



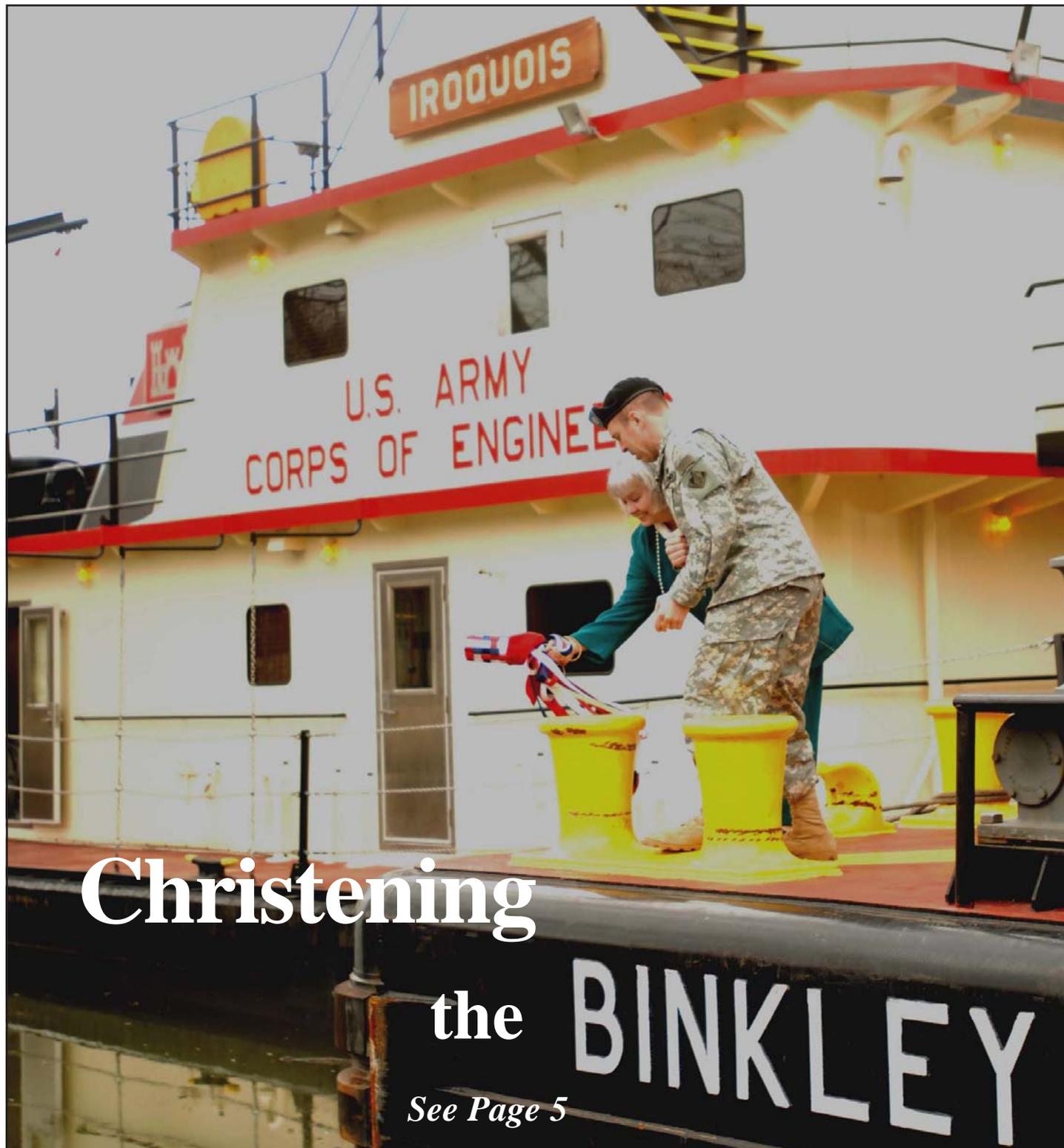
US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Nashville District

DistrictDigest

Volume 106, Number 2

Ready-Respected-Responsive-Reliable

February 2006



Christening the

BINKLEY

See Page 5

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What's All the Buzz about GROOVE?

GROOVE is a software placed on your workstation by Information Management that allows you to meet ... virtually.

Groove will allow you to work in the same workspace on the same files at the same time.

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Once your POC has requested a license for you to use the software, it usually takes 24 to 48 hours to receive your license from KME-licenses. Then installation can be scheduled.

Your POC for GROOVE is Tonia Carney Scott (615)736-7654 or Cory Morgan (615)-736-2712. 🏠



photo by Dave Treadway

On the Cover

Jeannette Binkley and District Engineer Lt. Col. Steven Roemhildt break a bottle of champagne on the stern of the BINKLEY Crane Shop Barge February 3 at Cheatham Lake to christen the first Nashville District watercraft named after a Corps employee, former derrickboat operator Louie M. Binkley. John Nunley then christened the new Motor Vessel IROQUOIS. See page 5 for complete details.

District Digest

Commander

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

Commander's Corner

We recently received the President's Budget for FY2007 and the numbers are very good to the District; although it is better to describe these numbers as the President's priorities in response to the Nation's requirements.

The submission of the presidential budget is the first step in a complex process that ultimately results in an Appropriations Bill signed by the President, usually in September or October. After receipt of the presidential budget, Congress will conduct hearings that will address how well the presidential priorities match the Nation's requirements. The House and Senate will take an opportunity to "mark-up" the bill and then a joint-conference (members consisting of both the House and Senate) will find a

Communication

compromise on a final amount for each study/project and then create one Appropriations Bill. Congress will then send this Bill to the President in August or September.

The President's Budget is a first step in our budget formulation for the District. As many of you realize, we are dependent upon our projects to provide for salaries, training and supplies. This budget will change as Congress marks-up the original budget; however, the President's Budget is a starting point and provides a keen insight into the outcome of the signed Appropriations Bill.

This year, the President's budget includes \$31M for Wolf Creek Major Rehabilitation, \$27M for construction at Chickamauga Lock and \$150K for the Mill Creek Feasibility Study. The budget also earmarks \$68.5M for operation and maintenance for our projects on the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers. This year has a combined funding of \$126.6M and is significantly higher than previous year's allocations. Funding for Wolf Creek and Chickamauga is new and we expect to see continued funding on these two projects in the future. We did not see funding for Kentucky Lock and we will see if Congress will "mark-up" the budget

to include this and the Section 202 program in the final bill.

I am optimistic about the continued health of the District, as I believe we have a good balance between FTE numbers and affordability and we continue to meet the myriad of "report-cards" that analyze our business processes. Our budget starting point for FY07 is strong; however, we will continue to have challenges, specifically in our O&M arena. We will overcome these challenges through strong business practices and leveraging of our sister-Districts through the Regional Business Center or regionalization. I will keep everyone abreast as we work our way through the congressional hearings and final Appropriations Bill; however, I want to highlight that we are off to a good start.

I would like to close with a note on safety. Slips, trips, and falls represent a major cause of accidental death and injury, in both the home and work environment. About one-seventh of all accidental deaths are due to injuries sustained because of a fall. Approximately 12,000 lives are lost annually. Falls account for accidental



deaths equally between the work and home environment. Identified are four contributing variables to slips, trips, and falls: 1) a foreign object on the walking surface, 2) a design flaw in the walking surface, 3) a slippery surface, or 4) an individual's impaired physical or mental condition. Do your part to help prevent a fall. Some of the things everyone can do: 1) keep work area floors and aisle ways free of debris, 2) clean up spilled coffee and other liquids from floor surfaces, 3) use handrails while walking down stairs. Do your part to improve safety at work and at home. That way you may save yourself or someone else from serious injury due to a fall.

January Employee of the Month

Danita Jones, chief of Management Analysis, Resource Management Branch, was named Employee of the Month for January.

Jones was instrumental in producing the District's FY 06 Nashville Business Plan (NBP). She developed the format for the goals to mirror Headquarters' and LRD's most recent guidance on Corps missions. She coordinated with each Goal Champion to develop meaningful objectives and performance measures, provided guidance on the development of clear, measurable targets, pulled together the contributions of more than 25 goal and objectives



Danita Jones

champions, and had the employee pamphlet printed for all employees. She applied her knowledge of the District and its missions to develop a realistic planning document.

These tasks involved extensive coordination, exceptional communication skills, persistence, and patience. She performed with great professionalism and intelligence, ensuring an excellent product that meets the needs of the District leadership and District employees. Her contributions to the quality of the final product are substantial.

Senior Leaders select the Nashville District employee of the month from the many excellent employees identified by the District's chain of command.

Selected individuals personify the seven Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.

Former Employee Wins Fellowship

by Dave Treadway

Tiffany Hedrick, daughter of Biologist Ray Hedrick, Programs and Project Management Division, was recently awarded a 2006 Fellowship at Murray State University.

The former student aide, who worked in Nashville District Public Affairs during the summer of 2003, won one of five Biology and Mathematics in Population Studies (BioMaPS) fellowships awarded by the University and funded by the National Science Foundation. The Foundation has given similar grants to other Universities.

“The specific project I will be working on,” said Hedrick, “will look at anthropogenic disturbances and their physiological and fitness consequences using the white-footed mouse. Most of our work this spring will be deciding on which procedures to use and working out the details with the professors.”

BioMaPS creates a research environment for mathematics and biology students to study the designs and patterns that exist in populations at the organismal and cellular levels, according



Tiffany Hedrick at Murray State University.

to Murray State. The BioMaPS program promotes the integration of research and teaching in mathematics and biology by engaging students as both researchers and teachers. The BioMaPS program enhances existing partnerships with Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. In conjunction with the Biomathematics in the Commonwealth program, the BioMaPS program fosters the development of new partnerships with universities across Kentucky, as well as nationally.

Students and faculty will work together as research teams on integrative projects, asking innovative questions from both biological and mathematical viewpoints. Projects include modeling of ecological and evolutionary processes relating to fecundity, parameter identification, developmental stability, biodiversity,

(See Fellowship, page 8)

New Building Completed to House and Protect RRV3

Story and photo by Dave Treadway

Emergency Management personnel, and employees from Nashville District who recently deployed for Hurricane relief duty, gathered January 18 to dedicate a building that will now be home to the District’s assigned Rapid Response Vehicle.

“The real reason we are here,” said District Engineer Lt. Col. Steven Roemhildt, “is this outfit, (indicating the emergency management people who sat before him) this asset, and I would like to thank you for what you do on a day-to-day basis. I don’t just thank you for what you do on deployment, which gets the high visibility, but also for all the preparation and hard work you do to get people ready to deploy, the training, the certification, so mundane sometimes but also so critical.”

He called the assembled emergency responders a national asset for which Nashville District has been given responsibility.

“This is a dedication to the people,” said Roemhildt, “who were behind the

effort to get this building constructed to protect part of that asset, the Rapid Response Vehicle03, and associated communications equipment.” Doug Nester, National Response Manager from



District Engineer Lt. Col. Steven Roemhildt and National Response Manager Doug Nester cut a ribbon Jan. 18 to open the new building.

Mobile, Ala., then addressed the assembled group.

“Headquarters told me the other day that DTOS (Deployable Tactical Operating System) was a shining star,” said Nester, “in all this 2005 emergency response throughout the southeast. What DTOS is to the Corps of Engineers, you guys are to DTOS. The RRV can’t roll without you, the communication (equipment) can’t go up without you. You are the prime stars of DTOS, the way you train, the way you carry out your business, the way you make sacrifices without complaint. You guys are the soldiers in DTOS who make all this happen and we appreciate that very much. Emergency response can’t happen without you.”

DTOS Operations Manager Conrad Williams then presented awards to employees for periods they were deployed for Hurricane Relief duty.

During 2005, a total of 12 employees deployed multiple times in support of 11 DTOS missions to six different states (Tenn., Neb., Texas, Fla., La., and Miss.).

BINKLEY Crane Shop Barge Christened

Story and photo by Dave Treadway

Jeannette Binkley, mother of former Corps employee Louie M. Binkley, christened the District's newest vessel named in his honor February 3 on Cheatham Lake not far from where he grew up.

The BINKLEY Crane Shop Barge will replace the 30-year-old Derrickboat # 10.

"This is a very nice boat," said Mrs. Binkley after the ceremony. "I know the District needed a new one and I am proud that they have named it after my son."

District Engineer Lt. Col. Steven Roemhildt spoke of the vessel's namesake.

"The Corps and Nashville District lost a true hero," said Lt. Col. Roemhildt, "when Louie passed away on June 8, 2003. His name will live on as we remember his legacy and attach it to this Crane Barge, the first such vessel in the Nashville District to be named for an employee.

"Our regulations require us to first name a vessel after a geographical area. Secondly, we can choose a Native American name, such as the IROQUOIS, but we had to get special permission to name the barge after Louie Binkley. But that's okay. Louie was special and it is indeed a privilege," said Roemhildt, to name it after a man so admired and respected by his friends and co-workers.

Mrs. Binkley then broke a bottle of champagne over the stern of the vessel in the Naval tradition which holds that a proper christening and the accompanying ceremony ensures good fortune to the vessel and her crew.

"For thousands of years," said Lt. Col. Roemhildt, "men have sailed upon the water. We have crafted vessels to carry us and we have called them by name. These vessels will nurture and care for us through perilous times, and so we affectionately call them 'she.'"

"The moods of the rivers are many, from tranquil to violent. We ask that these vessels be given the strength to carry on, that their keels are strong to keep out the pressures of the water."



District Engineer Lt. Col. Steven Roemhildt unveils a bronze plaque for Mrs. Jeanette Binkley, (second from right) mother of Louie Binkley, sister Martha (right) and brother Michael on February 3. The plaque will be installed in a prominent location onboard the BINKLEY Crane Shop Barge.

The ceremony was attended by many retired and current employees who knew and worked with Louie Binkley. A number of family members were also present, including Binkley's brother Michael, sister Martha, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Following the formal ceremony, many explored every nook and cranny of the District's newest workhorse.

The Binkley is 255 feet long, 56 feet wide, with a maximum draft of nine feet. It is fully self-supporting with two generators that produce 170 kilowatts of electrical power and has a fully-equipped machine/fabrication shop and other facilities. It was designed to support a 300-ton crawler crane, which will more than double the District's heavy-lift capabilities when the crane is delivered and installed.

John Nunley then christened the new Motor Vessel IROQUOIS, a replacement for the Motor Vessel that formerly carried that name. The original was built by St. Louis Shipbuilding in 1955 and had served the Nashville District since August 1970. It was 72 feet long and 24 feet wide with a six-foot draft and the engines produced 730 horsepower. Construction began on the new M/V IROQUOIS in July 2004 and it was delivered to the Nashville District in January. The new vessel is 76 feet long,

35 feet wide, with a normal loaded draft of seven feet. It is equipped with the latest and most innovative navigation electronics in the industry. The two main propulsion engines each produce 1,040 horsepower transmitted through marine transmissions to 76-inch propellers. It is also equipped with two generators that each produce 99 kilowatts of power to meet all the vessel's electrical requirements. The M/V IROQUOIS will serve as the power source to move the floating plant group as it carries out missions on the Tennessee, Cumberland, Clinch and Hiwassee Rivers. Those missions will include major maintenance, lock dewaterings, channel dredging and mooring cell construction.

Louie M. Binkley was a derrickboat operator with the Nashville District, described by those who knew him best as a consummate professional that every member of the workforce respected and admired.

Binkley was hired as a maintenance worker with the Plant Unit on May 6, 1991, and worked in that capacity until July 24, 1994, when he was promoted to Lock & Dam equipment mechanic. But it was on

(See Binkley, page 10)

Facility Manager Returns from Duty in Iraq

by Dave Treadway

J. Percy Priest Lake Facility Manager Greg Thomas is glad to be back at his regular job but he is also glad he had a chance to make a difference in the lives of Iraqi citizens in 2005.

Captain Thomas was the Brigade Supply Officer and worked in the S-4 Section (Supply and Logistics), 194th Engineer Brigade (TA), Tennessee Army National Guard, based in Jackson while deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III. He arrived in that country Dec. 31, 2004, and spent 11 months supporting the Global War On Terrorism.

“Our Brigade was responsible for rebuilding southern Iraq from Baghdad south to the Kuwaiti border. The brigade coordinated and supervised both horizontal

People

construction (dirt moving, ditching, road building) and vertical construction (buildings, etc). The brigade was involved with a multitude of infrastructure improvements and creations in southern Iraq, to include schools, police stations and roads. It supplied engineer support for the 20th Engineer Brigade, which was under the 18th Airborne Corps.” That ‘engineer support’ by his unit took many forms.

“Another mission for the brigade was clearing Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) on main supply routes (MSRs). We had teams that cleared IEDs with the Meercat, the Buffalo, RG-31 and the Huskie,” explained Thomas, “which are pieces of equipment that detected IEDs and disposed of them. All were fully up-armored. The IEDs were then moved to where they could be safely detonated or disarmed. They made a big difference in



Captain Greg Thomas on one of the ‘streets’ at Ali Air Base in Tallil, Iraq, his ‘home’ for most of 2005.

areas considered high risk for insurgents. Supply trains trying to move supplies from point A to point B were getting hit pretty hard. Our teams would go in and get the IEDs out so supply trains could get through more safely.” Later on in his deployment, Thomas was stationed in Al Asad, Iraq, near the Syrian border.

“On the Syrian border,” continued Thomas, “we where responsible for engineer operations in support of combat operations. This was a Marine/ Navy controlled area so I worked with the Seabees on getting construction materials to the work sites, i.e. lumber, electrical, plumbing, and other hardware. I would work closely with the design engineer, the Seabees and the guys on the ground to ensure a quality product was being received.”

While the Corps of Engineers was responsible for contracts to build or reconstruct Iraqi Police Stations, Thomas’ unit also played a part in that effort. “We worked with the contractors to get them built back up,” revealed Thomas. “Our brigade has a construction-management section that does the design work and worked with contractors to get the job done.”

As the Brigade Supply Officer, getting necessary materials to construction sites was a priority not without its quirks. “My main job was to make sure that our military construction sites got the proper building materials. One of my biggest projects was the Abu Ghraib Prison expansion, which was overrun with detainees. So we brought in some military engineers, construction guys, and either we or some other major command would do the design, then we would put it out for bid and get local Iraqi contractors to supply materials. We then had to work with the contractors to move materials, provide security, and ensure quality materials were delivered. I had to constantly check on quality of product, gauge of steel, thickness of wood, etc. My guy on the ground at a construction site would inspect product when it arrived and email me back that it was not what we ordered, shoddy materials, not the right stuff. Iraqis liked to tell you they could deliver what you wanted but we always had to inspect for quality.” Sometimes he was able to secure materials from 20th Engineer Brigade stockpiles in Baghdad or those in northern Iraq controlled by the 30th Engineer Brigade.”

Thomas had no end of tasks. “Another job I had while I was there was as the Pay Agent (PA) for the Brigade, a collateral duty, when I had to go into Kuwait in civilian clothes to purchase things, office supplies, hardware, etc. Kuwait is a very modern country, with store names most would recognize like Ace Hardware, Caterpillar, etc. Prices were fairly high.” He found Kuwaitis to be fairly friendly but also discovered that most of the manual labor was imported from many other countries.

He and his unit even participated in a humanitarian mission for Iraqi children.

“We worked on some schools to equip the students with desks. We simply saw a need and a bunch of our guys did it in our carpentry shop because they liked to do woodworking.”

He talked about living there.

“Our living conditions were good where I was. It was a mobile trailer, with air conditioning and heat put in place by the contractor KBR, (Kellogg, Brown and Root). I was stationed in Tallil most of the time, the location of our Brigade Headquarters, about halfway between Baghdad and the Kuwaiti border. We had one sandstorm, not as bad as some. One interesting thing about Tallil is it is adjacent to the ancient city of Ur, the birthplace of Abraham. The Ziggurat of Ur, which is a great temple, was also located in Ur and made for some interesting tours given by a local guide.”

Thomas received the Meritorious Service Medal, the Iraqi Campaign Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal for his service. “I think our work there is a worthwhile effort. Of course I missed being around my boys and my wife, but it was well worth it to go over and hopefully make a difference in people’s lives.”

Readiness Update

by Jared Gartman,
Readiness Branch

Deployed Personnel: Civil Emergencies: 36 GWOT: 5 Total Deployed: 41

Volunteers are still needed in Mississippi and Louisiana. Personnel interested in deploying should hold a government credit card in good standing and complete the following:

STEP #1: Complete your Personal Data Sheet (PDS) and Medical Screening in ENGLink <https://englink.usace.army.mil> (Call EOC for Instructions)

STEP #2: Get supervisor's approval; then have supervisor email the EOC with that approval.

STEP #3: Supervisors, Timekeepers, and Travel Clerks of the volunteer should complete their Personal Data Sheet to include the 'Phone/Commo' section. This information is required because it is displayed on the deploying person's PDS.

STEP #4: Contact the Safety Office for assistance in getting the Hepatitis A Shot, Tetanus shot; and Personal Protective Equipment (hardhat, safety boots, safety glasses, etc.)

A Hurricane Response HOTWASH/After Action Review is scheduled for Feb. 14, at 9 a.m. in Room A-640. This District HOTWASH for the Temporary Roofing Teams and District Functional Elements for Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma deployments will capture lessons learned to identify what worked well and what didn't work well. This information will be used to develop more effective and efficient processes for all hazards planning during future events.

Who should attend? Temporary Roofing Management Team members, functional staff members who were directly involved with 'before, during and after deployment' activities, and anyone else who may have contributions for improvements.

Occupant Emergency Program: All supervisors are reminded to ensure their personnel are familiar with the Estes Kefauver Federal Building evacuation procedures and be aware of their pre-determined meeting point for accountability.

Readiness, it's not just a job, it's a lifestyle.

Davis Proud to be Part of Historic USACE Mission

Story and photos by Norris Jones, Gulf Region Central District

Baghdad, Iraq (Jan. 23, 2006)– Barney Davis, Nashville District's Chief of Construction, has no regrets about volunteering for duty in Iraq.

"From an engineering standpoint, this is the largest undertaking the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has ever seen and I wanted to be part of it." Davis is working as Chief of Construction at Gulf Region Central District (GRC) overseeing all projects in Baghdad and Al Anbar Provinces (including Fallujah and Ramadi).

He points out that back home his Nashville District works mainly on civil projects such as flood protection, navigation, hydropower, and environmental restoration in the Cumberland and Tennessee River Basins. "Our entire District budget is about \$150 million annually and we have about 700 people working at various locations throughout the District."

As a comparison, GRC is currently responsible for projects valued at \$1.3 billion and is doing it with a staff of 125 people. "Many are fast-moving short-duration projects and the workload is intense," Davis explained.

He notes security issues in Iraq continue to be a tough challenge – "the difficulty of going out and viewing the ongoing work, figuring out exactly what needs to be done, the continual peril contractors and their

workers are in. I have a lot of respect for the Iraqi crews who literally look death in the face every day to get their projects finished. These are Iraq's real heroes."

He says he quickly came to a fundamental understanding that construction standards in Iraq are different. "Our job is to ensure we get the best quality of work that is possible here, help the contractor achieve that, and assist them with safer and smarter ways of getting the job done," he continued.

The 26-year USACE employee gets the most satisfaction from improvements directly benefiting Iraqi families – opening 26 primary healthcare clinics in neighborhoods throughout Baghdad, rebuilding treatment plants that provide tap water to some people for the first time in eight years, installing sewers to communities which formerly used only trenches dug along roadsides.

Davis helped write a ballad last year on Nashville District's history and served as its narrator. That song said in part that people there "come to work every day with pride and purpose." He says that's definitely the same attitude he sees among his co-workers in Iraq.

He and his wife Linda have been married 35 years and have two sons, Steven, a freshman at Middle Tennessee State University, and Sean, a junior in high school. He is a member of Nashville District's "Deep Water Boys" bluegrass band and plays the upright bass. Davis volunteered for a five-month assignment and will finish his Iraq tour in April. 🇮🇶



Barney Davis enjoys a visit with fellow Nashville District employee Chester Lowery at Haditha Dam in western Iraq where Chester serves as the facility's Power Project Manager.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Remembered

Story and photos by Dave Treadway

The Nashville District honored Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., January 13 with a program in A640.

The theme this year was “Remembering Yesterday and Focusing on Today.”

District Engineer Lt. Col. Steven Roemhildt called upon employees present to, “Celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King and reflect upon the message that he has brought to us.”

Lucy Fears recited a poem by Jamie McKenzie and then Marva Morris, Chief of the Equal Employment Opportunity

Office, introduced the keynote speaker, a friend with whom she goes to church. Yvonne Miles is a research associate at Tennessee State University and a



Lucy Fears recites a poem.

graduate of the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa.

“I grew up in Birmingham, Ala., and I learned at a very early age that society viewed me as being different. My Mom and I had gone shopping and we were riding home standing in the back of the bus because all the seats behind this board were full. I said, ‘Mom, I’m so tired, can I sit down?’ She said, ‘No you can’t move in front of the board.’ The seats in the front of the bus were empty because no white riders were going to our part of town. That’s when I realized we were different.

“I was transported to a school for blacks all the way across town. I was bused past the white school and across town on the city bus. We could not even ride the school buses. So when the bus drivers went on strike, we walked to school, all the way across town after getting up very early in the morning so we could make the two-hour trip.

“I did not demonstrate in the streets because I was young and Mom told us, ‘You can’t demonstrate or your father will lose his job.’ But I did watch those who did, I saw the fire hoses turned on them in Alabama as they marched and today I can see what those brave demonstrators earned for us. I can appreciate their sacrifices.

“Today we honor the man who is responsible for much of what today many of us take for granted.”



Yvonne Miles, a research associate at Tennessee State University, and a native of Alabama, talks about what it was like to grow up in the south and experience prejudice as a child.

Fellowship, continued from page 4

anthropogenic disturbances, and population fluctuations.

The BioMaPS project will train 25 undergraduates over five years to work at the intersection of biology and mathematics.

Hedrick will participate in the fellowship through December 31. The grant by the National Science Foundation will fund student fellowships for five students for the next few years. She applied for the fellowship along with a host of other students.

“They selected the five students,” Hedrick explained, “based on our applications, transcripts, and letters of recommendation. We have been paired with the professors and projects that best suit our research interests. I am working with another student and three professors on a project involving mammals since that is my main area of interest. Those who will be at Murray next year can reapply,

and new students will fill the spots of those of us who will graduate next May. The fellowship will not directly lead to a job, but it does provide some really good undergraduate research experience that will help me with getting into graduate school and/or applying for a job.”

“Her mother and I are very proud of her,” said her Dad.

The Fellowship winner created the Nashville District web presence in 2003 for the Navigation Locks on the Tennessee and Clinch Rivers, <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/locks/>.

Since her summer with the Corps, she has spent summers as an intern Biologist for the Tennessee Department of Transportation and as a Park Naturalist at Montgomery Bell State Park.

“Her summer with the Corps,” continued Dad, “was her first job with a professional organization, and I think she considers it among her most valuable and enjoyable experiences.”

The Corps Crowd

Welcome to...

...Jamie Summers, park ranger, to Dale Hollow Lake. She arrives via Center Hill as a co-op.

Congratulations to...



...Tom Morgan, Upper Cumberland Real Estate Office, (left) is presented a Certificate of Retirement December 31, 2005, by Chief of Real Estate Bill Barnes.

Farewell to...

...Deputy District Engineer MAJ Craig S. Guth, who departs for six months of duty in Iraq.

Baby Brigade to...

...to Shirley Cherry, Hydropower Office Assistant, Dale Hollow Power Plant, on the birth of her third grandchild, Halie Nicole Cherry born to Billy and Shannon Cherry Nov. 18, 2005, weighing 5 pounds, 13 ounces and measuring 18 inches.



Halie Nicole Cherry

Sympathy to...

...Ranger Gary Conley, whose son Jerry Louis Conley, 36, passed away Sunday, January 8, in Litchfield, Ill.

...Mason Lemons, a retired maintenance worker at Cheatham Lake who lives in Ashland City, whose son, Bobby Wayne Lemons, 56, passed away January 10.

...Carl Olsen, Regulatory Branch, whose mother, Blanche Olsen, passed away

January 14 and was buried at Barrancas National Cemetery on the Pensacola Naval Air Station with full military honors bestowed on her for service in the U.S. Marine Corps.

...the family of retired Corps employee Margaret M. Morris, who formerly worked in Operations Division. Morris passed away January 20 at the age of 81. She is survived by daughters, Joyce (Frank) Holt and Regina (Leo) Sheppard; 1 grandson and 2 great grandsons.

...Cullum Miller, Jr., Engineering and Construction Division, whose father, Robert Cullum Miller, passed away January 23. He was buried January 26 at the Tennessee Veterans Cemetery, in Knoxville, Tenn.

...the family of Dan Hall, former chief of Construction-Operations Division, who passed away January 24.

Thanks to . . .

...I would like to thank each and every one of the Nashville District employees who so thoughtfully sent cards, made phone calls and especially those that traveled so far to show their support during the loss of my Father, Raymond Allen. It was deeply appreciated and will always be remembered. *Pam Reams, Laurel Power Plant*

...Thanks for all the support shown to myself and my family during my deployment to Iraq this past year. It was such a relief to have such support. Not only with support with employment issues at work, but also support for my family's needs as well. It was greatly appreciated. *Greg Thomas, J. Percy Priest Lake*

Upcoming Events...

...Program dates have been established for Special Emphasis Programs Committee events for 2006. So that management and employees are aware of each event, and perhaps schedule around these important activities, this list will be updated in subsequent issues as more planning finalizes details.

February 9 - Black History Month
March 21 - Women's History Month
April 26 - Administrative Professionals Day
April 27 - Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day event
May 23 - Asian American/Pacific Islander

Heritage Month program (in Room A-655)

June 20-23 - Annual Career Enhancement Workshops

August 22 - Women's Equality Day

October 11 - Hispanic Heritage Month

October 25 - Disability Awareness Month

With the exception of the Asian American/Pacific Islander event, all programs will be held in Room A-640 at times to be announced.

Cholesterol and Glucose Screening

...Cholesterol/Glucose Screenings are now being offered in the Health Unit by appointment. This is offered weekly, Monday through Thursday until March 9. The test requires 12 hours of fasting (nothing to eat or drink, except water) prior to the test. All appointments will be scheduled in the mornings and should only take about 15 minutes. Call the Health Unit for an appointment at 736-2265.

Retirees Plan Luncheon

Corps of Engineers retirees will hold their first meeting of 2006 on the 3rd Wednesday in March at the Piccadilly Cafeteria in the Madison Shopping Center, just north of where Briley Parkway crosses Gallatin Pike.

All Corps retirees, family and friends are invited to the Luncheon (Dutch Treat). A reservation is not required. and, although the program begins at noon, arrival at the Cafeteria anytime after 11 a.m. is okay. For more information, call Hobart Parish at 855-1952.

(BINKLEY, cont. from page 5.)

Nov 14, 1995, that he attained the position for which he is best remembered.

Born in Nashville, Tenn., on March 2, 1960, to Jeannette and Lewis Binkley, he lived in Chapmansboro and served as a long-time member and staunch supporter of the Ashland City Volunteer Fire Department.

Binkley also earned the respect and admiration of Corps employees outside the Nashville District. He represented Nashville in a stellar manner when assigned to other districts, especially as the Nashville representative to the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division gate-lifter operational team, where he assisted new employees with their tasks and training. 🇺🇸

District Loses a Quiet Professional

by Dave Treadway

Former Chief of Construction-Operations Division, Daniel F. Hall, died Jan. 24 while working at the Church of Christ on Walnut Street in Dickson, Tenn.

Hall served the Corps for more than 38 years as both a military officer in Europe and a civilian with the Vicksburg and Nashville Districts.

He attended one year at Tennessee Technological University and then received a scholarship to Vanderbilt University where he graduated cum laude with a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering and as a Distinguished Military Graduate.

A premier leader in the construction arena, he held many positions in the Nashville District, including Area Engineer; Chief of the Construction Division; and Chief of the Operations, Construction, and Readiness Division. The Operations, Construction, and Readiness Division realized unrivaled success while under his guidance because of his innovative and far-sighted business processes. Hall's efforts also helped the Nashville District maintain a leadership position in the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division. His leadership, honesty, candor, and professionalism were essential in preparing the Division for the challenges of the 21st century.

He was very active in the Society of American Military Engineers, including serving as the Nashville Post President and on the SAME National Board of Directors. He was inducted as a Fellow in 1995.

Hall called Euclid Moore, former Chief of Engineering and the first Deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project Management, his mentor.

He played a major role in two of the most ambitious construction projects in Corps of Engineers' history, the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway, to create an alternate navigation route to the Gulf of Mexico, and the Harlan Flood Damage Reduction Project that diverted a river through a mountain with four tunnels in eastern Kentucky. He served as

Resident Engineer in the construction of Cordell Hull Dam and oversaw the completion of the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area.

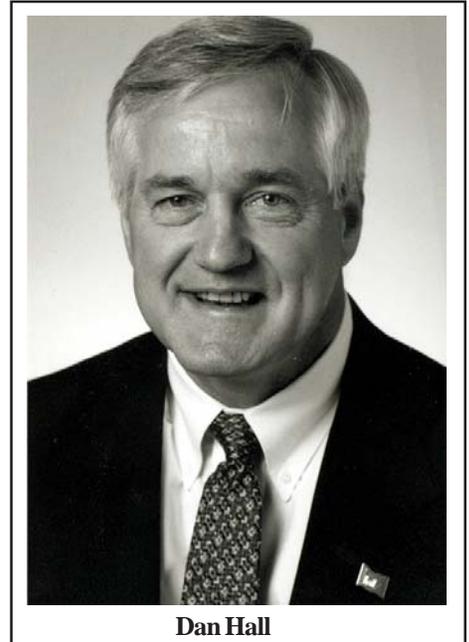
Hall retired from the Corps on Oct. 1, 1998, and was recognized as a Distinguished Civilian Employee by the Nashville District June 13, 2003, at the annual Engineer Day Picnic. With that honor his name was added to a plaque in the Estes Kefauver Federal Building to recognize his exceptional service.

He was recognized by the Army and his peers with the Bronze de Fleury Medal, Meritorious Civilian Service Award and the Outstanding Engineer of the Year Award.

At his retirement, many called Hall the most decent, honorable and respected man in the Nashville District.

Hall was a charter member and long-time president of the Dickson County Athletic Booster Club and worked tirelessly for the Dickson Cancer Society, especially the Relay for Life.

He is survived by his wife, Emma Wyburn Hall of Burns; son Alan Hall and his wife, Vickie, of Franklin;



Dan Hall

daughter Carol Ragan and her husband, Brian, of Dickson; sister Anne Hall Weems of Dickson; grandchildren Patrick Madison Ragan and Emma Rebecca Ragan, both of Dickson, and Anna Elizabeth Hall and Charles Alan Hall, both of Franklin; nephews Philip Fielder of San Diego, Calif., Michael Weems of Maryville and Howard Weems of Kingston Springs. 



Dan Hall (left) and Area Engineer J. C. McDaniel (right) brief a visitor at the Harlan Tunnel Project in southeastern Kentucky about the equipment used to bore tunnels through the mountain of rock.

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Just To Be On The Safe Side . . . Navigating Out of a Skid

by John Tibbels

The topic this month is Navigating Out of a Skid, a very likely possibility while driving on the highways during the winter time. Below are some driving tips to help you get out of a skid should you find yourself in this situation while driving.

Rear-Wheel Skids

There are four things a driver can do to regain control of a vehicle during a rear-wheel skid:

- 1) Take your foot off the brake or accelerator,
- 2) De-clutch on a car with a manual transmission, or shift to neutral on a car with an automatic transmission,
- 3) Look and steer in the direction you want the car to go,
- 4) As the rear wheels stop skidding to the right or left, counter-steer until you are going in the desired direction.

Front-Wheel Skids

Front-wheel skids may be caused by hard braking or acceleration if your vehicle is equipped with front-wheel drive.

Regardless of whether the vehicle has front-, rear- or four-wheel drive, there are also four things a driver can do to regain control if the front wheels skid:

- 1) Take your foot off the brake or accelerator,

- 2) De-clutch on a car with a manual transmission, or shift to neutral on a car equipped with an automatic transmission,
- 3) If the front wheels have been turned prior to the loss of traction, don't move the steering wheel. Since the wheels are skidding sideways, a certain amount of braking force will be exerted,

- 4) Wait for the front wheel to begin to grip the road. As soon as traction returns, the vehicle may allow you to begin to steer again.

Remember, when road conditions get slippery, slowing down may be the best thing you can do to avoid a skid.

Safety – It's a Team Effort!



Myrna King, Information Management, (right) works with Caroline Jones (left) and Juanita Gaines in Biloxie, Miss., while deployed for Hurricane Relief duty. The District currently has a total of 36 employees deployed in support of the Global War On Terrorism and to the storm ravaged Gulf coast. Volunteers are still needed in Mississippi and Louisiana.