



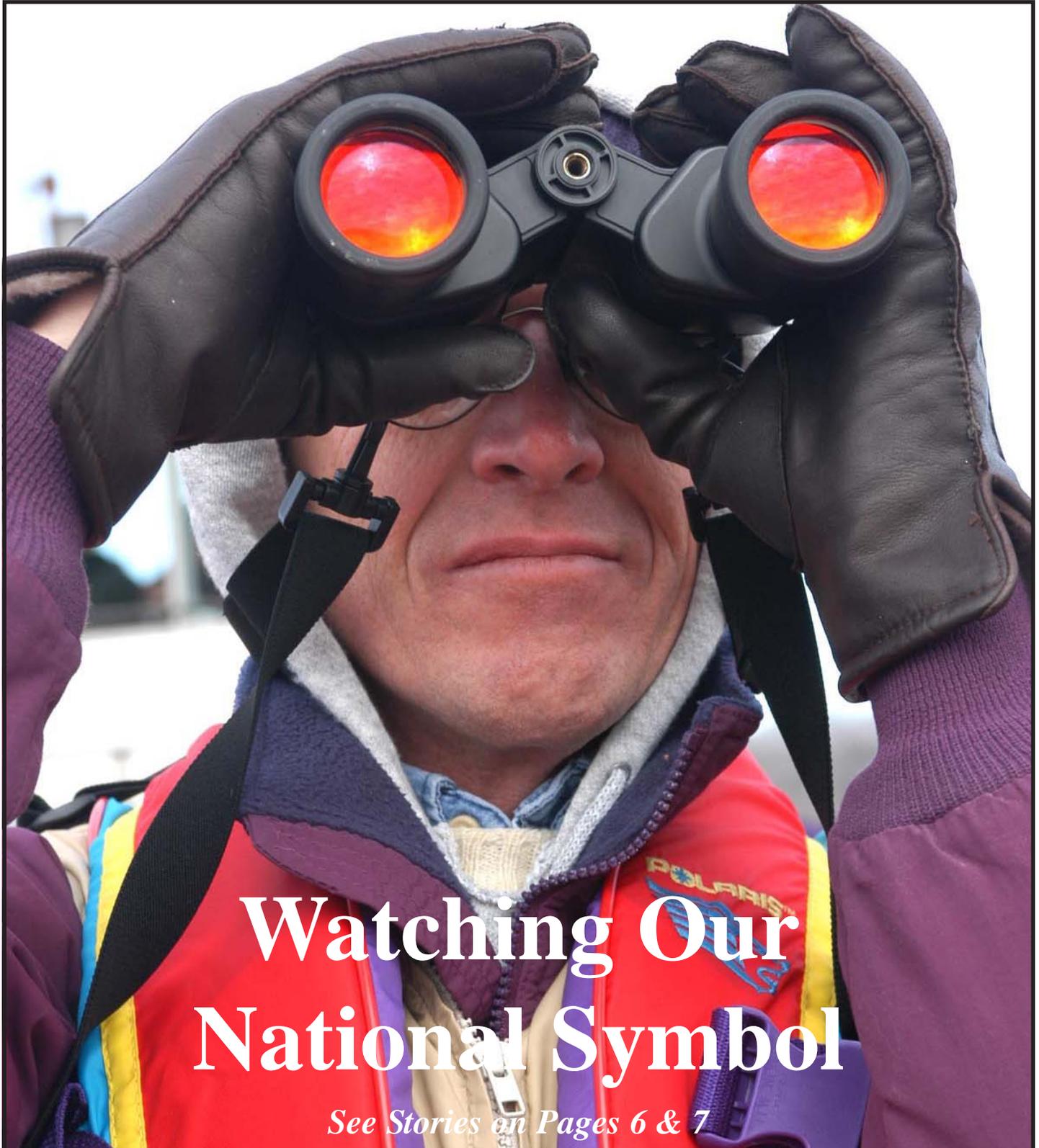
US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Nashville District

DistrictDigest

Volume 103, Number 2

Respected-Responsible-Reliable

February 2003



Watching Our National Symbol

See Stories on Pages 6 & 7

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Security Reminder

As required in memorandum, CEPM-ZC, subject: Certification of Telecommunications Security Monitoring Notification Procedures, dated 28 May 97, all Nashville District employees are reminded of the following:

All DoD computer systems, including all related equipment, networks and network devices (including internet access) are provided only for authorized U.S. government use. DoD computer systems may be monitored for all lawful purposes, including to ensure their use is authorized, for management of the system, to facilitate protection against unauthorized access, and to verify security procedures, survivability, and operational security. Monitoring includes, but is not limited to, active attacks by authorized DoD entities to test or verify the security of this system. During monitoring, information may be examined, recorded, copied, and used for authorized purposes. All information, including personal information, placed on or sent over any DoD system may be monitored. Unauthorized use of a DoD computer system may subject you to criminal prosecution. Evidence of unauthorized use collected during monitoring may be used for administrative, criminal or other adverse action.



Photo by Dave Treadway

On the Cover

Eagle Watch participant Ron Littlefield, of Shepherdsville, Ky., uses binoculars to view a bald eagle on a ridge overlooking Dale Hollow Lake Jan. 25. The birds of prey winter at Dale Hollow and some other Tennessee lakes because lakes adjacent to their summer homes farther north are covered with ice during the coldest months of the year. They depend on the lakes for food since 90 percent of their diet is fish. See pages 6 and 7 for related stories.

DistrictDigest

Commander

Lt. Col. Steve Gay

Public Affairs Officer

Edward Evans

Editor

Dave Treadway

Online Editor

Steve Foshee

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Written material may also be sent electronically to the editors at the following e-mail addresses:
david.s.treadway@usace.army.mil
steven.c.foshee@usace.army.mil

Information about the Nashville District may also be found on the District's homepage at: <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil>.

Lieutenant Colonel Steve Gay

The Bottom Line

Hello to everyone in the Nashville District! I hope you had a great January in spite of the very cold weather and our mid-month snowstorm adventure. I did but I'll admit, I'm ready for spring.

In case you haven't heard, the Corps has been asking for volunteers to assist in storm recovery operations in Guam and to assist in the global war on terrorism as well as a potential conflict with Iraq. I am proud to say we have had several people volunteer for both missions and more are considering. Those of you who have participated in a disaster recovery operation or preparation or recovery from a conflict know how exciting and rewarding these missions can be.

I encourage those of you who have not participated in one of these missions in the past to consider doing so if your family situation will allow it. You will have stories to tell the rest of your life plus be justifiably proud of your contributions. Many times people would like to volunteer for one of these missions but don't feel like they can because of obligations to their job in the District. Or maybe an employee even has a supervisor who thinks they can't do without you. This is understandable because all of us play an integral part in our offices regardless of grade or job. However, I want all of you to know about my policy for volunteering for these critical missions.

I am the only person in the District who can disapprove a request to volunteer for one of these missions. You can bet that I will carefully consider your supervisor's recommendation but the decision to forward your request to serve as a volunteer is mine alone. So, if you think you might be interested in volunteering, contact Dave Verploegen in Emergency Operations. He maintains a current list of personnel needs throughout the world. Oftentimes departure and return dates are negotiable so talk it over with the Emergency Operations team and let me know if you need any help.

I can never say too much about safety and I want to make some points that are

especially timely during the winter months: If a fire should occur in your home, here are some important things to remember. 1. Get out of the house fast. (Familiarize yourself now with at least two exits from each room, one window and one door.) 2. Meet at a designated location outside the house so everyone can be accounted for. (In advance, make sure everyone knows the location.) 3. Phone the Fire Department from a neighbor's house. 4. Never go back inside a burning house for any reason.

Remember, if a fire does occur in your home have a plan and make sure everyone knows that plan. Take time to inspect your home for possible fire hazards. Fire prevention is something in which the entire family may participate. Encourage children to help check the home for hazards. By taking the time now to carefully inspect your home for possible hazards, you may prevent a major catastrophe in the future.

I have been traveling across the District and region over the last month or



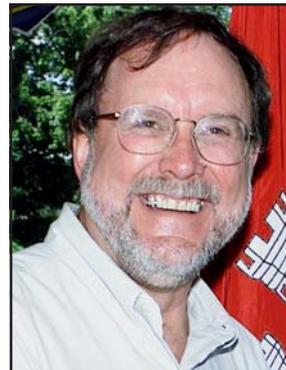
so, visiting customers, stakeholders, partners and even other districts. These visits are extremely valuable to me because I get a sense of how the District is doing across all of our mission areas. I don't want to take anything away from other organizations or districts but ... I am more confident now than ever that we have: 1) the best union and non-union workforce in the Army, devoted to their families, the Corps and their jobs; 2) the most skilled and dedicated technicians, engineers, planners, and project managers making a difference in the lives of the region's future generations by developing solutions to solve complex problems everyday; 3) an outstanding group of

(Continued on page 11)

Bowden Named January Employee of the Month

Lynn Bowden, the Audio Visual Production Specialist in the Information Management Office, was named Nashville District Employee of the Month for January.

In addition to the outstanding support Bowden provides to the Nashville District, his expertise is routinely sought by other Corps of Engineers districts to solve visual information equipment operation problems. Bowden recently



Lynn Bowden

produced a video interview segment and short documentation sequence highlighting the District Student Trainee Program for Engineering

Division. This segment is scheduled for inclusion in a program being produced by the Buffalo District.

Among his other recent activities is the superb video coverage of the Tennessee River Mussel Dredging Experiment for the Environmental Office and production support for compiling surveillance videos of the Cheatham Dam barge accident to aid the investigation. His footage of the Mussel Dredging Experiment and close coordination with FOX-17 Television resulted in excellent media coverage about the value of the experiment in middle Tennessee.

The creative visual arts specialist continues to serve the District in the roles of still photographer, videographer, audio-visual editor, audio narrator, and on-camera advisor to the senior staff for media appearances. He also enhances the District as well as the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division as a consultant for each of these areas.



Photos by Ranger Terry Martin

Three January Fires Cause Damage

The houseboat above was extensively damaged and another (inset) received minor damage during a fire Jan. 14 at the Hidden Harbor Marina on Center Hill Lake. Marina owner Gary Demik was notified about 9 p.m. that a slip renter smelled smoke.

Mr. Demik went to investigate a houseboat owned by Frank Gregory of Christiana, Tenn., saw a window burst and then flames engulf the boat. He attempted unsuccessfully to extinguish the flames. The DeKalb County Volunteer Fire Department responded and extinguished the blaze. With the assistance of

a first responder, Mr. Demick used a marina workboat to move the burning vessel away from other boats and to the nearest boat ramp, preventing further damage to adjacent craft. Only one other vessel owned by James McKinney of Gordonsville was damaged. Cause of the fire is unknown at this time.

The Fate Sanders Marina Hotel on J. Percy Priest Lake (below left) was a complete loss due to a fire, also on Jan. 14, that started on a couch on a second floor balcony. The blaze was discovered about 2 p.m. and reported by hotel residents. Two people reportedly awakened when smoke

entered the residence through the outside bedroom door which faces the parking lot. One person was treated for minor injuries and released. That fire is currently under investigation.

A fire on Jan. 21 burned the discarded portion of an old dock at Elm Hill Marina on J. Percy Priest Lake (below right). The dock was being replaced and had been pulled up onto the bank to be dismantled and hauled away. Reportedly, a nearby campfire got out of control and caught a section of the old slips on fire. Metro Fire Department extinguished the blaze. No injuries were reported.



Photo by Ranger Greg Thomas



Photo by Ranger Greg Thomas

Small Business Office Praised for Surpassing Goals

Story and photo by Dave Treadway

Charles Appleton was recently commended by Chief of Engineers Lieutenant General Robert B. Flowers for “outstanding contributions, professionalism and hard work in making the FY 02 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Small Business Program a success.” He was one of eight chosen Corps wide to the Commander’s Small Business Team of Excellence for 2002.

Appleton was quick to share the credit.

“I would just like to thank everyone in the District for helping the Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization Office be so successful. We met and exceeded all of our goals in FY 02.”

Those goals were Small-Business (40%), Small-Business Set-Aside (10%), Small-Disadvantaged Business (13%), Woman-Owned (5%), and Hub-Zone (2.5%).

Nashville attained 51% for Small-Business, 40% for Small-Business Set-Aside, 25% for Small-Disadvantaged Business, 7% for Woman-Owned, and 6% for Hub-Zoned.

On the strength of those numbers, Appleton was chosen by Great Lakes and Ohio River Division as the Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization Office of the Year, the first time he has earned that award.

The Hub-Zone category, said Appleton, was made possible by all the field projects and the Woman-Owned category was mostly due to the field projects. A couple Operation & Maintenance contracts also contributed

greatly to the District’s success in the Woman-Owned category.

“Purchases at the small ‘Mom & Pop’ businesses,” he pointed out, “at various field offices helped the District reach our Hub-Zone Goal.”

Goals, according to Appleton, are set by DoD, then go down through Army to the Corps of Engineers. Goals for the Corps are always higher than those set for Army.

“The Corps does a real good job in carrying Small Business for Army,” said Appleton.

“I want to thank contracting for the excellent job they did. Many project managers came to me from time to time with suggestions on projects that would be suitable for small businesses. The entire District, and especially contracting employees, share credit.

“The field projects really help us attain our goals, I don’t get out to them as much as I would like but they are so important in helping the District in this area.

“My job is to ensure that small businesses have the opportunity to participate in the contracting process. I counsel owners of small businesses and conduct



Charles Appleton speaks with Jason Brooks, a representative of enGenius, an Architectural Engineering firm based in Huntsville, Ala.

training for them to ensure that we have a very broad base of well-qualified suppliers. In a nutshell, I am to keep the commander briefed on the status of our efforts to allow small businesses to bid on contracts awarded by the District.”

The citation signed by Gen. Flowers read, “Your enthusiasm, expertise and noteworthy accomplishments are recognized in providing small business entrepreneurs with viable opportunities to assist the Corps in accomplishing its mission.”

Helping a small business qualify to attain a government contract, Appleton revealed, is one of the most rewarding parts of his job.

“We at the Nashville District,” concluded Appleton, “do believe that small business is Big Business!”

District First to Receive Five-Star Recertification

by Steve Foshee

Nashville District became the first in Great Lakes and Ohio River Division to recertify in the Seven Castle Recognition Program in December 2002.

The District safety office originally partnered with the division safety office to create the Five Star and Occupational Health Program Recognition in 1998. Their primary objective was to stimulate interest in safety at each district and division field project.

In 1999 Nashville was the first to earn Five Star Safety and Occupational Health Program Recognition. “We have reached our goal of 85 percent of the District receiving the Seven Castle Recognition but are focused on the remaining 15 percent. With the dedication of all managers and each employee we are getting closer to our new goal of 100 percent at the Seven Castle Recognition,” said Bill Bennett, safety occupational health specialist.

The program uses two types of recognition, a Seven Castle Project at the District level and a Five Star Recognition at the Division level.

The Seven Castle Project includes Management/Supervisors involvement in the Safety and Health Culture, a seven-step process which involves a commitment of time and promotes teamwork and risk management skills. The second step is involvement with

(See Five Star, page 11)

Count Your . . . Bald

by Gary Bruce, Park Ranger

Early on the morning of Jan. 10th, all of the Ranger chairs were empty, and every Dale Hollow patrol boat was missing from the storage bays. However, there was no cause for alarm.

This was no ordinary morning, simply the day set aside for the 2003 Annual Bald Eagle Midwinter Survey at Dale Hollow Lake, a survey performed each year along



Photo by Gary Bruce

specific routes to count the number of Bald Eagles present. Numbers tabulated are then sent to the U.S. Geological Survey-Snake River Field Station where they are compiled along with the results from approximately 700 other routes in the lower 48 states. This valuable data provides information about population trends of the Bald Eagle.

With only one day allotted to survey the entire lake, the staff at Dale Hollow partnered with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, and the Kentucky State Police to complete the entire route. Five teams made up of two to three members were each assigned a portion of the 27,700 acre reservoir.

“The annual Eagle Survey not only helps with monitoring eagle population trends,” pointed out Dale Hollow Lake Resource Manager Ronnie Smith, “but also provides an excellent interagency partnering opportunity.” He expressed his sincere appreciation to each person and agency that helped make the 2003 survey possible.

By the end of the day, 43 Bald Eagles had been spotted soaring above the waters of Dale Hollow Lake. Of these, 32 were identified as mature eagles.

Due to the mild temperatures preceding this survey, numbers were lower compared to last year. More eagles, however, should appear around Dale Hollow as the surface of rivers and lakes freeze in northern regions such as the Great Lake states and Canada. The relatively ice-free waters of Dale Hollow will provide Bald Eagles the opportunity to search for fish, their primary food source. Once warmer temperatures arrive, the eagles will return north for the breeding season, which is usually around March or April.

Dale Hollow is fortunate to host one of the highest wintering populations of Bald Eagles in Tennessee, second only to Reelfoot Lake. Results from past surveys have shown a steady increase in the number of eagles on Dale Hollow Lake, as well as many other routes in the lower 48 states. In fact, numbers have increased to the point where the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed removing the Bald Eagle from the list of Endangered and Threatened Species. Nationally, the Bald Eagle has recovered from a low of approximately 400 breeding



Photo by Dave Treadway

Kentucky State Trooper Rob Winsett uses binoculars to search for eagles during the annual eagle count Jan. 10.

pairs in the early 1960's, to a present-day total of more than 6,000 pairs.

Dale Hollow Lake has played an important role in contributing to the successful recovery of our nation's symbol. From 1987 through 1991 a Bald Eagle Restoration Program was implemented to establish a breeding population. During these years, a total of 44 eaglets were transported to Dale Hollow from federal wildlife refuges to be raised and released. This program was

established in the hope that the eagles would return to this area once they matured, and nest in the vicinity where they first took flight.

Thanks to the efforts of this restoration project, Dale Hollow is now the year-round home for at least two pairs of nesting Bald Eagles. Each year visitors from far and near travel to southern Kentucky and northern Tennessee to catch a glimpse of these majestic birds of prey. Next time you visit Dale Hollow Lake, especially

Eagles

during the winter months, be sure to look skyward every now and then or you might miss out

something truly majestic passing overhead.

Weather Affects Eagle Watch

by Dave Treadway

Extreme cold temperatures and icy roads reduced the number of participants for Eagle Watch 2003 to less than half the usual numbers.

During the first weekend, Jan. 18, when four inches of snow fell and temperatures hovered around zero, only 64 braved the cold to search for eagles. Those who did were rewarded with sightings of nine eagles on the morning tour and 16 in the afternoon. The cold was so intense the Corps of Engineers barge failed to start.

"The Kentucky State Troopers have always been great partners on these tours," said Ranger Sondra Hafling, "and they bailed us out with their smaller barge. It accommodated the smaller crowds."

The weather was kinder on Jan. 25 and many more visitors were able to enjoy views of the national symbol in its natural environment. Some were doing so for the first time.

Bob Swanson, a retired Navy photographer who now teaches school in Tullahoma, Tenn., made the trip for the first time with his wife, Amy, and two grandchildren.

"I've wanted to come up and see the eagles for some time," said the camera-toting Swanson, "but just had not been able to work it in until this year. I can now say I've seen eagles in the wild and I'm proud to say it was in Tennessee. I worked as a photographer in the Navy for more than 20 years, and taught

the craft to young sailors for three years, and I have really enjoyed myself today while taking photos of the eagles we've sighted."

Ron Littlefield, from Shepherdsville, Ky., also made the trip for the first time. "I've read about the eagle watch tours for several years," Littlefield explained, "and finally decided to come down and see them for myself."

The morning tour again spotted nine eagles and the afternoon group saw 11. Dale Hollow has conducted the tours now for 20 years and visitors have always sighted eagles that call Dale Hollow Lake home during the winter months.

Ranger Hafling briefed participants Jan. 17 who stayed overnight at Dale Hollow Lake Hotel on the grounds of Dale Hollow Lake State Park, and Ranger Gary Bruce briefed the larger gathering of visitors on Jan. 24.



Photo by Dave Treadway

Dale Hollow Lake Resource Manager Ronnie Smith and Ranger Mark Willis (above) brief Eagle Watch participants Jan. 25 on board the Corps of Engineers barge before beginning the morning tour of the lake (below).



Photo by Dave Treadway

Tennessee Valley Veterans Can Share Their Stories

Thomas Seay is proof that the human spirit can survive. During World War II, Seay spent 19 months in the Stalag camps as a POW. Now, fifty-seven years later, Seay's story will be one of thousands told by Tennessee Valley veterans that will be catalogued by the American Folk life Center and become part of a permanent collection housed by the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

Seay's story is part of a local effort to support the Veterans History Project, a national program to honor our nation's war veterans for their service and to collect their stories on audio and videotape.

These oral histories, along with documentary materials such as letters, diaries, maps, photographs and home movies of America's war veterans and those who served in home-front war activities will all become part of the Veterans History Project.

Initiated by Congress in October 2000, the Veterans History Project's goal is to promote public learning and preserve our heritage for future generations by gathering first hand accounts of personal stories about the



realities of war and of everyday acts of sacrifice and heroism. Realizing that amazing life stories of Tennessee Valley veterans might never be told without a strong public appeal, Channel 3 Eyewitness News(Chattanooga), First Tennessee and Erlanger partnered to promote the Veterans History Project in an extensive 2-1/2 year program.

How to tell your story

All Tennessee veterans and those who served in support of them from World War II, World War I, the Korean War, The Vietnam War, and the Persian Gulf War can easily participate in the national Veterans History Project.

All ranks in all branches of service – Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps,

Coast Guard and Merchant Marine are invited to take their personal story. You can schedule an appointment to record your oral history by calling (423)778-VETS.

You must schedule an appointment to be interviewed. Every participant receives a "Certificate of Participation" and a keepsake VHS copy of their story to share with family and friends.

More information about the Project is available in all Tennessee Valley Branches of First Tennessee, all the Erlanger campuses, and at the WRCB Channel 3 studios in Chattanooga, Tenn. Or you may want to log on to www.wrcbtv.com and click on

Veterans History Project.

Scholarships Now Available to Help Federal Employees with Tuition

By Tanya N. Ballard

Applications for the 2003-2004 Federal Employee Education and Assistance college scholarship program are now available.

FEEA, a 17-year-old nonprofit organization that helps federal employees and their families in need, provides annual scholarships to help federal employees or their dependents pay for college tuition. Over the years, FEEA has awarded more than \$3 million in college scholarships to federal and postal employees and their family members. Scholarships range from \$300 to \$1,500 per student, depending on the amount of federal employee donations received by FEEA through the Combined Federal Campaign.

Applicants can be high school seniors, full-time college students or graduate students with a minimum 3.0 grade point

average. Federal employee applicants may be part-time students, but must have at least three years of experience as a civilian federal employee or postal worker.

Potential applicants can find more information and download an application at <http://www.feea.org/>. Applications must be postmarked by March 28, and awards will be announced in August in time for the start of the academic year.

To receive an application by mail, send a self-addressed, stamped business-size envelope to:

FEEA Scholarships
8441 W. Bowles Ave., Suite 200
Littleton, Colo. 80123-9501

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arena. Sign up at <http://www.govexec.com/email>.

Retirees Plan Meeting at Lake Barkley State Park

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Retiree Luncheon will be held on April 12, beginning at 10 a.m. in the Lake Barkley State Park restaurant. All retirees are welcome. For more information, contact Patsy Simpson at 931-647-0437.

Joe Cathey Wanders Down Memory Lane

B iologist Joe Cathey reflects on his nearly 35 years with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as he prepares to hang up his hardhat and stow his steel-toe boots for the last time.

Memorable Events and Assignments Leading Up to Graduation from USACE University

My first assignment with the Corps of Engineers was not as a biologist, but as a laborer at the J. Percy Priest Project in the summer of 1967, while attending Middle Tennessee State University. I burned condemned structures, salvaged roofs and boards, and dug a hole so Euclid Moore could measure the elevation of groundwater at the old Sewart Air Force Base sewage treatment plant.

Next, it was off to the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, graduation from MTSU and then graduate school at Tennessee Tech University.

Jimmy Bates and E.C. Moore selected me for a Biologist position in Planning Branch following my graduation from TTU. It was here I was introduced to the Corps by Captain Ira Blankenship. I never met anyone who knew so much about so many subjects. He also gave me some very good advice from which I will soon reap the benefits—"Boy Don't Take Any Sick Leave, Save It!"

I was lucky to have worked under some outstanding bosses: Euclid Moore-Rick Connor-Brad Hoot-Jimmy Bates-Gene Ottinger-Ralph Ownby-Randy Castleman-John Rushing.

As a young biologist cutting his teeth on the Tenn-Tom Waterway, maturity and responsibility came fast, but through the years, it was hard to find a more challenging project.

It was a learning experience to work with such fine and professional people—see complete list at

www.lrn.usace.army.mil/pao/digest.

In 1980, I was given a Special Assignment in HQUSACE and followed the TTW Supplemental EIS to Washington. I provided assistance to Headquarters during their review, a real eye-opening assignment! Phil Pierce,



Photo by Dr. Stony Merriman

Reporter Terry Dorsey, WSMV-TV, covered the hazardous waste illegally deposited at J. Percy Priest Lake in 1992.

John Bushman, and Bill Klesch taught me USACE procedures in a professional way. Visiting the Smithsonian, Washington Monument, and the Capitol with Dave Patterson was a pleasure.

Watching an excellent team of Corps lawyers work the Tenn-Tom lawsuit prepared me for things to come. Listening to witty lawyers like Lance Wood made tense situations rather funny. To this day, I'm still impressed by the legal skills and good advice of Nashville's team of lawyers, especially Robert Smyth and Bob Miller.

In 1984 and 1990, I was called upon to support Ohio River Division by filling in for Jack Kepler as Chief of the Environmental Branch and as Dan Steiner's Assistant Director of Planning.

My last special assignment was in St. Louis in the office of the Deputy Director of Civil Works under the supervision of South Atlantic Division's John Rushing. The "Flood of 93" was a real eye-opener. I'd seen floods in the upper Cumberland River Basin at Harlan, Williamsburg, Pineville, and Cumberland, Ky., and Mill Creek in Nashville, but nothing like the Mississippi, Illinois, and Missouri River floods.

Devastation on such a scale was something to behold from an elevation of 500 feet in a Black Hawk helicopter.

Wild deer and turkeys mingled with cows and hogs on the only dry land—breached levees. The controversy associated with dynamiting levees that protected upstream communities, causing flooding in these areas to relieve the threat to downstream communities was a hard decision for people to make. Watching the herculean effort by citizens and National Guard troops to sandbag St Genevieve, Mo., made me appreciate how Americans come together in times of an emergency.

I had the pleasure of working for 14 District Engineers, two Division Commanders, and one Deputy Director of Civil Works (Forward).

I most admired General Al Genetti, Colonels Bob Tener, Lee Tucker, Ed Starbird, Paul King, and LTC David Norwood. Outstanding Deputy Commanders were LTCs Bill Allen, Charlie Joyner, and Ken Ashley.

I was also fortunate to work with some well respected biologists outside the Nashville District (go to www.lrn.usace.army.mil/pao/digest)

Truly my proudest moment came when selected as Tennessee's Wildlife Conservationist of the Year.

(Cathey's full story is online at www.lrn.usace.army.mil/pao/digest)

The Corps Crowd

Congratulations to...

...Shonka Dukureh, Equal Employment Office, who will appear in the Actors Bridge production of "American Duet," from Feb. 6-16, at 12th and Porter. Call 341-0300 for tickets for that production.
... David Loyd, who has been selected to the position of Supervisory Civil Engineer GS-13 and now serves as the Nashville Resident Engineer.
... Lynn Bowden, Audio Visual Production Specialist in the Information Management Office, who was selected District Employee of the Month for January.

Welcome to...

... Tim Dunn as the new Resource Manager for Center Hill Lake.
... Jeff Gregory, environmental engineer, who graduated from Tennessee Tech University and was selected to participate in the water quality office Intern Program.
... Crystal James, Student Co-op Ranger Trainee, to J. Percy Priest. Crystal is a student at the University of Tennessee at Martin.
... Matt Tays, who joins the Operations Division, Navigation Branch, Locks Section as a Civil Engineer.
... Vicky White, who returns to work at Cheatham Lock as a Student Aide.
... Phil Brown, new conservation biologist at Lake Barkley, who transferred from the St. Louis District.
...Diann Farmer, Management Analyst who joined the Management Analysis Branch, Resource Management Office on Jan. 27. Diann has worked with the Corps families in the Savannah District and Europe as well as other federal agencies. She has a vast array of experience as a program analyst and budget analyst. She will be an asset to the Management Analysis Branch.

Thank You to...

...Shannon Reeves, currently of the U.S. Air Force and formerly of LRN OP-E, sends thanks to those who donated sick leave during her recent Lyme Disease treatment, "The District was very generous and I received overwhelming support."

Farewell to...

...Eldon R. Gregory, who retired on Jan. 3, 2003; Brock Jones, who transferred from Cordell Hull to Lake Barkley Jan. 12; and to Sherrill Edwards-Owens, a Conservation Biologist/Ranger at Cordell Hull Lake who transferred to Ft. Gordon, Ga., Jan. 26 when she accepted a Natural Resources Specialist position.

Baby Brigade...

...Travis Wiley, Park Ranger, Old Hickory Lake, and wife Marcia welcome the arrival of Keith Douglas who was born Dec. 27, 2002. Keith weighed 7-lbs. and was 19-inches long.

...Sovireak In, Design Branch Structural Section, and his wife Kamnap are the proud parents of a baby girl, Davina Sokunthida In, born Jan. 2 at 3:18 a.m. Davina weighed 6-lbs., 11-ozs., and was 19.5-inches long.

...Milton and Tennesse Henderson

welcomed the birth of Desmond Jamaal Henderson.



Desmond Jamaal

Desmond was born Jan. 12 at Baptist Hospital and weighed 6-lbs., 7-1/2 ozs., and was 18-1/4 inches long. Tennesse is an Electrical Engineer in the Hydropower Section.

...Guendell Bennett, Power Plant Trainee at Old Hickory Power Plant, and his wife Kay welcomed another son, Kyle Allen, born Jan. 16 at 10:47 a.m. He weighed 6-lbs., 4-ozs., and was 18-1/2 inches long. Kyle joins brother Kevin, who is 2.

...Kevin Claywell, Power Plant Trainee at Old Hickory Power Plant, and wife Stacey welcomed their first child, a girl, Jan. 15. Rebecca Diane weighed 6-lbs., 9-ozs., and measured 20-1/4 inches long.

...Laura L. Goodman, Lock and Dam Operator at Pickwick Lock, and her husband Don Goodman, on the birth of their first child, Jeffrey Jean Goodman, born Jan. 8, weighing 7-lbs., 8-ozs. and 19-inches long.

...Carol McDaniels, Administrative Assistant, West Kentucky Area, became a

grandmother for the second time Dec. 16 when Morgan Ryan McDaniels arrived.

Sympathy to . . .

...Elsie Langford, mother of Jewel Spivey, Construction Inspector at J. Percy Priest Resource Managers Office, passed away on Sunday, Jan. 26.

...Former Resource Manager Tom Peek, and family, whose mother Georgia Peek passed away Jan. 23.

...the family of William "Bill" Glen Redmon, former Resource Manager at J. Percy Priest Lake, who passed away Jan. 22 at the age of 82. He is survived by his wife, Eva Brown Redmon, and three sisters.

...the family of Jimmy E. Neal, retired Maintenance Worker, Center Hill Power Plant, who passed away suddenly at his home Jan. 10. Neal retired Jan. 3, 1997 from Center Hill Power Plant with 30 years and 4 months service. The family requested memorial donations be made to the "Baxter Seminary Alumni Association" which funds student scholarships.

Anyone who would like to make a donation to this fund, in Jimmy Neal's name, can still do so. Ms. Sue Neal, Jimmy's wife, is the Secretary-Treasurer of the association. To make a donation or send sympathy cards to the family you can mail them to: Ms. Sue Neal, 5429 Baxter Road, Baxter, TN 38544, or you may also reach Ms. Neal at 931-858-3767.

...the family of David Loyd, whose mother, Lorene Loyd, passed away Jan. 17.

...the family of Daniel Munoz, whose mother-in-law, Margaret Beamer, passed away Jan. 12.

...the family of contract employee Joe Jackson, whose wife Sharon was killed in a car accident Jan. 13.

...the family of GSA employee George Phillips whose mother, Lena, passed away Jan. 11.

...the family of Mary Hayeland, Hydro-power Office Assistant at the Cheatham Power Plant, whose father-in-law Frank C. Hayeland passed away Feb. 1.

...the family of Otha Bradley "Oak" Ingram, World War II veteran and retired Lake Cumberland Maintenance Worker, who passed away after a long illness on Jan. 28.

ASMC Turns In Aluminum Pull-Tabs For Worthy Cause

Story and photo by Dave Treadway

The Music City Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers delivered the first collections from a recycling effort to officials from the Nashville Ronald McDonald House Feb. 5.

Several offices throughout the District Office began collecting the pull-tabs from soda cans in early January and turned in more than seven pounds after only a month which will be recycled to generate funds for a project that offers a home away from home for families of seriously ill or injured children receiving treatment in Nashville area hospitals.

"Everyone who is helping us collect the tabs," said ASMC member Gail Floyd, "turned in what they had collected so far in makeshift collection boxes and buckets and I was pleasantly surprised that we could turn in so many so early in our collection campaign."

McDonald House Executive Director Liz Piercy talked to a gathering of the Music City Chapter and spoke about her passion.

"Thank you for helping us in our efforts to improve an asset that provides a haven for families and children in

need," said Piercy.

"The House is not funded by the 'Golden Arches', it simply operates under a license to use the name. Our funding is provided through efforts such as the pull-tab recycling effort and others like it."

She and McDonald House Board member Mary Fox then provided the Music City Chapter with 'official' paper pull-tab collection boxes shaped like a house and adorned with Golden Arches which then were distributed to various offices to replace the make-shift collection cans.

By simply saving the small pop-top pull-tabs from all aluminum cans,



Ronald McDonald House Executive Director Liz Piercy speaks to ASMC members Feb. 5.

everyone can help the ASMC Music City Chapter in their effort to generate funding for this very worthy cause.

Why save the pull-tab but not the whole can? The pull-tab is made of a purer, high-grade aluminum, and collecting them is more sanitary and convenient. The recycling company pays premium rate per pound for these normally discarded tabs. About 900 pull-tabs equals one pound, so every tab counts!

(Bottom Line continued from page 3) caring leaders, supervisors, and managers; 4) a dedicated staff of professionals who expertly execute their duties to protect our nations' water resources, operate our locks, hydropower plants and recreation areas, and respond to disasters; 5) the most customer focused administrative professionals, logisticians, attorneys, auditors, information technology and safety

specialists in the business; and 6) the best real estate, EEO, resource management, and public affairs professionals the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has to offer.

So, if I haven't told you lately, I am proud to be your District Engineer and appreciate you doing such a great job for the Corps and the nation. I know some of you might think we can do better at some mission or on a particular task and I

would probably agree with you. But, this is not a bad thing ... it's a good thing to never be fully satisfied with your performance. Great organizations, like the Nashville District, and people, like you, are never satisfied. They always want to be or do better. That's what makes you great! You truly are making a difference!

You help me have a good day everyday while serving in the Nashville District.

(Five Star continued from page 5) employees discussing near-miss accidents and shortcuts at the expense of safety. The third step is technical and required training of employees. The fourth step involves employees choosing the correct tools, equipment and safety training for the equipment selected. The fifth step to the Seven Castle Project is Programs, Procedures and Standards,

which includes hearing and medical surveillance. The sixth step is keeping employees focused and excited about safety and health. The last step is conducting a self-evaluation to indicate strengths or weaknesses in the program.

The Five Star District Recognition is awarded if 85 percent of the District has attained the Seven Castle Recognition. The program reviews accountability of all team members in safety and occupational

health, the current medical surveillance program, accident investigation, hazard analysis, and risk management training.

"I understand the accomplishment of this recognition is the result of the inherent safety culture of the District, tremendous dedication on the part of all team members, and strong command and senior staff leadership," said Brigadier General Steven R. Hawkins, Division Engineer.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Nashville District
P.O. Box 1070
Nashville, TN 37202-1070

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February Dates Recall Events in District History

1823, Feb. 19 - Major Harold C. Fiske becomes Nashville District Commander. During his tenure, he oversees the investigations leading to multi-purpose development of the Cumberland and Tennessee Rivers.

1862, Feb. 24 - The city of Nashville surrenders to advancing Union Army following its victories over Confederate forces at Fort Henry (Tennessee River) and Fort Donelson (Cumberland River).

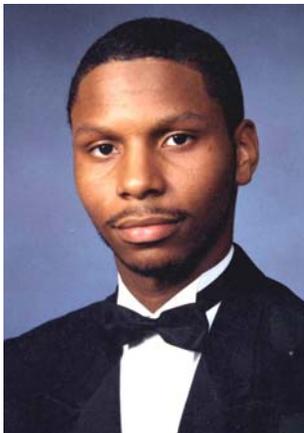
1942 February - The main lock at Kentucky Dam, measuring 110 feet by 600 feet, and with a maximum lift of 66

feet, opens to navigation. Construction began in 1939. The lock fills with 33-million gallons in only 10 minutes and requires 13 minutes to empty. The lock is located at Tennessee River mile 22 near Gilbertsville, Ky., and serves as the gateway to 650 miles of navigable channel in the basin.

1988, Feb. 23 - Corps Ranger Keith Crowe and Division of Forestry's Ted Melton discover a giant Swamp Chestnut Oak growing on Old Hickory Lake property. The giant oak measured 20 feet around and was more than 100 feet tall.

1990, Feb. 23 - A ceremony is held at District HQ on the seventh floor of the Federal Building in Nashville, Tenn., to add the names of Robert L. Thomas, Ronald G. Welbern; and Harold R. Stafford to the Distinguished Civilian Employee plaque. The 79-year-old retiree Ed "Digger" Drake entertained the crowd with stories from his 1935 to 1975 career, including tales about Soils Lab employee Louis Campbell, and a "wet-behind-the-ears" engineer named Euclid Moore, later Chief of Engineering Division.

Pair Awarded Scholarships for College by Music City Chapter ASMC



James E. Crenshaw

Scholarship Committee Chairperson Rita Goncalves, (far right) Contracting Division, presents the first \$500 college scholarship from the Music City Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers to Administrative Assistant Chynell P. Carney, Logistics Management, during the chapter's regular business meeting Feb. 5. Carney is a sophomore at Hopkinsville Community College where she is majoring in Finance. James E. Crenshaw, (left) son of Vicky Caldwell, Project Management, was also awarded a \$500 scholarship. He is a sophomore at the University of Memphis and is studying Business Management.



Chynell P. Carney and Rita Goncalves