverse staff of professionals, our access to worldwide engineering expertise, and over 150 years of engineering experience, we have earned the highest marks in customer satisfaction. How can we serve you?



Kudos!



District Employees selected as emerging leaders

Of the three Division employees selected to be the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division Emerging Leaders for 2002, two are Detroit District employees.

Sammie Hart, a contract specialist and **Marie T. Strum**, a Hydraulic Engineer, with the District were selected to attend the 15th Annual Emerging Leaders Conference to be held this summer.

During the conference, the District employees will participate in two and one half days of leadership development workshops. "The workshops teach us how effective we are as leaders, how others perceive us and how we act in group settings," said Twylla B. Lucas, Detroit District, who was selected as an Emerging Leader in 2001. "Having this knowledge helps one enhance their leadership skills by optimizing their ability to adapt their thinking, decision making or communication style in a given situation."

Engineer receives Construction Management Excellence Award

Each year, the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division presents one of its employees with the Construction Management Excellence award. This year, **Carl Platz**, Grand Haven Area Office, was presented the award.

Platz received the recognition for his participation in the construction of the United States Army Reserve Center in Walker, MI.

According to the nomination paperwork of Platz for this award, "This Military Construction project was the first of its kind in the Detroit District since the mid 1960's and was a textbook example of the 'One Door to the Corps' corporate philosophy. Project design,

engineering efforts, and construction contract awards were handled by the Louisville District, while construction management and contract administration efforts following the award were handled by the Detroit District. Given its geographical location within the jurisdiction of the Grand Haven Area Office, Carl Platz was asked to serve as Contract Officer Representative and Project Engineer for this highly-visible project."

Marine Museum wins Interpretive Partnership Award

The **Lake Superior Marine Museum Association** was selected as the winner of the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division regional Chief of Engineers Excellence in Interpretive Partnerships Award for 2002.

The Marine Association supports the Corps of Engineers in operating the Lake Superior Maritime Visitor Center in Duluth, MI. The Lake Superior Marine Museum Association was also the Division's candidate for the national level award.

According to the award citation, "The Association has been a partner with the Corps for more than 29 years in operating the Lake Superior Maritime Visitor Center. The partnership between the Visitor Center staff and the Association is the longest running cooperating association within the Corps system and sets the Corps standard for successful partnerships."

Four Corps employees receive FEB award

The follow Corps employees have been awarded the Federal Executive Board Award for 2002: **Pam Horner**, **Steve Thompson**, **Ethel Dixon** and **Tamika McIntyre**.

Emergency response team earns awards

A five-person response team from the District went to West Virginia to aid in that state's flood disaster last July. The team included **Eric Burr**, **Kevin Drake**, **David Luff**, **Thomas Moore** and **John Zanglin**. The team members recently received the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service from the state of West Virginia for their support during the disaster. 

What's your 30 second commercial?

Sammie Hart,
Contracting Office

I am a contract specialist in the Detroit District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The primary mission of the Detroit District is to maintain and improve the navigation channels and harbors on the Great Lakes region. The mission is achieved for the most part by contracting with the private sector. In the contracting process, I am responsible for various pre-award, award, and post-award functions. Projects are accomplished through a team effort. In my capacity as a contract specialist, I assist the Detroit District in providing quality construction, engineering, and other services to the Great Lakes region. The Detroit District plays a vital role in the economies of Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin through its projects for dredging harbors, shoreline protection, flood control, environmental cleanup, engineering services, maintenance of the Soo Locks, and support for federal, state, and local agencies.



District welcomes new employees

The Detroit District wishes to extend a hearty welcome to the following new permanent employees, who have joined the District since the calendar year changed to 2002: **Raymond L. Bennink**, Chief Engineer-Seagoing Tugboat; **Mathew G. Brown**, Student Trainee, Engineering; **Patricia A. Brown**, Support Services Supervisor; **Christina Marie Castle**, Student Trainee, Engineering; **Summer D. Conklin**, Student Trainee, Engineering; **Joshua M. Keyser**, Power Plant Operator; **Alan E. Mozol**, Physical Scientist; **Christian N. Marzan**, Student Trainee, Information Technology; **Sanjay R. Patel**, Student Trainee, Information Technology; **Shawn S. Sanchez**, Biologist; **Nathan T. Schulz**, Biological Science Technician; **Ruben NMN Villanueva**, Realty Specialist; **Adam J. Virgo**, Civil Engineer; and **David M. Wickens**, Biologist.

Employees of the 2nd Quarter 2002



Tom Allenson, the Senior Project Manager, Permit Evaluation Branch A, Regulatory Office, ETS, is a prime example of a team player realizing that his personal sacrifice of time for the good of the whole organization reaps both the short and long term benefits for all concerned. His dedication to teamwork has been instrumental in the development of the Interagency Coordination Agreement on Wetland Mitigation

Banking within the state of Indiana and the Lake Station Mitigation Banking instrument.

Tom's technical and communication skills were crucial during his handling of a highly contentious permit application for the construction of a golf course in Hammond, Indiana. Tom's communication skills have played a major role in the progress on the Cedar River Harbor of Refuge project, effectively articulating the Corps' regulatory responsibilities to other District staff in Project Management and Planning.

Jennie L. Nowakowski, an Office Assistant with the Grand Haven Area Office, played an integral part in the mail sorting revisions, which were developed and adopted due to the September 11, 2001, tragic attacks and the anthrax contamination incidents within the U.S. Postal Service. One of Jennie's many tasks includes the picking up and distributing of mail within the area office.

She led a group effort which helped developed Standard Operating Procedures for mail sorting and delivering that would ensure that contaminated mail would not be received by the area office. The SOP required the inspection and handling of all incoming mail be done in a separate room

while wearing protective equipment to ensure that the personnel and office area would not become contaminated.

The SOP was reviewed and approved by the Detroit District Safety Officer and then adopted and implemented by other area offices within the District.



Rosa Thomas, Management Support Office, excels in both teamwork and communications as she coordinates with District Corps employees for their travel, permanent change of station,

and traveling orders. According to those who work with her, Rosa is a caring person, who always seems to be the one who will start a collection for someone in need and one who volunteers to take on extra work when someone gets bogged down.

SECURITY

1. Going overseas on Official Business? Be sure and stop by or call the Security Office at (313) 226-3465 for a Force Protection briefing.
2. Going overseas on personal business? Stop by or call the Security Office for the latest State Department information on the countries you will be visiting.